

# LISA GABBERT

Associate Professor

2 page vitae

Department of English  
3200 Old Main Hill

Utah State University  
Logan, UT 84322-3200

office ph.: (435) 797-2721  
email: [lisa.gabbert@usu.edu](mailto:lisa.gabbert@usu.edu)

Dr. Lisa Gabbert specializes in Folklore Studies. Her research interests include landscape and place; festivals, monsters and play; and humor and folklore in medical contexts. She is former Director of the Folklore Program (2013-2019); served on the Executive Board of the American Folklore Society (2011-2013); and was a visiting Professor at Ritsumeikan University in Kyoto (2015). She held an Archie Green Fellowship from the Library of Congress from 2019-2020 for her work on folklore in organized medicine.

## EDUCATION

- Combined PhD Folklore and American Studies, Indiana University-Bloomington, 2003.  
Dissertation: "Performing Place: Folklore and Modernity in the Payette Lakes Area."
- M.A. Folklore and Mythology Program, UCLA, 1995.
- A.B. English Literature, Georgetown University, 1991.

## POSITIONS HELD

Associate Professor, Department of English, Utah State University, 2011–present.

Visiting Professor, Department of Communication, Ritsumeikan University, Kyoto, Japan. Fall 2015.

Assistant Professor, Department of English, Utah State University, 2004-2011.

## BOOKS

(in progress). *The Medical Carnavalesque: Suffering and Laughter among Physicians*.

with Keiko Wells. *An Introduction to Vernacular Culture in America: Society, Region, and Tradition*. Tokyo, Japan: Maruzen Press, 2017. (now in 3d printing.)

*Winter Carnival in a Western Town: Identity, Change, and the Good of the Community*. Utah State University Press, 2011.

- Selected for the 2014 *Fall for the Book Festival*, George Mason University/City of Fairfax, VA.

## SELECTED REFERRED PUBLICATIONS

in press. "Monsters, Legends, and Festivals: Sharlie, Winter Carnival, and other Isomorphic Relationships." In *Legendary North American Monsters*, ed. David Puglia. Logan: Utah State University Press.

"Suffering in Medical Contexts: Laughter, Humor, and the Medical Carnavalesque." *Journal of American Folklore* 133/527:1-24 (2020).

"Folk Drama and Festival." *Oxford Handbook of American Folklore and Folklife*, ed. Simon Bronner. Oxford: Oxford University Press. 2018, digital edition, 2019, print.

"Folk Drama." In "The Challenge of Folklore to the Humanities," a special issue of *Humanities*, ed. Dan Ben-Amos. 7/1 (2018).

"Iryo-genba no yumoa ni miru kurushimi to warai" (Suffering and Laughter in Medical Comedy.) 「医療現場のユーモアに見る苦しみと笑い」 trans. by Noriko Nakagawa. 中川典子 訳. Shibunkaku-shuppan, Kyoto 思文閣出版, 2018.

“Legend Quests and the Curious Case of St. Anne’s Retreat: The Performative Landscape.” In *Putting the Supernatural in its Place*, ed. Jeanie Thomas, pp. 146–69. University of Utah Press, 2015.

“Reorganizing Space, Negotiating Identity: The Use of Placenames in Ordinary Conversation.” *Glimpse: The Art and Science of Seeing*. 8/2(2011): 54–59.

“Hybridities, New Authenticities, Power: An Ethnographic Example of a Local Heritage Site.” In *Cartographies of Culture: Memory, Space, Representation*, ed. Wojciech Kalaga and Marzena Kubisz, 59–71. Frankfurt am Main: Peter Lang, 2010.

“Exploring Local Communities: Conducting Ethnographic Research in Folklore Studies.” *CUR Quarterly*, 30/4 (2010):37–42.

with Anton Salud, MD. “On Slanderous Words and Bodies Out-of-Control: Hospital Humor and the Medical Carnavalesque.” In *The Body in Medical Culture*, ed. Elizabeth Klaver, 209–27. SUNY Press, 2009.

“McCall’s Winter Carnival: Folklore in Snow.” *Idaho Yesterdays* 49/1(2008):28–41.

with Paul Jordan-Smith. “Space, Place, Emergence.” Introduction to *Space, Place, Emergence*, a special issue of *Western Folklore* 66/3-4 (2007):217–32.

“Situating the Local by Inventing the Global: Community Festival and Social Change.” In *Space, Place, Emergence*, a special issue of *Western Folklore* 66/3-4 (2007):259–80.

“Distanciation and the Recontextualization of Space: Finding One’s Way in a Small Western Community.” *Journal of American Folklore* 120/476 (2007):178–203.

### **SELECTED PRIZES, AWARDS, GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS**

Archie Green Fellow, American Folklife Center, Library of Congress, 2019-2020. Selected as a research fellow to conduct oral history interviews on the occupational folklife of physicians.

Teacher of the Year, USU Department of English, 2018. Also finalist for CHASS Teacher of the Year.

Department Service Award. USU Department of English, 2017

Undergraduate Research Mentor of the Year, CHASS, 2012

Undergraduate Research Mentor of the Year, USU Department of English, 2012

Humanist of the Year, CHASS, 2010.

Humanist of the Year, USU Department of English, 2010.

Utah Humanities Council “Human Ties” Award, 2008. Awarded for the *Weavings of War, Fabrics of Memory* exhibit at the Thatcher-Young Mansion. Included note of congratulations from Governor John Huntsman.