

Alan Rauch, PhD  
Membership-At-Large  
Biography

Dr. Rauch, who has been a member of Sigma Xi since 1985, was born in Montréal, Québec and received his B.Sc. in biology from McGill University. After completing his MA in Zoology, he studied English Literature at Rutgers University, where he obtained both the M.A. and the Ph.D. While on the faculty at Georgia Tech, he helped create the program in Science, Technology, and Culture, and he is currently the Director of *Humanities Technology and Science* at UNC Charlotte.

Rauch's research deals with the intersections among science, technology, and culture particularly in the Romantic and Victorian eras. Rauch's published work includes *Useful Knowledge* (Duke, 2001), *One Culture, The Mummy! A Tale of the Twenty-Second Century*, and *England in 1815*. His most recent book, *Dolphin* is a scientific, social, and cultural view of all dolphin species. He is also completing a second book for the "Animal Series" by Reaktion Books to be called *Sloth*. He recently published an essay about the "Sukotyro," which is titled: "On the Extinction of a Non-Existent Animal" (*Configurations*); the essay, which is rooted in the early modern period, explores the meaning and significance of visual representation. A forthcoming essay, dealing with Darwin and Kingsley, "Death as a Sacrament in Kingsley's Water-Babies," will appear in *Charles Kingsley: Faith, Flesh, and Fantasy* (Routledge Studies in Cultural History).

Rauch's research reflects a wide breadth of interests including the role of science in *Frankenstein* and the "extinction" of an animal that never really existed. With many publications in Children's Literature, Rauch was the co-curator an exhibit, looking at women and science in the nineteenth century, at University of Florida's Baldwin Library of Historical Children's Literature. The exhibit was supported by a Carnegie/Whitney Grant from the American Library Association.

Rauch has served as President of the *Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts* and was also President of the Council of Editors of Learned Journals. Part of his current research, in ecocritical studies, deals with W. H. Hudson, the renowned (but neglected) environmental writer, who is best known for the novel *Green Mansions: A Romance of the Tropical Forest* (1904). An essay in progress, "Science, Women, and the Mother Tongue: Translating Knowledge for 19th Century Readers," extends his scholarship in the role of women as scientific popularizers in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Rauch has been a Fellow at Cambridge University, the Harry Ransom Center (University of Texas), University of Edinburgh, the American Philosophical Society, the Boston Athenaeum, the Lilly Library, the Library Company of Philadelphia, and the Huntington Library in California.