

CURRICULUM VITAE

MICHAEL D. WEST

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416 Morewood Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15213
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Born 13 April 1937, Morristown, NJ
U.S. citizen

EMPLOYMENT

1976- Professor of English, University of Pittsburgh
2007 Visiting Lecturer, University of Augsburg, Germany
2000 Visiting Lecturer, University of Copenhagen, Denmark
1972-76 Associate Professor of English, University of Pittsburgh
1972-73 Research Associate in English, Wesleyan University
1965-72 Assistant Professor of English, Wesleyan University
1968, 1971 Assistant Professor, Wesleyan Graduate Summer School
1967-68 Instructor (part-time), Middlesex Community College
1964-65 Instructor in English, Wesleyan University
1961-64 Teaching Fellow in Humanities and English, Harvard University
1960-61 Teaching Assistant, Harvard and Harvard Summer School

EDUCATION

1959-65 Harvard University; A.M. 1961, Ph.D. 1965 (English)
 Doctoral Dissertation: "Dryden's Attitude toward the Hero"
1955-59 Harvard College; A.B. magna cum laude 1959 (Classics and English)
 Senior Thesis: "Unity and Coherence in Four Elegies of Propertius"

HONORS, PRIZES, AND DISTINCTIONS

2005 First Prize for Curricular Development (\$750), The Trollope Prize, Harvard University
2004 Nomination, Tina and David Bellet Undergraduate Teaching Award, College of
 Arts and Sciences, University of Pittsburgh
2002 First Prize (\$500), Frank O'Connor Essay Contest, Auburn University in Montgomery,
 Montgomery, AL
2002 Research Abroad Program Grant (\$10,000+), University of Pittsburgh Center for
 International Studies
2002 Honorable Mention, Washington Post Style Invitational Contest CIX (March 24)
2002 Nomination (\$100), Tina and David Bellet Undergraduate Teaching Award, College of
 Arts and Sciences, University of Pittsburgh

- 2001 Christian Gauss Award (\$2500) for literary scholarship and criticism, The Phi Beta Kappa Society, Washington, DC
- 2000 NEMLA Special Anniversary Award (\$100) for best papers at Thirtieth Convention
- 2000 Visiting Fulbright Lecturer in American Literature, University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 2000 Grant (\$1000), Richard D. and Mary Jane Edwards Endowed Publication Fund, University of Pittsburgh
- 1999 Northeast Modern Language Association / Ohio University Press Book Award (\$1000)
- 1987 DeGolyer Prize Essay (\$500), DeGolyer Institute for American Studies and The Southwest Review, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX
- 1987 Smith Memorial Award for Parody, Florida State Poets Association
- 1987 Winner, Competition No. 318, Times Literary Supplement
- 1987 Honorary Fellow, Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Scotland
- 1986 Hughes Award, World Order of Narrative Poets, Flushing, NY
- 1986 Thomas Award (second), World Order of Narrative Poets, Flushing, NY
- 1985-86 Huntington-NEH Fellow, The Huntington Library and Art Gallery, San Marino, CA
- 1985-86 Fellow, Newberry Library, Chicago, IL
- 1985 Kate B. and Hall James Peterson Fellow, American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, MA
- 1978-79 Fellow, American Council of Learned Societies
- 1979, '76, '72 University Research Grants
- '67, '66
- 1973 Translation Award (honorable mention), Poet Lore
- 1972 ADE-MLA Certificate of Excellence in the Teaching of English
- 1971 First Prize, Cornell University Classics Club's National Translation Contest
- 1970 Senior Fellow, Wesleyan University Center for the Humanities
- 1961 Helen Choate Bell Prize Essay in American Literature
- 1960 Susan Anthony Potter Prize in Comparative Literature (second)
- 1959-61 John Harvard Fellowship in English
- 1959-61 Honorary Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship
- 1959-60 Rackham Graduate Fellowship in Classics, University of Michigan (declined)
- 1959 Curtis Prize for excellence in Latin
- 1958 Senior Sixteen, Phi Beta Kappa
- 1958 Boylston Prize for elocution
- 1957-58 Editor, Harvard Advocate
- 1957 Hopkins Prize for general scholarship
- 1955-59 Harvard National Scholarship
- 1955-58 NROTC Holloway Plan Scholarship; placed second among 30,000 competitors on national examination

BOOK PUBLICATION

Transcendental Wordplay: America's Romantic Pundsters and the Search for the Language of Nature

(Athens: Ohio University Press, 2000; 2nd printing 2001; digitized electronic reprint NetLibrary, 2002), 518 + xxiv pp.

