

**LORI ANN KANITZ**  
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## **EDUCATION**

- 2014 UNIVERSITY OF ST. ANDREWS, SCOTLAND  
Ph. D. in Literature and Theology  
  
Dissertation title: “A Literary *Shema*: Annie Dillard’s Judeo-Christian Vision and Voice”
- 1992 UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM, ENGLAND  
M. A. in Literature and Theology  
  
Dissertation title: “‘A Love Song to Our Mongrel Selves’: The Translation of Identity in Salman Rushdie’s *The Satanic Verses*”
- 1987 UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA, OKLAHOMA  
B. A. with Highest Honors, in English Literature

## **ADMINISTRATIVE AND LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE**

- 2015 – present Assistant Chair, English and Modern Languages Department  
2014 – present Coordinator for General Education  
2014 – present Chair, General Education Committee  
2014 – present Co-chair, Institutional Improvement and Student Learning Committee  
2000 – present Director, Writing Across the Curriculum Program  
2000 – present Chair, Writing Across the Curriculum Committee  
2015 – present HLC Criterion Three Committee Co-Chair  
2011 – 2014 Director, Off-campus and Study Abroad Programs  
2012 CCCU Women’s Leadership Development Institute, participant  
1999 – 2011 Director, Writing Programs, English Department  
2001 – 2002 President, South-Central College English Association  
1998 – 2000 Chair, Ad Hoc Writing Across the Disciplines Committee

## **ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE**

- 1993 – present Associate Professor, English, Oral Roberts University  
2000 – present Honors Program Faculty Member, Oral Roberts University  
2007 – present Second Reader, Senior Papers in Theology, Aesthetics, and English, Oral Roberts University  
2005 – present Lecturer, “Faith and Civilization in Context,” Honors Seminar, Oral Roberts University  
2002 – present Lecturer, “Philosophy of Science,” Honors Seminar, Oral Roberts University

2011	Seminar Lecturer, Institute for Theology, Imagination, and the Arts, University of St. Andrews, Scotland
2010	Guest Lecturer, M. Litt. Module, "Theological Engagements with the Arts," Institute for Theology, Imagination, and the Arts, University of St. Andrews, Scotland
1999	Lead Teacher, The Eighth Floor
1997 – 1998	Author/instructor, School of LifeLong Education English 101 Telecourse
1987 – 1990	Instructor, English, Heritage Hall Upper School, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
1987	Student Teacher, Norman High School, Norman, Oklahoma

### **UNIVERSITY AND ACADEMIC SERVICE**

2015 – 2016	University Planning Council, Member
2014 – 2015	Presidential appointee, Recruitment and Retention Task Force
2013 – 2014	Faculty Member at Large, Presidential Globalization Task Force
2013 – 2014	New Faculty Mentor
2013 – 2014	Presidential appointee, Global Partnership Review Committee
2000 – 2013	Member, Christian Worldview Committee
2007 – 2013	Member, "Thinklings," ORU faculty research group
1997 – 2008	Member, University Faculty Assembly Curriculum Committee
2008 – 2010	Appointee, Faculty Governance Task Force
1997 – 2008	Editor, <i>The Parchment</i> , Oral Roberts University English Alumni Newsletter

### **HONORS AND AWARDS**

2014	Alumni Faculty Award, Integration of Faith and Learning
2014	Outstanding Faculty Member, College of Arts and Cultural Studies
2014	Outstanding Faculty Member, English and Modern Languages Dept.
2008 – 2011	First Presbyterian International Scholarship Award
2006	Outstanding Faculty Member, English Department
2005	Honorable Mention, ORU Chairs' Award for Scholarship in the Classroom
2003	Winner, ORU Chairs' Award for Mentoring in the Classroom
2003	Honorable Mention, ORU Dean's Award for Innovation in the Classroom
1999	Runner-up, Outstanding Teacher, School of Arts and Sciences
1998	C. S. Lewis Foundation Conference Scholarship Grant
1990	Rotary Foundation International Scholarship
1987	Phi Beta Kappa
1987	Carl Albert Award, University of Oklahoma
1987	Margaret Castalez Award, English Department, University of Oklahoma
1987	Cortes A. M. Ewing Fellowship, University of Oklahoma
1987	Women's Letzeiser Award, University of Oklahoma
1986	Kappa Delta Pi Honors Education Fraternity, University of Oklahoma
1985	Robert Dean Bass Memorial Scholarship, University of Oklahoma
1984	Rita H. Lottinville Prize, University of Oklahoma

