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SPECIAL FIELDS

Calvin College, Grand Rapids, MI:
Professor of English
1985 -

Children's and Adolescent Literature
New England Cultural History
Old and Middle English Language and Literature
Creative Writing

Hamline University, Minneapolis, MN:
Assistant Professor
Graduate School of Liberal Arts
MFA Program in Writing for Children
2007 -

Writing for Children and Young Adults

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

Ph.D., Medieval Language and Literature, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 1985.

M.A., English Language and Literature, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 1981.

B.A., English Literature and Political Science, Gordon College, 1979.

PUBLICATIONS AND RESEARCH

Scholarly and Academic Books:

Making Americans: Children's Literature from 1930 to 1960. Iowa City, IA: University of Iowa Press, 2013.

A Passionate Usefulness: The Life and Literary Labors of Hannah Adams. Charlottesville, VA: University Press of Virginia, 2004.

Robert Lawson. New York: Macmillan Publishing Co., 1997. Twayne's United States Authors Series.

Dictionary of Literary Biography: British Writers for Children, 1914-1960. Volume 4. Co-edited with Donald R. Hettinga. Columbia, SC: Bruccoli, Clark, Layman, 1996.

The Iconography of the Mouth of Hell. Selinsgrove, Penn.: Susquehanna University Press, 1995.

Katherine Paterson. New York: Macmillan Publishing Co., 1994. Twayne's United States Authors Series.
Published also in *Twayne's Women Authors on CD-ROM*, 1995.

Sitting at the Feet of the Past: Retelling the North American Folktale for Children. Co-edited with Donald R. Hettinga. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1992.

Hugh Lofting. New York: Macmillan Publishing Company, 1992. Twayne's British Authors Series.
Published also in *Twayne's English Authors on CD-ROM*, 1997.

Robert McCloskey. Boston: Twayne Publishers, 1990. United States Authors Series.

The Voice of the Narrator in Children's Literature. Co-edited with Charlotte F. Otten. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1989.

Textbooks:

Edging the Boundaries of Children's Literature. With Carol Winters. New York: Allyn and Bacon, 2001.

Communities of Discourse: The Rhetoric of Disciplines. Co-edited with William Vande Kopple. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall, Inc., 1993. *Instructor's Manual* with William Vande Kopple.

Supplementary Essays for College Writers. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall, Inc., 1988. Second edition, 1991. Third edition, 1993.

Children's literature, forthcoming and in print:

Waiting Time. New York: Greenwillow Books. Forthcoming. With Elizabeth Stickney.

Just Like That. New York: Clarion Books. Forthcoming.

Orbiting Jupiter. New York: Clarion Books, 2015. Forthcoming.

A Rose in the Desert: The Story of St. Martín. New York: Clarion Books, 2012. Illustrated by David Diaz.

What Came from the Stars. New York: Clarion Books, 2012. Simplified Chinese translation: Lijiang Publishing, 2-14 (forthcoming).

Okay for Now. New York: Clarion Books, 2011. Korean translation by Seoul: Ro., Ltd., 2012. Russian translation by Rozovy Zhiraf (forthcoming). Complex Chinese translation: Global Kids Books (forthcoming). Simplified Chinese translation: ThinKingdom Media (forthcoming). Hebrew translation: Tal-May Publishers (forthcoming). Turkish translation by Ephesus: Murekkep Divit (forthcoming). Audio Recording by Listening Library, 2011.

Trouble. New York: Clarion, 2008. Audio Recording by Scholastic, 2008. Korean translation by Seoul: Random House Korea, 2010. Russian translation by Rozovy Zhiraf (forthcoming). Paperback edition from Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2010.

The Wednesday Wars. New York: Clarion, 2007. Audio Recording by Scholastic, 2007. School Book Club edition by Scholastic, 2008. Korean translation by Seoul: Random House Korea, 2008. Chinese translation in Taiwan by Eastern Publishing Company (2009). Chinese translation in Mainland China by Thinkingdom Media Group, Ltd. (2010). Russian translation by Rosovy Zhiraf (forthcoming). Turkish edition by Ephesus: Murekkep Divit (forthcoming). Paperback edition: Boston: Houghton Mifflin, Sandpiper, 2009. Stage production by the Calvin College Theater Company, Grand Rapids, MI (2011, 2012); stage play by Kirsten Kelly.

First Boy. New York: Henry Holt, 2005. Paperback edition from New York: SquareFish, 2007. Audio recording by Random House Children's Audio/ Listening Library, 2005. Japanese translation by Motomi Ueno (Tokyo: Kodansha Ltd., 2006).

In God's Hands. Woodstock, Vermont: Jewish Lights Publications, 2005. With Rabbi Lawrence Kushner. Illustrated by Matthew J. Baek.

Lizzie Bright and the Buckminster Boy. New York: Clarion, 2004. Paperback editions from New York: Random House (Yearling, 2006) and (Laurel Leaf Readers Circle, 2008). Scholastic Book Club edition, fall,

2005. Audio recording by Random House Children's Audio/ Listening Library, 2005. Chinese translation from Eastern Publishing (f2007). Simplified Chinese translation, Lijiang Publishing (forthcoming, 2014). Korean translation from Booknbean Publisher (Seoul, South Korea: 2010). Rpt. McGraw-Hill as a reading program textbook, forthcoming. Stage productions by the Minneapolis Children's Theater (spring, 2012); and by Opera House Arts and the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts Partners in Education Program, Stonington, Maine, (fall, 2012): stage play by Cheryl West.

The Great Stone Face: A Retelling of a Tale by Nathaniel Hawthorne. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 2002. Illustrated by Bill Farnsworth. Paperback edition from Eerdmans Publishing, 2005. Korean translation from Seoul, Korea: Bomulchango Publishing (forthcoming, 2007).

The Wonders of Donal O'Donnell. New York: Henry Holt, 2002. Illustrated by Loren Long.

Mara's Stories. New York: Henry Holt, 2001. "The Violinist and the Master" reprinted in *Cicada* (July/August, 2003): 69-73. Paperback edition from New York: SquareFish, 2008.

