

JANE KUENZ

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. English, Duke University	1995
M.A. English, Duke University	1991
M.F.A. Creative Writing, University of Alabama	1987
B.A. English, Political Science, Spring Hill College	1983

FACULTY APPOINTMENTS

Professor, Department of English, University of Southern Maine present	2016-
Associate Professor, Department of English, University of Southern Maine	2001-2016
Assistant Professor, Department of English, University of Southern Maine	1995-2001
Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of English, Georgia State University	1996-1997
Graduate Instructor, Department of English, Duke University	1989-1995
Lecturer, Department of English, Howard University	1987-1988
Graduate Instructor, English and Creative Writing, University of Alabama	1983-1987

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

Associate Dean, School of Business, USM 2016-present

Work closely with the Dean, Department Chairs, faculty, and University administration to establish goals, objectives, and strategic direction for the School of Business. The School has an annual operating budget of \$7,255,667 and houses 37 full- and part-time faculty across two departments delivering six undergraduate majors and an MBA to 800 students.

As the designated administrator for the School of Business, I am the primary contact person for all AACSB-related activities and accreditation requirements, including ensuring faculty sufficiency ratios for all School of Business programs (undergraduate and graduate); overseeing annual reporting related to accreditation, such as the Business School Questionnaire and the annual Scholarly Impact Report; and writing the Continuing Improvement Report (CIR).

In addition, the Associate Dean

- advocates for School faculty and programs to the Dean, Provost, and President;
- assists the Dean with budget decisions and personnel actions;
- serves as the School's chief point of contact with university offices, especially Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, Human Resources, the Registrar, Enrollment Management, Graduate Studies, and International Programs, as well as external contacts such as the Board of Visitors, the Business Advisory Council, and the Portland community;

- coordinates with the College's Finance Manager to manage and disburse faculty development and gift funds and approve faculty expenses;
- works with the Director of Academic Administration to plan teaching schedules and to adjudicate or execute grade appeals, course waivers, and student academic actions;

Key accomplishments:

- Oversaw the development of the School's new mission and strategic plan;
- Led the revision of the undergraduate business curriculum;
- Restructured School governance bodies and committees to reflect AACSB emphasis on Strategic Planning and Innovation, Impact, and Engagement;
- Oversaw nine successful faculty searches since Fall 2018, with another four searches underway this year;
- Developed a college-wide mentoring program for new tenure-track and full-time faculty;
- recruited and mentored new adjunct and part-time faculty;
- Facilitated the creation and approval of a new charter for a Business Advisory Board with recommendations for new membership;
- Successfully led the Schools 2019 CIR report and Peer Review Team visit.

State Chair, Academic Program Integration, University of Maine System

2015-2016

Led the 7-campus English Faculty Team in the System's initiative to enhance quality, grow access and enrollment, and increase productivity and financial sustainability through a process of integrating academic programs. Developed recommendations for aligning course title, numbering, and student learning outcomes for foundational courses offered in all English departments within the University of Maine System. Responsible for final report and representing the team's work before system-wide panel of Chief Academic Officers.

Recommendations include

- regularizing best practices for placement, pedagogies, assessment and faculty development in FY Composition courses;
- updating transfer equivalencies for general education and upper-level major courses;
- instituting a process for sharing new courses in development, aligning them with existing courses, and making current transferability transparent to students;
- expanding access to graduate education by creating an interdisciplinary MA with a required digital or on-site internship or project;
- encouraging and enabling statewide collaborations by coordinating and promoting scholarly and literary events and creating a structure or process for building and maintaining dialogue among all system English departments.

Responsible for setting priorities for the year, representing the department, advocating to the Dean, University administration, and external groups, and ensuring departmental decision-making is consistent with Policies and Procedures, union contracts, and other college and university governance documents.

Chief responsibilities:

- served *ex officio* on departmental standing committees;
- presided over department meetings; managed the budget, including decisions about space, facilities, and equipment;
- supervised and evaluated staff;
- responded to student and faculty complaints;
- appointed and evaluated part-time faculty;
- administered peer evaluations (reappointments, tenure, promotion, and post-tenure) in conjunction with the promotion and personnel committees;
- prepared the final course schedules;
- coordinated with university staff and offices, especially the Registrar, Student Life, Advising, and Human Resources;
- represented and advocated for the Department on college and university committees, including the College Chairs Committee, the Academic Affairs Leaders Committee (Provost), Assessment Committee, Advising Committee, Professional Education Council, Early Studies Program, and First Year Experience; prepared annual assessment reports.

