

DENISE PILATO

Associate Professor

College of Technology Studies, Eastern Michigan University

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EDUCATION

Michigan State University	Doctor of Philosophy American Studies	1998
Michigan State University	Master of Arts American Studies	1992
Oakland University	Bachelor of Arts English, History & Anthropology minor	1991

TEACHING

Associate Professor	Eastern Michigan University, College of Technology, School of Technology Studies Courses: <i>Study Abroad, Naples, Italy, Program in Social Impact of Technology; Introduction to Interdisciplinary Technology & Values; History of Technology; Technology and Culture; Technology, Gender, and Pop Culture; Car Culture; Understanding Technology</i> May 1998 - present
Assistant Professor	Michigan State University, College of Natural Science, Lyman Briggs Courses: <i>Introduction to Science & Technology through Literature and Writing; Technology & Culture; Senior Seminar on Technology and Values</i> Jan 1996 – July 2000
Assistant Professor	Central Michigan University, Extended Degree Program, Humanities Courses: <i>American Individualism; American Literature: Colonial to Romantic Period (1620-1870),</i> Sept 1996 - 1999
Assistant Professor	Mott Community College, Humanities Department, <i>English Composition & Rhetoric</i> , Sept 1995 - May 1996

Graduate Instructor	Michigan State University, Integrative Studies Program, <i>United States and the World, Integrative Studies in Arts and Humanities</i> , Sept 1995 - Dec 1995
Graduate Instructor	Michigan State University, English Department, <i>Themes & Genres in American Literature</i> , Sept 1994 - May 1995
Teaching Assistant	Oakland University, Anthropology Department, <i>Introduction to Anthropology</i> , Jan 1990 - May 1990

PUBLICATIONS (*refereed)

- 2008 * Signal Success: An Illuminating History of One Woman, One Invention” in *Scientific Cultures, Technological Challenges: A Transatlantic Perspective*. Expected, summer of 2009 by the Universitätsverlag Winter (UWH) Heidelberg, Germany
- 2007 * “The Use of Coston Flares by the U.S. Navy in Civil War Blockade Operations: “A Powerful Auxiliary of Incalculable Value” *Minerva: Women & War*. Expected Publication Date: Fall 2008
- 2004 * “Representations of Technology and Industry in Midwestern Literature” *Dictionary of Midwestern Literature*, Vol 2. Expected Publication Date: 2008
- 2004 * “The Dymaxion House: Efficiency vs. Human Values” *International Journal of the Humanities*, Vol. 2, No. 3 (<http://ijh.cgpublisher.com/product/pub.26/prod.327>)
- 2002 * “Martha Coston: A Woman, a War, and a Signal to the World” *International Journal of Naval History*, Vol. 1, April (<http://www.ijnhonline.org>)
- 2000 * *Retrieval of a Legacy: Nineteenth Century American Women Inventors*. Westport, CT: Praeger Publishers
- 1997 * “A Bibliography for the Cross-Culture Study of Women’s Lives” (co-authored with Judith K. Brown and Therese Sarah) *in Women Among Women: Anthropological Perspectives on Women’s Age Hierarchies*. Jeanette Dickerson-Putnam and Judith K. Brown, Eds. Urbana, IL:

University of Illinois

1997

African American Quilting in Michigan by Marsha MacDowell (contributor: oral histories). East Lansing, MI, Michigan State University Press

WORK IN PROGRESS

Book Proposal:

Battlefields and Boundaries: Civil War Women Inventors
(tentative title)

SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS (*refereed)

Fulbright Lecture Series: Media, Technology, Society
Amerika-Institut
Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität
Munich, Germany
May 6, 2008

Trans Atlantic Adventure Seminar/conference
60th Anniversary of the Fulbright Program in Italy
University of Catania, Sicily
Seminar/conference
April 2, 2008

*“The Use of Coston Flares by the U.S. Navy in Civil War Blockade Operations:
“A Powerful Auxiliary of Incalculable Value”
2007 Naval History Symposium
United States Naval Academy
Annapolis, Maryland
September 20-22, 2007

*“Martha J. Coston: An Illuminating History”
Society of Women & the Civil War
Pennsylvania
July 19-22, 2007

“Contested Space: A Performance, Sexism and the Law, 1870”
Western Connecticut State University
Danbury, Connecticut
Women’s History Month Invited Presentation
March 27, 2006

* “Contested Space, Contested Knowledge: Women Inventors and the Legal System”

Humanities and Technology Association
Annual Conference
Salt Lake City, Utah
October 6-8, 2005

* “Breaking Out: The Museum as Classroom in Interdisciplinary Teaching”

International Society for Exploring Teaching and Learning
Thirty-Fourth Annual Conference
Baltimore, Maryland
October 14-16, 2004

* “The Dymaxion House: Efficiency vs. Human Values”

Humanities 2004, Second International Conference on New Directions in the Humanities
University of Monash Center
Prato, Italy
July 20-23, 2004

“Computer Science and Gender Diversity”

Eastern Michigan University, Computer Science Club
Invited Presentation
February 18, 2004

* “Critical Thinking with Material Culture Through Digital Images”

