

Dana Wessell Lightfoot
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El Paso, TX 79912
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Citizenship: Canadian

EDUCATION

- Ph.D.** **1998-2005**
University of Toronto, Department of History
Dissertation title “Negotiating Agency: Labouring-Status Wives and their Dowries in Early Fifteenth-Century Valencia” (Defense September 7, 2005)
Supervisor: Dr. Mark Meyerson
Committee Members: Dr. Barbara Todd, Dr. Nick Terpstra
External Examiner: Dr. Carol Lansing
Internal Examiner: Dr. Natalie Zemon Davis
Comprehensive Examination Fields:
Major: Medieval History (1050-1494)
Minors: Early Modern History, Early Modern Gender
Language Exams:
MA Latin, PhD Latin (Centre for Medieval Studies)
Spanish
French
- M.A.** **1997-1998**
University of Toronto
Master’s Research Paper “Women and Marriage in the Law Codes of High Medieval Spain”
- B.A.** **1990-1996**
University of Toronto
Majors: History and English
Undergraduate thesis: “Male Authors and Female Spirituality in Twelfth-Century England”

LANGUAGES

Castilian Spanish (written, spoken, reading); Catalan (reading); French (reading); Latin (reading); Italian (reading); Portuguese (reading).

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

University Research Initiative Grant, University of Texas at El Paso (\$4120)	Fall 2006
Graduate History Society, University of Toronto Dana Wessell Lightfoot Long-Term Service Award (Inaugural Winner)	2005
Ontario Graduate Scholarship (\$ 15 000)	2002-2003
University of Toronto Fellowships (\$11 700 per year)	1998-2002
Nominated for Senior Women's Academic Award of Canada	Fall 2002
University of Toronto Research Grant (\$1000)	Fall 2000

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Assistant Professor:

University of Texas at El Paso Department of History	Aug. 2006-
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Instructor:

University of Toronto; University of Toronto at Mississauga; Brock University; University of Lethbridge	2002-2005
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RESEARCH COMMUNICATION

Publications:

“Family Interests? Women's Power: The Role of the Family in Dowry Restitution Cases in Fifteenth-Century Valencia” Women's History Review 15.4 (September 2006): 511-520.

“Honour and Shame: The Construction of Married Women's Bodies in Medieval Spanish Law” Forthcoming in Creating Women: Notions of Femininity from 1350 to 1700 (University of Toronto Press).

“The Inquisition”. Co-author of encyclopedia entry in The Encyclopedia of Genocide and Crimes Against Humanity. Macmillan Reference, 2004.

Book Review of Jose Sanchez Herrero. La Semana Santa de Sevilla Forthcoming in Confraternitas.

Book Review of Glenn Burger and Stephen Kruger eds. Queering the Middle Ages in The Journal of Canadian History Vol. XXXVII no. 1, April 2003, 89-91.

Submitted Publications

“The Projects of Marriage: Spousal Choice, Dowries and Domestic Service in early Fifteenth-Century Valencia” submitted to the Journal of Women’s History.

Conference Papers-Refereed

““From Customary Practice to Written Law: *Germania* Marriage Contracts in early Fifteenth-Century Valencia” **April 2008**
Panelist and Co-Organizer of two sessions “The Practice And Theory of Law in Renaissance Spain and Italy I and II” at Renaissance Society of America, Chicago

Seeking Restitution: Labouring-Status Women and their Dowries in early Fifteenth-Century Valencia” **March 2007**
Panelist and Co-Organizer “Dowry Restitution in Early Renaissance Italy and Spain” at Renaissance Society of America, Miami

“ ‘He Most Cruelly Struck Her’: Domestic Violence, Law and and the Neighbourhood in early Fifteenth-Century Valencia” **March 2006**
Panelist “Interests Public and Private” at Renaissance Society Of America, San Francisco

