ROBERT L. ZAMSKY, PhD

EDUCATION

PhD in English. The University at Buffalo, Poetics Program, June 2001. MA in English. University of Nebraska at Lincoln. August 1994. BA in English. Oregon State University. March 1993. BA in Economics. Oregon State University. June 1992.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE New College of Florida, 2007 to present

New College of Florida (NCF) is the statutorily designated honors campus of the Florida State University System and a member of the Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges (COPLAC). Founded in 1960, NCF offers more than fifty majors, ranging from traditional liberal arts disciplines to innovative interdisciplinary programs, and master's programs in Data Science and Marine Mammal Science. The college has long been one of the most highly ranked public liberal arts colleges in the country and has been renowned for its inclusive campus environment, student-centered learning, and an ethos grounded in access, excellence, and innovation.

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

August 2023 - Present. Associate Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs. (Inaugural Appointee).

The Associate Provost has direct reports in the faculty directors of the interdisciplinary programs, the Dean of the Jane Bancroft Cook Library, and the Executive Director of the Office of Research Programs and Services, oversees faculty onboarding and development, and supervises the directors of The Black Box Theater, the Pritzker Marine Biology Research Center, and the New College Public Archaeology Laboratory. The Associate Provost is the Provost Office's liaison with faculty standing committees and works routinely with counterparts throughout the State University System and the Cross College Alliance consortium.

Summary of Accomplishments

• Faculty Development

- o Successfully advocated for a 40% increase in faculty development funding.
- Implemented faculty "re-startup" funding. Modeled on the startup packages received by new faculty, this program provides significant financial support for faculty research and creative work in the years immediately following tenure.
- Led onboarding of 42 new faculty members. Oversaw facilities, materials, and equipment needs; integrated new faculty into the college's student-centered ethos; facilitated yearlong orientation program focused on cohort building and institutional engagement.
- o Coordinated faculty development with offices across campus. Offered sessions focused on the impacts of AI in higher education, course design, and integrating writing support.
- Revamped and expanded the Office of Research Programs and Services. Hired new Executive Director, increased grant writing and management staff by 30%.

• Interdisciplinary Program Development and Oversight

- Provide oversight for the implementation of NCF's new Master's in Marine Mammal Science, a unique program focused on the rich hands-on research opportunities afforded by our location on Sarasota Bay.
- Secured a 150% increase in funding for the Theater, Dance, and Performance Studies Program and significant structural upgrades to the Black Box Theater, NCF's primary performance space for students.
- Managed a nearly 100% faculty and staff turnover in both the Environmental Studies
 Program and the Animal Wellbeing and Conservation Program. The impact required
 faculty recruitment, onboarding, orientation, and mentorship, as well as student advising
 and increased staff support.
- o Provost Office lead in the development of a Master's Program in Educational Leadership.

• Support for Student and Faculty Research Collaboration

- Facilitated joint NCF-USF 3D and LiDAR scanning of historic dorms in faculty-student public archaeology project.
- Oversaw development of Field School to study Bronze Age ruins at Borg in-Nadur, Malta. Coordinated with offices of Global Education, Financial Aid, and the General Counsel, as well as the New College Foundation, to establish this unique program for undergraduate field research.

• Financial and Operational Management

- Led the reorganization of the Jane Bancroft Cook Library in the wake of the end of a shared-use agreement with the University of South Florida, which left NCF with over \$500k in additional obligations. Hired new dean of the library, restructured positions at every level, rationalized position descriptions, provided salary enhancements, and articulated pathways for career development. Reviewed and prioritized digital access materials, including in support of newly formed and anticipated academic programs. Repurposed space within the library to incorporate student academic support services, and oversaw construction of new group-study areas.
- Represented Academic Affairs in oversight of the \$3.5M renovation of the Pritzker Marine Biology Research Center. Work included structural repairs, enhancements to instructional facilities, new meeting space, and improved ADA compliance.
- Spearheaded the Provost Office involvement in the relocation of the campus bookstore.
 Selected the site, oversaw systems integration with the Office of Information
 Technology, and participated in negotiations for updated student billing arrangements.

• Engagement with External Audiences

- Served on delegation to al Akhawayn University in Ifrane (AUI), Morocco with the support of a U. S. State Department IDEAS Grant, establishing faculty and student exchange opportunities between AUI and NCF.
- Oversaw 10% increase in student participation in the Cross College Alliance, a consortium of five area institutions offering cross-registration and shared faculty development opportunities.
- Represented NCF to area Chambers of Commerce for Sarasota and Manatee Counties, developing relationships with local business leaders.

