

ICL-QUESTIONNAIRE

NAME: **BETSY ERKKILA**
PRESENT POSITION US: **Henry Sanborn Noyes**
Professor of Literature, Northwestern University

GRANT PERIOD: **April 1-July 31, 2010**

BORN: **San Francisco, CA. USA**
LANGUAGES: **English, French, Spanish**

GERMAN HOST INSTITUTION

Dortmund University

ACADEMIC DISCIPLINE

American Literature and Studies

AREAS OF RESEARCH

Revolutionary Literature: Wheatley, Jefferson, Crèvecoeur, Franklin, Brown
Antebellum American Literature: Poe, Stowe, Melville
American Poetry: Wheatley, Poe, Whitman, Dickinson, Pound, Bishop

POSSIBLE LECTURE TOPICS

Romancing the Revolution: Jefferson's Declaration
Traveling Narrative: Equiano and the Creole Atlantic
Phillis Wheatley and the Revolutionary Transatlantic
Franklin and the Revolutionary Body
The German American Revolution
Poe's Imp of the Perverse, Democracy, and Critical Theory
Poe's American Renaissance
Walt Whitman and Karl Marx
"In Paths Untrodden": Whitman's 1860 Leaves of Grass
Whitman, Melville, and the Tribulations of Democracy
Stowe, Insurrection, and the Politics of Sentiment
Emily Dickinson's Civil War
Lincoln and Europe

ACADEMIC TRAINING AND DEGREES

Ph.D. in English, 1976, University of California, Berkeley
M.A. English, 1969, University of California, Berkeley
First and Second Degrees of French Studies, 1967, University of Grenoble, France.
B. A. with major in English and minor in History, June 1966, University of California, Berkeley.

PREVIOUS POSITIONS

Professor of English and American Studies, Northwestern University, 1995-present.
Professor of English, University of Pennsylvania, 1980-1994, Graduate Faculty Comparative Literature and Literary Theory, and American Civilization
Visiting Professor of English, Princeton University, Spring 1990.
Visiting Associate Professor of English and Comparative Literature, Columbia University, Fall 1988.
Visiting Assistant Professor, California State University, Chico, 1974-1980
Director London/Paris Travel-Study Program, California State University, Summer, 1977 & 1978.
Fulbright Lecturer in American Studies, University of Amiens, France, 1972-1974.

PUBLICATIONS (selected)

Imagining the Revolution: Literature and Politics in Revolutionary America
(in progress)
Ezra Pound: The Contemporary Reviews, ed. (Cambridge, UK, 2010)
Mixed Bloods and Other Crosses: Rethinking American Literature from the Revolution to the Culture Wars (Penn, 2005)
Breaking Bounds: Whitman and American Cultural Studies, co-ed. with Jay Grossman (Oxford, 1996)
The Wicked Sisters: Women Poets, Literary History, and Discord (Oxford, 1992)
Whitman the Political Poet (Oxford, 1989; paperback 1996)
Walt Whitman Among the French: Poet and Myth (Princeton, 1980)
Recent essays published or forthcoming on early American narrative, Thomas Jefferson, Phillis Wheatley, Edgar Allan Poe, Walt Whitman, Herman Melville, Emily Dickinson, and Lincoln the Internationalist President.
