

# Dr. Brian W. Gastle

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## EDUCATION

- Ph.D. English Language and Literature, University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware (1998)  
Dissertation: *Femme Sole and Mercantile Writing in Late Medieval England*
- M.A. English Language and Literature, University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware (1991)
- B.A. English Language and Literature, SUNY Buffalo, Amherst, New York (1989)  
Minor: Business Administration

## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Professor, English, Western Carolina University (Aug 2012 – Current)

Provost Fellow (Interim Assoc. Provost), Western Carolina University (July 2013 – July 2014)

Department Head, English, Western Carolina University (July 2009 – Dec 2012)

Associate Professor, English, Western Carolina University (Aug 2004 – Jul 2012)

Associate Dean, Graduate School, Western Carolina University (Jan 2008 – July 2009)

Assistant Professor, Department of English, Western Carolina University (Aug 1998 – Jul 2004)

## SCHOLARSHIP

### Medieval Literature

#### *Edited Volumes*

- Filardo-Llamas, Laura, Brian Gastle, and Marta Gutiérrez Rodríguez, eds. *Gower in Context(s): Scribal, Linguistic, Literary and Socio-historical Readings. ES: Revista de Filología Inglesa* 33.1. Valladolid: Universidad, 2012. [190 page volume including co-authored introduction]
- Yeager, R. F. and Brian Gastle. *MLA Approaches to Teaching the Poetry of John Gower*. New York, NY: Modern Languages Association, 2011. [240 page volume including one authored chapter]

#### *Peer-Reviewed Articles & Chapters*

- Gastle, Brian. "Using *Beowulf* to Teach Argumentation: 'But It Can't Be About Impotence!'" *Teaching Beowulf in the Twenty-First Century*. Eds. Howell Chickering, et. al. Tempe, AZ: Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, 2014. 121-29.
- Gastle, Brian. "Gower's Business: Artistic Production of Cultural Capital and the Tale of Florent." *John Gower, Trilingual Poet: Language, Translation, & Tradition*. Eds. Elisabeth Dutton, John Hines, and RF Yeager. Westfield Medieval Studies. Rochester, NY: Boydell & Brewer, 2010. 182-95.
- Gastle, Brian. "Historical Context for Medieval Literature." *Continuum Handbook of Medieval British Literature*. Ed. Daniel T. Kline. NY, NY: Continuum P, 2009. 23-48.

- Gastle, Brian. “‘As If She Were Single’: Working Wives and the Late Medieval English Femme Sole.” *The Middle Ages at Work: Practicing Labor in Late Medieval England*. Eds. Kellie Robertson and Michael Uebel. The New Middle Ages Series. New York: Palgrave, 2004. 41-64.
- Gastle, Brian. “Breaking the Stained Glass Ceiling: Mercantile Authority in the Paston Letters and the *Book of Margery Kempe*.” *Studies in the Literary Imagination* 36.1 (2003): 123-47.
- Gastle, Brian. “The Old and Middle English Beast Fable.” *A Companion to Old and Middle English Literature*. Eds. Bob Lambdin and Laura Lambdin. London: Greenwood Press, 2002. 69-85.
- Gastle, Brian. “Chaucer’s ‘Shaply’ Guildsmen and Mercantile Pretensions.” *Neuphilologische Mitteilungen: Bulletin of the Modern Language Society* 99.2 (1998) 211-16.

### **Multi-Media**

- Gastle, Brian, Clara Pascual-Argente, and Tiago Viúla de Faria perfs. *Royal Entertainments: The Poetry of John Gower in the 15<sup>th</sup> Century English Portuguese, and Castilian Courts*. Comp. Louis Delgado. International John Gower Society. Valladolid, 2012. CD.
- Gastle, Brian (Academic Consultant and Script Editor). *Rings, Kings, and Things*. Cerebellum’s Standard Deviants Series ([www.pbs.org/standarddeviantstv/PBS](http://www.pbs.org/standarddeviantstv/PBS)) for PBS TV. Fall 2001.
  - Rings Kings and Things Interactive DVD* ISBN: 1-58198-374-3
  - Rings, Kings & Things Part 1 -Swords & Sorcery* ISBN 1-58198-121-x
  - Rings, Kings & Things Part 2 - Monsters & Mayhem* ISBN 1-59198-122-x