Straw into Gold. New York: Clarion Books, 2001. A Houghton Mifflin Imprint. Paperback edition: Boston: Houghton Mifflin, Sandpiper, 2009

Ciaran: The Tale of a Saint of Ireland. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans Publishing Company, 2000. Todd L.W. Doney, illustrator.

Anson's Way. New York: Clarion Books, 1999. A Houghton Mifflin Imprint. Paperback edition from New York: Puffin, 2001; Boston: Houghton Mifflin, Sandpiper, 2009.

William Bradford. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdman's Publishing Company, 1998.

The Blessing of the Lord. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans Publishing, 1997. Dennis Nolan, illustrator.

The Sin Eater. New York: Dutton Publishers, 1996. A Lodestar Book. Paperback edition from New York: Puffin, 1998. Audio recording by Recorded Books (Prince Frederick, MD: 1997).

Robert Frost. New York: Sterling Publishing Company, 1994. Henri Sorenson, illustrator. Republished in *The Blackbirch Treasury of American Poetry for Young People.* Woodbridge, CT: Blackbirch Press, 2001. Paperback edition from New York: Sterling Publishing Company, 2008.

John Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1994. Barry Moser, illustrator. Novel format: Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans Books for Young People, 2008. Anthologized in *A World of Literature 6* (Grand Rapids, MI: Christian Schools International, 1995): 224-240. Audio recording: LaBaron Productions, Miami Lakes, Florida, 1998; Crown Magnetics, 2008. Musical recording by Jim Winder as *The Hard But Right Way*, a NoteBook Records Production, 2001. Korean translation: Seoul, South Korea: Kyujang Publishing, 2008. Chinese translation: Taipei, Taiwan: Taosheng Publishing House [forthcoming, 2008].

Other Books:

Acceptable Words: Prayers for the Writer. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans, forthcoming, 2012. Edited with Elizabeth Stickney.

Practically Human: College Professors Speak from the Heart of Humanities Education. Grand Rapids, MI: The Calvin College Press, 2012. Edited with Matthew Walhout. Includes "Why Come to College to Study

Writing?" (109-122).

The Emmaus Readers: More Contemporary Fiction. Orleans, MA: Paraclete Press, 2009. Edited with Susan Felch.

The Emmaus Readers: Listening for God in Contemporary Fiction. Orleans, MA: Paraclete Press, 2008. Edited with Susan Felch.

Spring: A Spiritual Biography. Woodstock, Vermont: Skylight Paths Press, 2006. Edited with Susan Felch. Illustrated by Mary Azarian. Paperback edition, 2008.

Summer: A Spiritual Biography. Woodstock, Vermont: Skylight Paths Press, 2005. Edited with Susan Felch. Illustrated by Barry Moser. Paperback edition, 200

Autumn: A Spiritual Biography. Woodstock, Vermont: Skylight Paths Press, 2004. Edited with Susan Felch. Illustrations by Mary Azarian. Paperback edition, 200

Winter: A Spiritual Biography. Woodstock, Vermont: Skylight Paths Press, 2002. Edited with Susan Felch. Illustrations by Barry Moser. Paperback edition, 2003.

Academic Articles, forthcoming and in print:

"The Hope of the Shared Burden: Thematic Continuity and Paradigmatic Shifting In the Retellings and Short Fiction of Katherine Paterson." In *Bridges for the Young: The Fiction of Katherine Paterson*, edited by Joel D. Chaston and M. Sarah Smedman. Lanham, Maryland: Rowan and Littlefield, 2003. 268-291.

"Divergent Journeys: Devils, Readers, and the Narrator's Art in *'be Deuelis Perlament.*'" *Journal of the Rocky Mountain Medieval and Renaissance Association* 14 (1993): 81-97.

"Vides festinare pastores": The Medieval Artistic Vision of Shepherding and the Manipulation of Cultural Expectation in *the Secunda Pastorum.*" *Neophilologus* 76 (1992): 290-304.

"Steinbeck's 'Breakfast': A Reconsideration." *Western American Literature* 26 (February, 1992): 303-311.

"Dis wrech man in warlowes guttez': The Role of Imagery in the Unity of Frame and Tale in the Middle English *Patience*, in Robert J. Blanch, Miriam Miller, and Julian Wasserman, eds., *Text and Matter: New Critical Perspectives of the Pearl Poet* (Troy, NY: Whitston Publishing Company, 1991): 177-93.

"The Elemental Art of Keizaburo Tejima." *The Lion and the Unicorn* 14 (December, 1990): 77-91.

"A Merger of Traditions: Sources of Comedy in Robert McCloskey's *Homer Price* Stories." *Studies in American Humor* 5 (Winter 1990): 287-98.

"So here, my dears, is a new Oz story': The Deep Structure of a Series." *Children's Literature Association Quarterly* 14 (1990): 163-65.

"A fell woman and full of strife': The Legend of Hedroit, the Smith's Wife." *Mediaevalia: A Journal of Medieval Studies* 11 (1989, for 1985): 47- 61.

- “The Harrowing of Peter: An Extra-Biblical Encounter Between Christ and Peter.” *Journal of the Rocky Mountain Medieval and Renaissance Association* 9 (1988): 71-81.
- “The Craft of The Cobbler’s Son: Tommy Stubbins and the Narrative Form of the Doctor Dolittle Series.” *Children’s Literature Association Quarterly* 12 (Spring 1987): 19-23.
- “See How They Grow: Character Development in Children’s Series Books.” *Children’s Literature in Education* 18 (1987): 34-44. Reprinted in part in *Children’s Literature Review* 14 (1988): 141-42; *Children’s Literature Review* 37 (1995): 3-4.
- “Collaborative Writing: A Successful Strategy for Computer-Assisted Instruction.” *Illinois English Bulletin* 73 (1985): 28-35. With Gail Hawisher.
- “*Beowulf* and the Literary Question.” *Illinois English Bulletin* 72 (1985): 15-20.
- “‘Al that hire housbonde lust, hire liketh weel’: The Marriage Irony in the Tales of the Merchant and Franklin.” In Anne C. Hargrove and Maurine Magliocco, eds., *Portraits of Marriage in Literature* (Macomb, IL: Western Illinois University Press, 1984): 97-105.
- “Unity and Contrasting Kingships in *Beowulf*.” *Concerning Poetry* 17 (1984): 1-11.
- “Painting and the Art of Rhetoric.” *Illinois English Bulletin* 71 (1984): 15-18.
- “On the Mundane in the Fantastic.” *Focus: Teaching English Language Arts* 10 (1983): 27-33.

