James M. Lang, Ph.D.

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Director of the Center for Teaching Excellence Worcester, MA 01609

Assumption College (508) 340-5441

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**EDUCATION**

Ph.D. in English, Northwestern University, 1997

Dissertation: “Dialogues with History in Post-War British Fiction”

Director: Reginald Gibbons

M.A. in English, St. Louis University, 1993

B.A. in English and Philosophy, University of Notre Dame, 1991

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

Director of the Center for Teaching Excellence, Assumption College, 2013-Present

Professor, English Department, Assumption College, 2013-Present

Director, College Honors Program, Assumption College, 2009-2013

Associate Professor, English Department, Assumption College, 2006-2013

Assistant Professor, English Department, Assumption College, 2000-2006

Assistant Director, Searle Center for Teaching Excellence, Northwestern University,

1997-2000

**GRANTS, AWARDS, AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

Paul Ziegler Presidential Award for Excellence in Scholarship. Assumption College, September 2018.

Distinguished Guest Lecturer Appointment, Center for Teaching and Learning. Central European University, Budapest, Hungary. April 1-23, 2018.

“Creating a MOOC on Higher Education Teaching and Learning in STEM Disciplines.” Fulbright Specialist Grant. Barranquilla and Bogota, Colombia. September 4-24, 2016.

“Enhancing Mindful Awareness and Emotion Regulation in the Classroom.” Co-Investigator. Sarah Cavanagh, Ph.D., Principal Investigator. Davis Educational Foundation, 2015- 2018. $156, 675.

Series Editor, Teaching and Learning in Higher Education, University of West Virginia Press.

2015-Present. Four titles currently published; multiple additional titles in various stages of development.

Consulting Editor, *College Teaching*. 2010-Present. Evaluate manuscripts for publication.

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

ASSUMPTION COLLEGE

Eng 415: Senior Seminar: 21st-Century British Literature and Culture

Eng 414: Senior Seminar: John Fowles and Iris Murdoch

Eng 413: Senior Seminar: Aesthetics and Literature

Eng 378: Postcolonial Literature

Eng 375: Contemporary British Novel

Eng 309: Writing Workshop: Creative Nonfiction

Hon 300: Aesthetics

Eng 222: British Literature Survey II

Eng 220: Approaches to Reading and Interpretation

Eng 201: Writing Workshop: Argument and Persuasion

Lit 140: Introduction to Literature

Eng 130: Composition

Hon 100: Life Stories

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

M.A. Thesis, Daniel Epstein, “The Use of the Fantastic in the Short Fiction of Charles Bukowski”

Modernism to Postmodernism: A Philosophical Evolution

Violence in 20th-Century British Literature

Philosophy and Literature: The Ethics of Reading

The Post-War Philosophical Novel

Existentialism in 20th-Century Fiction

Expository Writing

Teaching Assistant, Introduction to American Literature

**PUBLICATIONS: HIGHER EDUCATION**

BOOKS

*Teaching Distracted Minds*. New York, NY: Basic Books. Forthcoming, 2020.

*New Approaches to Teaching the Literature Surveys*. Co-editor, with John A. Staunton and

Gwynn Dujardin. Morgantown, WV: University of West Virginia Press, 2018.

*Small Teaching: Everyday Lessons from the Science of Learning*. San

Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2016.

*Cheating Lessons: Learning from Academic Dishonesty*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2013.

*On Course: A Week-by-Week Guide to your First Semester of College Teaching*.

Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2008.

ESSAYS

“On Course.” *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. July 2006-Present. A monthly column of essays on teaching and learning in higher education. Full list of titles available upon request.

“News Flash . . . Harvard Students Cheat, Too.” *Time*. Online. September 11, 2013.

“How College Classes Encourage Cheating.” *Boston Globe* 4 August 2013: Ideas, K1-2.

“Is College Worth It?” *Notre Dame Magazine* 42.2 (Summer 2013): 22-27.

“Surviving to Tenure.” *To Improve the Academy: Resources for Faculty, Instructional,*

*and Organizational Development* 25 (2007): 39-51.

“Surviving the Teaching Demonstration.” *AWP (Association of Writers and Writing*

*Programs) Job List* 5 (January 2006): 1, 21-22.

“A Vote for Tenure.” *The Boston Globe* 1 Jan. 2006: Ideas, 4.

“Helping Yourself Get Lucky.” *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. Online. June 2, 2000.

“Waiting for the Double Ring.” *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. Online. April 21, 2000.

