

## CURRICULUM VITAE

### GEORGE B. HUTCHINSON

Professor of English and Newton C. Farr Professor of American History and Culture

Cornell University  
Department of English  
244 Goldwin Smith Hall  
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#### EDUCATION

Ph.D. in English and American Studies, Indiana University, Bloomington, August 1983. Dissertation: "American Shaman: Visionary Ecstasy and Poetic Function in Whitman's Verse."  
M.A. in English, Indiana University, Bloomington, 1980.  
A.B. with Honors in American Civilization, Brown University, 1975.

#### EMPLOYMENT

Cornell University. Professor of English and Newton C. Farr Professor of American Culture, 2012- .  
Indiana University, Bloomington. Full Professor and Tarkington Chair of Literary Studies, Department of English. 2000- . Chairperson of the Department, 2006-09.  
University of Tennessee Department of English: Kenneth Curry Chair, 1999-2000; Full Professor, 1996-2000; Associate Professor, 1988-96; Assistant Professor, 1982-88; Chairperson, American Studies Program 1987-2000.  
Universität Bonn, Visiting Professor of English and North American Studies, winter semester 1993-94; spring semester 1998.  
Indiana University, Associate Instructor of English, 1978-82; Graduate fellow in American Studies, 1977-78. Also editorial assistant, *Journal of American History*.  
Peace Corps, Upper Volta (now Burkina Faso), West Africa, 1975-77. Organized well-digging projects (by hand, for water) in rural villages.

#### HONORS AND AWARDS

Ford Foundation Lecture Series, July 7-21, 2013. West China Project for faculty development in American Studies, People's Republic of China.  
Guggenheim Fellowship, 2011-12.  
Induction Address for Phi Beta Kappa, Indiana University, 2008

Christian Gauss Award (Phi Beta Kappa), 2007, for *In Search of Nella Larsen: A Biography of the Color Line*. For an outstanding work of literary scholarship in any field.

Choice Outstanding Academic Title, 2007. For *In Search of Nella Larsen*.

Bronze Medal, Independent Publishers Book Award for Biography, 2007. For *In Search of Nella Larsen*.

Best Nonfiction list of 2006, *Washington Post*. For *In Search of Nella Larsen*

Booklist Editors' Choice (American Library Association) 2006, for *In Search of Nella Larsen*.

Pulitzer Prize nomination, 2006, for *In Search of Nella Larsen*.

Honorable Mention, Association of American Publishers' Professional/Scholarly Publishing Award for 2006, for *In Search of Nella Larsen*.

*New York Times Book Review* Editors' Choice, September 2006. For *In Search of Nella Larsen*.

Chancellor's Award for Outstanding Research and Creative Achievement, University of Tennessee, 1997.

Phi Beta Kappa fall lecturer, University of Tennessee, 1997.

Finalist, Rea Non-Fiction Prize of *Boston Book Review*, 1996, for *The Harlem Renaissance in Black and White*

Pulitzer Prize nomination, 1996, for *The Harlem Renaissance in Black and White*.

Darwin T. Turner Award of 1995, from MLA Division on African American Literature and Culture, for the best article published in *African American Review*

Phi Beta Kappa award for outstanding scholarship in the humanities, University of Tennessee, 1994.

NEH Fellowship for University Teachers, 1989-1990.

NEH Summer Stipend, 1988.

Faculty Research Awards, University of Tennessee Graduate School, summer 1996, 1989, 1984.

SARIF Research Award, University of Tennessee Faculty Senate and Office of Research Administration, 1995.

John C. Hodges Award for Outstanding Teaching, Department of English, The University of Tennessee, 1986.

Mellon Foundation Summer Seminar Stipend, Vanderbilt University, Summer 1986.

Outstanding Faculty Advisor award (1986), and five-year service award (1987-88), Recreational Sports Office, University of Tennessee (for advising the Rowing Club).

John C. Hodges Research Grant, University of Tennessee, summer 1985, 1987.

William Riley Parker Prize for distinguished teaching by an Associate Instructor, Indiana University, 1981

American Studies (first-year) Fellowship, Indiana University, 1977-78.

Rhodes Scholarship semi-finalist, 1975.

## PUBLICATIONS

Authored Books:

*In Search of Nella Larsen: A Biography of the Color Line.* Cambridge, Mass.: Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2006.

*The Harlem Renaissance in Black and White.* Cambridge, Mass.: Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 1995. Paperback, Spring 1997.

*The Ecstatic Whitman: Literary Shamanism and the Crisis of the Union.* Columbus: Ohio State University Press, 1986.

#### Edited Books:

*American Cocktail: A "Colored Girl" in the World* by Anita Reynolds. Ed. with Introduction and Notes by George Hutchinson. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2014. (Previously unpublished memoir)

*Publishing Blackness: Textual Constructions of Race Since 1850.* Co-editor with John K. Young. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2013.

*The Cambridge Companion to the Harlem Renaissance.* Editor. Cambridge University Press, 2007.

#### Journal Special Issue

Co-editor, with Allen Dunn, *The Future of the Harlem Renaissance*, special issue of *Soundings: An Interdisciplinary Journal* 80.4 (Winter 1997).

