CV

David Clemens

MPC Great Books Program Founder and Coordinator

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**Education**

Two years Monterey Peninsula College, one year UC Berkeley, two years Sonoma State College, BA, MA in English.  Forty-plus post-MA units at Berkeley, UCLA, BYU, CSU-Pomona, CSU-Bakersfield.  UCLA Certificate in Online Teaching 1997; WebCT Certificate 2003.

**Recent Publications**

* “With Friends Like These, The Humanities Need No Enemies,” Pope Center for Higher Education Policy (2015).
* “Something Fatally Wrong in Education,” *Monterey Peninsula Herald* (2015)
* “How Academics Ruined the Critical Thinking Movement,” Pope Center for Higher Education Policy (2014).
* “How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the MOOC,” National Association of Scholars (2014).
* “The Value of the Humanities,” *Clarion Call* (2014).
* “A Profession at Risk: Teaching Humans in the New Millenium,” NAS homepage (2013).
* “The Liberal Arts: Notes from Underground,” *Clarion Call* (2013).
* "100 Great Ideas for Higher Education," *Academic Questions,* Winter 2012.
* “How the Internet Ruined the Teaching of Literature,” NAS homepage (2012).
* “What STEM Can’t Do,” NASblog (2012).
* “Elvis vs. Julia: A Lesson from the Liberal Arts,” NAS homepage (2012).
* “Dear Jonathan: A Letter to a Young Scholar,” *Clarion Call* (2012).
* “`Accelerated Learning’: Bullet Train to Success or Oxymoron?” NAS homepage (2012).
* “Higher Education and the Perfect Data Storm,” NAS homepage (2012).
* “California Dreamin’,” NAS homepage (2012).
* “The Dangerous Mr. Khan,” NAS homepage (2011).
* “Colleges’ Lost Love of Film,” NAS homepage (2011).
* “The Real Purpose of Education,” NAS homepage (2011).
* “The Girl with the Kafka Tattoo,” *Clarion Call* (2011).
* “Is the Internet a Mad, Hallucinating Deity?” [www.nasblog.org](http://www.nasblog.org) (2011).
* “Online Ed’s Niche Role,” NAS homepage (2011).
* “Should Holocaust Deniers Be Heard?” *Clarion Call* (2011).
* Book review of *Education’s End: Why Our Colleges and Universities Have Given Up on the Meaning of Life* by Anthony Kronman in the *Journal of Interdisciplinary Studies* (2010)*.*
* “Great Books 2.0,” *The Chronicle of Higher Education* (2009).
* “Exposing the Big Lies About SLOs,” *Community College Advocate* (2008).
* “An Unavoidable Pity: The Future of Literature Courses in the Two-Year Colleges” *inside english* (2007).
* “On Forbidden Roads,” *San Francisco Chronicle Magazine* (2005).

**Older Publications**

* *Monterey Herald* (“Bearded Fort Ord Invader” and “Multiculturalism promotes tolerance and diversity at the expense of individualism”).
* *San Jose Mercury* (“The Freshman Bookshelf” and “The Exploitation of Part-time Teachers”).
* *San Francisco Chronicle* (“A Teacher Talks Back”).
* *New Directions in Teaching* (“God Bless Captain Vere?”).
* *Informal Logic* (“Technoethics”).
* *Teaching English in the Two Year Colleges* (“Stacking Arms”)
* *inside english* (“Five Myths of Assessment”).
* *Association of Literary Scholars and Critics Forum* (“Kumawar vs. Jane Austen”).
* National Association of Scholars Open Forum (“Sex and the Multiversity”).
* *Media and Methods*, Contributing Editor 1984-1994, (“MTV”).

