JCCC Writes : A Celebration of Campus Authors

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In this, our 50th anniversary year, we take this moment to recognize and celebrate the writing of Johnson County Community College’s faculty and staff.

We invited current and former faculty and staff who have published during the last 50 years to submit their works for inclusion in the JCCC Writes: A Celebration Of Campus Authors event and in this commemorative bibliography. The following is a non-exhaustive list of truly diverse and remarkable works published by our campus authors.

Please join us in celebrating this amazing group! We hope they inspire your creativity and that you will join us for future writing events.

Sincerely,

The JCCC Writes Committee

Jason Arnett  
Kathryn Byrne  
Andrea Broomfield  
Maureen Fitzpatrick

Farrell Hoy Jenab  
Miguel M. Morales  
Jessica Tipton  
Elisa Waldman
My first published story about a racial conflict on my university campus, I started writing music journalism about the same time I started teaching English. I have written for many Kansas City publications, including the Star and the Pitch, as well as a number of national publications. Alongside authors Dave Marsh and Lee Ballinger, I was an associate editor of the music and politics newsletter Rock & Rap Confidential for twenty-five years. I have published two books, one on the band Soul Asylum and another on singer Mary J. Blige.

SELECTED WORKS


Dennis Arjo is Professor of Philosophy and Chair of the Department of Philosophy and Religion at Johnson County Community College, where he has taught since 1996. Dennis has a Ph.D. in Philosophy from the University of California, Santa Barbara. He has interests in the areas of philosophy of mind, philosophy of education, and comparative philosophy, with a particular interest in Classical Chinese Philosophy. Dennis is the author of a book on ethics in parenting called Paradoxes of Liberalism and Parental Authority, which was released by Lexington Books in November 2016.

SELECTED WORKS


Living in the hills of eastern Kansas allows me to set stories in the plains of the fantastic. I mostly write science fiction adventures but dabble in other genres, too.

I’ve played in bar bands and written and drawn my own mini comics. When I was told that I was hurting my stories by trying to draw them, I turned to writing prose and haven’t looked back once. I combine my love and knowledge of music, comics, and stories into my writing.

SELECTED WORKS

Dr. Barrett serves as the Director of the Office of Assessment, Evaluation and Institutional Outcomes at Johnson County Community College in Overland Park, Kansas. Dr. Barrett has presented on assessment at both national and regional conferences including the League for Innovation Learning College Summit, Association of Institutional Research, Association for the Assessment of Learning in Higher Education, Assessment Institute, Texas Association of Assessment, the National Benchmarking Institute, Kansas City Area Professional Development Council, the Kansas State Learning Assessment Institute, and the Assessment Matters Conference. Dr. Barrett has also consulted and presented both regionally and nationally for colleges and universities on strategic planning, assessment and program review.

Dr. Barrett is a member of the Association for the Assessment of Learning in Higher Education, Association of Institutional Research, and the Midwest Association of Institutional Research. Dr. Barrett serves as a peer reviewer for the Higher Learning Commission as well as for specialized accrediting agencies.

SELECTED WORKS

Barrett, Sheri H. “Asking the Right Question: The Key to Good Assessment.”
Brandon M. Bender is an author whose recent academic research focuses on late Anglo-Saxon England. His first book, "England’s Unlikely Commander: The Military Career of Æthelred the Unready," was published in April 2019. His writing has appeared in publications like Rounded Globe, The Kansas City Star, Mind’s Eye, Hare & Bell, 365 Days, and others.

**SELECTED WORKS**


Sally Bennett enjoys reading, researching, and giving presentations on historic and military aspects of the Early American Republic period. Here at JCCC, she teaches Composition I and II; is a Writing Specialist in the Writing Center; and leads the Scene-by-Scene Writing Workshop on Thursday afternoons for fiction writers.

**SELECTED WORKS**


Nancy Holcroft Benson is a current professor at JCCC. She earned a B.S. in Biology and a minor in Mathematics at Iowa State University in 1998. She then earned a Ph.D. in Systematics and Ecology from the University of Kansas in 2003, where she was also a Madison A. and Lila Self Graduate Fellow. She started teaching at JCCC as an adjunct in 2003 and as a full time faculty member in 2004. She regularly teaches BIOL 127: General Zoology and BIOL 150: Biology of Organisms and has previously taught BIOL 121: Introductory Biology for Non-Majors (and its predecessors, BIOL 122/123: Principles of Biology lecture and lab). Nancy is an Adjunct Research Associate with the KU Biodiversity Institute's Division of Ichthyology, where she was an active researcher until ~2013. Her scientific research focused on fish phylogenetics (evolutionary relationships among various groups of fishes) and fish morphology (body form).

