

MARGOT GAYLE BACKUS

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

University of Houston, associate professor of English, 2000-present
National University of Ireland-Galway Centre for Irish Studies, Irish American Cultural Institute Research Fellow,
2007-2008
St. John Fisher College, assistant professor of English, 1993-2000

EDUCATION

University of Texas at Austin, Ph.D. in English Literature, 1993
University of Texas at Austin, M.A. in English Literature, 1989
University of Massachusetts/Boston, B.A. in English Literature, *summa cum laude*, 1987

TEACHING

UH Graduate Seminars: Introduction to Doctoral Studies; *Ulysses*; Queer Closures: The Sexual Politics of Literary Form; Preseminar in British Modernism; The British Women's Novel; Gender and Sexuality in Contemporary Irish Literature and Culture; Literary Modernism: The Aesthetics and Politics of Empire

UH Undergraduate Courses: Gay and Lesbian Literature: Sex Scandal, Shame, and the Politics of Queer Representation; Introduction to Literary Studies: Joyce and Discourse (hybrid course, ½ online); Introduction to Literary Studies: Reading *Ulysses*; Contemporary Novel; Postcolonial Literature; Modern and Contemporary Irish Literature; Modern Irish Literature; Contemporary Irish Literature; Modern British Literature; Class, Sex, and Imperialism: Tangled Paths to Modernity; British Novel from 1832; Film and Literature

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Ireland's War on Children. With Joseph Valente. In preparation.

Odd Jobs: James Joyce's Scandal Work. Forthcoming, University of Notre Dame Press.
Complete manuscript submitted for review, June 2011. 377 ms. pp.

The Gothic Family Romance: Heterosexuality, Child Sacrifice and the Anglo-Irish Colonial Order.
Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 1999.

Choice Outstanding Academic Title, 2000.

American Conference for Irish Studies Prize for a Distinguished First Book, 2000.

Selected Reviews: *Choice*, *Irish Literary Supplement*, *Criticism*, *Studies in the Novel*, *Victorian Studies*, *Interventions*, *E3W Book Review*, *Canadian Literature: A Quarterly of Criticism and Review*, *Victorian Literature and Culture*.

Articles

"A Private Word ... That'll Kill Me Outright": *The Land of Spices*, Nell McCafferty, and the Open Secret.
Solicited contribution to a published round table discussion on the status of queer studies relative to Irish studies for a special issue of the *Irish University Review* on queer studies and Ireland. In progress.

- Review article, *Family Likeness: Sex, Marriage, and Incest from Jane Austen to Virginia Woolf*, by Mary Jean Corbett, *Modern Philology*. Forthcoming. 12 ms. pages.
- “The Children of the Nation?”: Representations of Poor Children in Mainstream Nationalist Journalism, 1882 and 1913. *Eire/Ireland* 44: 1 & 2 (2009). Special issue on children, childhood and Irish society, eds. Maria Luddy and James Smith, 118-146.
- “An Iridescence Difficult to Account For’: Sexual Initiation in Joyce’s Fiction of Development” (with Joseph Valente). *ELH: Journal of English Literary History*, 76:2 (2009), 523-545.
- “Odd Jobs’: James Joyce, Oscar Wilde and the Scandal Fragment.” *Joyce Studies Annual 2008*, 105-145.
- “More Useful Washed and Dead’: James Connolly, W.B. Yeats, and the Sexual Politics of Easter 1916.” *Interventions: International Journal of Postcolonial Studies*, special issue on Under Which Flag: Revisiting James Connolly, 10:1 (2008), 67-85.
- “Sexual Figures of National Identity in ‘The Dead.’” *European Joyce Studies 11: James Joyce and the Fabrication of an Irish Identity* (2001), 111-131.
- “It’s Not Quite Philadelphia, Is It?’ An Interview with Eamonn McCann.” *Eire/Ireland*, (December 2001), 174-89.
- “Riverine Crossings: Gender, Identity and the Reconstruction of National Mythic Narrative in *The Crying Game*” (with James Doan). *Cultural Studies*, 15:1 (2001), 173-191.
- “A Most Curious State of Affairs’: Eamonn McCann on the Good Friday Agreement.” *Rethinking Marxism*, 13:1 (Spring 2001), 83-97.
- “Sexual Orientation in the (Post)Imperial Nation: Celticism and Inversion Theory in *The Well of Loneliness*.” *Tulsa Studies in Women's Literature*, 15:2 (1996), 45-58.
- “Discourse and Silence in the Victorian Family Cell: Problems of Subjectivity in *The History of Sexuality: Vol. I.*” *Victorian Literature and Culture*, 24 (1996), 159-74.
- “Looking for that Dead Girl’: Incest, Pornography, and the Capitalist Family Romance in *Nightwood*, *The Years*, and *Tarbaby*.” *American Imago*, 51:4 (1994), 421-45.
- “Homophobia and the Imperial Demon Lover: Gothic Narrativity in Contemporary Irish Representations of the Great War.” *The Canadian Review of Comparative Literature/Revue Canadienne de Littérature Comparée*, 21:1 (1994), 45-63.
- “With His Pistol in Her Hand: Re-Articulating the Corrido Narrative in Helena María Viramontes’ ‘Neighbors’” (with JoAnn Pavletich). *Cultural Critique*, 27 (1994), 127-52.
- “Judy Grahn and the Lesbian Invocational Elegy: Testimonial and Prophetic Responses to Social Death in ‘A Woman is Talking to Death.’” *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society*, 18:4 (1993), 815-37.
- “Using Sexton to Read Freud: The Pre-Oedipal Phase and the Etiology of Lesbianism in Anne Sexton’s ‘Rapunzel.’” *Journal of Homosexuality*, 19 (1990), 56-65.

