

GRINNELL
LECTURE:
A CELEBRATION OF
FACULTY SCHOLARSHIP
FEBRUARY 10, 2022

2022 Honored Grinnell Lecturer

SARAH J. PURCELL

L.F. Parker Professor of History
Grinnell College

The Grinnell Lecture recognizes a distinguished body of scholarly work, including artistic production and/or performance, that makes a significant contribution to one's field or has a broad impact on the scholarly community.

HONORED LECTURER

Sarah J. Purcell

L.F. Parker Professor of History
Grinnell College

Sarah J. Purcell is a highly accomplished scholar and teacher who has provided exemplary service to her field, her students, her colleagues, and Grinnell College since 2000. Purcell earned her Bachelor of Arts degree with honors in history at Grinnell College. She continued her education at Brown University, where she earned an A.M. and a Ph.D. Prior to joining the faculty at Grinnell, Purcell was an assistant professor of history at Central Michigan University. Since 2016, she has served as the L.F. Parker Professor of History for Grinnell College, an honor named for Leonard Fletcher Parker, who began teaching at Grinnell in 1860 and served as the college's Professor of History from 1888 until 1898. From 2008 until 2017, Purcell also served as the Director of the Rosenfield Program in Public Affairs, International Relations, and Human Rights.

Purcell primarily trained as a historian of the American Revolution; her first book, *Sealed with Blood: War, Sacrifice, and Memory in Revolutionary America*, examined the role that public memorials and commemorations of Revolutionary War heroes helped America forge a new national identity—and the ways in which Americans used narratives of their own roles in the war to build their credibility, political capital, and fortunes. Her forthcoming book, *Spectacle of Grief: Public Funerals and Memory in the Civil War Era*, returns to the subject of public memory by exploring the impact of the large-scale public funerals of figures like Frederick Douglass, Henry Clay, Robert E. Lee, and Charles Sumner. She has authored or co-authored several more books, as well as numerous articles and book chapters. She has recently begun a new project, which will investigate the long and contested history of the Bunker Hill Monument. She continues to investigate the ways that memory and commemoration have shaped important and often disputed U.S. national identities.

Purcell has offered outstanding courses in United States and transnational history, including courses on the American, French, and Haitian revolutions, nineteenth century popular culture and politics, and the Civil War in history and memory. A creative and inspiring teacher, she has embraced the digital humanities (helping to launch the College's Digital Studies concentration) and collaborated with the local school system. She is most notable, though, for being a champion of student research. Although history is not a field with a strong tradition of faculty-student research collaboration, Purcell has been an extremely prolific mentor of undergraduate research students (supervising over 60 Mentored Advanced Projects). Her work in digital history—which has focused on using digital maps to better understand public mourning—was sparked in part by her interest in developing meaningful ways to collaborate with students in her own research. For her outstanding work as a research mentor, Purcell earned the Council for Undergraduate Research's inaugural Excellence in Mentoring Undergraduate Research in the Social Sciences award in 2019.

Purcell was nominated and selected by her peers to be honored as the eighth annual Grinnell Lecturer on February 10, 2022.

Acknowledgement of Student Collaborators

Sarah Purcell wishes to thank and to acknowledge the following thirty Grinnell students whose research projects contributed to the scholarship in her new book, from which the Grinnell Lecture is taken: Katy Alexander '07, Peter Bautz '15, Becky Bessinger Bobba '09, Amanda Borson '13, Irene Bruce '15, Katharine Dean '10, Abby Doudna '20, Amy Drake '08, Ethan Drutchas '12, Tom Elliott '11, Justin Erickson '10, Anthony Fitzpatrick '18, Hayes Gardner '15, Emily Hackman '16, Sam Jones '05, Joey Kathan '15, Sara Lowenburg '13, Evan Ma '14, Eric Mistry '14, Sam Nakahira '19, Katie Orsund '19, Holly Lutwitz Rapp '08, Vince Reilly '19, Jon Richardson '10, Liz Sawka '15, Connor Schake '14, Christian Snow '13, Liz Stepp '19, Sean Warlick '08, and Charun Upara '21.

REFEREED ARTICLES

Published by faculty between Jan. 1, 2021, and Dec. 31, 2021

Leah Allen, “From New Criticism to Postcritique: Kate Millett’s Method in the History of the Present,” *Criticism: A Quarterly for Literature and the Arts*, 63(4):381–407, 2021.

Adey Almohsen, “Arab Critical Culture and Its (Palestinian) Discontents After the Second World War,” *Arab Studies Journal*, 29(1):56–83, 2021.

Jenny Anger, “Sonja Sekula and ‘Art of the Mentally Ill,’” *American Art*, 35(1):94–113, 2021.

Matthew D. Turner, Tanya Carney, Laura Lawler, Julia Reynolds, Lauren Kelly, Molly S. Teague, and **Leif Brottem**, “Environmental rehabilitation and the vulnerability of the poor: The case of the Great Green Wall,” *Land Use Policy*, 111:105750, 2021.

Robert R. Cadmus, Jr., “The Relationship between Photometric Measurements and Visual Magnitude Estimates for Red Stars,” *The Astronomical Journal* 161(75), 2021.

Marc Chamberland & Armin Straub, “Apéry Limits: Experiments and Proofs”, *The American Mathematical Monthly*, 128(9):811–824, 2021.

Hollis Akins ‘22, **Charlotte Christensen**, Alyson Brooks, Ferah Munshi, Elaad Appelbaum, Anna Engelhardt ‘22, and Lucas Chamberland ‘21, “Quenching Timescales of Dwarf Satellites around Milky Way-mass Hosts,” *The Astrophysical Journal*, 2021, 909, 2,

Dustin Dixon and **John Garrison**, “The Spectacle of Helen in Euripides’ Helen and Marlowe’s Doctor Faustus,” *Classical Receptions Journal*, 13:159–177, 2021.

Barry Driscoll, “Big Man or Boogey Man? The concept of the Big Man in political science,” *Journal of Modern African Studies*, published online February 3, 2021.

Timothy E. Burnette ‘19 and **Vincent M. Eckhart**, “Evolutionary divergence of potential drought adaptations between two subspecies of an annual plant: Are trait combinations facilitated, independent,

or constrained?” *American Journal of Botany*, 108(2):309–319, 2021.

Erin Beckman, Keisha Cook, **Nicole Eikmeier**, Sarai Hernandez-Torres, and Matthew Junge, “Chase-escape with death on trees,” *The Annals of Probability*, 49(5):2530–2547, 2021.

