

English Department Newsletter



2 April 2014

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The newsletter is published biweekly, mostly, throughout the semester; the next issue will appear on 16 April 2014. Current and past newsletters are available on the [English Department website](#).

MEETINGS and EVENTS



[Words](#) is a four-day festival on the spoken word, beginning on 9 April. The festival features the launch of the Burchfield Penney Art Center's anthology *Mortals and Immortals* edited by **David Lampe**, celebrating 35 years of poetry at the Burchfield Penney. There will be readings by Ishmael Reed, Tennessee Reed, Judith Goldman, Steve

Mc Caffery, and Mike Basinski and Buffluxus, who will be doing 2 hours of Fluxus work in the Galleries. Poets have been recording their work to be played in the Front Yard all through April to celebrate National Poetry Month. Among the English Department faculty whose readings will be featured are **Karen Sands-O'Connor, Peter Ramos, Jennifer Ryan** and **David Lampe**.

The **Drop Hammer Student Reading Series** will conclude April 24, during Bengal Pause (12:15-1:30 pm), at the bookstore in the Student Union.

POETRY READING
Tuesday, April 8th
Ketchum 320
12:15pm



Carmen Giménez Smith

"A poet, editor, and teacher, Giménez Smith is too honest a writer to now (a) clichéd voice."
Contemporary Magazine

Free & open to the public

Conversations in and out of the Disciplines Lecture Series
The Buffalo State English Department

Presents a talk by: Professor Tony Chase, Assistant Dean
School of Arts and Humanities

"Mae West, Comedy and the Disenfranchised
Woman Playwright"

Friday, March 7, 2014
3:00-4:30pm
Ketchum Hall 320



Presents a talk by: Professor James Cercone
Department of English

"Community-Based Participatory Teacher Education:
Lesson from the Digital Writing Workshop"

Friday, April 25, 2014
3:00-4:30pm
Ketchum Hall 320



These talks are open to faculty, graduate students, and interested undergraduates

DEPARTMENT NEWS

Joining Janelle at our office front desk is **Alexandria Oliver**—please say hello when you come by on Tuesday or Thursday.

English Education majors are smiling out from almost every page of the *Buffalo State Annual Report*—[check it out](#). (They gave us a credit line but no royalties...)

A comprehensive calendar of **departmental events for April and May** has been posted on the website and distributed via email—think of all those chances to earn extra credit, or even just learn something.

UPDATES, REMINDERS and OPPORTUNITIES

Ann Colley and Kimberly Blessing will share their experiences and expertise with associate professors (new and old) who are considering applying for promotion; they will hold a **faculty development workshop** on Tuesday, April 22, from 12:15 to 1:30 p.m. Advance registration for this session is required; please [register](#) through the CyberQuad Workshop Registration System.

Faculty can apply for a **grant to support “Integrating Undergraduate Research into the Curriculum”**—that deadline is May 14. For more information, visit the [Office of Undergraduate Research website](#).

The Anne Frank Project Fellowship Program will award individual incentives of \$500 each to four Buffalo State faculty or staff members and one community leader. The Fellowship application deadline is Thursday, May 1. Information and applications are available on the [AFP 2014 Fellowship web page](#). With questions about the AFP 2014 Fellowship, contact [Drew Kahn](#).



The **Northeast American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies will meet at Syracuse University** September 25-28, 2014. The conference theme is “Commemoration, Memory, Posterity,” but paper proposals on all topics will be considered. Calls for panels or roundtables should be sent to the organizing committee by April 15; individual paper proposals, including a CV and a 250-word abstract, should be sent to the [organizing committee](#) by May 15. For more information, visit the [conference website](#). **Lisa Berglund** is the presiding president at the 2014 NEASECS meeting.

FACULTY NEWS

The Board of Trustees of Wolfson College, Cambridge University has voted to award **Ann Colley** a visiting fellowship during her sabbatical next fall. Her title of “Visiting Fellow” brings with it a small subsidy for her stay at the College and also gives her privileges

awarded to members of the College and the University. Ann will be staying in an apartment at the College from October, 2014 until the end of January, 2015.

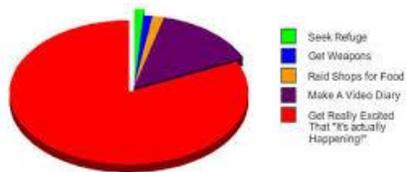
Ann has accepted an invitation to be the outside reader for a Ph.D. dissertation on Tactility and Victorian Sensation written by a graduate student at Stony Brook University (SUNY). The dissertation director is Adrienne Munich, Ed. of *Victorian Literature and Culture*. Ann also reviewed an essay on Edward Lear for *Victorian Studies*.