Book Chapters

- “Those who create themselves wits at the cost of feminine delicacy”: The Maiden Tribute of Modern Babylon in Joyce’s “Oxen of the Sun.” Under consideration for inclusion in an edited collection on W.T. Stead and Irish newspapers, edited by Karen Steele and Michael de Nie.
- “More Useful Washed and Dead’: James Connolly, W.B. Yeats, and the Sexual Politics of Easter 1916.” *Under Which Flag: Revisiting James Connolly*, ed. Catherine Morris and Spurgeon Thompson. Under Consideration, Routledge Academic Press.
- “The children of the nation’: Representations of children in mainstream nationalist journalism, 1882 and 1913,” in *Children, Childhood and Irish Society*, ed. Maria Luddy and James Smith. Forthcoming, University of Notre Dame Press.
- “The Queer Old Josses’s Storm-Tossed Heart: James Joyce’s Humiliation Nation” (with Joseph Valente), in *Collaborative Dubliners: Joyce in Dialogue*, ed. Vicki Mahaffey. Syracuse University Press, 2012.
- “Things That Have the Potential to Go Terribly Wrong’: Homosexuality, Pedophilia, and the Kincora Boys Home Scandal.” In *The Ashgate Research Companion to Queer Theory*, eds. Noreen Giffney and Michael O’Rourke. Aldershot: Ashgate, 2009, pp. 237-256.
- “Everybody Knew, Nobody Said’: Transnational Laundries and Transnational Trauma across the Irish/Northern Irish Border.” In *Irish Studies: Geographies and Genders*, ed. Marta Lee and Ed Madden. Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2008, pp. 21-37.
- “This Woman Has Received a Blow That Will Shut Her Up Forever’: Frank McGuinness’ ‘Baglady.’” *The Theatre of Frank McGuinness: Stages of Mutability*, ed. Helen Lojek. Dublin: Carysfort Press, 2002, pp. 41-49.

- “‘I’m Your Mother; She Was a Carrying Case’: Gender, Sexuality, and the Symbolics of Adoption in *Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit*.” *Imagining Adoption: Essays on Literature and Culture*, ed. Marianne Novy. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2001, pp. 133-149.
- “Revising Resistance: *In the Name of the Father* and *Sammy and Rosie Get Laid* as Postcolonial Paternal Melodrama.” *Contemporary Irish Cinema: From The Quiet Man to Dancing at Lughnasa*, ed. James MacKillop. Syracuse, NY: Syracuse University Press, 1999, pp. 54-70.
- “Gender and Trauma in the Classroom.” *Situating College English: Lessons from an American University*, ed. Evan Carton, Alan Friedman. South Hadley, MA: Bergin & Garvey Press, 1996.
- “Exploring the Ethical Implications of Narrative in a Sophomore-level Course on Same-Sex Love: *Mrs. Dalloway* and *The Last September*.” *Re: Reading, Re: Writing, Re: Teaching Virginia Woolf*, ed. Eileen Barrett and Patricia Cramer. New York: Pace University Press, 1995, pp. 102-105.

