

# Lindsey M. Simon-Jones

## University Leadership Experience

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Penn State Fayette, The Eberly Campus. The Pennsylvania State University, Lemont Furnace, PA 15401

### **Chief Academic Officer and Director of Academic Affairs**

January 2025-present (interim Jan.-Aug.)

- Oversight of all campus faculty and academic programming (BA, BS, and AAS), including three accredited programs\*

- Daily operations oversight under new regional chancellor structure, including Crisis Management

- Responsible for Promotion and Tenure (tenure-track and teaching-line) processes, including dossier development, classroom observations, and committee charges\*

- Perform annual evaluations of full-time faculty for teaching/research/service

- Determine campus faculty contract renewals in coordination with regional Chancellor and budget administrators

- Direct supervisor for Advising, Student Success Center, and Academic Affairs staff\*

- Development and implementation of regionalization efforts, including coordination of hybrid/web/shared courses and programs with other DAAs\*

- Campus and regional scheduling for all programs\*

- Oversight of campus-wide Program and Student Learning assessment\*

- Management of wind-down for academic programs on a 2-year campus closure plan

### **Interim Chancellor and Chief Academic Officer**

July 2024-January 2025

- Oversight of all campus employees

- Oversaw campus-level response to university wide restructuring of budget (\$9.5 million to \$7.5 million with optimization)

- Oversight and administration of campus endowments (2024/2025 Book Value: \$16 million; Market Value: \$29 million)

- Executive experience with SAP Concur, SIMBA (Penn State FIT software), Workday, and eSteward softwares

- Liaison for campus donors, benefactors, regional- and state-level politicians, and development office

Administration of university-wide initiatives and programming: focus on student engagement, enrollment and success

Data-driven decision-making based on internal and external analytics

Coordination with 19 other campus-system chancellors and leadership

Developed workforce, business/industry partnerships for continued campus growth

Coordination of transfer and articulation agreements with local community colleges

\*Duties of DAA listed above in this role as CAO

**Program Coordinator (10+ years)**, Humanities (HUM), B.A. degree (2021-present); English Department (2014-present); Multidisciplinary Studies (previously LAS), A.A. degree (2015-present); Corporate Communication (CC), B.A. degree (2016-2017)

#### Faculty Oversight

Oversight of full-time faculty members and part-time instructors in Corporate Communications, Art, Communications, English, History, Kinesiology, Political Science, Religious Studies, Sociology, and Spanish

Provide timely communication from all campus administrative departments to LAS, English and CC faculty and serve as faculty voice to administrative departments

Advise Assistant Director of Academic Affairs on the hiring of part-time faculty

Perform teaching assessments and provide mentorship for part-time faculty

Mentor junior faculty on successful promotion in their various ranks

#### Program Oversight

Primary responsibility for launching Humanities B.A. (2020)

Conducted Program and Student Learning assessment of Multidisciplinary A.A. program

Participated in Accreditation Assessment for Nursing, PTA, and Engineering programs

Scheduled all Liberal Arts, English, and CC courses for the campus, in coordination with faculty and other Program Coordinators, ensuring full classes that work with the requirements for graduation of our campus majors and avoiding scheduling conflicts

Coordinated campus sharing of hybrid, and web classes for inter-campus Humanities and Corporate Communications program

Communicated with Program Coordinators across Penn State's twenty-two campuses to ensure continuity in our programs and participate in program development

Coordinated with the campus Registrar, Learning Center, and Advising offices on English and Communications courses for summer program initiatives

Assisted Learning Center Manager with Writing Center tutor mentoring and curriculum development

Established Composition course placement criteria with Admissions and the Registrar

Assisted Admission Office with recruitment efforts by providing program-specific communication for students interested in Multidisciplinary Studies

## **Leadership Qualities**

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Clifton Strengths Indicators:

1. Learner: a great desire to learn and to continually improve.
2. Woo: love the challenge of meeting new people and making a connection with someone.
3. Maximizer: focus on strengths as a way to stimulate personal and group excellence, seeking to transform something strong into something superb.
4. Achiever: work hard and possess a great deal of stamina, taking immense satisfaction in being busy and productive.
5. Input: a desire to collect and archive, accumulating information, ideas, artifacts or even relationships.