“Come as You Are.” *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. Online. February 25, 2000.

“Getting to Know My Future Selves.” *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. Online. December 10, 1999.

“Once More Unto the Breach.” *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. Online. October 15, 1999.

“In Pursuit of Teaching Excellence.” *Notre Dame Magazine* 27.3 (Fall 1998): 3-7.

“Between Theory and History: *The Remains of the Day* in the International

Relations Classroom,” co-authored with Anthony F. Lang, Jr. *PS: Political Science and Politics* 31.2 (June 1998): 209-215.

“Rethinking the Teaching Portfolio,” co-authored with Kenneth R. Bain. *The*

*Teaching Professor* 11.10 (December 1997): 1.

“The Reflective Teaching Essay,” co-authored with Kenneth R. Bain. *The*

*National Teaching and Learning Forum* 7.1 (1997): 1-4.

**PUBLICATIONS: CREATIVE NONFICTION**

BOOKS

*Life on the Tenure Track: Lessons from the First Year*. Baltimore and London: Johns

Hopkins University Press, 2005.

*Learning Sickness: A Year with Crohn’s Disease*. Washington, DC: Capital Books, 2004.

ESSAYS

“A Catholic Called to Prayer in the Muslim World.” *America* 214.7 (February 29, 2016): 30-32.

“Night Shift.” *America* 205.16 (21 Nov. 2011): 19-20.

“Flights of Fancy.” Co-authored with Anthony F. Lang, Jr. *Notre Dame Magazine* 40.3

(Autumn 2011): 34-37.

“Protect Your Urban Wildness.” *Worcester Telegram and Gazette*. 21 July 2011.

“Wild Nonfiction: An Interview with David Gessner.” *Writer’s Chronicle* 40.6

(May/Summer 2008): 50-57.

“Living the Rock ‘n’ Roll Dream.” *Central Mass Magazine* 1.7 (October 1, 2007): 29,

32-34. http://www.centralmassmedia.com.

“My Laundry Line.” *Worcester Magazine* 31.49 (24 Aug. 2006): 4.

“A Leap Into My New Story.” *Notre Dame Magazine* Spring 2006: 89-91.

“Life on the Tenure Track.” *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. September 2000-April 2006. A column of personal essays about life as a tenure-track faculty member. Approximately 5-7 titles appeared each year. Full list of titles available upon request.

“The Best Medicine for Crohn’s Disease: Learning to Tell My Story.” *Digestive Health*

*and Nutrition* 6.3 (May/June 2004): 8, 30.

“Girls, Girls, Girls.” *Northwestern Magazine*. Winter 2003-2004.

“Alone in the Universe—But Not in New York City.” *Bridge Magazine* Fall 2.3-4

(Summer/Fall 2003): 82-85.

“Becoming Your Child’s Best Teacher.” *Today’s Parent* 8.4 (August 2003): 8.

“Sanctuary in the City.” *Today’s Parent* 8.2 (June 2003): 30-31.

“Catalogue of Joys.” *Today’s Parent* 8.2 (June 2003): 32-33.

“Divine Revelation.” *Notre Dame Magazine* 31.4 (Winter 2002-2003): 96.

“The Art of Stoop-Sitting.” *Worcester Magazine* 25 July 2001: 7.

“Coming Out of the Catholic Closet.” *Notre Dame Magazine* 28.4 (Winter 1999-

2000): 77-79.

**PUBLICATIONS: LITERARY SCHOLARSHIP**

“Redefining Englishness: British Short Fiction 1945-Present.” *Blackwell Companion to*

*the British and Irish Short Story*. Eds. Cheryl Alexander Malcolm and David Malcolm. Sussex: Wiley-Blackwell, 2008. 279-293.

“Ian McEwan.” *Dictionary of Literary Biography: British and Irish Short Fiction*

*Writers, 1945-2000*. Vol. 319. Farmington Hills, MI: Thomson Gale, 2006.

“Public Memory, Private History: Kazuo Ishiguro’s *The Remains of the Day.*”

*Clio* 29.2 (Winter 2000): 143-165.

“Theory Against Itself: New Historicism’s Return to Practice,” co-authored with

John S. Howard. *PC Wars*, ed. Jeffrey Williams. New York: Routledge, 1995. 184-204.

“Staging an Image-System: Breaking Down the Self in Peter Nichols’s *Joe Egg*.”

*Essays in Theatre/Etudes Theatrales* 12.1 (1993): 63-73.