Reviews in Library Journal (May 1, 2000) 114; Thoreau Society Bulletin No. 231 (Spring 2000), 5; Chronicle of Higher Education 46 (June 9, 2000); Choice 38, No. 3 (Nov. 2000), 538;

Reference and Research Book News 15 (Nov. 2000), 177; New England Quarterly 73, No. 4 (Dec. 2000), 659-63; Colloquy (Winter 2000); University Times 33, No. 15 (Apr. 5, 2001), 19; Times Literary Supplement, No. 5119 (May 11, 2001), 25; American Literature, 73, No. 3 (Sept. 2001), 634-35; Studies in American Humor n.s. 3, No. 8 (2001), 65-66; Pitt Magazine (Dec. 2001), 36-7; Pittsburgh Tribune-Review (Mar. 4, 2002); American Studies in Scandinavia 34, No. 1 (Spring 2002), 136-138; Journal of the Early Republic 22, No. 1 (Spring 2002), 119-121; Bulletin 14, No. 1 (May-June 2002), 20; Nineteenth-Century Prose 29, No. 1 (Spring 2002), 224-228; Rhetoric Review 20, No. 314 (2002), 398-401; Humor 15, No. 2 (2002), 229-233; Victorians Institute Journal 30 (2002), 221-222; Literary Research / Recherche Littéraire 19, Nos. 37-38 (2002), 292-303; Harvard Magazine, 105, No. 3 (Jan.-Feb. 2003), 87; Anglia 121 (2003), 165-168; American Literary Scholarship 2000 (2003), 24

OTHER PUBLICATIONS RE SCHOLARSHIP

(many reprinted electronically by EBSCOhost MLA, JSTOR, Thomson-Gale, et al.)

“Language and Spectacle in Marlowe’s Dramaturgy,” Studies in Philology, 122.3 (Summer 2025), 289-320.

The 2024 Advice to Students Considering Graduate Work in English,” 41,295-word online document at <http://d-scholarship.pitt.edu/12622/> first published and copyrighted in 2004. Rev. eds. 2006, 2008-09, 2011-12, 2018, 2020-24. Visited annually by readers from Pitt and elsewhere.

“Huizinga’s Homo Ludens and the Element of Playfulness in Emily Dickinson,” Anglia, 140.1 (March 2022), 93-115.

“Mock Heroic before the Enlightenment—and After,” Arion: A Journal of Humanities and the Classics, n.s. 29.2 (Fall 2021), 15-54.

“Teaching Thoreau Together with Robert Frost,” Thoreau Society Bulletin No. 304 (Winter 2019), 8-9

“Did World War I Foster Distinctly ‘Spectatorial’ Attitudes in Writers?” Comparative Literature Studies, 53.1 (2016), 78-113.

“Romantic Irony in the Short Fiction of Rebecca Harding Davis,” American Literary Realism, 47.3 (Spring 2015), 235-249.

“Just How ‘Like Horace in the True Horatian Vein’ Was Robert Frost?” Arion: A Journal of Humanities and the Classics, n.s. 22.1 (Spring/Summer 2014), 75-91. Reprinted in Poetry Criticism, ed. Lawrence J. Trudeau, vol. 173, prod. Laymon Poupard (Detroit: Gale, Cengage, 2016), 194-200.

“Ramblers, Hikers, Vagabonds, and Flâneurs: America’s Peripatetic Romantics and the Rituals of Healthy Walking,” in Well-Being in Literary Studies: the Eudaimonic Turn, ed. James O. Pawelski and D. J. Moores (Madison, NJ: Fairleigh Dickinson University Press, 2013) pp. 135-153.

“Ezekiel Hildreth,” in Dictionary of American Philosophers, ed. John Shook (New York: Thoemmes Continuum, 2012), I, 516-517.

“The Purported and Actual Meanings of Richard Wright’s ‘Big Black Good Man’,” Orbis Litterarum, 66.5 (2011), 343-60.

“Four Transcendental Soldiers: Did Combat Experience Kill Emersonian Idealism in W. B. Greene, C. A. Dana, T. W. Higginson, and J. K. Hosmer?” Harvard Library Bulletin, 20.1 (Spring 2009), 35-77.

“Advising Undergraduates Considering Graduate Work in English,” CEA Forum, 38.2 (Summer/Fall 2009), <<http://www2.widener.edu/~cea/382index.htm>>.

