

**Richard Chih-Tung Sha**  
**8/14**  
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Washington, DC 20016  
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**EDUCATION:**

Ph.D., English, 1992, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas.

Dissertation: "The Visual and Verbal Sketch in British Romanticism"  
Co-Directors: Theresa M. Kelley and Andrew Cooper

M.A., English, 1988, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas.

B.A., cum laude with distinction in English, 1985, University of Pennsylvania,  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

King's College, London, Junior Year Abroad, 1983-84

**EMPLOYMENT HISTORY:**

Affiliate Professor of Philosophy, American University, 2013-

Professor of Literature, American University, Washington, D.C. 2008-present

Associate Professor of Literature, American University, Washington, D.C.  
1998-2008

Fields: British Romantic Literature and Culture, Poetry, Victorian Literature, Asian  
American Literature, Multi-Ethnic Studies

Assistant Professor of Literature, American University, Washington, D.C.  
1992-1998

Instructor, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas. 1987-1990

**HONORS and AWARDS:**

**2012 Scholar/Teacher of the Year**, American University, Washington, DC  
American University's highest faculty award

CAS Nominee for Outstanding Contributions to Academic Development, 2005

**2004 Faculty Member of the Year, Awarded for Excellence in Teaching by American University's Undergraduate Student Confederation**

Curriculum Development Award to Develop a Minor in Multi-Ethnic Studies, \$5,000, 2002

**2002 University Faculty Award for Outstanding Teaching in the General Education Program**

Folger Institute Seminar, "Images of the French Revolution," 2001

CAS Nominee for the Morton Bender Prize, 2001

Curriculum Development Award, American University, \$2,000, 1999

ACLS Travel to Meetings Abroad Grant, 1995

Mellon Travel Award, CAS, 1996, 1994, 1993

Folger Institute Spring Seminar, 1994

**PUBLICATIONS:**

Books:

Science and Imagination in British Romanticism, 1750-1850. 509 typescript pages. Under consideration.

Perverse Romanticism: Aesthetics and Sexuality in Britain, 1750-1830. 376 pp. + 14 halftones. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2009.

Reviews in *TLS*, *Byron Journal*, *American Historical Review*, *Modern Philology*, *BARS Bulletin and Review*, *European Romantic Review*, *Romanticism and Victorianism on the Net*, *Wordsworth Circle*, *Nineteenth-Century Literature*, *GLQ*, *Social History of Medicine*, *H-Net Reviews*, *Journal of British Studies*, *History: Reviews of New Books*, *Review of English Studies*, *Clio*, *Journal of the History of Sexuality*, *Journal of Modern History*, *ANQ*, *Prisms*, *Keats-Shelley Journal*, *Medical History*

"Sha's scholarship on behalf of perversion is formidable, and makes for fun reading.... Sha is a superlative reader of poetry." *European Romantic Review* August 2012

"*Perverse Romanticism* is, in short, a splendid achievement. The honorable toil of archival research is everywhere apparent, and readers can without undue effort or concern reap the benefits of painstaking care, original thought, and convincing argument. Most important, the field of Romanticism benefits both from the introduction of fascinating new medical materials and from a reconsideration of the history of sexuality that changes received wisdom and opens

previously unchallenged assumptions to scrutiny and debate." *Romanticism and Victorianism on the Net*, February-May 2010, published 2/2012.

"An intensely scholarly book, and one very well versed in the medical and scientific work of the period, but it keeps literary and artistic production in view at all times." *Medical History* 55 (October 2011)

"Brilliantly extends Laqueur's reading of the instability of sex." *BARS Bulletin and Review*, 2011

"Sha's work, with its rich and engaging cultural context, significantly broadens and deepens our understanding of Romantic-era sexuality." Rick Incurvati, *Keats-Shelley Journal* Dec 2010.

"*Perverse Romanticism* is that rare work of scholarship that crisscrosses confidently between different authors and disciplines." *Journal of the History of Sexuality*, 2013

"Coming in the wake of excellent work on Romanticism and sexuality by Andrew Elfenbein, Dino Felluga and others, not to mention the even longer history of criticism on Romanticism and gender, in so many ways *Perverse Romanticism* is the book on Romantic sexuality we have been waiting for. This book not only recovers the historical nuances of the Romantic period's concern with sexuality, but also explores the transformative aesthetic and cultural energies at once urging and produced by this concern." *Wordsworth Circle*, 2011

"Richard C. Sha's ambitious new book, *Perverse Romanticism*, attempts to bridge the gap between three scholarly disciplines: literary criticism, the history of sexuality, and aesthetic theory. The result is an impressive display of Sha's masterful grasp of a wide range of scholarly literature, and a provocative thesis that will be of interest to academics in all three fields. Sha's primary argument in *Perverse Romanticism* is that scholars need to reevaluate the Romantics' understanding of sexuality and the body to fully comprehend these authors' emphasis on "perverse" sex. By integrating Romantic literature with contemporary medical discourses and the Kantian notion of "purposiveness," scholars will find that the Romantics advocated for social equality based on a particularly fluid notion of sex and the sexed body.' *H-Net Reviews*, June 2009

