University of Hawaiʻi at Mānoa
Department of English
Contributors’ Notes
Spring 2018

Compiled by Jonathan Morse
**Cristina Bacchilega** was honored to receive the LLL (College of Languages, Linguistics, and Literature) Senior Faculty Excellence in Scholarship & Research Award in 2017. Other highlights in 2017 involved professional travel to Japan, China, Scotland, and Detroit.

With Anne E. Duggan, co-editor of *Marvels & Tales*, Cristina organized “Thinking with Stories in Times of Conflict: A Conference in Fairy-Tale Studies” at Wayne State University where Anne teaches. Held in early August 2017, this international conference attracted participants from Australia, India, Japan, and France; featured talks by Pauline Greenhill, Dan Taulapapa McMullin, Veronica Schanoes, Kay Turner, Jack Zipes; and saw a robust participation from Hawai‘i graduate students Caryn Lesuma, Hannah Spencer, Isaac Wang, Ida Yoshinaga.

Cristina also attended a number of conferences. In March, she was a keynote speaker at “Re-Orienting the Fairy Tale: Contemporary Fairy-Tale Adaptations across Cultures” at Nakagawa University in Japan; in July she was humbled to be an invited speaker at the symposium in memory of W. F. H. Nicolaisen at the University of Aberdeen in Scotland; in February she presented at the Networks, Nodes, and New Approaches to Adaptation Studies meeting at Brigham Young University in Utah; and at the American Folklore Society meeting in October, she responded to the panel “On Second Thought: Learned Women Reflect on Profession, Community, and Purpose.”

With John Rieder, Cristina was invited to give some talks at Guangdong University of Foreign Studies, China (May 30-June 5). It was a pleasure to share thoughts about “Sleeping Beauties and Issues of Gender: Waking Up Then and Now,” “Disney Fairy Tales & Fairy-Tale Princesses: Changing Strategies of Adaptation and Appropriation,” “Legendary Hawai‘i and the Politics of Place” and “Writing for an Academic Journal” with students and faculty there.


**Jim Caron** will present a paper in May at the 2018 American Literature Association Conference entitled “Satire and the Problem of Laughter.” He delivered a public lecture, “Satire, Speech Acts, and the Comic Public Sphere,” at Ohio University in March. He will also deliver a revised version of the lecture as a plenary address at the “Humor in America” conference to be held in Chicago this summer, sponsored by the American Humor Studies Association (AHSA) and the Mark Twain Circle of America. He continues as Senior Associate Editor of *Studies in American Humor* and President of the AHSA.
**Nandini Chandra** joined the department of English in August 2017.

She presented a paper titled “A Fetish for the Bad Image: Dibakar Banerji’s Early Films” in the 115th Annual Conference of the Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association, for the panel: Comparative Media Studies at Chaminade University, Honolulu on November 11, 2017. Prior to coming to UHM, she presented a paper entitled “The Subalternity of Images” in an International Conference on Visual South Asia: Anthropological Explorations of Media and Culture at the University of Dhaka, Bangladesh on May 10, 2017. She presented a paper entitled “The Dialectic of Censored Thought: The Case of Dr. Fredric Wertham” in the annual seminar at Dyal Singh College on April 10, 2017. She co-organized the workshop, “Rethinking Global Capitalism: Understanding Structural Change in India”, with Moishe Postone and Viren Murthy, at the University of Chicago Center Delhi held on March 3-4, 2017. She presented a paper entitled “Abstract Concretion: Vinod Kumar Shukla’s Critique of the Need Economy”, at the same conference on March 4, 2017. She was discussant at a two-day graduate seminar, “Trajectories of the Popular: Forms, Histories, Contexts in the Centre for English Studies at Jawaharlal Nehru University, Feb 16-17, 2017.

She has served on the department’s hiring committee and continues to serve on the department curriculum committee. She is on the editorial board of the journal *Studies in South Asian Film and Media* published by Intellect, UK.

