

## David Haven Blake

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### Academic Employment

Professor of English, The College of New Jersey, July 2009 - present  
Associate Professor of English, The College of New Jersey, July 2004 – June 2009  
Assistant Professor of English, The College of New Jersey, August 1999-July 2004  
Assistant Professor of English, U.S. Air Force Academy, August 1995-July 1999  
English Teacher, Deerfield Academy, Deerfield, MA, 1985-1988

### Education

1994 Ph.D. English and American Literature, Washington University in St. Louis  
1989 M.A. English and American Literature, Washington University in St. Louis  
1986 Bread Loaf School of English, Middlebury College  
1985 B.A. in English and History (Honors), Colgate University

### Scholarly Publications

#### A. Books

*Walt Whitman and the Culture of American Celebrity* (Yale University Press, 2006)

*Walt Whitman, Where the Future Becomes Present*, Co-editor with Michael Robertson, (University of Iowa Press, 2008) Contributors: Benjamin Barber, Wai Chee Dimock, Ed Folsom, Kirsten Silva Gruesz, David Lehman, James Longenbach, Meredith L. McGill, Angela Miller, Kenneth M. Price, and Michael Warner.

#### B. Journal articles

“Reading Whitman, Growing Up Rock ‘n’ Roll,” *Virginia Quarterly Review*, Spring 2005: 260-273.

“‘The Man That Was Used Up’: Edgar Allan Poe and the Ends of Captivity” *Nineteenth-Century Literature*, December 2002: 323-349.

“Campbell McGrath and the Spectacle Society,” *Michigan Quarterly Review*, Spring 2002: 249-272.

“Public Dreams: Berryman, Confession, and the Culture of Celebrity,” *American Literary History*, Winter 2001: 716-736.

“Exile and the Republic: Thomas McGrath and the Legacy of Jefferson’s America,” *Prospects: An Annual Journal of American Cultural Studies*, 1998: 23-38.

- “Richard Wilbur and the Poetry of World War II.” *War, Literature, and the Arts: An International Journal of the Humanities*, Spring/Summer 1998: 1-5.
- "Redeeming Captivity: The Negative Revolution of Blake's *Visions of the Daughters of Albion*," co-written with Elliott Gruner. *Symbiosis: A Journal of Anglo-American Literary Relations*, Spring 1997: 21-34.
- "Posterity Must Judge': Private and Public Discourse in the *Adams-Jefferson Letters*," *Arizona Quarterly*, Winter 1995: 1-30. Reprinted in *Nineteenth-Century Literature Criticism*, ed. Larry Trudeau (Gale Press, 2003).
- "The Politics of Commercial Language in Dryden's *Annus Mirabilis*," *Criticism: A Quarterly Journal of Literature and the Arts*, Summer 1992: 327-348.

#### C. Essays published in edited volumes

- "Hollywood, Impersonation, and Presidential Celebrity in the 1990s" in *Hollywood's White House: The American Presidency in Film and History*. Eds. Peter C. Rollins and John E. O'Connor. (Lexington: UP of Kentucky, 2003). Winner of the 2003 Ray and Pat Browne Book Award, given by the Popular Culture Association.
- The Walt Whitman Encyclopedia*, editors Thomas Le Master and Donald D. Kummings (Garland Press, 1998). Contributor of four entries -- "The Eighteenth Presidency!," "The American Revolution," "Andrew Jackson," "Thomas Paine"

#### D. Reviews of books

- Review of David S. Reynolds' *Walt Whitman's America: A Cultural Biography* in *War, Literature, and the Arts*, Spring/ Summer 1996: 123-125.

#### E. Journal Editing

- “Richard Wilbur and the Second World War.” Guest Editor for special feature of the journal *War, Literature, and the Arts* Spring/Summer 1998.

### Works in Progress

*Ike Day: America at the Crossroads of Politics and Celebrity* – book manuscript that reflects the Eisenhower administration's groundbreaking use of celebrities during the 1956 presidential campaign. Uses archives from the Young and Rubicam advertising agency; the Roosevelt, Eisenhower, and Kennedy presidential libraries; and creative works from a range of writers and directors including Frank Capra, Robert Coover, Henry James, Elia Kazan, and Anna Deavere Smith. 150+ pages completed.

“When Readers Become Fans: Extreme Responses to 19<sup>th</sup>-Century American Poetry,” essay for a collection titled *A Poetries Primer*

“On Writing and Rearing,” essay for a collection titled *Academic Dads*

“‘Leaves of Grass,’ *Leaves of Grass* (1860),” essay for a collection commemorating the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1860 edition of Whitman’s *Leaves of Grass*

### **Commentary and Creative Writing**

- "In the Father’s House: Honor and Identity in the Candidates’ Memoirs,” *The Chronicle Review*, September 19, 2008.
- “McCain and My Captive Cadets,” *The Huffington Post*, September 10, 2008.
- “Bronze, Granite, Grief,” *Art & Democracy*, ed. John Reardon (New York: Project Project, 2009)
- “A Prophetic Face in the Crowd,” *TomPaine.com*, November 1, 2007 – reproduced by over 100 websites, including History News Network (George Mason University), and Libertas (University of Birmingham, UK) as featured Weekly Analysis for November 19-26, 2007.
- “A Tell-Tale Heart,” *Epoch* (50:1), July 2001: 111-125.
- “11 Games for the End of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century,” *Fiction International* (31), Spring 1999: 71-73.

