

Rachael Sealy Lynch
Associate Professor, Department of English
University of Connecticut, Waterbury

Date of first appointment: 1991

Revised March 15, 2018

Department of English
University of Connecticut, Waterbury Campus
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. 1991 Boston University
M.A. 1986 Boston University
B.A. Mod. (First Class Hons., English and French) 1984 University of Dublin, Trinity College

DISSERTATION

A Chain of Fictions: Familiar Letters, Scripting, and Authority in Thackeray (Major Adviser, William Vance), 1991

PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

1997- Associate Professor of English, University of Connecticut
1991-97 Assistant Professor of English, University of Connecticut
1990-91 Assistant Professor of English, Boston University
1985-90 Teaching Fellow, Boston University

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Anglo-Irish Literature, The Victorian Period, The Eighteenth Century, Fiction.

PUBLICATIONS

Articles and Book Chapters

“Gina and the Kryptonite: Mortgage Shagging in Anne Enright’s *The Forgotten Waltz*.” *LIT: Literature, Interpretation, Theory*, vol. 28, 2017, Issue 2: *Recessionary Imaginings II: Post-Celtic Tiger Ireland and Contemporary Women's Writing*, pp. 115-133.

- “A Road More Travelled: Gay and Lesbian Lives in Irish Fiction Since 1989.” *Critical Insights: Gender, Sex, and Sexuality*. Ed. Margaret Sonser Breen. Ipswich, MA: Salem Press, 2014. 211-225.
- “The Bus Will Come, Please God: Looking Back With Vincent Buckley.” *New Hibernia Review* 14.4 (Winter 2010): 133-37.
- “Riding for a Fall: Molly Keane and the Equestrian Sublime.” *Molly Keane Centenary Essays*. Ed. Eibhear Walshe and Gwenda Young. Dublin: Four Courts Press, 2006. 36-48.
- “Public Spaces, Private Lives: Irish Identity and Female Selfhood in the Novels of Jennifer Johnston.” *Border Crossings: Irish Women Writers and National Identities*. Ed. Kathryn Kirkpatrick. Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 2000. 250-68.
- “‘The Fabulous Female Form’: The Deadly Erotics of the Male Gaze in Mary Lavin’s *The House in Clewe Street*.” *Twentieth Century Literature* 43.3 (Fall 1997): 326-38.
- “The Crumbling Fortress: Molly Keane’s Comedies of Anglo-Irish Manners.” *The Comic Tradition in Irish Women Writers*. Ed. Theresa O’Connor. Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 1996. 73-98.
- “‘A Land of Strange, Throttled, Sacrificial Women’: Domestic Violence in the Short Fiction of Edna O’Brien.” *Canadian Journal of Irish Studies* 22.2 (December 1996): 37-48.
- “William Plomer.” *British Short Fiction Writers, 1915-1945*. Ed. John H. Rogers. *Dictionary of Literary Biography Series*, Vol. 162. Detroit: Brucoli Clark Layman, 1996. 293-306.
- “‘Soft Talk’ and ‘An Alien Grip’: Gallagher’s Rhetoric of Control in O’Flaherty’s *The Informer*.” *Irish University Review* 23 (Autumn/Winter 1993): 260-68.
- “Contemporary Irish Women Novelists.” *The British and Irish Novel Since 1960*. Ed. James Acheson. London: Macmillan, and New York: St. Martin’s Press, 1991. 93-108. Co-authored with Janet Dunleavy, University of Wisconsin.

Book Reviews/Review Articles and Essays

- “‘Germany Calling’: Encountering the Home Front.” *The Irish Literary Supplement: A Review of Irish Books* 30.1 (Fall 2010): 22.
- “*Music and the Irish Literary Imagination*.” *New Hibernia Review* 14.1 (Spring 2010): 142-4.
- “Erasing Boundaries and Binaries: Eilis Ni Dhuibhne, *Perspectives*.” *The Irish Times Weekend Review*, May 30, 2009: 48.
- “The Words of Irishwomen Across the Water.” *The Irish Times Weekend Review*, December 27, 2008: 9.

