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Office Address: Department of English Telephone: (610) 526-5311 Bryn Mawr College Email: pbriggs@brynmawr.edu Bryn Mawr, PA 19010 Education: B.A., magna cum laude, Harvard College, 1965 M. Phil., Yale University, 1973 Ph.D. in English Literature, Yale University, 1974 Professional Appointments: 1991-Professor of English, Bryn Mawr College (Department Chairman, 1992-95, 1998-99, 2009-10, 2011-13) 1974-1991 Lecturer, Assistant Professor, Associate Professor of English Bryn Mawr College (tenured, 1980) 1985-1987 Academic Chairman, Commonwealth Partnership (Educational Consortium) 1969-1974 Dean of Berkeley College, Lecturer in English, Yale University Honors and Awards: Detur dignissimo Prize, Harvard (1964); John Harvard Scholarship (hon.) (1964); Phi Beta Kappa, Harvard (1965) Woodrow Wilson Graduate Fellowship (1965-66) Danforth Foundation Graduate Fellowship (1965-69) Bryn Mawr Junior Faculty Research Leave (1978-79) Bryn Mawr Sabbatical leaves (Spring 1982, 1988-89, 1995-96, 2003-04, Spring 2008, Spring 2014, Spring 2015)) Bryn Mawr College research grants (1979, 1983, 1988-89) Pew Foundation grant: "Nature Writing and Ecological Concern" (1997-98)

### Scholarly Publications:

"Thomas Blackwell, Robert Wood, and the 'Conjectural History' of Homer," (submitted)

- "The Hesitant Modernity of John Dunton," Eighteenth-Century Life, forthcoming
- "Satiric Strategy in Ned Ward's London Writings," *Eighteenth-Century Life*, 35.2 (Spring 2011), 76-101
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- "Joseph Addison and the Art of Listening: Birdsong, Italian Opera, and the Music of the English Tongue," The Age of Johnson: A Scholarly Annual, 16 (2005), 157 – 176.

- REVIEW ESSAY: "The Horn of Plenty: Some Recent Symposium Volumes in Eighteenth-Century Studies," *The Age of Johnson: A Scholarly Annual*, 11 (2000), 297-332.
- "Oliver Goldsmith and the Muse of Disjunction," *The Age of Johnson: A Scholarly Annual*, 9 (1998), 237-56.
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- "'The brain, too finely wrought': Mind Unminded in Churchill's Satires," *Modern Language Studies* 14.4 (1984), 39-53.
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- Review of Fredrik Albritton Jonsson, "National History and Improvement: The Case of Tobacco," Scriblerian, forthcoming
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### Service Activities (reverse chronological order)

#### College Service:

Faculty Parliamentarian (2015-16) Faculty representative to Board of Trustees (Fall 2014) Member, Advisory Council (2014-16) Committee on Academic Standing (2011-15) Institutional Review Board, 2008-09 Faculty Welfare Committee, 2008-11 (Chair, 2010-11) Trustees' Task Force on Optimal Enrollment 2005-2007 Faculty Committee on Libraries, Information, and Computing (CLIC), 2004-07 (Chair, 2006-07) Steering Committee, Environmental Studies, (2002-present) Committee on Faculty Awards and Grants, 2001-2003 Representative to Trustees' Faculty Relations Committee, 2001-2003 New Faculty orientation, Chair, 2002-2003 Committee on Appointments, 1999-2003 (Chair, 2001-2003) Committee on Institutional Priorities, 2000-2003 McBride Scholars Advisory Committee, 1999-2002 Executive Committee, Undergraduate Council, 2000-2001 Praxis Council, 2000-2002 Science in Society Steering Committee, 1999-2008 Committee on Teacher Education, 1993-2003 Convener, Committee to evaluate Alison Cook-Sather, 2001-2002 Mellon Grant, Committee to Improve Student Experience, 2001-2003 Organized Grunfeld Lectureship (John Elder), 1998-1999 Search Committee for Director of Education Program, chair 1998-1999 Faculty Nominating Committee, 1998-1999 Faculty Committee on Awards and Fellowships, 1996-1999, 2001-2003 Ad Hoc Committee on Financial Aid, Recruitment-Retention, 1993-1994 Committee to supervise Independent Majors, 1993-1997 Ad Hoc Committee to Review Undergraduate Admissions, 1992-1994 Teacher Training adviser, 1985-1992 Undergraduate Admissions Committee 1975-1979, 1990-1993 Graduate Adviser for Job Placement, 1989-1992 Parents' Day Committee, Chair, 1991 Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, 1985-1988 Director, Dana Internship Program, 1985-1987

