

# WILLIAM HUNTTING HOWELL

Department of English, Boston University  
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## EDUCATION

Northwestern University, Ph.D. in English, 2005

Cornell University, A.B. in English, *summa cum laude* and with distinction in all subjects, 1998

## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Assistant Professor, Department of English, Boston University, 2009-present

Postdoctoral Fellow and Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of English and Center for Material Culture Studies, University of Delaware, 2008-2009

Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow, McNeil Center for Early American Studies, University of Pennsylvania, 2006-2008

Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of English, Northwestern University, 2005-2006

## ACADEMIC HONORS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Junior Faculty Fellowship, Boston University Center for the Humanities, 2013-2014

NeMLA Research Fellowship (joint with Megan E. Walsh), American Antiquarian Society, 2013

Postdoctoral Fellowship, Department of English and Center for Material Culture Studies, University of Delaware, 2008-2009

Research Associate, McNeil Center for Early American Studies, University of Pennsylvania, 2008

Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship, McNeil Center for Early American Studies, University of Pennsylvania, 2006-2008

Jean H. Hagstrum Prize for Best Doctoral Dissertation, Department of English, Northwestern University, 2006

Josephine De Kármán Foundation Dissertation Fellowship, 2004-2005

Winterthur Fellowship, Winterthur Museum, Garden, and Library, 2004

John C. Slater Resident Research Fellowship, American Philosophical Society, 2004

Dissertation Year Fellowship, Northwestern University, 2004-2005 (declined)

Graduate Research Fellowship, Northwestern University, 2003-2004

Teacher-Mentor Award, Department of English, Northwestern University, 2003

*TriQuarterly* Fellowship, Department of English, Northwestern University, 2002-2003

Karin Strand Prize for Best Graduate Student Essay, Department of English,  
Northwestern University, 2001

Moses Coit Tyler Prize for Essays in American Literature, History, or Folklore, Cornell  
University, 1998

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### **Assistant Professor, Department of English, Boston University (2009-Present)**

Representing Boston, Fall 2010; Fall 2011; Fall 2012; Fall 2014; Fall 2015

American Popular Writing, 1776-1900 (Graduate Seminar), Fall 2015

Reading Boston: Conversations about the Real and Imagined City (with Keith N.  
Morgan), Fall 2014

Seminar in Literature: The Rules of Evidence, Spring 2010; Spring 2011; Spring 2012;  
Spring 2013

Nineteenth-Century American Novel, Spring 2011; Spring 2013

The American Enlightenment (Graduate Seminar), Spring 2012

American Poetry to 1860, Fall 2012

Critical Studies in Literature and Society: The American Enlightenment, Fall 2011

Senior Seminar: The American Revolution and its Afterlives, Spring 2010

American Literature: Beginnings to 1855, Fall 2009; Fall 2010

**Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of English and Center for Material Culture Studies,  
University of Delaware (2008-2009)**

Literature of America, Spring 2009

‘Regulating the Circulation’: Influence, Authorship and Melville’s *Moby-Dick*, Spring 2009

Texts and Contexts: The Rules of Evidence, Fall 2008

American Literature through the Civil War, Fall 2008

**Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow, McNeil Center for Early American Studies, and  
Instructor, Department of English, University of Pennsylvania (2006-2008)**

Topics in American Literature: The Enlightenment and its Discontents, Spring 2008

Topics in American Studies: The American Revolution and its Afterlives, Fall 2007

Topics in the Nineteenth-Century Novel: The Sentimental Novel in America, 1785-1860,  
Spring 2007

**Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of English, Northwestern University (2005-2006)**

Studies in American Literature: The American Puritans, Spring 2006

Evidentiary Proceedings, Spring 2006

Early America, Then and Now, Winter 2006

Studies in American Literature: Writing the American Revolution, Winter 2006

Studies in American Literature: The Sentimental Novel in America, 1785-1860, Fall 2005

Introductory Seminar in Reading and Interpretation, Fall 2005

**REFEREED PUBLICATIONS**

“In the Realms of Sensibility” (Review Essay). *American Literary History* 25.2 (Summer 2013): 406-417

“‘Starving Memory’: Anti-Narrating the American Revolution.” *Remembering the Revolution: Memory, History, and Nation-Making from Independence to the Civil War*, ed. Michael McDonnell and Claire Coubould. (Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press, 2013)

“Entering the Lists: The Politics of Ephemera in Eastern Massachusetts, 1774.” *Early American Studies* 9.1 (Winter 2011): 187-217

“Read, Pause, and Reflect!!” *Journal of the Early Republic* 30.2 (Summer 2010): 293-300

“Spirits of Emulation: Readers, Samplers, and the Republican Girl, 1787-1810.” *American Literature* 81.3 (September 2009): 497-526

“A More Perfect Copy: David Rittenhouse and the Reproduction of Republican Virtue.” *The William and Mary Quarterly*, 3d Series, Vol. LXIV, No. 4 (October 2007): 757-79

#### INVITED CONTRIBUTIONS

Roundtable on “The Stamp Act Crisis at 250.” Forthcoming, *Common-place* 15.4 (Fall 2015)

“Ephemera” (approx. 7000 words). *Oxford History of American Print Culture*, ed. Ronald and Mary Zboray, (forthcoming, Oxford University Press).

