

Cathryn M. Mercier, Ph.D.

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Education

Boston University	Doctor of Philosophy	University Professors	2002
Simmons College	Master of Philosophy	English	1993
	Master of Arts	Children's Literature	1984
Mount Holyoke College	Bachelor of Arts	Psychology	1981

Professional Experience

Simmons College, Boston, Massachusetts

Director	January 1985-present
Associate Director	July 2005-present
Assistant Director	July 1991-June 2005
Administrative Assistant	January 1987-June 1991
	January 1985-December 1986

Graduate Degree Programs in Children's Literature

- Develop curriculum M.A. in Children's Literature, M.F.A in Writing for Children and dual degree programs with Education (SSW) and Library Science (SLIS)
- Hire, supervise, and assess faculty
- Supervise MFA program mentorships
- Oversee assessment, including program learning outcomes, curriculum mapping, alumni surveys
- Develop and maintain budget
- Direct admissions, conduct admission interviews, make admission decisions, collaborate with graduate admissions on recruitment events and merit awards
- Direct off-site program at The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art
- Maintain active alumni connections and programs, such as the first Alumni Reunion in January 2009
- Raised funds for the *Lee & Low....and Friends Scholarship Fund* (2014-15, first award 2016)
- Oversee student programming and work with Children's Literature Student Advisory Group
- Steward key donors to the graduate programs and the Center
- Coordinate 2017 Allen Smith Visiting Scholar with Artist-in-Residence Jack Gantos

Center for the Study of Children's Literature

- Co-direct summer institutes and symposium, including development of theme, speaker invitations, closing lecture, and brochure design

2017 <i>(im)Possible Dreams</i>	2015 <i>Homecoming</i>	2013 <i>Love Letters</i>
2011 <i>Body Electric</i>	2009 <i>Crimes and Misdemeanors</i>	
2007 <i>Food, Glorious Food</i>	2005 <i>Midnight Gardens</i>	2003 <i>Let's Dance</i>
2001 <i>Brave New Worlds</i>	1999 <i>Halos and Hooligans</i>	1997 <i>As Time Goes By</i>

1995 *A Room of One's Own* 1993 *Acts of Light* 1991 *Me and My Shadow*
1989 *Masquerade* 1987 *Metamorphosis*

- Co-founded “Horn Book at Simmons” annual Colloquium (2010-present)
2017 *Resistance: Children’s Books in Troubled Times* 2016 *Out of the Box*
2015 *Transformations* 2014 *Mind the Gaps* 2013 *Building Character*
2012 *Look Out!* 2011 and 2010, no specific theme
- Sponsor and Host, Boston Globe-Horn Book Awards (2013-present)
- Founding member, Children’s Books Boston (2013)
- Host Children’s Books Boston events (two per year on campus and “Wicked Trivia” off-campus) (2013-present)
- Host annual P.E.N. New England Susan P. Bloom Children’s Book Discovery Award (2013-present);
- Sponsor and host, *School Library Journal* Innovator BaseCamp, May 2017
- Host meetings for visiting boards, such as United States Board on Books for Young People (the U.S. division of the International Board on Books for Young People) and the International Literacy Association’s Children’s Literature Assembly (both held in 2016).
- Hosted Children’s Literature Association Conference (2012);
- Sponsored and co-chaired South Africa Children’s Book Event (2008).

Professor of Children’s Literature

Associate Professor
Assistant Professor
Instructor

July 2008-present

July 2004-June 2008
July 1990-June 2004
September 1986-June 1990

Graduate courses in Children’s Literature currently include

- 📖 Criticism of Children’s Literature
- 📖 Positionality in Children’s and Young Adult Literature
- 📖 Contemporary Young Adult Realism
- 📖 The Picturebook
- 📖 The Child in Fiction
- 📖 Survey of Children’s and Young Adult Realism
- 📖 Mentorship I and Mentorship II

Undergraduate courses has included

- 📖 Critical theory for the English Major
- 📖 Extensive teaching in the MCC Culture Matter, the first-year, interdisciplinary writing course

Courses Taught outside Simmons

- 📖 “*The Chocolate War: The Great American Young Adult Novel*,” Children’s Books from a Global Perspective – a Classics Reading Programme, Departamenta de Didàctica de la Llengua i la Literatura i de les Ciències Socials Universitat Autònoma Barcelona. Online.
April 7 – April 27, 2015; April 4-24, 2016
- 📖 English 126: “Hunger Games: The Spectacle of Young Adult Dystopia in Pop Culture,” Mount Holyoke College. Online, May 27- July 15, 2014.