Chief Accomplishments:

- revised English major requirements to streamline progress through the degree and remove barriers for transfer students and majors in the two education tracks;
- completed articulation agreements with community colleges;
- revised advising processes and materials, including graduation planners and curriculum maps;
- developed process for cohort tracking to increase persistence and retention in the major;
- applied for and used Title III High Impact Grant to create common intellectual experiences and co-curricular events that cultivate student cohorts within the major as they take the gateway course;
- oversaw development of new internships (consulting, publishing);
- brought all modern language instruction into the department (French, Spanish, Italian, and German and introduced Arabic as part of a new Early Studies course in conjunction with Portland High School);
- developed and launched new interdisciplinary minor in Public and Professional Writing and secured approval for successful faculty hire in English in Digital Rhetoric;
- worked with faculty in art, computer science, and business to develop and secure approval for a new Program Gaming and Simulation and a successful faculty hire in English in gaming narrative.

Co-Chair, General Education Curriculum Planning Group, USM

2005-2008

Led the successful effort to redesign the Core Curriculum and align it with the University's *Vision, Goals, and Outcomes*.

Chief responsibilities and accomplishments:

- Researched national general education trends and best practices and analyzed institutional comparisons;
- conducted extensive one-one-one, departmental, and campus-wide meetings with interested stakeholders including faculty, University administrators, professional staff, and both Faculty and Student Senates;
- drafted descriptions and outcomes for each of eleven course requirements and articulated the relations among them;
- worked closely with University offices to develop transfer and placement policies and an assessment plan;
- developed an administrative model;
- secured Faculty Senate approval and promoted the new curriculum.

Committee Chairmanships, USM

1995-present

- Curriculum Committee, English Department: Prepared the schedule, approved new courses, monitored workload, produced the *Course Guide*, edited catalog changes, and conducted meetings as necessary to assess and develop the major curriculum. Oversaw the Department's transition to the new general education curriculum, including creating new core and major courses; getting each approved in the department, college, and university curriculum review committees before submitting them as permanent changes to the catalog; and adjusting major requirements and instituting a new workload formula to accommodate these changes.
- Personnel Committee, English Department: Responsible for coordinating and executing personnel actions in the department, specifically communications with faculty, outside evaluators, and the Dean; leading peer committee/departmental discussions of evaluations; assigning and writing evaluations reports and any revisions.
- Search Committees, English Department: Coordinating with Human Resources, writing ad copy, preparing search materials, interviewing at conferences and on campus, fielding questions from candidates.
- Faculty Senate Research Grants Committee (Chair). Oversaw grant application process; led meetings when grant applications were evaluated and selected; corresponded with applicants, coordinating among them and university offices and staff.
- Administrative Search Committees (Member): University President (2014), Associate Dean of Lewiston-Auburn College (2017), Director of Graduate Studies (2018)

Co-Coordinator, University Writing Program, Duke University

1992-1994

- Assisted the Director of Writing Programs in curriculum design, new instructor training, and administration of the First Year Writing Program.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Scholarly Impact Forum, AACSB

2018

Strategic Planning Seminar, AACSB	2018
Accreditation Conference, AACSB	2017
Title IX Training, USM	2016
Community Inclusion Training, USM	2016
New Associate Deans Seminar, AACSB	2016
Associate Deans Conference, AACSB	2016
Continuous Improvement Seminar, AACSB	2016
National Academic Advising Association Conference	2016
Summer Seminars and Department Chairs Workshop, ADE	2014

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS:

Strip Cultures: Finding America in Las Vegas. With Stacy Jameson, Karen Klugman, and Susan Willis. Duke University Press, 2015.

Inside the Mouse: Work and Play at Disney World. With Karen Klugman, Shelton Waldrep, and Susan Willis. Duke University Press, 1995.

British Edition: Rivers Oram Press, 1996.

ARTICLES:

“The Plastic You: Plastination and the Post-Mortal Self.” *A Literary History of Plastics.* Caren Irr, ed. University of Minnesota P, Forthcoming 2020. [invited]

“Modernism, Mass Culture, and the Harlem Renaissance: The Case of Countee Cullen.” *Modernism/Modernity.* 14 (2007) 3: 507-515.

