

LISA ZUNSHINE

Department of English  
University of Kentucky  
Lexington, KY 40506-0027  
E-mail: lisa.zunshine@gmail.com

---

### **Education**

2000 Ph.D., English Literature, University of California, Santa Barbara  
1995 MA, Comparative Literature, University of California, Santa Barbara

### **Academic Appointments**

2008-present Bush-Holbrook Professor of English, University of Kentucky  
2006-2008 Associate Professor of English, University of Kentucky  
2000-2006 Assistant Professor of English, University of Kentucky

### **Monographs**

*The Secret Life of Literature*. Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press, forthcoming  
*Getting Inside Your Head: What Cognitive Science Can Tell Us About Popular Culture*.  
Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2012  
*Strange Concepts and the Stories They Make Possible: Cognition, Culture, Narrative*. Baltimore:  
The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2008  
*Why We Read Fiction: Theory of Mind and the Novel*. Columbus: The Ohio State University  
Press, 2006  
*Bastards and Foundlings: Illegitimacy in Eighteenth-Century England*. Columbus: The Ohio  
State University Press, 2005, paperback 2017

### **Guest-Edited Special Issues**

*Poetics Today*: "Cognitive Approaches to Comparative Literature," 41.2 (2020), forthcoming

### **Edited Books**

*The Oxford Handbook of Cognitive Literary Studies*. New York: Oxford UP, 2015  
*Approaches to Teaching the Works of John Dryden*. Co-edited with Jayne Lewis. New York:  
Modern Language Association, 2013  
*Introduction to Cognitive Cultural Studies*. Johns Hopkins University Press, 2010  
*Acting Theory and the English Stage, 1700-1830*. Five volumes. London: Pickering and Chatto,  
2009  
*Philanthropy and Fiction, 1698-1818*. London: Pickering and Chatto, 2006  
*Approaches to Teaching the Novels of Samuel Richardson*. Co-edited with Jocelyn Harris. New  
York: Modern Language Association, 2006  
*Nabokov at the Limits: Redrawing Critical Boundaries*. Routledge, 1999

### **Articles**

"Who Is He To Speak of My Sorrow?" *Poetics Today* 41.2 (2020): 223-41  
"Embodied Social Cognition and Comparative Literature: an Introduction," *Poetics Today*, 41.2

- (2020): 171-86
- “Cognitive Cultural Studies in Literature” [in Chinese]. *Cognitive Cultural Studies* 1.1 (2020), forthcoming
- “读心’文化” (“Mindreading Culture”), *认知诗学 (Cognitive Poetics)*, forthcoming
- “I Lie Therefore I Am.” *Approaches to Teaching The Plum in the Golden Vase (金瓶梅)*. Ed. Andrew Schonebaum. New York: MLA, forthcoming
- “Mindreading and Social Status.” *Further Reading*, eds. Matthew Rubery and Leah Price. New York: Oxford University Press, 2020. 257-270
- “What Mary Poppins Knew: Theory of Mind, Children’s Literature, History.” *Narrative* 27.1 (2019): 1-29
- “Groucho, Harpo, and Narrative Theory.” *Style* 52.1-2 (2018): 141-47
- “Think What You’re Doing, Or You’ll Only Make an Ugly Reputation for Yourself”: *Chin P’ing Mei (金瓶梅)*, Lying, and Literary History. *认知诗学 (Cognitive Poetics)*, December 2017: 44-62
- “Bakhtin, Theory of Mind, and Pedagogy: Cognitive Construction of Social Class.” *Eighteenth-Century Fiction* 30.1 (2017): 109-26
- “The Commotion of Souls.” *SubStance*, # 140, 45. 2 (2016): 118-142
- “Cognitive Approaches to Literature and *Honglou Meng*.” *认知诗学 (Cognitive Poetics)*, 2/1 (October 2016): 27-36.
- “The Secret Life of Fiction,” *PMLA* 130.3 (2015): 724-731. doi: 10.1632/pmla.2015.130.3.724
- Translated into Mandarin (虚构作品的秘密生活) for *Journal of Guangdong University of Foreign Studies* 27.4 (July 2016): 5-11

Co-authored with Whalen, D. H., Lisa Zunshine, Evelyne Ender, Jason Tougaw, Robert F. Barsky, Peter Steiner, Eugenia Kelbert, and Michael Holquist. “Validating judgments of perspective embedding: Further explorations of a new tool for literary analysis.” *Scientific Study of Literature* 6.2 (2016): 278-298

Co-authored with D. H. Whalen and Michael Holquist. “Increases in perspective embedding increase reading time even with typical text presentation: Implications for the reading of literature.” *Frontiers in Psychology* (November 2015) doi: 10.3389/fpsyg.2015.01778

“Why Fiction Does It Better.” *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, December 9 (2013): B4-B5

- [expanded version: “What Reading Fiction Has to Do With Doing Well Academically,” response to Peter Rabinowitz and Corinne Bancroft’s “Euclid at the Core: Re-centering Literary Education,” *Style* [2014] 87-92]

“From the Social to the Literary: Approaching Cao Xueqin’s *The Story of the Stone (Honglou meng 紅樓夢)* from a Cognitive Perspective.” In *The Oxford Handbook of Cognitive Literary Studies*, New York: Oxford UP, 2015. 176-96.

