2017

Faculty Promotion and Tenure Recipients, 2017

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2017 Faculty Promotion and Tenure Recipients
2017 FACULTY PROMOTION AND TENURE
The Lord of the Rings trilogy was the very first series of novels that I read during public school that I absolutely loved, and could not put down! As such, this was my entrance to becoming a rather voracious reader of both fiction and non-fiction during my life. The development of relationships, common sacrifice, and the concept of uniting against evil enthralled me.

As a scientist working in the area of infectious and zoonotic diseases of agricultural animals, I understood the casual (as opposed to causal) relationship of domestic animal diseases and the emergence of new diseases in humans. Published in the late 1990s, Guns, Germs, and Steel was the first of several historical books that, for me, linked major human technological and agricultural accomplishments with notable downsides during our Western technological evolution and the impacts on less developed societies. Global travel has allowed me to witness the continuing transformative impacts of cutting edge technology in several cultures. I often wonder what are the unintended consequences of cutting edge technologies, which might follow what now seems clearly to be beneficial to animals and humans.
Diet-related health problems have increased dramatically over the last few years. Consequently, nutritional labeling has emerged as an important aspect of consumers’ food purchase decisions. Nutritional content in food products is considered to be a credence attribute. However, if trustworthy nutritional labels are available, nutritional labels could function as a search characteristic. The regulatory environment in some countries (e.g. USA, Australia etc.) has long recognized the potential of standardized on-pack nutrition information and has mandated the presence of nutritional labels on all processed food products. Others, like the EU, are contemplating similar mandatory nutritional labeling regulations. The nutritional labeling literature has grown significantly in recent years. Our paper reviews this increasingly important literature and addresses some specific issues regarding the determinants of label use, the debate on mandatory labeling, the label formats preferred by consumers, and the effect of nutrition label use on purchase and dietary behavior.
As a 22-year old, my future wife and I, along with two other friends, were riding bicycles from California back to Georgia after finishing our BS degrees. One of the books that we passed back and forth during that summer was *Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance* by Robert Pirsig. My memory is that a good portion of the book discusses the joy of having a well-tuned motorcycle and being aware of its condition through an almost organic relationship. Diagnosing problems and being aware of the mechanical condition of our bicycles were necessary for us from a practical standpoint to prevent breakdowns, but it also brought me great satisfaction when the tuning was spot on. Rest days for us were always centered on maintenance and planning our upcoming route. The Zen theme from the book emphasized living in the moment and enjoying whatever was around the next curve in the road. As a PhD student and later as an assistant professor, I reflected back on this book and how there was beauty and personal satisfaction from all the steps in the scientific process from the planning and construction stages to trouble-shooting problems and to the ah-hahs and surprises that come along without warning.
It is impossible to specify one book that initiated my professional interest in the Middle Ages. An often contentious fellowship of scholars guided my early academic career: C. S. Lewis’s *Allegory of Love* (1936), D. W. Robertson, Jr.’s *Preface to Chaucer* (1962), F. O. Payne’s *The Key of Remembrance* (1963), V. A. Kolve’s *The Plaie Called Corpus Christi* (1966), E. Talbot Donaldson’s *Speaking of Chaucer* (1970), Charles Muscatine’s *Chaucer and the French Tradition* (1970), Carolyn Dinshaw’s *Chaucer’s Sexual Poetics* (1990), and on and on. But the first book that truly inspired my intellectual pilgrimage to the past was T. H. White’s *The Once and Future King* (1938-41/1958), which I read as a freshman in high school, right after Lerner and Lowe’s *Camelot* first appeared on Broadway. A Wart-like curiosity still animates my evergreen and somewhat “childgered” longing to comprehend all things medieval, a cultural heritage so important yet obscure to contemporary American students.
UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR

DONNA LUCAS GRAHAM
Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food & Life Sciences
Department of Agricultural Education, Communications & Technology
Appointment to University Professor

Education through Cooperative Extension
by Brenda Seevers & Donna L. Graham (2012)

This book was co-authored with Dr. Brenda Seevers to fill a void in the market and assist in the preparation of extension professionals. At the time of its initiation, there was no single publication in the press that addressed all aspects of Extension work (history, structure, audiences, program planning, delivery, and evaluation). The text is versatile enough to reach multiple audiences. It has been used as a text for undergraduate and graduate classes, by Extension administrators for the training of current extension staff, and by international audiences as a means to understand the U.S. Extension model. The book, currently in the 3rd edition (4th edition in progress), remains a viable and relevant text to understand the outreach mission of the Extension system that continues to address changes in issues, technology, diverse audiences, and policy through education.
Thinking Fast and Slow
by Daniel Kahneman (2011)

The reason this book has become a great influence on my research on behavioral decision making is because it has helped me see the commonality in phenomena from different areas of business. Kahneman is able to write with greater clarity than previous works discussing so called dual process theories of cognition (people using their “fast” intuition or their “slow” deliberative thought processes), and explains how these two modes of cognition interact with each other. He also delineates how many known findings from psychology can be explained by dual process theories — and like many influential books, the narratives are surprisingly simple. Many of the psychological findings have business applications for decision making in Operations, Marketing, Merchandising, E-commerce, Finance, and other areas — and looking for the simple explanation has helped me as a researcher.
MINDY S. BRADLEY
J. WILLIAM FULBRIGHT COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
PROMOTION TO PROFESSOR

The Te of Piglet
by Benjamin Hoff (1992)

*The Te of Piglet* uses Piglet, the famous best friend of Winnie the Pooh, to demonstrate Te, a word meaning “Virtue of the Small.” I loved the creativity of taking a classic children’s character to demonstrate larger, more complex ideas and explain Taoist wisdom. While not quite as good as *The Tao of Pooh*, this book is excellent. It is humorous and entertaining (even occasionally taking on the voices of different Pooh series characters), but nonetheless presents a critique Western culture and an even more powerful general message about how much our little and seemingly meaningless actions affect the earth every day. I find the book is a good reminder that while we all want to sound smart and “professorial,” finding ways to translate complex ideas to people in ways that are meaningful to them is more important than my ego and presentation of self. Personally, I take comfort in thinking about how those considered “Very Small” have incredible power in their sensitivity and strength of heart.

