UNC-Chapel Hill Profiles

Dan Anderson  
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Dan Anderson is a professor in the Department of English and Comparative Literature in the College of Arts and Sciences, as well as director of the Composition, Rhetoric, and Digital Literacy Minor, director of the Studio for Instructional Technology and English Studies, director of the Graduate Certificate in Digital Humanities, and curriculum coordinator for the Carolina Digital Humanities Initiative. He earned a Ph.D. from the University of Texas and B.A. from the University of New Mexico. His e-book project, *Screen Rhetoric and the Material World*, deploys screen performances and captures to theorize and explore modes of digital composing. He is also developing a number of online sites geared toward making the social Web a composition space. The *PIT Journal* is one such site and provides a space for undergraduate research while using technology to shift patterns of peer review and scholarly production.

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Becca Bender currently serves as program officer for student programs at the Carolina Center for Public Service and provides administration for APPLES Service-Learning alternative breaks, courses, internships, and the Service-Learning Initiative. She also oversees the MacDonald Community Service Scholars. She graduated from Elon University with a degree in strategic communication and served as an AmeriCorps VISTA and community service coordinator at Lenoir-Rhyne University. She earned her master’s degree in higher education administration from North Carolina State University where she also worked in the Center for Student Leadership, Ethics, and Public Service. Most recently, she worked with leadership programs, multicultural competence, and service-learning experiences as a coordinator in the Center for Student Involvement at Lynn University.
Peter Coclanis
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Peter Coclanis is director of the Global Research Institute, founded in 2009 as a center for research on key global questions and a conduit through which generated knowledge can be disseminated and applied to real world problems. Prior, he served as Carolina’s first associate provost for international affairs, starting December 2003, providing leadership for the University’s global endeavors and the articulation and continued development of the University’s global mission. As Albert R. Newsome Professor of History, Coclanis works primarily in American, Southeast Asian, and international economic and business history. He is currently working on the creation of integrated world markets for tropical and semi-tropical commodities, with a special emphasis on rice, which has taken him to archives and rice paddies all over the world. Coclanis is the author, editor, or co-editor of numerous books and over 150 scholarly articles, essays, and book reviews. He is also an adjunct professor in the economics department and a faculty affiliate in the Asian studies department and has served as associate dean for general education of the College of Arts and Sciences and chair of the history department. Coclanis has been president of several professional organizations, including the Historical Society and the Agricultural History Society, and the recipient of a lifetime achievement award and concurrent professorship from the Chinese Ministry of Agriculture. In fall 2005, he held the Raffles Professorship in History at the National University of Singapore. Coclanis earned his Ph.D. from Columbia University in 1984, joining the faculty at UNC-Chapel Hill that year.

Marsha S. Collins
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Marsha S. Collins currently serves as the Caroline H. and Thomas S. Royster Distinguished Professor for Graduate Education and directs the Royster Society of Fellows, the Graduate School’s most selective fellowship program. She previously served as the Marcel Bataillon Distinguished Term Professor in the Department of English and Comparative Literature in the College of Arts and Sciences. Her research focuses on the literature of early modern Spain in a comparative context, often dealing with idealizing forms of fiction, European court culture, and the relationship between literature and the visual arts. She is the author of three books and more than 30 articles; her most recent book, *Imagining Arcadia in Renaissance Romance*, was published in spring 2016. At UNC-Chapel Hill, she is a member of the Academy of Distinguished Teaching Scholars and a fellow of the Institute for the Arts and Humanities and prior served as director of the Program in Comparative Literature, director of graduate studies and graduate admissions in Romance languages, and assistant provost for women’s issues. She earned her A.B. from Smith College, M.A. from the University of Wisconsin at Madison, and M.A. and Ph.D. from Princeton University.

