

## WILLIAM ROSSI

Curriculum Vitae

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English Department  
University of Oregon  
Eugene, OR 97403  
(541) 346-3955  
rossiw@uoregon.edu

### Education

Ph.D. English, University of Minnesota, 1986  
M.A. Art History (with interdisciplinary emphasis in  
Humanities), University of Missouri, 1979  
B.A. English, University of Missouri, 1972

### Dissertation

"Laboratory of the Artist": Henry Thoreau's Literary and Scientific Uses of the *Journal*  
Wendell Glick and Donald Ross, Jr, Directors.

### Employment

1994- Associate Professor, American Literature, Department of English, University of  
Oregon  
1989-1994 Assistant Professor, American Literature, Department of English, University  
of Oregon  
1986-1989 Assistant Professor, American Literature, Department of English, Texas Tech  
University

### Publications

#### Editions:

Henry D. Thoreau, *Walden, Civil Disobedience, and Other Writings*, Norton Critical  
Edition, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed., expanded (New York: W.W. Norton Co., 2008).  
Henry D. Thoreau, *Wild Apples and Other Natural History Essays*, edited, annotated and  
with an introduction by William Rossi (Athens: University of Georgia Press,  
2002).  
Henry D. Thoreau, *Journal 6: 1853*, co-edited with Heather Kirk Thomas (Princeton:  
Princeton University Press, 2000).  
Henry D. Thoreau, *Walden and Resistance to Civil Government*, Norton Critical Edition,  
2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (New York: W.W. Norton Co., 1992).  
Henry D. Thoreau, *Journal 3: 1848-1851*, co-edited with Robert Sattelmeyer and Mark R.  
Patterson (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1990).

#### Book Chapters

"Following Thoreau's Instincts," reprinted in *More Day to Dawn: Thoreau's Walden for*

*A New Century*, ed. Sandra Petrulionis and Laura Dassow Walls (Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press, 2007), 82-99.

“Emerson, Nature, and Natural Science,” in *Ralph Waldo Emerson: An Historical Guide*, ed. Joel Myerson (New York: Oxford University Press, 2000), 101-150.

\*“Thoreau's Transcendental Ecocentrism,” in *Thoreau's Sense of Place: Essays in American Environmental Writing*, ed. Richard J. Schneider (Iowa City: University of Iowa Press, 2000), 28-43.

Historical Introduction, Henry D. Thoreau, *Journal 6: 1853* (Princeton: Princeton University Press), 366-380.

“Thoreau as a Philosophical Naturalist-Writer,” in *Thoreau's World and Ours: A Natural Legacy*, ed. Edmund A. Schofield and Robert C. Baron (Golden, Colo.: North American Press, 1993), 64-76.

Historical Introduction, Henry D. Thoreau, *Journal 3: 1848-1851* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1990), 478-498.

#### Articles

\*“Performing Loss, Elegy, and Transcendental Friendship,” *The New England Quarterly* 81. 2 (June 2008), 252-77.

\*“Following Thoreau's Instincts,” *Nineteenth-Century Prose* 31.2 (Fall 2004), 75-92.

“Education in the Field: Recent Thoreau Criticism and Environment,” *ESQ: A Journal of the American Renaissance* 42 (1996), 125-151.

\*“Poetry and Progress: Thoreau, Lyell, and the Geological Principles of *A Week on the Concord and Merrimack Rivers*,” *American Literature* 66 (June 1994), 275-300.

“Roots, Leaves, and Method: Henry Thoreau and Nineteenth-Century Natural Science,” *Journal of the American Studies Association of Texas* 19 (1988), 1-22.

\*“The Limits of an Afternoon Walk’: Coleridgean Polarity in Thoreau's Walking,” *ESQ: A Journal of the American Renaissance* 34 (1987), 1-17.

\*“The Journal, Self-Culture, and the Genesis of ‘Walking’,” *Thoreau Quarterly* 16 (1984): 137-55.

#### Forthcoming

*Figures of Friendship: Emerson and Thoreau*, ed. John T. Lysaker and William Rossi (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, forthcoming 2009), 70,000 words.

“‘In Dreams Awake’: Transcendental Friendship, Loss, and Elegy” in *Figures of Friendship: Emerson and Thoreau*, 9100 words.

“Transcendentalism and Evolutionary Theory” in *The Oxford Handbook to Transcendentalism*, ed. Joel Myerson, Sandra Petrulionis, and Laura Dassow Walls (New York: Oxford University Press, forthcoming 2009), 5500 words.