JACKSON D. COTHREN
J. WILLIAM FULBRIGHT COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF GEOSCIENCES
PROMOTION TO PROFESSOR

Poverty Creek Journal
by Thomas Gardner (2014)

Ostensibly about running, this dense poetic journal has comforted me and challenged me.
I read this book when I considered joining the Walton College faculty, and it was indeed confirmation. As an Arkansas alum, the stories and shared experiences in this book reminded me of the interconnected and intergenerational narrative that I was linked to. Many of the individuals highlighted in this book helped to make my two experiences as an Arkansas student better and more meaningful...they contributed to my development and inspired me to walk away from the University of Arkansas with my head held high. After reading this book, I KNEW (without a doubt) that it was my responsibility to do the same for young and emerging Razorbacks (even if for a short span of time), and it was an honor!
Over the course of the past few years, I have really learned about the accomplishments of women and minorities from my daughter and many talented students and minorities. One of the books that has really influenced me is “Goodnight Stories for Rebel Girls,” where the authors talk about the accomplishments of women around the world and the struggles they have had to endure because of lack of equality. My daughter has read about many of these powerful women as I bring her to school and asked me the tough questions like “Why was she treated that way daddy?” This has lead my research group to have many conversations on equality and the strength of diversity, including discussions in group meetings where everyone gets to talk about where they are from and the challenges they have faced in their lives (including open discussion on microaggressions at the beginning of every group meeting). I have laughed as I heard students talk about the funny festivals in their towns and cried as I have heard about poverty, tyranny, and discrimination. But through all this I realized how lucky I am to interact with such amazing students from many different locations and backgrounds and how much I owe to the University of Arkansas for giving me this opportunity. My group is incredibly close and unbelievably strong because more and more we learn to respect and strengthen each other through knowledge, understanding, open discussion, and respect. I hope others get to experience what I have, and to this end I am making a $1,000 donation to the libraries at the University of Arkansas intended to be used, as they see fit, to promote diversity amongst our student population. Thank you again, University of Arkansas, for giving me a tremendous opportunity and making me a better person.
**Claretha Hughes**  
*College of Education & Health Professions  
Department of Rehabilitation, Human Resources & Communication Disorders  
Promotion to Professor*

*Diversity Intelligence: Integrating Diversity Intelligence alongside Intellectual, Emotional, and Cultural Intelligence for Leadership and Career Development*  
by Claretha Hughes (2016)

I chose my most recent book because it is pertinent to current events in the United States. Typical diversity efforts in the workplace address awareness and inclusion but lacks understanding and equity. Diversity intelligence requires leaders to exhibit the capability to apply the federal, state, and local laws and policies in the workplace to effectively lead protected class employees.

**Stavros Kavouras**  
*College of Education & Health Professions  
Department of Health, Human Performance, & Recreation  
Promotion to Professor*

*Creativity, Inc.: Overcoming the Unseen Forces that Stand in the Way of True Inspiration*  
by Ed Catmull, with Amy Wallace (2014)

Ed Catmull, co-founder (with Steve Jobs) of Pixar Animation Studios, shares his wisdom on management in the creativity business. In academia, like in Pixar, we create the future. Having the team right, taking risks, encouraging collaborators to get out of their comfort zone and dream big is the recipe for success. Be candid; it is ok to rock the boat. “Balance is far more important than stability.”
Ann M. Killenbeck  
School of Law  
Promotion to Professor

*The Norton Anthology of English Literature*, 4th edition  

One of the things I try to instill in my students is an appreciation of the need to be a well-rounded individual. Law school can be an all-consuming experience, for both students and faculty. It’s always helpful to be able to pause in the midst of that, to learn other things and perhaps even escape in an environment removed from the technicalities of the law and legal studies. For me, one important means to those ends is to return to the two volumes of *The Norton Anthology of English Literature* that I used when I was an undergraduate. I pick them up, page through them, and immerse myself in the rich and varied materials found in their pages. In some instances I simply return to “old friends,” rereading texts I found meaningful when I was a student. In others, I encounter new works that for whatever reason were not part of my studies. Regardless, it’s an exercise I value, and one I find incredibly helpful.

