

## Mary Ruth (Marotte) Stewart

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### Employment:

- Assistant Professor of English, UCA, 2005-2011
- Director of Graduate Studies in English, 2008-2014
- Associate Professor of English, UCA, 2011-2017
- Professor of English, UCA, 2017-present
- Executive Director of Arkansas Shakespeare Theatre, 2010-2020

### Education:

- Ph.D., Literature in English, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN, May 2004
- M.A., Literature in English, University of Central Arkansas, Conway, AR, May 1997
- B.A., Psychology, Hendrix College, Conway, AR, Sept. 1994

**Dissertation:** “The Captive Body: Nineteenth- and Twentieth-Century American Women Writers Redefine Pregnancy and Childbirth,” Director: Mary E. Papke

### Publications:

#### Books:

- *Reviving Bernie Babcock: Critical Evaluation of the Life and Work of an Arkansas Legend*, currently under review, Lexington Books (Rowman and Littlefield Press)
- Co-editor, *10 Years After Katrina: The Storm's Effect on American Culture and Identity*, Lexington Books (Rowman and Littlefield Press), December 2014
- Co-editor, *Papa, PhD: Essays on Fatherhood by Men in the Academy*, Rutgers University Press, December 2010.
- *Captive Bodies: American Women Writers Redefine Pregnancy and Childbirth*, Demeter Press, October 2007.

#### Articles/Book Chapters:

- “Arkansas Writer Bernie Babcock’s Reach Across Generations,” *Elder Mountain Review*, September 2016.
- “Lady Sybil Finds Her Voice,” book chapter in *Exploring Downton Abbey*, Ed. Scott Stoddart, McFarland Press, Forthcoming Fall 2016.
- “Pregnancies, Storms, and Legacies of Loss in Jesmyn Ward's *Salvage the Bones*.” *10 Years After Katrina: The Storm's Effect on American Culture and Identity*, Lexington Books (Rowman and Littlefield Press), December 2014.
- “Introduction: Reading Hurricane Katrina.” *10 Years After Katrina: The Storm's Effect on American Culture and Identity*, Lexington Books (Rowman and Littlefield Press), December 2014.
- “A Little Gender Trouble: Alcott’s ‘Mysterious Mademoiselle’ and Subversion of Male Authority,” *American Notes and Queries*, Spring 2013.
- “Not a ‘Jackie,’ Not a ‘Marilyn’: *Mad Men*’s Peggy Olsen Writes Female Desire,” *Mad Men, Women and Children: Gender and Generation in Mad Men*, August 2012, Lexington Press.

- “Beauty, Brains, and Child-bearing Hips: One Southern Feminist’s Struggle with the Palin Allure.” In *The Palin Factor: Political Mothers and Public Motherhood in the 21st Century*, Eds. O’Reilly, Andrea and Deirdre M. Condit, 2013.
- “Re-Constructing Femininity in Woolf and Cixous: Awakening the Need to Create,” *Publications of the Arkansas Philological Association*, Spring 1999.

#### **Book/Article Reviews:**

- “Postcolonial Black Motherhood: Dismantling Controlling Images,” forthcoming in *Women, Gender, and Families of Color*, 2021.
- *Superdads: Fathers’ Struggles and Strategies for Balancing Work and Family in the 21st Century*, NYU Press, 2012.
- *Best Books* contributor, Arkansas Democrat Gazette, 2007-2013.

#### **Encyclopedia Entry:**

- “Tillie Olsen,” *The Encyclopedia of Motherhood*, Sage Publications, Spring 2010

