

PAULA V. SMITH

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Grinnell College
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EDUCATION

Cornell University

Ph.D. in English literature, 1987
M.F.A. in creative writing (fiction), 1986
M.A. in English literature, 1986

Swarthmore College

B.A. with Highest Honors in English and philosophy, 1982

Interlochen Arts Academy, 1976-1978

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the College, 2008-

Professor of English, 2004-

Director of Grinnell College Writers' Conference, 2004-2007 and 1987-1994

- Visiting Writers Series; guest faculty from Iowa Writers' Workshop; student contests

Faculty Member, Grinnell-in-London, Fall 2002 and Fall 2008

Associate Dean of the College, Grinnell College, 1998-2002

- See *Administrative Responsibilities* below

Elected Member at Large, Executive Council, 1996-1998

- NCA learning assessment plan for college self-study; Fund for Excellence planning

Chair, Department of English, Grinnell College, 1994-1996

- Departmental self-study; curriculum/program review; new policy for shared contracts

Associate Professor of English, Grinnell College, 1993-2003

Assistant Professor of English, Grinnell College, 1987-1993

Consultant Reader, PMLA, 1990-2000

- peer evaluation of submitted manuscripts

Campus Coordinator for Lila Wallace Writing Fellows Grant, Grinnell College, 1991-1993

Leader, Summer Faculty Seminars on teaching writing, 1993, 1994, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2005

Leader, Summer Faculty Seminars on teaching oral communication skills, 1992, 1995

Chair, Faculty Reading Group in Feminist Studies (FemSem), 1989-1990

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Cornell University, 1983-1987 (except fellowship year 1985-86)

Associate Fiction Editor, Epoch magazine, Cornell University, 1986-1987

HONORS AND AWARDS

Writer's Residency Award, Ragdale Foundation, awarded September 2008
 Writing Fellowship, Virginia Center for the Creative Arts, awarded July 2007
 Residency, Writers' Colony at Dairy Hollow (Communication Arts Institute), awarded July 2007
 Selected as Alternate, Djerassi Resident Artists Program (California), 2007 and 2008
 Finalist, Ruth Stone Prize in Poetry (April 2007), sponsored by *Hunger Mountain Journal*; in top 40 of 500+ entries
 Finalist, 2006 War Poetry Contest (sponsor: Winning Writers); in top 24 of 800+ entries
 Grand Prize, 2006 Evolution Poetry Contest, Society for the Study of Evolution (SSE), June 2006
 Finalist, Fiction Contest (900 entries), Summer Literary Seminars/*Fence Magazine*, April 2005
 Finalist (in top 18 of 500 entries), *Stickman Review* Fiction Contest, November 2004
 Harris Research Fellowship, Grinnell College, 1990-1991
 Cornell Continuing Humanities Fellowship, 1985-1986
 Sage Graduate Fellowship, Cornell Graduate School, 1982-1983
 Graduation with Highest Honors, Swarthmore College, 1982 (awarded to 4 in graduating class)
 Phi Beta Kappa, 1982
 First Prize, Academy of American Poets, Swarthmore College, 1981
 Francis W. D'Olier Scholarship, Swarthmore College 1979-1981
 John Russell Hayes Poetry Prize, Swarthmore College, 1979
 American Foreign Service Merit Scholarship, 1978
 Honorable Mentions: *Seventeen Magazine* and other fiction contests