“Ambivalent Enlistees: The Transcendentalists’ Response to the Civil War,” Thoreau Society Bulletin, No. 260 (Fall, 2007), 5.

Review: “Edward Armstrong, A Ciceronian Sunburn: A Tudor Dialogue on Humanistic Rhetoric and Civic Poetics,” Renaissance Quarterly, 59.4 (2006), 1312-13.

With Myron Silberstein: “The Controversial Eloquence of Shakespeare’s Coriolanus--an Anti-Ciceronian Orator?” Modern Philology 102 (2005), 307-331. Reprinted in Shakespearean Criticism, Vol. 106, ed. Michelle Lee (Detroit: Thomson-Gale, 2008), 155-168.

“The Aesthetic, Scientific, and Psychosexual Implications of Thoreau’s Punning,” in Literature and Psychoanalysis, ed. Frederico Pereira (Lisboa: Instituto Superior de Psicologia Aplicada, 2005), pp. 155-159.

Review: “Russell Duncan and David J. Klooster, eds, Phantoms of a Blood-Stained Period: The Complete Civil War Writings of Ambrose Bierce,” Angles on the English-Speaking World, 3 (2003), 67-69.

Review of Duquesne University’s production of The Second Shepherds’ Play, in Research Opportunities in Renaissance Drama, 41 (2002), 206-208.

“The Lowest Form of Humor is Fundamental—and Fun,” op-ed piece released to national newspapers by the Knight-Ridder syndicate in July, 2001

“Reclaiming Thoreau’s Humor for the Classroom,” in Approaches to Teaching Thoreau’s Walden and Other Works, ed. Richard J. Schneider (New York: MLA, 1996), pp. 91-97.

“Emily Dickinson’s Ambrosian Nights with Christopher North,” Harvard Library Bulletin, n.s. 5 (1994), 67-71.

Review essay: “No Common Parlance: Recent Linguistic Approaches to Nineteenth-Century American Authors,” Review, 12 (1990), 53-67.

“Warfare,” The Spenser Encyclopedia, ed. A. C. Hamilton et al (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1990), pp. 726-727.

Review: "J. R. Mulryne et al, eds., War, Literature and the Arts in Sixteenth-Century Europe," Renaissance Quarterly, 43 (1990), 629-631.

"Spenser's Art of War: Chivalric Allegory, Military Technology, and the Elizabethan Mock-Heroic Sensibility," Renaissance Quarterly, 41 (1988), 654-704.

"Analogy, Metaphor and Etymology in Thinking," and "Correcting Grammatical Errors beyond the Composition Course," in Collective Wisdom: A Sourcebook of Lessons for Writing Teachers, ed. Sondra J. Stang and Robert Wiltenburg (New York: Random House, 1988), pp. 288-92, 342-47.

"Reflections on Star Wars and Scholarly Reviewing," Literary Reviewing, ed. James O. Hoge (Charlottesville, VA: University of Virginia Press, 1987), pp. 112-39.

"Spellers and Punsters," The Southwest Review, 42 (1987), 492-511.

"Re-editing the MLA's Guidelines for Journal Editors: Response to Comments by M. Gero," College English, 48 (1986), 740-41.

Review essay: "Re-editing the MLA's Guidelines for Journal Editors," College English, 47 (1985), 726-33.

"Editorial Arrogance and Other Deadly Sins, with a Few Suggestions for Reducing Authorial Petulance," Editor's Notes, Vol. 4, No. 2 (Fall, 1985), 31-33.

Review: "Nicholas Orme, Early British Swimming, 55 B.C. - A.D. 1719," Renaissance Quarterly, 37 (1984), 457-60.

"Thoreau and the Language Theories of the French Enlightenment," ELH, A Journal of English Literary History, 51 (1984), 747-70.

Review: "Philip Gura, The Wisdom of Words: Language, Theology, and Literature in the New England Renaissance," Modern Philology, 81 (1983), 81-85.

With Deborah West: "The Psychological Dynamics of Hawthorne's 'Wakefield'," Archiv fur das Studium der Neueren Sprachen und Literaturen, 220 (1983), 62-74.

"Homer's Iliad and the Genesis of Mock-Heroic," Cithara, 21 (1981), 3-22.

With Marilyn Thorssen: "Observations on the Text of Marston's Sophonisba," Anglia, 98 (1980), 348-56.

"Teaching Chaucer in a Historical Survey of British Literature," Approaches to Teaching Chaucer's Canterbury Tales, ed. Joseph Gibaldi (Modern Language Association of America: New York, 1980), pp. 110-115.

