

We the undersigned are writers, reviewers and scholars who have worked with Wayne State Press. We are writing to express our shock and anger at what is tantamount to the destruction of this venerable institution. In a series of moves that has left both published and prospective authors in the dark about the fate of their books, and has undermined the viability of the press, the new administration has, without notice, discharged the press leadership without cause.

When Wayne State University Press was established in 1941, its goal was “to assist the University in the encouragement and dissemination of scholarly learning.” Since 1954, it has garnered a national and international reputation for excellence with a strong tradition of publishing in areas often underrepresented in academic publishing such as Africana and African American studies, Automotive studies, books about childhood and children’s literature, fairy-tales and folklore, film, television, Jewish studies, speech and language pathology. The Press also publishes eleven academic journals, the award winning *Great Lake Book Series*, and *Made in Michigan Writers Series* that showcase the state’s diverse voices and are the beating heart of Michigan’s literary and cultural life.

Locally, Wayne State Press has an extraordinary and unique connection to the state and the communities of Detroit, with books that demonstrate its unique commitment to the urban environment it calls home.

The stellar reputation of the press is a result of the excellent and knowledgeable team of professionals who have worked at the press, and the important relationships that they have built with generations of authors. While we recognize that changes have been taking place in academic publishing, we authors, editors and reviewers have found the staff of the press to be responsive and thoughtful in approaching the shifting publishing landscape. Our commitment to Wayne State, despite its relatively small size, has been because of the high quality of work it produces and the positive experiences we have had at each and every stage of our interactions.

The summarial firing of Editor-in-Chief Annie Martin, Editorial, Design, and Production Manager Kristin Harpster, and Sales and Marketing Director Emily Nowak has violated the integrity of the press and the spirit of our publishing contracts. Their removal has left a gutted press staffed with people without editorial and publishing expertise, which undermines the ability of the press to operate and severely damages its reputation. It is a breach of trust with the authors who have built relationships and served as ambassadors of the press in the academic and wider community.

As a not-for-profit enterprise, the press has a public charge whose mission is in serious jeopardy with the loss of the important leadership that these women have provided. This decision by Wayne State’s provost and library governance threatens the existence of the press, the relationship that it has built with authors, reviewers and editors over decades of patient and careful publishing. Moreover, these decisions will undermine the ability of Wayne State Press to recruit and serve scholars and writers at all stages of the publication process.

We insist that for the future and well-being of the press that this decision be reversed, and we demand their immediate reinstatement.

For the latest list of authors and to sign the letter please follow the link on Medium.

<https://medium.com/@zenaburns/wayne-state-university-press-authors-statement-on-the-firing-of-the-heads-of-editorial-71e0df175e59>

Authors are listed with their Wayne State University Press books

Rachel S. Harris

University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign

Teaching the Arab-Israeli Conflict (2019)

Warriors, Witches, Whores: Women in Israeli Cinema (2017)

Narratives of Dissent: War in Contemporary Israeli Arts and Culture (2012)

M L Leibler

Wayne State University

Made in Michigan Series Editor

Bob Seger's House and Other Stories (2016) Michigan Notable Book Award Winner

I Want To Be Once (2016) Michigan Notable Book Award Winner

Heaven Was Detroit: From Jazz to Hip-Hop and Beyond (2016) Michigan Notable Book Award Winner

Wide Awake in Someone Else's Dream (2008) Michigan Notable Book Award Winner

Abandon Automobile (2001)

Jane Ferreyra

Director of Wayne State University Press (2002-17)

Jack Ridl

Saint Peter and the Goldfish (2019)

Practicing to Walk Like a Heron (2016) Michigan Notable Book Award Winner

Broken Symmetry (2006) Michigan Notable Book Award Winner

Anne-Marie Oomen

The Lake Michigan Mermaid (2018) Michigan Notable Book Award Winner

Elemental (2018) Michigan Notable Book Award Winner

An American Map (2010) 2010 ForeWord Book of the Year Award Winner

House of Fields: Memories of a Rural Education (2006) Michigan Notable Book Award Winner

Pulling Down the Barn: Memories of a Rural Childhood (2004) Michigan Notable Book Award Winner

