

## **Karla Mallette**

Professor, Italian and Near Eastern Studies  
University of Michigan

April 2014

### **I Personal information**

*address:* University of Michigan  
Romance Languages and Literatures  
4108 Modern Languages Building  
812 East Washington Street  
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1275

*email:* alrak@umich.edu

*telephone:* 734 647 2351

*citizenship:* USA

### **II University education**

***Ph.D.*** Medieval Studies, 1998  
University of Toronto  
*dissertation:* “Medieval Sicilian Lyric Poetry:  
Poets at the Courts of Roger II and Frederick II”  
*supervisor:* Professor Massimo Ciavolella

***M.A.*** Modern Thought and Literature, 1988  
Stanford University  
*study abroad:* Università di Bologna, 1986-87  
*thesis:* “The Manifesto as Literary Genre”

***Non-degree student*** Classics, 1990-93  
San Francisco State University

***B.A.*** Comparative Literature, 1985  
Hampshire College  
Amherst, Massachusetts  
*thesis:* “Textuality and Sexuality in Italian Futurist Theory”

### **III Languages**

Italian (fluent)  
Arabic (reading competence)  
French (reading competence)  
Spanish (reading competence)  
Latin: Classical and Medieval (reading competence)  
Old Occitan (reading competence)  
Ancient Greek (reading competence)  
German (reading knowledge)

#### IV Honors, awards, and grants

Helmut F. Stern Professor Fellowship, University of Michigan Institute for the Humanities, 2012-13

Susanne M. Glasscock Humanities Book Prize for Interdisciplinary Scholarship (for *European Modernity and the Arab Mediterranean*), 2011

American Institute for Maghrib Studies Grant (Tunis), 2008

Resident fellowship, University of California Humanities Research Institute, 2007

Visiting scholar, American Academy in Rome, 2007

Assigned Research Appointment, Miami University, 2007

Summer Research Appointment, Miami University, 2006

Philip and Elaina Hampton Fund for Faculty International Initiatives, Miami University, 2006

Hewlett Paid Research Leave, American University of Beirut, 2004-2005 (deferred)

University Research Board Grants, American University of Beirut, 2001-2002 and 2002-2003

Ontario Graduate Scholarship, 1995-96

University of Toronto Connaught Scholarship, 1993-97

Mellon Fellowship in the Humanities, 1985-87

Hampshire College Threshold Grant, 1985 (to complete research in Florence, Italy)

#### V Research

*Monograph* *The Kingdom of Sicily, 1100-1250: A Literary History*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2005.

Reviews: *Comparative Literature* 61 (2009): 160-76; *Encomia* 29-30 (2008): 32-34; *Speculum* 82 (2007): 1016-18; *International Journal of Middle East Studies* 39 (2007): 150-51; *Studi medievali* 48 (2007): 664-73.

*European Modernity and the Arab Mediterranean: Toward a New Philology and a Counter-Orientalism*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2010.  
Reviews: *Textual Cultures* 6 (2011): 145-47; *Revue critique de philologie romane* 12-13 (2011-12), 140-62; *Journal of Islamic Studies* 23 (2012): 118-120; *Modern Philology* Ahead of Print, August 8, 2013

*Monograph in progress* *Lives of the Great Languages: Lingua franca in the Mediterranean*. Studies the strategies languages use to transcend the boundaries that language creates.

*Edited volume* Co-editor (with Suzanne Akbari), *A Sea of Languages: Rethinking the Arabic Role in Medieval Literary History*. A collection of essays on literary and cultural contacts between Semitic and Romance vernacular cultures in the medieval Mediterranean. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2013.

*Edited special  
issue of an  
academic journal*

Co-editor (with Brian Catlos): “New Approaches to the Study of Muslims in Medieval and Early Modern Europe.” *Scripta Mediterranea* 19-20 (1998-99).

*Articles in  
journals and  
edited volumes  
(forthcoming)*

“The Hazards of Narration: Frame-Tale Technologies and the ‘Oriental Tale.’” *Oxford Handbook to Chaucer*, ed. Suzanne Conklin Akbari. Oxford University Press.