"On Revising Seminar Papers and Academic Asininity in General," MLA Graduate Student Caucus Newsletter, Vol. 3, No. 3 (Fall 1980), 4-19.

"Evaluating Periodicals, An Exchange: Response to Comments by J. Dillon, D. Baker, J. Stasny, E. MacDonald, and G. Core," College English, 42 (1980), 408-19.

Review essay: "Evaluating Periodicals in English Studies: Tell It in Gath if Ye Must, Young Men, but Publish It Not in Askelon," College English, 41 (1980), 903-23.

Review: "Murray Cohen, Sensible Words: Linguistic Practice in England, 1640-1785," Seventeenth-Century News, 37 (1979), 65-66.

An Evaluative Check-list of Periodicals Publishing Scholarship or Criticism on Anglo-American Literature, 1978. Pp. xiii + 27. Mimeographed working paper purchased by over 350 academics and libraries. Reviews by J. Marusiak and B. Haviland, GSC Newsletter, Vol. 3, No. 3 (Fall 1980), 9-20.

"Versifying Thoreau: Frost's 'The Quest of the Purple-Fringed' and 'Fire and Ice'," English Language Notes, 16 (1978), 40-47.

"Dryden's Mac Flecknoe and the Example of Duffett's Burlesque Dramas," Studies in English Literature, 18 (1978), 457-64.

"George Moore and the Hermeneutics of Joyce's Dubliners," The Harvard Library Bulletin, 26 (1978), 212-35.

"'Not Without Dust and Heat': A Ciceronianism in Milton's Areopagitica," The Review of English Studies, 29 (1978), 181-185.

With William Hendricks: "The Genesis and Significance of Joyce's Irony in 'A Painful Case'," ELH, A Journal of English Literary History, 44 (1977), 701-27.

Review: "James D. Garrison, Dryden and the Tradition of Panegyric," The Scriblerian, 8 (1976), 111-112.

Review: "The Works of John Dryden: Poems 1693-96, ed. A.B. Chambers and William Frost," Seventeenth-Century News, 33 (1975), 101-103.

Review: "David Farley-Hills, The Benevolence of Laughter," The Scriblerian, 7 (1975), 116.

"Walden's Dirty Language: Thoreau and Walter Whiter's Geocentric Etymological Theories," The Harvard Library Bulletin, 22 (1974), 117-28.

"Scatology and Eschatology: The Heroic Dimensions of Thoreau's Wordplay," PMLA, 89 (1974), 1043-64. Reprinted with revisions in Romanticism: Essays in American Literature, ed. James Barbour and Thomas Quirk (New York: Garland Publishing Inc., 1986), pp. 99-123.

"Shifting Concepts of Heroism in Dryden's Panegyrics," Papers in Language and Literature, 10 (1974), 378-93.

"Prothalamia in Propertius and Spenser," Comparative Literature, 26 (1974), 346-53.

- "The Folk Background of Petruchio's Wooing Dance: Male Supremacy in The Taming of the Shrew," Shakespeare Studies, 7 (1974), 65-73. Reprinted with abridgements in Shakespearean Criticism, Vol. 9, ed. Mark W. Scott and Sandra L. Williamson (Detroit: Gale Research Inc., 1989), pp. 404-407; electronically in Thomson Gale's Shakespeare Collection (2005).
- "The Internal Dialogue of Shakespeare's Sonnet 146," Shakespeare Quarterly, 25 (1974), 109-22.
- Review article: "The Figure of the Hero in Renaissance Drama," College English, 34 (1973), 1131-37.
- "Charles Kraitsir's Influence upon Thoreau's Theory of Language," ESQ, A Journal of the American Renaissance, 19 (1973), 262-74.
- "Some Neglected Continental Analogues for Dryden's Mac Flecknoe," Studies in English Literature, 13 (1973), 437-50.
- "Dryden's Ambivalence as a Translator of Heroic Themes," The Huntington Library Quarterly, 36 (1973), 347-66.
- "Dryden and the Disintegration of Renaissance Heroic Ideals," Costerus, Essays in English and American Literature, 7 (1973), 193-222.
- "Spenser and the Renaissance Ideal of Christian Heroism," PMLA, 88 (1973), 1013-32.
- "Spenser, Everard Digby, and the Renaissance Art of Swimming," Renaissance Quarterly, 26 (1973), 11-22.
- "Raleigh's Disputed Authorship of 'A description of Love'," English Language Notes, 10 (1972), 92-99.
- "Shakespeare Allusion in Emily Dickinson," American Notes and Queries, 10 (1971), 51.
- "John Evelyn, Sir Kenelm Digby, and Thoreau's Vital Spirits," The Thoreau Society Bulletin, No. 117 (1971), 8.
- "Ecclesiastical Controversy in George Herbert's 'Peace'," The Review of English Studies, 22 (1971), 445-451.
- "The Consolatio in Milton's Funeral Elegies," The Huntington Library Quarterly, 34 (1971), 233-49.
- "Drayton's 'To the Virginian Voyage': From Heroic Pastoral to Mock-Heroic," Renaissance Quarterly, 24 (1971), 501-506.
- "Skelton and the Renaissance Theme of Folly," Philological Quarterly, 50 (1971), 23-35.
- "Old Cotter and the Enigma of Joyce's 'The Sisters'," Modern Philology, 68 (1970), 370-72.
- "Sherwood Anderson's Triumph: 'The Egg'," American Quarterly, 20 (1968), 675-93. Partially reprinted in Bloom's Major Short Story Writers: Sherwood Anderson, ed. Harold Bloom (Philadelphia: Chelsea House, 2003), pp. 133-136.

