

# English Department Newsletter

17 February 2010



The newsletter is published biweekly throughout the academic year.  
The next issue will appear on 3 March 2010.

## MEETINGS AND EVENTS

A discussion of **service-learning at Buffalo State**, its applications to teaching and scholarship, and best practices for connecting service with academic course work will be held in Bacon Hall 115, *tomorrow*, during Bengal Pause. Light refreshments will be served. No registration is necessary.

**Kim Chinquee and Irene Sipos** will be featured readers in **Burchfield Penney Poetry series on Sunday, 21 February**. This free event is presented with the support of the David and Ruth Lampe Poetry Endowment. The reading will be held at 2 pm. Encourage your students to attend!

**Poet Hoa Nguyen will present a reading and discussion on Friday, February 26** at 1 pm in Ketchum Hall 313. She is the author of seven books and chapbooks, most recently *Hecate Lochia* and *Kiss a Bomb Tattoo*. She is co-editor of the small press and poetry journal *Skanky Possum* from which Robert Creeley selected poems for inclusion in the Best American Poetry 2002.



The continuing lecture series ***Conversations in and out of the Disciplines*** begins its spring 2010 program on Friday, 26 February, **when Jennifer Ryan will present “Ideology and Identity from Bessie Smith’s Blues to the Coltrane Poem.”** The presentation will be held in Ketchum 320, 3-4:30 pm, and is open to faculty and graduate students.

On 12 March Kimberly Hart of the Anthropology Department will speak on “Women’s Work in Secular and Sacred Redemption in Western Turkey.” The series will conclude on 30 April, when Kim Chinquee will present “Flash Fiction, Prose Poetry and Men Jumping out of

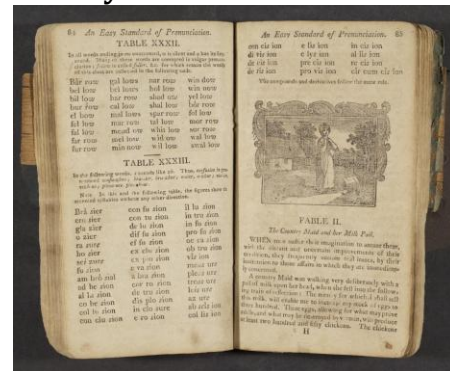
Windows: Search for Plot and Finding Definitions.”

The **Women's Studies Interdisciplinary Unit** will host a **research symposium** showcasing student, faculty, alumni and staff work on women's and gender issues. The symposium will be held in E. H. Butler 210 on **Friday, March 12**. For more information, contact [Jennifer Ryan](#).

## REMINDERS and USEFUL INFORMATION

The Carnegie Academy for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (CASTL) is accepting applications for three one-year, **\$3,000 faculty development fellowships** to promote the scholarship of teaching and learning on campus. Applications are due Thursday, 1 April. Information on proposal-writing workshops and full application guidelines, are available [here](#).

The **Northeast American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies** will hold its 2010 annual meeting at the Hyatt Regency in **Buffalo, 21-23 October 2010**. This conference is being organized by faculty from Buffalo State (Lisa Berglund and Mark Fulk in English and Andrew Nicholls in History), together with faculty from the University at Buffalo and Canisius College. The conference theme is "Inquiry, Pedagogy, Exploration: Studying the Eighteenth Century."



Faculty and graduate students are invited to submit **abstracts for scholarly papers and roundtable discussions on any eighteenth-century studies subject**, though papers on the conference theme are particularly welcome. For more information, visit the [conference website](#). Some financial support will be available to graduate students and to local secondary school teachers; details will be posted later this month. NEASECS offers an excellent opportunity for graduate students to gain professional conference experience.

The deadline for submitting abstracts is 1 May. For information on the submitting papers, contact [Erik Seeman](#); for other information, contact [Lisa Berglund](#).

This spring, the Burchfield Penney Art Center will host the nationally celebrated exhibition *Heat Waves in a Swamp: The Paintings of Charles Burchfield*, organized with the Hammer Museum at UCLA. In conjunction with the exhibit, the Burchfield Penney is organizing a **Heat Waves in a Swamp Art Criticism Writing Invitational** for high school and college students. Deadline for submissions to the competition is 1 May, and information is available from [Alana Ryder](#).

The College Partnership Development office of the Center for the Development of Human Services at BSC is seeking **faculty partnership projects** in the areas of **Proposal Writing**, and **Business Writing** for Erie County Development of Social Services. Such projects aid social service providers in delivering information and

skills to clients in NYS. The project(s) would **begin immediately this semester and run through August 31, 2010**. The stipend for individual faculty partnership projects is \$1600. Partnership Grants are recognized as Faculty Service and, often, Applied Research.

