

Lysbeth Em Benkert
Professor of English

Department of Languages, Literature, and Communication Studies
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Education:

Ph.D. English Literature; Washington State University, 1994
M. A. English Literature; Washington State University, 1990
B. A. English-Biology; Chatham College, 1988

Dissertation:

Class, Gender, and Education in the Formation of Epistemic Positions of Renaissance Narrative Versifiers.
Dissertation Readers: Prof. Louise Schleiner (director), Prof. Stanton Linden, Prof. Carol Siegel, and Prof. J. M. Massi.

Research/Creative Activity

Books/Chapbooks

#girl stuff. Dancing Girl Press. August, 2018. Chapbook length.
Rosetta Stone. Full-length manuscript. Under review by University of Pittsburgh Press.
Letter from Liminal Spaces. Full-length manuscript. Under review by Etched Press.

Publications, Refereed journals

"Faith and Redemption in *The Winter's Tale*," in *Religion and the Arts*. 2015 (19. 1-2): 31-50.
"Shakespeare on the Prairie: The Shakespeare Club of Aberdeen South Dakota," in *Borrowers and Lenders: The Journal of Shakespeare and Appropriation*. Fall/Winter, 2007 (2.2).
<<http://www.borrowers.uga.edu/cocoon/borrowers/issue?id=7151>>.
"Re-Writing Rabelais's 'Nonsense': The Feminine Grotesque in Alexander Pope's *Dunciad*," in *The McNeese Review*, 2006 (44): 53-69.
"Translation as Image-Making: Elizabeth I's Translation of *The Consolation of Philosophy*," in *Early Modern Literary Studies*, 2001 Jan; 6 (3): 20 paragraphs. *EMLS* is published by the University of Sheffield Hallam and the University of Toronto.

Publications, Original poetry in peer reviewed literary magazines/anthologies

"Persephone's Table." *Bombay Gin* 46, 2020.
"Neither mice, nor cookies, nor boxes." *Right Hand Pointing*, July 2020.
"The State Dessert Is Kuchen." In *South Dakota Poems*, Christine Stewart, ed. 2020.
"Red Hibiscus." *Briar Cliff Review*, vol. 32, 2020.
"Amorphous Solid." *One-Sentence Poems*, May 14, 2019.
"Volta," "Thinking Like a Glass Cat." *Pasque Petals*, Fall, 2018.
"forensic explorations." *Rogue Agent*, September, 2018.
"Re-creations," "Literally," "A ghost of my former self." *All the Universe Shining*. Scurfpea Anthology Annual Publication, 2018.
"In my wake," "Literally." *Wicked Alice*. Accepted Oct. 29, 2018. forthcoming (maybe. this publication has been inactive for some time)
"Triangulation." *Pasque Petals*. Spring, 2017.
"Doing the Math." *One-Sentence Poems*. May 10, 2017.
"Cassandra," *Fickle Muses*. Feb. 12, 2017. [note: *Fickle Muse* has since ceased publication]
"Mother Love." *Her Heart Poetry*. March 2017.
"Taking Care of Business," "What My Mother Taught Me," "Ruby Slippers," "Potential Energy," and "Actively Useless." South Dakota State Poetry Society, *Pasque Petals*, Fall 2015.

Other Publications

"Monkey's Journey West: The Trickster Goes on a Quest," in *The Proceedings of the Twenty-first Annual Northern Plains Conference on Early British Literature*. Ed. Judith A. Dorn. St. Cloud State University, 2014. Web.

- "Using the Bugs Bunny Theory of Comedy to Make Sense of Katherine and Petruccio," in *The Proceedings of the Northern Plains Conference on Early British Literature*, 2010. Web.
- "Anne Dowriche" and "The French History," in *Facts on File Companion to Pre-1600 British Poetry*. Ed. Michelle Sauer. NY: Facts on File, 2008.
- "Gender and Genre in Teaching Shakespeare's *The Winter's Tale*," in *The Proceedings of the Ninth Annual Northern Plains Conference on Early British Literature*, Nicholas Wallerstein and Roger Ochse, eds. Spearfish, SD; 2002.
- "Using Science to Teach Fiction: Computers in the Literature Classroom," in *The Proceedings of the Eighth Annual Northern Plains Conference on Early British Literature*, pp. 89-97 IN: De Smith, Robert J. (ed. and intro.); *Proceedings of the Eighth Annual Northern Plains Conference on Earlier British Literature*. Sioux Center, IA: Dordt College; 2001.
- "The Feminine Grotesque in Pope's *Dunciad*," in *The Proceedings of the Fourth Dakotas Conference on Early English Literature*, Bill Clemente and Mary Mokris, eds. Peru, Nebraska; 1996.

