

CURRICULUM VITAE

Eric C. Otto, Ph.D.

Professor of Environmental Humanities

College of Arts and Sciences
Florida Gulf Coast University
10501 FGCU Blvd. South
Fort Myers, FL 33965
phone: (239) 590-7250
email: eotto@fgcu.edu

Education:

Ph.D. in English, University of Florida (May 2006)

Focus: American Literature, Literature and Environment

Dissertation: *Science Fiction and the Ecological Conscience*

Director: Andrew Gordon

Committee: Sidney Dobrin, Philip Wegner, Bron Taylor

M.A. in English, University of Florida (December 2002)

Focus: American Literature

Thesis: "Speculating a Sustainable Future: Science Fiction and the Pedagogy of Ecological Literacy"

Director: Andrew Gordon

Thesis Reader: Sidney Dobrin

B.A. in Liberal Studies-English, *magna cum laude*, Florida Gulf Coast University (May 2000)

Teaching and Administrative Experience:

Professor of Environmental Humanities, Florida Gulf Coast University (August 2019-Present).

Director of General Education, Florida Gulf Coast University (January 2015-June 2021).

Associate Professor of Environmental Humanities, Florida Gulf Coast University (August 2012-July 2019).

Interim Program Leader, Integrated Studies, Florida Gulf Coast University (August 2016-May 2017).

Assistant Professor of Environmental Humanities, Florida Gulf Coast University (August 2007-July 2012).

Lecturer in English, Penn State Erie, The Behrend College (August 2006-May 2007).

Teaching Interests:

Environmental humanities; environmental literature; environmentalism; science fiction studies; science and technology studies; comics and culture/environment.

Scholarly Publications:

Book

Green Speculations: Science Fiction and Transformative Environmentalism. Columbus: Ohio State UP, 2012.

Book Chapters

“Infusing Sustainability Across the Curriculum,” with Brendan Bevins, Diane Bondehagen, Jessica Marcolini, Maria F. Loffredo Roca, Tunde Szecsi, Sasha Wohlpart, and Hulya Julie Yazici. *Making the Sustainable University: Trials and Tribulations*. Eds. Katie Leone, Simeon Komisar, and Edwin M. Everham III. Springer, 2021

“Killing Oliver Queen: Environmentalist Meaning and Demeaning in *Green Arrow*.” *EcoComix: Ecocriticism and Comics Studies*. Ed. Sidney I. Dobrin. McFarland Press, 2020.

“Science Fiction and the Revenge of Nature: Environmentalism (1990s-2010s).” *The Cambridge History of Science Fiction*. Eds. Gerry Canavan and Eric Carl Link. Cambridge UP, 2019.

“Leadership through Service: Advancing Social Justice through Intergenerational Learning at Florida Gulf Coast University,” with A. James Wohlpart, Madina Behori, Jessica Drummond, David Green, Faith Hawk, Brandon P. Hollingshead, Brandon W. Kliever, Lauren Morimanno, Jameson Moschella, Mario Roche, Jessica Sauer, and Sasha Linsin Wohlpart. *Intergenerational Learning and Transformative Leadership for Sustainable Futures*. Eds. Peter Blaze Corcoran and Brandon P. Hollingshead. Wageningen, The Netherlands: Wageningen Academic Publishers, 2014. 377-384.

“Environmentalism.” *SF 101: A Guide to Teaching and Studying Science Fiction*. Eds. Ritch Calvin, Doug Davis, Karen Hellekson, and Craig Jacobsen. Science Fiction Research Association, 2014.

“‘The Rain Feels New’: Ecotopian Strategies in the Short Fiction of Paolo Bacigalupi.” *Green Planets: Ecology and Science Fiction*. Eds. Gerry Canavan and Kim Stanley Robinson. Hanover: Wesleyan UP, 2014. 179-191.

“Ecofeminist Theories of Liberation in the Science Fiction of Sally Miller Gearhart, Ursula K. Le Guin, and Joan Slonczewski.” *Feminist Ecocriticism*. Ed. Douglas Vakoch. Lanham, MD: Lexington, 2012. 13-38.