“Cosmopolitan Philology and the Poetics of Lane’s *Lexicon*.” *Post-Medieval*.

“Exiles or Nomads? Texts in Translation in the Pre-Modern World.” *World Literature in Translation*, ed. Paulo Horta and Philip Kennedy, New York University Press.

“Palermo.” *Regeneration: A Literary History of Europe, 1348-1418*, ed. David Wallace. Oxford University Press.

“The Seven Sages at Sea: Framed narrative systems in the pre-modern Mediterranean.” *Lingua Franca. Explorations of the Literary Geography of the Mediterranean*, ed. Michael Allan and Elisabetta Benigni. Philological Encounters, Zukunftphilologie, Berlin.

“The *Seven Sages of Rome*: Narration, Silence, and Textual Transmission.” *D’Orient en Occident : les recueils de fables enchâssées avant les Mille et Une Nuits*, ed. Marion Vuagnoux-Uhlig. Turnhout: Brepols.

“The Poetic Traditions of the Kingdom of Sicily.” In *Muslim Sicily*, ed. Salma Khadra Jayyusi.

“Twice-Written Texts: Historians, Literary Historians, and the Medieval Mediterranean.” In *Alternative Teleologies: The Mediterranean and the Modern World(s)*, ed. Brian Catlos and Sharon Kinoshita.

Editor and translator: “Sicilian Poetry in Italian.” In *Anthology of Italian Poetry from the Middle Ages to the Present*. Lorenzo da Ponte Italian Library, ed. Luigi Ballerini and Massimo Ciavolella. University of California Press.

*Articles in  
journals and  
edited volumes  
(in progress)*

“Vernacular and Cosmopolitan Language in Late Medieval Europe: Petrarch at Sea.” *Interfaces*.

*Articles in  
journals and  
edited volumes*

“Lingua Franca.” *Companion to Mediterranean History*, ed. Peregrine Horden and Sharon Kinoshita, 330-44. Malden, MA and Oxford, UK: Wiley Blackwell, 2014.

“Ahead of the Swerve: From Anachronism to Complexity.” *Exemplaria* 25 (2013): 359-62.

“Reading Backward: The *1001 Nights* and Philological Practice.” *A Sea of Languages: Literature and Culture in the Pre-Modern Mediterranean*, ed. Suzanne Akbari and Karla Mallette, 100-116. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2013.

“Boustraphedon: Remembering the Medieval Mediterranean.” *A Sea of Languages: Literature and Culture in the Pre-Modern Mediterranean*, ed. Suzanne Akbari and Karla Mallette, 254-66. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2013.

“The Metropolis and its Languages: Baghdad and Venice.” *Cosmopolitanism and the Middle Ages*, ed. John Ganim and Shayne Legassie, 21-37. The New Middle Ages. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2013.

“Dante as Poet of Exile and Resistance.” *Like Doves Summoned by Desire’: Dante’s New Life in Contemporary Literature and Film*, ed. Massimo Ciavolella and Gianluca Rizzo, 111-32. New York: Agincourt Press, 2012.

“I nostri Saracini: Writing the History of the Arabs of Sicily.” *California Italian Studies* 1 (2009-2010). < [http://escholarship.org/uc/ismrg\\_cisj](http://escholarship.org/uc/ismrg_cisj)>

“Beyond Mimesis: Aristotle’s *Poetics* in the Medieval Mediterranean.” *PMLA* 124 (2009): 583-91.

“Muhammad in Hell.” *Dante Studies* 125 (2007): 207-24.

“Insularity.” In *A Faithful Sea: Religious Cultures and Identities in the Mediterranean, 1250-1750*, ed. Adnan A. Husain and Katherine E. Fleming, 27-46. Oxford: Oneworld Publications, 2007.

“Dante e l’Islam: Sul canto III del *Purgatorio*.” *Rivista di Storia e Letteratura Religiosa* 41 (2005): 39-62.

“Orientalism and the Nineteenth Century Nationalist: Michele Amari, Ernest Renan, and 1848.” *Romanic Review* 96 (2005): 233-52.