• Administrative Reorganization

O As the inaugural appointee in the role of Associate Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs, I shaped the position in both conceptual and material ways. I worked closely with the provost to establish reporting structures, oversight and supervisory frameworks, budgetary lines, staffing, and space. The purpose of this newly created position is to rationalize the workload in the Provost's Office so as to be a more efficient and effective partner in the college's culture of robust shared governance.

• Relationship Building and Fundraising

- Led 50% increase in articulation agreements with two-year colleges, meeting goals of the state approved business plan.
- Collaborated with donor family of the Helen N. Fagin Holocaust, Genocide and Humanitarian Collection at the NCF Library to enhance the collection and dedicated room. With support from a Mellon Foundation Grant, created two dedicated graduate fellowships focused on digitizing the collection, developing appropriate meta-data for subsequent research, building a digital presence, and connecting the collection to educational centers across Florida.
- Served as point of contact with longtime donors who support an annual trip to Dublin, Ireland for NCF students and faculty.

Fall 2021-Spring 2023, Coordinator, Languages and Literatures

The Coordinator of Languages and Literature oversees course offerings, student placement, on-campus programming, and student advising for NCF's eight foreign language majors as well as the interdisciplinary Literature program.

Summary of Accomplishments

- Communication, Collaboration, and Program Management
 - Led external review during the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - Facilitated curricular changes in response to the external review: simplified entry into the major; created clearer pathways for both FTIC and transfer students; shifted emphasis towards the Literature program as the centerpiece instead of individual languages; collaborated with colleagues across the majors to develop and implement new introductory course and senior seminar.

August 2013-July 2018, Dean of Studies (Inaugural Appointee)

The Dean of Studies reports to the provost and collaborates closely with the Dean of Students, the Dean of Admissions, the Office of Financial Aid, and other campus offices in support of student academic success. The Dean oversees student academic support services, with special responsibility for first-year retention, and has direct reports in the Director of Writing, the Director of Quantitative Skills, and the Director of National Fellowships.

Summary of Accomplishments

- Strategic Planning and State Funding
 - o Co-authored NCF's 2014 Performance Improvement Plan.

O Successfully led three out of the four initiatives articulated in the plan, recuperating over \$1M in state funding under newly implemented performance-based funding model.

Student Success

- o Raised first-year retention rate from 79% to 86%.
- o Developed "Navigating New College," a centralized web-based advising resource for students and their faculty advisors.
- o Implemented Majors Fair.

Program Development and Oversight

- Led national search for NCF's first-ever Director of Writing.
- Collaborated with faculty-led Writing Advisory Committee on the development, implementation, and assessment of writing curriculum.
- o Increased Writing Resource Center professional staff three-fold, including specialist with expertise in writing for STEM fields.
- Oversaw 200% Increase in Writing Program budget.
- o Facilitated Writing Across the Curriculum program review.
- o Oversaw re-development of Writing Resource Center space.
- o Increased Writing Center overall usage by 250%, and usage specific to thesis support by 76%.
- o FTIC students who participated in the Writing Program were 15% more likely to be retained than those who did not.

Connecting Liberal Arts and the World of Work

- o Hired College's First-Ever Internship Director.
- Collaborated with Director and faculty committees to develop, implement, and assess NCF's first-ever internship program.
- Oversaw development of campus space in support of internship programming.
- o Reached 30% participation-rate 4 years after implementing the program.

• Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

- Successfully recruited faculty to NCF as representative to the Consortium for Faculty Diversity.
- o Implemented peer-mentor system for first-generation college students; increased retention among this sub-group by 12%.

• Collaboration with External Partners

- o Represented NCF in the development of the Cross-College Alliance, a consortium of five area institutions of higher education.
- Collaborated with internal and external colleagues, both faculty and staff, to design and implement cross-registration systems, and shared opportunities for student, faculty, and community engagement.

• Communication

Coordinated and streamlined campus communications regarding the academic program.

- Revamped orientation to integrate new faculty into the innovative and student-centered ethos of the college.
- Spearheaded the academic component of orientation for FTIC and transfer students.
- o Implemented faculty-led modules for new student orientation.

OTHER INSTITUTIONAL LEADERSHIP

Chair, Provost's Advisory Committee, New College of Florida. Conducts the faculty tenure and promotion process. 2019-2021.

Chair, Educational Policy Committee, New College of Florida. Considers all matters related to curriculum, policy, and personnel in the academic program. January 2012 – 2013.

Arts Planning Task Force, New College of Florida. Working group charged with program review and planning in response to state budget crisis. January 2009 – May 2010.