**PUBLICATIONS: BOOK REVIEWS**

Rev. of Natasha Alden, *Reading Behind the Lines: Postmemory in Contemporary British War*

*Fiction*. *Clio* 44.3 (2015): 40-44.

“A Generous and Lovely Champion.” Rev. of George Orwell, *George Orwell: A Life in Letters*. *America* 14 October 2013.

“Excavating America.” Rev. of Jill LePore, *The Story of America: Essays on Origins*. *America* 11 February 2013.

“On the High Road.” Rev. of Christopher P. Scheitle and Roger Finke, *Places of Faith*. *America* 21 May 2012.

“Lost Horizon.” Rev. of David Gessner, *The Tarball Chronicles*. *America* 16 January 2012.

Rev. of Flann O’Brien, *At War*. *Bridge Magazine* June/July 2004: 52-53.

Rev. of Jim Grimsley, *Comfort and Joy*. *Chicago Tribune* 9 January 2000: Section 14.

Rev. of Vincent P. Peccora, *Households of the Soul*. *Modern Fiction Studies* 44.2

(Summer 1998): 493-496.

Rev. of Umberto Eco, *Interpretation and Overinterpretation*. *Studies in the Humanities*

XXI (June 1994): 162-164.

Rev. of Gerald Bruns, *Hermeneutics Ancient and Modern*. *Philosophy and Literature*

18.1 (April 1994): 170-1.

Rev. of William McBride, *Sartre’s Political Theory*. *The Modern Schoolman* 71

(November 1993): 78-80.

Rev. of Joel Weinsheimer, *Philosophical Hermeneutics and Literary Theory*. *The*

*Modern Schoolman* 70 (May 1993): 321-3.

**INVITED READINGS, LECTURES, AND WORKSHOPS**

“Small Teaching: From Minor Changes to Major Learning.” Lecture/Workshop. 2014-Present.

This lecture/workshop, focused on the material from my 2016 book, has been presented in the form of keynote lectures of workshops at more than seventy-five institutions, beginning in October of 2014 and continuing to the present, including: University of Koc (Istanbul, Turkey); University of Florida; Olds College (Canada); Misericordia University; University of Denver; Florida Institute of Technology; MacEwan University (Canada); Indiana State University; Rice University; UT-San Antonio Health Sciences College; Bucknell University; Georgia Tech University; Columbus State Community College.

“Cheating Lessons: Learning from Academic Dishonesty.” Lecture/Workshop. 2012-Present.

This lecture/workshop, focused on the material from my 2013 book, has been presented in the form of keynote lectures of workshops at more than fifty institutions, beginning in 2012 and continuing to the present: University of Monterrey (Mexico); Georgia Military College; Misericordia University; University of Denver; Fisher College; Florida Institute of Technology; Kings Academy (Jordan); University of Notre Dame; MacEwan University (Canada); Indiana State University; UT-San Antonio Health Sciences College; Bucknell University; Georgia Tech University; University of Texas at Tyler; University of Illinois; University of Wisconsin; North Carolina State University; Lamar University; Ohio State University; Becker College; Clark University; Emmanuel College; American University of Armenia (Armenia); Fisher College; Bay State College; Texas Women’s University; SUNY-Oneonta; Trinity College; West Kentucky Technical and Community College; Framingham State University.

“Timely Teaching: Reflecting on Student Learning.” Invited Lecture. Central New Mexico Conference on Teaching and Learning. Albuquerque, NM. February 21, 2014.

New Teaching Assistant Orientations. Invited Workshops. Emory University. Atlanta, GA. August 21-22, 2013.

New Faculty Colloquium, Central Pennsylvania Consortium (Dickinson College, Franklin and

Marshall College, Gettysburg College). January 25, 2013.

“What Graduate TAs Should Know About How Students Learn.” University of Nebraska- Lincoln. Invited Keynote and Workshop. August 13, 2012.

“Mind-Based Teaching: Learning Theory in the Classroom.” Institute for Pedagogy in the

Liberal Arts. Two-Day Seminar. Oxford College (GA). May 2012.

"The Middle Way: Balancing Teaching Time with Research and Service." University of

Findlay (OH). Invited Lecture. April 6, 2011

“Motivating Students.” Dartmouth University. Invited Lecture. June 3, 2010.

Faculty Address. Sigma Tau Delta Induction Ceremony. Assumption College. March 26, 2010.

New Faculty Workshop. Invited Workshop. SUNY-Brockport. March 27, 2009.

