

Sara E. Chapman Williams

Department of History
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EMPLOYMENT

Oakland University, Rochester, Michigan. Associate Professor, August 2003 to the present; Assistant Professor, August 1997 to July 2003

Georgetown University.

Professorial Lecturer, 1994-1997; Teaching assistant 1990-1993

United States Institute of Peace. Washington, D.C. Research Assistant working with Peace Scholar Fellow Paul Schroeder, 1993-1994.

EDUCATION

Georgetown University, Ph.D. 1997. Dissertation awarded distinction.

SCHOLARSHIP

Work in progress

“The Politics of Persuasion: Cadillac’s ‘Relation’ from Detroit in 1701.” In *A Place in Common: Telling Histories of Early Detroit*. Edited by Karen Marrero and Andrew Sturtevant. Michigan State University Press. Completed, submitted, reviewed, edited, and awaiting publication.

Détroit: Political Cultures and Intercultural Encounters in the Atlantic World, 1680s-1715. Book manuscript, in progress.

Book

Private Ambition and Political Alliances: The Phélypeaux de Pontchartrain Family and Louis XIV’s Government, 1650-1715. Rochester and Suffolk: University of Rochester/Boydell and Brewer Press, 2004.

Article-length peer reviewed book chapters

“Reluctant Expansionists: Louis XIV, the Ministers of the Colonies and the Founding of Detroit.” In *The Third Reign of Louis XIV, c. 1682-1715*. Edited by Julia Prest and Guy Rowlands. London and New York: Routledge, 2016.

“Chroniques du Nouveau Monde: Histoire des colonies françaises selon Marc Lescarbot.” In *Lendemain de guerre civile: Réconciliations et restaurations en France sous Henri IV*. Edited by Michel De Waele. Québec: Presses de l’Université Laval, 2011. Reprinted by Paris: Hermann, 2015.

Peer-review Journal Article

“Patronage as Family Economy: The Role of Women in the Patron-Client Network of the Phélypeaux de Pontchartrain Family, 1660-1715.” *French Historical Studies*, 24 (Winter 2001): 11-35.

AWARDS AND GRANTS

National Endowment for the Humanities, Summer Institute, Newberry Library, Chicago
Summer 2003 “French Travel Writing from the Americas, 1500-1800.”

OU Professional Development Leave. Semester leave and research support (winter 2008).

OU President’s Colloquium. Selected by the University Research Committee and university president as speaker for annual event showcasing faculty research (2006)

OU Faculty Research Fellowship, summer 2005, (\$8,500 grant)

OU Faculty Research Fellowship, summer 2001, (\$8,000 grant)

OU Faculty Research Fellowship, summer 1998, (\$7,500 grant)

Oakland University, Faculty Research Award Honoree, Founder’s Day, 2005

Academic Papers and Presentations

“Reluctant Expansionists: French Colonial Policies in the Atlantic World in the Late Reign of Louis XIV,” Georgetown University, William Beik Memorial Seminar in Early Modern French History, Washington, D.C., April, 8, 2019

“Détroit to France and Back: Political and Cultural Networks, and Colonial Exchanges during Louis XIV’s Reign.” Society for French Historical Studies, 64th Annual Conference, Pittsburgh, March 8-10, 2018

“Rogue’ Officials in New France during Louis XIV’s Third Reign,” Society for French Historical Studies 63rd Annual Conference, Washington, D.C., April 20-22, 2017.

“Early Detroit for Parisians: Cadillac’s 1701 ‘Description of Détroit’” Center for French Colonial Studies Conference, Windsor, Canada, October 23-25, 2015.

“Catholicism in New France: Mission and Mediation in Détroit” Sixteenth Century Society Conference, New Orleans, Louisiana, October 16-19, 2014.

“Mission as Moving Target: Cadillac and French Détroit, 1690s-1701” The American Historical Association 128th Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., January 2-5, 2014.

“Colonial Officials in Borderlands” Society for French Historical Studies, 59th annual meeting, Harvard University, Cambridge, April 4-6, 2013.

“France and Detroit” Institute for Detroit Studies, Marygrove College, Detroit, September 10, 2012.

“Paradise Found: Cadillac’s Proposals for Fort Detroit (1701)” French Colonial Historical Society, Annual Meeting, New Orleans, May 30-June 2, 2012.

