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College of Graduate Studies
College of Literature, Arts, and Social Sciences
Sul Ross State University
Box C-89
Alpine, Texas 79832
432.837.8744

EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy in English—Creative Writing, Fiction, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas, May, 2001
Dissertation: *Booker T's Coming Home and Alice's Soul Bath: Two Novellas*, supervised by Professor Leslie Jill Patterson

Master of Arts—Creative Writing, Fiction, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas, December, 1995
Thesis: *Wander Down River: A Collection of Short Stories*, supervised by Associate Professor Douglas Crowell

Bachelor of Arts—English, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas, May, 1993

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

Dean, College of Literature, Arts, and Social Sciences, Sul Ross State University, 2021-present

Served as key member of Curriculum Committee tasked with aligning a central course catalogue across various campus catalogues to reflect one curriculum as per SACSCOC mandate; Helped revise key sections of the *Faculty Handbook*, identifying and updating outdated passages with Academic Affairs; Served as member of Academic Affairs Council; Served as member of Deans' Council; Oversaw realignment of departments in college to create a fine arts department and group social sciences; Encouraged proposal for revisioning fine arts to performing arts with shift from BFA to BA degrees for preservation of programs; Proposed creation of diversity and cultural studies minor to streamline various minors under one cross-disciplinary minor; Worked toward realigning campuses under central academic units; Encouraged furthering academic offerings across campuses in order to recruit and retain students; Worked on realignment and revision of General Studies degree toward discipline-specific and marketable tracks; Served as Advisor for General Studies program.

Dean, College of Graduate Studies, Sul Ross State University, 2020-present

Fleshed out three-year strategic plan for college with 80% implementation after two years; Centralized processes for ratifying graduate faculty; Focused recruitment in the EMP, establishing a dedicated recruitment representative for graduate studies;

Systemized application processes establishing a quick turn-around initiative; Created system for successful application communications; Established steering committee for creation of graduate student association; Created initiative for recruiting graduate programs to area high school teachers; Served as director of graduate portion of research symposium, focusing online during pandemic and continuing hybrid to attract include distance students; Piloted academic toolbox for academic professionalization of graduate students in English as a model for further workshops across the college; Piloted graduate assistant initiative to systematize awards and grow enrollments; Helped reimagine the renewal of PPOHA Advancing Graduate Programs *en la Frontera* (Title V) graduate studies grant, piloting graduate research fellowships and retention measures such as social media initiatives; Planned pilot for graduate student hybrid orientation to include family sessions, professionalization, academic toolbox, and research opportunities; Helped revise the graduate student handbook; Systemized thesis review process to follow the academic calendar and established dedicated position for thesis review; Served as Chair of Graduate Council; Served as advisor for Master's of Liberal Arts Degree; Encouraged further expansion of online graduate programs; Conceptualized further opportunities for graduate fellowships focused on offering professional experience for students as determined by their aspirations.

Chair, Department of Languages and Literature, Sul Ross State University, 2015-2021

Served as major undergraduate and graduate academic advisor; Conceptualized and implemented Sigma Tau Delta to expand to a more inclusive English Club in addition to an honors fraternity; Encouraged community-building of majors across all campuses; Piloted a research summit including students from all campuses; Grew enrollment at undergraduate and graduate levels; Worked to regain the University Writing Center as an entity of the English program powered by graduate students; Served as member of Chairs' Council; Combined faculty from all campuses in faculty meetings and governance; Expanded the graduate faculty membership across campuses; Piloted a revision of the graduate comprehensive examination to include portfolios; Piloted a mentorship program for graduate students to increase teaching and research experience; Sponsored various McNair scholars and mentored other graduate scholars into Ph.D. programs; Served as SACSCOC program director for English and L&L administration; Co-wrote the ten-year evaluations of English for undergraduate and graduate programs; Helped establish clear course rotations and streamlined course offerings in Spanish and English; Piloted course content-subject notebooks initiative and training for TEA compliance with education department; Revitalized writing concentration to include creative and professional communications; Conceptualized, proposed and piloted Professional Design and Communication minor as a cross-disciplinary minor in support of the writing concentration; Piloted hybrid instruction in English and Spanish to encourage recruitment and retention of rural, nontraditional students at graduate and undergraduate levels; incorporated hybrid opportunities for graduate education, allowing synchronous and asynchronous education opportunities.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEES and COUNCILS

Member, Executive Cabinet
 Member University Curriculum Committee, 2021-present
 Member, Strategic Planning Committee, 2021-present
 Chair, Academic Planning Committee, 2021-present
 Chair, Literature, Arts, and Social Sciences Chairs' Council, 2021-present
 Member Academic Affairs Council, 2020-present
 Member, University Deans Council, 2020-present
 Member, 21st Century Committee
 Member, Provost Search Committee, 2019
 Member, Arts and Sciences (now LASS) Chairs' Council, 2016-21

