

Rebecca Weaver-Hightower

Professor, Department of English, Virginia Tech
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PUBLICATIONS

Books:

- Cinematic Settlers: The Settler Colonial World in Film*. Eds. Janna Lahti and Rebecca Weaver-Hightower. Routledge, 2020.
- Frontier Fictions: Settler Sagas and Postcolonial Guilt*, Palgrave MacMillan, 2018.
- Archiving Settler Colonialism: Culture, Space and Race*. Eds. Yu-Ting Huang and Rebecca Weaver-Hightower. Routledge, 2018.
- Postcolonial Film: History, Empire, Resistance*. Eds. Rebecca Weaver-Hightower and Peter Hulme. Routledge, 2014.
- Empire Islands: Castaways, Cannibals, and Fantasies of Conquest in Post/Colonial Island Narratives*, University of Minnesota Press, 2007.
- Selected Poems of Robert Greacen*. Edited by Jack Weaver and Rebecca Weaver-Hightower. Salman Press, 2006.

Essays and Essay-Length Pieces:

- “The Imaginary Frontier: *Avatar* Films and the Settler Experience,” invited essay for the collection. *Visual Sovereignty & Settler Colonial Screen Culture: The Imaginary Frontier*. Routledge, 2027.
- “Settler Mining and Mineral Extraction: New Developments in an Old Discussion,” essay review, *Settler Colonial Studies*, Volume 14, Issue 4, 2024.
- “Developing Students’ Postpandemic Global Competencies through Sustainable Humanities.” Weaver-Hightower, R., Gjellstad, M., & Knapp, T. (2024). *ALD Bulletin* 48.1, October (4th Quarter/Autumn) 2024, pp. 102-116. DOI: 10.1632/FKXN5521
- “‘New’ Media: Decolonial Opportunities or Digital Colonialism?” by Lorenzo Veracini and Rebecca Weaver-Hightower. *Humanities* 2024, 13(1), 2; <https://doi.org/10.3390/h13010002>.
- “Mobile Film Festival Africa and Postcolonial Activism.” *Humanities*, 12(6). 2023
doi:[10.3390/h12060140](https://doi.org/10.3390/h12060140).
- “*Utopia*, the Imperial Settler Utopia, and Imperial Settler Science Fiction.” Essay co-authored with Mosab Bajaber of King Saud University in Saudi Arabia, submitted for publication in *The Oxford Handbook of Thomas More’s Utopia*, eds. Phil Withington and Cathy Shrank, Oxford UP, 2023.
- “The Voortrekker Monument, Pretoria and the 1820s Settler Monument, Makandha: Monuments

- to Cultural Violence,” Rebecca Weaver-Hightower and Marcus Weaver-Hightower. Published in the special issue “Monuments and Colonial Violence” of *The Journal of Genocide Research*. 24:4 (2022), 549-567, DOI: 10.1080/14623528.2022.2104023.
- “This is the Place, Salt Lake City, Utah and the Voortrekker Monument Pretoria: Monuments to Settler Constructions of History, Race, and Religion,” Cynthia Culver Prescott, Nathan Rees, Rebecca Weaver-Hightower, *Safundi: The Journal of South African and American Studies*. Vol 22, issue 2 (2021): pp. 105-129. <https://doi.org/10.1080/17533171.2021.1924504>.
- Reprinted in *South African Cultural Studies: A Safundi Reader on Media, Contexts, and Identities, 1999-2024*. Eds. Christopher J. Lee and Andrew Offerburger. Routledge, 2026: 446-469.
- “The Murder, the Flood, and Stories of Trauma,” *Open Space*, online publication of *North American Review*, April 20, 2021. <https://northamericanreview.org/open-space/murder-flood-and-stories-trauma>.
- “Enshrining Gender in Monuments to Settler Whiteness: South Africa’s Voortrekker Monument and The United States’ This is the Place Monument” Cynthia Prescott, Nathan Rees, Rebecca Weaver-Hightower, *Humanities* 10, no. 1 (2021): 41. <https://doi.org/10.3390/h10010041>
- “Botany and the Woman Colonizer in Catharine Parr Traill’s Backwoods of Canada and Anna Brownell Jameson’s Winter Studies and Summer Rambles in Canada.” Jody Jensen and Rebecca Weaver-Hightower. *Journal of Settler Colonial Studies*. vol 11, issue 2 (2021). <https://doi.org/10.1080/2201473X.2021.1881343>.
- “Introduction: Reel Settler Colonialism: Gazing, Reception, and Production of Global Settler Cinemas.” *Cinematic Settlers: The Settler Colonial World in Film*. Routledge, 2020: pp 1-10.
- “Elegies to Dead Children and Murdered Indigenes: Guilt and the ‘Lost’ Child in 19th-century Anglophone Settler Stories.” *Settler Colonial Studies*. Vol. 9, no. 3, (2019): pp. 419-432.
- “The Gothic Uncanny as Colonial Allegory in The Island of Doctor Moreau.” Rebecca Weaver-Hightower and Rachel Piwarski. *Gothic Studies*, Vol. 20, no. 1-2, 2018, pp. 358–372.
- “‘Do We Reverse the Medal?’: Settler Guilt, the Indian Speech, and the Untold Side of the Story.” *Western American Literature*. Vol. 52, no. 1, 2017, pp. 25-53.
- “The Complicated Identity Negotiation of Women in Kangni Alem’s *Chemin de Croix*. Hamzat Koriko and Rebecca Weaver-Hightower. *International Journal of Francophone Studies*. vol. 19, no. 3- 4, 2017, pp. 341-61.
- “Teaching Kate Grenville’s *The Secret River*” with Marguerite Nolan, Australian Catholic University, in *Teaching Australian and New Zealand Literature*. Eds. Nicholas Birns, Nicole Moore, and Sarah Shieff. MLA Options for Teaching series. Modern Language Association, 2017.
- “Settlers and Their Literature.” (4000 word essay) *Wiley-Blackwell Encyclopedia of Postcolonial Studies*. Sangeeta Ray and Henry Schwarz eds. Wiley-Blackwell, 2016.
- “Pride and Prejudice and Postcolonial Zombies,” in *Pride and Prejudice: A Bicentennial Bricolage*. Ed. Caterina Columba. Forum University Press, 2016, pp. 57-75.
- “Letter from South Africa” with Marcus Weaver-Hightower. *Journal of Commonwealth and*

