

HESTER BLUM

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EDUCATION

Ph.D., English, University of Pennsylvania, 2002

B.A., English, Princeton University, 1995, *magna cum laude*

Frank C. Munson Institute of American Maritime Studies, Mystic, CT, 1999

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Professor of English, Penn State University, 2020-present

Associate Professor of English, Penn State University, 2009-2020

Director, Center for American Literary Studies, Penn State University, 2007-2010;
Interim Director, Spring 2016

Interim Co-Director, The Polar Center, Penn State University, 2015-2016

Associate Director, Institute for the Arts and Humanities, Penn State University, January
2012-June 2013

Assistant Professor of English, Penn State University, 2003-2009

Assistant Professor, University of Tennessee, 2002-2003

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

The Arctic Circle, expeditionary residency in Svalbard, September-October 2020
[postponed to 2021 by covid-19]

John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship, 2019-2020

Environmental Humanities Fellowship, Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities,

University of Edinburgh, February-March 2020

Seed Box Environmental Humanities Collaboratory Mid Career Scholar Residency,
Linköping University, Sweden, May 2019

Resident Scholar Award, Penn State Humanities Institute, Fall 2017

National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Fellowship, 2014-2015

Charles W. Morgan 38th Voyager, NEH-Sponsored Commemorative Voyage Participant,
Mystic Seaport, CT, Summer 2014

Elected to Lifetime Membership in the American Antiquarian Society, 2013

Residential Scholar Award, Penn State Institute for the Arts and Humanities, Fall 2013

NEH Long-Term Post-Doctoral Fellowship, Library Company of Philadelphia, 2010-
2011

Bibliographic Society of America, McCorison Fellowship for the History and
Bibliography of Printing in Canada and the United States: the Gift of Donald Oresman,
2011

Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Fellowship, The Huntington Library, January 2011

Franklin Research Grant, American Philosophical Society, Summer 2010

William Reese Company Fellowship, John Carter Brown Library, July-August 2011

National Humanities Center Fellowship, 2010-2011 (declined)

Newberry Library Short-Term Fellowship, 2010-2011 (declined)

Melville Society Hennig Cohen Prize, for essay "Douglass's and Melville's 'Alphabets of
the Blind,'" 2009.

John Gardner Maritime Research Award, for book *The View from the Masthead*, 2008

President's Fund for Undergraduate Research Award, 2008

NEH Summer Stipend, 2005

Reese Research Fellowship, American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, MA, June 2004

Professional Development and Research Award, University of Tennessee, June-July 2003

National Humanities Center Summer Institute in Literary Studies, "Herman Melville's *Moby-Dick*," Yale University, June 21-28, 2003

Marguerite Bartlett Hamer Dissertation Fellowship, McNeil Center for Early American Studies, 2001-2

Mellon Dissertation Fellowship, 1999-2000

Andrew W. Mellon Fellowship in Humanistic Studies, 1995-96

Isidore and Helen Sacks Memorial Prize for the Best Senior Thesis in American Literature, Princeton University, 1995

PUBLICATIONS

Books

The News at the Ends of the Earth: The Print Culture of Polar Exploration (Duke University Press, 2019).

Named *CHOICE* Outstanding Academic Title, 2019; Reviewed in *Times Literary Supplement*, *Edge Effects*, *Choice*, *Nimrod*, *Studies in Travel Writing*, *Cultural and Social History*, *The Nautilus*, *Nineteenth-Century Literature*, *Public Books*, *International Journal of Maritime History*

The View from the Masthead: Maritime Imagination and Antebellum American Sea Narratives (University of North Carolina Press, 2008).

Awarded John Gardner Maritime Research Award, Fellows of the G.W. Blunt White Library

Reviewed in *American Literature*, *Journal of American History*, *Common-Place*, *Nineteenth-Century Literature*, *American Historical Review*, *Maryland Historical Magazine*, *Sea History*, *International Journal of Maritime History*, *Journal of American Studies*, *SHARP News*, *New England Quarterly*

Edited Books

Editor, *Moby-Dick: or, The Whale*, by Herman Melville (Oxford: Oxford World Classics, forthcoming).

Editor, *Turns of Event: Nineteenth-Century American Literary Studies in Motion* (University of Pennsylvania Press: 2016). Contributors: Monique Allewaert, Ralph Bauer, Martin Brückner, Michelle Burnham, Christopher Castiglia, Sean Goudie,

Meredith McGill, and Geoffrey Sanborn.

Reviewed in *Nineteenth-Century Literature*, roundtable review feature in *Journal of American Studies*, *Early American Literature*, *Canadian Review of Comparative Literature/ Revue Canadienne de Littérature Comparée*, *American Studies*, 古井 義昭, 著者情報 (*Studies in English Literature, Japan*)

Editor, *Horrors of Slavery, or, The American Tars in Tripoli*, by William Ray (Rutgers University Press, Subterranean Lives Series, 2008).

Edited Journal Issues

Special Forum Co-Editor, with Fidalis Buehler, Mike Calway-Fagen, Mary Eyring, Iping Liang, and Brian Russell Roberts, "Archipelagoes, Oceans, and American Visuality," *Journal of Transnational American Studies* 10:1 (2019).

Special Focus Issue Editor, "Oceanic Studies," *Atlantic Studies* 10:2 (2013): 151-227.

Refereed Journal Articles

"Introduction: Archipelagoes/Oceans/American Visuality," co-authored with Mary Eyring, Iping Liang, and Brian Russell Roberts, *Journal of Transnational American Studies* 10:1 (2019): 5-21.