Change Style Indicator: 6: Pragmatist with a Conserver orientation. Prefers change that addresses specific, real problems and prefer to avoid change that seems to be only for "the sake of change." Practical, reasonable and flexible in my approach to change. Open to new ways of doing things but not too quick to commit. May serve as a mediator and prefer a "middle-of-the-road" approach.

Strengths: Value the contributions of co-workers and appreciate the need for teamwork, willing to compromise when necessary for the good of the organization or team, sensitive to diversity issues and learns from the mistakes easily.

## **Leadership Development Training**

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New Administrator Workshop, Penn State Office of the Vice President of Faculty Affairs

Leadership Essentials, Penn State LRN

This program provides foundational information for a new manager at Penn State with a focus on core processes and policy. Topics include: Role of a Leader, Absence Management, Budget Basics, Intro to Labor Relations, Performance Reviews, Onboarding, Talent Acquisition, Safety, Supporting Underperforming Employees.

Organizational Change Management, Penn State University

Skills for Building a Culture of Inclusion: BUILD @ Penn State Track 3

Adopting an Inclusion Mindset at Work: BUILD @ Penn State Track 2

Recognizing the Importance of Inclusion in the Workplace: BUILD @ Penn State Track 1

## **External Philanthropy, Community Involvement, and Budgeting**

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Board of Directors, Fayette County Chamber of Commerce, Member, 2025-present  
Fayette Business Education Partnership, Campus Representative, 2024-present  
Leadership Fayette, Campus Representative, 2024-present  
National Civics Bee, Judge, April 2026  
Girl Scouts of Western Pennsylvania,  
Troop leader, 2023-present  
Service Unit Delegate, 2025-present  
Board Member, Smithton Public Library March, 2014-2020  
Board Secretary, 2016-2017  
Participated in annual auditing and budgeting processes  
Grant writing  
Planning and execution of annual fundraising efforts  
Worked with local community for fundraising, philanthropic projects, and media messaging

## **Academic Employment**

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Associate Professor of English, Pennsylvania State University, Fayette, AY 2015-present  
Assistant Professor of English, Pennsylvania State University, Fayette, AY 2009-2015  
Visiting Assistant Professor, English, Michigan State University, AY 2008-2009  
Fixed-Term Lecturer, English, Pennsylvania State University, AY 2007-2008

## **Education**

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Ph.D., English, The Pennsylvania State University, 2003–2008  
M.A., English, The Pennsylvania State University, 2001–2003  
B.A., English, Youngstown State University, *Summa cum Laude*, 1997–2001

## **Academic Leadership Experience**

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**Co-Chair**, Faculty Affairs Committee, 2023-2024  
**Member**, Ad-hoc Fayette Faculty Senate Restructuring Committee, 2022-2024  
Collaborated with interested members from across disciplines to restructure Fayette Faculty Senate into a Committee/Subcommittee structure. Reduced total number of committees for more efficiency. Held listening sessions to ensure all member voices were heard. Restructure passed by Senate in Spring 2023. Work continues in assessing changes and working toward best-practices documentation for all committees.  
**Chair**, Promotion and Tenure committee, 2023-2024  
**Chair, Fayette Faculty Senate**, 2021-2022  
Worked with faculty committees on addressing Strategic Planning initiatives  
**Chair**, Academic and Curricular Affairs Committee, 2019-2020

Advise Academic Affairs office on program and curricular affairs. Reviewed B.S. degree in Health Policy Administration and Humanities

**Organizer**, English Department Fall Conference, 2018-2020

Organize program for **twenty campus events**; soliciting participants; organizing sessions; moderating events. Fall 2019 event included six administrative presentations and sixteen faculty presenters. Fall 2020 event moved to fully online due to pandemic restrictions.

**Chair**, English Faculty Search Committee, Fall 2019

Teaching-line faculty member hired from a pool of more than 70 applications.

**Secretary**, Fayette Faculty Senate, 2016-2017

**Organizer**, Fayette Faculty/Staff Writing Group, 2012-2018

**Coordinator**, Evelyn Hovanec Creative Writing Award, 2012-2016

**Program Organizer**, English Department Spring Symposium on Pedagogy, Spring 2014

Organized program for a fourteen-campus event; solicited participants; organized sessions; moderated event; invited and coordinated with university-level executives to present on proposed General Education policy revision

**Campus Representative**, University College Faculty Council, 2014-2016

Represented campus faculty concerns in shared governance discussions with members from fourteen other Commonwealth Campuses in direct communication with the Office of the Vice-President of Commonwealth Campuses

**Chair**, Faculty Excellence Award Selection Committee, 2016-2017

**Chair**, Awards Committee 2013-2015; 2018-2019

Revitalized committee after a stagnant year that had resulted in no achievements in 2018.

