

KELLY J. SASSI



EDUCATION

Ph.D. English and Education, University of Michigan August 2008
Dissertation: *Rhetorics of Friendship, Authority, Space, and Race: A Qualitative Study of the Teaching of Native American Literatures*
Chair: Professor Anne Ruggles Gere
Committee: Professor Lesley Rex, School of Education
Professor Pamela Moss, School of Education
Professor Phillip Deloria, American Culture
Teaching Certification, English Language Arts, University of Alaska-Fairbanks 1997
M.A. English Literature, University of Alaska-Fairbanks 1996
B.A. English Literature, University of Alaska-Fairbanks 1989

PUBLICATIONS

“Walking the Talk: Privilege and Race in a 9th Grade Classroom During a Native American Unit” with Ebony Thomas for *English Journal*. July 2008.

ELA/MME (English Language Arts/Michigan Merit Exam) Units of Study with Laura Schiller, Kara Shuell, and Andrea Zellner. Oakland Schools. January 2007.

A Student Guide to Writing on Demand: Strategies for High-Scoring Essays with Anne Gere and Leila Christenbury. Heinemann, February 2006.

Writing on Demand: Best Practices and Strategies for Success. with Anne Gere and Leila Christenbury. Heinemann, February 2005.

EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor of English and Education. North Dakota State University 2008-
Courses Taught
Fall 2008: ENGL 320 Professional and Technical Writing, ENGL262 American Literature 2, ED482 Methods of Teaching Writing.

Graduate Student Instructor. University of Michigan 2003 to 2008

- Courses taught:
 - Directed Teaching in the Secondary School (ED302)
 - Seminar: Problems and Principles of Secondary Education (ED304)
 - Practicum in Teaching Methods (ED 307)
 - Teaching of English (Methods) (ED 440)
 - College Writing (ENGL125)
 - Writing and Literature (ENGL124)
 - Professional Writing (ENGL 229)

Graduate Student Mentor. University of Michigan. Supported 70 graduate student instructors in teaching first and second year writing courses for English in fall 2006.

Faculty Consultant. Educational Testing Service 2002-2008

- Scored AP English literature essay exams as both reader and table leader.

English Teacher. West Valley High School. Fairbanks, Alaska 1997-2003

- Taught AP English Language, British Literature, American Literature, Creative Writing, Composition, Advanced Composition
- Advisor for Literary Magazine and Amnesty International.
- Edited a compilation of standards-based lessons for West Valley High School. 2001.
- Co-wrote school accreditation manual for Fairbanks North Star Borough School District. 1999.
- Certified by Project CRISS (Creating Independence through Student-Owned Strategies).

Student Teacher Exchange. Hokkaido, Japan 1997

- Participated in a semester-long Japanese course culminating in a one-month visit to Sapporo and Akaigawa. Met with educators from the University of Sapporo, taught lessons at the elementary and middle school level, and toured Japanese schools.

Instructor. Center for Distance Education. University of Alaska 1999-2003

- Taught 11 semesters of Developmental English, Beginning Exposition, and Intermediate Exposition.

Responder. Writing Center. Eastern Washington University 1995-96

- Responded to Student Writing in one-on-one 50-minute sessions, collaborated on the development of a heuristic for analyzing videotapes of tutoring sessions, worked primarily with ESL students.

Teaching Assistant/Writing Tutor. University of Alaska-Fairbanks 1992-94, 96

- Responsible for developing and teaching Beginning Exposition and Introduction to Literature
- Tutored college students, worked as a telefax tutor for students in remote areas of Alaska, and trained Alaska Native peer tutors in Bethel, Alaska.

