

Robert DeMaria, Jr.
Curriculum Vitae

Education:

A.B. Amherst College, 1970
Ph.D. Rutgers University, 1975
(diss. "Critical Worlds," directed by Paul Fussell)

Employment:

Assistant Professor, Vassar College, 1975-1983
Associate Professor, Vassar College, 1983-1989
Henry Noble MacCracken Professor of English Literature, Vassar College,
1989

Publications:

Critical Monographs:

British Literature 1640-1789: Keywords, Blackwell/Wiley. (at the publisher;
forthcoming, 2018)

Samuel Johnson and the Life of Reading. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins
University Press, 1997; paperback edition, 2009.

The Life of Samuel Johnson. Oxford: Blackwell, 1993.

Johnson's Dictionary and the Language of Learning. Chapel Hill and Oxford:
University of North Carolina Press and the Clarendon Press, 1986.

Editions:

Johnson on Demand: reviews, prefaces, proposals and dedications. Ed, with O M Brack,

- Jr. Vol. XX of the Yale Edition of the Works of Samuel Johnson. (In copyediting; forthcoming, 2018)
- The Yale Anthology of the Works of Samuel Johnson*. Yale University Press. Submitted August 2017; should appear 2018.
- Biographical Writings: Soldiers, Scholars, and Friends*, with O M Brack, Jr. Vol. XIX of the Yale Edition of the Works of Samuel Johnson. 2016.
- British Literature 1640-1789: An Anthology*. Oxford: Blackwell, 1996. 2d ed., rev., 2001. 3rd ed. rev., 2007. 4th ed., rev., 2016.
- The Yale Digital Edition of the Works of Samuel Johnson*. Yale University Press, 2014.
- The Blackwell Guide to British Literature*. 4 vols. Ed., with Heesok Chang and Samantha Zacher. Blackwell/Wiley, 2014.
- A Catalogue of Choice Books by Michael Johnson*. Samuel Johnson Society of Southern California, 2008.
- Considerations on the Case of Dr. T____s Sermons, with a Transcription, Introduction, and Notes* (with OM Brack, Jr.). Samuel Johnson Society of Southern California, 2007.
- Classical Literature and Its Reception: An Anthology* (with Robert Brown). Blackwell, 2007.
- Textus: English Studies in Italy*, vol. 19, with Giovanni Iamartino (2006).
- Johnson on the English Language*, Volume XVIII in The Yale Edition of the Works of Samuel Johnson (with Gwin Kolb), 2005.
- The Vision of Theodore the Hermit of Teneriffe*. The Typophiles, 2005.
- Adam Smith Reviews Samuel Johnson's A Dictionary of the English Language*. The Johnsonians, 2005.
- Gulliver's Travels*. Penguin Books, 2001. 2nd Edition, 2003.

A New Preface by Samuel Johnson (with O M Brack, Jr.). Tempe, Arizona, 2001.

On the Character and Duty of an Academick (New York: The Johnsonians, 2000).

British Literature 1640-1789: A Critical Reader. Oxford: Blackwell, 1999.

Transformations of the Word, a special double issue of *Language and Communication* (with Rachel Kitzinger). Oxford: Pergamon Press, 1989.

Serial Editions:

General Editor: *The Lives of the Poets*. Ed. John H. Middendorf. Vols. XXI-XXIII in The Yale Edition of the Works of Samuel Johnson, 2010.

General Editor: *Debates in Parliament*, Ed. Thomas Kaminski. Vols. XI-XIII in The Yale Edition of the Works of Samuel Johnson, 2013.

Editor: *The Johnsonian News Letter*. Vol. 54, No. 1 (September 2003)- Vol. 67, No. 2 (September 2017). (27 issues edited to date: 64 pp. each.)

Articles

"Fraudulence and Savagery in Three Eighteenth-Century British Writers," *Il Conforto Letterario*, ed. Lia Guerra (2016), pp. 37-55.

"Johnson and the Teutonic Roots of English." *The Harp and the Constitution*, ed. Joanne Parker, Brill 2015, pp. 47-65.

"Careful and Careless: Epic tales in the Editing of Dr Johnson," *Times Literary Supplement*, 6 March 2015, pp. 14-15.

"Samuel Johnson's Editorial Lexicography," *Dictionaries*, 35 (2014), 146-61.