**Selected Works**


Holcroft, Nancy I. “A Molecular Test of Alternative Hypotheses of Tetraodontiform (Acanthomorpha: Tetraodontiformes) Sister Group


Dr. Charles Bishop, Professor of History, worked at JCCC from 1972 until his retirement, in both teaching and administrative positions. He has published articles and reviews on education history and policy in national journals and has won the Distinguished Service Award for Teaching Excellence and the Burlington Northern Research and Publication Award.

(submitted by Farrell Hoy Jenab)

SELECTED WORKS


Andrea Broomfield has taught English at JCCC since 2000. She focuses primarily on writing and classes that involve the culinary arts, including teaching special topics courses about food history and culture as well as food writing. She is currently writing a book on Kansas City’s Iconic Restaurants, part of The History Press’s American Palate Series. It is due out in 2021.

SELECTED WORKS


David Cantwell has taught in the JCCC English department since 1989. He writes about popular culture, particularly country music, for the New Yorker and Rolling Stone Country. A former senior editor at No Depression magazine, David has written for Slate, Salon, the Oxford American and the Journal of Country Music, among other publications. He is the author of Merle Haggard: The Running Kind (University of Texas Press, 2013) and the co-author of Heartaches by the Number: Country Music’s 500 Greatest Singles (Vanderbilt University Press/Country Music Foundation Press, 2003).

SELECTED WORKS


Ignacio Carvajal graduated from JCCC in 2009. He obtained a B.A. from KU and a PhD in Latin American Literature form the University of Texas at Austin. His poetry has appeared in journals like The Rio Grande Review, the Acentos Review, and the anthologies the Wandering Song: Central American Writing in the United States and No Tender Fences: An Anthology of Immigrant & First-Generation American Poetry to Benefit RAICES-TEXAS. He is a member of the Latino Writers Collective of Kansas City, the Taller Literario don Chico in Costa Rica, and the board of directors of Borderlands: Texas Poetry Review. Ignacio is assistant professor at the University of Kansas.

SELECTED WORKS


Shudong Chen

Dr. Shudong Chen is Professor of Humanities at Johnson County Community College in Overland Park, Kansas, U.S.A. He is the author of Henry James: The Essayist Behind the Novelist (Edwin Mellen 2003) and Comparative Literature in the Light of Chinese Prosody (Lexington Books 2018) in addition to over two dozen articles and essays on issues of comparative literature and comparative philosophy.

SELECTED WORKS

Lydia Cline began her career in architecture and then migrated to 3D printing and writing. She has published eight titles, some of which have been translated into Chinese, Korean and German. She currently teaches drafting and technology courses at JCCC, in writing a third edition of one book, and owns/operates an AirBnB.

**SELECTED WORKS**


James Cooper

Adjunct Professor of English

James Cooper has multiple degrees in English, including a PhD from Oklahoma State University. He currently works as an adjunct professor at Johnson County Community College, where he teaches writing courses online. Poems of his have appeared in Connecticut Review, Indiana Review, Red Rock Review, Gulf Coast, Flint Hills Review, Kansas Quarterly, Dragon Poet Review, Any Key Review, Thorny Locust, and Project for a New Mythology. Using the pseudonym firstcitybook, he blogs occasionally at Red Moon Café, which has been in existence since 2006, and which is probably best known for its annual review of jazz recordings worthy of note.

SELECTED WORKS


Doug Copeland

Professor and Chair of Economics

Doug Copeland is in his 39th year as a full-time economics professor. Before coming to JCCC in 1992, he taught at Kansas State University and Pittsburg State University. He has been a contributing author to a Principles of Economics textbook, and has published numerous ancillaries to economics and business textbooks, as well as having reviewed many other textbooks, for most of the major publishing companies since his first publication in 1986.