International Society for Exploring Teaching and Learning
Fort Collins, CO
October 16-18, 2003

“Women of Invention”

Oakland Schools, Cable TV
Pontiac, Michigan
May, 7, 2003

“Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Edison, and the Nanotech Generation”

University of Michigan, Doctoral Seminar, Engineering Research Center for Wireless Integrated Microsystems
October, 10, 2002

* “Martha J. Coston’s International Strategies & Successes”

International Committee on the History of Technology
Granada, Spain
June 24-28, 2002

* “Martha J. Coston: A Woman, a War, and a Signal to the World”
 Department of the Navy
 Fifteenth Naval History Symposium
 Annapolis, Maryland
 September, 12-13, 2001 [cancelled]

“Historical Perspective of Innovation”
 Eastern Michigan University
 20th Annual Spring Lecture Series
 May 16, 2001

“Legacy Retrieval: America’s First Professional Women Inventors”
 Oakland University, Rochester, MI
 American Studies and Women’s Studies Public Lecture
 February 5, 2001

* “The Role of Material Culture in Teaching”
 American Studies Association Annual Meeting
 Workshop Presentation at Henry Ford Museum,
 Detroit, Michigan, October 12, 2000

* “The Civil War: Impetus to Inventing Women”
 Society for the History of Technology
 Panel Presentation: “New Light on Women Inventors: The
 First 200 Years”
 Pasadena, CA, Oct 1997

* “A Taste of Colonial New England in Harriet Beecher Stowe’s *Oldtown Folks*”
 American Studies Association Annual Meeting
 Philadelphia, PA, Apr 1995

“Nineteenth Century Women Inventors: Retrieval of a Legacy”-
 Oakland University, Anthropology Honors 206, *Women in Charge:
 Anthropological Perspectives on Women as Leaders*, Nov 1994

“Exhibit Decisions and Recovery History: Nineteenth Century Women
 Inventors” - Michigan State University English Department presentation at
 Henry Ford Museum, *Changemakers: The Literature of Innovation and
 Resourcefulness in American Life*, July 1993

* “Museum Research in the Henry Ford Museum: Custom Automobile
 Design History and the Willoughby Car Company” -
 American Studies Association Annual Meeting
 New Orleans, LA, Apr 1993

“A Representative History of Custom Automobile Design in Early 20th Century America: Francis Willoughby and the Willoughby Car Company”- Simmons Senior Internship Presentation, Henry Ford Museum, Aug 1992

UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATIVE & PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

PhD – Technology Studies	Active committee member, program design, curriculum development, and strategic planning Current - 2007
Master of Science in Technology Studies	Program Coordinator, Advisor, and Thesis Director Current - 2000
Graduate Research Fair	Annual graduate symposium Regular sponsor Current –2002
College of Technology International Activities Committee	Design and implementation of Italy Study Abroad Program in 2005, 2006 and 2009; faculty sponsor for International Student Week activities
Graduate Council	School of Technology Studies Representative for graduate issues 2004- 2002
College of Technology Strategic Planning	Interdisciplinary Technology Representative from concept stage to final document 2004 - 2001
Creative Initiatives	Eastern Michigan University member in research and design for innovative practices in graduate education 2003 - 2004
Cross-Cutting International Initiatives & Programming	Invited member, contributed research summaries re: best international practices at selected institutions 2004
Educational Consultant	Megatech Academy, Developed partnership Bachelor degree in Vehicle Design with Central Michigan University May 1995 - Sept 1997
Assistant to the Director	Kresge Art Museum, Michigan State University, Aug 1993 - May 1996

Assistant to the Director	American Studies Program, Michigan State University, Mar 1992 - May 1994
Assistant Editor	<i>Muses</i> , an annual publication of the College of Arts & Letters, Michigan State University, Dec 1991 - April 1993
Research Associate	Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village, <i>Made in America</i> exhibit, Jan 1990 - Nov 1992
Simmons Senior Internship	Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village, Francis Willoughby Custom Automotive Design Collection, May - Nov 1992
Research Associate	Michigan State University Museum, African American Oral History Project, Sept 1990 - May 1991

HONORS, AWARDS, and GRANTS

Fulbright Scholarship, American Studies/Literature, 2008
 College of Technology & School of Technology Studies, Travel Award, 2007, 2006, &
 2005
 National Science Foundation, Nanotechnology Undergraduate Education,
 Nanotechnology Curriculum Development, 2004
 College of Technology and World College Travel Grant, Eastern Michigan University,
 Summer, 2004
 Outstanding Faculty Award, College of Technology, Eastern Michigan University, 2003
 Josephine Nevins Keal Award, Spring, 2002
 World College Travel Grant, Eastern Michigan University, Spring 2002
 Provost's Research Award for New Faculty, 2001, Eastern Michigan University
 American Studies Fellowship, Michigan State University, 1993 & 1992
 Simmons Senior Internship, Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village, 1992
 Oakland University Undergraduate Distinguished Achievement Award (one awarded
 annually), 1990
 Oakland University College of Arts and Sciences Meritorious Achievement Award (one of two awarded
 annually), 1990
 William Morris Foundation Scholarship, Oakland University, 1989-1990