

PETER WEST

Dean, School of Liberal Arts
Mercy College
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. in English, Emory University (Atlanta, GA), 2001.
B.A., with honors in English, Wesleyan University (Middletown, CT), 1994.

TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS

2020-present, Dean, School of Liberal Arts, Mercy College (Dobbs Ferry, Bronx, and Manhattan, NY).
2021-2022, Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Mercy College.
2020-present, Professor of English, Department of Literature and Language, Mercy College.
2019-2020, Associate Provost for Student Success, Adelphi University (Garden City, NY).
2017-2019, Associate Dean for General Education and Academic Operations, College of Arts and Sciences, Adelphi University.
2011-2016, Chair, Department of English, Adelphi University.
2012-2020, Associate Professor of English, Adelphi University.
2008-2011, Assistant Professor of English, Adelphi University.
2002-2007, Assistant Professor of English, University of Wyoming (Laramie, WY).
2001-2002, Visiting Assistant Professor of English, Emory University.
2000-2001, Dean's Teaching Fellow, Emory University.
1998-2000, Graduate Teaching Associate, Emory University.

ADMINISTRATION

Dean, School of Liberal Arts, Mercy College, June 2020-present (spent 2021-22 as Interim Provost).
Academic leader for the School's 13 undergraduate and 3 graduate programs across four departments (Literature and Language, Humanities, Mathematics and Computer Sciences, and Communication and the Arts); responsible for leading and supporting the School's 50 full-time faculty and 300-plus part-time faculty; administrative responsibility for the School's \$5.7 million salary budget and \$435K operating budget.

Notable Accomplishments (selected):

- In collaboration with Mathematics faculty and partners across the College, led the design and Fall 2021 implementation of a new corequisite model of first-year Mathematics in MATH 115 (Math for Liberal Arts) and MATH116 (College Algebra); for the Fall 2021 semester roughly 350 students were placed in an additional 1-credit corequisite support course based on admissions metrics identified in a new Mathematics placement policy;
- Secured, as project director, a \$2.146 million Institutional Resilience and Expanded Post-Secondary Opportunity [IREPO] grant through the U.S. Education Department for gateway Math and English course support; additionally, significantly expanded grant activity across SLA, most notably in disciplinary areas in the Arts and Humanities, by engaging faculty across all SLA departments on proposals and letters of intent to a range of funders, including: the Scripps Howard High School Journalism Program, the National Endowment for the Humanities [NEH] Humanities Connection Grant Program, and the Mellon Foundation Future of Higher Learning in Prisons Program;
- Worked with a group of SLA academic leaders, including the program director for Modern Foreign Languages and SLA Associate Dean, on designing a new interdisciplinary Latin American and Latino Studies minor, which launched in Fall 2021;

- Led the successful application for our Cybersecurity program and Education Center to be designated as a Center for Academic Excellence [CAE] by the National Security Agency [NSA] through 2026;
- After arriving at Mercy in June 2020, worked with the SLA academic leadership and fellow Deans on developing and implementing a set of new and refined course modalities to make sure Mercy students were able to stay on track for their degrees during a rapidly evolving public health crisis; instituted and led regular Academic Unit Head and faculty meetings through Summer 2020 to establish communication with SLA faculty as a new Dean and to hear from faculty about their perspectives on the College's rapid migration to remote learning in Spring 2020;
- Collaborated with Deans and faculty leadership on a range of diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice initiatives including co-developing a Deans' Speaker Series on Diversity and Inclusion, establishing a new minor in Latin American and Latino Studies, developing a new diversity-based learning outcome for General Education, and serving as a founding member of the Faculty Senate Task Force on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion;
- Worked with SLA search committees during the 2020-21 academic year on searches for three new core faculty, establishing School-level protocols to ensure equitable search processes; these three searches significantly added to the diversity of SLA faculty in culminating with the hiring of three new faculty members, including two faculty of color;
- Worked with SLA academic leadership to redesign selected undergraduate majors using a guided pathway model in which students have more opportunities for interdisciplinary learning and preprofessional guidance; a redesigned English curriculum with four new concentrations launched Fall 2022, and Communication Studies has initiated work on a new "Digital Arts" pathway;
- Expanded support and mentoring for pre-tenure and other faculty, including workshops and roundtables focused on scholarship and the tenure and promotion portfolio review process;
- Increased enrollment in SLA graduate programs by 18% from Fall 2020 to Fall 2022, most notably in our Computer Science M.S. program.

Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Mercy College, July 2021-June 2022. Chief Academic Officer of the College, with executive leadership responsibilities for the College's five academic Schools (Business, Education, Health and Natural Sciences, Liberal Arts, and Social and Behavioral Sciences), three Libraries, and all administrative offices across Academic Affairs (including Educational Assessment, Center for Teaching and Learning, Registrar, Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, Center for Academic Excellence and Innovation, Mercy Online, Global Honors Program, and Center for Global Engagement); lead the College faculty (235 full-time and roughly 800 part-time); oversee annual Academic Affairs budget of roughly \$60 million.

Notable Accomplishments (selected):

- Created and secured funding for a new position in the Provost's Office, Director of Academic Engagement, Equity, and Inclusion; this new position in Academic Affairs facilitates coordination across academic units and with Student Affairs and other campus partners to support a range of equity-minded initiatives—including the expansion of data analytics; embedding career preparation across all undergraduate programs; and the development of curricular and co-curricular experiences aimed at cultivating a sense of belonging among students of diverse backgrounds;
- Worked with the President, Board, and academic leadership to establish a new School of Nursing (to open in Summer 2023) and hired an inaugural Interim Dean of Nursing for the 2022-23 academic year;

- Responsible for all academic logistics related to the College's return to campus in Fall 2021, when nearly 60% of our 1,982 course sections included required on-campus instruction (up from 3.8% in Fall 2020); worked with Staff Officers, the President's Office, Deans, faculty leadership, and other campus partners to ensure that all aspects of our COVID-19 planning were designed, implemented, and communicated effectively and with transparency;
- Established as a strategic priority the improved coordination of student success initiatives across Academic Affairs, student support offices such as Personalized Achievement Contract [PACT], and Institutional Research; in support of this work, partnered with the Office of the President and Deans to ensure that the 2.0 version of the Mercy Success Toolkit is aligned with, and informed by, key strategic student success initiatives across our academic programs, including those connected to the grant-funded activities of our faculty;
- Led the design and implementation of a coordinated distance learning quality improvement plan aligned to new state and federal regulations regarding "time on task" and "regular and substantive interaction" requirements in distance education; charged Interim Associate Provost for Academic Affairs to work with Faculty Senate in convening a Faculty Task Force on Distance Learning and Pedagogy; this task force collaborated with Mercy Online and the Center for Teaching and Learning to develop tools such as a new interactive module (required for all distance learning faculty) and a credit-hour calculator to standardize credit hour requirements and highlight pedagogical best practices;
- Worked with the President's Office to formally kick off the Middle States Commission for Higher Education [MSCHE] Self-Study process by 1) convening a ten-member team to attend the MSCHE Self-Study Institute and 2) providing an overview of the three-year self-study process to a variety of audiences, including Extended Staff, President's Cabinet, the Board of Trustees Committee on Academic and Student Affairs, Faculty Senate, and Deans' Council;
- In preparation for the 2023-24 MSCHE Self-Study, led the design and implementation of a multi-faceted action plan for General Education revision at Mercy; in collaboration with the Faculty Senate, the General Education Program Director, and the Director of Educational Assessment, rebuilt the governance structure responsible for General Education (reconstituting the General Education Advisory Committee as a standing committee of the Faculty Senate, with subcommittees responsible for assessment across the program's various learning outcomes, and establishing a new Associate Dean for General Education position); convened faculty working groups to develop new Essential Transferable Skills [ETS] focused on scientific reasoning, technological competency, and diverse perspectives; initiated the development of a six-year General Education Assessment Plan in alignment with the revised governance structure; and achieved a broad consensus across all faculty governance bodies on the necessity, purpose, and general scope of an updated model for General Education at Mercy;
- In collaboration with other Vice Presidents and Deans, met regularly with external partners such as Oxford International, Essen Health Care, Google, Summit Health, Mount Sinai Health System, and Montefiore Hospital, to develop and sustain student pipelines and to support academic programs in securing onsite experiences such as clinical placements for our Nursing students; new agreements with Google (Spring 2022) and Oxford International (Fall 2023) were signed during 2021-22;
- Worked with Deans and President's Office to secure approval for sixteen core faculty searches to take place during the 2021-22 academic year; worked with Associate Provost for Faculty Affairs and Human Resources to update our hiring protocols to ensure searches were carried out equitably, with an explicit and intentional focus on bringing in candidates who will add to the diversity of our faculty; in addition to expanding diversity training for search committee members, the Provost's Office now works with each Dean on the development and posting of position descriptions, as well as on interview and campus visit protocols, in the interest of diversity, equity, and inclusiveness;