CREATIVE INSTALLATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

The Painter's Muse (forthcoming; fiction)
 "The Room of Small Gods," *Bellevue Literary Review*, Fall 2006 (fiction)
 "Living by Corn," *Iowa River Corridor Book*, ed. Robert Wolf, Free River Press, 2006 (poem)
 "Cooked" (suite of five poems); art exhibit with photographer Dan Ferro; Grinnell Community Art Gallery, Aug 22-Sep 26, 2003; Phoenix Café & Inn, Grinnell, Iowa, Dec 12, 2003-Feb 21, 2004
 "The Room of Small Gods," pamphlet distributed to Freud Museum visitors, London, Fall 2003
 "St. Pancras, Shine" (poem); collaboration with British artists; posted on their websites at www.shanewaltener.com and www.mike.robertson.ukonline.co.uk (2003)
 "Restoration," *North American Review*, March/April 2003 (fiction)
 "Summer," reprinted in *Directory of Grinnell Area Food Producers*, 2002/2003 editions (poem)
 "Henry Moore's 'Mother and Child'," *Ekphrasis* II, No. 3, Spring/Summer 2001 (poem)
 "Epithalamion," *Gunnison Valley Journal* IV, Summer 2000 (poem)
 "Inscription on Delos," *Red Cedar Review*, XXXV, #2, Winter-Spring 2000 (poem)
 "Summer," *Flyway Literary Review*, Vol. 5.1-5.2, Fall 1999/Winter 2000 (poem)
 "The Tallgrass on Fire," "The Grassland," "Rhizomes," *The Land Report* 65, Fall 1999 (poems)
 "Rhizomes," text for choral work "Broken Ground" by Jonathan Chenette, commissioned by Iowa Humanities Board; performed by Des Moines Symphony and Grinnell Singers, 1996.
 Text and music available at http://web.grinnell.edu/individuals/chenet/bg_poems_music.html
 "Out of the Land," text for choral piece composed by Jonathan Chenette, commissioned by Grinnell College for performance during the inauguration of President Pamela Ferguson, October 1991
 "Stilwell House," *Four Quarters* XXXIV, 3/4 (1985) (fiction)
 "A Woman without Speaking," *Journeywork* anthology, Cornell University, 1984 (fiction)
 "Saving Yourself," *Scholastic Scope*, Vol. 26, No. 24, 1978 (poem)

OTHER PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS

- “On Park Street: Crossing between Faculty and Administration.” ADE Bulletin (Associated Departments of English), Modern Language Association, Number 129 (Fall 2001), 40-42. Full text available at <http://www.ade.org/ade/bulletin/n129/129040.htm>
- Foreword to James Kissane, Mild Outbursts (Grinnell Sesquicentennial Publication, 1996)
- Five reviews of books by alumni, Grinnell Magazine between 1989 and 2004
- “A Wilde Subtext for The Awkward Age.” The Henry James Review IX, 3 (1988)
- “Virginia Woolf as Victorian Reader.” Xanadu: A Literary Journal 12 (Summer 1987)
- “Helping Women Help Themselves.” Ithaca Times, 5/7/87, essay
- “Two New Books on the Arms Race.” Ithaca Times, 11/20/86, review

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

- Reading from forthcoming novel, Burling Library, Grinnell College, May 1, 2008
- Poetluck Reading. Writers' Colony at Dairy Hollow, Eureka Springs, AR. September 20, 2007
- Faculty Panel for Grinnell Admissions Office. Chicago Historical Society. November 5, 2006
- Fiction reading by Paula V. Smith, University of Northern Iowa. April 27, 2005
- “thickPaint and cooked.” Gallery talk co-presented with Dan Ferro (visual artist). Grinnell Community Art Gallery. August 22, 2003
- “Critic, Scholar, Writer: Keeping our Difficult Balance.” Lecture for Grinnell Writers' Conference. Grinnell College. March 15, 2001
- Panel on “The Scholar in Administration.” MLA Convention, Washington, D.C. December 2000
- “Creating a Supportive Community of Teachers and Scholars.” Co-presented with Dr. Helen G. Scott at conference on “Strengthening Faculty Development at Liberal Arts Colleges.” Rollins College (Florida). March 2-3, 2000
- “Discover Grinnell College.” Lectures for groups of prospective students, 1998-2001
- Paper, Virginia Woolf Society Special Session, MLA Convention. New York City. December 1992
- Humanities Scholar, “Let's Talk” Lecture-Discussion Series. Grinnell Public Library. Fall 1988
- Co-Chair, Noun Conference, “Rethinking the Family.” Grinnell College. October 1988
- “Fictions, Evasions, and Lies: The Art of Autobiography.” Grinnell Alumni College. May 1988
- Presented paper at New England MLA conference (Providence, RI). March 1988
- Presented paper at Twentieth-Century Literature Conference (Cornell University), 1986
- Presented paper at N.Y. State Women's Studies Association Conference (SUNY-Oswego), 1985

ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES

Duties carried out as Associate Dean of the College, 1998-2002 unless otherwise specified

- Development and faculty approval of Mentored Advanced Project (MAP) program
- Created structure for the program; record-keeping/web site; assessment plan
 - Assisted in developing realistic budget model; faculty compensated at 6 MAPS=1 course
 - Worked with departments, concentrations, and individual faculty to develop models
 - Coordinated evaluation of trial period and proposal to regularize MAPs in the curriculum
- President's Staff

Assistance in preparation of Dean's annual reports to the President

Secretary to the Faculty Personnel Committee

- Agenda and minutes
- Dean's evaluative letters to faculty following interim/complete reviews
- Annually edited and updated Grinnell College "Guidelines for Faculty Reviews"

Support for dean on Faculty Executive Council

- Assisted Council with preparations for new Strategic Plan
- Implemented new Faculty Diversity Initiative

Grant writer and project administrator, Mellon Postdoctoral Fellows Grant

- Departmental proposals; faculty searches; coaching for mentors and fellows
- Tri-college conference; assessment of program; grant reports

Chair, Rosenbloom-Cowles Committee on the Fine Arts

- Evaluated curricular proposals to develop team-taught interdisciplinary arts courses
- Evaluated proposals for bringing guest artists for campus residencies

Chair, Writing Advisory Committee

- Writing assessment methods and projects; student writing internships

College Budget Steering Committee (ex officio), 2001-2002

- Helped President and Vice Presidents to reform the college budget planning process
- Committee member; Subcommittees on Academic Budget & Budget Communications
- Participated in one full cycle of preparing/recommending budget to the President

Steering Group, Mellon Faculty Career Enhancement Grant with Oberlin College, 2000-2002

- Joint workshop for dept. chairs; faculty mentor-pairs; inter-college collaborations

First-Year Tutorial Committee, 1998-2001 (Chair, Spring 2001)

Task Force on Faculty Handbook, 1998-2000

- Re-organization of Handbook in light of revisions to College By-Laws, 1998-1999

Liaison with Academic Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees, 1998-2000

Assisted with new faculty orientation and faculty development programs

FACULTY SERVICE

Baumann Prize Selection Committee, 2006-2007

Host family for International student, 2004-2008

Committee on Academic Standing, 2004-2007 and 1988-1990

- Subcommittee on Academic Honesty, 2006-2007; Chair, 1989-1990

Marshall-Rhodes Scholarship Nomination Committee, 2000-2002

Convener, Council on Core Values and Institutional Excellence, January-May 1998

Faculty Executive Council, at-large, 1996-1998

NCA (Institutional Accreditation Review) College Steering Committee, 1996-1998

Affirmative Action Advisory Committee, 1996-1997

Humanities Division Personnel Board, 1994-1996 and 2005-2006

College Fringe Benefits Committee, 1994-1996

- Dental plan added; tuition benefits for employee dependents; TIAA-CREF cashability

Grinnell College Sesquicentennial Planning Committee, 1992-1996

Faculty Mentor Program for First-Year Minority Students, 1988-1990, 1998-2001, 2004-05

College Judicial Council, spring 1990 and 1991-1992

Honors Scholars Steering Committee (Outreach program for minority students), 1992-1993

Faculty-Trustee Relations Committee, 1988-1990 and 1992-1993

Ad-Hoc Committee on the Future of Creative Writing at Grinnell College, 1989-1990