



Breeann Kyte Kirby

Curriculum vitae
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Point Loma Nazarene University
Department of Literature, Journalism, Writing,
and Languages
3900 Lomaland Drive
San Diego, CA 92106

Education

- 2023 PhD Creative Writing. Bath Spa University
Dissertation: *The Desert Burns Clean: The Challenge of Conveying Accurate Science Through Embodied Characters in Science Fiction*
Advisors: Tracy Brain and Maggie Gee
- 2016 MFA Creative Writing, emphasis Fiction. San Diego State University.
Thesis: *The Tortoise Dies Alone.* (novel)
Advisor: Stephen-Paul Martin
- 2010 MS Molecular Biology, emphasis Virology. San Diego State University.
Thesis: "Elucidating the Roles of Frameshift Proteins in the Lifecycle of HCV."
(research article)
Principle Investigator: Roland Wolkowicz
- 2004 MA English Literature, emphasis Creative Nonfiction. University of West Florida.
Thesis: "Dreams of Inextricably Intertwined Determinance." (creative nonfiction)
Advisor: Laurie O'Brien
- 2002 BA Literature. Point Loma Nazarene University, cum laude.
Cum laude BS Biochemistry. Point Loma Nazarene University, cum laude.

Expertise

Teaching: writing and rhetoric; environmental literature; short story; novel; scientific creative non-fiction; fiction; research methods.

Research: hepatitis C virus; microbial-viral dynamics in the human gut; speculative fiction; nature and scientific literature; ecocriticism; interdisciplinarity.

Community building: conference organization; small press publishing; connecting diverse thinkers across the disciplines.

Publications

*my fiction and poetry are published under Breeann Kyte

Fiction:

- 2024 "Love Is Not Pie." *Choreo and ...* dance series with Disco Riot, spoken word, dance, May. Co-created with Tina Carreras.
- 2023 "Excerpt: Raiah" from *The Desert Burns Clean*. Embark, vol. 18, April 2023, <https://embarkliteraryjournal.com/issues/issue-18-april-2023/the-desert-burns-clean-breeann-kyte/>
- 2022 "The Night Before Deployment" (reprint as NFT) *The Tickle*, no. 40, April.
- 2017 "45 Larem Lane." *Diagram*, no 17.3, September.
- 2015 "The Night Before Deployment." *Sunshine/Noir II*, City Works Press.

Nonfiction:

- 2024 "Coral Reef Arks with Forest Rohwer, Breeann Kirby, and Ty Roach." *Biosphere2 Podcast*, episode 025, May. Host: Aaron Sparks Bugaj. <https://open.spotify.com/episode/2H9QKvEf2x0CkH5D50HpsN>
- 2022 "Impression - age 8: a healing journey through dancing." *Shared Spaces*, spoken word, dance, April. Co-authored with Tina Carreras.
- 2017 "Sunsets Matter." *Narrators Podcast*, episode 115, March.
- 2017 "The Hope Is in the Flame." *Orion Magazine: Place Where You Live*, January. (nonfiction)
- 2015 "City Builders." *City Creatures*, Center for Humans and Nature, November.
- 2015 "Roost." *City Creatures*, Center for Humans and Nature, March.
- 2015 "The Value of Women's Work." *Home Affairs exhibition*, Art Produce.
- 2013 "Going Viral." *The Scientist*, September.

Poetry:

- 2024 "Call and Response." *The Gathering*, spoken word, dance, May. Co-created with Tina Carreras.
- 2023 "Son." *The San Diego Annual Poetry Review*, April.
- 2017 "Translation." *Coachella Review blog*, 6 April.
- 2017 "Phages in Love." *Coachella Review blog*, 6 April.
- 2015 "Penitent." *Serving House Journal*, Fall.

2015 “(bio)Poiesis.” *The EEEL*.

Science:

2024 Rohwer, F, S Cobo, J Aquino, H Maughan, **B Kyte Kirby** “Ecosystem Variation and Microbialization.” *42 Degrees: A Journal of Creative Latitude*, April. (prospective)
https://fortytwodegrees.org/articles/publon_1.php

2012 Willner, D, MR Haynes, M Furlan, N Hanson, **B Kirby**, YW Lim, PB Rainey, R Schmieder, M Youle, D Conrad, and F Rohwer, “Case Studies of the Spatial Heterogeneity of DNA Viruses in the Cystic Fibrosis Lung.” *Am J Respir Cell Mol Biol*, vol. 46, no. 2, pp. 127–131. (research article)

Forthcoming 2025:

The Predators Within. Kirby, Breeann and Forest Rohwer. Accepted by MIT Press. Editor: Anne-Marie Bono. Popular science book on the human microbiome ecosystem.

