

**Sabbatical Leave Application Checklist**  
**Submit one hardcopy to Provost Office**

**\*\*\*The SaLe Committee will not consider incomplete applications\*\*\***

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**Cover Sheet** -- *Includes the following:*

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Dates of Proposed Sabbatical

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Applicant's Signature

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Years of Service/Eligibility Points

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Dept. Chair's Signature

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Dean's Signature

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**Curriculum Vitae** -- *Must not be longer than 8 pages.*

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**Narrative** -- *Describe the proposed project using the areas indicated in the application form:*

PLEASE NOTE: Your proposal should be written in clear, correct English that is understandable to an educated layperson.

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Clear, concise statement of objectives (approx. 300-400 words)

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Detailed description of project (approx. 1,500 words)

☒

Relationship of project to current work assignment (approx. 400-500 words)

☒

Projected timeline for the project (approx. 100-200 words)

☒

Tangible product or results of the project (approx. 200-300 words)

☒

Expected benefits of the project to discipline and University (approx. 200 words)

☒

Likelihood of completion of project (approx. 200 words)

☒

Description of meritorious service (approx. 600-800 words)

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☐

**Budget** -- *Where appropriate, to detail expenses for equipment, student support, etc.*

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☐

**Letters of support** -- *Where appropriate, to affirm the significance and feasibility of the project.*

For example, letters might be appropriate

- To document the value and nature of a collaboration or of a location, the availability of resources, or the feasibility of the project;
- To document access to a restricted archive or library or the importance of the work to be undertaken.

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Final report(s) of any previous sabbatical leave(s) has/have been filed

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**All Required Signatures**

Please see the Sabbatical Leave Policy and form on the Provost's website for further description. For any questions, please contact the Chair of the SaLe Committee.



**West Chester University of Pennsylvania**  
**APPLICATION FOR SABBATICAL LEAVE**  
Submit one hardcopy to Provost Office

Paul Maltby  
Name

English  
Department

02/13/2016  
Date

1. Sabbatical Request (Select one): ☐ 1 year at ½ salary ☒ 1 semester at full salary

Sabbatical to begin January 2017 and end May 2017

Eligibility. The general rule of thumb is that you need 7 years of full-time service as a regular (permanent) faculty member for each sabbatical, but, you do not need to wait 7 years between sabbaticals. You cannot, however, apply any earlier than four semesters following the semester in which a previous sabbatical has been taken. To help ensure that you have enough years of service to qualify for a sabbatical, answer the following questions:

- Year you began as a full-time regular (permanent) faculty member in the PaSSHE (Note: policy requires that you have at least five consecutive years of service at WCU) 1991
- Give yourself one (1) seniority point for each semester of service 50
- Subtract 14 points for the most recent sabbatical you have taken (skip this step if you have never had a sabbatical) 36
- Divide the remaining number of seniority points by two (2) to convert semesters to years. 18 The result must be at least 7 (years) in order to qualify for the minimum number (5) of years of service points (see p. 4 of the Sabbatical Leave Policies and Procedures).

*(Also note: You do not have to wait until you have completed 7 years of service to apply; you do, however, need to make sure that you will have completed 7 years of service before you take the sabbatical. Because applications must be submitted at least two semesters (spring leave) or three (fall leave) semesters in advance, you can count those semesters as part of your required years of service).*

Proposal Submission. The Faculty member is responsible for ensuring that Chairperson's and Dean's comments and signatures are forwarded on time, and that the completed proposal (hardcopy) is delivered to the Provost's Office by the published deadline. Incomplete applications or applications received after the published deadlines will not be reviewed by the SaLe Committee.

I certify that the information I have presented is accurate and contains no omission of fact.

Paul L. Maltby  
Applicant's signature

02/13/16  
Date

2. Clear, concise statement of objectives (approx. 300-400 words):

I plan to continue my research into the literature and art of American evangelicalism by working on a chapter ("End Times Fiction and the Politics of Redemption") for a new book. The project would build on original lines of inquiry opened up in my most recent book, *Christian Fundamentalism and the Culture of Disenchantment* (University of Virginia Press, 2013) and my most recent article, "Evangelical Manhood, Fascism, and the Art of Ron DiCianni" (11,000 words; currently under review by the editors of the journal *Religion and American Culture*.) The book largely focused on the conservative aesthetics of End Times fiction (evangelicalism's dominant literary genre) and contemporary, mass-market evangelical painting. The proposed research would examine the political and ideological implications of the model of redemption expounded in End Times fiction, a culturally significant issue yet to be addressed in the area of formal literary scholarship. In particular, attention will focus on the authoritarian values that animate End Times fiction and their relevance to the current conjuncture of militarism, chauvinistic demagoguery, and the theocratic politics of the Christian Right. A sabbatical would enable me to pursue six objectives:

1. Extend the scope of discussion beyond the literary texts with which I am already familiar by reading more best-selling series of End Times fiction.
2. Research Christian theology to identify models of redemption that expose the distortions of, not to say flatly contradict, the evangelical End Times model.
3. Review the most recent published scholarship on evangelical fiction.
4. Write an article based on the results of 1, 2, and 3, and submit it to a peer-reviewed publication such as *The Journal of American Studies* or *Journal of Popular Culture*.
5. Develop the outline for a book on the politics and ideology embedded in the model of redemption found in mass-market evangelical literature, painting and film. The research project proposed here for a sabbatical would form one chapter of the planned book and serve as an article in its own right.
6. Research opportunities for external grants with which to finance more release time.