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As Composition and Rhetoric director for the AY 2017-18, **Daphne Desser** is pleased to have been able to bring, with support from a SEED grant and the Dean’s Special Fund, the first Composition and Rhetoric speaker to campus in ten years. Also new are undergraduate and graduate prizes for best scholarly papers in Composition and Rhetoric. Other innovations include assembling, with CR faculty, pdfs of key texts in CR to serve as resources for faculty members teaching English 320 and, as part of her work on the W board, collaborating on revising student leaning outcomes for W courses as well as responding to recommendations for changes in the general education program. She arranged, with the CR committee, for descriptions of our CR program to be included in the Rhetoric Society of America’s annotated list of undergraduate and graduate programs. Together with the undergraduate chair and the associate Chair, she organized a successful Career Day for undergraduate students interested in English studies. Daphne will have given four scholarly presentations from December 2017 to May 2018: “Memory” for the English department’s Colloquium series in December, “Reconsidering Memory in the Digital Era” for the Far West Popular Culture and Conference in February, “Survivors of the Shoah: Telling our Parents’ Stories” for UHM’s History’s Department Forum in March, and, with colleagues in the English department, Honors College, and the General Education program “Teaching Lower-Division Writing and Rhetoric Across the Disciplines at the UH-Manoa” for the UH system’s First-Year Writing Symposium in April. She has been asked to submit her work on the Shoah and life writing to an international journal. She has also been invited to participate in Temple Emmanuells’s Yom HaShoah service. She chairs
the CR committee and serves on the DPC, the W board, and the executive committee and serves on various graduate committees as well as chairing an Honors project, an MA special project, and a dissertation. She is also currently teaching an independent studies course. She serves as reviewer for *Literacy in Composition Studies* and *Community Literacy Journal*. As outreach to the community at large, Daphne serves as a board of member of Hillel and as a judge for the Hawaii Speech League.

Cynthia Franklin writes:

In 2017, my article “Narrative Humanity and Post-9/11 Dehumanization: *Zeitoun* as Case Study,” which is part of a current book project, appeared in *American Quarterly*. A forum coedited with Njoroge Njoroge and Suzanna Reiss, including our introduction, also was published in *American Quarterly*: “Tracing the Settler’s Tools: A Forum on Patrick Wolfe’s Life and Legacy.” I also wrote a short piece entitled “Against Erasures: Why Life Writing Scholars Should Address the Nakba,” that appears in *Auto/Biography*. As well, I wrote a short journalistic piece for *Mondoweiss*, “Trump Nominee Kenneth Marcus Seeks to Undermine the Very Rights He’d Be Enforcing.”

I delivered a number of conference papers in 2017, including “Zionism in the Time of Trump” at the American Studies Association in Chicago, in November 2017—a conference at which I also was invited to speak at an event entitled “Write, Teach, Resist: Commemorating the Life and Work of Barbara Harlow.” I also gave a paper at the IABA-Europe in London in June 2017, “Dancing Dabke with the Drone: Using New Media to Resist Israel’s ‘Right’ to Maim.” At the Modern Language Association Conference in Philadelphia I served as a Respondent for the panel “Palestine Literature Under Erasure,” and gave a paper, “‘The Soul in the ‘47’: Shamstep as Palestinian Remembrance and Resistance.”

In January, I taught a session on Hawai’i and Palestine for a Brown University seminar on “Settler Colonialism and US Empire in the Pacific.” I gave some informal presentations as well—with Ali Musleh, I held a “Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions Workshop,” as part of the J20 Day of Resistance, and also with Ali, a presentation on “Israel/Palestine in the Time of Trump.” As well, I was a guest on the television show *Island Issues* for a show on “The Rise of Fascism in the Time of Trump,” and for one entitled “Trump: Politics for a New Century.” I also appeared on ThinkTech for a show entitled “Understanding The Boycott Of Israel - Explaining The AIPAC-Backed ‘Israel Anti-Boycott Act.’”

I have continued to serve as coeditor of *Biography*, and also joined the Editorial Board for *American Quarterly*. As well, I reviewed a manuscript for Temple University Press.

I also engaged in a variety of other service work. At the department level, I was on the Hiring, the Department Personnel, and the Colloquium Committees. University-wide service involved work on two SEED grant initiatives—with Sam Ikehara to bring out Junot Diaz for three events, and on one
for Giordano Nanni on “Academe and Activism”—then coordinated visits from both of them that took place Spring 2017. As well, I organized a visit by Steven Salaita, “Inter/Nationalism: From Palestine to Hawai’i,” that took place Oct. 31-Nov. 5, 2017. This five-day visit was an inaugural event for a chapter of the Campus Anti-Fascist Network (CAN) I helped cofound and was also sponsored by UH-Students and Faculty for Justice in Palestine along with several UH departments. In addition I helped to organize a few panels for the “UH-Immigration and Refugee Action Coalition” (UH-IRAC). I acted as coordinator for the group MLA Member for Justice in Palestine, and participated in the American Studies Association Academic and Community Activism Caucus. I also continued participation in the USACBI Organizing Collective.