Rudi Colloredo-Mansfeld
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Rudi Colloredo-Mansfeld is senior associate dean for social sciences and global programs in the College of Arts and Sciences and oversees departments/curricula in aerospace studies; African, African American, and diaspora studies; anthropology; archaeology; Asian studies; city and regional planning; economics; geography; history; military science; naval science; peace, war, and defense; political science; public policy; sociology; and the Center for Urban and Regional Studies. He also oversees the College units in the FedEx Global Education Center: African Studies Center; Carolina Asia Center;
Carolina Center for the Study of the Middle East and Muslim Civilizations; Center for European Studies; Curriculum in Global Studies; Center for Slavic, Eurasian, and East European Studies; Institute for the Study of the Americas; and the Study Abroad Office. Colloredo-Mansfeld served as chair of the Department of Anthropology (2013-2017) and has been at Carolina since 2008, coming from the University of Iowa. He earned his M.A. and Ph.D. in anthropology from University of California Los Angeles and his B.A. in anthropology and European history from UNC-Chapel Hill where he was a Morehead Scholar and graduated Phi Beta Kappa. He serves on the Student-Athlete Academic Process Review Group and has served as chair of the Council of Chairs and on the Food for All Campus Theme Steering Committee and the 2012-13 Task Force to Facilitate Research on Pedagogical Innovation at Carolina. His research and teaching focuses on Indigenous peoples (primarily in the Ecuadorian highlands), consumer cultures, and local food systems. He recently began collaborating with colleagues at Universidad San Francisco de Quito to compare models of community tourism in conservation areas in the Galápagos and the Andes. Since 2004, he has worked on local food issues in the U.S., focusing on efforts to integrate local food into regional food systems.

Janet Downie  
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Janet Downie is an assistant professor in the Department of Classics in the College of Arts and Sciences. Her main area of research is Greek prose, and she studies the tradition of rhetoric and oratory in the classical world, with special interest in the Greek writing of the Roman imperial period. Questions of literary craft and rhetorical experimentation were central to her first book, *At the Limits of Art: A Literary Study of Aelius Aristides’ Hieroi Logoi* (Oxford 2013). Recently, she has turned to questions of geography, travel, space, and place in the ancient world and is working on a book about the heroic landscapes of imperial Asia Minor, investigating what resonance the storied regions of the Troad and the Black Sea had for the people who built, inhabited, and pondered the real and imagined landscapes of the eastern empire. Downie earned a B.A. in English literature and classics from the University of Victoria, Canada, an M.A. in Late Antique and Byzantine studies from the University of London (King’s College), and a Ph.D. in classics from The University of Chicago. From 2008 to 2014 she was assistant professor of classics at Princeton University. In 2012-2013 she was a Solmsen Fellow at the Institute for Research in the Humanities at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Carl Ernst  
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Carl Ernst is the William R. Kenan, Jr. Distinguished Professor of Religious Studies in the College of Arts and Sciences, co-director of the Carolina Center for the Study of the Middle East and Muslim Civilizations, and co-editor of the Islamic Civilization and Muslim Networks Series from UNC Press. He earned a Ph.D. from Harvard University on the study of religion and a B.A. from Stanford University in humanities and religious studies. His published research, based on the study of Arabic, Persian, and Urdu, is focused on Islamic studies, premodern and contemporary Sufism, and Indo-Muslim culture. His recent projects in Islamic studies have addressed public scholarship relating to Islamophobia, the problem of reading the Qur’an, a critical rethinking of Islamic studies, and problems in understanding Islam. Studies of Sufism have engaged with the literary, historical, and contemporary aspects of Islamic mysticism, particularly in the Indo-Pakistan subcontinent and the Persianate cultural sphere. He has also been pursuing a long-term study of Muslim interpretations of Indian religions, particularly with regard to
the practice of yoga. His current work includes literary translation of the Arabic poetry of the early Sufi and martyr al-Hallaj which entails a re-examination of what is meant by Sufi poetry. He is also embarking on a project on an illustrated Persian text describing the 48 different types of ascetics and yogis who were found in Benares in 1800. Related, he is co-director of the Perso-Indica project to document and analyze nine centuries of Persian translations of Sanskrit texts and Persian writings on Indian sciences and culture.

