

# SIMON J. BRONNER, Ph.D.

Office of the Dean of the College of Arts, Sciences, and Business  
Maxwell C. Weiner Distinguished Professor of Humanities  
Missouri University of Science and Technology  
<http://sites.psu.edu/bronner> (website)

## EDUCATION

Ph.D., American Studies and Folklore, Indiana University, Bloomington, 1981.  
M.A., American Folk Culture. Cooperstown Graduate Programs, State University of New York, 1977.  
B.A., Political Science, Honors College. State University of New York at Binghamton, 1974

## ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS

Office of the Dean of the College of Arts, Sciences, and Business, *Missouri University of Science & Technology*, 2018-  
Chair, American Studies Program (BA, MA, PhD), *Penn State Harrisburg*, 1987-2002, 2006-2017  
Coordinator, Graduate Certificate in Folklore and Ethnography, *Penn State Harrisburg*, 2014-2017  
Coordinator, Graduate Certificate in Heritage and Museum Practice, *Penn State Harrisburg*, 2013-2017  
Interim Director, School of Humanities, *Penn State Capital College*, Harrisburg and Schuylkill campuses, January 2002-July 2003.  
Founding Director, Center for Holocaust and Jewish Studies, *Penn State Harrisburg*, 2007-2013.  
Founding Director, Center for Pennsylvania Culture Studies, *Penn State Harrisburg*, 1990-2008, 2015-2017.

## TEACHING POSITIONS

**Maxwell C. Weiner Distinguished Professor of Humanities**, *Missouri University of Science and Technology*, 2018-2019. Reporting to Dean of Arts, Sciences, and Business.  
**Distinguished University Professor of American Studies and Folklore**, *Pennsylvania State University, Harrisburg*. Since 1991. Senior Member, Graduate Faculty, since 1987; Professor, 1988-1991; Associate Professor, 1985-1988; Assistant Professor, 1981-1984.  
**Walt Whitman Distinguished Chair in American Culture**, *Leiden University*, The Netherlands, Fall 2005.  
**Visiting Professor, Folklore & Mythology, History of American Civilization**, *Harvard University*, 1997-1998.  
**Fulbright Professor of American Studies**, *Osaka University*, Japan, 1996-1997.  
**Visiting Distinguished Professor of American Studies**, *University of California at Davis*, Summer 1990.

## BOOKS

*The Practice of Folklore: Essays Toward a Theory of Tradition*. Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2019.  
(ed.) *Contexts of Folklore: Festschrift for Dan Ben-Amos*. New York: Peter Lang (with Wolfgang Mieder).  
(ed.) *Connected Jews: Expressions of Community in Analogue and Digital Culture*. Liverpool: Liverpool University Press, 2018 (with Caspar Battegay).  
(ed.) *Pennsylvania Germans: An Interpretive Encyclopedia*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2017. (with Joshua R. Brown).