“David Rittenhouse.” *Encyclopedia of the American Enlightenment* (New York and London: Bloomsbury Academic, 2014)

“Deep Background: *The Walking Dead*.” *Avidly/Los Angeles Review of Books* (29 October 2013). Full text at <http://www.avidly.org/2013/10/29/deep-background-the-walking-dead/>

“Starving Memory: Joseph Plumb Martin Un-tells the Story of the American Revolution.” *Common-place* 10.2 (January 2010). Full text at <http://www.common-place.org/vol-10/no-02/howell/>

#### BOOK REVIEWS

Ellen Gruber Garvey, *Writing With Scissors: American Scrapbooks From the Civil War to the Harlem Renaissance*. *Resources for American Literary Study* 37 (December 2014): 327-331

Christopher Lukasik, *Discerning Characters: The Culture of Appearance in Early America*. *Winterthur Portfolio* 46.4 (Winter 2012): 302-3

Konstantin Dierks, *In My Power: Letter Writing and Communications in Early America*. *Common-place* 11.3.5 (June 2011). Full text at <http://www.common-place.org/interim/reviews/howell.shtml>

Trish Loughran, *The Republic in Print: Print Culture in the Age of U.S. Nation Building, 1770-1870*. *Journal of the Early Republic* 28.3 (Fall 2008): 497-500

Bryan Waterman, *Republic of Intellect: The Friendly Club of New York City and the Making of American Literature*. *The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society* 105:3 (Summer 2007): 484-486

#### MANUSCRIPT

*Against Self-Reliance: The Arts of Dependence in the Early United States*. (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2015)

#### EDITION-IN-PROGRESS

With Megan E. Walsh, co-editor: Frank J. Webb, *The Garies and Their Friends* (1857). (Under contract, Broadview Press, 2015)

#### SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Early American Humor,” Panel Chair and Respondent, Society of Early Americanists/Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture Joint Meeting, Chicago, Ill., June 20, 2015

“*The Garies* and the Canon,” for “Roundtable: Marginalized Texts and Modern Editions,” Panelist and Panel Co-organizer, Northeast Modern Language Association Annual Meeting, Toronto, Ont., April 30, 2015

“The Insatiable Brass Throat: Gothic Urbanity in *The Garies and Their Friends*,” American Literature Association Symposium on “Fear and Form: Aspects of the Gothic in American Culture,” Savannah, Ga., February 21, 2013

“Sensual Histories of Early America,” Panel Co-organizer, Society of Early Americanists Biennial Meeting, Philadelphia, Penn., March 3, 2011

“Thinking Digital, Thinking Analog,” for “Roundtable: The Digital Early Republic,” Panelist and Panel Organizer, Society for Historians of the Early American Republic Annual Meeting, Rochester, NY, July 22, 2010

“Archetypes in Print: Constructing Categories in the Early Republic,” Panel Chair and Commenter, Society for Historians of the Early American Republic Annual Meeting, Springfield, Ill., July 17, 2009

“‘Starving Memory’: Narrative Privation and the Relics of the American Revolution,” International Conference on Narrative, Austin, Tex., May 3, 2008

“Fables of the Early American Belly,” Panel Organizer and Chair, International Conference on Narrative, Austin, Tex., May 3, 2008

“American Federalism and Vernacular Rights,” (co-written with Matthew Garrett, Stanford University) Theorizing English Vernacular Discourse: Imperial Beginnings to Global English, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, April 18-19, 2008

“Embroidery, Imitation, and Republican Girlhood,” Society for Historians of the Early American Republic Annual Meeting, Worcester, Mass., July 21, 2007

“The Anonymous *Instructor*: Compilation, Authority, and the Republican Subject,” Society of Early Americanists/Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture Joint Meeting, Williamsburg, Va., June 8, 2007

“Natural Philosophy and the Early American Novel,” (Panel Organizer and Chair), Society of Early Americanists/Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture Joint Meeting, Williamsburg, Va., June 7, 2007

“‘By this exemplar I am taught’: Embroidery, Mimesis, and ‘Improvement’ in British North America,” Faces and Places in Early America Conference, McNeil Center for Early American Studies, Philadelphia, Penn., December 3, 2005

“Imitation, Handwriting, and the American Character 1800-1835,” Originality Imitation Plagiarism, Ann Arbor, Mich., September 24, 2005

“Reproducing David Rittenhouse,” Society of Early Americanists Biennial Meeting, Alexandria, Va., April 1, 2005