“Misunderstood.” *New Literary History* 34 (2003): 677-97.

“Translating Sicily.” *Medieval Encounters: Jewish, Christian and Muslim Culture in Confluence and Dialogue* 9 (2003): 138-61.

“*Terra Recognita*: Excursus on the Literary History of Sicily.” *Mediaevalia* 24 (2003): 125-46.

“Poetries of the Norman Courts.” In *The Cambridge History of Arabic Literature: Al-Andalus*, ed. Maria Rosa Menocal, Raymond P. Scheindlin, and Michael Sells, 377-87. Cambridge: University Press, 2000.

“The Idea of Vernacular Literature in the Arabic and Romance-Speaking World during the Middle Ages.” *Scripta Mediterranea* 19-20 (1998-99): 29-44.

“Arabic and Italian Lyric in Medieval Sicily.” In *The Future of the Middle Ages and the Renaissance: Problems, Trends, and Opportunities in Research*, ed. Roger Dahood, 81-92. Tempe: Arizona Studies in the Middle Ages and the Renaissance, 1998.

- Encyclopedia article* “Arabic Literature in Italy.” In *Medieval Italy*, ed. Christopher Kleinhenz, 45-46. New York: Routledge Press, 2004.
- Reviews (forthcoming)* Review of Adele Cilento and Alessandro Vanoli, *Arabs and Normans in Sicily and the South of Italy*. *Journal of Medieval Iberian Studies*, forthcoming.
- Review of Muhsin J. al-Musawi, *The Islamic Context of the Thousand and One Nights*. H-Levant, forthcoming.
- Reviews* Review of Cynthia Robinson, *Medieval Andalusian Courtly Culture in the Mediterranean: Hadith Bayad wa Riyad*. *Fabula* 50 (2009): 363-65.
- Review of Tommaso Astarita, *Between Salt Water and Holy Water: A History of Southern Italy*. *Medieval Encounters* 12 (2006): 296-300.
- Review of *Gender in the Early Medieval World: East and West, 300-900*. Edited by Leslie Brubaker and Julia M.H. Smith. *Bulletin of the Royal Institute for Interfaith Studies* 7 (2005): 252-55.
- Review of María Rosa Menocal, *The Arabic Role in Medieval Literary History: A Forgotten Heritage*. *Bulletin of the Royal Institute for Interfaith Studies* 6 (2004): 180-83.
- Review of Jareer Abu-Haidar, *Hispano-Arabic Literature and the Early Provençal Lyrics*. *Al-Abhath* 50-51 (2002-3): 218-21.
- Review of *Word and Drama in Dante: Essays on the ‘Divina Commedia,’* ed. Barnes and Petric. *Rivista di Studi Italiani* 12 (1994): 76-78.
- Translations* Translator: Patrizia Onesta, “Lauzengier-Washi-Index, Gardador-Raqib-Custos: The ‘Enemies of Love’ in Provençal, Arabo-Andalusian, and Latin Poetry.” *Scripta Mediterranea* 19-20 (1998-99): 119-42.
- Translator: Antonino Pellitteri, “Reflections on the Study of Muslim Sicily: History, Politics, and 19th-century Sicilian Historiography.” *Scripta Mediterranea* 19-20 (1998-99): 109-118.
- Invited lectures* “Philology without texts: Framed narratives and linguistic complexity in the late medieval Mediterranean.” Yale Lectures in Medieval Studies, February 27, 2014.
- “Against Translation: The Cosmopolitan Language as Literary Medium.” The Mediterranean Seminar, University of California Multi-Campus Research Program Workshop and Conference, Berkeley, November 15, 2013.
- “‘A Narcocracy of Language’: The Cosmopolitan Language against Translation.” Department of Literature, University of California at Santa Cruz, November 13, 2013.
- “Petrarch at Sea: Late Style in the *Canzoniere*.” Italian Research Seminars, University of Notre Dame, September 26, 2013.

“Lives of the Great Languages: Linguistic Complexity in Medieval Europe.” Crossing the Languages of Medieval Europe: Historical, Linguistic and Literary Approaches (organized by the Centre for Medieval Literature, Odense, Denmark), Rome, June 4, 2013.

