Susan Farrell earned her Ph.D. at the University of Texas at Austin in 1993. She came to the College of Charleston that same year, where she teaches courses in American literature, contemporary fiction, women's studies, and composition. She has published articles on contemporary American authors Toni Morrison, Alice Walker, Tim O'Brien, Alice McDermott, Louise Erdrich, and others. Her book on Jane Smiley's _A Thousand Acres_ came out in 2001, and she published a book on the life and work of Kurt Vonnegut in 2008. She is currently researching and writing a book on Vietnam War author Tim O'Brien, which is scheduled for publication in 2011.