

Karen Kaiser Lee, Ph.D.

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Education

PhD in English

Primary area:

Secondary areas:

Dissertation:

Committee:

Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

Rhetoric and Composition

Professional and Technical Writing
Rhetoric, Technology, and Digital Writing

*From Telling to Transforming: Rhetorical Invention
and the Genre of the Research Paper*

Richard Johnson-Sheehan (chair), Jennifer L. Bay,
Linda Bergmann, Patricia Sullivan

MA in English

Primary Area:

Thesis:

Committee:

Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL

Literature

*“He Cannot be a Gentleman which Loveth not Hawking and
Hunting”: Reading Early Modern Hunting Treatises as
Conduct Books*

Bruce Boehrer (director), Daniel Vitkus, Nancy Bradley Warren

BA in English

The University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

Teaching Experience

Northern Illinois University

DeKalb, IL

Full-Time Instructor

Department of English

Fall 2023 – present

Undergraduate Courses:

Rhetoric and Composition I

Rhetoric and Composition II

Technical Writing

Graduate Courses:

Traditions in Written Rhetoric
Rhetoric of Prose Composition

Saint Xavier University

Chicago, IL

Assistant Professor, Writing Program Coordinator
Department of Language and Literature
Fall 2015 – Spring 2023

Rhetoric and Writing
Rhetoric and Writing Laboratory
Professional Writing and Communication
Advanced Writing
Study of Rhetoric
Writing in Digital Environments
Writing: The Editing Process
Special Topics in Writing: Digital Storytelling
Introduction to Creative Writing

Youngstown State University

Youngstown, OH

Assistant Professor
Department of English
Fall 2011 – Spring 2015

Undergraduate Courses:

Professional and Technical Communication
Professional and Technical Editing
Professional Writing Internship
Professional Writing Senior Seminar
Writing 2
Writing for Online Environments

Graduate Courses:

Document Design and Production
Professional and Technical Editing
Professional Writing Internship
Publications Issues and Management
Special Topics in Professional Communication –
Science Communication
Technical Communication

Purdue University

West Lafayette, IN

Graduate Instructor
Department of English
2006 – 2011

Business Writing
Introduction to Research Methods for Professional Writing Majors
Introductory First-Year Composition
Multimedia Writing
Technical Writing

Florida State University

Tallahassee, FL

Teaching Assistant
Department of English
2004 – 2006

First-Year Composition and Rhetoric
First-Year Writing Research
Individualized Instruction in Writing
Special Topics in Composition: Writing About Fashion and Style

Scholarship

Conference Presentations

“All First-Year Students Take the Writing Lab: Inclusionary Placement in the Wake of COVID-19.” *Conference on College Composition and Communication*, Online, March 2022. Accepted; presented as on-demand recorded presentation. (Refereed)

“Expectations vs. Reality: Scaling Down WPA Innovations to Fit Small Universities.” *Council of Writing Program Administrators Conference*, 2020. Accepted; conference cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic. (Refereed)

“Left to Their Own Devices: Dis/allowing Students' Use of Technology in the Classroom.” Roundtable. *Computers and Writing Conference*, Rochester, NY, May 2016. (Referred)

“But My Mom Really Liked the Brochure I Made For Her: A Professional Writing Program’s Problematic, Promising Encounter with Client-Based Service Learning.” *Conference on College Composition and Communication*, Tampa, FL, March 2015. (Refereed)

“#professionalwriter: Helping Students Visualize Themselves as Professional Writers.” Poster presentation. *Association of Teachers of Technical Writing Conference*, Indianapolis, IN, March 2014. (Refereed)

“Introducing Primary Research Skills to First-Year Composition Students.” *Conference on College Composition and Communication*, Las Vegas, NV, March 2013. (Refereed)

“Heuristic or Hermeneutic? What We Ask Students To Do When We Assign The Research Paper.” *Conference on College Composition and Communication*, St. Louis, MO, March 2012. (Refereed)

“Research 2.0: Reconfiguring the Research Paper Assignment.” *Computers and Writing Conference*, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, June 2010. (Refereed)

“Thawing Frozen Minds: The Possibilities of Using Re-enactment and Re-creation as a Way to Teach Students Research Skills.” *Forty-fifth International Congress on Medieval Studies*, Kalamazoo, MI, May 2010. (Refereed)

“The Areas of Their Expertise: Amateur Experts, the Internet, and Popular Culture Research.” *Joint Conference of the National Popular Culture and American Culture Associations*, St. Louis, MO, April 2010. (Refereed)

“Virtual Spaces, Places and People: Exploring Second Life and First-Year Composition.” Panel presentation. *Conference on College Composition and Communication*, New Orleans, LA, March 2008. (Refereed)

“The Poor, Italian Ladies: The Women of Italy as Viewed by English Travel Narrative Writers in the late 17th Century.” *Renaissance Comparative Prose Conference*, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, November 2005. (Refereed)

“Courtesans, Nuns, and Imprisoned Wives: Venetian Women in Early Modern English Travel Narratives.” *Aphra Behn Society for Women in the Arts Conference*, Daytona Beach, FL, October 2005.