#### Professional Service

Program Co-Chair, EC/ A SECS conference, Philadelphia, November 7-9, 2013. Program Committee, EC/ A SEC conference, Rosemont College, October 18-20, 2002 Program Committee, EC/ A SECS conference, Cape May, NJ, October 18-21, 2001 A ssociate editor, *The Scriblerian*, 1998-

Reader-referee for American Philosophical Society, Eighteenth-Century Fiction, SECC, PMLA, Eighteenth-Century Life

Program committee EC/ A SECS conference, Salisbury State, October 8-11, 1998 Participant, Faculty Discussion Group on Ecology, 1997-2001

Expert witness, defamation trial, Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas, 1997 Visiting Committee to review English Program, Gettysburg College, 1995-1996 "Coach" for College Admissions and Financial Aid, The Masterman School, 1994, 1995 Referee for personnel reviews at Villanova, Stockton State, 1993-1994, Rutgers-Camden, 2001, University of Pittsburgh

- Program Co-Chair, EC/ A SECS and ECSSS Conference, Philadelphia, October 29-November 1, 1992
- Panelist, NEH Division of Education Programs, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1995
- Participant, Faculty Discussion Group on Culture and Technology, 1986-1989

Lecturer and Consultant for "Women in Literature, History, and the Law," Stockton College, 1985-1987

Workshops for High School Teachers, Commonwealth Partnership, 1985-1987

Director, Literature Institute for Secondary School Teachers, sponsored by NEH (Bryn Mawr, 1985)

Board member and Officer of East Central American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, 1981-1985, (President, 1982-1983) 1992-1995, 2012-15

Project representative for Commonwealth Partnership to College Board EQ Models Project, 1985-1990

# Teaching Responsibilities

Courses Taught:	
E-Seminar	Travel Tales and Understanding
College Seminar I	Playing with Light
College Seminar I	Changing Technologies, Changing Lives
College Seminar II, I	We Live Here: Humans and the Environment
English 015/ 016	Readings and Composition (various versions)
English 015R/ 016R	Readings in English Literature
English 015L/ 016L	Classic Texts, Comparative Perspectives
English 101/ 102	Major Works of English Literature
English 213	Nature Writing and Ecological Concern
English 230	Milton
English 233	Spenser and Milton
English 240	Restoration and Early Eighteenth-Century Literature
English 241	Later Eighteenth-Century Literature
English 242, 243	Historical Introduction to British Poetry, I and II
English 247	Eighteenth-Century Novel
English 295	Readings in English Comedy
English 315	Experimental fictions, 1675-1800
English 319	A Sense of Place: Classical, European, American
English 341	Samuel Johnson and his Circle
English 342	Literature in Transition, 1740-1800
English 344	Theatre and Society, 1660-1800
English 380	Landscape Art in Cultural Perspective
English 382	Theatre and Society
English 385	Problems in Satire
English 386	Milton and English Literary Tradition
English 399	Senior Conference
English 402	Senior Research Projects
Graduate Seminars:	Variously formulated: Pope and his Circle; Pope and Johnson;
	Issues in Eighteenth-Century Literature; etc.

#### Other Teaching Responsibilities.

Dissertations supervised:	Frances Louis, Ph.D. 1976	
	Marie Devine, Ph.D. 1977	
	J. Kenneth VanDover, Ph.D. 1978	
Acting Director of Freshman English, 1983-84		
Senior Essays (4-6 annually)		
Mentor for Dorothy Nepper		
Marshall Fellows: Linda Bachman '90, Emily C. Friedman '03		
Mentor for Mellon Minority Fellow, Erin Adamson '93		

## Recent Conference Papers (reverse chronological order):

"Hidden in Plain Sight: John Dunton's Puzzling Self-Representations," EC/ A SECS Conference, West Chester University, November 13-14, 2015.