Last but not least, I was happy to chair Brandy Dobson’s honor’s committee and to see her win the National Portz Prize for her thesis, one year after Jon Omuro won the prize for the thesis of his that I directed on Queer coming out stories and Christianity.

_Candace Fujikane’s_ chapter, “Against the Yellowwashing of Israel: Liberatory Solidarities Across Settler States,” appeared in _Flashpoints for Asian American Studies_, edited by Cathy Schlund-Vials, published by Fordham University Press in 2017. This essay is posted on academia.edu with the approval of her editor.


Candace has been working to complete her book manuscript, _Mapping Abundance Against the Wastelands of Capital: Indigenous and Critical Settler Cartography in Hawai’i_, which is due in August of 2018 to an interested press.

She continues to work on community education projects through her work as a board member of KĀHEA: The Hawaiian-Environmental Alliance. Candace worked with the Concerned Elders of Wai’anae to host the fourth annual Environmental Justice in Wai’anae Day. This year, the morning and afternoon panel discussions focused on educating Wai’anae communities about the Water Management Area (WMA) designation for Wai’anae. In January, 2017, she provided oral testimony as an expert witness on the rhetorical problems posed by the TMT’s Conservation District Use Application and on the mo‘olelo of Mauna a Wākea for the Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) contested case hearing against the Thirty Meter Telescope. As a member of Huaka’i i Nā ‘Āina Mauna, she was a part of the annual huaka’i to Mauna a Wākea to celebrate Lā Ho‘ihoʻi Ea, Hawaiian Independence Restoration Day and to monitor cultural sites.
Joseph Han’s story “Crimes Against Growth” will be published online this May in *Little Fiction*, and his book *Uncrossable: stories* is forthcoming in fall 2019 from YesYes Books.

Mark Heberle chaired the PAMLAS Shakespeare session at Chaminade this past November 10, which featured papers on *Twelfth Night*, *The Merchant of Venice*, and *Titus Andronicus*, and he read a paper of his own titled “Give me the Ocular Proof”: Misogyny and Seeing “Nothing” in Shakespeare.

Craig Howes published an essay on “Documentary Biography as Social and Cultural History—The Case of *Biography Hawai‘i*” in the 2017 issue of *Journal of Modern Life Writing Studies*, published by Shanghai Jiao Tong University. The essay was the keynote for a conference held in Shanghai in the Fall of 2016. Another keynote, “Pacifying Asia, Orienting the Pacific: What Work Can a Life Writing Region Do?,” appeared in “Locating Lives: Papers from the Inaugural Regional IABA Conference, IABA Asia-Pacific,” special issue of *Life Writing*. In the past year, *Ka Hana Kapa*, a documentary he co-produced with Joy Chong-Stannard and Victoria Nalani Kneubuhl, has been broadcast on over 1,200 Public Television stations nationally through a distribution agreement with Pacific Islanders in Communication and the National Educational Television Association.

In May, he presented a paper on “Film Biography, Hagiography, and Gender—The Case of *Biography Hawai‘i*” at *Lives Outside the Lines: Gender and Genre in the Americas*, the IABA Americas conference held in Toronto, Canada. In June, he spoke on “Biobits—Flash Biography and Its Virtual Migration” at *Life Writing, Europe and New Media: IABA Europe 2017*, held in London, where he also introduced keynote Laurie McNeill. He also conducted two seminars later that month at the Johannes Gutenberg University in Mainz, Germany, on “Life Writing and the Periodical Culture of Hawai‘i,” one as part of the Obama Institute Lecture Series.

In Hawai‘i, he served as a consultant for the *Remembering Her Majesty. Celebrating 100 Years—1838–1917*, an exhibition on the life of Queen Lili‘uokalani displayed at Hamilton Library, UH Mānoa, and ‘Iolani Palace. He was also one of the performers for “A Commemoration of Queen Lili‘uokalani on the Occasion of the One Hundredth Anniversary of her Death” held at ‘Iolani Palace in November. He appeared in two different iterations of the living history *Mai Poina: The Overthrow*, and in the recent *Mai Poina: The Annexation Debate*, both staged for schools and the general public on O‘ahu and Maui.