“Introduction to Cognitive Literary Studies.” In *The Oxford Handbook of Cognitive Literary Studies*, New York: Oxford UP, 2015. 1-9

Co-authored with Ralph James Savarese: “The Critic as Neurocosmopolite; Or, What Cognitive Approaches to Literature Can Learn from Disability Studies: Lisa Zunshine in Conversation with Ralph James Savarese.” *Narrative* 22.1 (January 2014), 17-44

- Co-authored with Douglas H. Whalen and Michael Holquist: "Theory of Mind and Embedding of Perspective: A Psychological Test of a Literary 'Sweet Spot.'" *Scientific Study of Literature* 22.2 (2012): 301-315
- "Theory of Mind as a Pedagogical Tool." *Interdisciplinary Literary Studies* 16.1 (2014): 89-109
- "Sociocognitive Complexity." *NOVEL: A Forum on Fiction* 45.1 (2013): 13-18
- "Cognitive Alternatives to Interiority." *Cambridge History of the English Novel*. Ed. Robert L. Caserio and Clement C. Hawes. Cambridge University Press, 2011. 147-162.
- "What to Expect When You Pick Up a Graphic Novel." *SubStance*, # 124, 40.1 (2011): 114-134
- "Style Brings In Mental States: A Response to Alan Palmer's 'Social Minds,'" *Style* 45.2 (2011): 349-356
- "1700-1775: Theory of Mind, Social Hierarchy, and the Emergence of Narrative Subjectivity." *The Emergence of Mind: Representations of Consciousness in Narrative Discourse in English*. Ed. David Herman. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2011. 161-186.
- "Theory of Mind and Michael Fried's *Absorption and Theatricality*: Notes Toward Cognitive Historicism." *Toward a Theory of Narrative Acts*. Ed. Frederick Aldama. University of Texas Press, 2010. 179-203
- "Lying Bodies of the Enlightenment: Theory of Mind and Cultural Historicism." *Introduction to Cognitive Cultural Studies*. Johns Hopkins University Press, 2010. 115-133
- "What is Cognitive Cultural Studies?" *Introduction to Cognitive Cultural Studies*. Johns Hopkins University Press, 2010. 1-33
- "Mind Plus: Sociocognitive Pleasures of *Northanger Abbey* and *Mansfield Park*." *Studies in Literary Imagination* 42.2 (Fall 2009): 89-109
- "Teoria della mente e romanzo poliziesco" ["Theory of Mind and Detective Fiction"]. *Neuronarratologia: Il futuro dell'analisi del racconto*. Ed. and trans. Stefano Calabrese. Bologna: Archetipolibri, 2009. 53-98
- "Theory of Mind and Fictions of Embodied Transparency." *Narrative* 16.1 (2008): 65-92
- Reprinted in *Theory of Mind and Literature*, eds. Paula Leverage, Howard Mancing, Richard Schweickert and Jennifer William. Purdue University Press, 2010. 63-90
- "Why Jane Austen Was Different, And Why We May Need Cognitive Science to See It." *Style* 41.3 (2007): 273-297
- Reprinted in *REAL—Yearbook of Research in English and American Literature* 24 (2008): 141-61
  - Translated into Hungarian and reprinted in *Helicon* (pub. by the Hungarian Academy of Sciences) 59.2 (2013): 178-190
- "Caught Unawares by a Benefactor: Embodying the Deserving Object of Charity in the Eighteenth-Century Novel." *The Eighteenth-Century Novel* 5 (2006): 37-65
- "Essentialism and Comedy: A Cognitive Reading of the Motif of Mislaid Identity in Dryden's *Amphitryon* (1690)," *Performance and Cognition: Theatre in the Age of New Cognitive Studies*. Ed. Bruce McConachie and F. Elizabeth Hart. Routledge, 2006. 97-121
- "Introduction." *Philanthropy and Fiction, 1698-1818*. London: Pickering and Chatto, 2006. vii-xxi

- “Can We Teach the ‘Deep Intersubjectivity’ of Richardson’s *Clarissa*?” *New Windows on a Woman's World: A Festschrift for Jocelyn Harris. Otago Studies in English*, 9. Dunedin, New Zealand: University of Otago, 2005. 88-99
- “The Spectral Hospital: Philanthropy and the Eighteenth-Century Novel.” *Eighteenth-Century Life*, 29.1 (2005), 1-22
- “Teaching *Sir Charles Grandison* to Undergraduates instead of *Pamela*,” *Approaches to Teaching the Novels of Samuel Richardson*. Ed. Zunshine and Harris. New York: Modern Language Association, 2005. 184-190
- “Introduction” and “Materials,” *Approaches to Teaching the Novels of Samuel Richardson*. Ed. Zunshine and Harris. New York: Modern Language Association, 2005. xi-xiii, 3-23
- “Bastard Daughters and Foundling Heroines: Rewriting Illegitimacy for the Eighteenth-Century Stage,” *Modern Philology* 102.4 (2005): 501-533
- “Richardson’s *Clarissa* and a Theory of Mind,” *The Work of Fiction: Cognition, Culture, and Complexity*. Ed. Alan Richardson and Ellen Spolsky. Ashgate Press, 2004. 127-146
- “Theory of Mind and Experimental Representations of Fictional Consciousness,” *Narrative* 11.3 (2003): 270-291
- Translated into Italian and reprinted in *Il verri* 56 (Ottobre 2014): 109-133
  - Reprinted in *The Critical Tradition: Classic Texts and Contemporary Trends*. Ed. David H. Richter, Bedford/St. Martin’s, 2006, 2016
  - Translated into Russian and reprinted in *Dialogue so Vremenem: Almanac of Intellectual History*. Moscow: KomKniga. 15 (2005): 263-292
  - Translated into Mandarin and reprinted in *Narrative* (Chinese Edition) 《叙事》 中国版 (第一辑), 2008: 71-9. Transl: 唐伟胜 博士 (Dr. Weisheng Tang)
- “Vladimir Nabokov and the Scriblerians,” *Nabokov at Cornell*. Ed. Gavriel Shapiro. Cornell University Press, 2003. 161-71
- “The Gender Dynamics of the Infanticide Prevention Campaign in Eighteenth-Century England and Richardson’s *History of Sir Charles Grandison*,” *Writing English Infanticide: Child-Murder, Gender, and Print, 1722-1859*. Ed. Jennifer Thorn. Newark: The University of Delaware Press, 2003. 145-171
- “Eighteenth-Century Print Culture and the ‘Truth’ of Fictional Narrative,” *Philosophy and Literature*, 25.2 (2001): 215-232
- “Rhetoric, Cognition, and Ideology in Anna Laetitia Barbauld’s 1781 *Hymns in Prose for Children*,” *Poetics Today*, 23.1 (2001): 231- 259
- “The Politics of Eschatological Prophecy and Dryden’s 1700 *The Secular Masque*.” *The Eighteenth Century: Theory and Interpretation*, vol. 41.3 (2000): 119-137
- “Nabokov’s ‘On Discovering a Butterfly’ and Pushkin’s ‘Exegi monumentum,’” *The Nabokovian* (2000): 38-42
- “Alexander Pope’s *The Rape of the Lock* and Vladimir Nabokov’s *Pale Fire*,” *Nabokov at the Limits: Redrawing Critical Boundaries*. New York: Routledge, 1999. 161-82
- “Introduction,” *Nabokov at the Limits: Redrawing Critical Boundaries*. New York: Routledge, 1999. xix-xxviii