#### **Academic Leadership/Student Support**

- Outside Reader for Sarah Svoboda’s honors thesis, Spring 2021.
- Presenter, Shakespeare Theatre Association meeting, Prague, Czech Republic, January 2019.
- Outside Reader for Haley Coster’s master’s thesis, Dept. of English, Spring 2019.
- Honors Thesis Advisor, Katie Karp, Spring 2018.
- English Departmental Honors’ Thesis Reader, Haley Coster, Spring 2017.
- Honors Thesis Advisor, Alexandra Doolittle, “Witchy Women,” Spring 2015.
- Master’s Thesis Reader, Stacey Jones, *Mr. Catherine*, Spring 2015
- Honors Thesis Reader, Logan Bevil, “Can You Smell the Danger: An Analysis of Candle Emissions and Their Effect on your Health,” Spring 2015.
- Master’s Thesis Reader, Sean Steiger, 2013, “Reclaiming the Cyclops: A Study of Samuel Beckett’s Inversion of James Joyce’s Mythic Typology, Spring 2013.
- Master’s Thesis Reader, Jesse Holcomb, “Redeeming Time: William Gaddis’ Adventures in the PR Industry,” Spring 2012
- Outside Reader for Matthew Chiorini’s Tenure and Promotion portfolio, Lemoyne College, 2014.
- Honors Thesis Advisor, Eliza Killey, “French Feminism Today,” Spring 2012.
- Co-organizer, Arkansas Philological Association Conference, October 2011, UCA.
- Honors Thesis Advisor, Amanda Carpenter, “Food Preparation in the Works of Jhumpa Lahiri,” Spring 2010-present. To be completed Spring 2011.
- Honors Thesis Advisor, Caeli Waldron, “A History of Feminism and Its Relevance Today,” Spring 2010-present. To be completed Spring 2011.
- Second Reader, Alisha Neblett’s Honors’ Thesis.
- Co-Founder/Co-Director, UCA’s Annual English Department Graduate Student Conference, UCA campus, 2007-2013.
- Co-Director, Arkansas Philological Association’s annual conference, Eureka Springs, AR, Oct. 2009.
- Outside Reader, Doctoral Dissertation, Rachel Harmon, “Pregnancy and Childbirth in Hemingway and Faulkner” University of New Mexico, Spring 2009.
- Director, Master’s Thesis, Aubrey Pangle, “From Chopin to Morrison: Awakening a New Appreciation for Paradise as a Masterpiece of Twentieth Century Women’s Literature,” Spring 2009.
- Outside Reader, short essay category, Wollstonecraft Award for writing in the field of Women’s and Gender Studies, Augustana College, May 2008.

- Reader, Master's Thesis, Paulette Bane, "Creating a new *Ceremony*: Liminality and the Writings of Leslie Marmon Silko," Spring 2008.
- Reader, Master's Thesis, Whitney Jones, "Feminine Landscapes in the Novels of Jane Austen," Spring 2008.
- Contributor to "A Space of their Own? Feminist Civic Discourse at Southern Universities," short film by Paulette Bane featuring several UCA female faculty members and graduate students.
- Faculty Adviser, University of Central Arkansas chapter of Sigma Tau Delta, 2006-2008.
- Certificate of Completion, "How to Find and Win- Federal, Foundation, and Corporate Grants," a six-hour educational seminar on August 30, 2006.
- Thesis Adviser for Honors' Thesis, "Redefining Gay Masculinities During the AIDS Crisis," Senior Thesis Project by Tim Sisk, UCA Honors College, Projected Date of Completion, December 2006.
- Thesis Adviser for Honors' Thesis, "Female Friendship in the Novels of Toni Morrison," Senior Thesis Project by Aubrey Pangle, UCA Honors College, Projected Date of Completion, May 2007.
- Reader for Honors' Thesis, "The Power of the Domestic in the Novels of Charlotte Brönte," Senior Thesis Project by Caitlin Kelly, UCA Honors College, December 2005.
- Area Chair for Captivity Narratives, National Popular Culture Association and American Culture Association Conference, San Antonio, TX, April 2002-2004.
- Discussion Leader, Fall Rhetoric and Composition Workshop, Program in Writing and Rhetoric, Stanford University, September 2001.