Postcolonial Studies, vol. 2, no. 1, 2014, pp. 75-85.

“Introduction: New Perspective on Postcolonial Film.” In *Postcolonial Film: History, Empire, Resistance*. Eds. Rebecca Weaver-Hightower and Peter Hulme. Routledge, 2014.

“The South African Postcolonial Hybrid in District 9,” in *Postcolonial Film: History, Empire, Resistance*. Eds. Rebecca Weaver-Hightower and Peter Hulme. Routledge, 2014.

“Tomb Raider Archaeologists and the Exhumation of the U.S. Neoimperial Cinematic Fantasy” *The Journal of Popular Culture*. 47.1 (Feb 2014): 109-128.

“‘Before God This Was Their Country’: History and Guilt in Stuart Cloete’s *Turning Wheels* and the Voortrekker Monument, Pretoria,” *English in Africa*. 40.2 (October 2013): 101-120.

“The Frontier Landscape and Guilty Settler in Nineteenth Century Colonial Literature,” *Geocritical Explorations: Space, Place, and Mapping in Literary and Cultural Studies*. Ed. Robert Tally. Palgrave MacMillan, 2011: 123-138.

“Islands and the Narrating of Possession,” (translated into Hebrew), essay for Islands exhibit catalogue, Museums of Bat Yam, Israel, 2010.

“The Sorry Novels: Peter Carey’s *Oscar and Lucinda*, Greg Matthews’ *The Wisdom of Stones* and Kate Grenville’s *The Secret River*, in *Postcolonial Issues in Australian Literature*, ed. Nathanael O’Reilly, Cambria Press, 2010: 129-156.

“Children’s Literature and African Studies,” Invited essay-review of Elwyn Jenkins *National Character in South African English Children’s Literature* (Routledge 2006) and Vivia Yenika-Agbaw’s *Representing Africa in Children’s Literature: Old and New Ways of Seeing* (Routledge 2007) for *Safundi: The Journal of South African and American Studies*, 9. 4 (2008): 469-474.

“Revising the Vanquish: Indigenous Perspectives of Colonial Encounter,” in a special issue “Postcolonial Revisions” of *Journal for Early Modern Cultural Studies*, 6. 2 (2006): 84-102.

“Cast Away & Survivor: The Rebirth of the Castaway and the Rebirth of Empire,” in *Journal of Popular Culture*, 39.2 (2006): 294-317.

“Islands Still ‘In Between’: Caribbean Liminal Space, Language, and Self-Definition,” in *Journal of Caribbean Studies*, 19.3 (2005): 171-188.

“Interview with Robert Anderson, Gheebelum Ngugi.” in *Antipodes: An American Journal of Australian Studies*, 18.2 (2004): 98-103.

“Voracious Cannibals, Rapacious Pirates, and the Empire Island” in *Journal of Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies*, 8.1-2 (2002): 81-107.

(as “Rebecca Weaver”) “Yeats’s Imagined East and Ireland in the Postcolonial Context” in *Yeats and Postcolonialism*, ed. Deborah Flemming. Locust Hill Press, 2000: 301-329.

Book Reviews and Shorter Pieces:

Conrad’s Trojan Horses: Imperialism, Hybridity and the Postcolonial Aesthetic. Tom Henthorne. *North Dakota Quarterly*, 75.3-4 (2008), 320-322.

For Indigenous Eyes Only: A Decolonization Handbook. Wilson, Angela Cavender and Michael Yellow Bird. *North Dakota Quarterly*, 74.2 (2007): 182-184.

Travelling Knowledges: Positioning the Im/Migrant Reader of Aboriginal Literatures in Canada. Renate Eigenbrod, *North Dakota Quarterly*, 73.1-2 (2006): 286-288.

Cultural Memory: Reconfiguring History and Identity in the Postcolonial Pacific, edited by Jeannette Marie Mageo; and *Represented Communities: Fiji and World Decolonization*, edited by John D. Kelly and Martha Kaplan. *Journal of Asian Studies* 61.3 (2002): 1112-1115.

“Jamaica Kincaid” entry for *The Encyclopedia of Postcolonial Studies*. John C. Hawley, ed. Greenwood, 2001.

Impossible Purities: Blackness, Femininity and Victorian Culture, by Jennifer DeVere Brody. *Interventions: International Journal of Postcolonial Studies* 2.3 (2001): 455-456.

Cannibalism and the Colonial World, edited by Francis Barker, Peter Hulme and Margaret Iversen. *Journal of Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies* 6.2 (1999): 144-148.

The Sign of the Cannibal: Melville and the Making of a Postcolonial Reader, by Geoffrey Sanborne. *Interventions: International Journal of Postcolonial Studies*. 1.4 (1999): 631-632.