Richard Sha's *Perverse Romanticism* begins with a stunningly brilliant and original move. Sha argues for a connection between aesthetics and perverse sexuality that consists in their shared suspicion of function. In perverse sexuality as Sha defines it, pleasure is separate from reproduction and thus has no utilitarian function, while the beautiful object, according to Kantian aesthetics, exhibits 'purposiveness without purpose'. This is to say that the beautiful object has no practical use but nonetheless exhibits the *form* of purpose. Although it has not necessarily been designed, we cannot conceive of it without the concept of a designer. The common resistance to function in aesthetics and sexuality underlies Sha's most radical claim, for he holds that this resistance confers liberatory potential upon Romanticism. The argument draws on Kant's concept of the free play involved in aesthetics, which Kant denominates 'freedom', and on Romantic-era life science, which questioned the absolute determining power of anatomy. It must be emphasized, however, that this parallel is not merely an inspired case of analogical thinking, for Sha musters strong evidence to demonstrate that there was an historical dialogue between men and women

of letters on the one hand and scientists on the other hand. Indeed, some figures he discusses belonged to both categories. By themselves, Sha's foundational theses on aesthetics and sexuality are critical commonplaces; however, brought together they have immense transformational power, which the work bears out through a great deal of ground-breaking interdisciplinary scholarship bridging the fields of aesthetics, Romantic-era medical science and life science, and British Romantic literature, with special attention to the poetry of Blake and Byron. Geraldine Friedman, *Review of English Studies*, August 2010

"Perverse Romanticism is a vastly interesting...book. The past decade saw a flurry of publications about the Romantics' relationship with science, from Alan Richardson's *British Romanticism and the Science of Mind* to Sharon Rushton's *Shelley and Vitality*. Richard C. Sha's exploration of contemporary scientific and medical notions concerning gender, sexuality and reproduction promised to be an exciting contribution to the field. This promise is largely fulfilled. Sha produces a masterful account of science in the period, including Lazzaro Spallanzani's experiments with frogs in taffeta shorts, and Johann Friedrich Blumenbach's quasi-medical denunciation of the clitoris as an "obscene organ of brute pleasure...given to beasts." *Times Literary Supplement*, February 12, 2010

"Sha's excellent demonstrations are less biographical than conceptual. He wants to show how Romantic ideas themselves changed through their association with a seemingly purposeless sexuality. And he is eager to apply his discoveries to the new Romantic aesthetics that replaced sentimentally empirical ones.

Even so, the exposition is thoroughly salubrious and well-worth undertaking, for the plain reason that purpose and perversity have been too long neglected in Romantic thought, with the consequence that pleasure and pain in both aesthetics and sexuality have been understudied. Sha brings to these topics a keen intelligence buttressed by up-to-the minute scholarship and, in particular, a deep understanding of the life and works of Blake. If he has his own agendas, these are made subservient to elucidation of the main theme. He dazzles by the quantity and breadth of his reading and embodies the best interdisciplinary approaches so many scholars tout but rarely incorporate. He is as comfortable with the anatomy and physiology of his epoch, as its overarching medical hypotheses, and puts these to good use in the demonstration that whatever Romanticism was, it did not rest on the pillar of any heteronormative sexuality, as has sometimes been claimed for British civilizations prior to the late Georgians. **George Rousseau, *The Social History of Medicine* April 2010**

"With the new knowledge being led by function, that which was not functional was "perverse" or "pleasure without function," as in the scandalous realization that the only function of the clitoris might be pleasure or that anatomical symmetries might be what remained of an original single sex. Sha, like others, is interested in the romantic period because it is a period of transition, in its questioning of essential sexual division. It is illuminating to see Mary Wollstonecraft, for example, explained as knowingly rewriting the absolute distinction of sex proposed by Comte de Buffon (118–19). Most of the book is about that supplementary "pleasure" rather than the disciplinary "functions" it escapes. This is pleasure without function

or purposiveness without reproductive purpose. The book sees “function” not as the palpable design of power but rather as a repertory of ends and, in opposition to what it sees as a Foucauldian notion of sexual knowledge as a form of disciplinary power, it heralds liberation.” *Journal of British Studies*, January 2010

"Richard C. Sha's fine study takes Byron's theme of 'perversion' in a different direction from the ethical, demonstrating how Romantic medical writing about the perverse influenced literary Romanticism.... Fascinating book." – Jonathan David Gross, *Byron Journal*

“The strength of Sha’s carefully executed study lies in the connections he forges between medicine and culture to situate perversity and purposiveness. Separating sexual activity from procreative purpose allows for more diverse sexualities as well as distinguishes humans from beasts.” *ANQ A Quarterly Journal of Short Articles, Notes, and Reviews* 2010

The Visual and Verbal Sketch in British Romanticism Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1998. 288pp + 19 b/w + 2 color plates

Reviewed in Times Literary Supplement, European Romantic Review, Studies in Romanticism, BARS Journal and Review, Choice, Criticism, Notes and Queries, Review of English Studies, Prisms: Essays in Romanticism, Modern Philology, Romanticism, Studies in English Literature, Keats-Shelley Journal, Byron Journal, Women’s Literature, and Wordsworth Circle.