### 3. Detailed description of project (approx. 1,500 words):

#### A. THE CASE FOR MY PROJECT

Since the 1970s, End Times fiction has been at the center of America's boom in Christian publishing. (The best-known example, the *Left Behind* series, co-authored by Tim LaHaye, veteran activist of the Christian Right's Moral Majority, and Jerry B. Jenkins, ran to 16 novels, published between 1995 and 2007. To date, around 70 million novels in the adult series have been sold, making it, by some estimates, the best-selling adult fiction series in US history.) The popularity of this genre, especially in the red states, allows it to function as a form of activism, whereby evangelical authors can promote the absolutist dogma of a faith whose constituency (the Christian Right) plays a vital part in American politics. However, while a great deal of scholarship (sociological, ethnographic, theological) has focused on Evangelical ideas about the End Times, far less has examined literary articulations of the End Times (not to be confused with the broader category of apocalypse fiction). Moreover, much of the latter concentrates on End Times fiction published in the 18th and 19th centuries. The scholarship that specifically attends to End Times fiction in the present era of the mobilized Christian Right occupies just a tiny niche in literary studies, a surprising gap given the influence of End Times fiction on the political thinking of around 25% of the population. (A search of the MLA Bibliography yielded only six monographs and about two dozen articles published since 2000.) And while this scholarship generally is of a high standard, it is limited in the following ways:

\* It is overwhelmingly confined to discussions of the *Left Behind* series. Meanwhile, in the last few years, other series of End Times fiction have enjoyed extraordinary sales and yet received no critical attention. I have in mind work by Cliff Ball, Heath & Sheila Jannusch, Benjamin Reynolds, and Patrick Higgins among others.

\* While, to be sure, much of this scholarship is politically oriented, its focus tends to be restricted to questions that link End Times fiction to either antisemitism or anti-feminism or neoliberalism. Such concerns are valid and cogently argued but limit our understanding of the End Times model of redemption insofar as, typically, they miss (or, at least, give short shrift to) the ways in which this fiction is animated by (a) the theocratic authoritarianism of the Christian Right; (b) the neoconservative militarism of US foreign policy; (c) ideals of hypermasculinity (inspired by the sword-wielding Messiah of Revelation).

\* An egregious absence in critical work on this strain of fiction is attention to any theology beyond that of End Times doctrine. And yet this fiction bears the imprint of a long and virulent history of theological disputes (Patristic, Scholastic, Reformational), which have profound political implications for its model of redemption.

\* The scholarship in question usually is limited by two methodological shortcomings; that is to say, deficiency in comparative literary study and rhetorical analysis.

As explained below, much of my project will aim to compensate for these limitations and, therefore, should constitute a significant contribution to our understanding of the impact of End times fiction on American politics and culture.

#### B. THE SCOPE OF MY PROJECT

The scholarship on the End Times fiction of the last twenty years is overwhelmingly focused on the *Left Behind* series, while ignoring the explosive sales of other series in this genre, much of which has been published in the last few years. A sabbatical will allow me to read some other End Times novel cycles, such as James BeauSeigneur's *Christ Clone Trilogy*, Heath & Sheila Jannusch's *The End of Time Chronicles*, and Cliff Ball's *The End Times Saga*. A larger sample of texts will give empirical weight to my account of how a "politics of redemption" drives this genre.

Scholarship on End Times fiction rarely situates it in the context of disputes in Christian theology. Indeed, such scholarship rarely evinces any knowledge of Christian theology beyond that of evangelicalism's doctrine of the End Times (i.e. Rapture, Tribulation, Armageddon, Millennium, Revolt, Resurrection, Last Judgment). Yet the model of redemption expounded in this fiction is deeply imbricated in a long theological history of violent polemics marked by schism, heresy, and anathema. And at each major turning point in the struggle, e.g. Augustine vs. Pelagius, Calvin vs. Arminius, the conservative and authoritarian model prevailed. A key part of my thesis will make sense of End Times fiction's account of redemption in the (neglected) context of history of theology. Furthermore, developments in contemporary Christian theology (I have in mind the work of Gianni Vattimo, John Caputo, and Jürgen Moltmann) project models of redemption at odds with that of End Times fiction. That is to say, those models, insofar as they are founded on a concept of Grace that values social justice and compassion, flatly contradict this fiction's militant and vindictive vision of redemption. In this respect, I shall have a good deal to say about the need to distinguish between a "left" politics of redemption, conveyed by the Social Gospel's construction of a merciful Jesus, who redeems through the power of compassion, and a "right" politics of redemption, conveyed by the the fundamentalist construction of a militant Jesus, who redeems through the power of force. Of particular importance here are contemporary "weak theologies" which, on the grounds of God's self-disempowerment through Incarnation as a human ("kenosis"), conceive God in non-absolutist, non-omnipotent terms. In short, a sabbatical will enable me to develop these strands of my argument by giving me the time to research the relevant doctrinal disputes and alternative theologies.

3. Detailed description of project (approx. 1,500 words) continued:

In the belief that proficient scholarship must situate itself vis-à-vis the current critical "conversation" (if only to avoid sounding like a "voice from nowhere"), I plan to review some of the key studies of End Times fiction of the last twenty years. Familiarity with the work of other scholars in this field will help highlight the divergences between my approach/concerns and theirs. Moreover, engagement with other studies may alert me to new trends in this area of scholarship that could assist my own research. Among the critical texts I plan to read are: Daniel Radosh's *Rapture Ready! Adventures in the Parallel Universe of Christian Pop Culture*; Jennie Jackson Chapman's *Plotting Apocalypse: Reading, Agency, and Identity in the Left Behind Series*; Amy Frykholm Johnson's *Rapture Culture: Left Behind in Evangelical America*; Glenn Shuck's *Marks of the Beast: The Left Behind Novels and the Struggle for Evangelical Identity*. (Publication details given in section 5.)

I also plan to read recent articles published in peer-reviewed journals by, among others, Kelly Baker (*Studies in World Christianity*), Wesley Bergen (*Journal of Religion and Popular Culture*), Matthew Guest (*Literature & Theology*), Marnie Jones (*Studies in Popular Culture*), Lisa Lampert-Weissig (*Journal of Popular Culture*), Melanie McAlister (*South Atlantic Quarterly*), Sherryll Mleynek (*Literature & Theology*), Barbara Rossing (*Anglican Theological Review*), Andrew Strombeck (*Cultural Critique*), E. Janet Warren (*Journal of Pentecostal Theology*). (Publication details given in section 5.)