"Dramatic Time, Setting and Motivation in Chaucer," Chaucer Review, 2 (1968), 172-87.

VERSE TRANSLATIONS

Translator: Propertius, "Elegies I.20, II.14," Mr. Cogito, Vol. 7, No. 2 (Fall 1986), 13-15.

Translator: Propertius, "Elegies III.8," New England Review, 6 (1984), 452-453.

Translator: Propertius, "Elegies I.12, III.14, III.20, III.25," University of Windsor Review, Vol. 14, No. 2 (1979), 80-85.

Translator: Propertius, "Elegies III.13," The Michigan Quarterly Review, 18 (1979), 606-608.

Translator: Propertius, "Elegies III.21," The Iowa Review, Vol. 9, No. 4 (Fall 1978), 82-83.

Translator: Propertius, "Elegies I.1, II.4, II.9, II.33, III.23," Nimrod, Vol. 22, No. 2 (Spring/Summer, 1978), 87-93.

Translator: Jean Cocteau, "Three Poems," The Malahat Review, No. 39 (1976), 128-29.

Translator: Propertius, "Elegies II.26," The Michigan Quarterly Review, 12 (1974), 294-96.

Translator: Propertius, "Elegies I.2, III.24," Modern Occasions 2: New Fiction, Criticism, Poetry, ed. Philip Rahv (Port Washington, NY: Kennikat, 1974), pp. 298-300.

Translator: Jean Cocteau, "Party on Montmartre," Tropos, 3 (1973), 31.

Translator: Propertius, "Elegies I.14," Poet Lore, 68 (1973), 302.

Translator: Propertius, "Elegies I.19, II.30," The New York Quarterly, No. 14 (1973), 156-57.

Translator: Propertius, "Elegies II.23," Works, A Quarterly of Writing, No. 4 (1973), 42-43.

Translator: Virgil, "Eclogue 10," and Propertius, "Elegies II.5, III.10," The Georgia Review, 27 (1973), 262-67.

PUBLIC LECTURES, DISCUSSION GROUPS, INTERVIEWS, ETC.

"Emily Dickinson at Play and at Work," Panel on Emily Dickinson at Play, NeMLA Conference, Washington, DC, March 22, 2019

"Winesburg, Ohio (1919) and Sad Small Communities in American Films a Century Later," Roundtable on Memory, Time and the Aftermath: Visualizing Histories That Hurt, NeMLA Conference, Washington, DC, March 22, 2019

“Robert Graves and Writers’ Efforts to Detach Themselves from Combat Experiences in the Great War,” Seminar on Literature and Film of the Great War: From War to Peace 1917-1925, NeMLA Conference, Pittsburgh, PA, April 12-15, 2018

“Exercises for Teaching Tone in Introductory Classes,” Pedagogy Roundtable on Teaching Tone, NeMLA Conference, Pittsburgh, PA, April 12-15, 2018

Respondent to Edwin Floyd’s “The Indo-European Background of Some Textual Variants in the *Iliad*,” University of Pittsburgh Center for the Humanities, March 28, 2013

“Mock Heroic before the Enlightenment,” Speaking in Tongues Series, University of Pittsburgh Center for the Humanities, Nov. 13, 2012; also presented earlier in abridged form at the Colloquium on Humor in Literature and Film, West Virginia University, Sept. 15, 2012

“Ironic Subversiveness in Rebecca Harding Davis’s Short Fiction,” Special Session on Rebecca Harding Davis and the Interdisciplinarity of Nineteenth-Century United States Literature, MLA Convention, Philadelphia, PA, 2009

“Ramblers, Hikers, Vagabonds, and Flaneurs: America’s Peripatetic Romantics and the Arts of Walking,” Special Session on Walking and Writing at the MLA Convention, Philadelphia, PA, 2009

“Did World War I Foster a ‘Spectatorial Attitude’ in British Writers?” Midwest Conference on British Studies, Pittsburgh, PA, 2009.