Papers delivered:

- “The Ethics of Retelling: The Case of One Hasidic Tale,” presented at the Third National Research Conference and 2003 Image Conference, Seattle Pacific University, Seattle, WA, November, 2003.
- “Hannah Adams: Recasting the Past for the Revolutionary Future,” presented at the “11th Annual Humanities Seminar on Northern New England in the Nineteenth Century,” University of Maine at Farmington, June, 2003.
- “The Myth of Appalachia,” presented at the Eighth Virginia Hamilton Conference, Kent State, April, 1992. Published in Carolyn Brodie, Anthony Manna, eds., *Many Faces, Many Voices: Multicultural Literary Experiences for Youth* (Fort Atkinson, WI: High Smith Press, 1992): 69-78.
- “‘As cabinets enclose the gold’: John Bunyan and the Mouth of Hell in *The Pilgrim’s Progress*,” presented at the Second Annual Conference on Medievalism, University of Notre Dame, October, 1987.
- “Hedroit as Eve: The Role of the Smith’s Wife in Medieval Passion Plays,” presented at Novus et Antiquus: The Seventeenth Annual Interdisciplinary CAES Conference, Ball State University, October, 1986.
- “The Harrowing of Peter: An Extra-Biblical Encounter between Christ and Peter, in a Fifteenth-Century *Biblia Pauperum*,” presented at the Medieval Association of the Midwest Conference on Medieval and Early Renaissance Art and Thought, Iowa State University, September, 1985.
- “The Iconographic Significance of the Shepherds in the Wakefield *Secunda Pastorum*,” presented at the Ninth St. Louis Conference on Manuscript Studies, October, 1982.

"The Harley Version of the Utrecht Psalter: A Study in Transition," presented at the University of Illinois Medieval Club, March, 1982.

Critical encyclopedia reviews:

"Michael and Jeff Shaara," in Michael D. Sharp, ed., *Popular Contemporary Writers* (Tarrytown, NY: Marshall Cavendish Reference Books, 2006): 9: 1247-1262,

"Bede" [54-55], "Bernard the Wise" [60], "Daniel the Abbot" [147], "John Phocas" [477], and "William Wey" [641-642] in John B. Friedman, ed., *Medieval Trade, Travel, and Exploration: An Encyclopedia*. (New York: Garland Publishing, 2000.

"*Beowulf*" in Os Guinness, ed., *The Trinity Forum Guide to the Classics*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 1998. 85-88.

"Katherine Paterson," in Sylvia K. Miller and Ted Hipple, eds., *Writers for Young Adults 2* (New York: Charles Scribner's, 1997): 443-454.

"*Commodore Perry in the Land of the Shogun*" [251-254] in Frank N. Magill, ed., *Masterplots II: Juvenile and Young Adult Literature Series, Supplement*. Pasadena, CA: Salem Press, 1997.

"*The Book of the Duchess*" [729-732], "*Equus*" [2057-2060], and "*The Swiss Family Robinson*" [6375- 6378] in Chris Moose, ed., *Masterplots: Twentieth Anniversary Revised Second Edition*. Pasadena, CA: Salem Press, 1996.

"Kitty Barne" [30-35], "Kathleen Hale" [117-123], "W.E. Johns" [124-133] and "Malcolm Saville" [228-234] in Donald R. Hettinga and Gary D. Schmidt, eds., *Dictionary of Literary Biography: British Writers for Children, 1914-1960*. Columbia, SC: Brucoli, Clark, Layman, 1995.

"Patricia Clapp" [126-28], "Minfong Ho" [292-93], "Felice Holman" [295-96] "Jean Lee Latham" [373-76], "Myron Levoy" [392-94], "Beverly Naidoo" [479-80], and "Uri Orlev" [507-9] in Laura Standley Berger, ed., *Twentieth-Century Young Adult Writers*. Detroit, MI: St. James Press, 1994.

"Reviews of *In the Shadow of Man*, by Jane Goodall [909-12]; *Paul Revere and the World He Lived In*, by Esther Forbes [1391-94]; and *Paul Robeson: The Life and Times of a Free Black Man*, by Virginia Hamilton" [1395-98] in Frank N. Magill, ed., *Masterplots II: Juvenile and Young Adult Biography*. Pasadena, CA: Salem Press, 1993. "

"Review of *Words by Heart*, by Ouida Sebestyen" in Frank N. Magill, ed., *Masterplots II: Juvenile and Young Adult Fiction*. Pasadena, CA: Salem Press, 1991: 1656-59.

Book Reviews:

Review of Binnie Tate Wilkin, *African and African American Images in Newbery Award Winning Titles: Progress In Portrayals. The Lion and the Unicorn* (forthcoming).

"Figuring Out Dad," review of Kathryn Erskine, *The Absolute Power of Mike*. *The New York Times Book Review* (June 5, 2011): 26.

Review of Joanne Brown and Nancy St. Clair, *The Distant Mirror: Reflections on Young Adult Historical Fiction. The Lion and the Unicorn* 31.1 (January, 2007): 67-71.