Riti Bahl, **Nicole Eikmeier**, Alexandra Fraser, Matthew Junge, Felicia Keesing, Kukai Nakahata, and Lily Reeves” Modeling COVID-19 Spread in Small Colleges,” *PLOS ONE*, 16(8):e0255654, 2021.

Mari Kawakatsu, Philip S. Chodrow, **Nicole Eikmeier**, and Daniel B. Larremore, “Emergence of hierarchy in networked endorsement dynamics,” *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 118(16):e2015188118, 2021.

Jin Feng, “From Shrimp to Foie Gras: Tales of Food, Gender, and Power in Contemporary China,” *Global Food History*, published online October 7, 2021.

Christopher French and Paul-Hermann Zieschang, “Rings Arising from Finite Tight Hypergroups,” *Journal of Algebra*, 569:544–567, 2021.

Eleanor Glewwe, “The phonological determinants of tone in English loanwords in Mandarin,” *Phonology*, 38(2):203–239, 2021.

Christopher E. Brunet ‘19, Eva R.C. Gemrich ‘20, Savanna Biedermann ‘18, **Peter J. Jacobson**, Keith E. Schilling, Christopher S. Jones, and **Andrew M. Graham**, “Nutrient capture in an Iowa farm pond: Insights from high-frequency observations,” *Journal of Environmental Management*, 299:113647, 2021.

H. Jaymi Elsass, Jaelyn Schildkraut, **Ross Haenfler**, Brian V. Klocke, Eric Madfis, and Glenn W. Muschert, “Moral Panic, Fear of Crime, and School Shootings: Does Location Matter?” *Sociological Inquiry*, 91(2):426–454, 2021.

Ross Haenfler, “Subcultural Meanings: Emergence, Divergence, and Persistence in Straight Edge,” *Granite of Science: Scientific and Popular Journal*, 7:58–65, 2021.

REFEREED ARTICLES

Published by faculty between Jan. 1, 2021, and Dec. 31, 2021

David Harrison, “Keeping on the Mask: Madame de Villedieu’s *Annales galantes* and the Pleasures of Not Revealing History,” *Symposium: A Quarterly Journal in Modern Literatures*, 75(2): 92-105, 2021.

Dreycen Foiles ‘21 and **Keisuke Hasegawa**, “Theoretical approach for modeling LSPR biosensors for the detection of biopolymer nucleation,” *Applied Optics*, 60(30): 9303–9310, 2021.

Susan Ireland and Patrice J. Proulx, “Infernal Journeys in Marie-Célie Agnant’s *Femmes au temps des carnassiers*,” *Québec Studies*, 71(1):111-132, 2021.

Sarah Evans ‘05, Katherine E. O. Todd-Brown, **Kathryn Jacobson**, and **Peter Jacobson**, “Non-rainfall moisture: A key driver of microbial respiration from standing litter in arid, semiarid, and mesic grasslands,” *Ecosystems*, 23:1154–1169, 2021.

J. Robert Logan ‘13, **Kathryn M. Jacobson**, **Peter J. Jacobson**, and Sarah E. Evans ‘05, “Fungal communities on standing litter are structured by moisture type and constrain decomposition in a hyper-arid grassland,” *Frontiers in Microbiology*, 12:596517, published online February 24, 2021.

Anthony J. Wenndt ‘15, Sarah E. Evans ‘05, Anne D. van Diepeningen, J. Robert Logan ‘15, **Peter J. Jacobson**, Mary K. Seely, and **Kathryn M. Jacobson**, “Why Plants Harbor Complex Endophytic Fungal Communities: Insights From Perennial Bunchgrass *Stipagrostis sabulicola* in the Namib Sand Sea,” *Frontiers in Microbiology*, 12:691584, published online June 8, 2021.

Stephanie P. Jones and **Robert P. Robinson**, “Reflections on the Politics of Professionalism: Critical Autoethnographies of Anti-Blackness in the ELA Classroom,” *Northwest Journal of Teacher Education*, 16(2):article 13, 2021.

Stephanie P. Jones and John S. Osler III ‘20, “Disrupting the Teacher-Character in YA,” *English Journal*, 110(4):111-114, 2021.

Stephanie P. Jones and Rossina Zamora Liu, “Being Needed but not wanted: Antiracism in English Curriculum, Practice & Culture,” *English Teaching: Practice & Critique*, 20(4):413-419, 2021.

Noah Jacobson ‘20, Quinn Berleman-Paul ‘21, Madhur Mangalam, **Damian G. Kelty-Stephen**, and **Christopher Ralston**, “Multifractality in postural sway supports quiet eye training in aiming tasks: A study of golf putting,” *Human Movement Science*, 76:102752, published online January 16, 2021.

Justin A Courson, Paul T Landry, Thao Do, Eric Spehlmann, **Pascal J Lafontant**, Nimesh Patel, Rolando E Rumbaut, and Alan R Burns, “Serial Block-Face Scanning Electron Microscopy (SBF-SEM) of Biological Tissue Samples,” *Journal of Visualized Experiments : JoVE*, 169 10.3791/62045, published online March 26, 2021.

Logan M. Lee and Glen R. Waddell, “Race, Gender, and the Timing of Preferences in Hiring Games,” *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, 184:432-459.

Yiyang Zhu ‘21, Claire I.C. Warrenfelt ‘21, Jill C. Flannery ‘21, and **Clark A. Lindgren**, “Extracellular protons mediate presynaptic homeostatic potentiation at the mouse neuromuscular junction,” *Neuroscience*, 467:188–200, 2021.

Stephen X. Zhang ‘13, **Elaine M. Marzluff**, and **Clark A. Lindgren**, “Quantitative determination of nitric oxide from tissue samples using liquid chromatography – mass spectrometry,” *MethodsX*, 8:101412, 2021.

Emily M. Kozik ‘20, **Elaine M. Marzluff**, and **Clark A. Lindgren**, “Evidence of NAAG-family tripeptide NAAG2 in the *Drosophila* nervous system,” *Journal of Neurochemistry*, 156:38–4, 2021.

Tamara McGavock, “Here Waits the Bride? The effect of Ethiopia’s child marriage law,” *Journal of Development Economics*, 149:102580, 2021.

REFEREED ARTICLES

Published by faculty between Jan. 1, 2021, and Dec. 31, 2021

Anne M. Cleary, **Joseph Neisser**, Timothy McMahan, Thomas D. Parsons, Abdulrhman Alwaki, Noah Okada, Armin Vosoughi, Ammar Kheder, Daniel L. Drane, and Nigel P. Pedersen, "Subjective Distinguishability of Seizure and Non-seizure Déjà Vu: A Case Report, Brief Literature Review, and Research Prospect," *Epilepsy and Behavior*, 125:108373, 2021.