“Sha brings to life a neglected sphere of activity in the period and he moves skillfully between art history and literary criticism.” TLS

“Richard Sha’s book on the sketch opens up a new area of critique. While the fragment has been investigated for years, the sketch has by and large escaped critical notice. Sha skillfully leads his readers into unfamiliar territory and uncovers its depths.”

BARS Bulletin and Review

“This is a richly intellectual and subtly argued book...” ERR

“The reader is well rewarded both by Sha’s application of theory to his own analytical practice, as well as by the materials he orchestrates for his cultural analysis. His command of these materials, his interpretative persuasiveness regarding them, and his theoretical account of them deserve high praise.” Studies in Romanticism

#### Edited Volumes:

Co-edited with Joel Faflak. Romanticism and the Emotions. With essays by Joel Faflak, Tilottama Rajan, David Collings, Thomas Pfau, Rei Terada, Julie Carlson, Richard Sha, and Jacques Khalip. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Published April 2014. 273pp.

<http://www.cambridge.org/us/academic/subjects/literature/english-literature-1700-1830/romanticism-and-emotions>

“Historicizing Romantic Sexuality” in Romantic Praxis (January 2006).

With essays by Elizabeth Fay, Jill Heydt-Stevenson, Danny O’Quinn, Jonathan Loesberg, Bradford Mudge, Richard Sha, and Susan Lanser with responses by David M. Halperin and Andrew Elfenbein. 335 typescript pages.

<http://www.rc.umd.edu/praxis/sexuality/index.html>

“Sexuality and Romanticism,” special issue of Romanticism on the Net 23 (August 2001) 175 pp. with introductory essay by Sha, and essays by Bradford Mudge, Peter Otto, Geraldine Friedman, Andrew Elfenbein, Catherine Burroughs, and Richard Sha.

<http://www.erudit.org/revue/2001/v/n23/005994ar.html>

#### ARTICLES PUBLISHED in REFEREED JOURNALS or BOOKS

Published or Forthcoming:

“John Keats and Some Versions of Materiality,” *Romanticism*. 20 #3 Accepted fall 2013. 8,000 words. Forthcoming Fall 2014.

“Romanticism, Paradox, and Free Love: Hegel, Rousseau, and Goethe,” forthcoming in ***The Wordsworth Circle***. Accepted in April 2013, 8,000 words.

“Romantic Physiology and the Work of Romantic Imagination: Hypothesis and Speculation in Science and in Coleridge” invited essay, ***European Romantic Review***, special issue on new approaches to the Imagination, edited by Alan Richardson, Essay Accepted April, 2013, 12,072 words. Published August 2013.

“From Electrical Materiality to Electric Bodies,” ***The Wordsworth Circle***, 43 #3 (Summer 2012): 143-46.

“The Motion Behind Romantic Emotion: The Chemistry and Physics of Feeling,” in ***Romanticism and the Emotions***, eds. Sha and Faflak. Cambridge: CUP, 2014. Pp. 19-47.

“How to write a persuasive job letter in the Humanities,” ***Inside Higher Ed*** (January 2011)

“Volta’s Battery, Animal Electricity, and *Frankenstein*” ***European Romantic Review***, 23.1 (February 2012):21-42. Accepted October 2010. 42 pp. ms.

“Towards a Physiology of the Romantic Imagination, ***Configurations***, 17 #3 (fall 2009) Published January 2011. pp. 197-226.

Nominated for Best Article Published in 19th Century Studies for 2011

“On the Romantic Imaginations we Want and on the One’s we Don’t” 8,000 words. Under Contract. **A Handbook to Romantic Studies**, eds. Joel Faflak and Julia Wright. London: Blackwells, April 2012.

Entries “Figuration in Romantic Scientific Prose,” “John and William Hunter,” “Sir Charles Bell,” and “Ann Batten Cristall” in **Blackwell’s Encyclopedia of Romanticism**, eds. Frederick Burwick, Diane Hoeveler, and Nancy Goslee. Under contract. Work submitted 7/09. 10,000 words total. London: Blackwells, 2011.

