GRINNELL LECTURE: A CELEBRATION OF FACULTY SCHOLARSHIP
FEBRUARY 10, 2022

2022 Honored Grinnell Lecturer

SARAH J. PURCELL
L.F. Parker Professor of History
Grinnell College

The Grinnell Lecture recognizes a distinguished body of scholarly work, including artistic production and/or performance, that makes a significant contribution to one’s field or has a broad impact on the scholarly community.
Sarah J. Purcell is a highly accomplished scholar and teacher who has provided exemplary service to her field, her students, her colleagues, and Grinnell College since 2000. Purcell earned her Bachelor of Arts degree with honors in history at Grinnell College. She continued her education at Brown University, where she earned an A.M. and a Ph.D. Prior to joining the faculty at Grinnell, Purcell was an assistant professor of history at Central Michigan University. Since 2016, she has served as the L.F. Parker Professor of History for Grinnell College, an honor named for Leonard Fletcher Parker, who began teaching at Grinnell in 1860 and served as the college’s Professor of History from 1888 until 1898. From 2008 until 2017, Purcell also served as the Director of the Rosenfield Program in Public Affairs, International Relations, and Human Rights.

Purcell primarily trained as a historian of the American Revolution; her first book, *Sealed with Blood: War, Sacrifice, and Memory in Revolutionary America*, examined the role that public memorials and commemorations of Revolutionary War heroes helped America forge a new national identity—and the ways in which Americans used narratives of their own roles in the war to build their credibility, political capital, and fortunes. Her forthcoming book, *Spectacle of Grief: Public Funerals and Memory in the Civil War Era*, returns to the subject of public memory by exploring the impact of the large-scale public funerals of figures like Frederick Douglass, Henry Clay, Robert E. Lee, and Charles Sumner. She has authored or co-authored several more books, as well as numerous articles and book chapters. She has recently begun a new project, which will investigate the long and contested history of the Bunker Hill Monument. She continues to investigate the ways that memory and commemoration have shaped important and often disputed U.S. national identities.

Purcell has offered outstanding courses in United States and transnational history, including courses on the American, French, and Haitian revolutions, nineteenth century popular culture and politics, and the Civil War in history and memory. A creative and inspiring teacher, she has embraced the digital humanities (helping to launch the College’s Digital Studies concentration) and collaborated with the local school system. She is most notable, though, for being a champion of student research. Although history is not a field with a strong tradition of faculty-student research collaboration, Purcell has been an extremely prolific mentor of undergraduate research students (supervising over 60 Mentored Advanced Projects). Her work in digital history—which has focused on using digital maps to better understand public mourning—was sparked in part by her interest in developing meaningful ways to collaborate with students in her own research. For her outstanding work as a research mentor, Purcell earned the Council for Undergraduate Research’s inaugural Excellence in Mentoring Undergraduate Research in the Social Sciences award in 2019.

Purcell was nominated and selected by her peers to be honored as the eighth annual Grinnell Lecturer on February 10, 2022.

**Acknowledgement of Student Collaborators**

Sarah Purcell wishes to thank and to acknowledge the following thirty Grinnell students whose research projects contributed to the scholarship in her new book, from which the Grinnell Lecture is taken: Katy Alexander ’07, Peter Bautz ’15, Becky Bessinger Bobba ’09, Amanda Borson ’13, Irene Bruce ’15, Katharine Dean ’10, Abby Doudna ’20, Amy Drake ’08, Ethan Drutchas ’12, Tom Elliott ’11, Justin Erickson ’10, Anthony Fitzpatrick ’18, Hayes Gardner ’15, Emily Hackman ’16, Sam Jones ’05, Joey Kathan ’15, Sara Lowenburg ’13, Evan Ma ’14, Eric Mistry ’14, Sam Nakahira ’19, Katie Orsund ’19, Holly Lutwitzte Rapp ’08, Vince Reilly ’19, Jon Richardson ’10, Liz Sawka ’15, Connor Schake ’14, Christian Snow ’13, Liz Stepp ’19, Sean Warlick ’08, and Charun Upara ’21.