Teaching Experience

- 2018 – present Professor of Writing and Environmental Studies at Point Loma Nazarene University.
 WRI1010; WRI1016; WRI2020; WRI3022; WRI3065; WRI4020; WRI4090; WRI5022/6022; ENG2000; ENG3050; ENG3053; ESI2050; ESI3010; ESI4020; ESI4070.
- 2024 – present Assistant Dean, School of Humanities, Arts, & Public Engagement at Point Loma Nazarene University.
- 2019 – present Program Director, Environmental Studies Program at Point Loma Nazarene University.
- 2015 – 2018 Adjunct Professor of English at Point Loma Nazarene University.
 WRI322; WRI110; WRI116; LIT200; University Now
- 2016 Teaching Assistant, English Literature at San Diego State University.
 ENGL220 (Gen-Ed literature)
- 2015 Teaching Assistant, Writing and Rhetoric at San Diego State University.
 RWS200 (Advanced Freshman Composition)
- 2007 – 2008 Graduate Assistant at San Diego State University, Biology.
 Research Lab Courses
- 2004 – 2007 Adjunct Professor of English at Point Loma Nazarene University.
 WRI110; WRI115; LIT220; University Now
- 2003 – 2004 Graduate Assistant at University of West Florida, English.
 Freshman Composition

Professional Experience

- 2023 – present EcoTheo Collective, fiction editor.
A nonprofit with a literary journal, EcoTheo Collective envisions a world in which care for the places we inhabit, the people we encounter, and the lives we lead makes for lasting beauty in art, nature, and community. We pursue this vision through publications, support for creative writers, artists, and theologians, and ways of gathering that embody attention and devotion. To this end, *EcoTheo Review* publishes original poetry, fiction, essays, and visual art, along with book reviews, interviews, and scholarly articles that explore our connections and conundrums in nature and faith. www.ecotheo.org
- 2021 GPRO certificate: Fundamentals of Building Green
Certificate for training on high-performance green building construction from the San Diego Green Building Council in partnership with Urban Green Council.
- 2014 – present Wholon, sole-proprietor.
Wholon connects scientists and artists so that they can create scientifically accurate and aesthetically compelling projects. We provide illustrations, fine art, editing, writing, data analysis, content creation, conference organization, and publishing. www.wholon.org
- 2015 – 2024 Calypso Editions Press, senior editor.
Calypso Editions is an independent press. They specialize in poetry, literary fiction, and translation. As a member, I help choose our future manuscripts, edit them, and often design the formatting in InDesign. I also am in charge of publicity and press releases. We take turns being senior editor on a project, and as senior editor, my job includes working with the author to take their book from manuscript to completed form, getting blurbs, reading schedules, and publicity photos. www.calypsoeditions.org
- 2010 – 2016 Forest Rohwer Laboratory at SDSU, science writer/public outreach.
As science writer/public outreach point person in the lab, I co-wrote and edited various scientific manuscripts, including journal articles and grants. Forest Rohwer is co-author on my forthcoming manuscript from MIT Press.
- 2007 – 2010 Roland Wolkowicz Laboratory at SDSU, researcher.
I set up the hepatitis C virus research structure for the lab, managing graduate and undergraduate students on the projects. I helped with editing and writing of papers and grants as well as designing experimental processes.
- 2002 – 2004 University of West Florida Writing Lab, tutor.