“Harnessing Time Travel Narratives for Environmental Sustainability Education,” with Andrew Wilkinson. *Learning for Sustainability in Times of Accelerating Change*. Eds. Peter Blaze Corcoran and Arjen Wals. Wageningen, The Netherlands: Wageningen Academic Publishers, 2012. 91-104.

- “Kim Stanley Robinson’s *Mars* Trilogy and the Leopoldian Land Ethic.” (Republished). *Kim Stanley Robinson Maps the Unimaginable: Critical Essays*. Ed. William Burling. Jefferson: McFarland, 2009. 242-256.
- “Science Fiction and Transformative Ecological Politics: Biocentric Wisdom in Three Early Works.” *The Everyday Fantastic: Essays on Science Fiction and Human Being*. Ed. Michael Berman. Newcastle, UK: Cambridge Scholars, 2008. 31-48.
- “Ecocomposition, Activist Writing, and Natural Ecosystems: A Response to Janisse Ray.” *Writing Environments*. Eds. Sid Dobrin and Chris Keller. Albany: State U of New York P, 2004. 143-148.

Journal Articles

- “Evidence of the ‘Slippery Slope’ to Censorship: The Story from Florida and Collier County.” *Journal of Intellectual Freedom and Privacy* 3.3-4 (2017): 20-30.
- “‘From a certain angle’: Ecothriller Reading and Science Fiction Reading *The Swarm* and *The Rapture*.” *Ecozon@: European Journal of Literature, Culture and Environment* 3.2 (2012): 106-121.
- “Creating a Culture of Sustainability: Infusing Sustainability into the Humanities,” with A. James Wohlpart. *Journal of Education for Sustainable Development* 3.2 (2009): 231-235.
- “Approaches to Teaching Pohl and Kornbluth’s *The Space Merchants*.” *SFRA Review* 281 (2007). 22-24.
- “Jazz in the English Classroom: Langston Hughes’ ‘Theme for English B’ and Bebop Identity [Form]ation.” *Teaching American Literature: A Journal of Theory and Practice* 1.1 (2007).
- “Kim Stanley Robinson’s *Mars* Trilogy and the Leopoldian Land Ethic.” *Utopian Studies* 14.2 (2003): 118-135.

Book Review

- Loanwords for the Anthropocene: On Matthew Schneider-Mayerson and Brent Ryan Bellamy’s “An Ecotopian Lexicon.” *Los Angeles Review of Books* (April 2020).

Interviews, as interviewer

- “On the Fakahatchee and Susan Orlean’s *The Orchid Thief*: An Interview with Mike Owen, a Park Biologist.” *Interdisciplinary Literary Studies* 10.2 (2009): 99-113.

Interviews, as interviewee, or offering expert commentary

- Tampa Bay Times* Gradebook, with Jeffrey Solochech (May 2018).

- “Eric Otto and Environmental Science Fiction.” *New Rural* (June 2017):

- “‘Dune,’ climate fiction pioneer: The ecological lessons of Frank Herbert’s sci-fi masterpiece were ahead of its time.” *Salon* (Aug. 2015).

Reference entries

“Environmental Science Fiction.” *Women in Science Fiction and Fantasy: An Encyclopedia*. Ed. Robin Reid. Westport: Greenwood, 2009. 99-102.

“Gearhart, Sally Miller.” *Women in Science Fiction and Fantasy: An Encyclopedia*. Ed. Robin Reid. Westport: Greenwood, 2009. 135-136.

Creative Publications:

“egress platform,” “falling away,” “in the cracks,” and “mission.” *Scifaikuest* (February 2017).

“baby’s breath.” *Scifaikuest* (November 2016).

“before the great upload,” “beside the forlorn robot,” and “her fingerprints.” *Dwarf Stars: The Very Best Short Speculative Poems Published in 2015*. (June 2015).

“Used.” *Strange Horizons* (Summer 2014).

“above” and “cover crop.” *Modern Haiku* 45.2 (Summer 2014).