Nick Phillips, "Digital Cities, Digital Crimes: Mapping Spanish Detective Fiction," *Hispania*, 104(4):641-652, 2021.

Michellie Thurman '19, Haonan Sun '18, Sam Kubica '16, and **Vida Praitis**, "The *slo-1* BK potassium channel interacts genetically with *pmr-1* secretory pathway calcium ATPase during *C. elegans* embryonic cell migration," *microPublication biology*, published online January 14, 2021.

Craig Quintero, "Generous Acts - Performances for an Audience of One as a Pedagogical Practice," *Theatre Topics*, 31(1):55-64, 2021.

Javier Samper Vandrell, "Queer Utopia in Klaus Mann's *Der fromme Tanz*," *German Quarterly*, 94(1):35-50, 2021.

David James Savarese and **Ralph Savarese**, "Enmeshing Selves, Words and Media, or Two Life

Writers in One Family Talk about Art and Disability," *Er(r)go. Theory-Literature-Culture*, 43:111-129., 2021

Eiren Shea, "The Spread of Gold Thread in the Mongol Period," *Journal of Song Yuan Studies*, 50:381-415, 2021.

Eiren Shea, "Intentional Identities: Liao Women's Dress and Cultural and Political Power," *Acta Via Serica*, 6(2):1-24, 2021.

Erik Simpson, "Blackface Othellos and Irish Melodies: James Joyce's Minstrelsy," *ELH: English Literary History*, 88(3):715-42, 2021.

Nikolas Sweet, "Talk on the move: articulating mobility in West Africa," *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, published online May 31, 2021.

Ziwen Chen '20, Zixuan Guo '22, and **Jerod Weinman**, "Improved Point Transformation Methods For Self-Supervised Depth Prediction," *18th Conference on Robots and Vision (CRV)*, pp. 111-118, 2021.

Paula K.S. Yust, Jingxuan Liu, and Bridgette M. Hard, "Course belonging and engagement in introductory psychology: Why they matter and what predicts them," *Scholarship of Teaching and Learning in Psychology*, 7:206-227, 2021.

AWARDS AND HONORS

2021

Susan Ferguson received the American Sociological Association's 2021 Distinguished Contributions to Teaching Award.

Bill Ferguson's book, *The Political Economy of Collective Action, Inequality, and Development* (Stanford University Press, 2020), received the Bronze Award in Economics from Axiom Business Books in March 2021.

Logan Lee's paper "Far from Home and All Alone: The Impact of Prison Visitation on Recidivism," was the runner up for the *American Law and Economics*

Review's Distinguished Article Prize (for articles published in that journal in 2019).

Eric Ohrn, with his collaborators Daniel Garrett (Penn) and Juan Carlos Suarez Serrato (Duke), received the International Institute of Public Finance Peggy and Richard Musgrave Prize for their paper "Effects of International Tax Provision on Domestic Labor Markets."

Ralph Savarese's poem "Clown Palace," published in *Red Wheelbarrow*, was nominated for a Pushcart Prize.

BOOKS PUBLISHED

2021

Julia Bauder, *Data Literacy in Academic Libraries: Teaching Critical Thinking with Numbers*, ALA Editions, 2021.

Dustin Dixon and **John Garrison**, *Performing Gods in Classical Antiquity and the Age of Shakespeare*, Bloomsbury Studies in Classical Reception, Bloomsbury Academic, 2021.

Caleb Elfenbein, *Fear in Our Hearts: What Islamophobia Tells Us about America*, North American Religions, New York University Press, 2021.

Emma Depledge, **John S. Garrison**, and Marissa Nicosia (editors), *Making Milton: Print, Authorship, Afterlives*, Oxford University Press, 2021.

Nancy M. Thompson and **Anne Harris**, *Medieval Art 250-1450 Matter, Making, and Meaning*, Oxford University Press, 2021.

Harold Kasimow, *Love or Perish – A Holocaust Survivor’s Vision for Interfaith Peace*, iPub Global Connection, 2021.

Barbara Trish and Bill Menner, *Inside the Bubble: Campaigns, Caucuses, and the Future of the Presidential Nomination Process*, Routledge, 2021.

CHAPTERS PUBLISHED

2021

Jenny Anger, “Midcentury Multiplicity,” in *A Future We Begin to Feel: Women Artists 1921-1971*, Rosenberg and Co., 2021.

Caleb Elfenbein, Farah Bakaari ‘19, and Julia Schafer ‘18, “Mapping Anti-Muslim Hostility and its Effects,” in *Digital Humanities and Research Methods in Religious Studies: An Introduction*, edited by Christopher D. Cantwell and Kristian Petersen, De Gruyter, 2021.

Miju Ahn, **Nicole Eikmeier**, Jamie Haddock, Lara Kassab, Alona Kryshchenko, Kathryn Leonard, Deanna Needell, R.W.M.A. Madushani, Elena Sizikova, and Chuntian Wang, “On Large-Scale Dynamic Topic Modeling with Nonnegative CP Tensor Decomposition,” in *Advances in Data Science*, edited by Ilke Demir, Yifei Lou, Xu Wang, and Kathrin Welker, Springer, Cham, 2021.

Jin Feng, “Internet Literature,” in *Literary Information in China: A History*, edited by Jack W. Chen, Anatoly Detwyler, Xiao Liu, Christopher M. B. Nugent, and Bruce Rusk, Columbia University Press, 2021.

Jin Feng, “Cook for a Better Life: The Economy of Food and Sex in Chinese Web Romance,” in *The Routledge Companion to Love*, edited by Ann Brooks, Routledge, 2021.

Cori Jakubiak, “The possibility of critical language awareness through volunteer English teaching abroad,” in *Anti-Oppressive Education in “Elite” Schools: Promising Practices & Cautionary Tales from the Field*, edited by Katy Swalwell and Daniel Spikes, Teachers College Press, 2021.

Phil Jones and **Chris Jones**, “Research Tutors at Grinnell College: Collaborating and Transforming,” in *Training Research Consultants: A Guide for Academic Libraries*, edited by Jennifer Torreano and Mary K. O’Kelly, American Library Association, 2021.

Stephanie Patrice Jones, “DIY Activism: The dialogical influence of Bakhtin in POC activist zine culture,” in *Independent DIY Publications and the Underground Urban Cultures*, edited by Paula Guerra and Pedro Quintela, Universidade do Porto, 2021.

CHAPTERS CONTRIBUTED TO PUBLISHED BOOKS

2021

Carolyn Herbst Lewis, “Suburban Swing: Heterosexual Marriage and Spouse Swapping in the 1950s and 1960s,” in *Heterosexual Histories*, edited by Rebecca L. Davis and Michele Mitchell, New York University Press, 2021.