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

National Council of Teachers of English	1989-present
Modern Language Association	1996-present
National Women's Studies Association	2006-present
National Association of Multicultural Education	2006-present

COMMITTEES

University-wide committee:

Minard Renovation Committee

Departmental Committees (English):

Dakota Initiative

Professional Development (sub committee of Graduate Committee)

World Literature Committee

Governor's School

SOAR (organizing Dead Writers Reading with GTA0)

Departmental Committees (Ed):

481 Committee

Other service activities

-volunteering in multicultural center 1 hour/week to help students with writing

-attending Native Students Association (NASA) meetings to support NA students on campus

-nominating Louise Erdrich for honorary doctorate

-facilitating Teacher Ed. students' visit to Turtle Mountain

Provost's Committee on Student Parent Issues (COSPI) 2003-04

Graduate Student Community Organization (GSCO) 2005-06

CONFERENCES

Keynote Presentations

"Writing on Demand as Genre: Making the Bridge between Best Practices in Writing Instruction and Test Preparation." Flint, 2006.

"Development of a Teacher Identity." Kappa Delta Pi, University of Michigan, 2005.

Presentations

"Preparing the CV." Professional Development Workshop. English Dept. NDSU, October 2008.

"SafeAssign and other Methods for Assessing the Productivity of Electronic Collaboration." *Safe or Sorry: Working Responsibly with Safe Assign*. Cosgrove Seminar. NDSU, Fargo, October 2008.

"Affordances of Native American/American Indian Literatures in Anti-Bias Curriculum." Classroom to Community: Collaborating for Human Rights (NDHRC). NDSU, Fargo, October 2008.

"Preparing for the Timed Writing Portion of the GRE." Professional Development Workshop. English Dept. NDSU, October 2008.

“Prompting Teacher Education Change: Transformation through Listening Deeply to Indigenous Ways of Knowing.” American Educational Research Association (AERA). New York, 2008.

“Inscribing Stone Tablets: Literacy Challenges for Students Facing Timed Writing Tests. National Council for Teachers of English (NCTE). New York, 2007.

“Reframing Native American Literatures: Transcending Canon and Convention in the Literature Classroom.” National Association of Multicultural Education (NAME). Baltimore, 2007.

“Cultural Considerations in Pedagogical Approaches to Native American/American Indian Literatures.” American Educational Research Association (AERA) Chicago, 2007.

“Successful Student Writers.” NCTE. Nashville, 2006.

“Exploring the Echoes of Allotment through Study of S. Alice Callahan’s *Wynema* in a Secondary Classroom.” NAME. Phoenix, 2006.

“‘I Would Be at the Back’: Positioning and Authority in a Secondary Classroom during a Native American Literature Unit.” National Women’s Studies Association Conference (NWSA). Oakland, 2006.

“What to Expect When Expected to Write.” NCTE. Pittsburgh, 2005.

“Writing on Demand: Helping Students Meet the Challenge.” Project CRISS Conference. Chicago, 2005.

“Breaching the Divide: Fostering Development of Student Writers on the High School-College Continuum.” NCTE. Indianapolis, 2004.

“Media literacy and Shakespeare in a 12th Grade classroom.” NCTE. Detroit, 1997.

“Teaching Undergraduate Composition: A Comparison of Two Programs.” Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC). Milwaukee, 1996.

“Deep Viewing.” CUNY Writing Center Conference. New York, 1996.

“WOW: Writers on Writing.” CCCC. Nashville, 1994.

Departmental Presentations

“Preparing for the Timed Writing Portion of the GRE.” Professional Development Committee. Minard Conference Room. October 3, 2008/

Service

University-wide committee:

Minard Renovation Committee Summer 2008-

Departmental Committees (English):

Dakota Initiative Summer 2008-

-visit to Sisseton reservation to meet Clifford Canku, Oct. 12,2008

Professional Development (sub committee of Graduate Committee)

World Literature Committee

Governor's School

April 2008-

SOAR (organizing Dead Writers Reading with GTAO)

Departmental Committees (Ed):

481 Committee

Other service activities

-volunteering in multicultural center 1 hour/week to help students with writing

-attending Native Students Association (NASA) meetings to support NA students on campus

-nominating Louise Erdrich for honorary doctorate/writing and revising proposal

-facilitating Teacher Ed. students' visit to Turtle Mountain, traveling with students