Letters, Notes, and Reviews

- Review of *The Myth of Manliness in Irish National Culture, 1880-1922*, by Joseph Valente. *Interventions: International Journal of Postcolonial Studies*, in progress.
- Review of *Pathologies of Desire: The Vicissitudes of the Self in James Joyce’s A Portrait of the Artist as A Young Man*, by Gerald Doherty. (With Martha Stallman). *James Joyce Quarterly*: Volume 47, no. 1, pp. 51-54.
- Introduction to Jessica Reynolds’s memoir, *All in the Same Boat*, Wilmington College Press, (2010), pp. i-iii.
- Review of *James Connolly: A Full Life*, by Donal Nevin. *Irish Literary Supplement*, 27:1 (2007), 9-10.
- Introduction to Bryan Lawrence’s *incomplet...*, poetry collection, Amazon Press (2007), pp. i-vi.
- “Afterthoughts,” for *Connections*, Cincinnati Country Day School Alumni Magazine (Fall 2006).
- Review of *Borders of Mourning: Remembrance, Commitment and the Contexts of Irish Identity* by Duncan Greenlaw. *Irish Studies Review* 13:1 (2004).
- Review of *The Politics of Culture in the Shadow of Capital*, ed. Lisa Lowe and David Lloyd. *Rethinking Marxism*, 16:2 (2004).
- Biography of Samuel Beckett, *Encyclopedia of Ireland: Vol. 1*, Macmillan Reference USA, 2004.
- Review of *Lytton Strachey and the Search for Modern Sexual Identity: The Last Eminent Victorian*, by Julia Taddeo. *Journal of the History of Sexuality*, 12:4 (2003).
- Review of *Dracula’s Crypt: Bram Stoker, Irishness and the Question of Blood*, by Joseph Valente. *Irish Literary Supplement*, Fall 2003.
- Entry on Judy Grahn, *Encyclopedia of Lesbian Histories and Cultures*, ed. Bonnie Zimmerman. New York: Garland Publishing, 2000.
- Review of *From Husbandry to Housewifery: Irish Women, Labor, and Housekeeping from 1880-1914*, by Joanna Bourke. *Irish Literary Supplement*, 14:2 (1995), 28-9.
- “Rudolfo Anaya’s *Bless Me, Ultima*.” *Masterpieces of Latino Literature*, ed. A. J. Sobczak. Pasadena, CA: Salem Press, 1994, pp. 1964-68.
- “The Material Effects of Criticism,” letter to the editor in response to Richard Levin’s “The Politics and Poetics of Bardicide.” *PMLA*, 106 (1991), 1172-73.

INVITED TALKS

- Taught a seminar on my work on scandal to the modernist graduate students’ organization at the State University of New York at Buffalo. October 2011.
- “Smiling at Wild(e) Irish’: Pishoguary and the Sex Scandal in James Joyce’s ‘Telemachus’”
Plenary Talk for the second annual Queering Ireland conference, University College Cork, July 2011.
- “Silence, Cunning, Exile’: James Joyce and Modern Scandal Culture.” State University of New York at Buffalo Poetry Collection. October 2010.
- “‘What Are You Doing after the Insurrection, Young Fella?’ Reworking Early Twentieth-Century Nationalist Representations of Children in *A Star Called Henry*,” Boston College Irish Studies Lecture Series, February 2009
- “Irish Nationalism, New Journalism and the Modernist Avant Garde: James Joyce and the New Journalist Sex Scandal, 1882-1885.” University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, February 2009
- “Poor Children, Trauma and the Public Sphere in the Mainstream Nationalist Press, 1882 and 1913.”
University of Notre Dame Irish Studies Lecture Series, January 2009
- “How the Advanced Nationalist Press Invented the New Journalist Sex Scandal, 1882-1895,” National University of Ireland-Galway, Centre for Irish Studies Seminar Series, June 2008