## **Publications**

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Levy, M., Mallinson, R., McLean, K., Russell, A., Sekely, S., Simon Jones, L., Cruz, L. "Grading Differently: Assessing a Multi-Classroom Initiative to Change How We Think about Grades in Higher Education" (*submitted, December 2025*).

Simon-Jones, Lindsey and Jankoski, Jo Ann. "Video Games in Humanities Education: A Case for PlayStation's Doki Doki Universe" *Journal of Interactive Learning Research* 33.3 (2022): 173-194.

"Chaucer" *Year's Work in English*. Oxford University Press, 100 (2021): 289-305. Co-Authors: Krista Wu (University of Minnesota, Duluth), Derrick Pitard (Slippery Rock University).

"Chaucer" *Year's Work in English*. Oxford University Press, 99 (2020): 292-312. Co-Authors: Krista Wu (University of Minnesota, Duluth), Derrick Pitard (Slippery Rock University).

"Chaucer" *Year's Work in English*. Oxford University Press, 98 (2019): 267-290. Co-Authors: Krista Wu (University of Minnesota, Duluth), Derrick Pitard (Slippery Rock University).

"The Saga of the Volsungs and Norse Heroics for a New Age: Increasing Global Awareness in General Education" *Studies in Medieval and Renaissance Teaching*. 26.1 (2019).

"Modern-day Ring-givers: MMORPG Guild Cultures and the Influence of the Anglo-Saxon World" *Studies in Medievalism* 24 (2015): 217-235.

"Neighbor Hob and Neighbor Lob: English Dialect Speakers in Sixteenth Century Drama,"  
*English Text Construction* 6.1 (2013): 40-59.

"Mischief in Masculinity: Gender in John Lydgate's Troy Book," *Medieval Feminist Forum* 48.2  
(2012): 48-67.

"Lexical Dichotomy and Ethics in Macbeth," *Ohio Valley Shakespeare Association: Selected Papers* 4  
(2011): 95-110.

"Linguistic Hybridity and English Identity in Early English Drama," *Other Nations: The  
Hybridization of Medieval Insular Mythology and Identity*, Wendy Marie Hoofnagle and  
Wolfram R. Keller eds. *Britannica et Americana* 3: 27. Heidelberg, Germany:  
Universitätsverlag Winter, 2011, 207-226.

"Chaucer's Anxiety of Poetic Craft: The *Squire's Tale*," *Style* 41.3 (2007), 298-316.

#### Review Publication

Findon, Joanne. *Lady, Hero, Saint: The Digby Play's Mary Magdalene*. PIMS, 2011. *Medieval  
Feminist Forum*, *Medieval Feminist Forum* 48:2 (2012): 103-105.

### **Honors and Awards**

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Semester Sabbatical awarded, Pennsylvania State University, approved Spring 2024  
Awarded for completion of book-length project: *Female Agency in the Tudor Interlude*.

**Faculty Excellence Award: Teaching**, Penn State Fayette, December 2019  
Awarded to faculty for accomplishments in teaching.

Semester Sabbatical awarded, Pennsylvania State University, Spring 2018  
Awarded for work on book-length project: *Female Agency in the Tudor Interlude*.

Innovation Challenge, Teaching and Learning with Technology Symposium, Penn State  
University. Top Five Finalist, March 2017

**Scholarly Excellence Award**, Penn State Fayette, December 2013  
Awarded to faculty for accomplishments in research and publication

Faculty Development Grant, Penn State Fayette, July 2012  
Combined teaching development and conference presentation travel to London, Bristol, and  
Leeds England

Post-Doctoral Fellowship, Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC), 2008-2009  
Appointed as Visiting Assistant Professor at Michigan State University

## **Selected Experience with various teaching modalities**

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Served as Interim Campus Instructional Designer Fall 2021: aided faculty with course design, LMS access issues, and student concerns

Fully Online: Technical Writing; The Arthurian Legend

Hybrid: Technical Writing; Rhetoric and Composition

Shared Hybrid: British Literature Before 1798 (Fayette and Greater Allegheny)