Ellen W. Leen-Feldner  
J. William Fulbright College of Arts & Sciences  
Department of Psychology  
Promotion to Professor

*The Invention of Wings*  
by Sue Monk Kidd (2014)

This is a beautifully written book, and one for the times. In addition to the moving and fascinating story, I loved this book because it kindled in me an interest in Sarah Grimke, the famous abolitionist and suffragette. I can only hope that my work here at the U of A, seeking to impact the science of psychology and develop young minds that can think critically and stand up for what is right, honors the inspirational efforts of heroes like her.
Bolman and Deal’s *Reframing Organizations: Artistry, Choice, and Leadership* was one of the first leadership books I read as a graduate student in higher education, and I still refer to its four-frame model when I am making a decision as a leader, conceptualizing a problem, or implementing a change initiative. Bolman and Deal’s four frames—structural, human resource, political, and symbolic—gave me the lenses through which I could view and process organizations and people’s perspectives. The book provided me with the tools to identify and frame the complexities of organizational challenges and the needs of multiple stakeholders. Most importantly, the four frames have helped me better understand my own leadership approaches and ensure that I use the right approach when advocating for people, resources, or change.
Davis M. McCombs
J. William Fulbright College of Arts & Sciences
Department of English
Promotion to Professor

Human Chain
by Seamus Heaney (2010)

Since losing my father in May of this year, I find myself returning again and again to Human Chain, the last collection of poems written by my undergraduate mentor, the great Irish poet and Nobel Laureate Seamus Heaney.

There’s a late and luminous clarity to these poems, and I’ve been going back to them all summer for insight and solace. The poet-speaker here is still “alive and ticking like an electric fence,” but he is also increasingly attuned to moments of rupture or parting, such as the one in the volume’s final poem when a kite’s string breaks, and it “takes off, itself alone, a windfall.”

Heaney was a kind and brilliant teacher. Thinking of his generosity, of how he taught his students, not only through his work in the classroom, but also through his superb poetry and his fine example of how to be a writer fills me with the deepest sense of gratitude.

In this last of his twelve remarkable books of poetry, there is a sense of distillation, an earned stillness that is true wisdom. Here much of the dense and clanging verbal music that distinguished Heaney’s earlier work falls away in favor of lightness, images of unburdening, and an ever-present sense of that “bright nowhere” that haunts these haunting poems.
Cheryl Ann Murphy  
*College of Education & Health Professions*  
*Department of Curriculum & Instruction*  
**Promotion to Professor**

*The Road Not Taken: A Selection of Robert Frost’s Poems*  
Louis Untermeyer, editor (1951)

I was required to read this book for a literature course early in my undergraduate studies. I was struggling during that first semester; I had come from a very small town in rural WV - graduating class of 27 people - and was finding it difficult to adjust to all aspects of life at a university of 25,000+ students. When I read “The Road Not Taken” that first semester, the poem spoke to me on a very deep level. It gave me the confidence that, even though this road I was on was difficult, I had chosen the right path. It helped me get through those times of doubt and push forward with my studies. Ironically, I have since come to realize that the poem that inspired me so long ago to take what I perceived to be “the road less traveled” is actually a poem about how people create meaning out of our arbitrary life decisions. So, even though I misinterpreted the poem many years ago, I can say for sure that my misinterpretation “made all the difference” for me.

Casey M. Owens  
*Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food & Life Sciences*  
*Department of Poultry Science*  
**Promotion to Professor**

*Poultry Meat Processing*  

This book means a great deal to me as it is the basis of my field of work. As an undergraduate student, I took a course on the topic of poultry processing and products taught by Dr. Alan Sams. It was this course that made me fall in love with the food science aspect of poultry science and want to continue my education in this area. This would also be the basis of my future career in the field of poultry meat science. The first edition of this book was written when I first joined the Poultry Science faculty at the University of Arkansas, and I was lucky to contribute a chapter to the book. Later, when a revision was necessary, I became one of the editors. This book provides the framework for the classes I teach at the University of Arkansas and is also an excellent resource for people working in the poultry industry.
I read Uruguayan writer Eduardo Galeano’s *Open Veins of Latin America* when I worked on Mexican border pollution and toxic issues for Greenpeace in the 1980s. President Reagan was in the White House and geopolitical darling, Latin America, made the front pages and policy circles of Washington, DC. I had long cultivated an interest in Latin America and had already made the decision to seek a degree in Latin American Studies. Galeano’s take on his region’s history was radical and controversial. I was hooked. He likened Latin America to a body and traced its veins of natural resources and commodities—rubber and cacao, gold and silver, copper and nitrates—to narrate a history of exploitation and suffering, but also, one of hope and creation. Condemning imperialist exploitation, the book found a large readership among left-leaning Latin Americanists. The book attracted new generations of readers when Venezuelan leader Hugo Chávez handed a copy to President Obama at the summit for the Americas in 2009. Strident in tone, uncompromising in its assertions, the book has stood the test of time even as I have become more nuanced in my own approach to Latin American history. If anything, Galeano’s treatise on Latin American history reminds me to keep economic and social justice in mind as I undertake scholarship or make my way through life. I consider *Open Veins of Latin America* to be one of the foundational books that propelled me to seek career as a Latin Americanist.
JASON A. TULLIS  
J. WILLIAM FULBRIGHT COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES  
DEPARTMENT OF GEOSCIENCES  
PROMOTION TO PROFESSOR

The Book of Mormon: An Account Written by the Hand of Mormon, Upon Plates Taken from the Plates of Nephi  
by Joseph Smith, Jr. (1830)

I vividly recall my first copy circa 1982, its blue-sky cover featuring a gilded angel and trumpet from the spire of a Mormon temple. The oak-shelved library in my Covered Bridge Canyon, Utah home was filled with classics, history, poetry, and science, and was an honored place for scripture. While I enjoyed learning to read the Book of Mormon with my family, I wondered how I could ever understand its complex network of people and events. As life’s seasons progressed, I garnered profound feelings for this book as a testament of Jesus Christ’s ministry to his “other sheep” in the Americas. I envisioned its wars and journeys, and was amazed by prophets like Alma and the Brother of Jared who were willing to do very small good deeds to help thousands find happiness. I shared treasures from this book with hundreds of wonderful families in Mediterranean Spain, and returned home kinder and better than when I left. I work to continue a tradition of family study even when distractions loom. The most powerful lesson I am learning through this book is that there is untold joy in finding within ourselves a particle of unconditional love for other people.

