

## Matthew J. Smith, Ph.D.

Dean of the College of Humanities and Behavioral Sciences  
Radford University  
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### Academic Employment

*Dean / Professor*, College of Humanities and Behavioral Sciences, Radford University, 2018-present.

*Director / Professor*, School of Communication, Radford University, 2016-2018.

*Chair\* / Professor / Associate Professor / Assistant Professor of Communication*, Wittenberg University, 2001-2016. (\* '02-10)

*Area Coordinator / Assistant Professor of Communication Arts*. Indiana University South Bend, 1999-2001.

*Visiting Assistant Professor*, Department of Communication, Miami University Hamilton, 1998-1999.

*Adjunct Instructor*, Ohio University Chillicothe, Fall 1997.

*Graduate Teaching Associate*, School of Interpersonal Communication, Ohio University, 1995-1997.

*Graduate Teaching Associate*, Department of English Language and Literature, Ohio University, 1993-1995.

### Academic Initiatives Accomplished as Dean

Led the College efforts to implement the new university general education initiative, REAL, which launched in fall 2021:

- Worked with English faculty in planning and staffing the new university-wide foundational writing course, English 111
- Commissioned a Marketing Task Force to explore ways to better position the College's programs in the new program
- Coordinated with the Division of Enrollment Management to build new promotional materials for programs in the College

Supported the development of Radford's first multidisciplinary major, Creative Media, and new minors in Health Humanities, Religious-Cultural Literacy, Digital History, Legal Studies, and African-American Studies

Established the Student Travel And Research Support (STARS) initiative, which raised \$16,000 in its first year to support 32 students traveling to conferences, competitions, and other experiential learning opportunities

Collaborated with our Legal Studies faculty to bring discounted LSAT testing fees to our students and to initiate a 3+3 agreement with Appalachian School of Law

Partnered with our ROTC officers to renew our contract with the United States Department of the Army for the next ten years

Sponsored a four-week discussion series based on the National Humanities Alliance report, *Strategies for Recruiting Students to the Humanities*, drawing in guest speakers from Enrollment Management, the Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning, and Career and Talent Development

Supported faculty in opening dialogues to international partnerships in China and Germany

Coordinated with campus partners and administration to bring the New York Times Education Program to Radford

Encouraged the establishment of a co-curricular Mock Trial Team and secured an \$85,000 gift to support it

Provided financing and/or administrative support to establish the following spaces in the College:

- Social Media And Research Technology (SMART) Lab
- The Work Place for Industrial-Organizational Psychology
- Interdisciplinary Humanities Research Lab

## Community-Building Initiatives Accomplished as Dean

- Introduced, recruited for, and hosted the “September Series” (featuring our newest tenure-track colleagues) and “Spring Series” lunchtime lectures to spotlight scholarship and innovation across the College
- Supported the college’s Mentoring Group to help onboard new full-time faculty
- Tasked the college’s Awards Committee to inaugurate a Distinguished Service Award starting in 2019, and coordinated awarding this and the Distinguished Teaching and Distinguished Research Awards at each annual College Meeting
- Implemented a College-wide adjunct training workshop, which itself evolved into a College-wide adjunct handbook maintained by the Associate Dean
- Introduced a “Valedictory Series” of online essays to honor retiring faculty in the College
- Hosted social events such as “Donuts with the Dean,” to meet with faculty, staff, and students, and a Winter Carnival, a family-friendly event for faculty and staff gathering at the end of fall term

## Ongoing Outreach Initiatives as Dean

- Oversee the College’s Advisory Board and coordinate semi-annual meetings for its 30 members, quarterly committee meetings, and monthly executive officer meetings:
  - Introduced a second, semi-annual meeting of the Board to better carry forward its goals
  - Initiated a liaison program to connect individual Board members to individual faculty members
- Collaborate with the Office of Advancement—especially our gifts officer—to launch strategies towards College fund-raising goals and priorities, including site visits with individual donors
- Build external partnerships between the College and outside entities such as Foot Levelers, (an orthotics manufacturer), the Shelor Motor Mile (auto dealership), and DCI Consulting (a human resources consulting firm in Washington, D.C.)
- Promote giving, including the installation of the Endowment Fund Wall to commemorate more than 30 scholarship donors for the College

## Administrative Duties as Dean

### *Fiduciary Responsibilities:*

- Consult with the Executive Secretary to manage the College’s \$11 million budget
- Collaborate with the chairs and director to develop annual Equipment Trust Fund requests and Six-Year Budget Requests
- Approve all spending requests across the College through Chrome River

