

BAINARD COWAN

Professor of Literature
Cowan Chair in Humanities
University of Dallas

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Education

B.A. University of Dallas, English literature, with honors, 1970

Fulbright-supported study in German literature and philosophy, Ludwig Maximilian University, Munich, Germany, 1970-71

Ph.D. Yale University, comparative literature, 1975. Dissertation: “*Moby Dick* as Allegory of the Allegorical Process.” Director: Lowry Nelson, Jr.

Employment

Louisiana State University: Instructor of English, 1975-76; Assistant Professor, 1976-82; Associate Professor, 1982-97; Professor, 1997-2008 (retired)

Comparative Literature faculty, 1988-2008; Honors Program/Honors College faculty, 1988-2004

University of Dallas: Professor of Literature, Cowan Chair in Humanities, 2009-present

Visiting positions:

University of Dallas: Lecturer in French, Summer 1973; Visiting Professor of English, Spring 2001

University of Provence, Aix-en-Provence, France: Exchange Associate Professor in Comparative Literature and Anglo-American Studies, 1984-85

Assumption College: D’Alzon Professor of English, 2006-2008

Publications: Books

1. *Exiled Waters: Moby-Dick and the Crisis of Allegory*. Baton Rouge: LSU Press, 1982. (Section reprinted in *Ahab*, ed. Harold Bloom (New York: Chelsea House, 1991), 116-23.)
2. (Co-ed. with Joseph G. Kronick) *Theorizing American Literature: Hegel, the Sign, and History*. Baton Rouge: LSU Press, 1991.
3. (Co-ed. with Jefferson Humphries) *Poetics of the Americas: Race, Founding, and Textuality*. Baton Rouge: LSU Press, 1997. (Nominated for the MLA James Russell Lowell Prize.)
4. (Co-ed. with J. Scott Lee) *Uniting the Liberal Arts: Core and Context*. Lanham, Md.: University Press of America, 2002. Includes my essay “Unraveling the City: ‘Bartleby’ and the Mid-Nineteenth Century,” 191-96.

5. (Ed.) *Gained Horizons: Regensburg and the Enlargement of Reason*. South Bend, Ind.: St. Augustine's, 2011. Essays by Jean Bethke Elshtain, R. R. Reno, Peter Augustine Lawler, Glenn Arbery, and others.
6. (Ed.) *The Prospect of Lyric*. Series Studies in Genre. Dallas: Dallas Institute Publications, 2012. Includes my essay "The Heart's Metronome: Dennis Scott and Jamaican Lyric," 363-84.

Publications: Editor, Journal Special Issue

"Magical Realism," *Janus Head* 5.2 (2002), featuring Michael Wood, Lois Parkinson Zamora, Wendy Faris, and others.

