

GAVAN P.L. WATSON

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EDUCATION

York University **Toronto, ON**
Ph.D. in Environmental Education 2011
Dissertation: Multiple acts of birding: the Education, ethics and ontology of bird watching in Ontario.
Supervisor: Dr. Leesa Fawcett
Committee Members: Dr. Ray Rogers, Dr. Jennifer Foster, Dr. Alice Hovorka

Comprehensive areas:

- Actor network theory, after-ANT & enactment: implications for method
- Confluences in the streams of ornithology, animal studies and technology
- Designing and instructing an experiential course: the natural history of the GTA & Southern Ontario

York University **Toronto, ON**
M.E.S. in Environmental Studies 2004
Major paper title: Place as educator, concepts of nature: Children, summer camp and environmental education.

Area of concentrations:

- Environmental education
- Environmental thought

University of Guelph **Guelph, ON**
Honours Bachelors of Applied Science in Family and Social Relations 2000

PUBLICATIONS AND PAPERS

Refereed Publications

Oliver, S., & Watson, G. P. L. (In Press). What If Grassroots Don't Take Root?: Reflections on Cultivating Communities of Practice. *Transformative Dialogues*.

Kenny, N., Watson, G. P. L., & Desmarais, S. (2016). Building Sustained Action: Supporting an Institutional Practice of SoTL at the University of Guelph. *New Directions for Teaching and Learning* (146), 87-94. doi:10.1002/tl.20191

Cassidy, A. L. E. V., Streat, W. B., Wright, W. A., & Watson, G. P. L. (2015). The Interplay of Space, Place and Identity: Transforming Our Learning Experiences in an Outdoor Setting. *Collected Essays on Learning and Teaching*, 8, 27-34.

Kenny, N., Watson, G. P. L., & Watton, C. (2014). Exploring the context of Canadian graduate student teaching certificates in university teaching. *Canadian Journal of Higher Education*, 44(3), 1-19.

Watson, G. P. L., & Kenny, N. (2014). Teaching critical reflection to graduate students. *Collected Essays on Learning and Teaching*, 7 (1).

Warkentin, T., & Watson, G. P. L. (2014). Guest Editors' Introduction. *Society and Animals*, 22(1), 1-7. doi: 10.1163/15685306-12341315

Watson, G. P. L., & Warkentin, T. (2013). Introduction: Animals, Place and Humans. *Animal Studies Journal*, 2(1), 1-7.

Watson, G. P. L. (2011). Field birding and digital objects: immaterial technologies and their implications for one practice of coming to know the more-than-human. *Environmental Education Research*, 17(6), 789–799. doi:10.1080/13504622.2011.618623

Watson, G. P. L. (2011). Micro-blogging and the higher education classroom: approaches and considerations. In C. Wankel (Ed.), *Teaching Arts and Science with the New Social Media* (pp. 365-383). Bingley: Emerald Group Publishing.

Oakley, J., Watson, G. P. L., Russell, C. L., Cutter-Mackenzie, A., Fawcett, L., Kuhl, G., et al. (2010). Animal encounters in environmental education research: Responding to the “question of the animal”. *Canadian Journal of Environmental Education*, 15, 11-27.

Watson, G. P. L. (2006). Wild becomings: How the everyday experience of common wild animals at summer camp acts as an entrance to the more-than-human world. *Canadian Journal of Environmental Education*, 11, 127-142.

Professional Publications

Bergen, A., Watson, G. P. L., & Holton, C. (2013, July 5). Three views on using Evernote to improve personal productivity and transform academic knowledge mobilization. Retrieved from <http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/impactofsocialsciences/2013/07/05/using-evernote-to-improve-academic-productivity/>

Watson, G. P. L. (2013). See Gull: Cultural blindspots and the disappearance of Ring-Billed Gulls in Toronto. In K. Nagy & P. Johnson (Eds.), *Trash Animals: Natural and Cultural Perspectives on Maligned Species* (pp. 31-38). Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.