- As part of the strategic focus on improved coordination between Academic Affairs and PACT, instituted new protocols to increase faculty participation in Progress Report campaigns for high-support students; faculty compliance in Fall 2021 Progress Reports increased from a previous high of 45% to 61% following the implementation of these revised protocols;
- Worked with the President's Office and senior leadership to successfully negotiate with the SEIU adjunct faculty union the first Collective Bargaining Agreement [CBA] following nearly three years of negotiation; at the direction of the President and in coordination with executive leadership, completed a comprehensive academic contingency planning process (developing protocols and identifying resource gaps) for a range of job action scenarios during the months leading up to the new CBA.

Associate Provost for Student Success, Adelphi University, 2019-2020. Responsible for oversight and coordination of all retention and student success efforts at the University, including leading campus efforts to use data analytics in identifying populations of students at risk for not retaining and graduating, and designing/implementing interventions for these students; direct reports included directors of Office of Academic Services and Retention, Writing and Learning Centers, the Bridges at Adelphi Program (for students on the autism spectrum), Learning Resource Program (for students with learning disabilities), Mentoring Program, and the Office of Pre-Professional Advising and Scholarships.

Notable accomplishments (selected):

- Redesigned and relaunched the Progress Report and Early Alert program through EAB Navigate; through a revamped outreach and training process, increased the total number of early alerts submitted by faculty by over 150%;
- In the first weeks of the COVID-19 pandemic, following the move to distance learning across the University, worked with Faculty Senate and Deans to develop a Credit/No-Credit policy for Spring 2020, with Information Technology on an emergency loaner laptop program for students, and with a range of campus partners on a student success tool for identifying and reaching out to students who went at least three consecutive days without logging into any of their courses through the Moodle Learning Management System;
- Established the first staff position at Adelphi explicitly devoted to supporting students in fully online programs (in Social Work, Sport Management, and Healthcare Informatics); designed the position of Student Relations Specialist for Online Programs and convened an interdisciplinary team of faculty to recruit, hire, and onboard this new staff member;
- Building on extensive assessment data, redesigned the advising structure for first- and second-year Nursing majors so that students could be advised within an integrated and data-based student support network.

Associate Dean, General Education and Academic Operations, College of Arts and Sciences, Adelphi University, 2017-2019. Responsible for all aspects of General Education at Adelphi; represented the College and General Education program to internal and external audiences (such as Leadership Forums, Full Faculty Meetings, Orientation, and Admissions events); recruited, scheduled, and supervised faculty in the First-Year Seminar program; responsible for putting together an annual schedule of FYS offerings that engaged incoming students, promoted and reflected the mission of the General Education program, and fostered interdisciplinary dialogue among FYS faculty; responsible for approving course planning and scheduling for all departments and programs in the College of Arts and Sciences; worked with Chairs and Program Directors to prepare annual budgets and met with the Provost's Office to advocate for priorities in the College; performed all Annual Reviews for full-time faculty in the College, in conjunction with Interim Dean and Associate Dean.