Beyond Postcolonial Theory, by E. San Juan. *Journal of Caribbean Studies* 14.1 (1999): 129-130.

Colonial Discourse/Postcolonial Theory, edited by Francis Barker, Peter Hulme and Margaret Iversen. *Journal of Caribbean Studies* 13.2 (1998): 140-143.

Journal Special Issues:

Special issue: *Settler Colonial Studies*, “Patrick Wolfe’s Settler Colonial Theory, 20 Years On,” co-edited with Julie McIntyre of Newcastle University, Australia. In progress. Publication in 2027.

Special Issue of *Humanities*: “New Media and Postcolonialism.” Co-edited with Lorenzo Veracini, Swinburne University, Australia. (December 2023-January 2024).

Special Issue: *Settler Colonial Studies*: “New Readings of Gender and Settler Colonialism.” Co-edited with Yuting Huang. vol 11 issue 2 (2021).

Special issue of *The Journal of Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies*: “Postcolonial Australia,” Co-edited with Nathaniel O’Reilly. 17.2 (spring 2012).

Works in Progress:

“English and Languages Department Chairs, A National Study of Precarity and Resilience,” with Thyra Knapp and Melissa Gjellstad, University of North Dakota, forthcoming in the 2026 MLA publication *Profession on Precarity and Resilience*.

“Life Writing and 19th Century Gold Mining Narratives,” in *Scripting Selves: New Directions in Life Writing*. Editors: P. Muralidhar Sharma & Shashibhusan Nayak. Essay accepted, forthcoming 2027.

The Golden Frontier: Settler Gold Mining Narratives and the Construction of White Identity. Monograph: I am currently researching a book on postcolonial stories about mineral extraction (gold, diamonds, oil) in 19th and 20th-century novels in South Africa, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and the US feature stories of mineral extraction, and mining

continues to be an important theme in settler/indigenous relations, reparations, and land rights. I have conducted archival research in Australia, California, South Africa, New Zealand, and Canada in support of this project. I have taken the entire manuscript through an initial draft.

“Gilded Age Gold Miners: The James W. Marshall Monument and the Marshall Gold Discovery Park” for special issue “Pioneer Monuments and Memorialization” in the *Journal for the Gilded Age and Progressive Era*.

INVITED TALKS

“The Settler Colonial Gaze,” Invited to give a plenary lecture at the Academy Art Museum in Maryland on colonial imagery to create context for the works by the Diné photographer Will Wilson, June 7, 2023.

“Settler Guilt, the Indian Speech, and the Untold Side of the Story,” Invited talk for the Frontier Culture Museum of Virginia, March 22, 2022.

“The Castaway Uncanny: Animals as Reflection of the Self in the Castaway Island Story,” Concordia College, March 2014. Presented to university and to undergraduate class on castaway narratives that was organized around my book, *Empire Islands*.

“Postcolonial Themes in Literature,” Charleston and Berkeley County Secondary Teacher Professional Development Conference, February 2014.

“Frontier Fictions: Settler Stories and the Origins of White Guilt,” Rhodes University, English Department Research Seminar, February 2013.

University Graduation Commencement Address. University of North Dakota, August 2011.

“Saying Sorry in the Contact Zone,” invited address to the North Dakota State University research circle, October 2011.

“‘Before God This Was Their Country’: Mapping the Psychology of Conquest through Literature,” Humanities/Social Sciences Dean’s Lecture, Scholarly Forum, University of North Dakota, February 2008.

“Convicts and Bushrangers: Aussie (Out) Law Tales and Post-colonial Identity,” University of Queensland Postcolonial Research Circle, April 2005.

“Castaways and Islands,” invited lecture to the Department of Geography, University of North Dakota, April 2005.

“Empire Islands: Castaways, Cannibals, and Fantasies of Possession,” University of Queensland Postcolonial Research Circle, August 2003.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Dancing with Destiny: Luck, Fate, and Gambling in Settler Mining Narratives,” British Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies Conference, Savannah, Feb 20, 2026.

“Mateship And Mining: The Settler Miner, His Friends, Enemies, And Servants,” British

- Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies Conference, Savannah, Feb 25, 2025.
- “*Avatar*, The Imaginary Frontier.” Session: Fantasy and Force. British Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies Conference, Savannah, Feb 12, 2024.
- “Dispossession in the Settler Colonial US.” Session: Postcoloniality and Conditions of Dispossession. MLA Conference, Philadelphia, Jan 4, 2024
- “Mapping and Geocriticism in the Settler Colony.” Session: Celebration and Spatiality: A Geocritical Roundtable, MLA Conference, Philadelphia, January 7, 2024.
- “Mobile Film Africa.” Roundtable on Mobile Filmmaking in Africa (virtual session). “Go Mobile, Stay Creative,” Mobile Studies Congress 2023, 16-17 December, Hangzhou, China.
- “Healthier Humanities: A Guide to Postpandemic Program Building.” Roundtable session, MLA annual convention, Washington DC, January 2022.
- “Go Global Academy: An Adaptable Retention and Recruitment Program for Austere Times,” Innovation Room poster session, MLA annual convention, Washington DC, January 2022.
- “Access, Austerity, and Alignment in a First-Year Global Certificate Program,” with Melissa Gjellstad and Thyra Knapp, Association of American Colleges and Universities AACU annual meeting, October 2021.
- “Cultural Violence in two South African Historic Sites: The Voortrekker Monument, Pretoria and the Settler Monument, Makhanda (formerly Grahamstown),” British Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies Conference, online, February 2021.
- “Life Writing about the Contested Gold Mine,” in session, Life Writing on Contested Ground, MLA annual convention, Seattle, January 2020.
- “Botany and the Woman Colonizer in Catharine Parr Traill's *Backwoods of Canada* and Anna Brownell Jameson's *Winter Studies and Summer Rambles in Canada*,” British Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies Conference, Savannah, GA, February 2019.
- “Boundaries and the White Man's Burden in *Poldark* and *Downton Abbey*,” session organizer, The BBC Beyond Boundaries, MLA annual convention, Philadelphia, January 2017.
- “Mining, Minerals and Empire in Haggard's *King Solomon's Mines* and Rolf Boldrewood's *The Miner's Right*,” British Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies Conference, Savannah, GA, February 2016.
- “Mine Craft: Mining, Minerals and Empire in 19th Century South African and Australian Literature,” session organizer, Mining and Empire, MLA annual convention, Austin, January 2016.
- “Ambivalence in the American West: Emerson Bennett's *Forest and Prairie or Life on the Frontier* (1860), Charles Kenyon's *The Young Ranchmen, or, Perils of Pioneering in the Wild West* (1891) and the Complications of Settler Guilt,” session on Settler Colonial Culture, Western Literature Association, Reno, October 2015.
- “The Settler Saga, Guilt and White Victimhood in 19th Century South African and Australian Novels,” Session “Settler Colonial Literatures in Comparison,” American Comparative Literature Association, Seattle, March 2015.

- “Education as Failed Transformative Site in *Disgrace* and *You Can’t Get Lost in Cape Town*,” British Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies Conference, Savannah, GA, February 2015.
- “Teaching *The Secret River*,” British Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies Conference, Savannah, GA, February 2014.
- “Peter Carey’s *True History of the Kelly Gang*: Out/Laws and Legal Precedents in Australian Literature,” Criminal Justice and the Literary Imagination session, MLA annual convention, Chicago, January 2014.
- “Bushrangers, Convicts, and the “Conscience Collective”: Justice and the (Out)law in White and Indigenous Australian Literature,” Law and Literature in the Postcolony session, MLA annual convention, Chicago, January 2014.
- “Guilt in the Nineteenth Century South African Settlement Novel.” African Literature Association Meeting, Charleston, SC, March 20, 2013.
- “Settler Motherhood and ‘Lost’ Children.” British Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies Conference, Savannah, GA, February 2012.
- “Australian Animals on the Transnational Frontier,” in Transnational Approaches to Australian Literature. MLA Annual Convention, Los Angeles, Jan 2011.
- “Child Mortality in Canadian and Australian Female Settler's Tales,” Red River Women’s studies conference, Grand Forks, ND, October 2010. “The Frontier Landscape and Guilty Settler in Nineteenth Century Colonial Literature”; The Great Plains, The Prairies, and the US/Canadian Border Conference; Grand Forks, ND; June 2010.
- “South African Postcolonial Hybridity in *District 9*,” Session Organizer for Post-colonial film session, American Comparative Literature Association, New Orleans, April 2010.
- “The Settler Saga in Nineteenth Century South African and Canadian Literature, Linguistic Circle of North Dakota and Manitoba, Grand Forks, September 2010.
- “The Lost Child in Canadian, South African and Australian Literature,” Red River Valley Conference on World Literature, Fargo, April 2009.
- “Native American Forced Migration and Settler Guilt in the Nineteenth-Century Canadian Newspaper *The Settler Gazette*.” British Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies Conference, Savannah, GA, February 2009.
- “*Red Dust* and *In My Country*: Global Cinematic Representations of South Africa’s Truth and Reconciliation Commission,” in Politics and South African Film: An Audience Interactive Discussion (also session organizer), MLA Annual Convention, San Francisco, December 2008.
- “Cognitive approaches to Ethnic and Postcolonial Literature and Culture,” MLA Annual Convention, San Francisco, December 2008.
- “Questioning Cultural Anthropology and Misreading Everyday Resistance in *Master of the Ghost Dreaming* and *Babakiueria*,” MLA Annual Convention, Chicago, December 2007.
- “Representation and Ideology in South African English Textbooks,” Session on Colonial Education in African Literatures, MLA Annual Convention, Chicago, December 2007.