- “*Stone Butch Blues*: Reading Between (Among) the Lines,” panel focusing on queer/feminist/psychoanalytic responses, symposium on Sara Ahmed's *Queer Phenomenology*, University College Dublin, May 2008
- “Children, Trauma, and the Public Sphere in 1970s Northern Ireland,” Workshop on Irish Children and Childhood, Boston College Irish Studies Centre, Dublin, April 2008
- “Reinventing the Children of 1916,” University College of Dublin Literature Seminar, April 2008
- “A Methodological Autobiography,” Masters Interdisciplinary Seminar, National University of Ireland-Galway, February 2008
- “More Useful Washed and Dead’: The 1990s Clergy Scandals and the Sexual Politics of ‘Easter, 1916,’” Irish Studies Seminar, National University of Ireland-Galway, January 2008
- “James Joyce, Oscar Wilde, and the New Journalism,” University of York, January 2008
- “James Joyce and the New Journalism,” Goldsmith College Seminar Series, University of London, January 2008
- “James Joyce’s *Dubliners*,” National University of Ireland-Galway, November 2007
- “The Cracked Lookingglass of a Servant”: The Oscar Wilde Scandal and Irish Nationalist Print Counterpublics,” National University of Ireland-Galway, October 2007
- “Irish and Northern Irish Scandal Culture,” Trinity College, Dublin, July 2007
- “Transnational Laundries, Transnational Trauma, Transnational Feminisms,” joint keynote address, Southern Region of the American Conference for Irish Studies, University of South Carolina, February 2006
- “‘As Close to the Truth as We’re Ever Going to Get’: Derry People on the Film *Bloody Sunday*,” University of St. Thomas Center for Irish Studies, Houston, April 2005
- “Wherever Green is Red: Yeats and the Subsequent Literary Politics of Easter 1916,” Yeats Summer School, Sligo, Ireland, August 2004
- “Lies and Secrets: Homocolonialism and the Kincora Boys Home Scandal,” University of Texas, Austin, April 2004
- “Homosexuality vs. Pedophilia: The Kincora Boys Home Scandal,” Rice University, November 2001
- “Decolonizing Gender in Contemporary Irish Film,” University College, Dublin, June 2000
- “Elizabeth Bowen’s *The Last September*,” University College, Cork, March 2000
- “Sexuality, Gender, and the Politics of Adoption,” University College, Dublin, March 2000
- “Sexual Figures of National Identity in ‘The Dead,’” Boston College, September 2000
- “Feminism and Nationalism in Twentieth-Century Ireland,” SUNY-Geneseo, October 1999
- “Bisexual Identity Formation,” SUNY-Brockport, April 1999
- “Are You Still Bisexual?” Wells College, Aurora, New York, March 1999
- “The Traffic in Children: Gender, Sexuality, and the Symbolics of Adoption in Jeanette Winterson's *Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit*,” East Carolina University, February 1998
- “Frail Bodies: Jonathan Swift and the Autophagous Logic of Settler Colonial Reproduction,” National University of Ireland, Maynooth, March 1997
- “The Traffic in Children: Adoption and Fosterage in the Modern Nation State,” Annual Summer Retreat, Association for Economic and Social Analysis, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, July 1996
- “Colonialisms, Nationalities, and Sexualities as Categories for Analysis,” Symposium on Teaching Queer Studies, University of Colorado, Boulder, September 1995

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- “God Wants Blood Victim”: Bait, Entrapment, Incorporation in “Lestrygonians.” American Conference for Irish Studies Annual Meeting, New Orleans, March 2012.
- “Joyce and the Modern Political Sex Scandal.” Modernist Studies Association Annual Conference, SUNY-Buffalo, October 2012.
- Participant in “Ireland and the New Journalism,” an MLA special round table session co-organized by the American Conference of Irish Studies and the MLA Anglo-Irish Discussion Group. MLA, San Diego, Jan. 2011
- “The gaping wounds ... the words had left’: Failed Sexual Overtures in Joyce.” New York College English Association. Saint John Fisher College, Rochester, NY, October 2010.
- “Don’t be paradoxical, Larry”: Political Triangles in *John Bull’s Other Island* and *Ulysses*. 2010 George Bernard Shaw Symposium, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Canada, July 2010.
- “A People Sheltered Within His Voice’: James Joyce’s Akasic Scandal Work.” College English Association Conference, San Antonio. March 2010.
- “Spaces of Sexual Occlusion in Contemporary Women’s Writing.” MLA Special Session: “Bog Gothic: The Strangeness of Recent Irish Fiction. Modern Language Association Convention, Philadelphia, Dec. 2009.

