EDUCATION

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

New York, NY

Ph.D., French and Romance Philology. With Distinction (Oct. 2003)

M.Phil., French and Romance Philology (Feb. 2002)

M.A., French and Romance Philology (Oct. 1998)

ECOLE DES HAUTES ETUDES EN SCIENCES SOCIALES

Paris, France

DEA, Sciences du Langage. **Mention Très Bien** (Sept. 1999)

HARVARD COLLEGE

Cambridge, MA

B.A., Literature. **Summa cum laude** (June 1996)

BOOK PROJECTS

The Heroism of Modern Life

Current book project: a study of attempts to reinvent the heroic in post-revolutionary France across the political, religious and literary spheres; planned chapters will focus on Balzac, Michelet, Quinet, Hugo, and Tocqueville.

Ecoapathy and Biophilia: On the "End of Nature" and "le sentiment de la nature"

A critical genealogy of the concept of "le sentiment de la nature" from Rousseau to the anarchist geographer Élisée Reclus. In this new book project, I seek to rehabilitate an affective, pre-conceptual understanding of the human rapport with nature that sidesteps the dead-end metaphysical debates surrounding dualism, monism, new materialsm, hybridism, and the alleged "end of nature." Building on close readings of authors such as Senancour, Guérin, Sand, Staël, Vigny, and Hugo, I argue that notions like animacy, biophilia, givenness, and the sensation of existing lend substance to what, for over a century, had naïvely been called "le sentiment de la nature." The book at the same time diagnoses various forms of "ecoapathy" that challenge the existential grounding of this feeling, running from Ruskin's "pathetic fallacy" to nature-skeptical modern ecocritics.

Thinking With Animals: The Politcs of Nature in Nineteenth-Century France

An ecocritical investigation of the human-animal divide in a number of nineteenth-century authors, including Michelet, Flaubert, Balzac, Leconte de Lisle, Hugo, and Zola, paying close attention to the political, religious, and philosophical stakes of granting animals subject-status.

Fossil Fictions: The Coal Landscapes of the Anthropocene

Before petroculture and petrofiction, there was coal culture, documented in French and English works by Zola, Malot, Engels, Jevons, Maupassant, Sévérine, Orwell, Sinclair, and many others. This project undertakes a genealogy of the coal culture that fueled the industrial revolution, paved the way for the oil era, and set the stage for the current climate crisis.

PUBLICATIONS

A. Book Reviews

1. Gisèle Séginger, ed. Zola à l'oeuvre. Hommage à Auguste Dezalay (Strasbourg: Presses Universitaires de Strasbourg, 2003).

Review in Romanic Review 96.1 (January 2005): 112-115.

2. Maurice Samuels. *The Spectacular Past: Popular History and the Novel in Nineteenth-Century France* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2004).

Review in *French Forum* 30.1 (Winter 2005): 124-126.

- 3. C. W. Thompson. *Walking and the French Romantics. Rousseau to Sand and Hugo* (Peter Lang, 2003). Review in *Nineteenth-Century French Studies* 34.1-2 (Fall-Winter 2005-2006): 159-161.
- 4. Jed Deppman, Daniel Ferrer, and Michael Groden, eds. *Genetic Criticism. Texts and Avant-textes* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2004).

Review in Modern Philology 104.1 (August 2006): 108-111.

5. Françoise Waquet, Les Enfants de Socrate : filiation intellectuelle et transmission du savoir, XVII-XXI- siècle (Albin Michel, 2008).

Review in Journal of Modern History 82.4 (December 2010): 946-948.

6. Zrinka Stahuljak, *Pornographic Archaeology: Medicine, Medievalism, and the Invention of the French Nation* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2013).

Review in American Historical Review 2014 119 (2): 615-616.

B. Articles

1. Le Trou dans L'Oeuvre: Zola's Punctured Text
Article in Excavatio 16.1-2 (2002): 291-304. Winner of the 2001 AIZEN Award for best graduate student paper.

