

## **EDUCATION**

- **PhD Student in English**, Writing Studies, August 2018-Present (Expected May 2024)  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, IL  
**Proposed Dissertation Title:** Tracing Agency & Institutional Power Through Genres of Accommodation in Higher Education  
**Special Fields Exam, Completed February 2022, with Distinction**  
**Reading Areas:** Disability Studies; Theories & Sites of Power; Theories of Learning, Doing, & Developing; Rhetorical Genre Studies; Exploring Methods & Methodology
- **Master of Fine Arts in English**, Poetry, May 2009  
Pennsylvania State University, State College, PA
- **Bachelor of Arts in English (Creative Writing) & Humanities**, May 2006  
University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS
- Non-Degree-Seeking Graduate Coursework, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS  
Coursework: Education as a Field of Scholarship, Trans-Genre Writing Workshop

## **PROFESSIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE**

- **Co-President** (Elected Position), May 2021-Present  
Graduate Employees' Organization (GEO) at UIUC, Local 6300 IFT/AFT AFL-CIO  
Co-lead a graduate worker labor union with a membership of 950+ members and a bargaining unit of 2700+; supervise one full-time staff member, one part-time staff member, and three temporary organizers; serve on the Personnel Committee for hiring staff and organizers; coordinate with the Illinois Federation of Teachers (IFT) and the UIUC Campus Labor Coalition; plan and facilitate meetings of the Coordinating Committee; plan and facilitate retreats and trainings for union members and organizers; coordinate the formation and training of the Bargaining Team for full-contract negotiations.
- **Rhetoric Program Assistant Director**, August 2020-July 2021  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Department of English, Urbana, IL  
Provide support for the interim director and interim associate director of the Rhetoric Program; serve as a peer mentor for three first-year RHET 105 instructors; develop, test, and administer a self-directed placement questionnaire for first-year students in Qualtrics; gather research on placement practices and self-directed placement questionnaires at peer institutions; collate research on best practices in teaching writing online; write and design annual report for 2020-2021 academic year; assist in planning professional development and orientation events for RHET 105 instructors.
- **Curriculum Development Intern**, June 2020-July 2020  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Siebel Center for Design, Urbana, IL  
Designed a 300-level multimodal composition course built on a human-centered design framework; gathered and synthesized research on design in rhetoric and composition classrooms; consulted with instructors of a literature course, a professional writing course, and an honors course on incorporating elements of human-centered design into their classes.
- **Graduate Student Services Coordinator**, October 2017-May 2018  
University of Kansas, School of Social Welfare, Lawrence, KS  
Managed student experience from inquiry through graduation for Master of Social Work and PhD students in the KU School of Social Welfare; recruited applicants for full- and

- part-time MSW programs at the Lawrence and Edwards campuses; advised MSW students in enrollment and administrative concerns; created recruitment materials and advising materials for print, email, and web in collaboration with Director of Communications.
- **Assistant Director for Advising, Communications, & Engagement**, February 2016-October 2017  
**Coordinator for Student Engagement**, October 2014-February 2016  
University of Kansas, University Honors Program, Lawrence, KS  
Oversaw communication and outreach initiatives for the Program to students, faculty, alumni, and the public; developed curricular materials and training programs for advisors and students; advised students on their class choices and career goals; taught a Freshman Honors Seminar each fall semester; developed and executed co-curricular and orientation programming; promoted events to 1,600 students via email campaigns, social media, and web content; developed fundraising materials and strategies in collaboration with the program director.
  - **Academic Advisor Senior**, December 2013-October 2014  
**Academic Advisor**, March 2011-December 2013  
University of Kansas Edwards Campus, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, Lawrence, KS  
Recruited exceptionally qualified professionals to relevant academic programs (Communication Studies, Global & International Studies, & Public Administration); advised graduate students in the resolution of academic concerns; worked with faculty to plan orientations, educational workshops, networking events, and other events.
  - **Program Assistant**, May 2010-March 2011  
University of Kansas, Graduate Writing Program, Lawrence, KS  
Wrote, designed, proofread, and distributed promotional materials for print and the web; directed prospective students in enrolling in appropriate writing courses; coordinated summer institute and educational workshops; managed student enrollment.
  - **Educational Research Intern**, May 2005 to August 2005  
National Endowment for the Humanities, Education Programs, Washington, D.C.  
Conducted research on-line and over the phone to create a database of past Internet-based NEH programs, provided office support, proofread program review materials.

## **CONFERENCE PAPERS**

- (2022, May) *The Activist is Calling from Inside the House: Exploring Productive Frictions within Activist Praxis*. [Panel presentation.] Computers & Writing 2022. Greenville, NC.
- (2022, March 11). *Addressing (Renewed) Access and Equity Goals in Writing Program Placement Across Public Universities in Illinois*. [Panel presentation]. Conference on College Composition and Communication 2022, Chicago, IL. (*Accepted.*)
- (2021, April 7-10). *We Are All Writing Self-Teachers: Evolution and Learning in Bullet Journal Practices* [Conference presentation]. Conference on College Composition and Communication 2021, Spokane, WA. (*Accepted. Presentation canceled March 2021 due to COVID-19 online capacity limitations.*)
- (2021, January 29-30). *Small Rooms: Laminations & Privacy in the Online Classroom* [Panel presentation]. University of California Writing Programs Conference 2021, Berkeley, CA.

(2020, March 28). *Commonplace Books, Digital Common Spaces: An Empirical Study of Bullet Journal Practices* [Conference presentation]. Conference on College Composition and Communication 2020, Milwaukee, WI. (Accepted. Conference cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic.)