1984	William K. Edmark, M. D. Scholarship
1984 – 1987	Alumni Scholarship, University of Oklahoma
1983	Achievement Award Scholarship, University of Oklahoma

## **COURSES TAUGHT**

### ORAL ROBERTS UNIVERSITY, TULSA, OKLAHOMA

2015 – present	Senior Research (ENG 498) and Senior Paper (ENG 499)
2014	Major Authors (ENG 352)
2013 – present	Technical Writing I (WRT 335)
2001 – present	Culture and the Christian Imagination (ENG 307, THE 455, CHRM 455)
1998 – present	Honors Reading and Writing in the Liberal Arts (COMP 102H)
1998 – present	Critical Reading and Writing (COMP 303)
1994 – present	Reading and Writing in the Liberal Arts (COMP 102)
1993 – 2000	College Reading and Writing (COMP 101)
1994 – 1996	University Success

### HERITAGE HALL UPPER SCHOOL, OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA

1987 – 1990	Sophomore English
1988 – 1989	Journeys Toward Meaning (philosophy and literature course)
1987 – 1990	Expository Writing

### NORMAN HIGH SCHOOL, NORMAN, OKLAHOMA

1987	Senior English (British Literature)
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## **SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS**

2015	“Science, Poetry, and Metaphorical Ways of Knowing.” Metaphors in Use Conference, Lehigh University, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania
2015	“Reading Genesis One.” Science and the Wisdom of God: A Seminar on Origins, Sanctuary Church, Tulsa, Oklahoma
2015	“Healing through Words and the Word.” Celebration of Healing Conference, Oral Roberts University, Tulsa, Oklahoma
2012	“Suspended Endings, Theodicean Spaces, and Annie Dillard’s Asyndetic Style.” Ends and Endings: Notions of Closure in Literature, Theology, and Contemporary Culture, University of St. Andrews, Scotland
2012	“A Fallen World and A Kenotic God?: Exploring the Problem of Evil through the Science and Theology of Annie Dillard’s Literary Non-Fiction.” American Scientific Association, Oral Roberts University Chapter

- 2011 “*Tsimtsum*, Theodicean Spaces, and Annie Dillard’s Asyndetic Style.” Lecture at the Institute for Theology, Imagination, and the Arts, University of St. Andrews, Scotland
- 2010 “Jewish Mystical Traditions in Annie Dillard’s *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek*.” Lecture for “Theological Engagements with the Arts,” M. Litt. Module, University of St. Andrews, Scotland
- 2010 “‘Holiness Splintered into a Vessel’: *Shevirat ha-Kelim* and Christ’s Kenosis in Annie Dillard’s *Holy the Firm*.” International Society for Religion, Literature, and Culture, Oxford University, England
- 2010 “Language and the Myth of Scientific Objectivity,” Having an Answer Series, Trinity Episcopal Church, Tulsa, Oklahoma
- 2010 “Science, God, and Poetry: The Necessity of Imaginative Rationality,” Having an Answer Series, Trinity Episcopal Church, Tulsa, Oklahoma
- 2009 “Language and the Myth of Scientific Objectivity,” Cosmic CSI: Evidence for God in Science, Believers’ Church, Tulsa, Oklahoma
- 2009 “Science, God, and Poetry: The Necessity of Imaginative Rationality,” Cosmic CSI: Evidence for God in Science, Believers’ Church, Tulsa, Oklahoma
- 2004 “Israel’s Sages and Metaphorical Language.” International Conference on “Metaphor and its Moorings.” Redeemer University College, Ancaster, Ontario, Canada
- 2004 “Finding Origins, Finding Solutions: Communicating a Christian Worldview to Students,” Council for Christian Colleges and Universities Campus-Based Faculty Development Workshop, Abilene, Texas
- 2004 “WACing Big Changes on a Small Budget: Developing and Implementing a Writing-Intensive, Faculty Learning Community,” 7<sup>th</sup> International Writing Across the Curriculum Conference, St. Louis, Missouri
- 2003 “The Art of Science: Scientific Communities and Metaphorical Language.” South-Central Modern Language Association, Hot Springs, Arkansas
- 2003 “Writing in Community: Faculty Helping Faculty Teach Writing-Intensive Courses,” Council for Christian Colleges and Universities Campus-Based Faculty Development Workshop, St. Paul, Minnesota
- 2001 “Beautiful Truth: Metaphorical Language, Newspeak, and its Nazi and Communist Antecedents.” South-Central Modern Language Association, Tulsa, Oklahoma