“The Cowboy Businessman and ‘The Course of Empire’: Owen Wister’s *The Virginian*.” *Cultural Critique.* 48 (2001): 98-128.

“Playtime: Toys and the Labor of Childhood.” *Colby Quarterly.* (2000): 60-76.

“‘The Face of America’: Performing Race and Nation in Jessie Fauset’s *There is Confusion*.” *Yale Journal of Criticism.* 12 (1999)1: 89-111.

“*Black No More*: George Schuyler and the Politics of ‘Racial Culture.’” In *The Harlem Renaissance Re-Examined.* Victor Kramer, ed. 2nd Edition. New York: AMS Press. 1997. 197-211.

“American Racial Discourse, 1900-1930: George Schuyler’s *Black No More*.” *Novel* 30 (1997) 2: 170-192.

“Gatorland, A Fable.” *The Carolina Quarterly.* 48 (1995) 1: 59-69.

“*The Bluest Eye*: Notes on History, Community, and Black Female Subjectivity.” *African American Review* 27 (1993) 3: 421-431. Rpt. In *Contemporary Literary Criticism* (July 2003) and *Toni Morrison’s The Bluest Eye.* Harold Bloom, ed. Bloom’s Modern Critical Interpretations. 2009. 97-110.

"It's a Small World After All: Disney and the Pleasures of Identification." *South Atlantic Quarterly* 92 (1993) 1: 63-88.

INVITED TALKS:

- "SIN City: Las Vegas and the Culture of Surveillance." University of Southern Maine, 2014.
- "The Shipping Container Capital of the World: Social Media, Subjectivity, and Work in Las Vegas." Invited Lecture. Brandeis University. 2014.
- "To Be Real: Gender, Genre, and Black Modernist Authenticity." Invited Lecture. Women's Studies Program. University of Maine. 2005
- "Producing *The New Negro*: Alain Locke and the Rearticulation of African-American Identity. Department of English. University of Maine. 2005.
- "The Cowboy Businessman and the 'The Course of Empire': Owen Wister's *The Virginian*." Invited Lecture. English Department Lecture Series. Colby College. 1999.
- "Playtime: Children and Commodity Culture." With Michele Locker. University of Southern Maine, 1999.

SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- "Las Vegas and the Networked City." Connections and Circuits. Popular Culture Association, New Orleans, 2015.
- "The Shipping Container Capital of the World: Social Media, Subjectivity, and Work in Las Vegas." American Studies Association. Los Angeles, 2014.
- "'Art' Songs and Hymn Books: Defining Black Modernism in James Weldon Johnson's *God's Trombones* and *The Book of Negro Spirituals*." American Literature Association, Washington, D.C., May 2014.
- "Adapting Appalachia." International Conference on Narrative. Cambridge, 2014.
- "The McDonald's of Circuses: Cirque du Soleil and the Branding of Tourist Experience." Popular Culture Association. Washington, D.C., March 2013.
- "The Girls from District 12." Southern Heroes. Society for the Study of Southern Literature. Modern Language Association, Boston, 2013.
- "Human Capital." Con-Soling Passions. Boston, July, 2012.
- "'Modernists Among the Moderns': New Negro Cultural Politics after *The Waste Land*." T. S. Eliot: Texts and New Contexts. American Literature Association. San Francisco, May, 2012.
- "Corpse Art." Popular Culture Association. Boston, April, 2012.
- "The Spy Next Door: Surveillance, Social Media, and Children's Culture." Society for Cinema and Media Studies, New Orleans, 2011.
- "What Happens in Vegas." Society for Utopian Studies. Wrightsville Beach, NC. 2009.