### **Professional Writing and Assessment**

- Professional Editing/Writing Consultant for Reaccreditation Report Writing.
  - Ran ½-day SACS workshops (80 participants each year from 2006-2011) at annual SACS conference in December. Materials (including style guide and report template) now being used by over 30 schools in the Southeast (workshop assessment and materials usage documentation available upon request). Non-traditionally refereed.
  - Consultant to Elizabeth City State University for SACS report preparation
- Editor, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) Compliance Certification Reaccreditation Report for Western Carolina University (313 page report, 220 supporting documents, & accompanying web site) 2006. Non-traditionally refereed.
- Lead Online Course Module Editor, *NC TEACH OnLine Program*. LearnNC. North Carolina State Board of Education, Department of Public Instruction. 2004. Contracted by NC DPI.
- E-learning Technology Developer. *Professional Development for New Teachers: First Days*. In *Professional Development Series for Excellence in Teaching*. NCTEACH. North Carolina State Board of Education, Department of Public Instruction. Multi-CD Educational Development Series. 2003. Contracted by NC DPI.
- Author. “The Writing Center,” *The Alphabet Superhighway: A Knowledge Resource for Schools of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*. 1996-1998. ([www.ash.udel.edu/ash/tutor/writing](http://www.ash.udel.edu/ash/tutor/writing))
- Co-Author. *Study Guide for Technical Communication in the Global Community* (D. Andrews), with Catherine Carter and Marta Kvande. Fall 1997. Prentice Hall ([www.prenhall.com/andrews](http://www.prenhall.com/andrews))

### *In Process*

- Gastle, Brian, Ana Saez Hidalgo, and R. F. Yeager, eds. *The Ashgate Research Companion to John Gower*. 190,000 word (approximately 24 contributors/chapters) collection. Under contract. Estimated publication 2016.
- Gastle, Brian and Erick Kelemen, eds. *Materiality, the History of Ideas, and Later Medieval Literature*. For University of Delaware Press – contributors currently writing essays.
- Gastle, Brian “The Lucre of Marchandie”: Poet and Patron Talking Money in Gower’s *Confessio Amantis*.” Essay accepted for collection proposed to Boydell & Brewer as part of its John Gower series.

### **SELECTED CONSULTATIONS AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

- Webmaster. International John Gower Society ([www.johngower.org](http://www.johngower.org)) (2005 – present)
- SACS On-Site Reviewer
  - 2010-2011: 1 institution (small, private, liberal arts institution)
- External Program Reviewer
  - 2010-2011: 1 department (mid-sized state regional comprehensive institution)
- Board of Reviewers. *Business Communication Quarterly* (1997 – 2009)
- Editorial Reviewer. Kalaidjian, Walter et. al. *Understanding Literature*. Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin, 2003.
- Online Reviewer. Markel, Mike. “Tutorial on Evaluating Internet Information,” *Technical Communication*. 7th ed., Bedford, 2002. [www.bedfordstmartins.com/markel\\_tutorial/](http://www.bedfordstmartins.com/markel_tutorial/).

### **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

#### *Medieval Literature Scholarship Presentations*

- “‘There Saugh I’: Chaucer, Boccaccio, and Collateral Damage in the Temple of Mars,” Forty-First Annual Sewanee Medieval Colloquium: Peace and War, Sewanee, TN (2015)
- “‘Som newe thing I scholde booke’: Chaucer and Gower Doing Business(,) Doing Poetry,” Nineteenth Biennial International Congress of the New Chaucer Society, Reykjavik, Iceland (2014)
- “The lucre of marchandie”: Poet and Patron Talking Money in Gower’s *Confessio Amantis*,” The Third International Congress of the John Gower Society: John Gower: Language, Cognition, and Performance, Rochester, NY (2014)
- “‘Of lond, of rente, of park, of plowh’: Gower’s Material Specificity,” 49<sup>th</sup> Int. Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI (2014)
- “Electronic Resources for Teaching Gower,” 47<sup>th</sup> Int. Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI (2012)
- “Teaching Gower Online,” John Gower in Iberia: Six Hundred Years, II International Congress of the John Gower Society, University of Valladolid, Spain (2011)