Condensed Sessions: Technical Writing; The Arthurian Legend; British Literature Before 1798

Service Learning: Technical Writing (4 sections in coordination with Fayette Culture Trust)

Interdisciplinary Team-Taught: Drama and Media Arts; Introduction to Video Game Culture

### **Other Courses Taught**

Explorations in Humanities: The Quest	Literature in English: Beginnings to 1660	Introduction to the Study of English
Chaucer (Course Theme: Digital Chaucer)	Reading Fiction Medieval Literature	Rhetoric and Composition Honors Rhetoric and Composition
Shakespeare's Contemporaries	The Hero in Literature	Basic Writing Skills
Introduction to Shakespeare	The Short Story	Writing Tutorial
Comparative Drama: Renaissance and Baroque	Writing in the Social Sciences	

## **Select Conference Activities**

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### **Teaching-centered**

Panelist, "Alternative Grading," General Education Curiosity and Collaboration Colloquium, Penn State University, September 26, 2025.

"Role Playing Games in Higher Education: Can they enhance engagement and empathy?" With Dr. Jo Ann Jankoski, Indiana College English Association, October 2016.

"The Effectiveness of Low-Stakes Supplemental Instruction for College Writers," Poster Presentation, Pennsylvania Association of Developmental Educators Conference, Pittsburgh PA, 2016.

"Teaching Chaucer in the Digital Age," University College English Department Spring Symposium on Pedagogy, February 28, 2014.

### **Current Projects**

Chair, "(Re)Generating Female Agency in the Early Modern Period," 57<sup>th</sup> Northeast Modern Language Association Convention, Pittsburgh PA, March 2026.

"Adapting Female Agency: Representing Medieval and Classical Women in the Tudor Interlude,"

Ohio Valley Shakespeare Conference, Akron, Ohio, October 2022.

"Jocasta (1566): Speaking Truth to Power in Sixteenth-Century Drama" 52nd Northeast Modern Language Association Convention, Virtual, March 2021.

"Gossips, Neighbors, and Friends: Humor, Reputation, and Female Empowerment in the Tudor Interlude" 16<sup>th</sup> Century Society Conference, St. Louis MO, October 2019.

"Bodily Autonomy and Agency: The Cases of Mary Magdalene (Digby 133) and Mary Magdalen (1566)" 50<sup>th</sup> North East Modern Language Association Convention, Washington D.C., March 2019.

"Speaking Truth to Power: The Female Voice in the Tudor Interlude" 49<sup>th</sup> Northeast Modern Language Association Convention, Pittsburgh PA, April 2018.

"Bodies and Selves: Dramatizing the Agency of Consent in the Tudor Interlude" New College Conference on Medieval and Renaissance Studies, March 2018.

"Words, Wives, and Wisdom: Female Agency in the Tudor Interlude," Sixteenth-Century Society Conference, New Orleans, Louisiana, October 2014. International.

Conference presentations prior to 2014: 12

## **Additional Service Activities**

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### Campus Service

Promotion and Tenure Committee, 2016-2017; 2019-2021

Penn State Laureate, Campus Visit Coordinator, 2016-2017; 2018-2019

Pi Sigma Phi Honors Society, Faculty Advisor, 2015-2022

Outreach Committee, Member, 2015-2016

Awards Committee, Member, 2012-2011

Learning Fair Committee, Member, 2011-2012

Learning and Technology Resources, 2010-2012

Scholastic Excellence Award Selection Committee, Member, 2010 -2012

Committee for English Program Assessment, Member, 2009-2012

### University Service

University College Faculty Counsel, Alternate Representative, 2012-2014

Job Hunt and Junior Faculty Talk to University Park English grad students, October 2009

### Community Service

Society for Medieval Scholarship mentoring group:

Isolated Medievalists Writing Group, 2018-2019

Job Clinic Mentor, 49<sup>th</sup> and 50<sup>th</sup> NeMLA Conferences, 2018 and 2019

Smithton Public Library, Library Volunteer, March 2012-2020

AP English Literature Reading, College Board, June(s) 2008-2012

Traveled to Louisville Kentucky to score AP English Literature exams for the 2008 year.

Worked with close to three thousand college professors and AP high school teachers to score more than 300,000 three-part essay exams over the course of the week.