"Arctic Nation," *English Language Notes* 57:1 (April 2019): 72-81.

"Melville in the Arctic," *Leviathan* 20:1 (March 2018): 74-84.

"'Bitter with the Salt of Continents': Rachel Carson and Oceanic Returns," *Women's Studies Quarterly* 45: 1-2 (Spring/Summer 2017): 287-291.

"Speaking Substances: Ice," *Los Angeles Review of Books*, March 21, 2016.
<https://lareviewofbooks.org/essay/speaking-substances-ice>.

"First Person Nautical: Poetry and Play at Sea," co-authored with Jason Rudy, *J19: The Journal of Nineteenth-Century Americanists* 1:1 (Spring 2013): 189-194.

"Introduction: Oceanic Studies," *Atlantic Studies* 10:2 (2013): 151-155.

"John Cleves Symmes and the Planetary Reach of Polar Exploration," *American Literature* 84:2 (June 2012): 243-271.

"'No Life You have Known': Melville's Contemporary Critics," *Leviathan* 13:1 (March

2011): 10-20.

"The Prospect of Oceanic Studies," *PMLA* 125:3 (May 2010): 770-779.

"Community Reading and Social Imagination," co-authored with Michael Bérubé, Christopher Castiglia, and Julia Kasdorf, *PMLA* 125:2 (March 2010): 418-425.

"Pirated Tars, Piratical Texts: Barbary Captivity and American Sea Narratives," *Early American Studies* 1:2 (Fall 2003): 133-58.

Book Chapters

"Charles Francis Hall's Arctic Researches," *The Sea and Nineteenth-Century Anglophone Literary Culture*, eds. Steven Mentz and Martha Elena Rojas (Routledge Press, 2017), 47-65.

"Introduction: Academic Positioning Systems," *Turns of Event: American Literary Studies in Motion* (University of Pennsylvania Press: 2016), 1-12.

"Terraqueous Planet: The Case for Oceanic Studies," *The Planetary Turn: Art, Dialogue, and Geoaesthetics in the 21st-Century*, eds. Amy J. Elias and Christian Moraru (Northwestern University Press, 2015), 25-36.

"The News at the End of the Earth: Polar Periodicals," *Unsettled States: Nineteenth-Century American Literary Studies*, eds. Dana Luciano and Ivy Wilson (New York University Press, 2014), 158-88.

"Melville and Oceanic Studies," *The New Cambridge Companion to Herman Melville*, ed. Robert S. Levine (Cambridge University Press, 2013), 22-36.

"Melville and the Novel of the Sea," *Cambridge History of the American Novel*, eds. Leonard Cassuto, Clare Eby, and Benjamin Reiss (Cambridge University Press, 2011), 151-66.

"Douglass's and Melville's 'Alphabets of the Blind,'" *Frederick Douglass and Herman Melville: Essays in Relation*, eds. Robert S. Levine and Samuel Otter (University of North Carolina Press, 2008), 257-78.

Essay awarded Melville Society Hennig Cohen Prize, 2009

"Introduction," *Horrors of Slavery, or, The American Tars in Tripoli*, by William Ray, ed. Hester Blum (New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, Subterranean Lives Series, 2008), ix-xxix.

"American Graves, Pacific Plots," *American Literary Geographies: Space and Cultural*

Production, 1588-1888, eds. Martin Brückner and Hsuan L. Hsu (University of Delaware Press, 2007), 149-170.

"Before and After the Mast: James Fenimore Cooper and Ned Myers," *Pirates, Jack Tar, and Memory: New Directions in American Maritime History*, eds. Paul A. Gilje and William Pencak (Mystic Seaport Museum, CT, 2007), 115-134.

"Atlantic Trade," *A Companion to Herman Melville*, ed. Wyn Kelley (Blackwell, 2006), 113-128.

Essays on NEH-Sponsored *Charles W. Morgan* 38th Voyage

"Hardtack," *J19: The Journal of Nineteenth-Century Americanists* 3:1 (2015): 2-6.

"A List of Books that I Did Not Read on the Voyage," *Leviathan* 17:1 (2015): 129-132.

"The Lubber's Hole," <http://www.psu.edu/feature/2015/04/01/sailing-stories> (May 2015).

"Moon Shot," *Common-Place* 15 (Fall 2014), <http://www.common-place.org/vol-15/no-01/roundtable/blum.shtml>

"18 Hours Before the Mast," *Los Angeles Review of Books* (3 August 2014): <http://lareviewofbooks.org/essay/18-hours-mast>

"*Charles W. Morgan*: Her 38th Voyage." Photo Narrative. <https://hmblum.exposure.co/charles-w-morgan>.

Public Humanities

"How Polar Explorers Survived Social Distance," *Avidly*, <http://avidly.lareviewofbooks.org/2020/05/13/how-polar-explorers-survived-social-distance/>.

"Another Failed Seaside Erection," *Avidly*, <http://avidly.lareviewofbooks.org/2019/08/26/another-failed-seaside-erection>.

"Out to Sea," Duke University Press blog, <https://dukeupress.wordpress.com/2019/04/25/out-to-sea-a-guest-post-by-hester-blum/>

"Sea Changes," *Journal of the Early Republic Panorama* roundtable, Bringing the Sea into the Classroom, <http://thepanorama.shear.org/2019/05/13/sea-changes/>.

