

CURRICULUM VITAE

**Astrida
Orle
Tantillo**

Professor of Germanic Studies and History

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (LAS)

University of Illinois Chicago (UIC)

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Education

- Ph.D. University of Chicago, Committee on Social Thought, August 1994
 Dissertation: "Nature's Artistry: Goethe's Science and *Die Wahlverwandtschaften*."
 Advisors: Karl Joachim Weintraub; Saul Bellow; Peter Jansen
- M.A. University of Chicago, Committee on Social Thought, March 1990
- B.A. University of Oregon Honors College, Double Major: European History and German,
 June 1985. Junior Year Abroad: University of Freiburg

Leadership Appointments

- Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (LAS), 2012–2022
 (renewed for second term in 2017)
- Interim Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, 2010–2012
- Director, School of Literatures, Cultural Studies, and Linguistics, 2010
- Visiting Associate Dean for Literatures, Cultural Studies and Linguistics, 2009–2010
- Head, Department of Germanic Studies, 2006–2009
- Associate Dean for General Education, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, 2005–2006
- Associate Dean, Divisional Dean of the Humanities, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences,
 2002–2005
- Visiting Assistant Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, 2001–2002

Academic Appointments (at UIC unless otherwise noted)

- Professor, Departments of Germanic Studies and History, 2010–present
- Associate Professor, History, 2004–2010
- Associate Professor, Germanic Studies, 2001–2010
- Assistant Professor, Germanic Studies, 1995–2001
- Visiting Assistant Professor, Foreign Languages and Literatures, Valparaiso University,
 Fall 1994
- Saul Bellow's Research Assistant, University of Chicago, 1991–93
- History Teacher, Lettisches Gymnasium, Münster, Germany, 1985–86

Selected Professional Activities

- Editorial Board, Publications of the English Goethe Society, 2017–present
- Editorial Board, "New Studies in the Age of Goethe," Bucknell University Press, 2010–present
- Eighteenth-Century Studies, Advisory Board, 2011–2014
- President, Goethe Society of North America, 2010–2013

Organizer, International Goethe Conference, Chicago 2011

Vice-president, Goethe Society of North America, 2008–2009

Executive Committee, Division on Eighteenth- and Early-Nineteenth Century German Literature, Modern Language Association, 2005–2009. (Secretary 2007, Chair, 2008)

Founding Editor, Book Series: “New Studies in the ‘Age of Goethe.’” Bucknell University Press, 2006–2010

Executive Secretary, Goethe Society of North America, 2005–2008

UIC Administrative Context

From 2010–2022, I oversaw the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (LAS), the largest and most diverse college at UIC. While I was dean, LAS had approximately 11,500 (undergraduate and graduate), 25 academic departments and programs (across the four divisions of the Humanities, Interdisciplinary Units, Social Sciences and Natural Sciences), a thriving Institute for the Humanities, about 700 tenure and non-tenure track faculty members and over 200 staff members. All faculty (both tenure- and non-tenure track) and graduate student employees are represented by unions; some staff positions are represented by unions, while others are not. UIC’s structure is decentralized where most strategic decisions are made at the college level.

As dean, I was charged with overseeing a total budget of about \$100 million, faculty affairs, curriculum, promotion of research, student success initiatives, fundraising, external outreach, undergraduate recruitment, and oversight of College-owned facilities. Underlying each component listed above was a fierce commitment to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion: nearly half our undergraduate students are from historically minoritized groups, over half are PELL eligible, and nearly 40% are the first in their families to attend college. UIC’s overall mission is one of Access to Excellence, and this mission was central to my strategic plans and decisions as dean.

During my deanship, the College realized its highest ever undergraduate enrollment—a notable accomplishment given the shrinking college-age demographic. I became dean by rising through the ranks: first appointed to administrative posts by Dean Stanley Fish in 2001 to oversee first-year seminars and then the division of the humanities, I gained the support of faculty, staff, and students over the years through my efforts to be a calm, collaborative, transparent leader.

My two terms as dean coincided with two notable crises: a year where the State of Illinois abruptly cut our budget by 75% and the pandemic. I believe that the strong sense of teamwork, focused mission-driven priorities, solid organizational structures, strategic budgetary planning, and mutual trust established prior to these crises enabled the College not only to weather these storms, but to flourish within the context of them. For example, our most significant increases in student numbers, diversity (both for students and faculty) and student success rates occurred in the years directly after the budget crisis. So, too, our upward fundraising trajectory continued throughout both sets of crises—a sign of the trust that donors and supporters had in my intellectual vision for the College and its future success. Donors and foundations gave repeated significant gifts and grants of increasing size during my deanship.

