

LORRIE N. SMITH

English Department
Saint Michael's College
Colchester, VT 05439
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EDUCATION

Ph.D., English, Brown University, 1987

Major Field: Nineteenth- and Twentieth-Century American Poetry

Dissertation: Poets in the World: The Political Poetry of Denise Levertov and Adrienne Rich

M.A. English, Brown University, 1981

B.A. English, summa cum laude, University of Massachusetts-Boston, 1978

TEACHING

Saint Michael's College, Professor of English and American Studies, 1999-present

Saint Michael's College, Associate Professor, 1992-present

Saint Michael's College, Assistant Professor, 1986 to 1992

I am responsible for teaching courses in American Literature, including surveys and upper-level major offerings, with an emphasis on 20th-century Poetry and African American Literature. I have developed a number of new courses, including Politics and Literature, African-American Literature, The Middle Passage in History, Memory, and the Imagination. I regularly teach a First-Year Seminar on race and culture in the U.S.

Tufts University, Medford, MA, Instructor, Freshman Writing, 1985

Brown University, Providence, RI, Teaching Fellow and Teaching Assistant, 1979-1986

SCHOLARSHIP

Books

Editor, with Owen W. Gilman, Jr., America Rediscovered: Critical Essays on Literature and Film of the Vietnam War. New York: Garland Publishers, 1990.

Report from Vernacular Valleys: Post-Sixties Black Poetry and the Public Sphere. (in progress)

Essays in Collections

"Dialogue and the Political Imagination in Denise Levertov and Adrienne Rich." In Self, World, Poem: Essays from the Jubilation of Poets. Ed. Leonard Trawick, Kent, Ohio: Kent State U. Press, 1990.

"Disarming the War Story." In America Rediscovered: Critical Essays on Literature and Film of the Vietnam War. Ed. Owen W. Gilman, Jr. and Lorrie Smith. New York: Garland Publishers, 1990.

"Resistance and Revision in Poetry by Vietnam Veterans." In Landing Zones: Approaches to the Literature of the Vietnam War. Ed. Philip K. Jason. Iowa City: University of Iowa Press, 1991.

"Songs of Experience: Denise Levertov's Political Poetry." In Denise Levertov: Selected Criticism. Ed. Albert Gelpi. Under Discussion Series, Donald Hall, General Editor. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 1993.

"What Shall We Give Our Children?": Fatherhood in Recent Poems by Vietnam Veterans." The United States and Vietnam: From War to Peace: Papers from an Interdisciplinary Conference. Ed. Robert Slabey. McFarland and Co. Publishers, 1996.

"Black Arts to Def Jam: Performing Black Spirit Work Across Generations." In New Thoughts on the Black Arts Movement. Ed. Lisa Gail Collins and Margo Crawford. New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 2006.

"Hungry Ghosts and Restless Spirits: Lyric Voices of the Middle Passage." In Africa and Its Diasporas: History, Memory, and Literary Manifestations. Ed. Naana Opoku-Agyemang, Paul E. Lovejoy, and David V. Trotman. Trenton/Eritrea: Africa World Press, 2008.

Journal Articles

"Walking' from England to America: Re-Viewing Thoreau's Romanticism." New England Quarterly 54:2 (June, 1985): 221-41.

"Songs of Experience: Denise Levertov's Political Poetry." Contemporary Literature 24:2 (Summer, 1986): 213-32.

"A Sense-Making Perspective in Recent Poetry by Vietnam Veterans." American Poetry Review 15:6 (Nov/Dec, 1986): 13-18.

----- Reprinted in Dictionary of Literary Biography Documentary Series 9. "American Writers of the Vietnam War." Bruccoli, Clark, Layman, 1992.

"Some See God and Live: A Late Dickinson Poem." American Transcendental Quarterly (Dec., 1987).

"After Our War': Poets of the Vietnam Generation." Poetry Wales 25:1 (June, 1989).

"Back Against the Wall: Anti-Feminist Backlash in Vietnam War Literature." Vietnam Generation 1:3/4 (Summer/Fall, 1989): 115-126.

"The Subject Makes a Difference: Poetry by Women Veterans of the Vietnam War." Journal of American Culture 16:3 (Fall, 1993): 71-79.

"The Things Men Do': The Gendered Subtext of Tim O'Brien's Esquire Stories." Critique: Studies in Contemporary Fiction 36:1 (Fall, 1994): 16-40.