#### In Progress:

*In A Dark Time: American Literature and Culture in the 1940s* (monograph). Selected for Guggenheim Fellowship, 2011-12. Under advance contract with Columbia University Press.

#### Journal Articles and Book Chapters

"Tracking Faulkner in the Paths of Black Modernism," in *Faulkner and Black Writers of the Americas* (forthcoming, University Press of Mississippi)

"The Uses of Biography," in *Approaches to Teaching Nella Larsen*, ed. Jacquelyn Y. McClendon (New York: MLA, forthcoming)

"Afterword: At Whitman's Grave," in *Whitman Noir: Black America and the Good Gray Poet*, ed. Ivy G. Wilson. Iowa City: University of Iowa Press, 2014. Pp. 179-185.

"Introduction" and "A Note on the Text," in Anita Reynolds, *American Cocktail: A "Colored Girl" in the World*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard UP, 2014, pp. 15-52.

"Representing African American Literature; or, Tradition Against the Individual Talent." In *Publishing Blackness: Textual Constructions of Race Since 1850*, ed. George Hutchinson and John Young. Ann Arbor: Univ. of Michigan Press, 2013. Pp. 39-66.

- “Introduction” (with John K. Young). In *Publishing Blackness: Textual Constructions of Race Since 1850*. (See above.) Pp. 1-17.
- “Organizational Voices: *The Messenger* and *Opportunity*,” in *The Oxford Critical and Cultural History of Modernist Magazines*, ed. Peter Brooker and Andrew Thacker (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2012), vol. 2, pp.784-800.
- “Harlem Central,” *American Literary History* 23.2 (Summer 2011): 405-422.
- “American Transnationalism and the Romance of Race.” *Amerikastudien/American Studies* special issue ed. By Werner Sollors and Glenda Carpio on “African American Literary Studies: New Texts, New Approaches, New Challenges,” 55.4 (2010, published April 2011): 687-697.
- “The Letter from Birmingham Jail” in *A New Literary History of America*, ed. Greil Marcus, Werner Sollors, and Lindsay Waters (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2009), pp. 913-918.
- “An End to the Family Romance: Nella Larsen, Black Transnationalism, and American Racial Ideology,” in *Race, Nation, and Empire in American History*, ed. James Campbell, Matthew Guterl, and Robert G. Lee (Chapel Hill: Univ. of North Carolina Press, 2007), pp. 55-72.
- “Introduction,” *The Cambridge Companion to the Harlem Renaissance* (Cambridge Univ. Press, 2007)
- “Nella Larsen,” in *Harlem Speaks*, ed. Cary D. Wintz (New York: Sourcebooks, 2006), pp. 83-98.
- “Nella Larsen,” Gene Jarrett, ed., *African American Literature Beyond Race: An Alternative Reader* (New York: New York Univ. Press, 2006), pp. 129-33; and editing of Larsen’s two short stories, “Freedom” and “The Wrong Man.”
- “The Novel of the Negro Renaissance,” in *The Cambridge Companion to the African American Novel*, ed. Maryemma Graham (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2004), pp. 50-69.
- “Aftermath: African American Literary Responses to the Great War,” in Flavia Brizio-Skov, ed., *Reconstructing Societies in the Aftermath of War: Memory, Identity, and Reconciliation* (Boca Raton, FL: Bordighera Press, 2004), pp. 188-199.
- “Race and the Family Romance: Whitman’s Civil War,” *Walt Whitman Quarterly Review* 20 (2003): 134-50
- “Subject to Disappearance: Interracial Identity in Nella Larsen’s Fiction,” in *Temples for Tomorrow*, ed. Genevieve Fabre and Michel Fleiss (Bloomington: Indiana UP, 2001).
- “Identity in Motion: Placing *Cane*,” in *Jean Toomer and the Harlem Renaissance*, ed. Genevieve Fabre and Michel Fleiss (New Brunswick: Rutgers UP, 2001), pp. 38-56.
- “Journals and Causes” (with Paul Ashdown and Mark Hulsether), *Soundings: An Interdisciplinary Journal* 83 (Fall/Winter 2000): 501-517.
- “*Whitman, la famiglia e la Guerra Civile*,” *Storia e Memoria* (Italy) 9.1 (2000): 57-72.
- “*Quicksand* and the Racial Labyrinth,” *Soundings* 80 (1997): 543-72.
- “The Future of the Harlem Renaissance” (with Allen Dunn), *Soundings* 80 (1997): 445-54.