Selected Administrative Accomplishments

Faculty and Staff

Championed a broad intellectual culture across the divisions, most notably through the support of the Institute for the Humanities, other campus and non-UIC centers and institutes, departmental talks and conferences, journal and press editorships, etc. Created new initiatives and modes of communication to highlight and celebrate the work of our faculty members.

Supported the creation of faculty-designed centers and initiatives, including the Freshwater Lab (interdisciplinary freshwater policy and research initiative led by an English professor), Center for LatinX Literature of the Americas (led by a National Book Award-winning poet), and the Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) Lab (headed by the NoVo Foundation Endowed Chair in SEL).

Increased faculty FTE and diversity overall. I am especially proud of increasing the diversity of our STEM units—units that serve the most students at UIC and ones that are typically the least diverse.

Significantly grew research expenditures (\$32M in FY22)/external awards by providing internal seed funding, infrastructure, and incentives:

- Created new competitive faculty research funds in the Sciences, Social Sciences, and Humanities (\$600K/annually) that led to increased grant funding, prizes, and awards
- Used newly endowed chairs to retain top faculty and recruit international leaders to UIC
- In partnership with the UIC Library, significantly enhanced online holdings for key journals in both the Humanities and the Sciences
- Expanded centralized faculty research support services, especially for the humanities and social sciences

Worked with interdisciplinary units and the LAS Executive Committee to increase faculty governance

Established College-wide faculty mentoring policies for assistant and associate professors

Instituted a new faculty award to recognize service contributions

In collaboration with the Executive Committee, instituted an annual peer-teaching review process for all faculty

Created a promotion process for lecturers

Created a promotion path for several staff categories

Provided funding for staff development and conference travel

Successfully nominated staff for campus, system, and national awards

Students

Achieved the highest undergraduate LAS enrollment in UIC's history while I was dean.

Created policies and programs that led to a significant increase (10 %) in the LAS six-year graduation rates—leading to the highest ever graduation and retention rates. Initiatives included:

- Establishing a first-year seminar program for all incoming LAS students. Program included a community service component.
- Creating a program, First-at-LAS, to support the academic success of our first-generation college students (nearly 40% of our student body)
- Established a college-based career exploration and development office and expanded an existing internship office, including the creation of career exploration seminars for first-year students, hiring of career coaches, and creating a successful, “What can I do with my LAS major campaign.” Campaign was especially designed for the humanities.
- Increasing funding and support for undergraduate student research opportunities, including an increased funding commitment to LASURI (LAS Undergraduate Research Initiative) to support both faculty and students during their research collaborations. A particular goal for this program was to ensure that first-generation and humanities students participated.
- Provided stipend support for students to engage in external internship and volunteer opportunities
- Increasing support of the three existing Learning (Tutoring) Centers and funding the creation of a new Language Studio for students studying foreign languages. These centers employ more than 200 undergraduate peer mentors and tutors ever academic year. Data show that these learning centers increased student grades and success rates in subsequent courses.

Launched numerous new degree and certificate programs, including:

- Black Studies graduate concentration
- Integrated Health Studies (in collaboration with the College of Applied Health)*
- Computer Science + Linguistics (in collaboration with the College of Engineering)*
- Data Science (in collaboration with the Colleges of Engineering and Business)*
- Global Asian Studies
- Liberal Studies*
- Online Pathways—fully online general education courses*
- Professional Writing Minor (Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Professional Writing in process)
- Medical Humanities Certificate*
- Certificate in Spanish for the Professions*
- Certificate in Spanish for Heritage Speakers (in process)*
- Certificates in Polish, German, and Russian*

(* indicates initiated in my office)

Implemented multi-year, multi-million dollar undergraduate laboratory infrastructure improvements

Instituted Graduate Recruiting Awards to support LAS PhD programs to recruit and retain the best students. Awards include merit scholarships and support for research assistantships. This support has led to increased visibility and student success and increased opportunities for external funding.

Founded a Student Advisory Board to provide advice on matters of greatest concern to undergraduate students, including advising issues, affordability, tutoring, and course availability. Board meets regularly with the LAS DEI Council specifically to address student DEI concerns.