IOANNIS TZANETAKIS  
DALE BUMPERS COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, FOOD & LIFE SCIENCES  
DEPARTMENT OF PLANT PATHOLOGY  
PROMOTION TO PROFESSOR

Outliers: The Story of Success  
by Malcolm Gladwell (2008)

When new students arrives in the laboratory, I give them a pep talk on success in life and academia; pointing out that most is due to hard work and a bit of luck. Outliers solidified my beliefs, providing insight into the success of individuals that seized opportunities based on past experiences and developed to be leaders in their respective fields because of hard work and intuition.
ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS

NIKOLAY A. ANTOV
J. William Fulbright College of Arts & Sciences
Department of History
Tenure and Promotion to Associate Professor

SALVADOR BARRAZA-LOPEZ
J. William Fulbright College of Arts & Sciences
Department of Physics
Tenure and Promotion to Associate Professor

Born to Win: Transactional Analysis with Gestalt Experiments
by Muriel James and Dorothy Jongeward (1971)

I found a Spanish translation of this book when I was about eleven years old and living in the outskirts of Mexico City. I think it belonged to an aunt, but never knew for sure. Growing up in a family with separated parents and at the beginning of puberty, this book served as a solid foundation toward inner peace and self-control that I rely upon to this day. Its basic precept is to provide elements of psychotherapy to know our inner self through self-reflection and analysis, to better understand and control the things we do, and the motivation that led us to do things in life.
The Bible, New International Version

The Bible was in many ways my path to literacy and academics. The first time I ever read it was in a small, dusty western Pennsylvania church where the smell of the old leather combined with the sound of my Sunday school teacher’s voice to create an almost intoxicating effect. New worlds were created in my mind as I learned about the Israelites and their adventures. Judges, kings, and prophets were portrayed as frail and human alongside of warriors, prostitutes, farmers, and the poor. I began to see that the book climaxed in the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, and spent many hours studying his life and teachings. I also came to enjoy how he had a well-crafted and thoughtful response to the scholars of the day. As I grew older, I began to study the Bible as a piece of literature, especially appreciating how understanding of the various genres of historical narrative, law, wisdom, psalms, prophecy and apocalyptic literature enriched my appreciation and interpretation of the text.

Eventually I grew to realize that the book held together in a unique manner, always pointing me to a single aim, “But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well” (Matthew 6:33, Holy Bible, NIV). As I grew older I began to realize that the book was about my life and how I lived it. Accepting Jesus’ sacrifice and patterning my life after him meant better understanding why he did what he did. The result of my search was the development of critical thinking skills and a thirst for knowledge and truth, no matter where it could be found. That eventually resulted in my lifelong pursuit of research and study in academics, and personally, in my continued pursuit of him as my Savior and Lord.
The Goal: A Process of Ongoing Improvement
by Eliyahu Goldratt and Jeff Cox (1984)

The Goal is a classic management text written as the story of a manager of a struggling manufacturing plant who, with the help of a consultant friend, discovers new ways of thinking about how to achieve “the goal” of a company (spoiler: the goal is to make money). I read this book as an undergraduate accounting student in an operations management class, and many of the principles taught in the book have stuck with me. In particular, the book points out a number of ways that cost accounting and utilization rates are used for decision making that create perverse incentives, operational problems, and ultimately lower profitability for an organization. As an accountant, it left an impression on me that information is useful and powerful, but it is needs to be employed with skill and critical thinking to achieve optimal outcomes. The Goal has also influenced my thinking on many things in my life in terms of “excess” and “constrained” capacity, and how decisions should be highly influenced by the level of capacity at which a person/business/process/machine is operating. Thinking about the impacts of capacity in my field of research (auditing) ultimately led me to my dissertation topic and my first academic publication.
I read this book as a teenager for the first time, and then a couple of more times as an adult. The reasons I like this novel are many, and they probably also changed as I aged. The first reason is simple: the book is quite exciting. The story basically follows a typical murder-mystery plot, not too dissimilar from a Sherlock Holmes adventure. As a young reader, I found it very entertaining (for the same reason, I guess, a successful cinematographic version of the novel with Sean Connery was produced in the 80s). The second is that William of Baskerville adopts a rigorous scientific method in his investigation, in which deduction and logic are used to draw conclusions from the collected evidence. I always had a very scientific mindset since I was a young student, but I came to appreciate this aspect of the book even more as a quantitative scientist. The story is set in the medieval age, and the scientific method is put in harsh contrast to the dogmatic approach of Inquisition. Although this specific theological issue is not anymore relevant for us, the importance of guarding and promoting the scientific method is still a meaningful message for our modern societies challenged by uncorroborated, pseudo-scientific views on many themes such as environmental change or medical practices. The third reason is that it was written by a university professor, using a style and a language that now are so familiar to me. Eco was a professor in semiotic studies; his writing is sharp, systematic, rich of details, very similar to an academic paper in many respects. Moreover, the relationship between Williams and his assistant Adso reminds me of that between academic advisor and advisee. Adso is taught, not told, what to do; Williams is a thoughtful master who constantly urges Adso to observe facts objectively and deeply think about the links between causes and effects. The last reason I like this book is more personal. The novel is set in Northern Italy, where I grew up. I visited many times monasteries and abbeys in that region, which could have been the unnamed monastery where these investigations take place. Reading about that monastery in the book is a little bit like returning to those places again.
GREGORY DUMOND  
J. WILLIAM FULBRIGHT COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES  
DEPARTMENT OF GEOSCIENCES  
TENURE AND PROMOTION TO ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

