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# Cynthia L. Bair Van Dam

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## Education

THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, D.C.

September 1991-May 1993

M.A. in Literature; focus on nineteenth century British literary traditions of the novel and Feminist Theory; additional courses on the Teaching of Writing, Contemporary Literary Theory, the Genre of the Fantastic, and Oral Narrative Theory.

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA

LINCOLN, NE.

September 1987-May 1991

B.A., major in English, minor in Sociology.

## Employment History

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, D.C.

August 1995-present

Hurst Senior Professorial Lecturer. Courses taught: College Writing; College Writing Seminar; College Writing, Intensive; Writing Across the Curriculum; Honors English I; Honors English II; Advanced Composition Workshop; Issues, Ideas, and Words. Service on several university and departmental committees, including chairing the AU Core (general education program).

HOWARD UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, D.C.

August 1993-August 1995

Instructor of Expository and Argument writing courses, service in Writing Center, service on several departmental committees.

## Honors

Outstanding Service to the University Community in Term-Line Appointment, 2017

Milton and Sonia Greenberg Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Award, 2017

American University Honors Program Outstanding Professor Award, 2003-2004

## Publications

### PAPERS PRESENTED AT PROFESSIONAL MEETINGS

- Presenter (refereed), "Connecting Faculty Development, Student Learning, & Practice: Building Habits Through Intentional Program Design," AAC&U General Education and Assessment Conference: Creating a 21st-Century General Education, San Francisco, February 2019
- Presenter (refereed), "Crafting Learning Outcomes and Identifying Common Ground: Building Faculty Consensus," AAC&U General Education and Assessment: Foundations for Democracy, Philadelphia, February 2018

- Presenter (refereed), “Engaging Faculty and Developing Learning Outcomes: Shifting the Paradigm from Disciplines to Modes of Inquiry,” 2017 Assessment Institute, Indianapolis, IN, October 2017
- Presenter (refereed), “Crafting Learning Outcomes and Identifying Common Ground: Building Faculty Consensus,” AAC&U General Education and Assessment: Foundations for Democracy, February 2018
- Presenter (refereed), “Equality or Exploitation?: Questioning the Risks and Rewards of Contingent Faculty Service,” Conference on College Composition and Communication, March 2015
- Presenter (refereed), “The Walking Dead: Motivating Millennials as Pragmatic Idealists,” Conference on College Composition and Communication, March 2014
- Presenter (refereed), Did Not Attend. “Life in the Fast Lane: Why Students are Speeding Through Research, Reading and Writing,” Conference on College Composition and Communication, March 2013
- Presenter (refereed), “The Efficiency Generation: Understanding Why Students Make Odd Choices When They Research and Write,” Conference on College Composition and Communication, March 2012
- Presenter (refereed), “Did you hear the one about...? Plagiarism Narratives,” Conference on College Composition and Communication, March 2010
- Chair (refereed), “Remixing Reading, Writing, Responding,” Conference on College Composition and Communication, March 2010
- Presenter (refereed), “Teaching Students to Grade Between the Lines: a Contemporary Evolution of Peer Response,” National Council of Teachers of English Conference, November 2009
- Presenter (refereed), “The Limitations of the Supervisor-as-Mentor: a Three-tier Solution,” Conference on College Composition and Communication, April 2008
- Invited Presenter (refereed), “Inventing the Academic Writer: Teaching Strategies for Complicating the Middle-Class Writer-Identity,” Hawaii Conference on Arts and Humanities, 2007.
- Presenter (refereed), “Consenting Adults: Peer Grading by Consensus,” Conference on College Composition and Communication, March 2004
- Presenter (refereed), “Apocalypse Now? Apocalypse Not!: Creating Collegiality among Contingent Writing Faculty,” Conference on College Composition and Communication, March 2003
- Presenter (refereed), “Strategies for Creating Information Literate Writers,” Conference on College Composition and Communication, March 2002

#### INVITED LECTURES

- Speaker, Howard University General Education Summit, “AU Core: Design, Implementation, and Lessons Learned,” Howard University. January 2020.
- Panelist, CAS Term Faculty Task Force Advocacy Panel, September 2015
- Presenter, “Assessing Assessment: Lessons Learned from General Education,” Ann Ferren Teaching Conference, January 2015
- Speaker, “Transitioning from High School to College Writing,” Intensive Journalistic Writing Institute, Washington, D.C., July 8, 2011
- Speaker, “Transitioning from High School to College Writing,” Intensive Journalistic Writing Institute, Washington, D.C., July 11, 2009