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Professor, Sul Ross State University, 2013-present
 Online Graduate-level Fiction, Poetry, and Non-fiction Workshops
 synchronous and asynchronous
 Online Graduate-level American Short Story
 Online Graduate-level Southern American Literature
 Undergraduate Fiction Workshop, onsite and online
 Online Undergraduate Contemporary Literature
 Children and Adolescent Literature
 Women in Literature
 Early American Literature, onsite and web-enhanced
 Forms of Literature, onsite and online
 Composition and Rhetoric I and II, onsite and online

Associate Professor, Sul Ross State University, 2009-2013
 (tenure and promotion, May, 2009)

Assistant Professor, Sul Ross State University, 2005-2009
 (appointment, April 26, 2005)
 Online Graduate-level Novella Workshop
 Online Undergraduate Workshop
 Online Graduate-level American Short Story
 Online Graduate Fiction Workshop
 Southern American Literature
 American Literature to 1865
 Advanced Composition
 Undergraduate Fiction Workshop
 Contemporary Literature
 Composition and Rhetoric I
 Composition and Rhetoric II
 Graduate Fiction Workshop
 American Short Story
 Thesis Direction: *The Thin Line: A Creative Thesis*, Addie Helms (May 2010)
 Thesis Direction: *Charles Grand: A Novel*, Paul Slocumb (December 2009)

Thesis Direction: *We're Not Ourselves Anymore: A Collection of Short Stories*, Landon Moore (May 2008)

Independent Direction: *Lone Cloud: A Novel*, John Orr (graduation, May 2009)

Faculty Advisor and Sponsor, Student Publications, Sul Ross State University, 2019-present

Includes sponsorship of *The Sage* literary journal and *The Skyline* newspaper
Faculty Sponsor, *The Brand Yearbook*, Sul Ross State University, 2007-08

Assistant Professor, West Texas A&M University, 2003-2005

Introduction to Creative Writing

Composition/Reading

Composition/Reading II

Introduction to Technical Communication

Professional Reports

Visiting Assistant Professor, Texas Tech University, 2001-2003

American Literature of the 20th Century

American Literature of the 19th Century

Fiction

Creative Writing Fiction Workshop

Comparative Literature: Short Story

Introduction to Creative Writing

American Literature, 1915-1965

American Literature, 1965-present

Professional Reports

Graduate Part-Time Instructor, Texas Tech University, 1993-2001

Introduction to Creative Writing

Studies in Fiction

Advanced College Rhetoric

Essentials of College Rhetoric

Associate Faculty, South Plains College, 1998-2001

Essentials of English Composition

Fundamentals of English

Remedial English

EDITORSHIPS

New Texas: A Journal of Literature and Culture
 Editor-in-Chief/Fiction Editor (Sul Ross State University, 2005-2012)
 Co-Editor (West Texas A&M University, 2004)

Writing on the Wind: A West Texas Anthology of Women Writers
 Co-Editor (Texas Tech University Press, Spring 2005)

Iron Horse Literary Review (Jill Patterson, editor) 1999-2001
 Assistant Editor, Managing Editor, Fiction Reading Editor

Short Story Explication (Wendell Aycock, editor) 1998, 2000
 Editorial Assistant

WRITING CENTER EXPERIENCE

Sul Ross State University, 2015-2016, 2021-present
Director

West Texas A&M University, 2003-2005
Director

University Writing Center, Texas Tech University, 1998-2002
Acting Summer Director, Assistant Director, Writing Consultant

Texas Tech University Writing Instruction Partnership K-12 Schools, 2000-2002
Writing Consultant, Master Tutor

PUBLICATIONS

book manuscript

Writing on the Wind: A West Texas Anthology of Women Writers
 co-editor with Lou Rodenberger and Jacqueline Kolosov (Texas Tech University
 Press, Spring, 2005)

fiction

“So Much Carrion in the Night,” *A Shared Voice*. Lamar University Press (2013)

“Shimmerdance,” *Texas Soundtrack: Texas Stories Inspired by Texas Music*. Inkbrush Press
 (2011)

“Chippy of the Wind,” *Ironhorse* (Spring 2009)

“Veranda,” *Timbercreek* (Spring 2009)

“Only Horses Run Wild in Clouds,” *Iconoclast* (Spring 2007)

“The Birthing of Just Getting By,” *The Distillery* (Fall 2006)

“Ruby Red,” *Night Train* (Spring 2006)

Nominated for the Pushcart Prize in Fiction

Nominated for the Million Writers Award in Fiction

“Growing Old in the Maize,” *CrossRoads: A Southern Cultural Annual* (2005)