- "Nella Larsen and the Veil of Race," *American Literary History* 9 (1997): 329-49. Rpt. Norton Critical Edition of *Passing*, ed. Carla Kaplan (W.W. Norton, 2007).
- "Foreword." *Jean Toomer: Selected Essays and Literary Criticism*. Ed. Robert B. Jones. Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1996. vi-xl.
- "Mediating 'Race' and 'Nation': The Cultural Politics of *The Messenger*," *African American Review* 28 (1994): 531-548.
- "The Whitman Legacy and the Harlem Renaissance." *Walt Whitman: The Centennial Essays*. Ed. Ed Folsom. Iowa City: University of Iowa Press, 1994. 201-216. Rpt. in *African American Poets: 1750 to the Harlem Renaissance*, ed. Harold Bloom (Chelsea House, 2002).
- "Jean Toomer and American Racial Discourse," *Texas Studies in Literature and Language* 35 (Summer 1993): 226-50. Rpt. in *Interracialism: A Critical Collection*, ed. Werner Sollors (New York: Oxford UP, 2000), pp. 369-90.
- "Jean Toomer and the 'New Negroes' of Washington," *American Literature* 63 (1991): 683-92. Rpt. in Norton Critical Edition of *Cane*, ed. Rudolph Byrd and Henry Louis Gates, Jr. (New York: W.W. Norton, 2010); rpt. in *The Harlem Renaissance, 1920-1940*, ed. Cary D. Wintz, vol. 7, *Analysis and Assessment, 1980-1994* (New York: Garland, 1996).
- "Langston Hughes and the 'Other' Whitman." *The Continuing Presence of Walt Whitman: The Life After the Life*. Ed. Robert K. Martin. Iowa City: University of Iowa Press, 1992, pp. 16-27. Rpt. in *Langston Hughes: A Collection of Poems*, ed. James C. Hall, Harcourt Brace Casebook Series in Literature (New York: Harcourt Brace, 1998); and in *Literature: Reading, Reacting, Writing*, ed. Jaurie G. Kirszner and Stephen R. Mandell, 5<sup>th</sup> edition (Thomson/Wadsworth, 2004).
- "Whitman's Confidence Game: The 'Good Gray Poet' and the Civil War." *South Central Review* 7 (1990): 20-35.
- "Whitman and the Black Poet: Kelly Miller's Speech to the Walt Whitman Fellowship." *American Literature*, 61 (1989): 46-58.
- "The Laughing Philosopher': Whitman's Comic Repose." *Walt Whitman Quarterly Review*, 6 (1989): 172-88.
- "Life Review and the Common World in Whitman's *Specimen Days*." *South Atlantic Review*, 52 (1987): 3-23.
- "The Pleistocene in the Projective: Some of Olson's Origins." *American Literature*, 54 (1982): 81-96.
- "The Conflict of Patriarchy and Balanced Sexual Principles in *Billy Budd*," *Studies in the Novel*, 13 (1981): 388-98.
- "Parallels to Shamanism in 'The Sleepers.'" *Walt Whitman Review*, 26 (1980): 43-52.

#### Encyclopedia Articles

- "The Harlem Renaissance," *Encyclopedia Britannica*, 2008-. 5,500-word article.
- "Rudolph Fisher," *Encyclopedia Britannica*, 2008-. 400 words.

- "Harlem Renaissance," *International Encyclopedia of the Social Sciences*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (Gale, 2007). 4,000-word article.
- "Nella Larsen," *Encyclopedia of the Harlem Renaissance*, ed. Cary D. Wintz and Paul Finkelman (New York: Routledge, 2004).
- "Publishers and Publishing Houses," *Encyclopedia of the Harlem Renaissance*, ed. Cary D. Wintz and Paul Finkelman (New York: Routledge, 2004).
- "The Harlem Renaissance," *The Encyclopedia of American Cultural and Intellectual History*, ed. Mary Kupiec Cayton and Peter W. Williams (New York: Scribner's, 2001), vol. 1, pp. 657-667.
- "The Civil War," *The Walt Whitman Encyclopedia*. Ed. J. R. LeMaster and Donald D. Kummings. New York: Garland, 1998.
- "Racial Attitudes," *The Walt Whitman Encyclopedia*. Ed. J. R. LeMaster and Donald D. Kummings. New York: Garland, 1998.
- "Specimen Days," *The Walt Whitman Encyclopedia*. Ed. J. R. LeMaster and Donald D. Kummings. New York: Garland, 1998.
- "Stoicism," *The Walt Whitman Encyclopedia*. Ed. J. R. LeMaster and Donald D. Kummings. New York: Garland, 1998.
- "Samuel Colman." In *American Literary Publishing Houses, 1638-1899*. Ed. Peter Dzwonkoski. Detroit: Gale Research, 1986. 100.

#### Book Reviews

- Kenneth M. Price, *To America, Walt Whitman*, in *Walt Whitman Quarterly Review* 22 (Summer 2004): 40-45.
- Gary Schmidgall, ed., *Intimate With Walt: Selections from Whitman's Conversations with Horace Traubel, 1888-1892*, *Walt Whitman Quarterly Review* 19 (2002): 187-189.
- Louis J. Parascandola, ed., "*Winds Can Wake Up the Dead*': *An Eric Walrond Reader, Resources for American Literary Study* 26 (2000): 133-36.
- Cary D. Wintz, ed. *The Harlem Renaissance, 1920-1940*, volumes 6 (*Analysis and Assessment, 1940-1979*) and 7 (*Analysis and Assessment, 1980-1994*), *African American Review* 33 (1999): 529-30.
- Betsy Erkkila and Jay Grossman, ed., *Breaking Bounds: Walt Whitman and American Culture Studies. Modern Philology* 96 (November 1998): 280-84.
- David S. Reynolds, *Walt Whitman's America: A Cultural Biography. American Historical Review* (1997): 186-87.
- Tracy Mishkin, ed., *Literary Influence and African American Writers: Collected Essays. African American Review* 31 (Fall 1997): 19-27.
- Robert B. Jones, *Jean Toomer and the Prison-House of Thought: A Phenomenology of the Spirit. African American Review* 30 (1996): 131-133.
- Tenney Nathanson, *Whitman's Presence: Body, Voice, and Writing in Leaves of Grass. Modern Philology* 92 (1995): 520-23.
- Betsy Erkkila, *Whitman the Political Poet. Resources for American Literary Study* 19 (Spring 1993): 137-40.