"*Sanaaq*," in "Faculty Favorites: Books for the Struggle to Come," *Edge Effects*,

<http://edgeeffects.net/environmental-books-on-struggles-to-come/>.

"Being a Woman in Public," conversation with Sarah Blackwood, Hester Blum, Tara Bynum, Jane Hu, Claire Jarvis, Sarah Mesle, and Kyla Wazana Tompkins, *Post 45 Contemporaries*, <http://post45.research.yale.edu/2018/11/being-a-woman-in-public/>.

"My Polar Quibbles," *Avidly*, <http://avidly.lareviewofbooks.org/2018/04/11/my-polar-quibbles/>.

"I Guess That I Will Weep No More," *Avidly*,
<http://avidly.lareviewofbooks.org/2016/10/18/i-guess-that-i-will-weep-no-more/>.

"The Whole World in a Few Syllables," *Sky-Hawk: The Journal of the Melville Society of Japan* 3 (2015): 21-23.

"Moby-Bergin," *Avidly*, <http://avidly.lareviewofbooks.org/2015/09/27/moby-bergin/>.

"Ferguson's Literary History," Co-authored with Sarah Blackwood, Anna Mae Duane, Brigitte Fielder, Glenn Hendler, Yahdon Israel, Peter Jaros, Janet Neary, Caleb Smith, and Jordan Alexander Stein, *Avidly*,
<http://avidly.lareviewofbooks.org/2014/08/22/fergusons-literary-history/>.

"Don't Capitulate. Advocate," *Inside Higher Ed* (24 June 2014), Co-authored with Sarah Chinn, Brian Connolly, Jonathan Eburne, Jennifer Greiman, Joseph Fruscione, Jeffrey Insko, Dana Luciano, Justine Murison, and Lisi Schoenbach,
<http://www.insidehighered.com/views/2014/06/24/essay-critiques-mla-report-graduate-education>.

"My Chilly Ponies," *Avidly*, <http://avidly.lareviewofbooks.org/2014/05/16/my-chilly-ponies/>.

"Lonely Connect," *Avidly*, <http://avidly.lareviewofbooks.org/2014/04/24/lonely-connect/>.

"Melville and Whitman, Digitally Mediated," *Leviathan* 16:1 (March 2014): 154-156.

"Show Them Who You Are," *Inside Higher Ed* (11 September 2013):
<http://www.insidehighered.com/advice/2013/09/11/essay-seeking-job-academe>.

"The Greatest American Novel? 9 Experts Share Their Opinions," *The Millions* (10 July 2013): <http://www.themillions.com/2013/07/the-greatest-american-novel-9-experts-share-their-opinions.html>.

"Constantius and Pulchera in the Atlantic World," *Just Teach One*, eds. Duncan Faherty and Ed White, www.common-place.org, <http://www.common-place.org/justteachone/?p=144>.

"Application Advice," *Inside Higher Ed* (30 April 2012):
<http://www.insidehighered.com/advice/2012/04/30/essay-how-write-good-applications-jobs-or-grants>.

Reviews

Book Review, *Emergent Worlds: Alternative States in Nineteenth-Century American Culture*, by Edward Sugden, *Early American Literature* 55:1 (2019): 230-233.

Book Review, *The Spectral Arctic: A History of Dreams and Ghosts in Polar Exploration*, by Shane McCorristine, *Victorian Studies* 61:4 (Summer 2019): 680-682.

Roundtable Book Review, *Archipelagic American Studies*, edited by Brian Russell Roberts and Michelle Ann Stephens, *Journal of American Studies* 53:2 (2019): 496-510.

Book Review, *The Greatest Show in the Arctic: The American Exploration of Franz Josef Land, 1898–1905*, by P. J. Capelotti, *Arctic* 71:3 (2018).

Response to Roundtable, co-authored with Hannah Lauren Murray, J. Michelle Coghlan, Stephanie Palmer, and Tom F. Wright, on *Turns of Event: Nineteenth-Century American Literary Studies in Motion*, edited by Hester Blum, *Journal of American Studies* 51:3 (2017): 981-994.

Book Review, *Citizen Sailors: Becoming American in the Age of Revolution*, by Nathan Perl-Rosenthal, *Clio: A Journal of Literature, History, and the Philosophy of History* 45:3 (2016).

Book Review, *Antebellum at Sea: Maritime Fantasies in Nineteenth-Century America*, by Jason Berger and *Epic in American Culture: Settlement to Reconstruction*, by Christopher N. Phillips, *American Literature* 86:4 (Dec. 2014): 831-833.

Book Review, *On Lingering and Being Last: Race and Sovereignty in the New World*, by Jonathan Elmer and *Dislocating Race and Nation: Episodes in Nineteenth-Century American Literary Nationalism* by Robert S. Levine, *American Literature* 85:3 (Sept. 2013): 591-593.

Roundtable Book Review, with Kirsten Silva Gruesz, Augusta Rohrbach, Xiomara Santamarina, and Paul Giles, *The Global Remapping of American Literature*, by Paul Giles, *Journal of American Studies* 46:3 (2012): 747-762.

Book Review, *Jack Tar's Story: The Autobiographies and Memoirs of Sailors in*

Antebellum America, by Myra Glenn. *International Journal of Maritime History* 23:1 (June 2011): 405-406.

Book Review, *African Culture and Melville's Art: The Creative Process in Benito Cereno and Moby-Dick*, by Sterling Stuckey. *The Journal of Southern History* 76:2 (May 2010): 520-1.