- Review of Angela Sorby, *Schoolroom Poets: Childhood, Performance, and the Place of American Poetry, 1865-1917*. *The Lion and the Unicorn* 30.3 (September, 2006): 410-413.
- Review of Julia Mickenberg, *Learning from the Left: Children's Literature, the Cold War, and Radical Politics in the United States*. *The Lion and the Unicorn* 30.3 (September, 2006): 422-426.
- Review of Maria Tatar, *Secrets Beyond the Door: The Story of Bluebeard and His Wives*. *The Lion and the Unicorn* 30.1 (January, 2006): 143-147.
- Review of Lois Thomas Stover, *Jacqueline Woodson: "The Real Thing,"* and Julius Lester, *On Writing for Children and Other People*. *The Lion and the Unicorn* 29.3 (September, 2005): 450-453. With Millie Jackson.
- "Medieval Literature as Children's Literature." Review of Barbara Tapa Lupack, ed., *Adapting the Arthurian Legends for Children: Essays on Arthurian Juvenilia*, and Velma Bourgeois Richmond, *Chaucer as Children's Literature: Retellings from the Victorian and Edwardian Eras*. *The Lion and the Unicorn* 29.2 (April, 2005): 276-280.
- "Engaging Harry Potter as Books, Product, and Social Phenomenon." Review of Giselle Liza Anatol's *Reading Harry Potter: Critical Essays*, and Lana Whitehead's *The Ivory Tower and Harry Potter*. *The Lion and Unicorn* 29.1 (January, 2005): 136-140.
- "Anne, Rebecca, Polly, and Nancy in the Marketplace." Review of Peter Stoneley's *Consumerism and American Girls' Literature, 1860-1940*. *The Lion and Unicorn* 28 (January, 2004): 163-166.
- "The Impossibility of Meaning." Review of Hamida Bosmajian's *Sparing the Child: Grief and the Unspeakable in Youth Literature*, and Adrienna Kurtzer's *My Mother's Voice: Children, Literature, and the Holocaust*. *The Lion and Unicorn* 27 (April, 2003): 277-281.
- "What Does Gallant Read That Goofus Doesn't?" Review of *Tending the Heart of Virtue: How Classic Stories Awaken a Child's Moral Imagination*, by Vigen Guroian." *Perspectives* 14 (May, 1999): 19-21.
- "Of Pulp, Substance, and Science Fiction: Review of *Science Fiction for Young Readers*, by C.W. Sullivan III, ed." *Children's Literature Association Quarterly* 21 (Spring, 1996): 45-47.
- "Just Looking: Review of *Last House on the Road: Excursions into a Rural Past*, by Ronald Jager," *Perspectives* 10 (March 1995): 21-22.
- "Children's Literature and Considered Bravado: Review of *Teaching Children's Literature*, by Glenn Edward Sadler, ed." *Children's Literature* 23 (1995): 243-247.
- "Review of *Moral Instruction and Fiction for Children, 1749-1820*, by Samuel Pickering, and *Heaven Upon Earth: The Form of Moral and Religious Children's Literature, to 1850*, by Patricia Demers." *Christianity and Literature* 44 (Autumn, 1994): 102-105.
- "Review of *The Golden Legend* by Jacob of Voragine." *Christianity and Literature* 43 (Autumn 1993): 101-104.
- "Questions of Power: A Review of *Criticism, Theory, and Children's Literature*, by Peter Hunt, and *Children's Literature: The Development of Criticism*, edited by Peter Hunt." *Children's Literature* 21 (1993): 167-173.

- “The Dimensions of Fairy Tale Romance: A Review of *Fairy Tale Romance*, by James M. McGlathery.” *Children's Literature Association Quarterly* 17 (Winter 1992-93): 44-45.
- “Review of *Touchstones: Reflections on the Best in Children's Literature*, edited by Perry Nodelman.” 3 vols. *Children's Literature* 20 (1992): 218-224.
- “Review of *The Vengeance of Our Lord: Medieval Dramatizations of the Destruction of Jerusalem*, by Stephen K. Wright.” *Medieval and Renaissance Drama in England* 76 (1991): 283-286.
- “Review of *The Virtuous Pagan in Middle English Literature*, by Cindy L. Vitto.” *Journal of the Rocky Mountain Medieval and Renaissance Association* (1991): 152-154.
- “Review of *Dr. Seuss*, by Ruth K. MacDonald.” *Children's Literature Association Quarterly* 16 (Spring 1991): 41-42.
- “Review of *Visions of Heaven and Hell Before Dante*, by Eileen Gardiner.” *Christianity and Literature* 40 (Winter, 1991): 179-81.
- “Outside Over Where?: Review of *Stories of Reading: Subjectivity and Literary Understanding*, by Michael Steig.” *The Lion and the Unicorn* 14 (December, 1990): 115-20.
- “Review of *Christian's Children: The Influence of John Bunyan's The Pilgrim's Progress on American Children's Literature*, by Ruth K. MacDonald.” *Christianity and Literature* 39 (Summer, 1990): 452-54.
- “Review of *J.R.R. Tolkien: Six Decades of Criticism*, by Judith A. Johnson.” *Children's Literature Association Quarterly* 15 (Spring, 1990): 40-42.
- “Review of *The Collected Plays and Writings on Theatre*, by Karol Woytyla.” *Christianity and Literature* 38 (1989): 87-88.
- “Review of *Fairy Tales, Fables, Legends, and Myths*, by Bette Bosma.” *Christian Educators Journal* 27 (1988): 32.
- “Review of *Preachers, Poets, and the Early English Lyric*, by Siegfried Wenzel.” *Christianity and Literature* 37 (1987): 77-78.
- “Review of *The Assault*, by Harry Mulisch.” *The Banner* 122, no. 39 (1987): 18.
- “Review of *Trailing Clouds of Glory: Spiritual Values in Children's Books*, by Madeleine L'Engle.” *Christian Educators Journal* 27 (1987): 33-34.

Other Articles:

- “Falls.” for *Been There, Done That*, edited by Michael Winchell. New York: Penguin, forthcoming.
- “Be Clean!” for *Break These Rules*, edited by Luke Reynolds. Chicago: Chicago Review Press, 2013.
- “Introduction” for *Johnny Tremain*, by Esther Forbes. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2012: vii-xii.
- “One Dumb Single.” *Scholastic Storyworks* (January, 2011): 10-15.
- “Afterword” for *The Voyages of Doctor Dolittle*, by Hugh Lofting. New York: Signet Classics, 2011: 255-264.