FACULTY APPOINTMENTS

Professor of English, Division of Humanities, New College of Florida. July 2021 – Present.

Associate Professor of English, Division of Humanities, New College of Florida. July 2013 – June 2021.

Assistant Professor of English, Division of Humanities, New College of Florida. July 2007 – June 2013. Fellow, DePaul University Humanities Center. Spring 2007.

Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of English, DePaul University. July 2003 – June 2007.

Lecturer, Department of English, DePaul University. August 2001 – June 2003.

Outside Faculty Member, Graduate Critique Panel, School of the Art Institute of Chicago. April 2002.

Teaching Assistant, Department of English, SUNY-Buffalo. 1997 – 2001.

Teaching Assistant, Department of English, University of Nebraska at Lincoln. 1993 – 1994.

Teaching Assistant, Writing Center, Oregon State University. 1991 – 1993.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Florida State University Institute for Academic Leadership. Spring 2024.

Administrative Roles and Faculty Leadership; State Budget and Legislative Update; Dealing with Conflict and Maintaining Morale; Post-Tenure Review; Mission, Goals, and Assessment; Departmental Budgeting.

Florida State University Institute for Academic Leadership. Fall 2015. "Performance Based Funding in Higher Education."

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

The History and Forms of Lyric Poetry; Modern and Contemporary Innovative Writing; American Literature; Interdisciplinary Approaches to the Arts; Ecopoetics.

WORK IN PROGRESS

- For Love of Words: The Life and Work of Robert Creeley. The first comprehensive critical biography of Robert Creeley, one of the most influential and celebrated American poets of the post-World War II period.
- "In the Break: Fred Moten and the Poetics of Radical Blackness." A triangulation of the concepts of "blackness," "lyric," and varieties of voiced sound (from singing to screams) in the critical work of the poet and cultural theorist, Fred Moten, and an application of the resulting lens to his creative practice.

MONOGRAPH

Orphic Bend: Music and Innovative Poetics. (July 2021) Winner of the 2021 Elizabeth Agee Prize for outstanding scholarship in American Literary Studies. Orphic Bend argues that contemporary innovative writing is significantly shaped by its participation in ancient debates over the source, meaning, and efficacy of music. Deriving its architecture from the myth of Orpheus, the book develops a thoroughly interdisciplinary approach as it treats issues including the fate of Renaissance humanism in postmodernist writing, the recursive relationship between poetic language and agency, the relationship between song and place in the pastoral tradition, the sonic performance of a gendered identity, and musicality as a distinct mode of knowledge. As the book demonstrates, the "orphic bend" in contemporary writing includes a heterogeneous and dynamic set of artistic practices that recall and reshape many of poetry's most profound possibilities.

PUBLICATIONS IN REFEREED JOURNALS

- "Ezra Pound and Charles Bernstein: Opera, Poetics, and the Fate of Humanism." *Texas Studies in Literature and Language*. Spring 2013.
- "The Umbilicate Ear: Audition in Ed Roberson's Lucid Interval as Integral Music." Callaloo, Fall 2010.
- "A Poetics of Radical Musicality: Nathaniel Mackey's '-mu' Series." Arizona Quarterly, Spring 2006.
- "A Narrative of Prepare for Saints': Lyric, Narrative, and the Problem of Nationalism in 'Four Saints in Three Acts.'" *Modernism/modernity*, November 2004.

ARTICLES CONTRIBUTED TO BOOKS

- "Nathaniel Mackey." *The Greenwood Encyclopedia of American Poetry*, University of California Press, 2006
- "Louis Zukofsky." *Lexicon of Post-War Writers in English*, 49th Supplement. Martinus Nijhoff, Groningen, The Netherlands. January 2001.

GRANTS AND AWARDS

- Elizabeth Agee Prize for Outstanding Scholarship in American Literary Studies for *Orphic Bend: Music and Innovative Poetics*. University of Alabama Press. April, 2021.
- Florida Humanities Council. Funding to support research and a public presentation on contemporary Caribbean poets in Florida. March 2008.
- DePaul Humanities Center. Conducted pedagogical workshops for teachers in the Chicago Public School system. Spring 2007.
- NEH Summer Seminar, "Opera: Interpretation Between Disciplines." Department of Music, Princeton University. Summer 2004.
- Competitive Grant, \$3,000, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences/University Research Council Grant, DePaul University. Spring 2004.
- Teaching Assistantship and Full Tuition Scholarship, Department of English, SUNY-Buffalo, 1997-2001.
- John G. Robinson Prize for Outstanding Scholarly Writing, University of Nebraska at Lincoln, 1997. "Music and the Performance of Identity in Jean Toomer's *Cane*."

SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS

- "Compose, Like Schoenberg, Poem Music': Barbara Guest's *Musicalities*." The Louisville Conference on Language and Culture Since 1900. University of Louisville, Louisville, Kentucky. February 2017.
- "Alice Notley and the Poetics of Disobedience." The Louisville Conference on Language and Culture Since 1900. University of Louisville, Louisville, Kentucky. February 2015.
- Invited Seminar Participant. "Modernist Operas." "Triangulating Stein, Pound, Bernstein." Modernist Studies Association. University of Las Vegas, Nevada. October 2012.
- Panel Organizer and Chair, "Is Music: The Poetry of John Taggart." The Louisville Conference on Language and Culture Since 1900. University of Louisville, Louisville, Kentucky. February 2012.
- "Is Music: John Taggart and the Postmodern Pastoral." The Louisville Conference on Language and Culture Since 1900. University of Louisville, Louisville, Kentucky. February 2012.
- Panel Organizer and Chair, "The Orphic Voice: on Music and Poetry." The Louisville Conference on Language and Culture Since 1900. University of Louisville, Louisville, Kentucky. February 2011.
- "Creeley: Music: Ashbery." The Louisville Conference on Literature and Culture Since 1900. University of Louisville, Louisville, Kentucky. February 2011.
- "Sprinkling the Pages with Blown Phonemes': the Act of Writing, the Art of Breathing in the Poetry of Gustaf Sobin." The Louisville Conference on Literature and Culture Since 1900. University of Louisville, Louisville, Kentucky. February 2010.
- "From Periplum to *Blind Witness*: The Musical Aesthetics of Ezra Pound and Charles Bernstein." Modernist Studies Association. Vanderbilt University, November 2008.
- "Song to End All Song: the Ineffability of Music in Nathaniel Mackey's *Splay Anthem*." The Louisville Conference on Literature and Culture Since 1900, University of Louisville, Louisville, Kentucky. February 2008.
- "The Musicality of Poetry and the Contours of Post-War American Literature." Keynote Address. Illinois Philological Association. DePaul University. April 2006.
- "The Doctrine of Similarity / The Non-Sense of the Similar: Speech as Music in Ezra Pound's *Le testament* and Brian Ferneyhough and Charles Bernstein's *Shadowtime*." Modernist Studies Association. Loyola University, Chicago. November 2005.
- "Sound Cuts the Graft': Music and Melodious Silence in Theodore Enslin's *Music for Several Occasions*." University of Chicago Poetics Workshop, April 2005.
- "Maximalistic Aesthetics and the Work of Opera: The Case of *Shadowtime*." National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Seminar, "Opera: Interpretation Between Disciplines," Department of Music, Princeton University, July 2004.
- "Musicality, Voice and Desire in Nathaniel Mackey's Mu Series." American Literature Association, San Francisco, May 2004.
- "Music, Myth, and Imaginations of Community in Melvin B. Tolson's *Harlem Gallery* and Nathaniel Mackey's 'Mu' Series." Midwest Modern Language Association Conference, Chicago, November 2003.
- "Time's Promise: Music, Musicians and Temporality in Nathaniel Mackey's 'Mu' Poems." Louisville Conference on Literature and Culture Since 1900, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY. February 2003.
- "A Narrative of Prepare for Saints': Temporality and Coherence in Gertrude Stein and Virgil Thomson's 'Four Saints in Three Acts." Modernist Studies Association. University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA. October 2000.
- "Gertrude Stein, Louis Zukofsky, and the Object of Poetry." Twentieth Century Literature Conference, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY. February 2000.
- "The Anterior Question: Fetishism and Identity in Aimé Césaire's 'For René Depestre, Haitian Poet." Cross Cultural Poetics: A Conference for Poets, Scholars, and Other Verbal Artists, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN. October 1997.

- "Identity in Revolution: Locating Aimé Césaire's Verb 'Marronner." Construction Zones: Narratives of Identity, University of St. Thomas, Minneapolis, MN. November 1996.
- "Toward a Hermeneutic Grace: John Edgar Wideman's *Philadelphia Fire*." Texas A & M/LSU Joint Conference on Languages and Literature, Louisiana State University. February 1994.

REVIEWS

Review of *Humor, Empathy, and Community in Twentieth Century American Poetry*, by Rachel Trousdale. *American Literary History*. May, 2023.

Review of *The Zukofsky Era: Modernity, Margins, and the Avant-Garde. Review of English Studies.* April, 2013.

Review of *Robert Duncan, the Ambassador from Venus*, by Lisa Jarnot. *Herald Tribune* (Sarasota). December 2012.