**REFEREED ARTICLES**
Published by faculty between Jan. 1, 2021, and Dec. 31, 2021


REFEREED ARTICLES

Published by faculty between Jan. 1, 2021, and Dec. 31, 2021


David James Savarese and Ralph Savarese, “Enmeshing Selves, Words and Media, or Two Life Writers in One Family Talk about Art and Disability,” Er(r)go. Theory-Literature-Culture, 43:111-129, 2021


AWARDS AND HONORS

2021

Susan Ferguson received the American Sociological Association’s 2021 Distinguished Contributions to Teaching Award.


Logan Lee’s paper “Far from Home and All Alone: The Impact of Prison Visitation on Recidivism,” was the runner up for the American Law and Economics Review’s Distinguished Article Prize (for articles published in that journal in 2019).

Eric Ohrn, with his collaborators Daniel Garrett (Penn) and Juan Carlos Suarez Serrato (Duke), received the International Institute of Public Finance Peggy and Richard Musgrave Prize for their paper “Effects of International Tax Provision on Domestic Labor Markets.”

Ralph Savarese’s poem “Clown Palace,” published in Red Wheelbarrow, was nominated for a Pushcart Prize.
BOOKS PUBLISHED

2021


CHAPTERS PUBLISHED

2021


CHAPTERS CONTRIBUTED TO PUBLISHED BOOKS
2021


CREATIVE WORKS
2021


Celeste Miller, “Accept the Poetics of Aging,” experimental film shown at the Curious Encounters Festival, December 9-12, 2021.

Celeste Miller, “Accept the Poetics of Aging,” experimental film shown at the Poetics of Aging Festival, July 11-12, 2021.

Eric McIntyre served as Music Director and Conductor for the Central Iowa Symphony.

Mirzam Pérez’s paintings and visual art were featured in the following exhibitions:

3rd All Women International Online Juried Art Exhibition, J. Mane Gallery, January 2021 (online).
February Group Art Show, Jones Gallery, Kansas City, Kansas, February 3-25 2021.

Deep South by Suroeste: COMPLEXION REFLEXIOS group art exhibition, Stella Jones Gallery, New Orleans, LA, May 1-July 31, 2021

Spectrum-Gestalt 8 Exhibit, bG Gallery, Santa Monica, CA, June 12-July 5, 2021.


Craig Quintero directed the theatrical performance “The Forgotten,” as part of the “2021 ARTQUAKE in Autumn” festival of the Taiwan National Theatre, November 6-7, 2021.

Craig Quintero’s exhibition “Pools of Light” was featured in the 2021 International Human Rights Festival of the National Human Rights Museum in New Taipei City, Taiwan.

Craig Quintero’s exhibition “The Weight of Things,” was featured in the Taiwan Contemporary Culture Lab’s Future Media Arts Festival in 2021.

Ralph James Savarese, Did We Make It? (chapbook with paintings by Tilly Woodward), Hole in the Head Review 2.2, May 1, 2021.

Ralph James Savarese also published the following poems in 2021:

- “Replaced,” Mollyhouse, Issue 3, July 17, 2021 (under the pen name Francis Goodman).

Paula Smith, “Summer” (poem, audio recording), Telepoem Booth Iowa, 2021.

Nicky Tavares, virtual screening of Untitled Bee Film, Searching for Beauty in Student Loan Debt or at Least the Envelopes in Which It Comes, Garfunkel Is Dead, Call Me by Heart, and Notes from the Lower Rungs on Being Chronically Tan and Enflamed, Public Space One, Iowa City, Iowa, May 13, 2021

Nicky Tavares, screening of Notes from the Lower Rungs on Being Chronically Tan and Enflamed, Shapeshifters Cinema, Oakland, California, March 29, 2021

Nicky Tavares, screening of Searching for Beauty in Student Loan Debt or at Least the Envelopes in Which It Comes, “Commingled Containers: Echoes from the Bay” exhibition at San Francisco Cinematheque, December 10, 2020-January 10-2021.