“The Autonomous Woman? Female Servants, Marriage and the Dowry in Early Fifteenth-Century Valencia” **January 2006**
Panelist “Women’s Production and Reproduction: Domestic Servants and Wetnursing in Medieval Iberia” Sponsored by American Academy of Research Historians of Medieval Spain at American Historical Association, Philadelphia

“Honour and Shame: The Construction of Women’s Bodies in Medieval Spanish Law Codes” **November 2005**
Panelist “Women and the Law” at Constructing Women: Notions of Femininity from 1350-1700, Toronto

“The Power to Divide? Restitution and *Germania* Marriage Contracts in Fifteenth-Century Valencia” **May 2005**
Panelist “Law and Society in Medieval Italy and Spain” at

- International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo
- “Teaching as Conversation: Discussion in the University Classroom” **February 2005**
Plenary Speaker at Construction Sites: Building Histories,
Graduate Student Conference at the University of Toronto
- “ ‘And he did not provide her with the necessities of life’:
Violence and Insolvent Husbands in Fifteenth-Century
Valencia” **October 2004**
Panelist and organized session “Bad Husbands in Early
Modern Southern Europe” at Sixteenth Century Studies
Conference, Toronto
- “Dowry Restitution and the Urban Family in
Fifteenth-Century Valencia” **October 2003**
Panelist “Mothers, Mistresses and Masculine Women” at
Sixteenth Centuries Studies Conference, Pittsburgh
- Seminars:**
- “Seeking Restitution: Labouring-Status Women and their Dowries
in early Fifteenth-Century Valencia” **June 2008**
Participant in seminar on “Women and the Law Courts in
Global Perspective”, Berkshire Women’s History Conference,
Minneapolis
- Invited Presentations:**
- Guest Speaker for National Women’s History Month at the **March 2007**
United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of
Reclamation
- “The Elusive Early Modern Witch: Misappropriation and **March 2004**
Distortion in the Twentieth Century”
History Undergraduate Students Association: Spring Guest
Lecture, University of Toronto
- Symposia:**
- “Gender History in Spain” **April 2003**
Gender and National Academic Cultures in International
and Interdisciplinary Comparison,
University of Toronto
- “Negotiating Power: The Restitution of Dowries in
15th Century Valencia” **October 2001**

Negotiating Dowries in Renaissance Italy and Spain,
Centre for Renaissance and Reformation Studies,
University of Toronto

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

University of Texas at El Paso, Department of History Graduate Program Committee Member	2007-08
World History Caucus Chair	2007-08
Long-term Planning Committee	2007-08
Faculty Senate Committee on the Centennial Museum	2007-
Guest Speaker for “The Balancing Act: Graduate School, Family, and Life”, organized by Graduate School Professional Development Seminar and Workshop Series	March 2007
World History Caucus Chair	Spring 2007
Coordinator Graduate Mentoring Program (organized Orientation Seminar for incoming graduate students; Organized Exams Seminar of PhD students)	Fall 2006-present
Presented at History Department Information Seminar on Going to Graduate School	Fall 2006
University of Toronto, Department of History Organized series of three workshops with faculty and graduate students on “Teaching History”	Spring 2005
Organized Workshop “Teaching World History”	April 2004
Graduate Student Member of Search Committee for medievalist position	April 2002
President Graduate History Society Sat on PhD Program Committee; organized seminars on teaching history, the M.A. Research Paper, Mentoring Graduate students; attended all History Department Meetings	2001-2002
Graduate History Society Executive Ph.D Program Committee Representative	2000-2001

Administrator and Creator of Mentorship Program
program designed to pair incoming M.A. and Ph.D.
students in the Department of History with upper-year
Ph.D. students to mentor them throughout the year **2000-2001**

Graduate History Society **1999-2000**
Ph.D Program Committee Representative

Co-chair Discussion Group for the **1999-2000**
History of Women and Gender

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

American Historical Society
Renaissance Society of America
American Association of Research Historians of Medieval Spain
Society for Spanish and Portuguese Historical Studies
Medieval Feminist Society