David Kuebrich, *Minor Prophecy: Walt Whitman's New American Religion*. *Walt Whitman Quarterly Review*, 8 (1990): 103-109.

## INVITED LECTURES

- “Jacob Lawrence, American Modernism, and the Legacy of the Harlem Renaissance.” Museum of Modern Art, NYC, December 12, 2013. As part of a workshop planning a major exhibition on the Great Migration and the art of Jacob Lawrence, to be featured at the MoMA and the Phillips Collection (Washington, DC) in 2015.
- “Tracking Faulkner in the Paths of Black Modernism,” Keynote lecture, Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha Conference, University of Mississippi, July 24, 2013.
- Two Lecture series of five lectures each, for the West China American Studies Faculty Enhancement Project, sponsored by the Ford Foundation, July 7-21, 2013. Guilin, China. 1) The American Renaissance; and 2) American Literature and Culture in the 1940s. Participants were faculty members from universities throughout western China, directed by leaders of the Chinese American Studies Association.
- “When Literature Mattered,” Department of English, Cornell University, November 1, 2011.
- Invited guest/speaker for a seminar session on *In Search of Nella Larsen* and *The Harlem Renaissance in Black and White*, hosted by Werner Sollors, Harvard University, October 4, 2010.
- “American Transnationalism and the Romance of Race,” plenary lecture, “America Where?” International American Studies Symposium inaugurating PhD program in American Studies, University of Coimbra, Portugal, June 13, 2009.
- “Nella Larsen and Black Diaspora Theory,” plenary lecture, Institute for American Studies, Dartmouth College, June 22, 2006.
- “Nella Larsen’s Denmark,” Keynote Address, Denmark and the Black Atlantic International Conference, University of Copenhagen, Denmark, May 6, 2006.
- “Nella Larsen: An Archeology of the Color Line,” Evangeline Bollinger Memorial Lecture, St. Xavier University, Chicago, February 2006.
- “Nella Larsen: The Biography of a Shadow,” Inaugural American Studies Lecture, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, March 18, 2004.
- Guest speaker for a seminar meeting on my work, particularly on Nella Larsen, University of Vermont department of English, April 1, 2004.
- “Race Studies in American Studies: Current Trends, Future Directions?” Twentieth Century Matters: History, Memory, and American Culture. Michigan State University, November 1999.
- “New York and American Modernism,” International Center for Advanced Studies, Project on Urban Knowledges, New York University, April 15, 1999.
- “Legacies of the Harlem Renaissance: Americanist Modernism from the New Negro to Abstract Expression,” Wadsworth Atheneum, Hartford, CT, March 1999.

- (Keynote lecture for a retrospective exhibit of the art of Norman Lewis, organized by Lowery Sims of the MOMA.)
- “*The Souls of Black Folk* and the Emergence of the Harlem Renaissance.” Converse College, Spartanburg, SC, February 1999.
- “The Situation of the Harlem Renaissance—Then and Now,” Keynote address, Harlem in the Jazz Age, Vermont Council on the Humanities, Burlington, November 1998.
- "Literary Nationalism, Trans-nationalism, and the Harlem Renaissance," Harlem Renaissance Symposium in association with the exhibit *Rhapsodies in Black: Art of the Harlem Renaissance*, Corcoran Gallery, Washington D.C., May 1, 1998.
- "American Cultural Nationalism and the Harlem Renaissance," Harlem Renaissance Conference, Centre d'Études Afro-Américaines, University of Paris VII (Denis Diderot), January 1998.
- "Nella Larsen in the Labyrinth of Race," Keynote address, "The Future of the Harlem Renaissance" conference, University of Tennessee, March 1997.
- Invited guest/speaker for colloquium on *The Harlem Renaissance in Black and White*, University of Washington, Seattle, February 1997.
- "Are We Post-National Yet?" University of Wales (Swansea and Aberystwyth), November 1996.
- "Black Enough to Pass: Nella Larsen's Deep Burial," Princeton University Dept. of English (fall lecture series), November 1995.
- "American Cultural Nationalism and the Harlem Renaissance," John F. Kennedy Institute for American Studies, Free University of Berlin, Germany, January 1994
- "Whitman's Ecstatic Republic," The University of Bonn, Germany, December 1993
- "The Whitman Legacy and the Harlem Renaissance." Whitman Centennial Conference, University of Iowa Center for Advanced Studies, March 1992

#### OTHER PRESENTATIONS

- Presenter, Round-Table, “Life Beyond Boxes,” Organization of American Historians Annual Convention, St. Louis, April 18, 2015.
- Presenter, Roundtable on Modernist Studies and the Harlem Renaissance, MLA Convention, Chicago, January 10, 2014.
- “When Literature Mattered and Why.” 20<sup>th</sup>-Century American Literature Division, MLA Convention, Seattle, January 8, 2012.
- Chair, panel on African American Literature and Textual Scholarship, MLA Convention, Seattle, January 6, 2012.
- Roundtable, “Transcultural Crossings and the Geomodernist Imaginary”: Modernist Studies Association, Tulsa, October 20, 2006.
- Roundtable, “Identity, Theory, and the New Biography,” American Studies Association, Oakland, October 14, 2006.
- Chair/Moderator, Session on Whitman and Black America, American Literature Association, Boston, May 2005.