### **Competitive Awards**

Bush-Holbrook Research Grant, 2008-present

Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship, 2007-2008  
 Travel Grant, Research and Creative Activities Program, the Office of the Vice President for Research, University of Kentucky, 2017  
 Research Minigrant, University of Kentucky, 2003-2019  
 Summer Faculty Research Fellowship. University of Kentucky, 2001, 2002, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007  
 Dactyl Foundation Grant. New York, 2004  
 Summer Stipend. National Endowment for Humanities, 2002  
 Southern Regional Education Board Faculty Awards Program Grant, 2001  
 Graduate Division Equal Opportunity Fellowship. University of California, Santa Barbara, 1999-2000  
 Graduate Division Dissertation Fellowship. University of California, Santa Barbara, 1999  
 Interdisciplinary Humanities Center (IHC) Predoctoral Fellowship. University of California, Santa Barbara, 1998  
 Catherine Macaulay Prize for the best graduate student paper on a feminist topic. “‘What door would it open to scandal...’: Female Philanthropy and the London Foundling Hospital.” Awarded by the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, 1998  
 Edna Steeves Prize for the best graduate student paper. “Preformation vs. Epigenesis and the Mission of the British Fleet.” Awarded by the Northeast American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, 1997  
 MLA Women’s Caucus Travel Grant, 1997

### **Guest Lectures, Plenaries, and Keynotes**

- “Mindreading: Cognitive Theory and Cultural Practice,” University of Oslo, Norway, 2020
- “What Are Writers Talking About When They Talk About Social Cognition,” Center for the Study of the Novel, Stanford University, 2020
- “Departments of Lost and Found Minds,” symposium “The Role of Narrative in the Natural Sciences and Humanities,” organized by The Center for Science and Society at Columbia University, New York, 2019
- “Approaches to Teaching Literature in the Age of Cognitive Science,” St. Petersburg State University (Smolny College), St. Petersburg, Russia, 2018
- “Мысли-матрешки и художественная литература,” The Herzen State Pedagogical University of Russia, St. Petersburg, Russia 2018
- “Visible Minds” (keynote), conference “Worlding the Brain,” organized by Aarhus Institute for Advanced Studies, the Religion, Cognition and Culture Research Unit, Interacting Minds Centre, and Center for Music in the Brain, Aarhus, Denmark 2018
- “Of Minds and Moomins” (keynote), Cognitive Approaches to Children's Literature Symposium, Cambridge University, UK, 2018
- “Culture of Greedy Mindreaders” (keynote), 3rd International Conference for cognitive poetics and cognitive literary studies, Beijing, China, 2017
- “The Secret Life of Fiction.” English Department, China University of Petroleum, Beijing, China 2017
- “Fantasies of Access,” workshop “Minds, Bodies, Intentions: Rethinking Renaissance Literature,” Durham University, UK, 2017
- “Minds at Work and Play: Teaching and Researching Across Disciplines” (keynote), Purdue Languages and Cultures Conference, Purdue University, 2017