"Against a Coming Extinction: W.D. Ehrhart and the Evolving Canon of Vietnam Veteran's Poetry."

Lead article, solicited for War, Literature, and the Arts 8:2 (Spring, 1997).

Review, Interviews, and Encyclopedia Entries

"An Interview with Denise Levertov." Michigan Quarterly Review 24:4 (Fall, 1985): 596-604.

Review article, "Oblique Prayers by Denise Levertov." Sagetrieb 4:2/3 (Fall/Winter, 1985): 335-42.

Review of They Whisper by Robert Olen Butler, New England Review/Breadloaf Quarterly, (Winter/Spring, 1995).

"Quincy Troupe." Entry for Encyclopedia of African American Culture. Gale Research, 2005.

Conference Presentations

"Mapping the Quagmire: Recent Poetry by Vietnam Veterans." *Modern Language Association*, December, 1985.

"New World Poetry: A Submerged Tradition." Alternative American Literary Traditions Forum, *Northeast Modern Language Association*, April, 1986.

"Dialogue and the Political Imagination in Denise Levertov and Adrienne Rich." *A Jubilation of Poets*, Cleveland State University Poetry Center, October, 1986.

"Women Poets and Vietnam War Protest." *Popular Culture/American Culture Association*, March, 1987.

"Learning as We Speak': Dialogics and Contemporary Women's Poetry." Linguistics and Women' Studies section, *Northeast Modern Language Association*, April, 1987.

"The Literature of the Vietnam War: Breaking the Perimeter." Invited panel discussant for interdisciplinary program, "*War and Memory: In the Aftermath of Vietnam*." Sponsored by the Washington Project for the Arts, Washington, D.C., November, 1987.

"The Last Retreat: Masculinist Backlash in Writing by Vietnam Veterans." *Northeast Popular Culture Association*, November, 1988.

"Resistance and Revision in Poetry by Vietnam Veterans." *Popular Culture/American Culture Association*, April, 1989.

"Gender and Race in the Literature of the Vietnam War." Invited to participate in *E.E. McClellan Symposium, "America, Vietnam, and the War: Policy, Culture, Consequences"*, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, February, 1990.

"Canon on the Margins: The Paradoxical Place of Vietnam War Poetry." *Popular Culture/American Culture Association*, March, 1990.

Panel discussant, "Women and Vietnam War Literature," in conjunction with annual Writer's Workshop

At the Joiner Center for the Study of War and Social Consequences, University of Massachusetts/Boston, August 7-9, 1990.

- "Breaking Silence: Poetry by Women Veterans of the Vietnam War" (panel chair). *Popular Culture/American Culture Association*, March, 1991 .
- "The Veteran Poet's Dialogue with American Culture." Panel on Bakhtin, *Northeast Modern Language Association*, April, 1992.
- "The Subject Makes a Difference: Poetry by Women Veterans of Vietnam." *Northeast Modern Language Association*, March, 1993.
- "The Gendered Subtext in Tim O'Brien's Esquire Stories." *Popular Culture/American Culture Association*, April, 1993.
- "What Shall We Give Our Children?': Fatherhood Poems of Balaban, Ehrhart, and Weigl," *The United States and Vietnam: From War to Peace*, University of Notre Dame, December, 1993.
- "Keeping the Borders Open: Canonicity and Poetry by Vietnam Veterans." *Popular Culture/American Culture Association*, April, 1994.
- "Laureate of the Local: Michael S. Harper's Poems of Public Occasion." *A Conference in Honor of Michael S. Harper*, Bowdoin College, October, 1996.
- "Constricted Canons and Conversations: Poetry by Vietnam Veterans." *Poetry and the Public Sphere*, Rutgers University, April, 1997.
- "Teaching Race Through Moral Conversation." With Kyle Dodson. *Association for Moral Education*, November, 1999.
- "The Black Aesthetic and the Spoken Word Movement." *Opening the Field: Poetry and the Sixties*, National Poetry Foundation, University of Maine, Orono, June, 2000.
- "The Symbiosis of Page and Stage in Contemporary African American Poetry." *Marjorie Cook Poetry Festival and Conference: The Diversity of African American Poetry*. Miami University of Ohio, September, 2003
- "Hungry Ghosts and Restless Spirits." *Literary Manifestations of the African Diaspora*. University of Cape Coast/Harriet Tubman Resource Centre on the African Diaspora at York University. Cape Coast, Ghana, November, 2003.
- "From Text to Context: Cultivating Empathy Through Stories of the Middle Passage and African Diaspora." International Partnership for Service Learning and Leadership: Hearing and Telling: Essential Skills for International Service-Learning, Rapid City, SD, October, 2005.