As a consulting scholar for *Walk #5: The Living Archive*, a tour of Ka‘akako program presented by 88 Block Walks and supported by the Hawai‘i Council of the Humanities, he contributed a brief essay on “Urban Mo‘olelo” to the Viewer’s Guide, and assisted with the tours themselves.
With David Stannard and John Rosa, he was a panelist on the topic “Local Story: The Massie-Kahahawai Case and the Culture of History,” at a teachers’ workshop also sponsored by the Hawai‘i Council for the Humanities, and was a co-presenter offering a preview of The Best of Aloha Shorts at Wine and Words: A Bamboo Ridge Fundraiser held at Mānoa Valley Theatre.

Forthcoming publications include “A Tribute to Philippe Lejeune” which will appear shortly in the European Journal of Life Writing; “Ethics and Literary Biography,” a chapter in the Companion to Literary Biography from Blackwell; and The Best of Aloha Shorts, a special issue of Bamboo Ridge co-edited with Sammie Choy and Phyllis Look.

Conferences this summer will involve giving papers on the antiwar activities of Vietnam’s American POWs while in captivity for a seminar in South Bend, Indiana; on biographical representations of the childhoods of famous scientists for a conference in Paris; on decolonizing the newspaper travel letter before colonialism—Mark Twain, Joseph Nāwahī, and David Kalākaua, for the IABA International conference in Brazil; and on Eponymous Bodies: Fierce or Funny Figures and the Spirit of Comic and Satiric Victorian Periodicals, for the Research Society for Victorian Periodicals conference in Victoria, British Columbia.

He continues to serve as co-editor of Biography: An Interdisciplinary Quarterly.

In 2017, Caryn Lesuma presented “Screening the Signs of the Times in Ko‘olau Loa: A Visual Analysis of Community Conflict Over Development in Mālaekahana, O‘ahu” at the Conference on College Composition and Communication in Portland, OR. She helped to organize the first annual UH First-Year Writing Symposium in April and presented a paper on academic writing and online activism at the symposium. In August, she presented a paper on folklore adaptations in Samoan poetry at Thinking with Stories in Times of Conflict: A Conference in Fairy-Tale Studies at Wayne State University in Detroit, MI. In November, she presented a paper on Oceanic Young Adult Literature at the Pacific and Ancient Modern Language Association Conference in Honolulu and participated in a teacher’s workshop for Hawaii Council for the Humanities, presenting ideas for using Oceanic Young Adult literatures in secondary classrooms. In March 2018, she presented “Adapting Oceanic Stories for Oceanic Youth: Bringing Hi|story into the Present to Negotiate Indigenous Futures” and participated in a roundtable panel discussion entitled “Decolonizing the Fantastic” at the International Conference for the Fantastic in Arts in Orlando, FL.

She serves as a graduate student member of the department Policy Committee (2017-2018) and is also a member of the Children’s Literature Hawai‘i Steering Committee, where she works as the Conference Director for the 2018 Children’s Literature Hawai‘i Conference.
This is a portrait of A. S. W. Rosenbach, the Philadelphia bibliophile who bought the manuscript of *Ulysses* from Joyce’s patron John Quinn for a price so insultingly low that Joyce tried to buy it back – Joyce being Joyce, with somebody else’s money. As restored in Photoshop by Jonathan Morse, the image is in press with *The James Joyce Quarterly*. Nicer furniture than we have in Kuykendall, isn’t it?

And as long as we’re in the gallery, the portrait of Yeats in New York in January 1920, adapted from a newspaper photograph as described in the 2017 departmental bibliography, looks like this.
The book that Yeats is clutching is his own edition of Blake. As described in another newspaper article also retrieved by Jonathan, the suit is brown, the shirt is white with blue stripes, the floppy bow tie is green, and the pince-nez is secured by “two feet of braid, caught with a gold clasp at the cheek-bone.”

In other photo news, Jonathan has been invited to contribute to Nihilsentimentalgia, a Portuguese theory blog specialized in photography.

