

JOHN WHARTON LOWE

Education

Ph.D. in English and Comparative Literature, Columbia University (1981); M.Phil., Columbia University; M.A., Georgia State University; B.A., Vanderbilt University

Academic Honors

MELUS Lifetime Achievement Award for Distinguished Contributions to American Ethnic Literature, 2008; N.E.H. Research Fellowship, 2008-2009; ATLAS Research Fellowship, 2007-08; Edna and Norman Freehling Fellowship in South Atlantic Studies, Virginia Foundation for the Humanities, Spring, 2007; LSU Foundation Distinguished Faculty Teaching Award for Graduate Instruction, 2006; Manship Foundation Research Grant, Summer, 2005; President Elect, Society for the Study of Southern Literature, 2009-11; President, Southern American Studies Association, 2005-2007 ; President, MELUS, 1997-2000; LSU Distinguished Faculty Award, 1999; Senior Fulbright Professorship, University of Munich, 1995-96; Director, Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities Summer Seminars, 1992, 1997, 2004; American Council of Learned Societies Fellowship, 1992-93; President, Louisiana Folklore Society, 1991-92; LSU Faculty Research Awards, Summer, 1991, 1989; N.E.H. Travel Grant, Summer, 1990; Ford Foundation Faculty Fellowship, Center for the Study of Southern Culture, 1986-87; Andrew W. Mellon Faculty Fellow, Harvard University, 1985-86; N.E.H. Summer Seminar, "Humor in Cross-Cultural Perspective," Berkeley, 1984; Fulbright Scholar, India, Summer, 1983; Lilly Foundation Summer Grant, 1983; Fellow, Yale Summer Institute, "Reconstructing American Literature," 1982

Professional Experience

Professor of English and Comparative Literature, Louisiana State University, 1995 - ; Asso., 1992-95; Asst, 1986-92; Founding Director, Program in Louisiana and Caribbean Studies, 2002 -; Senior Fulbright Professor, Amerika Institut, University of Munich, 1995-96; Mellon Faculty Fellow, Harvard University, 1985-86; Assistant Professor of English and Co-Director, American Studies, Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame, Indiana, 1981-85

Selected Publications:

Books: Faulkner's Fraternal Fury: Sibling Rivalry, Racial Kinship, and Democracy (under contract, LSU Press); Approaches to Teaching Hurston's **Their Eyes Were Watching God** and Other Works (editor). New York: MLA, forthcoming; Louisiana Culture from the Colonial Era to Katrina (editor). Baton Rouge: LSU Press, 2008; Bridging Southern Cultures (editor). Baton Rouge: LSU Press, 2005; The Future of Southern Letters (co-editor with Jefferson Humphries). New York: Oxford University Press, 1996; Conversations with Ernest Gaines (editor). Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 1995; Jump at the Sun: Zora Neale Hurston's Cosmic Comedy. Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1994. Books in Progress: Calypso Magnolia: The Caribbean Side of the South; The Americanization of Ethnic Humor. .

Recent Essays:

“‘Laughin’ Up a World’: Teaching Their Eyes Were Watching God Through Humor” and “Modes of Black Masculinity in Jonah’s Gourd Vine.” Approaches to Teaching Hurston’s **Their Eyes Were Watching God** and Other Works, forthcoming.

“Riffs from the Rez: Alexander Posey and the Origins of Native American Literary Comedy.” The Legacy and Influence of Fus Fixico. Ed. Suzan Shown Harjo. Golden, Colorado: Fulcrum Publishing, forthcoming.

“Creole Cultures and National Identity After Katrina.” Louisiana Culture from the Colonial Era to Katrina. 1-21.