- "Modernist Conversions: Lindsay/Hughes, Stein/Larsen," Modernist Studies Association, Vancouver, October 2004.
- "The Uses of Biography," American Literature Association, San Francisco, May 2004.
- "The Negro Renaissance versus The Negro Vogue," New Directions in African American Literature, Theory, and Cultural Studies, IUB, April 2004
- "Nella Larsen's Denmark," Conference on Race, Globalization, and the New Ethnic Studies, Brown University, March 6-9, 2003; and Conference on New Directions in African American Literary Theory, Criticism, and Cultural Studies, University of Illinois, April 24-25, 2003.
- "Aftermath: African American Literary Responses to the Great War," International Seminar on Reconstructing Societies in the Aftermath of War, Knoxville, Tennessee, June 9-12, 2002.
- "Americanist Modernism from the Harlem Renaissance to Abstract Expressionism: The Art of Norman Lewis," Modernist Studies Association Conference, Houston, October 2001.
- "Representing African American Literature: Tradition Against the Individual Talent," Society for Textual Scholarship Conference, New York, April 2001.
- "The Negro Renaissance Versus the Negro Vogue," British Association of American Studies, Swansea, Wales, April 2000.
- "Whitman, Family, Civil War," conference on the Experience of the Common People in Times of War, University of Genoa, June 1999.
- "Quicksand and the Racial Labyrinth," New England MLA, April 1998.
- Chair, panel on "African Americans and the Representation of the Global," American Studies Association convention, Kansas City, November 1996.
- "American Ethnography, Pragmatism, and Cultural Pluralism: Networks of Native Modernism," Pragmatism and the Politics of Culture Conference, University of Tulsa, March 1993.
- "The Americanization of 'Culture' and the Theory of Cultural Pluralism." The Americanisation of Culture International Conference, American Studies Centre, University of Wales, Swansea, September 1992.
- "Langston Hughes and the 'Other' Whitman." American Studies Association/Canadian Association for American Studies International Convention, Toronto, November 1989. American Literature Association Conference, San Diego, May 1990.
- "Jean Toomer and American Racial Ideology." South Atlantic Modern Language Association Convention, November 1989.
- "Whitman's Confidence Game: 'The Good Gray Poet' and the Civil War." MLA National Convention, December 1988.
- "Cultural Nationalism, Poetry, and Social Change: The Whitman Legacy and the Harlem Renaissance." MLA National Convention, December 1987.
- Chair, Panel on "The Poet as Pedagogue," for the Twentieth-Century American Literature Division of MLA, December 1987.
- "The Ecstatic Whitman." Mellon Foundation summer seminar, Vanderbilt University, July 1986.
- "Life Review and the Common World in Whitman's *Specimen Days*." American Culture

Association International Convention, March 1986.

"American Shaman: Visionary Ecstasy and Poetic Function in Whitman's Verse."

The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Spring 1982.

TEACHING (Cornell University)

Writing About Literature: Banned Books (First-year Writing Seminar), Fall 2012, 2014

American Modernism and Popular Culture, Fall 2012

Seminar on American Literature and Culture in the 1940s, Spring 2013, Fall 2014

Graduate Seminar on Whitman and Temporality, Spring 2013

The Environmental Imagination in American Literature, Fall 2013

Twentieth-Century American Poetry, Fall 2013

Honors Seminar on The Jazz Age, Spring 2014

Graduate Seminar on the Harlem Renaissance, Spring 2014

Honors theses (director): Samuel Wolken ('14, Summa Cum Laude), Jason Ewas ('14,

Summa Cum Laude), Lauren Cue ('15, in progress), Jacob Glick ('15, in progress),

Ashley Chu ('15, in progress), David Fischer ('15, in progress)

TEACHING (Indiana University, Bloomington)

Graduate Seminars:

Literary Histories and Theories of History

American Modernism in the 1940s

The Harlem Renaissance

The Poetics of Democracy: Walt Whitman and Langston Hughes

Interracial Literature and American Culture

Race and American Modernism

Undergraduate:

American Literature, 1800-1865

American Literature, 1865-1914

American Literature, 1914-1960

Twentieth Century American Poetry

The Jazz Age

The Harlem Renaissance

Interracial Literature and American Culture

Introduction to Literary Interpretation

Introduction to Literary Criticism (Theory)

Ph.D. Dissertations Directed:

Renee Barlow, "Diasporic Patterns: A Complex Systems Approach to the African Diaspora." Defended Spring 2010. Barlow is a tenure-track Assistant Professor at LeMoyne-Owen College, Memphis.