SELECTED WORKS


Linda Creason

Professor, Reading

Dr. Linda Creason completed her Ph.D. at the University of Missouri-Kansas City in 2005 in the field of Interdisciplinary Studies (Education and Psychology) with emphases on Reading Education and Cognitive Psychology. In 2011-2012 she completed Post-Doc work at Appalachian State University through the Kellogg Institute and earned certification as a Developmental Education Specialist. Dr. Creason currently teaches Academic Reading at Johnson County Community College and serves as a Reading Specialist for the college. She is active in the College Reading and Learning Association (CRLA) and the National Association for Developmental Education (NADE).

SELECTED WORKS

Patrick Dobson has been teaching American History, Western Civilization, and Modern Latin America surveys at JCCC since 2009. His first book, Seldom Seen: A Journey into the Great Plains (University of Nebraska Press) was published to wide acclaim in 2009. Canoeing the Great Plains: A Missouri River Summer, his second book (University of Nebraska Press), was published in 2015 and won the Thorpe Menn Literary Excellence Award and the High Plains Book Award in 2016. His third book, Ferment: Mental Illness, Redemption, and Winemaking in Germany’s Mosel Valley is slated for publication in May 2020 with Skyhorse Publishing. He has published essays, reviews, and poems widely in newspapers and literary journals, including New Letters, Garo, the Kansas City Star, and White Wall Review.

**SELECTED WORKS**


Tai S. Edwards – Associate Professor of History (Ph.D. University of Kansas, M.A. George Mason University, B.S. University of Kansas) and Director of JCCC’s Kansas Studies Institute. Dr. Edwards’ research interests include North American colonization, U.S. imperialism, Indigenous peoples, gender, and environmental history. Her book, Osage Women and Empire: Gender and Power (University Press of Kansas, 2018) examined how Osage gender complementarity was central to the rise of an Osage “empire” in the 18th century and in resisting U.S. colonization in the 19th century. Her recent Edgar Langsdorf Award-winning article, “Disruption and Disease: The Osage Struggle to Survive in the Nineteenth-Century Trans-Missouri West,” demonstrated how U.S. federal policy and settler invasion produced the disruptions necessary for epidemic disease to decimate the Osage population (see Kansas History, vol. 36, no. 4, Winter 2013/2014). Along with Paul Kelton, she has an article, “Germs, Genocides, and America’s Indigenous Peoples” in press with the Journal of American History and she has contributed a chapter, “The ‘Virgin’ Soil Thesis Cover-Up: Teaching Indigenous Demographic Collapse” in Understanding and Teaching Native American History, Kristofer Ray and Brady DeSanti, eds. (in progress with University of Wisconsin Press). She has also received the JCCC’s BNSF Railway Faculty Achievement Award (2018), College Scholar (2018), and Publication Award (2019).

SELECTED WORKS


Maureen Fitzpatrick

Professor of English

Maureen Fitzpatrick has been at JCCC since 1993. She came to the college via Iowa, Missouri, and Nebraska. Her degrees are in English with focuses in composition, creative writing, and general literature. Her research interests are in humor and the impact of new media on writing across genres.

SELECTED WORKS


"Traits & Concerns: Integrating Instruction and Assessment across Institutional Levels." Kansas English, Fall 2015.

Lisa Friedrichsen

Professor, Computing Sciences & Information Technology

Lisa Friedrichsen started authoring computer science textbooks for Cengage in 1990. Since then, she has authored or co-authored over 100 titles in the areas of Microsoft Access and Excel, database concepts, and the web development languages of HTML and CSS. In 1992, Lisa became a full-time faculty member at JCCC in the Computing Sciences & Information Technology division.

SELECTED WORKS

Anthony Funari

Grants Professional/Adjunct Professor of English

Anthony hails from Allentown, Pennsylvania. He received his B.A. in English from the University of Pittsburgh, his M.A. from the State University of New York at Stony Brook, and his Ph.D. from Lehigh University. His doctoral dissertation earned the 2010 College of Arts and Sciences Dean’s Outstanding Dissertation award and was nominated for 2011 Council of Graduate Schools Distinguished Dissertation Award. Anthony has served as a reviewer for Teaching English at Two-Year Colleges since 2012. Anthony began his teaching career in the New York City Public School system and has taught composition and literature at JCCC since 2010. Anthony currently lives in Olathe with his wife, Kim, and their sons, William and Gabriel.