### *Personnel Responsibilities:*

- Provide supervision for full-time faculty and staff searches, with more than 20 completed since 2018, including for the Director of the School of Communication and the Chairs of Criminal Justice, English, and Political Science
- Coordinate faculty, chairs, and administration in implementing a new administrative structure for Foreign Languages and Literatures in partnership with the Department of English
- Orchestrate weekly staff meetings for Dean’s Office for improved internal coordination
- Work with the College of Education and Human Development on personnel matters related to the Selu Conservancy, the university’s nature preserve and retreat
- Review specialized requests, such as 51 work-from-home arrangement requests during the first year of the pandemic
- Draft personnel review letters on an annual basis, which typically includes:
  - ◆ 110 Faculty Annual Evaluations
  - ◆ 45 reappointment reviews for contingent faculty
  - ◆ 14 tenure and/or promotion recommendations
  - ◆ 10 chair/director reviews
  - ◆ 7 recommendations for the Honors Faculty Fellows program
  - ◆ 4 recommendations for Faculty Professional Development Leave
  - ◆ 3 emeritus recommendations
  - ◆ 3 staff annual reviews

### *Academic Responsibilities:*

- Confer with the Director of the Governor School and the Dean of the College of Visual and Performing Arts in managing Governor School policies, personnel, and budgets
- Review all study away/abroad proposals, of which the College of Humanities and Behavioral Sciences has the most in the university
- Approve the work of the College's Curriculum Committee, which in recent years has included dozens of general education program alignment proposals and hundreds of course revision proposals
- Liaise with the College's Lead Advisor in the Highlander Success Center and review academic petitions and policies
- Direct college leadership in managing schedules, notably to accommodate pandemic protocols
- Draft supporting memos for Academic Program Reviews

### *Managerial Responsibilities:*

- Draft agendas for and preside over weekly meetings of the college's Leadership Team (chairs, directors, staff, and liaisons with Advancement, Career and Talent Development, and the Highlander Success Center)
- Meet with individual chairs and directors to address matters in the departments and school (e.g., personnel issues, resource requests, schedules)
- Guide the Assistant to the Dean in managing the College's 144,000 square foot facility
- Coordinate with the Associate Dean, to manage projects, ad hoc and ongoing, including the College Ambassadors program
- Supervise two full-time office staff, work study students, and a newly introduced intern for social media

## University Committee Service

### *Radford University:*

- Academic Affairs Leadership Team (2018-present)
- President's Leadership Council (2018-present)
- Search Committees for:
  - ◆ Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs (2019)
  - ◆ Dean of the Artis College of Science and Technology (2022)
  - ◆ Associate Vice President for University Relations (2018 & 2021)
  - ◆ Assistant Provost for Budget and Operations (2021)
  - ◆ Director of Institutional Effectiveness and Quality Improvement (2022)
  - ◆ Director of the Harvey Knowledge Center (chair, 2018)
- SACS-COC Reaffirmation Academic Advisory Committee (2021-present)
- Radford University's Civil Discourse and Freedom of Expression Task Force (2022-present)
- Multidisciplinary Program Working Group (2021-2022)
- Academic Program Review and Enhancement Committee (2018-present)
- College of Humanities and Behavioral Sciences Leadership Team (2016-present)
- REAL Implementation Steering Committee (General Education reform initiative, 2019-2020)
- Cinematic Arts Committee (2016-present)
- Ad Hoc Committee on Faculty Recruitment Guide (chair, 2019-2020)
- Ad Hoc Committee on Course Minimums and Faculty Workload (co-chair, 2020-2022)
- Highlander Discovery Institute Steering Committee (university-wide lecture series, 2019)

### *Wittenberg University:*

- Faculty Personnel Committee (2012-2015; chair, 2012-2014)
- Cinema Studies Advisory Committee (director, 2013-2016)
- Field Studies Committee (2008-2016; chair, 2010-2012 and 2015-2016)
- Budget and Compensation Advisory Committee (2009)
- General Education Advisory Committee (2004-2007)
- Writing and Speaking Committee (2001-2003; co-chair, 2002-2003)

## Previous Administrative Accomplishments

### *Director of the School of Communication at Radford University:*

- Supervised a staff of 20 full-time faculty, 6 adjuncts, 4 graduate teaching fellows, and a program of 560 undergraduates and 24 graduate students
- Hosted and planned the 2019 conference of the Virginia Association of Communication Arts & Sciences
- Led efforts to revitalize the interdisciplinary Cinematic Arts minor, which grew from 5 to 40 students
- Managed an annual budget of \$1.4 million and a state-of-the-art television production suite