Evolution and Differentiation of the Continental Crust  
edited by Michael Brown and Tracy Rushmer (2006)

For much of my career in geology, I have been fascinated by the origin and evolution of continental crust on Earth. Evolution and Differentiation of Continental Crust is a superb review of various aspects of how continental crust is made and altered. The study of the Earth’s crust that we live on is highly multidisciplinary, and the book is an excellent summary of current approaches using geochemistry, geophysics, and structural geology. When the book first came out in 2006, I was in the middle of my PhD studies, and it was a definite inspiration for the work I was doing on continental crust at the time, and the book continues to be a fascinating inspiration for the work I am doing now.

R. J. ELBIN  
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION & HEALTH PROFESSIONS  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, HUMAN PERFORMANCE, & RECREATION  
TENURE AND PROMOTION TO ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

I Can’t Accept Not Trying:  
Michael Jordan on the Pursuit of Excellence  
by Michael Jordan and Mark Vancil (1994)

This short book changed my life. As a young high school student athlete, this was the first text that exposed me to thinking about how I was going to approach my life in terms of effort, passion, determination, and resiliency. This text outlined the struggles, barriers, and overall bad luck that occurred to Michael Jordan - arguably one of the greatest athletes of all time. The mindset and approach described by Michael Jordan to overcome adversity made me think of my own approach in pursuing my own idea of success. As it turns out, I have had many adversities along my career path, and I credit this book for creating a moment in my life where I stopped and considered my own approach to taking risks and understanding what was in and out of my control. This moment became the first of many steps along my former athletic and current academic career path where I continually evolved my approach and process toward striving for success.
Jitterbug Perfume
by Tom Robbins (1984)

Upon the recommendation of a dear friend of mine, I purchased Jitterbug Perfume from a used bookstore in Charles Village over 10 years ago when I lived in Baltimore, MD. As a doctoral student at the time and now as faculty focused on food safety, I can honestly say that this book has absolutely nothing to do with my research focus, although, beets (yes, beets!) are a central “character” in the book. With that said, this complete disconnect from my discipline is exactly why I love it, have read it numerous times, and recommend it to anyone willing to try something new, darkly humorous, and irreverent...and please note, Robbins is an acquired taste and thus an open-mind is a must. As Tom Robbins wrote, “To achieve the impossible, it is precisely the unthinkable that must be thought.” I wholeheartedly agree.

Confessions of a Dying Thief:
Understanding Criminal Careers and Illegal Enterprise
by Darrell Steffensmeier and Jeffery Ulmer (2005)

I chose this book for the complex tapestry it paints in explaining the many causes - and consequences - of crime. My early education in criminology often felt like a jumble of conflicting theories, complicated methodologies, and uncertainty as to how I would make my own contribution to the field. As is often the case with new students, the pursuit of knowledge was circuitous and (at times) painful. This book ended up being my guidepost in many unexpected ways. On the one hand, it explained the mosaic of crime causation in unique, simple ways that made previously difficult concepts easily digestible, while linking all of the different parts of the research process from start to finish. On the other hand, I grew close with both authors and ended up forming both mentorships and friendships that have shaped both my scholarship and academic philosophy. This manuscript has given me more knowledge and structure than any other.
Michael S. Hevel
College of Education & Health Professions
Department of Rehabilitation, Human Resources & Communication Disorders
Tenure and Promotion to Associate Professor

Campus Life: Undergraduate Cultures from the end of the Eighteenth Century to the Present
by Helen Lefkowitz Horowitz (1987)

In *Campus Life*, Helen Lefkowitz Horowitz offers a 200-year history of college students in the United States. She was especially attuned to how gender, wealth, and racial and ethnic identity shaped students' experiences over time. My fascination with this book helped propel me to earn a doctorate and research the history of college students. Today, I follow Horowitz's tradition of paying close attention to how students' identities affected their experiences on college and universities in the past.

As a graduate student, I came to realize that Horowitz was a prominent member of the first generation of women historians who secured faculty positions at major universities. My own graduate training was mostly shaped by two women historians. It's hard for me to fathom how much I learned from them and where I'd be without their influence. Yet only in the last several decades have graduate students been able to learn from women scholars. Therefore, *Campus Life* serves as a personal reminder of the scholarly gains made when our students and our faculty more fully reflect the larger society.

