Gary as a faculty advisor:

**I Am Happy to Work with Students in the Following Genres/Areas:** Fiction of Contemporary Realism; Historical Fiction; Non-fiction

**Other Things to Know About Me as an Advisor:** I tend to over-edit, and I think this puts some folks into shock. But most of these are "things to think about," and not demands.

I’m not fast, but I am thorough.

I tend to focus on the smaller pieces that make up the whole, since that is where I think the story really can blossom. Thus I am very concerned with voice, and with narratorial choices, and with the use of seemingly slight detail that can make the difference between a flat character and a fascinating character, and with setting that contributes rather than setting as a mere stage.

On critical work, I want to see engagement. Criticism by itself isn’t very interesting, but taken as part of a larger critical and analytical discussion, it can be fantastically important. So I want to push folks into seeing their critical work as an entry into a conversation that is already going on.

I tend to want to take things electronically—which is generally against all of my principles, but there it is. I’ll print it off on my end, and send you back a letter and the edited MS.

**Books of Mine I Recommend That You Read:** I suppose *Trouble* or *The Wednesday Wars* or *First Boy* or something along those lines. The diehards might want to try *A Passionate Usefulness: the Life and Literary Labors of Hannah Adams*—but you really have to be a diehard.