

SIMONE JACQUELINE BILLINGS

Department of English
Santa Clara University
Santa Clara, CA 95053
(408) 554-4334
sbillings@scu.edu

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Stanford University, June 1994

Division: Education, in the Program of Language, Literacy, and Culture

Dissertation: The Transactional Nature of University English Teachers' Written
Comments on Student Papers

M.A. San Francisco State University, January 1979

Major: English Literature (general) with an emphasis also in teaching
composition and reading

B.A. San Francisco State University, January 1975 *Magna cum laude*

Major: English Literature

Minors: Physical Education; Latin

Additional summer coursework in various course software and multimodal tools for teaching (instruction provided by SCU Information Technology staff. Certificate of Completion with Distinction in Coursera online course "Shaping the Way We Teach English, 1: The Landscape of English Language Teaching" delivered by the U.S. Department of State and the University of Oregon, February 2015.

EMPLOYMENT RECORD

1980- Santa Clara University, Lecturer 1980-89; Senior Lecturer, 1989-present

1979-1980 University of San Francisco, Lecturer

1976-1980 San Francisco State University, Lecturer

- Experience Teaching Different Levels of Writing Courses: First-year writing course sequences for various levels of first-year students; various advanced writing courses (argumentation, creative nonfiction, literature and culture)
- Diverse Experience in Delivery of Courses: face-to-face, hybrid, and fully online
- Specialized Courses: Senior Seminars; Tutoring Practicum; Preparation for Fellowships; Themed Literature Courses (e.g., Monsters in Lit and Film)
- Diverse Audiences: Post-secondary faculty and students in Beijing, China, on teaching and learning writing in English and on establishing writing centers; Secondary and Post-secondary faculty in the Eastern Caribbean on the teaching of writing; Students 50-years-old and older in the Osher Lifelong Learning Program, Santa Clara University; Accountants in noontime writing workshops at their in San Jose, CA; Business and Engineering students from Sophia University in Japan in oral English classes in summer workshops at Santa Clara University

AWARDS and GRANTS

External Grants

- 2019 US Fulbright Scholar, Centre for English Language Proficiency, University of Malta, Malta.
Evaluated curriculum and programs, team-taught courses, and guest lectured to audiences of university faculty and undergraduates. Spring 2019. By invitation of Dr. Odette Vassallo, Director of the Centre for English Language Proficiency, University of Malta.
- 2009 US Fulbright Scholar, Open Campus of The University of the West Indies, Barbados, West Indies, Caribbean
Facilitated teacher-training workshops for secondary and post-secondary instructors in the teaching of writing in 5 different Caribbean countries; topics included the theoretical underpinnings of teaching writing, the design of writing classes, and response to student papers. Fall 2009. By invitation of Dr. Hazel Simmons-McDonald, Pro Vice Chancellor and Principal of the Open Campus of the University of the West Indies) Cf. Curriculum Development section later.

Internal Grants (selected; all but one supplemented department travel funds)

- April 2016: College of Arts and Sciences Dean's Grant for Lecturers for professional activity (\$1000)
- April 2015: College of Arts and Sciences Dean's Grant for Lecturers for professional activity (\$1000)
- May 2015: College of Arts and Sciences Dean's Grant for Lecturers for professional activity (\$975)
- 2014-15: Bannan Institute Working Group Grant: "Developing Jesuit Writing Pedagogy at Santa Clara University," Ignatian Center for Jesuit Education, Santa Clara University (\$1,250 to fund faculty workshops). Co-recipient: Trish Serviss, Assistant Professor, English
- 2013-14: Lecturer Professional Activity Grant from the Provost's Office (\$2000)

External Award

- 2017 *Nominee* for the Teaching Excellence Award of the Phi Beta Kappa Northern California Association
- 2007 Recipient, Elaine W. Hughes Outstanding Sponsor Award (nation-wide), Sigma Tau Delta, International English Honor Society

Internal Awards

- 2021 Recipient, Outstanding Career Influencer 2020-2021, student-nominated, Santa Clara University Career Center
- 2017 Recipient, Louis and Dorina Brutocao Award for Teaching Excellence, Santa Clara University (*Nominee* 1997-99, 2011-13) (one award given annually by committee from the nominees from the 550+ full-time faculty in all colleges and schools; in 2017, 78 of those nominated by alumni and students were eligible)