- 📖 Independent study and thesis advising, topics include
 - Truth, Trauma, and Temporality in Recent Queer YA
 - Gender Performativity and Nationhood in High Fantasy Series
 - Race and Gender: Constructions and Enactments YA Dystopian Fiction
 - Food Marks Nation
 - Historical Fiction
 - Performative Girlhood in American Picturebooks,
 - What Can Queer Theory Tell Children's Literature?

Academic Advising (recent)

- 📖 MA in Children's Literature
- 📖 MFA in Children's Literature
- 📖 Dual degree programs (MAMFA, MAMA-English, MAMAT, MAMS)
- 📖 Undergraduate PLAN

University Leadership Positions

- Deans' Search Committee (2017-18)
- Academic Re-Design Committee on Faculty Culture and Governance (co-leader of Ifill College) and Academic Re-Design Committee on Student Policies (spring 2017-spring 2018)
- Member-at-Large to the Simmons College Faculty Senate (2014-2017), including representation Academic Affairs Committee; Faculty Fiscal Affairs Committee; Administrative Reorganization
- Faculty lead on NEASC five-year report (2015)
- Simmons P.L.A.N. curricular redesign team (2013-4)
- Standards committee chair for NEASC accreditation self-study (2010)
- Honor Board (six years)

Leadership and Service in the Gwen Ifill College of Media, Arts, and Humanities (2018-present)

- Elected Co-Chair for Academic Leadership (2018-present)
- Promotions and Tenure Committee (2018-present)

Leadership and Service in the School of Library and Information Science (2013-2018)

- Dean's Ops Team (2013-present)
- Rank Tenure and Appointment Committee (2014-present)
- Assessment Committee (2013-16)
- Curriculum Committee (2013-16)

Past service in the College of Arts and Sciences

- Administrative Board (seven years with a two-year chairmanship)
- Faculty Council (three years)

Associate Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

July 2005-June 2012

Worked with Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences to oversee academic affairs

Direct reports:

- Academic advising
- First-year writing program
- Multidisciplinary core course
- Writing Center, including Undergraduate Research Day
- Off-site graduate and undergraduate programs

- Doctoral programs OPEN program
- Credit for Prior Learning Program
- In 2006-07, direct reports include the assistant dean for general education, graduate and undergraduate program directors in education, graduate and undergraduate program directors in special education; additional responsibility chairing special education department.

Regular responsibilities included

- Maintaining, negotiating, and advancing or closing contracts and relationships with off-site partners.
- Working closely with department chairs, graduate program directors, and academic staff.
- Facilitating CAS graduate and undergraduate program review
- Fostering and designing faculty development, including faculty mentor program, new faculty orientations, faculty grants committee, and curriculum retreats
- Facilitating Friars Leader-in-Residence Program
- Hearing grade grievances, monitor grade changes, including developing new grade grievance policy
- Approving graduate petitions for incompletes, leaves-of-absence, and late petitions to transfer credit.
- Monitoring CAS graduate and undergraduate course enrollments for adding/ closing sections
- Overseeing CAS faculty workload
- Submitted and received Fulbright Scholar from Muslim World for one semester

Served as Dean's Office representative on a variety of all-College committees

- Assessment Committee
- Curriculum Committee
- Undergraduate Retention Committee
- Building Advisory
- GEO Center Advisory Board
- COF Teaching and Learning Conference
- COF 10th Anniversary Planning Committee.

Curricular Innovations and Revisions

- The Simmons World Challenge, piloted in January 2011
- Simmons Honors Program Learning Communities
- First-Year Program revisions in July 2016 and May 2010

In 2008-10, served on and chaired multiple sub-committees for the NEASC accreditation self-study.

In 2005-06, serve as interim director of honors program, including teaching Hon 390, making admission decisions for incoming first-year students and rising sophomores, and representing the program at admission and orientation events, act as interim liaison for the Ayling-Travelli scholarship funds.

Director of the President's Simmons Strategy Team July 2010-2012

Founding Director, "The Simmons World Challenge" July 2010-2012

Director, Multidisciplinary Core Course July 2001-June 2005

Primary responsibility for directing the first-year course *Multidisciplinary Core Course: Culture Matters*, including teaching in the course, supervising faculty, designing faculty development opportunities, overseeing curriculum review, summer book selection and distribution, collaboration with orientation, and related programming.

