

**Katy Ryan**  
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English Department  
West Virginia University  
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**EDUCATION**

PhD	English	University of Massachusetts, Amherst	2000
MA	English	St. Louis University	1993
BA	English	Boston College	1990

**ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS AT WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY**

Eberly Family Distinguished Professor of Outstanding Teaching	2016
Associate Professor of English	2007
Assistant Professor of English	2000

**AWARDS and HONORS**

Innovations in Reading National Book Foundation	2018
Lydia Maria Child Society Social Justice Award	2018
Sigma Tau Delta Outstanding Teaching Award	2017
Neil S. Bucklew Award for Social Justice	2014
James and Arthur Gabriel Brothers Faculty Award	2008
Teaching Award, English Graduate Organization	2008
WVU Foundation Outstanding Teacher Award	2007
WVU Eberly College Outstanding Teacher Award	2007

**TEACHING**

**Graduate Courses**

- American Studies Seminar (ENGL 731)
- Penalty of Death in U.S. American Literature (ENGL 693B)
- American Literature of Imprisonment and Resistance (ENGL 693A)
- Studies in Nonfiction Prose (ENGL 631)
- Twentieth-Century American Literature (ENGL 648)
- Studies in Drama (ENGL 634)

**Undergraduate Courses**

- Senior Thesis (ENGL 496)
- Contemporary American Literature (ENGL 349)
- Twentieth-Century American Literature (ENGL 348)
- Multi-Ethnic Literature (ENGL 355)
- American Drama (ENGL 342)
- Major Author: Samuel Beckett (ENGL 337)
- Justice and Literature (ENGL 275)
- Contemporary British and American Literature (ENGL 273)
- African American Literature (ENGL 254)
- American Literature II: 1865-present (ENGL 242)
- Modern Drama (ENGL 234)

Poetry and Drama (ENGL 131)  
Rhetoric and Composition (ENGL 102)

**Hazelton Correctional Center**

Reading and Writing Workshop 2018  
Inside Out Prison Exchange Program / ENGL 275 2017  
Women's Book Club 2014-1018

**Professional Development**

Certification, Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program 2016

**Teaching-Related Grant**

WVU Eberly Summer Course Development Grant 2014  
Created ENGL 275: Justice and Literature

**RESEARCH**

**Research Fellowships**

West Virginia Humanities Council Fellowship 2015  
University of Utah Tanner Humanities Center  
Visiting Research Fellow 2008-2009  
University of Texas, Austin  
Harry Ransom Center Dorot Fellowship 2008  
WVU Riggie Fellowship for the Humanities 2002  
WVU Faculty Senate Research Grant 2001, 2015

**Edited Collection**

Editor, *Demands of the Dead: Executions, Storytelling, and Activism in the United States*. Iowa City: University of Iowa Press, 2012. 330 pp.

**Scholarly Essays**

"A Prison Nation and Freedom Dreams: 1980s Literature of Incarceration." *American Literature in Transition: 1980-1990*. Ed. Quentin Miller. Cambridge University Press, 2017. 129-146.

"When Freedom Comes': Maria Parker, the Women's Department, and the West Virginia State Penitentiary." *West Virginia History* 11.1 (Spring 2017): 1-27.

With Yvonne Hammond, "Work & Hope and the West Virginia State Penitentiary." *West Virginia History* 11.1 (Spring 2017): 29-43.

"Prison, Time, Kairos in Langston Hughes's *Scottsboro, Limited*." *Modern Drama* 58.2 (June 2015): 171-193.

"A View from *The Brig*: From the Cage to the Street" in *Political and Protest Theatre after 9/11: Patriotic Dissent*. New York: Routledge 2012: 156-173.

"State Killing, the Stage of Innocence, and *The Exonerated*." *American Literature* 83.1 (March 2011): 121-151.

"Permeable Borders and American Prisons: Malcolm Braly's *On the Yard*." *Texas Studies in Literature and Language* 50.3 (2008): 285-303.