- “Representations of South Africa’s Truth and Reconciliation Commission in Film,” British Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies Conference, Savannah, GA, February 2007.
- “Tricked, Robbed, and Beaten: Life Lessons, Representation and Ideology in Three South African English Textbooks,” US Commonwealth Language and Literature Studies Association meeting, Santa Clara CA, October 2006.
- “Ambivalence and White Guilt in Peter Carey’s *Oscar and Lucinda* and Greg Matthews’ *The Wisdom of Stones*,” British Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies Conference, Savannah, February 2006.
- “Guilty Cites/Sites of Cultural Memory in Contemporary White Australia,” Special session “Village, Pantry, Archive, and Sacred Site: Inter and Intragroup Cultural Memory in Postcolonial Literature” (organizer) MLA Annual Convention, Washington D.C., December 2005
- “Convicts and Bushrangers: Aussie (Out)Law Tales and Post-colonial Identity” British Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies Conference, Savannah, February 2005.
- “‘It’s Just a Museum’?: Postcolonial Pedagogy and Un-Learning US-Centrism,” American Educational Research Association meeting, Montreal, Canada, April 2005.
- “Revising the Vanquish,” MLA Annual Convention, San Diego, December 2003.
- “Panto Crusoe and Harlequin Man Friday, Who Kept the House Tidy,” Associations for the Study of Australian Literature, Australian Catholic University, Ipswich, Queensland Australia, July, 2003.
- “Decolonization of the Island Mind: Island Counter-Discourse and Post-Colonial Resistance,” MLA Annual Convention, New York, December 2002.
- “Semiotics in Caribbean and African Yard Novels,” MLA Annual Convention, New York, December 2002.
- “Response: Good Citizenship, Literary Expression, and US and English History” in “Due Civilities: Images and Practices of Urban Space,” Midwest Conference on British Studies, Columbus, OH, October 2002.
- “Cast Away with Tom, Gilligan, and Rudy: The U.S. Neo-Imperial Island Fantasy,” Second International Conference of the United States Association for Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies, Santa Clara, April 2002.
- “The Academic Job Market,” Round table presentation, Northeast Modern Language Association, Toronto, Canada, April 2002.
- “Illustrating the Animal/Human in *Robinson Crusoe*,” Midwest MLA Convention, Cleveland, October 2001.
- “Eat or Be Eaten: The Psychology of Island Cannibalism,” in “Probing the Imperial Mind: Psychology and Colonization” (also session co-organizer), British Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies Conference, Savannah, February 2001.
- “Yuh haffe come fron some weh fus, Before yuh go back deh’: Caribbean Liminal Self-Definition,” in “The Liminal Caribbean: The West Indian, Inter-American Identity” (also session organizer), American Studies Association meeting, Detroit, October 2000.

- “Masculine Science and the Island Empire in *The Island of Dr. Moreau*,” in “Terms of Empire: Landscape and Writing, 1800 to the Present,” International Multidisciplinary Postcolonial Conference, University of Aberdeen, Scotland, June 2000.
- “Revising the Colonial Island Narrative, Unmapping the Colonial Body,” in “Crossroads in Cultural Studies,” International Cultural Studies Conference, Birmingham, England, June 2000.
- “Imperial Bodies and the Anxiety of Influence: Cannibalism in *Robinson Crusoe* and *The Island of Dr. Moreau*,” in “Border Patrol: Social Anxieties, Texts and the Body” (also session organizer), American Comparative Literature Association, Yale University, February 2000.
- “Psychological Incorporation and Control of the Colonized Island in *Robinson Crusoe*,” in special session “Imperial Psyches” (organizer), Association for the Psychoanalysis of Culture and Society, Columbia University, October 1999.
- “Imperial Islands: Colonial Microcosms, Male Bodies and the Narrating of Possession,” workshop presentation in “Islands: Histories and Representations,” International Conference, University of Kent, Canterbury, England, April 1999.

EDUCATION

University of Kentucky, Ph.D. in English, 2002

Dissertation title: Empire Islands: Castaways, Cannibals and Fantasies of Masculine Incorporation in Post/Colonial Island Narratives

Dissertation committee: Dana D. Nelson (director), Virginia Blum, David D. Miller, Ellen Rosenman, and Anne McClintock

Areas of research: Postcolonial studies and comparative literature; nineteenth and twentieth-century British and Irish literature; Australian, South African and Canadian literatures

Winthrop University, M.A. in English, 1993

Clemson University, B.A. in English, 1991

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Professor, Virginia Tech, 2023-present

Professor and Chair, Virginia Tech, 2020-2022

Professor and Chair, North Dakota State University, 2018-2020 (plus acting Graduate Director 2019-2020)

Visiting Scholar, Rhodes University, Grahamstown, South Africa, June-July 2012, Jan-May 2013

Summer Scholar, North Dakota State University, 2011. Invited as a nationally recognized scholar to teach a one-week seminar on my research to graduate students at North Dakota State University. Previous scholars were Melea Powell and Anne Ruggles Gere.

Professor, University of North Dakota, 2016-2018

Associate Professor, University of North Dakota, 2010-2016

Assistant Professor, University of North Dakota, 2004-2009 Courses taught at Univ. ND:

(Graduate): Frontier Fictions: South African, Australian, American, and Canadian Settler Colonial Literatures; Postcolonial Women Writers; Salman Rushdie Seminar; Introduction to Postcolonial Studies; Empire and Film; African Diasporic Literatures; Science Fiction Film

(Undergraduate): Reading and Writing about Texts, The Art of Nonfiction, Business Writing, Science Fiction Literature, Introduction to Fiction, Introductory Composition (including special Go Global sections), British Survey II, 20th Century British and Irish Literatures, Literatures of Global Diversity

Visiting Assistant Professor, Michigan State University, 2001-May 2004, Courses Taught (Undergraduate): The U.S. in a Globalized World, Law and Justice in the Americas

Instructor, International House English Language College, Brisbane, Australia. February-December 2003, Courses Taught: Conversational and business English

Research Assistant, University of Kentucky, 1999-2000. Assisted Gordon Hutner with editing American Literary History.

Teaching Assistant, University of Kentucky, 1995-1999), Courses Taught (Undergraduate): 20th Century American Literature, Ecology (Interdisciplinary Modern Studies Program), Communities (Interdisciplinary Modern Studies Program), Business and Technical Writing, Composition and argumentative writing.

Instructor, Winthrop University, Rock Hill, SC, 1993-1995, Courses Taught: American Literature Survey, Expository and Argumentative Writing

Instructor, Queens College, Charlotte, NC, 1993-1995, Courses Taught: Expository Writing, Argumentative Writing, Introduction to Literature, Introduction to Literature

EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

Editor (one of five) *Journal of Settler Colonial Studies*. (2022-present). As the literary representative on the editorial collective, I am responsible for managing the review process for literary submissions.