“Shorthand and Performance in the Sermons of Henry Smith,” Midwest Modern Language Association Annual Meeting, St. Louis, November 7, 2004

“‘New England is My Nation, Portsmouth is My Dwelling Place’: Needlework and Feminine Citizenship in Nineteenth-Century New Hampshire,” American Literature Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, Calif., May 31, 2004

“Splicing *Moby Dick*: Copying, Copyright, and the Democratic Imaginary,” Society for the History of Authorship, Reading, and Publishing (SHARP) Annual Meeting, Claremont, Calif., July 11, 2003

“New Pleasant Instructions: Susanna Rowson and the Grammars of the Sympathetic Republic,” *New Frontiers in Early American Literature*, Charlottesville, Va., August 10, 2002

“In the Bowels of the Continent: John Winthrop, Roger Williams, and Bodies Politic in Massachusetts Bay,” *Futures of American Studies Institute/Outside American Studies*, Hanover, NH, June 13, 2001

## INVITED TALKS

“The Cultivated Riot,” *Tertulia/Social Sciences Junior Faculty Colloquium*, Boston University, Boston Mass., October 8, 2014.

“A Sense of Occasion,” *Fellows Seminar*, Boston University Center for the Humanities, Boston, Mass., April 3, 2014

“Editing *The Garies and Their Friends*,” with Megan E. Walsh, *Fellows Seminar*, American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, Mass., August 19, 2013

Response to Elizabeth Maddock Dillon, *Mahindra Humanities Center Seminar on American Literature and Culture*, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass., February 6, 2013

“Remembering the Ladies: Phillis Wheatley, Abigail Adams, and Literary Boston,” *Boston University Women’s Council lecture series*, Boston, Mass., March 20, 2012

“The Astronomic Wheatley,” *Tertulia Junior Faculty Colloquium*, Boston University, Boston Mass., May 5, 2011

“Domestic Politics: At Home with Harriet Beecher Stowe,” “House and Home in American Culture” series, *American and New England Studies Program*, Boston University, Boston, Mass., November 4, 2010

“The Audacity of Form: Phillis Wheatley Scans the Heavens,” *Princeton University*, Princeton, N.J., January 9, 2009

“Ephemeral Loyalties: Broadside and the Politics of Subscription in Massachusetts, 1774,” *Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture*, College of William & Mary, Williamsburg, Va, February 26, 2008

“The Writing on the Wall: Terror and Consensus in the American Revolution,” *Ursinus College*, Collegeville, Penn., November 13, 2007

“Entering the Lists: Print and Patriotism in Revolutionary Massachusetts,” Center Seminar, McNeil Center for Early American Studies, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, December 8, 2006

“Charles Brockden Brown and the Contagion of Example,” University of Vermont, Burlington, Vermont, February 3, 2006

“Celebrating the Purloined Whale,” Northwestern University English Department Annual Collation, Evanston, Ill., October 3, 2002

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

### **English Department, Boston University**

- Job Placement Co-coordinator, 2010-2014
- Graduate Admissions Committee, 2010-present
- Director of Writing Seminars, 2011-2013
- Search Committee, American Literature to 1900, 2010

### **Boston University**

- Director of Graduate Studies, American and New England Studies Program, 2015-present
- Director of Undergraduate Studies, American and New England Studies Program, 2014
- American and New England Studies Program Committee, 2013-present
- Computational Humanities Steering Committee, 2013
- Faculty Search Committee, American Material Culture, American and New England Studies Program, 2011
- Graduate Admissions Committee, American and New England Studies Program, 2010-2012

### **Beyond Boston University**

- Peer Referee, *Journal of the Early Republic* (2007-present); *The Explicator* (2009-2013); *Common-place* (2011-present); *History of the Present* (2012-present);

Broadview Press (2012-present); *The William and Mary Quarterly* (2013-present); *American Art* (2014-present); *Early American Studies* (2015-present)

- Reviewer, *The Bedford Anthology of American Literature, Volume I: Beginnings to 1865, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition* (Boston: Bedford St. Martin's, 2010)
- Editorial Board and Column Editor, *Common-place* ([www.common-place.org](http://www.common-place.org)), 2009-present
  - *Common-place* is the American Antiquarian Society's digital journal of early American studies; it provides an environment for exploring and exchanging ideas about American history and culture before 1900
- Coordinator, Center for Material Culture Studies Seminar, University of Delaware, 2008-2009
- Early American Literature and Material Texts Summer Workshop, McNeil Center for Early American Studies and Library Company of Philadelphia, 2009
- Barra Postdoctoral Fellowship search committee, McNeil Center for Early American Studies, 2006
- Assistant Editor, *TriQuarterly*, 2003-2005
- Co-founder and co-director, American Cultures Colloquium at Northwestern, 2001-2004
- Teaching Mentor, Department of English, Northwestern University, 2003-2004
- Editorial Assistant, *TriQuarterly*, 2002-2003