

Eric Fretz is associate professor of peace and justice studies at Regis University in Denver, Colorado. He has published numerous essays about community organizing, climate change, American literature and civic engagement and he edited and contributed chapters to a book of essays, *Climate Change Across the Curriculum* (Lexington Books, 2015). In 2016 he was a Fulbright Scholar in Timisoara, Romania where he taught in the American Studies department at the University of the West. He received his Ph.D. in English and American Studies from Michigan State University.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. English and American Studies, Michigan State University, 1995. *Dissertation Title:* "Performing Selfhood and the Theatrical Imagination in Antebellum America."

M.A. American Studies, Penn State University--Harrisburg, 1990.

B.A. English, Messiah College, 1988.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

William F. Fulbright Scholar, Romania. 2016

Associate Professor, Peace and Justice Studies
Regis University, August 2010-present

Director, Center for Community Engagement and Service Learning
University of Denver, May 2006-June 2010.

Director, Community Studies Center & Associate Professor
Naropa University, Boulder, Colorado. August 2003-2006

Visiting Assistant Professor, American Thought and Language
Michigan State University. August 2000-02

Assistant Professor of English (tenured)
Loras College, Dubuque, Iowa. 1995-2000

Teaching Assistant, Department of English
Michigan State University. 1991-95

Classes Taught (select)

- Civic Engagement Seminar
- Public Life in America
- Democracy and Disagreement
- The Irish and Their Troubles
- Honors Justice Seminar
- Climate Justice
- Introduction to Peace and Justice
- Saul Alinsky and the Community Organizing Tradition
- First-Year Composition
- Survey of Nineteenth Century American Literature
- Literature of the Vietnam War

- African American Literature
- Dublin: City as Text
- Ralph Ellison's Invisible Man

Books

Fretz, E, ed. *Climate Change Across the Curriculum*. Lexington Books, 2015.

Refereed Articles

Fretz, E. "The Comic Vision of Saul Alinsky's Community Organizing Tradition." *American Studies Journal*. 66, 2019. <http://www.asjournal.org/>

Fretz, E. "Does Saul Alinsky Belong in Jesuit Education?" *Jesuit Higher Education: A Journal*. 3.1, 2014: 9-18.

Fretz, E, S. McCauley, N. Nicotera, et al. "Civic Leadership and Public Achievement at the University of Denver's Center for Community Engagement and Service Learning." *From Command to Community: A New Approach to Leadership Education in Colleges and Universities*. Edited by Nick Longo. 2011: 149-168.

E. Fretz, S. Thompson, et al. "Dedication to Community Engagement: A Higher Education Conundrum." *Journal of Community Engagement and Scholarship*. 4.1, 2011: 37-49.

Boyte, H., E. Fretz. "Civic Professionalism." *Journal of Higher Education, Outreach and Engagement*. 14. 2, 2010: 67-90.

Fretz, E., N. Nicotera, N. Cutforth, and S. Summers Thompson. "A Case Study of Institutional Visioning, Public Good and the Renewal of Democracy: The Theory and Practice of Public Good Work at the University of Denver." *The Journal of Higher Education Outreach and Engagement*. 13.1. 2009: 87-109.

Fretz, E. "Practicing Politics in Higher Education: Community Organizing Strategies for the University." *Journal of Higher Education Outreach and Engagement*, 12. 2, 2008: 69-94.

Fretz, E. and K. MacGuire. "Public Dialogue Series as Service Learning." *Academic Exchange Quarterly*. Spring 2007: 103-108.

Cooper, D. and E. Fretz. "The Service Learning Project: Re-Writing the Humanities Through Service Learning and Public Work." *Reflections: A Journal of Writing, Service Learning and Community Literacy*. Winter 2006: 133-52.

Fretz, E. "Teaching Liberty and Practicing Deliberative Democracy in the Classroom." *Campus Compact Reader*. Winter/Spring 2004. <http://www.compact.org/reader/>

Fretz, E. "In the Shadow of Ms. Gradgrind." *Connexions: The Publication of the International Society for Exploring Teaching Alternatives*. 14. no. 3, 2002.

Fretz, E. "Stylized Public Processions and the Literary Carnavalesque in the Fiction of Nathaniel Hawthorne." *The Nathaniel Hawthorne Review*. 19 Summer, 1995: 11-17.