### *Chair of the Department of Communication at Wittenberg University:*

- Grew the major from 25 to 120 students and from two to five full-time, tenure-track faculty
- Established a chapter of Lambda Pi Eta, the Communication honorary, and served as the first advisor
- Sponsored minors in Journalism (2006), Communication (2008), and Cinema Studies (2012)
- Managed an annual budget that grew to \$385,000

### *Founder of co-curricular initiatives at Wittenberg University:*

- Co-founder of the Communication Leaders and later Communication and Business Leadership Experience (CABLE) programs, managing a donor-sponsored annual budget of \$13,000
- Co-founder of the Integrated Media Corps on-campus internship practicum (recognized with the “Distinguished Program Award” by the Ohio Communication Association in 2014)
- Founder and instructor of the ethnography-based “Experience at Comic-Con” summer field study held in conjunction with Comic-Con International in San Diego, California, 2006-2019

## Awards and Honors

Editorial board member for *Inks: The Journal of the Comics Study Society*, 2017-2018, and the online journal *Arts* since 2016.

Distinguished Teaching Fellow, Eastern Communication Association, 2014.

Visiting Scholar, University of Puerto Rico, 2014.

Winner of the Peter C. Rollins Book Award in Sequential Art/Comics and Animation Studies, sponsored by the Southwest/Texas Popular Culture and American Culture Association, 2013.

Will Eisner Comic Book Industry Awards nominee for “Best Educational/Academic Work” for co-authoring *Critical Approaches to Comics: Theories and Methods*, 2012.

Faculty Fellow for the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, Burbank, CA, 2012.

Artist in Residence at the University of Central Arkansas, Conway, AR, 2012.

Committee of Scholars, Eastern Communication Association, 2010.

Rex Mix Program of Excellence Award recipient from the National Communication Association, 2010.

Wittenberg Alumni Association Award for Distinguished Teaching, 2009. This is the highest award a faculty member can earn for teaching at Wittenberg University.

Claude Kantner Graduate Fellowship, Ohio University, 1997-1998.

## Education

Doctor of Philosophy in Interpersonal Communication, Ohio University, Athens, OH. November 1998.

Primary area: Rhetorical theory and history

Related area: Mediated communication

Dissertation director: Raymie E. McKerrow

Dissertation: "E-merging Strategies of Identity: The Rhetorical Construction of Self in Personal Web Sites"

Master of Arts in English, Ohio University, Athens, OH. August 1995.

Primary area: Composition pedagogy

Related area: Critical studies

Thesis: "The Legacy of the X-Men: Audience Reaction to an AIDS Metaphor"

Bachelor of Arts in English, West Liberty State College, West Liberty, WV. May 1993.

Major: English

Minor: Pre-Law

*Summa cum laude*

## Books Published

Duncan, R., Smith, M. J., & Levitz, P. (In press). The power of comics and graphic novels: History, form, and culture. (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.). New York, NY: Continuum.

Brown, M., Duncan, R., & Smith, M. J. (2019). More critical approaches to comics: Theories and methods. New York: Routledge.

Smith, M. J., & Duncan, R. (Eds.). (2017). The secret origins of comics studies. New York: Routledge.

Duncan, R., Smith, M. J., & Levitz, P. (2015). The power of comics: History, form, and culture. (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). New York, NY: Continuum. (Translated into Ukrainian by ArtHuss.)

Bolling, B., & Smith, M.J. (Eds.). (2014). It happens at Comic-Con: Ethnographic essays on a pop culture phenomenon. Jefferson, NC, McFarland & Company, Inc. Publishers.

Duncan, R., & Smith, M. J. (Eds.). (2013). Icons of the American comic book: From Captain America to Wonder Woman. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO/Greenwood Press.

Smith, M. J., & Duncan, R. (Eds.). (2012). Critical approaches to comics: Theories and methods. New York: Routledge. Nominated "Best Educational/Academic Work" for the 2012 Will Eisner Comic Book Industry Awards. Winner of the 2013 Peter C. Rollins Book Award in Sequential Art/Comics and Animation Studies.

Duncan, R., & Smith M. J. (2009). The power of comics: History, form, and culture. New York: Continuum.

Wood, A. F., & Smith, M. J. (2005). Online communication: Linking technology, culture, and identity (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates.

Smith, M. J., & Wood, A. F. (Eds.). (2003). Survivor lessons: Essays on communication and reality television. Jefferson, NC: McFarland & Company, Inc., Publishers.

Wood, A. F., & Smith, M. J. (2001). Online communication: Linking technology, culture, and identity. Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates.