Elizabeth Rodrigues and Rachel Schnepfer, “After Autonomy: Digital Humanities Practices in Small Liberal Arts Colleges and Higher Education as Collaboration,” in *People, Practice, Power: Digital Humanities outside the Center*, edited by Anne B. McGrail, Angel David Nieves, and Siobhan Senior, University of Minnesota Press, 2021.

Eiren Shea, “Chinese Textiles in Mamluk Tombs: Maritime Trade and Cultural Exchange in the Fourteenth Century,” in *The Seas and the Mobility of Islamic Art*, edited by Radha Dalal, Sean Roberts, and Jochen Sokoly, Yale University Press, 2021.

Nikolas Sweet, “The Socio-poetics of Sanakuyaagal: Negotiating Joking Relationships in West Africa,” in *African Performance Arts as Political Acts*, edited by Naomi André, Yolanda Covington-Ward, and Jendele Hungbo, University of Michigan Press, 2021.

CREATIVE WORKS

2021

Matthew Kluber, “Split Infinitives” solo exhibition, Haw/Contemporary, Kansas City, MO, June 18-August 6, 2021.

Matthew Kluber, “Split Infinitives” solo exhibition, David Richard Gallery, New York City, September 29-October 2, 2021.

Celeste Miller, “Accept the Poetics of Aging,” experimental film shown at the Curious Encounters Festival, December 9-12, 2021.

Celeste Miller, “Accept the Poetics of Aging,” experimental film shown at the Poetics of Aging Festival, July 11-12, 2021.

Eric McIntyre served as Music Director and Conductor for the Central Iowa Symphony.

Mirzam Pérez’s paintings and visual art were featured in the following exhibitions:

3rd All Women International Online Juried Art Exhibition, J. Mane Gallery, January 2021 (online).

February Group Art Show, Jones Gallery, Kansas City, Kansas, February 3-25 2021.

Deep South by Suroeste: COMPLEXION REFLEXIOS group art exhibition, Stella Jones Gallery, New Orleans, LA, May 1-July 31, 2021

Spectrum-Gestalt 8 Exhibit, bG Gallery, Santa Monica, CA, June 12-July 5, 2021.

The New Now multi-sited exhibition, Artspace 3116 Gallery, New Orleans, LA, November 2021- February 2022.

Pearson Biennial: Working from Home, Pearson Lakes Art Center, Okoboji, Iowa, Nov 11, 2021-March 6, 2022.

Craig Quintero directed the theatrical performance “The Forgotten,” as part of the “2021 ARTQUAKE in Autumn” festival of the Taiwan National Theatre, November 6-7, 2021.

Craig Quintero’s exhibition “Pools of Light” was featured in the 2021 International Human Rights Festival of the National Human Rights Museum in New Taipei City, Taiwan.

Craig Quintero’s exhibition “The Weight of Things,” was featured in the Taiwan Contemporary Culture Lab’s Future Media Arts Festival in 2021.

CREATIVE WORKS

2021

Stephen Kuusisto and **Ralph James Savarese**, *Someone Falls Overboard: Talking through Poems*, Nine Mile Art Corp, March 15, 2021.

Ralph James Savarese, *Did We Make It?* (chapbook with paintings by Tilly Woodward), *Hole in the Head Review* 2.2, May 1, 2021.

Ralph James Savarese also published the following poems in 2021:

- “Claw,” *Hole in the Head Review*, 2(1), February 2, 2021.
- “Frontier Thesis,” *Leviathan: A Journal of Melville Studies*, 23(1):105, March 2021.
- “COVID Dying,” *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 325(16), April 27, 2021.
- “Almond,” *Entropy*, April 29, 2021.
- “The Big Ask,” *Entropy*, April 29, 2021.
- “Set,” *One Art*, May 13, 2021.
- “Replaced,” *Mollyhouse*, Issue 3, July 17, 2021 (under the pen name Francis Goodman).
- “What in Soil?” *Mollyhouse*, Issue 3, July 17, 2021 (under the pen name Francis Goodman).
- “Yours,” *Galway Review*, July 23, 2021.
- “Gud,” *Galway Review*, July 23, 2021.
- “Polyps,” *Galway Review*, July 23, 2021.
- “Chitinous,” *Galway Review*, July 23, 2021.
- “The Difference Between Die and Dice,” *Red Wheelbarrow: National Edition*, November 22, 2021.
- “Cut Up,” *Red Wheelbarrow: National Edition*, November 22, 2021.
- “Arrow,” *2River*, 25(2), December 1, 2021.
- “Swallow,” *2River*, 25(2), December 1, 2021.
- “Kiss,” *One Art*, December 16, 2021.
- “Christmas Peas,” *One Art*, December 16, 2021.
- “Lucky,” *Disability Studies Quarterly*, 41(2), 2021.
- “Miguel, Meet Charlotte,” *Disability Studies Quarterly*, 41(2), 2021.
- “Punch,” *Disability Studies Quarterly*, 41(2), 2021.
- “Tax Cut,” *Disability Studies Quarterly*, 41(2), 2021.
- “When I Was a Tennis Pro,” *Aethlon: The Journal of Sport Literature*, XXXVII(2):67–72, 2021.
- “A Nursing Home Resident Considers the Future,” *Softblow*, 2021.

“Breath,” *Softblow*, 2021.

“Floor Mats,” *Softblow*, 2021.

“Typhoid Mary Longs to Cook,” *Softblow*, 2021.

“Distinctions,” *Main Street Rag*, 26(2), 2021.

“Fists,” *Months to Years*, 2021.

Paula Smith, “Summer” (poem, audio recording), Telepoem Booth Iowa, 2021.

Nicky Tavares, virtual screening of *Untitled Bee Film, Searching for Beauty in Student Loan Debt or at Least the Envelopes in Which It Comes, Garfunkel Is Dead, Call Me by Heart, and Notes from the Lower Rungs on Being Chronically Tan and Enflamed*, Public Space One, Iowa City, Iowa, May 13, 2021

Nicky Tavares, screening of *Notes from the Lower Rungs on Being Chronically Tan and Enflamed*, Shapeshifters Cinema, Oakland, California, March 29, 2021

Nicky Tavares, screening of *Searching for Beauty in Student Loan Debt or at Least the Envelopes in Which It Comes*, “Commingle Containers: Echoes from the Bay” exhibition at San Francisco Cinematheque, December 10, 2020-January 10-2021.