### **Talks, Lectures, Book Events**

- “Obama, King, and Separation as our Political Sin,” Obama’s First One Hundred Days Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration, New Jersey State Capitol, Trenton, January 17, 2009.
- “Autobiography and the 2008 Presidential Campaign,” The Lawrenceville School, October 23, 2008.
- “Dan Rice and the Rise of Political Celebrity,” Nineteenth-Century Studies Conference, Miami, April 1-4, 2008
- “Fan Culture and 19th-Century American Poetry,” American Studies Association, Philadelphia, October 11-14, 2007
- “Total Recall: Narrative and Legibility in Schwarzenegger’s Gubernatorial Campaigns,” Modern Language Association, Philadelphia, December 29, 2006
- “Whitman, New York and the Rise of American Celebrity,” Book Talk and Signing, South Street Seaport Museum, November 16, 2006; The Raconteur Bookstore (Metuchen, NJ), May 12, 2006
- "Whitman, Publicity, and the Culture of American Celebrity," Hunter College-CUNY (October 16, 2007); Colgate University (February 6, 2007); SUNY-Albany (November 2, 2006)
- “Chromatic Tempests of Applause: What Walt Whitman Learned from Edwin Forrest,” Edwin Forrest’s New York: A Bicentennial Conference, College of Mount Saint Vincent, November 4, 2006
- “Longfellow, Whitman, and the Character of Fame,” The Longfellow Lecture, Maine Historical Society, Portland, ME, October 26, 2006
- “Whitman and Celebrity,” Celebrating Walt Whitman, Université de Paris VII, July 4, 2005
- “Whitman, Publicity, and the American Frontier,” Walt Whitman and Place, Rutgers University, Camden, April 2005

- “Publicity and Intimacy in Whitman’s Calamus Poems,” American Literature Association, Cambridge, MA, May 2003.
- “Thinking about the President as Celebrity: An Analysis of Presidential Films from the 1990s” The President in Film and Television, The Film and History League, Northridge, CA, November 2000.
- “The Poetics of Hype: Reading the Rise of Celebrity in 19<sup>th</sup>-Century America” Marxism at the Millennium Conference, University of Florida, March 1999.
- Panel Chair and Organizer: “War, Text and Change in Richard Wilbur’s Poetry,” American Literature Association, Baltimore, MD, May 1997.
- “Public Dreams: Contemporary Poetry and the Incorporation of Cultural Theory,” Reconcilable (In)differences: The Marriage between Creative Writers and Contemporary Theorists, University of Denver, April 1997.
- “Whitman’s Rising Shape on the American Frontier,” Society for the Interdisciplinary Study of Social Imagery, Colorado Springs, CO, March 1997.
- "Beyond Ideology: The Virtues of Literary Celebrity in the 1790s," Western Conference on British Studies, Colorado Springs, CO, October 1996.
- "Exile and the Republic: Thomas McGrath in Joseph McCarthy's America," America Poetry in the 1950s Conference, National Poetry Foundation, University of Maine, Orono, June 1996.
- "Hickory in Retrospect: Parading Andrew Jackson through Whitman's Brooklyn," American Studies Association, Nashville, TN, October 1994.
- "The Republican Poetics of Tom Paine," American Literature Association, San Diego, CA, June 1994.
- "Adams, Jefferson, and the American Ends of 18th-Century Epistolary Culture," Group for Early Modern Culture Studies, University of Oklahoma, October 1993.

## Teaching History

*Seminars and Upper Level Courses:* Graduate Seminar on Poetry; Seminar on Literature and Publicity; Seminar on Literary Theory and the Long Poem; Seminar on Whitman and the 19<sup>th</sup> Century; Workshop in Creative Non-Fiction; 19th-Century American Writing; American Literature, 1800-1865; American Literature and the Culture of Celebrity; Figures of the Poet: Whitman, Dickinson, and American Culture; Modern American Poetry; Literature, Film, and the Art of American Politics

*Surveys and Introductory Courses:* First Year Seminar: The Worlds of *Moby-Dick*; First Year Seminar: Three American Poets: Whitman, Dickinson, and Hughes; Survey of American Literature, 1620-1865; Survey of American Literature, 1865-1990; Chief English Writers II; Approaches to Literature; Introduction to Literature; Rhetoric I, Rhetoric II

## Academic Honors and Awards

New Jersey Council for the Humanities

Primary Investigator for \$10,000 grant in support of *Walt Whitman’s Leaves of Grass: The Sesquicentennial Symposium*, September 22-24, 2005