- (ed.) *Mothers in the Jewish Cultural Imagination*. Oxford, UK: Littman, 2017 (with Marjorie Lehman and Jane Kanarek).
- Folklore: The Basics*. New York: Routledge, 2016.
- “Who’s That Knocking at My Door?”: Barnacle Bill the Sailor and His Mates in Song and Story*. Northfield, MN: Loomis House Press, 2016.
- (ed.) *Youth Cultures in America*, 2 vols. Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO, 2015 (with Cindy Dell Clark).
- Whirligigs: The Art of Peter Gelker*. Fullerton, California: Grand Central Press, 2014 (with Lynn Gamwell).
- (ed.) *Framing Jewish Culture: Boundaries and Representations*. Oxford, England: Littman, 2014.
- Campus Traditions: Folklore from the Old-Time College to the Modern Mega-University*. Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2012.
- Explaining Traditions: Folk Behavior in Modern Culture*. Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 2011.
- (ed.) *Jews at Home: The Domestication of Identity*. Oxford, England: Littman, 2010.
- Greater Harrisburg’s Jewish Community*. Charleston: Arcadia, 2010.
- Killing Tradition: Inside Hunting and Animal Rights Controversies*. Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 2008.
- Steelton*. Charleston, South Carolina: Arcadia, 2008 (with Michael Barton).
- (ed.) *Jewishness: Expression, Identity, Representation*. Oxford: Littman, 2008.
- (ed.) *The Meaning of Folklore: The Analytical Essays of Alan Dundes*. Logan: Utah State University Press, 2007.
- Crossing the Line: Violence, Play, and Drama in Naval Equator Traditions*. Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press [University of Chicago Press in U.S.], 2006.
- (ed.) *Encyclopedia of American Folklife, 4 vols.* (Armonk, NY: M.E. Sharpe, 2006).
- (ed.) *Manly Traditions: The Folk Roots of American Masculinities* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2005)
- Folk Nation: Folklore in the Creation of American Tradition*. Wilmington, Delaware: SR Books, 2002.
- (ed.) *Lafcadio Hearn’s America*. Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 2002.
- (ed.) *Plain Women: Ritual and Gender in the Old Order River Brethren*. (By Margaret C. Reynolds). University Park: Pennsylvania State University Press, 2001.
- Following Tradition: Folklore in the Discourse of American Culture*. Logan: Utah State University Press, 1998.
- Popularizing Pennsylvania: Henry W. Shoemaker and the Progressive Uses of Folklore and History*. University Park: Pennsylvania State University Press, 1996.
- The Carver’s Art: Crafting Meaning from Wood*. Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1996.
- Piled Higher and Deeper: The Folklore of Student Life*. Little Rock: August House Publishers, 1995.
- (ed.) *Creativity and Tradition in Folklore: New Directions*. Logan: Utah State University Press, 1992.
- (ed.) *American Material Culture and Folklife*. Logan: Utah State University Press, 1992.
- (ed.) *Folk Art and Art Worlds*. Logan: Utah State University Press, 1992 (with John Michael Vlach).
- Piled Higher and Deeper: The Folklore of Campus Life*. Little Rock: August House Publishers, 1990.
- American Children’s Folklore*. Little Rock, August House Publishers, 1988.  
Annotated Edition, 1989.
- (ed.) *Consuming Visions: Accumulation and Display of Goods in America, 1880-1920*. New York: W. W. Norton, 1989.
- (ed.) *Folklife Studies from the Gilded Age: Object, Rite, and Custom in Victorian America*. Ann Arbor: UMI Research Press, 1988.
- Old-Time Music Makers of New York State*. Syracuse: Syracuse University Press, 1987.

***Grasping Things: Folk Material Culture and Mass Society in America.*** Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1986. Reprinted 2004.  
(ed.) ***Folk Art and Art Worlds.*** Ann Arbor: UMI Research Press, 1986 (with John Michael Vlach).  
***American Folklore Studies: An Intellectual History.*** Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 1986.  
***Chain Carvers: Old Men Crafting Meaning.*** Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1985.  
(ed.) ***American Material Culture and Folklife: A Prologue and Dialogue.*** Ann Arbor: UMI Research Press, 1985.  
(ed.) ***American Folk Art: A Guide to Sources.*** New York: Garland Publishing, 1984.

### **JOURNAL ARTICLES, BOOK CHAPTERS, AND REVIEWS**

**Over 300 essays in journals and encyclopedias, including** *Humanities, American Quarterly, American Studies, European Journal of American Studies, Cultural Analysis, Iron Game History, Material Culture, Winterthur Portfolio, Prospects: Annual of American Cultural Studies, American Studies International, Borderlines: Studies in American Culture, Journal of American History, Pennsylvania History, Georgia Historical Quarterly, Western American Literature, Kansai American Literature, Markers, Jewish History, Journal of Modern Jewish Studies, Yiddish, Education Life, Anthropolos, Folklife, Journal of American Folklore, Journal of Folklore Research, Western Folklore, International Folklore Review, Encyclopedia of American Studies, Oxford Companion to United States History, Encyclopedia of Vernacular Architecture of the World, Collier's Encyclopedia, Encyclopedia of Southern Culture, American Folklore: An Encyclopedia, Encyclopedia of Local History, Historical Dictionary of the Gilded Age.*

**Over 75 chapters and introductions in books, including** *Psycho-Cultural Analysis of Folklore* (2018), *Folklife and Museums* (2017), *Pennsylvania Germans* (2017), *Going to the People* (2016), *Guns and Contemporary Society* (2016), *Tradition in the Twenty-First Century* (2013), *Folk Culture in the Digital Age* (2012), *Wild Games: Hunting and Fishing Traditions in North America* (2010), *Folklore and the Internet* (2009), *Vernacular Architecture in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* (2005), *Writing the Amish* (2005), *Dramatic America* (2002), *Pennsylvania: A History of the Commonwealth* (2002), *Plain Women: Gender and Ritual in the Old Order River Brethren* (2001), *Children's Folklore: A Source Book* (1995), *Conserving Cultural Heritage in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* (1994), *Foxfire Book of Appalachian Toys and Games* (1993), *American Folk Art Canes: Personal Sculpture* (1992), *Consuming Visions: Accumulation and Display of Goods in America, 1880-1920* (1989), *Exploring Folk Art* (1987), *Folk Groups and Folklore Genres* (1986), *Material Culture: A Research Guide* (1985), *Academic and Public History: A Synthesis* (1989), *Personal Places: Perspectives on Informal Art Environments* (1984), *Afro-American Folk Art and Crafts*, (1986), *Humor and the Individual* (1984), *Foodways and Eating Habits: Directions for Research* (1983)

