Jessica K. Brandt

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**Education**

Ph.D. in History & Culture 2019

Drew University, Madison, NJ

Dissertation Title: “Underground and Over the Air: Radio Liberty, Russian Dissidence, and the Cultivation of a Listening Audience”

M.A. in Slavic Literature 1995

University of California at Berkeley, Berkeley, CA

B.A. in Russian Language with Honors in Russian Literature 1993

Summa cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa

Drew University, Madison, NJ

# Administrative Experience

**Montclair State University, Montclair, NJ**

**Associate Dean for Curriculum and Enrollment Management** 2020 – Present

**Associate Director for Student Affairs** 2017 – 2020

*Student Support*

* Co-chair university-wide Enrollment/Block Scheduling Committee to build major-specific blocks for 3100 incoming Freshmen
* Collaborate with Assistant Dean for Student Affairs to manage CHSS Freshmen Blocks
* Provide ongoing data and analytic support to Student Affairs team
* Lead onboarding for Transfer students in the College of Humanities & Social Sciences, serving approximately 800 new students per year (2016-18)
* Advise students in all Humanities & Social Sciences departments on a walk-in basis
* Intervene to resolve student concerns and connect them with campus resources
* Manage university-wide, interdisciplinary Student Research Symposium, involving 100- 300 students working with faculty mentors to present original research
* Serve on University Advising Council and relevant sub-committees

*Faculty Support*

* Manage course scheduling process for the College
* Work with Department Chairs to develop best practices in schedule and curriculum planning
* Review and approve all schedules
* Collect and analyze enrollment and scheduling data using Banner, Cognos, Tableau, and Slate
* Collaborate with Assistant Dean of Finance, Budget, and Operations to monitor faculty TCH load
* Provide data management support for the College, including training faculty and staff on use of Banner system applications
* Develop survey instruments using Qualtrics to improve advising and scheduling processes
* Liaise with Registrar on both student scheduling and classroom usage issues

**Assistant Director for Advising and Language Coordination** 2016 – 2017

* Provided customer service-oriented advising support and intervention to new, transfer, and at-risk students in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences
* Liaised with administrative units across campus to plan enrollment and recruitment events, including Transfer Student Orientation
* Collaborated with faculty to develop registration and advising policy
* Managed and mined data to assess placement and program effectiveness
* Trained new administrative staff on Banner suite of student information systems
* Oversaw language testing and placement, serving roughly 1800 students per year

**Coordinator for Language Placement and Testing** 2001 - 2016

* Initiated evaluation and adoption of web-delivered placement instruments, resulting in a 30% reduction in proctoring and administration costs
* Maintained database of student testing information and office website
* Coordinated with Center for Advising and Student Transitions and Academic Success Center on advising and support issues
* Served on LMS subcommittee of the Academic Technology Committee
* Hired, trained, and supervised Student Assistants
* Developed and managed unit budget
* Collaborated with Director of ESL to align policies and effectively serve English Language Learners

**Teaching Experience**

**Montclair State University, Montclair, NJ** 2002 - Present

* Designed and taught courses in face-to-face, hybrid, and online instructional modalities using both Blackboard and Canvas
* Pioneered use of digital projects (wiki pages, interactive timelines) as final assessments
* Piloted cell-phone micro-blogging as pedagogical tool
* Experienced with both general education and upper level electives
* Courses taught:
  + HIST 499/580 Cold War Culture
  + HIST 106 Contemporary Europe, 1914-Present
  + RUIN 293 Russian Culture & Civilization
  + RUIN 294 Russian Prose & Drama
  + WRIT 106 College Writing II
  + All levels of Russian language

**Drew University, Madison, NJ**  2000 - 2001

Adjunct Instructor of Advanced Russian

**Summit School, Winston-Salem, NC** 1997 - 2000

Teacher of Russian, grades 5-9, integrated computer-assisted language instruction

**University of California at Berkeley** 1995 - 1997

Graduate Student Instructor of First-year Russian and upper level Chekhov seminar

**Publications**

“Just Send *Zhivago*: Reading Over, Under, and Through the Iron Curtain,” in *The Edinburgh History of Reading*, Edited by Mary Hammond and Jonathan Rose (Edinburgh University Press, 2020).