“Lives of the Great Languages: Cosmopolitan Language and Mother Tongue in the Medieval Mediterranean.” Medieval and Early Modern Studies workshop, Stanford University, May 1, 2013.

“Lingua Franca: Muslims, Christians and Interconfessional Communication in the Medieval Mediterranean.” Medieval Studies Program, Princeton University, October 25, 2012.

“Petrarch at Sea: Mediterranean Studies and the Literary Historian.” Cornell University, September 26, 2011.

“Lingua Franca in the Mediterranean.” Department of Romance Languages and Department of Near Eastern Studies, University of Michigan, November 3, 2008; Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, University of California at Los Angeles, January 20, 2009; Department of French and Italian, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, October 9, 2009; Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, Binghamton University, New York, October 21, 2009; Department of French, Classics and Italian, Michigan State University, September 24, 2010; Western Mediterranean Workshop, University of Chicago, February 23, 2011; Glasscock Center, Texas A&M University, February 15, 2012.

“The Literatures of Medieval Sicily: Greek, Latin, Arabic and Italian” and “Poetry on Paper in Medieval Italy.” Lansdowne Lectures, University of Victoria, British Columbia, February 7, 2009.

“The Sea of Stories: Framed Narratives and Medieval Mediterranean Poetics.” Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, University of California at Los Angeles, November 14, 2007.

“Intellectual Geographies in the *Divine Comedy*.” Department of Italian Studies, University of California at Los Angeles, February 12, 2007.

“Muhammad in Hell.” Dante Society of America Annual Meeting, May 20, 2006.

“Vox Populorum: Muslims, Christians, and Sicilian Literary History 1100-1250.” University of California at Santa Cruz, February 2, 2006; Center for Medieval Studies, University of Minnesota at Twin Cities, October 27, 2005.

“European Modernity and the Arab Mediterranean.” Department of Humanities and Center for Arab-American Studies, University of Michigan, Dearborn, March 20, 2007; Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, University of Michigan, March 2006; Seminar on Cross Cultural Rhetoric and Poetics, The Humanities Center, Harvard University,

April 2005; Center for Middle East Studies, University of California at Berkeley, November 3, 2005.

“Dante and Islam: The Last Word.” Department of Italian Studies, University of California at Berkeley, April 21, 2005.

“Muhammad in Dante’s *Inferno* XXVIII.” Center for Medieval Studies, University of Minnesota at Twin Cities, March 2, 2005.

“Dante, Sicily, Islam.” Centre for Medieval Studies, University of Toronto, 2004.

“Translations, Counterfeits, and Modern Mediterranean Literature.” The Anis K. Makdisi Program in Literature, American University of Beirut, June 2004.

“The Mediterranean/Al-Bahr al-Mutawassit.” Center for Arabic and Middle East Studies, American University of Beirut, 2003.

“The Many Faces of Scheherazade.” *Behind the Veil: The Islamic World in Western Art and Literature*, Humanities West (San Francisco), 2000.

“Arab Sicily.” Casa Italiana, Stanford University, 2000.

*Conference papers*

“Mega-Languages and Micro-texts: The Lingua Franca and Mediterranean Connectivity.” International Congress on Medieval Studies, 2013.

“Mediterranean Studies as Area Studies.” *Mediterranean and Maritime Perspectives*, University of California at Santa Cruz, 2013.

“A Spy in the House of Language.” American Comparative Literature Association Annual Conference, 2013.

“Les sept sages vont en bateau: Framed narrative systems in the medieval Mediterranean.” *Lingua Franca: Explorations of the Literary Geography of the Mediterranean World*. *Zukunftsphilologie*, Berlin, 2012.

“Baghdad and Venice: The Cosmopolitan Metropolis and the Non-Territorial Language.” International Congress on Medieval Studies, 2012.

“Territory, Frontiers, Routes: Linguistic connectivity in the pre-modern Mediterranean.” *Frontiers Conference*. Durham University [U.K.], 2012.

“From Baghdad to Venice: Translation networks in the pre-modern world.” NYU Abu Dhabi, 2011.