- Speaker, "Transitioning from High School to College Writing," Intensive Journalistic Writing Institute, Washington, D.C., July 2008
- Speaker, CAS Honors 101 Reception, September 2007.
- Speaker, CAS Honors 101 Reception, September 2006.
- Speaker, "Evaluating Writing: A Holistic Approach." Greenberg Seminar, October 2005.
- Presenter. "AU English—The Voice of Authority/The Language of Evaluation." CAS Mellon Colloquium, April 2005
- Presenter. "We're All Teachers of Writing." Ann Ferren Teaching Conference, January 2005
- Lecturer, "Collaborative Learning," The Teaching of Writing, October 2000-2005.
- Lecturer, Interpreting Literature, "Susan Glaspell: Multiple Juries/Multiple Interpretations," March 2001.

#### OTHER

- Panelist. "Reliable Assessment Methods in the Habits of Mind," CTRL Mid-Semester Workshops, CTRL. October 2020
- Panel Facilitator. "10 Strategies for Adding Metacognition and Reflection into Your Course," CTRL August Faculty Workshops. August 2019.
- Panelist. "Incorporating Graphic Organizers and Visuals in your Materials," Writing Studies Program Pre-Semester Colloquium. August 2019.
- Gave a talk, Bair Van Dam, C. L., "AU Core Overview," AU Ambassadors Meeting, American University, AU. (March 1, 2019) Presenter, "The Efficiency Generation," College Writing Program Teaching Round Table, October 2012.
- Presenter, "Notes from CCCC's," College Writing Program Teaching Round Table, April 2012.
- Presenter, "Participles and Predicaments: Grammar in the Composition Classroom," College Writing Program Teaching Round Table, March 2012.
- Presenter, "Making the Transition from 100 to 101," College Writing Program Teaching Round Table, December 2011.
- Presenter, "The Theory of Assignment Design," College Writing Program Teaching Round Table, October 2011.
- Presenter, "CCCC Redux," College Writing Program Teaching Round Table, April 2011
- Presenter, "One Cool Thing: CCCC Redux," College Writing Program Teaching Round Table, April 2010
- Presenter, "Grade Norming," College Writing Program January Colloquium, January 2010
- Co-presenter and co-organizer, "What's the Difference Between 100 and 101?," College Writing Program Mentoring Workshop, December 2009
- Co-presenter, "Getting Ready for Final Exams," College Writing Program Mentoring Workshop, November 2009
- Co-presenter, "Crafting Assignments," College Writing Program Mentoring Workshop, September 2009
- Co-presenter and co-organizer, "How to Teach Academic Writing at AU," College Writing Program Workshop, August 2009
- Panelist, "The State of the Field: New Ideas for the Teaching of Writing," College Writing Program Teaching Round Table, March 2009
- Co-presenter, "Pros and Cons of Using Bibliography Software in the Classroom," College Writing Program Teaching Round Table, November 2008
- Co-presenter, "All Hail Risk: Is Risk Taking Really Good Pedagogy?," College Writing Program's The Art & Science of Teaching Writing Conference, October 2008

- Presenter, "Grade Norming: Working Toward Consistent Grading in the College Writing Program," College Writing Program Mentoring Workshop, February 2008
- Presenter and co-organizer, "Commenting as a Genre." College Writing Program's 2007 Conference on the Art and Science of Teaching, October 2007.
- Presenter, "Grading Workshop," College Writing Program Mentoring Workshop, October 2007
- Co-presenter, "Commenting Workshop," College Writing Program Mentoring Workshop, March 2007
- Presenter and organizer, "A Mid-Year Teaching Conversation." College Writing Program Lunch for New Faculty, December 2006.
- Presenter, "Winding Up Instead of Winding Down: Swapping Ideas about How to End the Semester on a High Note." College Writing Program Teaching Roundtable, November 2006.
- Presenter, "'Students, take up your pens, pencils, and styli': In-class Essays and Their Discontents." College Writing Program Teaching Round Table, American University, October 2005.
- Presenter, "CCCC Redux: Ideas from San Francisco." College Writing Program Teaching Round Table, March 2005.
- Presenter, "The Science and Art of Responding to Student Writing." College Writing Program Teaching Round Table, American University, October 2004,
- Presenter, "Teaching Grammar." Department of Literature Round Table, Spring 2004.
- Presenter, "What to Do Before It's Due." College Writing Program Teaching Round Table, American University, October 2003.
- Presenter, "Style: Revising at the Sentence Level." College Writing Program Teaching Round Table, American University, October 2002.
- Presenter, "Professional Development." College Writing Program Teaching Round Table, American University, April 2001.
- Panelist, "Applying for Composition Jobs." College Writing Program Teaching Round Table, American University, March 1999.
- Presenter, "From the 4Cs: Hot New Ideas." College Writing Program Teaching Round Table, American University, April 1999.
- Presenter, "Group Behavior and Dynamics." College Writing Program Teaching Round Table, American University, February 1999.