“Instructing Hunters, Teaching the Nouveau Riche: Early Modern Hunting Manuals as Conduct Books.” *Rocky Mountain Medieval and Renaissance Association Conference*, Jackson, WY, June 2005.

Publications

“Your Loving Daughter: Multimodal Memorial Writing, Mourning, and Working During the Pandemic.” *The Journal of Multimodal Rhetorics* Special Issue on Carework and Writing During Covid, Summer 2022.

“The Research Paper Project in the Undergraduate Writing Course: Some History.” *The New Digital Scholar: Exploring and Enriching the Research and Writing Practices of NextGen Students*. Randall McClure and Jim Purdy, editors. American Association of Information Science and Technology (ASIST) Scholarly Monograph Series. March 2013.

“Working it Out: Community Engagement and Cross-Course Collaboration.” With Jennifer L. Bay, Michael Salvo, and Mark A. Hannah. *Programmatic Perspectives* 2.2, September 2010.

In Preparation

“Expectations vs. Reality: Scaling Down WPA Innovations to Fit Small Universities.” This essay describes the ways that the stretch, Accelerated Learning Program, and small-group writing workshop models of developmental composition, all created at larger universities or community colleges, were combined and adapted by a smaller university. The difficulties of replicating such writing instructional models on a smaller campus are documented.

Talks and Presentations

That Shakespeare Life, Episode 156: Rules for 17th Century Hunting with Karen Kaiser Lee. Hosted by Cassidy Cash. April, 2021. Invited podcast talk. Podcast is ranked within the Top 100 History Podcasts in the United States by Apple Podcasts. <https://www.cassidycash.com/ep-156-rules-for-17th-c-hunting-with-karen-kaiser-lee/>

“Converting Projects and Assignments from Face-to-Face to Distance Education.” New Initiatives in Distance Education, Youngstown State University, August 2014.

“Exploring Social Media: Twitter.” Better Learning with Technology Institute, Youngstown State University, January 2012.

“Using Web-Based Self-Publishing Services in the Composition Classroom.” Professional Writing Showcase, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, October 2008.

Administrative Experience

Writing Program Coordinator, Saint Xavier University 2016 – 2023

Adjunct and tutor supervisory duties

- Hire, supervise, and support adjunct faculty for first-year composition and professional writing courses offered by the department.
- Coordinate schedule of writing course offerings per semester.
- Conduct course orientation for newly hired adjuncts and provide support throughout the semester.
- Recruit student tutors and conduct tutor orientation for writing tutors for campus tutoring department (The Learning Center).
- Recruit student tutors and conduct tutor orientation for embedded student writing tutors for one-credit hour first-year composition writing lab.
- Facilitate Zoom discussion sessions for first-year composition adjunct faculty and embedded student tutors.

Student-focused duties

- Advise writing majors and minors.

- Evaluate transfer student courses for institutional placement and credit.
- Recruit students for the writing major and minor.
- Mediate student grievances with writing faculty.

Curricular and faculty development duties and achievements

- Develop and update four-year course plans and sample semester-by-semester course plans for use by Advising Office to direct new and transfer students.
- Advise General Education Committee on matters pertaining to student writing.
- Collect pedagogical resources and compose documents for newly-hired adjuncts in order to acquaint them with the first-year writing program.
- Developed common syllabus for adjuncts teaching first-year writing course.
- Developed curriculum and common syllabus for professional writing and communication course.
- Developed curriculum and implemented a co-requisite, one-credit hour writing lab for developmental writing students enrolled in first-year composition to replace a three-credit hour pre-developmental composition course. The pilot semester of this lab showed students who enrolled in ENGL 120 and the lab were as successful in passing ENGL 120 as students who were not required to take the lab, and the lab has been noted for playing a role in student retention. The lab was expanded so that all students who take ENGL 120 will also take the lab in AY 2021-22 and 2022-23.
- Developed an online, self-paced Writing Intensive course for faculty across campus who will teach a General Education Writing Intensive course. This course ensures that the basics of good writing instruction introduced to students in first-year composition (such as multiple drafts, peer review feedback, individual faculty-student conferences, and basic rhetorical concepts) will continue to be built upon in writing courses offered by departments outside of English. Course consists of readings, discussion boards, and peer review exercises. Began May 2021.
- ENGL 120 Faculty Development Day. Day-long session with discussion of the four major essay assignments in the course, May, 2019.