The Turkish Coalition of America has awarded **Barish Ali** an \$8,000 Study in Turkey grant to help bring ten Buffalo State students to Istanbul, Izmir, and Ephesus for the English Department's Summer in Turkey study abroad program. The four-week study tour, which will take place from June 24 to July 20, will be hosted by Boğaziçi University. Barish and **Heidi Wallace** will co-teach two courses in Istanbul: "Modern Turkish Literature" and the "Cultural History of Istanbul." Previous recipients of this competitive grant include Yale, Syracuse, and George Washington universities.



Mark Fulk is at NeMLA presenting on a panel on new approaches to Green Romanticism. His paper, "William Gilpin and the Ecological Limits of Picturesque Aesthetics in the English Lake District," continues work he presented as part of the Conversations In and Out of the Disciplines series last fall.

Things I Would Do During A Zombie Apocalypse



GraphJam.com

Tim Bryant will give a lecture and lead a graduate seminar on the cultural significance of apocalypse at the University at Buffalo on April 7. His talk, "Projections of Authority in Apocalypse Culture," traces the recent popularity of zombie apocalypse stories, such as Image Comics' and AMC's *The Walking Dead*, to spiritual and secular precursors in Christian scripture and fiction, as well as in popular movies and video games projecting images of nuclear annihilation during the Cold War.

Kim Chinquee will be this year's fiction judge for [NANO Literary Journal's](#) annual fiction writing contest. Her short story "The Meat Place," was published in the Spring 2014 issue of [Ploughshares](#). Her flash fiction "Hey Baby" was published in *Short: An International Anthology of Five Centuries of Short-Short Stories, Prose Poems, Brief Essays, and Other Short Prose Forms* by Persea Books (distributed by Norton). She is senior editor of the upcoming Flash Fiction issue of [New World Writing](#) and will be guest-editing the April issue of [Smokelong Quarterly](#). Her story "The Waves Were Low," published in a past issue of [Willow Springs](#), will be staged at Eastern Washington University's literary festival, Get Lit.

On March 20, **Peter Ramos** presented a lecture entitled "Remarkable Bridge: Poetic Encounters in the Americas" at the University of Georgia. The lecture examines the ways in which modernist canons in the Americas have been in cross-cultural conversation, especially through the act of translation. That evening he gave a poetry reading at Avid Bookshop, along with local poet Jenny Gropp Hess.

At the March 20-23 American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies conference in Williamsburg, Virginia, **Lisa Berglund** read a paper entitled “Noah Webster’s *Tung* and the Rebellious Readers of the Early American Dictionary.” She also participated in a semi-staged reading of scenes from *Venice Preserv’d*, in which she had the immense pleasure of performing a mad scene ending in a pathetic death. (It was part of a session on using dramatic reading to teach Restoration tragedy.) Lisa has also recently reviewed two articles for *Dictionaries: The Journal of the Dictionary Society of North America*.



Karen Sands-O'Connor has been re-elected to the Faculty Senate, representing the School of Arts and Humanities.

Jeff Hirschberg's short film *Why Can't They All Be Like Johnny Depp?* has been named an Official Selection at the [Friars Club Comedy Film festival](#) and will screen in New York City on April 5.

STUDENT and ALUMNI NEWS

Timea Kernacova has won the President’s Medal (in addition to her Chancellor's Award!).

Rachael Saathoff was among several Buffalo State students who, reports Communications Department Chair Joe Marren, “were a hit at the SUNY/CUNY undergraduate research poster symposium on Tuesday in Albany. At various points I noticed that our students were talking to Chancellor Zimpher, BOT Chair Carl McCall, UFS President Peter Knuepfer and interim Provost Beth Bringsjord. Beth made a point of telling me she was impressed by our students.”



Two 2013 English MA graduates have won Outstanding Master’s Thesis Awards: **Joelle Mann**, for “(Re)Visions of Gender: Reading the Uncanny in Virginia Woolf, Gwendolyn Brooks, and Hilda Doolittle,” and **Heidi Wallace**, for “Now, in the Time of Salpiglossia: A Study of Sound and Image in the Poetry of Stevens, Moore and Bishop.”

Amanda Pratt (Writing '13) has been accepted into the University of Nevada, Reno's MA program in English with a full scholarship / teaching assistantship (worth \$28,500/year).

Katrina Hamilton-Kraft (BS '00) has for the past five years taught at Fredonia University and coordinated their English department's study abroad; she is now working in International Education.

AND FINALLY...

Yes, I know April Fool’s Day is past, but [Penguin’s](#) gag is too good not to share!