- The College of New Jersey  
 School of Culture and Society Mini-Grant for Research at Eisenhower Presidential Library, May 2005  
 SOSA release time, 2000-2010 academic years
- U.S. Air Force Academy  
 Winner, Outstanding Academy Educator Award, 1997-1998  
 Dean's Research Fellowship for Travel, 1995-1996
- Washington University in St. Louis  
 Dissertation Fellowship, 1992-1993  
 Cornelison Graduate Essay Prize, 1991  
 Second Place, Cornelison Graduate Essay Prize, 1990  
 Honorable Mention, The Academy of American Poets Prize, 1989
- Other  
 Fellow: National Endowment of the Humanities Summer Seminar for Secondary School Teachers: "The American Autobiographical Epic," director Dr. Paul Mariani, University of Massachusetts, 1987  
 Lasher Poetry Prize, Colgate University, 1985  
 Fellow: Bucknell University Seminar for Younger Poets, 1985

### **Book Reviews and Media Appearances**

- Walt Whitman and the Culture of American Celebrity: Chronicle of Higher Education* (October 26, 2006), *Library Journal* (November 1, 2006), *Publishers Weekly* (November 6, 2006), *Newsday* (November 12, 2006), *Choice* (June 2007), *The Oscholars.com* (May 2007), *Walt Whitman Quarterly Review* (Summer 2007), *American Studies* (Summer 2007), *American Literature* (September 2008), *Journal of American History* (May 2009)
- Walt Whitman: "Walt Whitman: Song of Myself," (public radio documentary produced by Curtis Fox). Premiered on WNYC in November 2006 and distributed to NPR stations nationwide.
- Politics and Celebrity: *Congressional Quarterly Researcher* (March 18, 2005), WNET/Channel 13 television program "New York Voices" (Oct 29, 2004), *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* (Sept 28, 2004), Scripps Howard news service (May-June 2004), *Baltimore Sun* (April 2, 2007), *Forbes.com* (June 26, 2007), *Philadelphia Inquirer* (February 24, 2009)
- "Reading Whitman, Growing Up Rock 'n' Roll": *Chronicle of Higher Education* (April 26, 2005), *Washington Post* (April 12, 2005) article reprinted in *Chicago Tribune* and *Los Angeles Times* (April 20, 2005)
- Student Discovery of Whitman Interview: *Chronicle of Higher Education* (May 20, 2005), *USA Today*, *Newsday*, *Boston Globe*, *ABC News*, AP wire story picked up by 100+ national and international press outlets (all May 6-9, 2005)
- The College of New Jersey: *New York Times* (June 5, 2005)
- Walt Whitman Symposium: *The Trenton Times* (June 5, 2005), *Chronicle of Higher Education* (May 20, 2005)

## Institutional Service

Coordinator, Programming Events for TCNJ's Interdisciplinary Exploration of "The Family," Fall 2009-Spring 2010  
 Member, Journalism Search Committee, Fall 2008  
 Coordinator, Close Readings Lecture Series, Fall 2007-present  
 Organizer, A Program of Jewish Fiction with Elisa Albert and Edward Schwarzschild October 18, 2007, a CCIC event  
 Member, Ad Hoc Faculty Committee on External Reviews, Summer-Fall 2007  
 Member, Committee on Cultural and Intellectual Community (CCIC), January 2006-present.  
 Chair, President's Task Force on the Teacher-Scholar, Fall 2005-Spring 2006  
 Co-Director, Walt Whitman's *Leaves of Grass*: The Sesquicentennial Symposium, Fall 2003 – Fall 2005 (see <http://www.tcnj.edu/~whitman/>)  
 Vice Chair, Committee on Faculty Affairs, Fall 2002-Spring 2003  
 Member, English Department Personnel Committee, Fall 2004-present  
 Member, President's Task Force on Strategic Positioning, Fall 2002-Spring 2003  
 Member, SOSA ad hoc review committee, January 2003  
 Member, Dean's Task Force on Writing, Fall 2002-Spring 2003  
 Member, Mass Communications Search Committee, Fall-Spring 2002-03  
 Member, Committee on Faculty Affairs, Fall 2001-Spring 2004  
 Member, Steering Committee, Project on the United States, Fall 2001-Spring 2002  
 Liaison, English Department Celebration of Student Achievement, Spring 2002  
 Member, Curriculum Committee, English Department, Fall 2001-present  
 Member, Poetry Search Committee, English Department, Fall 2001  
 Organizer, William Heath Fiction Reading, a CCIC event, Fall 2000  
 Member, Academic Integrity Committee, English Department, 1999  
 Member, English Graduate Committee, 1999-2003  
 Member, Search Committee, Multi-Ethnic Literature of the United States position, February-March 2000  
 Co-Chair, New Jersey State Employees Charitable Campaign, English Department, December 1999

## Professional Service

Referee, University of North Carolina Press, University of Iowa Press, Broadview Press, *PMLA*  
 Seminar Leader, "The Whitman Tradition," Teachers as Scholars Seminar, Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation, The College of New Jersey, Spring 2007  
 Seminar Leader, "*Moby-Dick*: Before and After 9/11," Teachers as Scholars Seminar, Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation, The College of New Jersey, Spring 2006  
 Seminar Leader, "Literature and Leadership," Executive MBA program, George Washington University, August 2002, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2008