SELECTED WORKS

Laura H. Gascogne

Professor, Ceramics, Fine Arts

I received my education at Virginia Commonwealth University (B.F.A.-Ceramics) and Tyler School of Art, Temple University (M.F.A.-Ceramics). Since graduate school, I have traveled to India to study Indian temple sculpture and hope to return soon. My interests and investigations include Pre-Colombian, Asian and Native American Ceramics and sculpture, cultural anthropology, geology (personal investigations and experiments of clays in Western states, Missouri and Kansas; experimental firing of native clays using Pueblo-method pit firing and black on black methods). Much of my personal work is influenced by lifelong interest and connections with Buddhist, Hindu, and Native American artwork, history and philosophy.

SELECTED WORKS


Gascogne, Laura H. “Hollow Figure Construction: Laura-Harris Gascogne Describes Her Process.” Ceramics Technical Magazine. vol. 29, 2009, pp. 70-73.

Steve retired from JCCC after 38 years. He was named the Kansas Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation in 2003. Steve won the Jay R. Gould Award for International Excellence in Teaching Technical Communication in 2016. Steve was honored to win JCCC’s Distinguished Service Award 16 times for excellence in teaching and publication. Steve was the JCCC commencement speaker in 2016. In retirement, he is a Consulting Faculty in the Health Information Management Program at the University of Kansas Medical Center. He is proud to be a husband, father, and grandfather.

**SELECTED WORKS**

Beth Gulley is a poet based in Kansas City who teaches writing at Johnson County Community College. She recently published a chapbook, $!*# Hole Countries: A Find and Replace Meditation. Her poems also appear in the Bards Against Hunger Anthology, From Everywhere a Little: A Migration Anthology, the Thorny Locust, and The Gasconade Review Presents: Storm A'Comin'. Her passions include thrift store shopping, traveling, and drinking coffee.

SELECTED WORKS

Gulley, Beth. $!*# Hole Countries: A Find and Replace Meditation, CreateSpace, 2018.


Gulley, Beth. “MLA 8: We Are Here, But Should We Have Come?” Literacy and NCTE, NCTE, 14 Jun. 2017, www2.ncte.org/blog/2017/06/mla-8-come/.

Gwenda Hawk received her Juris Doctor degree from Southern Methodist University’s Dedman School of Law and is licensed to practice law in Kansas. She also has earned a Master of Business Administration degree, a Bachelor of Science degree in Economics, and a Bachelor of Science degree in Statistics.

Her formal teaching career began in 2006 at Southeast Missouri State University’s Harrison College of Business, as an Adjunct Professor of Business Law. Ms. Hawk has been teaching at JCCC since 2013, and was honored at the 2015 Lieberman Adjunct Faculty Awards Dinner for completing the JCCC Adjunct Certification Training program. She joined the Paralegal program full time in 2015 and assumed the role of chair of Business Law starting in 2017, now serving as chair of both programs in the Legal Studies department.

Ms. Hawk is the co-author of “A Survey of State Copyright Laws,” which was published in Fall 2014 by the Southern Law Journal.

While in law school, Ms. Hawk served as Senior Articles Editor for the Computer Law Review & Technology Journal and president of the Intellectual Property Organization. She interned with the Missouri State Public Defender’s Capital Unit (specifically focused on death penalty appeals cases) and attended the Intellectual Property Summer Institute at the University of New Hampshire School of Law, where she received 40 hours of mediation certification training. During her MBA studies, she attended International Summer School in eastern Germany.

Ms. Hawk worked in contract administration with paralegal responsibilities in the music publishing industry in Nashville, Tennessee. She also worked as a legal intern and paralegal for the Recording Industry Association of America, Inc. in Texas and Washington, D.C. and later as a paralegal specialist for the U.S. Department of Commerce before joining the U.S. Copyright Office. Ms. Hawk earned a Fellowship with the Leadership Development Program at the United States Library of Congress in 2003. Shortly after, she began her own consulting firm focused on intellectual property. Using her legal and business background, Ms. Hawk has worked in the federal government, health care, library science, and the entertainment industry to develop a diverse experience from which she draws in relating class materials to the real world. She has also tutored students in preparation for college and graduate school entrance exams, including the LSAT.

