

Olivia Noble Gunn

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Education

Ph.D. in Comparative Literature, University of California at Irvine (UCI)

Dissertation: "At the Limits of Realism: Late Ibsen and other Neo-Romantic Estrangements"

Committee: Margot Norris (chair), Carrie Noland, and Mark Sandberg

MA in Comparative Literature, UCI, 2007

MA in Performance Studies, New York University, 2003

BA (Honors) in Norwegian, University of Washington, 2002

BA (Honors) in English with Dance Minor, University of Washington, 2002

Professional Positions

Assistant Professor, Sverre Arestad Endowed Chair in Norwegian Studies, Department
Scandinavian Studies at *The University of Washington* (2015-)

Visiting Assistant Professor, John Phillip Morgridge Lectureship in Norwegian Studies (Spring
2014) Department of Scandinavian Studies at *The University of Washington*

Visiting Assistant Professor of Norwegian and Scandinavian Studies (2012-2016)
Department of Languages and Literatures at *Pacific Lutheran University*

Grants and Awards

Royalty Research Fund, research grant administered by the University of Washington Office of
Research for travel and archival research in Oslo (2018/19)

Grant for participation in the National Center For Faculty Development and Diversity Faculty
Success Program (Summer Bootcamp Session, 2018)

Society of Scholars: Research Fellowship from the Walter Chapin Simpson Center for
Humanities, to support work on *Empty Nurseries, Queer Occupants: Reproduction and
the Future in Henrik Ibsen's Late Plays* (2017/18)

Publications

Peer Reviewed

"Lost Boys in *Little Eyolf*" in *On Replacement: Cultural, Social and Psychological
Representations* (Palgrave Macmillan, Eds. Naomi Segal and Jean Owen, 2018)

"Other Mothers and the Limits of Bohemia in *Alberte og friheten* and *Bare Alberte*." *Scandinavian Studies* 88:4 (Winter 2016)

"Baby Factory: Romance and Reproduction in Norway's First Sound Film." *Journal of
Scandinavian Cinema* 6.3 (Fall 2016)

"The Master Builder's Tragic Quotidian." *Ibsen Studies* (Fall 2015)

"Romantic Remains: Ibsen's Decadence, With and Against Lukács." XIIIth International Ibsen
Conference, University of Tromsø, Norway. 18th-23rd June 2012. *Nordlit*, Nr 34, 2015

"Adaptation, Fidelity, and the 'Reek' of Aesthetic Ideology: Susan Sontag's *Lady from the Sea*"
in *Modern Drama* 58.1 (Spring 2015)

"Love Thy Fatherland as Thyself: Patriotism and Passing in Herman Bang." *Scandinavian Studies* 85.2 (2013)

"A Scandalous Similarity? The Wild Duck and the Romantic Child." *Ibsen Studies* 13.1 (June 2013)

Under Review

(*Scandinavian Studies*) "Growing Up: Knausgård on Boyishness and Proust in *My Struggle, Book One*"

Encyclopedia Entries

"Herman Bang." *Routledge Encyclopedia of Modernism*. Web.

Proceedings

"Singularly Bound: Henrik Ibsen and Theatrical Survival" in *Ibsen Across Cultures* (295-304). Shanghai: Fudan University Press, 2011

Theatre Reviews

Maison de Poupée, Théâtre de la Madeleine, Paris. *Ibsen News and Comment*, Vol. 30, 2010

Ghosts, The Duchess Theatre, London. *Ibsen News and Comment*, Vol. 30, 2010

Peer Gynt, La Jolla Playhouse, La Jolla. *Ibsen News and Comment*, Vol. 31, 2011

in Progress

Articles:

"Leaving the Theater of Suffering: Three Endings – and a Future? – For *Hedda Gabler*"

"On Not Being Here and Now: the Poetics of Exile in *Giovanni's Room* and *Border State*"

Book: *Empty Nurseries, Queer Occupants: Reproduction and the Future in Henrik Ibsen's Late Plays*

UW Teaching

Courses Developed and Taught

Introduction to Scandinavian Literature and Culture (SCAND 100)

Contemporary Literary Theory, (SCAND 504, ENG 599, C LIT 535)

Knut Hamsun and Early European Modernism (SCAND 482, 528, JSIS 482)

The Norwegian Short Story (NORW 310)

Ibsen and His Major Plays in English (SCAND 280)

Norwegian Literary and Cultural History (SCAND 150)

Intermediate Norwegian (NORW 201, 202, 203)

Topics in Norwegian Literature and Culture (NORW 312)

Special Topics, "Norwegian Reproduction" (SCAND 490, 590)