“Othering Sexual Perversity: England, Empire, Race and the Science of Sex.” In **A History of the Human Body in an Age of Empire**, ed. Michael Sappol and Steven Rice. (Oxford: Berg Publishers, 2010). Pp 87-105, 275-82.  
Contributors include Pamela Gilbert, Thomas Laqueur, Michael Worboys.

“Blake and Queering of Queer Jouissance,” in **Queer Blake**, eds. Helen Bruder and Tristanne Connolly. Houndmills: Palgrave Macmillan, 2010. Pp. 40-49.

“Imagination as Inter-science” in **European Romantic Review**. Volume 20 #5 (December 2009): 661-669. Essay solicited by Tilottama Rajan.  
Essay reprinted in **Transforming Tragedy, Identity, and Community**, eds. T. Rajan, L. Crisafulli, D. Siaglia. London: Routledge, 2011.

“Byron, Polidori, and the Epistemology of Romantic Pleasure.” In **Romanticism and Pleasure**, eds. Michele Faubert and Tom Schmidt. Palgrave Macmillan, 2010. Pp. 17-37.

“Blake, Liberation, and Medicine,” in **Liberating Medicine**, eds. Tristanne Connolly and Steve Clark. London: Pickering and Chatto, 2009. Pp. 83-96, 254-58.

“The Use and Abuse of Historicism: Shelley and Halperin on the Otherness of Ancient Greek Sexuality,” **Romantic Praxis** (January 2006). (50 page typescript)  
<http://www.rc.umd.edu/praxis/sexuality/sha/sha.html>

“Romanticism and the Sciences of Perversion,” **Wordsworth Circle**. 36 #2 (spring 2005): 43-48.

“Medicalizing the Romantic Libido: Luxury, Sexual Pleasure, and the Public Sphere,”  
in “Romanticism and Vice,” a special issue of **Nineteenth-Century Contexts** vol. 27 #1 (March 2005). Pp. 31-52. Longer version (68 page typescript) in **Romanticism on the Net** 31 (August 2003) .

“Scientific Forms of Sexual Knowledge in Romanticism.” **Romanticism on the Net** 23 (August 2001) 27pp.

“The Power of the English Nineteenth-Century Visual and Verbal Sketch: Appropriation, Discipline, Mastery.” **Nineteenth-Century Contexts**. 24 #1 (2002): 73-100.

“Expanding the Limits of Feminine Writing: the Prose Sketches of Sydney Owenson (Lady Morgan) and Helen Maria Williams.” In **Women Romantic Writers: Voices and Countervoices**. Eds. Paula Feldman and Theresa Kelley. Hanover: The University Press of New England, 1995. 194-206. 302-304.

“A Genre Against Genre: The Visual and Verbal Sketch in British Romanticism,” **Genre** 28 (Spring/Summer 1995): 145-170.

“Gray’s Political Elegy: Poetry as the Burial of History,” **Philological Quarterly** 69 (Summer 1990): 337-357.

REPRINTED in **Poetry for Students** ed. Mark Milne. New York: Gale Publishing, 2000, and in **Literature and Criticism 1400-1800**. Thomson Gale, 2007.

## SPONSORED RESEARCH

Science and Imagination in Romanticism, 1750-1850

**NEH Fellowship for 2012-13**, 2011, \$50,400 **80 Awards/1339 applications**

Benjamin Franklin Research Grant, American Philosophical Society, 2008  
\$4,000

Mellon Fund Award, London Research Expenses, 2011, \$1,500

Perverse Romanticism

**NEH Summer Stipend for Senior Scholars**, 2004, \$5,000

AU Match for NEH, 2004, \$5,000

Mellon Fund Award, British Library Research Expenses, \$1,000 2003

Mellon Fund Award, Glasgow Research Expenses, \$1,070 2001

Giles and Elise Mead Fellowship, Huntington Library, \$1,800 1999

Andrew Mellon Fellowship, Huntington Library, \$1,800 1999

Visual and Verbal Sketch

Mellon Fund Grant, American University, 1997, color photograph subvention \$1,750

Mellon Fund Grant, photography expenses 1996 \$950

American University Two-Year and Summer Research Award, 1993-95 \$9,450

Yale Center for British Art Visiting Fellowship, 1992 1,000 + accommodations

Andrew Mellon Fellowship at the Huntington Library, 1992 \$5,400

## INVITED REVIEWS

Fay, Elizabeth. Fashioning Faces: The Portraitive Mode in British Romanticism. Nineteenth-Century Literature. 2011

Canuel, Mark. The Shadow of Death: Literature, Romanticism, and the Subject of Punishment. Wordsworth Circle. 2011



Schlutz, Alexander. Mind's World. Imagination and Subjectivity from Descartes to Romanticism. European Romantic Review 2011

Bronk, Richard. The Romantic Economist. European Romantic Review. 2011

Roudinesco, Elisabeth. Our Dark Side: A History of Perversion. The Social History of Medicine 2010

Syson, Lydia. Doctor of Love: James Graham and his Celestial Bed. Medical History 2009