Assistant Director, Professional Writing Program, Purdue University	2010 – 2011
Mentor, Professional Writing Program, Purdue University	2009 – 2010
Mentor, Students Engagement and Activism (@SEA), Professional Writing Program, Purdue University	2008

Service

Leadership and Assessment

Co-chair, Faculty Election Committee, Saint Xavier University, 2016 – 2019.

Responsible for running elections for faculty committee positions several times during the academic year.

Chair, Public Relations, Recruitment, Awards, and Honors Committee, Youngstown State University 2014-15; committee member, 2011 – 2013.

Responsible for ensuring the committee meets its responsibilities to the department, which included awarding scholarships and student recognition, marketing and outreach work, planning the department's yearly awards banquet, and supervising the activities of the department's Student Advisory Council.

Writing Across the Curriculum Writing Assessment, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Purdue University, 2008 – 2011.

Conducted holistic assessment sessions of second year engineering students' writing samples; evaluated senior engineering students' written work (engineering design reports, essays, and employment documents).

Committee Work and Advising

Member, General Education Committee, Saint Xavier University. Appointed by the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. 2021 – 2023.

Member, College of Arts and Sciences Dean's Advisory Council, Saint Xavier University. 2018 – 2020.

Faculty Advisor, SXU Storytellers (Creative Writing Student Organization), Saint Xavier University, 2020 – 2023.

Member, Learning Center and Disability Services Advisory Board, Saint Xavier University, 2015 – 2018.

Faculty Advisor, YSU Graduate School publication (*Frontiers*). 2012 – 2015.

Duties included advising the student editor on content and layout, and proofreading and editing student work.

Member, Professional and Technical Writing Program Committee, Youngstown State University, 2011 – present. This committee evaluated PTW majors' senior capstone projects and presentations, and was responsible for the program's curriculum and student recruitment for the major.

Member, Faculty Development Committee, Department of English, Youngstown State University, 2014 – present.

Member, Graduate Program Committee, Department of English, Youngstown State University, 2014 – present.

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences representative, Professional Development and Scholarship Committee, Youngstown State University, 2014.

Member, Departmental Governance Document Committee, Department of English, Youngstown State University, 2013 – 14.

Member, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, Department of English, Youngstown State University, 2013 – 14.

Member, Composition Committee, Department of English, Youngstown State University, 2011 – 2013.

Member, hiring committee for position of Assistant Professor of Composition and Professional and Technical Writing, Department of English, Youngstown State University, 2013

Member, hiring committee for position of Assistant Professor of Early American Literature, Department of English, Youngstown State University, 2012

Member, Professional Writing Program Goals, Means, Outcomes, and Textbook Review Committee, Purdue University, 2009.

Member, Composing With Popular Culture Introductory Composition at Purdue (ICaP) Syllabus Approach Development Committee, 2008.

Web Master, Writing Your Way into Purdue ICaP Syllabus Approach Committee, Purdue University, 2006-07.

Member, First-Year Writing Committee, Florida State University, 2005-06.

Other Departmental Service

Judge, Spring First-Year Composition Awards. Northern Illinois University, 2024.

Department representative, Minors' Quest, Saint Xavier University, October 26, 2019.

“Surprise! You CAN Get a Great Job With a B.A. in English!” Best of SXU panel and discussion. November 6, 2017.

“The Professor Perspective.” Focus, Saint Xavier University, Summer 2016.

Faculty volunteer, YSU Majors Fair, November 2014.

Activity sessions leader, Youngstown State University English Festivals, 2013, 2014.

“Introduction to the Professional and Technical Writing Major and Minor.” University Honors and Scholars Program, Youngstown State University, September 2014.

Faculty volunteer, YSU Media Job Fair, 2013.

Judge, YSU QUEST Undergraduate/Graduate Student Research Competition, 2012.

Service to Discipline

Proposal Reviewer, Illinois Online Higher Education Symposium, 2024.

Reviewer, Composition Forum. 2014 – present.

Session chair, “Multi-Authored Realities: Exploring Receptions of and Depictions of Game Worlds.” Computers and Writing Conference, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, June 2010.

Grants

Youngstown State University College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences college fee grant (\$300) for the establishment of a student chapter for the Society for Technical Communication. Spring 2015.

Graduate Research Assistant grant (\$854). Youngstown State University, 2014.

Honors and Awards

Competitive Provost-Senate Research Award, Saint Xavier University. Awarded May 2019.

William H. and Ruth E. Crouse Scholarship, Promising Scholar in Professional Writing. Purdue University, 2007.

The Quintilian Award for Teaching, Top 15 Percent, PICES Teacher Evaluations Department of English, Purdue University, 2007.