Leadership, Service, and Community Engagement

- 2024 – present Assistant Dean, School of Humanities, Arts & Public Engagement.
- 2024 Peer Reviewer, Princeton University Press.
- 2024 Peer Reviewer, *Journal of Environmental Studies and Sciences (JESS)*.
- 2023 Faculty Leader, BIO3040 Costa Rica Trip.
I went with Drs. Mooring and Cho to bring 14 PLNU students to a field experience in Costa Rica.
- 2023 – present Fiction Editor, *EcoTheo Review*; <https://www.ecotheo.org/review>.
I manage the reading team, work with authors to edit stories if needed, collaborate with other editors on vision for the publication.
- 2022 – present Member, Professional Development Committee for the Association of Environmental Studies and Sciences (AESS).
- 2022 Conference Organizer, *20/20 Virision*; <https://coralandphage.org/virision/>.
This conference brought together scientists, creative writers, and visual artists from around the world to address climate change, human health, and expanding the paradigm of science.
- 2022 Small Group Facilitator, Living Vocationally PLNU Faculty/Staff Reading Groups.
- 2022 Book Fair Vendor, Calypso Editions at Association of Writers & Writing Programs (AWP).
- 2021 Speaker, PLNU Spring Commencement.
- 2021 – present Steering Committee Member and Network Biologist, NSF funded Biology Through Art (NSF-DBI-UBE grant #2120607).
An NSF-funded interdisciplinary network of biologists and artists from multiple institutions across the United States, exploring the integration of biology education and artistic expression.
<https://qubeshub.org/community/groups/bioart>
- 2019 – present Program Director, Environmental Studies. Point Loma Nazarene University.
I organized and designed an interdisciplinary B.A. major in environmental studies. To establish curriculum, I coordinated with 9 different departments and schools across PLNU campus, building a program that includes courses from each. I am in the process of developing the program by designing the new courses as well as continuing my collaboration with my academic colleagues and those outside the university with the goal of producing graduates who possess foundational knowledge of the sciences and humanities which empowers them to act in environmentally conscious ways with compassion for other humans in

the world. The program is growing rapidly.

- 2018 – 2020 Organizer, *The Butterfly* (formerly *The Narrators*): Telling True Stories. A monthly live storytelling event.
- 2016 – 2017 Fiction Editor, *pacificREVIEW* “Errant Mythologies.”
pacificREVIEW is a literary journal out of SDSU that publishes diverse voices on a theme each year. As the fiction editor, I selected the finalists for our issue, edited their content, liaised with the authors, managed the Submittable platform, and edited the final manuscript. <https://pacificreview.sdsu.edu/>
- 2017 Publisher, *Thinking Like a Phage* (Wholon), by Merry Youle; art by Leah Pantéa.
- 2016 Book Fair Vendor, Calypso Editions at Association of Writers & Writing Programs (AWP).
- 2015 – 2017 Organizer, *Will Write for Love* live writing event at SDSU (yearly event in collaboration with Arts Alive). <https://youtu.be/iZhNnD5Rhew>
https://newscenter.sdsu.edu/sdsu_newscenter/news_story.aspx?sid=76024
- 2014 – 2016 Founder and President, MFA Writers Collaborative student club.
 With this club, I brought writers, agents, editors, and publishers to the SDSU campus or via Skype for both formal and informal meetings that helped MFA students develop the professional skills and insight to be successful writers. MFA Writers’ Collaborative won “Best Student Organization” from the College of Arts and Letters in Spring 2015 and our work was often featured in publications across campus.
- 2014 – 2016 Organizer, *All Hallows Read*, SDSU. A book giveaway event on Halloween to promote literacy.
- 2015 – 2016 Manager, *Embodied* performance poetry, SDSU Downtown Gallery (two shows).
- 2015 Publisher, *Life in Our Phage World* (Wholon), by Forest Rohwer, Merry Youle, Heather Maughan, Nao Hisakawa; art by Leah Pantéa and Ben Darby.
- 2015 Organizer, *Year of the Phage Meeting*; www.2015phage.org.
 This multi-day conference brought together not only some of the top bacteriophage researchers around the world but also served as a collaboration across five departments (and four schools) at SDSU: Music and Dance, Art and Design, English and Comparative Literature, Biology, and Professional Studies. In addition to the scientific talks, the conference sponsored a phage-inspired art show and reception which featured visual, written, performative, and musical art.
- 2014 Organizer, *Poetry Pop-Up* spoken-word performance, SDSU.

- 2014 Co-Organizer, *Poetic Picnic* collaboration between the SDSU School of Art and Design textile artists and SDSU College of Arts and Letters writers (with Arts Alive).
https://newscenter.sdsu.edu/sdsu_newscenter/news_story.aspx?sid=75293
- 2014 – present Organizer/Host, Creative Arts Salon. A weekly meeting of writers, artists, and thinkers.

