

Cynthia A. Callahan

Department of English
The Ohio State University at Mansfield
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EDUCATION

- Ph.D. English, University of Delaware (2004)
Dissertation: *Birth Writes: Adoptive Identities in American Literature*
- M.A. English, University of Delaware (1996)
- B.A. English with American Studies Minor, Douglass College at Rutgers University (1994)

PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

- Associate Professor, Department of English
The Ohio State University at Mansfield (Fall 2011-present)
- Assistant Professor, Department of English
The Ohio State University at Mansfield (Fall 2005-2011)
- Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of English
James Madison University (Fall 2003-Spring 2005)
- Visiting Lecturer, Department of English
Trinity College, Hartford, Connecticut (Fall 2001-Spring 2003)
- Instructor, Writing Center
University of Delaware Parallel Program (Spring 2000-Spring 2001)
- Instructor, Department of English.
University of Delaware (1995-2000)
- Instructor, Summer Enrichment Program
Academic Services Center, University of Delaware (1995-2000)
- Instructor and Assistant to the University Writing Center
University of Delaware (1994-1995, 1996-97)

PUBLICATIONS

Book

Kin of Another Kind: Transracial Adoption in American Literature. Ann Arbor: U of Michigan P, 2010.

Journal Issue

The Bibliographies Issue: Adoption Studies Research. Cynthia Callahan and Emily Hipchen, co-editors.
Adoption & Culture: The Interdisciplinary Journal of the Alliance for the Study of Adoption and Culture 4
(2014).

Articles and Reviews

- “‘Adopted or Married’: Families of Choice in Ann Petry’s *The Narrows*.” Under review.
- “‘Bad Seeds’ and Wayward Boys: Adoption in Post-World War II American Literature.” Under review.
- Callahan, Cynthia and Emily Hipchen. “Exploring Origins and Futures: Adoption Studies Research.” *Adoption & Culture: The Interdisciplinary Journal of the Alliance for the Study of Adoption and Culture* 4 (2014): 9-12.
- Hipchen, Emily and Cynthia Callahan. “Primary Sources: Literature.” *Adoption & Culture: The Interdisciplinary Journal of the Alliance for the Study of Adoption and Culture* 4 (2014): 133-145.
- “‘The Confounding Problem of Race’: Passing and Adoption in Charles Chesnutt’s *The Quarry*.” *Modern Fiction Studies* 48.2. (2002): 314-340.
- “Ann Petry.” *African American Lives*. Eds. Henry Louis Gates, Jr. and Evelyn Brooks Higgenbotham. New York: Oxford UP, 2004. 668-669.
- “Students Should Make the Most of Their College Careers.” *Mansfield News Journal* 31 Mar. 2006.
- “Noliwe M. Rooks. *Ladies’ Pages: African American Women’s Magazines and the Culture that Made Them*.” Rev. of *Ladies’ Pages: African American Women’s Magazines and the Culture that Made Them*, by Noliwe M. Rooks. *African American Review* 40.1. (2006): 175-177.
- “Passing.” *Encyclopedia of the Great Black Migration of the Twentieth Century*. Ed. S.A. Reich. Vol. 2. Westport: Greenwood Press, 2006. 655-657.
- “Review of *Imagining Adoption: Family and Difference in Fiction and Drama* by Marianne Novy.” Rev. of *Imagining Adoption: Family and Difference in Fiction and Drama*, by Marianne Novy. *Adoption Quarterly* 10.2 (2007): 89-92.
- “Octavia Butler.” *African American National Biography*. Eds. Henry Louis Gates, Jr. and Evelyn Brooks Higgenbotham. New York: Oxford UP, 2008. 94-95.
- “Ryan Simmons. *Chesnutt and Realism: A Study of the Novels*.” Rev. of *Chesnutt and Realism: A Study of the Novels*, by Ryan Simmons. *Studies in the Novel* 40:3 (Fall 2008): 377-379.

REFEREED PRESENTATIONS AND PANELS

- “Interracial Couples, ‘Brown Babies,’ and Black Families: The International Adoption of African American Children in the 1950s.” Alliance for the Study of Adoption and Culture. Minneapolis. 28 October 2016.
- Chair. “Adoption and Precarity.” National Women’s Studies Association. Milwaukee. 13 November 2015.
- “Recovering African American Adoption Narratives: A Different Kind of Search.” Alliance for the Study of Adoption and Culture. Tallahassee. 29 March 2014.