Visiting Scholar Presentations

Vermont Council on the Humanities/Vermont Center for the Book (formerly Vermont Reading Project):
 "I Sing America: Selfhood in American Literature," 4 presentations/book discussions at Wake Robin, Shelburne, 1996

"Vietnam Anthology and the Emerging Canon of Vietnam War Literature," South Burlington, 1989.

Michael Herr's Dispatches and Vietnam Anthology (two discussions), Essex Junction, 1994.

"Toni Morrison's Song of Solomon," Fairfax, April, 1990; Shelburne, February, 1991, December, 94.

"The Unspoken Self in Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, Northfield, February, 1989.

"The Restless Female Spirit: Kate Chopin's The Awakening, South Hero, December, 1990.

Black Elk Speaks, Fairfax, February, 1992.

"Nella Larsen and the Harlem Renaissance," Calvin Coolidge Foundation, Woodstock, October, 1993.

"The Unspoken Self in Frederick Douglass' Narrative" and "Fiction of the Vietnam War: The Unreality of Realism," Saint Michael's College Colloquium for Faculty in the Humanities, April, 1989.

A reading of poems by war veterans in honor of Veteran's Day, Church Street Center Poetry Reading Series, Burlington, Vermont, November 10, 1989.

"War and Gender," Teach-In on the Gulf War, Saint Michael's College, January, 1991.

Guest lecture on Emily Dickinson for Elderhostel course, August, 1993.

Zora Neale Hurston's Their Eyes Were Watching God, part of program on Duke Ellington and the Jazz Age, St. Johnsbury Athenaeum, May, 1996.

"Spoken Word Poetry." Saint Michael's College Colloquium for Faculty in the Humanities, 2000.

"Hungry Ghosts and Restless Spirits: Lyric Voices of the Middle Passage." Saint Michael's College Colloquium for Faculty in the Humanities, 2004.

Guest Speaker, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Celebration, Contois Auditorium, Burlington, Vermont, January 2003, January 2004

Workshops Attended

AAUC Conferences on Curriculum Revision, Asheville, N.C., 1995; New Orleans, 1997.

"The Pedagogy of Contemporary Poetry," Institute for Writing and Thinking, Bard University, June, 1999.

National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute, *The African Roots of the Transatlantic Slave Trade*, Directed by Joseph Miller, University of Virginia, June, 2001.

Service Learning Faculty Fellows Colloquium, sponsored by Campus Compact, Fall, 2004

Problem-Based Service Learning Workshop, Middlebury College, sponsored by Campus Compact, January 14, 15, 2005.

SERVICE**Service to the Saint Michael's College Community**

Service Learning Study Tour to Ghana (as part of course on The Middle Passage), May, 2005;
 Dec., 2006-Jan., 2007

Faculty Council (elected): 2002-2006; Chair, 2005-present

Member, Diversity Working Group, 2008

Council representative on Philosophy Department Search Committee, two positions, Spring, 2003;
 Political Science Search Committee, 2005; Education Search Committee, 2006

Facilitator, Faculty-Staff Discussion Series on Racism and White Privilege, Fall, 2006

Faculty Service-Learning Liaison to Campus Compact of New England, 2005-present

English Department Reading Series Committee: 2003-2006; 1987-90

Academic Integrity Committee: 2002-3

Multicultural Programming Committee: 1997-present

Women's Caucus New Faculty Mentor: 2000-present

Faculty Liaison (elected), Board of Trustees: 1999-2001

Executive Committee, 1999-2001

M.O.V.E. Extended service trips: Selma Alabama (May, 2001); New Orleans (Jan., 2000, Jan., 2008)

Co-Facilitator, 4-session Faculty-Staff Study Group on Whiteness:
 Spring, 2000, Spring 2001, Fall, 20006

Service Learning Task Force: 1999-2000

Professional Growth Committee: 1997-99

Director, American Studies Program: 1998-2000

Chair, Ad hoc committee to review American Studies Program: 1998-99

Chair, English Department: 1994-1997

Department Search Committee Chair, 1997

Curriculum Committee: 1994-1997 (Chair 1994-96)