## **Sponsored Research**

- Mellon Grant for "The Efficiency Generation: Understanding Why Students Make Odd Choices When They Research and Write," March 2012, \$500
- Mellon Grant for "The Limitations of the Supervisor-as-Mentor: a Three-tier Solution," Spring 2008, \$2582 (with Lacey Wootton-Don)
- Mellon Grant for "Consenting Adults: Peer Grading by Consensus," Spring 2004, \$2775 (with Lacey Wootton-Don)
- Mellon Grant for "Apocalypse Now? Apocalypse Not?: Creating Collegiality among Contingent Writing Faculty," Spring 2003, \$5100 (with three colleagues)
- Mellon Grant for "Strategies for Creating Information Literate Writers," Spring 2002, \$1900

## **Teaching Responsibilities**

### COURSES

WRTG-100 College Writing  
WRTG-101 College Writing Seminar  
WRTG-106 College Writing, Intensive  
WRTG-301 Writing Across the Curriculum  
LIT-130 Honors English  
LIT-131 Honors English II  
LIT-132 Honors English, Intensive  
LIT-205 Issues, Ideas, and Words  
LIT-301 Advanced Composition Workshop  
HNRS-300 Advanced Writing: The Art of the Essay  
Critical Thinking and the Effective Communication of Ideas

#### SUPERVISION OF THESES

Undergraduate Thesis second reader; Dory Isaacs, 2011  
Undergraduate Thesis second reader; Shannon McMahaon, 2011  
Honors Capstone Advisor; Michael Wagner, 2007  
MFA Thesis Committee; George Gonzales; Spring 2006  
MFA Thesis Committee; Donna Obeid; Spring 1998  
MFA Thesis Committee; Anthony Gancarski; Fall 1998

#### SUPERVISION OF INTERNSHIPS

College Writing Internship; Mickie Tencza, Spring 2006  
College Writing Internship; Jennifer Berry, Spring 2005  
College Writing Internship; Samantha Hubbard Shanley; Spring 2003  
College Writing Internship; Meaghan Mountford; Spring 2002  
College Writing Internship; Catherine McEaddy; Spring 2001  
College Writing Internship; Tricia Reicher; Spring 2000  
College Writing Internship; Jody Gerbig; Fall 1999-Spring 2000  
College Writing Internship; Jeanette Fast; Fall 1997-Spring 1998  
College Writing Internship; Jael McHenry; Fall 1996-Spring 1997  
College Writing Internship; Aliina Hirschhoff; Spring 1996-Summer 1996  
College Writing Internship; Marilyn Borkin; Spring 1996

### **Curriculum Development**

AU Core, redesign and implementation of AU's general education program  
College Writing Program Faculty Mentoring Programs, Roundtables and Workshops  
College Writing Program Grading Rubric  
Department of Literature General Education Curriculum  
College Writing/Honors English, Intensive Course Proposal  
College Writing Program Faculty Handbook  
Advanced Composition Course Proposal  
Experimental College: Information Literacy Pairing with Librarian  
Critical Thinking and the Effective Communication of Ideas: Housing and Urban Development  
Training Session  
Issues, Ideas, and Words: Adult Education Curriculum  
Experimental College: Linked Courses with Economics, Music, and International Studies  
Year-Long College Writing Experiment: Two-Semester Sequence Pilot  
Text Selection Committee  
Writing Across the Curriculum Committee, Howard