“Cold War Snoopy, or, Do Beagles Dream of Electric Bunnies?” in *Warm Puppies, Cold War: Historical and Cultural Essays on Charles M. Schulz’s* Peanuts, Edited by Peter W. Lee (McFarland, 2019).

“An Elegant Weapon for a More Civilized Age: *Star Wars*, Public Radio, and Middlebrow Cold War Culture,” in *A Galaxy Here and Now: Historical and Cultural Readings of* Star Wars, Edited by Peter W. Lee (McFarland, 2016).

“Placement within a Changing Curriculum: Russian Heritage Speakers at Montclair State University,” in *Case Studies in Foreign Language Placement: Practices and Possibilities*, Edited by Thom Hudson and Martyn Clark (Mānoa, HI: National Foreign Language Resource Center, 2008).

**Select Presentations**

“The Soviet Union and the Space Race,” *A Look Back at the Space Race* panel, Buzz Aldrin Middle School, Montclair, NJ, November, 2019.

“Underground and Over the Air: Radio Liberty, Russian Dissidence, and the Cultivation of a Listening Public,” Silas Palmer Conference, Hoover Institution, Stanford University, August, 2018.

“Radio Liberty as Publisher of Soviet Samizdat,” SHARP Conference, Paris, July, 2016.

“1953 and the Forging of Cold War Culture,” Dean Hopper New Scholars Conference, Drew University, June, 2014.

“Stretching the Canvas: Some Reflections on a New LMS,” with Dr. Enza Antenos-Conforti, NEALLT Conference, Swarthmore College, and NJEDge Faculty Showcase, Brookdale Community College, March, 2014.

“The Long Arm of Short Wave: Radio Liberty and Russian Dissidents,” S-USIH Conference, UC Irvine, November, 2013.

“Innocence, Irony, and the Commedia dell’arte Tradition of the Ballets Russes,” ASEEES Conference, New Orleans, LA, December, 2012.

“Campus Connect at Montclair State University,” with Dr. Patricia Kahn and Dr. Leslie Wilson, NJEdge CIO Forum, May, 2008.

“Learning Unplugged: Using Cell Phones in Language and Culture Courses,” with Michael Heller, ACTFL Conference, San Antonio, TX, November, 2007.

“In Defense of the Queen: Hamlet in the works of Marina Tsvetaeva,” AATSEEL Conference, Washington, DC, December, 2005.

**Service**

Montclair State University

Co-Chair, Enrollment and Block Scheduling Committee 2018-Present

University Advising Council 2018-Present

EAB Analytics Committee 2019-Present

Navigate Workflow and Training Team 2019-Present

Learning Management Sub-Committee, Academic Technology Committee 2013-2015

University Senate 2007-2010

Foreign Language Task Force 2005-2007

Language Grant Committee 2002-2003

Summit School

Co-Chair, Character Education Committee 1998-2000

SACS Accreditation Review Committee 1999-2000

**Honors & Awards**

Neal Riemer Dissertation Award, Drew University 2019

David Kohn Award in Intellectual History, Drew University 2017

Silas Palmer Fellowship, Hoover Institution Archives, Stanford, CA 2016

Presidential Fellowship, Drew University 2010 – 15

NFLRC Language Placement Workshop, University of Hawaii – Manoa 2005

Claude W. Place Class of 1901 Fellowship, UC Berkeley 1994 - 95

Non-resident Tuition Fellowship, UC Berkeley 1993 - 94

Drew Scholar, Drew University 1989 - 93

Garden State Scholar, Drew University 1989 - 93

# International Experience

Co-leader of Drew International Seminar, Vladimir, Russia Summer 2013

Russian Language Teachers Program Fellowship, ACTR, Moscow, Russia Summer 1999

Teacher of English, Foundation for a Civil Society, Žilina, Slovakia Summer 1995

ACTR Russian Language Program, St. Petersburg, Russia Summer 1993

Semester in British History and Theatre, London, England Fall 1991

**Special Skills**

Languages: Fluent Russian; Intermediate Spanish and German; Reading French and Czech

Applications: Banner suite, Blackboard, Canvas, Cognos, Filemaker, Qualtrics, Scalar, Tableau, Navigate

**Professional Associations**

AHA (American Historical Association)

ASEEES (Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies)

NEALLT (Northeast Association of Language Learning Technology)

SHARP (Society for the History of Authorship, Reading, and Publishing)