Jennifer Gerz-Escandón
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As associate dean for interdisciplinary education and fellowship programs in The Graduate School, Jennifer Gerz-Escandón provides leadership for policy development and implementation and oversees funding for 16 fellowship programs. She also directs initiatives supporting external fellowship and grant recipients, serves as Fellowship Committee chair of the school’s Administrative Board, and manages the Graduate Funding Information Center in collaboration with the director of fellowships. She works with the director of academic and professional development to oversee professional development workshops and courses and international efforts such as the Preparing International Teaching Assistants Program. She also supports graduate education across international borders through opportunities such as Royster Global and encourages graduate students to pursue international dissertation research funding. During her 15 years of higher education administrative leadership, Gerz-Escandón served as chair and associate professor in the International Relations Program and director of the Center for International Programs and Services at Lynn University, director of international studies and assistant professor of political science at the University of Evansville, director of national scholarships and fellowships in the Georgia State University Honors College, and has been a visiting faculty member in Japan and the United Kingdom. Gerz-Escandón holds a bachelor's degree in government from Georgetown University and a doctorate in international relations from the University of Miami. She has been a national reviewer for the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute graduate and public policy fellowships and the Asian and Pacific Islander American Scholarship Fund and presented workshops on external funding opportunities, fellowship best practices, and strategies for engaging faculty and campus stakeholders. She represents graduate education on several Carolina committees, including the Carolina Engagement Council, Tuition and Fee Advisory Task Force, and Humanities for the Public Good Steering Committee.

Luca Grillo
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Luca Grillo is a William R. Kenan, Jr. Scholar and associate professor in the Department of Classics in the College of Arts and Sciences. His main area of interest is Latin prose, with a focus on the historiography and rhetoric of the Roman Republic. His first book The Art of Caesar’s Bellum Civile: Literature, Ideology, and Community, is a literary analysis, applying narratological, intertextual, and rhetorical approaches to the re-evaluation of Caesar as litterator. His second book A Commentary on Cicero’s De Provinciis Consularibus, is a historical, rhetorical, and legal commentary on Cicero’s speech. He is co-editing the Cambridge Companion to Caesar; long-term plans include a monograph on irony in Latin literature and a commentary on Livy. He earned a Ph.D. in classics from Princeton University, an M.A. in classical and Near Eastern studies from the University of Minnesota, and a B.A. in literature and philosophy from the Università Cattolica in Milan. From 2008 to 2013, he was assistant professor of classics at Amherst College, where he taught Latin and Greek and courses in ancient civilization. He spent sabbaticals at Hebrew University and the University of Göttingen.
Mark Katz
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Mark Katz is director of the Institute for the Arts and Humanities and the Ruel W. Tyson Jr. Distinguished Professor of Humanities in the Department of Music in the College of Arts and Sciences. He holds a B.A. in philosophy from the College of William and Mary and M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in musicology from the University of Michigan. Before joining Carolina, he taught at the Peabody Conservatory of Johns Hopkins University. His scholarship focuses on music and technology, contemporary popular music, and the violin. He has written three books, Capturing Sound: How Technology has Changed Music (2004, rev. ed. 2010), The Violin: A Research and Information Guide (2006), and Groove Music: The Art and Culture of the Hip-Hop DJ (2012). He co-edited the collection “Music, Sound, and Technology in America” (2012). In 2011, he received an Innovation Grant from the Institute for the Arts and Humanities to expand the scope and reach of university-level music pedagogy which resulted in the creation of the Beat Making Lab course. Aimed at students without formal musical training, the course is co-taught with professional musicians and combines instruction in electronic music composition, entrepreneurship, and history. He has been a guest speaker throughout the U.S. and Europe, with talks and lectures at Cambridge, Guelph, Harvard, Minnesota, Northwestern, Oxford, the Sacher Stiftung, and Stanford. He addresses general audiences through radio, newspaper and blog interviews, pre-concert lectures, website chats, and engagements at the Smithsonian Institution, British Library, North Carolina Science Festival, and elsewhere.