- “‘Modernists Among the Moderns’: Modernism, Mass Culture, and Harlem Renaissance Poetry.” Modernist Authenticities Seminar. Modernist Studies Association. Chicago, Illinois, 2005.
- “‘The Land of the Blacks’: Art and Identity in W.E.B. Du Bois’s *Dark Princess*.” American Literature Association. Boston, Massachusetts, 2005.
- “Managing the Natural, the Local, and the Global at Disney’s Animal Kingdom.” Plenary Session. Utopian Studies. Orlando, Florida, 2002.
- “The Magic of Objects: Baum’s *Oz* Series.” Utopian Studies. Orlando, Florida, 2002.
- “The ‘X-Files Problem’ in Contemporary Cultural Studies.” Marxist Reading Group Roundtable Panel: Marxism, Cultural Studies, and the Pedagogies of Desire. *Almost Always Deceived: Revolutionary Praxis and Reinventions of Need*. University of Florida, Gainesville, 2001.
- “Harlem Renaissance Poetry, Mass Culture, and the Ideology of Modernism.” American Studies Association. Montreal, Quebec, 1999.
- “The Face of America”: Narratives of Race and Nation in Jessie Fauset’s *There is Confusion*.” International Conference on Narrative. Dartmouth College, April, 1999.
- “The Cowboy Businessman and the ‘The Course of Empire’: Owen Wister’s *The Virginian*.” American Studies Association. Seattle, Washington, 1998.
- “The Cowboy Businessman and the ‘The Course of Empire’: Owen Wister’s *The Virginian*.” International Conference on Narrative. Gainesville, Florida, 1997.
- “The Culture of Lynching.” American Studies Association Annual Meeting. Pittsburgh, 1995.
- “At the Rat: Performing Work at Disney.” American Studies Association Annual Meeting. Nashville, 1994.
- “Living with Disney.” Modern Language Association Convention. Toronto, 1993.
- “Charting the Land of Night: Women’s Poetry and the Limits of Harlem.” American Studies Association Annual Meeting. Boston, 1993.
- “It’s a Small World After All: Disney and the Pleasures of Identification.” Southern American Studies Association. New Orleans, 1993.
- “It’s a Small World After All: Disney and the Pleasures of Identification.” South Atlantic Modern Language Association. Knoxville, 1992.
- “Notes on History, Community, and Black Women’s Bodies: Toni Morrison’s *The Bluest Eye*.” Conference on Theory, African American Studies and Black Community. University of Pennsylvania, 1992.

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

19th and 20th-century American literature, African-American literature, Cultural Studies, Popular Culture, Rhetoric and Writing

GRANTS AND AWARDS

- Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity Grant (2016) \$7856
- Title III High Impact Grant (2016) \$5000 (for Dept. of English)
- Faculty Senate Research Grants (1996, 1998, 2012) \$3000 each
- Faculty Senate Scholarship Award (1998)
- Women's Studies Professional Development Grant (1998)
- Faculty Professional Development Travel Grant (1995-2013)

PROFESSIONAL AND PUBLIC SERVICE

- Editorial Board, *Corpus Mundi*
- Manuscript reviewer for *American Literary History*; *Studies in the Novel*; *Literature, Interpretation, Theory*; *Culture, Society, Masculinities*; *Studies in American Fiction*; *Television and New Media*.
- Programming Committee, Northeast Popular Culture Association
- Programming Committee, Northeastern American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies
- Outside Evaluator, University of Central Lancaster
- Outside Reader, English Honors Thesis, Bates College
- Introduction. *Three Tales by Poe*. Portland Ballet. October 16, 2015.
- Page to Stage and Scholar on the Stage, Portland Stage Company, *Blues for an Alabama Sky*)

INTERVIEWS AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

- Interview. *Times Higher Education*. October, 2015.
- Phone interview for *Toronto Globe and Mail* on Walt Disney World. 14 November 2001.
- Invited Speaker for Faculty Panel, Teaching Online: Using Instructional Technologies to Deliver or Supplement Your Course. University of Maine, Augusta. 22 May 2001.
- Invited Speaker, Rotary Club of Lewiston, Maine. 22 February 2001.
- Phone Interview for *Portland Press Herald* on children and consumption. July 1999.
- Phone Interview for *Smart Money* on Disney vacations and workers. March 1998.
- Radio Interview for USM University Review on *Inside the Mouse: Work and Play at Disney World*. Portland, Maine. December 1997.
- Faculty Profile in *Mainstream*. Fall 1997.
- "A Controlling Interest." Interview by Mike Yamamoto on *Inside the Mouse: Work and Play at Disney World*. 5 November 1996.
- Television Interview for *Inside the Mouse: Work and Play at Disney World* with CBC's *Big Life*. 20 September 1996.
- Radio Interview for *Inside the Mouse: Work and Play at Disney World*. *Radio Times*. WHYY Philadelphia. 18 July 1995.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Modern Language Association
Northeast Modern Language Association
American Studies Association
Narrative Society
Popular Culture Association