Advancement

Raised over \$50M just during last UIC Capital Fundraising Campaign, Ignite. LAS was the first UIC unit to meet its fundraising target and ultimately raised 150% of its targeted goal. Supervised and collaborated with a college-dedicated staff of four advancement professionals. Fundraising represented a significant part of my decanal portfolio: I solicited funds, drafted successful foundation and corporation grants, organized intellectual and social events that were donor-focused, and met regularly with individual donors, prospective donors, and alumni. I am particularly proud of receiving multiple/repeat gifts from individuals and foundations (the largest single gift from an alumnus was \$6M and was received after an initial gift of \$100,000; the Davee Foundation gave LAS multiple \$1M+ gifts to total \$6M in endowed scholarships). Overall, during my deanships:

- More than doubled the number of endowed chairs in the College to twelve
- Established the first three professorships in the College's history, including our first corporate sponsored (TransUnion) one
- Successfully solicited numerous \$1M+ endowed scholarships for undergraduates (Notably, when the Davee Foundation ceased operations, it gave all its remaining funds (\$3.4M) to endow LAS humanities scholarships.)
- Secured significant (and repeated) external funding in support of our First-at-LAS initiative (from a foundation that wishes to remain anonymous).
- Solicited \$1M in funding to support Chemistry faculty research and a new undergraduate curriculum.
- Raised significant funds to support disparate undergraduate research programs
- Secured endowment to support student teachers and their mentors in the Chicago Public Schools

Expanded and diversified the College's Board of Visitors (BOV)

Initiated an annual scholarship luncheon where donors had the opportunity to meet the students that their endowments support. This event became one of the highlights of the year for students and donors. Donors traveled from across the country to attend, and alumni speakers included noted CNN anchor Bernie Shaw and Cheryl Ganz (Smithsonian's National Postal Museum chief curator emerita).

DEI Related Initiatives and Activities

Founded an LAS DEI Council to inform LAS policies and initiatives. Council included representatives from each department, undergraduate and graduate student representatives, and staff (both from the College as well as expert staff from other units and cultural centers). This council was created under my initiative to expand the work and reach of the campus-mandated Diversity Committee.

My executive committee took the lead in advising the campus on the incorporation of DEI language in faculty promotion and job advertisements prior to campus-led initiatives and mandates. We then incorporated DEI norms within College promotion and tenure standards—seeking especially to support STEM units in this endeavor.

Established DEI grants to support student, faculty and/or staff proposed initiatives. Funded initiatives included an Arab American STEM mentoring program (in collaboration with the UIC Arab American Cultural Center); an academic seminar, speaker series and research project on disability justice; and an “Antiracist Writing Pedagogy Working Group,” designed to reexamine the First-Year Writing Program curriculum and pedagogy.

Increased both the number and percentage (by 22%) of faculty members from minoritized groups.

Significantly increased staff diversity, especially in our student-facing advising staff: in 2022 nearly half of the staff was from historically minoritized groups.

In 2021–22, worked with the campus DEI office to oversee the creation of individual departmental and college-wide Advancing Racial Equity (ARE) plans.

Together with the Dean of the College of Engineering, sponsored a Girls Who Code Club at UIC—a Saturday instructional program that gives 9th–12th grade high school students the opportunity to explore computer science and helps promote/recruit a diverse pipeline within STEM. 2017–2022.

Co-PI on UIC’s WISEST (Women in Science and Engineering System Transformation) grant, funded by NSF. Purpose was to increase women in STEM disciplines and to support their success at UIC. Served on UIC’s WISEST Executive Committee 2010–2018.

Administrative Council Member, UIC’s Institute for Race and Public Policy 2010–2022

Steering Committee Member, Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institution 2016–2021.

Chair, Learning Sciences Research Institute Council (LSRI). LSRI is both an academic, inter-college (LAS, Education, and Engineering) PhD-granting unit as well as a research center conducting grant and contract work. Projects have included a great deal of outreach with public schools (especially in STEM and reading) but also with museums (e.g., to create interactive exhibits to teach topics such as climate change). 2010–2022.

Interlocutor, American Council of Learned Societies Intention Foundry: Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Anti-Racism in the Academy, Chicago, Newberry Library, June 2022.

Met with the Whiting Foundation at its request to advise on how to create community-engaged fellowships in its efforts to expand its fellowship program.