2007 Recipient, David E. Logothetti Teaching Award, College of Arts and Sciences, Santa Clara University (one award given annually out of all nominees from the 20+ departments in the College of Arts and Sciences at Santa Clara University)

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE (selected)

September 2014-2017

Director of Core Writing, English Department, Santa Clara University

September 2011-June 2014

Co-Chair/Director of Writing, English Department, Santa Clara University

September 2010-August 2011

Interim Co-Chair/Director of Writing, English Department, Santa Clara University

July 2006-June 2009

Assistant to the President of Santa Clara University (communication specialist)

September 2007-June 2008

Interim Director, University Honors Program and Office of Fellowships, Santa Clara University

March 2000-March 2004

Far Western Regent for Sigma Tau Delta, the international English Honors Society for undergraduate and graduate students

WORK IN CURRICULUM INSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT (selected)

September 2016 Invited consultant for an educational exchange on the teaching of writing, China Agricultural University, Beijing, China.

Delivered lectures to post-secondary Instructors and students on writing and writing centers as the department implements changes to their writing curriculum.

AY 2014-17 One of two faculty on campus developing and piloting hybrid courses for undergraduates during the regular academic year at the request of the Provost, Santa Clara University (other instructor: Patti Simone, Psychology Professor.

AY 2013-14 Participant in CADE (Competency Assessment in Distance Education) Program of the Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities to develop on-line and hybrid delivery of writing courses through Santa Clara University.

Winter 2011 Co-presenter at a Santa Clara University faculty development workshop on the use of rubrics in writing courses. Co-presenter: Jill Goodman-Gould, Senior Lecturer, English.

Fall 2009 Consultant, Open Campus of the University of the West Indies. (Cf. category of External Grant earlier for details of the work)

Winter-Spring 2007-2008

Co-designer with William Greenwalt, Professor of History and Classics Departments, Santa Clara University

Designed and taught pilot linked courses for the New Core Curriculum: the Culture and Ideas and Critical Writing and Thinking sequences for AY 2008-09.

August 2005 Invited Consultant for writing program instructors at The University of West Indies, Cave Hill Campus, Barbados, W.I.

Designed and led a one-week workshop on how to design a writing program and how to respond to student writing. By invitation of Dr. Hazel Simmons-McDonald, then Dean of Humanities and Education of The University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus.

SCHOLARSHIP

Selected Publications:

Fred White and Simone Billings. *The Well-Crafted Argument*. Cengage, Boston, 6th edition, 2017.

Fred White and Simone Billings. *The Well-Crafted Argument: Across the Curriculum*. Cengage, Boston. 2013.

In Richard Straub. *The Practice of Response: Strategies for Commenting on Student Writing*. Hampton Press. November 2000. A section devoted to response styles and strategies of practitioners.

Selected Refereed Presentations:

“*Eloquentia Perfecta* and the Jesuit response to Immigration Issues, especially in Malta.” Paper accepted by the Rhetoric Society of America for its biennial meeting in Portland OR, May 2020, for the roundtable The Public Rhetorics of Ignatian Thought: *Eloquentia Perfecta* Beyond the Classroom; the conference was entirely cancelled as a result of COVID-19.

“Common Places in an Uncommon Place: Malta.” Paper accepted by the Conference on College Composition and Communication for the panel Letting Go and Leaning In: Reimagining Writing Programs and Writing Selves, scheduled for Milwaukee, WI, March 2020. The conference was entirely cancelled due to COVID-19.

“A Change Would Do You Good’: Podcast Assignments in First-Year Sequence and Argumentation Classes.” Paper presented at The Young Rhetoricians Conference, Monterey, CA. June 2018.

“Let It Go’: Achieving Both Expediency and Excellence in Teaching and Transitions.” Panelist; a roundtable at The Young Rhetoricians Conference, Monterey, CA. June 2017.

“Create, Ideate, Collaborate: A CCCC Workshop on the Advantages and Opportunities of Regionals and Affiliates.” Panelist; College Composition and Communication Regional Summer Conference at San Jose State University, San Jose, CA. June 2017.