On the strength of the foregoing research, I plan to write an article and submit it to a peer-reviewed publication such as *The Journal of American Studies* or *Journal of Popular Culture*. (To be clear: this article essentially is the book chapter I intend to write on sabbatical; work on other chapters for the planned book will extend well beyond the sabbatical timeline.) The article will not only include discussion of the literary works and theology's "right" and "left" models of redemption noted earlier, but also and quite centrally, the political and ideological implications of the model of redemption advanced by End Times fiction. That is to say, attention will focus on issues which, in other scholarship, tend to be either underdeveloped, if not altogether overlooked. Here, I have in mind the forces which animate and nurture the moral absolutism of End Times thinking, such as the theocratic authoritarianism of the Christian Right, the neoconservative dogma of US foreign policy, and saintly forms of hypermasculinity (as in the glorification of the Warrior Jesus depicted in Revelation). I shall also reflect on End Times fiction's authoritarian understanding of God as a super-eminent sovereign, whose retributive justice always trumps liberal ideals of social justice.

Two features of my methodology that merit attention will be comparative literary study and rhetorical analysis. I shall contrast accounts of redemption in End Times fiction with accounts of redemption in the work of non-evangelical Christian authors (e.g. John Updike, Marilynne Robinson, Walker Percy). The doctrinal absolutism of the former precludes the use of irony and ambiguity as practiced by the latter and which temper the political implications of their model of redemption. Furthermore, much of the extant scholarship tends to be deficient in its use of rhetorical analysis and yet a good deal can be learned about the idea of redemption in End Times fiction by exploring the strategies used by authors to render their doctrine of redemption persuasive. Accordingly, some of my analysis will focus on tropes of transfigurability and transcendence, figures of purification and healing, and motifs of justice and reward.

Finally, a sabbatical would allow me to develop the outline for a book on the politics and ideology embedded in the model of redemption found in mass-market evangelical literature, painting and film. The research project proposed here for a sabbatical would form one chapter of the planned book and serve as an article in its own right. It would also allow me to research opportunities for external grants with which to finance more release time.

4. Relationship of project to current work assignment (approx. 400-500 words):

I was hired by West Chester University to teach Contemporary American Literature and, over the years, my teaching responsibilities have expanded to include Cultural Studies (as my current Statement of Expectations shows). My research into End Times fiction relates to my teaching in both these academic fields. Contemporary End Times fiction, draws on the conventions of such literary subgenres as the horror story, spiritual warfare fiction, and apocalyptic writing, all of which I have experience in teaching. I would include examples of this fiction in my New Fiction classes (LIT 272) and Modern American Novel classes (LIT 306). Moreover, as a conspicuously thriving genre, read by tens of millions of Americans, especially in the Southern and Midwestern Bible Belts, I would include examples of End Times fiction in both my Popular Culture classes: Popular Culture: Reading Culture as Text (LIT 100) and Critical Writing: Approaches to Popular Culture (WRT 204). In my most recent Popular Culture course (LIT 100, Fall 2015), I included a unit on evangelical fiction. In recent years, I have been alternating between two seminars themed around Christian literature: Christian Themes in US Fiction since 1980 (ENG 400; taught Spring 2014, Spring 2015, scheduled for Fall 2016); Rhetorics of Redemption (taught Spring 2016 and proposed for Fall 2017). Both seminars already include a good deal of attention to End Times fiction. My proposed research will enable me to work with a more extensive range of texts and a more current selection, and to refine and update my commentary on those texts.

Insofar as my responsibilities include work that promotes scholarly growth, the proposed project would supply material for future conferences, which in turn would acquaint me with the most current scholarship in this area and widen my network of peers whose research converges with my own.

Finally, I believe that the enhanced expertise enabled by a sabbatical will comply with both my department's and the university's mission to respect diversity by giving voice to communities traditionally under-represented in academia. And here religious diversity surely deserves as much attention as other forms of diversity. According to the most recent data from the Pew Research Center, one in four Americans (roughly 80 million) self-identifies as an evangelical. Therefore, irrespective of whether one agrees with evangelical doctrine, students should at least be aware of how a full quarter of their compatriots think. A great deal of evangelical thinking on politics, cultural values and spirituality is condensed in End Times fiction.

5. Projected timeline for project [if awarded, a detailed timeline will be requested approximately 3 months before sabbatical begins] (approx. 100-200 words):

JANUARY: Read more best-selling series of End Times fiction, specifically, by Heath Jannusch, James BeauSeigneur, and Cliff Ball.

FEBRUARY: Research models of redemption in Christian theology (New Testament, Patristic, Scholastic, Reformational, Neo-Orthodox, Postmodern). In addition, read relevant studies by Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Jurgen Moltmann, Neil Ormerod, and S. Mark Heim.

MARCH: Research scholarship, published since 2000, on evangelical fiction and culture by key scholars, notably Jennie Jackson Chapman, Amy Frykholm Johnson, Daniel Radosh, and Glenn Shuck. Read relevant articles published in peer-reviewed journals of theology and popular culture.

APRIL, on the basis of the research of the previous three months, write an article, "End Times Fiction and the Politics of Redemption," and submit it to a peer-reviewed publication such as the Journal of American Studies or Journal of Popular Culture.

MAY: Develop the outline for a book on the politics and ideology embedded in the model of redemption found in mass-market evangelical literature, painting and film. The research project proposed above would form one chapter of the planned book and serve as an article in its own right. In addition, research opportunities for external grants with which to finance more release time.

6. Tangible product or results of the project (approx. 200-300 words):

- \* An article, tentatively titled "End Times Fiction and the Politics of Redemption," to be submitted to a peer-reviewed publication such as The Journal of American Studies or Journal of Popular Culture. This article will also constitute a chapter in a book intended as a sequel to my previous book.
- \* Some of the research will contribute to material for my next book on the politics and ideology embedded in the model of redemption found in mass market evangelical literature, painting and film. The release time will also yield an outline for the next book.
- \* Learn about and apply for grants to pay for more release time with which to complete the book.
- \* Insofar as the sabbatical will pave the way for further research, I intend to involve some students as collaborators and will, therefore, apply for a Graduate Assistant and explore opportunities for student involvement grants.
- \* Enhancement of my expertise in the field of evangelical fiction and its cultural, political and theological contexts.
- \* Notes that can enrich my lectures in those units of courses that are focused on evangelical fiction, art and culture.
- \* The knowledge generated by the sabbatical will form the basis of at least one conference paper.