**Professional Activities**

* Modern Language Association Delegate Assembly Sub-Committee on MLA’s Reach (2015).
* Institute for Humane Studies Special Seminar on Academic Freedom (2015).
* “Doubts About Critical Thinking: Reconsidering a 20th Century Educational Project in the 21st Century, or, the Light that Failed,” Flex Day Keynote Address (2014).
* Modern Language Association Delegate Assembly, Special-Interest Delegate for Two Year Colleges (2012-2015).
* MPC Foundation Board Faculty Representative (2012-2015).
* Regional Director, Region 3, English Council of California Two Year Colleges.
* Chair, Monterey Peninsula College Academic Freedom Committee.
* Moderator/Presenter, “Thinking with Melville at the Core” panel, Association for Core Texts and Courses conference (2014).
* “Real Real Gone:  Saving the Humanities by Leaving the System,” Young Rhetoricians’ Conference (2014).
* “Reigniting the Fire,” Association for Core Texts and Courses Conference (2014).
* **“**Returning Great Books to the Community College Curriculum,” English Council of the California Two Year Colleges Conference (2013).
* “`Not Fade Away’ Reigniting Great Books in California’s Community College Curriculum,” Young Rhetoricians’ Conference (2013).
* MPC Professional Recognition Board (2010-2013).
* Moderator and Presenter, “`Do You Believe in Magic?’: Remixing Accelerated Classes,” Young Rhetoricians’ Conference (2012).
* Conferee, Liberty Fund Seminar “Education and Liberty in the Digital Age” (2011).
* Grant Director, Apgar Foundation Grants (2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015).
* Coordinator, Monterey Peninsula College Great Books Certificate Program <[www.mpc.edu/greatbooks](http://www.mpc.edu/greatbooks)>.
* Moderator, “Pimp My Class,” Young Rhetoricians Conference,” (2011).
* Singularity Summit (2010).
* Foresight Conference (2009, 2010, 2011).
* Chair, “Screening Early Canonical Works: Opening Texts through Films,”Association for Core Texts and Courses National Conference (2010).
* Convener, “Great Books II” panel, Association of Literary Scholars and Critics National Conference (2009).
* Presenter: “An’ like a fool I mixed them, an’ it strangled up my mind,” Young Rhetoricians’ Conference (2010).
* Presenter: Cutting Edge Session “OMG: My Prof’s Wired!” Young Rhetoricians’ Conference, Paper Title “Can the Great Books be Electrified?” (2010).
* Moderator, “Staring Down Mountains—Keeping Perspective,” Young Rhetoricians’ Conference (2009).
* Presenter: “Warnings, Disclaimers, and Caveats: How to Build a CYA Syllabus (and Why You Need One),” Young Rhetoricians’ Conference (2009)
* Presenter and Moderator, "SLOs, Accreditation, and Your Contract," paper title "The Lies about SLOs." Community College Association Council, Spring 2008.
* Presenter, Community College Association Fall 2008 Council "SLOs."
* Presentation Moderator:  English Council of the California Two Year Colleges, "Pornography:  The Critical Need for Precise Definition in Critical Thinking"(2007).
* Panel Moderator and Respondent:  "The World as Text: Critical Thinking and Pop Culture," Young Rhetoricians’ Conference, 2007.
* Panel Chair:  "W(h)ither Lit?" Young Rhetoricians’ Conference (2006).
* Presenter: “Hollywood and the Future of Life,” Hawai’i International Conference on Arts and Humanities (2005).
* Presenter:  “Sex and the Multiversity,” Young Rhetoricians’ Conference (2005).
* Presenter: “Hollywood and the Future of Life,” Young Rhetoricians’ Conference (2004).
* Presenter:  “Five Myths of `Assessment’,” Young Rhetoricians’ Conference (2003).
* Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE).
* National Association of Scholars (NAS).
* California Association of Scholars (CAS).
* Association of Literary Scholars, Critics, and Writers (ALSCW)
* Association for Core Texts and Courses (ACTC).
* Futures Studies Association (FSA).
* Foresight Education and Research Network (FERN).
* Educational/Consulting Advisory Board, Acceleration Studies Foundation (ASF).
* Modern Language Association (MLA).
* The Philadelphia Society.
* Association for Core Texts and Courses (ACTC).

**Recent Radio, TV, and Film Appearances**

* *Introduction to Great Books* (MOOC, 2013).
* *Indoctrinate U* (film, 2008).
* *Our American Heritage* (TV, 2009).
* *College Connection* (radio, 2009).
* *Your Town Radio and TV Program* (2009).

**Recent Interviews**

* Interview with Claudia Melendez-Salinas, *Monterey Herald*, for “Great Books Program Earning Accolades” (2014).
* Interview with Bruce Bawer for *The Victims’ Revolution*, his book on identity politics in higher education (2010).
* *Evening Insight with Alan Haffa* (2013).
* *InsideHigherEd.com* (2009).
* The National Association of Scholars (2009).
* *The Monterey County Weekly* (2009).
* *Monterey Herald* (2008).
* *California Educator* (2008).

**Community Activities**

* “Turning and Turning in the Widening Gyre: Higher Education’s Downward Spiral,” presentation to the Carmel Valley Manor (forthcoming 2016).
* Hosted Visiting Scholar David Steiner presenting on “The Humanities at Risk: Why We Should Champion Great Art, Great Music and Great Great Books,” (2015).
* “Great Books and Electronic Media,” presentation to Steinbeck Rotary Club (2014).
* “Great Books in the 21st Century,” presentation to Pacific Grove Rotary Club (2014).
* Hosted artist/author Matt Kish, community presentation “Great Books and Visual Art” (2014).
* Hosted Visiting Scholar David Shields, community presentation (2013).
* Hosted Visiting Scholar Mark Edmundson, community presentation (2012).
* Speaker, Castroville Rotary Club, (2012).
* Colloquium Director, “Imaginative Freedom and Political Freedom” with Mark Edmundson, Clare Cavanagh, Mark Bauerlein, and Zachary Mason (2011).
* Colloquium Director, “Great Books and Democracy” with Robert Pinsky, Victor Davis Hanson, and Dana Gioia (2010).

**Honors and Awards**

* Named a Monterey Peninsula College “Distinguished Alumnus,” 2014.
* Lobo Hall of Fame, 2014.
* Intercollegiate Studies Institute Course Development Grant, 2014.
* MPC Great Books Program named an “oasis of excellence” by the American Council for Trustees and Alumni.
* Apgar Foundation Grant, 2015
* Apgar Foundation Grant, 2014.
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* Apgar Foundation Grant, 2012.
* Apgar Foundation Grant, 2011.
* Apgar Foundation Grant, 2010.
* Apgar Foundation Grant, 2009.
* MPC Great Books Program named a National Association of Scholars “Recommended Program.”
* Allen Griffin Excellence in Teaching Award (2006).
* *Monterey County Weekly* cover story, "Big Ideas" (2005).
* Named *Monterey County Weekly*’s “Best Reason to Go Back to School” (2004).
* Faculty and Staff Advancement Grant (2011).
* George Faul Academic Excellence Grants (2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011).
* Future Teachers "Outstanding and Inspirational Teacher Award" (2004).
* Title III Grant (Conversion of More, or Less, Than Human? course to online) (2003).
* California Teachers Association WHO (We Honor Ours) Award.

**College Website**

**<** <http://www.mpcfaculty.net/david_clemens/default.htm>**>**

**Courses Taught**

English 1A  Composition and Analytical Thinking

English 1B  Introduction to Literature

English 2  Composition and Critical Thinking

English 5 Introduction to Great Books (online)

English 9 Great Books and Civil Liberties

English 10 Literature By and About Men (online)

English 38  Literary Forms—The Cinema: More, or Less, Than Human? (online)