**Jim Wynter Porter**

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Shorewood, WI 53211

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## EDUCATION

**PhD, History**

**candidate** Michigan State University. East Lansing, MI

Major field: history of science (biology and psychology). Minor fields: history of education, 20th century European and 20th century US history. Comprehensive exams and oral defense of comprehensives: passed with distinction.

**Dissertation title:** *Constructing the “Gifted” and “Academically Talented” Student between Brown v. Board and the National Defense Education Act: “Intelligence,” Intelligence Testing and Educational Opportunity in the post-WWII US, 1945-1965.*

**Successfully defended:** **10/14/2016 Scheduled Graduation:May, 2017**

**Advisors:** Dr. John Waller (primary), Drs. Richard Bellon, Lewis Siegelbaum and Helen Veit.

**MFA** **Creative Writing**

American University. Washington, DC. 2001 Thesis: *Strange Antennae and Other Stories*

University of Alaska, Fairbanks. Fairbanks, AK. Transfer, 1999

**MS** **Education**

University of Rochester. Rochester, NY. 1994

**BA** **Biology (graduated with distinction)**

University of Virginia. Charlottesville, VA. 1992

**Biology/Environmental Science**

University of California, Santa Cruz. Santa Cruz, CA. Transfer, 1989

**FELLOWSHIPS**

2015 **National Academy of Education/ Spencer Dissertation Fellowship**

Psychometrics and Self-Fulfilling Prophecies: Analyzing Debates about Intelligence and Educational Opportunity in the Post-WWII United States from 1945-1975. ($27,500)

2014 **National Science Foundation, Doctoral Dissertation ImprovementGrant**

(award #1431314). Supported wide-ranging archival research related to dissertation. ($15,000)

2010-2015 **University Distinguished Fellowship**, MSU. Five-year full tuition Three-year teaching assistantship, two-year fellowship.

1993-1994 **Cohen Fellowship,** University of Rochester. Merit-based, full tuition, awarded once annually.

1992-1993 **St. Edward’s Fellowship,** University of Virginia/St. Edward’s School, Oxford, UK. Competitive one year teaching appointment.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2010-2017 **Doctoral student** and University Distinguished Fellow, Department of History, MSU. Teaching and Research Assisstant.

## 2013-2015 Assistant Editor, *Endeavour*: a quarterly magazine reviewing the history and philosophy of science, technology and medicine.

2012 **Ad Hoc Reviewer,** *Endeavour*.

2004-2009 **Lecturer,** Creative Writing and English Literature. Department of English, Michigan State University. East Lansing, MI.

2002-2004 **12th Grade English Teacher**, Gaithersburg High School. Montgomery County Public Schls., MD.

2000-2002 **5th** **Grade Homeroom Teacher,** Norwood School. Bethesda, MD.

1994-1998

1999-2000 **7th and 8th Grade English Teacher,** Norwood School. Bethesda, MD.

1998-1999 **Graduate Teaching Assistant,** University of Alaska. Fairbanks, AK.

1997-2002 **S.E.E.D. Leader (Seeking Educational Equity and Diversity),** Norwood School. Organized and led year-long reading/discussion workshops for faculty and administration to promote a better understanding of diversity in the school place within the contexts of race, class, gender and sexual orientation.

1992-1993 **St. Edward’s Fellow,** St. Edward’s School. Oxford, England.

**PUBLICATIONS**

2016 Porter, Jim W. “A Precious Minority”: Constructing the “Gifted” and “Academically Talented” Student in the Era of *Brown v. Board* and the National Defense Education Act. (acceptedin *Isis: Journal of the History of Science*, forthcoming).

2015 Porter, Jim W. “Experimental Psychology: 1875-1950.” *A Companion to the History of American Science*, Mark A. Largent and Georgina Montgomery, editors. London: Wiley-Blackwell publishers, 2015.

2009 Porter, Jim W. Interview: “A Conversation with Visiting Writer Richard McCann,” *The Red Cedar Review*, vol 45, 2009.

**WORKS IN PROGRESS**

2013-2016: Porter, Jim W., “Under The Cloak Of The Expert: ETS, NEA, Carnegie, Conant and The National Defense Education Act.” (*in preparation*)

Porter, Jim W. “Pygmalion’s Menagerie: Animal Models, Boundary Disputes and the Critical Reception of Robert Rosenthal and Leonore Jacobson’s *Pygmalion in the Classroom.* (*in preparation*)

Porter, Jim W. “Margaret Mead, Kenneth Clark and Horace Mann Bond: The Ironies of Anti-racism and Individual “Intelligence” in a post-WWII Context.”

Porter, Jim W., “Costumes, Roles, and Rituals: The Expanding Contexts of the SS RuSHA Racial Exam.”

Porter, Jim W. “Jensen and the Geneticists: How the Idea of a Gene is Like the Idea of IQ.”

WRITING SAMPLES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

**TEACHING**

2011-2016 Teaching Assistant, Department of History, MSU. IAH 201: US and the World, (African American History from Reconstruction Era to the Present), IAH 206: Self, Society and Technology (Nature and Nurture-A History of Ideas), HST 425: American and European Health Care since 1800, ISS 220: Time Space and Change (A Sociological History of Popular Music and the American Experience). Research Assistant duties: assembled a comprehensive annotated bibliography on slavery, health and medicine.