7. Expected benefits of project to your department/unit, discipline, school/college, and university (approx. 200-300 words):

\* The research project outlined above will enrich my teaching of both contemporary American literature, notably New Fiction (LIT 272) and the Modern American Novel (LIT 306), and Popular Culture (LIT 100 and WRT 204).

\* The research will significantly enhance my interrelated ENG 400 seminars: "Christian Themes in US fiction since 1980" and "Rhetorics of Redemption." Moreover, these seminars could quite easily be developed into the topic that will form any future graduate seminars in American Literature (ENG 564) and Special Topics (ENG 615).

\* My research will contribute to the curricular goal of cultural diversity, as promoted by both the English Department and the university as a whole, insofar as it attends to the literature of a community traditionally excluded from the secular wing of academia.

\* My project will contribute towards a critical reassessment of the genre of End Times fiction in four ways: (i) By ranging beyond the Left Behind series, to encompass other series in the genre that have enjoyed extraordinary sales. (ii) By shifting political commentary to reveal how the genre's doctrinal absolutism is largely conditioned by the theocratic politics of the Christian Right and the self-righteous militarism of US foreign policy. (iii) By ranging beyond the evangelical theology of the End Times to address the theological disputes (Patristic, Scholastic, Reformational, and beyond), which have had profound political implications for the genre's model of redemption. (iv) By comparing accounts of redemption in End Times fiction with accounts of redemption in the work of non-evangelical Christian authors in order to highlight the political nature of the former.

\* On the assumption that this sabbatical will pave the way for further research, I expect to be able to involve students in the research process. Accordingly, I will explore opportunities for grants that would enable a measure of collaboration with students.

\* The completion of the project will strengthen the case for a future research grant.

8. Likelihood of completion of project (approx. 200 words):

I have a strong track record for completing projects. To date, I have had four books published, all of which underwent rigorous peer review: *Christian Fundamentalism and the Culture of Disenchantment*, University of Virginia Press, 2013; *The Visionary Moment: A Postmodern Critique*, State University of New York Press, 2002; *Dissident Postmodernists: Barthelme, Coover, Pynchon*, University of Pennsylvania Press, 1991; *An Exalted House* (novel), Superscript, 2007. In addition, I have had articles and book reviews published by refereed presses (see attached CV) and I have delivered 26 papers at national and regional juried conferences. I have also completed a two-hour play, *Holy Traffic* (2015), which is currently being considered for production in the Fall 2016/17 program of two community theaters.

Some of the planned writing will be facilitated by material recently delivered at conferences, notably: "Authority and Authoritarianism in End Times Fiction," American Literature Association, San Francisco, CA, May 2016; "End Times Fiction and the Politics of Redemption," Northeast Modern Language Association, Toronto, May 2015; "Fundamentalism and the Hypermasculine," Popular & American Culture Association, Chicago, IL, April 2014; "Spiritual Warfare Fiction and the Postmodern Reader," Mid-Atlantic Popular & American Culture Association, Pittsburgh, PA, November 2012; "Fundamentalist Fiction and the Ironic Reader," College English Association, St. Petersburg, FL, March 2011.

In the light of my record for finishing projects, I am confident I can complete the reading and writing proposed in this sabbatical application.

9. Previous sabbatical(s):

<u>Year</u>	<u>Activity</u>
<u>1998</u>	<u>Completed final chapters for book, <i>The Visionary Moment</i>, published by</u> <u>State University of New York Press, 2002.</u>
<u>2006</u>	<u>Completed 14,000-word book chapter, "Postmodernism in a Fundamentalist</u> <u>Arena," published by Rodopi Postmodern Studies, 2007. Formed basis of</u> <u>my next book, "Christian Fundamentalism....," published by University</u> <u>of Virginia Press, 2013.</u>

10. Previous AWA(s) for scholarly/creative endeavors:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Activity</u>
<u>1996</u>	<u>Work on book project, <i>The Visionary Moment</i>.</u>
<u>1998</u>	<u>Work on book project, <i>The Visionary Moment</i>.</u>
<u>2001</u>	<u>Research into postmodern film, which enabled my 9 seminars on the</u> <u>topic of "Postmodern Film."</u>
<u>2005</u>	<u>Research into postmodern aesthetics, which enabled my 6 seminars on</u> <u>the topic of "Postmodern Aesthetics."</u>

11. Description of Meritorious Service (approx. 600-800 words):  
[Meritorious service is a critical component of a successful application for sabbatical leave. It includes activities that contribute significantly to the applicant's discipline, West Chester University, and the profession at large.]

The following examples are representative, but do not constitute a complete list:

1) Leadership positions:

- Chairing university committees and departments;
- Chairing professional association committees; and
- Chairing committees that organize and plan local, regional, and national conferences.

2) Other significant activities:

- Active participation on campus committees;
- Contributions to academic and professional organizations beyond WCU;
- Development of significant partnerships between the university and the community;
- Retraining or developing new competencies to serve the university beyond the classroom; and
- Specific and continuous service to students and student groups.

(N.B. meritorious service is to be presented by the applicant to the sabbatical-leave committee as a written justification statement by the applicant) (see, Sabbatical Leave Policies and Procedures, section D) click to view

ATTACHED

## **11. MERITORIOUS SERVICE SINCE THE LAST SABBATICAL AWARD**

(NOTE: English is the largest of all WCU's departments, currently comprising around 75 faculty and running two majors, seven minors and many sections of service courses that enable students across the campus to meet their composition requirements. Accordingly, English faculty find that an unusually large proportion of their service time is needed simply to ensure the everyday running of this outsized department.)

### **\* Editorial work, Spring 2013.**

Substitute editor of WCU's quarterly journal *College Literature* from Jan. 2013 – May 2013. This position required detailed evaluations of and responses to scholarly essays submitted to the journal. The journal, which has received three CELJ awards, has achieved national recognition for its publications in the fields of literary criticism and theory, pedagogy, and cultural studies.