- “The Carnival Voices of A Confederacy of Dunces.” Louisiana Culture from the Colonial Era to Katrina. 159-190.
- “African American Humor.” Comedy: A Geographic and Historical Guide. (2 vols.) Ed. Maurice Charney. Westport, Connecticut: Praeger (2005): Vol. 1. 34-47.
- “Calypso Magnolia: The Caribbean Side of the South.” South Central Review 22, 1 (2005): 54-80.
- “Constructing a Cultural Theory for the South.” Bridging Southern Cultures. Ed. John Lowe. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University press, 2005. 28.
- “Re-creating a Public for the Plantation: Reconstruction Myths of the Biracial Southern ‘Family.’” Bridging Southern Cultures. Ed. John Lowe. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 2005. 221-253.
- “MELUS Meets the World: The Story of the Oversea Chapters.” MELUS, 29, 3/4 (2004): 499-513.
- “The Construction and Deconstruction of Masculinity in The Yearling.” Rawlings cluster, Mississippi Quarterly, LVII, 2 (2004): 231-246.
- “Reconstruction Revisited: Plantation School Writers, Post-Colonial Theory, and Confederates in Brazil.” Mississippi Quarterly, LVII, 1 (2004): 5-26.
- “Fingering the Jagged Grain: Edward P. Jones and The Known World.” The World and I, 19, 5 (2004): 197-205.
- “Fraternal Fury: Faulkner, World War I, and Myths of Masculinity.” Faulkner and War. Ed. Ann Abadie and Noel Polk. Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2004. 70-101.
- “‘Let the People Sing!’ Zora Neale Hurston and the Dream of a Negro Theatre.” Southern Women Playwrights. Ed. Robert McDonald and Linda Paige. University of Alabama Press, 2002. 11-26.
- “The Fraternal Fury of the Falkners and the Bundrens.” Mississippi Quarterly, LV, 3 (2001): 595-624.
- Recent Papers Presented:
- “Humor, Orality, and Folk Culture in Miss Jane Pittman.” MLA, San Francisco, December, 2008; “Portnoy and His Children: The Legacy of a Comic Masterpiece.” American Studies Association, Albuquerque, October, 2008; “Migrations of the Heart in Claude McKay’s Banana Bottom.” MESEA Conference, Leiden, The Netherlands, June, 2008; “Richard Wright and the CircumCaribbean.” Richard Wright Centenary Conference, American University of Paris, June, 2008; “Learning from the Loas: The Effect of the Haitian Revolution on Southern Literature and Culture.” Society for the Study of Southern Literature, Williamsburg, April, 2008; “Martin Delany’s Blake and the Origins of the Transnational Neo-Slave Narrative.” College Language Association, Charleston, April, 2008; Invited Lecture, “Zora Neale Hurston and Folk Culture.” Oxford Festival for the Book, University of Mississippi, April, 2008; “Creating the CircumCaribbean Imaginary: Dubose Heyward, Paul Robeson, and the Filming of The Emperor Jones.” MELUS Conference, Ohio State University, Columbus, March, 2008; Invited Lecture, “The Transnational Vision of Pagan Spain.” Natchez Literary Festival/Richard Wright Centennial Celebration, Natchez, February, 2008

James A. Hutchins Lecture, Center for the Study of the American South, “Unleashing the Loas: The Literary Legacy of the Haitian Revolution in the U.S. South and the Caribbean.” University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, November, 2007; “Signifying on God: Hurston’s Goosing of Southern Religion(s).” Humorfest, East Carolina University, November, 2007; Keynote Speaker, Constance Fenimore Woolson Society Conference, Savannah, February 2007; Invited Lecture, “Out of the Laughing Barrel: Dunbar’s Comic Conventions in Poetry and Fiction.” Dunbar Centennial Symposium, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, October, 2006; “Subversive Romanticism, Haitian Specters, in Yerby’s The Golden Hawk,” American Studies Association, Oakland, October, 2006; “Orality, Humor and Folk Culture in The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman,” MESEA Conference, Pamplona, Spain, May, 2006; “Working the Race: The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman.” Society for the Study of Southern Literature Conference, Birmingham, March, 2006; Dionysus on the Reservation: The Subversive Humor of Hanay Geiogamah,” MELUS Conference, Boca Raton, April, 2006; “Transforming Folk History: Miss Jane Pittman on Page and Screen,” College Language Association, Conference, Birmingham, April, 2006; ”Exploding the Laughing Barrel: Paul Laurence Dunbar and American Humor.” Dunbar Centennial Conference, Stanford University, March, 2006. “Orality, Humor, and Folk Culture in The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman, invited lecture at Gaines symposia in Aix and Tours, France (November 2005).