- “‘An Iridescence Difficult to Account For’: Sexual Initiation in Joyce’s Fiction of Development” (with Joseph Valente). “Eire on the Erie,” North American James Joyce Conference, Buffalo, NY, June 2009.
- Round Table Participant: “Dublin Critics: The Future of Collaboration in Joyce Studies.”
“Eire on the Erie,” North American James Joyce Conference, Buffalo, NY, June 2009.
- “Between a Gallous Story and a Dirty Deed”: Nell McCafferty and Nuala O’Faolain, Writing in the Gender Gap” American Conference for Irish Studies Annual Meeting, Galway, Ireland, June 2009.
- “‘Unspeakable Crimes’ at the British Library, or what James Joyce has been trying to tell us about the Oscar Wilde Trials,” American Conference for Irish Studies Panel on Oscar Wilde in the Archives, Modern Language Association, San Francisco, December 2008
- “Partition, Gerrymandering, and Judicially-Sanctioned Abuse: Derry 1968/Houston 2008,” South Central Modern Language Association, San Antonio, October 2008
- “‘Odd Jobs’: James Joyce and Oscar Wilde in Trieste,” conference on Queer People: The Whole History of Sexuality, Cambridge University, July 2008
- “James Joyce’s Knowing Innocents and the Children of 1913” (with Joseph Valente), International James Joyce Symposium, Tours, France, June 2008
- “‘The Cracked Lookingglass of a Servant’: Scandal As Cultural Strategy in *Ulysses*,” Trinity College, Dublin, conference on Irish Modernism, October 2007
- “*Transcolonialamerica*,” Fourth International Conference on Colonialism, National University of Ireland-Galway, June 2007
- “The Queer Old Josses’s Storm-Tossed Heart” (with Joseph Valente), International James Joyce Conference, Austin, TX, June, 2007
- “‘More Useful Washed and Dead’: James Connolly and the Representational Politics of Easter 1916,” American Conference for Irish Studies, University of Missouri, St. Louis, April 2006
- “Secret, Rumour, Scandal: Sexual and Political Epistemologies in Northern Ireland,” Kansas State Annual Cultural Studies Conference, March 2006
- “Diabolical Acts of Union: The Devil’s Compact as Social Contract in Scott and Maturin,” International Gothic Association, Montreal, August 2005
- “Promoting Eccentricity,” panel, Women’s Caucus, South Central Modern Language Association, Houston, October 2005
- “Secret, Rumour, Scandal: Sexual and Political Epistemologies in Northern Ireland” (with Kathryn Conrad and Lance Pettit), American Conference for Irish Studies, University of Notre Dame, May 2005
- “Limbo: Instantiating the Invisible in Northern Irish Representations of Unwed Pregnancy and Adoption,” American Conference for Irish Studies, University of Notre Dame, May 2005
- Irish Nationalisms and the Scene of Sexual Initiation: James Joyce’s *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* (with Joseph Valente), Southern Regional Meeting, American Conference for Irish Studies, University of Saint Thomas, Houston, February 2005
- “Child Sexual Abuse and the Politics of Scandal,” Modern Language Association, Philadelphia, December 2004
- “‘Waking in Darkness and Secrecy and Loneliness’: Sexual Initiation in Joyce’s Ireland,” conference on Joyce’s Ireland, University of Kansas, June 2004
- “Sanitizing the Easter Rising in ‘Easter 1916,’” Kansas State University Annual Cultural Studies Conference, March 2004
- “Evil Homoeroticism in Eoin McNamee’s *Resurrection Man*,” American Conference for Irish Studies, St. Thomas University, St. Paul, MN, June 2003
- “What’s Irish about Beckett’s Alienation?” Modernist Studies Association, Rice University, October 2001
- “Constructions of Homosexuality in Representations of the Kincora Boys’ Home Scandal,” American Conference for Irish Studies, Fordham University, New York, June 2001.
- “‘I Am Your Mother; She Was a Carrying Case’: Narrating Adoption in Jeanette Winterson’s *Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit*,” conference on Narrative, Rice University, March 2001
- “‘Will the Dead Rise?’ Gothic Historicity and Botched Rituals in *Carthaginians* and *Halloween Night*,” Modern Language Association, Washington, DC, December 2000
- “Managing Marx: Representations of Marxism and Socialism in the Northern Irish Civil Rights Movement.” Rethinking Marxism international conference on Marxism 2000: The Party’s Not Over, Amherst, MA, September 2000
- “Rosamond Jacob’s Gender(ed) Troubles,” conference on Inroads and Outposts at Home and Abroad in the Empire: British Women in the Thirties, City University of New York, September 2000