Nicky Tavares, screening of Searching for Beauty in Student Loan Debt or at Least the Envelopes in Which It Comes, Peripheries: Experimental Film & Video Festival, Boston, MA, April 10-15, 2021.

Justin Thomas, visual artist and production designer for A Cosmic Fairy Tale a Day Keeps the Doctor Away (Production Designer and Visual Artist), virtual production of Theatre Gigante, 2021. Selected videos were screened at the 2021 Milwaukee Fringe Festival.

Justin Thomas, scenic designer and scenic artist for Our Town, Hamline University, St. Paul, Minnesota, November 12-20, 2021.

Justin Thomas, scenic and projection designer for Songs for a New World, Farmers Alley Theatre, Kalamazoo, Michigan, October 8-24.
Sherif Abdelkarim was selected to participate in the NEH Summer Seminar “Law and Culture in Medieval England,” hosted by Western Michigan University.

Adey Almohsen received a research grant from the Palestinian Museum in Ramallah for a project on the history of printing in Jerusalem.

Leif Brottem and his collaborator Matthew Turner (Wisconsin-Madison) received a grant through the U.S. Embassy in Abuja’s Public Diplomacy Small Grants program for a project entitled, “Re-imagining land and identity in Nigeria: Towards inclusive agro-pastoral institutions.”

Vance Byrd was selected to participate in the NEH Summer Seminar “The Visual Culture of the American Civil War and Its Aftermath,” hosted by Graduate Center, City University of New York.

Vance Byrd received a Humanities Unbounded Visiting Faculty Fellowship from Duke University to work on his second monograph, Listening to Panoramas: Sonic and Visual Cultures of Commemoration.

Vance Byrd received a Humanities Unbounded Visiting Faculty Fellowship from Duke University to work on his second monograph, Listening to Panoramas: Sonic and Visual Cultures of Commemoration.

Vance Byrd received a Getty Scholar Grant from the Getty Research Institute for a project entitled “Opening the Wounds: Fragmentation and Repair as Physical and Material Methodology in Mark Bradford’s ‘Pickett’s Charge.’”

Lesley Delmenico received a grant from the Evanston (IL) Arts Council for the creation of a multi-sited, community-engaged performance entitled At Home in Evanston.

Dustin Dixon received a Franklin Grant from the American Philosophical Society and the British Academy to conduct research at the Institute for Classical Studies in London for a project entitled “Myth and the Craft of Comedy in Ancient Greece and Rome.”

Dustin Dixon received a grant from the Loeb Classical Library Foundation to conduct research at the Institute for Classical Studies in London for a project entitled “Myth and the Craft of Comedy in Ancient Greece and Rome.”

Jennifer Dobe received a New Currents in Teaching Philosophy Implementation Grant from the Council of Independent Colleges to explore implementing a program of peer mentoring in Grinnell’s Philosophy Department.

Nicole Eikmeier was named a Scialog Fellow by the Research Corporation for Science Advancement and, with collaborators Tavis Anderson (U.S. Department of Agriculture) and Cheryl Andam (SUNY-Albany), received a Scialog Collaboration Grant for a project entitled, “Darwin’s Naturalization Conundrum Predicts Inter-species Pathogen Transmission Potential.”

John Garrison was named a Fellow by the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation in support of his work on the concept of memory in Shakespeare’s poetry.

John Garrison received a Summer Stipend from the National Endowment for the Humanities in support of his next book project, The Pleasures of Memory in Shakespeare’s Sonnets.

John Garrison received a Short-Term Research Fellowship from the Renaissance Society of America in support of his next book project, The Pleasures of Memory in Shakespeare’s Sonnets.

Patrick Inglis received a Franklin Grant from the American Philosophical Society to pursue work on his second book, Paying It Forward: The Promise and Burden of a Good Education.