In the local community, Ms. Hawk has served as an Election Judge and was selected to the Missouri Citizens’ Commission on Compensation for Elected Officials by the Secretary of State. She leads the children’s music program at her church and has served on the board of directors for Spire Chamber Ensemble. Ms. Hawk has also volunteered at the University of Kansas Medical Center, as a speech and debate judge in the Liberty Public School District, and
for the Children’s Center for the Visually Impaired. She and her family are currently learning American Sign Language together.

SELECTED WORKS


Ruth J. Heflin
Adjunct Professor of English

Author of I Remain Alive: the Sioux Literary Renaissance; Yonni Hale and the Cosmic Wind (under pseudonym Rajah Hill); Time Coven: Tales of Space, Magic, and Time Travel (short story collection); Dr. Cooper’s Finishing School for Incels (screenplay); and Mrs. Nash (screenplay about the first historically documented man to live his life as a woman). Currently working on Pitiless Bronze: How the Iliad Symbolizes the Rise of the Patriarchy; a Textual Edition with ecological commentary of Charles A. Eastman’s Red Hunters and the Animal People; and a novel called The Sleeping Prince.

SELECTED WORKS

Heflin, Ruth J. Dr. Cooper’s Finishing School for Incels. Smashwords. https://www.smashwords.com/books/view/956600


Kristy Wittman Howell
Sustainability Education and Engagement Coordinator

Kristy has served as Education and Engagement Coordinator in JCCC’s Center for Sustainability since 2014. Prior to joining staff here, she worked briefly at a sustainability-focused small business incubator, and spent nearly a decade in institutional research and academic advising for active duty Army students at Hopkinsville Community College in Western Kentucky. Kristy holds an AA from Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, a BA and 30+ graduate hours in History from the University of Southern Mississippi, an MA in Social Responsibility and Sustainable Communities from Western Kentucky University, and is a doctoral candidate in the Community College Leadership EdD at Northern Illinois University. Her dissertation research is a comparative historical case study focused on the establishment of community college campuses in white flight neighborhoods.

SELECTED WORKS

Farrell Hoy Jenab serves as director of Faculty Development at Johnson County Community College, where she has also taught in the English Department and the English for Academic Purposes program for more than 20 years. Previously she served as Director of the Kansas Studies Institute and Study Abroad Coordinator. She recently completed an Ed.D. in Curriculum and Instruction at the University of Kansas. Her research focused on the effect of SoTL and FLCs in the community college and faculty collaboration as professional development.

**SELECTED WORKS**


Jessica Killeen has been teaching Sociology at JCCC for 10 years. Born and raised on the east coast of Australia, she earned a BA in Sociology and Social Policy, and a PhD in Sociology and Gender Studies at the University of Sydney. Her current research examines mothering practices and identities for women experiencing perinatal loss in the USA and Australia, but her true love is teaching.

SELECTED WORKS

I have over thirty-six years of college teaching experience both at the university and community college level. Known for pioneering and innovating in curriculum development, including for online learning (one of the first faculty at JCCC to design and teach online), interdisciplinary course design (via both developing the first course in women and gender studies at JCCC and in expanding offerings for articulation through various disciplinary courses), and in applying academic knowledge through service learning (was the first faculty member to design service learning in the curriculum at JCCC). Initiated and chaired an ad hoc committee for creating a cultural diversity requirement for graduation. Have served on numerous committees and taskforces, including chairing our division’s curriculum committee. I have published both theoretical and empirical papers focusing on developing students’ critical thinking in refereed journals. Presented papers, posters and round table discussions at national and international conferences including Magna’s Teaching Professor, Sloan-C, League of Innovation, International Conference on Critical Thinking and Educational Reform, National Institute on the Teaching of Psychology and Community College Humanities Association Conference. Research focuses on thinking style and learning approaches and their role in critical thinking; cooperative and collaborative learning and the role of service learning. Have created and produced community programming as in the series "360 Degrees of Women’s Lives" which examined body image and global/historical representations through interdisciplinary events and lectures; as faculty advisor to the school’s AAUW (American Association of University Women) club, events have centered around female empowerment.