Notable Accomplishments (selected):

- Collaborated with a team of faculty from across campus to design, pilot, and launch a re-imagined First-Year Seminar focusing on high-impact practices and student engagement; dramatically expanded the budget for speakers, off-campus trips, and experiential learning, making it possible for hundreds of FYS students to participate in off-campus trips during the 2018-19 academic year (to over twenty museums and performances across New York City and Long Island); students in pilot FYS sections self-reported higher evaluation scores on questions related to taking “an active role in your own learning” (4.03 vs. 3.77 on a 5-point scale) and becoming “an engaged member of the Adelphi community” (3.87 vs. 3.33), among other measures;
- Worked with the General Education and University Assessment Committees to address key challenges in General Education assessment, including the pilot and launch of a course-based assessment of Quantitative Reasoning;
- Responding to a Presidential initiative, worked with Residential Life to develop First-Year Living-Learning Communities focusing on Service Learning and Leadership;
- At the request of the Provost, organized and led new academic sessions at Summer Orientation that brought together faculty and students; 98% of students reported that these sessions made them “more excited about working with the faculty at Adelphi”; 97% reported the sessions gave them “a better understanding of what my first semester at Adelphi will be like.”

Co-Chair, Middle States Commission on Higher Education Self-Study Steering Committee, Adelphi University, 2016-2019.

- Invited by the Provost, following a successful Periodic Review Report in 2014, to Co-Chair the twenty-member Steering Committee (comprising administrators, faculty, and other stakeholders from across Adelphi’s various schools and offices) charged with designing, researching, and writing the Self-Study report and hosting the 2019 site visit from the Middle States accreditation team.

Chair, Department of English, Adelphi University, 2011-2016. Oversight and management of a department of 14 full-time faculty, 20 part-time faculty, 130 majors/minors, and about 950 students enrolled per semester across 55-60 course sections; planning and management of discretionary operating budgets for the English Department and the M.F.A. in Creative Writing; led the search, recruitment, reappointment, tenure, and promotion processes for department’s full-time and visiting faculty, as well as hiring part-time faculty for all English offerings.

Notable Accomplishments (selected):

- Revision of the Literature and Creative Writing tracks of the major to include a new rotation of “Critical Perspectives” classes and capstone experiences for students on each track, and shepherding of these program changes through the college and university approval processes;
- Design and implementation of a department Assessment Plan, in which faculty (under the supervision of an internal assessment committee) carry out annual assessment of student artifacts, distribute and analyze student questionnaires, and present these and other direct and indirect assessment findings ahead of the annual departmental retreat;
- Worked with the M.F.A. Director and the Adelphi Office of University Advancement to cultivate fundraising opportunities, including the establishment of the Scott James and Jerry Cain Creative Writing and Social Media Fellowship (\$25,000 annual gift) for the M.F.A. program in Creative Writing;
- Led the significant expansion of outreach initiatives, including internships, for our undergraduate and graduate students, in part by nurturing faculty relationships with external organizations such as PEN

America, Cave Canem, the Association of Writers and Writing Programs, the Walt Whitman Birthplace Historic Site, Square One Publishing, and others.

Co-Chair, Middle States Commission on Higher Education Periodic Review Report Steering Committee, 2013-14.

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

2013, The Panorama: Texts and Contexts, 1787-1900, Pickering & Chatto (London). Sole editor and author for American Panoramas (volume five). Co-edited the entire five-volume collection with Laurie Garrison, Sibylle Erle, Verity Hunt, and Phoebe Putnam.

- Described by the Times Literary Supplement as a "monumental collection":
http://www.academia.edu/10555187/Viewed_in_the_round_review_of_Laurie_Garrison_et_al._ed._The_Panorama_1787-1900

2008, The Arbiters of Reality: Hawthorne, Melville, and the Rise of Mass Information Culture, The Ohio State University Press (Columbus, OH).

- Described by reviewer Sarah Wadsworth in Resources for American Literary Study as "substantial, original, surprising, and deep":
https://epublications.marquette.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?referer=https://www.google.com/&httpsredir=1&article=1280&context=english_fac
- Re-released as paperback, Fall 2015.

REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES

July 2011, "The City in Frames: Otis Bullard's Moving Panorama of New York," Common-place, Volume 11, number 4 [www.common-place.org]. <http://www.common-place-archives.org/vol-11/no-04/west/>

February 2010, "Trying the Dark: Mammoth Cave and the Racial Imagination, 1839-1869." Southern Spaces, February 9, 2010. <https://southernspaces.org/2010/trying-dark-mammoth-cave-and-racial-imagination-1839-1869>

December 2002, "Frames More Valuable Than Pictures Themselves: Fiction and Journalism in Hawthorne's The Story-Teller." ATQ: 19th-Century American Literature and Culture, 16.4: 277-290.

Winter 2000, "To the Reader Sitting in Darkness: Mark Twain's 'The Man That Corrupted Hadleyburg.'" South Atlantic Review, 65.1: 58-77.

BOOK CHAPTER

2012, "Pierre and the Ambiguities of Antebellum America," in Eric Carl Link (Ed.), Herman Melville: Critical Insights, Salem Press (Ipswich, MA).

BOOK REVIEWS

2021, "Lydia Nash's The Sketch, the Tale, and the Beginnings of American Literature." Solicited Review for Nathaniel Hawthorne Review, 47.1 (Spring 2021): 176-179.

2013, "Martin Kevorkian's Writing Beyond Prophecy: Emerson, Hawthorne, and Melville After the American Renaissance." Solicited Review for Nathaniel Hawthorne Review, 39.2 (Fall 2013): 197-201.

2008, "Matthew P. Brown's The Pilgrim and the Bee: Reading Rituals and Book Culture in Early New England and Justin Nordstrom's Danger on the Doorstep: Anti-Catholicism and American Print Culture in the Progressive Era." Solicited Reviews for American Literature, 80 (4): 830-32.

2007, "Hawthorne and the Real: Bicentennial Essays." Solicited Review for Resources for American Literary Study, Volume 31: 340-343.

NEWSPAPER OP-ED

"A Reality Check for the Old Ideal," Newsday, May 3, 2009. An account of my experiences speaking with local library groups as part of the Long Island Reads program.

BOOK IN PROGRESS

Starting From Paumanok (book project using the life and poetry of Walt Whitman to navigate the twentieth- and twenty-first-century social landscape of Long Island).

COMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE WORK (selected)

MERCY COLLEGE

Chair, Nursing Dean Search Committee (2022-present)
 Co-Chair, Middle States Commission on Higher Education Self-Study Steering Committee (2021-present)
 Member, President's Cabinet (2020-present)
 Member, Senate Task Force on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (2020-present)
 Member, Student Success Toolkit Committee (2021-present)
 Co-Chair (Ex Officio), College Strategic Planning Committee (2021-2022)
 Member, COVID-19 College Task Force (2021-2022)
 Member (Ex Officio), Nonacademic Policy Committee (2021-2022)
 Member (Ex Officio), Enterprise Risk Management Executive Committee (2021-2022)
 Member, Staff Officers (2021-2022)
 Member, Search Committee for Director of the Center for Teaching and Learning (2021)

PREVIOUS UNIVERSITY SERVICE (selected)

ADELPHI UNIVERSITY

Chair, Dean of Libraries Search Committee, 2019-20.
 Member, Vice President for Student Affairs Search Committee, 2019-2020.
 Chair, Student Success Coordinating Committee, 2019-2020.
 Member (Ex Officio), General Education Committee, 2019-2020.
 Member (nominated), Provost Search Committee, 2017-2018.
 Co-Chair (Ex Officio), General Education Committee, 2017-2019.
 Member, Student Success Coordinating Committee, 2017-2019.
 Member, First Year Experience Committee, 2017-2020.
 Member, University Assessment Committee, 2017-2020.
 Member, Momentum Steering Committee, 2018-2020.
 Co-Chair, Adelphi Community Reads Committee, 2017-2020.
 Member, Task Force for Program Viability, 2018-2020.
 Adelphi University Representative, Middle States Commission on Higher Education Self-Study Institute, Philadelphia, PA, October 2016.