- 2. Property and Propriety in the Second Empire: Zola's Pot-Bouille Article in Excavatio 18.1-2 (2003): 79-97.
- 3. The Archaeology of Private Life: The Romantic Discourse of Intimacy
 Article in Visions/Revisions: Essays on Nineteenth-Century French Culture, eds. Nigel Harkness, Paul Rowe, Tim Unwin and Jennifer Yee (Peter Lang, 2004), 287-304.
- 4. Charting the "Transitional Period": the Emergence of Modern Time in the Nineteenth Century Article appeared in The Journal of History and Theory 45 (Feb. 2006): 51-71.
- 5. Diversité et disparition dans l'histoire romantique: la pensée « nationaliste » de Jules Michelet Article in Mémoire et culture, eds. Claude Filteau and Michel Beniamino (Limoges: Presses Universitaires de Limoges, 2006), 393-408.
- 6. The Occult Roots of Realism: Balzac, Mesmer, and Second Sight Article in Studies in Eighteenth-Century Culture 36 (2007): 261-280.
- 7. The Prison-House of Revolutionary Memory: The Politics of Oblivion in Michelet, Hugo, and Dumas Article in French Forum 32.3 (Spring 2007): 39-64.
- 8. Heroic Genesis in the Mémorial de Sainte-Hélène Article in Yale French Studies 111 (May 2007): 107-128; special issue on "Myth and Modernity."
- 9. La Palingénésie romantique: histoire et immortalité de Charles Bonnet à Pierre Leroux Article in Les formes du temps: Rythme, histoire, temporalité, eds. Gisèle Séginger and Paule Petititer (Presses Universitaires de Strasbourg, 2008), 225-240.
- 10. Les lendemains de Pompéi: Bulwer Lytton et l'archéofiction française Article in La Plume et la pierre: l'écrivain et le modèle archéologique au XIX- siècle, ed. Martine Lavaud (Lucie Editions, 2008).
- 11. Women, Heroism, Power: The Rule of Women in the Goncourt Brothers' Eighteenth-Century Biographies Article in Excavatio 23.1-2 (2008): 91-109.

12. Le Personnage et son milieu: réalisme et liberté dans Madame Bovary
Article in Madame Bovary et les savoirs, eds. Pierre-Louis Rey and Gisèle Séginger (Presses Sorbonne nouvelle, 2008), 243-256.

13. *Le Modèle naturel de l'histoire* (La Sorcière)

Article in *Michelet*, *rythme de la prose*, *rythme de l'histoire*, ed. Paule Petitier (Presses Universitaires du Septentrion, 2010), 159-169.

14. Les Goncourt et l'histoire-résurrection

Cahiers Edmond & Jules de Goncourt 17 (2010), 45-61.

15. Le Livre des passants : l'héroïsme obscur dans les Misérables

Article in *Ego Hugo*, ed. Stéphanie Boulard, special issue of *Revue des Sciences Humaines* 302: 2 (2011), 63-75.

16. Pierre de Coulevain (Jeanne Philomène Laperche)

Dictionary entry in *Dictionnaire universel des femmes créatrices* (Paris : Des Femmes-Antoinette Fouque, 2013).

17. Social Species in the Comédie humaine: Balzac's Use of Natural History
Article in Of Elephants & Roses: French Natural History, 1790-1830 (Philadelphia: American Philosophical Society, 2013), 188-195.

18. Entre les dieux et les animaux : Salammbô et la bête humaine de Flaubert Article in MLN (Winter 2013), ed. Jacques Neefs.

19. *Story, Affect, Style : A Comment on Jameson's* The Antinomies of Realism Response essay to Fredric Jameson's book on *non-site.org* posted Feb. 24, 2014 (http://nonsite.org/the-tank/jamesons-the-antinomies-of-realism).

20. Nature's Witness: Allegory and Sensation in Leconte de Lisle's Animal Poems Article in Dix-Neuf, 19:3 (2015): 210-227.

- 21. Review Essay (Andrea Goulet, Legacies of the Rue Morgue: Science, Space, and Crime Fiction in France) Review essay in H-France Forum, Vol. 11, no. 5 (2016), No. 3 (6 pages).
- 22. The Zoology of Mind: Instinct and Intelligence in Eighteenth and Nineteenth-Century Natural History Article in L'Esprit Créateur, 56: 4 (2016), 49–63.
- 23. Flaubert, Tocqueville et l'écriture democratique

Article in *Lectures de* L'Éducation sentimentale, ed. Steve Murphy (Rennes: Presses Universitaires de Rennes, 2017), 313-334.