Hartmut Hoehle
Sam M. Walton College of Business
Department of Information Systems
Tenure and Promotion to Associate Professor
Phoebe M. Lickwar  
Fay Jones School of Architecture & Design  
Department of Landscape Architecture  
Tenure and Promotion to Associate Professor

_The Language of Landscape_  
by Anne Whiston Spirn (2000)

The work of Anne Whiston Spirn, and in particular this book, has been enormously influential throughout my career as an educator and landscape architect. I met Anne during my first year as an Assistant Professor. As young professionals, we search for kindred spirits, and in Anne I found not only a mentor and a friend, but a visionary scholar and photographer whose work defined a way forward. Her second book, _The Language of Landscape_, speaks of the critical importance of landscape literacy - the capacity to “read” the landscape – as a way to develop an understanding of the underlying natural and human-made processes that shape our world. One of the greatest challenges of our age is to develop a more just and sustainable planet, and landscape literacy plays an essential role. When we understand the complexities of our natural and built environments, when we can read beneath the surface to understand the hidden causes of environmental and social injustices present in our cities and rural communities, we realize the grave consequences of destructive actions and can seek new practices supporting healthy ecologies and just societies. This book brings us a step closer.

Mathew S. McConnell  
J. William Fulbright College of Arts & Sciences  
Department of Art  
Tenure and Promotion to Associate Professor

_The Ecstasy of Influence: Nonfictions, Etc._  
by Jonathan Lethem (2011)

I first came across the title essay from this collection shortly after it was published by Harper's in 2007. “The Ecstasy of Influence,” presented an enthusiastic and forceful case for the legitimacy of plagiarism as a creative strategy—which concluded by providing an exhaustive account of the plagiarisms he perpetrated in assembling the essay itself. As a young artist, the message and strategy Lethem employed set me free in ways that changed my practice forever. The complex friction between influence and the expectation of originality (and singularity) in creative production has since remained a core driver of my work. For Lethem, the implications of the Harper’s essay also resulted in an extended examination into the topic—_The Ecstasy of Influence: Nonfictions, Etc._, is the 400-plus page result.
Browsing in a bookstore in the mid-nineties, I was attracted by the cover of a Doris Betts novel, *Souls Raised from the Dead*. I had not heard of the North Carolina writer, but purchased the book and was quickly reading everything by her, including an essay, outlining Southern women writers who were must reads. Soon I was moving on to Dorothy Allison, Ellen Douglas, Ellen Foster, Bobbie Ann Mason, our own Ellen Gilchrist, Shirley Ann Grau, Elizabeth Spencer, Lee Smith, Gail Godwin, Jill McCorkle, Mary Hood, Margaret Walker, Anne Tyler and many more. I reread Kate Chopin, Eudora Welty, Zora Neal Hurston, Flannery O’Connor and Carson McCullers, binge reading with a sense of deep gratitude to Doris Betts. As a result, we created a campus committee, partnering with Mullins Library, and in the fall of 1997 held Crossing the Lines: A Conference on Contemporary Southern Women’s Literature with Doris Betts as the keynote speaker. We also brought Jill McCorkle, Tina McIlroy Ansa, and Elizabeth Cox to campus, as well Arkansas writers Shirley Abbott, Myra McLarey, and Andrea Hollander Budy. *Souls Raised from the Dead* received the Southern Book Award and was one of twenty *New York Times* best books in 1994. It proved to be a great beginning, and because of it, I am still reading Southern women writers. That chance encounter in a bookstore opened a world of powerful prose that resonated with my own experiences and with a love for well-crafted story telling and reminded me that an indulged avocation can take on a life of its own.
Life and its origins have always fascinated me. Somehow, just the right components in just the right conditions, making up the primordial stew on early earth, began to combine. The products of these combinations somehow grew in complexity, then binding with each other to make even more complex products. Without a master plan or a builder to assemble them, these components managed to self-assemble into units that eventually reproduced themselves, initiating the emergence of life. From there, the trajectory of complexity rocketed upward, an exponential curve on its ascent, as the diversity of life exploded. But throughout all of these processes, there must be underlying principles, mathematics which explain things not only like “How?”, but also like “How likely?” and “What other components and conditions make it possible?”, which can lead to answers for everything from the prevalence of life in the universe and what forms it may take, to how we can observe or harness such processes in other domains. As a beginning PhD student at Iowa State University, I was captivated by such questions, but had no idea how to approach them or how my background in computer science and computational theory could be applied in pursuit of their answers. However, I was soon fortunate enough to meet Dr. John Mayfield and take a course from him on complex adaptive systems. Suddenly, I saw endless avenues to follow, countless tools to learn and extend, and a broader vista with even more fundamental questions to pursue. John became a mentor as well as a friend, and I was fortunate enough to be able to participate in proofreading early drafts of this book, which elegantly formalizes important pieces of the processes that govern the ever-increasing ratcheting upward of information possessed by natural - and man-made - systems, including life. Ultimately, this book, but even more importantly its author, helped me to find and follow the path of research that has led me through my PhD and to the attainment of tenure, and which is likely to consume me for many many more years to come. It is my profound hope that my small contributions will help in some way to progress our understanding of such fundamental questions, and that perhaps someday I’ll be able to inspire and propel others forward, as John did for me.
“Good is the enemy of great” is the first line in this book. To me this simple statement spoke volumes as it suggests that companies (and myself) must strive to be beyond just good or even quite good but instead devote continuous energy to make the transition to “Great.” While this book directly focuses on business, I also took this simple concept as a driving force in my personal life and career, in which settling for being good is not enough, but always to endeavor to be “great” in whatever pursuits I would direct my career. This book was the first business book that I found myself unable to put down, spending an entire night reading it from cover to cover. Much like a great novel, this book inspired my thoughts and generated interests that I had not considered prior. My career may have followed a similar journey had I never read this book; however, I cannot be certain. Thus, I will always reflect on this book as a direct contributing factor to my pursuit of an academic career and to at least attempting to be great, not just good, whether ever making that transition or not.
I have always enjoyed reading fiction as a way to pass the time when not reading journal articles or a graduate student’s thesis. I often gravitate to books that have a strong foundation in historical events or are at least written in a fashion that makes you think the events could have actually occurred. Having read many local books such as *Delta Empire* and *Daddy’s Money* made it very hard for me to narrow it down to just one book. Since the day I read *A Painted House*, I have often looked for the fictional house described in the book as I drive the country roads of the Arkansas Delta. From time to time I will pass an old abandoned house surrounded by cotton fields and think that could be the inspiration for the story and almost expect to see Luke and Pappy sitting out on the porch. The plight of the Chandler Family and their struggles to make a living farming the land may seem in the distant past, but the struggles of the Arkansas’ farmer still exist today, just more hoops and more things to worry about. I love this book because I feel like it actually happened, and someday I’m going to find that house and admire Luke’s paint job.
“Cultural diversity” is now one of my favorite keywords. During my postdoctoral period in Germany, I had valuable experiences from being exposed to a variety of cultural backgrounds, which could help me broaden my horizon and grow up as a global citizen. Nevertheless, such a short experience could not provide a big picture of cultural differences in many aspects of life. This book, written by the social psychologist Richard Nisbett, provided a better understanding of how Easterners (especially, Chines, Koreans, and Japanese people) and Westerners (mainly European Americans) think and behave differently. Many insights gained from this book have stimulated, and will continue to stimulate, my endless interests in research and education about the impacts of cultural diversity on food perception and eating behavior.