#### Notes and Encyclopedia Entries:

“Francis Bowen,” in *Dictionary of Literary Biography 235: The American Renaissance in New England, Third Series*, ed. Wesley T. Mott, (Columbia, SC: Brucoli Clark Layman, 2001), 33-37.

- "Thoreau and Native Americans," *American Nature Writing Newsletter* 6 (1994): 11-12.
- "The Journal and Walden," in Henry D. Thoreau, *Walden and Resistance to Civil Government*, Norton Critical Edition, second ed. (New York: W.W. Norton Co., 1992), 249-254.
- Textual Appendix to Walden, *Walden and Resistance to Civil Government*, Norton Critical Edition, second ed. (New York: W.W. Norton Co., 1992), 224-5.

Reviews:

- American Wilderness: A New History*, ed. Michael Lewis (New York: Oxford University Press, 2007) *Thoreau Society Bulletin* 265 (Winter 2009): 3-4.
- Thoreau's Ecstatic Witness* by Alan D. Hodder (Yale University Press, 2001) in *Religion and Literature* 38.2 (Summer 2006): 125-27.
- Hound, Bay Horse, and Turtle-Dove: Obscurity and Authority in Thoreau's Walden* (Gothenburg University Press, 2005) by Henrik Otterberg. in *ISLE: Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment* 13.1 (Winter 2006).
- Emerson* by Lawrence Buell (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2003) and *Emerson's Life in Science: The Culture of Truth* by Laura Dassow Walls (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2003) in *ISLE: Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment* 12.1 (Winter 2005): 270-73.
- Henry David Thoreau and the Moral Agency of Knowing* by Alfred I. Tauber (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2001) in *Isis: An International Review of the History of Science and Its Cultural Influences* 94 (2003): 742-743.
- Getting Over the Color Green: Contemporary Environmental Literature of the Southwest*, edited by Scott Slovic (Tucson: University of Arizona Press, 2001) in *Environment* 44.7 (September 2002): 44.
- A Wider View of the Universe: Henry Thoreau's Study of Nature* by Robert Kuhn McGregor (Urbana/Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 1997) in *Isis* 90.1 (March 1999), 132-33.
- Seeing New Worlds: Henry Thoreau and Nineteenth-Century Natural Science* by Laura Dassow Walls (Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 1995) in *ISLE: Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment* 4.2 (Fall 1997), 119-120.
- Thoreau's Morning Work: Memory and Perception in A Week on the Concord and Merrimack Rivers, the Journal, and Walden*, by H. Daniel Peck in *American Literature* 64 (1992), 157-158.
- The Topical Notebooks of Ralph Waldo Emerson, Volume 1*, edited by Susan Sutton Smith in *Journal of English and Germanic Philology* 91 (1992), 463-464.

**Invited and Professional Presentations, 1994-present**

- "Environmental Modernism and Non-Modern Practice," Thoreauvian Modernities Conference, ENS-Lettres et Sciences Humaines and University of Lyon, France May 15, 2009.
- "Thoreauvian Science and the Environmental Subject," Boston Center for the History and Philosophy of Science, November 16, 2007.