### **EDITORIAL POSITIONS**

***Studies in Folklore and Ethnology*** (Books), Lexington Books; ***Jewish Cultural Studies*** (Books), Liverpool University Press, ***Pennsylvania-German History and Culture*** (Books), Penn State Press, ***Material Worlds Series*** (Books), University Press of Kentucky, since 1998; ***American Material Culture and Folklife Series*** (Books), UMI Research Press; ***The Folklore Historian; Material Culture; Folklore Forum.***

### **AWARDS AND HONORS**

**Lifetime Scholarly Achievement Award**, American Folklore Society, 2018  
**Lifetime Achievement Award in Children's Folklore Studies**, American Folklore Society, 2017.  
**Alumni of Distinction Award**, State University of New York-Oneonta, 2017.  
**Kenneth Goldstein Memorial Award for Lifetime Academic Leadership**, American Folklore Society, 2015.  
**Peter J. Shellam Champion of Justice Award**, American Civil Liberties Union, Harrisburg, 2015.  
**Graduate Program Leadership Award, Graduate School Alumni Society**, Penn State University,

2015.  
**Graduate Teaching Award (Doctoral Level)**, Northeastern Association of Graduate Schools, 2013.  
**Penn State Harrisburg Award for Excellence in Service**, 2006.  
**Mary Turpie Prize**, American Studies Association [program development, teaching, and advising] 1999.  
**Penn State Harrisburg Excellence in Research Award**, 1998  
**Provost's Award for Excellence in Teaching**, Penn State Harrisburg, 1996.  
**Pennsylvania-German Society Award of Merit** [service to Pennsylvania-German field], 1996.  
**Peter and Iona Opie Prize for best book on children's folklore**, American Folklore Society, 1990.  
**Regional Council of Historical Societies Award of Merit** (for *Old-Time Music Makers*), 1988.  
**John Ben Snow Foundation Prize for best book on New York State** (for *Old-Time Music Makers*), Syracuse University, 1987.  
**James A. Jordan Memorial Award for Teaching Excellence**, Penn State Harrisburg, 1985.

#### **EXTERNAL GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

**Scholar-in-Residence**, Latvian Academy of Culture, Riga. **Baltic-American Freedom Foundation**, 2017.  
**Threads: Textiles in Pennsylvania Culture. Exhibition. Governor's Residence. Pennsylvania Council on the Arts**, 2016.  
**"Folk Artists in Central Pennsylvania,"** American Studies Association Regional Chapters Grant, Spring 2011.  
**"Student Culture in America,"** Lecture Program at Fukuoka American Center, Department of State, Embassy of the United States, Spring 2010.  
**"Let's Talk About It: Jewish Literature (Immigration and Estrangement)."** American Library Association and Spector Foundation for Community Enhancement, Fall 2006.  
**Research Fellowship** (Material Culture and Ethnology), Meertens Institute, Department of Ethnology, Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences, Amsterdam, the Netherlands, Fall 2005.  
**"McCormick Family Papers Project,"** McCormick Foundation, 2000-2003.  
**"Pennsylvania Black History Conference,"** Museum Project Grants, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 2000.  
**"Context Study for the Underground Railroad in Pennsylvania,"** Bureau of Historic Preservation, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 1999-2000.  
**"Stabilization and Accessibility of the John Yetter Collection of Steelton History and Culture,"** Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 1996.  
**"Mac C. Barrick Collection Cataloguing Project,"** McCormick Foundation, 1995.  
**"Folk Arts Apprenticeship: The Turkish Oud with Stan Merzanis,"** Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, 1991-1992.  
**"International Childlore Conference,"** Travel Grant to England, American Council of Learned Societies, 1988.  
**"A Biography of Stewart Culin, 1858-1929,"** National Endowment for the Humanities, Travel to Collections Program, 1986.  
**National Endowment for the Humanities Research Fellowship**, Winterthur Museum, Office of Advanced Studies, 1984.  
**"Behind the Image of Uniformity: Cultural Diversity in South-Central Pennsylvania,"** Pennsylvania Humanities Council and the National Endowment for the Arts, 1983.  
**"Afro-American Blues Tradition in Greenville, Mississippi,"** National Endowment for the Arts, 1976.