### **\* Refereeing, 2009-2014.**

Referee's recommendation for Dr. Brian Ingraffia's application for promotion to Full Professor at Calvin College, Michigan (September 2010).

Referee's report for Dr. Joshua Toth's application for promotion to Associate Professor at Grant MacEwan University, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada (April 2013).

Referee's report on Soharn R. Boyagoda's application for a grant from The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (December 2009). Project title: *The Sacred and Secular in Postwar American Fiction*.

Reader's report for *Emergence*, a book series published by Noesis Press, on Michael James Rizza's book manuscript *The Topographical Imagination of Jameson, Baudrillard, and Foucault*. (Published by Noesis Press, 2014.)

### **\* Conference circuit, 2008 to Present**

Presented papers at 10 professional conferences since 2008: 4 at the Popular Culture Association, 2 at the Northeast Modern Language Association, 2 at the College English Association, 1 at the American Literature Association, 1 at the English Association of Pennsylvania State Universities.

### **\* EAPSU Conference Committee, Fall 2012 to Fall 2013.**

Planned for WCU to host the annual English Association of Pennsylvania State Universities conference. Arranged for accommodation for conferees, reviewed proposals for papers, organized panels, chaired a panel, etc.

### **\* Chair of Student Awards Committee, 2008 to 2012.**

Responsible for identifying and overseeing election of candidates for five annual awards. (Handled four of the five awards alone.)

### **\* Student Advisor, 2011 to the Present.**

Each semester, I advise between 8 and 13 students on course selections in order to ensure they meet all the requirements for timely graduation.

### **\* Public Service, 2008.**

Fourth Annual West Chester Film Festival. Served as judge to determine award-winning films.

**\* Chair of Film Program Committee, 2008 to 2015.**

Collectively, the duties required to manage this committee add up to a significant workload: Advising film minors, arranging course offerings, updating the film catalogue, maintaining viewing equipment, promoting the minor, organizing committee meetings.

**\* Chair of Seminar Program Subcommittee, 2010 to 2012.**

The committee reviewed and recommended modifications to proposals for 12 or more seminars each semester, in addition to presiding over discussions of policy for the program.

**\* Promotions Committee for Full Professorship, 2012 to Present. (Chair since 2016.)**

An elected position. Wrote performance reviews, conducted classroom observations, and engaged in committee evaluations of faculty applying for promotion.

**\* Majors' Committee, 2008 to 2012.**

Involved in Outcome Assessment Plan, program reviews, reviewing proposals for new courses, course recommendations.

**\* Five-Year Review Committee, 2012 to 2014.**

Conducted classroom observations, wrote performance reports and engaged in committee evaluations of faculty under their five-year review.

**\* Probationary Faculty Evaluation Committee, 2014 to Present.**

Conduct classroom observations and write performance reviews of probationary faculty.

**\* Adjunct Faculty Evaluation Committee, 2008 to Present.**

Conduct classroom observations and write performance reviews of adjunct faculty.

**\* Literatures Track Committee, 2014 to Present.**

Discuss course offerings, curricular changes, methods for promoting the track.

**\* Search Committee for Two Composition Hires, 2014.**

Planned advertisements, reviewed applications, interviewed candidates, arranged and supervised candidates' visits to campus.

**\* Search Committee for Chicano Literature Hire, 2009.**

Planned advertisements, reviewed applications, interviewed candidates, arranged and supervised candidates' visits to campus.

**\* Graduate Thesis Defense Committees, 2008-2013.**

Read and corrected four graduate theses and served on the defense committees for each.

**\* Mentoring, 2009, 2012-13.**

Mentored undergraduate writing project (Vito Gulla, 2009).

Mentored new faculty hire (Chris Merkner, 2012-13).

\*\*\*\*\*

12. Attach current curriculum vitae, no longer than 8 pages. Attach letters of support (not required, but helpful).

13. Endorsements and Comments

a. *John S. Bacon*  
Chairperson

*3-2-16*  
Date

N.B. If the applicant is the Department Chair, this form must be signed by the Assistant Chair or, if there is no Assistant Chair, a senior tenured member of the Department.

Please comment below on how the sabbatical relates to the individual faculty member's assignment in the department as well as how the sabbatical relates to department goals or long range plans.

*Dr. Maltby has a demonstrated record of scholarly productivity that would be enhanced by the opportunity to take a sabbatical. His Fall '16 seminar grew out of his ongoing work in the literature of evangelicalism, and it is clear that this is a rich area for further exploration in our current political moment. Providing our students with tools for examining and interpreting such literary landscapes fits well with our departmental goals & curriculum, with Dr. Maltby's SOE.*

b. *Lou Lerner*  
Dean

*3/7/16*  
Date

Please comment below on how this sabbatical relates to the school/college goals or long range plans.

*Dr. Paul Maltby is one of WCU's most prolific and accomplished scholars. This sabbatical will support his continued development as a teacher-scholar. Our students as well as the public will benefit greatly from this work that is well-aligned with our institutional goals.*

14. *Paul L. Maltby* *02/13/16*  
Signature of Faculty Applicant Date

15. Signature of SaLe Committee Chairperson (may include committee comments):

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of SaLe Chairperson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

16. Status of Applicant:

☐

Recommended

☐

Not Recommended

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of President or Designee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

17. The above detail is important to allow the SaLe Committee to determine academic purpose and to permit the President to implement his/her rights under CBA Article XIX, A., 11, d.

(All materials submitted herewith shall become part of the applicant's official personnel file under CBA Article XIII.)

*N.B. The application MUST be submitted in hardcopy. Please follow the procedures for submission as outlined in the "Overview" tab on the Provost's webpage.*

FEBRUARY 2016

CURRICULUM VITAE

**DR PAUL MALTBY**

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610-594-8372 (home)  
484-678-7255 (cell)

BORN: London, UK, September 30, 1951.  
NATURALIZATION: US citizenship, July 1, 2009.

NON-ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT: 1974-85. Director, P. Maltby Ltd. (retail business).

ACADEMIC DEGREES

BA	Thames Polytechnic (UK)	1981	English/American Literature & Philosophy
MA	London University (UK)	1983	20th-century English & American Literature
PhD	Sussex University (UK)	1989	North American Postmodernist Fiction

Title of PhD: *Dissident Postmodernists: Barthelme, Coover, Pynchon*. Supervised by Dr. Peter Nicholls, currently Henry James Professor of English at New York University.

