

LIBERTY SMITH
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EDUCATION

University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, MLIS, 2006.

University of California, San Diego, Ph.D. in Literature, 2003. M.A. in Literatures in English, 2001.

Kenyon College, Gambier, OH, B.A. in Spanish Area Studies and English, 1994.

Centro de Estudios Unidos Colombo-Americano, Bogotá, Colombia, Study Abroad, 1992 – 1993.

Dissertation: “Something Sinister in this Affair”: Femme/Butch Collaborations and “American” Politics.

A transnational cultural studies approach is essential to a full understanding of mid-twentieth-century U.S. culture and especially of the moment’s defining conflation of sexual and national threats. At this time, gay government workers were special targets of suspicion, but queer women, inside and outside government, as well as outside the nation itself, fulfilled the promise of disrupting U.S. national and sexual norms. For these women, collaborative writing and art was the bridge linking their sexual/gender transgressions and larger political interventions. At the margins of the U.S.—expatriate Paris, Central America and Mexico, and the ethnic neighborhood of East Palo Alto—the “first ladies” of U.S. and Latin American literature and film collaborated to call into question the norms in their home nations and in the U.S. For example, Part One of this study shows that Gertrude Stein and Alice B. Toklas’s collaborations on Stein’s “rose is a rose” phrase informed and anticipated their queer sexual transgressions as well as their engagements with national and fascist politics. Mid-century texts by Mexican filmmaker, Matilde Landeta, and Honduran novelist, Lucila Gamero de Medina, as well as *The Howdy Doody Show* and the recent plays of Cherríe Moraga, all explored in Part Two, similarly use collaboration, this time as a pedagogical tool for bringing to light the (gendered) experience of increasing U.S. imperial power in Latin America.

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Comparative American Studies; Twentieth-century U.S. literature and culture; Women’s and Queer Studies; Cultural Studies; Critical Theory, especially Queer, Feminist, and Film

EMPLOYMENT

Program Manager/Special Library Manager, National Service-Learning Clearinghouse, Scotts Valley, California, September, 2006 – present.

- Provide direct reference service, training, and technical assistance to patrons.
- Manage budget and fulfill or supervise other fiscal accountability duties.
- Plan and coordinate national training, publicity, and resource creation initiatives and provide guidance to webmaster in electronic presence of Clearinghouse.
- Responsible for daily operations including staff supervision and development, communicate with government funder, and collaborate with other organizations.

Library Assistant III, Center for Library & Instructional Computing Services (CLICS), University of California, San Diego, March, 2006 – August, 2006.

- Presented library instruction sessions.
- Provided reference guidance on print and electronic collections.
- Managed operations on weekends, including supervision of student employees, circulation, patron problem resolution, stack maintenance, and security problems.
- Assisted in training employees and providing feedback on their performance.

EMPLOYMENT, Cont.

Library Technician, Access Services, San Diego County Public Law Library, San Diego, CA, March, 2005 – February, 2006.

- Conducted reference interviews for Spanish-speaking patrons. Answered ready reference questions and provided reference assistance as needed.
- Managed all aspects of Access Services department including creating and implementing policies and procedures; resolving conflicts with patrons; providing circulation, ILL, and extended services to patrons; implementing patron database quality control program; and generating department statistical reports.
- Responsible for training and staff development of four part-time and two full-time employees including: chairing search committees, training new employees, ensuring quality control of department tasks, and conducting evaluations.

Freelance Reference and Bibliography Assistant, Various, San Diego and Boulder, CO September, 1997 – March, 2005.

- Conducted reference interviews and provided reference guidance on print and electronic sources appropriate to projects in various disciplines.
- Teamed with principal investigator to design national survey, organize focus groups, and conduct research on ethics education for the Research Ethics Program, UCSD.
- Conducted grant research for artists and for the Midge Costanza Institute; researched topics and wrote reports for faculty in psychology, sociology, theater, and literature.

Writing and Literature Instructor, Various Departments, University of California, San Diego, Southern Connecticut State University, Quinnipiac University, September, 1999 – June, 2004.

- Instructed students in library and online research methods for all courses.
- Designed syllabi, provided all instruction, performed all evaluation, and advised students for composition and literature courses.

PUBLICATIONS

- “1903: Gertrude Stein Writes Q.E.D.” GLBT History Database. Salem Press/EBSCO (2005).
“The ‘Perverse Effects’ of Feminism and Globalization: (Trans)Gender and (Trans) Nationalism in Honduras’s First Novelist.” *Michigan Feminist Studies* 18 (2004) 35-58.
“Listening to the ‘Wives’ of the ‘Female Husbands’: A Project of Femme Historiography in Eighteenth-Century Britain.” *Journal of Lesbian Studies* 6.2 (2002): 105-20.
“Confessional Subjection and Resistance in Edwin Sánchez’s Plays.” *Gestos* (accepted pending revision).