Publications: Articles, Review-Essays, Textbook and Anthology Sections

1. "The Serpent's Coils: How to Read Caroline Gordon's Later Fiction." *Southern Review* 16 (1980): 281-98.
2. "Walter Benjamin's Theory of Allegory." *New German Critique* No. 22 (1981): 109-22.
3. "Dante's 'Novella Tebe.'" *Comparatist* 6 (1982): 16-23.
4. "Reading Glyptic Writing: Vor-Textual Stratagems" (review-essay). *Southern Review* 19 (1983): 213-18.
5. "Dante, Hegel, and the Comedy of History." *The Terrain of Comedy*. Ed. Louise Cowan. Dallas: Dallas Institute of Humanities and Culture Press, 1984. 89-109.
6. "Moby-Dick as the Preservation of Reading." *Approaches to Teaching Melville's Moby-Dick*. Ed. Martin Bickman. New York: MLA, 1985. 51-55.
7. "America Between Two Myths: *Moby-Dick* as Epic." *The Epic Cosmos*. Ed. Larry Allums. Dallas: Dallas Institute of Humanities and Culture Press, 1992. 219-48.
8. "The Limits of Rationality: *Oedipus the King*." *Classic Texts and the Nature of Authority: Essays from a Principals' Institute*. Ed. Donald Cowan and Louise Cowan. Dallas: Dallas Institute Publications, 1993. 165-179.
9. "The Nomos of Deleuze and Guattari: Emergent Holism in *A Thousand Plateaus*." *Annals of Scholarship*, 11, 3 (1996): 271-87.
10. "Melville's Soul's Code" (review-essay). *Southern Review* 33 (Summer 1997): 637-41.
11. "Herman Melville: *Moby Dick*." *Invitation to the Classics: A Guide to Books You've Always Wanted to Read*. Ed. Louise Cowan and Os Guinness. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker Books, 1998. 245-48. (*Invitation to the Classics* was named one of the Year's Best Books for 1998 by *Publishers Weekly*.)
12. "Contemporary Writers." *Invitation to the Classics* 361-65.
13. "Vedic Literature, the *Rig Veda* and the *Upanishads*"; "The *Ramayana*"; "The *Mahabharata*"; "Bhagavad-Gita"; "In the World: War, Rulers, and Empire"; "The Book of Songs"; "Confucius (Kongfuzi), The Analects," *Instructor's Manual: Bedford Anthology of World Literature*, ed. Paul Davis et al. (Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2004), 1: 185-224 and 230-40. (authorship unattributed)
14. "Tarrying with the Tragic: Hegel and His Critics," *The Tragic Abyss*, ed. Glenn Arbery (Dallas Institute Pubns., 2004), 39-58.

15. "Through the Unlit Door of Earth: Sophocles' Transformation of Tragedy," *The Tragic Abyss* 145-64.
16. Foreword, *Interpreting Nikolai Gogol within Russian Orthodoxy: A Neglected Influence on the First Great Russian Novelist*, by James D. Hardy, Jr., and Leonard J. Stanton. Lewiston, Me.: Edwin Mellen Press, 2006, i-iv.
17. "A Comparative Civilization Course Featuring Classic Texts." *Classics for an Emerging World*. Ed. William Theodore de Bary, Shang Wei, and Rachel E. Chung. New York: Columbia University Committee on Asia and the Middle East, 2008. 113-114.
18. "The Mahabharata: Introduction." *Other Canons: A Collection of Non-Western Literary Masterpieces*. Ed. Sarah Bloom and Gregory Borse. Southlake, Tex.: Fountainhead, 2012. 93-96.
19. "Ishmael's Sabbatical." *What Is a Teacher? Remembering the Soul of Education through Classic Literature*. Ed. Claudia Allums (Dallas Institute Publications, 2013). 117-130.
20. "Reason and Revelation in Dante's *Divine Comedy*," *Ramify* 5.2 (2016): 81-88.
21. "Líneas de derivación en occidente: de la tradición a las Américas." Trans. Carlos Gutiérrez Lozano. *Estudios* 14, No. 116 (Spring 2016): 15-29.

Publications: Book Reviews

Reviews published in *The Review of Metaphysics*, *Comparative Literature*, *Modern Philology*, *Religion and Literature*, *Studies in the Novel*, *The Henry James Review*, and other journals.

Interview

Interview with 2014 McDermott Lecturer Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks, April 30, 2014, produced as a video for the University of Dallas, available on Youtube and on the UD website:

<http://udallas.edu/news/2014/a-conversation-with-rabbi-sacks.html>

Recognition of My Work

1. "Reading Ahab," section of my 1982 book *Exiled Waters*, reprinted in *Ahab*, ed. Harold Bloom (New York: Chelsea House, 1991), 116-23
2. *Poetics of the Americas* nominated for the MLA James Russell Lowell Prize by LSU Press, 1997
3. *Invitation to the Classics*, containing two of my essays, named one of Year's Best Books for 1998 by *Publishers Weekly*
4. "Critical Views: Bainard Cowan on Allegory in *Moby-Dick*," reprint of a portion of *Exiled Waters*, in *Bloom's Notes: Moby-Dick*, ed. Harold Bloom (New York: Chelsea House, 1999), pp. 60-61
5. Reprint of Roberto González Echevarría's essay "Latin American Literature and Comparative Literature," first published in my 1997 co-edited book *Poetics of the Americas*, in special issue of online journal *CLCWeb* on Comparative Cultural Studies and Latin America, 2002
6. "On the Faithful Foreshadowing," reprint of a portion of *Exiled Waters*, in *Bloom's Major Novelists: Herman Melville*, ed. Harold Bloom (New York: Chelsea House, 2003), 56-59
7. Reprint of my 2002 Introduction "A Necessary Confusion: Magical Realism," to my edited special issue "Magical Realism" of *Janus Head*, in online journal *Margin: Exploring Modern Magical Realism*, 2004

8. Reprint of my 1981 article “Walter Benjamin’s Theory of Allegory” in *Walter Benjamin: Critical Evaluations in Cultural Theory*, ed. Peter Osborne (Routledge, 2005)

Press Series Editor

General Editor (with Joseph G. Kronick), *Horizons in Theory and American Culture*, LSU Press. Titles:

1. Linda Reinfeld, *Language Poetry: Writing as Rescue* (1992)
2. David R. Jarraway, *Wallace Stevens and the Question of Belief: Metaphysician in the Dark* (1993)
3. Joseph N. Riddel, *Purloined Letters: Originality and Repetition in American Literature* (1995)
4. Kathryne V. Lindberg and Joseph G. Kronick, ed., *America's Modernisms: Revaluing the Canon: Essays in Honor of Joseph N. Riddel* (1996)
5. Bainard Cowan and Jefferson Humphries, ed., *Poetics of the Americas: Race, Founding, and Textuality* (1997)
6. Piotr Parlej, *The Romantic Theory of the Novel: Genre and Reflection in Cervantes, Melville, Flaubert, Joyce, and Kafka* (1997)
7. Louis A. Renza, *Edgar Allan Poe, Wallace Stevens, and the Poetics of American Privacy* (2002)
8. David R. Jarraway, *Going the Distance: Dissident Subjectivity in Modernist American Literature* (2003)
9. Linda Bolton, *Facing the Other: Ethical Disruption and the American Mind* (2004)

Other Editorial and Professional Positions

1. Co-founder and Associate Editor (Reviews), *Henry James Review*, 1979-91; Acting Editor, Summer-Fall 1982
2. Contributing Editor, *New German Critique*, 1981-85
3. Fellow of the Dallas Institute of Humanities and Culture since 1998
4. Contributing Editor on the Caribbean, *Mondes Francophones* (online journal), 2005-2011
5. Judge, Hiett Prize in the Humanities, 2005, 2006
6. Liberal Arts Institute Advisory Board, Association for Core Texts and Courses (ACTC), since 2012
7. Advisory Board for journals *Annals of Scholarship* and *Janus Head*
8. Reader of manuscripts for LSU Press, Palgrave Macmillan, Northwestern University Press, Ashgate Press, University of North Carolina Press, Ohio State University Press, Pennsylvania State University Press, and Colorado Associated University Presses

Invited Lectures

30 guest lectures on Western and Eastern epics, poetry, Shakespeare, Dostoevsky, American literature, reading, power, and global culture at the Dallas Institute of Humanities and Culture, 1983-2017

11 guest lectures on Homer, Sophocles, Virgil, and Melville, Friday Night Series, Thomas More College of Liberal Arts, Merrimack, N.H., 1988-2008

“Ahab, Ishmael, and the Succession of World Views,” lecture at LSU-Alexandria, May 3, 1996

“Hegel and the Novel,” lecture for Institute of Philosophic Studies lecture series, University of Dallas,