Book Review, *The Invisible Hook: The Hidden Economies of Pirates*, by Peter T. Leeson. *Eighteenth-Century Studies* 43:2 (2010): 288-289.

Review Essay, *Reading Melville's Pierre; or, the Ambiguities*, by Bryan Higgins and Hershel Parker; *Passive Constitutions; or, 7 1/2 Times Bartleby*, by Branka Arsić; and *"Whole Oceans Away": Melville and the Pacific*, eds. Jill Barnum, Wyn Kelley, and Christopher Sten. *Studies in the Novel* 41:3 (Fall 2009) 368-375.

Book Review, *Women and Children First: Nineteenth-Century Sea Narratives and American Identity*, by Robin Miskolcze. *American Historical Review* 114 (February 2009): 165.

Book Review, *John Marr and Other Sailors With Some Sea-Pieces*, ed. Douglas Robillard. *Resources for American Literary Study* 32 (2008).

Book Review, *Melville and Douglass: Anchored Together in Neighborly Style*, by Robert K. Wallace, *Leviathan* 9:1 (March 2007): 77-81.

Book Review, *Melville's Folk Roots*, by Kevin J. Hayes, *Melville Society Extracts* 118 (February 2000): 21-3.

PRESENTATIONS

Keynote Addresses

Ernest Shackleton Autumn School, Athy Heritage Centre Shackleton Museum, Ireland, October 26, 2019

Polar Day, University of California, Davis Polar Forum, John Muir Institute of the Environment, April 5, 2019

Austrian Association for American Studies Annual Conference, Vienna, November 2018

Imagining the Coast: A Public Humanities Symposium, Fairfield University, Mystic Seaport, the Maritime Studies Program at University of Connecticut Avery Point, CT Humanities, and the Atlantic Archipelagos Research Consortium, September 15, 2018

Eleventh Annual International Melville Conference, London, June 2017

Movement and Mobility Symposium, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi,
April 27-28, 2017

Archipelagoes/Oceans/Americas Symposium, Brigham Young University,
October 6-7, 2016

Florida International University/Bayerische Amerika-Akademie, June 7, 2016

McNeil Center Biennial Graduate Student Conference, "The Power of Stories:
Authority and Narrative in Early America," September 30, 2011

Invited Lectures

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Annual Lecture in Literature and Cultural
Theory for 2019-20, April 23, 2020 [postponed by covid-19]

University of Illinois, March, 2020 [postponed by covid-19]

Cooper Union, New York, November 4, 2019

The Coasts, Climates, the Humanities, and the Environment Consortium
(CCHEC), Mellon Foundation, National Humanities Center, September 26,
2019

University of Gothenburg, Sweden, May 17, 2019

KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden, May 15, 2019

Linköping University, Sweden, May 9, 2019

University of Washington, March 1, 2019

Heidelberg University, Germany, October 25, 2018

German Historical Institute, Washington D.C., May 17, 2018

University of Alberta, May 5, 2018

University of North Florida, May 1, 2018

Northwestern University, November 13, 2017

Yale University, October 13, 2017

CUNY Graduate Center, May 5, 2016

Columbia University, April 15, 2016

University of Michigan, November 12, 2015

Bayreuth University, Bayreuth, Germany, October 23, 2015

Baylor University, April 24, 2015

Bowdoin College, March 2, 2015

University of Pennsylvania, February 24, 2015

Université Sorbonne Nouvelle Paris 3, December 5, 2014

Ecole Normale Supérieure de Lyon, November 25, 2014

University of Sussex, November 11, 2014

University of Nottingham, November 10, 2014

Early American Literature and Material Texts Workshop, McNeil Center for
Early American Studies and Library Company of Philadelphia, July 23,
2014

University of Oxford, May 30-31, 2014

University of Miami, March 27, 2014

Rice University, January 24, 2014

Pomona College, November 11, 2013

UC Irvine, May 21, 2013

Oakland University, March 18, 2013

CUNY Graduate Center, November 30, 2012

Princeton University, November 7, 2012

University of Massachusetts-Boston, November 1, 2012

University of Delaware English Roundtable, May 3, 2012

University of Delaware History Workshop, February 28, 2012

CSUS and F. Ross Johnson Distinguished Speaker Series, University of Toronto
Centre for the Book and the Centre for the Study of the United States,
November 17, 2011

University of South Carolina, November 10, 2011

Freibert/Wittreich Symposium and Wittreich Symposium-Graduate Workshop on
Archival Research, University of Louisville, November 3-4, 2011

Rumowicz Literature of the Sea Lecture/Seminar Series, University of Rhode
Island, April 21, 2011

UCLA, Americanist Research Colloquium, January 27, 2011

Rutgers University, "Where is American Literary Studies Now? Transnational
Paradigms Across Historical Periods," November 12, 2010

Cornell University, Americanist Reading Group, November 4, 2010

New York Metro American Studies Association, New York, October 27, 2010

University of Kentucky, October 18, 2010

University of Maryland, Local Americanists Lecture Series, September 24, 2010

UC Santa Barbara Interdisciplinary Humanities Center, April 22, 2010

Harvard American Literature Colloquium, Cambridge, MA, October 22, 2008

Plenary Speaker, Futures of American Studies Institute, Dartmouth College, June
16-22, 2008

