

## **JAMES DAWES**

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### **CURRENT POSITIONS:**

#### **MACALESTER COLLEGE**

Professor of English and American Literature  
Chair, Department of English, 2010-present  
Founder and Director of the Program in Human Rights and Humanitarianism,  
2007-present

### **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS:**

Editorial Board, *American Literature* (2007-2009)

Statement Taker for the Liberia Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

I have served as an external reviewer for Oxford University Press, Harvard University Press, the University of Toronto Press, Ashgate Publishing, the Modern Language Association Book Publications Program, *Comparative Literature*, *Modern Language Studies*, *Cultural Critique*, *PMLA*, *ESQ*, *The Journal of Human Rights*, the American Academy in Berlin Fellows Program, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Research Grant Program, the Israel Science Foundation, and the Minnesota Book Awards.

### **PREVIOUS ACADEMIC POSITION:**

#### **HARVARD UNIVERSITY**

Junior Fellow at the Society of Fellows, 1998-2001 (eight Fellows are selected annually in an international competition among all fields in the Arts and Sciences)

### **EDUCATION:**

#### **HARVARD UNIVERSITY**

Ph. D. in English and American Literature, 1998  
M.A. in English and American Literature, 1994

#### **UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE (KING'S COLLEGE)**

M. Phil. in Medieval and Renaissance Literature, 1992

**UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA**

B.A. in Arts and Sciences, Phi Beta Kappa, summa cum laude, with distinction in English, 1991

**BOOKS:**

*That the World May Know: Bearing Witness to Atrocity* (Harvard University Press, 2007).

Finalist, 2008 Independent Publisher Book Awards, Peacemaker of the Year Category

Finalist, 2008 Minnesota Book Awards

Podcast interviews about the book available at:

<http://www.hup.harvard.edu/catalog/DAWAFT.html>

and

<http://www.macalester.edu/whats happening/audio/facultytalks/>

*The Language of War: Literature and Culture in the United States from the Civil War through World War II* (Harvard University Press, 2002).

**Paperback release, 2004.**

Books reviewed in the *New Republic*, the *Guardian*, the *Times Higher Education Supplement*, the *Texas Observer*, and a range of academic journals, including *American Literature*, *Human Rights Quarterly*, *Human Rights Review*, *Journal of Human Rights*, *Journal of American History*, *Modernism/Modernity*, *Choice*, *Comparative Literature Studies*, *Biography*, and others.

**PUBLISHED ARTICLES:**

“Limits to Violence.” *A New Literary History of America*. Eds. Greil Marcus and Werner Sollors. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2009.

“The Gulf Wars and the US Peace Movement.” *American Literary History* 21 (Summer 2009): 418-428.

“Human Rights in Literary Studies.” *Human Rights Quarterly* 31 (May 2009): 394-409.

“The American War Novel.” *The Cambridge Companion to the Literature of the Second World War*. Ed. Marina MacKay. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2009.

“War Writing.” *American History through Literature 1870-1920*. Eds. Tom Quirk and Gary Scharnhorst. New York: Charles Scribner’s Sons, 2006.

“Fictional Feeling: Philosophy, Cognitive Science, and the American Gothic.”  
*American Literature* 76 (September 2004): 437-466.

“Atrocity and Interrogation.” *Critical Inquiry* 30 (Winter 2004): 249-266.

Reprinted under the same title in *War Narratives and American Culture*. Eds.  
Giles Gunn and Carl Gutiérrez-Jones. Santa Barbara: American Cultures  
and Global Contexts Center, 2005.

“Language, Violence, and Human Rights Law.” *Yale Journal of Law & the  
Humanities* 11 (Summer 1999): 215-250.

“Narrating Disease: AIDS, Consent and the Ethics of Representation.” *Social  
Text* 43 (Fall 1995): 27-44.

“Truth and Decay in Shakespeare’s Sonnets.” *Cahiers Elisabethains* 47 (April  
1995): 43-53.

“Masculinity and Transgression in Robert Frost.” *American Literature* 65 (June  
1993): 297-312.