Northeastern University, Boston, Massachusetts January 1986-June 1986
Adjunct Lecturer
Topics of Children's Literature: Coming of Age in Realistic Fiction
Survey of Literature for Children and Young Adults

The Horn Book, Inc. June 1983-December 1984
Marketing Assistant

Publications

Books

Working Class: Short Stories. In editorial discussion.

Reading Russell Freedman (with Susan P. Bloom). Scarecrow, 2009.

Presenting Avi (with Susan P. Bloom). Macmillan/Twayne, 1997.

Presenting Zibby Oneal (with Susan P. Bloom). Macmillan/Twayne, 1991.

Chapters and Parts of Books

"Childhood's Pictures – The 20th Century in American Children's Picturebooks" in Chris Loker, *Shimmer of Joy*. Godine Publishers. In press, December 2018.

"Am I the Problem?: Taking a Second Look at First-Person Narration in Young Adult Realistic Fiction." Ed. Karen Coats, Mike Cadden, and Roberta Seelinger Trites. *Teaching Young Adult Literature*. Modern Language Association, in press.

"Realism" in *Keywords for Children's Literature*, Phillip Nel and Lissa Paul, editors. New York University, 2011. pp.197-201, in press..

short essays on Avi, Molly Bang, Beverly Cleary, David Macaulay, Patricia and Fredrick McKissack, Milton Meltzer, and Richard Peck in *Oxford Companion to Children's Literature*. Ed. Jack Zipes. Oxford University Press, 2006. Volume 2, pp.103-4, 119-20, 311-12; volume 2, pp. 10, 58, 65-66, and 228 .

"The Problems with Reviewing," *Essential Guide to Children's Books*. Ed. Anita Silvey. Houghton, 2002. pp. 380-3.

"Children's Literature" in *Encyclopedia of Feminist Literary Theory*. Ed. Beth Kowaleski-Wallace. Garland, 1997. pp. 73-74.

critical essay on Yoshiko Uchida in *Writers of Multicultural Fiction for Young Adults*. Ed. M. Daphne Kutzer. Greenwood, 1996. pp.423-35.

"Alternate Family Stories," *Children's Books and Their Creators*. Ed. Anita Silvey. Houghton, 1995. pp. 231-34.

critical essays on Molly Bang, Beverly Cleary, Helen V. Griffith, and Mavis Jukes, *Twentieth-Century Children's Writers*. 4th edition. Ed. Laura S. Berger. St James, 1995. 60-61, 215-218, 415-416, 499-500.

essays on Yoshiko Uchida and Cynthia Voigt. *American Women Writers: From Colonial Times to the Present*. Ed. Carol Hurd Green and Mary Grimley Mason. Continuum, 1994. pp. 455-57; 466-67.

essays on Brock Cole, Amy Ehrlich, Paula Fox, and Cynthia Grant. *Twentieth-Century Young Adult Writers*. Ed. Laura S. Berger. St. James, 1993. pp. 140-41, 198-200, 219-21, 255-56.

essay on *Grandma Moses: Painter of Rural America*. *Masterplots II: Juvenile and Young Adult Biography*. Ed. Tracy Irons. Salem, 1993. pp. 780-83.

"Insights and Discoveries: Illuminating Textual Criticism." *Evaluating Children's Books: A Critical Look*. Ed. Betsy Hearne and Roger Sutton. University of Illinois, 1993. pp. 93-104. Translated into Spanish for publication by Banco de Libro, Venezuela.

"The Center for the Study of Children's Literature" with Susan P. Bloom. *Teaching Children's Literature: Issues, Pedagogy, Resources*. Ed. Glenn E. Sadler. Modern Language Association, 1992. pp. 207-11.

essay on *Unleaving*. *Masterplots II: Juvenile and Young Adult Fiction*. Ed. Frank N. Magill. Salem, 1991. pp. 1546-49.

essays on Beverly Cleary and Helen V. Griffith. *Twentieth-Century Children's Writers*. 3rd ed. Ed. Daniel Kirkpatrick. St. James, 1989. pp. 209-10, 408-09.

"One Human Heart: A Conversation with Paula Fox." *Innocence and Experience: Essays and Conversations in Children's Literature*. Ed. Barbara Harrison and Gregory Maguire. Lothrop, 1987. pp. 250-58.

Journal Articles

"On Class," *Kirkus Reviews*, vol. 85, iss. 15, August 1 2017. kirkusreviews.com/diversity/diversity-issues/class/

Juror's Statement, Catalog for 2015 "Picture This!" exhibit, Danforth Art Museum, June 21, 2015.

Review of *Listen Slowly*, *The New York Times Book Review*, 10 May 2015, p. 24.