Unauthorized States, Notre Dame, April 4-5, 2008

American Literature Seminar, University of Pennsylvania, November 2003

C. V. Starr Center for the Study of the American Experience, Washington College,
MD, March 2003

McNeil Center for Early American Studies Seminar, November 16, 2001

Conference Presentations

"Amateur Newspapers and the Literary"

C19: The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists Conference, Coral Gables, FL, April 2-5, 2020 [postponed by covid-19]

"Our Ice Ages"

ASA (American Studies Association) Conference, Atlanta, November 8-11, 2018

"Literary Periodization in the Anthropocene"; co-organizer, "Beyond Early, Beyond American: Part II of a SEA/C19 Collaboration on Period, Space, and Scholarly Turf"

C19, Albuquerque, NM, March 22-25, 2018

Panel Chair and Co-Organizer, "Beyond Early, Beyond American: Part I of a SEA/C19 Collaboration on Period, Space, and Scholarly Turf"

SEA (Society of Early Americanists) Biennial Conference, Tulsa, OK, March 2-4, 2017

Panel Chair and Organizer, Prose Fiction Division Panel "We Can't Stop Talking About Elena Ferrante"

MLA (Modern Language Association) Convention, Philadelphia, January 5-8, 2017

"Polar Unsustainability"; co-organizer of "Impossible Geographies" panel

C19, State College, PA, March 17-20, 2016

"Melville and Ecomedia"

10th International Melville Conference, Tokyo, Japan, June 25-29, 2015

"Ice," "Speaking Substances: Media for the Anthropocene"

MLA Convention, Vancouver, January 8-11, 2015

Panel Chair and Organizer, Prose Fiction Division Panel, "Attention Spans"

MLA Convention, Vancouver, January 8-11, 2015

"The News at the Ends of the Earth"

Arctic Modernities Conference, Arctic University of Norway, September 16-18, 2014

"Firsts and Lasts: Polar Resources, C19-C21"; chair of "Sex in Common" panel

C19: The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists Conference, Chapel Hill, NC, March 13-16, 2014

Panel Chair and Organizer, Prose Fiction Division Panel, "Mass Versus Coterie: The Rare Book"

MLA Convention, Chicago, IL, January 9-12, 2014

"Arctic Newspapers as Social Media"

New Media in American Literary History Interdisciplinary Symposium,
Northeastern University, December 5-6, 2013

"Melville and Whitman, Socially Mediated"; Roundtable Organizer, "Division and Union"

Melville and Whitman in Washington: Ninth International Melville Conference,
Washington, June 4-7, 2013

Panel Chair and Organizer, "Melville and Protest"; Panel Organizer, "Melville Occupies Wall Street"

MLA Convention, Boston, January 3-6, 2013

"'A Free Press and the Universal Yankee Nation': Newspapers at the North Pole";
Panel Organizer, "The News from Another Dimension: Amateur Newspapers and Collectivity"

ASA, San Juan, November, 2012

Roundtable participant, "Salt Water in the Archives"

John Carter Brown Library Fiftieth Anniversary Conference, Providence, June 7-9, 2012

"Melville's Oceanic Prospect"; Panel Chair and Co-Organizer, "Oceanic American Studies"

C19: The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists Conference, Berkeley, CA, April 12-15, 2012

"The *United States* at the Ends of the Earth"; Panel Organizer, "New Directions in Oceanic Studies"

MLA Convention, Seattle, January 5-8, 2012

"Strangers on Ice"

ASA Conference, Baltimore, October 20-23, 2011

"Polar Imprints"

SHARP (Society for the History of Authorship, Reading, and Publishing) Annual Conference: The Book in Art and Science, Washington D.C., July 14-17, 2011

"Dead Reckoning Letters"

Melville and Rome: Eighth International Melville Conference, Rome, June 22-26, 2011

"Extreme Printing"

The Hungry Ocean: Literature and the Maritime Environment, John Carter Brown Library, Providence, April 21-23, 2011

Panel Organizer, "Common Coteries"

SEA, Philadelphia, March 3-5, 2011

"Polar Periodicals"

Age of Sail, 1450-1850, OIEAHC, University of British Columbia, October 7-10, 2010

"Arctic and Antarctic Circles"

C19: The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists Conference, State College, PA, May 20-23, 2010

"Dead to All Justice, to All Humanity, to All Sense of Feeling': William Ray and the Sailor in Service to the State"

OAH (Organization of American Historians) Conference, Washington DC, April 7-10, 2010

"Robert Adams in the Black Atlantic"

SEA Biennial Conference, Bermuda, March 4-7, 2009

"No Life You Have Known; Or, Melville's Contemporary Critics"

MLA, San Francisco, December 27-30, 2008

"*Israel Potter* and the Atlantic World"

ASA, Philadelphia, October 11-14, 2007

"Holes in the Poles"

ACLA (American Comparative Literature Association), Puebla, Mexico, April 19-22, 2007

"Barbary Captivity and Intra-Atlantic Print Culture"

AHA (American Historical Association), Philadelphia, January 5-8, 2006

"A 'Little *Coterie*' at Sea: American Sailors' Literary Culture"

ASA, Washington, DC, November 3-6, 2005

"Douglass's and Melville's 'Alphabets of the Blind'"

Frederick Douglass and Herman Melville: A Sesquicentennial Celebration, New Bedford, MA, June 22-26, 2005

"Globalism's Hollow Core"

ASA, Atlanta, November 11-14, 2004

"'Misery's Mathematics': Melville's Narrative of Statistics"

Society for the Study of Narrative Literature Conference, Burlington, VT, April 22-25, 2004

"*The Literati of the Galley*': Sailors' Reading, Sailors' Writing"

MLA, San Diego, December 27-30, 2003

Chair, Respondent, and Organizer of Panel: Death and Discipline at Sea.

