

Paul Cockeram

Curriculum Vitae

One HACC Drive
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110
Phone: (717) 780-2453
Email: paul@im-possiblethink.com

ACADEMIC BACKGROUND

M.F.A. in Creative Writing, University of Idaho, 2004 GPA: 4.0

- ◆ Concentration in fiction
- ◆ Thesis was *Saturdays Remain the Same*, a collection of short fiction portraying the lives of characters whose systems of belief have reached crisis points.
- ◆ Major Professor: Mary Clearman Blew

M.A. in English, Iowa State University, 2000 GPA: 4.0

- ◆ Concentration in creative writing
- ◆ Thesis was *The Time of Roses*, a collection of prose pieces portraying characters hunting for connection despite extreme loneliness.
- ◆ Major Professor: Debra Marquart

B.A. in English and Theatre Arts, Hiram College, 1998 GPA: 3.7

- ◆ Double major in English and Theatre Arts.
- ◆ Graduated with honors in English by completing additional critical work.
- ◆ Advisors: Professors Joyce Dyer, Hale Chatfield, and Rick Hyde.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Associate Professor, Tenured

Harrisburg Area Community College
August 2006 through present

- ❖ Maintain a 5/5 course load.
- ❖ Update and teach Creative Writing I and II on a continuous basis.
- ❖ Update and teach Composition I and II on a continuous basis.
- ❖ Update and teach Introduction to Literature courses annually.
- ❖ Meet with advisees to discuss their course loads and how best to meet academic goals.
- ❖ Oversee and advise designer, staff, and student editors of the school's literary journal.
- ❖ Serve on department and discipline committees continuously.
- ❖ Perform College service as part of regular duties, including hiring and Strategic Planning

Adjunct Instructor

Eastern Idaho Technical College
August 2005 through June 2006

- ❖ Taught outreach courses in two remote locations via long-distance driving and video/telecommunications.
- ❖ Redesigned and taught Composition I focusing on critical thinking for students working under special circumstances.
- ❖ Designed and taught Composition II focusing on critical thinking through analysis, synthesis, and argumentation.

PUBLICATIONS AND AWARDS

Pushcart Prize nominations in 2010, 2012, 2014, and 2015

Articles and reviews in *Middle Shelf*, where the unexamined whiskey is not worth drinking

Several “Notes from Abroad” in *Im-possible*, a journal of cultural criticism

Partial Scholarship to the DisQuiet International Literary Conference, June 2015

“The Whiskey Admiral’s Lament” in *The Turnip Truck(s)*, April 2015

“Saving Mortimer” in *Confrontation*, spring 2014

“Life of Pi” article for Salem Press’ *Masterplots*, November 2010

“Bridges Burn” in *The Laurel Review*, summer 2009

“Demons” in *Borne on Air*, May 2009

“Mouse in the Snow” and “The Somnambulist Keeps” in *The Wildwood Journal*, spring 2009

EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

Freelance Editor

Greenhaven Press. Edited a book on euthanasia for the series *Introducing Issues with Opposing Viewpoints*, 2006

Fiction Editor

Fugue Literary Journal
University of Idaho, fall 2002 through fall 2003

Copy-Editor

Residence Life Manuals
U of Idaho, summer 2003

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Currently, my research interests are influenced strongly by the classes I teach. Since July 1st, 2013 I have read one short story every calendar day to improve my critical faculties as a grader of fiction while enriching my understanding of the craft of fiction. I am currently revising a collection of intertwined short stories set in a Midwestern town, which I produced during a sabbatical in fall 2014, as well as producing new fiction.

I also edit and write a web site of whiskey journalism at www.middleshelfwhiskey.com, where we put whiskey into relationship with people, and into a context, in order to more fully grasp its spirit. I and my co-editor produce one article per month and have accumulated a following of three hundred regular, unique readers per month.

Finally, I read philosophy and theory in preparation for applying to Ph. D. programs for fall 2017. Having made my way through Heidegger and Foucault, I have turned toward hermeneutics most recently with Gadamer’s *Philosophical Hermeneutics*. I plan to propose a research project on how contemporary humans practice and experience sacrifice, emphasizing the practices that link ancient ideas and manifestations of sacrifice to our contemporary context in surprising but largely unacknowledged ways.

PRESENTATIONS

CITE Conference
Presenter

“Today I Found My Friends:
Pessoa’s Heteronyms”
HACC, fall 2015

Visiting Writer and
Co-Reader,

“Saving Mortimer”
Muskingum University,
fall 2015

Co-Presenter and
Visiting Writer,
“Bridges Burn”
U of Idaho, fall 2011

Honors Lecture Series
“The Animal Inside Us”
HACC, fall 2010

Wednesday Night Café, Guest lecture
“Fundamentalism in the Classroom”
First Presbyterian Church of Delray,
Florida, summer 2008

First Conference of Teaching
Communications and Writing, HACC
Lecture and discussion
“No Co-ed Left Behind?: Philosophy
of Assessment”
spring 2007