“Wander Down River,” *Big Muddy* (Spring 2005)

“Stuff, Lick, and Stamp,” *Words of Wisdom* (Fall 2004)

- “Coming Home Ceremony for Butterflies,” *The New Review*. (Spring 2004)
- “Scratching Up Hellhounds,” *Timber Creek Review*. (Fall 2003)
- “Old Hands,” *Sojourn*. (Spring/Summer 2003)
- “Connections, Sure Enough,” *Lake Effect*. (Spring 2003)
- “Alice’s Soulbath, Part One,” *South Carolina Review* (Fall 2001)
- “Booker T’s Coming Home,” *New Stories from the South*. Ed. Shannon Ravenel. Chapel Hill: Algonquin (1999)
- “Booker T’s Coming Home,” first appeared in *The Distillery* (Fall 1998)
Nominated for the Pushcart Prize in Fiction
- “Flimflam Man,” *Concho River Review* (Spring 1998)

nonfiction

- “It’s Three O’clock in the Morning,” *Writing on the Wind*. Texas Tech Press (Spring 2005)
- “It’s Three O’clock in the Morning,” first appeared in *Concho River Review*. (Spring 2003)

poetry

- “I Don’t Know History.” *Blue Heron Review*. (2015).
- “We Never Dressed for Rain: Tallahassee, 1976,” *Nerve Cowboy* (Fall 2007)
- “Chill November, Almanac,” *Iodine* (Fall 2004)

book reviews

- Arnegard, Iver *Whip and Spur*. *Western Literature Review* (2013)
- Hamel, Ruth. *My Favorite Lies*. *Iron Horse Literary Review*. (Spring 2002)
- Cooney, Ellen. *The Old Ballerina*. *Iron Horse Literary Review* (Spring 2001)
- Cherry, Kelly. *The Society of Friends*. *Iron Horse Literary Review* (Fall 1999)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

creative writing

- “So Much Carion in the Night,” *Langdon Review of the Arts in Texas Weekend*, Tarleton State University, Granbury, Texas, September 2013.
- “Shimmerdance,” Western Literature Association Annual Conference, Texas Tech
- “Shimmerdance,” 15th Annual ASU Writer’s Conference in Honor of Elmer Kelton, San Angelo, Texas, February 2011.
- “Fiction,” American Culture, Popular Culture Conference, New Orleans, Louisiana, April 2009
- “Only Horses Run Wild in Clouds” American Culture/Popular Culture National Conference, Boston Massachusetts, April, 2007
- Excerpts from various fictions, Langdon Weekend, Tarleton State University, Granbury, Texas, September, 2007
- “Veranda,” 10th Annual ASU Writer’s Conference in Honor of Elmer Kelton, San Angelo, Texas, February, 2006
- “Scratching up Hellhounds,” 9th Annual ASU Writer’s Conference in Honor of Elmer Kelton, San Angelo, Texas, February, 2005

- “Kill Him Cold, I Would,” Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers Annual Conference, San Antonio, Texas, September, 2004
- “Its Three O’clock in the Morning,” Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers Annual Conference, Fredericksburg, Texas, September, 2003
- “Chippy of the Wind,” and “Ruby Red,” Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers Annual Conference, Lamar University, Beaumont, Texas, September, 2002
- “Growing Old in the Maize,” Southwest/Texas Popular Culture Annual Conference, Albuquerque, New Mexico, February, 2002
- “Vyrie,” Southwest/Texas Popular Culture Annual Conference, Albuquerque, New Mexico, March, 2001
- “Alice’s Soul bath, Part Four,” Conference of College Teachers of English Annual Conference, West Texas A&M University, Amarillo, Texas, March 2001
- “Alice’s Soul bath, Part One,” Vistas of the Word Writers’ Conference, Oklahoma University, Norman, Oklahoma, November, 2000
- “Rochelle,” Southwest/Texas Popular Culture Annual Conference, Albuquerque, New Mexico, February, 2000
- “Old Hands,” Southwest/Texas Popular Culture Association and Southwest/Texas America Culture Annual Conference, Albuquerque, New Mexico, January, 1999
- “Booker T’s Coming Home,” Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers Annual Conference, Schreiner University, Kerrville, Texas, February, 1999
- “Lou,” Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers Annual Conference, University of Dallas, Richardson, Texas, February, 1998
- “Hair-do,” Southwest/Texas Popular Culture Association and Southwest/Texas American Culture Annual Conference, Lubbock, Texas, January, 1998
- “Fish Out of Water,” Conference on Literature and Languages. Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, February, 1995
- “A Year in Quincy, Florida,” Conference on Literature and Languages. Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, February, 1994