“Drama and Ethics, Grief and Privacy: The Case of Eugene O’Neill.” *Eugene  
O’Neill Review* 17 (Spring/Fall 1993): 83-92.

“Losing It and Getting It Back: A Teacher’s Basics for Leading Seminars.”  
*Voices of Experience: Observations of Senior Teaching Fellows at  
Harvard University*. Eds. Mary-Ann Winkelmes and James Wilkinson.  
New York: Peter Lang, 2001.

### **BOOK REVIEWS:**

“The Future of Human Rights.” *Journal of Human Rights* 9:12 (April-June 2010).

“A Forgetful Nation” and “The Languages of Difference.” *American Literature* 78  
(June 2006).

“Crimes of Art and Terror” and “America’s Culture of Terrorism.” *American  
Literature* 76 (December 2004).

“The Scandal of Pleasure” and “Modernism and Morality.” *American Literature*  
75 (March 2003).

“Shadows of Ethics.” *American Literature* 73 (December 2001).

### **FORTHCOMING ARTICLES:**

“Abolition, Ethics, and American Literature.” *The Oxford Handbook of 19th-Century American Literature*. Ed. Russ Castronovo. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

“Humanitarianism.” Co-written with Macalester student Rebecca Sheff. *The Global Studies Encyclopedia*. London: Sage.

### **MASS MEDIA:**

Newspaper interviews for political and cultural analysis appearing in the *Los Angeles Times*, the *Guardian* (England) [reprinted in the *Tallahassee Democrat*], the *Philadelphia Inquirer* [multiple], the *Minneapolis Star Tribune*, the *San Francisco Chronicle*, the *Houston Chronicle*, the *Raleigh News and Observer* [reprinted in the *Sacramento Bee* and the *Fresno Bee*], and the *Highland Villager*.

Radio interviews for political and cultural analysis recorded by the BBC: *Weekend News* (National), *Good Morning Wales*, and *BBC Northampton Morning News*.

Radio interviews for political and cultural analysis recorded by National Public Radio: *The Connection* (nationally syndicated, live, one-hour); *Radio Times* (Philadelphia, live, one-hour); *Morning Edition* (Boston, pre-recorded arts feature with novelist Tim O'Brien).

All interviews are available online.

Radio interviews for political and cultural analysis recorded by WURD Radio (Philadelphia, live, one-hour), and WCCO Radio in the Twin Cities. *New York Times*. Letter to the Editor: “Wal-Mart and the Social Contract,” December 3, 2005.

*New York Times*. Letter to the Editor: “The Metaphor of War.” September 14, 2001.

*Washington Post*. Letter to the Editor: “Campus Morality.” January 2, 2002.

*The New Republic*. Letter to the Editor: “Soldier On.” October 21, 2002.

### **FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, AND AWARDS:**

#### **MACALESTER COLLEGE**

Mellon Student/Faculty Research Collaboration Grant, Summer 2009

Finalist, 2008 Minnesota Book Awards

Finalist, 2008 Independent Publisher Book Awards, Peacemaker of the Year Category

DeWitt Wallace Research and Travel Grant, 2008 (\$6,000)  
Hiett Prize Award 2006 (\$5,000)  
American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS)/Andrew W. Mellon  
Foundation Junior Faculty Fellow (2004-2005)  
National Humanities Center Fellow (2004-20005) (declined)  
Lilly Fellow (received Lilly Course Development Award, Fall 2001)  
Reviewed manuscripts for Harvard University Press, *PMLA*, *Cultural Critique*  
Judge for nonfiction in the 18th annual Minnesota Book Awards (2006)