- “Culture of Greedy Mindreaders,” Alumni Lecture Series, University of Alabama at Birmingham, 2017
- “Liars, Tricksters, and Cheaters: A Cognitive Hypothesis About Literary History” (keynote), The 5th Forum on Cognitive Poetics, Haikou, China, 2016
- “Why We Read Fiction,” Hainan Normal University, China, 2016
- “Cognitive Approaches to Literature and *Honglou Meng*” (keynote), The 2nd International Cognitive Poetics Conference and the 4th China Cognitive Poetics Conference, Guangdong University of Foreign Studies, Guangzhou, China, 2015
- “Theory of Mind (aka Mind-Reading) in the Classroom,” International Conference-Why the Humanities (plenary) Kent State University, 2015
- “Fiction and Theory of Mind,” Teachers College, Columbia University, 2015
- “Fiction and Social Cognition,” Jacob Marschak Interdisciplinary Colloquium on Mathematics in the Behavioral Sciences, UCLA, 2014
- “Nested Mental States as Units of Meaning in Fiction,” Science of Story and Imagination Symposium, Stanford University, 2014
- Cognitive Futures of the Humanities (plenary), Bangor University, United Kingdom, 2013
- “Minds at Work: Sociocognitive Complexity in Fiction,” CUNY Graduate Center, New York, 2013
- Department of Comparative Literature, University of Amherst, Massachusetts, 2012
- “Minds at Work: Cognitive Narratology,” Department of Aesthetics and Communication, Aarhus Universitet, Denmark, 2012
- “Minds at Work: Sociocognitive Complexity in Fiction,” Department of English, Boston University, 2011
- “Culture of Greedy Mindreaders,” The Humanities Center, Harvard University, 2011
- “Sociocognitive Complexity,” The Franklin Humanities Institute, Duke University, 2011
- “Minds at Work: Sociocognitive Complexity in Fiction,” Department of Comparative Literature, NYU, 2011
- Wittenberg University, Ohio, 2011
- “The Study of Literature and the Science of Reading,” Yale University, 2011
- “Jane Austen and Cognitive Science,” Centre College, KY, 2010
- “Why We Read Fiction,” Occidental College, Los Angeles, 2010 “Why We Read Fiction,”
- “Mind, Brain, Culture and Consciousness” Working Group, Whitney Humanities Center, Yale University, 2010
- Department of English, Vanderbilt University, 2010
- “Minds and Narrative” conference, Leuven, Belgium, 2009 (keynote lecture)
- “Adventures in Literacy” seminar, Dept. of Comparative Literature, Yale University, 2009
- Commonwealth Center for the Humanities, University of Louisville, 2009
- Department of Psychology, Yale University, 2008
- Program for Humanities and Medicine Lecture Series, Yale University, 2008
- The Humanities Institute at Stony Brook University, 2008
- Department of Comparative Literature, NYU, 2008
- “The Literary Mind” conference, Humboldt-Universitaet, Berlin, 2008
- “Theory of Mind and Literature” conference, Purdue University, 2007 (plenary address)
- Department of English, University of Connecticut, Storrs, 2007

- Wellesley College, MA, 2007
- Ohio State University, Columbus (the Inaugural Event of the Narrative and Cognitive Theory Working Group), 2006
- The Humanities Center, Harvard University, 2004
- Culture and Media Studies Program, Aalborg University, Denmark, 2004
- “Richardson’s *Clarissa* and the Traps of Mind-Reading.” The Lechter Institute for Literary Research, Bar-Ilan University, Israel, 2001

### Conference Presentations

- “Chastising of Readers in Classical Chinese Literature,” Modern Language Association (MLA), Toronto, 2021
- “Cognitive Science Meets Literary Theory,” MLA, Seattle, 2020
- “Ideologies of Mind,” MLA, Seattle, 2020
- “How to Become a Better Mind Reader (And Why You May Not Want To Do That),” Association for Asian Studies (AAS) Annual Conference, Boston, MA, 2020
- “Critical Thinking and Social Cognition,” Society for the Study of Narrative Literature (SSNL), New Orleans, 2020
- “How Communities Reward and Punish Intention-Seeking,” Cognitive Futures in the Arts and Humanities, Mainz, Germany, 2019
- “Departments of Lost and Found Minds,” American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (ASECS), Denver, CO, 2019.
- “I Lie Therefore I Am,” MLA, Chicago, 2019
- “Power Plays,” SSNL, Montreal, 2018
- “Cognition and Social Status,” ASECS, Orlando, 2018
- “The Importance of Being Deceived: A Cognitive Hypothesis about Chinese Literary History,” MLA, New York, 2018
- “Cognitive Approaches to Comparative Literature,” MLA, New York, 2018
- “‘Transparent’ Bodies,” Cognitive Futures in the Arts and Humanities, University of Kent, England, 2018
- “Patterns of Mindreading Unique to Fiction,” symposium on “Fiction and Social Cognition,” European Association of Social Psychology, Granada, Spain, 2017
- “The Importance of Being Deceived,” Cognitive Futures in the Arts and Humanities. Fifth International Conference, Stony Brook University, 2017
- “Theory of Mind and Cognitive Historicism,” Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, Chicago, 2017
- “Cognitive Construction of Social Class,” ASECS, Minneapolis, 2017
- “Rules and Exceptions,” SSNL, Lexington, KY, 2017
- “Thieves, Liars, and Tricksters: What the Free Market Knows About Children’s Cognition,” MLA, Philadelphia, 2017
- “Before *Carol*: The Anatomy of Falling in Love in Patricia Highsmith’s *The Price of Salt*,” MLA, Philadelphia, 2017
- “For I am a Bear of Very Little Brain.” SSNL, Amsterdam, Netherlands, 2016
- “Social Class, Cognition, Heteroglossia.” MLA, Vancouver, 2015
- “What Reading Fiction Has to Do With Doing Well Academically.” SSNL, MIT, Boston, 2014
- “How Do You Think That in Chinese?” MLA, Chicago, 2014
- “Theory of Mind as a Pedagogical Tool,” MLA, Chicago, 2014