- “The Perfect Freedom of the Children’s Writer.” *Media Spectrum: Journal of the Michigan Association for Media in Education* 36.1 (Spring, 2009): 16-18.
- “Stories for Summer Days.” *The Banner* 144.6 (June, 2009): 36.
- “The Hoax.” In Dan Gutman, ed. *Recycle This Book: 100 Children’s Book Authors Show Kids How to Save the World*. (New York: Random House, 2009): 33-35.
- “The 51st Phone Call.” *Horn Book* 84.2 (March/ April, 2008): 182-183.
- “Tooth Powder & the Kinship of the Shared Craft.” *Christian School Teacher* 8.1 (Fall, 2006): 18-23.
- “Old-Style Writing.” *Christian School Teacher* 7.1 (Fall, 2005): 22-26.
- “So Who Can Tell Such a Story?” *Horn Book* 82.2 (March-April, 2005): 153-162.
- “The Moral Imagination in Children’s Books.” *Christian School Teacher* 3 (Fall, 2001): 9-13.
- “The Last Taboo: Spiritual Life in Children’s Literature.” *Five Owls* 15 (November/ December, 2000): 25-30.
- “Defamiliarizing, and So Retelling, the Stories of the Bible.” *Five Owls* 14 (March/ April, 2000): 102-103.
- “The Dangerous Harry Potter.” *Christian Home and School* 78 (March/April, 2000): 26-27. Reprinted in *Spirit Catalyst* 10 (July, 2000): 1,3.
- “The Grail is Real: A Conversation with Katherine Paterson.” *Books and Culture* (November/ December, 1999): 28-29.
- “Selected Bibliography of Works by Robert Lawson.” *Martha’s KidLit Newsletter* 8.6 (June, 1996): 2-3, 6.
- “Robert Lawson--Illustrator.” *Martha’s KidLit Newsletter* 8.5 (May, 1996): 1-2.
- “The New England Gazetteer.” *Dialogue* 28 (September/ October, 1995): 9-11.
- “Hugh Lofting.” *Martha’s KidLit Newsletter* 7 (Spring 1995): 1, 8.
- “Places, Real and Imaginary.” *The Five Owls* 9 (November/December, 1994): 25-31.
- “Telling It Slant.” *Teacher’s Helper: God’s World Publications* 12 (October 7, 1994): 2.
- “Is This Book Safe for My Classroom?” *Christian Home and School* 72 (March/April 1994): 12-14.
Reprinted in condensed form in *The Educator’s Digest* 60 (October 1994): 51-52.
- “Retelling the Biblical Tale.” *Christian Educators Journal* 31 (February, 1992): 26-28.
- “Appalachian Spring.” *The Five Owls* 5 (May/ June, 1991): 107-109.
- “The Story as Teller: An Interview with Madeleine L'Engle.” *The ALAN Review* 18 (Winter, 1991): 10-14.
- “With Healing in His Wings.” *Christian Home and School* 67 (November-December 1989): 18.

“Rod,” “The God-Made Poem,” and “The Woman of Sychar.” *The Footstool Review* 1 (1986): 36-40.

“Journal of the Red Star.” *Dialogue* 18 (1986): 30-37.

TEACHING

Undergraduate Courses taught:

Old English Language and *Beowulf*
Matter of King Arthur
History of the English Language
Medieval British Literature
Chaucer
British Literature Survey I
Masterpieces of British Literature
Renaissance Literature
Children's Literature
Adolescent Literature
Recent Issues in Children's Literature
Children's Literature [Graduate]
Introduction to Film
The Film Art of Alfred Hitchcock

Computer-Assisted Composition
Principles of Composition
Intermediate Composition
Advanced and Honors Composition
Remedial Composition
The Craft of Writing
Creative Writing: Fiction
Survey of American Literature
Christian Perspectives on Learning
Law and Literature
Introduction to Fiction, Drama, Poetry
Introduction to Fiction

New England Saints

Graduate Courses in Children's literature taught:

“Reading Children's Literature: A Graduate Workshop.” Fall, 2004. Zondervan Corporation.
“Writing Children's Literature: A Graduate Workshop.” June, 2002- 2003, 2005-2006. With Donald R. Hettinga.
“For the Soul of the Reader: A Graduate Workshop.” June, 1999- June 2001. With Donald R. Hettinga.
“Reading the Picture Book: A Graduate Workshop.” Calvin College, July, 1995 through 1998, 2007.
With Donald R. Hettinga.
“Issues and Events in Recent Children's Literature: A Graduate Workshop.” Calvin College, June, 1994.
With Donald R. Hettinga.

HONORS

Michigan Author of the Year, presented by the Michigan Library Association, 2011.

Junior Library Guild selection, 2012. Fall 2012 Great Lakes Read. For *What Came from the Stars*.

National Book Award Finalist, 2011. Junior Literary Guild selection, 2011. Great Lakes Reads 2011. Young Adult Master Reading List for 2012-2013 for the Land of Enchantment State Book Award, New Mexico. *New York Times* Notable Children's Book, 2011. 2012 Texas Lone Star Reading List. Notable Children's Book of 2011 from *Chicago Tribune* and *Boston Globe*. American Library Association Notable Book for Children. American Library Association Best Fiction for Young Adults. Winner of Scholastic's "Battle of the Kids Books," 2012. Winner of the Fifth to Sixth Grade Book of the Year by the Children's Book Council Children's Choice Book Awards, 2012. Nominated for the North Carolina Young Adult Book Award, 2012-2013. Virginia Readers' Choice Master List 2013-2014. Virginia Library Association Jefferson Cup Award for a Young Adult Book. For *Okay for Now*.

Premier Selection of the Junior Library Guild, Spring, 2008. Oprah's Book Club: Kids Reading List, 12 Years and Up. Cuyahoga County Public Library "Great Books for Kids 2008." VOYA's Top Shelf Fiction for Middle School Readers 2008 List. 2008 Honor Book by the Society of School Librarians International in the category of Language Arts, Grades 7 – 12 Novels. Michigan Readers' Association Great Lakes Great Book Award for Grades 6 – 8, 2009/ 2010. Finalist in Children's Fiction category by the Society of

Midland Authors in the 2008-2009 Awards Competition. VOYA's Top Shelf Fiction for Middle School Readers 2009. Nominated for the 2011 Rebecca Caudill Young Reader's Book Award. Nominated for the 2011 Nevada Young Readers' Award in the Intermediate Reader category. For *Trouble*.