“Irish Fiction and Postmodernism.” *The Irish Literary Supplement: A Review of Irish Books* 28.1 (Fall 2008): 20.

“How We Got From Moore to Joyce.” *The Irish Times Weekend Review*, July 21, 2008: 10.

“Irish Fiction Through a Kaleidoscope.” *The Irish Literary Supplement: A Review of Irish Books* 27.2 (Spring 2008): 13.

“Bringing Edna O’Brien Home.” *The Irish Literary Supplement: A Review of Irish Books* 26.2 (Spring 2007): 20.

Miscellaneous Publications

Participation in *The Irish Times*’ 80th birthday celebration for Jennifer Johnston. “National Treasure’: Writers Pay Tribute to Jennifer Johnston.” *The Irish Times Weekend Review*, January 9, 2010: 41.

Four biographical and critical contributions (in which I indicate “the writers’ place in literary history”) to *The Encyclopaedia of Ireland*. Ed. Brian Lalor. New Haven and London: Yale UP, 2003. My entries are on Clare Boylan (115); , Jennifer Johnston (569); Deirdre Madden (683); and Edna O’Brien’s *The Country Girls* (245).

Multiple character entries (description and summary assessment of every character in each novel) for Charles Kingsley’s *The Water Babies*, *Alton Locke*, *Hypatia*, and *Westward-Ho!*, in the *Dictionary of British Literary Characters: The Novel*. Ed. John Greenfield. New York: Facts-on-File, 1992. Entries appear 1-492.

CONFERENCE PAPERS AND COLLOQUIA

"Truth Without Reconciliation: Deathbed Scenes in Jennifer Johnson and Elizabeth Cullinan." American Conference for Irish Studies, New England Region, Husson University, Bangor Maine, October 2017.

“Divided Selves and Human Sacrifice: The Irish-American Family Romance in Alice McDermott’s *Charming Billy* and Elizabeth Cullinan’s *House of Gold*. American Conference for Irish Studies, New England Region, Massachusetts Maritime Academy, November 2016.

“Gina and the Kryptonite: Mortgage Shagging in Anne Enright’s *The Forgotten Waltz*.” International American Conference for Irish Studies, University of Notre Dame, Indiana, April 2016.

“*Landing in the Hood*; the State of the Unions in Emma Donoghue’s Fiction.” NEMLA 2016, Hartford, CT, March 2016.

- “Just Joe: *Liveline*, Celebrity, and the Power of the People.” American Conference for Irish Studies, New England Region, University of New Haven, November 2015.
- “The Bishop and the Boys: Performing Protestants Take the Stage in Jennifer Johnston’s *Grace and Truth* and Michael Campbell’s *Lord Dismiss Us*.” International American Conference for Irish Studies, Fort Lauderdale, March 2015.
- “Irish Heterosexuals Abroad: Stunted Psyches and Failure to Thrive in *Brooklyn*, ‘The Greek Trip,’ and ‘Villa Marta.’” American Conference for Irish Studies, New England Region, Wheaton College, MA, November 2014.
- “‘A Sickness that Must be Stamped Out’: Homosexuality and Elite education in Jennifer Johnston’s *This is Not a Novel* and Michael Campbell’s *Lord Dismiss Us*.” American Conference for Irish Studies, New England Region, Community College of Rhode Island, November 2013.
- “Empathy in a Fishbowl and The Body in the Bed : Provocative Performance in Glenn Patterson’s *Fat Lad* and Robert McLiam Wilson’s *Eureka Street*.” National American Conference for Irish Studies, Chicago, April 2013.
- “Empathy in a Fishbowl: Provocative Performance in Glenn Patterson’s *Fat Lad* and Robert McLiam Wilson’s *Eureka Street*.” *Living Empathy: Emotions of Reconciliation and Conflict*. Human Rights Institute Workshop. University of Connecticut Storrs, November 2012.
- “Faded Echoes: Moving On in Jennifer Johnston’s Most Recent Fiction.” American Conference for Irish Studies, New England Region, Sacred Heart University, Fairfield, CT, October 2012.
- “Our Work, Ourselves: Women at Work in Jennifer Johnston’s Fiction.” American Conference for Irish Studies, New England Region, Bridgewater State University, October 2012.
- “Rumblings from Elsinore: Dramatic Texts, Contexts, and Subtexts.” National American Conference for Irish Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison, March 30-April 2, 2011.
- “‘Dark Corners’: Childhood and its Discontents in Jennifer Johnston’s Novels.” American Conference for Irish Studies, New England Region, Framingham State University, November 2010.
- “‘Mummy is Hopeless When it Comes to Making Decisions’: Mothers Behaving Badly in Jennifer Johnston’s Fiction.” National American Conference for Irish Studies, State College, PA, May 2010.