SELECTED WORKS


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**Julie Lane**

Adjunct Professor of English, Writing Center Specialist

Living in Lee’s Summit, MO, I have worked as an English Instructor at JCCC for 25 years. I have also taught at Wyandotte High School and Longview Community College. My husband and I have two daughters and five granddaughters. The birth of my two oldest granddaughters inspired me to write this book which is based on a true experience which took place around the time of the births of Haley and Clara. My husband and I also love to travel, completing journeys to five continents.

**SELECTED WORKS**


Ms. Leeper grew up in the Kansas City area, in Lenexa, Kansas. She attended JCCC between 1995-97 and served as a staff writer for The Ledger. Ms. Leeper also worked as a Student Activities coordinator. Ms. Leeper graduated with a Journalism degree from The University of Kansas and now works from home as a freelance writer. She lives with her husband and two boys in Kansas City, Missouri.

SELECTED WORKS


Jim Leiker teaches courses in United States History survey, African American studies, and the American West. He is the author of numerous books and articles on Western History, among them "Racial Borders: Black Soldiers along the Rio Grande," (Texas A & M Press, 2002) and "The Northern Cheyenne Exodus in History and Memory" (Oklahoma, 2011), which was named a Kansas Notable Book and won the Great Plains Distinguished Book Prize. In 2009, he founded JCCC's Kansas Studies Institute, a program he directed for five years. Jim chairs the board of the Kansas Business Hall of Fame and serves on the editorial board of Kansas History, A Journal of Central Plains. Dr. Leiker has been involved in several National Endowment for the Humanities programs, both as consultant and participant, and was a Fulbright-Hays scholar in Egypt and Israel. Jim earned his B.S. and M.A. degrees from Fort Hays State University and his PhD from the University of Kansas. He is married to Cherie Leiker, Professor of Business Office Technology.

**SELECTED WORKS**


Leiker, James N. "A People of the Wind: From Germany to Russia to the U.S." Immigrants in American History: Arrival, Adaptation, and Integration. Edited by Elliott Barkan, ABC-CLIO, 2013.


Approaching 37 years of married life (blissfully so), I’ve now been in Kansas eight years. I have an MSN in nursing education from MidAmerica Nazarene University, an MFA in creative writing from the University of San Francisco, I’ve studied jazz bass at the Musician’s Institute, and I’ve explored a bit of sound engineering at the University of Sound Arts.

SELECTED WORKS


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Greg Luthi

Professor of English

Greg Luthi earned his B.A. and M.A. in English from Kansas State University and his Ph.D. in English from Oklahoma State University. He has taught at Johnson County Community College since 1989.

SELECTED WORKS


Vincent E. Miller

Dean of Academic Support

Vincent Miller studied German at the University of Kansas and the University of Pennsylvania where he earned his Ph.D. He began his career at Johnson County Community College working in IT, but his love of education led him to move to the academic branch, first as an Education Technology Analyst in Educational Technology, then as the Director of Educational Technology before becoming Dean of Academic Support in 2016.

**Selected Works**

W. H. Mitchell is the author of the space opera series The Imperium Chronicles, including The Arks of Andromeda and The Dragons of Andromeda. With dark, dry humor, he explores the hubris of humanity through palace intrigues, mega-corporations, and occasionally confused robots.

SELECTED WORKS


Miguel M. Morales grew up in Texas working as a migrant and seasonal farmworker. A Lambda Literary Fellow and an alum of VONA/Voices and of the Macondo Writers Workshop, Miguel is a member of the Latino Writers Collective and a founding member of La Resistencia. His work appears in Imaniman: Poets Writing in the Anzaldúaan Borderlands, Primera Página: Poetry from the Latino Heartland, To the Stars Through Difficulties: A Kansas Renga in 150 Voices, From Macho to Mariposa: New Gay Latino Fiction, If You Can Hear This: Poems in Protest of an American Inauguration, The (Other) F Word: A Celebration of the Fat & Fierce, in Duende Journal, Acentos Review, Green Mountains Review, Texas Poetry Review, Hawai’i Review, and World Literature Today among others. Miguel is also the co-editor of Pulse/Pulso: In Remembrance of Orlando and of two forthcoming anthologies: Fat & Queer: An Anthology of Queer and Trans Bodies and Lives and the untitled Latino Writers Collective anthology focusing on Kansas City area Latina/o/x LGBTQ voices. He has earned many awards including the Society of Professional Journalists’ First Amendment Award. Miguel has has worked at the Billington Library at Johnson County Community College for more than 18 years.