"Publishing Johnson's Works: The First Two Hundred Years," *Tercentenary Essays on Samuel Johnson*, ed. Howard Weinbrot, Huntington Library, 2014: 343-66.

"Johnson on Barbarism and Corruption in the *Works of Ascham* (1761), with

- Robert Brown, *Johnsonian News Letter* LXIV, No. 2 (September 2013), pp. 17-23
- "Samuel Parr's Epitaph for Johnson, His Library, and His Unwritten Biography," *Editing Lives: Essays in Contemporary Textual and Biographical Studies in Honor of OM Brack, Jr.*, ed. Jesse Swann. Bucknell University Press, 2013: 67-92.
- "Your Humble Servant: Real Letters from Real Servants in the Eighteenth Century." *Age of Johnson*, 22 (2012): 191-206.
- "Johnson and Change." In *Johnson's Pendulum*. Ed. Lynda Mugglestone and Freya Johnstone. Oxford University Press, 2012: 24-36.
- "Book Collecting in America, 1945-2000" in *The History of the Book in America*, vol. 5 (University of North Carolina Press, 2009), pp. 472-84.
- "Plutarch, Johnson, and Boswell: The Classical Tradition of Biography at the End of the Eighteenth Century." *The Eighteenth-Century Novel: Essays in Honor of John Richetti*. Ed. George Justice (AMS Press, 2009), pp. 77-98.
- "British Library Newspapers, Colindale and Cambridge University Library: An Introduction to the Material in Section Three of Eighteenth Century Journals." Adam Matthews, 2009.
- "Samuel Johnson and the Saxon Shakespeare," in *Comparative Excellence: New Studies in Shakespeare and Johnson*, ed. Aaron Santesso (New York: AMS Press, 2006), 24-45.
- "North and South in Johnson's Dictionary." *Textus*, vol. 19 (2006), pp. 11-31.
- "Johnson's Ex Tempore History and Grammar of English" in *New Perspectives on Johnson's Dictionary*, ed. Jack Lynch and Anne MacDermott (Cambridge University Press, 2005), pp. 77-91.
- "Periodical Literature," in the *New Cambridge History of English Literature*. Ed. John Richetti (Cambridge University Press, 2005), pp. 527-48.
- "Richard Bathurst," "Robert Levet," "George Psalmanazar." Articles for the *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* (Oxford University Press, 2004).

- "Johnson, Johnsonians, and 'Cooperative Enterprise.'" *Johnsonian News Letter*, LV, No. 1 (March, 2004), pp. 20-29.
- "'Beneath this Marble' — a Johnsonian Epitaph" (with Gordon Williams). *Johnsonian News Letter*, LV, No. 1 (March, 2004), pp.42-45.
- "Samuel Johnson in Post-revolutionary France" (with Paul Fenouillet), *Johnsonian News Letter*, vol. LIV, no. 1 (September, 2003), pp. 43-48.
- "Samuel Johnson at Vassar," *Johnsonian News Letter*, vol. LIV, no. 1 (September, 2003), pp. 38-42.
- "'Some Remarks on the Progress of Learning': another Preface by Samuel Johnson?" *New Rambler*, No. E VI (2002-03), pp. 61-74.
- "'Evil be thou my Good': Scholarly Commentary and the Pleasure of Reading," *TEXT* 12 (1999), 91-100.
- "Joseph Emerson Worcester," *New Dictionary of American Biography*, vol. Oxford University Press, 1999: pp. 869-71.
- (With Gwin Kolb) "Dr Johnson's Etymology of Gibberish." *Notes and Queries* (March 1998), 72-4.
- "Johnson's Dictionary and Dictionary Johnson," *Yearbook of English Studies*, 28 (1998), 19-43.
- "Johnson's Dictionary." In *The Cambridge Companion to Samuel Johnson*. Ed. Gregory Clingham. Cambridge University Press, 1997. 85-101.
- (With Gwin Kolb) "Thomas Warton's *Observations on the 'Faerie Queene' of Spenser*, Samuel Johnson's 'History of the English Language,' and Warton's *History of English Poetry*: Reciprocal Indebtedness?" *Philological Quarterly*, 74 (1995), pp. 327-35.
- (With Gwin Kolb) "The Preliminaries to Dr. Johnson's Dictionary: Authorial Revisions and the Establishment of the Texts." *Studies in Bibliography*, 48 (1995), 121-34.