Book Review Co-Editor, *Journal of Settler Colonial Studies*. (2022-present). Create, assign and edit essay reviews, which are the sole book review format for the journal.

Senior Associate Editor, *Journal of Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies* (2013-present). Journal renamed *Journal of Global Postcolonial Studies* (GPS) in 2021. (In conjunction with the General Editor) choose special issue topics and invite guest editors, manage and coordinate with the Editorial Board, solicit peer reviews of submissions, make decisions about essay publication, correspond with authors and other editors

Book Reviews editor, *Journal of Global Postcolonial Studies*, (2020-present) Create, assign and edit essay reviews, which are the sole book review format for the journal.

Editorial Board, *North Dakota Digital Press* (2015- 2017)

Book Reviews & Essay Reviews Editor, *Journal of Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies* (2003- 2012). Created and assigned essay reviews, researched and invited reviewers, corresponded with publishers and reviewers, managed book ordering and distribution, edited essay reviews for content and style.

Assistant editor, *American Literary History* (1999-2000). Read incoming submissions and report on them to the General Editor (Gordon Hutner), researched and invite essay reviewers, managed book ordering and distribution, edited essays and essay reviews for content and style.

Managing editor, *The Robert Frost Review* (1994-1995). Managed journal printing and distribution, managed databases of journal subscribers, assisted General Editor.

Manuscript Reviewer for (2015-present):

Bloomsbury Academic Press

Rowman and Littlefield International Press University of Nebraska Press

Edinburgh University Press

Discourse: Studies in the Cultural Politics of Education

disClosure: A Journal of Social Theory

History of the Present

The Journal of Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies

Australian Literary Studies

Continuum: Journal of Media and Cultural Studies

The Rocky Mountain MLA Review

Island Studies

MELUS (Multiethnic Literatures of the United States)

International Journal of Media and Cultural Politics

Humanities

Quarterly Review of Film and Video

Settler Colonial Studies

19th Century Literary Criticism (2016). Contracted bibliographer for this reference book series, to work with entry on Catherine Parr Traill

SELECT GRANTS & AWARDS

CLAHS Deans Research Focus (fall 2026). Funded. To complete in-progress monograph.

CLAHS Faculty Research Award (2024-2025). \$4,000. Funded. To conduct research for in-progress monograph in Yukon, Canada.

CLAHS Faculty Research Award (2023-2024). \$4,000. Funded. To conduct research for in-progress monograph in South Africa.

CLAHS Faculty Research Award (2022-2023). \$4,000. Funded. To conduct research for in-progress monograph in the gold mining regions of California.

Arts and Humanities Scholarship Initiative (2018). Funded but declined. \$20,000. University of North Dakota. Funding to travel and hire research assistant for work on book on mining in 19th century settler colonies.

Arts and Sciences Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity Award (2016). \$3,000. Funded. Funding to work with an undergraduate student on a co-written essay.

Arts and Sciences Undergraduate and Creative Activity Award (2016). \$3,000. Funded. Funding to hire a research assistant to help with edited collection and to take her to the British Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies Conference.

Arts and Humanities Scholarship Initiative (2015). Funded. \$16,435. University of North Dakota.

Funding to travel and hire research assistant for initial work on book on mining in 19th century settler colonies.

Arts and Humanities Research Award (2012) Funded. \$5,000. Funded. University of North Dakota. Funding to travel to South Africa for sabbatical.

Thomas J. Clifford Faculty Award for Graduate or Professional Teaching Excellence (2011). \$2,000. University of North Dakota. Voted by faculty and graduate students as most outstanding graduate faculty member for the University of North Dakota for 2010-2011.

Elmer and Min West Faculty Award (2010). \$1,000. University of North Dakota. Presented to a faculty member for excellence in teaching, service and research.

Arts and Humanities Research Award (2010) Funded. \$5,000. Funded. University of North Dakota.

Funding to travel to Australia for research and to hire a graduate assistant.

Summer Instructional Professorship (June 2010), \$2,000. Funded. University of North Dakota. Funding to support development of course materials.

Nominee, Thomas J. Clifford Faculty Award for Graduate or Professional Teaching Excellence (2010). \$2,000.

University of North Dakota.

Summer Research Fellowship (2009). Funded. \$12,000 University of North Dakota. Funding to support my summer research and to hire a full-time graduate student assistant.

Newton International Fellowship. Not funded. \$100,000. Fellowship to support two year's work on my research in England.

American Council of Learned Societies. Not funded. \$50,000 fellowship to support a year's full-time work on my research.

National Endowment for the Humanities (2009). Not funded. \$6,000. Summer research fellowship.

American Psychoanalytic Association Fellowship (2008), though I did not receive a financial fellowship, I was assigned a mentor to help me with the psychological and cognitive theory

for my next book.

Grand Forks Visitor's Center Grant (2008), Funded. \$1,500. to support the University of North Dakota John F. Kennedy Conference.

UND Graduate School Recruitment and Research Award (2008). \$4,000. Funded. Funding for travel to South Africa to work in libraries.

Grand Forks Visitor's Center Grant (2008), Funded. \$2,500. to support the University of North Dakota Writer's Conference.

Arts, Humanities, and Social Science Award (2007). Funded. \$6,000. to perform research in Canada in summer of 2008 for next book.

Canadian Embassy Faculty Enrichment Grant (2007) Not funded. \$6,000 to perform research in Canada in summer of 2008 for next book and to prepare for teaching Canadian studies courses.