#### **Selected Conference Presentations:**

- "Where Do We Go From Here?: Reclaiming the Voices of Two Arkansas Women Writers," C.D. Wright Writer's Conference, October 2018
- "Reviving Bernie Babcock," C.D. Wright Writer's Conference, October 2017
- Understanding our Interpretation of Bernie Babcock's Novels," PCA/ACA National Conference, April 2016.
- Panel Chair, Adaptation Studies, PCA/ACA National Conference, April 2016.
- "Bernie Babcock and Donald Harrington: Southern Intersections." PCA/ACA National Conference, April 2015.
- "Bernie Babcock's *Mammy* Gets Her Due." PCA/ACA International Conference, April 2014
- "The Case for Bernie Babcock: *The Soul of Ann Routledge* and the Soul of a Southern Woman Writer," Arkansas Philological Association, October 2014.
- Panel Moderator, Arkansas Literary Festival, April 2012-2016.
- Jesmyn Ward's *Salvage the Bones*: Finding Empowerment Amidst Devastation," SAMLA, Chapel Hill, NC, November 2012.
- "Lady Sybil Finds Her Voice," PCA/ACA International Conference, Boston, April 2012.
- "Desire in Carson McCullers' 'The Ballad of the Sad Café,'" Mississippi Philological Association Conference, Cleveland, MS, February 2012.
- "Pushing the Bard: My Year Running Arkansas Shakespeare Theatre," Arkansas Philological Association Conference, UCA-Brewer Hegeman Conference Center, October 2011.
- "Not a 'Jackie,' Not a 'Marilyn': Mad Men and the Threat of Peggy Olsen." APA/PCA National Conference, San Antonio, TX, April 2011.
- "A Little Gender Trouble: Alcott's 'Mysterious Mademoiselle' is a Boy!" APA/PCA National Conference, St. Louis, MO, April 2010.
- "Palin and Southern Feminism," Arkansas Philological Association Conference, Eureka Springs, AR, Oct. 2009.
- "Writing *Captive Bodies*," Mothering, Violence, Militarism, War, and Social Justice Conference, Toronto, Ont., Oct., 2008.
- "Drunk and Mad: Virginia Woolf's and Clarice Lispector's Heroines Kill the 'Angel in the House'," PCA/ACA annual conference, San Francisco, CA, March, 2008.

- “Obstinate Bodies: *Vanity Fair*’s Annie Leibowitz and Kafka’s Gregor Samsa,” Twentieth-Century Conference, Louisville, KY, Feb, 2008.
- “*Pushing it One Step Further: Toni Morrison and Sapphire Recover the African-American Birthing Body*,” Feminism(s) & Rhetoric(s) Conference, Little Rock, AR, Oct., 2007.
- “Virginia Woolf challenges the ‘Opt-Out Revolution,’” Arkansas Philological Association, Little Rock, AR, Oct., 2007
- “The Birthing Body as Captive Body in Edith Wharton’s *Twilight Sleep*,” American Literature Association Conference, Symposium on American Fiction, San Diego, CA, Sept. 2006.
- “Child-birth as Metaphor for Rebirth: Toni Morrison’s Pregnancy and Birthing Imagery in *Beloved*,” National Popular Culture Association and American Culture Association Conference, Atlanta, GA, April 2006.
- “Captivated by Captivity: How Memoirs Reinscribe Pregnancy for the Contemporary Reader,” National Popular Culture Association and American Culture Association Conference, San Antonio, TX, April 2004.
- “Working Class Writers on Pregnancy: Freeing the Socially/Economically Captive Body,” Mid-Atlantic Popular Culture Conference, Wilmington, DE, November 2003.
- “Performing the Power of Authority: Kate Croy in Film and Text,” Twentieth-Century Literature Conference, Louisville, KY, February 2002.
- “Cooper and the Historic Female Captivity Narrative: Unifying National Narratives or Subversive Texts?” Southwest Popular Culture Conference, Albuquerque, NM, March 2001.
- “Fevvers’s Phallic Wings: Complicating Gender in *Nights at the Circus*,” Twentieth-Century Literature Conference, Louisville, KY, February 2001.
- “Re-Constructing Femininity in Woolf and Cixous: Awakening the Need to Create,” Arkansas Philological Association, Hot Springs, AR, October 1998.

#### **Colloquia:**

- Panel Participant, French Feminist Film Festival, UCA, discussion of *Clouds of Sils Maria*, Fall 2015.
- Presenter, discussion of *Ten Years After Katrina*, with co-author Glenn Jellenik, Faulkner County Library, Spring 2015.
- English Department Faculty Colloquium: Presentation on *Salvage the Bones*; Tips for Grad Student publication.
- Honors College Hightable Presentation: “Two Mama, PhDs on Creating *Papa, PhD*,” March 2, 2011.
- Faculty Advisor for the inaugural performance of *The Vagina Monologues* on UCA campus, April 2011.
- Faculty Advisor/Moderator, “The F-word: Why Feminism is Vital in Our Culture Today,” April 5, 2010.
- Discussion Facilitator, Conference on Mothering and Work, Pulaski Technical College, April 2009.
- *Captive Bodies: American Women Writers Re-Define Pregnancy and Childbirth*: Book signing and discussion, Faulkner County Library, January 2008.
- *Captive Bodies: American Women Writers Re-Define Pregnancy and Childbirth*: Book signing and discussion, Toronto, Canada, December 2007.
- Co-director of *Mama, PhD* conference, UCA Honors College, Oct. 2008.
- “Separate but Equal? Creating Gender,” Lecturer for PhiRe Club interdepartmental Seminar, Oct. 2007.
- “Narratives of Captivity,” Forum Class Lecturer, First United Methodist Church, Conway, AR, October 22, 2006.
- “Images of Pregnancy in Women’s Literature of the Twentieth Century,” Menlo College Faculty Colloquia, Menlo College, November 2001.
- “Literature and the Search for Self,” Honors College Spring Lecture, University of Central Arkansas Honors College, April 1999.