DeWine, S., Gibson, M., & Smith, M. J. (2000). Exploring human communication. Los Angeles, CA: Roxbury Publishing Company.

## Books Published as Co-Editor of the Routledge Advances in Comics Studies Series

Darowski, J. & Berns, F.G. P. (Eds.). (2023). Critical approaches to horror comic books: Red ink in the gutter. New York: Routledge.

Licari-Guillaume, I. (2023). Vertigo comics: British creators, US editors, and the making of a transformational imprint. New York: Routledge.

Sánchez, M. P., & Vilches, G. (Eds.). (2023). Precarious youth in contemporary graphic narratives: Young lives in crisis. New York: Routledge.

- Brassett, J., & Reynolds, R. (2021). Superheroes and excess: A philosophical adventure. New York: Routledge.
- Serrano, N. L. (2021). Immigrants and comics: Graphic spaces of remembrance, transaction, and mimesis. New York: Routledge.
- Howard, L. A., & Hoeness-Krupsaw, S. (2019). Performativity, cultural construction, and the graphic narrative. New York: Routledge.
- Mickwitz, N., Horton, I., & Hague, I. (Eds.) (2019). Representing acts of violence in comics. New York: Routledge.
- Hague, I., Horton, I., & Mickwitz, N. (Eds.) (2019). Contexts of violence in comics. New York: Routledge.
- Davies, D. (2019). Urban comics: Infrastructure and the global city in contemporary graphic narratives. New York: Routledge.
- Brown, J. A. (2018). Batman and the multiplicity of identity: The contemporary comic book superhero as cultural nexus. New York: Routledge.
- Haslem, W., MacFarlane, E., & Richardson, S. (Eds.). (2018). Superhero bodies: Identity, materiality, transformation. New York: Routledge.
- Bevin, P. (2018). Superman and comic book continuity. New York: Routledge.
- Dunst, A., Laubrock, J., & Wildfeuer, J. (2018). Empirical comics research: Digital, multimodal, and cognitive methods. New York: Routledge.
- Aldama, F. (2018). Comics studies here and now. New York: Routledge.
- Mikkonen, K. (2017). The narratology of comics art. New York: Routledge.
- Brown, J. A. (2016). The modern superhero in film and television. New York: Routledge.
- Smith, P. (2015). Reading Art Spiegelman. New York: Routledge.

## Book Chapters

- Smith, M. J. (In press.) Pilgrimage to Hall H: Fan agency at Comic-Con. In J. Thon, V. Ossa, & L. R. A. Wilde (Eds.), Comics and agency. Berlin: De Gruyter.
- Meindl, M., Turner, M., & Smith, M. J. (In press.) Mojo rising: Critiquing mass media culture through animation and comics. In J. M. Carnes, M. Galvan, & N. E. Miller (Eds.), Futures of cartoons past: The cultural politics of X-Men: The Animated Series. Jackson: University Press of Mississippi.
- Duncan, R., & Smith, M. J. (2019). Next issue: Anticipation and promise in comics studies. In F. Aldama (Ed.), Oxford handbook of comic book studies. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Smith, M. J., & Burke, T. W. (2019). Profiling the Rogues: Seeking criminal intent in *The Flash* of Geoff Johns. In J. Darowski (Ed.), The ages of the Flash: Essays on the fastest man alive. Jefferson, NC: McFarland & Company, Inc. Publishers.
- Smith, M. J. (2019). A smash hit: Hulk's rampage through the media. In A. Nocenti (Ed.), Marvel: Universe of super heroes. Vienna: Verlag Für Moderne Kunst.
- Duncan, R., & Smith, M. J. (2018). From an informed fan culture to an academic field. In J. Baetens, H. Frey, & S. E. Tabachnick (Eds.), Cambridge history of the graphic novel. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Smith, M. J., and Duncan, R. (2017). How the graphic novel works. In S. E. Tabachnick (Ed.), Cambridge companion to the graphic novel. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Smith, M. J. (2017). Superhero comics. In F. Bramlett, R. Cook, & A. Meskin (Eds.), The Routledge companion to comics. New York: Routledge.
- Smith, M. J. (2014). The Silver Age playbook: Minting the modern superhero. In J. M. Sommers (Ed.), Critical insights: The American comic book. Amenia, NY: Grey House Publishing.
- Smith, M. J. (2014). Working girl: Diana Prince and the crisis of career moves in *Wonder Woman*. In J. Darowski (Ed.), The ages of Wonder Woman: Essays on the Amazon princess in changing times. Jefferson, NC: McFarland & Company, Inc.
- Smith, M. J. (2012). The "triangle era" of Superman: Continuity, marketing, and grand narratives in the 1990s. In J. Darowski (Ed.), Superman through the Ages: Essays on the Man of Steel in changing times. Jefferson, NC: McFarland & Company, Inc.
- Smith, M. J. (2011). Die tyrannel der schmelztiegle-metapher: *Wonder Woman* ala amerikanisierte immigrantin. In B. Eder, E. Klar, & R. Reichert (Eds.) Theorien des comics: Ein reader. Bielefeld, Germany: Transcript.