- "Henry Thoreau Takes Early Retirement," Learning in Retirement Program, Eugene, June 19, 2006.
- "Performing Transcendental Friendship in *A Week*: Narrative, Loss, and Elegy," Figures of Friendship in Emerson and Thoreau Conference, May 19, 2006.
- "*Walden's* Double Evolutionary Narrative," Oregon Humanities Center Work-in Progress Talk, February 10, 2006.
- "Higher Laws in Nineteenth Century Scientific Discourse," Thoreau Society Annual Gathering, Concord Massachusetts, July 7, 2005
- "Science in Place," Writing the Natural World Conference (organized by Barry Lopez), Junction, Texas, October 31, 2004.
- "Teaching Nineteenth-Century Natural History," American Literature Association, San Francisco, California May 27, 2004.
- "Following Thoreau's Instincts," Modern Language Association Convention, San Diego, California, December 29, 2003.
- "Advertising American Power," Anglistisches Seminar, Ruprecht-Karls- Universität, Heidelberg, Germany; July 10, 2003.
- "Trends in Contemporary US Ecocriticism," University of Münster, Münster, Germany; June 5, 2003.
- "Following Thoreau's Instincts," Mesa Verde Colloquium, January 10, 2003.
- "Editing Nature Writing," Association for the Study of Literature and Environment Fourth Biennial Conference, Flagstaff, AZ, June 21, 2001.
- "The Evolutionary Debate within *Walden* and Thoreau," Center for the Environmental Arts and Humanities, University of Nevada, Reno, December 5, 2000.
- "Woodchucks and Higher Laws," Visiting Scholar in Residence Program, Willamette University, Salem, OR, October 23, 2000.
- "A Transmutation of the Public Mind: The Narrative Subversions of Robert Chambers's *Vestiges*," Scott, Scotland, and Romanticism Conference, Eugene, OR, July 1999.
- "Thoreau's Ecocentrism Revisited," Pacific Northwest American Studies Assoc., Lincoln City, OR, April 1999.
- "Thoreauvian Wildness, the Journal, and 'the Womb of Nature'," Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment," Missoula, MT, July 1997.
- "Science, Public Debate, and the Genesis of *Walden*," Pacific Northwest American Studies Association, Bend, OR, April 1996.
- "Thoreau and the *Vestiges* Controversy," Modern Language Association, Chicago, December 1995.
- "Emerson Reading Science, Writing *Nature*," American Literature Association, Baltimore, May 1995.
- "Emerson, Bacon, and the Book of Nature," Georgia State University, Atlanta, January 1995.
- "Emerson, Science and the Fragmentation of Knowledge," Pacific Northwest American Studies Assoc., Lincoln City, OR, April 1994.

### Invited Presentations, University of Oregon, 1994-present

- "Grounding Transcendentalism," English 222 Introduction to the English Major, April 2008, 2009.
- Research Presentation, Society of College Scholars Humanities Colloquium, May 2007.
- Research Presentation on the History of Objectivity, Environmental Studies 610 Humanities/Science Interface, April 2006.
- Research Presentation with Kathy Cashman (Geology), Environmental Studies 611 Interdisciplinary Methods, March 2006.
- "Transcendental Natures," English 222 Introduction to the English Major, April, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007.
- Research Presentation, English 690 Introduction to Graduate Studies, Fall 2004 and 2002.
- On Bruno Latour's *We Have Never Been Modern*, English 615 Ecocritical Theory, May 30, 2001.
- Interview, *UO Today*, with Nancy Tuana, March 2001.
- "Naked Eyeballs," English 222 Introduction to the English Major, April, 1999.
- "Environmental Poetry," Geography 199 Discover Oregon: Humans and the Natural Environment, October 1998.
- Research Presentations, Environmental Studies 607 Seminar: Graduate Orientation with Faculty, January 1997, January and October 1998.
- "Textual Editing: Recent Theories and Practice," English 690 Introduction to Graduate Studies, November 2002, 2001, 2000, 1998.
- "Historicizing Ecocriticism: Evolutionary Theories in Thoreau's Writing," English 615 Graduate Seminar in Theorizing Ecocriticism, October 1996.
- "American Prospects and Sepulchres," English 222 Introduction to the English Major, April 1996, 1997, 1998.
- "How Can We Know What We Are Told Merely?" Mesa Verde Colloquium, University of Oregon, March 1996.

### Grants, Fellowships, and Awards, 1994-present

- J. William Fulbright Senior Lecture/Research Award, Freiburg, Germany; March-July 2010.
- University of Oregon Provost's Grant: Science and the Human Condition (with Kathy Cashman, Geology), 2008-09.
- Ernest J. Moll Research Fellowship, 2005-2006.
- Oregon Humanities Center Research Fellowship, Fall 2005.
- College of Arts and Sciences Program Grant, with John Lysaker, Philosophy, 2005.
- Oregon Summer Research Award, Summer 2003, 1998, 1994.
- J. William Fulbright Lecturing Award, Heidelberg, Germany, March-July 2003.
- Oregon Humanities Center Teaching Fellowship (with Suzanne Clark, English), 2000-2001.
- Senior Scholar in Residence, Willamette University, Fall 2001.
- College of Arts and Sciences Interdisciplinary Initiative in the Humanities (with Nancy Tuana, Philosophy), March 1998.

Thoreau Journal Transcription Project (supported by NEH funding from *The Writings of Henry D. Thoreau* and by UO English Department), 1996-1999.

Norman H. Brown Faculty Fellowship, 1995.