- “‘Germany Calling’: Encountering the Home Front in James Ryan’s *South of the Border*.” National American Conference for Irish Studies, National University of Ireland Galway, June 2009.
- “The Novels of Jennifer Johnston.” The Irish Colloquium at Boston College, April 2009.
- “The ‘Great Bright Red American Fridge’: Big Housekeeping in Jennifer Johnston’s *Two Moons*.” Big House Conference, Royal Irish Academy, Dublin, Ireland, October 2008.
- “Conflict, Community, and the American Connection in James Ryan’s *Dismantling Mr. Doyle*.” National American Conference for Irish Studies, Davenport, Iowa, April 2008.
- “A Woman’s Place and ‘Psychic Space’: Resistance and Change in James Ryan’s *Dismantling Mr. Doyle*.” American Conference for Irish Studies, New England Region, UMass Boston, November 2007.
- “Molly Keane’s Attic.” The Irish Colloquium at Boston College, April 2007.
- “Infections Without Borders: Creativity, Cooking, and The Clap in Jennifer Johnston’s *The Gingerbread Woman*.” National American Conference for Irish Studies, University of Missouri-St. Louis, April 2006.
- “‘I Can Laugh Again’: Writing the Way to the Future in Jennifer Johnston’s *The Gingerbread Woman*.” American Conference for Irish Studies, New England Region, New England Irish Cultural Center, Canton, MA, October 2005.
- “Buckeens, Bounders, and Beautiful Brits: Drawing the Lines in Molly Keane’s Early Fiction.” National American Conference for Irish Studies, Notre Dame, April 2005.
- “Riding for a Fall: Molly Keane and the Equestrian Sublime.” Molly Keane Centenary Conference, University College Cork, Ireland, November 2004.
- “An Irish Horse Show: Molly Keane and the Equestrian Sublime.” American Conference for Irish Studies, New England Region, St. Anselm’s College, NH, October 2004.
- “The ‘Great Bright Red American Fridge’: (Big) Housekeeping in Jennifer Johnston’s *Two Moons*.” American Conference for Irish Studies, New England Region, Bridgewater State College, October 2003.
- “The Cork Connection: The Journeys of Isabella Shawe Thackeray.” American Conference for Irish Studies, Southern Region, Chattanooga, TN, February 2003.
- “‘For Them... The Dream Was There’: Returning ‘Home’ in Alice McDermott’s *Charming Billy* and Elizabeth Cullinan’s *A Change of Scene*.” American Conference for Irish Studies New England Regional Conference, Boston University, September 2001.