Love Sex and 4H (2015) 2016 Next Generation Indie Book Award

Kathryn Wildfong

Interim Director Wayne State Press 2017-2019

Editor-in-Chief Wayne State Press 2009-2017

Ranen Omer-Sherman

University of Louisville

Narratives of Dissent: War in Contemporary Israeli Arts and Culture (2012)

Lori Harrison-Kahan

Boston College

The Superwoman and Other Writings by Miriam Michelson (2019)

Joel Berkowitz

University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee

Inventing the Modern Yiddish Stage (2012)

Gail Griffin

Grief's Country (2020)

Linda Nemec Foster

The Lake Michigan Mermaid (2018) Michigan Notable Book Award Winner

Judith Brin Ingber

Seeing Israeli and Jewish Dance (2011) Michigan Notable Book Award Winner

Maureen Dunphy

Great Lakes Island Escapes: Ferries and Bridges to Adventure (2016) Michigan Notable Book Award Winner

Lolita Hernandez

Making Callaloo in Detroit (2014) Michigan Notable Book Award Winner

Renee Simms

Meet Behind Mars (2018) 2018 Foreword INDIES Book Awards Finalist

Tal Dekel

Tel Aviv University

Transnational Identities: Women, Art, and Migration in Contemporary Israel (2016) Foreword INDIES Book Award Finalist for Social Sciences

Nancy Sinkoff

Rutgers University

From Left to Right: Lucy S. Dawidowicz, the New York Intellectuals, and the Politics of Jewish History (2020)

Peter X Feng

University of Delaware

Contemporary Approaches to Film and Media Series, Advisory Editor

Avinoam J. Patt

University of Connecticut,

Laughter After: Humor and the Holocaust (2020)

Finding Home and Homeland (2009)

Michael Zadoorian

The Lost Tiki Palaces of Detroit (2009) Michigan Notable Book Award Winner

Zilka Joseph

Sharp Blue Search of Flame (2016) Michigan Notable Book Award Winner

David Slucki

Monash University

Laughter After: Humor and the Holocaust (2020)

Sing This at My Funeral: A Memoir of Fathers and Sons (2019)

Mike Delp

Made in Michigan Writers Series Editor

Lying in the River's Dark Bed: The Confluence of the Deadman and the Mad Angler (2016) 2017

AUPresses Book, Jacket & Journal Show Award Winner

Bob Seger's House and Other Stories (2016) 2016 Foreword INDIES Book Award Finalist

As If We Were Prey (2010) 2010 ForeWord Book of the Year - WINNER

The Last Good Water: Prose and Poetry, 1988-2003 (2003)

New Poems from the Third Coast (2000)

Under the Influence of Water: Poems, Essays, and Stories (1992)

Jacob E. Nyenhuis

Wayne State University

Myth and the Creative Process: Michael Ayrton and the Myth of Daedalus (2003)

Latin Via Ovid: A First Course (1982)

Novotny Lawrence

Iowa State University

Beyond Blaxploitation (Wayne State University Press, 2016) 2017 AUPresses Book, Jacket & Journal Show Award Winner

Joseph Harris

You're in the Wrong Place (2020)

Tanya Horeck

Justice on Demand: True Crime in the Digital Streaming Era (2019)

Shonda Buchanan

Black Indian: A Memoir (2019)

Sharon B. Oster

University of Redlands

No Place In Time: The Hebraic Myth In Late-Nineteenth-Century American Literature (2018)

Charles K Hyde

Wayne State University

Editor of The Great Lakes Books Series

Arsenal of Democracy: The American Automobile Industry in World War II (2013) Michigan Notable Book Award Winner

Riding the Roller Coaster: A History of the Chrysler Corporation (2003) Michigan Notable Book Award Winner

Storied Independent Automakers: Nash, Hudson, and American Motors (2009) Michigan Notable Book Award Winner

The Dodge Brothers: The Men, the Motor Cars, and the Legacy (2005) Michigan Notable Book Award Winner

The Northern Lights: Lighthouse of the Upper Great Lakes (1995)

Shiri Goren

Yale University Press

Choosing Yiddish: New Frontiers of Language and Culture (2012)

Riv Ellen-Prell

University of Minnesota

Prayer and Community: The Havurah in American Judaism (2018)

Women Remaking American Judaism (2007)

Laura Hulthen Thomas

The Residential College at the University of Michigan

States of Motion (2017)

