

English Department Newsletter

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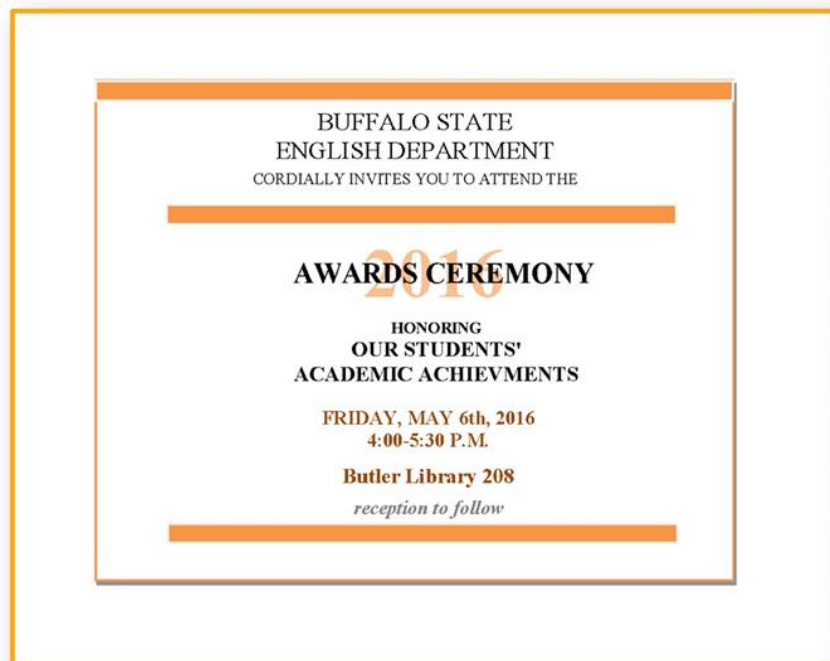
This is the final issue for the spring semester; the next issue will appear on 31 August 2016.
Current and past newsletters are available on the [English Department website](#).

DEPARTMENT AND FACULTY NEWS

KIM CHINQUEE will be reading for the [NOON 2016](#) launch on May 4 at 7 p.m. at Book Culture on Columbus Avenue in New York City. Her essay "Recoil" (about her experience during the Boston Marathon bombings), has been accepted for publication in *Notre Dame Review*.

KAREN SANDS-O'CONNOR took part in her first Carnegie Medal Shadowing group recently; the shadowing groups read all the shortlisted books for the Carnegie Medal (the top British award for children's literature) and then give their verdict to the librarians who make the decision.

The New York State Education Department Learning Standards review workgroup received more than 1,000 applications for its English Language Arts Committee, and **TOM REIGSTAD** is among the classroom teachers, curriculum specialists, parents, college professors, and members of the business community selected to serve. The workgroup is reviewing the New York State P-12 English Language Arts Standards.



Late-breaking news: yesterday **THERESA HARRIS-TIGG** was re-elected to the Buffalo School Board, representing East District.

STUDENT AND ALUMNI NEWS

Alumna **RACHEL L JOHNSON** is one of several featured readers at two events this month. First up is the Screening Room Series on May 18, at 7:30 pm, to be held at the Screening Room Cinema Café, Northtown Plaza Business Center, 3131 Sheridan Drive, Amherst. Admission is \$2.

Additional reading slots are available! Second, on Saturday May 21, at 4 pm Rachel will read at a free event at the Spiritual Cafe of St John's-Grace Episcopal Church, 51 Colonial Circle, Buffalo.

At the English Education Student Association's *Alumni Speaker Series* on April 21 three recent graduates—**PETRINA SCAGLIONE**, **MATTHEW HAHN**, and **WILLIAM JAMES O'NEIL WHITE**—discussed their experiences student teaching and their work in classrooms after graduation.