Jason Kinnear
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Jason Kinnear is interim associate dean for study abroad and international exchanges in the College of Arts and Sciences. Working in international education since 1998, he has held positions in international students and scholar services, education abroad, and service-learning at the University of Northern Colorado, Colorado State University, and the University of Missouri prior to arriving at UNC-Chapel Hill. These positions have focused on exchange, study abroad, faculty-led, service, and internship programs and touched on all aspects of education abroad program development and administration. Kinnear is active in the NAFSA: Association of International Educators, previously holding state, regional, and national leadership positions and serving on the Work, Intern, Volunteer, and Research Abroad Subcommittee and Trainer Corps. He also served on the Forum on Education Abroad Glossary (Second Edition) Task Force. Kinnear earned a master’s degree in educational leadership from the University of Northern Colorado and is completing a Ph.D. in educational leadership from Colorado State University.

Michael Kris
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Michael Kris is a senior lecturer in the Department of Music in the College of Arts and Sciences and also on the teaching faculty at Duke University and the prestigious Eastern Music Festival. An active ensemble performer, he is second trombone in the Eastern Festival Orchestra, bass trombone with the North Carolina Jazz Repertory Orchestra, and principal trombone of the North Carolina Opera Orchestra, Carolina Ballet Orchestra, and Chamber Orchestra of the Triangle. He is a former member of the North Carolina Symphony, serving as both principal trombone and second trombone,
and has performed with several orchestras throughout the eastern United States. Apart from his large ensemble work, Kris is an active soloist and clinician performing and teaching internationally. Most recently, he was a guest clinician at the Universität Mozarteum in Austria and the Hochschule für Musik und Theater in Germany. At Carolina, he teaches low brass and chamber music, and his research focuses on the use of trombone in ensemble music of the late Renaissance and chamber music of the early Baroque. Kris earned a Bachelor of Music Education from McNeese State University and a Master of Music in trombone performance at the Cincinnati College/Conservatory of Music.

Marc Lange
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Marc Lange is the chair and Theda Perdue Distinguished Professor in the Department of Philosophy and a faculty fellow in the Institute of Arts and Humanities in the College of Arts and Sciences. He specializes in the philosophy of science and related areas of metaphysics and epistemology, including parts of the philosophy of physics, philosophy of biology, and philosophy of mathematics. He is the author of *Laws and Lawmakers: Science, Metaphysics and the Laws of Nature* (2009), *An Introduction to the Philosophy of Physics: Locality, Fields, Energy and Mass* (2002), and *Natural Laws in Scientific Practice* (2000), as well as many book reviews, chapters, articles, and encyclopedia entries. He is associate editor of the *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science* and a member of the editorial board for the *Philosophy of Science*. He earned a Ph.D. in philosophy from the University of Pittsburgh and B.A. in philosophy (highest honors) from Princeton University. Prior to coming to UNC-Chapel Hill in 2003, he was on the faculty at the University of Washington, Seattle, and the University of California, Los Angeles.

Emily Marlton
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Emily Marlton joined the Study Abroad Office in the College of Arts and Sciences in 2011 as the Northern Europe programs director, managing a portfolio of exchange programs and developing faculty-led study abroad programs. She holds a B.S. in international business, a B.A. in French, and an M.A. in international studies. Her experience abroad includes studying in France and the Czech Republic, teaching English in French primary schools, and traveling throughout Western Europe. Marlton worked in the corporate world for several years before transitioning to international education and has worked in university study abroad offices developing and managing exchange and faculty-led programs, advising outgoing study abroad students, and managing the incoming international exchange student process.

Melissa McMurray
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Melissa McMurray serves as international liaison officer in the Global Relations team at UNC Global and is responsible for coordinating and hosting University-wide visits by institutional partners and international delegations, providing protocol guidance, managing the international agreement process, and supporting the University’s partnerships with international institutions. Prior to assuming her current position in April 2012, she served as special assistant for UNC Global, providing support for the directors of development and global relations. Before coming to Carolina in 2004, McMurray
worked with international students at Georgetown University in the English as a Foreign Language Program, coordinating activities, events, student services, and publications. She earned an M.A. in international studies from the University of South Carolina and a B.A. in international relations and Spanish from the University of Richmond, during which she studied abroad in Spain.