"Horizons of Grace: Marilynne Robinson and Simone Weil." *Philosophy and Literature* 29.2 (Oct. 2005): 349-364. Rpt. In *Contemporary Literary Criticism*. Vol. 276. Ed. Jeffrey Hunter (Detroit: Gale Group, 2009).

"Falling in Public: Larsen's *Passing*, McCarthy's *The Group*, and Baldwin's *Another Country*." *Studies in the Novel* 36.1 (Spring 2004): 95-119.

"Revolutionary Suicide in Toni Morrison's Fiction." *African American Review* 34.3 (2000): 389-412. Rpt. in *Critical Voices on Toni Morrison*. Eds. Meenakshi F. Paul and Khem Raj Sharma (New Delhi: Authors Press, 2015).

"'No Less Human': Making History in Suzan-Lori Parks's *The America Play*." *Journal of Dramatic Theory and Criticism* 7.2 (May 1999): 81-94. Rpt. in *Dramatic Criticism* Vol. 23 (Detroit: Gale Group, 2004).

Moran, Charlie, et. al. "Opening the Classroom Door: Peer Visits in the Composition Classroom." *Journal of Teaching Writing* 15.2 (Fall 1998): 175-193.

"A Body's Mind Experience in Tim Miller's Workshop." *Theatre Topics* 7.2 (Sept. 1997): 205-207.

### **Interviews and Reviews**

Review. Joy James, ed. *Warfare on the Homefront: Policing and Prison in a Penal Democracy* in *African American Review* 43.2-3 (2009): 528-530.

"Rebuilding the Common Good: An Interview with Linda Kintz." *ATHENews* (Oct. 2007). <http://www.athe.org/resources/ATHENews/071012/scholaraintz>

Review of Marc C. Conner, ed. *The Aesthetics of Toni Morrison: Speaking the Unspeakable* in *African American Review*. 36.1 (2002): 166-67.

"Documentary Films on US Social Issues." *Humanities Collections* 1.2 (1999): 101-07.

Review. Lucille Clifton, *The Terrible Stories* in *Sojourner: The Women's Forum* Sept. 1997: 44.

### **Creative Publications**

"Assurance of God" (short story). *Denver Quarterly* 35.4 (2001): 121-27.

"As For Now Passing" (poem). *Women's Studies Quarterly* 21.1-2 (June 1993): 171-172.

### **Prizes**

"The Seventh Circle." *Atlantic Monthly* Student Writing Contest. Third Prize. 1998.

### **Invited Lectures**

"Bryan Stevenson's *Just Mercy* and Abolitionist Educational Movements," West Virginia University Eberly College. Common Read Public Lecture. 2016

"A Book, Doing Time: Appalachian Prison Book Project and *Demands of the Dead*." Summer Community of Writers. Chatham University. 2014.

"Death Penalty in American Literature." Alderson-Broaddus University. 2013

"Doubtful Security: The Death Penalty and American Performance." University of Utah. Tanner Humanities Center. 2009.

"Lessons from the Appalachian Prison Book Project." Homecoming Lectures. West Virginia University. Morgantown, WV. 2007.

### **Organized Conference Panels**

*Prison Abolition in Twentieth-Century American Autobiographical Literature*. Modern Language Association Conference. Chicago. January 2014.

*Innocence and Complicity*. American Studies Association Conference. Albuquerque. 16-19 October 2008.

*The Death Penalty and Twentieth-Century American Literature*. Midwest Modern Language Association Conference. Cleveland. 8-11 Nov. 2007.

### **Select Conference Presentations**

"Thirteen Years of Community Organizing: The Appalachian Prison Book Project." Midwest Modern Language Association. Cincinnati. November 2017.

"*Work & Hope* and the West Virginia State Penitentiary." Midwest Modern Language Association Conference. Cleveland. November 2015.

"Teaching Without a Net: Resources for Teachers in Nontraditional Classrooms." Association for Writers and Writing Programs Conference. Minneapolis. March 2015

"Maria Parker and the Women's Department at the West Virginia State Penitentiary." National Women's Studies Association Conference. Cincinnati. November 2013.

"Lines Behind Bars: Poetry from Prisons Concrete and Intangible." Split This Rock Conference. Washington, D.C. April 2014.