Jim Daniels

Rowing Inland (2017) Michigan Notable Book Award Winner, 2018 Paterson Poetry Prize Finalist

2019 National Best Books Awards Finalist 2018 Montaigne Medal from the Eric Hoffer Awards Finalist

In Line for the Exterminator (2007) 2008 Paterson Award for Literary Excellence for Previous Finalists of the Paterson Poetry Prize Winner

Letters to America: Contemporary American Poetry on Race (1995)

Punching Out (1990)

Joe Grimm

Michigan State University School of Journalism

The Faygo Book (2018) Michigan Notable Book Award Winner

Songquest: The Journals of Great Lakes Folklorist Ivan H. Walton (2018)

Coney Detroit (2012) Michigan Notable Book Award Winner

Windjammers: Songs of the Great Lakes Sailors (2002) Michigan Notable Book Award Winner

Michigan Voices: Our State's History in the Words of the People Who Lived It (1987)

Judith R. Baskin

University of Oregon

Jewish Women in Historical Perspective, Second Edition (1998)

Women of the Word: Jewish Women and Jewish Writing (1994)

Laura Limonic

SUNY- College at Old Westbury

Kugel and Frijoles: Latino Jews in the United States (2019)

Glenn Dynner

Sarah Lawrence

A Fire Burns in Kotsk: A Tale of Hasidism in the Kingdom of Poland (2015)

Holy Dissent: Jewish and Christian Mystics in Eastern Europe (2011)

Michael Lauchlan

University of Detroit Mercy

Trumbull Ave (2015) Michigan Notable Book Award Winner

Adriana X. Jacobs

Oxford University

Women's Hebrew Poetry on American Shores: Poems by Anne Kleiman and Annabelle Farmelant (2016)

Shachar Pinsker

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Women's Hebrew Poetry on American Shores: Poems by Anne Kleiman and Annabelle Farmelant (2016)

Nir Cohen

Editor of *Jewish Film & New Media*

Soldiers, Rebels, and Drifters: Gay Representation in Israeli Cinema (2011)

Victoria Aarons

Bernard Malamud: A Centennial Tribute (2016)

The New Diaspora: The Changing Landscape of American Jewish Fiction (2015) National Jewish Book Awards Finalist

Laurie Lanzen Harris

The Detroit Symphony Orchestra: Grace, Grit, and Glory (2016) Michigan Notable Book Award Winner

Kelly Fordon

I Have the Answer (2020)

Garden for the Blind (2015) Michigan Notable Book Award Winner

Kathryn Hellerstein

University of Pennsylvania

Paper Bridges: Selected Poems of Kadya Molodowsky 1999

Laura Levitt

Temple University

Gabriel Finder

University of Virginia

Laughter After: Humor and the Holocaust (2020)

Jewish Honor Courts: Revenge, Retribution, and Reconciliation in Europe and Israel after the Holocaust (2015) 2015 National Jewish Book Awards Finalist

Meridith Lidl

The Lake Michigan Mermaid (2018) Michigan Notable Book Award Winner

Nathan Abrams

Bangor University

Editor of *Jewish Film & New Media*

Chris Dombrowki

Ragged Anthem (2019)

Earth Again (2013) 2014 Independent Publisher's Book Award Bronze Medal in the category of Poetry

2014 ForeWord Book of the Year Award Winner of the Silver Medal in the category of Poetry

By Cold Water (2009) 2009 ForeWord Book of the Year Finalist

Diane DeCillis

Strings Attached (2014) 2015 Michigan Notable Book Awards, 2015 Next Generation Indie Book Award - Result: Winner in the Poetry category, 2015 AUPresses Book, Jacket & Journal Show Award Best cover design

Edna Nahshon

Jewish Theological Seminary of America

From the Ghetto to the Melting Pot: Israel Zangwill's Plays (2005) 2009 Jordan Schnitzer Book Awards: Notable Selection

Sheila Jelen

University of Maryland, College Park

Salvage Poetics: Post-Holocaust American Jewish Folk Ethnographies (2020)

Reconstructing the Old Country: American Jewry in the Post-Holocaust Decades (2017)

Amy Horowitz

Mediterranean Israeli Music and the Politics of the Aesthetic (2010) 2010 Jordan Schnitzer Book Awards Honorable Mention in Social Science, Anthropology, and Folklore