- “Front-page Ekphrasis.” MLA, Boston, 2013
- “Real Mindblindness; or, I Was Wrong.” MLA, Boston, 2013
- “Do We Want to Use Cognitive Science to Make a Case for Teaching Literature?” MLA, Seattle, 2012
- “What is Cognitive Cultural Studies? And What Can We Learn About Jane Austen in a Comic Book Store?” ASECS, San Antonio, TX, 2012
- “Fantasies of Access.” SSNL, Las Vegas, 2012
- “Minds at Work.” MLA, Los Angeles, 2011
- “Culture of Greedy Mind Readers.” SSNL, St. Louis, Missouri, 2011
- “Theory of Mind and Graphic Novels: from Nancy Butler’s *Pride and Prejudice* to Alison Bechdel’s *Fun Home*.” SSN, Cleveland, OH, 2010
- “Is Personal Identity a Joke?” MLA, Philadelphia, 2009
- “Cognition and Ideology.” MLA, San Francisco, 2008
- “Strange Concepts.” SSN, Austin, TX, 2008
- “Fictions of Embodied Transparency.” MLA, Chicago, 2007.
- “Not Watching the Players.” ASECS, Portland, OR, 2008.
- “Theory of Mind and Fiction.” From the Brain to Human Culture: Intersections between the Humanities and Neuroscience. An interdisciplinary conference sponsored by the Comparative Humanities Program. Bucknell University, PA, 2007.
- “Theory of Mind and Eighteenth-Century Cultural Studies.” ASECS, Atlanta, GA, 2007
- “Theory of Mind and Fictions of Transparency.” SSN, Washington DC, 2007
- “Dontdatehimgirl.com and Theory of Mind, or, When Literary Criticism Met Cognitive Science.” MLA, Philadelphia, 2006
- “Darwinism and Cultural Studies: Problems and Possibilities.” MLA, Philadelphia, 2006
- “Eighteenth-Century Novel as a Cognitive Experiment.” ASECS, Montreal, 2006
- “The Novel as a Cognitive Experiment.” IGEL, Munich, Germany, 2006
- “The Novel as a Cognitive Experiment.” SLS, New York, 2006
- “Medical and Popular Narratives of Autism.” MLA, Washington, DC, 2005
- “Reading the Criminal Body: Theory of Mind, Forensics, and the Detective Novel.” MLA, Washington, DC, 2005
- “Why We Read Fiction.” Poetics-Cognitive Science Colloquy. Dactyl Foundation for the Arts & Humanities, New York, 2005
- “Johnson’s *Life of Savage* and the plot of Steele’s *The Conscious Lovers*.” North Eastern American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (NEASECS), Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada, 2005
- “‘Common Sense’ Bastardy in Austen’s *Emma* and the Geopolitics of London Suburbia.” Literary London: Interdisciplinary Studies in the Representation of London. London, England, 2005
- “How is Reading a Detective Novel Similar to Lifting Weights at the Gym.” SSN, Louisville, 2005
- “Caught Unawares by a Benefactor: Embodying the Deserving Object of Charity in the Eighteenth-Century Novel.” British Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (BSECS), Oxford, England, 2005
- “How to Recognize a Liar in the Eighteenth-Century Novel.” ASECS, Las Vegas, 2005
- “Autism, Theory of Mind, and Fiction.” MLA, Philadelphia, 2004
- “Why Do Robots Go Astray?” MLA, Philadelphia, 2004



- “The Spectral Hospital.” Literary London. Institute of English Studies, University of London, England, 2004
- “Why We Read Fiction.” HBES, Berlin, Germany, 2004
- “Writing the Social Mind in the Enlightenment.” International Society for Intellectual History, Helsinki, Finland, 2004
- “Can Cognitive Science Shed Light on the Frankenstein Complex?” British Society for Comparative Literature, University of Leeds, England, 2004
- “Toward a Theory-of-Mind-Informed Concept of Genre.” Society for the Study of Narrative (SSN), Burlington, VT, 2004
- “Rewriting Bastardy for the Eighteenth-Century Stage, or, Why is it that the Absent Fathers of Beautiful Young Women Tend to Associate with Political Opposition?” Annual meeting of the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (ASECS), Boston, 2004
- “Woolf, Pinker, and the Theory of Mind.” MLA, San Diego, 2003
- “‘Though Frenchmen sneer . . .’: National Philanthropy, International Rivalry, and the London Foundling Hospital.” Joint meeting of the International Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (ISECS) and ASECS, Los Angeles, 2003
- “Legitimizing Tom Jones? BBC’s Bastard Troubles.” ISECS/ASECS, Los Angeles, 2003
- “Theory of Mind and Fiction, or, Can Cognitive Science Tell us Why We are Afraid of *Mrs. Dalloway*?” SSN, Berkeley, CA, 2003
- “If I knew but who I were . . .’: A Cognitive Perspective on the Literary Motif of the (Comically) Transferred Self-Identity. MLA, New York, 2002
- “Bastards and Foundlings: The Eighteenth-Century Culture of Illegitimacy.” NEASECS, New York, 2002
- “Connectionism, History, and Cognitive Literary Studies.” Society for Literature and Science (SLS), Los Angeles, CA, 2002
- “Illegitimacy and the Eighteenth-Century Foundling Narrative.” ASECS, Colorado Springs, 2002
- “Claiming in Storms the Empire of the Main: The Royal Society of London and British Foreign Policy in the late 1730s.” *The Origins of Modernity: European Thought 1543-1789*, Sydney, Australia, 2002
- “Rewriting Illegitimacy for Eighteenth-Century Polite Discourse.” British Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (BSECS), Cambridge, England, 2002
- “The Eighteenth-Century Press and Criminal Mothers.” MLA, New Orleans, 2001
- “The Internet and the Politics of ‘Truth.’” MLA, New Orleans, 2001
- “Interpretive Models in Cognitive Literary Studies: Moving Beyond New Criticism?” SLS, Buffalo, 2001
- “Centlivre’s *A Bickerstaff’s Burying*: An Introduction.” ASECS, New Orleans, 2001
- “The Politics of Eschatological Prophecy and Dryden’s 1700 *The Secular Masque*.” BSECS, Oxford, England, 2001
- “Lovelace’s *The Quarrelsome Lovers* and the London Stage of the late 1740s.” NEASECS, Portland, ME, 2000
- “Where is the ‘Cultural’ in Cognitive Cultural Studies?” MLA, Washington DC, 2000
- “Venetian Masques and ‘Italian’ Performances in Richardson’s *Sir Charles Grandison*.” Group for Early Modern Cultural Studies (GEMCS), New Orleans, 2000
- “Cognition and Ideology,” SLS, Atlanta, 2000