creative writing pedagogy

- “Story Telling and Creative Writing Techniques as Writing Center Theory.” International Writing Center Annual Conference. Chicago, Illinois, November, 2017.
- Innovative Teaching Methods: Service Learning, Online Courses, Using Video Production in Writing Workshops. Panel Chair and Discussant, Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers Annual Conference, September, 2010.
- Directing a Creative Writing Program, Panel Chair and Discussant, Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers Annual Conference, September, 2010.
- “The Degree that Wasn’t’: Pursuing a Writing Concentration Masters Degree,” Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers Annual Conference, Angelo State, San Angelo, Texas, September, 2008
- “Invention: The Truth in Our Fiction,” Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers Annual Conference, University of Houston, Houston, Texas, September 2007
- “Panel Discussion: Sponsoring and Editing Literary Magazines,” Langdon Weekend, Tarleton State University, Granbury, Texas, September, 2007
- “Finally, Writing in the Center,” South/Central Writing Center Association Annual Conference, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, March, 2005
- “Writing Center and the Creative Writing Classroom: A Match Made in Heaven or Just Match Play?” Southwest/Texas Popular Culture Annual Conference, San Antonio, Texas, April, 2004

editing

“Editor’s Roundtable: *New Texas and Sage*,” Langdon Weekend, Granbury, Texas, September 2006 and 2007

“Editors Roundtable: *New Texas*,” Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers Annual Conference, San Antonio Texas, September 2004

SERVICE**University**

Member, SACSCOC Academic and Administrative Advisory Committee, 2017-present

Arts and Sciences Representative to QEP Professional Development Committee, 2018-2019

Member, Faculty Affairs Council, 2016-2020

Chair, 2017-2019

Graduate Seminar Instructor, various semesters

Freshman Seminar Instructor, various semesters

Member Curriculum Council, 2013-2015

President’s Strategic Planning Committee, 2013

Secretary, Teaching Council, 2012-2014

Lobo Den academic cohort professor, 2010

McNair Faculty Mentor (two students, 2010, one student, 2011, two students, 2012)

Lobo Den Faculty Mentor, Advisory Board Member, 2009-10

Member, Graduate, Strategic Planning, Curriculum, Teaching, Research, Scholarship, Quality Enhancement Plan, Student Publications, and Student Recruitment and Retention councils and committees, Sul Ross State University

Assistant Faculty Sponsor, Black Student Association, 2008-2010, Sul Ross, State University

Director, Summer Creative Writing Program, 2005, West Texas A&M University

Sponsor, Creative Writing Club, West Texas A&M University 2004-2005

Member-at-large, Faculty Senate, West Texas A&M University, 2004-2005

Member, Student Fee Advisory Board, West Texas A&M University, 2004-2005

Member and Sub-Chair, Writing Programs Committee, West Texas A&M University, 2003-2004

AWARDS

Recipient of Teaching Council Grant Award, Spring 2013, Fall 2018

Recipient Teaching Council Grant Award, \$1,200, Sul Ross State University, 2007

Kilgore Research Assistance Grant, West Texas A&M University, 2004

Graduate School Summer Research Fellowship, Texas Tech University, 2000

Robert S. Newton Award for Creative Writing, Texas Tech University, 1998: “Booker T’s Coming Home”

First Runner Up, Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers, Best Short Fiction, 1995: “Powwow”

Invited Speaker, “The Power of Invention: From Fiction Writing to Professional Communications and Best Practices.” The Science of Learning Conference (for area K-12 teachers and administrators). Sul Ross State University, September, 2018

Invited Speaker, “Invention in the Composition Classroom.” Writing Conference for Area K-12 Teachers and Administrators, Sul Ross State University, 2011

Reader for Texas Christian University Press, 2008

Invited Speaker, Texas Mountain Trails Writing Conference, March, 2008: “Leaps of Faith: Transforming Personal Experience into Fiction” and “Getting Published in Literary Markets”

Million Writers' Award in Fiction (nomination) 2007: "Ruby Red"
Pushcart Prize in Fiction (nomination) 2007: "Ruby Red"
Pushcart Prize in Fiction (nomination) 1998: "Booker T's Coming Home"
First Runner Up, Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers, Best Student Short
Fiction, 1995: "Powwow"

Affiliations

Modern Language Association
Western Literature Association
Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers.
 Vice President 2010-2011
 President 2007-2009
 Conference coordinator, 2006-07
 Student Competition Director, 2002-2006
Associated Writing Programs
Popular Culture/American Culture Association
Southwest/Texas Popular Culture Association
Conference of College Teachers of English
Graduate English Society, Texas Tech University English Department, 1995-2001, Member,
 Steering Committee