Conference Presentations, Literary Criticism

- March, 2016, "Shakespeare on the Plains," presentation for the Shakespeare Symposium held by the University of South Dakota in conjunction with the Shakespeare First Folio exhibit at the National Music Museum, Vermillion SD.
- April, 2015, Panel discussion on teaching early modern British literature, for the Northern Plains Conference on Early British Literature, Mayville State University, North Dakota.
- April 2014, "Monkey's Journey West: The Trickster Goes on a Quest," for the Northern Plains Conference on Early British Literature, St. Cloud State University.
- April, 2010, "Using the Bugs Bunny Theory of Comedy to Make Sense of Katherine and Petruccio," for the Northern Plains Conference on Early British Literature, University of Mary, Bismarck, ND
- April 2008, "Faith and Redemption in *The Winter's Tale*," as part of a seminar at the annual conference of the Shakespeare Association of America, Dallas, TX
- April 2006, "Shakespeare on the Prairie: the Aberdeen Shakespeare Club" as part of a seminar at the annual conference of the Shakespeare Association of America, Philadelphia, PA
- April, 2005, "I will invite some ladies that I know': Aemilia Lanyer's Rhetoric of Context," for the Northern Plains Conference on Early British Literature, Morris, MN
- April 2004, "Adapting the Master: Joe Calarco's *Shakespeare's R&J*," for the Northern Plains Conference on Early British Literature in Sioux Falls, SD
- March, 2003, "Anne Dowriche and *The Golden Legend*," for the South Central Renaissance Conference, in New Orleans, MS
- April, 2001, "Gender and Genre in Teaching Shakespeare's *The Winter's Tale*," for the Northern Plains Conference on Early British Literature, in Spearfish, SD
- April, 2000, "Using Science to Teach Fiction: Computers in the Literature Classroom," for the Northern Plains Conference on Early British Literature, in Sioux Center, IA
- April, 1999, "Teaching Shakespeare through Performance and Text" with Michael Shiller, for the Northern Plains Conference on Early British Literature, in Aberdeen, SD
- Oct., 1998, "A Lamentable Discourse of Truth: Anne Dowriche's Female Martyrological Voice and John Foxe's *Book of Martyrs*," for the Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, Toronto, Canada
- May, 1997, "High Expectations--Spenser's View of Audience," for the Rocky Mountain Medieval and Renaissance Conference, Banff, Alberta
- Apr., 1996, "The Feminine Grotesque in Pope's *Dunciad*," for the Fourth Dakotas Conference on Early English Literature, Peru, NE
- Oct., 1995, "Euphues and the Madrigals" with Prof. Lori Wiest, for the Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association Conference in Spokane, WA
- Feb., 1995, "Anne Dowriche and the Symbolic Re-telling of Protestant History," for the Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies Conference, Tempe, AZ

Poetry Readings

- "South Dakota in Poetry: A Celebration," ed. Christine Stewart-Núñez. Virtual Reading for the South Dakota Festival of Books. Oct. 15, 2020.
- Women Poets Collective Virtual Reading for the South Dakota Festival of Books. Oct. 9, 2020. Posted at <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=359804538548282>.
- Women Poet's Collective Virtual Poetry Reading. June 7, 2020. Posted on youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GWiSGhyGM3Q>.
- Women Writers Collective. Dakota Wesleyan University. March 15, 2019.

John R. Milton Writers' Conference. University of South Dakota. October 26, 2018.
 Great Plains Writers' Conference. South Dakota State University. March 24, 2018.
 Women Writers Collective. South Dakota Festival of Books. Deadwood, SD. September 23, 2017.
 Dakota Women Poets. Siouxland Libraries, Downtown Sioux Falls. April 20, 2017.
 John R. Milton Writers' Conference. October 28, 2016.

Other Conference Experience

April, 2012, Hosted the Twentieth Annual Northern Plains Conference on Early British Literature at Northern State University.
 April 2001 and 2002, Organized and hosted an undergraduate research conference – Celebrating Excellence across Campus – for the Northern Plains Region; students from across South and North Dakota from all academic disciplines participated
 Apr., 2000, Attended the Conference of the Midwest Regional Honors Council with 9 student members of the Honors Program
 Apr., 1997, Served as faculty mentor for a student as she revised and then presented a paper at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research in Austin, TX
 Jan., 1997, Attended the NCTE conference “Conflict and Consensus: Exploring Diversity and Standards in the Portfolio Movement” in New Orleans as a department representative

