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Roosevelt University
College of Humanities, Education, &
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430 S Michigan Ave
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Education:

- 1996: Ph.D., Literatures in English, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ
Dissertation: "Each One As She May": Intelligence, Childbirth, and Narrative Interiority in Early Twentieth Century American Fiction (Director: Marianne DeKoven; readers: Marcia Ian, Mark Seltzer, Catharine Stimpson)
- 1988: M.A., English Literature, Columbia University, NY
- 1987: B.A., magna cum laude, distinction in English, Colorado College, Colorado Springs, CO

Fellowships and Awards:

- 2015: Ostrowsky Award for Faculty Scholarship, Dept. of Literature and Languages, Roosevelt University
- 2008: Research Leave, Roosevelt University
- 2007: Summer Innovation Fund award
- 2002: Ostrowsky Award for Faculty Scholarship, School of Liberal Studies, Roosevelt University
- 1999: Research Leave, Roosevelt University
- 1987-1993: Mellon Fellowship in the Humanities, Woodrow Wilson Fellowship Foundation
- 1987: Phi Beta Kappa, The Colorado College
- 1983-1987: Boettcher Foundation Scholarship

Publications:

"'Attentive, Intelligent, Reasonable, and Responsible': Teaching Composition with Bernard Lonergan." In Renovating Rhetoric in Christian Tradition. Edited by Elizabeth Vander Lei, Tom Amorose, Beth Daniells, and Ann Ruggles Gere. U Pittsburgh Press, 2014: 73-88.

"Distributed Leadership: A Tool for Creating Learning Outcomes and Transforming Curriculum." With Nona Burney. In A Process Approach to General Education Reform, ed. Robert Barnett and Susan Gano-Philips. Atwood, 2010. 39-57.

"Nothing is Lost." (Creative non-fiction). Threads 136 (April/May 2008): 90.

"Composition Teaching and Christian Tradition: An Annotated Bibliography." Co-authored with David Brauer, Lindsay Ellis, Janene Lewis, and Chandra Lewis-Qualls. 2006. Rhetoric and Christian Tradition Website (<http://www.calvin.edu/rhetoricandchristiantradition/biblio.htm>).

"Psychology." In American History through Literature, 1870-1920, edited by Tom Quirk and Gary Scharnhorst, pp. 923-928. Detroit: Charles Scribner's Sons, 2006.

"Detecting the Camouflaged Conflicts: Blackness, Whiteness, and Language Difference in the Basic Writing Classroom." Conflicts and Crises in the Composition Classroom. Ed. Dawn Skorczewski and Matthew Parfitt. Portsmouth, NH: Boynton-Cook, 2003. 51-55.

Writing Social Justice in the Arts and Humanities, Writing Social Justice in the Social Sciences, and Writing Social Justice in the Natural Sciences and Mathematics. New York: Houghton Mifflin Custom Texts, 2003. (Anthologies edited for use in Roosevelt University's LIBS 201: Writing Social Justice in the Academy.)

Review of Vivian Pollak's The Erotic Whitman. American Literature 74.3 (2002): 640-642.

"Teaching in Good Faith: A Response to Donald Hettinga and Elizabeth Vander Lei." College English 64.2 (November 2001): 723-26.

"A Radical Conversion of the Mind': Fundamentalism, Hermeneutics, and the Metanoic Classroom." College English 63.5 (May 2001): 585-611.

Literacies: Reading, Writing, Interpretation (college composition text co-authored with Terence Brunk, Suzanne Diamond, and Ken Smith). 2nd ed. New York: Norton, 2000. 813 pages.

A Guide to Teaching with Literacies. Co-authored with Terence Brunk, Suzanne Diamond, and Ken Smith. 2nd ed. New York: Norton, 2000. 281 pages.

"Self-Generation in a Post-Eugenic Utopia: Dreiser's Conception of the 'Matronized' Genius." American Literary Realism 32.1 (fall 1999): 12-34.