ASA, Hartford, CT, October 16-19, 2003

"Robert Adams, an American Sailor': The Authentic Subject in Barbary Captivity Narratives"

MLA, New York, December 27-30, 2002

"When you're captur'd by a Turk,/ Sit down, and write a better work': Producing Barbary Captivity Narratives"

History of the Maritime Book Conference, Princeton, October 4-5, 2002

Chair and Co-Organizer of Special Session: Polar Exploration and Anglo-American Literature

MLA, New Orleans, December 27-30, 2001

Chair of Panel: Visualizing Space

Spaces and Places in Early America, McNeil Center for Early American Studies, Philadelphia, September 20-22, 2001

"Pirated Tars, Piratical Texts"

Institute in American Studies, Dartmouth College, June 18-24, 2001

"Literary Corsairs on the High Seas: Eighteenth-Century American Piracy Narratives"

SEA, Norfolk, VA, March 8-10, 2001

"Imagining Facts: Darwin's and Melville's Charts of the Galapagos Islands"

MLA, Washington, DC, December 27-30, 2000

Chair of Panel: Modernism and Environment: Nature in the Age of Science and Technology

MSA (Modernist Studies Association), Philadelphia, October 12-15, 2000

"From Preface to Postscript: Burial at Sea and Historical Record in Dana's *Two Years Before the Mast*"

Institute in American Studies, Dartmouth College, June 20-26, 2000

"Pointillism and the Music of Suratt's Graphophone in Faulkner's *As I Lay Dying*"

NEMLA, Buffalo, NY, April 6-8, 2000

"Study Long and Ye Study Wrong': The Perils of Material Contemplation in *Outer Dark* and *Moby-Dick*"

SCMLA, Memphis, TN, October 28-30, 1999

"Charting the Encantadas"

Melville and the Sea, Mystic Seaport, CT, June 17-19, 1999

"Thar She Sells! Rewriting Owen Chase's 1821 Narrative of the Wreck of the Whaler Essex"

ALA (American Literature Association), Baltimore, MD, May 27-30, 1999

COURSES TAUGHT

Penn State University

Materials and Methods of Research (Graduate), Fall 2011, Fall 2012, Fall 2020

The Short Story, Fall 2020

Print Culture and Early African American Literature (Honors seminar), Spring 2019

Archipelagic American Studies (Graduate), Fall 2018

Environmental Humanities and American Literature (Graduate), Fall 2016

Cli-Fi (Climate Fiction), Fall 2016

Proseminar in Nineteenth-Century American Prose (Graduate), Spring 2016

American Novel to 1900, Spring 2007, Fall 2003, Spring 2013, Fall 2015, Spring 2017, spring 2019

Literature of Polar Exploration (Honors seminar), Spring 2014

History of the Book in the US to 1900 (Graduate), Spring 2014

Oceanic American Studies (Graduate), Spring 2012

Literature and Society: The History of the American Book to 1900, Fall 2011

Herman Melville (Graduate), Spring 2010; (Undergraduate honors), Spring 2017

Studies in Nineteenth-Century American Literature: Personal Narratives (Graduate), Spring 2009

The Possibilities of English, Fall 2008, Fall 2009

Sentiment and Sensation in the Nineteenth-Century American Novel (Honors seminar), Spring 2008

Studies in Nineteenth-Century American Literature: The "New Canon" (Graduate), Fall 2007, Fall 2004

Studies in Nineteenth-Century American Literature: American Literary Periodicals (Graduate), Spring 2007

Studies in Nineteenth-Century American Literature: Sentiment and Sensation (Graduate), Fall 2005

Herman Melville and the Profession of Authorship (Honors seminar), Fall 2005

American Renaissance, Spring 2005

Exploring Literary Forms: The Sea Narrative, Spring 2005

Studies in Genre: Captives, Travelers, Slaves: American Narrative Literature, Fall 2004

American Literature to 1865, Spring 2004

Literature and Society: Sentiment and Sensation in the Nineteenth-Century American Novel, Spring 2004

Exploring Literary Traditions: The Sublime in American Literature, Fall 2003

University of Tennessee

Major Author Course: Herman Melville, Spring 2003

American Romanticism and Transcendentalism, Spring 2003

American Novel Before 1900, Fall 2002

American Literature I: Origins to Civil War, Fall 2002

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Northwest Passage Project expedition member, August 2019

The Northwest Passage Project is a partnership between the University of Rhode Island in collaboration with its Inner Space Center, the URI Graduate School of Oceanography, the film company David Clark Inc., and several other partners. The Project was awarded \$2,995,000 from the National Science Foundation, and Penn State's Polar Center was a contributing partner institution.