Smith, M. J. (2001). The tyranny of the melting pot metaphor: Wonder Woman as the Americanized immigrant. In M. P. McAllister, E. Sewell, and I. Gordon (Eds.), Comics and ideology. New York: Peter Lang Publishing, Inc.

## Academic Articles

- Duncan, R., & Smith, M. J. (2021). Grassroots comics in India: Activism through diffusion of innovations. New Area Studies, 2 (1), 115-138.
- Smith, M. J. (2016). "You're going, aren't you?" An encomium for the state association. Ohio Communication Journal, 54, 45-52.
- Becker, C., Smith, M. J., Sodano, T., & Caspersen, R. (2012, Nov. 21). Report from the TV Academy Faculty Seminar (Part 1). Antenna. Available <http://blog.commart.wisc.edu/2012/11/21/report-from-the-tv-academy-faculty-seminar-part-1/>
- Smith, M. J. (2011). Lost [and found] girls: Teaching a college course in Alan Moore. SANE Journal: Sequential Art Narrative in Education, 3 (1). Available <http://www.sanejournal.net/article/view/8025>
- Smith, M. J. (2011). An appreciation of Harvey Kurtzman. The Hooded Utilitarian. Available <http://hoodedutilitarian.com/>
- Duncan, R., & Smith, M.J. (2011). Learning from film studies: Analogies and challenges. Comics Forum. Available <http://comicsforum.org/2011/07/15/learning-from-film-studies-analogies-and-challenges-by-randy-duncan-and-matthew-j-smith/>
- Andrejevic, M., & Smith, M. J. (2005). Framing reality television. Popular Communication, 3, 137-143.
- Smith, M. J. (1999). Strands in the Web: Community-building strategies in online fanzines. Journal of Popular Culture, 33, 87-100.
- McKerrow, R., Wood, A., & Smith, M. (1998). Publishing online: Challenging standards of hiring, promotion and tenure. American Communication Journal. Available: <http://www.americancomm.org/~aca/acj/acj.html>.

## Encyclopedia Entries

- Smith, M. J. (2014). Byrne, John; Flash; and Johns, Geoff. In M. K. Booker (Ed.) Comics through time: A history of icons, idols, and ideas. Westport, CT: Greenwood Publishing Group.
- Smith, M. J. (2012). Comic book conventions and cultural practices. In B. H. Beaty and S. Weiner (Eds.) Critical survey of graphic novels: History, theme, and technique. Pasadena, CA: Salem Press.
- Smith, M. J. (2012). Infinite crisis. In B. H. Beaty and S. Weiner (Eds.) Critical survey of graphic novels: Heroes & superheroes. Pasadena, CA: Salem Press.
- Smith, M. J. (2010). Byrne, John and Johns, Geoff. In M. K. Booker (Ed.) Encyclopedia of comics and graphic novels. Westport, CT: Greenwood Publishing Group.

## Book Reviews

- Smith, M. J. (2010). Review of Last son. International Journal of Comic Art, 12 (1), 524-525.
- Smith, M. J. (2008). Review of Stan Lee: Conversations. International Journal of Comic Art, 10 (1), 576-578.
- Smith, M. J. (2007). Review of Comics as philosophy. International Journal of Comic Art, 9 (2), 541-543.
- Additional unpublished reviews conducted for Allyn & Bacon, Bloomsbury Academic, Children's Literature Association, Kendall-Hunt, Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, McGraw-Hill, the Media Education Foundation, Oxford University Press, Rowman & Littlefield, Routledge, Sage, Spring Nature, Yale University Press, and the University of Illinois Press.

## Externally Funded Grants

- Dowell, E., et al. (2022). A union catalog of comics books. National Endowment for the Humanities: Humanities Collections and Reference Grant. In development.
- Lemieux, R., et al. (2021). Life in the comics. National Endowment for the Humanities: Media Projects — Production. Resubmitted.
- Woo, B., et al. (2019) Storming the Con: A collaborative ethnography of industry-audience relations in the entertainment industries. Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. Approved \$144,400.
- Gallops, W., et al. (2018-2022). Summer Residential Governor's School for Humanities and Visual and Performing Arts. Virginia Department of Education. Approved \$769, 511 annually (\$3,078,044 total across four years as dean).