C. Books

1. From Paris to Pompeii: French Romanticism and the Cultural Politics of Archeology
Book published by the University of Pennsylvania Press (December 2008), 304 pages.

FORTHCOMING ARTICLES

1. The Authority of Science: Grounding Knowledge in Jules Vernes's Voyage au centre de la terre Nineteenth-Century French Studies; article accepted with revisions.

2. Ecocosmopolitan Geophilia: Natural Pedagogy in Élisée Reclus' Histoire d'un ruisseau Work in progress; article proposal accepted for publication in special issue of Dix-Neuf on "Ecoregions" (December 2019).

PAPERS PRESENTED

The Heroism of Modern Life: Mme de Staël's Philosophy of Glory

Nineteenth-Century French Studies (NCFS) Colloquium: Scripps College and UC Riverside, October 2018.

Crowd Wisdom: Félix Vallotton

Talk presented at "Crowd Wisdom" panel organized by Julie Dweck. Princeton Art Museum, April 26, 2018.

Singular Animals: The Signature of Style in Michelet's Natural Histories

Nineteenth-Century French Studies (NCFS) Colloquium: University of Virginia, November 2017.

Récit et géologie: le temps de la mine chez Zola et dans ses sources

Invited paper. Conference: "The Long and the Short of It—interférences de la nouvelle et du roman au XIXe siècle," NYU, March 10, 2017.

At War With the Elements: Imagination and Radiation in Svetlana Alexievich's Voices From Chernobyl Invited Lecture: University of Delaware, Dec. 5, 2016

Zola's Geopoetics: The Senses of Landscape in Germinal

Nineteenth-Century French Studies (NCFS) Colloqium: Brown University, October 2016

Baudelaire and the Heroism of Modern Life

Invited lecture at the Stanford French Culture Workshop, Nov. 10, 2016.

A quoi sert la littérature? Le roman de l'éducation dans une université américaine

Invited Paper. Conference at Sorbonne Nouvelle: "Enseigner la littérature à l'université aujourd'hui: enjeux politiques, épistémologiques, didactiques," June 15-17, 2016.

Unspeakable Animals: Fables of Expression in the Age of Darwin

Invited public lecture at Willamette University, Salem, Oregon, April 13, 2016.

The Heroism of Modern Life

Work-in-progress presentation at Cotsen Seminar, Society of Fellows, Princeton University, April 1, 2016.

Nature's Labor: Environmental Economics in Hugo's Les Travailleurs de la mer

French Ecocriticism Conference. Trinity College, Cambridge, May 8, 2015.

The Zoology of Mind: the Clash of Instinct and Intelligence in 19th-Century Natural History

Invited Paper. The Life of the Mind: Literature, Aesthetics, and the "sciences de l'homme," 1700-1900. University of Wisconsin-Madison, April 16-18, 2015,

Jules Vallès, Freedom Writer

Nineteenth-Century French Studies (NCFS) Colloquium: University of Puerto Rico, San Juan, PR, October 2014.

Kindred Animals: Romantic Zoophilia and the Fate of the Fable

Plenary Lecture. International Conference on Romanticism (ICR): "Romantic Reflections: Twins, Echoes, and Appropriations." University of St. Thomas, Minneapolis. Sept. 25-28, 2014.

Democracy and the Novel

Respondent to Philippe Hamon's talk "Les représentants représentés" at the *Democracy & the Novel* conference at Princeton University, April 11-12, 2014.

Jules Vallès and the Anarchist Novel

Invited lecture. UC Berkeley, March 13, 2014.

French Republican Idolatry: Jules Vallès and the Cult of Great Men

Telos-Paul Piccone Institute conference: "The Difficulty of Democracy: Diagnoses and Prognoses." Deutsches Haus, New York University, February 2014.

The Ecopolitics of Identity in Michelet's La Mer

Nineteenth-Century French Studies (NCFS) Colloquium: University of Richmond and College of William and Mary, Richmond, October 2013.

Monuments (panel chaired)

Nineteenth-Century French Studies (NCFS) Colloquium: "Thresholds and Horizons." University of Richmond and College of William and Mary, Richmond, October 2013.

Anthropomorphism and the Politics of Nature in Michelet's Natural Histories

Stanford French Culture Workshop. Invited Lecture. October 2012.