Piloted Humanities Curriculum, Howard

## Department and University Service/Activities

### UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE

AU Core Committee, Faculty Chair, 2017-present  
Faculty Subcommittee of the SPEXS Transition Team  
SPEXS One-year Faculty Placement Committee, Chair  
Honors Working Group, 2019  
Director, Complex Problems Community, 2016-2018  
University General Education Committee, Chair, 2015-2017  
AU Core Implementation Task Force, Co-chair, 2016-present  
Reimagining General Education Task Force, Co-chair, 2015-2016  
Committee on Learning Assessment, 2015-2017  
Ann Ferren Teaching Conference Planning Committee, 2015-2017  
CAS Dean's Advisory Committee, 2013-2015  
University General Education Committee, Area 1 Chair, 2013-2015  
University Writing Initiative, 2013-2014  
Fulbright Panelist, 2009-present  
College Writing Program Task Force, 2008-2009  
"Honors 101" Faculty Mentor 2007, 2008, 2010  
Learning Communities Committee, 2007  
Department of Philosophy and Religion Hiring Committee, 2004-2005  
CAS Graduation Speaker Selection Committee 2003, 2005, 2007-2010  
Academic Integrity Code Panel; 1996-2005, 2008-2010  
Writer as Witness Program; Addressed Incoming Freshmen at NSO 1998-2000, 2002  
NSO Writer as Witness/College Writing Program Panel Planning Committee, 2002  
Writer as Witness Program; Co-Addressed Student Orientation Leaders 2000  
College Writing Program – ELI Advisory Panel 2000  
Faculty Advisor, Anime Club 2007-2008  
Faculty Advisor, Sigma Chi Fraternity 2005-2006  
Faculty Advisor; Washington Youth Summit 2003  
Faculty Advisor; Girl Scouts 2001-2002  
Faculty Advisor; Fencing Club 1997-2001  
Information Literacy Committee 1999  
New Faculty Mentor Program 1998  
Honors Essay Contest Judge 1998  
CAS New Student Orientation; Addressed Incoming Freshmen 1998  
NSO (SOAR) Student Registration 1996-1998  
CAS Academic Integrity Code Grievance Committee 1998, 2001, 2003  
CAS Faculty Mentor Program 1996-1998

### DEPARTMENT

Department Council 1995-present  
Writing Studies Program 2001-present  
Writing Studies Program Reappointment and Promotion Committee 2010-present  
Writing Studies Program Reappointment and Promotion Committee, Chair 2013-2014, 2018-2021  
Writing Studies Program Merit Committee 2001, 2003, 2009, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2019

Tenure-line Merit Committee 2001-2002, 2006, 2013  
Reappointment and Tenure Committee 1999-2000, 2003-2005, 2008-2009  
Undergraduate Studies Committee, 2009-2012  
Executive Committee 2004-2006, 2010-2011  
Freshman preview day, 2010  
Chair Search Committee 2001-2002  
Jane Stanhope Award Committee 2001-2002  
Louise Young Essay Contest Judge 2002-2008  
College Writing Committee 1997-1999; 2000-2001  
MFA Thesis Committee 1997-1999, 2006  
MFA Applications Panel 1999-2001, 2006  
College Writing Program Hiring Committee 1996, 1998, 2001, 2004  
Letters of Recommendation 1995-present  
Undergraduate Advisor 1995-1998

#### WRITING STUDIES PROGRAM

Writing Studies Program Curriculum Committee 2016-present  
Writer as Witness Committee, 2021-present  
*Atrium* Committee, 2013-2015  
Chair, College Writing Program Advocacy Committee 2011-2012  
Co-chair, College Writing Program Mentoring Committee, 2007-2008, 2009-2010, 2011-2012  
College Writing Program Writing Concentration Committee, 2009  
College Writing Program New Course Development Committee, 2010-present  
*Ad Hoc* New Course Design Committee, 2012-present  
College Writing Program Rubric Committee, 2010-2012  
College Writing Program Faculty Mentor, 2007-2008, 2009-2010  
College Writing Program Mentoring Committee, 2008-2009  
College Writing Program Assessment Committee, 2009-2010  
Writer as Witness Essay Contest Judge, 2010  
College Writing Program Faculty Handbook Committee 2003-2004  
College Writing Program Student Handbook Text Selection Committee 2004  
English Competency Exam Grading Panel 1995-present  
Hallway Project, co-coordinator 2001-2006  
College Writing Full-time Faculty Council 1995-2001  
College Writing Program Advanced Composition Course Proposal Committee 2000  
College Writing Program New Faculty Mentor 1999-2000  
College Writing Program Adjunct Faculty Mentor 1998-2000  
College Writing Program New Faculty Mentor 1999-2000  
Planning Committee, Teaching Development Meeting 1997-1998; 2000-2006  
Staff Development Committee 1996-1997  
Text Selection Committee, Chair 1995-1996

#### **Membership and Professional Activities**

Member, National Council of Teachers of English 1993-present  
Registration Committee Chair, Conference on College Composition and  
Communication, Washington DC, March 1996