**SELECTED WORKS**


Sandra Moran was an author and assistant adjunct professor of anthropology at Johnson County Community College in Overland Park, Kansas. A native Kansan, she worked professionally as a newspaper journalist, a political speech writer, and an archaeological tour manager. In her novels, she strived to create flawed characters struggling to find themselves within the cultural constructs of gender, religion, and sexuality. She authored several books including "Letters Never Sent," "Nudge," "The Addendum," and "All We Lack." Sandra’s final book, "State of Grace," was released posthumously in Summer 2016.

In Fall of 2015, Sandra learned she had Stage 4 cancer. Sandra passed away November 7, 2015 surrounded by family and friends. Sandra was a treasured part of the JCCC campus community and will always be part of our family.

(Submitted by Miguel M. Morales)

Selected Works

Author: Serra Morgan

Pen Name: Serra Rochelle

Serra has been with JCCC for 9 years starting as a student in 2011 and started working at the college in 2013. As an Academic Technology Services technician, Serra helps maintain the technology for the faculty and staff of JCCC.

In Serra’s free time she enjoys playing video games and various table-top games like Dungeons and Dragons and Magic the Gathering. She also enjoys tinkering and working with her 3D printers.

Serra has been writing poetry since high school and from time to time will take a few minutes to write. She hopes to one day compile all her poetry and publish them in a book. She also in the process of writing her first fantasy novel.

SELECTED WORKS


Rochelle, Serra. The Truth that Cannot be Known. Self Published, 2015.

Rochelle, Serra. UNTITLED. Self Published, 2019.
Dr. Sayanti Ganguly Puckett is a Professor in the English Department at Johnson County Community College. She completed her doctorate in 2009 from Oklahoma State University. Her dissertation, Cultures of Corruption: British Libertinism and Its Colonial Manifestations, is a cross-cultural study focusing on the libertine lifestyles of the British Restoration Rakes (1660-1700) and the “babus” of Nineteenth Century colonial Calcutta, the capital of the British Raj in India. She has also published several biographical pieces on influential British novelists and playwrights. Dr. Ganguly Puckett teaches Composition I, II, British Literature, Introduction to Literature, and Introduction to Fiction.

SELECTED WORKS


SELECTED WORKS


T.A. Maclagan is a Kansas girl by birth but has lived all over the world, including a ten-year-long adventure in New Zealand. With a bachelor’s degree in biology, a Master’s in Library Science and a Ph.D. in anthropology, she’s studied poison dart frogs in the rainforests of Costa Rica, howler monkeys in Panama and the very exotic and always elusive American farmer. It was as she was writing her ‘just the facts’ dissertation that T.A. felt the call to pursue something more imaginative and discovered a passion for creative writing.

SELECTED WORKS

Matthew W. Schmeer’s work has appeared in numerous small press & online journals, including Redactions, Poetry South, Slipstream, Sliver of Stone Magazine, Marathon Literary Review, Really System, Panoply, indicia, Slippery Elm, Surreal Poetics, Cream City Review, Natural Bridge, Valparaiso Poetry Review, The Hawai’i Review, and elsewhere. He holds an MFA from the University of Missouri at St. Louis and is a Professor of English at Johnson County Community College, where he teaches a variety of writing courses.

SELECTED WORKS


For more than ten years, Dr. Seitz has taught in the community college classroom. Dr. Seitz currently teaches in both traditional and online environments. Her educational research focus is on assessment in online learning and engaging non-traditional students in an online classroom. As a PULSE leadership fellow, Dr. Seitz has been involved in numerous projects to effect change in undergraduate life sciences education at the departmental level. She has worked within our regional network framework to form communities of practice across institution types to improve life science education. As an editor for the Journal of Microbiology and Biology Education Tips and Tools section Dr. Seitz has helped to engage a community of educators in developing best practices that are easy to implement in the classroom. Finally, as a first-generation college student Dr. Seitz is always mindful of the impact educational interventions can have on student success.

