

Donna A. Gessell, Ph.D.

Professor of English
706-864-1528
dgessell@ung.edu

University of North Georgia
82 College Circle
Dahlonega, GA 30597

Academic Experience

Faculty Positions

- Professor of English, North Georgia, 2005-present
- Associate Professor of English, North Georgia, 2000-2005
- Assistant Professor of English, North Georgia, 1995-2000
- Visiting Instructor, Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio, Fall Semester 1994
- Graduate Teaching Assistant, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio, 1987-1995

Administrative Positions

- Executive Director, Regional Engagement, North Georgia, July 2007-September 2013
- Director, Graduate Studies and External Programs, North Georgia, October 2002-June 2007
- Leadership Coordinator, North Georgia, Spring 2002

Education

PhD Case Western Reserve University, 1995

Dissertation: *Contesting Guardianship, Challenging Authority: The Guardian and Ward Relationship in Gothic and Domestic Fiction, 1789-93*

MA Case Western Reserve University, 1989

BA The Ohio State University, 1976, Cum Laude, with Honors in the Liberal Arts, Comparative Literature

BS The Ohio State University, 1976, Cum Laude, English Education

Selected Scholarly Publications

"What's in Your Writing Tacklebox?" *Contribute a Verse: A Guide to First Year Composition*, ed. Tanya Long Bennett. Dahlonega: UPNG, (2015). 44-54.

"Beyond Magical Realism: Teaching Creative Thinking Using Gabriel García Márquez's 'The Handsomest Drowned Man in the World,'" *Eureka Studies in Short Fiction*. Eastern Kentucky University, 11/12 (2015). 84-94.

"Insomnia Well Spent": A review of Kat Meads, *2:12 a.m.: Essays*. Nacogdoches: Stephen F. Austin State UP, 2013. Print. *North Carolina Literary Review*, 24 (2015). 44-45.

"Reading Flannery O'Connor with Buddha Eyes: Constructing Grace." *Eureka Studies in Short Fiction*. Eastern Kentucky University, 10 (2011). 54-63.

"Civic Engagement Rubric" *Valid Assessment of Learning in Undergraduate Education (VALUE) Rubrics*. Association of American Colleges and Universities. (2010), available at <http://www.aacu.org/value/rubrics>, co-authored with a national team of colleagues.

"Learning to Serve," *The Teacher: The Excellence in Teaching at NGCSU Publication*, 8.1 (2006). 16-17.

"Integrative Thinking," *The Teacher: The Excellence in Teaching at NGCSU Publication*, 7.1 & 2 (2005). 12-13.

"Teaching Writing in a Military College Setting," *Academic Exchange Quarterly*, 8.2 (2004). Co-authored with Dr. Tanya L. Bennett and Dr. Linda Stallworth Williams.

"Building Interdisciplinary Learning Communities Among Authors and Editors: Enhancing Writing in Science," *The Teacher: The Excellence in Teaching at NGCSU Publication*, 6.1 & 2 (2004). 6-7. Co-authored with Dr. Irene Kokkala.

"Writing Science Effectively: Placing Biology and English Students in an Author-Editor

Relationship," *Journal of College Science Teaching*, 32.4 (2002). 252-57. Co-authored with Dr. Irene Kokkala.

"Establishing Author-Editor Interdisciplinary Learning Communities," *The WAC Journal*, 13 (2002). 72-78. Co-authored with Dr. Irene Kokkala.

Other Relevant Professional Activities and Publications Professional Activities

- Instructor, English Cultural Understanding and Language Proficiency for Newly Commissioned Second Army Lieutenants—North Georgia Program in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, July 25-August 18, 2011
- Engagement Academy for University Leaders, Roanoke, Virginia, June 9-13, 2008
- Association of American Colleges & Universities, Institute on General Education, Salve Regina University, Newport, Rhode Island, May 20-25, 2005
- North Georgia England School of Education Exchange, Exeter, Devon, England, May 2002
- Executive Leadership Program, Terry College of Business, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia, October 14-17, 2001
- Regents' International Study Seminar to India, Madras, Cochin, Bombay, Delhi, and Agra India, November 29-December 21, 1997
- Cross-Cultural Coordinator, United States Peace Corps, Suva, Fiji, 1982
- Peace Corps Volunteer, United States Peace Corps, Suva and Naelewai, Fiji, 1979-1982
- United States Peace Corps Cross-Cultural and Language Training, Epes, Alabama and Suva, Fiji, March 2 – June 15, 1979

Awards, Honors, and Fellowships

- National Endowment for the Humanities Enduring Questions: "What Is Peace?" with Drs. Renee Bricker, Michael Proulx, and Yi Deng. \$36,400.
- National Georgia Humanities Council, "Writing Memoirs with Sonya Huber," 2011, \$2000
- Alumni Distinguished Professor Award 2004, NORTH GEORGIA
- NORTH GEORGIA Faculty and Staff Leadership Grants, Graduate Outreach, 2003, \$5000
- Excellence in Teaching Award for Campus Leadership Development, NORTH GEORGIA, 2002
- Distinguished Professor of Teaching and Learning, NORTH GEORGIA, January 2001 to May 2002
- NORTH GEORGIA Faculty and Staff Leadership Grants, Seminar for Department Heads and Deans' Council Members, 2002, \$2100
- NORTH GEORGIA Faculty and Staff Leadership Grants, Grant Writing Workshops and Focus Groups, 2002
- Board of Regents Hispanic Task Force Pilot Initiative, 2001, \$980, with Thomas Austenfeld
- North Georgia College & State University Excellence in Teaching 2001, \$1050
- Excellence in Teaching Award for Collaboration, NORTH GEORGIA, 2000
- Chancellor's Award, Regents' International Study Seminar to India, 1997
- North Georgia College & State University Excellence in Teaching 2000, \$705
- North Georgia College & State University Learning Communities 2000, \$750

Selected Professional Reports and Proposals

Peace Corps Prep Program Curriculum for North Georgia, Co-authored with Dr. Dlynn Armstrong-Williams and Dr. Cristian Harris, 2011

Carnegie Foundation Classification for Community Engagement Application, Lead Author, 2010

Proposal for Creating Enrollment Capacity by Serving "Underserved Regions," Co-authored with Dr. David Potter, 2007

Policy on Consensual, Asymmetrical-Power Relationships, Co-authored with Dr. Barry Friedman and Thomas George, 2005

Statement on Collegiality, 2005