Jackson, Noel. Science and Sensation in Romantic Poetry. Wordsworth Circle 2009

Faflak, Joel. Romantic Psychoanalysis: The Burden of the Mystery. Wordsworth Circle 2009

Holmes, Richard. The Age of Wonder: How the Romantic Generation Discovered the Beauty and Terror of Science. Times Higher Education 2009

Blair, Kirstie. Victorian Poetry and the Culture of the Heart. Wordsworth Circle 2008

Lawlor, Clark. Consumption and Literature The Making of the Romantic Disease Wordsworth Circle 2008

Cale, Luisa. Fuseli's Milton Gallery. Cambridge Quarterly 2008

Turley, Richard Marggraf. Keats's Boyish Imagination. Wordsworth Circle 2007

Reill, Peter Hanns. Vitalizing Nature in the Enlightenment. Metascience 2006

Cody, Lisa Forman. Birthing the Nation: Sex, Science, and the Conception of Eighteenth-Century Britons. The Historian 2006

Rousseau, George. Nervous Acts. Metascience 2006

Felluga, Dino. The Perversity of Poetry. Keats-Shelley Journal 2005

Elledge, Paul. Byron at Harrow School. Keats-Shelley Journal 2002

McLane, Maureen. Romanticism and the Human Sciences. Wordsworth Circle 2001

Hartley, Lucy. Physiognomy and the Meaning of Expression in Nineteenth-Century Culture. Wordsworth Circle 2001

Elfenbein, Andrew. Romantic Genius. Wordsworth Circle 2000

Donelan, Charles. Romanticism and Male Fantasy in Byron's *Don Juan* Wordsworth Circle 2000

Motion, Andrew. Keats: A Biography. Washington Times. 14 February 1998

Schor, Esther. Bearing the Dead. Prose Studies 1996

Lau, Beth. Keats's Reading of the Romantic Poets. Keats-Shelley Journal 1995

Nishiyama, Kiyoshi. Keats's Myth of the Fall. Keats-Shelley Journal 1995

Hall, Jean. A Mind that Feeds on Infinity: The deep Self in English Romantic Poetry Keats-Shelley Journal 1993

#### **PAPERS DELIVERED at PROFESSIONAL MEETINGS:**

##### Refereed:

"Rethinking Romantic Materiality: The Case of Keats," MLA Convention, Seattle, January 2012

"Rethinking Sympathy in *Alastor*: Shelley and Emotion Theory, MLA Convention, Seattle, January 2012

- "The Chemistry and Physics of Romantic Emotion," Mastering the Emotions Conference, Queen Mary College, University of London, June 2011
- "Italian Science and the Shelleys," Romantics in Italy Conference, Florence, January 2010
- "Romantic Science and the Im/materiality of the Imagination," MLA, San Francisco, CA 2008
- "Imagination as Inter-science," NASSR 2008, Bologna, Italy, March 2008
- "Transcendence as Ideology: Rethinking the Imagination through Science," British Association for Romantic Studies, Bristol, UK, July 2007.
- "Towards a Physiology of the Imagination: Romanticism and the Science of Mind," NASSR Conference, Indiana, September 2006.
- "Romanticism and the Sciences of Perversion," Wordsworth/Coleridge Association, Modern Language Convention, December 2004.
- "Queering Heterosexuality," "Queer Romanticism," Dublin, Ireland. August 2003.
- "Sexual Pleasure and the Uses of Functionless Pleasure," INCS, Santa Cruz, March 2003.
- "Historicizing the Romantic Libido," NASSR Conference, Seattle, August 2001.
- "Romantic Science and the Perversification of Sexual Pleasure," MLA, Washington, DC, December 2000.
- "Sexuality as a Form of Knowledge in British Romanticism," NASSR Conference, Tempe, AZ, October 2000.  
Chaired Two Panels on "Romanticism and Sexuality"
- "The Sister Arts Go Digital: The Romantic Circles Virtual Art Gallery," NASSR Conference, Halifax, Nova Scotia, April 1999.
- "Embodying Romantic Aesthetics: Nerves and the Rational Control of Sensation," Body Projects Conference, Saskatchewan, Canada, September 1997.
- "From Perverse Sensuality to Romantic Aesthetics: Burke, Payne Knight, and Hazlitt," NASSR, Boston, November 1996.
- "Romanticism, Sincerity, and Perversion," Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Studies Conference, Yale Center for British Art, April 1996.

“Sketched on the Spot: Romantic Immediacy as a Resistance to Ideology,” British Association for Romantic Studies, Bangor, Wales, July 1995.

“Anna Seward and Lesbian Family Values,” Modern Languages Association, San Diego, 1994.

“Teaching Discipline: Sketching and Drawing Manuals in British Romanticism,” NASSR, Durham, NC, November 1994

#### Special Session Proposed and Chaired

“Genre at the Margins of British Romanticism,” MLA, Toronto, Canada, December 1993.