Honors/Grants

“One of the Guys,” original poem, semi-finalist for the 2019 Joy Harjo Poetry Competition, *Cutthroat A Journal of the Arts* (1,000+ entrants).
Letters from Liminal Spaces, full-length book manuscript. Quarterfinalist in the 2020 Colorado Prize for Poetry.
 Spring, 2014, Sabbatical leave to complete several projects for publication
 Spring, 2004, Sabbatical leave to complete several projects for publication
 Fall, 2003, Peer Evaluation of Instruction Grant from the Office of Instructional Support to compare objectives and teaching methods of my Composition I with Dr. Anne Holmquest's Speech 101
 2002, Governor's Technology Grant to digitize clips from Shakespeare productions. I now use these clips in conjunction with my Shakespeare classes so students can compare productions from a variety of directors/actors
 2001, Outstanding Faculty Member, from the NSU Foundation
 1999, Governor's Technology Grant to develop and implement an Internet version of English 201 – a full summer contract, plus a \$5000 equipment budget
 1998, Director of a two-week Summer Teachers' Institute, “Women's Literary Legacy,” funded by the South Dakota Humanities Council, a state program of the National Endowment for the Humanities -- \$11,909
 Spring, 1998, Grant from the Office of Instructional Development to research and implement a cross-disciplinary Shakespeare course with Michael Shiller in the Theater Department -- \$750
 1997, Participant in an NEH Summer Seminar at The Ohio State University on “The English Reformation: Literature, History and Art,” directed by Prof. John N. King -- \$4,000
 1997, Grant from the Office of Instructional Development to attend NCTE conference on “Conflict and Consensus: Exploring Diversity and Standards in the Portfolio Movement” – \$750

Teaching Experience:

At Northern State University (Fall, 1995-present):

ENGL 497: Independent Study
 ENGL 494, English Internship
 ENGL 490, Senior Seminar (Early Modern Women Writers)
 ENGL 490, Senior Seminar (Divine and Meditative Poetry)
 ENGL 488: Literary Studies Review
 ENGL 476: Creative Writing, Poetry
 ENGL 486, Rhetorical Theory and Practice
 ENGL 480: Contemporary Rhetoric
 ENGL 437, Seminar in Milton
 ENGL 432, Shakespeare II
 ENGL 431, Shakespeare I
 ENGL 425: The Age of Milton
 ENGL 314, Enlightenment Survey

ENGL 313, Renaissance Survey
ENGL 305, Technical, Professional, and Grant Writing
ENGL 284, Introduction to Criticism
ENGL 258, Literature and Culture (Women in Literature)
ENGL 215, Literature in Global Context (Politics and Literature—team taught with Dr. Jon Schaff)
ENGL 213, Backgrounds to Literature (Genesis of the Novel)
ENGL 213, Backgrounds to Literature (Epic Heroes)
ENGL 201, Composition II
ENGL 101H, Honors English Composition I
ENGL 101, Composition I
HON 195, Honors Seminar I
IDL 190 First Year Seminar (Rhetoric and Visual Literacy—team taught with Dr. Elizabeth Sills)
IDL 190. Freshman Seminar
IDL 101, University Success

At Washington State University (Fall, 1988-Spring, 1995)

English 305, Shakespeare before 1600
English 302, Writing about Literature
English 301, Logic and Rhetoric
English 210, Survey of British and American Literature, 1800-Present
English 209, Survey of British and American Literature, Medieval to 1800
English 201, Writing and Research
English 108, Reading Literature
English 101, Freshman Composition
Teaching Assistant, The Bible as Literature. Prof. Paul Brians, instr. of record
Writing Lab Tutor

Correspondence/Online Courses

English 201, Composition II (on-line)
I have written course books for the following classes at Washington State University:
1997, English 306x, Correspondence Course in Shakespeare after 1600
1995, English 305x Correspondence Course in Shakespeare before 1600
1989, English 388x, Correspondence Course in Victorian Literature

Academic Service:

2020. Co-Chair, Shared Governance Taskforce.
2020-2021. Technical Writer/Editor, Self-Study, Higher Learning Commission.
2020-2021. Member Faculty Senate.
2019-2020. President, Faculty Senate.
2018-2019. President elect, Faculty Senate.
2018-2019. Chair, Search Committee, Assistant Professor of Sociology.
2018-2018. Faculty Mentor for Dr. Ben Harley.
2017-2018. Chair, Search Committee, Assistant Professor of English.
2017-2020. Member, University Assessment Committee.
2016. Technical writer for NSU's accreditation report to the Higher Learning Commission.
Fall, 2014 – Spring, 2016. Secretary Faculty Senate.
Spring, 2014. Member, IAMCOM Committee to draft a university-wide standards document to guide the annual review process for faculty
2013-2014. Member Faculty Senate.
May 2011, 2012, and 2013. Assisted Dr. Elizabeth Haller on her Literary Tours of Great Britain
2011-present. Assessment Coordinator, Ba and BSed programs in English
Spring 2009. Member, search committee for Provost and VPAA
2008-09. Chair, search committee for tenure-track English faculty
Spring-Summer 2008. Co-chair, search committee for dean of the College of Arts and Sciences
Fall, 2009-Sp 2012. Chair, Department of Literature, Languages, and Communication Studies
2007-2014. Advising coordinator for the English Program
Spring 2006-2009. Coordinator for the Department of English and Linguistics (researched and authored a ten-year program review in 2007)
Fall, 2005-2009. Faculty mentor for English instructors in NSU's Rising Scholar program