Service to the Department, University, and Field

President, Ibsen Society of America (2017-)
 MLA Executive Committee member for the Forum CLCS Nordic (January 2017 to January 2022)
 Search Committee member: Swedish Studies Search for 2017/18 hire
 Chair of the Equity and Diversity Committee, 2016-2018
 Interim Graduate Program Coordinator, spring 2017
 Organizer: Q Center Safe(r) Zone training for the Department of Scandinavian Studies
 Discussion leader, Parent Orientation: "Making the most of it: Crafting a meaningful and successful college experience." (10 August 2017)
 Panel participant, Faculty Fellows Program: "Back to the Future," or what I have learned (one or two years out) (8 September 2016)
 Organizer and Ad hoc committee member: Research group for the the Department of Scandinavian Studies (2015-2017)

Public-Facing Humanities

Invited Talk: "Disciplinary Nature: Daycares, Prisons, *Friluftsliv*," Thea Foss Lodge #45, Daughters of Norway, Port Townsend, 14 October 2018
 "Small Worlds? Fishing and Nordic Literary Studies in the Pacific Northwest" in *Nordic Kultur*, magazine of the new Nordic Museum
Invited Talk: "Knut Hamsun's *Growth of the Soil*," Swedish Club, Seattle, 14 March 2018
Invited Talk: "Contemporary Sámi Voices," Thea Foss Lodge #45, Daughters of Norway, Port Townsend, 8 October 2017
Invited Talk: "*Hedda Gabler* and the Future," Cutting Ball Theater, San Francisco, 26 February 2017 (directed by Yuri Urnov)
Invited Talk: "Weathering Modernity: Progress and Indigeneity, Grain and Potatoes" (on Knut Hamsun's *Growth of the Soil*), Daughters of Norway, Valkyrian Lodge, Seattle, 10 October 2017
Invited Talk: "Contemporary Sámi Voices," Thea Foss Lodge #45, Daughters of Norway, Port Townsend, 8 October 2017
Invited Talk: "*Hedda Gabler* and the Future," Cutting Ball Theater, San Francisco, 26 February 2017 (directed by Yuri Urnov)
Invited Talk: "Modernization in Two Imagined Communities: Norway and the Descendants of Norwegians in North America." Leif Erikson Day Festival: Focus on Norway – Scandinavian Community Centre, Burnaby, BC. 4 October 2014.
Invited Talk: "The Best Place on Earth...: Celebrating Norway, Celebrating Mothers and Midwives." Dinner to celebrate the 17th of May, Daughters and Sons of Norway: Lacey, WA, 18 May 2015
Invited Talk: "Viking Warrior Women: Empowerment and Literature?," Daughters of Norway Spring Luncheon at the Scandinavian Cultural Center at PLU

Invited Manuscript and Book Reviews

United States-based journals and publishers: *Clio*, Harvard Press
 International journals and publishers: *Lamba Nordica*, *Ibsen Studies*, *Edda*, Bloomsbury, Brill/Rodopi, *Littéraire/Literary Research*, *Oxford University Press*

Book Reviews

(Forthcoming for *Ibsen Studies*) *Ibsen's Hedda Gabler: Philosophical Perspectives*. Ed. Kristin Gjesdal. Oxford Studies in Philosophy and Literature. New York, NY: Oxford University Press: 2018

- Så tæt på livet som muligt: Perspektiver på Karl Ove Knausgårds Min kamp.* Ed. Claus Elholm Andersen, Forlaget Spring: 2017, for *Scandinavian Studies*
- Father Figures and Gender Identities in Scandinavian and Comparative Literature: Studies in Honor of Ross Shideler*, Ed. Kathleen Komar, North Pinehurst Press: 2016, for *Recherche littéraire / Literary Research* Volume 33 (Summer 2017)
- Frode Helland's *Ibsen in Practice: Relational Readings of Performance, Cultural Encounters and Power*. London: Bloomsbury Methuen Drama: 2015, for *Edda: Nordisk tidsskrift for litteratur forskning* (April 2015)
- Guiliano D'Amico's *Domesticating Ibsen for Italy: Enrico and Icilio Polese's Ibsen Campaign*. Bari: Università degli Studi di Torino: 2013, for *Scandinavian Studies* 2015, Vol. 87 (2)
- Ståle Dingstad. *Den smilende Ibsen: Henrik Ibsens forfatterskap – stykkevis og delt*. Oslo: Centre for Ibsen Studies, Akta Ibseniana, Akademika forlag: 2013. for *Scandinavian Studies* Winter, 2014, Vol. 86 (4)