Convener, General Education Subcommittee on Communication/Writing Designation, 2011-2016.
 Member, English Department Assessment Committee, 2011-2016.
 Member, Scholar Teacher Education Program Advisory Committee, 2008-2016.
 Member, Adelphi University Continuing Education Advisory Committee, 2012-2013.
 Member, African, Black, and Caribbean Studies Advisory Committee, 2011-2012.
 Faculty Mentor for Craig Carson, Department of English, 2010-2011.
 Member, Curriculum Mapping Committee, Department of English, 2010-2011.
 Member, Website Rewrite Committee, Department of English, 2009-2011.
 Member, Faculty Advisor, English Honors Society, 2008-2011.
 Member, English Department Search Committee (Eighteenth-Century British Literature Specialist), 2009-2010.
 Member, Committee on Careers, Department of English, 2008-2010.
 English Department Representative, Faculty Senate, Spring 2008-Fall 2009.
 Faculty Reviewer, Research Day, 2008 and 2009.

UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

Member, African-American Studies Advisory Committee, 2004-2007.
 Member, College of Arts and Sciences Scholarship Committee, 2005-2007.
 Teaching Mentor for Graduate Teaching Apprentices, 2002-2007.
 Faculty Advisor, Upstart Crows English Department Student Group, 2003-2007.
 Member, Personnel Committee, Department of English, 2003-2007.
 Member, L. L. Smith Lecture Series Committee, Department of English, 2005-2006.
 Moderator, Graduate Assistant Teaching Orientation, Fall 2005.
 Discussion Leader, College of Arts and Sciences New Faculty Orientation, August 2004 and August 2005.
 Member, Native American Literature Search Committee, Department of English, 2003-2004.
 Member, Curriculum Committee, Department of English, 2002-2003.

EMORY UNIVERSITY

Student Representative, Graduate English Administrative Committee (GEAC), Emory University, 2000-2001.
 Co-Organizer and Moderator, English Department Faculty/Graduate Student "Teaching of Poetry" Colloquium, November 2000.
 Invited Member, Graduate Student Advisory Committee for the Emory University Graduate School Dean Search, 1999-2000.

CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING REFEREED PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS (Selected)

June 2021, "Models of Equity: Designing a Math Corequisite Program That Works for Your Students," co-presented at the National Conference on Acceleration in Developmental Education [CADE] with Mercy College Professors Jeff Chang, David Wang, and Charles Li, Virtual Conference.

June 2019, Institute on General Education and Assessment, Burlington, VT. Successfully applied to lead a team of seven Adelphi faculty to work on redesign of General Education program.

February 2019, Association of American Colleges and Universities [AAC&U] General Education and Assessment Conference, San Francisco, CA. Led a team of four faculty from the Adelphi General Education Committee.

February 2019, Annual Conference on the First-Year Experience, National Resource Center for the First-Year Experience and Students in Transition, Las Vegas, NV. Led a team of four faculty and administrators to reimagine the administrative structure for supporting first-year student success.

November 2018, Adelphi University Representative, Middle States Commission on High Education Annual Conference, Washington, D.C.

February 2018, AAC&U General Education and Assessment Conference, San Francisco, CA.

November 2017, Council of Colleges of Arts and Science Annual Conference, Denver, CO.

November 2017, Adelphi University Representative, Middle States Commission on High Education Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA.

June 2017, AAC&U Institute on High-Impact Practices and Student Success, Boston, MA: Led a team of 5 Adelphi faculty to develop an action plan for supporting high-impact teaching and learning at the University.

October 2016, Adelphi University Representative, Middle States Commission on High Education Self-Study Institute, Philadelphia, PA.

May 2010, "City Eyes: Otis Bullard's 1850 Moving Panorama of New York," presented at C19: The First Annual Meeting of the Society of 19th-Century Americanists, State College, PA.

February 2009, "Going Underground: Slavery and the Gothic Playground of Mammoth Cave," presented at the Annual Meeting of the Northeast Modern Language Association, Boston, MA.

June 2008, "The Journalistic Origins of Romance," presented at the Annual Meeting of the Nathaniel Hawthorne Society, Bowdoin College.

March 2008, "The River of Rivers: Moving Panoramas and the Making of the Modern Mississippi," presented at the College English Association Conference, St. Louis, MO.