External Outreach

A major component of my job as dean was to champion the college, its faculty, students, and staff. As a dean at a public university, I was frequently called upon to advocate on behalf of my institution (in person and in writing) to alumni, prospective students and their families, community groups, corporations, and political officials, including foreign leaders, the governor, US Representatives, the mayor, and state senators and representatives. Our growth in enrollment, endowment, state capital-funded projects, and corporate-sponsored LAS initiatives speak to a record of success.

Strengthened collaborations and partnerships with area cultural institutions, including the Field Museum, the Shedd Aquarium, the National Museum of Mexican Art, the Museum of Science and Industry, and the Chicago Humanities Festival. For example, while the joint PhD program with the Field Museum existed before my deanship, during my terms as dean, we expanded shared faculty lines and were able to grow both of our programs during constrained budgetary times through such collaborations. I ensured that such faculty agreements also included expanded research opportunities for graduate and undergraduate students.

Nearly every week I had the opportunity to champion aspects of the College to the public, whether speaking before 10,000 attendees at our graduation ceremony, at large recruitment events (at the UIC Pavilion, University Club, Union League Club, etc.), alumni events (including at the American Television Academy in Hollywood, Massey Gallery in New York or festive events in bars and restaurants); welcoming visitors to conferences and talks held at UIC or around Chicago; or meeting donors and perspective donors individually.

Supported the internal and external projects of the dynamic LAS Institute for the Humanities. I was privileged to collaborate with strong directors. This jewel in the crown of the humanities at UIC supports a competitive faculty-fellows program, faculty-led and proposed working groups, and an active lecture and events calendar. Many projects have been supported through the Mellon-funded Humanities Without Walls grant. The Institute also housed the Mellon-funded, undergraduate Engaged Humanities Initiative, a grant that I helped write.

Established college-based recruitment program and commissioned materials that reversed a multi-year slide in student numbers and significantly increased the diversity of an already diverse college.

Was instrumental in bringing the Inter-University Program in Latino Research (IUPLR) to UIC and then housed it within LAS. LAS cosponsored many of its programs, including a post-doc program designed to diversify the PhD pipeline, the conference and virtual exhibit Latino Art Now (LAN)! and the Chicago Latino ArTchive.

Endorsed and supported the housing of the Odyssey Program/Proyecto Odisea in LAS. This program offers free, college-credit courses in the humanities and is part of the national network of Clemente Courses in the Humanities.

Expanded research collaborations with Brookhaven, Fermilab, and Argonne. Created joint hiring program with Argonne and expanded joint hiring program with Fermilab.

Created dual-enrollment programs with area Chicago Public Schools—most notably with Benito Juarez and Whitney Young.

University Leadership and Service

Chaired the search for the UIC Dean of the Libraries (twice)
 Campus Co-Chair, Informational Technology Governance Council
 UIC Task force on e-Learning
 UIC's Obama Presidential Library steering and proposal committees
 Co-chaired campus Task Force on the Reorganization of the Health Sciences
 Chaired University of Illinois system-wide review committee on streamlining and improving
 the central functions of computing and technology, HR and the Office of University
 Equal Opportunity (EEO)
 Chaired the search for UIC's Provost
 Search Committee member, Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs
 Co-chaired the search for the Dean of the College of Education (twice)
 Created the School of Literatures, Cultural Studies and Linguistics—a completely new,
 multi-unit (five departments and one center) administrative unit

Honors and Awards

Trustee, Newberry Library, June 2022–present
 University of Illinois President's Executive Leadership Program 2014
 2002–2003 Fellow, Committee on Institutional Cooperation Academic Leadership Program
 2000–2001 UIC's Teaching Recognition Award (University-wide teaching competition)
 Research fellowship, Weimar Classics Foundation, Germany, Summer 1998
 1997–98 Teaching Award, American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies
 UIC Campus Research Board Award, 1998
 UIC Grants-in-Aid (Research travel funds), 1998
 Faculty Fellow, UIC Institute for the Humanities (one-year research fellowship), 1997–98
 Fellow, East-West Seminar, International Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, Paris,
 July 15–19, 1996
 Fulbright Fellowship, German Studies Seminar, Summer 1995
 Bradley Fellow, Bradley Foundation, 1991–93 (Saul Bellow's Research Assistant)
 Esther Goodshaw Clark Fellowship, Committee on Social Thought, 1987–91
 Phoenix Fellowship, Division of the Social Sciences, University of Chicago, 1987–91
 Phi Beta Kappa

Books

Goethe's Modernisms, London and New York: Continuum Press, 2010.