“Revelations Not By Design: The Purported and Actual Meanings of Richard Wright’s ‘Big Black Good Man’,” College English Association Conference, Pittsburgh, PA, 2009

“Ambivalent Enlistees: The Transcendentalists’ Response to the Civil War,” The Thoreau Society, MLA Convention, Philadelphia, PA, 2006

“Did World War I Foster a ‘Spectatorial’ Attitude in American Writers?” Division on Comparative Studies in Twentieth-Century Literature, MLA Convention, Philadelphia, PA, 2006

“Robert Frost: ‘Like Horace in the True Horatian Vein?’” Discussion Group on Classical Studies and Modern Literature, MLA Convention, Philadelphia, PA, 2004

“James Brown, Linguistic Engineer—Grammar and Science in Nineteenth-Century Philadelphia,” Mid-Atlantic American Studies Association Conference, Philadelphia, PA, 2002.

Several interviews re relevance of research in University of Pittsburgh’s University Times, Campaign Chronicle, Research Review, Pitt Magazine, and the Pitt News, 2001-2002.

“Reflections on Publishing,” Phi Beta Kappa Senate Meeting, Williamsburg, VA, 2001.

“The Life of Words: Artistic, Scientific, and Psychosexual Grounds for Thoreau’s Punning,” Twentieth International Literature and Psychology Conference, Greenwich, UK, 2003; International Society for Humor Studies’ Conference, College Park, MD, 2001; Thoreau Society Gathering,

Concord, MA, and the Hellenic Association for American Studies' International Conference on Culture Agonistes, Athens, Greece, 2000

"The Politics of Coriolanus's Eloquence," Shakespeare Section, NEMLA's Thirtieth Annual Conference, Pittsburgh, PA, 1999.

"Correcting Grammatical Errors beyond the Composition Course," Teaching Excellence Conference, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA, 1995.

Moderator, Panel on Literary Patronage and Court Preferment, Fifth Pennsylvania Symposium on Medieval and Renaissance Studies, Pittsburgh, PA 1991.

"Recovering Thoreau's Humor for the Classroom," Fiftieth Anniversary Celebration of the Thoreau Society, MLA Convention, San Francisco, CA, 1991.

"Spenser's Ambivalence about Warfare," Special Section on Humanism, Militarism, and Pacifism, MLA Convention, Washington, DC, 1989.

"Is Coriolanus Capable of Eloquence?" Pacific Northwest Renaissance Conference, Eugene, OR, 1988.

"Spenser's Art of War: Chivalric Tactics, Military Technology, and Renaissance Mock-Heroic," Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Scotland, 1987; Huntington Library, San Marino, CA, 1986.

"Spenser's Vision of Warfare and Renaissance Mock-Heroic," Renaissance Society of America, Philadelphia, PA, and Shakespeare and Renaissance Association of West Virginia, Morgantown, WV, 1986.

"Thoreau's Puns and Early American Theories of Language," Trinity College, Hartford, CT, 1987; American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, MA, 1985.

"What Constitutes Acceptance of a Manuscript?" CELJ Session, NEMLA Conference, Hartford, CT, 1985.

"Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Evaluating Journals but Were Afraid to Ask," ADE Summer Seminar, Chapel Hill, NC, 1983.

"Evaluating Scholars and Evaluating Journals," ADE Summer Seminar, Boise State University, Boise, ID, 1982.

Interviewed by Karen J. Winkler in "When It Comes to Journals Is More Really Better?" Chronicle of Higher Education, XXIV, No. 7 (14 April 1982), pp. 21-22.

Discussion Leader, "How Scholars, Editors, and Chairmen Evaluate Academic Periodicals," Special Session, MLA Convention, New York, NY, 1981.

"Teacher is an Anagram for Cheater," University of Pittsburgh Faculty Seminar on Crime in the Classroom, 1981.