October 22, 1999

“The Tower and the Honeycomb: The Guidance of Poetry in a time of Crisis,” President’s Council Address,
Thomas More College of Liberal Arts, Merrimack, N.H., October 24, 2001

“Virgil’s Roman Revision of the Heroic Life,” lecture, NEH series “Reading the Great Epics for a Higher
Education,” Southeastern Louisiana University Honors Program, Nov. 3, 2004

“How Modern Were the Romans? How Ancient Are We?” D’Alzon Lecture, Assumption College,
November 20, 2006

“And They Shall Be Themselves: Liberal Education--the Drama and the Journey,” D’Alzon Professorship
farewell lecture, Assumption College, May 13, 2008.

“The Daring of a Liberal Education,” commencement speech, Erasmus Institute of Liberal Arts,
Manchester, N.H., April 25, 2010.

“Édouard Glissant and the Persistence of National Literature,” lecture at conference “Literature and the
Nation: Representation and Identity,” Villanova University, April 13, 2011.

4 lectures at high schools in the Dallas area and Washington, D.C., 2011-2012

“Minds and Souls in Motion: Dostoevsky’s *Brothers Karamazov*,” lecture to the student body and faculty,
Thomas Aquinas College, Santa Paula, Cal., March 30, 2012

“Our Crucial Need for Physically Impossible Time,” keynote address, Arkansas Philological Association
annual conference, Little Rock, October 30, 2013

“Becoming Human through Poetry,” keynote address, Inaugural Great Hearts North Texas Summit, Great
Hearts Irving School, August 10, 2015

Invited Conference Papers

1. “A Comparative Civilization Course Featuring Classic Texts,” conference “Classics for an Emerging
World,” Columbia University, Jan. 20, 2008
2. “The Novel and Liberal Education,” conference “Liberal Education in Asian Higher Education,”
National Chiao Tung University, Hsinchu, Taiwan, Jan. 9, 2010
3. “Allen Tate, Jacques Maritain, and Modern Thought,” conference “Reintegrating Man,” Assumption
College, April 9, 2010
4. “Benedict, the Bundestag, and the Stoics,” panel honoring Prince Nikolaus of Liechtenstein and
spouse, University of Dallas, Nov. 17, 2011
5. “Nobility and Democracy in the Aeneid,” closing lecture for conference “Epic Excellence in a
Democratic Age,” Assumption College, March 23, 2013.
6. “Liberal Education in the College,” ACTC Liberal Arts Institute special conference “The Research
University and the Liberal Arts College,” Notre Dame University, June 10, 2013
7. “Dante as Means of Access to a Christian-Secular Understanding of Reason,” ACTC Liberal Arts
Institute special conference “The Intersection of Religious and Secular Cores,” Rhodes College,
Memphis, Tenn., Sept. 26, 2014
8. “Redeeming Nature from the General Curse,” for conference “Nothing Will Come of Nothing: The
Wisdom of *King Lear*,” University of Dallas, Oct. 25, 2014

Conference Presentations

Numerous presentations at Modern Language Assn. of America, American Comparative Literature Assn., Assn. for Core Texts and Courses, International Society for the Study of Narrative, South Central Modern Language Assn., Southern Comparative Literature Assn., South Central Conference on Christianity and Literature, Southern Humanities Conference, and other professional organizations.