“Teaching with Technology—or Not?” Invited Lecture. The College of New Jersey.

February 4, 2009.

“New Faculty Challenges.” Invited Lecture. California State University-

Fresno. October 16, 2008.

“Negotiating the First Year.” Invited Lecture. Fitchburg State College. September 16,

2008.

“First-Year Faculty as Freshman.” Keynote Speaker. Midwestern Conference on the

Scholarship of Teaching and Learning. South Bend, Indiana. April 11, 2008.

“Getting to Life on the Tenure Track.” Invited Lecture. Northwestern University. April

10, 2008.

“Getting to Life on the Tenure Track.” Keynote Speech. Graduate Student Research

Conference. Vanderbilt University. March, 31, 2008.

“Becoming a Learner Again.” Keynote Speech. Annual Conference: Classroom

Teaching: Teacher Competence and Student Success. Salem State College. May 18, 2007.

“Energizing the Classroom—And Your Teaching Career: Beyond Graduate Education.”

Keynote Speech. Graduate Education Week. University of Missouri. April 20, 2007.

“An Experiment in Mastery Learning.” Faculty Workshop. Worcester State College.

March 14, 2006.

“Surviving Until Tenure: A Six-Year Chronicle.” Keynote Speech. New Faculty

Colloquium, Central Pennsylvania Consortium (Dickinson College, Franklin and

Marshall College, Gettysburg College). January 9, 2006.

“Life on the Tenure Track: To Teach—Or Not to Teach—As We Were Taught.” Invited

Lecture. Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester, MA. September 13, 2005.

“The Teaching Demonstration.” Lecture and Discussion Leader. Northwestern

University Graduate School Colloquium. February 21, 2005.

“Writing Lessons.” Keynote Speaker. Central Massachusetts Writing Project Best

Practices Conference, Winter 2005. Worcester State College. January 15, 2005.

“The Best Medicine for Crohn’s Disease: Learning to Tell My Story.”

Featured Speaker. Crohn’s and Colitis Foundation of America (CCFA), Connecticut Chapter. New Haven, CT. April 16, 2005.

Featured Speaker. CCFA, Illinois Chapter. Chicago, IL. Feb. 19, 2005.

Keynote Speaker. CCFA, Iowa Chapter. Des Moines, Iowa. October 23, 2004.

Featured Speaker. CCFA, Rochester, NY Chapter. Rochester, NY. Oct. 7, 2004.

Featured Speaker. CCFA, Upstate NY Chapter. Albany, NY. June 19, 2004.

Featured Speaker. CCFA, New England Chapter. Boston, MA. March 28, 2004.

Assumption College Baccalaureate Address. Worcester Centrum. May 21, 2004.

Sigma Tau Delta Induction Society Address. Assumption College. November 1, 2004.

“Getting Feedback on Your Teaching.” Faculty Workshop. Excellence in Medical

Education Summer Institute. Northwestern University. June 6, 1999.

“What *Do* the Best Teachers Do? Five Good Ideas.” Invited Public Lecture. The

American University in Cairo, Egypt. March 22, 1999.

“How Do the Best Teachers Prepare for a Course?” Faculty Workshop. The American

University in Cairo, Egypt. March 22, 1999.

“Documenting Teaching: The Teaching Portfolio,” with Kenneth R. Bain. Faculty

Workshop. Midwestern University. March 3, 1999.

“The Evaluation of Teaching,” with Kenneth R. Bain. Faculty and Deans Workshop.

Oakton Community College. January 14, 1999.

“What *Do* the Best Teachers Do?” with Kenneth R. Bain. New Faculty Workshop for

the Chicago West Suburban College Consortium. Midwestern University. August 26, 1998.

“Designing Classroom Experiments.” Faculty Workshop. Excellence in Education

Summer Institute. Northwestern University. June 25, 1998.

**CONFERENCE PAPERS**

“Turning Points in Teaching/Learning the Survey.” National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE). Boston, MA. November 22, 2013.

“Re-thinking the Literature Survey Course.” Modern Language Association (MLA). Roundtable Chair. Boston, MA. January 4, 2013.

“Making Space for Scholarship on Teaching.” MLA. Philadelphia, PA. Dec. 27, 2009.

“Shifting Control in the Classroom.” Author Panel. National Convention of Teachers of

English. San Antonio, TX. November 23, 2008.

“Englishness in Postwar British Short Fiction.” 10th Nordic Conference on English

Studies. Bergen, Norway. May 24-16, 2007.