Nicky Tavares, screening of *Searching for Beauty in Student Loan Debt or at Least the Envelopes in Which It Comes*, Peripheries: Experimental Film & Video Festival, Boston, MA, April 10-15, 2021.

Justin Thomas, visual artist and production designer for *A Cosmic Fairy Tale a Day Keeps the Doctor Away* (Production Designer and Visual Artist), virtual production of Theatre Gigante, 2021. Selected videos were screened at the 2021 Milwaukee Fringe Festival.

Justin Thomas, scenic designer and scenic artist for *Our Town*, Hamline University, St. Paul, Minnesota, November 12-20, 2021.

Justin Thomas, scenic and projection designer for *Songs for a New World*, Farmers Alley Theatre, Kalamazoo, Michigan, October 8-24.

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2021

Sherif Abdelkarim was selected to participate in the NEH Summer Seminar “Law and Culture in Medieval England,” hosted by Western Michigan University.

Adey Almohsen received a research grant from the Palestinian Museum in Ramallah for a project on the history of printing in Jerusalem.

Leif Brottem and his collaborator Matthew Turner (Wisconsin-Madison) received a grant through the U.S. Embassy in Abuja’s Public Diplomacy Small Grants program for a project entitled, “Re-imagining land and identity in Nigeria: Towards inclusive agro-pastoral institutions.”

Vance Byrd was selected to participate in the NEH Summer Seminar “The Visual Culture of the American Civil War and Its Aftermath,” hosted by Graduate Center, City University of New York.

Vance Byrd received a National Humanities Center Fellowship to work on his second monograph, *Listening to Panoramas: Sonic and Visual Cultures of Commemoration*.

Vance Byrd received a Humanities Unbounded Visiting Faculty Fellowship from Duke University to work on his second monograph, *Listening to Panoramas: Sonic and Visual Cultures of Commemoration*.

Vance Byrd received a Getty Scholar Grant from the Getty Research Institute for a project entitled “Opening the Wounds: Fragmentation and Repair as Physical and Material Methodology in Mark Bradford’s ‘Pickett’s Charge.’”

Lesley Delmenico received a grant from the Evanston (IL) Arts Council for the creation of a multi-sited, community-engaged performance entitled *At Home in Evanston*.

Dustin Dixon received a Franklin Grant from the American Philosophical Society and the British Academy to conduct research at the Institute for

Classical Studies in London for a project entitled “Myth and the Craft of Comedy in Ancient Greece and Rome.”

Dustin Dixon received a grant from the Loeb Classical Library Foundation to conduct research at the Institute for Classical Studies in London for a project entitled “Myth and the Craft of Comedy in Ancient Greece and Rome.”

Jennifer Dobe received a New Currents in Teaching Philosophy Implementation Grant from the Council of Independent Colleges to explore implementing a program of peer mentoring in Grinnell’s Philosophy Department.

Nicole Eikmeier was named a Scialog Fellow by the Research Corporation for Science Advancement and, with collaborators Tavis Anderson (U.S. Department of Agriculture) and Cheryl Andam (SUNY-Albany), received a Scialog Collaboration Grant for a project entitled, “Darwin’s Naturalization Conundrum Predicts Inter-species Pathogen Transmission Potential.”

John Garrison was named a Fellow by the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation in support of his work on the concept of memory in Shakespeare’s poetry.

John Garrison received a Summer Stipend from the National Endowment for the Humanities in support of his next book project, *The Pleasures of Memory in Shakespeare’s Sonnets*.

John Garrison received a Short-Term Research Fellowship from the Renaissance Society of America in support of his next book project, *The Pleasures of Memory in Shakespeare’s Sonnets*.

Patrick Inglis received a Franklin Grant from the American Philosophical Society to pursue work on his second book, *Paying It Forward: The Promise and Burden of a Good Education*.

Shuchi Kapila received a Fulbright Scholar Grant to travel to India to complete the research for and

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS AWARDED

2021

write her second book, which deals with memory and memorialization of the Indian partition of 1947.

Mark Laver received a Franklin Grant from the American Philosophical Society to complete a biography of Canadian musician, composer, and educator Phil Nimmons.

Eric Ohrn was selected as a 2021-2022 visiting scholar for the Opportunity & Inclusive Growth Institute of the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, where he is pursuing a project entitled “How Does Capital Investment Affect Workers? Evidence from Bonus Depreciation and Matched Employer-Employee Data.”

Daniel Oore received a Concept to Realization Grant from the Canada Council for the Arts for the creation of an electronic-acoustic sound-music project.

Peter-Michael Osera received a grant from the National Science Foundation’s Faculty Early Career Development program for a project entitled “Foundations and Applications of Constraint-based Synthesis.”

Sharon Quinsaat received the American Association of University Women’s American Postdoctoral Fellowship to complete her first monograph, *Contentious Migrants: How Protests Create a Filipino Diaspora*.

Craig Quintero received a grant from the Hong Foundation for artistic excellence.

Fredo Rivera received a Career Enhancement Fellowship from the Institute for Citizens and Scholars to complete his book project, *Within the Revolution: Art, Media & the Built Environment in 1960s Cuba*.

Brigitte Stepanov was selected to participate in the NEH Summer Seminar “The Search for Humanity After Atrocity,” hosted by Kean University.

Sejal Sutaria received a Franklin Grant from the American Philosophical Society to support her work on her book project, *Making Waves: Britain, India, and the Sounding of Postcolonial Resistance*.

Sejal Sutaria was selected to participate in the NEH Summer Seminar “Radio and Decolonization: Bringing Sound into 20th Century History,” hosted by the University of Denver.

Jerod Weinman received a Senior Summer Faculty Fellowship in the Office of Naval Research’s 2021 Summer Faculty Research Program, where he collaborated with the head of the Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR) Systems section on improving visual information processing systems.

Lesley Wright received a grant from the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation in support of the exhibition Paper Trails--Modern Indian Works on Paper, which will appear in the Grinnell College Museum in Fall 2022.

PRESENTATIONS AND CONFERENCE PAPERS

2021

Leah Allen, “‘Women’ without gender: ‘Sex’ in second wave feminist literary criticism and theory” at the American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA) conference, April 9, 2021.

Yvette Aparicio, “Making and Retelling the Salvadoran Civil War,” Midwest Modern Language Association (MMLA) Convention, November 4-7, 2021.

Yvette Aparicio, “Retelling the Salvadoran Civil War: The Named and the Nameless,” XXVII Congreso Internacional de Literatura y Estudios Hispánicos (CILH), March 4-6, 2021.

Todd Armstrong, “An Appetite for Peace: towards a Culinary Dostoevsky,” Tenth International Council for Central and East European Studies (ICCEES) World Congress 2020, August 3-6, 2021.