- Watson, G. P. L. (2013, March). Communicating about your academic self. *University Affairs*, 54, 64.
- Watson, G. P. L. (2012). Review of *Technological nature: Adaptation and the future of human life* by Peter Kahn. *Canadian Journal of Environmental Education*, 17, 193-195.
- Watson, G. P. L. (2010). Human ends and animal beginnings. Review of *Animal Subjects* by Jodey Castricano. *Canadian Literature* (205), 145-146.
- Watson, G. P. L. (2008). Hinterlands who's who: Birding, multiplicity, and barn owls. *UnderCurrents* (17), 6-10.
- Warkentin, T., Corman, L., & Watson, G. P. L. (2007). Review of "envisioning animals symposium". *H-Animal*. Retrieved from http://www.h-net.org/~animal/markings_envisioning1_warkentin-corman-watson.html

Conference Presentations

- "Evolutions in Curriculum Mapping: Changing Practices to Support Program Learning Outcomes Assessment." Panel co-presented with E. Aspenlieder, J. Groen & C. Mathany at Learning Outcomes: Evolution of Assessment Conference, Toronto, ON. 2016
- "Supporting eLearning on-campus: Drawing inspiration from the continuous improvement of an eLearning toolkit." Paper co-presented with L. Anstey, S. Horsley & J. Sadler at the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education Conference, London, ON. 2016
- "Take a walk on the WALS side: Innovative teaching in the Western Active Learning Space." Interactive workshop co-presented with A. Borchert, R. Corless, S. McLean, S. Oliver, A. Price, L. G. Smith, S. Spaulding & A. Zecevic at the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education Conference, London, ON. 2016
- "Building a Foundation for your Educational Developers Portfolio." Pre-conference workshop co-presented with J. McDonald, N. Hannon, J. Chan, D. Dawson, E. Kustra, I. Iqbal, N. Kenny & P. Borin at the Educational Developers Caucus Conference, Windsor, ON. 2016
- "Sustained Harmony: Building an Institutional Culture for the Scholarship and Practice of Teaching and Learning." Paper co-presented with N. Kenny at the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education Conference, Vancouver, BC. 2015
- "Reconciling institutional learning outcomes and accreditation processes: Educational Developer & Faculty Perspectives." Paper co-presented with E. Aspenlieder, A. Buchholz, S. Kelly and K. Landman at Symposium of Learning Outcomes, Toronto, ON. 2014
- "The Ethics of Collecting 'Good' Curriculum Data." Paper co-presented with N. Kenny at the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education Conference, Kingston, ON. 2014

- “Mobilizing classroom knowledge: Applying the philosophy of Open Access to syllabi and class notes.” Paper co-presented with A. Bergen at the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education Conference, Kingston, ON 2014
- “The disorienting dilemma: ‘teaching’ critical reflection.” Paper co-presented with N. Kenny at the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education Conference, Sydney, NS. 2013
- “Involving faculty in meaningful and productive curriculum processes.” Paper co-presented with N. Kenny at the Educational Developers Caucus Conference, Waterloo, ON. 2013
- “Alignment, engagement and innovation: Sharing and exploring best practices in the design of graduate courses on university teaching.” Paper co-presented with N. Kenny at the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education Conference, Montreal, QC. 2012
- “Developing the International and Cross-Cultural Teaching Assistant Peer Mentorship Program at the University of Guelph.” Paper co-presented with N. Kenny at the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education Conference, Saskatoon, SK. 2011
- “Microblogging and the classroom.” Paper presented at the Teaching and Learning Innovations Conference, Guelph, ON. 2011
- “Methodological reflections on researching the more-than-human.” Paper presented at the North American Association of Environmental Educators Research Symposium, Buffalo, NY. 2010
- “Birds in place and shadows.” Paper presented at the American Educational Research Association Conference, Denver, CO. 2010
- “Revisiting theory and practice in environmental education.” Chair, American Educational Research Association Conference, Denver, CO. 2010
- “Birding ≠ bird conservation.” Poster presented at the 5th World Environmental Education Congress, Montréal, QC. 2009
- “How can we move beyond the human?” Paper presented with Fawcett, L., Hamel, S., Kuhl, G., Oakley, J., Russell, C., Warkentin, T. at 10th Seminar in Health and Environmental Education Research: Making a Difference, Montebello, QC. 2009
- “The robot and the birder: Power and knowledge-making in Ornithology.” Paper presented at the American Association of Geographers conference, Boston, MA. 2008
- “See gull: Cultural blind spots and the disappearance of Ring-billed Gulls in Toronto.” Paper presented at Nature Matters Conference, Toronto, ON. 2007
- “The role of nature interpretation in disrupting the concept of maligned species.” Paper presented at the Environmental Education and Communication Conference, White Point Beach, NS. 2006