Karen Dillon, "Double Your Displeasure: The Spectacle of Twins in the American Cultural Imagination." Defended September 2011. Dillon is a tenure-track Assistant Professor at Blackburn College in Illinois.

Jennifer Smith, "One Story, Many Voices: Problems of Unity in the Short Story Cycle." Defended Spring 2011. Smith is a tenure-track Assistant Professor at Concordia University, Chicago.

Amy Rubens, "Making Medicine in America: A Literary Account, 1870-1950." Rubens is a tenure-track Assistant Professor at Francis Marion University, Florence, SC.

Scarlett Brooks, "The Pen and the Penitentiary: Black Cultural Nationalism and Writing Against Prison." Completed Fall 2012.

M.A. Thesis (Director): Laura Robinson

Undergraduate Honors Theses directed on Walt Whitman and Political Theory, Whitman and Religion, and Langston Hughes and Jazz Poetics.

TEACHING (University of Tennessee)

Graduate Seminars

American Cultural Nationalism and the Harlem Renaissance  
The Harlem Renaissance  
Interracial Literature and American Culture  
Whitman and Melville  
Whitman and His Legacy  
Walt Whitman

Upper-division and Graduate level courses

Graduate Readings in African American Literature  
Graduate Readings in American Literature I (to 1865)  
Graduate Readings in American Literature II (early to late nineteenth century)  
Twentieth-Century American Poetry  
Senior Honors Seminar: Interracial Literature and American Culture  
Melville  
American Romanticism and Transcendentalism  
The American Novel (beginnings to 1900)  
Modern American Literature  
Introduction to American Studies  
Cultural Pluralism in the United States: Theories and Actualities

Undergraduate independent studies and Honors Theses: on the New Orleans Mulatto in the fiction of Charles Chesnutt and George Washington Cable; on Whitman (resulting in a joint scholarly publication on his racial attitudes); on the American West in contemporary historical fiction; on images of the mother in the poetry of Leopold Sedar Senghor (in the original French) and Langston Hughes; on the treatment of Christianity in the work of Wole Soyinka; and on Myth and folklore in the fiction of Toni Morrison.

#### Lower-division courses

Major Black Writers (Survey of African American Literature)  
 American Literature I (beginnings to 1865)  
 American Literature II (1865 to present); and Honors  
 Freshman-level literature and composition classes

#### Dissertations directed:

- Bonnie Winsbro, "Supernatural Forces: Belief, Difference, and Power in Contemporary Works by Ethnic Women," May 1992. Published under the same title by University of Massachusetts Press, 1993. Winsbro is a professional writer and technical editor in Oak Ridge, Tennessee.
- W. James Wohlpart, "Images of the Artist As God: Puritan and Transcendental Doctrine in Hawthorne's Developing Aesthetic," March 1993. Wohlpart is now Professor of English and Associate Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences, Florida Gulf Coast University.
- David Taylor, "'who nailed words to their primitive senses . . .': Naming and Narrative Layering in Thoreau's Natural Histories," August 1994. Taylor is now a professor of sustainability studies at SUNY Stony Brook.
- Elizabeth Lamont, "Pathologies of the American Soul: The Function of Disease in the Major Novels of Charles Brockden Brown," August 1995. Lamont is now Professor of English, Lincoln Memorial University.
- Patricia Waters, "Mr. Jefferson's Literary Pursuit of the West: The Journals of Lewis and Clark, Their Language and Cultural Context." Summer 1998. Waters is an Assistant Professor of English at Troy University, Troy, Alabama.
- Randall Cluff, "Salvaged Cargo: Herman Melville, John Wiley, and the Revised Edition Of *Typee*," November 1997. Cluff is now Associate Professor of English, Southern Virginia University.
- Nathaniel Preston, "Indian Religion in American Fiction, 1865-1918." April 1999. Preston is now on the Faculty of the College of Law, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, as its Writing Specialist.