Todd Armstrong, “Beyond Patriotism in Olga Tokarczuk’s *Prowadź swój pług przez kości umarłych*,” The International Association for the Humanities (MAG) Congress 2020: *Пераўтвараючы/Cultural Transformations*, June 22-24, 2021.

Timothy Arner, “Teaching the Medieval in the Digital Age: A Round Table Discussion,” Leeds International Congress on Medieval Studies, July 5-9, 2021.

Timothy Arner, “The VR Beowulf Project: Visiting Heorot,” Leeds International Congress on Medieval Studies, July 5-9, 2021.

Julia Bauder, “Data Literacy as Critical Information Literacy: Teaching Both via the Frame ‘Information Creation as a Process,’” Southeast Data Librarian Symposium, October 13-15, 2021

Sarah Burnell, “Preparing Your Cross Country Athletes for the Next Level,” Iowa Track & Field Coaches Clinic, December 3-4, 2021.

Marc Chamberland, “Computer-assisted Proof of a Ramanujan Pi Formula,” AMS Fall Southeastern Sectional Meeting, November 20-21, 2021.

Yujing Chen, “From Fertility to Identity: Women’s Participation in Medicine Buddha Worship in Tang China,” 2021 Association for Asian Studies Conference, March 21-26, 2021.

Yujing Chen, “Gendered Prophecies: Foretelling Women’s Sex Change prior to their Achievement of Buddhahood,” 2021 Upper Midwest American Academy of Religion & Society of Biblical Literature Regional Meeting, April 9-11, 2021.

Charlie Curtsinger and **Jerod Weinman**, “PIPS: An Instruction Set Architecture for Teaching Computer Organization,” Workshop on Computer Architecture Education, June 17, 2021.

Dustin Dixon, “Reading, Spectating, and Comic Wit in Classical Athens,” Book and Print Initiative, School of Advanced Studies, University of London, October 7, 2021

Dustin Dixon, “A Brief History of Mythological Comedy from Epicharmus to Alexis,” Classical Association of the Middle, West, and South Annual Meeting. Cleveland, Ohio April 2021.

Nicole Eikmeier, “Efficient Generation of Clustered Hypergraphs,” SIAM Workshop on Discrete Mathematics, July 19-23, 2021.

Caleb Elfenbein, “Religion and Teaching in and Beyond the Classroom,” Center for Religion and American Culture, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, May 20, 2021.

Riccardo Morri ‘23 and **Fernanda Elliott**, “Redesigning a Moral-Inspired Computational Architecture to Emphasise the role of Empathy in Decision-Making,” Summer School on Current and Future Applications of Network and Control Sciences for Psychiatry, September 29-October 1, 2021.

Mingxuan He ‘22, Matthew Gao ‘23, Yang Gao ‘23, and **Fernanda M. Elliott**, “Cascading Failures and the Robustness of Cooperation in a Unified Scale-Free Network Model,” Tenth Annual Conference on Complex Networks and their Applications, November 30-December 2, 2021.

PRESENTATIONS AND CONFERENCE PAPERS

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Xinmiao Yu '23, Riccardo Morri '23, and **Fernanda Elliott**, "EDA, An Empathy-Driven Computational Architecture," 9th Workshop on Goal Reasoning at the 2021 Annual Conference on Advances in Cognitive Systems, November 15-18, 2021.

Yiyuan Yang, Kenneth Li, **Fernanda Elliott**, and Maithilee Kunda, "Do Time Constraints Re-Prioritize Attention to Shapes During Visual Photo Inspection?" 43th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, July 26-29, 2021.

Kate Kwasneski '21, Samuel W. Rueter '21, Ann E. Ellis, and **Lisa M. Oakes**, "Attention strategies and face learning in preschoolers," Biennial Meeting of The Society for Research in Child Development, April 7-9, 2021

Jin Feng, "Lost in Translation: Chinese Literature and World Literature at the International Writing Program (1979-1988)," The Thirteenth Triennial Congress of the Chinese Comparative Literature Association (CCLA), July 25-28, 2021.

Jin Feng, "Understanding Chinese Culture through its Food," Huawei Seeds for the Future Culture Series, The British Council Generation UK Program, June 2021.

Susan Ferguson and Stephen Sweet, "The Curriculum Mapping Toolkit: Taking the Guesswork out of Department Planning," Sociology Department Affiliate Webinar, American Sociological Association, June 2, 2021.

Susan Ferguson and Stephen Sweet, "Using the Curriculum Mapping Toolkit for Sociology to Improve Your Undergraduate Program," ASA Workshop for Department Leaders, American Sociological Association Meetings, August 6, 2021.

William Ferguson, "Foundational Developmental Dynamics: Power, Social Conflict, Institutional Formation, and Credible Commitment," Development Studies Association 2021 Annual Conference, June 29-July 1, 2021.

William Ferguson, "The Political Economy

of Establishing Credible Agreements: Political Settlements, Incentives, and the Configuration of Deals," Midwest Economics Association 85th Annual Conference, March 22-26, 2021

William Ferguson, "A Theory of Triadic Power with Applications to Leadership, Collective Action, and Institutional Evolution," Development Workshop, Department of Economics, Cornell University, October 28, 2021.

Brigitte French, "Memorias Mayas de Violencia: Características lingüísticas, discursivas y culturales," co-authored with Lolmay Pedro Oscar Garcia Matzar, Sexto Congreso de Forma y Analysis en la Linguística Maya (FAMLI), November 12-13, 2021.

Brigitte French, "Maya Memories of Violence: Epistemologies and Ontologies of Indigenous Survivorship," Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, November 20, 2021.

Katya Gibel Mevorach, "Multiple Identity Politics: The Passing Narratives of Dahn Ben-Amotz," Salo Baron New Voices in Jewish Studies Award Lecture, Fordham University's Center for Jewish Studies and Columbia University's Institute for Israel and Jewish Studies, February 24, 2021.

Katya Gibel Mevorach, "Strategic Interventions: uprooting racial taxonomy and challenging racism in science courses," Bioethics in Action II—RUEBES Research Unit on Everyday Bioethics and Ethics of Science Seminar Series, L'Altro Diritto Inter-university Research Centre Department of Legal Sciences, University of Florence, March 23, 2021.

Ross J. Haenfler, "'Nothing Less Than Total Liberation': Straight Edge Punk at the Intersection of Music Subculture and Protest." Pacific Sociological Association 2021 Conference, March 17-21, 2021.

Ross J. Haenfler, two untitled online panels,

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“Sketch a Subculture” Conference, European Academy of Sciences, of Ukraine, February 21-26, 2021.