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

(i) American Fiction 1945-Present; (ii) Postmodernism;  
(iii) Literary/Critical Theory; (iv) Film Studies; (v) Cultural Studies;  
(vi) Christian Fundamentalism

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

1991-	West Chester University	Full Professor Department of English
1990-91	London University (Extra-Mural)	Part-time Lecturer Philosophy & Literature
1988-89	Workers' Educational Association Kent, England	Part-time Lecturer Modern Philosophy
1985-86	Erith College of Technology Kent, England	Part-time Lecturer Communication Studies
1984-85	South Greenwich Adult Ed Inst. London, England	Part-time Lecturer English / American Literature

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## I. TEACHING ASSIGNMENTS AT WCU (Fall 1991-Spring 2016)

N.B. 1 section = approximately 40 classroom hours

<u>Undergraduate Courses</u>	<u>sections</u>
LIT 100 Popular Culture	10
LIT 165 Introduction to Literature	17
LIT 165 Topics in Literature	3
CLS 165 Introduction to World Literature	1
LIT 168 Conventions of Reading	1
WRT 200 Critical Writing and Research	3
FLM 200 Introduction to Film	38
FLM 202 Themes in American Film	21
WRT 204 Critical Writing and Popular Culture	4
LIT 272 New Fiction	17
ENG 296 Theory, Meaning, Value	12
LIT 306 Modern American Novel	15
CLS 310 Contemporary Literary Criticism	1
CLS 352 Postmodernism/Postmodernity	4
LIT 365 Short Fiction	1
CLS 369 Literature and Film	1
LIT 400 Postmodernist Fiction in the USA	2
LIT 400 Literature and Philosophy	2
LIT 400 The Visionary Moment in American Fiction	2
LIT 400 Hemingway and Faulkner	1
LIT 400 Postmodern Aesthetics	6
LIT 400 Christian Themes in US Fiction since 1980	2
LIT 400 Rhetorics of Redemption	1
FLM 400 Postmodern Film	9

<u>Graduate Courses</u>	<u>sections</u>
ENG 501 Literary Theory	7
ENG 551 Hemingway and Faulkner	2
ENG 551 Postmodern Literature/Postmodern Culture	1
ENG 558 Twentieth-Century American Writers	6
ENG 564 American Fiction: 1970-1990	1
ENG 615 Postmodern Aesthetics	2
ENG 615 Postmodern Film	1
ENG 620 MA Essay	15

SUPERVISION OF MASTER'S THESES (ENG 620)

Robert Deary	The Postmodern Detective Story	1994
Brenda Wolfer	Faulkner and the Death of the Old South	1995
Matthew Brady	The Baseball Hero in 20 <sup>th</sup> -Century Fiction	1996
Anne Sherbert	Peter Taylor and the House Angel Paradigm	1997
Joseph Ahart	A Feminist Reading of Barthelme's Postmodernism	1998
Cynthia Choo	Ellison and the Politics of Folk Vernacular	2000
Eleanor Brown	The Lesbian Romance and the Naiad Press	2001
Zoe Miros	Kerouac: Divine Scribe of the Beat Generation	2002
Connie Regan	Frank Miller's <i>Dark Knight</i> Series	2003
Jamie Wismer	Media Representations of Terrorism in DeLillo	2004
Justin McClelland	The Dark Realism Movement in Superhero Narrative	2005
Rob Jones	Subversive Women in Kerouac's Fiction	2007
Ian Thomas	Street Art and the Battle for Public Space	2009
Jennie Leary	War and Trauma in Graphic Novels from the Middle East	2009
Michelle Miller	Questions of Theodicy in Cottrell Boyce's <i>God on Trial</i>	2009

TEACHING RECOGNITION

Nominated by Honors College as "Outstanding Faculty" in 1999, 2000, 2001, 2011.

## II. SCHOLARSHIP

### BOOKS

- \* *Christian Fundamentalism and the Culture of Disenchantment*. University of Virginia Press, 2013.
- \* *The Visionary Moment: A Postmodern Critique*. State University of New York Press, 2002.
- \* *Dissident Postmodernists: Barthelme, Coover, Pynchon*. University of Pennsylvania Press, 1991.

Chapter from *Dissident Postmodernists* reprinted in *A Postmodern Reader*. Joseph Natoli and Linda Hutcheon (eds.), State University of New York Press, 1993, pp.519-537.

Chapter from *Dissident Postmodernists* reprinted in *Postmodernism and the Contemporary Novel*. Bran Nicol (ed.), Edinburgh University Press, 2002, pp. 371-389.

### REFEREED ARTICLES / BOOK CHAPTERS

- \* "Kinkade, Koons, Kitsch". *Journal for Cultural and Religious Theory* Spring 2012, vol.12, no. 1, pp. 53-81 (15,000 words).
- \* "Fundamentalist Dominion, Postmodern Ecology". *Ethics & the Environment* Fall 2008, vol.13, no. 2, pp. 119-141 (8,000 words).
- \* "Postmodernism in a Fundamentalist Arena". Invited chapter for essay collection *The Mourning After: Attending the Wake of Postmodernism*, Hans Bertens & Theo D'haen (eds.), Rodopi Postmodern Studies, 2007, pp. 15-51 (14,000 words).
- \* "Postmodern Thoughts on the Visionary Moment". *Centennial Review* Winter 1997, vol. 41, no.1, pp.119-141.
- \* "The Romantic Metaphysics of Don DeLillo". *Contemporary Literature* Summer 1996, vol.37, no.2, pp.258-277.

Reprinted in *White Noise: Text and Criticism*. Mark Osteen (ed.), Penguin/Viking Critical Library, 1998, pp.498-516.

Reprinted in *Don DeLillo: Bloom's Modern Critical Views*. Harold Bloom (ed.), Chelsea House, 2003, pp.51-69.

Reprinted in *Bloom's Modern Critical Interpretations: Don DeLillo's White Noise*. Harold Bloom (ed.), Chelsea House, 2003, pp. 213-30.