- “(Big) Housekeeping in Jennifer Johnston’s *The Illusionist* and *Two Moons*.” American Conference for Irish Studies Southern Regional Conference, Jacksonville, Florida, February 2001.
- “The Fax in The Confessional: Ballykissangel and the Way (We Wish) We Were.” American Conference for Irish Studies New England Regional Conference, College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA, September 2000.
- “Visiting Royalty: Consuming the ‘Real Ireland.’” American Conference for Irish Studies International Conference, University of Limerick, Ireland, June 26-July 1, 2000.
- “‘How Will We Manage When Faced With Helplessness?’ Female Prodhood, Crisis, and Choice in the Novels of Jennifer Johnston.” American Conference for Irish Studies New England Regional Conference, Chicopee, MA, October 1999.
- “The Roads Most Taken: Consuming the Real Ireland.” American Conference for Irish Studies New England Regional Conference, Suffolk University, Boston, November 1997.
- “From Cork to Paris: The Journey of Isabella Shawe Thackeray.” “The Scattering” Conference, Irish Center For Migration Studies, University College Cork, September 1997.
- “Irish Identity and Female Self-Hood in Jennifer Johnston’s *The Old Jest* and *Fool’s Sanctuary*.” American Conference for Irish Studies Southern Regional Conference, Chattanooga, TN, February 1997.
- “Public Spaces, Private Lives: Irish Identity and Female Self-Hood in Jennifer Johnston’s *The Invisible Worm*.” American Conference for Irish Studies Midwest Regional Conference, Milwaukee, October 1996.
- “Has the Pot Boiled over Yet?: An Assessment of Maeve Binchy’s Writing.” Northeast Modern Language Association Convention, Montreal, April 1996.
- American Conference for Irish Studies Southern Regional Conference, Chapel Hill, NC, February 1996; participant on an experimental panel taking a feminist pedagogical approach to Irish women writers.
- “The Tide Turns: Family Dynamics in Molly Keane’s *Loving Without Tears*.” American Conference for Irish Studies & Canadian Association for Irish Studies Annual Convention, Belfast, Northern Ireland, June 1995.
- “Our Own Kind: Irish Identity and the Female Quest for Self-Hood in the Novels of Mary Gordon and Elizabeth Cullinan.” American Conference for Irish Studies Southern Regional conference, Charleston, SC, March 1995.

“The Crumbling Fortress in *Time After Time*”: Molly Keane’s Comedies of Anglo-Irish Manners.” American Conference for Irish Studies, Southern Region, Morgantown, West Virginia, March 1994.

“‘A Country Far More Strange’: Thackeray’s *Irish Sketch Book* and the ‘Two Truths.’” American Conference for Irish Studies, Tulsa, OK, March 1993.

“‘Onward Christian Soldiers’: The Church of Ireland Moves Into the Nineties.” Irish Educational Association, Tallahassee, Florida, December 1992.

“Coming of Age in Clewe Street.” American Conference for Irish Studies, Hickory, NC, March 1992.

“‘A Land of Strange, Throttled, Sacrificial Women’: Domestic Violence in the Short Fiction of Edna O’Brien.” Women’s Studies in the 1990s: Conference at Southern Connecticut State University, New Haven, September 1991.

“Jerusalem Abroad – Emigration, Transportation, and Escape in Victorian Fiction.” Northeast Victorian Studies Association, Rochester, NY, April 1991.

“‘Soft Talk’ and ‘An Alien Grip’: Gallagher’s Rhetoric of Control in O’Flaherty’s *The Informer*.” Northeast Modern Language Association, Hartford, CT, April 1991.

“‘Altered Syllables’: Adjusting for Survival in Modern Ireland”; Modern Language Association, Chicago 1990.

Conferences Organized

Member, Organizing Committee, “Elizabeth I and Ireland” Conference, University of Connecticut. Storrs, November 2009.

Conference organizer and senior co-chair, the American Conference for Irish Studies New England Regional Conference, “Changing Ireland,” University of Connecticut, Storrs, October 2006.

Sessions Chaired at Conferences

One session at the UConn Graduate Irish Studies Conference, Hartford, CT, March 2018.

One session at the American Conference for Irish Studies New England Regional Conference, Husson University, Bangor Maine, October 2017.

One session at the American Conference for Irish Studies New England Regional Conference, Massachusetts Maritime Academy, November 2016.

Two sessions at the International American Conference for Irish Studies, University of Notre Dame, Indiana, April 2016.

Two sessions at the American Conference for Irish Studies New England Regional Conference, University of New Haven, November 2015.

One session at the International American Conference for Irish Studies, Fort Lauderdale, March 2015.

One session at the American Conference for Irish Studies New England Regional Conference, Wheaton College, MA, November 2014.

One session at the American Conference for Irish Studies New England Regional Conference, Community College of Rhode Island, November 2013.