Jonathan Skolnik

University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Scott Richmond

University of Toronto

Ariel Mokdad

Wayne State University

Elemental (2018)

Christina Gerhardt

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

1968 and Global Cinema (2018)

TreaAndrea M. Russworm

University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Blackness Is Burning: Civil Rights, Popular Culture, and the Problem of Recognition (2016)

Elizabeth Schmuhl

Premonitions (2018) 2018 Foreword INDIES Book Awards Finalist, 2019 Eric Hoffer Book Awards First Horizon Award Finalist, 2019 Eric Hoffer Book Awards Honorable Mention, 2019 First Horizon Book Award from the Eric Hoffer Awards Finalist 2019 Next Generation Indie Book Award Finalist

Peter C. Herman

San Diego State University

Squitter-wits and Muse-haters: Sidney, Spenser, Milton and Renaissance Antipoetic Sentiment (1996)

Anjeana K Hans

Wellesley College

Gender and the Uncanny in Films of the Weimar Republic (2014)

Marco Abel

University of Nebraska

The Berlin School and Its Global Contexts: A Transnational Art Cinema (2018) Willy Haas Prize Finalist
Best book on German cinema

Scott Balcerzak

Northern Illinois University

Beyond Method: Stella Adler and the Male Actor (2018)

Buffoon Men: Classic Hollywood Comedians and Queered Masculinity (2013)

Jaimey Fisher

UC Davis

The Berlin School and Its Global Contexts (2018). 2018 Willy Haas Prize Shortlisted for best book on German cinema

The Collapse of the Conventional (2010). 2011 Women in German Award: Best Article - For Barbara Mennel's chapter, "The Global Elsewhere: Ursula Biemann's Multimedia Countergeography"

Disciplining Germany (2007)

Thomas Klug

The Great Lakes Books Series Editor

Steve Babson

The Color of Law: Ernie Goodman, Detroit, and the Struggle for Labor and Civil Rights (2010), co-authored with David Riddle and David Elsila.

Lean Work: Empowerment and Exploitation in the Global Auto Industry (1995), editor.

Working Detroit: The Making of a Union Town (1986).

Jean Alicia Elster

Selected as a 2017 Kresge Artist Fellow in Literary Arts

The Colored Car (2014) A 2014 Michigan Notable Book; 2014 Midwest Book Award in Children's Fiction Honor Book; 2014 Paterson Prize for Books for Young People

Who's Jim Hines? (2009) Michigan Notable Book

Ames Hawkins

These Are Love(d) Letters. Wayne State University Press (2019)

Sara Saljoughi

University of Toronto

Editor *Discourse: Journal for Theoretical Studies in Media and Culture*
1968 and Global Cinema (2018)

Teresa J Scollon

To Embroider the Ground with Prayer (2012) ForeWord Book of the Year Award finalist

Brian Gilmore

come see about me, marvin (2019) 2020 Michigan Notable Book Awards

Arthur B. Evans,

Director, Wayne State University Press 1989-2002

Natalie Ruth Joynton

Welcome to Replica Dodge (2019)

Vicki Callahan

University of Southern California

Reclaiming the Archive: Feminism and Film History (2010).

Zones of Anxiety: Movement, Musidora, and the Crime Serials of Louis Feuillade (2004)

Kristen Anderson Wagner

University of Southern California

Comic Venus: Women and Comedy in American Silent Film (2018)

Christina Lane

University of Miami

Christina Lane, Feminist Hollywood: From Born in Flames to Point Break (2000)

Catherine Collomp

Université Paris-Diderot

Jewish Labor Committee (forthcoming)

Nadia Valman

Queen Mary, University of London

British Jewish Women Writers (2014)

Meri-Jane Rochelson

Florida International University

Eli's Story: A Twentieth-Century Jewish Life (2018)

A Jew in the Public Arena: The Career of Israel Zangwill (2008, 2010)

Lisa Lenzo

Strange Love (2015) Michigan Notable Book Award Winner
Unblinking (2019)

Ken Mikolowski

THAT THAT (2015)

Barbara E. Krueger

Detroit's Historic Places of Worship (2012)

Marla O. Collum

Detroit's Historic Places of Worship (2012)

Andy Mozina

Quality Snacks (2014)

The Women Were Leaving the Men (2007)