May 2006, "Hawthorne and the Problem of Reality," presented at the American Literature Association Convention, San Francisco, CA.

October 2005, "The Technology of Romance: Hawthorne and the Panorama," presented at the International Conference on Romanticism, Colorado Springs, CO.

April 2005, "Narrativity and Reality in Hawthorne's America," presented at Narrative: An International Conference, Louisville, KY.

October 2003, "The No-Spin Zone: The Cultural Work of Sensationalism—Then and Now," presented at the American Studies Association Convention, Hartford, CT.

October 2003, "The Circulation of Information in Poe's America," presented at the Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association Convention, Missoula, MT.

March 2003, "The Rhetoric of Narrativity in Antebellum Literature," presented at Narrative: An International Conference, Berkeley, CA.

December 2002, "The Renaming of William Wells Brown's Miralda; or, What's in a Name?," presented at the Modern Language Association Convention, New York, NY.

December 2002, "By Magnetic Telegraph: The Production of Authenticity in the Mexican War," presented at the Modern Language Association, New York, NY.

March 2001, "William Wells Brown and the Posture of Objectivity," presented at the Northeast Modern Language Association Convention, Hartford, CT.

December 2000, "'Itching to Hear the News': Readerly Appetite in Hawthorne's 'Mr. Higginbotham's Catastrophe'," presented at the Modern Language Association Convention, Washington, D.C.

November 1998, "One Hundred Years in Hadleyburg: Mark Twain and the Confiding Reader," presented at the South Atlantic Modern Language Association Convention, Atlanta, GA.

INVITED PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS (selected)

December 2016, Invited Roundtable Participant, Literature and the Human Condition Series Discussion of Colson Whitehead's The Underground Railroad, Adelphi University.

November 2011, Invited Roundtable Participant, Literature and the Human Condition Series Discussion of Chinua Achebe's Things Fall Apart, Adelphi University.

March 2010, Invited Discussant, Lyudmila Bryzzheva's Introduction to the Philosophy of Education Class, Adelphi University.

June 2004, "The Production of Authenticity in Antebellum America," American Antiquarian Society Brown Bag Lunch Series, Worcester, MA.

Spring 2003 and Spring 2005, "Walt Whitman and America," University of Wyoming Honors Program.

Spring 2004, "Born to Run: The Impossible Dream of Huck Finn," University of Wyoming Honors Program.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND VOLUNTEER WORK (selected)

Invited Lecturer, The Community Club of Garden City and Hempstead Literary Series. Delivered semi-monthly lectures on a range of literary texts selected in collaboration with Community Club organizers, 2014-2017.

Invited Book Group Discussion Leader, North Merrick Public Library. Led annual discussion with the library book club on Gary Shteyngart's Little Failure, Junot Díaz's The Brief, Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao, Jennifer Egan's A Visit From the Goon Squad, Edward P. Jones's The Known World, and other texts, 2010-2016.

E-mail Editor (volunteer), HarlemLive, community-based web magazine and television show, 2008-2011.

2008-11, Prison Correspondence Course Creator, Teacher, and Mentor (volunteer), Justice Works!, a Washington-based organization dedicated to eradicating racism in the criminal justice system, 2008-2011.

Group Moderator and Lecturer, New York Council for Humanities, "Reading Between the Lines" program, Four Pulitzer-Prize-Winning New Yorkers, Port Washington Library, March-June 2010.

Book Discussion Leader/Lecturer, Long Island Reads program, April 2009. Led conversations at Farmingdale Public Library, North Merrick Public Library, and Port Washington Public Library, on Doris Kearns Goodwin's Wait Till Next Year. Published an op-ed in Newsday about the experience in May 2009.

Group Moderator and Lecturer, New York Council for Humanities, "Reading Between the Lines" program, Tragedy and Loss in Four American Novels, Cold Spring Harbor Library, January-May 2009.

"On Reading My Ántonia," lecture and discussion for "One Book/One County" project, Laramie County Public Library, Cheyenne (WY), November 2007.

"Why We Read," lecture and discussion, Laramie (WY) High School, April 2005.