- “‘I Should Like to Be Here When This House Burns’: Post-Treaty Retrenchment and the (Burning) Big House Novel,” American Conference for Irish Studies, University of Limerick, June 2000
- “Lost in Space: Representations of Postcolonial Space in Beckett’s *Molloy* and Timothy O’Grady’s *Motherland*,” American Conference for Irish Studies, Roanoke, VA, May 1999
- “‘Armed to the Teeth and Undressed to Kill’: Mary Dorcey’s Lesbian Feminist Reunification,” Modern Language Association, San Francisco, December 1998
- “The Center of a Hideous Circle of Corruption”: The Emergence of the Vampire in Nineteenth-Century Anglo-Irish Literature,” International Association for the Study of Irish Literatures, University of Limerick, July 1998
- “How Teaching at a Catholic Liberal Arts College Turned Me Queer,” Modern Language Association, Toronto, December 1997
- “Mary Dorcey: And Down Will Come Tyranny, Silence and All,” American Conference for Irish Studies, Albany, NY, April 1997
- “McGuinness and the Exorcists: Shakespearean Gothicism in Contemporary Irish Drama,” Shakespeare and Ireland: A Conference at Trinity College, Dublin, March 1997
- “‘The Whole World Gave Me to Him’: Capitalism and Compulsory Heterosexuality in Richardson’s *Clarissa*,” Rethinking Marxism’s international conference on Politics and Languages of Contemporary Marxism, Amherst, MA, December 1996
- “Inside/Out: Reading *Gulliver’s Travels* as Cultural Studies,” Modern Language Association, Washington, DC, December 1996
- “Ideology and its Discontents,” roundtable, American Conference for Irish Studies, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL, April 1996
- “Diabolical Acts of Union: The Social Contract as Devil’s Compact in Scott’s ‘Rokeby,’” Modern Language Association, Chicago, December 1995
- “Feminism across the Generations,” roundtable, American Studies Association, Pittsburgh, November 1995
- “Riverine Crossings: Mythic Reconfigurations of Gender, Sexuality and Nationality in *The Crying Game*” (with James Doan), American Conference for Irish Studies, Belfast, June 1995
- “Ethnicity as Deformity in Beckett’s *Molloy* Trilogy,” Modern Language Association, San Diego, December 1994
- “Breaching the Borders/Reinventing World Orders: Male on Male Rape in *Melmoth the Wanderer*,” Group for Early Modern Cultural Studies, Rochester, NY, November 1994
- “Ghosts in the House of Empire: Images of Postcolonial Immigrants in *Sammy and Rosie Get Laid* and *In the Name of the Father*,” Pacific Coast Conference of British Studies, Claremont Colleges, April 1994
- “Historical Ruptures and Conventional Continuities in Karen Finley’s ‘St. Patrick’s Truth,’” Southern Regional American Conference for Irish Studies, University of Charleston, February 1994
- “Pre-Oedipal Voices and the Trauma of British History: Kate Bush and the Historical Imaginary,” Popular Culture Association, New Orleans, April 1993
- “Victorian Literary and Cultural Figures, Epistemological Anxiety, and the Problem of the Unitary Subject in *The History of Sexuality: Vol. I*,” conference on Foucault’s History of Sexuality: Revisions and Responses, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, April 1993
- “Irish History, Gender, Silence and Emigration in *Dancing at Lughnasa*,” MLA, New York, December 1992
- “Rita Ann Higgins’ ‘Daughter of the Falls Road’: Elegy for a Community,” National Women’s Studies Association, Austin, TX, June 1992
- “‘That Eloquence Which is Stronger Than the Eloquence of All Living Tongues’: Settler Colonial Reproduction and Child Sacrifice in *Melmoth the Wanderer*,” “Dissent and Marginality,” U of Glasgow, September 1994
- “When the Mother is the Other: Celticism and Inversion Theory in *The Well of Loneliness*,” conference on Gender and Colonialism, University College, Galway, Ireland, May 1992
- “‘The Demon Lover’: Gothicism, Homoeroticism and the Great War in Irish Literature.” Sesquicentennial Swift and Irish Studies Conference, University of Notre Dame, October 1991
- “Community Values in an Urban Working-Class Undergraduate Education,” conference on College: The Undergraduate Experience in America, co-sponsored by Harvard University and the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, Cambridge, MA, November 1986