- “Gower, Law, and Business: Economy of Need and the Need for Economy,” 46<sup>th</sup> Int. Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI (2011)
- “Doing His Business: Gower’s Urban Rhetoric,” 43rd Int. Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI (2008)
- “‘Nevere a Betre Taxe’: Chaucer’s Business with Gower” Int. Congress on John Gower, London, England (2008)
- “The Femme Sole Juridical Subject in The Book of Margery Kempe and the Paston’s Letters,” Law and Vernacular Literature: Law and Women session, International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI (2005)
- “Chaucer’s Household Economies,” Chaucer and Home Session, Fourteenth International Congress of the New Chaucer Society, Glasgow, Scotland (2004)
- “Chaucer’s Pandarus: Desire as Illicit Investment,” Medieval Romance Society session, International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI (2003)
- “‘Encresse or Maken Dymnucioun of My Lantage’: Translation as Investment in Chaucer’s Troilus and Criseyde,” Medieval Translation Theory and Practice session, International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI (2001)
- “‘Yef me this labour and this bisynesse’: Chaucer, Romance, and the Matter of Business,” Chaucer and Philosophy Session, Twenty-Sixth Annual Meeting of the Southeast Medieval Association, Asheville, NC (2000)
- “Genre, Gender and Sexualities,” E-Seminar Participant, Twelfth International Congress of the New Chaucer Society, London, England (2000)
- “Chaucer and the Business of Romance,” at the *Chaucer Yearbook*’s Seeing Chaucer Through His Genres panel of the International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI (2000)
- “Balancing the Books: Merchants, Marriages, and the Femme Sole Textual Tradition in the Early Fifteenth Century,” Seventh Annual Conference of the Group for Early Modern Cultural Studies (GEMCS), Coral Gables, FL (1999)
- “Chaucer and the Rural Femme Sole,” Construction of Marriage in the Later Middle Ages Session, International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI (1998)
- “The Late Medieval Female Mercantile Subject,” Female Subjectivity in Medieval Literature Session, International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI (1997)
- “Marriage, Narrative Debt, and Chaucer’s Mercantile Romances,” Narrators in Medieval Romance Session, International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI (1996)
- “Working Women: The Trope of the Businesswoman in Late Medieval Literature and Society,” Women as Authority: Text, Image and History Session, International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI (1993)
- “‘A Moral Tale Vertuous’: Chaucer’s *Melibee* and the Conduct of Style,” Fictive Advice: Exempla in Conduct Literature Session, Twentieth Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Medievalist Association (SEMA), Arlington, VA (1992)
- “Patriarchal Hermeneutics: The Engendering of Class in Late Medieval Literature and Society,” Old and Middle English Session, NEMLA, Buffalo, NY (1992)

***Pedagogy and Professional Writing Scholarship Presentations***

“Writing and Editing Strategies for Compliance Certification,” Ran half-day workshop each year (for 70-80 senior administrators and SACS liaisons) at the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools – Commission on Colleges (SACS-COC) Annual meeting. (2007-2011)

“Writing and Editing for Compliance,” presentation with Carol Burton, 2006 SACS-COC Annual meeting, Orlando, FL (2006)

“Teacher-Ed / Student-Ed: Selling Medieval Studies in the Age of Engagement”, Roundtable Participant for “Devayne Service Perpetuell”: Service Learning and the Medieval Studies Curriculum,” TEAMS (Consortium for the Teaching of the Middle Ages), Forty-First International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI (2006)

“Words Revising Words: A Modified Peer Editing Technique,” Association for Business Communication Conference, Toronto, ON (2003)

Appalachian Rural Teachers of Technology Alliance Group Leader - Technology Lesson Plans for K-12 Language Arts Instruction, Asheville, NC (2002)