One session at the National American Conference for Irish Studies, Chicago, April 2013.

One session at the American Conference for Irish Studies New England Regional Conference, Bridgewater State University, October 2012.

One session at the American Conference for Irish Studies New England Regional Conference, Framingham State University, November 2010.

Two sessions at the National American Conference for Irish Studies, State College, PA, May 2010.

Two sessions at the National American Conference for Irish Studies, National University of Ireland Galway, June 2009.

One session at the American Conference for Irish Studies New England Regional Conference, Boston University, November 2008.

One session at the National American Conference for Irish Studies, Davenport, Iowa, April 2008.

One session at the American Conference for Irish Studies New England Regional Conference, UMass Boston, November 2007.

One session at the National American Conference for Irish Studies, CUNY Graduate Center, April 2007.

Two sessions at the National American Conference for Irish Studies, University of Missouri-St. Louis, April 2006.

One session at the American Conference for Irish Studies New England Regional Conference, Canton, MA, October 2005.

Two sessions at the American Conference for Irish Studies New England Regional Conference, St. Anselm's College, October 2004.

Session at the American Conference for Irish Studies New England Regional Conference, Boston University, September 2001, and Bridgewater State College, October 2003.

Two sessions at "The Presence of the Past: 1798-1998." Tenth Graduate Irish Studies Conference. University of Connecticut, Storrs, March 1998.

One session at the Northeast Modern Language Association, Irish Literature Section. Philadelphia, May 1993.

INVITED/KEYNOTE TALKS

Participant in a 3-person keynote panel on the future of Irish Studies, UConn Graduate Irish Studies Conference, Hartford, CT, March 2018.

"Riding the Magic Bus." Invited participant in "Readings in Creative Nonfiction," American Conference for Irish Studies New England Regional Conference, Massachusetts Maritime Academy, November 2016.

"The Nasty and the Dead: Jennifer Johnston's Problematic Mothers." Invited keynote talk at the Columbia University Irish Studies Seminar, New York, February 2010.

"The Universality of Human Experience: Engaging Young Readers' Interest Through the Folk Tale." I was the invited Motherhead Scholar and Workshop Leader for the Motherhead/Fatheread Institute and the Connecticut Humanities Council, Waterbury, CT, March 2006.

"'Blue Mouldy for Want of That Pint': Alcohol as Destroyer and Preserver in Joyce's Fiction." Bloomsday, 1994. Guest lecture to the Paperback Alley James Joyce Club, Windsor, CT.

SERVICE

Regional Campus Student Welfare Committee, 2015-16.

Peer review for the publishers Ashgate and Four Courts Press, and for multiple journals, including *New Hibernia Review*, *Eire-Ireland*, *LIT*, *Tulsa Studies in Women's Literature*, and *Journal of Feminist Scholarship*, 2008-present.

University Senate, 2013-14.

CLAS Dean's Excellence in Teaching Award Committee, 2014.

Moriarty Irish Literature Scholarship Committee, Department of English, 2008-present.

English Department Undergraduate Outreach/Enrichment Committee, with responsibility for the Waterbury Campus, 2008-15

Irish Literature Concentration Committee, 2008-present. Chair 2012-13 and 2015-16.

Executive Committee, Department of English, 2007-10, 2012-15, 2017-18

Graduate Executive Committee, 2012-14.

Graduate Second Year Review Committee, 2012-18.

Member, host committee for National American Conference for Irish Studies, State College, PA, May 2010.

Search Committee, Eighteenth-Century hire, Department of English, 2010-11.

CLAS English Headship Committee, 2008-09.

One of three judges on the American Conference for Irish Studies Durkan Prize Committee, judging the best new book published in 2008 in the realm of “Irish language and culture.”

Search Committee, Waterbury Campus Writing Center Coordinator, 2007-08.

Director, The Writing Internship Program, Waterbury Campus, 2006-present.

American Conference for Irish Studies National Mini-grants Committee, 2006.

New England Representative on the National Executive, American Conference for Irish Studies, and President of the New England Region, 2004-06. Position involves substantial peer review in the field.