- “Related by Blood: Intersecting Discourses of Race and Kinship in Post-bellum American Literature.” Modern Language Association. Boston. 6 January 2013.
- Panelist. “The Positionality of Adoptee Scholars in Adoption Research.” Alliance for the Study of Adoption and Culture. Claremont. 24 March 2012.
- “The Other Members of the Family: What Adoption Tells Us About Anomalous Families in the Late Nineteenth Century.” Alliance for the Study of Adoption and Culture. Claremont. 24 March 2012.
- Panel Chair for “Race and Adoption in Documentary Film.” MELUS. Boca Raton. 8 April 2011.
- “Adoption in Real Time: Transracial Adoptee Experiences in Documentary Film.” MELUS. Boca Raton. 8 April 2011.
- "Strategic Essentialism and Self-Fashioning in Linda Hogan's *Solar Storms*." Alliance for the Study of Adoption and Culture. Cambridge. 2 May 2010.
- “Slavery’s Tangled Genealogies: Adoption and Racial Purity in Charles W. Chesnutt’s Fiction.” Alliance for the Study of Adoption, Identity, and Kinship. Second Conference on Adoption and Culture. Pittsburgh. 13 October 2007.
- “ ‘A Strange New Combination of Friends and Family’: Transracial Adoption as Multicultural Coalition in Barbara Kingsolver’s *The Bean Trees* and *Pigs in Heaven*.” Society for the Study of American Women Writers. Philadelphia. 11 November 2006.
- “Queering the Adoption Memoir: Dan Savage’s *The Kid: What Happened When My Boyfriend and I Decided to Go Get Pregnant*.” Modern Language Association. Division of Autobiography, Biography, and Life Writing. Washington, DC. 28 December 2005.
- “Orphanhood, Adoption, and the Burden of Racial Ambiguity in William Faulkner’s *Light in August*.” Conference on Adoption and Culture. Tampa. 18 November 2005.
- “Unsanctioned Genealogies: Charles W. Chesnutt’s Fiction at the Dawn of a New Century.” Twentieth-Century Literature and Culture. Louisville. 2005.
- “African American Modernism: History, Politics and Economics.” Panel Chair. Twentieth Century Literature and Culture. University of Louisville. 24 February 2005.
- Panelist, “Teaching Literature of Adoption.” Northeast Modern Language Association. Pittsburgh. March 2004.
- “Self in Perspective.” Panel Chair. Furious Flower Poetry Conference. Harrisonburg. October 2004.
- “The Heroics of Adoption, Displacement, and Hybridity in Bharati Mukherjee’s *Leave It To Me*.” South Atlantic Modern Language Association. Baltimore. November 2002.
- “The ‘Invisible’ Drop: Adoption, Racial Ambiguity, and Reverse Passing in Charles Chesnutt’s *The Quarry*.” Northeast Modern Language Association. Buffalo. March 2000.
- “ ‘New York Child’: The West Indian Immigrant Experience in *Brown Girl, Brownstones*.” American Women Writers of Color Conference. Ocean City. June 1996.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- “My Secret Life as a Detective: Finding a Lost Author as Academic Research.” Faculty Research Frenzy. Mansfield. 19 March 2014.
- “An Invitation to Excellence.” Keynote Address. Convocation. The Ohio State University at Mansfield. 23 Sept. 2008.
- “Making Adoption a Little More Gay: Dan Savage’s *The Kid: What Happened When My Boyfriend and I Decided to Go Get Pregnant*.” Wittenberg University. 18 March 2008.
- “‘Is That Your Family?’: Transracial Adoption in U.S. Culture.” Black History Month Program. The Ohio State University at Mansfield. 2006.
- “The Professional is Personal: Studying Adoption in America.” Spring Lunch Series. Trinity College. 2002.
- “‘In the Best Interests of the Child’: Race and Ethnicity in American Adoption Literature.” Women’s Studies’ Research on Race, Ethnicity and Culture Lecture Series. University of Delaware. 1999.

HONORS, AWARDS, AND GRANTS

- PDC Service Grant (2016)
- Course Development Incentive Grant (2014)
- Mansfield Campus Seed Grant (Au 2008)
- Special Research Assignment (Au 2007)
- English Department Competitive Dissertation Fellowship (Spring 1999)
- Teaching Assistantship, University of Delaware (1994-2001)
- Phi Beta Kappa (1994)
- Laurie Ann McDade Senior Fellowship for Graduate Study, Rutgers University (1994)
- Douglass Scholars Program Full Tuition Scholarship, Rutgers University (1991-1994)

SERVICE

Campus

- Diversity Committee—The Ohio State University at Mansfield (2005-2006)
- Black History Month Committee, Speaker Subcommittee—The Ohio State University at Mansfield (2005-2006)
- Search Committee for Interim Librarian—Ohio State University at Mansfield (2006)
- Search Committee for Composition and Rhetoric Faculty (2006-7)
- Executive Committee—At-Large Member (2007-8)
- Ad-hoc Election Committee (Au 2008, Au 2009)
- Ad-hoc Advisory Committee for Appointing Associate Dean (Au 2008)
- Search Committee for Reference Librarian (Su 2009)
- Convocation Committee (2008-2010)
- Committee Chair (2010-11)
- Ad Hoc Committee on Committees (2010)
- Professional Development Committee (2009-2011)
- Committee Chair (2011)
- Coordinator—Florence B. Allen Literary Awards (2010-2011)
- Office of Multicultural Affairs Advisory Board member (2011-2014)
- Executive Committee (2012)
- Secretary of the Faculty

Member, Promotion & Tenure Committee (2012)
Chair, Library Committee (2013-2015)
Bromfield Library & Information Commons Renovation Steering Committee (2013-2015)
Member, Search Committee for Library Technical Assistant (2013)
Member, Promotion & Tenure Committee (2014)
Chair, Promotion & Tenure Committee (2015)
Member, Search Committee for Disabilities Coordinator (2015)
Coordinator, English major (2015-present)
Member, Curriculum Committee (2015-present)
Chair, Search Committee for Visiting Lecturers (2016)
Chair, Search Committee for Assistant Professor of British Literature (2016)

University

Member, English Department Undergraduate Studies Committee (2015)

Professional

Book Review Editor, *Adoption & Culture* (2010-present)
Co-chair, Alliance for the Study of Adoption and Culture (2012-present)
Coordinator of 2012 Graduate Research Award
MLA Allied Organization Liaison
Co-chair, Steering Committee for Sixth Biennial International Conference of the Alliance for the Study of Adoption and Culture in Minneapolis 27-29 October 2016 (2014-present)