- "There is something about Malthus: Twentieth-Century Revivals of the Population Checks Theory." International Society for the Study of European Ideas (ISSEI), Bergen, Norway, 2000
- "'Madness: a Young Lady, Tall, with Blue Eyes and Light Hair': Embodying Insanity in Frances Burney's *Cecilia*." ASECS, Philadelphia, 2000
- "Swift's *A Modest Proposal* and Metarepresentationality: Gauging the Truth-Value' of Narrative." *Imagination and the Adapted Mind: The Prehistory and Future of Poetry, Fiction, and Related Arts*. University of California, Santa Barbara, 1999
- "Filming *Great Expectations*: Hollywood's Anthropology of Love." MLA, Chicago, 1999
- "Rethinking Nabokov's 'Scenes from the Life of a Double Monster.'" MLA, Chicago, 1999
- "The Foundling Hospital and the Division of (Female) Labor." GEMCS, Coral Gables, FL, 1999
- "Infanticide and Eighteenth-Century Cultural Studies." NEASECS, University of New Hampshire, 1999
- "Samuel Richardson Abroad: Ideologies of Translation." ASECS. University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, 1999
- "Domain Specificity and Conceptual Blending in Barbauld's 1781 *Hymns in Prose for Children*." MLA. San Francisco, 1998
- "Shifting Representational Boundaries: Charlotte G. Meets Moll F." NEASECS. Williamstown, MA, 1998
- "What door would it open to scandal ...': Female Philanthropy and the London Foundling Hospital." ASECS. University of Notre Dame, 1998
- "Vladimir Nabokov and the Age of Reason." Nabokov Festival. Cornell University, Ithaca, 1998
- "Coalitional Thinking in Early Modern Children's Literature." MLA. Toronto, 1997
- "Infants in Limbo: The Legal Status of the Victims of Infanticide in Early Modern England." MLA. Toronto, 1997
- "The Courtyard Mythology: Alternative Political Spaces in Soviet Post-Thaw Literature." AATSEEL, Toronto, 1997
- "Preformation vs. Epigenesis and the Mission of the British Fleet." NEASECS. Boston, 1997
- "Cognitive Literature Studies—a Review." SLS. Pittsburgh, PA, 1997
- "*Pale Fire* - the [Ironic] Gothic." Joint meeting of the Popular Culture Association and American Culture Association. San Antonio, Texas, 1997
- "Geopolitics of Defoe's *Roxana*." South Central Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (SC/ASECS), Edmond, OK, 1997
- "Infanticide in Eighteenth-Century England and the Rhetoric of Monstrous Birth." East-Central American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (EC/ASECS). Washington D.C., 1996
- "Nabokov's *Glory* and History." AATSEEL (regional meeting). University of California, Los Angeles, 1996
- "Double Mistresses and Double Monsters: Vladimir Nabokov and Scriblerians." Russian Modernism and its European Context. Lubbock, Texas, 1996

### **Related Professional Activities**

- Organized panel, "Cognitive Approaches to Chinese Literature," Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference, Boston, MA, 2020
- Organized panel, "Empathy and the Profession of Literature," MLA, Seattle, 2020
- Organized panel, "Dos and Don'ts of the Theater of the Mind," Society for the Study of Narrative Literature (SSNL), New Orleans, 2020

Organized panel, "Social Minds," American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (ASECS), Denver, CO, 2019

Organized panel, "Lying Minds, Social Minds: Cognitive Approaches to Chinese Literature," MLA, Chicago, 2019

Organized panel, "A World-Oriented Approach to Narrative Cognition," SSNL, Montreal, 2018

Organized panel, "Minds and Networks," ASECS, Orlando, Florida, 2018

Organized panel, "Theorizing the Relationship Between Cognitive Literary Studies and Comparative Literature," MLA, New York, 2018

Organized panel, "Eighteenth-Century Minds: Historical and Cognitive Construction," ASECS, Minneapolis, 2017

Organized panel, "Cognitive Approaches to Narrative," SSNL, Lexington, KY, 2017

Organized panel, "Cognition and Affect: Bad News," MLA, Philadelphia, 2017

Organized panel, "Cognitive Approaches to Narrative Across Media," SSNL, Amsterdam, Netherlands, 2016.

Organized panel, "Politics and Poetics of Cognition," MLA, Vancouver, 2015

Organized panel, "Cognitive Literary Theory: What Does It Mean to Talk and Listen to Scholars in Your Own Discipline?" MLA, Chicago, 2014

Organized panel, "On Cognitive Approaches to Literature, Disability Studies, and Being Wrong." MLA, Boston, 2013

Organized panel, "Cognitive Cultural Studies and the Long Eighteenth Century." ASECS, 2012

Organized panel, "Useful Fictions? A Cognitive Perspective on the Utility of Emotions, Imagination, and Long Novels." MLA, Seattle, 2012

Organized joint panels, "Cognitive Cultural Studies: Cognitive Approaches in Dialogue with Other Approaches" and "Cognitive Cultural Studies: Theory and Practice." MLA, Los Angeles, 2011

Organized panel, "Cognitive Approaches to Eighteenth-Century Studies." ASECS, Albuquerque, 2010