In 2017, Georganne Nordstrom continued as Writing Center Director and focused on defining the UHM center as a research site. She conducted a roundtable, “Affirming our liminality & writing on the walls: A roundtable on promoting inclusivity in our writing centers,” with eight UHM undergraduate and graduate student writing center consultants at the IWCACollab@CCCC (International Writing Center Collaborative at the Conference on College composition and Communication) in Portland (this presentation is currently being adapted into a collaboratively authored article). During that same trip, she presented as part of a panel, Cultivating a Capacity building writing center praxis: Mobilizing empirical research to improve practice, professionalize tutors, and support writers, with three of our MA students at CCCC. In fall, Georganne and three writing consultants again presented as part of the panel, Writing centers, the inside job: Training, research and trans languaging as tools to promote institutional access, at the IWCA in Chicago. She continued as a member of the editorial board for Mānoa Horizons: Undergraduate Journal. In addition to 13 workshops/guest lectures conducted across campus, including for CTE and a special seminar delivered to students from Yonsei University in Korea, she was a co-coordinator (in collaboration with SLS and DOE reps) of the Summit on Pidgin in Education held
at Farrington High School on Oct. 11, 2017. She also administered the Pidgin Language+ exam to four students over the course of the year.

In the second week of February 2018, Gary Pak organized a weeklong series of seminars for English graduate students of Yonsei University [Seoul, South Korea] that involved a range of literary and pedagogical topics. For one of these, he taught on the topic of pedagogical approaches to teaching a graduate fiction workshop; several graduate faculty of the Department of English were also involved in the seminars.

On April 6, 2018, he presented a paper at the Core University [Academy of Korean Studies] Conference at the Center for Korean Studies, University of Hawai‘i at Manoa, on his oral history work, recording 2nd-generation Koreans in Hawai‘i, a research project he conducted in 2005-2006 that resulted in an oral history program on ‘Olelo Community TV that ran in 2006 for a year. A 3-DVD set of these programs, entitled, Plantation Children: 2nd-generation Koreans in Hawai‘i, was published by CKS in 2017, co-sponsored by the Academy of Korean Studies.

As a member of a nonprofit organization, Kalama Valley 2020, he is currently conducting an oral history project video-interviewing activists from the Kalama Valley struggle of 1970-1971, a significant land struggle that involved local farmers and “outside agitators” pitted against a major landowning corporation, Bishop Estate, and the state government, which kick-started revolutionary and other resistance movements in the islands. For this project, Gary has received two grants in 2017: one from the Ah Quon McElrath Fund for Social and Economic Justice and the other from the Hawai‘i Council for the Humanities.

Gary continues to perform jazz piano with his combo, The Gary Pak Trio, on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month at Jazz Minds Honolulu. Here are two links on YouTube:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JT-0bFPiIR4&feature=youtu.be

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AiQTvtCXecg

He also was a judge (liner notes) for the 2018 Nā Hōkū Hanohano Music Awards.

He has been invited this summer to give a series of lectures on contemporary Korean and Korean American short fiction at Ewha Womans [sic] University in Seoul, South Korea. He will also be in Tokyo and Osaka, Japan, this summer to study the culture and literature of the Zainichi, which refers to Koreans who were forcibly taken to Japan during the early 20th century for mainly labor purposes and have become the largest minority group there subject to the governmental and societal discriminatory policies. He received two grants from CKS to conduct this research.

Another current research interest is the post-apocalyptic novel.
John Rieder's *Science Fiction and the Mass Cultural Genre System* was published in early 2017 by Wesleyan University Press. Several essays or chapters are forthcoming: “Theorizing SF: Science Fiction Studies since 2000” in *The Cambridge History of Science Fiction*; “Cinematic Science Fiction” in *The Routledge Companion to Fairy Tale Cultures and Media*; “The Capitalist World System Is Not the World: On Albert Wendt’s Black Rainbow and The Adventures of Vela” in *Imagining the Future Together: Critical Essays on Indigenous Science Fiction*, edited by Grace W. Dillon and Brian K. Hudson; and “The Emergence of Popular Genres” in the *Moscow State University Bulletin*. In May and June of 2017 John gave three invited lectures at the Guandong University of Foreign Studies in Guangzhou, China, and co-delivered a fourth with Cristina Bacchilega. In November he gave two invited lectures as Visiting Eminent Scholar at the University of Alabama at Huntsville. He read a paper on “World SF and Albert Wendt’s The Adventures of Vela” at the PAMLA held in Honolulu in November, and will deliver “Frankenstein and Me: An Academic Memoir” at the International Conference on the Fantastic in the Arts, in Orlando, Florida in March 2018. In October he was interviewed on the *New Books Network* about his recent book, and in November he was interviewed about genre theory by the Russian online journal *Postnauka*. Meanwhile John continues to serve as Chair of the English Department and one of the co-editors of the science fiction studies journal *Extrapolation*. A final piece of good news: John has been chosen by the University of Verona to conduct a five-week seminar on Science Fiction and the Mass Cultural Genre System in November-December 2018 as a Senior Fellow under the Bando Cooperint internationalization program.