Sociopoetics of Feast and Famine (panel chaired)

Nineteenth-Century French Studies (NCFS) Colloquium: North Carolina State University, Raleigh, October 2012.

'The Great Civic Banquet': Animal Politics in Michelet's Natural Histories

Nineteenth-Century French Studies (NCFS) Colloquium: North Carolina State University, Raleigh, October 2012.

Entre les dieux et les animaux: la bête humaine de Flaubert

Conference on Salammbô, 150 years at Johns Hopkins University, October 2012.

Resisting the Revolution: Mme de Staël and Revolutionary Historiography

1812 Conference: The New School, New York, May 2012

Social Species in the Comédie humaine: Balzac's Use of Natural History

Symposium on French Natural History: American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia, December 2011.

Images of Law and Anarchy in the Fin-de-Siècle

Chaired panel at Nineteenth-Century French Studies (NCFS) Colloquium: University of Pennsylvania and Villanova University, October 2011.

Republican Death: Terror and Idolatry in Jules Michelet's Histoire de la Révolution française

Invited lecture at Miami University, Ohio, April 13, 2011

Science des religions et culte des morts, 1860-1900

Société d'Études Romantiques et Dix-Neuviémistes (SERD) : Paris, November 2009

History and Legend in Michelet: Toward a Republican Historiography

Romance Studies Colloquium: Montclair State University, October 2009

Towards a Republican Spirituality: The Cult of the People in Michelet's Histoire de la Révolution française American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA): Harvard University, March 2009

[&]quot;Grandeur et décadence": Typical Heroism in Balzac's César Birotteau

Nineteenth-Century French Studies: Vanderbilt University, October 2008

Tocqueville and the Problem of a Democratic Literature

Also panel organizer: "Writing and Democracy in the Romantic Period," Society for French Historical Studies: Rutgers, April 2008.

Popular Heroes, Public Virtue, and the Prix Montyon Society of Dix-Neuviémistes (SDN): Cambridge University, 2007

The Authority of Science: Grounding Knowledge in Jules Verne's Voyage au centre de la terre Society for French Historical Studies: University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, April 2006.

Nuages d'origine: écrire le début de l'histoire dans L'Orphée de Ballanche Lecture given in the seminar Les Figures du Temps held at Université de Marne-la-Vallée, December 2005.

Undermining Progress: Change and the Historical Imagination in French Romanticism Nineteenth Century French Studies Colloquium (NCFS): University of Arizona at Tucson, October 2003.

Paris in Ruins: The Ideology of Progress and the Gaze of the Future Nineteenth Century French Studies Colloquium (NCFS): University of Wisconsin at Madison, October 2001.

Picture Perfect: Balzac's Visual Restoration of the Past Nineteenth Century French Studies Colloquium (NCFS): University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, October 2000.

French Romantic Pictorialism: From Ut Pictura Poesis to la Correspondance des Arts Image and Imagery Conference: Brock University, Ontario, Canada, October 2000.

Naturalism, Urban Planning, and Social Space: the Naturalization of Haussmann's Paris in Zola's La Curée Cartographies — Mapping Cultural, Linguistic, and Textual Spaces: University of Pennsylvania Annual Graduate Student Conference, March 1997.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Princeton University Princeton, NJ

Assistant Professor, January 2004 – June 2011

Associate Professor, July 2011 – Present

- Thinking With Animals [FRE 404, S17]. G & UG seminar on the French literary and philosophical treatment of animals from Montaigne to Derrida.
- The Nineteenth-Century French Novel [FRE 362, F15, F18].
- Critiques of Violence [FRE 368, F15]. Undergraduate seminar on works from Voltaire to Michael Haneke reflecting on the nature of political, religious, and social violence.
- Eco-Criticism and French Nature-Writing [FRE 521, F14, F18]. Graduate seminar on French Romanticism from an ecocritical perspective and introduction to theoretical orientations in the field.
- The Literature of Environmental Disaster [FRE 338 /COM 338 / ENV 338, F14, F16]. Readings of novels, plays, and journalism from around the world confronting various types of environmental catastrophe in the Anthropocene.
- Nature, Culture, Life [FRE 336, F12]. Undergraduate seminar on ecocritical topics.
- French Senior Seminar [FRE 399, S12, S13]. Seminar for French concentrators in their senior year.
- The Heroism of Modern Life [FRE 527, F11, S14, F16]. Graduate seminar on the democratization of the heroic code in 19^h-century France.
- French Secularization, 1789-1905 [FRE 357, F11]. Upper-level undergraduate course on the history and theory of secularization in 19th-century France.