## Program Reviews

Served as an outside reviewer, provided critical feedback for Communication programs at:

- Longwood University, Farmville, VA, December 2021
- Augustana College, Rock Island, IL, April 2010
- State University of New York, Oswego, NY, March 2010
- Roanoke College, Roanoke, VA, January 2010

## Invited Presentations (Last 10 Years)

Smith, M. J. (2019, June 9). Inside the Marvel Universe. Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, PA.

Smith, M. J. (2017, February). Creating the Marvel Universe: From picto-fiction to motion pictures. Lynchburg College, Lynchburg, VA.

Smith, M. J. (2015, April). Keynote address to the Third Undergraduate Research Symposium. University of Puerto Rico-Río Piedras, San Juan, PR.

Smith, M. J. (2014, October). Integrating the ninth art in the curriculum. Keynote address to the West Virginia Association of College English Teachers. West Liberty University, Wheeling, WV.

Smith, M. J. (2014, April). Jack Kirby and the technology of the imagination. Plenary address at the Second Annual ComiConference, Central Michigan University, Mt. Pleasant, MI.

Smith, M. J. (2014, March). More than just words and pictures: Engaging students with graphic storytelling. Presentation to the faculty of the University of Puerto Rico, San Juan, PR.

Smith, M. J. (2012, October). Five influential graphic storytellers from Ohio. Video lecture prepared for the Southwestern Ohio Council for Higher Education.

Smith, M. J. (2012, September). Beyond BIFF! BAM! POW! Reclaiming comics as the ninth art. Public presentation at the University of Central Arkansas, Conway, AR.

## Academic Conferences Planned

Comics & Technology. (2020, August 5-8). 3rd Annual Conference of the Comics Studies Society, Henderson State University, Arkadelphia, AR. (Canceled due to the pandemic.)

Redrawing Boundaries. (2019, March 29-30). Conference of the Virginia Association of Communication Arts and Sciences, Radford University, Radford, VA.

Interdisciplinarity, Interdependence, & Collaboration. (2010, October 1-2). 74th Annual Conference of the Ohio Communication Association, Clark State Community College, Springfield, OH.

Inspired. (2009, October 3). 73rd Annual Conference of the Ohio Communication Association, Capital University, Columbus, OH.

## Curatorial Work

Co-curator of the *Marvel: Universe of Super Heroes* exhibit. More than 900,000 people have toured it in these locations:

- Museum of Popular Culture, Seattle, WA, 2018
- Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, PA, 2019
- TELUS World of Science, Edmonton, Alberta, 2019
- Henry Ford Museum, Dearborn, MI, 2020
- Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago, IL, 2021
- COSI, Columbus, OH, 2021-2022



## Paper Presentations at Academic Conferences (Last 10 Years)

- Duncan, R., & Smith, M. J. (2021, August). Grassroots comics in India: Activism through diffusion of innovations. Paper presentation at the Comics Studies Society conference, online.
- Smith, M. J., & Smith, T. (2020, November.) Crisis management: Arrowverse crossovers as media consumption strategy. Paper presentation at the National Communication Association conference, online.
- Smith, M. J. (2020, October.) Pilgrimage to Hall H: Fan agency at Comic-Con. Paper presentation at the Annual Conference of the German Society for Comics Studies, online.
- Smith, M. J. (2019, November.) "Hail to the King!" Jack Kirby and the comic book roots of the Black Panther. Paper presentation at the National Communication Association conference, Baltimore, MD.
- Smith, M. J., & Duncan, R. (2016, October). The secret origins of comics studies—revealed! Paper presentation at Canon Fodder: 2016 CXC Scholarly Symposium, Columbus, Ohio.
- Smith, M. J. (2015, November). "The all-new Captain America" and the challenge of racial representation in Marvel Comics. Paper presentation at the National Communication Association conference, Las Vegas, NV.
- Smith, M. J. (2013, November). Integrating the ninth art in the curriculum. Presentation to the Festival of Cartoon Art, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH.