- "The Pleasures of Public Questioning: John Dunton's Athenian Mercury," EC/ A SECS, Conference, University of Delaware, November 7-8, 2014.
- "Robert Wood and the Changing Contexts of British Archaeology," EC/ ASECS Conference, Baltimore, November 1-3, 2012.
- "Homer in the Toils of History," EC/ A SECS Conference, Penn State, November, 2011.
- "Orality and Homer in England, 1714-1795," EC/ A SECS Conference, Pittsburgh, November, 2010.
- "London Rambles with Ned Ward," EC/ A SECS Conference, Lehigh Univ., Oct. 9-11, 2009.
- "Reclaiming Ned Ward's Unhappy Harlot," EC/ A SESC conference, Georgetown U., November 2008.
- "All at Sea: The maritime Writings of Ned Ward," EC/ A SECS conference, Stockton College, November 2007.
- "Daniel Mendoza and the Fugitive Celebrity of Boxing," EC/ A SECS Conference, Gettysburg College, October 29, 2006.
- "Performance Values in Ned Ward's Secret History of the London Clubs." EC/ A SECS Conference, United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, October 29, 2005.
- "Joseph Addison, Italian Opera, and the 'ordinary Ear' of English Listeners," EC/ ASECS Conference, Cape May, October 23, 2004.
- "Lighting Effects, Natural and Unnatural, in Pope's *Dunciad*," EC/ A SECS conference, University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg, October 4, 2003.
- "Voices from the Shadows: Alexander Pope and Jun'ichiro Tanizaki," WSECS conference, University of Washington, November 15-17, 2002.
- "The Uses of Light and Shadow in Pope's 'Rape of the Lock'." EC/ A SECS conference, Rosemont College, October 18-20, 2002.
- "Alexander Pope's Passionate Engagement with Light and Shadow, 1710-1716," EC/ A SECS conference, Cape May, NJ, October 18-21, 2001.
- "The Play of Light and Shadow in Pope's *Iliad*," EC/ A SECS conference, Norfolk, VA, October 5-7, 2000.
- "The Green World of Alexander Pope," WSECS Conference, UNLV, February 24-26, 2000.
- "Environmental Imagination in the Poetry of Alexander Pope," EC/ ASECS conference, Washington and Jefferson College, October 21-23, 1999.
- "William Hazlitt and the Happy Memory of Eighteenth-Century Dramatic Comedy," EC/ A SEC conference, Salisbury State University, October 8-11, 1998.

- "Observations on Liberal Learning and Cross-Disciplinary Studies," Conference on Women in Higher Education, Tokyo, November 28-30, 1997.
- "Oliver Goldsmith and the Social Circulation of the Arts," EC/ ASECS conference, Ursinus College, October 18-20, 1997.
- "Nature Writing and the Humanities Curriculum," Beaver College Graduate Forum, September 30, 1997.
- "Books, Books, -- and London: The Hampton Barnes Collection," Friends of the Bryn Mawr Library, September 26, 1997.
- "Teaching English Now," History of Art colloquium, Bryn Mawr, September 24, 1997.
- "Goldsmith and the Aesthetic Uses of Irresolution," EC/ A SECS conference, Georgetown University, October 31-Nov. 2, 1996.
- "Oliver Goldsmith and the Finer Points of Painting," Canadian SECS, University of Victoria, October 17-20, 1996.
- "Satiric Purposiveness and the Challenges of Recent Criticism," NWSECS conference, Spokane, WA, October 19-21, 1995.
- "What Angels Wouldn't Read: The Contested Standards of Newsworthiness in Eighteenth-Century British Journalism, "SCSECS conference, University of Utah, March 2-4, 1995.
- "Eighteenth-Century British Readers and their Ambivalence toward Journalistic 'News'," EC/ A SECS Conference, Penn State, October 13-16, 1994.
- "British Resistance to Newspaper Culture," WSECS conference, Las Vegas, February 18-20, 1994.
- "Exchange Values in Eighteenth-Century British Culture," EC/ A SECS Conference, Towson State University, November 12-14, 1993.
- "Celebrity and Notoriety in Eighteenth-Century British Culture," Graduate Forum, Beaver College, March 19, 1993.
- "The Mythology of a Common Culture in Eighteenth-Century Britain," Western A SECS conference, UCSB, Santa Barbara, February 12, 1993.
- "Magnificent Promises, and Eloquence Sometimes Sublime, Sometimes Pathetic: Samuel Johnson and Some Early Arts of Advertising," ASECS Conference, Seattle, March 28, 1992.
- "Give me something to desire: Samuel Johnson and Eighteenth-Century Advertising," EC/ A SECS conference, Millersville University, October 25-27, 1991.
- "Considerable Figures in the World: Reasserting the Stability of Example," Western Society for Eighteenth Century Studies, University of San Diego, February 9, 1991.
- "Considerable Figures in the World: Aaron Hill and the Failure of Athelwold,"

East-Central American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, Dickinson College, October 26, 1990.

- "The Importance of Beau Nash," EC/ A SECS conference, Bethany College, November 3, 1989.
- "The Sudden Celebrity of Laurence Sterne," Canadian Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies conference, University of British Columbia, November 15, 1987.
- "Theatricality in *The Rape of the Lock*," EC/ A SECS conference, Ursinus College, October 31, 1987.

(And so on: roughly one conference paper a year since 1977.)

#### Professional Memberships:

A merican Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (national, east-central) Elizabethan Club

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