“Wild becomings.” Paper presented at the Environmental Studies Association of Canada, Toronto, ON. 2006

“The hybrid technonatures of birding.” Paper presented at the American Association of Geographers conference, Chicago, IL. 2006

“Place as educator, concepts of nature: Children, summer camp and environmental education.” Paper presented at the Environmental Education and Communication Conference, Huntsville, ON. 2005

“Common wild Others: Children making a connection to the more than human world.” Paper presented at the Two Days of Thinking About Animals in Canada Conference, St. Catharines, ON. 2005

Artistic Works

Watson, G.P.L. (Artist). (2013). *Robarts library from the former parking lot* [Photograph]. In Willams, N. & Scott-Barron, M. (Eds). *Recollections of a neighbourhood: Huron-Sussex from UTS to stop Spadina*. Toronto: Words Indeed Publishing.

Watson, G.P.L. (Artist). (2013). *Stonework, entrance to University College* [Photograph]. In Willams, N. & Scott-Barron, M. (Eds). *Recollections of a neighbourhood: Huron-Sussex from UTS to stop Spadina*. Toronto: Words Indeed Publishing.

Watson, G.P.L. (Artist). (2008). *I walk the line* [Photograph]. In McLean, H. (2009). Relational reflections from the big box ballet. *Fuse*, 32(3), 6-9.

Watson, G.P.L. (Artist). (2008). NW Sky [Photograph]. In Cowdy Crawford, C. (2009) Book Review: Lines, Horizons, Fissures, Fixtures: Emotional Geographies. *Space and Culture*. Retrieved from: <http://www.spaceandculture.org/2009/10/19/book-review-lines-horizons-fissures-fixtures-emotional-geographies/>

Watson, G.P.L. (Artist). (2007). *Yukon raven* [Photograph]. In Avian alert. *Fortean Times*, (240), 18-19.

Watson, G.P.L. (Artist). (2007). *Catch of the day* [Photograph]. In *Go Magazine*, 84(2), cover.

Watson, G.P.L. (Artist). (2006). *Intertidal snails* [Photograph]. In Williams, P. (2009). *Snail*. London: Reaktion Books.

Media appearances

Gillis, C. (2012). The flocking instinct: birdwatchers used to be a species unto themselves, but these days they're acting like paparazzi. *Maclean's*, 125, 48.

Corman, L. (Producer). (April 24, 2007). Different Ways of Knowing: Birding, Aquariums, and the End of Suffering? *Animal Voices*. Toronto: CIUT FM.

Invited Workshops, Guest Lectures & Panels

“Supporting Blended and Online Education Across the Atlantic” 2017
Invited Webinar, co-offered by the Educational Development Caucus and Scottish Higher Education Developers

“Careers in the Allied-Academic Stream” 2017
Invited talk in the Faculty of Environmental Studies, York University, Toronto, ON

“Teaching with Technology” 2016, 2017
Invited Workshop in the University Academic Leadership Certificate, Algoma University, Sault Ste. Marie, ON

“Making transitions in your work as an Educational Developer” 2015
Invited Webinar, offered by the Educational Development Caucus

“Education for Sustainability” 2013
Guest Lecture, UNIV 2200, University of Guelph, Guelph, ON

“Using Actor-Network Theory as an entry to a research methodology”
Guest Lecture, STS 5001/6001, York University, Toronto, ON 2011

“Linking birding and environmental education”
Guest Lecture, EDUC 5445, York University, Toronto, ON 2010

“Interpreting the mall: the power in interpretation.”
Guest Lecture, ENVB 3000, University of Guelph, Guelph, ON 2005

“What is nature? Concepts of nature and impacts on nature interpretation.”
Guest Lecture, ENVB 3000, University of Guelph, Guelph, ON 2003

“Phenomeno-what? Phenomenology and nature interpretation.”
Guest Lecture, ENVB 3000, University of Guelph, Guelph, ON 2002

Public Engagements

“On the education and ethics of bird-watching.”
Quest Nature Tours Social Evening, Toronto, ON 2010

“Children, nature and summer camp.”
Halton Eco Festival, Oakville, ON 2005

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Western University

London, ON

Instructor

“Theory and Practice of University Teaching”

2015-2016

Jointly updated the curriculum, coordinated the delivery and completed assessment of this for-credit graduate course with an enrolment of 15 students.