- Writing the People in Nineteenth-Century France [FRE 526, S08, S13, S16]. Graduate seminar on representations of the people in Michelet, Hugo, Sue, Goncourt, Zola, and Vallès.
- Writing on the Margins [FRE 367, F07]. Upper-level undergraduate course on literary heterologies from Hugo and Michelet to Genet and Chamoiseau.
- The Literary Revolution: Art, Politics, Representation [FRE 521, F06, F10]. Graduate seminar on the linkage of politics and aesthetics in French Romanticism.
- Imagined Communities [FRE 357, F06]. Upper-level undergraduate course on novels that both trace and create human communities via imaginary maps, from Balzac to Camus and Chamoiseau.
- The Use and Abuse of History [FRE 527, S05, F09]. Graduate seminar on the forms and uses of history in 19th-century French writing.
- Memory and Modernity and the Age of Progress [FRE 367, F03, F10, S15]. High-level undergraduate seminar on 19^a-century French literature, dealing with the construction of cultural memory, identity, and nationality.
- Paris in the 20° Century [FRE 330, S04]. Taught two precepts for course in French culture and literature headed by Prof. André Benhaïm.
- Approaches to the Study of Literary Texts [FRE 224, F04]. Study of the major genres, and survey of theoretical approaches.
- Introduction to French Literature, Culture and Civilization, 1789 Present [FRE 222, S04, S05, S07, S08, S11, S16, S17].
- Voyages et séjours (summer program in Annecy) [FRE 207, Summer 05]. Fifth-semester French language, culture, and literature course.
- Advanced French [FRE 108, F03 & F04]. Fourth-semester French language and reading course.

Columbia University New York, NY

Preceptor, September 2001 - May 2002

Literature-Humanities. A full-year core curriculum course for first-year students in Columbia College. Taught major literary works in the Western canon from Homer to Woolf. Nominated for Presidential Award For Outstanding Teaching.

Instructor, January 2001 - May 2001

Major Literary Works from 1800 to the Present. Designed and taught undergraduate survey of modern French literature, from Chateaubriand to Chamoiseau. Website: www.columbia.edu/itc/french/blix/3334.

French Instructor, September 1997 - December 2000

- Intermediate French I and II. Taught communicative skills, culture, grammar; generated discussion.
- Elementary French I and II. Taught basic language skills, communication, grammar.

GRADUATE ADVISING

Ph.D. Theses Directed	
Karen Quandt	Promenades of the Self: Landscape from Diderot to Baudelaire (Fall 2011)
Eve Celia Morisi	Littérature in extremis : poétique et éthique de la décapitation, 1829-1957 (Spring 2011)
Ainsley Brown	From Sacred Books to the Modern Book fetish: The Book in 19 st and 20 st -Century French
	Literary Culture (Spring 2011)
Benjamin Williams	French Symbolism and the Generation of 1870: Popularity of an Anti-Popular Genre (Fall 2012)
Matthew Sandefer	The Representation of Evil in the Short Narratives of Barbey D'Aurevilly, Villiers de
	l'Isle-Adam, and Léon Bloy (Spring 2015)
Bridget Behrmann	The Parnassian Moment and the Experimental Poem, 1866-1876 (expected Fall 2017)

Melissa Verhey Storytelling as Care of the Self: Identity Formation in Life Writing (expected Spring 2017)

Colonial Ambivalence: Literature and Empire in Nineteenth-Century France (expected Maureen DeNino

Spring 2018)

Decentering Anthropocentrism: Tracking Non-Human Traces in Modern French and Tomoko Slutsky

Japanese Literature (expected Spring 2018)

Dissertation Committees

Darla K. Rudy-Gervais Worldly Saintliness: A Study of Jean de Joinville's Vie de Saint-Louis (Spring 2005,

Examiner)

Raina Uhden 'Décomposer, c'est créer': Alchemy and Art in Selected Works of Honoré de Balzac (Fall

2005, Columbia University, Reader)

Catherine Witt Tokens of Discontent. The Emergence of the Modern Prose Poem (1822-1869) (Spring

