

Craig Tapping

CURRICULUM VITAE (last updated 4 March 2009)

DEGREES:

- 1969 B.A. (Honours English, UBC)
- 1971 H.Dip.Litt. (Anglo-Irish Literature, University of Dublin)
- 1975 Ph.D. (Trinity College, Dublin)

TEACHING HISTORY:

- 1975-8 English Department, Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland
- 1978-80 Art History, National College of Art and Design, Dublin
- 1979-83 Senior Lecturer, Department of Literary Studies,
University of Calabar, Nigeria
- 1983-89 English Department, UBC
- 1990- English Department, Malaspina UC/VIU

COURSES TAUGHT:

- Social/Cultural History as complement to Art History, 1750-1950
- Nigerian and African Poetry, Prose Fiction
- Caribbean Poetry and Prose Fiction
- Ethnographical methodologies/Folklorical research
- Comparative Oral Cultures
- Commonwealth Literature
- Comparative Black Poetry/Africa and Diaspora: musical and oral
forms and traditions
- Literary Theory
- Irish Literature and Film
- Canadian Literature
- 20th Century Poetry and Poetics—international
- World Drama
- Post-Colonial Literary Studies (incl. the Indian Novel, Caribbean
Poetry, Film Studies)
- Epics of the Americas (Neruda, Césaire, Walcott, Paz, Snyder,
Williams, Marlatt, Atwood)
- Narratology and Narrative Studies (life-writing, memoirs, travel,
autobiography)
- Cities in Fiction, Theory and Practice
- Utopia/Dystopia Fictions and Films
- Courses based on major figures: Joyce, Freud, Jung, Conrad,
Achebe and Soyinka, Woolf and Faulkner
- Gay and Lesbian Literature
- M.A. and Ph.D. supervision and examination in Ireland, Nigeria and
at UBC

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE:

- 1978 Chair, Department of Art History and Complementary Studies, NCAD, Ireland
- 1980-82 Acting Dean of Arts and Humanities, University of Calabar
- 1988-94 Executive member, MLA Division 33 (Literatures in English Other than British or American)
- 1992-96 Executive member, CACLALS

RESEARCH PROJECTS:

- Poetics, writing beyond rhetorical assumptions and conventions
- Comparative 20th and 21st century world poetry
- Post-colonial memory systems and historical fictions
- 20th century drama: transformations, mutations, fusions
- Oral traditions and their “translations” into written forms

CURRENT RESEARCH:

I am working on a study of the transformations of oral culture into contemporary art forms, as evidenced by Wole Soyinka's theatrical work, especially Death and The King's Horseman in text and performance

- I have presented preliminary work as a plenary conference paper at a joint session of the Canadian Association for Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies/Association for Bibliotherapy and Applied Literary Studies in Vancouver at Congress, 2008
- I shall attend the 40th anniversary performance of Death and the King's Horseman in London, 2009: this will enable reconnection with Nigerian colleagues and some research at the London School of African and Oriental Studies

MAJOR CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS:

- 1994 CACLALS at The Learned, Carleton University, Ottawa: “PAN/GLOSS/BOP”: Gardens, dreams and other post-colonial systems in recent Canadian music videos.” (Multi-media presentation developed in collaboration with Fergus Foley, presented at special plenary forum as opening address to annual meeting)
- 1994 MLA, Toronto: chairing panel on “Canadian Commonwealth Writers”, and presenting paper in Canadian Literature Discussion Group: “Where is the border in Canadian music videos?” (Multi-media presentation developed in collaboration with Fergus Foley, presented at special plenary forum as opening address to annual meeting)

- 1994 B.C. Post-Secondary Teachers of English Conference at Malaspina University-College ("Multiculturalism in the Classroom"): panelist on forum about canonicity; keynote speaker about new literatures; introduced writers
- "Africa: Script and Screen" (Departments of French and Film Studies at the University of Victoria)
- 1996 CACLALS at The Learned's (St. Catherine's): "Post-colonial autobiographies: the classroom as site of indoctrination and liberation"
- MLA, Washington, DC: "Oh, Canada, eh?: some thoughts on post-colonialism"
- 1997 CACLALS at The Learned's (Memorial University, St. John's): "Soyinka in the Classroom: Advocacy and Pedagogy"
- 2002 Conference on "Minority Discourse in Canada as Model for Developing Secular Pluralism" in a Cross-/Transcultural Perspective: Eastern/Central Europe and Canada: an international, interdisciplinary CEP conference in Ustron, Poland. Presenting paper, "Being Here, Being Queer, and Getting Used To It: Canada's Charter of Rights and University Culture".
- 2008 "Speaking Yoruba on Vancouver Island: Soyinka's Death and the King's Horseman in the classroom". Joint Session: Applied Literature in a Conservative World. CACLALS and ABAL @ Congress, UBC.