The Will to Create: Goethe's Philosophy of Nature. Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2002.

Goethe's Elective Affinities and the Critics. Rochester: Camden House, 2001.

Articles

"The Humanities in Crisis: How Did We Get Here and Where Do We Go from Here?"

German Quarterly, 96, 2023, pp. 425–436.

"The Catholicism of *Werther*." *German Quarterly* 81 (2008): 408–23.

"*Werther*, *Frankenstein*, and Girardian Mediated Desire." *Studia Neophilologica* 80 (2008): 133–43.

"Damned to Heaven: The Tragedy of *Faust* Revisited." *Monatshefte*, 99 (2007): 454–468.

"The Subjective Eye: Goethe's *Farbenlehre* and *Faust*" in *The Enlightened Eye: Goethe and Visual Culture*. Ed. Evelyn Moore and Patricia Simpson. Amsterdam: Editions Rodopi, 2007. 265–77.

"Reforming College: What Professors Don't Tell You." 17 November 2005 *Slate Magazine*: <http://www.slate.com/id/2130327/> (Reprinted in the *Dallas Morning News*, 11 Dec. 2005.)

"Goethe's 'Classical' Science," in *Weimar Classicism*. Ed. Simon Richter. History of German Literature Series. Rochester: Camden House, 2005. 323–45.

"Goethe's Evolutionary Thinking," in *Goethe, Chaos, and Complexity*. Ed. Herbert Rowland. Amsterdam: Editions Rodopi, 2002. 47–56.

"A New Reading of *Werther* as Goethe's Critique of Rousseau." *Orbis Litterarum* 56 (2001): 443–65.

"Polarity and Productivity in Goethe's *Die Wahlverwandschaften*." *Seminar* 36 (2000): 310–25.

"Creating Nature: German Science, Literature, and Philosophy in the Eighteenth Century." *Teaching the Eighteenth Century* 7 (1999): 17–29.

"Herder and National Culture: A Case Study of Latvia" in *Raison universelle et culture nationale au siècle des Lumières*. Ed. David Bell, Stéphane Pujol, and Ludmila Pimenova. Paris: Champion, 1999. 31–46.

"Goethe's Botany and His Philosophy of Gender." *Eighteenth-Century Life*, 22 (May 1998): 123–38.

"Deficit Spending and Fiscal Restraint: Balancing the Budget in *Die Wahlverwandschaften*." *Goethe Yearbook* 7 (1994): 40–61.

Reviews

- Adler, Jeremy. *Die Erfindung der Moderne*. Munich: C.H. Beck 2022. *Lessing Yearbook*, forthcoming.
- Wellmon, Chad. *Organizing the Enlightenment: Information Overload and the Invention of the Modern Research University*. *German Quarterly*, Spring (2018): 251–53.
- Lehleiter, Christiane, ed. *Fact and Fiction: Literary and Scientific Cultures in Germany and Britain*. *German Quarterly*, Fall (2017): 495–96.
- Simon Richter and Richard Block. *Goethe's Ghosts: Reading and the Persistence of Literature*. *Lessing Yearbook* (2015): 222–224.
- Manfred Wenzel. *Goethe Handbuch, Supplemente 2, Naturwissenschaften*. *Goethe Yearbook 22* (2015): 269–70.
- Henrik Boëtius, Marie Lousie Lauridsen, and Marie Louise Lefèvre. *Light, Darkness and Colours*. Icarus Films: Brooklyn, NY. 2000. *Goethe Yearbook 17* (2010): 373–74.
- Armstrong, John. *Love, Life, Goethe: Lessons of the Imagination From the Great German Poet*, *Chicago Tribune, Sunday Books Section* (5) 28 January 2007.
- Lesley Sharpe, *The Cambridge Companion to Goethe, Monatshefte 96* (2004): 613–14.
- “Northern Dreams of the South: Imagining Italy in the Eighteenth Century.” Review Essay on *Italian Culture in Northern Europe in the Eighteenth Century* (ed. Shearer West) and *Italy in the German Literary Imagination* (by Gretchen Hachmeister), *Eighteenth-Century Studies 37* (2004): 311–13.
- Curran, Jane V. *Goethe's Wilhelm Meister's Apprenticeship: A Reader's Commentary*, *Lessing Yearbook 35* (2003): 330–31.
- Jutta Linder, “Falsche Tendenzen”: *Der Staatsdiener Goethe und der Dichter*, *German Quarterly 76* (2003): 120–21.
- Karin Schutjer, *Narrating Community after Kant: Schiller, Goethe, and Hölderlin*, *Monatshefte 95* (2003): 335–37.
- Werner Schlick, *Goethe's Die Wahlverwandtschaften: A Middle-Class Critique of Aesthetic Aristocratism*, *Seminar 39* (2003): 74–75.
- Martha B. Helfer, ed., *Rereading Romanticism*, *Goethe Yearbook 11* (2002): 438–40.
- Karl Maurer, *Goethe und die romanische Welt*, *German Quarterly 73* (2000): 314–15.
- Stefan Blessin, *Goethes Romane: Aufbruch in die Moderne*, *German Quarterly 71* (1998): 304–305.
- Astrid Köhler, *Salonkultur im klassischen Weimar: Geselligkeit als Lebensform und literarisches Konzept*, *Colloquia Germanica 3* (1997): 282–83.
- Marie Mitchell Olesen Urbanski, ed., *Margaret Fuller: Visionary of the New Age*, *Goethe Yearbook 8* (1996): 362–64.
- Peter Burgard, *Idioms of Uncertainty: Goethe and the Essay*, *Goethe Yearbook 7* (1994): 261–64.