Shuchi Kapila received a Fulbright Scholar Grant to travel to India to complete the research for and
write her second book, which deals with memory and memorialization of the Indian partition of 1947.

**Mark Laver** received a Franklin Grant from the American Philosophical Society to complete a biography of Canadian musician, composer, and educator Phil Nimmons.

**Eric Ohrn** was selected as a 2021-2022 visiting scholar for the Opportunity & Inclusive Growth Institute of the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, where he is pursuing a project entitled “How Does Capital Investment Affect Workers? Evidence from Bonus Depreciation and Matched Employer-Employee Data.”

**Daniel Oore** received a Concept to Realization Grant from the Canada Council for the Arts for the creation of an electronic-acoustic sound-music project.

**Peter-Michael Osera** received a grant from the National Science Foundation’s Faculty Early Career Development program for a project entitled “Foundations and Applications of Constraint-based Synthesis.”

**Sharon Quinsaat** received the American Association of University Women’s American Postdoctoral Fellowship to complete her first monograph, *Contentious Migrants: How Protests Create a Filipino Diaspora.*

**Craig Quintero** received a grant from the Hong Foundation for artistic excellence.

**Fredo Rivera** received a Career Enhancement Fellowship from the Institute for Citizens and Scholars to complete his book project, *Within the Revolution: Art, Media & the Built Environment in 1960s Cuba.*

**Brigitte Stepanov** was selected to participate in the NEH Summer Seminar “The Search for Humanity After Atrocity,” hosted by Kean University.

**Sejal Sutaria** received a Franklin Grant from the American Philosophical Society to support her work on her book project, *Making Waves: Britain, India, and the Sounding of Postcolonial Resistance.*

**Sejal Sutaria** was selected to participate in the NEH Summer Seminar “Radio and Decolonization: Bringing Sound into 20th Century History,” hosted by the University of Denver.

**Jerod Weinman** received a Senior Summer Faculty Fellowship in the Office of Naval Research’s 2021 Summer Faculty Research Program, where he collaborated with the head of the Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR) Systems section on improving visual information processing systems.

**Lesley Wright** received a grant from the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation in support of the exhibition Paper Trails—Modern Indian Works on Paper, which will appear in the Grinnell College Museum in Fall 2022.


Yvette Aparicio, “Retelling the Salvadoran Civil War: The Named and the Nameless,” XXVII Congreso Internacional de Literatura y Estudios Hispánicos (CILH), March 4-6, 2021.


Julia Bauder, “Data Literacy as Critical Information Literacy: Teaching Both via the Frame “Information Creation as a Process,”” Southeast Data Librarian Symposium, October 13-15, 2021


Caleb Elfenbein, “Religion and Teaching in and Beyond the Classroom,” Center for Religion and American Culture, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, May 20, 2021.


Ross J. Haenfler, two untitled online panels,


**Keisuke Hasegawa**, “Biochemical and single-molecule investigation of the GFP-tagged RAD51 recombinase,” 13th Annual FUTURE in Biomedicine Symposium, Carver College of Medicine, University of Iowa, July 30, 2021.


**Phillip Jones**, “Open Anthology of Iowa’s Literature: Sharing the Power of Regional History,” Iowa Council for the Social Studies Conference, October 4, 2021

**Phillip Jones** and Barbara Fister, “(Mis)information Literacy: A Virtual Chat with Barbara Fister of Project Information Literacy,” Project Information Literacy Provocation Series Online Panel Discussion, April 19, 2021.


**Shuchi Kapila**, “Practices of Memory” Department of English, IIS University, Jaipur, Rajasthan, May 13, 2021


**Mark Laver**, “Jazz Canadiana: Jazz and Public Radio in Canada,” American Studies Association Annual Meeting, October 7-9, 2021


Steven Sharpe ‘21 and **Leslie J. Lyons**, “NMR diffusion studies of organosilyl ester and sulfone electrolytes for applications in lithium-ion batteries at low salt concentration,” Symposium on Innovative Chemistry and Materials for Electrochemical Energy Storage, Division of Energy and Fuels, American Chemical Society Meeting, April 5-16 2021.