Series of lectures on Harper Lee's To Kill a Mockingbird for "One Book/One County" Project, Laramie and Centennial (WY), January 2004.

Faculty Consultant, Albany County (WY) "One County/One Book" Program, 2003-04.

Instructor, University of Wyoming Outreach School, mid-semester replacement for an ill colleague, Spring 2003.

Teacher, Evening at Emory. Designed and taught two non-credit continuing education courses (on reading poetry) for members of the Atlanta community, 2001-2002.

COURSES TAUGHT (selected)

ADELPHI UNIVERSITY

Stories of New York (First-Year Seminar).
 Long Island in Literature and Film (First-Year Seminar).
 The Literature of Suburbia (capstone seminar).
 Slavery and the American Literary Imagination (capstone seminar).
 Urban Literature (capstone seminar).
 Whitman and Dickinson (Liberal Arts Seminar in the Honors College).
 The American 1850s (capstone seminar).
 Nineteenth-Century American Literature.
 Black Writers I.
 Black Writers II.
 Literature in English II: 1660-1865.
 Literature in English III: 1865-1945.
 The Study of Literature (gateway class on literary theory for English majors).

UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

The American 1850s (graduate seminar).
 The American 1850s (upper-level seminar).
 Whitman and Dickinson (graduate seminar).
 Whitman and Dickinson (upper-level seminar).
 The African-American Novel (upper-level seminar).
 American Realism and Naturalism (upper-level seminar).
 Nineteenth-Century Women's Novel (graduate-level independent study).
 First-Year Honors Colloquium ("great books" course in UW honors program).
 American Literature I: Origins to 1865.
 American Literature II: 1865-present.

EMORY UNIVERSITY

Literature in English II: 1750-1865.
 Introduction to African-American Literature (sophomore-level seminar).
 Introduction to Poetry (sophomore-level seminar).
 Introduction to Literature (sophomore-level writing-intensive course).
 Writing About Literature: The City in American Fiction and Poetry (first-year course).
 Writing About Literature: Thoreau, Anderson, Toomer, and Williams (first-year course).
 Introduction to Composition: Becoming a Critic.
 Introduction to Composition: Writing With Authority.

GRANTS AND FUNDRAISING

2021, Project Director for Institutional Resilience and Expanded Post-Secondary Opportunity [IREPO] Grant, U.S. Education Department. This \$2.146 million award supports a number of activities aimed at improving Mercy student outcomes in online and hybrid sections of gateway Mathematics and English courses; expanding telehealth simulations across our Health Science programs to improve telemedicine education for Mercy students; and supporting college readiness for disadvantaged students in regional Opportunity Zones through the Mercy College High School Achievement Program.

2014, Jerry Cain and Scott James Social Media Fellowship (\$25,000 annual gift) for the Adelphi University M.F.A. Program in Creative Writing.

2010, Humanities Leader for New York Council for the Humanities grant to lead a discussion series at Port Washington (NY) Public Library.

2009, Humanities Leader for New York Council for the Humanities grant to lead a discussion series at Cold Spring Harbor (NY) Public Library.

Fall 2006, Wyoming Humanities Council, for visit to University of Wyoming by Nobel Laureate author, playwright, and activist Wole Soyinka.

Spring 2004, University of Wyoming Arts and Sciences Basic Research Grant, for travel to the American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, MA.

2000, Summer Research Grant, English Department, Emory University.

HONORS AND AWARDS

2000-2001, Dean's Teaching Fellowship, Emory University.

1998, South Atlantic Modern Language Association Prize, Best Paper Presented by a Graduate Student at the 1998 Convention: "One Hundred Years in Hadleyburg: Mark Twain and the Confiding Reader."

1996-2000, Departmental Fellow, English Department, Emory University.

1994, Departmental Honors in English, Wesleyan University.

ADDITIONAL UNIVERSITY EXPERIENCE

1993-1994, Senior Admissions Interviewer, Wesleyan University.

1992-1993, Director of Campus Tours, Wesleyan University.

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

Member, Modern Language Association.

Member, C19: The 19th-Century Americanist Society.