“‘Dialogo dei massimi sistemi’: Imperial Languages at the Edge of Empire.” *Rivalry and Rhetoric in the Early Modern Mediterranean: Envisioning Empire in the Old World*, William Andrews Clark Memorial Library, University of California at Los Angeles, 2011.

“Italy, Crisscrossed: Intellectual History and Textual Systems in the Italian Peninsula.” *The Mediterranean: Crisscrossed and Constructed*, Harvard University, 2011.

- “Lives of the Great Languages: Lingua Franca in the Medieval Mediterranean.” Modern Language Association of America Annual Meeting, 2011.
- “Le Roman des Sept Sages : au-delà de la coupe mortelle.” D’Orient en Occident : Les recueils de fables enchâssées avant les Mille et Une Nuits, Université de Genève, 2010.
- “Lingua franca in the Mediterranean.” American Association of Italian Studies Annual Meeting, 2010.
- “Corsairs as cosmopolitans in late medieval letters.” American Comparative Literature Association Annual Conference, 2010.
- “Deus ex Littera: Mimesis and Medieval Representation of the Divine.” American Comparative Literature Association Annual Conference, 2009.
- “Framed narratives and literary transmission in the medieval Mediterranean.” Alternative Teleologies: The Mediterranean and the Modern World(s). University of California at Santa Cruz, 2009.
- “Orbits: Toward a Mediterranean Literary History.” Modern Language Association of America Annual Meeting, 2008.
- “The Nights before Globalization: Scheherazade and the Sage Yunan in Italy, 1300-1500.” American Comparative Literature Association Annual Conference, 2008.
- “Reading Backward.” The Persistence of Philology: Rethinking Comparative Literary History on the Twentieth Anniversary of *The Arabic Role in Medieval Literary History*. University of Toronto, 2007.
- “Mediterranean Orientalism: Enrico Cerulli on Dante and Islam.” Modern Language Association of America Annual Meeting, 2006.
- “De quoi me divertir pendant les longues soirées’: The *1001 Nights* as Playground of the Western World.” Modern Language Association of America Annual Meeting, 2006.
- “Philology and Fundamentalism.” International Medieval Congress, University of Leeds, 2006.
- “*Parte per te stesso*: Dante as Poet of Exile and Resistance.” Dante’s New Life in Twentieth-Century Literature: Modern Intertextual Appropriation of Dante. University of California at Los Angeles, 2006.
- “Insularity.” Modern Language Association of America Annual Meeting, 2005.
- “Romantics, Nationalists, and the Arab Past in Malta.” Mediterranean Studies Association Annual Conference, 2005.
- “Orientalist Philology and National Narrative in Mediterranean Europe.” Modernity and Modernism in the Mediterranean, University of Toronto, 2003.



“Michele Amari, Sicilian.” Modern Language Association of America Annual Meeting, 2002.

“Translatio Siciliae.” Modern Language Association of America Annual Meeting, 1999.

“Parklands and Preserves: Arabic Culture in Norman Sicily.” Modern Language Association of America Annual Meeting, 1999.

“Baptized Sultans, Infidel Kings: Postcolonial Sicily, 1130-1300.” Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies Conference, 1998.

“Translating Sicily.” Islam in Europe (The Twenty-Sixth Medieval Workshop), University of British Columbia, 1997.

“New Approaches to the ‘Arabic Theory’: The Case of Sicily.” Modern Language Association of America Annual Meeting, 1996.

“Arabic and Italian Lyric in Medieval Sicily.” Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies Conference, 1996.