- 1999 "Is There a Class in This Text?" South-Central Modern Language Association, Memphis, Tennessee
- 1999 "The Letter and the Spirit: Letters from Dorothy L. Sayers to C. S. Lewis." C. S. Lewis and the Inklings Conference, Oral Roberts University, Tulsa, Oklahoma
- 1998 "Contending With *That Hideous Strength*: The Dangers and Ethics of Persuasive Language Techniques." South-Central Modern Language Association, New Orleans, Louisiana
- 1998 "Teaching About the Language of Totalitarianism: Using C. S. Lewis's *That Hideous Strength* for Lessons on Propaganda, Doublespeak, Euphemism, and Jargon." C. S. Lewis Symposium, Oklahoma City University, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
- 1997 "Born Again and 'Borne Across': Translation and Salvation in *The Satanic Verses*." Conference on Christianity and Literature, Lafayette, Louisiana

## **PUBLICATIONS**

- Forthcoming *Strategies for Reading and Writing*. Ed. William R. Epperson, Lori A. Kanitz, and Mark R. Hall. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Dubuque: Kendall/Hunt.
- 2015 "Suspended Endings, Theodicean Spaces, and Annie Dillard's Asyndetic Style." *Last Things: Essays on Ends and Endings*. Eds. Gavin Hopps, Stella Neumann, Sven Strasen, and Peter Wenzel. Frankfurt: Peter Lang, 2015.
- 2010 "Annie Dillard." *Encyclopedia of Christian Literature*. Eds. George Kurian and James D. Smith. Plymouth, UK: Scarecrow Press, 2010.
- 2009 "There Will Always Be Enough." *Lenten Reflections: Daily Reflections and Scriptures*. Tulsa: First Presbyterian Church, 2009.
- 2006 "'O My God, Do Not Tarry': Bus Stops, Prayer, and the Spiritual Discipline of Waiting." *Tidings*. 51:4 (2006):14-15.
- 2006 "Remembering the Living Feast." *Tidings*. 51.2 (2006):4-5.
- 2005 "Evangelizing the Outposts of Our Hearts." *Tidings*. 50.1(2005):12-13.
- 2005 "All Who Wander Are Not Lost: God's Providence in Times of Change." *Tidings*. 50.3 (2005): 10-11.
- 2005 "Improving Christian Worldview Pedagogy: Going Beyond Mere Christianity." *Christian Higher Education*. 4.2 (2005): 99-108.

**PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES**

2015	Higher Learning Commission Standard Pathway Conference, Indianapolis, Indiana
2015	Higher Learning Commission Annual Conference, Chicago, Illinois
2012	“Ends and Endings: Notions of Closure in Literature, Theology, and Contemporary Culture,” University of Aachen, Aachen, Germany
2012	Council for Christian Colleges and Universities Women’s Leadership Development Conference, Sumas, WA
2012	11 <sup>th</sup> International Writing Across the Curriculum Conference, Savannah, Georgia
2010	ITIA Conference: “Theology, Aesthetics, and Culture: Conversations with the Work of David Brown,” St. Andrews, Scotland
2010	10 <sup>th</sup> International Writing Across the Curriculum Conference, Bloomington, Indiana
2009	ITIA Conference: “Reverséd Thunder: The Art of the Psalms,” St. Andrews, Scotland
2008	9 <sup>th</sup> International Writing Across the Curriculum Conference, Austin, Texas
2007	Conference on Christianity and Literature, Arlington, Texas
2006	South-Central Modern Language Association Conference, Ft. Worth, Texas
2006	8 <sup>th</sup> International Writing Across the Curriculum Conference, Clemson, South Carolina
2004	7 <sup>th</sup> International Writing Across the Curriculum Conference, St. Louis, Missouri
2003	22 <sup>nd</sup> Annual Wildacres Retreat: Writing Across the Curriculum, Asheville, North Carolina
2002	6 <sup>th</sup> International Writing Across the Curriculum Conference, Houston, Texas
2000	Festival of Faith and Writing, Calvin College, Grand Rapids, Michigan
1999	South-Central Modern Language Association, Memphis, Tennessee