“The Hermeneutics of Collegiality.” MLA. Washington, DC, Dec. 27-30, 2005.

“The “Terrible Secret” of London: Urban Life in the Short Fiction of Ian McEwan.”

Literary London Conference, London, England, July 14-16, 2005.

“British History for American Students: The Timeline.” Teaching Contemporary British

Fiction Conference, University of Westminster, London, May 31, 2004.

“Standing Out by Gaining Administrative Experience.” MLA, New Orleans, Dec. 27,

2001.

“Violence and the End of History in *1984*.” Twentieth-Century Literature Conference,

University of Louisville, Feb. 26, 1999.

“History in Ian McEwan’s *Black Dogs*.” Twentieth-Century Literature Conference,

University of Louisville, Feb. 27, 1998.

“Public History, Private Memory: Kazuo Ishiguro’s *The Remains of the Day*.” Midwest

Modern Language Association Conference, Chicago, November 8, 1997.

“The Novels of Larry Brown: Philosophical Themes.” Twentieth-Century Literature

Conference, University of Louisville, Feb. 21, 1997. Panel Chair.

“Reading Culture in *Foucault’s Pendulum*.” American Comparative Literature

Association Conference: Literature Between Philosophy and Cultural Studies, University of Notre Dame, April 13, 1996.

“The Construction of History in T.C. Boyle’s *World’s End*.” A Symposium on

Contemporary American Fiction, SUNY Potsdam, September 29, 1995.

“Self and Other in David Henry Hwang’s *M. Butterfly*.” Twentieth-Century Literature

Conference, University of Louisville, Feb. 23, 1994.

“Staging an Image-System: Self-Conceptions in Pirandello, Brecht, Nichols.” Twentieth-

Century Literature Conference, University of Louisville, Feb. 27, 1993.

**CAMPUS SERVICE**

Member, Evaluation Committee (2018-2020)

Member, Restructuring Committee (2018-Present)

Member, Founders Week Committee (2017-Present)

Chair, Center for Teaching Excellence Advisory Council (2013-Present)

Chair, Committee to Revise Student Course Evaluations (2014-2016)

Chair, Innovation Team on Spaces and Places (2014-2017)

Committee Member, Search for Assistant Professor in the English Department (2015-16)

Content Mentor, Secondary Education Concentrators (Scott Blanchette and Eddaliz Correa, Spring 2013; Nicole Dunn and Katelyn Raftery, Spring 2012; Brian Tuomi and Michelle Eaton, Spring 2008)

Committee Member, Search for Director of User Support in Information Technology (2013)

Model Classroom Orientation Co-Leader (2008, 2013, 2015)

Chair, Faculty Honors Council (2009-2013)

Co-Chair, Undergraduate Research Symposium (2009-2013)

Committee Member, Search for Assistant Professor in the Economics Department (2009-2010)

Instructor, Tagaste First-Year Learning Community Program (2008-2010)

Advisor, Creative Writing Club (2007-Present)

Interest Circle Leader, Living and Learning Center (2007-09)

College Fulbright Advisor (2007-08)

Senator, Faculty Senate (2007-08, 2015-2016)

Committee Member, Search for Assistant Professor in the English Department (2007-08)

Committee Member, Search for Assistant Professor in the English Department (2005-06)

Committee Member, Search for Assistant Professor of Theology Department (2004-05)

Faculty Advisor, Campus Literary Magazine (2001-2007, 2009-Present)

Organizer and Chaperone, English Department Spring Break in Ireland (2004, 2006,

2008, 2010, 2012, 2016)

Committee Chair, Ad Hoc Committee to Revise Student Evaluation Forms (2003-2005)

Convener and Committee Member, Faculty Teaching Colloquia (2000-2013)

Committee Member, Mission Council (2002-2004)

Committee Member, First Year Task Force (2002-2003)

Committee Member, HumanArts Council (2002-2004)

Committee Member, Graduate and Continuing Education Advisory Council (2002-2003)

Committee Member, Search for Full Professor and Chair of the Theology Department

(2001-2002)

Committee Member, Search for Assistant Professor in the English Department (2000-01)

**EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE**

*TriQuarterly* Fellow, *TriQuarterly* Magazine, Northwestern University, September 1995-

1997. Editor: Reginald Gibbons. Read and screened much of the unsolicited fiction and poetry submitted to the magazine.

**PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

Modern Language Association, 1992-Present.

Professional and Organizational Development Network, 2016-Present.