Conferences Organized

1. Co-director, interdisciplinary colloquium "Intertextuality and Civilization in the Americas," LSU, June, 1992, featuring Elizabeth Fox-Genovese (Emory U.), Edouard Glissant (premier author of Martinique), Roberto González Echevarría (Yale U.), and Barbara Johnson (Harvard U.)
2. Director, Comparative Literature Colloquium "Lyric and World Poetics," LSU, June, 1997, featuring Frederick Turner (U. of Texas-Dallas) and Masaki Mori (Emory U.)
3. Co-host, 5th annual conference of ACTC, New Orleans, April 1999
4. Co-host, Southern Humanities Conference annual meeting, New Orleans, February 2002
5. Organizing Committee, 10th annual conference of ACTC, Irving, Tex., April 10-13, 2004
6. Conference co-director, "Beyond the Islands: Extending the Meaning of Caribbean Cultures," inaugural conference of LSU Program in Louisiana and Caribbean Studies, LSU, April 22-24, 2004, featuring Antonio Benítez-Rojo (Amherst College) and other main speakers
7. Director, Conference on the Lyric Volume in the Genre Series, Dallas, July 28-29, 2006
8. Director, "The Regensburg Moment: Benedict XVI and the Rediscovery of Reason," special conference, Assumption College, Sept. 21-22, 2007, featuring Jean Bethke Elshtain, R. R. Reno, Peter Lawler, Glenn Arbery, and four other speakers
9. Host and Co-Organizer, ACTC 14th annual conference, Plymouth, Mass., April 3-6, 2008
10. Organizer, "Word and Form," conference on the future of the Genre Series, Dallas, June 21-22, 2013
11. Colloquium, "Donald Cowan: A Celebration of His 100th Birthday," University of Dallas, April 4, 2014

Conference Panels Organized

1. Chair, Melville Society program, "Melville, Language, and the Critique of Culture," MLA Convention, Washington, D.C., December, 1984
2. Co-chair, special session "Rereading Hegel: Rethinking American Literature," MLA Convention, New York, December, 1986
3. Chair of panel "The Idea of the City and the Focus of the Liberal Arts," ACTC conference, New Orleans, April 1999
4. Panel chair, "Ancients and Moderns: What Is the Poetic? How Do We Know It?" ACTC conference, Plymouth, Mass., April 11, 2015

Research Funding

1. LSU Office of Research Summer Grant, 1977

2. Newberry Library Grant-in-Aid, \$1,125, for six-week visit to American literature collection, 1987-88
3. LSU Office of Research Summer Grant, 1989
4. Louisiana Board of Regents Departmental Enhancement Grant, \$6,000, Summer 2001
5. LSU Faculty Research Grant, \$3,331, for research at Harvard on book on Virgil, July-Aug. 2004

Grant Funding for Educational Projects

1. Principal Investigator, Louisiana Board of Regents grant, \$123,000, for 1992 Poetics of the Americas Institute
2. Principal Investigator, National Endowment for the Humanities grant, \$133,876 for 1994 Poetics of the Americas Institute
3. Principal Investigator, Louisiana Board of Regents grant, \$53,204, for 1997 Poetics of the Americas Institute
4. Co-Principal Investigator, Louisiana Board of Regents grant, \$55,476, for the Louisiana Shakespeare Project, 2005-2008

Special Educational Projects Designed/Directed

Designer/Director, "Poetics of the Americas," LSU Comparative Literature Summer Institute for College Teachers, 1992-97, cumulative enrollment of 100, featuring graduate credit, lecture/seminar team of 2-4, and meals and lodging for participants:

- 1992: Institute: "Epic, Novel, Civilization"; distinguished visiting scholar
- 1994: Institute: "Transformations of Tragedy and Comedy"
- 1997: Institute: "The Lyric Landscape"

Co-founder, Louisiana Shakespeare Project, interdepartmental fundraising initiative to enhance Shakespeare and Renaissance studies at LSU, in Louisiana public education, and in Louisiana culture, 2005-2008. LSP sponsored these presentations:

1. Visiting speaker: Tim Carroll, former associate director of Shakespeare's Globe in London, April 18-22, 2006
2. Summer institute for high school teachers: "Shakespeare's Carnival," June 4-9, 2007
3. Actors from the London Stage campus visit, November 12-18, 2007
4. Special conference, "Shakespeare's Mardi Gras: Shakespeare and the Culture of Festivity," Oct. 10-11, 2008, featuring actor-director Roger Rees
5. Established a partnership with London's Globe Theater to improve instruction in Louisiana public schools and bring public school drama clubs to London's Globe.