"Becoming a Book Detective." *Horn Book*, vol. 90, no. 3, 2014, p. 41.

"Borderland Sentinels." *Horn Book*, vol. 80, no. 5, 2004, pp. 545-52.

"Critical Connections: Professional Reading," *Horn Book*, vol. 78, no. 4, 2003, pp. 487-92.

"Revision, (Re)membering, and Recursion: The Cultural Moorings of Jadine in Toni Morrison's *Tar Baby*." *Abafazi*, vol. 11, no. 2, 2002, pp. 41-45.

"Critical Connections: Professional Reading from 2001." *Horn Book*, vol.78, no. 3, 2002, pp. 301-10.

"Professional Reading: 2000-2001." *Horn Book*, vol. 77, no. 3, 2001, pp. 289-99.

"Hitty Overboard." *Horn Book*, vol. 76, no. 2, 2000, pp. 107-09.

"Limitless Wonder of Story." *Children's Literature*, vol. 24, 1996, pp. 231-34.

"Bridges in Realistic Fiction: Reappraising Beverly Cleary's Young Adult Novels." *Oregon English Journal*, vol.17, no. 1, 1995, pp. 54-57.

"Is Androgyny Possible? A Look at *Wuthering Heights*." *Essays and Studies*, vol. 45, no. 1, 1987, pp. 11-13.

Reviews of Professional Books

Appalachian Children's Literature: Annotated Bibliography by Roberta Teague Herrin and Sheila Quinn Oliver. *Journal of Appalachian Studies*, vol. 16, no.1-2, 2010, pp. 2005.

Welcome to Lizard Motel by Barbara Feinberg. *Horn Book*, vol. 81, no. 2, 2005, pp. 219-220.

Kiddie Lit by Beverly Lyon Clark and *The American Child: A Culture Studies Reader* by Caroline F. Levander and Carol J. Singley. *Horn Book*, vol. 80, no. 4, 2004, pp. 472-3.

Beyond the Pale: New Essays for a New Era by Marc Aronson. *Horn Book*, vol. 80, no. 1, 2003, pp. 107-8.

Inside Picture Books by Ellen Spitz. *Journal of Youth Services*. vol. 14, no. 1, 2000, pp. 24-26.

Reading Otherways by Lissa Paul. *Journal of Youth Services*. vol. 12, no. 4, 1999, pp. 38-9.

"Information Over Easy," *Everyone's Guide to Children's Literature* by Mark West. *TALL*, vol 7, no. 3, 1998, pp. 96-97.

Telling Time: Angels, Ancestors and other Stories by Nancy Willard. *Journal of Youth Services*. vol. 8, no.1, 1994, pp. 91-92.

The Seed and the Vision by Eleanor Cameron. *Horn Book*. vol. 75, no. 4, 1994, pp. 475.

Papers and Presentations

"Apertures of Change: *Skim* and *This One Summer*," presentation at the Children's Literature Association, San Antonio, TX. June 29, 2018.

"50 Years: The Sydney Taylor Book Awards Re-Viewed," panel convener and presenter at the Association of Jewish Libraries, Boston, MA. June 19, 2018.

"Author, Scriptor, Reader: Andrew Smith and *Grasshopper Jungle*," presentation at the Children's Literature Association, University of Florida, Tampa, FL. June 22, 2017.

"Out of Wonder," 2017 Book ShowCase at The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art, Amherst, MA. December 16, 2018.

Interview with M. T. Anderson. Boston Book Festival, Boston, MA. October 28, 2018.

"What Does Radical Change Mean Today?" presentation and panel moderator at 12th IBBY Regional Conference/ USBBY, Seattle, WA. October 21, 2018.

“On Stage—A Conversation with David Macaulay and Chris Van Allsburg,” Rhode Island Festival of Children’s Books, Providence, RI. October 14, 2018.

“Mira Bartok: *Wonderling*” interview, Rhode Island Festival of Children’s Books, Providence RI. October 14, 2018.

“Troubling Comfortable Readings,” Horn Book at Simmons, Boston, MA. October 7, 2018.

“Professional Engagement: Where Do I Begin? 5x5 Q&As” *SLJ* Innovator BaseCamp. Boston, MA. May 20, 2017.

“The Story Behind the Story: Adults Reading Young Adult Literature,” a panel discussion with Tobin Anderson, Julie Berry, and Tara Sullivan. Maynard (MA) Public Library, April 08, 2017.

“A Matter of Perspective.” The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art, Amherst, MA. December 9, 2016.