#### PROFESSIONAL SERVICE (National and International)

- Advisory Committee, Museum of Modern Art, New York City, and Phillips Collection, Washington, DC, for centennial exhibition on the Great Migration and Jacob Lawrence's "Great Migration Series," 2014-15.
- Swiss National Science Foundation Fellowship Evaluator, 2014.
- Editorial Advisory Committee, Countee Cullen Online Correspondence project, 2010-.
- Chair, Ten-year Review Committee for the Department of English and Iowa Writers Workshop, University of Iowa, spring 2011.
- Selection Committee for the Christian Gauss Award of Phi Beta Kappa, 2008-10.
- National Historical Publications and Records Commission of the US National Archives, project evaluator, 2010.
- Advisory Council, American Literature Section of MLA, 2005-08.
- Chair, Nominating Committee of American Literature Section of MLA, 2008.
- PMLA* Editorial Advisory Committee, 1996-1999. Advisor for American Literature, 1900-1950.
- Evaluator for Distinguished Lecturer appointment (top distinction for senior faculty), University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, 2004.
- NEH Summer Stipends selection committee, 2008.
- NEH Preservation and Access Projects evaluator, 2002.
- NEH Collaborative Research projects evaluator, 1999.
- Convener and Co-Chair, Conference on "New Directions in African American Literature, Theory, and Cultural Studies," Bloomington, April 7-8, 2006, and April 2004.
- British Academy research grant evaluator, 2005, 2006.
- Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, grant evaluator, 2006.
- Editorial Advisory Board, *Blackwell Anthology of African American Literature*, ed. Gene Jarrett, in progress.
- Editorial Advisory Board, Countee Cullen Online Correspondence, 2010- .
- Editorial Board, *Soundings: An Interdisciplinary Journal*, 2000-11.
- Editorial Board, *Borderlines: Studies in American Culture*, 1993- .
- Advisory Board, *Encyclopedia of the Harlem Renaissance*, ed. Cary D. Wintz and Paul Finkelman (New York: Routledge, 2004).
- Manuscript consultant: University of Chicago Press, Harvard University Press, Oxford University Press, Princeton University Press, Cambridge University Press, Indiana University Press, Rutgers University Press, The University of North Carolina Press, Louisiana State University Press, Wayne State University Press, The University of Missouri Press, The University of Tennessee Press, Transatlantic Perspectives Series in American Studies (Tubingen: A. Francke Verlag), Duke University Press, University of Michigan Press, University of Illinois Press, Prentice-Hall Publishers, McGraw-Hill, University of Alabama Press, Blackwell Publishers, University of Missouri Press, University of Pennsylvania Press, Cornell University Press, University of Oklahoma Press.
- Manuscript consultant: *PMLA*, *American Quarterly*, *American Literary History*, *American Literature*, *Soundings*, *Walt Whitman Quarterly Review*, *South Central Review*, *Borderlines: Studies in American Culture*, *Signs*, *journal X*, *Contours*, *Journal of Global History*, *Modern Language Studies*, *Genre*, . . .

Tenure and Promotion consultant: Yale University, Johns Hopkins University, Amherst College, University of Michigan, Columbia University, Trinity University (San Antonio), American University (DC), University of Florida, Marquette University, Howard University, Hamilton College, Florida State University, University of Southern Maine, University of Hawai'i at Manoa, Univ. of Oregon, Univ. of California, Santa Cruz, Northeastern University, University of Maryland - Baltimore County, University of Maryland - College Park, Loyola University of Chicago, Brooklyn College of CUNY, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Northeastern University, Texas A & M University, University of Tennessee, Washington University in St. Louis. University of Texas at Austin, University of Iowa, Kent State University (Stark Campus), University of North Carolina--Chapel Hill, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, George Washington University, Indiana University, Bloomington; Southern Methodist University.  
Evaluator for senior hire in 20<sup>th</sup>-century American fiction, Harvard University.  
Evaluator for Endowed Chair, University of Illinois, 2006.  
NEH Summer Stipends, national review panel, 1992.

SERVICE (Cornell University)

College of Arts & Sciences

Interim Director of American Studies Program, 2015-16.  
Revenue Enhancement Task Force, College of Arts & Sciences, 2013-14.

Department of English

Graduate Admissions Committee, 2014-15.  
Chair, Assistant Professor Search in 20<sup>th</sup> Century British Literature, 2013-14  
Moses Coit Tyler Prize referee. (graduate and undergraduate papers in American Studies) (May 2013)  
Faculty mentor for Elisha Cohn, 2012- .  
Reader, honors thesis of Michelle Eisner, Spring 2013.  
Director, Honors Theses of Samuel Wolken (Summa Cum Laude), Jason Ewas (graduated May '14).  
Director, Honors Theses of Lauren Cue, David Fischer, Ashley Chu, and Jacob Glick (to graduate May '15)  
Second reader of honors theses of Kathryn Winner, Anna Ancona, and Ryan Larkin, 2013-14; Sara Birmingham, 2014-15.

SERVICE (Indiana University)

College and University

Salary Equity Committee for the College of Arts & Sciences, 2011.

Henry Remak Professorship in Humanities and Social Sciences selection committee, 2008  
 Co-Chair, Ad hoc “Humanities Committee” (Chairs and Directors concerned about the future of the humanities at Indiana University), 2006-7)  
 Evaluating Committee, concerning proposal for instituting a PhD in African American and African Diaspora Studies, summer 2006.  
 Convener and Co-Chair, Conference on “New Directions in African American Literature, Theory, and Cultural Studies,” Bloomington, April 7-8, 2006 and April 2004. The 2004 conference inaugurated a series of regional conferences on the theme, involving major Midwestern universities such as the University of Chicago, University of Illinois at Chicago, Northwestern University, University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana, University of Notre Dame, University of Michigan, and others.  
 Sabbaticals Committee, Dean of Faculties, 2004-2006.  
 Long-range Planning Committee, Bloomington Faculty Council, 2001-2003.  
 Summer Faculty Fellowships review committee, 2001-2003.  
 Search Committee for Chair of Afro-American Studies Department, 2001-2002 .  
 American Studies affiliated faculty member, PhD exam committee, 2001- .  
 Faculty Advisor, Awkward Silence Improv Comedy company, 2007.