“Disparity.” *Right Hand Pointing* (Summer 2014).

“Written Subject Disclosure” and “Zombie Dinerku.” *The Found Poetry Review* 7 (Spring 2014).

Featured poet. *Scifaikuest* (May 2014). Twenty invited poems: “from sample to sample,” “a hundred years out,” “powered descent,” “their eyes,” “chirps and whale song,” “fuzz fuzz fuzz,” “on the maglev to utopia,” “12 11 10,” “carbon,” “translator glitch,” “nano-drone war,” “space,” “suns rising,” “faces pressed,” “beside the forlorn robot,” “thebigcrunchtheory,” “her fingerprints,” “pad thai,” “algorithmic insight,” and “the urge to chase myself .”

“Size.” *One Sentence Poems* (May 2014).

“The Box.” Silver Birch Press (April 2014).

“martha.” *The Journal of Compressed Creative Arts* (March 2014).

“ten” and “That Year.” **82 Review* 2.1 (Spring 2014).

“Chimes of the Gyre.” *Mirror Dance* (Spring 2014).

“evening concert.” *A Hundred Gourds* 3.2 (March 2014).

“last leaf falling,” “the astrodentist,” “the alien counts,” and “before the great upload.” *Scifaikuest* (February 2014).

“Golden.” *Red River Review* (February 2014).

“after the long sleep.” *Star*Line* 37.1 (January 2014).

“Border Ecology” and “Trepidation About My Rite of Passage.” Honorable Mention, *The Found Poetry Review* Dog-Ear Poetry Contest (December 2013).

“Puzzling Would Be Truer.” *Stymie: A Journal of Sport & Literature* (December 2013).

“school of mullet” and “street lamp.” *A Hundred Gourds* 3.1 (December 2013).

“Asleep.” *Project Agent Orange* (November 2013).

“genetics lab.” *Prune Juice: Journal of Senryu, Kyoka & Haiga* 11 (November 2013).

“dressed in black shards.” *Scifaikuest* (November 2013).

“Wildflowers.” *Red River Review* (November 2013).

“Denial.” *Word Riot* (October 2013).

“the university lab.” *Star*Line* 36.4 (October 2013).

“Jozef.” *The Orange Room Review* (October 2013).

“Okra.” *Boston Literary Magazine* (September 2013).

Professional Presentations:

“All Aboard the S.S. Eschatology: Gamifying the Large-Lecture Class for Critical Thinking and Intercultural Knowledge,” with Roberto Garcia, Mary Cecile Gayoso, Miles Mancini, and Maria Roca. The Twenty-First Annual Convention of the Media Ecology Association. June 2020.

“Environmental Science Fiction” and “Technology and Culture in YA Science Fiction,” two invited panel presentations. *Escape Velocity 2019: From Imagination to Reality*. Washington DC. May 2019.

“Don’t Gamble with a Core Value: New Intellectual Freedom Issues and the Role of Florida Librarians,” an invited panel presentation. 2019 Florida Library Association Annual Conference. Orlando, Florida. May 2019.

“Monsters and Mayhem: How Scenario-Based Learning and Gamification Engage Communication & Global Community/Ethics in the Classroom,” with Roberto Garcia, Miles Mancini, Joana Edme (student), Alicia Frank (student), Sulinez Santos (student), Jacob Fratti (student), Mark Terwilliger (student), and Ashley Papp (student). Florida Communication Association’s 88th Annual Convention. Orlando, Florida. October 2018.