"A Little Body with a Very Large Head: Composition, Psychopathology, and the Making of Stein's Normal Self." Modern Fiction Studies 42.3 (fall 1996): 529-546.

"Frigid Women, Frozen Dinners: The Bio-politics of 'Tyranny of the Orgasm.'" Twenty-Four Ways of Looking at Mary McCarthy. Ed. Eve Stwertka and Margo Viscusi. Westport, CT: Greenwood, 1996, 121-127.

Recent Conferences and Presentations:

"Countering AI's Appeal in Writing Classes" (Interactive Workshop). 2024 Midwest Modern Language Association, Chicago, November 2024.

"Queer Youth and Quotation Marks: The Catholic Bishops' Politics of Exclusion." 2023 Rhetoric and Religious Traditions Conference, Memphis, October 2024.

"An Outsider to Their Minds': Frank Norris's Appropriation of French Crowd Theory." Midwest Modern Language Association, Milwaukee, November 2021.

"When the Problem Has to Be the Solution: A Jesuit Pedagogy for PBL Writing Classes." Rhetoric and Religion in the 21st Century: Possibilities, Publics, Partnerships, Knoxville, October 2018.

Invited participant, Special Interest Group on Rhetoric and Religious Faith, Conference on College Composition and Communication, Indianapolis, April 2014.

Invited panelist, "Part-Time Instructors: Challenges and Strategies for Success." Chicago Area Faculty Development Network, April 2007.

“DIY Snark: The Rhetoric of ‘Bad Craft’ Blogging.” Popular Culture Association, Boston, April 2007.

“Ethos, Ethics, and Conversion in the Advanced Composition Setting: A Lonerganian Perspective.” Conference on Rhetoric and the Christian Tradition, Chicago, May 2005.

Exhibitions:

Feb.-March 2025: “Sari Soldiers” (Multimedia). “The Cabinet of Secret Art” group exhibit. Oak Park Art League, Oak Park IL. Curator: Betsy Zacsek. (Invited.)

March-April 2024: “Micro-embroideries” and “Lettuce Picker” (Cotton and silk thread on linen). “Miniatures Conjure Delights” group exhibit. Garrett Museum of Art, Garret tIN. Curators: Elaine Luther and Angela Green. (Invited.)

Jan.-Feb. 2023: “I Am Their Scaffold” (Crochet, lettered beading, pencil & pen on cardstock time punch-card). “Clocking in for Unpaid Labor” public participation exhibit. Orland Park Public Library. Curator: Elaine Luther. (Invited.)

Oct. 2022: “Donna’s Hand” (Trapunto embroidery on antique Italian napkin). “Our Bodies, Our Health” group exhibit). Koehonline Museum, Oakton Community College, Des Plaines IL. Curator: Lindsey Hewitt. (Juried.)

June 2022: Solo show of ten miniature embroidered portraits. Angelica Kauffman Microgallery, River Forest IL. Curator: Elaine Luther. (Invited.)

Feb. 2020: “Women and Children, E. Hidalgo Detention Center” (Documentary Embroidery). “Threads of Truth” group exhibit. Zhou B Art Center, Chicago IL. Curator: Sergio Gomez. (Juried.)

Oct. 2017: “Lettuce Packer,” “Credible Fear,” “Honduran Girl” (Documentary Embroidery). Colorado College Alumni Artist Showcase, Colorado Springs CO. Curator: Brett Gray.

Sept.-Oct. 2016: “Honduran Girl” (Documentary Embroidery). “Art Advocacy Speaks” group exhibit. Spinning Plate Gallery, Pittsburgh PA. Curator: Donnie Pomeroy. (Juried.)

Sept. 2012-Jan. 2013: Eight pieces from “Braceros” series (Documentary Embroidery). Fall Arts Walk, Olympia WA. Installation site: Olympia Coffee Roasters. Curator: Janae Huber. Invitational.