"The Abundance of Journals," Conference of Editors of Learned Journals at SAMLA, Atlanta, GA, 1980.

Discussant, Conference on Psychological Interpretations of Henry Thoreau, State University College at Geneseo, Geneseo, NY, 1978; remarks reprinted in Thoreau's Psychology: Eight Essays, ed. Raymond D. Gozzi (New York: University Press of America, 1983), p. 107.

"Duffett and Mac Flecknoe: Dryden on the Dramatic Origins of Satire," NEMLA Comparative Literature Section on Satire, Pittsburgh, PA, 1977.

Panelist, Symposium on Petrarch's Abiding Presence, Sexcentenary of Petrarch's Death, Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA, 1974.

"Propertius and Spenser: Epithalamic Tradition and the Genre of Prothalamia," Comparative Literature Section, NEMLA Conference, University Park, PA, 1974.

Panelist, Seminar on Folklore and Literature, MLA Convention, Chicago, IL, 1973.

"Petruccio's Wooing Dance: Male Superiority in The Taming of the Shrew," Shakespeare Section, NEMLA Conference, Saratoga Springs, NY, 1972.

Chairman, NEMLA Renaissance English Section, Saratoga Springs, NY, 1972.

"Sectarian Controversy in George Herbert's 'Peace'," Renaissance English Section, NEMLA Conference, Philadelphia, PA, 1971.

"Scatology and Eschatology: Thoreau's Wordplay in Walden," Wesleyan Center for the Humanities, Middletown, CT, 1970.

Discussion Group Leader, Conference on Advanced Placement in College, Connecticut State Department of Education, Hartford, CT, 1970.

"Milton's Relevance," Sacred Heart Academy in Hamden, CT, 1969.

COURSES TAUGHT

Freshman level: Remedial composition for disadvantaged students; General composition (sequenced assignments, Amherst model); Linguistically oriented freshman rhetoric (under Richard Ohmann); Literature and technology for engineering students; Introduction to Literature (under Reuben Brower); Great books of Western literature; Tragic forms in world literature; Comic forms in world literature; Introduction to American Literature.

Undergraduate: Introduction to critical reading; Historical survey of English literature from Beowulf to Dryden; Historical survey of English literature from Dryden to T.S. Eliot; Historical survey of American literature; Introduction to Shakespeare; Advanced Shakespeare; Milton (taught in conjunction with Spenser and Bunyan); The English Renaissance; Satiric forms in world literature; Comparative American and British novel; American Literature to 1860; The American Renaissance; The Roaring Twenties; Introduction to poetry; Introduction to drama;

Introduction to the short story; Advanced short story; The American Short Story 1820-1920--
Scribbling Women vs. Canonical Men; Thoreau and Frost; Work and play in literature; Irish
literature.

Graduate Seminars: Shakespeare's comedies and the nature of comedy; Teaching the short story;
The American Short Story; Literature, language and rebellion (stylistics); Practical criticism;
Thoreau, Whitman and Transcendentalism; Satire; From Heroic to Mock Heroic; The
American Renaissance.

MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

MLA, Renaissance Society of America, Thoreau Society, International Society for Humor Studies, Phi
Beta Kappa, The American Antiquarian Society, The Marlowe Society

LANGUAGES READ: French, Italian, German, Anglo-Saxon, Latin, Ancient Greek

UNIVERSITY AND DEPARTMENT SERVICE

2000-02, 21-26 Department Undergraduate Awards Committee; Chair 2000-02
2013-21 Department Undergraduate Placement/Internship Committee
2001- Executive Committee, 2001-; Selection Committee, 2003-, Co-Chair, Chair 2007-21;
President 2008-12, University of Pittsburgh Chapter Xi of Phi Beta Kappa
2004-15 Faculty Senate University Press Committee;, Co-Chair 2014-15
1998- Department Advisor to students considering graduate work in English
1980-3, 87-2013 Department Library Committee
1976- Department Committee of Professors
1975- Department Tenure Committee
1998-2003 Faculty Senate Library Committee
1998-2002 Department Committee in Support of the Major
1997-1998 Department Graduate Procedures Committee
1994-96 Alternate Member, University Tenure Council
1991-92, 94-7 Department Graduate Admissions Committee
1988-90 Hillman Library Preservation Advisory Committee
1979-90 Subcommittee for Evaluating Teaching; Chair 1983-85
1977, 81-82 Department Hiring Committee
1975-80 Department Graduate Placement Committee; Chair 1975-77
1974-77 Department TA/TF Coordinating Committee; Chair 1975-77
1973-74 Department Curriculum Committee

Also served on various departmental and university ad hoc committees at Pitt; value of administrative
contributions singled out for recognition in university's 1980 self-study and review of department.