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Tenure review referee: University of Oregon, Wabash College, 2011; Miami University, 2008; Boston College, 2006; University of Kansas, 2004.

Manuscript reviewer: University College Cork Press, 2010; *Rethinking Marxism*, 2009; *Twentieth-Century Literature*, 2008, 2007; *Emotion, Space and Society*, 2008; *Tulsa Studies in Women's Literature*, 2004, 2002, 2001; *LIT: Literature, Interpretation, Theory*, 2006; Syracuse University Press, 2006, 2000; Palgrave Macmillan, 2006; University of Florida Press, 2004; Duke University Press, 2004; University of Notre Dame Press, 2004; University of Wisconsin Press, 2004, 2003

Modern Language Association: Organizer, "'Facts I Wish I Did Not Know': Interrogating Memory in Anne Enright's *The Gathering*," Boston 2013; Executive Board Member, Anglo-Irish Discussion Group, 2007-11; Organizer, Chair, "Untimely Feminisms," Co-organizer, "Ireland and the New Journalism," 2011; Chair, Michael Lynch Award Committee, MLA Lesbian/Gay Caucus, 2006; MLA Executive Committee for the Study of Nonfiction Prose Excluding Biography and Autobiography—President, 2004, Secretary, 2003; Organizer, "Reporting the Unspeakable: Nonfiction, Third Person Accounts of Child Sexual Abuse," 2004; Organizer, "Irish Audiences" and "'Damned or At the Bottom of the Ocean': Situating Ireland in Eighteenth-Century Studies," 2003; Organizer, "'Provincialism and Censorship'? Revisiting Ireland, 1935-1960" and "Representing Northern Ireland: The Form of Politics and the Politics of Form," 2002; Organizer, "'Cherishing All the Children of the Nation Equally': Irish Representations of Statehood and Maternity," 2001; Organizer, "Voices in the Wilderness: Teaching Queer Theory in Strange Places," 1997.

American Conference for Irish Studies: Chair: Co-organized (with Joseph Valente) three round table discussions on embodiment, commodification and queer sexuality under the rubric "How Normative is Molly Bloom Now?" American Conference for Irish Studies, UW-Madison, 2011. The politics of camp: queering parades, performance, and the public in Northern Ireland, American Conference for Irish Studies, National University of Ireland at Galway, June 2009. Chair, "Troubling Narratives: Northern Irish Writing Since 1969," 2005; Co-organizer, Southern American Conference, 2005; Organizer, "Homocolonial Entanglements," 2003; Co-organizer, Foundation for Joyce Studies Annual Cocktail Party, Gotham Book Mart, MLA Convention, 2002; Literature Representative, 2001; Organizer, "Gothic Modernisms," 2000; Organizer, "Unstraightening the Records: Queer Revisions of Irish Culture and Society," 1997