HONORS AND AWARDS

Department of Literature Dissertation Fellowship, UCSD, Fall 2002.
The Woodrow Wilson National Women’s Studies Dissertation Grant, Winter 2002.
Harvey Milk/Tom Homann Scholarship, San Diego, 2001.
Tinker Foundation Field Research Grant, 2000.
UCSD Humanities Research Assistantship, 1998-99.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

- “So Bad It’s Good: Or, Thriving in Interdisciplinary Studies in a Disciplined World,” Academic Enrichment Series, Summer Research Program, UCSD, 2006.
“Citation Analysis Methods for Researching and Supporting Interdisciplinary Areas,” L&I Sci 550 class presentation, Spring 2006 (coauthored with Robin Jensen and Brian Schmidt).
“What’s Your GLBT IQ?: Providing Library Services to Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered, Intersex, and Queer Patrons,” L&I Sci 751 class presentation, Fall, 2005.
“Readers Advisory Services in the ‘Problem Memoir,’” L&I Sci 751 class presentation, Fall, 2005.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS, Cont.

- “Conducting Primary Research with Archival Material,” L&I Sci 504 class presentation, Spring, 2005.
- “Rearticulation as Incantation: Performativity, Pétain, and Other ‘Franco-American Things,’” Modern Language Association Meeting, 2004.
- “‘Growing Ourselves a Future’: The Pedagogical Power of Community Theatre in Cherríe Moraga,” Conference on Education Practice, Policy & Law, 2004.
- “‘I assure you that I know feminine psychology well’: Queer National Critique in Lucila Gamero de Medina’s *Amor exótico*,” American Studies Association Meeting, 2003.
- “‘(S)exile’: Queerness and Diaspora in Three Post-national Texts,” co-presented with Sangeeta Mediratta at the Social Science Research Council (SSRC) Translocal Flows in the Americas Conference, 2003.
- “Touching Each Other: Contamination and Collaboration in Toklas and Stein,” USC AEGS Conference on Contamination, Winter 2003.
- “Confessional Subjection and Resistance in Edwin Sánchez’s Plays,” UCLA QGRAD Conference, Fall 2001.
- “The Fabulous Interpellated, Confessing, Queer, Nuyorican Subject: A Reading of Edwin Sánchez’s Multiple Performances of Resistance,” CSU Room for Play Conference, Winter 2001.
- “Listening to the ‘Wives’ of the ‘Female Husbands’: A Project of Sapphic Historiography in Eighteenth-Century Britain,” University of Chicago Futures of the Queer Past Conference, Summer 2000.
- “‘The Atmosphere of the Unasked Question’: Considering the Queer Products of Prejudice in Otto Weininger’s *Sex and Character*,” UCLA QGRAD Conference, Fall 1999.

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT/COMMUNITY SERVICE ACTIVITIES

- Participant, “Assessing the One-Shot” Instruction and Outreach Committee Workshop, UCSD, May 17, 2006.
- Representative, Print and Photocopier Solution Selection Committee, San Diego County Public Law Library, August, 2005 – present.
- Participant, Southern California Innovative Users Group Meeting, October 6, 2005.
- Presenter: “New Technologies for the Humanities,” Survival Skills for Graduate School Series, Spring 2003.
- Panel Participant, “The Qualifying Process,” UCSD Department of Literature, Winter 2003.
- Coordinator, Graduate Enrichment Series Colloquia, UCSD Department of Literature, 2001-02.
- Panel Participant, “Applying for Fellowships,” UCSD Department of Literature, Spring 2002.
- Union Steward, ASE/UAW, UCSD, 2001-02.
- Graduate Student Representative, Literature Department Executive Committee, UCSD, 2000-01.
- Representative, Cultural Studies Section, Literature Department Graduate Student Committee, UCSD, 1999-01.
- Pedagogy and Composition Training, Linda Brodkey, Director, Warren College Writing Program, 1999-2000.
- Member, Chancellor’s Advisory Committee for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered Issues, UCSD, September, 1998 – 2000.
- Coordinator, Ad-Hoc Committee to Respond to Matthew Shepard Hate Crime/Murder, UCSD, Fall, 1998.
- Volunteer Diversity Trainer, CU Counseling Services Center, June, 1997 – August, 1998
- Member, Boulder Pride Board of Directors, Boulder, CO, January 1997 – January, 1999
- Chair, Boulder Pride Softball Tournament Steering Committee, Boulder, CO, January, 1998 - June, 1998
- Student, VISIONS Intensive seminar on ethical interactions within/between identity groups. June, 1997
- Crisis Line Volunteer Counselor, Boulder County Safehouse, Boulder, CO, June – October, 1994

RELEVANT SKILLS

Computer skills:

- Integrated Library Management Systems (especially III), Anzio, Dreamweaver, MS Office, WordPerfect, FileMakerPro, Paradox, Access, Procite, Endnote, RefWorks, web-based instructional environments (Blackboard, Desire2Learn, WebCT), and online research.

Languages

- Spanish

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Library Association
California Library Association