#### **HARVARD UNIVERSITY**

William F. Milton Fund Recipient, 2001 (a \$24,000 research grant from the  
Harvard Medical School to fund research in language theory)  
Fellow in the Program in Ethics, 1994-1995 (a one-year appointment in the John  
F. Kennedy School of Government; Fellows conduct independent  
research and work in association with distinguished academics in the  
fields of law, business, medicine, and the humanities)  
Selected for the Derek Bok Center's Senior Teaching Fellows Program, 1996-  
1997 (a workshop for teaching fellows in the arts and sciences who  
received the highest ratings in University-wide evaluations; met biweekly  
to research pedagogical techniques and to promote the quality of teaching  
at Harvard through such initiatives as the Senior Teaching Fellows  
Mentoring Program)  
Jacob K. Javits Fellowship, 1994-1998  
Mellon Dissertation Finishing Year Fellowship, 1997-1998 (declined)  
Dexter Traveling Fellowship, Summer 1997  
Distinguished Teaching Awards: Spring 1996, Fall 1996, Spring 1997  
Mellon Fellowship for Support of Summer Research, 1995  
Member of the Association for Practical and Professional Ethics, 1994-1996  
English Prize Fellowship, 1992-1994  
English Tutor at Quincy House, 1992-1998

#### **UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE (KING'S COLLEGE)**

Thouron Scholarship, 1991-1992 (academic/diplomatic scholarship designed to  
foster Anglo-American relations; fully funds one year of post-graduate  
study)

#### **ORGANIZATIONS FOUNDED:**

Founded the program in Human Rights and Humanitarianism at Macalester  
College. Conceived, acquired funding for, and directed an interdisciplinary  
minor in human rights (2007-present).  
Created and ran the Human Rights Fellows Program at Macalester College. In  
collaboration with the University of Chicago Human Rights Program, won a  
\$100,000 grant from the Teagle Foundation for faculty development in  
human rights. Helped organize four conferences bringing together scholars

from the University of Chicago, Carleton College, and Macalester College (2006-2008).

Founded the Southern Minnesota Americanist Colloquium. Conceived, acquired funding for, and organized a monthly workshop to discuss pre-circulated works-in-progress. Participating schools included the University of Minnesota, Carleton, the College of St. Catherine, and Macalester (2002-2005). Acquired funding to bring in an out-of-state speaker in our first year. Also acquired funding for and organized a conference entitled "Criticism and Ethics in American Studies and Literary Theory," featuring eight speakers from universities across the nation (Summer 2003).

Co-founded, supervised, and acquired funding for the bi-weekly evening meetings of Macalester's "New Writing Workshop," an extracurricular forum for students to read and discuss their creative writing (Fall 2001-2004).

### **PUBLIC TALKS:**

Keynote lecture and solicited speaking engagements at the Concordia Writers Festival (October 6-8, 2010)

"Radical Abolition." Paper presented at the first annual conference of the Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists. Penn State (May 20, 2010)

"From Urgent Action to (Time Im)Memorial: Art and Literature of Human Rights in Changing Political Contexts." Seminar co-organizer and panel co-chair for the American Comparative Literature Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana (April 1-4, 2010)

"Human Rights Activism." Keynote lecture and solicited speaking engagements at Elon University (March 11, 2010)

"Remembering Atrocity." Keynote lecture and solicited speaking engagements at Lawrence University (February 8, 2010)

"Disciplinary Perspectives on Teaching Human Rights." Solicited speaker for the Roundtable on Teaching Human Rights. University of Chicago (November 20-21, 2009)

"War Crimes." Keynote address to the International Conference on War, Representation, and Memory: "The End of the World As We Know It." Yonsei University, Seoul, South Korea (June 3-5, 2009)

"A Conversation between James Dawes and Patricia Hampl." A co-lecture delivered with author Patricia Hampl at the Weisman Art Museum, Minneapolis, MN, sponsored by the University of Minnesota's Creative

Writing Program and Human Rights Program (May 30, 2008)

“The Front Line of Human Rights.” Keynote lecture and solicited speaking engagements at the University of Texas, Austin (April 20-22, 2008)

Public lecture and book signing for *That the World May Know*, sponsored by MELSA (an alliance of metro public libraries), Woodbury, MN (March 14, 2008)

“Storytelling and Human Rights.” Solicited speaker at the Institute for Public Knowledge at New York University (March 10, 2008)

“International Law and Genocide.” Solicited speaker at Columbia Law School, sponsored by the Amnesty International Chapter (March 11, 2008)

“Storytelling and Human Rights.” Solicited speaker at the University of Chicago, sponsored by the Human Rights Program and the Franke Institute for the Humanities (February 14, 2008)

“Storytelling and Human Rights.” Solicited speaker at the Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota (January 29, 2008)

“Storytelling and Human Rights.” Inaugural lecture for the A. W. Mellon/Center for the Humanities Lecture Series, *Testimony's Futures*, University of Wisconsin-Madison (January 28, 2008)

“Narrating Atrocity.” Interview for the *Voices on Genocide Prevention* program, US Holocaust Memorial Museum (November 29, 2007). Podcast available at <http://blogs.ushmm.org/index.php/COC2/514/>.