- “Robots and AI in Middle-Grade Science Fiction.” The 39th International Conference on the Fantastic in the Arts. Orlando, Florida. March 2018.
- “Playing Apocalypse: A Role-Immersion Strategy for Student Engagement,” with Roberto Garcia, Andrea Jarquin (student), Miles Mancini, Nicole Valledor (student), Sam Walch, and Andrew Wilkinson. Fantastic Epics: The 38th International Conference on the Fantastic in the Arts. Orlando, Florida. March 2017.
- “Making the Most of a Mandate: General Education Program Revision at FGCU.” Association for General and Liberal Studies 56th Annual Conference. Inclusion and Integration in General and Liberal Education: Reimagining Campus Communities. Salt Lake City, Utah. September-October, 2016.
- “Creating and Developing a Collective-Impact Model Program that works for your institution and your community,” with Jessica Rhea and Brandon Hollingshead. Florida Campus Compact 2015 Annual Conference. Forward Together: Strengthening Florida’s Higher Education Engagement Network. Boca Raton, Florida. November 2015.
- “Jeff Lemire’s *Trillium* and the Generative Function of the Third.” Science Fiction Research Association Annual Conference. Stony Brook, New York. June 2015.
- “Changing the Classroom Narrative: How Scenario-Based Learning Creates Winners in the Classroom,” with Roberto Garcia, Victoria Hill, Miles Mancini, Sam Walch, and Andrew Wilkinson. International Listening Association’s 35th Annual Convention. Minneapolis, Minnesota. March 2014.
- “Change from Above: Transforming Curricular Change from Top-Down to Collectively Owned,” with Carolynne Gischel, Kris De Welde, and A. James Wohlpart. AAC&U, General Education and Assessment: Disruptions, Innovations, and Opportunities. Portland, Oregon. February-March 2014.
- “Living the Mission: Approaches for Campus-Community Partnerships Across the Curriculum,” with Brandon P. Hollingshead, Sarah W. Davis, Brandon W. Kliever, and Jessica Rhea. Third Annual Eastern Region Campus Compact Conference. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. October 2013.
- “Acting Apocalypse: Scenario-Based Learning for Critical Thinking in the Science Fiction Classroom,” with Meghan Astley and Miles Mancini. The 2013 Eaton Science Fiction Conference. Riverside, California. April 2013.
- “Frank Herbert’s *Dune* and the Part-of-Nature Problematic.” Science Fiction Research Association Annual Conference. Detroit, Michigan. June 2012.
- “Apocalyptic Visions to Everyday Life: How We Use Scenario-Based Learning, Listening, and Public Speaking to Develop and Enhance Community in the Classroom,” with Dean Davis, Miles Mancini, Cathy Norris, and Jamie Wilson. Florida Communication Association 2011 Convention. Orlando, Florida. October 2011.

- “Creative Approaches to the Large Lecture: Characters and Scenario-Based Learning,” with Miles Mancini, Sam Walch, and Andrew Wilkinson. FGCU College of Arts and Sciences Teaching Innovation Series. Fort Myers, Florida. March 2011.
- “Environmental Humanities and Wings of Hope,” with Ricky Pires. FGCU College of Arts and Sciences Teaching Innovation Series. Fort Myers, Florida. February 2011.
- “Re-Thinking Materialism.” Terry Tempest Williams Student Dialogue 2010. Fort Myers, Florida. November 2010.
- “Transition and Transformation.” English Graduate Organization at UF 2010 Conference. Gainesville, Florida. October 2010. (Invited presentation).
- “The Sense of Wonder and an Ethics of Ecological Difference.” Science Fiction Research Association Annual Conference. Carefree, Arizona. June 2010.
- “Ecodystopian Imaginings and Our Ecological Future: Brunner’s *Stand on Zanzibar* and *The Sheep Look Up*.” Science Fiction Research Association Annual Conference. Atlanta, Georgia. May 2009.
- “Girls’ Work: The Eco-Heroine in the Films of Hayao Miyazaki,” with Maria Roca. Time and the Fantastic: The 30th International Conference on the Fantastic in the Arts. Orlando, Florida. March, 2009.
- “Recapturing Science Fiction’s ‘Sense of Wonder’ in the Environmentalist Age.” The Sublime in the Fantastic: The 29th International Conference on the Fantastic in the Arts. Orlando, Florida. March, 2008.
- “Science Fiction and the Rhetoric of Meat Envy.” Focus the Nation: Global Warming Solutions for America. Florida Gulf Coast University. Fort Myers, Florida. January, 2008.
- “New Worlds to Conquer: An Ecocritical Look at *The Space Merchants*.” Science Fiction Research Association Annual Conference. Kansas City, Missouri. July 2007.
- “Invasive Species: Preserving the Ecology of Discourse.” Northeast Modern Language Association Annual Conference. Baltimore, Maryland. March 2007.
- “Science Fiction and the Subversive Subject of Ecology.” The Uses of the Science Fiction Genre: An Interdisciplinary Symposium. Brock University. Ontario, Canada. October 2005.
- “Frank Herbert’s *Dune* and Ecological Literacy.” South Atlantic Modern Language Association Annual Conference. Atlanta, Georgia. November 2003.
- “Kim Stanley Robinson’s *Mars* Trilogy and the Leopoldian Land Ethic.” 27th Annual Meeting of the Society for Utopian Studies. Orlando, Florida. October 2002.