Terry Rhodes  
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Terry Rhodes is senior associate dean for fine arts and humanities in the College of Arts and Sciences, overseeing departments including American Studies, Art, Classics, Communication, Dramatic Art and PlayMakers Repertory Company, English and Comparative Literature, Germanic and Slavic Languages and Literatures, Linguistics, Music, Philosophy, Religious Studies, Romance Studies, and Women’s and Gender Studies, as well as the Institute for the Arts and Humanities, Medieval and Early Modern Studies, the Program in Humanities and Human Values, the Carolina Center for Jewish Studies, and the Center for the Study of the American South. She earned a doctor of musical arts and master of music from the Eastman School of Music, University of Rochester, and a bachelor of music from UNC-Chapel Hill. She has been on the Carolina faculty since 1987, serving as opera director and chair from 2009 to 2012. Rhodes has performed across the U.S. and in more than 20 countries in Europe and Central and South America. With Ellen Williams, she recorded “To Sun, To Feast, and To Converse” (Albany Records) of duets from 20th century American song and opera and a CD of vocal music by Libby Larsen. Receiving a Fulbright Award as artist-in-residence/lecturer at the Conservatory of Music in Skopje, Macedonia, Rhodes taught and performed in the Balkans and Eastern Europe, with many presentations under the U.S. Information Agency. As a Chapman Fellow at Carolina’s Institute for the Arts and Humanities, she created the one-woman musical/dramatic show “Women’s Voices of the Old American West,” which she has presented nationally. She has received grants from the Lilly Foundation and the John T. Lupton Fund. Rhodes has evaluated U.S. opera training programs for the National Endowment for the Arts and has performed and taught since 2003 in Spoleto, Italy. She has published in the National Opera Association Journal and the National Association of Teachers of Singing Journal on the “Fort Juniper Songs,” which she premiered at Carnegie Recital Hall. She is a member of the National Opera Association and the National Association of Teachers of Singing. Rhodes also served as co-chair of Carolina’s steering committee for the multi-year academic theme ‘Water in our World’.

Geoffrey Sayre-McCord  
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Geoff Sayre-McCord is the Morehead-Cain Alumni Distinguished Professor in the Department of Philosophy and director of the Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Program in the College of Arts and Sciences. He has published extensively on moral theory, epistemology, and modern philosophy, and has edited Essays on Moral Realism and Hume: Moral Philosophy. Recently, his research has focused on the nature of normative concepts, on evolution and morality, and on Adam Smith’s theory of moral sentiments with publications including "A Moral Argument Against Moral Dilemmas," "Rational Agency and the Nature of Normative Concepts," "Skepticism About Moral Knowledge," "Desires... and Beliefs... Of One's Own," and "Hume and Smith on Sympathy, Approbation and Moral Judgment." He gave "Sentiments and Spectators: Adam Smith’s Theory of Moral Judgment" as the 2009 John Passmore Lecture at the Australian National University. He joined the Carolina faculty in 1985 and served as department chair from 2001 to 2011. He is a Professorial Fellow in Philosophy at the University of Edinburgh.
Sarah Shields
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Sarah Shields is the Bowman and Gordon Gray Distinguished Term Professor and director of graduate studies in the Department of History in the College of Arts and Sciences. Her book, *Fezzes in the River: Identity Politics and European Diplomacy in the Middle East on the Eve of World War II* (Oxford University Press, 2011), is a social and diplomatic history of the contest between France and Turkey over the Sanjak of Alexandretta (1936–1940), an important coastal province. The book explores the development of Turkish nationalism and diplomacy in the early decades of the new republic and analyzes French policy (and perfidy) as Paris struggled to balance commitment to the League of Nations, promises to Damascus protégés, and the need to protect interests in the eastern Mediterranean as anxiety about war escalated. Her previous book, *Mosul before Iraq: Like Bees Making Five-Sided Cells* (State University Press of New York, 2000), analyzes the economy and society of nineteenth-century Mosul and the surrounding region. She is currently researching the long-term impact of the League of Nations on the Middle East. She earned a M.A. from the University of Kansas and Ph.D. from the University of Chicago.