Public lecture and book signing for *That the World May Know*, Magers and Quinn Booksellers, Minneapolis (October 5, 2007)

“Aesthetic Trends.” Solicited speaker for the Huntington Library’s conference, *Historical Formalism, or Aesthetics in American Literary History* (May 18-19, 2007)

“Human Rights and the Ethics of Representation.” Solicited speaker at the *International Conference on Humanitarian Narratives of Inflicted Suffering*, University of Connecticut (October 13-15, 2006)

“Representational Practices in Human Rights Fiction and Fieldwork.” MLA annual conference special session, “Language and Human Rights: Rhetorical Acts, Material Consequences” (December 27, 2005)

“Literature and Human Rights.” Solicited speaker at St. Olaf College (November 7, 2005)

“Teaching Human Rights.” Solicited speaker for the University of Chicago’s conference, “Human Rights and Liberal Arts Education” (October 14, 2005)

“The Language of War.” Solicited speaker and public seminar leader at the Center for 21st Century Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (November 22, 2002)

“Humanitarian Guilt: Interrogating Survivors of Atrocities.” Solicited speaker and roundtable discussant at the American Studies and War Narratives Conference at the University of California, Santa Barbara (May 11, 2002)

“Counting on the Battlefield: The Civil War Literature of Stephen Crane,” delivered at the Annual Meeting of the American Literature Association, Baltimore, MD (May 28, 1999)

“Witnessing Battle: The Diaries of Mary Chesnut,” City University of New York (March 19, 1999)

“Discussion Leading in the Humanities.” Lectures delivered at the Harvard University Teaching Orientation for the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences (Winter Orientation, January 27, 1998; also Fall Orientation, September 14, 1998)

Associate Coordinator for Harvard’s National Graduate Student Conference, “Anonymity in Literary Studies,” and chairperson for the “Memorials and Anonymity” and “Naming and Anonymity” panels (March 15-16, 1997)

Associate Coordinator for “Literary and Cultural Studies Today,” the tenth Anniversary symposium of the Center for Literary and Cultural Studies at Harvard (October 21-22, 1994)

### **MACALESTER EVENTS:**

Macalester Talks Podcasts (October 2007 and October 2009)

“War Criminals.” Macalester CASL lecture (October 13, 2008)

“Literature and Human Rights.” A talk sponsored by College Relations for the Macalester College Alumni Reunion (June 9, 2008)

Public lecture and book signing for *That the World May Know*, Alumni College

Faculty Lecture (April 17, 2008)

“Literary and Rhetorical Approaches to Human Rights.” Solicited speaker for the Human Rights Curriculum Development Project sponsored by the University of Chicago and the Teagle foundation, Macalester College (April 12, 2008)

“The Front Line of Human Rights.” Public lecture given to commemorate International Human Rights Day, Macalester College (December 11, 2007)

“Human Rights in the Humanities.” Public lecture at Macalester College as part of the “Faculty Talks” series (April 2007)

“Media and the War.” Solicited speaker for Macalester’s public conference, “Iraq: Anatomy of a Crisis” (April 9, 2003)

Session moderator for “The Ethics and Politics of Comparison,” a conference sponsored by the Mellon Foundation Co-Mentoring Project of Macalester and Carleton Colleges (April 13, 2002)

“Teaching at Macalester: the First Year,” a talk delivered at Macalester’s New Faculty Orientation (August 29, 2002)

College coordinator for the Associated Colleges of the Twin Cities English Majors Conference (Spring, 2002)

“Humanitarian Guilt.” Talk delivered at Macalester as part of the English Department’s “Works-in-Progress” series (Spring, 2002)