National Endowment for the Humanities University Teachers Fellowship, 1994-95.

## Service, 1994-present

### Department

#### Administration:

Director of Undergraduate Studies, 2007-present.

Co-Director of Graduate Studies, Spring 1994.

Department Council (elected), 2008-present; 2004-06 (Chair, 2004-5); 1997-1999.

Merit Salary Committee (elected), 2007, 2006, 2005, 2001, 1996.

Hiring Committees, Environmental Literature and Theory, Acting Chair 2007-08; 19<sup>th</sup> Century British Literature, 2006-7.

Promotion and Tenure Committees: Elizabeth Wheeler (2001); Henry Wonham (1998); Third Year Review Committees: Mark Quigley (2009); Elizabeth Wheeler (1999); Henry Wonham (1997); Gordon Sayre (1996)

Literature and Environment Faculty Coordinator, 2005-present.

Curriculum Committee, Chair, 2007-present.

Ad Hoc Assessment Committee for the English Major, Spring 2009.

Composition Committee, Winter-2004-Spring, Fall 2002, Fall 2000.

Speakers: Organizer and Host for Lawrence Buell, May 18, 2006 and Dana Phillips, May 5 and 6, 2005; Speakers Committee, 2000-2002.

Graduate: Graduate Committee, 1996-97, 1994; Graduate Appointments Committee, 1994; Ad Hoc Committee on the Graduate Program, 1996-97;

Literature and Environment Structured Emphasis Exam Coordinator, 2008-09; Ph.D. Qualifying Exam Committees, 2000-Present; Graduate Reading Group on works of Lawrence Buell, Winter 2006; Krohn Prize Selection Committee, 2001, 2006; Kirby Prize Selection Committee, Winter 2002.

### College

Dean's Top Scholars Task Force, Spring 2009.

Society of College Scholars Faculty, Fall 2007-present.

Undergraduate Council, 2007-08.

College of Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee, 2006-2008.

Inter-Collegiate General Education Requirements Committee, 2006-2007.

Environmental Humanities Search Committee, 2002-2003.

Environmental Studies Committee, 1993-2006.

Environmental Studies Curriculum Committee, 1996-1999.

### University

Lokey Science and the Human Condition grant review committee, 2009.

Oregon Humanities Center: Advisory Board, 2008-present; Review Panel,

Teaching Fellowships, 1997.  
 Professional Distinctions Committee, 2008-present.  
 Conferences: Co-organizer with John Lysaker, (Philosophy), **Figures of Friendship in Emerson and Thoreau** Conference, Knight Law Center, May 19-20, 2006; Program Committee, Bi-annual Conference of the Association for the Study of Literature and Environment, Eugene, June 21-26, 2006; Conference Coordinator, with Nancy Tuana (Philosophy) **Taking Nature Seriously: Citizens, Science, and Environment**, University of Oregon, February 25-27, 2001.  
 Executive Board, Institute for a Sustainable Environment, 1996-2000.  
 Campus Planning Committee, 1998-1999.  
 External Grants and Scholarships Committee, 1997-1999.  
 Panel member for Graduate School workshop, "How to Survive Your Oral Defense," February 1995.

#### Community

Insight Seminar Series on Wisdom Literatures, (June 2006)  
 Guest teacher, Spencer Butte Middle School, 1998, 2001  
 Guest teacher, South Eugene High School, 1997, 1998, 2001, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006.

#### Professional

Scholarly Advisor, PBS Documentary, "American Prophet: A Portrait of Henry David Thoreau," February 2009-present  
 Judge, Norton Scholar's Prize, 2007  
 Editorial Board, *The Concord Saunterer*, 1998-present  
 Editorial Board, Executive Committee, *The Writings of Henry D. Thoreau*, 1993-present  
 Manuscript Reviews for *Environmental Values*, University of Georgia Press, *The Concord Saunterer*, *Isis: International Review on the History of Science and Its Cultural Influences*; *ISLE: Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment*; *ESQ: A Journal of the American Renaissance*; Island Press; Harper Collins; W.W. Norton.  
 Outside Tenure Reviews, Penn State University, Altoona, 2001; University of Missouri-Columbia, 1995  
 Panelist, National Endowment for the Humanities University Fellowships Evaluation, 1996

#### **Membership in Professional Societies**

Association for the Study of Literature and Environment  
 History of Science Society  
 Modern Language Association  
 Thoreau Society