2008, Reader)

Laura Asok-Zawadski Alienated Selves: Portraiture in Nineteenth-and Twentieth-Century France (Spring

2010, Examiner)

Saul Anton The Vestige of Art: Aesthetics and History in the French Enlightenment (Spring 2010,

Reader)

Yann Robert Living Theater: Politics, Justice and the Stage in France (1750-1800) (Spring 2010,

Reader)

Alexandre Bonafos Impressions savantes: voyages archéologiques en France à l'âge romantique (April

2014, NYU, Examiner)

Christine Bourgeois Saintly Asceticism and the Literary Machine: The Many Lives of Saint Anthony the Great

(May 2014, Reader)

Layla Roesler Fragmentation and Unity: Language and its Becoming in the Essays of Yves Bonnefoy

(May 2014, Examiner)

Charles Rice-Davis The Point of All Return: Nostalgia and the Dream of Disenlightenment (December 2014,

Reader)

Daniel Worden Tales of Impostors: Exposing Belief in Fiction From the Baroque to the Early

Enlightenment (Cyrano de Bergerac, Montfaucon de Villars, Tyssot de Patot) (January

2015, Examiner)

Amanda Ilene The Disruption of Linguistic Convention In Nineteenth-And-Twentieth-Century

Mazur Schoenfeldt French and Francophone Literature (April 2018, Reader)

Pierre André Le nationalisme à l'épreuve de l'Orient: eécits de voyage français au XIXe siècle

(September 2018, NYU, Examiner)

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Book Reviews Romanic Review, French Forum, Nineteenth-Century French Studies, Modern Philology,

Journal of Modern History, American Historical Review, Journal of Modern History,

H-France

Manuscript Review Harvard University Press, Yale University Press, Penn State University Press
Article Reviewer Excavatio, Romanic Review, European Romantic Review, MLN, Word & Image

Faculty Committees Committee on Athletics and Physical Education (2004-5), Committee on the Course of

Study (2010-11, S2014), Graduate School Fellowship Subcommittee (2014-15), Task

Force on the Humanities (2014-15)

Dept. Committees Language Program Committee (2004-5), Lecture Committee (S2005), Graduate Studies

Committee (2007-8, 2009-2017, 2018-9)

Search Committees Senior Lecturer in French (2003-4, 2004-5), Assistant Professor in French-Poetry and

Arts (2007-8), Assistant Professor in French-Renaissance (2012-13), Barron

Professorship in Environment and the Humanities (2013-14)

Affiliations PIIRS (associated faculty), PEI (associated faculty), Society of Fellows (Executive

Committee, F2014-S2016)

Conferences Organized the 41st Annual Nineteenth-Century French Studies Colloquium at Princeton

University, Nov. 5-7, 2015

Consulting Visit and advise research-team at Copenhagen University led by Prof. Carsten Meiner on

their multi-year project ("French Literary History: Cultures of Topology"). Nov. 26-27,

2015.

AWARDS

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY • Class of 1931 Bicentennial Preceptorship 2007-2010 **COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY** 2002-2003 • Dissertation Fellowship 2001-2002 American-Scandinavian Foundation Fellowship, Thord-Gray Memorial Fund 1999-2000 • Otis Fellows Fellowship • Ecole Normale Supérieure Fellowship 1988-1999 1996-2002 • President's Fellowship HARVARD COLLEGE 1996 • Phi Beta Kappa 1996 • Thomas Temple Hoops Prize, nomination for undergraduate thesis Institut d'Etudes Françaises d'Avignon Scholarship, Bryn Mawr College 1995 1995 Ford Undergraduate Research Grant

MEMBERSHIPS

- MLA, AIZEN, SDN, SFHS, ASECS
- editorial board of Romanic Review

LANGUAGES

Bilingual in Swedish and English. Fluent in French and German. Proficient in spoken and written Spanish. Translation competence in Latin.

The International Book Project (IBP) is a registered 501 (c)(3) not-for-profit organization, founded by Harriet Van Meter in 1966, which has sent more than 7 million books abroad. Its mission is to promote education and literacy while broadening Americans' understanding of their neighbors, which it achieves by annually sending more than 300,000 books to schools, libraries, churches, and Peace Corps volunteers throughout the developing world and in the United States. The project is based in Lexington