Shawna Yang Ryan received the 2016 American Book Award for her novel *Green Island*. She also delivered the following lectures and took part in the following panels and workshops:

“Moving History into Fiction,” 33rd International Pacific Rim Conference on Disability and Diversity, Honolulu, October 10, 2017

“Taiwan’s White Terror from the Vantage of Fiction: A Reading and Discussion,” Taiwan Democracy Project Speaker Series, Stanford, May 30, 2017

“Re-framing Taiwaneseness between Asia and America” (roundtable) North American Taiwan Studies Association Conference, Stanford, May 26, 2017

Fiction Workshops, Mokuleia Writers Retreat, Oahu, May 9-10, 2017

Career Workshop, Intercollegiate Taiwanese American Student Association West Coast Conference, Davis, April 8, 2017

Keynote Address, Intercollegiate Taiwanese American Student Association West Coast, Davis, April 8, 2017
“2-28 Massacre 70th Anniversary Commemoration” (keynote), Los Angeles Taiwan Center (sponsors: Taiwanese American Pen Club, North America Taiwanese Professors Association-Southern California Chapter, Taiwanese American Faith and Humanity Studies Society, Taiwanese American History Association, Institute for Taiwanese Studies, Taiwanese American Citizens League-Los Angeles Chapter, Taiwanese American Citizens League-Orange County Chapter, Orange County Taiwanese Association, FAPA-Orange County Chapter), March 4, 2017

Cultural Identity Workshop, Intercollegiate Taiwanese American Student Association East Coast Conference, New York, February 18, 2017


Equipage Press in Cambridge, UK, published Susan M. Schultz’s Memory Cards: Simone Weil Series in 2017. (A memory card is a large index card-sized prose poem that begins from a random quotation and moves into personal and historical memory.) Her poems appeared in Talisman; in October, she was featured poet at Galatea Resurrects, where editor Eileen Tabios also wrote a long review of the month-long Commons Gallery Tinfish Press exhibit of last year. Tinfish published five books and one chapbook last year, including work from China, Canada, Japan, Honolulu, and Taiwanese-America. Last year, Susan traveled to Ottawa, Kansas to deliver a paper about Kevin Varrone’s prose poetic autobiography, BOX SCORE, at a conference on baseball and culture; she traveled to New Orleans to lead a panel of Tinfish authors and to person a Tinfish book table at the New Orleans Poetry Festival; she was also an invited reader at NYU Shanghai’s literary series. While on sabbatical this year, she has given a poetry reading in the History department, led workshops about documentary poetry at the Volcano Arts Center, of ESOL students at Waipahu High School, and will be guest-workshopping at UHWO and a local retirement home, among other places. A poem from Dementia Blog was published as a broadside in Munich, thanks to Mark Olival-Bartley, who once memorized “Ode to a Nightingale” in order to get an A from Prof. Steve Canham. She will be traveling soon to New York City to read at the Zinc Bar, and then to Philadelphia to read, talk, tape her poems, and appear in a class at the University of Pennsylvania. She’ll be Humanities Scholar for a series of events in Volcano (on the volcano). Happy that baseball season has arrived, she also watches innumerable girls’ soccer games at Waipio Soccer Park.

During 2017, S. Shankar served on the Program Committee of the Modern Language Association; was invited as Guest Scholar at SOAS University (London, UK); received a Fulbright-Nehru Senior Research Fellowship for 2017-2018; and was elected Chair of the English Department.
Valerie Wayne led a seminar on “Women, Gender, and Book History” at the conference of the Shakespeare Association of America in March, 2018. The 2-hour meeting included a discussion of excellent papers written by the 16 participants. As a member of the Working Group for the New Variorum Shakespeare tasked by the MLA with charting a new direction for a series first started in the 19th century, Val met with the series’ general editors and editors at the SAA conference and meets throughout the year with the Working Group. For the last several months she’s been communicating with Professor Jonathan Shailor of University of Wisconsin-Parkside, who runs the Shakespeare Prison Project at Racine Correctional Institution. Each year Shailor works with inmates of the prison over an 8-month period to produce a Shakespeare play. This year he is directing Cymbeline using Val’s edition, among others, and she has helped when asked. In May she’ll attend performances in the prison. A blog about his recent rehearsal process is at http://www.shakespeareprisonproject.com