Special Summer Institutes

Dallas Institute of Humanities and Culture: Faculty, Summer Teachers Institute: The Literary Classics—Tragedy and Comedy as Modes of Knowledge (1989, 1991), Epic (1990) (graduate credit through University of Dallas)

Dallas Institute of Humanities and Culture/University of Dallas: Faculty, Principals' Institute: The World Classics and Effective Leadership, ten-day mandatory summer institute for 108 principals in Dallas Independent School District, Summers 1990-91

Fairhope Institute of Humanities and Culture, Fairhope, Ala.: Faculty, Institute for High School Teachers: Tragedy and Comedy as Modes of Knowledge (graduate credit through University of South Alabama), Summer 1993

Dissertations directed in English and Comparative Literature

At LSU:

1. Michael Crumb, "Contact Phase: Forms of Postmodernism," 1992
2. Jonggab Kim, "Metaphor within/without Metaphysics: Nietzsche, Heidegger, and Derrida," 1992
3. Paul Connell, "Mimesis and Poiesis in the Novel: William Faulkner's *Go Down, Moses* and the Mythopoeic Turn in the American Imagination," 1993
4. Ralph Russell Pottle, "'God Keep Me from Ever Completing Anything': Problems of Writing and Identity in Four American Narratives," 1997
5. Leonard Vraniak, "Created Works, Created Selves: Intersections of Genre and Self-fashioning in the New World," 1997
6. Kristen Sifert, "The Portrait of a Psyche: Women's Underworld Journeys in Four Modern American Novels," 1998
7. Gregory Marks, "The Clarity of the Modern: or, the Ambiguities of Henry James and Wallace Stevens," 1998
8. Lilian Contreras-Silva, "Tradition, Rhetoric, and Propriety in Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz," 2000
9. Matthew Guy, "Translating 'Hebrew' into 'Greek': the Discursive Hermeneutics of Emmanuel Levinas's Talmudic Readings," 2003
10. William Allegrezza, "Politics in the Lyric-Epic of the Americas: Walt Whitman's *Leaves of Grass* and Pablo Neruda's *Canto general*," 2003
11. Gregory Borse, "William Faulkner and the Oral Text," 2004
12. Virginia Massie, "Solitary Blessings: Solitude in the Fiction of Hawthorne, Melville, and Kate Chopin," 2005
13. Terri Smith Ruckel, "The Scent of a New World Novel: Translating the Olfactory Language of Faulkner and García Márquez," 2006
14. James Ayers, "'The Colossal Vitality of His Illusion': The Myth of the American Dream in the Modern American Novel," 2011

At University of Dallas:

15. Hillary Finley, "Genesis and the Garden: Nature and Natural Law in *The Brothers Karamazov*," 2014

Undergraduate Courses Taught

English Composition
Introduction to Fiction
Introduction to Drama and Poetry
Ancient Western Civilization (team director)
Medieval Civilization
Western Civilization 1400-1789 (team director)
European Civilization from 1789 Comparative
Civilization (team director)
Introduction to World Literary Traditions
Literary Foundations of the West 1 and 2
Literary Tradition 2 (Epic, Dante to Walcott)
Literary Tradition 3 (Tragedy and Comedy)
Literary Tradition 4 (The Novel)

The European Novel
Survey of English Literature 1780-1980
Major American Writers
Asian Epic Traditions
American Literature 1 and 2
American Fiction 1
Hawthorne, Melville, Poe
Cultural Criticism and American Literature
English and German Romanticism
Le Moi et le signe dans le romantisme transatlantique
Criticism
Modern Criticism
Literature and Religion

Graduate Seminars Taught

Epic
Poetics of the Americas: Epic, Novel, Civilization
Poetics of the Americas: The Lyric Landscape
Tragedy and Comedy as Modes of Knowledge
Poetics of the Americas: Transformations of the
Tragic and Comic
The Ancient World
Virgil and the Motives for Civilization
Allegory
Theory (History and Theory) of the Novel
The Romantic Movement
The 19th-Century Russian Novel
Hegel, Nietzsche, Dostoevsky

