

# English Department Newsletter

16 September 2015  
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The newsletter appears biweekly throughout the semester; the next issue will appear on 30 September 2015. Current and past newsletters are available on the [English Department website](#).

## DEPARTMENT AND FACULTY NEWS

In July, **BARISH ALI** directed the department's month-long **Summer in Istanbul** study abroad program. Five students from the English Department – Susan Blake, Kamesha Brinson, Garrett Busshart, Michelle Kuebler, and Paige Ronan – combined



a rigorous academic study of the region's literature and history with a culturally immersive experience of Turkish culture. Classroom instruction, which was held at the historic Boğaziçi University, was followed by visits to mosques, churches, museums, ancient Greek ruins, and other great monuments of the Classical Greek, Byzantine, and Ottoman eras; students attended Ramadan festivities and a Turkish jazz



concert; they learned how to order food and drinks in Turkish and how to haggle with aggressive shopkeepers in the Grand Bazaar (where students bought scarves, lamps, and Turkish rugs); they were invited to the home of a



Turkish family for dinner and attended guest lectures by local professors; they swam in the Aegean sea, petted a farmer's camel, ate Turkish Delight, petted all the Istanbul street cats, and drank gallons of tea. And, of course, they read books by Orhan Pamuk, Elif Shafak, and Nazim Hikmet, and they visited Pamuk's Museum of Innocence – an actual museum that he conceived together with the novel of the same name. In addition to their formal assignments, students

were required to record their experiences in private diaries and at this blog: <https://istanbulmemoirs.wordpress.com/>.

In her capacity as Director of Music for St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, **ANGELA FULK** is organizing a fundraiser concert to be held at the church (3017 Main St., near the UB South Campus) on Sunday, September 20 at 2 pm. **ANGIE** will be playing a Haydn piano sonata, and she and **MARK FULK** will both sing in the choir. All are welcome to attend; freewill donations will be accepted. The church is also raising money by selling candy bars--thanks to all the candy eaters in Ketchum who are helping with the effort!

## UPCOMING EVENTS



The [Buffalo Humanities Festival](#) will be coming to Ketchum Hall, the Albright Knox, the Buffalo History Museum, and the Burchfield Penney Art Center September 23-26. This year's theme, "**Gender Bender**," interrogates traditional binaries of male/female and gay/straight with talks, performances, music, and a drag break. A full schedule is [here](#). Our colleagues Jennifer Ryan and Anthony Chase are among the presenters. Registration cost is very reasonable, and there are student rates. The all-day Festival on Saturday includes free lunch from the West Side Bazaar if you order tickets by Sept. 23.

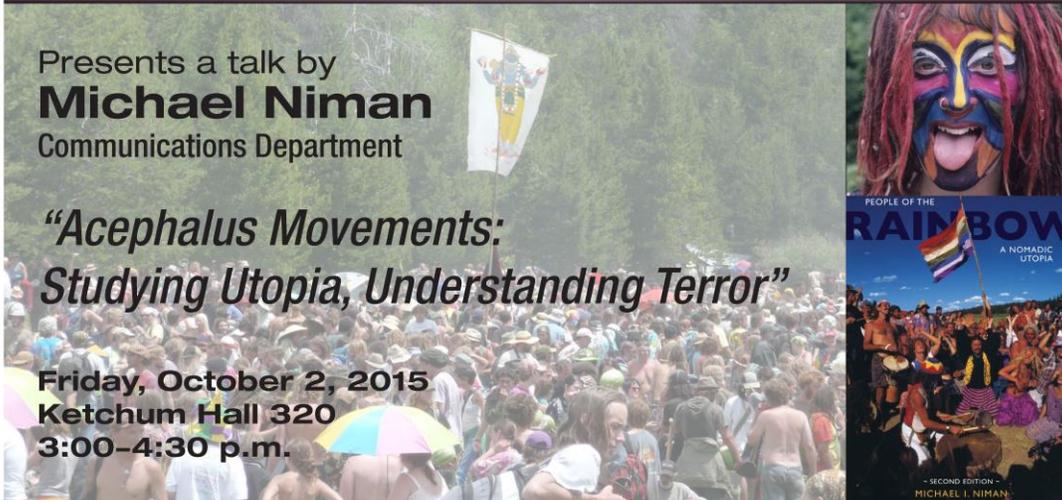
### Conversations in and out of the Disciplines Lecture Series

The Buffalo State English Department

Presents a talk by  
**Michael Niman**  
Communications Department

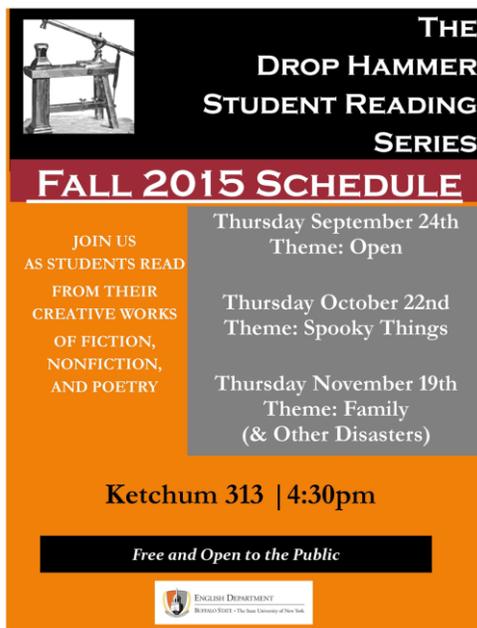
*"Acephalus Movements:  
Studying Utopia, Understanding Terror"*

Friday, October 2, 2015  
Ketchum Hall 320  
3:00-4:30 p.m.