## VI

### Teaching

“Islamic World Literature”  
University of Michigan, Winter 2014

“Introduction to Italian literature, cinema and graphic novels: The art of war”  
University of Michigan, Winter 2014

“The Italian Renaissance”  
University of Michigan, Fall 2010; Fall 2013

“Modern Italian Poetry”  
University of Michigan, Fall 2013

“The Renaissance in Rome”  
University of Michigan program in Rome, Summer 2013

“Petrarch’s Canzoniere”  
University of Michigan, Winter 2012

“Modern Classics: Dreams and Madness”  
University of Michigan, Fall 2010; Fall 2011; Fall 2012

“Lingua franca”  
University of Michigan, Winter 2011

“Petrarch”  
University of Michigan, Winter 2010

“Medieval Mediterranean Literature: the *1001 Nights* and the *Decameron*.”  
University of Michigan, Fall 2009

“From Marco Polo to Machiavelli: History, culture and letters in Renaissance Italy”  
Miami University, Spring 2009

- “Mediterranean Modernity” (Honors course)  
Miami University, Fall 2007; Spring 2008
- “Italy: Matrix of Civilization”  
Miami University, Fall 2005; Fall 2008
- “Introduction to Italian Literature: Medieval to Early Modern”  
Miami University, Fall 2005; Fall 2008
- “Introduction to Italian Literature: The Twentieth Century”  
Miami University, Spring 2006; Spring 2007
- “Dante’s Divine Comedy”  
Miami University, Spring 2006; Spring 2008
- “Dante’s Divine Comedy”  
Northwestern University, Fall 2004
- “Sicilian Literature: History and Theater”  
Northwestern University, Fall 2004
- “The *1001 Nights* and the *Decameron*”  
Northwestern University, Winter 2005
- “Islam and Europe”  
Northwestern University, Spring 2005
- “Elementary Italian”  
Northwestern University, Spring 2005
- “Epic: Texts and Contexts”  
American University of Beirut, Fall 2003; Spring 2004
- “Mediterranean Encounters”  
American University of Beirut, Spring 2003
- “Literature of the Middle Ages”  
English Department, American University of Beirut, Fall 2002
- “Civilization Studies 201: Ancient Culture”  
“Civilization Studies 202: Medieval and Renaissance Culture”  
“Civilization Studies 203: Modern Culture”  
“Civilization Studies 204: Contemporary Culture”  
American University of Beirut, 2001-2004
- “The Avant-Gardes of the Middle Ages”  
Departments of French and Italian and Comparative Literature,  
Stanford University, Winter 2000
- “Dante”  
Departments of French and Italian and Comparative Literature,  
Stanford University, Spring 2000
- “Latinity and Vernacularity”  
Departments of Classics and Comparative Literature,  
Stanford University, Winter 2000

“The *1001 Nights* and the *Decameron*”

Departments of French and Italian and Comparative Literature,  
Stanford University, Fall 1999

M.A.-level Latin, Centre for Medieval Studies, University of Toronto  
Sole instructor and designer, M.A. Latin summer course, 1996

Ph.D.-level Latin, Centre for Medieval Studies, University of Toronto  
Sole instructor and designer, Ph.D. Latin summer course, 1995  
Teaching assistant, 1994-96

“American Literature from 1917,” Stanford University  
Teaching assistant, 1986

“Aspects of Semiotics,” Hampshire College  
Co-designer and teacher, January term course, 1985

## VII **Academic employment**

Professor of Italian and Near Eastern Studies  
University of Michigan, 2013-present

Associate Professor of Italian and Near Eastern Studies  
University of Michigan, 2009-2013

Assistant Professor of Italian Studies  
Miami University, 2005-2009

Visiting Assistant Professor of Italian  
Northwestern University, 2004-2005

Assistant Professor of Civilization Studies  
American University of Beirut, 2001-2004

Acting Assistant Professor of Italian and Comparative Literature  
Stanford University, 1999-2000

Teaching Assistant  
Centre for Medieval Studies, University of Toronto, 1994-96

## VIII **University service and professional development**

### *Administrative positions at the University of Michigan*

Director, Center for European Studies, 2014-2017

Interim Director, Islamic Studies Program, 2014-2015

Interim Director, Center for European Studies, 2011-2012

Associate Director, Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies,  
2009-2011