David Harrison, “A Feminist Translation of La Princesse de Clèves?” North American Society for Seventeenth-Century French Literature, May 28-30, 2021.

David Harrison, “The Trauma of Disabled Telling: ‘Apoplexie’ at the Court of Louis XIV,” Modern Language Association National Convention, January 7-10, 2021.

Keisuke Hasegawa, “Biochemical and single-molecule investigation of the GFP-tagged RAD51 recombinase,” 13th Annual FUTURE in Biomedicine Symposium, Carver College of Medicine, University of Iowa, July 30, 2021.

Susan Ireland, “Infernal Journeys in Marie-Célie Agnant’s *Femmes au temps des carnassiers*,” Women in French UK-Ireland Biennial Conference, May 7-9 2021.

Phillip Jones, “Open Anthology of Iowa’s Literature: Sharing the Power of Regional History,” Iowa Council for the Social Studies Conference, October 4, 2021

Phillip Jones and Barbara Fister, “(Mis) information Literacy: A Virtual Chat with Barbara Fister of Project Information Literacy,” Project Information Literacy Provocation Series Online Panel Discussion, April 19, 2021.

Shuchi Kapila, “Race and Victorian Studies,” North American Victorian Studies Association in partnership with British Association of Victorian Studies conference, Jan 15, 2021.

Shuchi Kapila, “Practices of Memory” Department of English, IIS University, Jaipur, Rajasthan, May 13, 2021

Mark Laver, “Days of Sail to the Atlantic Suite: Drama, Narrative, and Form in Phil Nimmons’s Large Works,” JazzComposersPresent.com, December 15, 2021.

Mark Laver, “Jazz Canadiana: Jazz and Public Radio in Canada,” American Studies Association Annual Meeting, October 7-9, 2021

Logan Lee, “Race, Gender, and the Timing of Preference in Hiring Games,” Western Washington Seminar Series, January 2021.

Leslie J. Lyons and **Lee R. Sharpe**, “Pandemic response: A fully remote Instrumental Analysis course at Grinnell College,” Symposium on Virtual Learning in the Analytical Classroom, Division of Analytical Chemistry, American Chemical Society Meeting, August 22, 2021.

Steven Sharpe ‘21 and **Leslie J. Lyons**, “NMR diffusion studies of organosilyl ester and sulfone electrolytes for applications in lithium-ion batteries at low salt concentration,” Symposium on Innovative Chemistry and Materials for Electrochemical Energy Storage, Division of Energy and Fuels, American Chemical Society Meeting, April 5-16 2021.

Kyle W. Dixon-Anderson ‘21 and **Leslie J. Lyons**, “NMR diffusion studies of organosilyl ester and sulfone electrolytes for applications in lithium-ion batteries at higher salt concentration,” Symposium on Innovative Chemistry and Materials for Electrochemical Energy Storage, Division of Energy and Fuels, American Chemical Society Meeting, April 5-16, 2021.

Eric McIntyre, Video Concert Prelude Talk series for Des Moines Symphony:

- “Past and Present,” February 4, 2021
- “Spring Serenade,” March 11, 2021
- “Fireworks and Fanfare,” April 8, 2021
- “Fantaisie en Francais,” May 5, 2021

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Mishita Mehra and Daisoon Kim, “Skilled Immigration, Offshoring, and Trade,” European Economic Associations’ Econometric Society meetings, August 23-27, 2021.

Mishita Mehra and Daisoon Kim, “Skilled Immigration, Offshoring, and Trade,” Annual Allied Social Science Associations meeting, January 3-5, 2021.

Joseph Neisser, “Empirical Approaches to Consciousness Through Meta-Memory,” Emory University Neuromodulation Technology Innovation Forum (ENTICE), October 2021.

Tammy Nyden, Dionne Benson-Smith, and Angela Riccio, “Wisdom Collective: Our Practice, Our Methodology. Building Racial Equality In and Across Motherhood,” International Association of Motherhood Action and Scholarship (IAMAS) Conference, October 26, 2021.

Eric Ohrn, “Capital Investment and Labor Demand: Evidence from 21st Century Tax Policy,” Oxford University Centre for Corporate Taxation Economics Seminar, May 21, 2021

Eric Ohrn, “Corporate Tax Breaks and Executive Compensation,” University of British Columbia Economics Seminar, Spring 2021.

Titus H Klinge, James I Lathrop, **Peter-Michael Osera**, and Allison Rogers, “Reactamole: Functional Reactive Molecular Programming,” 27th International Conference on DNA Computing and Molecular Programming, September 13-16, 2021.

Tony Perman, “Zimbabwean Music in Iowa and the Gift of Debt,” Anthropology Seminar, Queen’s University Belfast, January 26, 2021.

Nick Phillips, “Using Digital Tools in Twentieth- and Twenty-First-Century Spanish and Iberian Studies,” Modern Language Association Annual Convention, January 7-10, 2021.

Viktoria Poetzl, “Klara Blum’s/Zhu Bailan’s Labour Activism in Eastern Europe and Beyond,” Women’s Labour Activism in Eastern Europe and Beyond, 19th and 20th Centuries international workshop, Central European University, October 14-16, 2021.

Viktoria Poetzl, “In Search of Feminism: Zionism, Socialism, and Communism in Klara Blum’s / Zhu Bailan’s transnational writings,” German Studies Association Annual Conference, September 30-October 1, 2021.

Jasper Yang ‘22, Sarina Kopf ‘22, Samuel Naik ‘22, and **Vida Praitis**, “Differential expression analysis of migrating cells in *C. elegans* embryogenesis,” 23rd International *C. elegans* Conference, June 21-24, 2021.

Stephany Dos Santos ‘21, **Vida Praitis**, Sarah Weltz ‘21, and Alyssa Hyndman ‘20, “The bli-4/proprotein convertase genetically interacts with pmr-1/calcium ATPase during cell migration in *Caenorhabditis elegans*,” 23rd International *C. elegans* Conference, June 21-24, 2021.

Sarah J. Purcell, “A Relic of Robert E. Lee: Gender, Memory, and a Numinous Object,” Archival Kismet, December 10-11, 2021.

Sarah J. Purcell, “Black Lives in the Founding Era,” Gilder Lehrman Institute Teacher Seminars/ Detroit Public Schools, 2021.

Sarah J. Purcell, “Public Martyr, Private Corpse: The Secret Burial of James W. Jackson and Confederate Nationalism,” Society for US Intellectual History Conference, October 28-30.

Sarah J. Purcell, “The Lives of Monuments: Bunker Hill,” Boston National Historic Park, March 4, 2021.