2007 *Kirkus Review* Editor's Choice List. *Booklist* Editors' Choice. National Parenting Publications Awards—2007 Gold Award. Amazon Best Books of 2007: Top Ten Editors' Picks: Teen Books. New York Public Library 100 Titles for Reading and Sharing: Children's Books, 2007. John Newbery Honor Book, 2008. ABC Best Books for Children: Teen Books. Publishers Weekly Best Books of the Year, 2007. American Library Association Best Books for Young Adults, 2007 Texas Lone Star List. Notable Books in the Language Arts, NCTE, 2008. First Prize, The Society of Midland Authors Award in Children's Fiction, 2008. Winner of the 2008 Judy Lopez Memorial Award, UCLA. Honor title for the 2007 Mitten Award of the Children's Services Division of the Michigan Library Association. Master List for the Dorothy Canfield Fisher Children's Book Award, 2008-2009. Capitol Choices 2008 listing for Ten to Fourteen. Oprah's Book Club: Kids Reading List, 12 Years and Up. ALA Notable Children's Book. ALA *Booklist* Editors' Choice. Book Sense Summer Children's Pick. *Kirkus Reviews*—Editors' Choice. YALSA Best Book for Young Adults. A *Publishers Weekly* Best Book of the Year. A *School Library Journal* Best Book of the Year. Nominated for the Nebraska Golden Sower Award, 2009-2010. Nominated for the 2009-2010 California Young Readers Medal, Middle School/ Junior High Category. Selected for the Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Book Award master list for 2010. Nominated for the Tween Book category of the 2010 Grand Canyon Reader Award, from the Arizona Library Association. Selected for the 2009-2010 Oregon Battle of the Books. Nominated by the Oklahoma Library Association for its 2010 Intermediate Sequoyah Book Award. 2009-2010 Young Adult Master Reading List for Land of Enchantment Book Award, Mayhill, NM. 2010 United States IBBY (International Board on Books for Young People) Honor Book Award winner in the category of writing—awarded once every two years, one book per nation. Nominated for the Nutmeg Award, Connecticut's Young Adult Book Award. Selected for *Read on Wisconsin!* On on-line book club for teachers and students, in which choice are made by the First Lady of the state. Nominated for the Maud Hart Lovelace Book Award in the Minnesota Youth Reading Awards, 2011-2012. For *The Wednesday Wars*.

Finalist, National Jewish Book Award: Jewish Family Literature, 2006. 2006 Notable Children's Book of Jewish Content, by the Association of Jewish Libraries. "Top 10 Religion Books for Youth," 2006, from the American Library Association. For *In God's Hands*.

Junior Library Guild selection. Texas Lone Star Reading List 2006-2007. Selection of the University of Wisconsin Cooperative Children's Book Center Choices 2006. Nominated for the 2007 Great Lakes Great Books Award, by the Michigan Reading Association. Nominated for the Mark Twain Award, Missouri. For *First Boy*.

John Newbery Honor Book, 2005; Michael L. Printz Honor Book, 2005; Maine Lupine Honor Book, 2005; Michigan Thumbs Up! Honor Award 2005; New York Public Library 100 Titles for Reading and Sharing, 2004; *Book Links* Lasting Connections of 2004, *School Library Journal* Best Books, 2004; *Kirkus Review's* Editor's Choice Children's Books, 2004; American Library Association Notable Book; American Library Association Best Book for Young Adults 2005; VOYA – Top Shelf Fiction for Middle School Readers; Capitol Choices 2005; *Booklist's* 2005 Top Ten Historical Fiction Books for Youth; 2005 Kansas State Reading Circle Recommended Reading List; Arizona Language Arts Conference Pick; Association of Children's Librarians of Northern California Distinguished Books 2004; 2005 Gustavus Myers Outstanding Book Award from The Gustavus Myers Center for the Study of Bigotry and Human Rights in North America, Simmons College.

Finalist for the Arlin Meyer Prize, Pepperdine University, 2005; and the 2005 Disney Adventures (Historical Fiction category). Nominated for Vermont's Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award 2005; the Maine Student Book Award 2005 - 2006; Tennessee's Volunteer State Book Award, Young Adult Category, 2006-2007; Texas Lone Star List; Virginia's Reader's Choice List, 2007-2008.

For *Lizzie Bright and the Buckminster Boy*.

Blue Ribbon Book, 2001: *Bulletin for the Center of Children's Books*. Nominated for the Oklahoma Library Association's Sequoyah Young Adult Book Award, 2003-2004. Nominated for the Rebecca Caudill Award, Illinois, 2004. For *Straw into Gold*.

Fanfare 2002: The *Horn Book* Honor List. Association of Jewish Libraries' Notable Jewish Books for 2001. Jewish Book Council's Jewish Book Month: List of Recommended Reading. Bank Street College of Education's "The Best Children's Books of the Year for 2001" list. For *Mara's Stories*.

New York Public Library's Year 2000 Books for the Teen Age List. For *William Bradford*.

Junior Library Guild selection. American Library Association *Booklist* Editors' Choice, 1999. For *Anson's Way*.

American Book Association "Pick of the Lists," Summer, 1997. *Booklist*'s "1998 Top Ten Religious Titles for Young Readers." For *The Blessing of the Lord*.

"New York Public Library List of 100 Titles for Reading and Sharing," 1996. "Best Books for Young Adults," American Library Association, 1996. Children's Reading Round Table of Chicago Honor, April, 1997. "NCTE Notable Books in Language Arts." For *The Sin Eater*.

Something About the Author, 1996, 2003. *The Tenth Book of Junior Authors and Illustrators*, 2006.

Honorable Mention for *Robert McCloskey* by the Book Award Committee of the Children's Literature Association, 1993.