## Panel Presentations at Academic Conferences (Last 10 Years)

- Smith, M.J. , & Duncan, R. (Chairs.) (2020, August). Authors assemble! A roundtable on advancing comics studies. Roundtable presentation accepted for presentation at the 2020 Comics and Popular Arts Conference, online.
- Smith, M.J. (Chair). (2019, November). Shattering barriers: Hybridity, myth, and inverted expectations in Marvel's *Black Panther*. Panel presentation at the National Communication Association conference, Baltimore, MD.
- Smith, M. J. (Respondent). (2017, November). Taking aim at the CW's Arrowverse: Costumed heroes, cultural critiques, and commercial implications. Panel presentation at the National Communication Association conference, Dallas, TX.
- Smith, M. J. (Respondent). (2017, November). Working across boundaries: Collaboration as legacy building. Panel presentation at the National Communication Association conference, Dallas, TX.
- Smith, M. J. (Respondent). (2016, November). The Marvel Cinematic Universe as media phenomenon: Perspectives on adaptation and interpretation of superheroes on screen. Panel presentation at the National Communication Association conference, Philadelphia, PA.
- Smith, M. J. (Chair). (2016, November). Contributing to the conversation: Costumed superheroes and contemporary socio-political discourse. Panel presentation at the National Communication Association conference, Philadelphia, PA.
- Switzer, D. A., Geers, J., Hunt, A. K., Smith, M. J. (2015, October). The praxis of animation. Panel presentation at the Ohio Communication Association conference, Dayton, Ohio.
- Duncan, R., & Smith, M. J. (Chairs). (2015, April). Meet the press(es): Series editors chart the future of comics studies. Round table presentation accepted for presentation at the 2015 Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association conference, New Orleans, LA.
- Shirvani, S., Thomas-Maddox, C., Smith, M. J., Beck, C. S., & Tyus, J. (2014, October). Past president's panel. Panel at the Ohio Communication Association conference, Columbus, OH.
- Shirvani, S., Thomas-Maddox, C., Smith, M. J., & Tyus, J. (2013, October). With the advent of social media, what is the future of Ohio Communication Association and its relationship with its members? Past presidents panel at the Ohio Communication Association conference, Marietta, OH.
- Smith, M. J., Feezel, J. D., Kelley, N., Tyus, J., & Shirvani, S. (2012, October). Converting to semester: "Is there an app for that?" Past presidents panel at the Ohio Communication Association conference, Kent, OH.

## Recent Media Appearances

- Stahlecker, K., & Winningham, S. (2021, October 15). "The Power of Comics with Matthew Smith" *The Captioned Life* podcast. (Featured guest). <https://www.thecaptionedlife.com/45-the-power-of-comics-with-matthew-smith/>
- Clink, L., & Narcisse, E. (Hosts). (2020, December 17). "Origins" *Marvel Declassified* podcast on SiriusXM. (Commentator).
- Woo, B., et al. (2020, September 8). Comic-Con@Home: Virtual comics event declared a failure by industry critics, but fans loved it. *The Conversation*. (Contributor).
- Smith, M. J. (2020, April 14). From Doctor Octopus to the Superior Spider-Man and back again: Critiquing the illusion of change. *In Media Res*. (Author).
- Anderson, D. (2019, April 11). Aztec Empire brought to life in new graphic novel. *Forbes*. <https://www.forbes.com/sites/davidanderson/2019/06/11/aztec-empire-graphic-novel-nominated-for-eisner-award/> (Commentator).
- Ducker, E. (2019, March 7). The future of superheroes is female. *Playboy*. <https://www.playboy.com/read/the-future-of-heroes-is-female> (Commentator).
- Virginia Humanities. (2018, December 8). The art of superheroes. *With Good Reason*. <https://www.withgoodreasonradio.org/episode/drawing-history/> (Featured guest).
- Culp, B. (Director). (2017). *Look to the sky* [Documentary]. (Commentator).
- Zwaniecki, A. (2015, November 27). Kaboom! Comic books attack series issues and find new fans. *ShareAmerica*. Available: <https://share.america.gov/kaboom-comic-books-address-hard-issues/> (Commentator).
- Royal, D., & Kunkel, A. (Hosts). (2015, August 21). A roundtable discussion on teaching comics. *The comics alternative*. Podcast available: <http://comicsalternative.com/comics-alternative-special-a-roundtable-discussion-on-teaching-comics/>. (Guest).
- Smith, M. J. (2014, November 7). An artist unmasked [Letter to the editor]. *Entertainment Weekly*, p. 2.
- Smith, M. J. (2014, October 31). A brief history of racial and gender diversity in comic book movies. *The Washington Post*. Retrieved from <http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/wonkblog/wp/2014/10/31/theres-been-10-year-diversity-drought-in-comic-book-movies-thats-changing/>
- McEnroe, C. (Host). (2014, May 28). Geek is chic: How Comic-Con became a pop culture phenomenon. *The Colin McEnroe show*. WNPR-FM. Hartford, CT. Available: <http://wnpr.org/post/geek-chic-how-comic-con-became-pop-culture-phenomenon>. (Featured guest).
- Cham, J., & Lockwood, A. (Producers). (2013, March 11). Super scholars: Taking comics seriously. *Ph.Detours*. Available <http://www.phdcomics.com/tv/#033> (Featured guest).
- Philippe, A. O. (Director). (2010). *The people vs. George Lucas* [Documentary]. United States: Lions Gate. (Commentator).
- Additional comments have appeared in publications such as *Boston Globe*, *Springfield News-Sun*, *Roanoke Times*, and *Spokane's Spokesman-Review*, for the Center for Strategic and International Studies and *Congressional Quarterly Researcher*, and on the *Canada West* and *Associate Press* news services.