SELECTED WORKS

Allison Smith, Professor and Chair of Art History, received her Ph.D. in Greek and Roman Archaeology from the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis, her M.A. in Twentieth-Century Art History from the American University in Washington, DC, and her B.A. in Art History and Humanities from the University of Kansas. She has taught graduate and undergraduate courses in Western Art History, Greek and Roman Art and Archaeology, Bronze Age Archaeology, the History of Photography, and Twentieth-Century Art History. In addition to teaching at the University of Kansas and Austin Peay State University, previously Dr. Smith worked for the Smithsonian American Art Museum in Washington, DC, and served as Arts Services Coordinator for the University of Minnesota.

SELECTED WORKS


Jessica earned a B.S. in Psychology with a minor in Women’s Studies from Kansas State University, a M.A. in Information Science and Learning Technologies from the University of Missouri and an Ed.S. in Human Services/Learning Resources from the University of Central Missouri. She has worked in public, high school, community college and university libraries for the past 18 years. She is passionate about being a librarian because she has the opportunity to help people and make a difference in their lives every single day. She believes in student-focused, approachable and friendly research support provided in a variety of formats to best meet a learner’s needs.

In her spare time, Jessica volunteers at an afterschool running club at a local elementary school, serves as a Girl Scout troop leader, and enjoys traveling with her husband and twin daughters.

SELECTED WORKS


Tony Wayne
Adjunct Professor, Accounting

Taught close to 15 years at JCCC and have also taught MBA students at Baker & Rockhurst. Graduated from JCCC 1979 with honors!! Founded IronHorse LLC in 1998; specialty business consulting firm with practice concentrations in complex financial & operations restructuring, business valuation, expert witness services/litigation support and M & A due diligence. Regularly publish in various legal and financial trade publications, and present at various legal and financial professional association events. Currently serve on NACVA Global valuation team & developed curriculum & present via series of international webinars. Recently chosen to serve on Turnaround Management Association Global Board of Trustees.

SELECTED WORKS

Steve Werkmeister was a stereotypical 20th-century boy from a stereotypical 20th-century broken family in central Nebraska. He's lived in Texas and Pennsylvania and has been drunk in numerous countries in South America and Europe, proving you can take the boy out of the plains but not the plains out of the boy. His job resume includes stints in warehouses, at liquor stores, at record stores, with roofing and road construction crews, at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston (night security—educational if you’re paying attention but nothing sexy), and in a graveyard, all of which have, in their own peculiar ways, prepared him for his current gig at JCCC. And he writes.

SELECTED WORKS

Tom Wheeler has been involved in higher education for more than three decades. He has taught in a wide range of programs including electronics, electronic and computer engineering technology. He has also served ten years in higher education administration for ten years and in that role served as a leader and advocate for career and technical education. Dr. Wheeler is actively involved as an author and creator in many areas of technology; his interests include computer software (signal processing, networking, forensics, and distributed computing), radio frequency (RF) systems engineering, biomedical technology, and automated test and instrumentation. Within education, he’s presented at venues including the National Higher Education Benchmarking Institute (NHEBI) as well as the Kansas City Professional Development Council (KCPDC). Tom is a native of the Kansas City area.

SELECTED WORKS

Sarah Worrel considers herself a professional student wherever she happens to be. She loves working at writing centers and helping others find that moment of comprehension. Sarah’s short stories have appeared in Coal City Review and Ad Astra, while her poetry has appeared in 365 Days: A Poetry Anthology I & II as well as at 150kansaspoems.

SELECTED WORKS


Deborah Williams
Professor and Chair, Environmental Science and Sustainable Agriculture

Deb Williams is a lifelong resident of Kansas, lifelong learner and a career educator. She is currently a Professor and Chair of the Environmental Science and Sustainable Agriculture Department at Johnson County Community College, where she teaches a variety of undergraduate courses within the Science Division as well as Introductory Philosophy, Ethics, Bioethics and Environmental Policy and Law for the Arts, Humanities and Social Science Division. Deb holds a J.D. from the KU School of Law with certificates in Natural Resources and Environmental Law and Tribal Law, master’s degrees in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology (EEB), Indigenous Studies and Philosophy, among others.

Deb’s EEB research examined legal and ethical issues shaping wolf recovery in the United States. More recently, she completed a Master’s in Philosophy, with a focus on applied ethics. Last fall, she completed a Master’s in Indigenous Studies with honors. Her ongoing research involves identifying and removing barriers to Native American student persistence in STEM disciplines.

SELECTED WORKS