Finalist, Outstanding Faculty Scholar (2007), for all-round excellence in teaching, service and research among faculty at the University of North Dakota. One of three finalists.

Summer Instructional Professorship (August 2006), in conjunction with Kim Donehower-Weinstein, Lori Robison, and Eric Wolfe. University of North Dakota. Funded. \$3,000 for revision of English department curriculum.

New Faculty Scholar Award (July 2005). Funded. University of North Dakota, \$5,000 for a three-week research trip to South Africa to work in the archives and interview the staffs of The Centre for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation and The Institute for Justice and Reconciliation and funding to buy materials.

Summer Instructional Professorship (June 2005). Funded. University of North Dakota, \$3,000 for development of multimedia, postcolonial history teaching materials.

Reinhoehl Travel Grant (April 2005), University of North Dakota. Funded. \$1,000 for travel to Australia for research and to present a paper at the University of Queensland.

Visiting Distinguished Faculty Award (January 2002). Funded. University of Kentucky. \$3,000 Funding to bring Anne McClintock to the University of Kentucky to participate in my dissertation defense.

Association of Emeriti Faculty Scholarship (2000-2001). Funded. University of Kentucky. \$1,000 Funding to support research at the British Library.

University of Kentucky Arts and Sciences Dissertation-Year Fellowship (Fall 2000-Summer 2001). Funded. University of Kentucky. \$10,000

Dissertation Enhancement Awards (Summer 2000 and 2001). Funded. University of Kentucky. \$1,000 each to support research at the British Library.

Commonwealth Research Award (Spring 1999). Funded. University of Kentucky. \$2,000 to attend and present paper entitled "Imperial Islands: Colonial Microcosms, Male Bodies and the Narrating of Possession" at the international conference "Islands: Histories and Representations," University of Kent, Canterbury, England.

Most Outstanding Writing Program Teaching Assistant (1997-1998). \$1,000

Dissertation Research Grant (1997). Funded. University of Kentucky Graduate School. \$1,000 for summer study in Ireland.

Full scholarship, International Yeats Society (1997). Funded. \$3,000 to attend the International Yeats Summer School in Sligo, Ireland.

LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

Member, English Department Literature Program, (2025-2026)

Member, VT Faculty Senate (2025-2026)

Committee Member, Commission on Faculty Affairs (2025-2026)

Committee member, CLAHS Ad Hoc Salary Adjustment Committee (2025)

Board Member, Blacksburg Master Chorale (2023-2026)

Chair, CLAHS College Faculty Council (2025-2026)

Evaluation committee member for Associate Dean, Farida Jalalzai (2025)

Member, VT University Budgeting and Planning Committee (2025)

Member, VT Commencement Committee on behalf of CLAHS (2025-2026)

Board Member, Virginia Tech Services Inc. Nominated by the VP for Academic Affairs and approved by the VT Board of Visitors (2024-2026)

Member, CLAHS College Curriculum Committee, (VT, fall 2023)

Member, CLAHS College Faculty Council (VT, 2023-2025)

Member, English Department MA Committee (VT 2023-24)

Member, English Department Promotion and Tenure Committee (VT, 2023-2025)

Faculty Advisor, English Student Club (VT, 2023-present)

Faculty Advisor, Sigma Tau Delta English honor society (VT, 2023-present)

ACC Leadership Institute, (ACC, 2022). Nominated for and chosen as a representative of VT in this regional institute that promoted the collaboration between ACC Schools.

Department Chair, Department of English (VT 2020-2023)

Member, Center for Oral History Stakeholders (VT, 2021)

Board member, Center for Refugee, Migrancy and Displacement Studies (VT, 2020)

Ad Hoc Committee on the Tribal and Indigenous Peoples Studies Minor (NDSU 2019-2020)

Graduate Committee (NDSU 2019)

NDSU Digital Scholarship Board (NDSU 2018-2020)

Department Chair, Department of English (NDSU 2018-2020)

University Strategic Planning: Diversity, Inclusion and Collegiality Subcommittee (NDSU 2019)

Scholarship Committee Chair (NDSU 2018-2020)

External Advisory Board Chair (NDSU 2018-2020)

Sigma Tau Delta National Honor Society faculty advisor (UND and NDSU 2006-2020)

Faculty Research Fellow (UND 2016-2017). Assisted the Vice President for Research and Economic Development with special initiatives to promote Humanities Scholarship.

Steering Committee, Strategic Planning Committee (UND 2016-2017). Invited to participate in the committee guiding the University's strategic planning process.

Chair, President's Inaugural Committee (UND 2016). Invited to chair the planning committee for President Mark Kennedy's inauguration and preside over the inauguration.

Past Chair, University Senate (UND 2016-2017). Ex-officio position that involves serving on a number of committees (including the Senate Executive Committee and the Faculty Handbook Committee), advising the Senate Chair on all matters, managing the Senate's webpage and correspondence, and regularly consulting with the Provost and University President about issues related to faculty.

Chair of University Senate (UND 2015-2016). Elected. Position requires planning and chairing University Senate and Senate Executive Committee meetings, serving on a number of committees (including the Legislative Affairs Committee, the Presidential Cabinet, the Committee on Committees, and the Student Code of Life Committee) and regular consultation with the Provost and University President about issues related to faculty. In this year, I managed a presidential retirement and hiring of a new president, a campus-wide budget crisis and resulting program prioritization, and an initiative to create a Faculty Senate. I also arranged and facilitated twice-monthly fora on topics related to faculty interests.