Book Chapters

- Fretz, E. "Climate Ethics." *Climate Change Across the Curriculum*. Edited by Eric Fretz. Lexington Books, 2015: 139-51.
- Cooper, D. and E. Fretz. "Service Learning Through Public Work and Public Deliberation." *Going Public*. Edited by Hiram Fitzgerald. Michigan State University Press, 2013: 93-106.
- Fretz, E. "Student Learning in the Engaged Academy." Section Editor Notes. *Handbook of Engaged Scholarship: Contemporary Landscapes, Future Directions*. Edited by Hiram Fitzgerald, Diane L. Zimmerman, Cathy Burach and Sarena D. Seifer. East Lansing: Michigan State University Press, 2010: 309-313.
- Fretz, E. and N. Longo. "Students Co-creating and Engaged Academy." *Handbook of Engaged Scholarship: Contemporary Landscapes, Future Directions*. Edited by Hiram Fitzgerald, Diane L. Zimmerman, Cathy Burach and Sarena D. Seifer. East Lansing. Michigan State University Press, 2010: 313-330.
- Fretz, E. "PT Barnum's Theatrical Selfhood and the Nineteenth-Century Culture of Exhibition." *Freakery: Cultural Spectacles of the Extraordinary Body*, 1996: 97-107.
- Gross, B. and E. Fretz. "What Fitzgerald Thought of the Jews: Resisting Type in 'The Hotel Child.'" *New Essays on F. Scott Fitzgerald's Neglected Stories*. Ed. Jackson R. Bryer. Columbia: University of Missouri Press, 1996: 189-205.

Creative Non Fiction

- Fretz, E. "The History of a Farmhouse Table." *Gravel Magazine*.
<https://www.gravelmag.com/eric-fretz.html>

Awards and Recognition

- William F. Fulbright Scholar, Romania, 2016
Regis College Outstanding Scholarship Award, 2016

Domestic Conference Presentations

- "Toward a Climate Ethics." Just Sustainability Conference. Seattle University. 3 August 2014.
- "Civic Leadership." With Nicholas Longo. International Research Conference on Service Learning and Civic Engagement. Ottawa, Canada. 10 October 2009
- "The New Leadership: Civic Engagement and the Revitalization of Democracy." With Nicholas Longo. International Research Conference on Service Learning and Civic Engagement. Ottawa, Canada. 10 October 2009

- "Technocracy in Higher Education: How Should Faculty do Public work with Students and Community Partners?" American Association of Colleges and Universities Conference. San Diego. 3 April 2009. [Paper accepted, did not attend conference. Colleague, Dr. Tom Knect presented.]
- "This Isn't As Easy as It Looks": A Dialogue about Service Learning in Gender Communication and Feminist Classrooms." Western States Communication Association Conference. Broomfield, Colorado. 19 February 2008.
- "Community Organizing, Civic Learning and Diversity Work." American Association of Colleges and University conference, "Civic Learning at the Intersections: US Diversity, Global Education and Democracy's Unfinished Work." Denver, Colorado, 20 October 2007.
- "Developing Institutional Practices that Support Engaged Scholarship." International Service Learning Research Conference. Tampa, Florida, 7 October 2007
- "Connecting Dialogue and Public Work." Public Achievement Festival. University of Minnesota, 20 April 2005.
- "Applied Asset Based Community Development: The Lafayette Youth Project." Continuums of Service Conference. Western Campus Compact. Portland, 12 April 2005. With Elaina Verveer and John Lamb.
- "Public Dialogue Series as Service-Learning for Small Group Communication: The Case of 'Building Communities After 9.11'" National Communication Association Convention. Chicago, 11-14 November 2004. Written with Kat Maguire.
- "Secular Components of Contemplative Education and Spiritual Components of Community Learning." Spirituality, Social Justice and Service-Learning Conference. Messiah College, Grantham, PA, 3 June 2004.
- "Social Capital and Service-Learning." Session Chair. International Service-Learning Research Conference, Nashville TN, 22 October 2002.
- "First-Year Writing Courses and Service-Learning: The Sudanese Youth Project at Michigan State University." National Society for Experiential Education National Conference, Las Vegas, 4 October 2002.
- "Using Technology to Help Students Learn." Collaboration for the Advancement of College Teaching Conference, Minneapolis, MN, 21 November 1997.
- "Performing Selves: The Theatrical Imagination in 19th Century Anglo-American Literature." Chairperson for session at Midwestern Modern Language Association Conference, St. Louis, MO, 4 November 1995.
- "Exhibiting a Culture of Sentiment: P.T. Barnum and the Jenny Lind Tour of 1850." Popular Culture Association Conference, Philadelphia, 12 April 1995.
- "Fitzgerald's Lobby for the Jews: Resisting Type in "The Hotel Child."