"Abolitionist Imagination and American Literature." Rethinking Prisons Conference. Vanderbilt University 3-5 May 2013.

“Patriotic Dissent as Civic Engagement: Political and Protest Theatre after 9/11.” Association for Theatre in Higher Education Conference. Washington D.C. 2-5 Aug 2012.

“A View of *The Brig*: From the Cage to the Street.” American Studies Association Conference. Baltimore. 20-23 Oct. 2011

“Linking Prisons and Universities: A Roundtable Discussion.” American Studies Association Conference. San Antonio. 18-21 Nov. 2010.

“The Death Penalty and Innocence on Trial.” American Studies Association Conference. Albuquerque. 16-19 October 2008.

“The Exonerated and the Executed.” Midwest Modern Language Association Conference. Cleveland. 8-11 Nov. 2007.

“Barbarous Acts That Have Outraged the Conscience’: Human Rights and Twentieth-Century American Literature.” Midwest Modern Language Association Conference. Chicago. 6-9 November 2006.

“Performance and Public Policy: Contemporary Experiments in Democracy.” International Conference on Diversity in Organizations, Communities, and Nations. New Orleans. 12-17 June 2006.

“Taking Time in Malcolm Braly’s *On the Yard*.” Pop Culture Association and American Culture Association Conference. San Diego. 23- 26 March 2005.

“Revolutionary Suicide in Toni Morrison’s Fiction.” International Conference on Narrative. Houston, TX. 8-11 March 2001.

“War, Women, and Colonialism in Performance.” National Women’s Studies Association. Boston, MA. 9–13 June 2000.

## **SERVICE**

### **Appalachian Prison Book Project (501c3)**

Educational Coordinator	2018-present
Co-Director	2017-2018
Director and Chair of the Executive Board	2011-2017
President	2011-2014
Founder	2004

### **Service-Related Grants**

WVU Foundation / Women of WVU	2017
Appalachian Community Fund	2014
West Virginia Humanities Council Major Grant	
Co-Project Director	2013
WVU Public Service Grant	2007, 2008, 2009, 2010

### **Organized Events at WVU**

James Madison University Service-Learning Weekend	2016, 2017
Helen Coast Hays Peace Lecture Series	2015
Educational Justice and Appalachian Prisons Symposium	2014
Delbert Tibbs, formerly on death row	2005
Student Performance of <i>Lysistrata</i>	2003

### **Service to the English Department**

Undergraduate Program Committee	2014-2018
Academic Advisor to Majors	2005-2007, 2011-2014
Faculty Evaluation Committee	2001-2002; 2007-2008, 2009-2011, 2013-2015, 2018
Faculty Search Committee	2002, 2012
M.A. Admissions Committee	2002, 2013
Ph.D. Admissions Committee	2005, 2016, 2018
Graduate Faculty Committee	2002, 2004
ProSeminar Committee	2004, 2010
Judge, Graduate Student Writing Contest	2006
Steering Committee, Student Literature Colloquium	2005
Judge, Ninth Annual Undergraduate Symposium	2001
Coordinator, Expository Writing Contest	2001

### **Service to West Virginia University**

Eberly Public Outreach and Service Award	2017
Heebink Public Service Award	2015, 2016, 2017
Faculty Advisor, APBP Student Organization	2004-2014; 2016-present
Faculty Senator	2007-2013
Student Rights and Responsibilities Committee	2013
Student Evaluation of Instruction Committee	2010
Public Service Grant Committee	2006
Women's Studies Search Committee	2004
Faculty Advisor, <i>Iota Iota Iota</i>	2001-2003

### **Service to the Profession**

#### *Pacific Coast Philology*

Reviewer	2017
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#### *Theatre Topics*

Reviewer	2000-2008
Assistant Editor	1996-1998, 1999-2000

#### *African American Review*

Reviewer	2006-2017
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#### *MELUS: Multi-Ethnic Literatures of the United States*

Reviewer	2013-2017
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#### *Stateville Speaks*, Illinois prison newspaper

Copyeditor	2004-2010
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