- \* "Self-Reflexive Fiction in the Age of Systemic Communication". *Centennial Review* Winter 1996, vol.40, no.1, pp.49-68.
- \* "Muting the Countervoices: Zavarzadeh's Pedagogy of Critique". *College Literature* 21.3 October 1994, pp.34-40.

#### BOOK REVIEWS AND OTHER REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

- \* REVIEW: *The Discovery of France: A Historical Geography from the Revolution to the First World War* by Graham Robb (Norton, 2007). *College Literature* 35.4 (Fall 2008): 215-218.
- \* REVIEW: *Memorious Discourse: Reprise and Representation in Postmodernism* by Christian Moraru (Fairleigh Dickinson UP, 2005). *Ariel* 37.1 (January 2006): 99-102.
- \* REVIEW: *Middle Grounds: Studies in Contemporary American Fiction* by Alan Wilde (U Pennsylvania P, 1987). *Journal of American Studies* vol.24, no.3 (December 1990):457-8.
- \* ENCYCLOPEDIA ENTRY: "Postmodern Critique". *Routledge Encyclopedia of Postmodernism*, C. Winquist & V. Taylor (eds). October 2000, pp.302-304.
- \* NEWSPAPER ARTICLE: "Neoconservatism as a Betrayal of Jewish Values". *Philadelphia Jewish Voice* vol. 34, April 2008. [www.pjvoice.com/v34/34402neocons.aspx](http://www.pjvoice.com/v34/34402neocons.aspx)

#### REFEREED CREATIVE WRITING PUBLICATIONS

- \* NOVEL: *An Exalted House*. Superscript (UK) 2007. 215 pages. See Superscript press: <http://www.dubsolution.org/superscript/catalogue2.html>
- \* POEM: "Select from the Styling Menus...." In *This Poem Is Sponsored By....: Poems in the Face of Corporate Power*. Claire Fauset (ed.). Corporate Watch UK, 2007 pp. 47-48.

#### UNDER REVIEW

- \* ARTICLE: "Evangelical Manhood, Fascism, and the Art of Ron DiCianni." (Completed. 11,000 words.) Currently under review at the journal *Religion and American Culture*.
- \* PLAY: *Holy Traffic: A Farce* (Completed. Running time: two hours). Currently under review for staging by the Chapel Street Players of Newark, DE. Currently under review for a staged reading by the Wilmington Drama League, DE. Currently under review for a staged reading by the Players Club of Swarthmore, PA.

#### IN PROGRESS

- \* BOOK: *Christian Fundamentalism and the Politics of Redemption*.

SIGNIFICANT REVIEWS OF PUBLISHED WORK: 21 (all available on request).

#### SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- \* "Postmodernism, Epiphanies, and the Mystique of Instantaneous Knowledge". The Festival of Faith and Writing at Calvin College, Grand Rapids, MI, April 2004.
- \* "Reality-TV Movies". The Pennsylvania Humanities Council's Commonwealth Speakers Program at Penn State University, Wilkes-Barre campus, April 2002.

CONFERENCE PAPERS (Presentations given at national and regional juried conferences.)

- \* "Authority and Authoritarianism in End Times Fiction." Accepted for American Literature Association, San Francisco, CA, May 2016.
- \* "End Times Fiction and the Politics of Redemption." Northeast Modern Language Association, Toronto, May 2015.
- \* "Fundamentalism and the Hypermasculine." Popular & American Culture Association, Chicago, IL, April 2014.
- \* "Spiritual Warfare Fiction and the Postmodern Reader." Mid-Atlantic Popular & American Culture Association, Pittsburgh, PA, November 2012.
- \* "Fundamentalist Fiction and the Ironic Reader." College English Association, St. Petersburg, FL, March 2011.
- \* "Kinkade, Koons, Kitsch." Mid-Atlantic Popular & American Culture Association, Alexandria, VA, October 2010.
- \* "Kinkade, Koons, Kitsch." College English Association, San Antonio, TX, March 2010.
- \* "Inspirational Kitsch: Evangelical Painting and the Postmodern Spectator." English Association of Pennsylvania State Universities, Shippensburg University, PA, Oct. 2009.
- \* "Inspirational Kitsch: Evangelical Painting and the Postmodern Spectator." Popular Culture Association, New Orleans, LA, April 2009.
- \* "Fundamentalist Art, Postmodern Irony." Northeast Modern Language Association, Boston, MA, February 2009.
- \* "Fundamentalist Dominion, Postmodern Ecology." American Culture Assoc., Boston, 2007.
- \* "The TV-Culture Movie: Lineaments of a Postmodern Genre." Popular Culture Association, Atlanta, GA, April 2006.
- \* "Fundamentalist History, Postmodern Contingency". Nexus Interdisciplinary Conference, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN, April 2006.
- \* "Postmodernism in a Fundamentalist Arena". American Literature Assoc., MA, 2005.
- \* "Self-Reflexive Film in the Time of the Hyperreal: The Case of *Natural Born Killers*". Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, Binghamton University, NY, March 2002.
- \* "The Autobiographical Visionary Moment: A Postmodern Critique". English Association of Pennsylvania State Universities, Millersville University, PA, October 1999.
- \* "Empowerments of Vision: Alice Walker's 'Everyday Use'". American Literature Association, Baltimore, MD, May 1999.
- \* "Mystical Unions, Postmodern Disjunctures". Twentieth-Century Literature Conference, University of Louisville, KY, February 1999.
- \* "Teaching Postmodern Film: Nichetti's *The Icicle Thief*". English Association of Pennsylvania State Universities, Indiana University, PA, October 1998.
- \* "Faulkner's Visionary Moments: Ideology of a Temporal Construct". American Culture Association Conference, FL, April 1998.
- \* "Transfigurable Subjects: Saul Bellow and the Christian Conversion Narrative". Twentieth-Century Literature Conference, University of Louisville, KY, February 1998.
- \* "Jack Kerouac's Visionary Moments: Rhetoric of a Temporal Construct". The Beat Literature Symposium, University of Massachusetts, Lowell, MA, October 1997.
- \* "The Visionary Moment: Institution of a Literary Form". English Association of Pennsylvania State Universities, Lock Haven University, PA, October 1995.
- \* "Self-Reflexive Fiction in the Age of Systems Theory". Invited panellist. International conference of the American Comparative Literature Association, University of Georgia, Athens, GA, March 1995.
- \* "The Romantic Metaphysics of Don DeLillo". Twentieth-Century Literature Conference, University of Louisville, KY, February 1995.
- \* "The Visionary Moment Re-Visioned: Postmodern Thoughts on Some American Fiction of the Fifties". English Association of Pennsylvania State Universities, Edinboro University, PA, October 1994.