Organized panel (with Michael Burden), "*New Hay at the Old Market: An Occasional Drama*" (A Rehearsed Reading)." ASECS, Albuquerque, 2010

Organized panel, "Cognitive Approaches to Literature: Are We Beyond Science Envy Yet?" MLA, Philadelphia, 2009

Organized panel, "Are Cognitive Approaches to Literature a Legitimate Literary Theory? Who Decides and Why Does It Matter?" MLA, San Francisco, 2008

Organized panel, "New Approaches to the Eighteenth-Century Novel: Theory of Mind, Communication, Performance." ASECS, Portland, OR, 2008

Co-organized (with Michael Burden) panel, "Performance of Charlotte Charke's *The Art of Management; Or, Tragedy Expell'd*." ASECS, Portland, OR, 2008

Organized panel, "We Have Always Been Cognitive (Have We?)." MLA, Chicago, 2007

Co-organized (with Jayne Lewis) roundtable, "Dryden a la Mode: the Joys of Teaching Him Today." ASECS, Georgia, 2007

Organized panel, "Cognitive Approaches to Narrative." SSN, Washington DC, 2007

Organized panel, "Theory of Mind Across Disciplines." MLA, Philadelphia, 2006

Organized panel, "Cognitive Approaches to Narrative." SSN, Ottawa, 2006

Co-organized (with Michael Burden) panel, "Performance and Discussion of David Garrick's *A Peep Behind the Curtain*," ASECS, Montreal, 2006

Organized panel, “Cognitive Approaches to Eighteenth-Century Studies,” ASECS, Montreal, 2006

Organized panel, “What Do We Do When We Do the ‘Wrong’ Interdisciplinarity?” MLA, Washington, DC, 2005

Organized panel, “Charity and its Representations in the ‘Long’ Eighteenth Century.” BSECS, Oxford, England, 2005

Organized panel, “Cognitive Approaches to Narrative.” SSN, Louisville, 2005

Organized panel, “Cognitive Approaches to Eighteenth-Century Novel,” ASECS, Las Vegas, 2005

Organized panel, “Cognitive Approaches to Literature: How (Un)Predictable,” MLA, Philadelphia, 2004

Organized panel, “Cognitive Approaches to Narrative,” SSN, Burlington, VT, 2004

Organized panel, “Cognitive Approaches to Eighteenth-Century Studies,” ASECS, Boston, 2004

Organized panel, “Reciprocity in the Relationship Between Cognitive Science and Literary Studies: What Can We Offer to Them and Why Should They Care?” MLA, San Diego, 2003

Organized panel, “Performance and Discussion of Dryden’s *Secret Love*.” ISECS/ASECS, Los Angeles, 2003

Organized panel, “Reassessing Darwin for the Humanities,” MLA, New York, 2002

Organized roundtable, “Smollett: The Perils of Canonicity.” ASECS, New Orleans, 2001

Organized panel, “Cognition and Ideology.” MLA, Washington, DC, 2000

Organized panel, “Discursive Exchanges between Theater and the Novel in the Enlightenment.” NEASECS, Portland, ME, 2000

Organized roundtable “Great Unteachables: *Clarissa* in the Classroom.” ASECS. Philadelphia, 2000

Organized panel “Infanticide and Eighteenth-Century Literature and Culture.” NEASECS. University of New Hampshire, 1999

Coordinated the creation of the MLA discussion group “Cognitive Approaches to Literature.” Approved by the MLA Executive Council in May 1998

Co-organized (with Francis Steen) the Forum “Historicizing Cognition: Literature and the Cognitive Revolution.” MLA. San Francisco, 1998

## **Teaching and Advising**

### Undergraduate courses:

Imagination and Memory

The Rise of the Novel

*Don Quixote—Tom Jones—Vanity Fair*

Children’s Literature

Foundling Narrative from Pastoral to Parody

Twins, doubles, and doppelgangers across literary genres

Richardson’s *Clarissa*

18<sup>th</sup>-century novel

Restoration and 18<sup>th</sup>-century drama

The later 18<sup>th</sup> century: 1730-1800

Social Minds in Fiction (Honors Seminar)

The Gothic Novel  
Early Modern Women Writers, 1660-1820  
Lying bodies: pretense, performance, and the novel  
John Dryden and Aphra Behn  
Theater and the Novel  
The novels of Jane Austen and their screen adaptations  
*Lolita*: histories of misreading  
Children and the novel  
Milton survey  
Shakespeare Survey  
Novel as a genre  
Survey of English literature I (from Beowulf to Milton)  
Survey of English Literature II (from Dryden to Woolf)

Graduate courses:

The Eighteenth-Century Novel and the Dialogic Imagination  
Modern Critical Theory: Introduction to Cognitive Literary Studies  
British Women Writers, 1770-1830  
Cheaters and Censors: early modern print culture  
Minds and Senses: The History of the Novel  
Restoration and early 18<sup>th</sup>-century literature: 1660-1720  
Lying bodies of the Enlightenment  
The 18<sup>th</sup>-century novel  
The Gothic Novel  
The Romantic Novel  
Jane Austen and the Profession of Literature  
Studies in Rhetoric: approaches to the teaching of the novel