“Ch-Ch-Ch-Changes: Going from F2F to on-line and hybrid.” Paper; the Rhetoric Society of America biennial conference in Atlanta, GA. May 2016.

“On-line Writing Courses and Jesuit Rhetoric.” Paper; the Rhetoric Society of America biennial conference in San Antonio, TX. May 2014.

“Demons of the Classroom: Using Visuals as Assignment Prompts.” Paper; The Young Rhetoricians Conference, Monterey CA. June 2012.

“On-line Writing Courses, E-tutors, Course Coordinators, Students: Whole Lotta Talking Goin’ on.” Paper; The Young Rhetoricians’ Conference, Monterey, CA. June 2010.

“With Whom Shall We Stand? With Whom Will We Learn?” Paper; Conference on College Composition and Communication, Louisville, KY. March 2010.

Selected Invited Presentations:

“Away with Words: Technology and First-Year Writing.” Paper; the English Composition Conference sponsored by the TeamUp Faculty Programs of Cengage Publishers, San Antonio TX. November 2013.

“Helping Writers Soar: How Do We Exorcise the Demons of the Classroom?” Paper; the English Composition Conference sponsored by the TeamUp Faculty Programs of Cengage Publishers, Albuquerque NM. February 2012.

“Educational Excellence, The Balanced Life, and Social Responsibility.”

Keynote Speaker, Phi Beta Kappa initiation, Santa Clara University, June 2011.

“English: The Language of Commerce; The Language of Power.” Paper; English Composition Conference sponsored by the TeamUp Faculty Programs of Cengage Publishers, Fort Lauderdale, FL. March 2011.

OVERSIGHT OF STUDENT WORK (selected)

External Reviewer for Master’s Thesis at The University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus, Barbados. Fall 2010-Winter 2011. Thesis Title: “Academic English: An Attitude and Motivation Study.” Candidate: Melissa Lou-Ann Alleyne.

External Reviewer for Doctoral Thesis at The University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus, Barbados – September 2008 read. Committee member for the oral defense (*viva*) at the University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus, Barbados, 9 February 2009. Thesis Title: “A Study of Syntactic Maturity in the Written Discourse of 11-12 Year-Old Barbadian Secondary School Students.” Candidate: Patricia Saul.

Student Theses Co-Directed at Santa Clara University (selected):

2016-2017: Madeleine Fawcett, mentor for her Honors thesis, “A Nurse, a Rebel, and a Keeper of the Keys: Three Historic Women at the California Missions.” Reader: Rose Marie Beebe.

2014-2015: Jacob Wilbers, recipient of an English Department Canterbury Scholar grant for a collection of short fiction detailing a Mexican-American family’s experiences in southside Chicago. Co-mentor: Cruz Medina, Assistant Professor, Department of English.

2014-15: Olivia Li, reader for her Honors thesis, “Communication Catch-22 for Women in the Business World.” Mentor: Laura Ellingson.

2014-15: Hannah Maryanski, mentor for her Honors thesis, “Silicon Hills and Valleys: A Study of Food Insecurity and Organized Urban Agriculture in Santa Clara County, CA.”

2010-2011: Hilary Titus, recipient of an English Department Canterbury Scholar grant for a creative nonfiction project on solidarity, a project grounded in immersion experiences and praxis education, especially in El Salvador, and informed by interviews and observation. Co-mentor: Diane Dreher, Professor, Department of English.

2004-2005: Neil Ferron, recipient of an English Department Canterbury Scholar grant for a creative nonfiction and fiction project on volunteer work in Calcutta, India. Co-mentor: Father Paul Fitzgerald, S.J., Professor, Religious Studies Department.