Faculty Representative, Board of Trustees Education Policy/Learning Committee: 1993-99

Writing Proficiency Sub-Committee: 1996-97

Co-Chair, Gender Studies Committee: 1994-95

Writing Proficiency Task Force: 1994-95

Faculty Welfare Committee (elected): 1991-93

Faculty Advisor, The Devil's Advocate: 1989-93

Gender Studies Task Force: 1990-91

Pre-Law Committee: 1987 -91

Library Committee: 1988-90

Media Board: 1989-90

Founder and Coordinator: Colloquium Series for Faculty in the Humanities: 1987-90

Faculty Liaison, Extended Freshman Orientation Program: 1989-90

Ad Hoc Committee on Academic Integrity (helped formulate policy): 1988-89

Coordinator, Writing Center: 1987-89

Lecture Series Committee: 1987-88

Symposia and Readings Coordinated:

Campus Lecture, Robert Jensen, "White Privilege" (2006)

African Diaspora Roots of 'New World' Cultures: English Department/Global Studies
 Colloquium Series (Spring, 2003)
 Fiction Reading, Percival Everett (2003)
 Universes, Spoken Word Performance ensemble, in conjunction with First-Year Seminar (2002)
 Spoken Word Performance, Melanie Maria Goodreaux and Kamal Symonette-Dixon (2000)
 Poetry Reading, Everett Hoagland (2000)
 Open Mic Readings for Students (2000)
 Spoken Word Performance, Alix Olsen and Roger Bonair-Agard (1999)
 Fiction Reading, Anthony Walton (1998)
 Poetry Reading, Tim Siebles (1995)
 African American Symposium Series (1994)
 Native American Symposium Series (1993)
 Poetry Reading, Joy Harjo (1992)
 Poetry Reading, Bruce Weigl (1991)
 Poetry Reading, W.D. Ehrhart (1989)
 Poetry Reading, Lowell Jaeger (1989)
 Poetry Reading, Michael S. Harper (1988)
 Sponsor for Denise Levertov, Honorary Degree recipient at 1988 Commencement
 Poetry Reading, Denise Levertov (1987)

Service to the Profession

Manuscript Reviews:

Radical Visions: Poetry by Vietnam Veterans by Vince Gotera for University of Georgia Press.

Writing and Fighting: The Literature of the Vietnam War by Donald Ringnalda for University of Mississippi Press.

The Vietnam War in American Stories, Poems, and Songs by Bruce Franklin for Bedford Books.

Area Coordinator: Poetry of the Vietnam War; organized three poetry readings, chaired a panel, and presented paper for Popular Culture Association, March, 1991.

Secretary and chair for panels on Linguistics and Women Writers for Northeast Modern Language Association, 1987-88.

Chair, Literature of War section, Northeast Modern Language Association, April, 1994.

Chair, panel on Contemporary Poetry by American Women, Northeast Modern Language Association, April, 1997.

Service to the Larger Community

Member, Study Circle on Race in the Public Schools, 2003-2006

Fresh Air Fund host (summers 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005)

Hospitality Coordinator, Champlain Valley Folk Festival (2001-2004)

Speaker, Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration, Contois Auditorium, Burlington (January, 2003, January, 2004)

Member, Peace and Justice Center

AWARDS AND HONORS

College Nominee, CASE Professor of the Year Award, Spring, 2007

Finalist, Vermont Campus Compact "Campus Leadership for Civic Engagement Award," April 2007

Appreciation Award, Multicultural Student Affairs Office: "In appreciation of your leadership

In enhancing diversity and multiculturalism, and your contributions to the multicultural community at Saint Michael's College, May, 2005.

Curriculum Development Grant, Global Studies Program, St. Michael's College; to develop

Interdisciplinary course on "The Middle Passage in History, Literature, and Imagination," Summer, 2002.

Curriculum Development Grant, First-year Seminar, "Race Relations in the U.S.: The Search for Common Ground," Summer, 1997

Curriculum Development Grant, First-year Seminar, "Engaging Diversity," Summer, 1996

Curriculum Development Grant, new version of Politics and Literature, "Twentieth-Century

Voices of Resistance" with William Grover, Political Science Department, Summer, 1994

Curriculum Development Grant, "Mainstreaming African-American Literature," Summer, 1992

Gerald E. Dupont Award for Contribution to the Saint Michael's College Community, 1990.

Northeast Modern Language Association Summer Research Grant, 1988