Selected Invited Talks

- “Goethe...the Most Modern of the Moderns,” Presidential Forum, Goethe Society of North America conference, Pittsburgh, October 2014.
- Keynote address, “New Trends in German Studies,” A Workshop for Advanced Graduate Teaching Assistants in German Studies in the Midwest, Chicago, January 2007. (Sponsored by the Goethe Institute and the DAAD.)
- “Goethe’s Faust: Damned to Heaven,” UIC, Dept. of Classics and Mediterranean Studies, March 2006.
- “Goethe in Songs,” guest lecturer (class), Northwestern University, School of Music, 2003, 2004, 2005.
- “Goethe: Beyond the Literary Imagination,” University of Illinois at Chicago, Department of History, February 2004.
- “Goethe’s Science and German Classicism,” University of Chicago, History of the Human Sciences Workshop, October 2003.
- “The Will to Create: Goethe’s Theory of Evolution,” Bryn Mawr College, April 2000.
- “Goethe’s Evolutionary Thinking,” Symposium on “Goethe, Chaos, and Complexity,” Purdue University, April 1999.
- “Goethe’s Scientific Revolution,” UIC Institute for the Humanities, January 1998.
- “On Work and Play: Lessing and Schiller,” Chicago Humanities Festival, November 1997.
- “Goethe and the Natural Sciences: ‘Interest’ in ‘Nature’ as a ‘Way to Humanität,’” Department of Germanic Studies, University of Chicago, November 1996.

Selected Conference Participation

- Roundtable participant, “Female Leadership in Today’s Academy,” German Studies Association (GSA), San Diego, October 2016.
- Seminar Leader, “Science, Nature, and Art: From the Age of Goethe to the Present,” Goethe GSA, Washington, D.C., 2015.
- Panel moderator, “Subterranean Worlds,” Goethe Society of North America conference, Pittsburgh, October 2014.
- Presidential address, Goethe Society of North America conference, Chicago, November 2011.
- “Werther the Fundamentalist,” American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, Portland, March 2008.
- Panel chair, “Terror and Human Rights: Kleist,” Modern Language Association (MLA), Chicago, 2007.
- Panel moderator, “Humanistic Literacy in an Anti-Intellectual Culture,” UIUC-UIC Initiative: The Humanities and the Public University, March 2007.
- Roundtable participant, “Pflicht und Kür—Going Beyond Taking Graduate Courses,” Workshop for Advanced Graduate Teaching Assistants (Sponsored by DAAD and the Goethe-Institute Chicago), 2007.