SOME OF MY PUBLICATIONS INCLUDE:

- Austin Clarke: A Study of His Writings. Dublin: Academy/Irish University Press and U.S.A.: Barnes and Noble, 1981. 368pp. Reprinted in paperback by Academy Press, 1986.
- "Structure as Meaning in the Nigerian Novel". ACLALS Bulletin 7.4 (1986): 23-29.
- "Delmore Schwartz". Dictionary of Literary Biography: American Poetry to 1945. Ed. Peter A. Quartermain. Detroit: Gale, 1986. 386-394.
- "Margaret Laurence and Africa". Crossing the River: Essays in Honour of Margaret Laurence. Ed. Kristjana Gunnars. Winnipeg: Turnstone Press, 1988. 63-78.
- "Oral Cultures and the Empire of Literature". Post-Colonial Criticism, Special issue of Kunapipi XI.1 (1989): 86-96.

- "Children and History in the Caribbean Novel: George Lamming's In the Castle of My Skin and Jamaica Kincaid's Annie John". Kunapipi XI.2 (1989): 51-59.
- "Literary Traces of Orality in Colin Johnson's Doctor Wooreddy's Prescription for Enduring the Ending of the World". WLWE (World Literature Written in English) 30.2 (1990): 55-61.
- "Voices Off: Models of Orality in African Literature and Literary Criticism". Ariel 21.3 (1990): 73-86.
- "Home Truths: Regional Fictions". Commonwealth Literature Since 1960. Ed. Bruce King. London: Macmillan, 1991. 247-62.
- "South Asia Writes North America: Prose Fictions and Autobiographies of the Indian Diaspora". Reading the Literatures of Asian America. Eds. Shirley Geok-lin Lim and Amy Ling. Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 1992. 285-301.
- "South Asia/North America: New Dwellings and the Past". Reworlding: The Literatures of the Indian Diaspora. Ed. Emmanuel A. Nelson. Westport: Greenwood Publishing, 1992. 35-49.
- "The End of the World (Part Four)". Short story. S.I.R. Literary Review. May 1994.
- "Great Rooted Blossomers". First of a four-month series of weekly columns on the environment and natural phenomena of the Gulf Islands, and community issues arising therefrom. The Gabriola Sounder. June 16, 1995.
- "Ben Okri's Dangerous Love: Politics and Surrealism". The Georgia Straight. May 23-30, 1996: 28.
- Bi-weekly 1000 word review/column on restaurants and food culture on Vancouver Island. Pier. 1997-1999.
- "A Curiously Historical Lunch". On home page of Archivists' Association of B.C. <<http://www.aabc>> August 25, 1998.
- "Historical Thought and Literary Representation in West Indian Literature: a review". YCGL 1999.
- "Music Lessons". Short story. The Fiddlehead 200 (Summer 1999): 54-64.
- "Joy Kogawa". Asian American Autobiographers: A Bio-Bibliographical Critical Sourcebook. Ed. Guiyou Huang. Westport: Greenwood Publishing, 2001. 179-186.
- Canadian Bulletin of Medical History. Editor. Special Issue: Gay and Lesbian Health Issues (2005:2).
- "Being Here, Being Queer, and Getting Used to It: Canada's Charter of Rights and University Culture". To be published in proceedings of conference—"Minority Discourse in Canada as Model for Developing Secular Pluralism". Ed. Eugenia Sojka and Tomasz Sikora. Centre for Canadian Studies, University of Silesia, Katowice (Poland). In press.

“no longer a pronoun: reading Daphne Marlatt”. Introduction to Daphne Marlatt, At the River's Mouth: Writing Migrations. Gustafson Poetry Chapbooks. Vancouver Island University: Institute for Coastal Research, 2009.

COMMITTEE ENGAGEMENTS/DISCIPLINARY AND OUTSIDE INTERESTS SINCE 1990 INCLUDE:

- Chair, Faculty Association's Human Rights Committee
- Faculty Association, PD Officer and Member of CIEA's PD Committee
- Arts and Humanities Representative, University-College Curriculum Committee
- Vice Chair, University-College Curriculum Committee
- Member, Ministry for Advanced Education Committee to draft Mandate Statement for legislation instituting the new University Colleges in B.C.
- Academic Faculty Representative to President's Educational Council Development Committee: planning the transition to autonomy as university-college, implementing new structures of governance, especially the "senate-like" body defined in the Legislative Act of the Provincial Assembly, Bill 22
- Arts and Humanities representative, Ethics and Development Committee of the Education Council
- Chair, Scholarly Activity and Research Grants Committee
- Chair, Faculty Association Professional Development Committee
- Member, Joint Scholarly Activity and Research Committee
- Institutional Representative, Provincial PD Seminar (Centre for Curriculum Transfer and Technology)
- Arts and First Nations Representative, Education Council
- Arts and First Nations Representative, Curriculum Committee
- English Department Committees: Standards, Textbooks, English 215, Library and Hiring
- Chair, Advisory Planning Commission to The Islands Trusts, Gabriola
- founding member of Poetry Reading Group which meets monthly for an afternoon's discussion of poetry, aesthetics, teaching situations, new readings

CURRENT DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE WORK:

- Founding Member, English Colloquium Series Committee
- Chair, Ralph Gustafson Poetry Trust Committee