Nov., 2002. Sat for the PRAXIS II Exam in the Language Arts
 2003-2004. Faculty Mentor for Dr. Dominique Hoche
 Sept., 2003-present. NSU representative on the English Discipline Council (chair, 2006-07)
 2002-2003. Faculty Mentor for Dr. Pen Pearson
 2001-2003. Learning Community Task Force
 2002-2007. Member NSU Children's Center Advisory Board
 2002 and 2003. Member search committees for English, Chemistry and the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences
 Jan., 2000-2002. Chair, Honors Committee
 Jan., 200-2002. Director, Honors Program
 Feb., 2000. Member, Scholarship Committee
 Fall, 1999-2005. Member, Media Board
 1999-spring, 2005. Collaborated with South Dakota A.P English instructors in course design and assignments. I have gone to Aberdeen Central High School to give short lectures and workshops to students in preparation for the AP Exam, and I have shared my WebCT sites with up to 9 high school teachers in a school year
 Fall, 1998. Member, General Education Steering Committee
 1998-2008. Member, Faculty Senate (served as secretary, 2005-07; served as interim president, fall 2007; served as president elect, spring 2008)
 1997-98. Member, Presidential Search Committee at NSU
 1997-98. Member, Assessment Committee
 Spring, 1997 and 1998. Member, committee to coordinate Language Arts Day, a day for area high school students to travel to NSU and compete in various language arts-related activities such as creative writing contests and an English Bowl (trivia contest)
 1996-97. Member, search committee for the Technical Services Coordinator, Williams Library
 1996-2000. Member, Student Orientation Committee.
 July 31, 1998. Participant, Board of Regents' roundtable discussions on general education, Pierre, SD
 Oct., 1997. Judge for the final round of NSU's High School Oral Interpretation Contest
 1996-present. Faculty advisor for English majors as assigned
 Spring, 1997. Developed a career guide for English majors
 Fall, 1996. Developed a pamphlet describing English course offerings for distribution to faculty advisers across campus
 1996. Participated in an interdisciplinary writing group with other faculty
 1995-present. Member, Graduate faculty
 1995-2000. Grader, English placement exams for entering freshmen at Northern
 1996-present. Participant, in several recruiting activities for NSU, including Northern Bound Days, and the Top 100 Banquet
 1995-2004. Co-sponsor, Sigma Tau Delta, National English Honor Society, NSU chapter

Non-Conference Presentations/Community Service:

1997-2019. Member Aberdeen Shakespeare Club (served as president, 2000-2001; served as vice president, 2007-2009 and 2014-present)
 Jan., 2004-2006. Board Member and Secretary, Natural Abundance Food Cooperative
 March, 2003. Presentation on "Women in the English Reformation," for the American Association of University Women
 April, 2002. Panel discussion on *Shakespeare's R&J* with Arizona State University Professor Emeritus Mary Maher prior to NSU's performance of the play
 Oct., 1998. Presentation on *Richard II* for the Aberdeen Shakespeare Club
 Apr., 1998. "Poetry, Beauty, and a College Education," for the Phi ETA Sigma induction banquet
 Feb., 1998. Panel discussion on women in history and the effects of stereotyping following a performance of *Vinegar Tom* by Northern's theater department
 Oct., 1997. Presentation on performance issues in Olivier's and Branagh's movie versions of *Hamlet*, for the Aberdeen Shakespeare Club
 April, 1997. Presentation on *The Tempest* and Montaigne's "Of Cannibals," for the Aberdeen Shakespeare Club, an Aberdeen community club of non-academics that meets monthly to discuss things Shakespearean
 Oct., 1996. Performed Annie Dillard's "Living Like Weasels" for the Celebration with Words and Music at NSU's Williams Library

Service to Discipline

Summer, 2016. Peer reviewer for *Religion and the Arts*.

Related Experience:

Fall, 2020. Consultant for NSU's production of *Midsummer Night's Dream*

Spring 2006. Dramaturge for NSU's production of *As You Like It*

Spring, 2002. Dramaturge for NSU Theater Department's production of Joe Calarco's *Shakespeare's R&J*

Spring, 1998. Dramaturge for NSU's production of *Richard III*

1997. Dramaturge for NSU production of *Fortinbras*; wrote a short summary of *Hamlet* for the program