- "Latter-Day Humanists and the Pastness of the Past." *Common Knowledge* 3 (1993), 67-76.
- "Samuel Johnson and the Reading Revolution." *Eighteenth-Century Life*, 16 (1992), 86-102.
- "Johnson's Dictionary and the 'Teutonic' Roots of English." In *Language and Civilization*, ed. Claudia Bank (Berne: Peter Lang, 1992), pp. 20-36.
- "The Politics of Johnson's Dictionary." *PMLA* 104 (1989), 64-74. Rpt. in *Literature Criticism from 1400-1800*, vol. 250, ed. Lawrence J. Trudeau (Layman Poupard Publishing, 2016), 156-65.
- "The Theory of Language in Johnson's Dictionary." In *Johnson after Two Hundred Years*, edited by Paul Korshin (Philadelphia: Univ. of Pennsylvania Press, 1986), pp. 159-74.
- "Johnson's Form of Evaluation." *Studies in English Literature*, 19 (1979), 501-14.
- "'The Thinker as Reader': The Figure of the Reader in the Writing of Wallace Stevens." *Genre*, 12 (1979), 243-68.
- "The Ideal Reader: A Critical Fiction." *PMLA* 93 (1978), 463-74.
Translated by Nadezda Vukovic for Leptopis Matitse Srpske (Belgrade), February 1979, pp. 247-64.
- "Coleridgean Names." *JEGP* 77 (1978), 343-55.
- "The Dramatic Form of Dryden's Literary Criticism." *The Academic Quarterly*, 5, No. 2 (1977), 65-80.

Selected Reviews:

- Jack Lynch, *You Could Look It Up, Dictionaries: Journal of the Dictionary Society of North America*, 37 (2016), 185-88.
- "E if for Explanation," *Times Literary Supplement*, March 12, 2016.
- "The London Effect," *Times Literary Supplement*, February 17, 2016.

- "The Simple Urge to Correct": *Richard Bentley: Poetry and Enlightenment*, Kristine Louise Haugen, *Eighteenth-Century Life* 37 (2013): 125-28.
- "Conversing with Antiquity: English Poets and the Classics from Shakespeare to Pope," David Hopkins, *Age of Johnson* 22 (2012): 344-46.
- "Samuel Johnson: The Struggle," Jeffrey Meyers. *Johnsonian News Letter*, LX, 1 (March 2009), pp. 57-61.
- "The Lives of the Poets," ed. Roger Lonsdale. *Johnsonian Newsletter*, LVIII, 1 (March 2007), pp. 41-45.
- "Samuel Johnson and the Making of Modern England", Nicholas Hudson. *Johnsonian News Letter*, LV, 2 (September 2004), pp. 60-63.
- "Johnson, Writing, Memory, Greg Clingham," *Johnsonian News Letter*, LV, 1 (March 2004), pp. 56-58.
- "A Bibliography of the Works of Samuel Johnson, Treating his Published Works from the Beginnings to 1984," J. D. Fleeman, *JEGP*, 101 (2002), 142-45
- "Samuel Johnson and the Culture of Property," Kevin Hart. *Age of Johnson*, 13 (2001).
- "The Evolution of English Prose, 1700-1800," Carey McIntosh, *JEGP*, 100 (2001).
- "Samuel Johnson: the Life of an Author," Lawrence Lipking, *Modern Philology*, (2001).
- "Selected Poems of Leopardi, trans. Eamon Grennan," *Italian Americana*, 17 (1999), 227-8.
- "Sir William Jones, Selected Works," *EECB* (1997)
- "Gentlemen and Scholars," *JEGP* (1997)
- "The Making of Johnson's Dictionary 1746-1773," *Modern Philology*, 90

(1992).

"Reading in America." *Nineteenth-Century Prose* 17 (1990), 73-78.

"Forgotten Lexicographers." *Modern Philology* 85 (1987), 204-206.

Selected Invited Talks:

"Johnson and Religious Melancholy," Halle University, Germany, May 26, 2017

"Johnson on Demand," the Thrale Lecture, London, December 12, 2016

"Johnson's Life of Shakespeare," Pembroke College, Oxford, August 9, 2015.