“The Curious and the Giveable,” Boston Atheneum, Boston, MA. December 4, 2016.

“The Academic Study of Children’s Literature – Hopeful Passages,” Children’s Literature New England, Vermont College of Fine Arts, Montpelier, VT. November 12, 2016.

“A New Hat for Jon Klassen,” Children’s Keynote Introduction at the 2016 Boston Book Festival, Boston, MA. October 15, 2016.

“Power of Friendship in Middle Grade Fiction: A Conversation with Ali Benjamin, Jo Knowles, and Paul Griffin,” Boston Book Festival, Boston Public Library, Teen Central, Boston, MA. October 15, 2016.

“Closing the Box,” Horn Book at Simmons Symposium, Simmons College, Boston, MA. October 1, 2016.

“Reanimating *Arlene Sardine*,” Children’s Literature Association. The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH. June 9, 2016.

“And the Winners Were: Behind the Medals,” Children’s Books Boston. Boston, MA. February 23, 2016.

“Pictures and Conversations...*After Alice*,” The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art, Amherst, MA. December 12, 2015.

“*Matchless: An On-Stage Interview with Gregory Maguire*,” Central Square Theatre, Cambridge, MA. November 17, 2015.

“Transforming Class Structures in Children’s Literature,” Horn Book at Simmons Colloquium, Boston, MA. October 3, 2015.

“Introducing Libba Bray: A Diviner,” Young Adult Keynote Speaker, Boston Book Festival, Boston, MA. October 24, 2014.

“Middle Grade: Family and Friends. A Moderated Conversation with Patricia Reilly Giff, Tamara Ellis Smith, and Rebecca Stead,” Boston Book Festival. Boston, MA. October 24, 2015.

“Grace Lin: Conversation with the Artist,” Rhode Island Festival of Children’s Book Authors and Illustrators. Providence, RI. October 17, 2015.

“There’s No Place Like Home,” Center for the Study of Children’s Literature, Homecoming Summer Institute, Boston, MA. July 26, 2015.

“The Importance of *The Giver* in Today’s Literary Landscape,” West Roxbury Reads, West Roxbury Branch Library, West Roxbury, MA. April 4, 2015.

“Prizing Children’s Literature: An Insider’s Look at Process and Results,” Wheaton College, Norton, MA. March 25, 2015.

“Ways of Reading,” Simmons College Alumni Day, Boston, MA, March 21, 2015.

“Inseparable: Library Science and Connections Across Disciplines: A Panel with Allen Smith Visiting Scholar Paul Sturges,” SLIS, Simmons College, Boston, MA. March 5, 2015.

“The Iridescence of Books,” The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art, Amherst, MA. December 7, 2014.

“*The Little Prince* Flies Again.” New Repertory Theatre, Boston, MA. November 23, 2014.

“Introducing Rick Riordan: Master of Myth,” Children’s Keynote Speaker, Boston Book Festival, Boston, MA, October 24, 2014.

“Reality into Fantasy Young Adult Literature,” panel moderator, The Boston Book Festival. Boston, MA. October 24 2014.

“Hold Fast to Dreams,” The Rhode Island Children’s Book Festival, Providence RI. October 17, 2014.

“The Class Gap: Money Matters,” Horn Book at Simmons Colloquium, October 11, 2014.

“Resisting Divergencies: Erasing Sexed Innocence.” The Children’s Literature Association Annual Conference. Columbia, SC, June 20, 2014.

“Wordless Picturebooks: Trending,” speaker and panel moderator, *School Library Journal*, “Day of Dialog,” New York, NY, May 28, 2014.

“Different Paths,” speaker and panel moderator, Lowell Lecture Series 2014: Gateway to Reading, Boston Public Library, May 13 2014.

“So You Want to Choose the 2014 Caldecott?” The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art, Amherst, MA. December 8, 2013.

“Class on Class,” Children’s Book Council-Diversity Committee. November 30, 2013.

“Hidden Pleasures: (Re)Defining Nonfiction,” National Council of Teachers of English, Annual Convention, November 22, 2013.

“Educators’ Night at The Carle with Jack Gantos: A Public Conversation,” The Eric Carle Museum of Picturebook Art, 2013 Educators’ Night, October 30, 2013.

“SWAK: Closing *Love Letters*” with Megan Lambert, Simmons College, Center for the Study of Children’s Literature Summer Institute, July 28, 2013.

“Reading, Talking, Deciding,” American Library Association, Roundtable for Social Responsibility, Coretta Scott King Award Jury, Chicago, IL., June 29, 2013.