“Too Abundant Recompense: The Visual and Verbal Sketch in the Later Eighteenth Century and the Problem of Labor,” Yale Center for British Art, New Haven, October 1993.

“The Limits of Genre: The Visual and Verbal Sketch in British Romanticism,” NASSR, London, Ontario, August 1993.

“The Power of the Nineteenth-Century Visual and Verbal Sketch: Appropriation, Domination, and Mastery,” INCS, Tempe, AZ April 1993.

“The New Historicism and the Pedagogy of the Oppressed,” Vision/Re-Vision: Post Structuralist Theory and the Liberal Arts, Caldwell, Idaho, April 1991.

#### Invited:

“Romantic Panpsychism Revisited: Toward a Science of Consciousness,” University of Edinburgh, June 2015

“Percy Shelley, the Imagination, and the Science of Matter,” Keats-Shelley House in Rome, October 14, 2013

“Coleridge, the Physiological Imagination, and the *Biographia*,” Centro Interdisciplinare di Studi Romantici, Bologna, Italy, October 2013

Two seminars on “Romanticism and Science,” Gabriel D’Annunzio University at Chieti, Italy, October 2013

“Science and the Romantic Imagination,” Keynote Speech and Seminar Leader, Summer Seminar in Literary and Cultural Studies, Morgantown, West Virginia University, June 2013. Previous seminar leaders: Jerome McGann, Susan Wolfson, Catherine Belsey.

“Romanticism and the Paradoxes of Free Love,” Keynote speech at “Taking Liberties: Sex, Pleasure, Coercion 1748-1928” Conference, University of Newcastle, June 2012

“From Electrical Matter to Electrical Bodies,” GEO Conference at the University of MD, March 3, 2012. Invited Plenary Speaker.

“Volta’s Battery, Animal Electricity, and *Frankenstein*,” Claremont Graduate University, March 2011

“Getting Undergraduate Research that Matters” Ann Ferren Conference, American University, January 2008.

“The Romantic Imagination: Physiology, Pathology, Neurology,” National Library of Medicine, History of Medicine Seminar, Bethesda, MD February 2007.

Getty Foundation, William Andrews Clark Library, “Artificial Insemination in the Eighteenth Century,” for “Vital Matters: Eighteenth-Century Views of Conception, Life, and Death,” October 2005.

“Romantic Sexual Liberation,” Wordsworth Summer Conference, Grasmere, U.K. August 2004. Dean’s Fund Grant of \$3,000 to pay for conference.

“The Future of Asian American Literature,” American University, Asian American Pacific Heritage Month Lecture, April 2004.

“Allegory and Post-colonialism,” American University Salman Rushdie Colloquium, March 2004.

“Romantic Science and Romantic Sexual Liberation,” National Library of Medicine, History of Medicine Seminar, Bethesda, MD November 2003.

Chair, “Visual and Verbal Crossings, 1800-1830,” Keats-Shelley Association, MLA San Francisco, 1998.

“Jane Austen and British Romanticism,” Institute for Learning in Retirement, American University, April 1995.

“The Limits of Genre: The Visual and Verbal Sketch in British Romanticism,” Washington Area Romantics Group, Fairfax, VA April 1993.

“The Politics of the Visual and Verbal Sketch in the Late Eighteenth Century,” South Central American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, Lubbock, TX February 1992.

Respondent to Bradford K. Mudge, Panel on the Writer’s Practice and Material Culture, Midwest MLA, Chicago November 1991.

## **WORKS IN PROGRESS**

“Rethinking Sympathy in *Alastor*: Shelley, Mirror Neurons, and Emotion Studies”

## **TEACHING RESPONSIBILITIES**

Mentor for Madison Chapman on Gothic Victimization, Spring 2014.

Mentor for Erin Cunningham’s essay on Blake and Chaos Theory, winner of the best undergraduate Literature essay, 2012

Mentored Erin Phillips’ senior thesis on the abnormal and pathological and monstrous in Mark Twain, Spring 2012

Supervised Alexander Burchfield’s senior honors thesis on Heidegger, Romanticism, and Affect Fall 2011 and Spring 2012

Mentor for Gennaro Esposito’s and Michael Richardson’s senior theses, Spring 2011

Mentor for Aaron Long’s research project on Ecocriticism and *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, Spring 2011

Supervised Emily Conrad’s Senior Project on Rousseau and Confession, which won the Literature Department’s Best Project Prize for 2010.

Supervised Alexander Vallejo’s Senior Project on Food Supplements and Masculinity in Dashiell Hammett and Paul Auster, winner of an Honorable Mention in the Senior Prize Project competition, 2010.

Supervised Rachel Miller’s Senior Project on Magical Realism and Murakami, winner of an Honorable Mention in the Senior Prize Competition, 2010.