My academic training was in physics. I got a BA and a PhD in physics. I even continued doing physics research for a couple of years after getting my PhD. Then, suddenly, for reasons not entirely clear even to me, I decided to change course. My research turned a sharp corner, and I began studying the brain. This is not to say I entirely left physics behind. There are many very interesting ways that my training in physics and math overlap with neuroscience. It was during this new foray into a new field of research that I read the book, Spikes. The authors of this book had made a similar transition from physics to neuroscience before I did. The book is about how the brain works. And it is written in a style that very much appealed to my physics background. It was perfect intellectual fodder to accompany my professional segue from physics to neuroscience. To this day, I still draw inspiration from Spikes.
Over the past few years, in conversations with colleagues, neighbors, family members, and strangers, I have found myself recommending this book. Although fictitious, it gives a plausible account of the possible implications of our current practices when pursuing and responding to scientific discovery. As scientists, we accept certain traditions as fact – for example, that scientists are highly specialized in bench or social sciences, or that .05 is a critical level of statistical significance. The authors use the context of climate change to challenge these assumptions, inviting readers to peek in to a new era of scientific enlightenment where scientific discovery is assumed to be one with the social aspects of that discovery. This book opened my eyes to the limitations of science imposed by our society, which has influenced my research as a social scientist in a most positive way.

My mother worked for author Rex Stout’s fashion designer wife, Pola Stout. As a result, we had a whole shelf of his paperback mystery novels in our house. I loved reading those unfolding mysteries and the sarcastic conversations between the brilliant protagonist, Nero Wolfe, and his beloved assistant, Archie Goodwin. Only much later did I come to know and appreciate that Stout was an anti-Hitler activist in addition to being a prolific writer. I think all of those Rex Stout novels must have cultivated my interest in the careful fact investigation that is so critical to the litigation my students and I do today.
My research interests are rooted in developing our understanding of the epidemiology and etiology of crime, social control, and inequality. Specifically, I have a passion for examining the social and environmental correlates of variation in violent crime and inequality across communities. The collective works of Robert Sampson, a prominent scholar in the fields of urban sociology and human ecology, have been influential to the development of my own perspective and research agenda. Despite the dominance of methodological individualism and the growing emphasis on global forces, Sampson has been an outspoken advocate for the careful consideration of the role of neighborhoods in research on diverse outcomes including crime, disorder, civic engagement, health, and immigration. Great American City, Sampson’s magnum opus, is the culmination of decades of his research on neighborhoods. It was an instant classic because he methodically examined comprehensive longitudinal data on individuals, families, networks, neighborhoods, and systematic observations of more than 23,000 street segments in Chicago. This massive undertaking allowed Sampson to demonstrate the critical influence of neighborhoods on outcomes ranging from crime to civic engagement that cannot be reduced to explanations grounded in the “kinds of people” that reside in specific neighborhoods. This work revitalized interest in ecological theories of human behavior by using “big data” to demonstrate that actions and outcomes are more than simply the result of individuals choosing their fate. The actual and perceived availability of options for actions and reactions are, in part, contingent upon the social structure, local situations in neighborhoods, and the individuals place within these structures. As a sociologist, criminologist, and educator, it is incumbent upon me to educate students on this perspective so that they can critically evaluate society and social problems rather than blindly attributing outcomes to individuals or global forces.
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Promotion to Clinical Associate Professor  

Mere Christianity  
by C. S. Lewis (1952)  

This thought provoking book is based on the transcripts from a series of radio broadcasts C. S. Lewis made in Britain during World War II. The BBC commissioned the talks as part of their effort to help Britain face the conflict and deal with the adversity of war with Germany. C. S. Lewis is a brilliant scholar who tackles topics on faith and morality with intellect and reason. You cannot read it without reflecting on what you believe and what is ultimately important to you. It reminds me of my place in the universe, all the things outside my control that I have to accept, and my responsibilities to live life genuinely and consistently with my beliefs.