“Music in the English Classroom: Langston Hughes’s ‘Theme for English B’ and Bebop Identity [Form]ation.” Florida College English Association Annual Meeting. Sanford, Florida. October 2001.

University Service:

- Enrollment Management Council, Fall 2018-Fall 2019.
- Acute Needs Design Team, Spring 2018.
- Taskforce on Student Success Faculty Involvement Group, Spring 2017.
- Lucas Center Symposium Planning Committee, Fall 2016-Present.
- Integrating Sustainability across the Curriculum steering committee member, Fall 2015-Present.
- FGCU Community Engagement Day Judge, Spring 2016, 2017, 2018.
- FGCU Research Day Oral Presentation Judge, Spring 2016, 2017, 2018.
- Selection Committee, 2016-2017 FGCU Excellence in Mentoring Awards, Spring 2017.
- University Colloquium Reaffirmation Team, Fall 2015-Spring 2016.
- Lucas Center faculty book club facilitator, Fall 2015, Spring 2018.
- FGCU Carnegie Classification Committee, Fall 2013.
- FGCU Live-Learn Community faculty co-planner and participant, Fall 2012-Fall 2014.
- Chair, General Education Council, Fall 2011-Fall 2015.
- Outcomes Assessment task force, General Education Council representative, Fall 2011-Spring 2012.
- Search Committees:
 - Associate Vice President, Enrollment Management, Fall 2018-Spring 2019
 - Colloquium Instructor, Fall 2017
 - Lucas Center Office Manager, Fall 2017
 - Associate Dean, Undergraduate Studies, Summer 2017 (committee chair)
 - Colloquium, Instructor (x3), Spring 2017
 - Dean, Undergraduate Studies, Spring 2016
 - Director, First-Year Experience, Fall 2014
 - Colloquium, Assistant Professor, Fall 2013
- Honors Environmental and Ecological Stewardship track co-planner, Spring 2009.
- Student Learning Outcomes and Goals task force, General Education Council representative, Spring 2009.
- International Humanities and Sustainability Conference co-organizer, Fall 2008, Spring 2010.
- Honors Research Committees:
 - Meghan Astley (BA), 2013
 - Kersey Voss (BA), 2013
 - Sarah Burt (BA), 2011
 - Elizabeth Skaates (BA), 2011

College of Arts and Sciences Service:

- Interim Program Leader, Integrated Studies, Fall 2016-Spring 2017.
- General Education Council CAS representative, Fall 2007-Fall 2015.

- University Colloquium Advisory Council CAS representative, Fall 2011-Fall 2014.
- Search Committee:
 - Composition Instructor, Spring 2009
- Senior Art Project Critiques:
 - William Bradley, Fall 2011
 - Jacob McDowell, Spring 2010
 - Jessica Osceola, Spring 2008

Department Service:

- Environmental Humanities course coordinator, August 2007-Present.
- Search Committees:
 - Integrated Studies Assistant Professor, Fall 2019 (committee chair)
 - Integrated Studies Administrative Specialist, Spring 2018
 - Interdisciplinary Studies/Civic Engagement Instructor, Fall 2011

Professional Service:

- Book manuscript reviews:
 - Katherine Bishop, David Higgins, and Jerry Määttä, *Speculative Vegetation: Plants in Science Fiction*. U of Wales P.
 - Milner, Andrew and J.R. Burgmann, *Science Fiction and Climate Change*. Liverpool: Liverpool UP.
 - Tidwell, Christy and Bridgitte Barclay, *Gender and Environment in Science Fiction*. Lexington Books.
 - Pak, Chris. *Terraforming: Ecopolitical Transformations and Environmentalism in Science Fiction*. Liverpool: Liverpool UP.
 - Gutierrez-Jones, Carl. *Creative Self-Destruction*. New York: Cambridge UP.
 - James, Erin. *The Storyworld Accord: Econarratology and Postcolonial Narratives*. Lincoln: U of Nebraska P.
- Science Fiction Research Association graduate student paper award committee, Fall 2012-Spring 2015. (Chair, Spring 2015).
- Chair of “Environmental Science Fiction and the Non-Urban Scape,” a panel for the Science Fiction Research Association Annual Conference. Detroit, Michigan. June 2012.
- Thesis Reader:
 - Brendan David Ward (MA, Rhodes University), 2015
 - Elzette Steenkamp (PhD, Rhodes University), 2011
- Affiliate Liaison, ASLE-SFRA professional affiliation (2010-2016).
- Chair of “What’s this Science Fiction Doing in/to/for My Environmentalism?,” a panel for the 9th Biennial Conference of the Association for the Study of Literature and Environment, Bloomington, Indiana. June 21-26, 2011.
- Chair of “Environmental Science Fiction I,” a panel for the Science Fiction Research Association Annual Conference. Carefree, Arizona. June 2010.
- Outside reviews for submissions to the following scholarly journals:
 - *Concentric: Literary and Cultural Studies*
 - *Ecozona@: European Journal of Literature, Culture and Environment*

- *Extrapolation*
- *Genre: Forms of Discourse and Culture*
- *Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment*
- *Literature & Medicine*
- *Open Library of Humanities*
- *Resilience: A Journal of the Environmental Humanities*
- *Science Fiction Film and Television*
- *Science Fiction Studies*
- *Studies in the Novel*
- *Tamkang Review*
- *Trace: A Journal of Writing, Media, and Ecology*
- *Transformations: The Journal of Inclusive Scholarship and Pedagogy*
- *Western American Literature*
- Chair of “Visions of Apocalypse,” a panel for Race and the Fantastic: The 31st International Conference on the Fantastic in the Arts, Orlando, Florida. March, 2010.

Newspaper, Radio, and Television Interviews:

- Florida Gulf Coast University: Then and Now. “Graduation Check.” Spring, 2017.
- FGCU 20th Anniversary Oral History Project, Fall 2016.
- Naples Daily News, September 3rd, 2010. “Profit margin: Book for FGCU class reselling for much more than it cost.”
- The Investigators, NBC2, Fort Myers, FL (January 13th, 2010). Discussed “freeganism” with NBC2’s investigative reporter Amy Oshier.
- Arts Edition, WGPU 90.1 FM, Fort Myers, FL (August 5th, 2005). Discussed my Spring 2005 Composition class’s book project—*The Mirror of Our Selves: Essays on Experience*—with public radio host Kathleen Moye.

Grants Awarded:

- FGCU Professional Development Grant.
 - Spring 2013
 - Spring 2012
 - Spring 2010
- Center for Environmental and Sustainability Education Earth Charter Mini-Grant (with Brandon Hollingshead). Spring 2013.
- Florida Gulf Coast University Creative Course Design in General Education Faculty Grant (with Miles Mancini, Sam Walch, and Andrew Wilkinson). Spring 2011.
- Center for Environmental and Sustainability Education Earth Charter Mini-Grant (with Miles Mancini, Sam Walch, and Andrew Wilkinson). Summer 2010.

Awards:

- AGLS Exemplary Program Award for General Education, Fall 2016.
- Team Faculty Service Excellence Award, General Education Council, 2013-2014.