English Department Courses and Curriculum Committee, 2003-04 and 2006-7.

Jennie Hackman Short Fiction Prize Committee, English Department, 2006.

Search Committee, Irish Studies Hire, English Department, 2003.

Search Committee, Tri-Campus Freshman Writing Co-ordinator Hire. 2003.

Waterbury Campus Scholarship Committee, 2003-04.

Waterbury Campus Scheduling Committee, 2012-14.

Judge, First and Second Annual Tricampus Short Fiction Contest, sponsored by the Tricampus for high schools in the Tricampus area, 2002-03.

English Department Merit Committee, 2001-2002 and 2016-17. Chair, 2002.

Tenure and Promotion Recommendation letter for Megan Sullivan, Boston University, June 2001.

Aetna Prize Judging Committee, 1999-2000 and 2016.

Faculty advisor to the University of Connecticut Graduate Irish Alliance, several times since 1997.

English Department Search Committee for the Avery Point position, 1995-6.

I organized and directed, with another faculty member at the Waterbury Campus and the Office of Student Affairs, a reading/discussion exercise during Fall Orientation for all incoming Freshman. We received a grant from the University of Connecticut Teaching Foundation, and the cooperation of seven faculty facilitators, for this project. August 1995.

Executive Committee, Waterbury Campus Association, 1995-6 and 1996-7.

Chair, Waterbury Campus Community Access TV Show Committee, 1995-6.

Waterbury Campus Facilities Master Plan Steering Committee, 1994.

Waterbury Campus Newsletter Committee; co-editor of the Newsletter, 1994-.

Waterbury Campus Advisory Committee on Academic Advising, 1994-.

Waterbury Campus Recruitment Committee, 1993-2000. Open House, Phonathon, and other recruiting activities.

English Department Courses and Curriculum Committee, University of Connecticut, 1992-3, 1994-5, 207-08

University of Connecticut Center for Academic Programs faculty mentor, 1992-present.

Manuscripts reviewed for the journals on a regular ongoing basis.

Faculty adviser, with all the usual range of duties in the realm of undergraduate advising, 1991-. Also voluntary Academic Advisor, Waterbury Campus, at the start of every semester, 1992-6, and with special responsibility for pre-Education students as well as for English majors.

Editor, *The Boston University Handbook for Teaching Fellows*, written Spring and Summer 1990.

Professional Associations

Modern Language Association of America
American Conference for Irish Studies

AWARDS

AAUP Career Award for Excellence in Teaching, 2018.

University of Connecticut CLAS Excellence in Teaching Award, 2012.

More than \$17,000 in internal and external grants and sponsorship for the American Conference for Irish Studies New England Regional Conference, "Changing Ireland," University of Connecticut, Storrs, October 2006.

Multiple travel awards to conferences, 1991-present.

Teaching Institute Grant (University of Connecticut, 1995). "Encountering 'The Accidental Conqueror': The Fostering of Academic Discourse Within the Collegiate Orientation Program." Orientation project, Fall 1995.

Honorary Membership, Golden Key National Honor Society (cited for "dedication to higher education and academic achievement"), 1994.

Faculty Summer Fellowship (University of Connecticut, 1992), for work on *Scripting Authority and Power in Victorian Fiction: The Case of W. M. Thackeray*.

Graduate School Award for Excellence in Teaching (Boston University, 1989).

The Fitzgerald Translation Prize (Boston University, 1989. For a translation from Baudelaire's "La Fanfarlo").

Graduate Teaching Fellowship (Boston University, 1985-90).

University Graduate Fellowship (Boston University, 1984-85).

Travel Scholarship to Boston (T.C.D., 1984).

Two-Year Scholarship Towards Graduate Study Abroad (T.C.D., 1984).

Gold Medal in English and French Literature, awarded for placing first in final degree examinations in both subjects (T.C.D., 1984).

LANGUAGES

French (complete fluency; professional translating experience)

German (some reading, written, and spoken proficiency)

Irish (some reading and written proficiency)

Latin (reading proficiency)