Discourse on Civilization in the Americas
American Literature 1820-1900
American Novel to 1900
Melville
Melville/Hawthorne/James
Magical Realist Fiction
Asian Literary Traditions
Methodology of Comparative Literature
Literary Theory and Criticism
Modern Critical Theory
Studies in Interdisciplinary Criticism
Science and Literature
Technology, Culture, and Myth

Teaching Awards

Outstanding Graduate Professor, English Graduate Student Assn., LSU, 1995
LSU Tiger Athletic Foundation Award for Undergraduate Teaching, 2000

Adult Education Courses Taught

1. “*Moby Dick*: Melville’s Vision of America, World, and Soul.” Lagniappe LSU, Fall 2008.
2. “Incredible Worlds: The Short Fiction of Jorge Luis Borges.” Dallas Institute, Spring 2012.
3. “Virgil’s *Aeneid*,” Dallas Institute, Fall 2012.
4. “Dostoevsky’s *Brothers Karamazov*,” member of teaching team, Teachers Academy, Dallas Institute, Fall 2014-Spring 2015.

Faculty Seminars Directed

“Eastern Literary Traditions,” University of Dallas, Spring 2001

“Toward a Global Core: Integrating Global History, the Humanities, and Core Teaching,” LSU Honors College/Southern University Honors Program joint faculty seminar, July-August, 2002, funded by U. S. Department of Education Grant to LSU Foreign Languages Dept.

D’Alzon Faculty Seminars at Assumption College:

- “Virgil and the Motives for Civilization,” Fall 2006
- “Faulkner and the Education of the Soul,” Spring 2007
- “Dostoevsky, Petersburg, and Us,” Fall 2007
- “Dramas of Liberal Education,” Spring 2008

University Service

LSU:

Member, university committees for:

- Program review
- Academic planning and program evaluation
- Grant application review
- Fellowship application review

Department of English:

Director of Graduate Studies 1985-87: expanded the Ph.D. and M.F.A. programs, including 43 new courses and new program guidelines, and developed recruiting and publicity

Member, Program in Louisiana and Caribbean Studies, 2004-2008

Assisted the chair in hiring and in personnel decisions

Chaired or served on most departmental committees

Center for French and Francophone Studies:

Faculty Advisory Board, 1985-88, 2001-04

Member, Comité scientifique, 2005-2008

Comparative Literature Interdepartmental Graduate Program:

Founding member and co-designer of the program, 1988

Executive committee/steering committee/core faculty 1988-2008

Coordinator and director, LSU Comparative Literature Summer Institute, 1990-97

Honors College:

Chair, committee to improve interdisciplinary curriculum, 1998-99

Directed joint LSU-Southern U. honors faculty seminar, August 2002

Composed statement outlining goals for curriculum expansion and research support policy in Honors College

Recruiting and student advising

University of Dallas:

Co-proposer (with Dr. David Gregory, M.D.), Donald Cowan Science Institute, 2001-02

Director, Arete, UD's on-campus summer program in liberal education for high school students, 2013-16.

Invited Rabbi Jonathan Lord Sacks to give the 2014 McDermott Lecture and led preparations for his visit, including organizing discussion groups for faculty and students

Member, Presidential Commission on Gender Fairness, Equity, and Respect, 2014-15.

Grant Writing for Public Education

1. Chief writer, National Science Foundation grant to Louisiana Systemic Initiative Program (LaSIP) for technology assistance in Louisiana schools, 1998-99 (\$250,000 awarded)
2. Chief writer, U.S. Department of Education grant to the Governor, Louisiana Board of Regents, and Board of Elementary and Secondary Education for statewide teacher preparation reform, 2000-2003 (\$1.5 million awarded)