President, C19: The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists, 2016-2018; Vice

- President, 2014-2016; Advisory Board Member, 2018-2020
- Editorial Board member, *American Literature*, 2018-2021
- Editorial Advisory Board member, Book Series: Salvaging the Anthropocene, West Virginia University Press
- Editorial Board member, Book Series: Maritime Literature and Culture, Palgrave Macmillan
- Conference Coordinator, "Unsettling," the Fourth Biennial conference of C19: The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists, 2016
- President, Melville Society, 2015
- Interim Co-Director, The Polar Center, Penn State University, Fall 2015
- Editorial Board Member, *J19: The Journal of Nineteenth-Century Americanists*, 2014-2017
- Executive Committee Member, Division on Prose Fiction, MLA, 2013-2018; Committee Secretary 2015-2016, Committee Chair 2016-2017
- Program Committee, Society for Historians of the Early American Republic Conference, 2015
- Associate Director, Penn State Institute for the Arts and Humanities, Jan. 2012-June 2013
- Director, Penn State Center for American Literary Studies, 2007-2010
- Co-founder, C19: The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists; Inaugural Conference Co-Organizer Co-Organizer, with Chris Castiglia and Sean X. Goudie, of "Imagining: A New Century"
- Early American Literature and Material Texts Summer Workshop, 2010, 2014
- Nominations Committee Member, C19: The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists, 2010-2011
- Advisory/Review Board Member: *Atlantic Studies*, *Revue Francaise d'Etudes Americaines*, *Coriolis: Interdisciplinary Journal of Maritime Studies*
- Manuscript reviewer: University of Pennsylvania Press, New York University Press, Cambridge University Press, University of Toronto Press, Oxford University Press, University of Massachusetts Press, Bucknell Press, Duke University Press, University of North Carolina Press, NINES, Palgrave Macmillan, Routledge,

University Press of Florida, University of South Carolina Press, Broadview Press, Addison Wesley Longman, University Press of Mississippi, *Nineteenth-Century Literature*, *ESQ*, *Leviathan*, *Journal of the Early Republic*, *NOVEL*, *Atlantic Studies*, *Modern Language Studies*, *Journal of American Studies*, *Early American Studies*, *Coriolis*, *Seafaring America*, *Scholarly Editing*, *South African Historical Journal*, *WSQ: Women's Studies Quarterly*, *J19*, *Studies in American Fiction*, *Configurations*, *Resilience*, *Journal of the History of the Present*, *American Literature*, *PMLA*.

Evaluator: Melville Society Cohen Prize Committee; Library Company of Philadelphia Fellowship Committee; American Philosophical Society Franklin Grant Committee; NEH Summer Stipends; Honors Examiner, Swarthmore College; McNeil Center for Early American Studies, Dissertation Fellowships; Penn State Libraries Travel Grants; Wayne State Keal Fellowship; Sam Houston State Enhancement Research Program; Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada; American Philosophical Society, Franklin Research Grants Committee; NEH External Reviewer

Participant in Earlier American Reading Group, American Women Writers Workshop, Comparative Literature Luncheon Series, Graduate Article-in-Progress Workshop, Working Papers in American Studies, Community Read Discussion Sessions, and Faculty Writing Group

Mellon Foundation-sponsored Maritime History meeting, "Exploring Digital Resources for Historiography and Instruction: Making the Ideal Real," G. W. Blunt White Library, Mystic Seaport, CT, September 12-13, 2003; Symposium, February 4-5, 2005

Rare Book School, "History of the Book in America," University of Virginia, July 7-11, 2003

American Antiquarian Society Summer Seminar in the History of the Book in American Culture, "Reading and Everyday Life: Books, Texts, Histories," June 15-21, 2003

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Pennsylvania State University

College of the Liberal Arts Standing Joint Committee on Tenure, 2020-2023

College of the Liberal Arts Tenure-Line Faculty Advisory Committee, 2020-2020

English Department Graduate Committee, 2020-2022

English Department Administrative Committee, 2018-2019

English Department Search Committee Member, Critical and Comparative Ethnic Studies, with African American Studies department, 2018-2019

English Department Mentoring Program, 2015-2016, 2018-2019

English Department Personnel Committee, 2011-2013; 2015-2018

CALS First Book Institute mentor, 2013-2017

Humanities Institute Director Search Committee, 2016-2017

English Department Assessment Indicator Committee, 2016

Article Workshop, Rutgers University, March 27, 2015

Organizer, CALS Symposium: Turn, Turn, Turn, October 8, 2012

English Department Search Committee Member, Nineteenth-Century British position, 2011-2012

English Department Search Committee Member, Early Americanist position, 2007-2008

English Department Search Committee Member, Senior Americanist position, 2006-2007

Judge, Undergraduate Research Exhibition, 2008

Judge, Katey Lehman undergraduate fiction writing contest, 2007

English Department Administrative Committee, Fall 2004; 2005-2007

English Department Search Committee Member, Weiss chair, 2005-2006

English Department Rising Scholars Speakers Committee, 2005-2007

Faculty advisor to women's Rugby team, 2005-2006

English Department Assistant Job Placement Officer, 2004-2005

English Department Search Committee Member, Victorian position, 2003-2004

American Women Writers Workshop, Executive Board, 2003-2006

University of Tennessee

Works-in-Progress Seminar, founder, 2002-2003

Critical Theory Reading Group, 2002-2003

American Literature Reading Group, 2002-2003

ADVISING

Dissertation director:

Dustin Kennedy (Ph.D. 2012)

Tyler Roeger (Ph.D. 2015)

Miriam Gonzales (co-director; comprehensive exam stage)

Rebecca Cheong (co-director; comprehensive exam stage)

Dissertation committee member:

Steven Thomas (Ph.D. 2006)

Rochelle Zuck (Ph.D. 2008)

Rosalyn Collings Eves (Ph.D. 2008)

Michelle Smith (Ph.D. 2010)

Brian Neff (Ph.D. 2010)

Jamie L. Jones (Ph.D., Harvard University, 2011)