“Family Ambitions, Patronage, and Noble Identities” Memorial Panel in Honor of Sharon Kettering, The Society for French Historical Studies, 57th Annual Meeting, Charleston, South Carolina, February 10-12, 2011.

“Writing Claims on the New World: Colonial Ventures and Henri IV’s France” Sixteenth Century Society Annual Conference, Montréal, Canada, October 14-17, 2010.

"Andrew Lossky Memorial Panel, Service and Self-Interest: The Mechanics of Power Networks in Seventeenth-Century France," The Western Society for French History, 37th Annual Meeting, Boulder, Colorado, October 23, 2009.

"Whither the Empire? Incorporating the Colonies into Courses on Old Regime History," Western Society for French History, Annual Meeting, Québec, Canada, November 6-8, 2008.

"The Great Lakes Borderlands of New France and Colonial Policies, 1680s-1715," Renaissance Society of America, Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, April 3-6, 2008.

"A French 'New World': French Colonial Policy under Henri IV," At the conference "*La France Outremer*": Expeditions, Encounters and Exchanges. The Shakespeare Institute, Stratford-upon-Avon, United Kingdom, July 7, 2007.

"Detroit, the Great Lakes Fur Trade, and France 1700-1715," French Colonial Historical Society, 33rd Congress, La Rochelle, France, June 6-10, 2007.

"Colonial Policy in New France during the later reign of Louis XIV, 1680-1715" Society for the Study of French History, 21st annual conference, St. Andrews, Scotland, July 1-3, 2007.

"Founding Fort Pontchartrain at Détroit: A Frontier of New France" Invited speaker. Université Laval, Department of History, Québec, Canada. September 2006.

"Chronicles of a 'New World': Marc Lescarbot and the French Colonies" Invited participant in international conference (French, Canadian and American scholars) *Réconciliation et reconstruction en France aux lendemains des conflits religieux*. L'Université Laval, Québec, Canada. September 22-23, 2006.

"*Absolutism and Society* Twenty Years Later: The Past, Present, and Future of Absolutism," Society for French Historical Studies, 51st Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA, March 2005.

"Slavery, Sugar, and the *Code Noir*: Saint-Domingue and French Colonial Policy, 1670-1715," Society for French Historical Studies, 50th Annual Conference, Paris, France, June 2004.

"Growing Families: French Colonial Policy in Detroit, 1701," Western Society for French History, Annual Conference, Hunt Valley, Maryland, October 2002.

"*Gérer sa fortune: le livre des comptes de Phélypeaux de Pontchartrain*." Speaker at research seminar series, *Université de Lyon*, Lyon, France, December 2001. Invited participant.

"The Pontchartrains and Detroit's Founding in 1701," The Historical Society of Michigan, Annual Conference, Detroit, Michigan, October 2001.

"Sweet Talk in the Caribbean: Establishing Sugar Plantations in Saint Domingue, 1680 to

1715,” Western Society for French History, Annual Conference, University of California, Los Angeles, November 2000.

“Officers, Gentlemen, and Pirates: French Naval Officers and the French Navy During the Reign of Louis XIV,” Society for French Historical Studies, 46th Annual Conference, Scottsdale, Arizona, March/April 2000.

“*Finances en province et marine française sous Louis XIV: profil de Michel Bégon, intendant de la marine.*” Conference *Pouvoir les finances en province* organized by the French Ministry of the Economy, Finances, and Industry. Paris, France, December 1999. Invited participant.

“The Court as Gilded Cage? Court Residency and Noble Political Power during the Reign of Louis XIV,” Society for French Historical Studies, 44th Annual meeting, Ottawa, March 1998.

“Patronage, Politics and Power in France, 1680 to 1715,” University of Michigan-Dearborn, Annual Tri-department Colloquium of Wayne State, Oakland, Michigan-Dearborn Universities, April 1998.

“The Role of Women in the Patron-Client Network of the Phélypeaux de Pontchartrain Family, 1685-1715,” Northeast American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, Boston, Massachusetts, December 1997.

“*Les clientèles de Louis Phélypeaux de Pontchartrain dans les parlements de province à l’époque de Louis XIV.*” Conference: *Les Parlements de Province* sponsored by the University of Toulouse and the CNRS (*Centre national pour la recherche scientifique*), Toulouse, France, November 1994.