- Panel chair, "Games People Play," MLA, Philadelphia, December 2006.
- "A 'Monstrous' Reading of *Werther*: Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* and Goethe," GSA, Pittsburgh, September 2006.
- Panel Moderator, "Literature and the Limits of Discipline," GSA, Pittsburgh, September 2006.
- Panel Chair, "Border Crossings in 18th- and 19th-Century German Literature," MLA, Washington D.C., December 2005.
- Sloan-C Invitational Workshop on Blended Learning, Chicago, April 2004.
- "Lucretius and Eighteenth-Century Evolutionary Theory," International Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, Los Angeles, August 2003.
- Panel Chair, "Framing Goethe's Science," International Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, Los Angeles, August 2003.
- "Long-Range Planning and Budgeting," CIC Academic Leadership Seminar, Purdue University, January 2003.
- "Leadership and Human Resources," CIC Academic Leadership Seminar, Michigan State University, November 2002.
- "Protean Nature and Goethean Philosophy," American Society for Eighteenth-Century Study, Colorado Springs, April 2002.
- "The Subjective Eye: Polarity and Creativity in Goethe's *Farbenlehre*," GSA, October 2000. (Paper read in my absence.)
- Panel Co-Chair, "Science and Popular Culture in the Enlightenment," American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, March 1999.
- "Teaching Eighteenth-Century Studies: German Science, Literature, and Philosophy," American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, April 1998.
- Panel Chair, "Goethe and the Visual Arts," American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, April 1998.
- Panel Chair, "The Eighteenth-Century Scientist: From Dilettante to Professional," American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, April 1997.
- Panel Moderator, "Trust: Barriers and Bridges," Institute for Business and Professional Ethics, DePaul University, February 1997.
- "Goethe as Self-Parodist: *Der Triumph der Empfindsamkeit*," MLA, December 1996.
- "Herder and German Nationalism: A Case Study of Latvia," East-West Seminar: "Universal Reason and National Culture During the Enlightenment," sponsored by the International Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, Paris, July 15–19, 1996.
- "Goethe's Scientific Principle of Compensation," GSA, September 1995.
- "Creating Nature: Law and Landscape in Rousseau, Austen, and Goethe," American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, April 1995.
- "The Reconfiguration of the Family in *Die Wahlverwandtschaften*," MLA, December 1994.
- "Grafting Shoots, Asexual Reproduction, and the Androgynous Soul in Goethe's *Elective Affinities*," Midwest Modern Language Association, November 1993.

Courses

Goethe and the Modern World

European Research Seminar: Science and Society (included texts by Rousseau, Hirschfeld, Goethe)

Romanticism in Context 1755–1900 (included texts by Rousseau, Kant, Hegel, Kleist, Hölderlin, Schlegel, Novalis, Tieck, Goethe, Hirschfeld, Nietzsche)

Faust (included *Genesis* and *Job*, and texts by Kalidasa, Milton, Marlowe, and Goethe)

Is it Real or is it Imagined? Romanticism and Perception (included texts by Goethe, Kant, Tieck, and Freud)

Science as Culture? (included texts by Lavater, Lichtenberg, Pestalozzi, Kant, Meitner, Einstein, Schrödinger)

Creating Nature: German Science, Literature, and Philosophy (included texts by C.C.L. Hirschberg, Haller, Schelling, Oken, Ritter, Kant, Moritz, W. von Humboldt, and Goethe)

Nature, Science, and Society in Eighteenth-Century Germany (included texts by Brockes, L.A.V. Gottsched, Klopstock, Lichtenberg, Lavater, Schiller, Goethe, Tieck)

Gender, Class, and Politics in German Literature in Translation (cross-listed with Women's Studies, included texts by S. von La Roche, B. Naubert, S. Mereau, B. von Arnim, Fontane, Freud, Kafka, Bachmann)

Marriage and Adultery (cross-listed with Gender and Women's Studies, included texts by Kant, Engels, Luther, Goethe, Freud, and Büchner)

Perspectives in German Literature 1750–1850 (included texts by Lessing, Goethe, Schiller, Grillparzer, Hölderlin, Kleist, Büchner)

The Nature of Evil (included texts by Lessing, Goethe, Tieck, Nietzsche, Freud, and K. Mann)

Science and Literature (Honors College Course, included texts by Bacon, Descartes, Newton, M. Shelley, Goethe, Rousseau)

The "Nature" of the Family: From Plato to Hillary Rodham Clinton (Honors College Course, included texts by Plato, Aristotle, Luther, Erasmus, Kant, Engels, Freud, Dan Quayle, and Hillary Rodham Clinton)

Human Being and Citizen (Humanities Core Course, included texts by Aristotle, Augustine, and Shakespeare)

Humanities for the Visual Artist (included texts by Plato, Rousseau, Shakespeare, Kandinsky, and J.M.W. Turner)

Elementary German

Intermediate German

Advanced German

Professional Membership

American Association of Teachers of German
American Historical Association
American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies
English Goethe Society
German Studies Association
Goethe Society of North America

Languages

German, Latvian, and French (reading knowledge)