Conference Presentations and Readings

- 2024 Moderator; PLNU Master’s in Writing Speaker Series with Matt Bell.
- 2024 Moderator; PLNU Master’s in Writing Speaker Series with Kiersten White.
- 2024 Panelist; WORKSHOP Fiction as Textbooks: Speculative Fiction in the Environmental Studies Classroom, The Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences (AESS) Professional Development Series.
- 2024 Facilitator; Desert ARKs. <https://coralandphage.org/DESERTARKS/>
- 2024 Moderator; Writers’ Symposium by the Sea with Elizabeth Gilbert.
- 2023 Moderator; PLNU Master’s in Writing Speaker Series with Eliza Jane Brazier.
- 2023 Presenter; Rethinking Human. The Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment (ASLE).
- 2023 Chair & Presenter; Innovative Guides to Environmental Studies and Sciences. The Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences (AESS).
- 2022 Panelist & Host; Coming Up with A Personal Approach to Teaching Intro to ES Courses. The Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences (AESS) Professional Development Series.
- 2022 Organizer and Facilitator; 20/20 Virision. <https://coralandphage.org/virision/>
- 2022 Panelist; Environmental Education and Curriculum, Part 2. The Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences (AESS).
- 2022 Moderator; Writers’ Symposium by the Sea with Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni.
- 2022 Lecturer & Mentor; Writing the Other. SoCal Christian Writers Retreat.
- 2022 Moderator; Navigating Layered Identities in Creative Nonfiction. Association of Writers and Writing Programs (AWP).

- 2019 Panelist; Writing the Other: Compassionate Storytelling About Humans. Crossing the Lines: Interdisciplinary Christian Conversations About Difference. PLNU.
- 2019 Panelist; Creative Inspiration: Tracing Lines Between Cities And Memories. Border, Engage Art Show.
- 2019 Panelist; “This Has Nothing to Do With My Major’: Facilitating Synthesis of GE Subjects with Student Career Goals.” Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association
- 2019 Panelist; “Finding Purchase in Liminal Spaces.” Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association.
- 2019 “Running Errands.” Verbatim Books, Writers for Migrant Justice.
- 2019 various pieces. Crush Bar for AWP conference in collaboration with Poetry International, Calypso Editions, and Locked Horn Press.
- 2018 “Real Life.” The Narrators: Telling True Stories.
- 2017 “45 Larem Lane.” Poetry on Point, PLNU.
- 2017 “Sunsets Matter.” The Narrators: Telling True Stories.
<https://thenarrators.org/ep-115-breeann-kirby/>
- 2016 “Racist Uncle.” The Narrators: Telling True Stories.
- 2016 “(bio)Poïesis.” The Last Bookstore for *The Eel/Shrug*.
- 2015/2016 “Son.” San Diego State University Downtown Gallery for *Embodied*.
- 2015 “The Night Before Deployment.” CityWorks Press, *Sunshine/Noir II* book release.
- 2014 “Microbial Fingerprints.” Breadloaf, Orion Environmental Writers Conference.
“And the Multitudes Sing.” Breadloaf, Orion Environmental Writers Conference.
- 2009 “What the F? Frameshift Proteins and Hepatitis C Virus.” San Diego Microbiology Group.
- 2008 “What We Can Learn from the Spanish Influenza Virus.” SDSU Research Symposium.
- 2003 Various poems from *Spaces* (chapbook). The Gulf Coast Association of Creative Writing Teachers.

2002 “Now We See the Violence Inherent in the System’: Violence to the Other in Kathy Acker’s *Empire of the Senseless*.” The Second Annual Women’s Studies Conference at the University of West Florida.

Awards and Grants

2024/25 Wesleyan Summer Scholar and RASP grants
These grants will support my sabbatical research in inclusive pedagogy, environmental studies programs, and starting an art/science peer-reviewed journal.

2024 Pedagogical Enrichment Grant (PEG)
This grant was for me to assess the student perceptions of my use of contract grading in both GE and major courses.

2022/23 Wesleyan Fellowship
This grant was to provide time to finalize novel and write a critical piece on incorporating accurate science in fiction.

2021 NSF funded Biology through Art (NSF-DBI-UBE grant #2120607).
An NSF-funded interdisciplinary network of biologists and artists from multiple institutions across the United States, exploring the integration of biology education and artistic expression.
<https://qubeshub.org/community/groups/bioart>

2020/2021 Wesleyan Summer Scholar and RASP grants
These grants supported my research into environmental studies programs and pedagogy.

2019 Wesleyan Fellowship
This grant was to provide time to research/write novel.

Professional Affiliations

Association of Writers and Writing Programs (AWP)
Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences (AESS)