“Peter Sis: Reading Bridges on the Wings of Story,” a conversation at The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art, 2013 BERL Lecture Luncheon, May 4, 2013.

“So You Want to Choose the 2014 Caldecott?” The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art, Amherst, MA. December 09, 2012.

“Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow: Children’s Literature,” Keynote Address, Rhode Island Children’s Book Festival, Providence, RI, October 13, 2012.

“Critical Reading and Picturebooks,” American Library Association, Roundtable for Social Responsibility, Coretta Scott King Award Jury, Anaheim, CA, June 23, 2012.

“Redefining a Simmons Education: Premiering the Simmons World Challenge,” Simmons College, 1899 Society Luncheon, April 2012.

“Sexing Innocence” at The Body Electric, Summer Institute, Center for the Study of Children’s Literature, Simmons College, July 31 2011.

“Higher Ed 2.0, or that was then, this is now.” Simmons College , 1899 Society Breakfast. January 2011.

“Information Books or Nonfiction: A Matter of Positioning,” 2011 Robert F. Sibert Committee, American Library Association, Washington DC. June 26, 2010.

Laura Ingalls Wilder Medal Presentation, Newbery/Caldecott/Wilder Banquet, American Library Association, Chicago, IL. July 12, 2012.

“Positionality: Teaching the Unspeakable in Literature for Children and Young Adults,” with Amy Pattee. Children’s Literature Association Conference, Charlotte, NC. June 12, 2009.

“Not Wild About Harry,” Simmons College Presidential Inauguration, Boston, MA. March 30, 2007.

“Only the Relationships Change: Becoming a Dean,” ANAC summer conference, Naperville, IL. June 14-16, 2006.

“The Critique of Informational Books,” 2006 Sibert Committee guest speaker, midwinter meeting of the American Library Association. January 16, 2005.

Open Session with the 2006 Caldecott Committee, “Reading Pictures, Reading Books, Reading Picturebooks,” midwinter meeting of the American Library Association. January 15, 2005.

2004 Robert F. Sibert Informational Book Award Presentations, ALSC Awards Ceremony, annual meeting of the American Library Association. June 28, 2004.

“Conversations with...Nancy Garden,” Foundation for Children's Books, Boston College, Boston, MA. February 24, 2004.

"Reviewers' Spectacles" Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators Annual Conference, Simmons College, Boston, MA. November 15, 2003.

"Book Awards: An Insider's View," Society of School Librarians International, annual meeting, Boston, MA. November 7, 2003.

"Breaking Out *Beyond the Pale*: Young Adult Literature," Massachusetts School and Media Library Association Annual Meeting, Sturbridge, MA. November 3, 2003.

"Words and Pictures: The Power of Art and Poetry to Illuminate African American Experiences," A Conversation with Marilyn Nelson," The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art, Amherst, MA: September 2003.

"Young Adult Literature--Capture the Call." Massachusetts School Media Library Association. Sturbridge, MA. October 28, 2002.

"First-Year Course as a Site for Faculty Development." Lilly Atlantic Conference. Towson, MD. April 13, 2002.

"A Conversation with Ellen Wittlinger." Foundation for Children's Books. Boston College. Boston, MA. February 12, 2002.

"The Best of 2001 -- Children's Picturebooks of Note." Winchester Public Schools. Winchester Public Library. November 14, 2001; Barnes and Noble Bookstore, Walpole, MA. October 17, 2001.

"Children's Literature Today." Lake Placid Institute. Lake Placid, NY. October 27, 2001.

"Constructing Childhood in American Picturebooks." American Literature Association. Cambridge, MA. May 26, 2001.

"Angels and Wild Things: Award-Winning Picturebooks." Mount Holyoke College. South Hadley, MA. May 25 and June 1, 2001.

"Wings of Story." Norfolk Parent-Teacher Association. Norfolk, MA. May 22, 2001.

"A Conversation with Robie Harris." Foundation for Children's Books. Boston College. Boston, MA. January 16, 2001.

"Children's Books of Note -- 2000." Winchester Public Schools. Winchester Library. Winchester, MA. November 30, 2000.

"A Conversation with Jack Gantos." Foundation for Children's Books. Boston College. Boston, MA. February 8, 2000.

"Angels and Wild Things: Images of the Child in Children's Picturebooks." Simmons College. Boston, MA. 30 January 2000; Beebe Lyceum, 15 November 2001; Jaffrey (NH) Public Library, winter 2002.

"A Showcase of 1999 Picturebooks." Foundation for Children's Books. Boston, MA. October 30, 1999.