**Dissertation Committees**

Jillian Winter (chair, in progress); Jessica Van Gilder (chair, in progress); Emily Handy (“Entomology and the Late-Victorian Literary Imagination, 1859-1900,” in progress); Shannon Branfield (“We Are Wearing A Mask to Each Other’: Masculinity & Marriage in Victorian Sensation Fiction,” in progress); Drew Heverin (“Prentices! Clubs!’: The Transformative Rhetoric of an Early Modern Counterpublic,” in progress); Hannah Ruehl (“Understanding the Gray: Aging Women in Victorian Culture and Fiction,” def. 2018; Faculty Instructional Consultant, University of Kentucky’s Center for the Enhancement of Learning and Teaching); Jessica Evans (chair, “The Male Mentor Figure in Women’s Fiction, 1778-1801,” def. 2017; tenure-track assistant prof., Columbia State Community College); Leah Hutchison Toth (“Resonant Texts: Sound, Noise, and Technology in Modern Literature,” def. 2016; tenure-track assistant professor, St. Norbert College); Eric Casero (“Mind Against Matter: Separating Mind from Body in American Culture, 1980-2010,” def. 2016; full time lecturer, UMass Dartmouth); Nathan Shank (chair, “Partial Minds: The Strategic Underrepresentation of Consciousness in Postwar American Novels,” def. 2015; tenure-track assistant prof., Oklahoma Christian University); Devjani Roy (chair; “Uncertainty, Randomness, and Economic Behavior: The Life of Money in Eighteenth-Century Literature,” def. 2014; Managing Director, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center); J. Seth Lee (“Whithersoever Thou Goest: The Discourses of

Exile in Early Modern Literature,” def. 2014; instructor, Slippery Rock University); Emily A. Dotson (“Strong Angels of Comfort: The Domestic Labor of Middle Class Adult Daughters,” def. 2014; WS Dean of Faculty, University of Virginia); Rebecca Beach (“The Ways Women Talk: Nineteenth-Century Linguistic Forms of Women’s Language in the British Novel,” def. 2014); Morgan Richardson (“Ever the Twain Shall Meet: Marriage and Contested Domestic Authority in Victorian England,” def. 2014); Rebecca Page Huffman (“Othello, Things, and Narratives of Cultural Instability,” def. 2013); Jessica Hollis (co-chair; “Geographies of Commerce: Gender, Space, and Class in Eighteenth-Century British Literature,” def. 2007); Emily Bartlett Hines (Vanderbilt University; “Referential Worlds,” def. 2007); Rachel Ramsey (University of West Virginia; “A mad intemperance . . . of building”: The Literary Construction of Early Modern London,” def. 2006), John Morgan (co-chair; def. 2003), Demorah Hayes (“A Manuscript Study of a Middle English Religious Miscellany”; def. 2002)

### **MA Committees**

Tess Given (chair), Michelle Weitlauf (chair), Gregory Ruppert (chair), Brandi Pope (chair), Jillian Winter (co-chair), Brianna Anderson (co-chair), Elizabeth Frazer, Louise Dupont, Emily Blazer, George Phillips, Katherine D. Osborne, Laura Bennett, Samantha Vibbert, Emily Biggs, Nathan Allison, Scott Olsen, Austin Baurichter (creative writing), Isabelle Johnson (creative writing)

### **Undergraduate Honors Thesis Committees**

Yuriy Bronshteyn (chair)

### **Professional Service**

Member of the MLA Delegate Assembly (2013-2015)

Member of a Teagle Collegium on Student Learning, Haskins Laboratory, Yale University (2009-2012)

Member of the Executive Council of the International Society for the Study of Narrative Literature (2008-2011)

Member of the Executive Committee for the MLA Discussion Group “Cognitive Approaches to Literature” (1999-2003)

Tenure, Promotion, and Endowed Professorship letters: Rutgers University; University of Toronto; University of Missouri-St. Louis; University of California, Santa Barbara; University of Connecticut; University of Oslo

Manuscript review: *PMLA*; *Poetics Today*; *Eighteenth-Century Studies*; *Costellazioni: Rivista di Lingue e Letterature*; American Philosophical Society; *PLOS ONE* (the Public Library of Science); Johns Hopkins University Press; Ohio State University Press; Oxford University Press

Proposal review: American Academy in Berlin; Fonds Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek (FWO Research Foundation), Flanders, Belgium; Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO); MIT Press

### **Departmental and University Service**

The NEH Summer Stipend Review Committee, College of Arts and Sciences, University of Kentucky (2019)

The Executive Committee, English Department, University of Kentucky (2019-2020)

The Faculty Merit Evaluation/Salary Committee, English Department, University of Kentucky (2017-2019)  
The Graduate Committee, English Department, University of Kentucky (2017-2020)  
The Excellence Award Committee, English Department, University of Kentucky, 2017  
The Humanities and Arts Academic Area Advisory Committee, University of Kentucky (2013-2015)  
The Undergraduate Committee, English Department, University of Kentucky (2013-2014)  
The Mentor Committee, English Department, University of Kentucky (2011-2013)  
The Executive Committee, English Department, University of Kentucky (2011-2013)  
The Hiring Committee, English Department, University of Kentucky (2010-2011)  
The Committee for Reorganization of the University General Education Requirements (“Nature of Inquiry in the Humanities” subcommittee), University of Kentucky (2009)  
Director of Undergraduate Studies, English Department, University of Kentucky (2006-2007)  
The NEH Selection Committee, College of Arts and Sciences, University of Kentucky (2004-2006)  
The Executive Committee, English Department, University of Kentucky (2001-2002)  
The Hiring Committee. English Department, University of Kentucky (2005-2007)  
The Graduate Committee. English Department, University of Kentucky (2004-2005)  
The Faculty Merit Evaluation/Salary Committee. English Department, University of Kentucky (2004-2005)  
The Undergraduate Curriculum Committee. English Department, University of Kentucky (2001-2004)  
The Chair Search Committee. English Department, University of Kentucky (2003, 2006)

### **Languages**

Russian (native)  
Chinese (reading)  
German (reading)