2003-2004: Jennifer Re, recipient of an English Department Canterbury Scholar grant for creative nonfiction project, "The Business of Crossing the Border: Narratives Beyond the People Exchange Between El Salvador and the United States." Co-mentor: Juan Velasco, Associate Professor, Departments of English and Foreign Languages.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE (selected)

- Fall 2021 Reviewer on the Committee for Fulbright U.S. Student English Language Teaching Assistantships, the group responsible for reading and rating approximately 50-60 applications and then for recommending a limited number of candidates for further consideration (3-year appointment by IIE's Board of Trustees and Dr. Allan E. Goodman, IIE President and CEO)
- Spring 2019 External Reviewer, Centre for English Language Proficiency, the University of Malta in the country of Malta; assessed the writing program in full within the Maltese context
- May 2017 External reviewer, for promotion to Clinical [Full] Professor, applicant in the Liberal Studies undergraduate division of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences at New York University
- November 2016 Team Leader, External Review Team assessing the writing program at the Cave Hill Campus of The University of the West Indies, Barbados
- January 2016 External Reviewer for the Department of English at Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA
- August-September 2014-2016 Peer Reviewer in the Disciplines, English, submissions for Fulbright Scholar Awards, a program of the United States Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs
- 2015-16 Liaison (elected) to Council of Writing Program Administrators for the Northern California-Nevada Affiliate of Writing Program Administrators (hosted Spring meeting at Santa Clara University)
- 2014-15 President (elected), Northern California-Nevada Affiliate of Writing Program Administrators
- July 2014 External Reviewer for promotion to Senior Lecturer, applicant at Indiana University School of Liberal Arts at Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis
- Spring 2013-2019 Stage 1 reviewer, submissions of panels and papers for the annual Conference on College Composition and Communication

Fall 2013 Evaluator for applications to the Polish-US Fulbright Commission,
Fulbright Senior Advanced Research Award
2010 Fulbright Resource Scholar, invited; Pre-Departure Orientation for Fulbright
2010-2011 grantees going to the Western Hemisphere; Office of Academic
Programs, United States Department of State

UNIVERSITY SERVICE (selected)

2020-present Assist the Office of Fellowships by mentoring designated student
applicants for Fulbright awards post-graduation
2010-2017 Chair, Writing Faculty Core Curriculum Committee, the committee
responsible for approving syllabi for courses that meet the guidelines for Critical
Thinking and Writing I and II and Advanced Writing, Santa Clara University
September 2016-present
Vice-President, Pi Chapter at Santa Clara University, Phi Beta Kappa, national
honor society
Assist the President of Pi Chapter in conducting annual review of students
eligible for membership and in the spring initiation ceremony
2005- 2009; 2011-12
Chair, Valedictorian Screening Committee, Santa Clara University
Member, 1994-2000
2003-2013 Member, University Fellowships Committee, Santa Clara University
Assist students in their preparation to apply for fellowships post-graduation
2003-2004 Faculty Senate President, Santa Clara University
Elected by the faculty to preside over the monthly Faculty Senate meetings and
to represent faculty concerns to the President, the Provost, and the Board of
Trustees; met monthly with the President of the University; served as the Faculty
Senate President-Elect the year prior and as Past President the subsequent year

DEPARTMENT SERVICE (selected)

2017-present Alumni Liaison for the Department of English
1986-present Faculty Co-Sponsor, Santa Clara University's chapter of Sigma Tau Delta,
the international English honor society for undergraduate and graduate students
Spring 2018
Member, Evaluation committee for Lecturer Re-Appointment applicant in Writing
Winter-Spring 2011-2017
Chair or Member, Search Committee for Quarterly Adjunct Lecturer positions in
Rhetoric and Composition
Spring 2012-16, Summer 2017
Chair or Member, Search Committee, Academic Year Adjunct Lecturer positions
in Rhetoric and Composition
Spring 2014-15
Chair, Search Committee, Lecturer positions in Rhetoric and Composition
2012-14 Member, Search Committee, Tenure-track position in Rhetoric and
Composition

SERVICE WITHIN HOME COMMUNITY (selected)

1990—present Lector and choir member, Church of the Good Shepherd. Parish of the Church of the Good Shepherd, Pacifica, CA

Spring 2019 Lector, Sarria Church (AKA The Church of the Immaculate Conception), Floriana, Malta, while on Fulbright

Fall 2009 Choir member, Church of St. Francis of Assisi. Parish in Barbados, West Indies, Caribbean, while on Fulbright

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

National Council of the Teachers of English
Phi Beta Kappa
Rhetoric Society of America
Council of Writing Program Administrators

CREDENTIAL

California Community College Lifetime Credential