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The Dinner  
by Herman Koch (2009)  

I stumbled into this book on accident, when searching for something to read on my Kindle, but it quickly resonated with me. The story unfolds through the first-person eyes of one character, who isn’t exactly as he initially appears—the more we learn about him, the more our perspective on the story changes. This appeals to me as a clinical psychologist who studies emotion and self-control, because people are almost always more complex and nuanced than they initially appear. The novel grapples with crucial psychological questions that have always fascinated me about nature versus nurture, controllability of the self, and the complicated emotions surrounding family relationships. I’ve always been drawn to mystery as a genre (a long fan of Agatha Christie), and this novel isn’t a mystery exactly but unfolds like one, with the narrator telling you what he wants to tell you when he wants to tell it to you, slowly revealing elements of ‘himself’ and his past through his actions and reactions. It’s a true character study, and for this reason I actually built an undergraduate course on Personality Psychology around this novel. If I were ever going to write a novel based on psychological processes, I’d want to write something like The Dinner.
Hanging beside my desk is a picture of Salman Rushdie with his heels up on some desk of his own. He grins and points, following the viewer in the miraculous way of painted Renaissance eyes. What he is saying, I know, is: “Get to Work.” I clipped this now evocatively yellowed photo out of The Hindu newspaper over 20 years ago, spring of 1996, when I was living in India and doing research toward my first novel.

As for many South Asians of my generation, Rushdie landed in my world like a sort of literary permission slip: the rhythm of his sentences, whose rhyme and repetition put me in mind of the carved and inlaid doors of Islamic architecture; his visual and verbal puns, often spun out until their metaphoric weight counter-balanced their amusement value; the sheer daring it took to write rollicking, riotous novels that explicitly lampooned the ironies of South Asian history while shouting out to all of Rushdie’s many other loves, from Laurence Sterne to The Wizard of Oz.

If he could do that, I could do this: I could take chances with language and humour, sculpt them into the shapes of the world I was trying to evoke. I had written no fiction yet, but knew who I might be in dialogue with, were I actually to write. I didn’t know enough yet even to be scared.
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Skeletal Muscle, Structure, Function and Plasticity:
The Physiological Basis of Rehabilitation
by Richard L. Lieber (2009)

This was a great book that really discussed the wonderful tissue called skeletal muscle. It starts with muscle development and ends with muscle plasticity. This book is very clear and concise. It provides much needed depth about skeletal muscle and its function. It is a book that should be in any muscle physiologist’s library. Whenever I want a refresher in some basic muscle physiology concepts, this is the book I turn to first.

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Into the Wild
by Jon Krakauer (1997)

Jon Krakauer’s Into the Wild combines themes of adventure, curiosity, and the journey to find oneself as it tells the story of Christopher McCandless’s ill-fated hike through the Stampede Trail in Alaska. While I myself am far less fatalistic than McCandless, I have found that many of the same themes and desires that guided him have shaped my own personal and professional life. Whether it’s the search for recreational adventure while living in Alaska and Utah, or intellectual adventure while working as a biomedical teacher and researcher, I’ve found that venturing into the wild has always made life interesting.
Symmetry can be seen as the most basic and important concept in physics. Momentum conservation is a consequence of translational symmetry of space. More generally, every process in physics is governed by selection rules that are the consequence of symmetry requirements. On a given physical system, the eigenstate properties and the degeneracy of eigenvalues are governed by symmetry considerations. The beauty and strength of group theory applied to physics resides in the transformation of many complex symmetry operations into a very simple linear algebra. In other words, many effects and physical properties can be understood just by looking at the crystal structure.

The contact with group theory usually leads to frustration, and although the reader can understand the specific treatment, he (she) is unable to apply the knowledge to other systems of interest. What this book is about is discussing group theory in close connection to applications, so that students/researchers can understand and use it for their own needs.
As a new graduate student, I did not know what direction my work in archives and the history department would take. That is, I didn't know until the direction found me. In a course on United States history, 1920-1945, I first became acquainted with the story of the Southern Tenant Farmers Union, and I first had reason to pursue in any concerted way the history of political and cultural radicals and critics from the region of the country my ancestors had lived in for more than 400 years. In that class I had my first spine-tingling interaction (and discovery) with a rare book as a primary source, a first edition of *Tobacco Road* available in Florida State's Strozier Library circulating collection. I also began the real work of research, digging, and personal quest that would ultimately result in my master’s thesis and my first professional publications. Along the way I encountered H. L. Mitchell’s *Mean Things Happening in this Land*, an essential (if incomplete) account of the interracial, socialist-inspired union of sharecroppers and tenant farmers known today as the STFU. A product himself of the poverty and desperation clinging to rural life in the “New South,” Mitchell demanded change and helped others organize around the country beyond the Delta counties of northeastern Arkansas where the union began. Mitchell continued to tell the story of the doomed union through personal accounts and yes, archives, which he helped ensure were available to students (and comrades), southern and otherwise, for generations to come. It was in part my knowledge of the STFU that led me to Arkansas to become a research librarian and archivist. The copy of *Mean Things* on display here is special. It is the personal copy, inscribed by the author, of University Professor Jeannie Whayne, whose prestige as an historian and dedication to telling the story of Arkansas’s complex history inspires the work of new generations of researchers, and whose collaboration with me has been, along with the other wonderful faculty I’ve worked with here in Fayetteville, one the great pleasures I’ve found after following this direction.