Who's Who in the Midwest, 1994-1995; 1995-1996, 1996-1997, 1997-1998. *Men of Achievement*, Winter, 1994. *Who's Who in American Education*, 1995-1996 and 2006-2007. *Who's Who Among America's Teachers*, 2005.

Calvin College Research Fellowship, 1987, 1989, 1990-91, 1994-95, 1996, 1999-2000, Summer 2000.

Calvin College Alumni Association Faculty Research Grant, 1987, 1990, 1991, 1995, 2000.

Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, 1984, University of Illinois.

Nominated for the English Department "Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award," 1983, University of Illinois.

Dissertation Research Fellowship, 1983, University of Illinois.

Phi Alpha Chi Honor Society, 1979, Gordon College.

Who's Who Among American College Students, 1979, Gordon College.

James P. Forrester Award for Excellence in Scholarship, 1979. Annie Eliot Trumbull Award for Excellence in the Study of Literature, 1979. Lambda Iota Tau English Honor Society, 1978-79.

A.J. Gordon Scholarship, 1975-79. Gordon College.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Speaking engagements, contracted writing, instruction:

- Presenter*, "Planning a Middle School/ High School Writers Workshop in Your Community." NCTE, New York, November, 2007. With Donald R. Hettinga and Nancy Hull.
- Invited Speaker*, "Censorship: Searching for Consensus in a Messy World." Convention of the Michigan Association of Non-Public Schools, Grand Rapids, MI. October, 2006.
- Invited Speaker*, "On *Lizzie Bright and the Buckminster Boy*." Michigan Reading Association, Detroit, MI. March, 2006.
- Invited Speaker*, "Developing the Novel." Barry County "One County, One Book" Series, Hastings, MI. February, 2006.
- Writer in Residence*, Romeo Public Library, April, 2005; South Meadows School, Chelsea, MI, March, 2006.
- Speaker*, "On the Writing of Historical Fiction," Literacy is a Life Saver Conference, Kent Intermediate School District, Grand Rapids, April, 2005.
- Keynote Speaker*, "On Constructing *Lizzie Bright*." Michigan Library Association, Ferris State University, April, 2005.
- Workshop Leader*, "Working through the Issues of Retelling Folktales," Virginia Hamilton Conference on Multicultural Literature for Youth, Kent State University, March, 2005.
- Invited Speaker*, "Finding God in Nature," Midsummer 2004, Calvin College; "Children's Books and the Natural World," Calvin College Interpretive Nature Center, September and December, 2004.
- Invited Speaker*, Hawthorne at 200: A Commemorative Symposium. Concord, Massachusetts. June, 2004. "Shifting Audiences: Nathaniel Hawthorne's Writing for Children."
- Invited Speaker*, Pew Seminar: Reading Children's Literature by the Preacher, Calvin Seminary. July, 2003; October, 2003; July, 2004 [Lilly Endowment and Calvin Institute of Christian Worship]; May and July, 2005.
- Featured Speaker*, Celebrate Literacy Conference, Grand Valley State University. October, 2002; October, 2004.
- Speaker*, "*Gershon's Monster* and the Retelling of the Hasidic Folktale, Image Conference on the Arts, Seattle Pacific University, October, 2003.
- Featured Speaker*, Michigan Library Association, Grand Rapids. October, 2002.
- Keynote Speaker*, "Yellow Pads and Pencils: The Necessary Anachronisms of the Art of Writing." National Writing Project: A National Conference on Literacy, Ferris State University. February, 2002.
- Speaker*, Ontario Christian School Teachers Association. Redeemer College, Hamilton, Ontario. October, 2001.

Speaker, Connections: A Conference on Children's Literature, Ferris State University, Big Rapids, MI. April, 2001.

Featured Speaker, "2001: A Learning Odyssey," Michigan Reading Association. Grand Rapids, Michigan. March, 2001.

Speaker, "William Bradford, the Revolutionary War Hero," Mayflower Society, Detroit, MI. November, 2000.

Speaker, "Celebrate Literacy Conference," Grand Valley State University, Allendale, MI. October, 2000; *Keynote Speaker*, October, 2002; October, 2004

Speaker, Northwest CSI Teachers' Convention, Langley, British Columbia. October, 2000; October, 2001.

Speaker, "Of Sin Eaters and Fencibles," Calvin Alumni Association, Whitinsville, MA. September, 2000.

Speaker, Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators Workshop, Battle Creek, MI. August, 2000.

Speaker, "Young Author Festival." Fremont Middle School: January, 2000; East Grand Rapids Middle School: March, 2001.

Speaker, Kent District Library Conference, February, 1999. On young adult literature.

Speaker, "Of Duchesses and Sin Eaters: The Patterns of Story." The January Series, Calvin College, January, 1999.

Instructor, Distance Learning, CSI Schools of Lynden, March, 1998. On children's literature.

Speaker, Hastings Public Library, "On *The Sin Eater*." February, 1998.

Speaker, Herrick District Library Young Adult Workshop, September, 1997.

Speaker, CSI Conference on the Library and the Media. Calvin College, Spring, 1997.

Speaker, "New England's History of Itself." Calvin Academy for Lifelong Learning, Calvin College, November, 1996.

Speaker, "How Do You Tell a Story?: Children's Literature and Narrative." Neland Avenue Christian Reformed Church, November, 1996.

Writer, "Teacher's Guide" for Lois Lowry's *The Giver*, Wilson Rawls' *Where the Red Fern Grows*, Lucy Frank's *I Am an Artichoke*, and Zilpha Keatley Snyder, *The Egypt Game*. New York: Bantam Doubleday Dell, 1996.

Speaker, Kent County School District, March, 1995. A survey of adolescent literature of since 1994.

Speaker, "Of Flip-Flop Girls, Night Johns, Givers, and Rabbits Smart for True," Michigan Reading Association, February, 1995.

Writer, "BookNotes" for Lois Lowry's *The Giver*. New York: Dell Publishing Company, 1994.

Author, Teaching and Student Manuals for “Writing in Communities,” Calvin College Degree Completion Program, January, 1994.

Speaker, “Stories of Christmas.” Neland Avenue Christian Reformed Church. December, 1993; December, 1996.