Sponsored 12 student presentations at the CAS Matthias Research Conference, 2010.

Teaching Mentor for Aia Hussein, accepted and attending Princeton in 2011

Supervised Adair Collins’s MA Thesis on class and Wordsworth, 2009

Committee Member for Raj Telhan’s MFA Thesis, 2008

Supervised Anneke Mulder’s Prize-Winning Essay on Philip Larkin, 2008

Supervised Sunnie Chae's thesis, winner of the Prize for Best Senior Project, Department of Literature, 2007.

Supervised Andrea Bottorf's senior honors thesis, winner of one of six Honors capstone prizes, 2007.

Wrote recommendations for Daniel Guarnera, winner of American University's Undergraduate Research Award and Fletcher Prize, 2007.

Sponsored ten student presentations at the Ann Mathias Student Research Conference, 2007.

Coached and wrote recommendation for Natalie Hand, Winner of the Marshall Scholarship, 2005

Sponsored six student presentations at the Ann Robyn Mathias Student Research Conference, one of whose (Justin Schneider's) won the prize for the best arts and humanities presentation by a junior or senior, 2005

Supervised Amy Moran-Thomas's Senior Thesis on Hookworms in Literature, which won one of six prizes for best honors thesis (out of 287 theses), the Department of Literature's Prize for best thesis, and a \$3,000 CAS Research Grant 2005

Sponsored Rachael Bork's presentation on Maxine Hong-Kingston at a conference at Austin College, Sherman, TX 2005

Summer supervisor for Amy-Moran Thomas's CAS Summer Research Grant, 2005

Supervisor for Meghan Reese's Internship with USA Today, spring 2004

Director of Victoria Ford's Senior Honor's Thesis, spring 2003

Reader for Aaron Bady's M.A. Thesis, spring 2003

Reader for Gadi Ben-Yehuda's MFA Thesis, spring 2000

Supervisor of Dan O'Brien's Internship, spring 1998

Literature Department Sponsor for Philip Minthorn's Interdisciplinary Major, spring 1998

Director of Wendy Smith's senior Honor's Thesis, spring 1997

Director of Ian Ton's senior Honor's Thesis, spring, 1997

Reader for Tara Kelly's M.A. Thesis, fall, 1996

Reader for Julia Cruze's MFA Thesis, spring 1996

Supervisor for Susan Mendlesohn's Internship, fall 1995

Director of Mary Dahlaio's senior Honor's Thesis, spring 1995

Director of Jason Speck's senior Honor's Thesis, spring 1994

Reader for John Popielaski's MFA Thesis, Winner of the Myra Sklarew Prize in Poetry, spring 1994

Directed Independent Studies for MA and MFA students

Asian American Literature	Angda Mittal
British Literature	Helen Chun
Modern American Poetry	Melissa Kahn
Nineteenth-Century Novel	Catia Carvallo
Poetic Technique	Julia Cruze, Helen Chun
Austen and Bronte	Sinikka Sinks

Directed Undergraduate Independent Studies

Ethnic Studies	Allyson Goodwin
British Literature	Adam Good
Byron	Heather Lynn
Deconstruction	Daren Langhorne
Austen and Bronte	Jill Gordon
Poetry and Violence	Linda Ndaki
Mary Robinson	Sheila Sharma

## **CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT**

### New Courses Developed and Taught 1992-2014

Minor in Multi-Ethnic Studies, Accepted fall 2003, Implemented fall 2004  
(with Calleen Sinnette Jennings)

#### M.A. Program

Seminar in Romanticism and the Emotions 2011

Seminar in the Nineteenth Century: From Romanticism to Victorianism 2004

Seminar in Genre: Survey of Poetry 1997

Seminar in Genre: The Visual and Verbal Sketch 1995

## Honors Program

New Honors Course: Rethinking Emotion: From Physiology to Ethics with April Shelford in History and Bryan Fantie in Psychology

William Blake and the French Revolution 2004  
Sexuality and Literature 2002  
Romantic Poetry and Painting 1994  
The Experience of Poetry 1996

## Literature

Imagining the Imagination 2008  
Rethinking the Romantic Body: Blake and Shelley 2006  
Senior Project in Literature 2005  
The Value of Literature 2004  
Art and Poetry of William Blake 2002  
Major Romantic Poems 1994  
British Literature Survey II 1993  
Sexuality and Literature 2001

## General Education Program

Designed and Added to Curriculum  
Contemporary Multi-Ethnic Voices 2003 (with Caleen Jennings)  
Survey of Asian American Literature 2002  
Literature and Science: Bridging the Two Cultures (with Nathan Harshman) 2012

Victorian Literature and Society 1996  
Interpreting Literature 1993  
Experience of Poetry 1992  
Remarkable Literary Journeys 1992