"Fraudulence and Savagery in Three Eighteenth-Century British Writers,"
Università degli Studi di Pavia, November 23, 2015.

"Digitizing the Works of Samuel Johnson," University of Bergamo,
November 25, 2015

"Samuel Johnson's Melancholy of Body, Mind, and Soul," University of
Milan, conference on "Writing the Body in Eighteenth-Century British
Literature," December 3, 2015

"Anthologizing British Literature 1640-1789," Otago University, Dunedin,
New Zealand, March 4, 2016

"The Digital Edition of the Works of Samuel Johnson," Otago University,
Dunedin, New Zealand, March 6, 2016

"Editing the Works of Samuel Johnson," at Dr. Johnson's House, London,
November 19, 2014.

"Digitizing English Literature: The Works of Samuel Johnson (and others) in Bits
and Bytes," University of Padua, November 5, 2014.

"John Milton, *Paradise Lost*, and Metaphysical Poetry," Freiburg University,
December 2, 2014.

"Johnson's Lives of the Philosophers," Interdisciplinary Centre for European

Enlightenment Studies, University of Halle, Germany, June 2, 2014.

"The History of Editions of Samuel Johnson's Works," The George Winship Lecture, Houghton Library, Harvard University, October 25, 2012

"Publishing Johnson's Works: The First Two Hundred Years,"
Huntington Library, September 9, 2011.

"Samuel Johnson and Religious Melancholy," King's College, London,
May 20, 2011.

"Samuel Johnson's Italian Learning," University of Milan, September 30,
2009; and University of Wisconsin, Madison, April 17, 2010.

"Samuel Johnson and Change," Pembroke College (Oxford), September 16,
2009.

"The Life of Johnson and Johnson's Lives," University of Barcelona, March 13,
2008.

"Johnson, Boswell, Plutarch and Biography in the Late Eighteenth
Century," International Association of University Professors of English,
Lund, Sweden, August 6, 2007; also a longer version of same at Oxford
University, October 16, 2007.

"Johnson and the Prince of Classical Biographers," Whitney Humanities
Center, Yale University, January 29, 2006

"The Rationale of the Copy Text," panel presentation at ASECS in
Montreal, March 29, 2006.

"Johnson and the Gothic Roots of English," Bristol University, January 15,
2005.

"North and South in Johnson's Dictionary," SCSECS, February 26, 2005.

"Who Asked Samuel Johnson to Write the Dictionary and Why?"
Northwestern University, May 2004; University College, London, October
2003.

"Samuel Johnson and 'Cooperative Enterprise,'" Houghton Library,
Harvard University, September, 2003.

"Johnson's Ex Tempore History and Grammar of the English Language,"
Los Angeles, August, 2003.

"The Booksellers Society for the Promotion of Learning." New York,
September, 2002

"Publishers, Poets, and Johnson's Plan of a Dictionary of the English
Language." Colorado Springs, April 8, 2002.

"*Gulliver's Travels*: Truth, Lies, and the Printed Page," New Canaan,
January 17, 2002

"Samuel Johnson," SUNY, New Paltz, October 24, 2001

"Lying and Literature in the Eighteenth Century: Psalmanazar, Swift, and
Johnson," Amherst College for the Friends of the Library, May 5, 2000.

"Styles of Authorship in Johnson and Swift," Columbia University,
September 9, 1999

"Samuel Johnson," Amherst College, December 4, 1998.

"'Evil be thou my good': Confessions of an Editor," MLA Conference,
Committee on Scholarly Editing, 1997.

"Johnson's *Dictionary* and Dictionary Johnson," University of Birmingham
(UK), September 18, 1997.

Guest faculty, Institutions of Enlightenment: The Invention of the Public
Sphere, NEH institute at Stanford University, July 17-20, 1995.

"The Talons of a Scholar: How Johnson Grappled with his Books,"
Rowfant Club, March 22, 1995.

"Johnson's *Dictionary* and Dictionary Johnson," Blum Memorial Lecture,
Samuel Johnson Society of Southern California, December 10, 1994.

"Johnson's Life of Reading," Curtis Lecture, Vassar College, 1992 (Also given in Los Angeles and Monterrey, California)

"The Politics of Johnson's Dictionary." Princeton University, European Cultural Studies Program, April 1988.