These talks are open to faculty, staff, and students.

Mark your calendars for the rest of the Conversations series this semester: on October 16, **PRESIDENT KATHERINE CONWAY-TURNER** will speak on “Aging within a Family Context: The Mother and Daughter Dynamic” (in the Auditorium of the Burchfield-Penney); on November 6, **KELLY FROTHINGHAM** of the Geography and Planning Department will speak on “Stream Restoration: Local WNY Activity in the Context of National Trends”; and on December 4, the Music Department’s **CHUCK MANCUSO** will discuss “The Last Great Days of the Buffalo Jazz Club Scene.” All presentations are on Fridays at 3 pm and unless stated otherwise, take place in Ketchum Hall 320.



**THE DROP HAMMER STUDENT READING SERIES**

**FALL 2015 SCHEDULE**

JOIN US AS STUDENTS READ FROM THEIR CREATIVE WORKS OF FICTION, NONFICTION, AND POETRY

Thursday September 24th  
Theme: Open

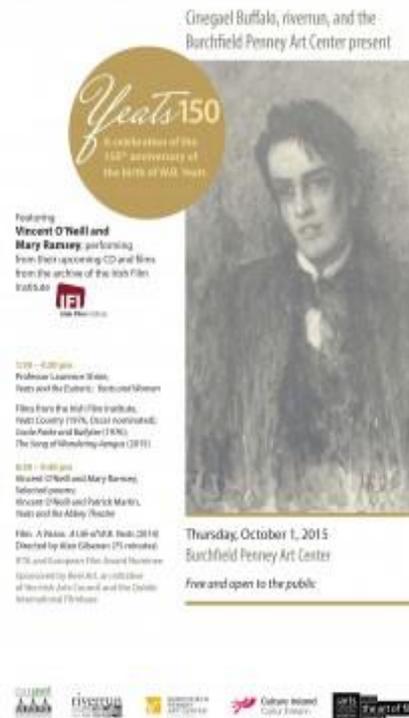
Thursday October 22nd  
Theme: Spooky Things

Thursday November 19th  
Theme: Family (& Other Disasters)

Ketchum 313 | 4:30pm

Free and Open to the Public

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT  
BUFFALO STATE - The State University of New York



Gregoire Buffalo, riverun, and the Burchfield Penney Art Center present

**Yeats 150**  
A celebration of the 150th anniversary of the birth of W.B. Yeats

Featuring **Vincent O'Neill** and **Mary Ramsey** performing from their upcoming CD and films from the archive of the Irish Film Institute

10:00 - 10:30 pm  
Professor Louise Waller, *Yeats and the Culture: Reformed Women*

Film from the Irish Film Institute:  
*First Country* (1974, Gaelic nomination);  
*Dark Passage and Babylon* (1963);  
*The Song of Wandering Aengus* (2011)

8:00 - 8:30 pm  
**Wine and O'Neill and Mary Ramsey**  
Sponsored by:  
Vincent O'Neill and Patrick Martin,  
*Walt and the Abbey Teacher*

Film: *A Palace of Illusions* (2014)  
Directed by Alan Giblin (FI retraced)  
FI's and European Film Award Nominee  
Sponsored by Buffalo, an FIIS film of the Irish Film Institute and the Dublin International Film Festival

Thursday, October 1, 2015  
Burchfield Penney Art Center  
Free and open to the public

Logos for Buffalo State, Riverun, Buffalo State University, Culture Council, and The Art of Life.

Students interested in reading their work at one of the Drop Hammer events should contact [MAUREEN LOUGEN](#).

## ALUMNI NEWS

**AIMEE LEVESQUE** and her daughter **JESSICA** were featured on the front page of the *Buffalo News* “Refresh” section, as part of a feature on students with special needs. The article appeared on September 4; check it out on the *News* website (<http://www.buffalonews.com/life-arts/refresh/parents-of-special-needs-students-need-to-do-their-homework-20150904>).

We continue to feature the achievements of our alumni in our alumni booklet and our Ketchum Hall bulletin board of alumni profiles. This information is very helpful (even inspirational!) for our current students. If you’d like to share an update on

your post-Buffalo State activities, either for the alumni board or for the newsletter, email [MAUREEN LOUGEN](mailto:MAUREEN LOUGEN). Please include your graduation year and degree info, and feel free to include a photograph.

## DEPARTMENT REMINDERS

**Please pay your Faculty Dues:** \$50 for those earning  $\geq$ \$60,000; \$45 for those earning  $<$ \$60,000; \$5.00 for adjunct faculty. This money allows us to send flowers for condolence or congratulation and enhances the hospitableness of departmental gatherings, without us doing a whip-round for each event. Maureen can accept cash or a check made out to Lisa Berglund. Your dues are tax-deductible if you itemize.

The Northeast Modern Language Association (NeMLA) will hold its 47<sup>th</sup> annual convention in Hartford, Connecticut March 17-20, 2016. The deadline for abstract submissions is September 30, 2015. For more information, visit the Call for Papers on the NEMLA website: <https://www.cfplist.com/nemla/Home/cfp>.

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