**Eric McIntyre**, Video Concert Prelude Talk series for Des Moines Symphony:

“Past and Present,” February 4, 2021
“Spring Serenade,” March 11, 2021
“Fireworks and Fanfare,” April 8, 2021
“Fantaisie en Francais,” May 5, 2021


Viktoria Poetzl, “Klara Blum’s/Zhu Bailan’s Labour Activism in Eastern Europe and Beyond,” Women’s Labour Activism in Eastern Europe and Beyond, 19th and 20th Centuries international workshop, Central European University, October 14-16, 2021.


Ralph Savarese, “The Difference that Neurodiversity Makes, Or Reading Novels with Autistic People, Carleton College Convocation, April 2, 2021.


Eiren Shea, “Dressing the Part: Constructing Tatar/Mongol Identity at the Yuan Court” - Medieval Academy of America, Indiana University Bloomington, April 15-18, 2021.


Eiren Shea, “Hammered, Gilt, and Spun: Innovations in Gold Thread Technology during the Yuan dynasty,” Hilary Term Late Medieval Seminar, Oxford University, January 26, 2021


**Presentations and Conference Papers**

2021


**Hale Utar**, “Future Technology Hubs or Backwater? Lessons on Structural Change from Germany’s Coal Regions,” Trade, Technology, and Demographics, 6th International Conference of the DFG Priority Program 1764, June 11-18, 2021.


**Hale Utar**, “Globalization, Gender and the Family,” University of Cardiff Department of Economics Seminar, April 21, 2021.


IN MEMORIAM

Tyler Roberts
Professor of Religious Studies
Grinnell College, 1998-2021

Tyler Roberts was a scholar of religious studies. He received his B.A. from Brown University and his M.T.S and Th.D. from Harvard University. He arrived at Grinnell in 1998 after teaching at Boston College and Harvard University and served at the rank of Professor from 2008 onward. His first book, Contesting Spirit: Nietzsche, Religion, Affirmation, which was published by Princeton University Press in 1998, challenged traditional views of Nietzsche as an enemy of religion by exploring the transfiguration of religious tropes and practices in Nietzsche’s philosophy. Roberts’ other early work includes articles on Michael Walzer’s vision of social criticism and the parallels between Augustine’s concept of confession and Derrida’s concept of deconstruction.

Roberts’s second book, Encountering Religion: Responsibility and Criticism After Secularism, was published in Columbia University Press’s series Insurrections: Critical Studies in Religion, Politics, and Culture in 2013. In this book, Roberts argued for a renewal of the humanistic study of religion, offering a critical history of religious studies as a discipline divided between anti-reductionist humanists who argue that religion must be studied on its own terms with interpretive methods and reductionist scholars who argue that the only legitimate goal of scholarship on religion is to explain religion in secular, natural terms. Roberts argued for a treatment of Religious Studies—and the humanities as a whole—as a site of “encounter” and “response.” Described by Charles Mathewes as “the single most consequential programmatic work on the study of religion in the past several decades,” Encountering Religion made a significant impact upon the field, earning Roberts speaking invitations at the 2014 American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting and at an NEH Summer Institute on “Problems in the Study of Religion.” An active advocate for the discussion of religion in public life, he was a senior fellow in the Project on Religion and Its Publics at the University of Virginia, which gathered a range of participants to bridge the gap between the academic study of religion and public discussions about religion.

Roberts taught courses on Christianity, philosophy of religion, and selected comparative topics. His exemplary record of service to Grinnell included co-authoring an NEH Humanities Focus grant which allowed the Department of Religious Studies to design a new introductory course; he also served on many College committees, including Executive Council (twice), the Personnel Committee, and (as chair), the Task Force on Teaching and Learning Across the Disciplines.

He passed away suddenly at the age of 63 on June 3, 2021. He was a beloved and respected teacher, mentor, friend, and colleague.