### *Organizer, conferences and speaker series*

Michigan Medieval Seminar, University of Michigan, 2014

- The Qur'an in the World (CMENAS colloquium and Honors mini-course), University of Michigan, 2013
- Crepuscular Secularism: The Post-Secular Intellectual in Europe and the Middle East (co-organizer)  
University of Michigan, 2013
- Alphabet Wars: Language and Ideology in the Middle East (CMENAS colloquium), University of Michigan, 2011
- Designing Nations: Maps and Statistical Modeling in the Middle East (CMENAS colloquium), University of Michigan, 2010
- The Persistence of Philology: Rethinking Comparative Literary History on the Twentieth Anniversary of *The Arabic Role in Medieval Literary History* (co-organizer)  
University of Toronto, 2007
- The *1001 Nights*: Story Without End (film and lecture series)  
Miami University, 2006
- Mediterranean Studies: Identities and Tensions (co-organizer)  
American University of Beirut, 2003
- Medievalists' Working Group  
American University of Beirut, 2003
- Director, Brown Bag Seminar Series  
Civilization Sequence Program, American University of Beirut, 2001-2003
- Member, Work in Medieval Studies, 1995-1996; co-director, 1996-1997  
Centre for Medieval Studies, University of Toronto
- Co-organizer, A Celebration of Medieval Poetry  
Centre for Medieval Studies, University of Toronto, January, 1995
- Co-organizer, The Classical World and Early Christianity  
San Francisco State University, Spring, 1993
- Student mentoring at the University of Michigan***
- Faculty mentor, Mediterranean Topographies Rackham Interdisciplinary Workshop, 2010-2011
- Dissertation committee chair: Harry Kashdan (Comparative Literature);  
dissertation committee member: Will Stroebel (Comparative Literature),  
Michael Pifer (Comparative Literature, 2014), Shannon Winston  
(Comparative Literature, 2014)
- Mentor: Francesca Minnone (Italian, 2010-2012), Roberto Mosciatti  
(Italian, 2011-2014)
- Fourth term review committee member: Chad Simpson (French, 2010),  
Anna Mester (chair; Spanish, 2011), Francesca Minnone (Italian, 2012)
- Preliminary exams committee, Tom Maranda (French, 2010)

***Reviewer and editorial board member***

Reviewer: Edinburgh University Press, University of Pennsylvania Press, *Renaissance Quarterly*, *Modern Philology*, *Studies in Travel Writing*, *Digital Philology*, *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, *Medieval Encounters*, American Comparative Literary Association Presidential Undergraduate Prize

Editorial board member: The Mediterranean Seminar, Palgrave MacMillan, *Postmedieval*, *Interfaces: Medieval European Literature*, *Renaissance et Réforme / Renaissance and Reformation*

***Committee memberships***

External committee member

Mediterranean Studies position hiring committee, Department of Literature University of California at Santa Cruz, 2013-2014

Curriculum committee, Italian Studies (chair) University of Michigan, 2013-2014

Mediterranean position hiring committee, Romance Languages (chair) University of Michigan, 2011-2012

Curriculum committee, Romance Languages University of Michigan, 2010-2011

Water theme semester University of Michigan, 2010-2011

Graduate committee, Romance Languages University of Michigan, 2010-2012

***Other***

Faculty lecturer, National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute: Networks and the Transmission of Knowledge in the Medieval Mediterranean, Barcelona, 2012

Participant, National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute: The Medieval Mediterranean and the Emergence of the West, 2008

Interviewed as expert on Arabo-Norman Sicily for “An Islamic History of Europe”; BBC documentary, broadcast Spring 2005

Member, Task Team on General Education American University of Beirut, 2002-2003

**IX****Other information***Memberships*

American Comparative Literature Association  
American Institute for Maghrib Studies  
Dante Society of America  
Medieval Academy of America  
Middle East Studies Association  
Modern Language Association of America

Renaissance Society of America

*Selected  
non-academic  
publications*

*Richard Baron: Photographs* (catalogue essay). Bridge Center for Contemporary Art, El Paso, and Diverseworks, Houston, 1989.

*Memory* (catalogue essay). Mincher/Wilcox Gallery, San Francisco, 1989.

*Restraint Intent Manipulation* (catalogue essay). Mincher/Wilcox Gallery, San Francisco, 1989.

Art reviewer, San Francisco Bay Guardian, 1988-89.