### **Department**

Department Chair, 2006-09.  
 Departmental Advisory Committee (elected), 2001-02, 2002-03, 2009-10. [Every year of eligibility per by-laws].  
 Salary Committee (elected), 2004-06.  
 Member, 19<sup>th</sup>-Century search committee (2005-06).  
 Chair, Ad hoc Special Opportunities search committee, fall and spring '05-06.  
 Ad hoc committee on spousal hiring (fall and spring '05-06)  
 Originator and chair, Booth Tarkington Chair Endowment Committee, 2000-2012.  
 (Using funds from the Booth Tarkington Chair Endowment for general enhancement of American literary studies.)  
 Tarkington MFA Thesis Fellowships committee  
 Tarkington Dissertation Fellowships committee in American Literature  
 Tarkington Graduate Recruiting Fellowship committee  
 Tarkington Lecture Committee  
 Speakers Committee, 2005-06.  
 Ad hoc committee to review salary policies, 2003.  
 Carnegie Initiative on the Doctorate Committee, 2003-5.  
 Drafted proposal for new course (adopted): Studies in African American Literature and Culture.  
 Search Committee, 19<sup>th</sup> century Literature, 2005-06.  
 Ad hoc Special Opportunities Hiring Committee, 2005-06.  
 Ad hoc hiring committee concerning hiring in 19<sup>th</sup> Century studies, 2005-06.  
 Chair, Search Committee in Ethnic American Literature, 2001-02.

American Literature Search Committee, 2004-05.  
 Graduate Placement committee, Fall 2000.  
 Committee on aims of L202 (Introduction to Literature), Fall 2000.  
 Faculty mentor (for undergraduates), Spring 2001-3 .

## SERVICE (University of Tennessee)

### College and University

Chairperson, American Studies Program, 1987-2000.  
 African and African-American Studies Program steering committee, 1997-2000.  
 Faculty Senate, 1996-1999 .  
 Chair and convener, "Environmental Justice: A Symposium," for Interdisciplinary Programs in the College of Arts and Sciences, Feb. 18-19, 1999.  
 Chair and convener, "Current Trends in the Study of Southern Regionalism," interdisciplinary symposium, September 1999.  
 Conference organizing committee, "The Future of the Harlem Renaissance," March 1997.  
 Conference Director, "Is There An American Culture?" Joint symposium with American Studies Centre, The University of Wales, Swansea, spring 1996.  
 Editorial Board, The University of Tennessee Press, 1990-94, 1999-2000.  
 Search Committees (outside my department):  
     Director of University of Tennessee Press, Fall 1992.  
     History, Assistant Professor in the field of Civil War and Reconstruction, 1994-95.  
     Religious Studies, Assistant Professor in American Religion and Culture, 1992-93.  
     Head of the Dept. of English, 1988-89.  
     Assistant Professor of History and Afro-American Studies, 1988-89.  
 Internal Review Committee member for ten-year review of the Dept. of Philosophy, Spring 1989; and for midcycle review, Spring 1992.  
 Ad Hoc Academic Study Committee on Cross-Listed Courses, Spring 1998.  
 Chair, Events Committee for Interdisciplinary Programs, 1998.  
 Academic Advisor, the College of Liberal Arts, 1986-88.  
 Discussion Panel, "The Military in Africa," Africa Week Symposium, September 1993.  
 Faculty Advisor for *Phoenix*, student literary arts magazine, 1984-86.  
 Faculty Advisor, The University of Tennessee Rowing Club, 1983-94. Outstanding Faculty Advisor Award, 1986  
 College Scholars tutor, 1988-89, 1998-99.  
 English Education admissions board, College of Education, 1986.  
 Co-author, proposal for adoption of Crew as a Varsity Women's sport at UTK, 1996. (subsequently adopted; first season 1999; since then regularly ranks in the top 15-20 women's crews nationally).



Department

Associate Director of Graduate Studies, 1990-92.

Curriculum revision committee, 1994-95.

Chairman, M.A./Ph.D. exam committee, 1985-87, 1994-95, 1998-99 (member 1984-87, 1992-95, 1996-99).

Departmental Search Committees:

Assistant Professor in Contemporary/Postmodern Literature, 1998-99.

Assistant Professor in Nineteenth-Century American Literature, 1996-97.

Assistant or Associate Professor in African American literature, 1994-95 (chairman).

Assistant or Associate Professor of African American literature, 1992-93.

Twentieth-Century Fiction, 1990-91

Black American literature, 1988-89

Black American literature, 1987-88

Full-time instructor, 1986-87.

Linguistics, 1985-86

Chair, African American Literature PhD exam committees, 1994-2000.

Chair, committee for revision of the graduate writing program, 1991-92.

Graduate Admissions Committee, 1990-92.

Departmental Administrative Committee, elected at-large faculty representative, 1987-1989.

Chair, Hodges teaching award committee, 1986-87, 1988-89, 1993-94.

Faculty mentor to Dolan Hubbard, 1989-1993.

Ph.D. exam committees in American literature, Black American literature, Twentieth Century American Literature, the Epic, and the Novel.

Committee on goals and policies for lower-division literature courses, 1983.

Numerous dissertation and thesis committees.

Speakers Committee, 1989-90, 1990-91.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Literature Section (MLA), American Studies Association, American Literature Association, Modern Language Association, Modernist Studies Association

LANGUAGES: Speak (formerly fluent), read, and write French and Moré (West African); read Spanish, German, and Danish.