“Medieval Studies and Teacher Education Technology Portfolios,” Thirty-Seventh International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI (2002)

Appalachian Rural Teachers of Technology Alliance Group Leader - Technology Lesson Plans for Learning Disabled 11-12th grade Language Arts Instruction, Asheville, NC (2001)

“Technology, Humanities Courses, and the Public Good,” invited speaker at Teaching for the Public Good: The Future of the Humanities in Public Higher Education, Chapel Hill, NC (2000)

“Writing with the Web,” 1997 Summer Gateway Project, University of Delaware (<http://www.ash.udel.edu/ash/misc/gateway/>), Newark, DE (1997)

“The Delphi Workshop: Low Pressure Self-Help,” Sixth Annual Colloquium on Assisting Under-Prepared Students, Miller Learning Resource Center, Wilmington, DE (1990)

“Students Teaching Students: Peer Editing,” Annual Conference for Graduate Teaching Assistants, University of Delaware, Newark, DE (1990)

***Selected Panel Administration***

Chair: “Papers in Memory of Ann S. Haskell: Middle English Language, Literature, and Life” panel 47<sup>th</sup> Int. Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI (2012)

Chair: “Music and Art in Gower” panel, John Gower in Iberia: Six Hundred Years, II International Congress of the John Gower Society, University of Valladolid, Spain (2011)

Chair: “Romance and History I: The Subject of History” session, Sponsored by the Medieval Romance Society, Thirty Ninth International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI (2004)

Chair: “Justice” session, Seventh Annual Conference of the Group for Early Modern Cultural Studies (GEMCS), Coral Gables, FL (1999)

Chair: “Women at Work in Medieval Literature” session, International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI (1999)

Chair: “The Textual Environment of Old and Middle English Literature” Old and Middle English Session, Twenty-Fifth Annual NEMLA Convention, Boston, MA (1995)

Secretary: Old and Middle English Session, NEMLA, Pittsburgh, PA (1992)

## ADMINISTRATION AND RELATED EXPERIENCE

### *Provost Fellow, Office of the Provost, Western Carolina University (July 2013 – Present)*

During an ongoing search for a permanent Provost, WCU appointed a set of Provost Fellows in lieu of an interim Associate Provost. As Provost Fellow for Faculty Development, my responsibilities included:

- Oversight of the Annual Faculty Evaluation AFE, Collegial Review (Tenure, Promotion, and Reappointment), and Post-Tenure Review processes
- Professional Development for Department Heads (including supervision of Department Head Workshops)
- Coordination of the Associate Deans' Council
- Oversight of the Chancellor's Travel Fund award (\$150,000)
- Oversight of the Faculty Handbook—especially in relation to faculty employment and responsibilities
- Coordination of the Scholarly Development Assignment process
- Responding to UNC General Administration as warranted, including
  - Faculty Workload
  - Management Flexibility reporting
  - Class Size and Instructional Efficiency Task Force

Further duties including assisting the Provost Office with the development of New Faculty Orientation agendas, Distinguished Professor networking support, representation on Council of Deans as agenda warrants, and liaison with the Collegial Review Council and Faculty Affairs Council of Faculty Senate.

### *Department Head, English, Western Carolina University (July 2009 – Dec 2012)*

Administrative officer in charge of faculty, staff, curriculum, and budget for a department that includes 30 faculty, four undergraduate concentrations (180-220 majors in English Literature, Professional Writing, Motion Picture Studies, and English Education), six undergraduate minors, four graduate degrees (70-90 students – MA with concentrations in Literature, Professional Writing, and Comp/Rhet; MAEd; MAT; MA TESOL). Key accomplishments include:

- Implemented an evaluative model of personnel/faculty performance
- Scheduled classes to meet increased capacity and SCH targets while retaining 3-course load for professorial faculty
- Supported faculty scholarship through course load and work load management to allow faculty to be more productive (7 books published by departmental faculty in the past year alone)
- Developed model for graduate TA use that increased instructional efficiency
- Worked closely with Registrar's office on university-wide initiatives such as degree audit, graduation checkout, transfer articulation, student progress reporting, and projecting course/seat demand
- Managed summer course offerings to increase departmental profit sharing from less than \$100 (the summer prior to my arrival as department head) to almost \$5000 in 2010, with total net profit to the institution rising from a \$1000 loss the year prior to my arrival as DH to over \$60,000 profit of the institution in 2011.
- Prepared program prioritization reports for all concentrations

- Supervised preparation of annual assessment reports
- Fostered and supported engaged teaching learning initiatives in courses and programs at all levels, including an annual student-run literary conference, undergraduate research, internships/co-ops, and the department's Spring Literary Festival

In this position I have managed to secure funding from multiple sources to support virtually all faculty research/travel requests. Budgeting management includes oversight of a State budget as well as endowment funds and other non-state-appropriation accounts.

*Associate Dean, Graduate School, Western Carolina University (Jan 2008 – July 2009)*

Administrative officer for a graduate school in charge of over 1800 graduate students, 450 faculty, and 40 programs and certificates both resident and distance. Work closely with the Graduate School Dean and the Associate Dean of Research to manage Graduate School operations on a campus with over 9,000 students.

- Direct supervisor for 5-person graduate school staff in charge of:
  - Admitting, enrolling, funding , graduating graduate students
  - Implementing new technologies (Banner, ApplyYourself, NOLIJ)
  - Recruitment
  - Oversight of graduate program curriculum and Graduate School requirements/policies
- Chair of university-wide committees in charge of policy, procedure, and curriculum oversight and development.
- Organize annual on-campus graduate research symposium.
- Manage graduate student appeals.
- Supervise production of annual graduate catalogue.
- Serve as advocate for graduate students, graduate faculty, graduate programs, and graduate education in general.

*Editor, WCU's SACS-COC Reaccreditation Compliance Reports (Jan 2005 – Aug 2006)*

Edited 300+ page report used to successfully reaccredit an 8,000+ student UNC university. As lead editor:

- Managed 10-20 iterations of over 70 required standards with over 300 accompanying documents.
- Revised content after working with over 40 faculty (from most academic divisions) and administrative authors.
- Responsible for preserving revision history (over 1000 individual files) while revising documents both on my own and in committee.
- Created electronic versions of all reports (MSWord/HTML/Banner) and most documentation (Acrobat).
- Presented writing/editing workshops at three subsequent SACS-COC conferences.

*Director of Professional Writing, Department of English, (June 2002 – May 2005)*

- Responsible for program assessment and review for both Professional Writing Program and the Journalism program.
- Organized \$10,000+ Spring Literary Festivals.
- Supervised all professional writing co-ops and internships (10-20/year).
- Directed professional writing curriculum (over a dozen courses and almost 100 majors).

*Director of Undergraduate Studies, Department of English, (Aug 1999 – May 2002)*

- Responsible for program assessment and review.
- Developed and supervised recruitment activities focused on increasing number of majors (number of majors doubled from 100 to over 200).
- Advised and supervised English honors society (Sigma Tau Delta) and the English club.
- Organized and led advising seminars, workshops, and training for twenty+ English faculty.

#### Other Service and Committee Work

Department:	Tenure, Promotion, Review (TPR) Committee	Personnel Committee
	Annual Faculty Evaluation Committee (AFE)	Technology Committee
	Web Site (Co-Developer)	Executive Committee
	Procedures Committee (chair)	Governance Committee
	Pro Writing Committee	Literature Committee
	Visiting Writers/ Lit Festival	Graduate Committee
College:	A&S Leadership (DH) Team	A&S Technology Committee
	A&S Recruitment Committee	A&S Dean's Advisory Board
	A&S Restructuring Committee	CEAP Tech Committee
University:	Graduate Council (Chair)	Visiting Scholars (Chair)
	Academic Technology Advisory Committee	
	Faculty Advising Coordinating Committee (Chair)	
	Student Perception of Teaching Effectiveness	