Ron Strauss
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Ron Strauss serves as executive vice provost and chief international officer and holds joint appointments as Dental Friends Distinguished Professor of Dental Ecology in the School of Dentistry, professor of social medicine in the School of Medicine, and clinical professor of epidemiology in the Gillings School of Global Public Health. Since he came to Carolina in 1974, Strauss has sought to help dental and medical professionals understand and address social factors that influence health and the provision of healthcare. For twelve years he was chair of the Department of Dental Ecology. He earned a bachelor’s degree in biology from Queens College and a DMD, master’s, and PhD in sociology from the University of Pennsylvania. Strauss is a trained ethnographer who directs the Office of Community Outreach, Dissemination, and Education of the Center for AIDS Research. His global work has included teaching as a visiting professor in Brazil and Israel and conducting social research in Thailand, Moldova, and China. His research has focused on the social impacts of chronic health problems, combining clinical, social science, ethical, and health policy interests as related to craniofacial care, research participation, HIV/AIDS, stigma, prenatal diagnosis, and access to healthcare. Strauss continues as a clinician on the Craniofacial Center team that provides care for cleft lip/palate and other craniofacial conditions. As executive vice provost, he works closely with the deans’ council to oversee many University core functions, particularly involving academic personnel and interdisciplinary initiatives. He is the liaison to the Appointment, Promotion, and Tenure Committee and chair for the Health Sciences Advisory Committee, Enrollment Policy Advisory Committee, Commencement Speaker Selection, and Commencement Committee, among others. As chief international officer, he provides leadership to the University’s global programs and partnerships. Strauss is active in public service and engagement and is the lead faculty member on the Faculty Engaged Scholars Program of the Carolina Center for Public Service.
Randall Styers
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Randal Styers is associate professor and chair of the Department of Religious Studies in the College of Arts and Sciences. His research and teaching focus on religion in modern Western culture, including the cultural history of the study of religion and religion in various aspects American law and politics, such as gender politics and debates over the relation between religion and science. His first book, *Making Magic: Religion, Magic, and Science in the Modern World*, explored the ways in which scholarly theories of magic have offered thinkers a rich opportunity to articulate a broad range of norms for life in the modern world. He is currently working on a book on the politics of the study of religion in the modern university and is co-editing a volume that explores the ways in which various magical subcultures in the modern world struggle for legitimation. Styers is co-chair of the Cultural History of the Study of Religion Group and co-chair of the Social Theory and Religion Cluster of the American Academy of Religion and is co-chair of the Council on Graduate Studies in Religion. Before joining the Carolina faculty in 2001, he worked as an attorney in Los Angeles and New York and taught philosophy of religion at Union Theological Seminary in New York, where he also served for a period as acting academic dean. He earned A.B. and Ph.D. degrees from Duke University and a J.D. and Master of Arts in religion from Yale University.

Katie Bowler Young
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Katie Bowler Young joined UNC Global as director of global relations in 2011, leading the office as a member of the chief international officer’s leadership team and overseeing international communications, international partnerships, cultural programming, and high-profile international events. She has more than 20 years of experience in communications, with demonstrated expertise in thought leadership, executive communications, internal and external relations, and community relations. Young is also senior editor of *Carolina Passport*, a magazine produced through the office’s internship program. Prior, she was assistant dean for communications at the UNC-Chapel Hill School of Law, where she was editor of *Carolina Law* magazine, and led communications at Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, where she was editor of the award-winning *Global Health* magazine. She has earned awards from the New Orleans Press Club, the American Public Health Association, and the American Association of Port Authorities. Young is the biographer of Mexican sculptor Enrique Alférez (forthcoming, The Historic New Orleans Collection) and the author of *State Street* (Bull City Press, 2009). She earned an MFA in creative writing with a concentration in poetry from Warren Wilson College as the Lisel Mueller Scholar and a Friends of Writers Scholar, and a bachelor’s degree in communications from the University of New Orleans.