CONSULTING WORKSHOPS AND PRESENTATIONS

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| 2008 | Co-presenter with Anne Gere on Writing Instruction for Detroit Public Schools, April 1. |
| 2008 | Co-presenter with Anne Gere on Writing Instruction for Detroit Public Schools, January 18. |
| 2007 | Co-presenter with Anne Gere on Writing Instruction for Detroit Public Schools, November 6. |
| 2007 | Consultant/Presenter on analysis of 2007 English/language arts test data, Oakland Schools, October 17. |
| 2007 | Co-presenter with Anne Gere on Thinking Backward, prompt analysis, sentence imitation, and unit and curriculum planning for Hudsonville Public Schools, August 27. |
| 2007 | Co-presenter with Anne Gere on Writing on Demand for Detroit Public Schools, August 20-24. |

- 2007 Co-presenter with Kara Shuell on Michigan Merit Exam Units of Study for Eastern Michigan University's Writing Project Conference, June 25.
- 2007 Co-presenter with Anne Gere on Writing on Demand, Detroit Public Schools. Detroit, Michigan, April 19.
- 2007 Co-presenter with Anne Gere on Writing on Demand, Highland Park Career Center. Detroit, Michigan, February 15.
- 2007 Co-presenter with Anne Gere on Writing on Demand, Highland Park Career Center. Detroit, Michigan, February 5.
- 2007 Co-presenter with Anne Gere on Writing on Demand. Detroit Public Schools, February 1.
- 2007 Consultant/Presenter on Michigan Merit exam writing, Lakeland High School, Michigan, January 12.
- 2007 Consultant/Presenter on persuasive writing for South Lyon High School, Michigan, January 10.
- 2007 Co-presenter with Laura Schiller, Kara Shuell, Andrea Zellner, Julie Martinez and Gail Setter on ELA/MME Unit of Study. Oakland School, Michigan, January 8.
- 2007 Co-presenter with Anne Gere on Writing on Demand for Detroit Public Schools, January 2.
- 2006 Consultant/Presenter on Six Traits Writing for Willow Run High School, Ypsilanti, Michigan. December 16.
- 2006 Co-presenter with Anne Gere on Writing on Demand workshops for Wayne-RESA, December 9.
- 2006 Consultant/Presenter on Writing on Demand workshop for Lakeland High School, Michigan, December 8.
- 2006 Consultant/Presenter on Writing Across the Curriculum for Andover High School. Birmingham, Michigan, November 29.
- 2006 Co-presenter with Anne Gere on Writing on Demand workshops for Wayne-RESA, November 9.
- 2006 Co-presenter with Anne Gere on Writing on Demand workshops for Wayne-RESA, October 12.

- 2006 Consultant/Presenter on Writing on Demand. Red River Valley Writing Project. Grand Forks, North Dakota, July 20.
- 2006 Consultant/Presenter on Writing on Demand for Pioneer High School, Ann Arbor, Michigan, April 5
- 2006 Consultant/Presenter on Writing on Demand: Best Practices and Strategies for Success, CITE conference, Normal, Illinois, March 20.
- 2006 Co-presenter with Anne Gere on Writing on Demand for Community High School, District 117, Chicago, February 10.
- 2005 Co-presenter with Anne Gere National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) Regional Workshops. North Harris College. Houston, Texas, October 7-8.
- 2005 Co-presenter with Anne Gere National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) Regional Workshops. Ann Arbor, Michigan, August 11-12.
- 2005 Co-presenter with Leila Christenbury on Writing on Demand for North Hollywood High School Language Arts Retreat. Oxnard, California, September 29.

AWARDS

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| CARAT Learning Sciences GSI Fellowship Grant | Winter 2008 |
| David and Linda Moscow Prize for Excellence in Teaching College Composition | April 2008 |
| CARAT Learning Sciences GSI Fellowship Grant | Fall 2007 |
| Rackham Research Grant | Summer 2007 |
| Rackham Dissertation Fellowship | Spring/Summer 2007 |
| Spencer Mini-Grant | Spring 2006 |
| Rackham Dissertation Fellowship | Winter, Spring/Summer 2006 |
| Numerous travel grants from Rackham, English Department, and School of Education | |

LANGUAGES

- Proficient in Spanish, some knowledge of Italian and French