Review of *Well, Then, There, Now*, by Juliana Spahr, and *The Cloud Corporation*, by Timothy Donnelly. *Herald Tribune* (Sarasota). 2011.

Review of Silk String Arias, by Mary Kasimor. Jacket Magazine (Australia), October 2009.

Review of Two Cities, by John Edgar Wideman. Review of Contemporary Fiction, 18.3, 1998.

Review of *The Marabou Stork Nightmares*, by Irvine Welsh. *Review of Contemporary Fiction*, 17.2. 1997.

Review of The Cattle Killing, by John Edgar Wideman. Review of Contemporary Fiction, 17.2. 1997.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

"Florida's Caribbean Poetics." Based on work completed with the support of Florida Humanities Council grant. January 28, 2009 at The Selby Library, Sarasota, FL.

INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE

Chair, Search Committee, Director of Accreditation. Fall, 2024.

Search Committee, Writer-in-Residence. Spring, 2022.

Search Committee, Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs. New College of Florida. Fall, 2021.

Chair, African American Literature Search Committee, Consortium for Faculty Diversity Post-Doctoral Fellow. New College of Florida. Spring, 2021.

Search Committee, Writer-in-Residence. New College of Florida. 2020.

Faculty Leader, "Bloomsday 2019." June 2019.

Chair, Registrar Search Committee, New College of Florida. 2015-16.

Provost Office Representative, Major Gifts Officer Search Committee, New College of Florida Foundation. 2015.

Chair, Internship Coordinator Search Committee, New College of Florida, 2014-15.

Chair, Director of Writing Search Committee, New College of Florida. 2013-14.

Humanities Division Representative, Educational Policy Committee, New College of Florida. August 2011 – December 2012.

Secretary of the Faculty, New College of Florida. August 2009 – August 2011.

Chair, Writer in Residence Search Committee, New College of Florida. 2008, 2009, 2011.

President, New College Child Center, New College of Florida. October 2009 – August 2010.

Humanities Division Representative, Environmental Studies Steering Committee, New College of Florida, August 2008 – May 2009.

Vice President, New College Child Center, New College of Florida. August 2008 – October 2009.

Chair and Organizer, "Writing the New at New College: a Celebration of Innovative Writing." April 2008.

Search Committee, Writer in Residence, New College of Florida. 2007.

Founding Member, The DePaul Poetry Institute. Spring 2006 – Spring 2007.

Chair and co-organizer, "Pursuance: Avant-Garde Jazz and Innovative Writing," an interdisciplinary symposium featuring literary, jazz, and cultural scholars from across the country held at DePaul University on May 1, 2004

Facilitator, Small Group Instructional Diagnosis (SGID), First-Year Writing Program, DePaul University. Autumn 2003 – Spring 2007.

Graduate Student Representative, Graduate Admissions Committee, Department of English, State University of New York at Buffalo. 2000 – 2001.

Graduate Student Representative, Executive Committee, Department of English, State University of New York at Buffalo. 1999 – 2000.

English Department Senator, Graduate Student Assembly, State University of New York at Buffalo. 1998 – 2000.

Editorial Board, *Umbr(a): A Journal of Psychoanalysis and Culture*. 1998 – 2000.

Editorial Board, Theory at Buffalo. 1997 – 1998.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

External Tenure Review
Outside Reader, Bloomsbury Publishing Group
Referee, Journal of the Midwest Modern Language Association
Referee, Modernism/modernity
Referee, Paideuma.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Association for the Study of the Art of the Present (ASAP) Modern Language Association Modernist Studies Association

REFERENCES

Dr. Donal O'Shea, Emeritus Professor of Mathematics and past President, New College of Florida. (941) 779-4657. doshea@ncf.edu.

President throughout my tenure as Dean of Studies.

Dr. Steve Miles. Emeritus Professor of Music and Provost, New College of Florida. (941) 356-1875. miles@ncf.edu.

Direct supervisor throughout my tenure as Dean of Studies.

Dr. Miriam Wallace, Dean, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, University of Illinois-Springfield. (941) 724-6315. mwall29@uis.edu.

Senior disciplinary colleague in English and Chair of Humanities, formerly at NCF.

Dr. Brad Thiessen. Provost, Florida Polytechnic University. (808) 300-8342. provost@floridapoly.edu. Former direct supervisor.

Dr. Robin Williamson. Vice President for Student Affairs, University of Central Arkansas. (501) 450-3416. rwilliamson@uca.edu.

Dean of Students during my time as Dean of Studies; close collaborator on campus-wide student-success initiatives.