Eric Norton (Ph.D. 2012)

Heather Adams (Ph.D. 2012)

Michael DuBose (Ph.D. 2012)

David Greenspoon (History, Ph.D. 2012)

Sarah Salter (Ph.D. 2014)

Joshua Tendler (Ph.D. 2014)

Sean Trainor (History, Ph.D. 2015)

Steve Bellomy (Ph.D., University of South Carolina, 2015)

Barbara Hoffmann (University of Miami, Ph.D., 2017)

Kelly Knight (History)

Erica Stevens (Ph.D., 2016)

Eric Vallee (Ph.D., 2017)

Nate Windon (Ph.D., 2018)

Hsia-Ting Chang (Ph.D., 2019)

Yi-Ting Chang

Cecily Zander (History)

Mallory Huard (History)

Honors thesis advisor:

Kylie McCool (2016)

Colleen Boyle (2013)

Kyle Bohunicky (2008)

Honors thesis second reader:

Beth Rudoy

Ryan Biolsi

Stephanie Kline

ADDITIONAL SHORT ESSAYS

"Not Kosher." *Avidly*. <http://avidly.lareviewofbooks.org/2016/07/07/not-kosher/>.

"A Family Adventures *Into the Woods*." Co-Authored with Jonathan Eburne and Adelaide Blum Eburne. <http://avidly.lareviewofbooks.org/2014/12/18/a-family-adventures-into-the-woods/>.

"Essays that We, as Ladies of Early Middle Age, Would Like to See Written." Co-Authored with Sarah Blackwood, Claire Jarvis, Sarah Mesle, and Kyla Wazana

Tompkins. *Avidly*. <http://avidly.lareviewofbooks.org/2014/12/19/essays-that-we-as-ladies-of-early-middle-age-would-like-to-see-written/>.

"'Terry Was a Dude': A Dialogue on 'Backstreets' and 'Governor Chris Christie's Fort Lee New Jersey Traffic Jam.'" Co-authored with Pam Thurschwell. *Avidly*. <http://avidly.lareviewofbooks.org/2014/01/23/terry-was-a-dude-a-dialogue-on-backstreets-and-governor-chris-christies-fort-lee-new-jersey-traffic-jam/>.

"Plots Otherwise without Aim." *Avidly*. <http://avidly.lareviewofbooks.org/2013/04/18/plots-otherwise-without-aim/>.

"Breaking Out of My Body." *And I Ran*. <http://andiran.tumblr.com/post/51071754721/breaking-out-of-my-body>

"Drunk Historiography." *Avidly*. <http://avidly.lareviewofbooks.org/2012/07/10/drunk-historiography-2/>.

MEDIA

Featured commentary as Arctic Historian, *Frozen Obsession*, Directed by David Clark and Bob Elstrom, 2020.

"English Professor Participates in Northwest Passage Project Expedition, *Penn State News*, <https://news.psu.edu/story/581379/2019/07/19/earth-and-environment/english-professor-participates-northwest-passage>

"Penn State's Hester Blum Named 2019 Guggenheim Fellow," *Penn State News*, <https://news.psu.edu/story/568847/2019/04/12/academics/penn-states-hester-blum-named-2019-guggenheim-fellow>

"Hester Blum and Johanna Beamish on Transoceanic Cultures," Max Weber Stiftung WeberWorldCafé podcast, <https://wwc.hypotheses.org/6056> (March, 2019).

"Thar She Blows: The History of Whales and America," BackStory podcast <https://www.backstoryradio.org/shows/thar-she-blows/> (October, 2018)

"Insights into the Fifth Biennial Conference," C19 Podcast, <https://soundcloud.com/c19podcast/c19-conference> (September, 2017).

"Sailing Stories," Feature article on front page of Penn State website, <http://www.psu.edu/feature/2015/04/01/sailing-stories> (May, 2015).

Feature, *Research Penn State* 34:2 (Fall 2014).

- "Tiger of the Week: Hester Blum '95, Scholar at Sea," *Princeton Alumni Weekly*, <https://blogs.princeton.edu/paw/2014/07/tiger-of-the-week-hester-blum-95-scholar-at-sea/> (July 2, 2014).
- "English faculty member joins whaleship crew to study nautical storytelling," *Penn State News*, <http://news.psu.edu/story/317550/2014/06/04/research/english-faculty-member-joins-whaleship-crew-study-nautical> (June 4, 2014).
- "38th Voyagers," Mystic Seaport, <http://www.mysticseaport.org/38thvoyage/voyagers/>
- "Liberal Arts faculty awarded NEH Fellowships," *Penn State News*, <http://news.psu.edu/story/299485/2014/01/07/society-and-culture/liberal-arts-faculty-awarded-neh-fellowships> (January 7, 2014).
- "Shipboard newspapers as social media for early polar explorers," *Penn State News*, <http://news.psu.edu/story/296935/2013/12/03/research/shipboard-newspapers-social-media-early-polar-explorers> (December 3, 2013).
- "Journeys to the Ends of the Earth," *Chronicle of Higher Education*, <http://chronicle.com/article/Journeys-to-the-Ends-of-the/134522/> (September 24, 2012).
- "Polar Imprints: Book Historian Hester Blum at the University of Toronto," Toronto Review of Books podcast, <https://www.torontoreviewofbooks.com/2011/12/trb-podcast-polar-imprints-book-historian-hester-blum-at-the-university-of-toronto/> (November, 2011)