



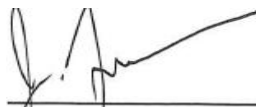
SHEAR Special Service Award for Robyn Lily Davis  
July 23, 2022

Robyn Lily Davis became SHEAR's National Conference Coordinator in August of 2015. Between then and now, she has shaped SHEAR and its annual conference in countless ways. She professionalized us. She transformed the book exhibit into a substantial and profitable enterprise. She helped SHEAR find alternatives to its annual banquet, which—although a celebration of SHEAR and its membership—had become too costly and exclusive for an organization that was expanding its membership, pursuing inclusivity, and welcoming graduate students more than ever before. Robyn was central to that expansion as well, encouraging broader participation by academics and non-academics alike.

In essence, Robyn has long had a vision for what SHEAR's conferences, organizational footprint, and identity can be, and she has worked tirelessly towards that goal for years. She has done so while managing a sea of details and moving parts: hotel and conference center coordination; panel specifics; food budgets and menus; creating the conference program in print and online; managing and organizing conference participants; and all around making everything work.

Robyn has long deserved a Special Service award, but her tireless and extra-challenging efforts managing the conference during a pandemic went above and beyond the call of duty. Organizations, conferences and coordinators everywhere have been struggling to find a pathway through this uncharted territory. In 2021, Robyn ushered SHEAR through its first remote conference, dealing with a slew of unknowns, and a bundle of new and untried (by us) technological tools. This past year, she reinvented SHEAR's conference yet again, wrestling with the conference's unpredictability given pandemic uncertainties and juggling its remote components at SHEAR's first in-person conference in three years.

Anyone who has worked with Robyn or been involved in SHEAR's annual conference in any way well knows the remarkable scope and scale of her efforts. For all of these reasons, we hereby recognize - with great gratitude - Robyn Lily Davis with a Special Service award. On behalf of SHEAR, I thank you for all that you do.

  
Joanne B. Freeman, President  
(Written and presented by Joanne B. Freeman)