Considerable university service at Wesleyan, especially re curriculum and student affairs.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- 2021-25 Online Reader, Global Undergraduate Awards in Literature, 18 Fitzwilliam Square, Dublin 2, Ireland
- 2012-13, Reader, Educational Testing Service's Advanced Placement Exam in English
2008-10 Literature, Louisville, KY
- 2007 Refereed professorial tenure and promotion case, University of California at Merced
- 2006 Served as expert witness for a lawsuit involving ambiguous language in a contract.
- 2002 Refereed fellowship application for the Thoreau Society.
- 2001 Refereed mss. for Humor as well as PMLA.
- 1998 Consultant to editions of Edmund Spenser's poetry forthcoming from Longman and James Fenimore Cooper's Tom Cringle's Log forthcoming from Holt.
- 1984-85 Consultant to The Spenser Encyclopedia (Toronto, 1990), ed. A. C. Hamilton et al., for articles on "Hero," "Heroic Poem before 1700," "Heroic Poem after 1700," "Puns," "Everard Digby," and "Sir Kenelm Digby."
- 1984 Consultant to Little Brown for the third edition of H.R. Fowler's The Little Brown Handbook
- 1984 Consultant to Harper and Row for The Harper American Literature, ed. D. McQuade et al (New York, 1987), as per acknowledgment, I, xxx.
- 1984 Consultant to Little Brown for the eighth edition of Introduction to Literature, ed. S. Barnet et al.
- 1982 Consultant to D. C. Heath & Company for a proposed short story anthology One Hundred Fictions, ed. D. Bergman.
- 1982 Consultant to the Modern Language Association for Approaches to Milton's Paradise Lost (New York: MLA, 1986), ed. G. Crump.
- 1980- Reviewer, National Endowment for the Humanities, various grant proposals for projects concerning translation theory, comic drama, American transcendentalism, the short story, classical, medieval, and Renaissance literature.
- 1979 Consultant for Anthology of American Literature, ed. G. McMichael (New York: Macmillan, 1980), as per acknowledgement, p. ix.
- 1973- Reader for PMLA, Renaissance Quarterly, American Quarterly: mss. on Renaissance and American literature. Commended by Editor of PMLA, 1988, for consistently thorough, incisive and helpful reports.
- 1976-77 Helped coordinate and edit program for NEMLA's 1977 Convention.

- 1976 Consultant for The Little, Brown Reader, ed. Stubbs & Barnet (Boston: Little Brown, 1977), as per acknowledgement, p. vi.
- 1972 Reader, Educational Testing Service's Advanced Placement Exam in English, Literature, Princeton, NJ.
- 1970-72 Reader for Wesleyan University Press, MSS on English and Classical literature, theory of criticism.

COMMUNITY SERVICE, TOPSPIN SERVICE, ETC.

- 2009 Interviewed in Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (Jan. 18, 2009), A7, as an expert on Edgar Allan Poe to clarify nickname of Baltimore's pro football team the Ravens.
- 2002 Interviewed in Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (Jan. 5, 2002), C1, as an expert on satire to clarify acerbic civic controversy raging over proposed memorial to Gene Kelly.
- 1991 "Pitt police patrol for Posvar poodle is prof's pet peeve," Pittsburgh Press (July 8, 1991), B3, a satiric op-ed piece that helped trim an excessive benefit package tendered Pitt's retiring President by a confessedly inept Board of Trustees.
- 1990 Steering Committee, Committee to Preserve Property Rights, which led successful opposition to organized effort to designate our Shadyside neighborhood a historic preservation district and thus impose unreasonable repair costs on homeowners.
- 1985 Winner, Pittsburgh Public Parks Mixed Doubles Tennis Tournament (thanks mainly to having married a strong partner)
- 1977 Taught course in the short story to inmates at Western Penitentiary through prison's joint program with the University of Pittsburgh
- 1974- Parishioner, Calvary Episcopal Church, Pittsburgh, PA, for which I have bled, gardened, helped house Vietnamese refugees, participated in Bible study groups and a group studying Goethe's Faust.
- 1975-82 Member, Shadyside West, our neighborhood organization
- 1968-73 Member, FISH (Friends in Service Here), a twenty-four-hour emergency answering service co-founded by my wife in Higganum, CT

April 2026