## **INSTRUCTIONAL PUBLICATIONS**

Owens, L.A. (2020 & 2021). Patterns that Persuade: The Rhetoric of Genre. In *I Write: A Writing Guide for the Rhetoric Program at the University of Illinois*. 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Eds. Urbana: The University of Illinois.

## **POETRY PUBLICATIONS**

“Breath.” *The Quotable*. 15—Desire (January 2015): 18.

“Parking Lot.” *Kudzu House Quarterly*. 4.3 (Winter 2014). [KudzuHouse.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/4.3.pdf](http://KudzuHouse.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/4.3.pdf).

“Thirteen Ways of Looking at a Spinster.” *Quaint Magazine*. 3 (2014).

[QuaintMagazine.com/issues/issue-three/thirteen-ways-of-looking-at-a-spinster-by-l-a-owens/](http://QuaintMagazine.com/issues/issue-three/thirteen-ways-of-looking-at-a-spinster-by-l-a-owens/).

“Forgiveness.” *Snowy Egret*. 73:1-2 (2013): 33.

“The Sound of Forgetting.” *The Sierra Nevada Review*. 23 (Spring 2012): 43.

“Up North.” *The Raven Chronicles*. 14:2 (2009): 45.

“After All.” *The Louisville Review*. 64 (Fall 2008): 20.

“July.” *Heartlands: A Magazine of Midwest Life & Art*. 5 (Fall 2007): 51.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

- **University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Department of English, Urbana, IL**
  - Graduate Lecturer (Instructor of Record), August 2019-May 2021  
Courses: RHET 105: Writing & Research (Fall 2019, hybrid Spring 2020)  
INFO 303: Writing Across Media (online Fall 2020, online Spring 2021)
  - Volunteer Writing Tutor, Writers Workshop, Spring 2019
- **University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS**
  - Freshman Seminar Instructor, University Honors Program, Fall 2015 & Fall 2016  
Courses: Self as Story: Nonfiction & Identity (Fall 2016)  
Creativity: Art as Learning, Thinking, and Being (Fall 2015)
- **DeVry University, Kansas City, MO**
  - Lecturer, January 2010-February 2010  
Courses: Contemporary Literature (short course, hybrid delivery)
- **Pennsylvania State University, Department of English, State College, PA**
  - Graduate Lecturer (Instructor of Record), August 2006-May 2009  
Courses: Rhetoric & Composition (2006-2008);  
Honors Rhetoric & Composition (2009);  
Introduction to Creative Writing (2007-2008);  
Introduction to Writing Poetry (2008)
  - Composition Tutor, Undergraduate Writing Center, August 2008-December 2008

## **GRANTS**

- \$458.70. Conference travel grant. University of Illinois—Urbana-Champaign Department of English. 2022.
- \$87. Conference grant. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign,, Department of English. 2021. [*Not used. Conference participation canceled due to online capacity limits.*]
- \$350. Conference travel grant. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Department of English. 2019. [*Not used. Conference canceled due to COVID-19.*]

## **HONORS & AWARDS**

- Instructor Ranked as Excellent by Students, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
  - RHET 105: Writing & Research, Spring 2020
  - INFO 303: Writing Across Media, Fall 2020 & Spring 2021
- LAS Impact Award Winner for Inspiring Efforts During COVID-19, 2021
- Illinois Distinguished Fellow, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 2018
- Katey-Lehman Fellowship, The Pennsylvania State University, Department of English, 2006
- Phi Beta Kappa, Kansas Alpha Chapter, 2006
- Highest Distinction, University of Kansas, 2006

## **WRITING HONORS & AWARDS**

- Invited Reader, Taproom Poetry Series, Lawrence, KS, August 2013
- Pushcart Prize Nominee, *The Raven Chronicles*, 2009
- Leonard J. Steinberg Memorial Prize for Poetry, The Pennsylvania State University, Department of English, 2009

## **CAMPUS TALKS**

- University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
  - (2022, April 29). *Disability, Genre, & Graduate Student Experiences During COVID-19*. [Paper presentation.] Gesa Kirsch Symposium, 2022.
  - (2021, April 2). *Strategies for Socially Just Pedagogy in Composition Classrooms* [Panel presentation]. Rhetoric Program Professional Development Series.
  - (2020, October 28) *Scholar Activism in Writing Studies* [Panel presentation]. CWS Brown Bag Series.
  - (2019, April 26). *Personal Data as Literate Practice* [Paper presentation]. Gesa Kirsch Symposium, 2019.

## **INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE**

- University of Illinois—Urbana-Champaign
  - Graduate Student Representative to the Advisory Committee (Elected position), English Graduate Student Association, January 2022-Present
  - Graduate Program Review Committee, Graduate Representative (Elected position), English Graduate Student Association, January 2020-May 2021
  - Center for Writing Studies Graduate Programs Committee, Graduate Representative,

Center for Writing Studies, September 2019-August 2020

- Students Advising Graduate Education (SAGE) Member, Graduate College, August 2019-July 2020

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & INVOLVEMENT**

- Graduate Employees' Organization (GEO) at UIUC, Local 6300 IFT/AFT AFL-CIO
  - Co-President (Elected position), May 2021-May 2022
  - Bargaining Team Member, January 2022-Present
  - Stewards' Council-Coordinating Committee Liaison (Elected position), January 2021-May 2021
  - English Department Steward, January 2021-Present
  - COVID-19 Impact Bargaining Team Member, March 2020-March 2022
- National Collegiate Honors Council (NCHC) Advising Institute Attendee, Summer 2017
- Emerging Leaders Academy, KU Public Management Center, Spring 2016 Cohort
- University of Kansas Staff Fellow, 2012-2013 Cohort