Sarah J. Purcell, “Politics in the Age of Denial,” New England Historical Association Annual Spring Conference, April 4, 2021.

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Sarah J. Purcell, Young Scholars' Panel, Society for Military History Annual Meeting, May 29-23, 2021.

Daniel Reynolds, "Multidirectional Memory Meets the Multitude," German Studies Association Annual Conference, September 30-October 1, 2021.

Daniel Reynolds, "Memory Travels in Tourism," Memory Studies Association Fifth Annual Conference, July 5-9, 2021.

Elias Saba, "Islamicizing Greek Knowledge: Al-Ghazali and Logic," Series on Islamic Intellectual Traditions, Wesleyan University, March 10, 2021.

Ralph Savarese, "Disability and Joy," Modern Language Association National Convention, January 7-10, 2021.

Ralph Savarese, "How Can Reading Be a Threat to Neurodiversity? Where's the Body? Disability, Reading, and the Senses," Modern Language Association National Convention, January 7-10, 2021.

Ralph Savarese, "The Difference that Neurodiversity Makes, Or Reading Novels with Autistic People, Carleton College Convocation, April 2, 2021.

Ralph Savarese, "The Discourse of Heterogeneity and 'Many Outcomes' in Autism: What Ends Does it Serve?" Duke University, April 1, 2021.

Mariko Schimmel, "The Grinnell Connection: Katayama Sen and the Social Gospel Movement," ASIANetwork Annual Conference, April 16-18, 2021.

Eiren Shea, "Quanzhou to Fustat: The Movement of Satin Damask in the Fourteenth Century" - NYU China Project-Silsila Workshop on Islamicate materials from China, New York University, 19 November 2021.

Eiren Shea, "Dressing the Part: Constructing Tatar/Mongol Identity at the Yuan Court" - Medieval Academy of America, Indiana University Bloomington, April 15-18, 2021.

Eiren Shea, "Authenticity and Imitation: The Spread of Gold Thread Making Techniques in the Mongol Period," Mongol Zoominar, Hebrew University, May 28, 2021.

Eiren Shea, "Gold on the Move: The Mongol Impact on 13th and 14th Century Asian and Mediterranean Textile Production," Yale University History of Art Department Medieval/Renaissance Forum, April 2, 2021.

Eiren Shea, "Hammered, Gilt, and Spun: Innovations in Gold Thread Technology during the Yuan dynasty," Hilary Term Late Medieval Seminar, Oxford University, January 26, 2021

Nicky Tavares, "covalent voices: perspectives from black hole collective film lab," San Francisco Cinematheque, January 9, 2021.

Bryce Cook '21, **Diana L. Thatcher**, **Andrew M. Graham**, Alan D. Wanamaker Jr., Rhawn F. Denniston, David P. Gillikin, Yemane Asmerom, Victor J. Polyak, and Caroline C. Ummenhofer, "A 2500-Year Record of Hydroclimate Variability as Evidenced by Laser Ablation Analysis of Trace Elements and Stable Isotopes in Portuguese Speleothems," Joint 55th Annual North-Central/55th Annual South-Central Section Meeting, Geological Society of America, April 17-20, 2021.

Justin M. Thomas, "Introduction to Audacity," United States Institute for Theatre Technology Annual Conference, March 10, 2021.

Hale Utar, "Firms and Labor in Times of Violence," Society for the Study of Economic Inequality (ECINEQ) Meeting, July 8-10, 2021.

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Hale Utar, “Technology Hubs or Backwater? Lessons on Structural Change from Germany’s Coal Regions,” North American Meeting of the Urban Economics Association, October 14-16, 2021.

Hale Utar, “Future Technology Hubs or Backwater? Lessons on Structural Change from Germany’s Coal Regions,” Trade, Technology, and Demographics, 6th International Conference of the DFG Priority Program 1764, June 11-18, 2021.

Hale Utar, “Globalization, Gender and the Family,” Iowa State University Department of Economics Seminar, February 22, 2021.

Hale Utar, “Globalization, Gender and the Family,” University of Cardiff Department of Economics Seminar, April 21, 2021.

Hale Utar, “Globalization, Gender and the Family,” Syracuse University Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, April 26, 2021.

Henry Walker, “Bias in Algorithms and the Misuse of Big Data”, Computer Science Colloquium, Sonoma State University, November 3, 2021.

IN MEMORIAM

Tyler Roberts

Professor of Religious Studies
Grinnell College, 1998-2021

Tyler Roberts was a scholar of religious studies. He received his B.A. from Brown University and his M.T.S and Th.D. from Harvard University. He arrived at Grinnell in 1998 after teaching at Boston College and Harvard University and served at the rank of Professor from 2008 onward. His first book, *Contesting Spirit: Nietzsche, Religion, Affirmation*, which was published by Princeton University Press in 1998, challenged traditional views of Nietzsche as an enemy of religion by exploring the transfiguration of religious tropes and practices in Nietzsche's philosophy. Roberts' other early work includes articles on Michael Walzer's vision of social criticism and the parallels between Augustine's concept of confession and Derrida's concept of deconstruction.

Roberts's second book, *Encountering Religion: Responsibility and Criticism After Secularism*, was published in Columbia University Press's series *Insurrections: Critical Studies in Religion, Politics, and Culture* in 2013. In this book, Roberts argued for a renewal of the humanistic study of religion, offering a critical history of religious studies as a discipline divided between anti-reductionist humanists who argue that religion must be studied on its own terms with interpretive methods and reductionist scholars who argue that the only legitimate goal of scholarship on religion is to explain religion in secular, natural terms. Roberts argued for a treatment of Religious Studies—and the humanities as a whole—as a site of “encounter” and “response.” Described by Charles Mathewes as “the single most consequential programmatic work on the study of religion in the past several decades,” *Encountering Religion* made a significant impact upon the field, earning Roberts speaking invitations at the 2014 American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting and at an NEH Summer Institute on “Problems in the Study of Religion.” An active advocate for the discussion of religion in public life, he was a senior fellow in the Project on Religion and Its Publics at the University of Virginia, which gathered a range of participants to bridge the gap between the academic study of religion and public discussions about religion.

Roberts taught courses on Christianity, philosophy of religion, and selected comparative topics. His exemplary record of service to Grinnell included co-authoring an NEH Humanities Focus grant which allowed the Department of Religious Studies to design a new introductory course; he also served on many College committees, including Executive Council (twice), the Personnel Committee, and (as chair), the Task Force on Teaching and Learning Across the Disciplines.

He passed away suddenly at the age of 63 on June 3, 2021. He was a beloved and respected teacher, mentor, friend, and colleague.



Grinnell College

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