Mid-Western Modern Language Association, Chicago, November 1994.

"Exhibiting Self and Other: P.T. Barnum and the Nineteenth Century Culture of Exhibition."
Northeastern Popular Culture/American Culture Association Conference, Lewiston,
Maine, 29 October 1994.

"Selfhood and Dissent: Considering the Possibilities of Oppositional Culture in a
Postmodern World." Interdisciplinary Conference, "Undrawing the Line," Lehigh
University, 12 February 1993.

Invitational Workshops

Stanford University Haas Center Strategic Planning. 17 November 2009.

Teaching Democratic Thinking, Elon College. July 2009.

Community Engaged Scholarship Charrette. University of North Carolina. May 2008.

University of Northern Iowa workshop on civic engagement, facilitator. May 2006.

Grants

Morgridge Family Foundation. 2008-10. \$315,000 for student civic engagement initiatives
at the University of Denver.

CU Federal Credit Union Grant. 2005. \$1800 to develop a Public Achievement program at
Angevine Middle School, Lafayette, Colorado.

Communities Strengthening Colorado. 2005. \$3000 Training and Technical Assistance
grant to contract with the Center for Democracy and Citizenship to implement
training workshops at Naropa University.

Communities Strengthening Colorado. 2005. \$1500 Training and Technical Assistance
grant to take seven Centaurus High School teachers and students to Public
Achievement Festival.

Gil Foundation Grant. 2004. \$1500 Public Achievement Project van rental. September
2005.

Naropa University Faculty Development Grant. 2004. \$1,500 to attend "Inside/Out
Training."

Communities Strengthening Colorado. 2003. \$75,000 from Corporation for National and
Community Service to develop civic dialogues on race and ethnicity in Lafayette,
Colorado.

Bridges to the Future Fund. 2002. \$2,000 to conduct Study Circle Resource Center
dialogues in Fort Collins, Colorado.

Private donation to develop Service-Learning Project in Honors Program. 1997. \$1,200 to develop community engagement project in Honors Program at Loras College.

Community-Based Writing

"The Moral Issues Behind Climate Change, In Colorado and Globally." *Denver Post Blogs*. 27 August 2013. <http://blogs.denverpost.com/opinion/2013/08/27/climate-change-morality/41445/>

"Saul Alinsky's Real Legacy" *Denver Post*, 7 October 2009. With Zeik Saidman.
http://www.denverpost.com/search/ci_13499477

"We are the one's we've been waiting for: A students' guide to Public Achievement."
http://www.publicachievement.org/pdf/Coaches/Handbook_Naropa_2006.pdf

"Power: Core Concept." http://www.publicachievement.org/pdf/articles_papers/core_concept_power.pdf

"Reading, Writing and Test-Taking Study Guide." Prepared for State of Michigan Family Independence Agency. Spring 2002.

"Learning from Sudanese Refugees." *Connect: Research, Practice and Policy for Families and Communities*. Fall 2003. <http://www.fact.msu.edu/Connect/research.htm>

"Bush's Volunteerism Call Misses Erosion in Democratic Habits." *Lansing State Journal*. 13 February, 2002.

"Motoring Through Bogota." *Loras College Magazine*. Spring 1998.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND WORKSHOPS

"Paul Durcan and Eamon Grennan: Lyricism in Contemporary Irish Poetry"
Paper delivered to faculty development group at Dublin Institute of Technology, Dublin, Ireland, 12 April 2000.

"Teaching Critical Thinking in the University"
Lectures and workshops delivered at the University of Pretoria, South Africa, 15 July 1998.

"Teaching Critical Thinking" & "Teaching Writing as a Process."
Lectures and workshops designed and delivered to Colegio Santa Francisca Romana, Bogota, Colombia, South America. 4-15 August 1998.

BOOK REVIEWS AND ENCYCLOPEDIA ENTRIES

Rev. of Melville and the Politics of Identity by Julian Markels. *Studies in American Fiction* 24 (1996): 125-26.

Rev. of *Minerva and the Muse: A Life of Margaret Fuller* by Joan von Mehren. *American Literature* 67 (1995): 855-56.