## Courses Taught

### Comics Studies:

Field Study: The Experience at Comic-Con  
Graphic Novels of Alan Moore  
Graphic Storytelling: Comic Books as Culture

### Communication Studies Courses:

Business and Professional Communication  
Communication and Leadership (graduate level)  
Communication and Philanthropy  
Event Planning  
Group Dynamics  
Interpersonal Communication  
Internship  
Introduction to Communication Studies  
Organizational Communication  
Public Speaking  
Senior Communication Seminar  
Senior Honors Thesis

### Composition:

Advanced Composition  
Freshman Composition  
Technical Writing  
Traditional Grammar, Mechanics, and Usage

### Media Studies:

American Television History  
Animation History and Analysis  
Cinephiles, Fanboys & Geek Girls  
Computer-Mediated Communication  
From ABC to WWW: The History of Communication  
Technology, Culture, and Controversy  
Media Literacy  
Media Law  
Seminar in Media Research  
Strategic Communication Ethics (graduate level)  
Television Criticism

## Dissertation and Thesis Committees

- Hogge, R. (2019, May). Princess of perfection: A study on the connection between adolescent fandom in Disney princesses and adult fandom in Kate Middleton. Master's thesis completed at Radford University. (Director).
- Pitkethly, C. (2019, May). Traces in stasis: A theory of enunciative trace in a comic, and material inertia in the work of Grant Morrison. Doctoral dissertation completed at the University of Melbourne. (Outside reviewer).
- Anderson, K. (2013, June). "Truth, justice, and the performative way!" Superhero performance and the battle for social justice in 21<sup>st</sup> century America. Doctoral dissertation completed at the University of California at Santa Barbara. (Committee member).
- Grandy, T. (2013). The geology of *Spongebob*: Communicating earth sciences via Hillenburg's animated hit. Senior honors thesis completed at Wittenberg University. (Director).
- Cox, C. M. (2005). Airplane fame: Old Dayton newspapers show little attention paid. Master's thesis completed at Antioch University McGreggor, Yellow Spring, OH. (Committee member).

## Selected Community Service Activities

Christ Episcopal Church Blacksburg (2016-present)

- Assistant Leader for Public Theology, religious education for middle/high school students
- Certified lay reader and usher

Christ Episcopal Church Springfield (2002-2016)

- Senior Warden (2012-2016)
- Vestry Member-at-Large (2011-2012)

Champion City Comic Con (co-founder & coordinator, 2009-2015)

Community Service 100 faculty session facilitator (2009-2016)

"Graphic Novel Adaptations Film Festival" (2010-2011), discussion session facilitator at Lakeland Community College, Kirtland, OH

## Professional Affiliations

Comics Studies Society (2014-present)

- President (2020-2021); First Vice-President and Conference Co-Chair (2019-2020); Second Vice-President (2018-2019)
- Executive Board Member-at-Large (2016-2018)
- Co-author of the bylaws founding the association (2014)

Virginia Association of Communication Arts and Sciences (2018-present)

- Second Vice-President (2018-2019); Conference Co-Chair (2019) for "Redrawing Boundaries"

Ohio Communication Association (2004-2016)

- Vice-President / President / Past President (2006-2012); Regional Representative (2004-2006)
- Editorial Board member (2005-2016)

National Communication Association (1996-2010; 2015-2021)

Eastern Communication Association (1998-2016)

- Chair, Ethics Statement Task Force Committee (2008-2014), which developed "A Code of Professional Ethics"
- Executive Council Representative (2002-2004, 2011-2013)
- Web Site Task Force (2002)
- Interest Group Planner for Human Information Technologies (2002)

Academy of Television Arts and Sciences (2003-2007, 2011-2019)

- Faculty Fellow (2012)

West Liberty University College of Liberal Arts Advisory Board (2011-2015)

Popular Culture Association (1995-2001; 2015-2016)