May-June 2012: Seven pieces from “Eugenics” and “Italian Mothers” series (Documentary Embroidery). “Geographies of Gender” group exhibit. The Thought Lot Contemporary Art Center, Shippensburg PA. Curator: Aaron Treher. (Invited.)

Academic Employment History:

2025 (spring semester): Interim Director, English Literature Program, Department of Humanities

2005-2012: Assoc. Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, Roosevelt U.

2004-2005: Coordinator of English Studies and Director of Composition, School of Liberal Studies, Roosevelt U.

2001-2005: Assoc. Professor of English and Director of Composition, School of Liberal Studies, Roosevelt U.

2001-present: Associate Professor of English, Roosevelt U.

1996-2001: Asst. Professor of English and Asst. Director of Composition, School of Liberal Studies, Roosevelt U.

1994-1996: Asst. Professor of English, Cameron University, Lawton, OK

Teaching Interests:

Composition Theory; Composition; Nineteenth and Twentieth Century American Literature; Narratology; Documentary Studies; Critical Race Theory; Undergraduate Curricular Reform; Fiber Arts and Feminism

Recent Department and University Service:

2025 – 26: Literature Assessment Sub-Committee

2025: Major Madness (represented English major) -- 10/7/25

2024 - present: Faculty Senate, At-Large position (elected)

2024 - 25: Chair, AI Working Group

2024: Faculty Fridays presentation on “Faculty Attitudes toward AI” – 12/6/24

2024: Major Madness (represented English major) -- 10/10/24

2024: Faculty panel member for External Review of Disability Services at RU – 7/1/24

2024: Citation and Synthesis workshops (with Mick McMahon) – 4/8/24 and 9/13/24

2024: CHESSAC “Lifeboat Debate” (with undergraduate student Kendall Loughary) -- 4/2/2024

2023 - present: Chair, CHESS Curriculum Committee (elected)

2023 - present: College of Humanities, Education, and Social Sciences (CHESS) Executive Committee (elected)

2023: Presenter on Artificial Intelligence Panel, August 2023 RU Faculty Conference

2023 - 2024: Committee member, Artificial Intelligence Working Group

2023: Literature & Languages Assessment Sub-Committee

2023: Presentation on Developing ENG 102 Research Questions, Spring 2023 Undergraduate Writing Symposium

2020: Committee member, Director of Undergraduate Writing search

2018: Curated and framed new wall art for Literature and Languages suite (AUD 576)

2017-present: Composition Committee (including Assessment Sub-Committee)

2015-present: University Benefits Committee (reviews and makes recommendations regarding insurance coverage for all faculty and staff)

2015-16: Ostrowsky Awards Committee

Recent Professional and Community Service

January 2026: Collaborated with RU Food & Hygiene Pantry on MLK Jr. Service Day activity

December 2025: Co-Organizer of Finals Week Study Break (“Collage in the Library”)

October 2025: Faculty observation of part-time instructor Ginger Brent

March – May 2025: Honors Thesis Advisor to Cecilia Quirarte

June 2024: Manuscript reviewer, Paedagogia

Spring 2023: ENG 102 Teaching Internship director for ENG 387 student Jiaonny Jenkins

October 2023: Faculty observation of part-time instructor Sarah Peecher

2014-15: Manuscript reviewer, College Composition and Communication.

July 2010: Invited Guest, “Extension 720 with Dr. Milt Rosenberg.” WGN Radio 720.
Participated in discussion of American Literature.

September 2008. Invited Panelist, Pre-Show Discussion of “The Yellow Wallpaper.” Directed by Ellyzabeth Adler for Adler Danztheatre, Gorilla Tango Theater, Chicago.

2007: Faculty sponsor, “RU Crafters”

Professional Organizations:

Midwest Modern Language Association

College Art Association

Modern Language Association

National Council of Teachers of English/CCCC