"Johnson's *Dictionary* and the Philosophy of Language."
Pembroke College Conference on the Bicentennial of Johnson's Death,
June 1984.

Grants and Honors:

NEH Scholarly Editions Grant for the Yale Edition of the Works of Samuel Johnson, 2011-2014.

Katherine F. Pantzer Fellow in Descriptive Bibliography at the Houghton Library, Harvard University, 2009-10.

President, Samuel Johnson Society of Southern California, 2008.

Elected member of the International Association of University Professors, of English, 2005.

President, Samuel Johnson Society (USA), 2003.

Guggenheim Fellowship, 1992-93 for Samuel Johnson and the Life of Reading.

Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, fellow, 1992-93.

Elected Member of the Samuel Johnson Society (USA), 1991.

NEH Summer Stipend, 1989.

Fulbright Visiting Scholar Grant, 1988: co-author, with Jeff Opland, of a successful grant to bring David Livingstone Yali-Manisi, a Xhosa oral poet, to Vassar for a term to assist in the technology of writing program.

Vassar Mellon Grant to study Sanskrit, 1988-91.

Alfred P. Sloan Grant, 1985-89: director of the "Technology of Writing Program," which was dedicated to examining the hypothesis that writing is conditioned by the technologies used to produce it.

ACLS Grant-in-Aid, 1981: also for research on *Johnson's Dictionary and the Language of Learning*.

New College, Oxford, elected member of the SCR, 1980-81.

NEH Summer Stipend, 1980: for research on *Johnson's Dictionary and the Language of Learning*.

Other Credits:

International Executive Committee, IAUPE, 2016-

Executive Committee, NEASECS, 2012-17

Executive Committee, MLA Group on Lexicography and Bibliography, 2012-17

Editorial Board, *Textus*, 2009-

General Editor, the Yale Edition of the Works of Samuel Johnson, 2007-

Judge for the Phi Beta Kappa Christian Gauss Prize (best book of the year in the humanities), 2007-09

Editor, *Johnsonian News Letter*, 2002-

Board of Managers, Oakwood Friends School, 2001-10
(Clerk of Development and Admissions Committees; member of Head's Evaluation, Board Managers, and Executive Committees)

Advisory Board, Amherst College, Friends of the Library, 2001-2014

Editorial Board, *Age of Johnson*, 2000-

Reader for Mellon Post-graduate Awards in the Humanities (Woodrow Wilson Foundation), 1996-2004

Editorial Board, Yale Edition of the Works of Samuel Johnson, 1995-;

Co-organizer, with Rachel Kitzinger and Jeff Opland,
of "Transformations of the Word," an international conference on the
technology of writing, May 29-June 2, 1987.

Executive producer, *Praise Poetry in America*, a film about a Xhosa oral
poet's visit to America (1988).

Selected Teaching Assignments:

The Book as Medium (team taught); Eighteenth-century British Literature;
Satire; Old English; Old Icelandic; The English Language; Milton; British
Literature from Beowulf to Wollstonecraft (team taught); History of Literary
Criticism; An Introduction to Scientific Inquiry for Students of the Humanities
(team taught); Transformations of the Word (team taught); Forms of Poetry.

Selected Committee Assignments:

Chair, Middle States Self-Study Steering Committee, 2007-09

Presidential Search Committee, 2005-2006

Other search committees include Head of the Libraries, Head of Special
Collections, Dean of Faculty, Head of CIS

Learning and Teaching Center Review committee, 2006 (chair)

Dean's Cabinet (2005-7)

Assessment Committee (chair, 2003-4; 2007-08)

Library Committee (numerous years; chair, 2003-4; acting chair, 2008-09)

Director of Mellon Foundation Grant for exploring the uses of technology
in teaching, 1997-2001

Academic Panel (several years; lead writer of *Originality and Attribution*)

Housing Committee (chair, 2000)

Committee on Committees (chair, 1999)

Library construction committee (1999-2001)

Library 2000 committee (1993-94)

Media Studies Development committee and Media Studies steering committee (2000-)

Recording secretary of the faculty (1983-86)

House Fellow (1983-86)

Sloan Grant advisory committee and director of the humanities portion of the grant

Selected Departmental Service

Chair, 1987-90, 2001-07;

Chair of approximately twenty departmental search committees