#### EDITORIAL WORK

Substitute editor of quarterly journal *College Literature* from Jan. 2013 - May 2013.

Associate editor of the triannual journal *College Literature* from January 1992 to December 1996; January 2012 to present. This position requires detailed evaluations of dozens of scholarly essays each year. The journal, which has received three CELJ awards, has achieved national recognition for its publications in the fields of literary criticism and theory, pedagogy, and cultural studies.

Board of Advisors for *Emergence*, a book series published by Noesis Press (an imprint of The Davis Group, Publishers), which specializes in academic, peer-reviewed monographs in the humanities and social sciences.

<http://www.thedaviesgrouppublishers.com/>

Reader's reports for *Twentieth-Century Literature*, *Contemporary Literature*, *Textual Practice*, *Mosaic*, *Studies in the Novel*.

Two reader's reports on Salah el Moncef's book manuscript *Atopian Limits* for University of Pennsylvania Press (August 1999; July 2000).

Reader's report on Philip Nel's book manuscript *Small Incisive Shocks* for University of Minnesota Press (September 2000).

Reader's report on Michael James Rizza's book manuscript *The Topographical Imagination of Jameson, Baudrillard, and Foucault* for Noesis Press (October 2014).

#### EXTERNAL REFEREEING

Referee's recommendation for Dr. Brian Ingraffia's application for promotion to Full Professor at Calvin College, Michigan (September 2010).

Referee's report for Dr. Joshua Toth's application for promotion to Associate Professor at Grant MacEwan University, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada (April 2013).

Referee's report on Soharn R. Boyagoda's application for a grant from The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (December 2009). Project title: *The Sacred and Secular in Postwar American Fiction*.

Referee's recommendations for Dr. Brian Ingraffia's applications for a sabbatical at Calvin College, Michigan (September 2005).

Referee's report on Darryl Hattenhauer's application for promotion to Full Professor at Arizona State University (October 2003).

#### BOOK JACKET ENDORSEMENTS

Lou Caton's *Reading American Novels and Multicultural Aesthetics*, Palgrave/Macmillan, 2007.

Marcel Cornis-Pope's *Narrative Innovation and Cultural Rewriting in the Cold War Era and After*, Palgrave/St. Martin's Press, 2002.

### III. SERVICE

#### DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

- \*Chair of Film Program Committee (January 2000 to September 2015).
- \*Film Program Committee (since January 1993).
- \*Promotions Committee for Full Professorship (Sept.2002 - May 2006; since Sept. 2012).
- \*Faculty Evaluation Committee (since September 2001).
- \*Literatures Track Committee (since September 2014)
- \*Student Advisor (since September 2011).
- \*Five-Year Review Committee (September 2012 - May 2014).
- \*Chair of Student Awards Committee (March 2008 - May 2012).
- \*Majors' Committee (September 2008 - May 2012).
- \*Graduate Advisory Committee (September 1999 - May 2004; September 2005 - May 2006).
- \*Chair of Seminar Program Subcommittee (Jan. 1997 - May 2004; Sept. 2010 - May 2012).
- \*Chair of Promotions Committee for Associate Professorship (Sept.1997 - May 2000).
- \*Promotions Committee for Associate Professorship (September 1996 - May 2001).
- \*Chair of Departmental Coherence Subcommittee (September 1996 - May 1997).
- \*Long Range Planning Committee (September 1995 - May 1997).
- \*Comparative Literature Studies Committee (Jan.1993 - May 1996; Sept.2004 - May 2005).
- \*Undergraduate Literature Committee (January 1992 - May 2004).
- \*Subcommittee for Review of Theory Courses (Since Fall 2015)
- \*Ad Hoc Executive Committee (since September 2014)
- \*Composition (WPA, WAC, WID) Search Committee (2014)
- \*EAPSU Conference Committee (September 2012- October 2013)/ Chaired EAPSU panel.
- \*Chicano/Latino Search Committee (2009).
- \*Composition Search Committee (2003).
- \*Introduction to Literature Search Committee (2000).
- \*19th-Century American Literature Search Committee (1995).
- \*College Literature Managing Editor Search Committee (1995).
- \*Literature / Generalist Search Committee (1993).
- \*Co-Chair of Subcommittee for Review of Theory Courses (September 1993 - April 1994).

Graduate Thesis Defense Committees: 23 Committees between 1992 and 2013.

#### UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- \*APSCUF-CAP Representative (January 2000 - January 2001)
- \*APSCUF Local Delegate (since October 1994 - May 1997; September 1999 - May 2000)
- \*Curriculum and Research Subcommittee of Faculty Senate (October 1995 - May 1996)
- \*Faculty Senator (May 1995 - May 1996)

#### PUBLIC SERVICE

- \* 4<sup>th</sup> Annual West Chester Film Festival, 2008. Panel of judges.
- \* 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual West Chester Film Festival, 2006. Panel of judges.
- \* Second Tredyffrin Public Library Film Discussion Series, February - March 2001: Prepared and led 6 two-hour classes in the course "Innovation in American Films."
- \* First Tredyffrin Public Library Film Discussion Series, September - October 2000: Prepared and led 6 two-hour classes in the course "Movies and American Culture."
- \* Second Chester County Public Library Film Discussion Series, July - August 2000: Prepared and led 6 two-hour classes in the course "Innovation in American Films."
- \*First Chester County Public Library Film Discussion Series, May - June 2000: Prepared and led 6 two-hour classes in the course "Movies and American Culture."