Vice Chair of University Senate, University of North Dakota (2014-2015). Elected. Position involves serving on a number of university committees (including the University Budget Committee), assisting the Senate Chair in all matters, and regularly consulting with the Provost and University President about issues related to faculty. <http://und.edu/university-senate/>

Co-Director, Center for Human Rights and Genocide Studies (2013-2021). Position involves bringing to campus two international human rights fellows every year, organizing talks and other events (plays, museum exhibits, arts exhibits, panel discussions) involving this fellow and other professionals, working with students interested in human rights, holding an online symposium related to the year's themes, sponsoring a yearly Model Arab League for the region's students, and coordinating with other social justice and diversity groups on campus, in the town, and in the region, especially the Jewish Community Relations Council. <http://und.edu/centers/human-rights-and-genocide-studies/>

Board Member, International Studies Program (UND 2013-2018). Position involves working on International Studies Curriculum, teaching courses that will cross listed as IS courses, and developing a coordinated lecture series.

Co-Advisor, Adelphi Literary Society (UND 2004-2018). Coordinate all events of the literary society with the student leaders.

Co-Director, AH! Talks, Humanities Speaker Series (UND 2005-2011). Position involved planning and coordinating six speakers annually.

University Senate Special Committee Pool (UND 2013-2014). University of North Dakota, elected.

University Senate Special Committee on Faculty Rights (UND 2016-2018).

University Senate Faculty Senate Creation Committee (UND 2016-2017). Chair of a committee charged with researching and creating draft documents for a proposed Faculty Senate.

University Senate Ad hoc committee on Faculty Research Funding (UND 2015-2016).
 Researched and composed a report on research funding at the University of North Dakota.
http://und.edu/university-senate/_files/docs/university-senate/preliminary-report-fac-travel-funding.pdf

Delegate to the Politics and the Profession Caucus for the Modern Language Association (2007-2013).

Member of the Starfish Advising System Academic Working Group (UND 2014-2015).

Board Member, University Children's Center (UND 2012).

Board member, Grand Forks Master Chorale (2011).

Board member, Altru Hospital Infant Bereavement Program (2011-present).

Chair, Faculty Development Committee, Undergraduate Learning Working Group (UND 2010-2011) University committee appointed to redesign the undergraduate experience

University Graduate Committee (UND 2009-2010).

College of Arts and Sciences Student Appeals Committee (UND 2008).

JFK Conference Planning Committee, Fundraising and Grants Director (UND 2008).

Interviewer, "A Great Conversation with Salman Rushdie"; UND 125th Anniversary Great Conversations Committee (2008).

Guest lecturer, Graduate Chautauqua series (UND 2008) As part of discussion on submitting manuscripts for publication in journals

Maternity and Parental Leave Task Force (UND 2006-2009)

English Department Curriculum Committee (UND 2005-2008).

STUDENT COMMITTEES

Thesis/Portfolio/Capstone director, University of North Dakota, North Dakota State University, Virginia Tech: Kanwal Hydar (2009), Kathleen Vacek (2007), Erin Hunt (2012), Abu Jafor (2014), Creighton Brown (2011), Rae Piwarski (2015), Rebecca Crisman (2019), Rio Bergh (2019), Carson Bailey (2023), Brendan Thompson (2025)

Dissertation director, University of North Dakota: Mosab Bajabar (2015), Jody Jensen (2016), Michele Willman (2018)

Undergraduate thesis committee, University of North Dakota: Sandra Kruse (2016-2017)

Thesis/portfolio/Capstone committee, University of North Dakota, North Dakota State University: Mirosh Thomas (2006), Jane Stewart (2005), Cathy Filbin (2008), Linda Baeza

(2007), Eric Haagensen (2009), Maggie O’Leary (2010), Jasmine Banasek (2019), Renee Gerard (2012), Abigail Chrappah (2021),

Dissertation committee, University of North Dakota, North Dakota State University, Virginia Tech: Amy Watkin (2005), Ammar Naji (2010), Joshua Young (2015), Elizabeth Mjelde (2016), Luc Chinwongs (2020), Ibtissem Belmihoub (2019), Vasilije Mesarovic (2024)

Invited outside reader of 2 Australian dissertations, for Britta Hartman and Samuel Finegan (2015).

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Spring 2025, Member of Pathways Reading group on difficult conversations in the classroom.

2023-2024 ACC Leadership Institute, year-long series of seminars connecting leaders of ACC universities.

December 2023, completed course in syllabi development.

March 2021, completed 4-week course in Transformative Mediation, as part of development of conflict mediation skills, which are necessary for department chair work.

August 2021-May 2022, participated in monthly meetings of the White Allies as Transformative Leaders cohort.

September 2021, participated in mentoring workshop.

August 2020-May 2021, participated in leadership development workshop (VT)

REFERENCES

Ronald Fricker, fricker@und.edu, Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs, Virginia Tech, 540-231-6670.

Dana D. Nelson, dana.d.nelson@vanderbilt.edu, Professor of English, Vanderbilt University, 615-343-3185.

Peter Hulme, phulme@essex.ac.uk, Emeritus Professor of Literature University of Essex, +44 (0)15396 22551.

Anne Kelsch, anne.kelsch@UND.edu, Director of Faculty & Staff Development University of North Dakota, 701.777.4233.

Brian Urlacher, Brian.urlacher@und.edu, Associate Professor and Department Chair of Political Science, Former Co-director, Center for Human Rights and Genocide Studies (701) 777-3541.