University of Guelph

Guelph, ON

Special Graduate Faculty

“University Teaching: Theory and Practice”

2011-2013

Designed outcomes, aligned curriculum and co-facilitated the delivery and assessment of this for-credit graduate course with an enrolment of 30 students.

Nova Southeastern University

Fort Lauderdale, FL

Instructor

“Interpreting our Environment”

2010

“Introduction to Environmental Education: Theory”

2003—2006

“Introduction to Environmental Education: Practice”

2003—2006

Facilitated the delivery of graduate-level distance education syllabus and assessed student work for this course with enrolment up to eight students.

York University

Toronto, ON

Course Director

“Scaly, brown, furry and green: the natural history of the GTA”

2006, 2008—2009

Developed the curriculum, designed teaching materials and supervised two teaching assistants for a first-year course with an enrolment of 100.

“Natural history”

2008

Adapted the curriculum from pre-existing course design, developed teaching materials and organized weekend field trip for a fourth-year course with an enrolment of 30.

Teaching Assistant

to Prof. Leesa Fawcett in “Foundations in environment and culture”

2005—2006, Mar—May 2009

Designed tutorial learning experiences, facilitated two tutorials and evaluated in-class assignments for 50 students enrolled in this second-year university course.

to Prof. Gail Fraser in “Ecology and conservation science”

Jan—Apr 2007

Facilitated two tutorials and evaluated in-class assignments for a second-year university course with enrolment of 75.

to Prof. Gail Fraser in “Introduction to environmental science”

2004—2005

Collaborated with course director on curriculum, led two tutorials with total enrolment of 50 and evaluated in-class assignments and exams for a first-year university course.

to Prof. Richard Jarrell in “Science: Past, present and future” Sept—Dec 2003
Evaluated in-class assignments, exams and moderated on-line discussions for a first-year university course with enrolment of 200.

Examination Committees

Western University **London, ON**
University examiner, *A Maturity Model for Mobile Learning* 2015
Muasaad Alrasheedi, Doctor of Philosophy, Electrical and Computer Engineering.

FUNDED RESEARCH

Western University **London, ON**
“Ontario eFellowship Appraisal” 2016—2017
Co-investigators: Dr. Beth Hundey & Dr. Lauren Anstey
Funding: \$5,000

University of Guelph **Guelph, ON**
“International and cross-cultural teaching assistants” 2011
Co-lead investigator with Dr. Natasha Kenny
Funding: \$35,000

RELATED EXPERIENCE

Western University **London, ON**
Associate Director, eLearning, Teaching Support Centre 2014—present
In conjunction with eLearning and Curriculum specialists and University partners, I work to develop and enhance the opportunities for technology-enhanced learning at Western University. I am responsible for the strategic planning and implementation of supports for eLearning on-campus; this includes program design, project management, budgeting, proposal writing and facilitation. I manage an annual six-figure budget, directly supervising the Curriculum and eLearning team that consists of two full-time and three part-time staff, within a centre of twelve staff. With these colleagues, my scope of practice also includes work to support the continuous improvement of Western’s programs and modules through curriculum renewal and the institutional review processes. Finally, I work to support the broader mandate of the Teaching Support Centre to advance the teaching and learning mission of the University through the delivery of evidence-based academic development programs.

In this role, I report directly to the Director of the Teaching Support Centre. For projects of institutional importance, I also have a dotted line reporting relationship with the Vice-Provost (Academic Programs).

Adjunct Research Faculty,
The Centre for Research on Teaching and Learning in Higher Education,
Faculty of Education 2015—present

University of Guelph**Guelph, ON***Educational Developer, Open Learning and Educational Support*

2011–2014

In my work at the University of Guelph, I actively collaborated with educators and learners to consult, develop and evaluate support that broadly enhances the quality of teaching and learning. Bringing a research-based and critical perspective to academic development, I was primarily responsible for facilitating faculty-driven curricular renewal processes. In this capacity, I worked with programs and colleges to engage and support faculty, instructors and students in their efforts towards the continuous improvement of the University's courses, programs and majors.

