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Bess Cooley

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EDUCATION

- 2013- **MFA Creative Writing** Purdue University,
2016 *Thesis Title:* A Pin Holds the Broken in Place West Lafayette, IN
Thesis Committee: Marianne Boruch (chair), Bob Hicok, and
Kristina Bross
- 2008- **BA Creative Writing (Cum Laude)** Knox College,
2012 *Major advisors:* Monica Berlin and Gina Franco Galesburg, IL

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2023- **Associate Professor of Teaching, Department of** University of Tennessee
Present **English** Knoxville, TN
- 2018- **Lecturer, Department of English** University of Tennessee
2023 Knoxville, TN

PUBLICATIONS

Full-Length Collections

- 2024 *Florence* Sundress Publications

Poetry

- 2023 "There's this never-ending rain now, never-ending" *The Arkansas International*
2022 "Rock Climbing," "Forgiveness," and "I Worry about My
Future Nephew" *Adana Literary Journal*
2020 "On the Day My Parents Leave the Country They Leave
Instructions for What to Do after Their Deaths" *Western Humanities Review*
2020 "The Day My Parents Accept an Offer on My Childhood
Home" *American Literary Review*
2020 "Either Years Old and My Grandfather Says My Name
Angry" and "My Mother Asks What to Do with Her Father's
Ashes" *Stirring: A Literary Collective*
2019 "The Other Side" and "Witch Court Reporter" *PRISM International*
2019 "There Is a Snake" (reprinted) *Verse Daily*
2019 "An Archaeologist Shows Us a Skull" *Midway Journal*
2019 "Dear Love Poem, Dear Memory" *Ruminate*
2019 "There Is a Snake" and "Women Dying" *Iron Horse Literary Review*
2019 "Two-Day Drive" *The Journal*
2018 "Corkscrew" *Atticus Review*
2018 "Melrose Abbey, c. 1100" *Columbia Poetry Review*
2018 "Hemoglobin" *Breakwater Review*
2018 "New Medicine," "Florence," "The Furniture Room," and
"Routine" *Prairie Schooner*
2017 "On the Chicago River" (winner of the *Mississippi Review*
Poetry Prize) *Mississippi Review*

- 2016 “Meditation” and “I’ve Had this Rhythm in My Head for Decades” *Forklift, Ohio*
- 2016 “Poem Written While Writing Another Poem” and “Poem Starting with a Violin and Ending with the Hoan Bridge” *Toad*
- 2012 “Genesis” *Spry Literary Journal*
- 2012 “Prose Poem” *Mason’s Road*

Interviews

- 2022 “Behind the Words: Jennifer Martelli” *Spry Literary Journal*
- 2018 “Behind the Words: Anna Lea Jancewicz” *Spry Literary Journal*
- 2018 “Behind the Words: Christopher Grillo” *Spry Literary Journal*
- 2016 “Painting in the Dark: An Interview with Richard Siken” *Sycamore Review*

Book Reviews

- 2020 *Bicycle in a Ransacked City* by Andres Cerpa *Southern Humanities Review*
- 2019 *We, the Almighty Fires* by Anna Rose Welch *Kenyon Review Online*
- 2017 *Wasp Queen* by Claudia Cortese *Electric Literature*
- 2017 *The Needle’s Eye* by Fanny Howe *Electric Literature*
- 2016 *The Hatred of Poetry* by Ben Lerner *Sycamore Review*
- 2016 *The Argonauts* by Maggie Nelson *Sycamore Review*
- 2016 *The Big Book of Exit Strategies* by Jamaal May *Sycamore Review*
- 2016 *Rapture* by Sjohnna McCray *Sycamore Review*

Craft

- 2019 “The ABCs of Poetry: L is for Line and Line Break” *Spry Literary Journal*
- 2014 “Behind the Words: Elizabeth Cooley” *Spry Literary Journal*

CREATIVE & CRITICAL AWARDS

- 2017 *Mississippi Review* Poetry Prize *Mississippi Review*
Hattiesburg, MS
- 2016 Disability Studies Award for Literary Studies
Purdue University,
West Lafayette, IN
- 2014 Tom Andrews Clapping Award for Poetry
Purdue University,
West Lafayette, IN