Selected Conferences and Lectures

- Guest Lecture: "Weathering Modernity: Progress and Indigeneity, Grain and Potatoes"* (on Knut Hamsun's *Growth of the Soil*), 17 October 2017 in C LIT 200, Dynamite Reads: World Literature and the Nobel Prize
- "Lost Boys in *Little Eyolf*," Replacement, Birkbeck College, London, 8-10 December 2016
- "Up, Up, Up: Looking (at the child) in *Little Eyolf*," 106th Annual Meeting of The Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study, New Orleans, 28-30 April 2016
- "Reading Knausgård, Feeling Proustian: Popular and Critical Approaches," The American Comparative Literature Association Conference, Harvard. 17-20 March 2016
- "Alberte's Bourgeois Womb: Race, Other Mothers, and the Limits of *La Bohème* in Cora Sandel's Trilogy." 106th Annual Meeting of The Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study, Columbus, OH, 7-9 May 2015
- Invited Talk: "Ibsen's Empty Nurseries: Freedom, Responsibility, and the Reproductive Metaphor,"* Centre for Ibsen Studies, University of Oslo. 16 September 2015.
- Seminar Organizer, together with Professor Jenny James of the PLU English Department: "Aunts and Uncles: Kinship and the Non-Reproductive Subject After Sedgwick. "Endless Books, Endless Aunts: *Hedda Gabler* and the Reproductive Metaphor." American Comparative Literature Association conference (Seattle 2015)
- Guest Lecture: "Literature, Medicine, and Venereal Disease: Ibsen's Ghosts"* in Scand 367, Sexuality in Scandinavia: Myth and Reality (Dr. Ia Dübois), University of Washington. 30 September 2014.
- "The Quintessence of Feminism: Ibsen Studies, Radical Approaches, and Queerer Matters." 104th Annual Meeting of the Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Studies (SASS) – Yale University, New Haven. 13-15 March, 2014.
- "Adaptation and the 'Reek' of Ambivalence: Ibsen, Sontag, Wilson." 103rd Annual Meeting of the Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Studies (SASS) – University of California, Berkeley, San Francisco, CA. 2-4 May 2013.
- "Ibsen's Dead Babies: Aesthetic Ideology and Reproduction." 37th Comparative Drama Conference – Stevenson University, Baltimore, MD. 4-6 April 2013
- Invited Talk: "The Master Builder's Tragic Quotidian,"* Department of Scandinavian Studies at the University of Washington. 27 November 2012
- "Ibsen and the Ideologies of Realism: *The Wild Duck* as Wild Card." 101st Annual Meeting of the Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Studies (SASS) – Northpark University, Chicago. 28-30 April 2011.

- “Early Late Decadence: the (queer) figure of the future in Herman Bang’s *De uden Fædreland*”
Queer People IV: The Uses of the History of Sexuality – Christ’s College, Cambridge, England.
2-5 July 2010. (Panel Organizer: Queer Scandinavia)
- “Singularly Bound: Henrik Ibsen and Theatrical Survival” Ibsen Across Cultures: International
Ibsen Society – Fudan University, Shanghai, China. 14-20 June, 2009.
- “The (Meta)Architecture of Henrik Ibsen’s *Ghosts*,” Counter-Movements: Institutions of
Difference – Portsmouth University. 24-25 July 2006.

Professional and Organizational Development

- 2008 UW Technology Teaching Fellows Institute, 9-13 July 2018
- Workshop/Training (via UW Human Resources) Leading with a Racial Equity Lens for Structural
Transformation, 27 March 2017
- Workshop/Training (via UW Human Resources): Seeing the Water: Whiteness in Daily Life,
March 21 2017UW
- Q Zone Safe(r) Space Training, 31 October 2016
- Norgesseminaret (The Norway Seminar): “Internasjonal migrasjon til Norge”
Knoxville, TN. 6-8 October 2016
- Norgesseminaret (The Norway Seminar): “Bærekraft, natur og miljø”
Bozeman, MT. September 2015
- Norgesseminaret (The Norway Seminar): “Det norske folkestyret: jublant og samfunnsmodell”
Northfield, MN, St Olaf College. 10-13 October 2013.
- Summer 2013: Summer Seminar for Teachers of Norwegian at Foreign Universities. The
University in Oslo. 20 June to 10 July 2013.
- Norgesseminaret (The Norway Seminar): “Norge, vekst og ansvar?”
Houston, TX. 12-15 October 2012

Professional Societies

- Ibsen Society of America
Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Studies
American Comparative Literature Association
Modern Language Association
NORTANA (Norwegian Researchers and Teachers Association of North America)