Prior to this portfolio my specific responsibilities included managing the Graduate Student Teaching Development Program; co-instructing the institution's for-credit course focused on teaching and learning in higher education; and supporting the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning across campus. In my role as educational developer, I continued to research and publish with a focus on the role of critical reflection and graduate student teaching development.

Special Graduate Faculty

2011–2014

Quest Nature Tours**Toronto, ON***Tour Leader*

2007–present

Facilitate annual tours to national and international destinations of natural history significance for groups up to fourteen adults. Interpret cultural and natural history, manage time to meet trip schedule, facilitate group processes, provide safe transportation and ensure participants' enjoyment of these trips.

Camp Arowhon Outdoor Centre**Algonquin Park, ON***Director*

2004, 2008

Organised and led a seven-day staff development training, then supervised a staff of sixteen to deliver a curriculum-based experiential education program to ten school groups of up to 125 students.

Centre for Support of Teaching, York University**Toronto, ON***Teaching Development Graduate Assistant*

2006–2007, 2009–2010

Worked with another graduate assistant to plan, organize, facilitate and evaluate ten hours of faculty-specific teaching development seminars.

Toronto District School Board**Toronto, ON***Outdoor Education Specialist*

2001–2002

Taught curriculum-based outdoor and environmental education programs to classes of up to thirty students aged 11–14.

Wye Marsh Wildlife Centre*Program Coordinator***Midland, ON**

2000—2001

Supervised all aspects of the program department including: management of seven-person department and volunteers; development of curriculum-based school & general public environmental education programs; day-to-day program operation; administration, budgeting and scheduling; and organized two-day special event attracting over 4000 visitors.

SERVICE**Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education***Secretary, Board of Directors*

2016—present

Faculty Advisory Committee*eCampus Ontario*

2016—present

Ontario Turnitin Administrators' Group*Co-chair*

2016—present

Council of Ontario Educational Developers*Past Chair*

2015—2016

Chair

2014—2015

Co-chair (elect)

2013—2014

Teaching & Learning Inquiry*Reviewer*

2014

University of Guelph, Guelph, ON*Chair, Graduate Student Professional Skill Subcommittee, GSLI*

2012

Member, Graduate Student Learning Initiative (GSLI)

2011-2014

Member, Second Language Pedagogies Conference, SOLAL

2012, 2013

Environmental Education Research*Reviewer*

2009, 2011, 2013

Canadian Journal of Environmental Education*Reviewer*

2006, 2007, 2009, 2010, 2012

Book Review Editor

2005—2011

In a deadline-driven environment, I collaborated with the editorial team for a total of six issues to collect a slate of ten to twelve books for review, solicit reviewers, match reviewers to books and edit the submitted reviews.

Emotion, Space and Society

Reviewer

2011

Faculty of Environmental Studies, York University, Toronto, ON

Co-chair, PhD Environmental Studies Student Association

2006–2007

Member, Committee of Instruction

2005–2006

Member, Hiring Committee, Environmental & Landscape Design

2005

Member, Graduate Curriculum Committee

2004–2005

Ontario Camping Association

Skills Conference Stream Leader

2000, 2003

Facilitated the environmental education stream for the OCA. Trained up to ten new environmental education instructors to deliver engaging & effective programming.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND CERTIFICATIONS

Foundational Leadership Skills Program, Western University

2015-16

Recruitment Skills for Western Leaders, Western University

2014

Facilitator Development Workshop, ISW program

2014

Instructional Skills Workshop, ISW program

2013

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Nomination for Dissertation Prize, York University

2011

York Scholarship, York University

2004

Graduate Assistantship, York University

2002

Dean's List, University of Guelph

1999–2000

403 Scholarship, University of Guelph

1996

MEMBERSHIPS

Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education

Educational Developers Caucus

Council of Ontario Educational Developers

American Educational Research Association

Canadian Network for Environmental Education and Communication

American Association of Geographers

National Association of Interpretation

LANGUAGES

English – native language

French – speak and read with proficiency

CITIZENSHIP

Canada

United Kingdom