"What a Pip! Great Expectations and Jack Maggs." Brookline Literature Program. Brookline Public Schools. Brookline, MA. September 15, 1999.

"If Piaget and Vygotsky were Literary Critics: Developmental Psychology Reads *Frog and Toad are Friends*." Third Biennial Conference on Modern Critical Approaches to Children's Literature. Nashville, TN. March 25-27, 1999.

"Trends and Titles in 1998 Children's Books." Foundation for Children's Books. Boston College. Boston, MA. November 14, 1998.

Moderator. "Whose Views? Who Decides?: The Struggle over 'Family Values' and Its Influence on Children's Books" P.E.N. New England. Radcliffe Institute. Cambridge, MA. December 7, 1997.

Moderator. "Gay and Lesbian Theory: Lenses for Re/viewing Literature for Young Adults." Second Biennial Conference on Modern Critical Approaches to Children's Literature. Nashville, TN. April 10-12, 1997.

"Virginia Woolf: The Seed of Eleanor Cameron's Vision." Second Biennial Conference on Modern Critical Approaches to Children's Literature. Nashville, TN. April 10-12, 1997.

"Pictures and Conversations." Keynote Speaker. Boston Chapter of the Women's National Book Association. Boston, MA. December 1995.

"Peter Hunt: Where are the Children in the Criticism of Children's Literature?" First Biennial Conference on Modern Critical Approaches to Children's Literature. Nashville, TN. April 20-22, 1995.

"Literature Study Groups: Collaborative Connections for Teachers, Parents, and Students." 39th Annual International Reading Association Convention. Toronto, Ontario. May 1994.

"Literature Study Groups for Teachers: A Celebration of Learning." 82nd Convention of the National Council of Teachers of English, Lexington, KY. November 1992.

"Insights and Discovering: Illuminating Textual Criticism." 34th Allerton Institute, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Champaign, IL. October 1992.

"Echoes of Genius: Eleanor Cameron and Virginia Woolf." Modern Language Association. San Francisco, CA. December 1991.

"For Adults, Too: The Wind in the Willows" 1987 Regional Scholar. "Not for Children Only," a program of the American Library Association. Thomas Crane Public Library, Quincy, MA. Fall 1987.

[Invited Blog Posts](#)

On *The Journey* by Francesca Sanna. <http://Onehundreddaysonehundredbooks.blogspot.com/2017/02/the-journey-francesca-sanna.htm>.

"Judged purely on artistic merit": The 2016 New York Times Best Illustrated Books. Calling Caldecott Blog. <http://www.hbook.com/2017/01/blogs/calling-caldecott/judged-purely-on-artistic-merit-the-2016-new-york-times-best-illustrated-books/>

Award Committees

2019 Theodore Geisel Award Committee, Association of Library Services to Children, American Library Association, January 2018-June 2019.

P.E.N. New England – Susan P Bloom New Writer Discovery Award. 2017-present.

Coretta Scott King Book Award Committee, Social Justice Round Table, American Library Association. July 2016-present.

Eric Carle Honors, Honors Award Committee, January 2014 – present.

Judge, American Association for the Advancement of Science, Subaru SB&F Prize for Excellence in Science Books, June 2013-present.

Judge, Letters to Literature, Massachusetts Center for the Book, January-March 2016.

Appointed member, Selection Committee, National Ambassador for Youth Literature, Library of Congress/ Children's Book Council/ Every Child Can Read, August 2013-December 2015.

Juror, "Picture This!" for the Danforth Art Museum's juried exhibit of children's book illustration, May-June 2015.

Chair, YALSA Writing Award, YALSA-American Library Association, July 2013-June 2014.

Judge, *New York Times* Best Illustrated Books 2012, Fall 2012.

Elected Member. 2012 Randolph Caldecott Committee. American Library Association. January 2011-June 2012.

Elected Chair, 2009 Laura Ingalls Wilder Award Committee, American Library Association. Fall 2006 and through summer 2009.

Chair. 2004 Robert F. Sibert Informational Book Award Committee. American Library Association. Appointed November 2002 for service January 2003-June 2004.

Judge. 2003 Massachusetts Book Award. Massachusetts Center for the Book. May - September 2003.

Chair and Judge. 2001 Boston Globe-Horn Book Award Committee. January-September 2001.

Appointed Member. 2001 Sibert Committee of the Association of Library Services to Children, a division of the American Library Association. January 2000-June 2001.

Appointed Member. 1999 Newbery Award Committee of the Association of Library Services to Children, a division of the American Library Association. January 1998-June 1999.