MARGO MASUR MA '16 will compete in the 4-Minute Thesis Contest on Friday, May 6. Margo's thesis (adviser Jennifer Ryan) is entitled "Inhumanly Beautiful": The Aesthetics of the Nineteenth-Century Deathbed Scene." The competition, which is open to the public, will take place at 1:00 pm in the Social Hall in the Campbell Student Union.

"I absolutely loved the department's courses and faculty with whom I took them; Ben-Merre, Ali, Bachman, Colley, Berglund, Bontempo, to name a few," writes **DAN GRAHAM BA '10**. "Since graduating, I enrolled in the English graduate program in 2011 at the University of Connecticut-Storrs to work with Chris Vials, with



whom I had taken a handful of classes when he was a faculty member in Buffalo State's English department. I received my M.A. from UConn in 2013 and entered the Ph.D. program that fall. I have been teaching courses at UConn in college writing and nineteenth-century American literature since entering the program in 2011. I have also presented my work at conferences including the Modern Language Association and American Studies Association. I aim to defend my dissertation, 'Spectral Speculations: The Political Economy of American Spiritualism, 1848-1905,' in the coming fall semester, and will be conducting related research at the Mary Baker Eddy Library in Boston, MA on a summer fellowship."



Here are photos from just a few of the many English Department student presentations from last weekend: Clockwise from left are, at the Student Research and Creativity Celebration, **TIFFINI ROGERS** with her poster "Life Begets Life: The Moral and Ethical Dilemma of Stem Cell Research"; **CATHERINE MORSE** and her poster "Bringing Jane Austen into the YouTube Age: Web Series Adaptations and the Way We Interact with Literature." And **SUSAN BLAKE**, pictured with **LAURENCE SHINE**, gave the Laurence Shine Fellowship Research Presentation "To Grow a 'Right Rose Tree': 1916 & the Sacrificial Alternative to World War" at the Irish Center in Buffalo.



The *Buffalo News* Home of the Month feature on April 23 took us inside the Elmwood Village apartment of **THERESE DEUTSCH-LANDER BA '03**; check out the article and gallery of photos [here](#).

EVENTS AND REMINDERS

At Commencement on May 13, **KYLE BRADSTREET**, English BA '02, MA '04, writer and producer of “Mr. Robot,” will receive the Young Alumnus Achievement Award and deliver the commencement address at the morning and afternoon ceremonies. **ASHLEY WESELAK BS '13 MS '16** will speak at the evening ceremony as the recipient of the President’s Medal for Outstanding Graduate Student.



Soon to be published: **ELJ's THE DIRT EDITION** with work from Pia Z. Ehrhardt. Susan Henderson, Lydia Copeland Gwyn, Michael Martone, Bobbie Ann Mason, Pamela Painter, Joan Wilking, Girija Tropp, Bill Soldan, Ed Taylor, Peter Tiernan, David Newman, Lex Williford, Steven Wingate, Kathleen McGookey, Kathy Fish, Brandon Hobson, Robert Lopez, Myfanwy Collins, Lydia Copeland Gwyn, Tiff Holland, Laurie Kaiser and Avital Gad-Cykman. Cover art by Joan Wilking.

The Opera-Lytes production of Gilbert and Sullivan’s *Patience*, a satire of artistic follies and pretension, opens on Friday, May 6 at Alleyway Theatre, with additional performances on May 7, 12, 13, 14, and 15. The performance, updated to the 1960s, is directed by **LISA BERGLUND** and features **SARA KOVACSI** as Jane. For tickets and more information, visit www.operalytes.com.

RECOMMENDED READING

[“Stop Saying ‘I Feel Like’.”](#) says Molly Worthen, *New York Times* contributor and history professor at UNC Chapel Hill. She argues, “‘I feel like’ masquerades as a humble conversational offering, an invitation to share your feelings, too — but the phrase is an absolutist trump card. It halts argument in its tracks.”

I feel like *Hamlet* is boring.
But that’s how I feel.

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