Projects can be research oriented, web-based delivery, workshop description or materials, multi-media curriculum, etc. Submitting a proposal to CDHS is a very streamlined process; contact [Gail Daniels](#), Director of College Relations. For more information you also can talk to [Barbara T. Bontempo](#).



Grants available through the **New York State Council on the Humanities** support public programs that bring humanities scholars and scholarship to a general audience. Two kinds of grants are available:

- **Mini Grants (\$2,500)** have a rolling deadline. Submit your application 8 weeks before your first event & you'll get a response back in 4 weeks. Mini-grants may be used to fund programs or to support program planning.
- **Major Grants (up to \$20,000)** applications are due March 15, 2010.

To be eligible, a project must be:

- rooted in the humanities or have a strong humanities framework
- designed for the general public
- use diverse and appropriate outlets for the intended audience
- involve humanities experts integrally in the project team

Any tax-exempt organization is eligible to receive 1 Major Grant and 1 Mini Grant in calendar year 2010. For more information, visit [www.nyhumanities.org/grants](http://www.nyhumanities.org/grants).

### **NEH Summer Program for College and University Teachers**

is offering 21 seminars and institutes in 201; the topics include British Romanticism, contemporary Brazilian literature, mapping and art in the Americas, the golden age of magazines, interactions between Native Americans and European colonists, and medieval philosophy, history, and interfaith exchanges between Christians, Muslims, and Jews. **The application deadline is March 2, 2010.**

For a complete list of the seminars and institutes, eligibility requirements, and contact information for the directors, visit [www.neh.gov/projects/si-university.html](http://www.neh.gov/projects/si-university.html). Some spaces are now reserved for full-time graduate students.



**The NEH Summer Institutes at the National Humanities Center** in Research Triangle Park this year are "Reading Thomas Hardy's *Jude the Obscure*" with Kate Flint and "Five by Five; The Short Story as Art and Artifact" with Louis Menand. The Institute runs 4-9 July 2010, and you get room, board, travel, lodging, texts and a \$1200 stipend. You could actually make money! [Applications](#) are due 12 March.

**Funding Available for Undergraduate Students to Conduct Research:** The Office of Undergraduate Research's [Small Grants Program](#) provides up to \$400 to assist



students in carrying out their research and creative activities during the academic year. NEW this year: up to \$600 may be requested for a single project that involves two or more students.

The funding is intended to help defray the cost of travel, supplies, and other materials necessary to conduct a research, scholarly, or creative project. It is not intended as salary for the student(s). Student(s) receiving small grants awards are required to participate in the 12th annual Student Research and Creativity

Celebration, April 30 and May 1, 2010. A second round of this program has a spring call for applications and a submission deadline of February 26, 2010.

## FACULTY ACTIVITIES

The Gale Group has acquired the rights to print pp. 48-71 of **Tom Newhouse's book *The Beat Generation and the Popular Novel in the United States, 1945-1970***, one whole chapter, to be included in *Twentieth Century Literary Criticism*. Tom even received a check! (for half the purchase price...the publisher scooped up the rest).

**Peter Ramos** was recently **nominated for a 2009 Pushcart Prize** in poetry. Also, Peter has a short review of a poem and an interview, in a blog called "[I thought I was New Here](#)", not to mention a photo of himself (looking raffish) and accompanying infant (looking bemused).

## STUDENT AND ALUMNI NEWS

The English Department will host an **alumni reception at 6:00 o'clock on Friday, March 19** in the Donald Savage Flexible Theater. Alumni, current and retired faculty, and guests will gather for good company and refreshments. Following the reception, at 8:00 o'clock we will move to the Warren Enters Theatre in Upton Hall to enjoy George M. Cohan's play about a novelist, *Seven Keys to Baldpate*.

There will be food, soft drinks and a wine bar, and the Theater Department has offered tickets to the production at a deeply reduced cost. Tickets for the evening, including the reception and play, are \$20.00. To reserve your spot please give your name, the name of your guest, and a check payable to **Buffalo State College Foundation** to [Maureen Lougen](#) by **March 1**.

**Alumni!—We want to share your news!** Send updates and weblinks to [Lisa Berglund](#) or [Maureen Lougen](#).

## Finally...

Here's a great clip of Leonard Bernstein teaching the structure of the blues and explaining iambic pentameter in 90 seconds. Scroll down the left and click on the first "media" link: [Music: Bernstein on the Mystery Behind the Music](#). (*The New York Times* requires you to register, but it's free—for now.)

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