## Literature and Women's Studies

Romanticism and Gender 1993

## College Writing

Honors English II 1997



## **UNIVERSITY and DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE**

Chair, Department of Literature, August 2014--  
Chair, Rank and Tenure Committee, Literature, 2011-12, 2003-4  
CAS Research Committee, 2013-14, reviewed Mellon Grants  
Evaluator for American University Research Grants, 2010-11  
Member, Americanist Search Committee for History, 2011-2  
CAS Dean's Advisory Committee, 2011-12  
Mock Interviewer for Rhodes Finalists, and Campus Committee Reviewer for Fulbright  
Candidates, 2011  
Chair, World Literature Searches, 2010  
Co-Director of MA Program in Literature, 2007-09  
Faculty Senate Committee on Strategic Planning, 2007-08 CAS Representative  
Judge, University Honors Capstone Awards, 2012, 2011, 2008, 2007.  
Faculty Senate, CAS Representative, 2006-2008, 2002-3  
Provost's Committee on Assessment, 2003-05  
Merit Committee, Literature, 2007  
Executive Committee, Literature, 2007-09  
Deputy Chair, Literature, 2002-5, 2006-7, 2009-  
Director of Undergraduate Studies, 2001-5  
CAS Research Committee, 2003-4  
EPC Budget Committee 2002-4  
General Education Program Review Task Force 2009-10  
Chair, Undergraduate Studies Committee, 2001-3  
President's Committee on Diversity, 2002  
Provost's Working Group on Multiculturalism and Diversity, 2001  
Director of MA Program 1999-2001  
Grievance Committee, 2002-3  
EPC 2001-3  
Ann Ferren Teaching Conference Planning Committee, 2002-4  
Literature Department Hiring Committees, 2000-  
General Education Program Revisions Committee, 2001-5  
Chair, Graduate Studies Committee, Literature, 1999-2000  
Search Committee, History Chair Search, 1999  
Chair, Literature Chair Search and Evaluation Committee, 1998  
Graduate Special Opportunity Fellowship Committee, 1996-7  
Academic Code Review Panel 2007, 1994-6  
EPC Curriculum Committee, 1996-8  
Judge, Undergraduate Honors Essay Competition, Arts and Humanities Lower Division, 2000,  
1997  
Member, Literature Executive Committee, 1999-  
Rank and Tenure Committee, 1999-present, 1993-97  
Reader for Graduate Admissions to the MFA Program

## Community Service

Promotion and Tenure Reviews for the University of Toronto, Arizona State University, North Carolina State University, CUNY, University of Arkansas, University of California at Berkeley

Editorial Board, Texas Studies in Language and Literature 2004-2006

Editorial Board, Romanticism and Victorianism on the Net

Reader for Nineteenth-Century Contexts

Reader for Eighteenth-Century Fiction

Reader for The Journal of the History of Sexuality

Reader for Emotion, Space and Society

Reader for European Romantic Review

Reader for PMLA

Poetry Editor for Asian American Literary Review

Reader for Papers in Literature and Language (Canada)

Reader for Romantic Praxis

Reader for Johns Hopkins UP, SUNY Press, University of Toronto Press, Oxford University Press, University of Delaware Press, Routledge, Edinburgh University Press

Outside Reader for Leigha McReynolds's Doctoral Thesis, George Washington University, on Mesmerism and Victorianism, 2013-

Reader for Teresa Pershing's Doctoral Thesis, West Virginia University, on Errant Sexuality and the Nineteenth Century, 2011-

Mentor for Younger Scholars, Keats-Shelley Association

External Reviewer, Michelle Faubert's Ph.D. Thesis, "Romantic Madness: A Cultural Study," University of Toronto, 2002

Reviewer for Research Project Grants for the Wellcome Trust History of Medicine Program

Judge, Larry Neal Writers' Competition, DC Arts and Humanities Commission, 2002

Member, DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities, Literature Advisory Panel  
1999, 1997, 1996, 1995, 1994

One of six panelists. Ranked applications for \$80,000 in grants.

Co-director, Romantic Visual Cultures Website, Sponsored by "Romantic Circles."

Published Fall 2013. <<http://www.rc.umd.edu/gallery>>

This gallery received a \$30,000 grant from the University of Maryland in 2000.

Romantic Circles is the premier website devoted to Romantic Studies.

Consultant for National Public Radio for a story on Keats's Endymion 1998

Cited in William Safire's Column, New York Times Magazine, October 7, 2007

Volunteer, Montgomery County Public Schools

Volunteer Manna Food Center, Rockville, MD

## **MEMBERSHIPS**

North American Society for the Study of Romanticism

Wordsworth-Coleridge Association

Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts

Keats-Shelley Association

Center for the Advanced Study of the Visual Arts, National Gallery

Huntington Library Arabella Huntington Society

Modern Language Association

Folger Seminar on Eighteenth-Century Women Writers (1994-6)