- 1999 Writing to Learn and Learning to Write in the Disciplines, University of Arts and Sciences of Oklahoma, Oklahoma
- 1999 C. S. Lewis and the Inklings Conference, Oral Roberts University, Tulsa, Oklahoma
- 1998 C. S. Lewis Foundation Oxbridge '98 Conference, Oxford and Cambridge, England

### **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

My research interests center on various intersections of theology, literature, and language theory. My doctoral dissertation focused on the influence of Jewish mystical traditions and the Hebrew scripture on the work of American Pulitzer Prize winner, Annie Dillard. My research in this area examines how Lurianic Kabbalistic thought and eighteenth-century Eastern European Hasidism informs Dillard's understanding of God's relationship to creation as well as her approach to questions of evil, suffering, and redemption. In addition, I am interested in epistemological and aesthetic questions related to language theory, primarily in the area of metaphor. My pursuit of these questions, especially in the area of philosophy of science, has led to scholarly research on the ways theological, poetic, and scientific metaphors mediate humans' epistemic access to reality. This interest has opened doors for me to lecture to audiences ranging from university honors classes to local churches on the role of language in contemporary science and faith debates. I am also interested in biblical perspectives on ecology, popular culture, and political discourse.

### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Conference on Christianity and Literature (CCL)  
 Northeastern Modern Language Association (NeMLA)  
 South-Central Modern Language Association (SCMLA)  
 South-Central College English Association (SCCEA)

### **OTHER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE**

- 2009 Book Reviewer, *The McGraw-Hill Handbook*, by Elaine Maimon, Janice Peritz, and Kathi Yancey, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed
- 2004 Book Reviewer, *The Little, Brown Handbook*, by H. Ramsey Fowler and Jane E. Aaron, 9<sup>th</sup> ed. for Pearson/Longman
- 2002 Book Reviewer, *The Student Writer*, by Barbara Fine Clouse for McGraw-Hill
- 2001 Book Reviewer, *The Contemporary Writer*, by Edna M. Troiano and Julia D. Scott for Prentice Hall
- 1995 Book Reviewer, *On Course: Strategies for Creating Success in College and in Life, A Guided Journal Approach*, by Skip Downing for Houghton Mifflin
- 1992 – 1993 Educational Program Coordinator/Tech Center Director, Sylvan Learning Center, Tulsa, Oklahoma

**COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AND SERVICE**

2015 – present	Elder, First Presbyterian Church, Tulsa, Oklahoma
2015 – present	Discipleship Committee member, First Presbyterian Church, Tulsa, Oklahoma
2015 – present	Missions Committee member, First Presbyterian Church, Tulsa, Oklahoma
2015 – present	Vertical CrossFit member
2014	Volunteer Foster, Zoi's Rescue, Tulsa, Oklahoma
2005 – present	Member, First Presbyterian Church, Tulsa, Oklahoma
2007 – present	Academy of Faith and Life instructor, First Presbyterian Church
2013	“Lift Up Luke,” CrossFit WOD Benefit for Autism Awareness
2011 – 2013	Volunteer, Pet Adoption League, Tulsa, Oklahoma
2005 – 2011	Christian Education Committee, First Presbyterian Church
2011	Workshop instructor, “Creative Writing, Grief, and Healing,” Children's Hospice Association Scotland, Kinross, Scotland
2007 – 2009	Deacon, First Presbyterian Church
2007	Prayer Task Force, First Presbyterian Church
2003 – 2006	South Peoria Neighborhood Connection Project, board member
1992 – 2002	Member, Bread of Life Fellowship
1994	Volunteer Instructor, Bread of Life Home School Cooperative