Other publications

Book Reviews

“John C. Rule and Ben S. Trotter, *A World of Paper: Louis XIV, Colbert de Torcy, and the Rise of the Information State*,” *The American Historical Review* 120 (2015): 1975-1976.

“Matthew Gerber, *Bastards: Politics, Family, and Law in Early Modern France*,” *The American Historical Review* 117 (2012): 1669-1670.

“Claiborne Skinner, *The Upper Country: French Enterprise in the Colonial Great Lakes*.” H-France, vol. 9 (July 2009).

Textbook Resources

“Reading Primary Sources” CD-Rom. Distributed under title “Primary Source Documents in Global History.” Bundled with most world history and western civilization textbooks published by the company Pearson/Prentice Hall, 2007.

“Western Civilization Documents” Co-editor of CD-Rom containing 200 primary source documents and author of short introductions for each document. Distributed with Kagan, Ozment, Turner, *The Western Heritage*. Pearson/Prentice Hall, 2007.

SERVICE

Professional Service

Editorial Board Member for *The European History Quarterly*, published by Sage publications in London, UK. 2010 to present.
Member of Governing Council, Western Society for French History, 2004-2007
Program Committee Member, Western Society for French History, 33rd annual conference, Colorado Springs, October 2005
Program Committee Member, Society for French Historical Studies, 45th annual conference, Washington, DC, April 1999

Oakland University Community

Faculty presenter OU Alumni “on the road” weekend at Mackinac Island (2021)
Committee member for Barry Klein Global Studies Center, launch and selection of visiting professor (2021)
Selection Committee for Professional Development and Research Leave (2013)
Marian P. Wilson Award, selection committee member (2012)
Faculty Re-appointment and Promotion Committee (FRPC) (elected position), 2006-2009
OU Alumni Association Dinners, Faculty Participant, 2006
Oakland University Senate, elected member 1999-2000; 2003-2005
Steering Committee, Committee W (Women of A.A.U.P.), 2004-2006
College of Arts and Sciences Graduate Studies Committee, member, 2001-2003
Co-chair of Women’s History Month Programs, Oakland University, 2000
Women’s Studies 1999 Film Festival Committee, Oakland University.
Honors College Council, interim member, Oakland University, 1998
College of Arts and Sciences Assembly, member, 1999
Faculty Advisor, Albanian American Students Organization, 2000-2002
Faculty Advisor, Phi Alpha Theta, national history honor society, OU 1998-1999
Women of OU Focus Group, 2017

Department of History

Advisory committee, 1997, 2001, 2003, 2005-2007, 2008-09, 2010-11, 2013, 2014-15, 2016-2019, 2021
Tenure/promotion review committees, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2011, 2013, 2014, 2015 (Chair), 2016, 2017, 2020 (Chair)
Search Committee for early modern historian, 2019 (Chair)
Search Committee for Medieval historian, 2012-13
Search Committee for Latin American historian, 2010-11 (Chair)
Search committee for American historian 2004-05
Committee for the Election of Department Chair, 2014
Positions Committee, Chair, 2010-2012, member 2001-2002, 2005-2006, 2013, 2014
Scholarships and Awards, 2006-2009, 2010-2011
Library Liaison 1999-2008, 2012-2018
Mentor for junior faculty, 2015-2017; 2019-2021
Tenure Criteria Review committee member, 2011
OU Recruitment Days, History Department representative, 1999-2000

TEACHING

Department of History at Oakland University

Europe in Global Context to 1600 (survey)

Europe in the Seventeenth Century

Europe in the Eighteenth Century

Early Modern France

Women and Gender in Early Modern Europe, 1500-1789

The French Revolution

Historical Research Seminar: Indigenous and French Encounters in North America (HST 4980)

M.A. Colloquium in History

Honors College at Oakland University

Family, Community, and Identity in Early Modern Europe

French Revolution

M.A. Program Department of History, Oakland University

M.A. Field Exam committee: Margaret Ricker (2006)

M.A. Thesis committees for:

Beatriz Amores (2006)

Anne Sexton (2007)

Jennifer Laam (2008)

Ryan Johnson (2009)

Florence Tyll (2009)

Erin Klitzke (2011) Thesis Director

Stephanie Suszek (2020)