## COURSES TAUGHT

### Western Carolina University (1998-Present)

#### *Graduate English (ENGL) Seminars and Cross-Listed Classes*

621 – Middle English Language and Literature	604 – Writing for Electronic Environments
620 – Chaucer – Graduate Seminar	603 – Writing for the Marketplace
618 – Methods of Research and Bibliography	501 – Writing for Careers

#### *Undergraduate English (ENGL) Classes*

498 – Senior Seminar in Literature	303 – Intro to Professional Writing and Editing
467 – Science Fiction Film	251 – Survey of English Literature I
420 – Chaucer and His Age	231 – Introduction to Literature
419 – Medieval Literature	209 – Past Times: Literature and History
401 – Writing for Careers	201 – Literary Landmarks of Western Culture
305 – Technical Writing	102 – Composition II
304 – Writing for Electronic Environments	Independent Study – Introduction to Latin

### University of Delaware (1989-1998)

Graduate Instructor, University of Delaware (1989-98). Taught courses for:

- Department of English
- Honors Program
- Comparative Literature Program

*(Graduate TA (TA) or Primary Instructor (I))*

Medieval Culture & Daily Life (I)

Shakespeare (TA)

Medieval & Renaissance Women & Religion (I)	Speculative Fiction and the Medieval (I)
Great English Writers I (TA)	Gender and Myth in Speculative Fiction (I)
Masterpieces of the Western World I (TA & I)	Written Communications in Business (I)
Biblical & Classical Literature (TA & I)	Critical Reading and Writing (I)
Representations of the Heroic (I)	

Research Assistant, Educational Technology Laboratory (1997-98)

M.A. Representative to the Graduate Committee (1990-91)

Treasurer, Graduate Student Association (1993-95)

Web Developer, College of Education (May 1996 – Aug 1998)

Wrote content and coded (HTML) pages devoted to improving writing skills in k-12 students for a 5000+ page award-winning web site (*The Alphabet Superhighway: A Knowledge Resource for Schools of the 21st Century* ash.udel.edu/ash/tutor/writing)) sponsored by the US Dept. of Education.

### AWARDS AND HONORS

- *Gabriel Award* – for involvement in radio production “The Campbell’s Playhouse - A Christmas Carol 1938” - Western Carolina University – Gabriel Award: Entertainment - Local Release
- Scholarly Development Reassignment Grant (fall 2007)
- Mobile Laptop/Multimedia Editing Cart: Tech Development Grant - \$1,000 (2005-2006)
- VC Instructional Improvement Grant: Digital Video Integration - \$1,000 (2003-2004)
- Finalist for Arts & Sciences Distinguished Teaching Award (2002-2003)
- Finalist for Research and Graduate Studies Teaching & Research Award (2002-2003)
- Participant 2000 NEH Summer Seminar, Penn State Univ. – “Chaucer: Ancient and Modern”
  - Visiting Fellow of the Institute for the Arts and Humanistic Studies, Penn State Univ.
  - Visiting Scholar, Department of English, Penn State Univ.
  - Associate of the Center for Medieval Studies, Penn State Univ.
  - NEH Summer Seminar Stipend - \$3,500
- New Chaucer Society Travel Grant - \$1,000 (2000)
- Nominated for University of Delaware’s Excellence in Teaching Award (1997)
- University of Delaware English Department Travel Grants (1992, 1993, 1995, 1996, 1997)
- University of Delaware Office of Women’s Affairs Travel Grants (1993, 1996)
- English Department Fellowship, University of Delaware (1992-93)
- George Knight Houpt Prize for Scholarly Excellence in English, SUNY Buffalo (1989)

### RELATED SKILLS

- Over seven years administrative and supervisory experience
- Over twenty years experience teaching (writing, editing, proofreading, documentation, research, analysis, and literature) and writing professionally
- Wrote and edited print and online materials for major academic and private sector organizations
- Multiple publications/projects in academia and industry (especially education, technology, and medieval literature)
- Facility with multiple technologies:
 

PC / MAC	MS Office	Blackboard	HTML Banner
Adobe:	Photoshop	DreamWeaver	Acrobat
ApplyYourself			