Organizer, other conferences:
 "The Shadow of Oscar: Wilde and Modern Ireland," a talk given by Eibhear Walshe at the University of Texas, Austin, April 2009. "Cowboys and Indians, Minxes and Mothers: Reading *Dubliners*' Innocents Against the Grain," Joyce International Conference, 2007; UH Colloquium, "Trauma: Public and Private," 2006; "Rethinking Irish Modernism," Modernism Studies Association, 2001; UH Colloquium on Gender and Sexuality in Irish Studies, 2001; "Marxism 2000: The Party's Not Over," Rethinking Marxism, 2000; "Where the Rubber Meets the Road: Critical Points of Articulation in a First-Year Learning Community Program," SeaTac, 1999; "As If Feelings Mattered: What Can a Materialist Approach to Affect Contribute to an Analysis of Capitalism and Subjectivity?" Rethinking Marxism, 1996; "Reclaiming New Worlds," University of Texas, 1992; "Women and War: An Interdisciplinary Conference," University of Texas, 1991.

Board of Directors, Voices Breaking Boundaries, a Houston-based arts organization, Summer 2010-present.
 Selection Committee for the ACIS Rhodes Prize, 2009. Chair: 2003, 2002, 2001
 Staff, Committee on Degrees, Harvard School of Education, 1987-1988

UH INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE

Director of Graduate Studies, Department of English, Fall 2011-present.
 Planning Committee, Department of English, Fall 2011-present
 Houston Endowment Committee, Fall 2009-Spring 2011
 Reader for Third Year Review Sub-Committee, January 2011.
 Graduate Committee, Fall 2009-10 (reviewed all MA and PhD applications, spring 2010)
 CLASS Teaching Awards Selection Committee, Spring 2009, Spring 2008.
 Presentation at the Department's Upper Division Retreat, April 2009.
 University Committee on Sexual Harassment, 2008-2009
 University Scholarship Committee, 2008-2009, 2006-2007
 University of Houston Cougar Allies, 2006-2007
 Upper Division Committee, 2010-present, 2008-2009; 2006-2007
 Organized Symposium, "Public and Private Trauma," with Ann Cvetkovich and including a round table on trauma and Katrina, 2004.
 Undergraduate Council, 2003-2005

Organized Symposium: "Gender and Sexuality in Irish Studies," with Elizabeth Cullingford, Diane Negra, Kathryn Conrad, Marian Eide and Karen Steele, 2001

English: Director, Upper Division, 2002-2005; Planning Committee, 2008-10; 2002-2005; oversaw upper division component of departmental self-study, 2003-2004; Hiring Committee, 2000-2001

Women's Studies: Presentations for Women's Studies events: Introduced *The Magdalene Sisters*, Women's History Month, 2009, Introduced *Mrs. Dalloway*, National Coming Out Day, 2005. Speak-Out on abortion, 2002. Selection Committees, dissertation fellowships, 2007; undergraduate scholarships, 2004

HONORS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Houstoun Research Grant, Fall 2011

University of Houston Small Grant, 2011

Houstoun Research Grant, Fall 2010

University of Houston Department of English Houstoun Research Professorship, 2008-2010

University of Houston Undergraduate Mentorship Award, 2008

Visiting Fellowship in Irish Studies, Irish American Cultural Institute, National University of Ireland-Galway Centre for Irish Studies, 2007-2008

NEH Summer Seminar for University Professors, "*Ulysses*," Kevin Dettmar, Director, Trinity College, Dublin, 2007

University of Houston Ross Lence Award for Teaching Excellence in the Humanities, 2007

University of Houston Women's Studies Program Summer Fellowship, 2005, 2001

NEH Summer Seminar for University and College Teachers, "The Anglo-Irish, 1600-1800," Christopher Fox, Director, University of Notre Dame, 2001

Executive board member, Alliance for the Study of Kinship and Adoption in Literature and Culture, 2000-2

NEH Summer Seminar for College Teachers, "Social Change in Early Modern Britain and the Rise of the Novel," John Richetti, Director, University of Pennsylvania, 1994

British Universities Summer School Fellowship, Austin English Speaking Union, to attend "British Literature and Culture, 1945-present," University of London, 1991

Synge Summer School Scholarship, Synge Summer School, Nicholas Grene, Director, Wicklow, Ireland, 1991

Yeats Summer School Scholarship, Yeats Summer School, Sligo, Ireland, 1989