JOHN JAY COLLEGE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Appointment of John Matteson as Distinguished Professor

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees of The City University of New York appoint Dr. John Matteson as Distinguished Professor of English at John Jay College of Criminal Justice effective July 1, 2012, with compensation of $28,594 per annum in addition to his regular academic salary, subject to financial ability.

EXPLANATION: Professor Matteson joined the John Jay College faculty in 1997, as he was completing his doctorate in English and Comparative Literature at Columbia University. He is currently recognized as one of this century’s foremost scholars of American literature. Professor Matteson was awarded the 2008 Pulitzer Prize in Biography for Eden’s Outcasts: The Story of Louisa May Alcott and Her Father (W.W. Norton, Inc.). His latest book, which Norton published in January 2012, is a biography of Margaret Fuller.

Professor Matteson is acclaimed for his original contributions to our understanding of nineteenth-century American literature and culture, as well as for the elegant writing with which he conveys his insights. In addition to the two biographies already mentioned, Professor Matteson has published numerous book chapters and articles and is a valued presence in the professional communities of literature, history, and biography. At CUNY, he was the first recipient of the Leon Levy Center for Biography Fellowship, and is now the Center’s deputy director.

Prior to embarking on his Ph.D. studies, Professor Matteson received a law degree from Harvard Law School and was a practicing attorney. He earned an undergraduate degree in history cum laude from Princeton University, where he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa.

John Jay College and The City University of New York will be well served by Professor Matteson’s appointment as Distinguished Professor.