Instructor, “Writers in Communities,” Calvin College Degree Completion Program, January, 1994 through September, 1997. Developed with Dean Ward and Nancy Hull.

Speaker, Convention of the Christian Educators' Association, Autumn, 1990 - 1993, 1995, 1996, 1998, 2002: a survey of children's and adolescent literature published during the preceding year.

Speaker, Children's Literature Conference, Ferris State University, November, 1991. “Seeing the Other Side: The Role of Historical Fiction.” With Henry Baron.

Instructor, "Beneath the Gilt: Issues in a Golden Age of Children's Literature," Calvin College, Fall, 1991; Spring, 1992.

Speaker, Sherman Street Christian Reformed Church, April, 1991. This talk examined the ways in which one may make educated choices in choosing children's literature.

Speaker, Boston Street Christian Reformed Church, November, 1989. "Is there such a thing as Christian children's literature?"

Speaker, Westside Christian School, April, 1988. On the work and life of Robert McCloskey.

Guest Lecturer, Otsego Public Library, November, 1987. On Margery Piercy's *Braided Lives*.

Speaker, Convention of the Christian Educators' Association, 1987. “The Ethics of Censorship and the Novels of Robert Cormier.”

Guest Lecturer, North Muskegon Library, March, 1987. On *Gone with the Wind* as a great American novel.

Guest Lecturer, Fremont Public Library, 1986. Through the Library of Michigan's "Let's Talk About it Michigan" program, I discussed major themes and structural devices in *The Wind in the Willows*, with an emphasis on why this text belongs in the canon of great children's novels.

Instructor, Parkland College, 1985. I presented a week-long workshop for the English department, instructing them on the use of computers in their freshman rhetoric program.

Calvin College committee work:

Chair, Calvin College Department of English, 1991-97.

Committee Member, Faith and Writing Festival Committee (1992-2003)
 English Department Staffing Committee (1991-97, 1999-2000; 2002-05)
 English Department Special Events Committee (1994-96)

English Department Awards Committee (1992-96)
English Department *Footnotes* co-editor (1991-92; 1994-95; 1997-98)
English Department Curriculum Committee (1988-91; 2001-2002)
Calvin College's Professional Status Committee (1988-91)
English Department Rhetoric Committee (1986-89)
Calvin College's Communications Board (1986-88)
English Department Education Committee (1986-87)
English Department Library Committee (1985-86)

Coordinator, Young Authors Festival (1996-2000); Committee member, 2001-2008
Middle School Writers Workshop (1999-2000); Committee member, 2001-2008
High School Writers Workshop (2002-2008)

Committee Member, Calvin Center for Christian Scholarship Governing Board (1997-1998; chair, 1998-2000)

Mentor, *Chimes*, Calvin College, 1986-88.
Writer's Guild, 2002-2003.

Chair, Midwest Region, Conference on Christianity and Literature, 1987-88.

Consultation and review work; professional committee work:

Member, Judges for the Society of Midland Authors Literary Awards. 2014.

Chair, Panel for the selection of the National Book Award for Young People's Literature, National Book Foundation, 2012.

Member, Advisory Council for the National Book Foundation Program, *BookUp*, 2012-

Reviewer, *Children's Literature*, 2012.

Member, NCTE Commission on Literature, 2008-2010.

Member, Robert McCloskey Committee, Emporia State University, KS. 2007 – present.

Juror, NSK Neustadt Award, University of Oklahoma and *World Literature Today*. 2008-2009.

Book Reviewer, *Christian Home and School*, 2007 – 2008.

Consultant, Taylor University Department of English assessment, March 2005. With Dean Ward.

Book Review Editor, *The Lion and the Unicorn*, 2001 - present. With David Russell.

Member, Publications Committee of the Children's Literature Association, 1993-99.

Reviewer, *A World of Literature*, Anthologies for Grades Three through Six for Christian Schools International, Fall, 1993.

Consultant, Kent County Library System, December, 1992. Funded by the Michigan Humanities Program, this consulting involved judging book reviews for inclusion in *West Michigan Authors for Young Readers*.

Consultant, Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1991-1996. I worked with the children's book editor in reviewing manuscripts and establishing priorities in that company's children's literature.

Book Reviewer, *The ALAN Review*, 1991-2003. This journal collects reviews of recent adolescent literature. Reviews through 1995 are published in the computer database "Guide to Young Adult Literature: Critiques and Synopses from *The ALAN Review*."

Staff Reviewer, *Perspectives: Choosing and Using Books for the Classroom*, 1990-91. This journal, published by the Comparative Services for Children's Literature of the University of Toledo, collects reviews of recently published children's books.

Book Reviewer, *Appraisal*, 1990-91. This journal, published by Boston University, collects reviews of recent non-fiction in children's literature.

Book Reviewer, *The Five Owls*, 1989-present. Reviewing recent children's literature of merit.

Guest Editor, *Children's Literature Association Quarterly*, Winter, 1989. This issue focused on series books.

Book Reviewer, *Christian Schools International Library Media Guide*, 1987-2007.

Reviewer, Calvin College, 1985 – the present. I review composition, history of the language, grammar, film studies, drama, introductory literature, and children's literature texts for Prentice-Hall, Inc.; W.W. Norton and Co.; Random House, Inc.; William C. Brown Publishers; Brown and Benchmark; Harper and Row Publishers; Oxford University Press.

Computer Lab Manual, University of Illinois, 1984-85. I co-authored a lab manual designed to familiarize undergraduates with word processors and the Volkswriter word processing system and to drill them in rhetorical skills.

Computer Lab Coordinator, University of Illinois, 1984-85. I organized the activities of computer lab monitors and tutored composition students by using word processors.

Member, *Computer-Assisted Instruction Committee*, University of Illinois, 1984-85. I participated in the designing of a new composition course using computer-assisted instruction in both classroom and lab settings.

Producer, *Wakefield Players*, University of Illinois, 1982-84. Each spring I produced a graduate student production of one of the Wakefield mystery plays.

Memberships:

Early English Text Society
Children's Literature Association