2013 Independent Instructor, Department of History, MSU. LB 133, An Introduction to the History and Philosophy of Science.

2004-2009 Lecturer, Department of English, MSU. Developed and taught ENG 206: Readings in Contemporary Literature, ENG 223: Introduction to Creative Nonfiction, ENG 226: Introduction to Creative Writing, ENG 228: Introduction to Fiction Writing, ENG 232: Writing as Exploration, IAH 241E: The Creative Process, ENG 310E: English Literature in Modern Media and Culture, and ENG 445: American Literature Since 1950.

2002-2004 Teacher (12th grade), Gaithersburg High School, Montgomery County, MD. Developed and taught curricula for on-level, honors, and AP Literature and Composition. Instructed students in a variety of compositional modes from narrative to argumentative to literary critical. Employed historicist, formalist, and reader response perspectives to teach a wide range of English and world literature, both ancient to modern.

2000-2002 Teacher (5th grade), Norwood School, Bethesda, MD. Developed and taught curricula for classical and medieval world history (Rome, Islam, Europe, and

1994-1998 Northern Africa), math, world geography, spelling, grammar, composition, and literature. Composition instruction spanned a variety of genres from creative to persuasive writing.

## 1999-2000 Teacher (7th/8th grade), Norwood School, Bethesda, MD. Taught curriculum that spanned Renaissance English through 20th -century American literature.

1998-1999 Teaching Assistant, Department of English, University of Alaska, Fairbanks. Taught two sections of freshman composition and rhetoric (ENG 111).

1992-1993 Teacher, St. Edward’s School, Oxford, UK. Taught biology as the St. Edward’s Fellow (a one year post) as stipulated by the national curriculum (UK GCSE) for the UK equivalent of 8th, 9th and 10th grade. Also designed and taught a course in American studies (history, literature, and film) for the UK equivalent of 11th and 12th grade.

TEACHING EVALUATIONS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

**CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS**

2016 **American Educational Research Association (AERA)**, Washington, DC (April 8-12): poster presentation on “James B. Conant and *The American High School Today*: Constructing the “Gifted” and “Academically Talented” Child, 1955-1960.”

2016 **National Academy of Education/Spencer Foundation (NAEd/Spencer)**, Washington, DC (March 16th–18th): paper presentation, “Intelligence Testing and Educational Policy after World War II: The National Defense Education Act and *The American High School Today*.”

2015 **History of Science Society (HSS)**, San Francisco, CA (Nov. 19th-22): paper presentation, “James Bryant Conant and *The American High School Today*: Constructing the ‘Gifted’ and ‘Academically Talented’ Child, 1955-1960.”

2015 **National Academy of Education/Spencer Foundation** **(NAEd/Spencer)**, Washington, DC (Oct. 28th–Oct 31st): poster presentation on “Psychometrics and Self-Fulfilling Prophecies: Analyzing Debates about Intelligence and Educational Opportunity in the Post-WWII United States from 1945-1975.”

2013 **Migration Without Boundaries**, Michigan State University (Oct. 4th and 5th). Invited to serve as a discussant on the "Health in Migration" panel.

2012 **Migration Without Boundaries**, Michigan State University (Oct. 5th and 6th). Invited to present a paper, “The Resettlement of Poland: Reconsidering Forced Mobilization in the Context of Property and Personhood,” for a panel, Migration and the State.

**AWARDS**

2015 **HSS/National Science Foundation Travel Grant**

To present at Annual History of Science Society meeting, 2015: San Francisco.

2015 **MSU Department of History/Graduate School Travel Grant**

2013 **The Jeff Rooney Paper Prize**, awarded annually by Department of History, MSU for best paper.

2006 **Finalist: *Quarterly West* Novella Contest,** a national level contest in a premier creative writing journal.

2002 **Department of Literature Award for Academic Excellence,** American University

1999-2001 **Graduate Assistantship/Scholarship,** American University

1998 **Graduate Assistantship/Scholarship,** University of Alaska, Fairbanks

1988-1990 **University of California Regents Scholarship,** University of California, Santa Cruz.

## TEACHING CERTIFICATION

## Maryland State Teaching Certificate: English 7-12

## New York State Permanent Teaching Certificate: Biology-General Science 7-12, English 7-12, Elementary K-6.

# REFERENCES

**John Waller, PhD (primary advisor)**

Associate Professor

Director, Social Science Scholars Program

Department of History

Michigan State University

211 Old Horticulture

East Lansing, MI 48824

Tel. (517) 353-3898, Email: wallerj1@msu.edu

**Lewis Sigelbaum, PhD (committee member)**

Professor

Department of History

Michigan State University

352 Old Horticulture

East Lansing, MI 48824

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**Helen Veit, PhD (committee member)**

Associate Professor

Department of History

Michigan State University

329 Old Horticulture

East Lansing, MI 48824

Tel. (517) 884-4946; Email: hveit@msu.edu