#### **Committee Work/**

##### **Reading Groups**

- Chair, Promotion and Tenure Committee, UCA English Department, 2021-2022

- Co-editor, *Slant* poetry journal
- MA Comprehensive Exam Committee, UCA English Department, 2021-2022
- Assessment Committee, UCA English Department, 2020-2021
- Search Committee, University of Central Arkansas Foundation, College of Fine Arts and Communication Development Officer, Spring 2019
- Search Committee, University of Central Arkansas English Department, British Romanticism/18<sup>th</sup> Century position, Spring 2016.
- Search Committee, University of Central Arkansas Theatre Department, Technical Director for Arkansas Shakespeare Theatre, Spring 2016.
- MA Exam committee, 2015-16; 2020-2021.
- Williams/Arnold Scholarship Committee, 2014-present.
- Personnel Committee, UCA English Department, 2011-present.
- Chair, College of Liberal Arts Promotion and Tenure Committee, 2013-2014.
- Nolte-Behrens' scholarship committee, 2011-present.
- College of Liberal Arts Promotion and Tenure Committee Member, 2013-2016.
- Chair, 10-year MA self-study, English Department, Fall 2011-Spring 2012.
- Search Committee, University of Central Arkansas English Department, English Education Director position, Fall 2012.
- University Research and Creativity Award Committee, Spring 2011-2013.
- Search Committee, University of Central Arkansas English Department, American Literature position, Fall 2010.
- Search Committee, University of Central Arkansas Theatre Department, Producing/Artistic Director for Arkansas Shakespeare Theatre position, Spring 2011.
- Search Committee, University of Central Arkansas English Department, Children's Literature position, Fall 2009.
- Graduate Student Conference Planning Committee, Spring 2007-2015
- Chair, Outstanding Liberal Arts Student Committee, 2010.
- Outstanding Liberal Arts Student Committee, 2007-2016.
- Search Committee, University of Central Arkansas English Department, Children's Literature position, Fall 2007.
- Faculty representative, Sigma Tau Delta Honor Society, 2006-2012.
- Teaching Excellence Award Committee, University of Central Arkansas, 2006-2008.
- Assessment Committee, University of Central Arkansas English Department, 2006-2016.
- Founding Member, Feminist Theory Reading Group, University of Central Arkansas, 2006--.
- Search Committee, University of Central Arkansas English Department, Spring 2006, Visiting Assistant Professors for Academic Year 2006-2007,
- Curriculum Committee, University of Central Arkansas English Department, 2005-2006, 2014-2015, developed and submitted course proposals for courses in women's literature and critical theory.
- Editor, Publications Committee, Program in Writing and Rhetoric, Stanford University, 2001-02.
- Active Member, Feminist Theory Reading Group, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, 1999-2001.

#### **Honors/Achievements:**

- UCA Public Service Award Winner, 2019-2020
- Rivendell Writers' Colony, writer-in-residence, March 2017
- Outstanding Faculty Award, UCA College of Liberal Arts, 2012-2013.
- NEA grant recipient, Arkansas Shakespeare Theatre's 2016 summer season.
- Arkansas Arts Council Collaborative Artists Grant, 2010-2019.
- Conway Advertising and Promotion Grant, 2010-2019.
- UCA Faculty Enhancement Grant, 2010-2019.
- Successfully passed UT language proficiency examinations in Spanish (February 2000), and French (July 2000).

- Pass, with distinction, 20th century British and American comprehensive exam for doctorate.
- Pass, American to 1900 comprehensive exam for doctorate.
- Pass, specialized comprehensive exam for doctorate (British and American Women Writers on Pregnancy and Childbirth).
- John C. Hodges Fellowship for first-year doctoral student.
- Honorable Mention, Women's Studies Competition for Outstanding Seminar Paper, entitled "Performing the Power of Authority: Kate Croy in Film and Text."