Chair and Judge. 1994 Boston Globe-Horn Book Award Committee. January 1993-October 1994.

Elected Member. 1994 Caldecott Award Committee of the Association of Library Services to Children, a division of the American Library Association. January 1993-June 1994.

Professional and Discipline-Based Service

Interviews on Junot Diaz first children's books. *The Boston Globe*, Thursday, January 11, 2018; *The Houston Chronicle*, March 9, 2018.

Co-Editor, The Children's Literature Association Newsletter, June 2017-present.

Mentor. Boston Athenaeum. Boston, Massachusetts. March 2016-present

Confidential Evaluator, The MacArthur Fellows Program, The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. As needed. (four reports since 2000)

Referee, *Journal of Children's Literature* and *Children and Libraries: the Journal of the Association for Library Service to Children*. June 2003-present.

Project Lead, Massachusetts Center for the Book Early Literacy Project, May 2015-August 2017.

Manuscript Evaluator. University of Tennessee Press. Academic manuscript. August 2016.

Manuscript Evaluator. Bloomsbury Press. Academic manuscript. July 2016.

Organizing Committee, Young Adult Services Division, American Library Association for 2016 Midwinter Conference, Boston, MA, January 2014-January 2016.

Selection Committee for Teen Presenters, Best Fiction for Young Adults Program, American Library Association, 2015 Midwinter Conference, Boston, MA, November 2015-January 2016.

Delegate, Modern Language Association Delegate Assembly, June 2012-June 2015.

NEASC external reviewer: accreditation visit November 2017, substantial change visit March 2013, accreditation visit April 2012.

Chair, Conference Planning Committee, 2012 Children's Literature Association Conference, "Literary Slipstreams" at Simmons College, June 13-17, 2012.

Chair, Paper Selection Committee, 2012 Children's Literature Association Conference, "Literary Slipstreams" at Simmons College, June 13-17, 2012.

Interviews on the death of Maurice Sendak, NBC Nightly News, May 08, 2012; NBC Today Show, 09 May 2012; *The Washington Post*, 08 May 2012.

Conference Planning Committee Member, "Arts & Humanities: Toward a Flourishing State?" Association of American Colleges and Universities: Network for Academic Renewal, November 3-5, 2011, Providence, RI.

Manuscript Referee. Mosaic: An Interdisciplinary Journal, January 2000-2011.

Board Service

Trustee of the Melrose Public Library, Melrose, Massachusetts. April 2016-present.
Director of five year strategy plan, June 2018-present.

2015-2016 Advisory Board, “ Doors to the World: Global Children's Literature for Critical Multicultural Literacies” Language, Literacy, Culture, University of Massachusetts-Amherst. July 2015-present.

Director’s Cabinet, Greater Boston Jewish Coalition for Literacy. June 2014-present.

Trustee. The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art. Amherst, MA. January 2014-present. Including service on Exhibits and Collections Committee, The Carle Honors Committee and the Nominating Committee

Professional Development

Academic Leadership Training, Colleges of the Fenway, Spring 2017.

Certified, Center for Creative Leadership, Greensboro, NC, Assessment Suite. December 3-4, 2012. Sponsored by The President’s Office.

Coaching for Greater Effectiveness program, Center for Creative Leadership, Greensboro, NC, December 5-7, 2012. Sponsored by The President’s Office.

HERS, Higher Education Leadership program, Wellesley College, Academic Year 2011-2012 (four intensive weekend sessions). Selected and sponsored by the Provost’s Office.

Leadership Development Program, Center for Creative Leadership, Greensboro, NC, March 7-11, 2011. Selected and Sponsored by The President’s Office.

Sloan Career Flexibility Faculty Development program, Executive Education, Simmons College, Academic Year 2008-2009. Selected and sponsored by the Dean’s Office, College of Arts & Sciences.

Awards and Honors

Priscilla McKee Award for Exceptional Service, Simmons College	2017
Haas Artist in Residence, Wheaton College, Norton, MA	2015
Profile, ALSC Voices in ALSC <i>Connect</i> (May) American Library Services to Children, American Library Association	2014
Dean's Award for Excellence in Academic Advising, Simmons College	2003
Gertrude Marcy Dissertation Award. Simmons College.	2002
Davis Foundation Grant. Colleges of the Fenway.	1999-2000

University Professors Fellowship. University Professors Program, Boston University	1998-1999
Frances Mary Hazen Fellowship. Mount Holyoke College.	1998-1999
Stephen H. Davol Fellowship. Mount Holyoke College.	1998