TEACHING AWARDS

- 2022 Lecturer Excellence in Teaching Award
University of Tennessee,
Knoxville, TN
- 2015 Excellence in Teaching Award
Purdue University,
West Lafayette, IN
- 2015 Quintilian Award for Excellence in Teaching Composition
Purdue University,
West Lafayette, IN

APPEARANCES

Invited Speaker

- 2024 **Guest Speaker, Creative Writing Class**
L&N STEM Academy
Knoxville, TN
- 2023 **Guest Speaker, Creative Writing Class**
Bearden High School
Knoxville, TN

2023,	Presenter, All-District Learning Day	Knox County Public Schools,
2022		Knoxville, TN
2020	Guest Speaker, Graduate Poetry Class	East Tennessee State University,
		Johnson City, TN

Creative Readings

2024	University of Tennessee Creative Writing Series	University of Tennessee Knoxville, TN
2024	Union Ave. Books	Union Ave. Books Knoxville, TN
2024	Knox Is Lit!	Knox College Galesburg, IL
2023	Chiasmus Reading Series	University of Tennessee Knoxville, TN
2020	Chiasmus Reading Series	University of Tennessee Knoxville, TN
2018	Holler Salon	Sundress Academy for the Arts Knoxville, TN
2016	You're in Indiana Now Reading Series	Purdue University West Lafayette, IN
2014	You're in Indiana Now Reading Series	Purdue University West Lafayette, IN

Conferences

2017	AmWriting: A Day of Writing and Publishing	Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
2016	Early Atlantic Reading Group	Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
2016	Indiana Medieval Graduate Consortium	Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Women Who Changed Poetry [face-to-face] (fall 2024, spring 2024)

“Madness in Literature” [face-to-face] (spring 2025, fall 2023)

Introduction to Poetry [face-to-face, online synchronous] (spring 2023, spring 2021, fall 2019)

Composition II: Inquiry into Disability [face-to-face, online asynchronous] (spring 2025, fall 2024, spring 2024, fall 2023, spring 2023, fall 2022, spring 2022, fall 2021, spring 2021, fall 2020, spring 2020, fall 2019, spring 2019)

Introduction to Creative Writing [face-to-face, online synchronous] (spring 2020)

Writing in the Workplace [face-to-face, online asynchronous] (summer 2019, spring 2019)

Composition I [face-to-face] (fall 2018)

Purdue University (Instructor of Record)

Business Writing (summer 2018, spring 2018, fall 2017)

Introduction to Creative Writing (spring 2018, fall 2017, spring 2016, fall 2015)

Introduction to Composition (spring 2018, fall 2017, spring 2016, fall 2015, spring 2015, fall 2014, spring 2014, fall 2013)

Ivy Tech Community College

Exposition and Persuasion (spring 2017)

PEDAGOGICAL TRAINING

2023- 2024	Volunteer Experience Faculty Fellow, Division of Student Success Best well-being practices in undergraduate instruction	University of Tennessee Knoxville, TN
2023- 2023	Universal Design for Learning (UDL) Workshop UDL in pedagogy and teaching materials	University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN
2021- 2022	Equitable Assessment Pilot Program Using equitable assessment strategies	University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN
2020	Academics for Black Survival and Wellness Instructor Workshop Anti-racist pedagogy workshop for non-black higher education instructors	academics4blacklives.com

EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

2019- Present	Co-Founding Editor and Co-Editor-in-Chief, <i>Peatsmoke: A Literary Journal</i>	peatsmokejournal.com
2019- 2022	Managing Editor of Online Content, <i>Grist: A Journal of the Literary Arts</i>	University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN
2014- 2016	Managing Editor, <i>Sycamore Review</i>	Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

SERVICE

University Service

2021- 2024	Member, Commission for Disability	University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN
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Departmental Service

2023- Present	Elected Lecturer Representative, English Department Includes service on administration and lecturer committees	University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN
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2021- 2024	Assistant Director, Creative Writing Program	University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN
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Community Outreach

2021- Present	Director, Young Writers Institute Creative writing workshops for high school students	University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN
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PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Association of Writers and Writing Programs

REFERENCES

Roy M. Liuzza

309 McClung Tower
Knoxville, TN 37996
(865) 974-6939
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Margaret Lazarus Dean

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Michael Knight

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