## Funded Grants

2020

NEA Arts in American Communities, submitted

Conway Arts+Promotion Commission, Shakespeare Festival in Conway, summer 2021

Conway Arts+Promotion Commission, funding for Aquakids Swim Club, summer 2021

Simmons First Foundation, funding for fall tour to at-risk students in Arkansas

Toad Suck Daze/Conway Development Corporation, funding for AST's fall tour

Arkansas Arts Council Collaborative Grant, partnership with Our House Homeless Shelter, Faulkner

County Court-Appointed Youth program, and Profiles (Independent Living Services)

Conway Advertising and Promotion Grant for outdoor production of *The Complete Works of Shakespeare, abridged* on the McAlister Hall lawn at UCA

2019

Arkansas Arts Council Collaborative Grant, partnership with Our House Homeless Shelter

Conway Advertising and Promotion Grant for outdoor production of *The Comedy of Errors* on the

McAlister Hall lawn at UCA

Toad Suck Daze/Conway Development Corporation, funding for AST's fall tour

2018

Arkansas Arts Council Collaborative Grant, partnership with Our House Homeless Shelter

Faculty Enhancement Grant, UCA Foundation--Broadway actor Fergie Phillipe as artist-in-residence

Conway Advertising and Promotion Grant for outdoor production of

*The Winter's Tale* on the McAlister Hall lawn at UCA

Toad Suck Daze/Conway Development Corporation, funding for AST's fall tour

2017

Arkansas Arts Council Collaborative Grant, partnership with Our House Homeless Shelter

Faculty Enhancement Grant, UCA Foundation

Conway Advertising and Promotion Grant for First Folio and outdoor production of

*Love's Labour's Lost* on the McAlister Hall lawn at UCA

Toad Suck Daze/Conway Development Corporation, funding for AST's fall tour

2016

Faculty Enhancement Grant—Broadway actor Jacob Keith Watson artist residency

NEA Arts in Communities Grant--Arkansas Shakespeare Theatre

Faculty Enhancement Grant, UCA Foundation, AST and CSO present *Romeo and Juliet*

Faculty Enhancement Grant, UCA Foundation, Marketing of First Folio  
Conway Advertising and Promotion Grant for First Folio and outdoor production of  
*A Midsummer Night's Dream* on the McAlister Hall lawn at UCA  
Toad Suck Daze/Conway Development Corporation, funding for AST's fall tour

2015

"First Folio! The Book That Gave Us Shakespeare" host site grant  
Faculty Enhancement Grant, UCA Foundation, First Folio at UCA  
Faculty Enhancement Grant, UCA Foundation, Terrence McNally artist-in-residence visit  
Arkansas Arts Council Collaborative Grant--AST and Argenta Arts District to present  
*The Merry Wives of Windsor*  
Conway Advertising and Promotions Grant for outdoor production of *The Merry Wives of Windsor* at  
Hendrix Village

2014

Faculty Enhancement Grant, UCA Foundation, Bard Ball funding  
Arkansas Arts Council Collaborative Grant--AST and Argenta Arts District to present  
*Two Gentlemen of Verona*  
Conway Advertising and Promotion Grant for First Folio and outdoor production of  
*Two Gentlemen of Verona* at Hendrix Village

2013

Faculty Enhancement Grant, UCA Foundation, Paul Menzer lecture  
Arkansas Arts Council Collaborative Grant--AST and Argenta Arts District to present  
*Much Ado About Nothing*  
Conway Advertising and Promotion Grant for First Folio and outdoor production of  
*Much Ado About Nothing* at Hendrix Village

2012

Faculty Enhancement Grant, UCA Foundation, Robert Quinlan lecture, residency  
Arkansas Arts Council Collaborative Grant--AST and Argenta Arts District to present  
*Twelfth Night*  
Conway Advertising and Promotion Grant for First Folio and outdoor production of  
*Twelfth Night*

2011

Faculty Enhancement Grant, UCA Foundation, Paul Menzer lecture  
Arkansas Arts Council Collaborative Grant--AST and Argenta Arts District to present  
*As You Like It*  
Conway Advertising and Promotion Grant for First Folio and outdoor production of  
*As You Like It* at Hendrix Village.

**Courses Taught:**

- American Literature I and II
- Film and Literature: Jane Austen
- Introduction to Fiction
- Introduction to Literature
- Literary Criticism and Theory
- Modern Art and Literature
- Post-Colonial Literature

- Postmodern Literature
- Readings in American Literature: Major American Women Writers
- The Rhetoric of Performance and the Role of the Audience
- Senior Seminar
- The Short Story in Women's Literature
- Women and Madness
- Women's Literature
- World Literature I and II