

English Department Newsletter

28 October 2015

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The newsletter appears biweekly throughout the semester; the next issue will appear on 12 November 2015. Current and past newsletters are available on the [English Department website](#).

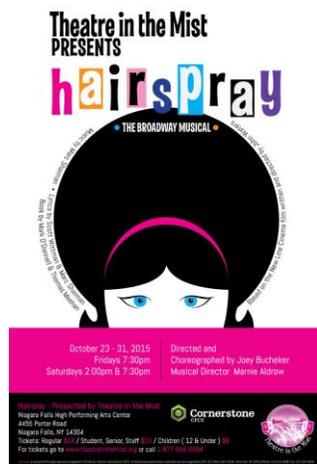
DEPARTMENT AND FACULTY NEWS

At the Arts and Humanities Faculty Meeting, Friday, 30 October at 3 pm in Rockwell 124, **BARISH ALI** will be presented with the President's Award for Excellence in Teaching. All faculty are encouraged to attend! Plus there's wine and cheese afterward.



TIM BRYANT led an interactive pedagogy workshop on "Interpretive Gaming" for THATCamp Buffalo at D'Youville College on October 23. Participants played "Monocle," a mashup of Monopoly and Clue designed to aid literary interpretation. Players explored the literary technique of point-of-view in Robert

Coover's short story "The Babysitter." Tim plans to continue studying the cultural and educational significance of play by designing a course on literature and play. Contact him at bryanttj@buffalostate.edu if interested.



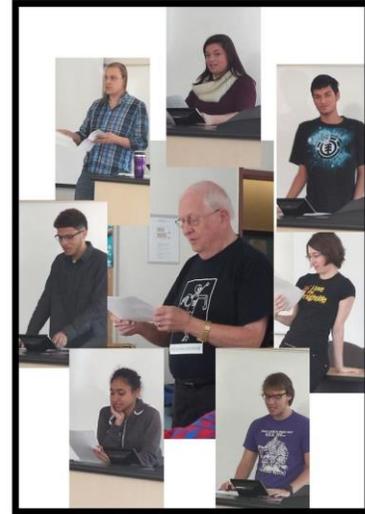
SÁRA KOVÁCSI stars as Tracy Turnblad in Theatre in the Mist's production of the musical *Hairspray*, which concludes this weekend, October 30 & 31. Visit www.theatreinthemist.org for ticket information.

At the March 2016 meeting of NeMLA, held in Hartford, CT, **MARK FULK** will present a paper entitled "The Autonomy of the Aesthetic Realm in the Works of Susan Sontag and Harold Bloom" and will participate in a roundtable on "'Zen Publishing: From Presentation to Juried Article.'" Additionally, Mark's poems "Rorate Caeli" and "After the Winter, Spring" have been accepted for the Fall 2015 issue of *The Penwood Review*.

KAREN SANDS-O'CONNOR delivered her first Leverhulme Lecture, "UK Education Policy and Publishing for a Black British Child Audience," 14 October 2015 at Newcastle University's Robinson Library. There are five more to come--three of them before Christmas, in case anyone in the department is headed across the pond!

The October 22nd **DROP HAMMER STUDENT READING** was crowded – some of the audience had to stand, and the readers numbered eight: **SHERWIN WILLIAMS, NATHAN STOLTE, FRANCESCA AUSTIN, MARIAH HADDAD, JUDE LESTER, SARAH WEBB, ULING BUNBURY** and **TAHMEED AHMED**. **DAVID LAMPE**, professor emeritus, opened the reading with a selection and discussion of poetry. The student readings included fiction, poetry, and an essay. An article about the Reading series appeared in last week's Buffalo State Record [here](#).

The next Reading is Thursday, November 19 at 4:30pm. Students interested in participating should contact [MAUREEN LOUGEN](#) to sign up.



UPCOMING EVENTS

The Road Less Traveled Theatre has **\$5.00 student tickets** for Thursday night performances of *Appropriate*, the 2014 Obie Award Winner for Best New American Play, which the Washington Post called "biliously funny." The show opens October 30; visit roadlesstraveledproductions.org for ticket information.

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

Presents a talk by
Kelly Frothingham
Chair and Professor of Geography

*"Stream Restoration: Local WNY Activity
in the Context of National Trends"*

Friday, November 6, 2015
Ketchum Hall 320
3:00-4:30 p.m.

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

Mark your calendars for the next two talks in the Conversations series: 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, **CHUCK MANCUSO** will discuss "The Last Great Days of the Buffalo

Jazz Club Scene." Presentations are on Fridays at 3 pm in Ketchum 320 and are followed by a wine and cheese reception.

Grinnell College professor Shanna Benjamin will be speaking on Monday, November 9 at 6:30 p.m. in Ketchum 113. Her presentation, entitled "**The Uses of Anger: Wanda Coleman's Poetry and #blacklivesmatter**," is open to faculty, staff and students.

STUDENT AND ALUMNI NEWS



The students of Sigma Tau Delta will be holding a conference in the spring to highlight undergraduate and graduate work in literature. Students are invited to submit work of any kind related to literature, including creative work. The conference will showcase what students are ALREADY doing in the department; submitting course papers or projects is encouraged. The one-day conference will be held in Ketchum Hall. The call for papers is available on the department website: <http://english.buffalostate.edu/sigma-tau-delta-student-conference-playing-within-discipline>.

English Education major **LILIAN INGLUT** will be participating in the Anne Frank Project's 2016 trip to Rwanda.

LINDA MROZ, M.A. '15, is General Manager of the Buffalo Beauts, one of the teams in the new National Women's Hockey League. Check out this story in the [Buffalo News](#). Linda played four years of Division I ice hockey for Niagara University while earning her B.A. in English. She completed her master's at Buffalo State this summer.

The [newsletter of the Museum of disAbility History](#) has published a column by **STEPHANIE BRIECHLE, B.A. '15**, reflecting on her academic experiences as someone with a learning disability.

We continue to feature the achievements of our alumni in our alumni booklet and our Ketchum Hall bulletin board of alumni profiles. 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**. Please include your graduation year and degree info, and feel free to include a photograph.

DEADLINES AND OPPORTUNITIES

The **Undergraduate Research Office** is now accepting applications for the fall round of the Small Grants Program and the Undergraduate Travel Program. Links to online applications can be found on the [Undergraduate Research website](#). Please share this message with interested undergraduates... and why not go on the site to check out the Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (applications due in March) and the Faculty Research Grants?



The [Faculty-Student Association](#) (FSA) is **accepting applications for grants** to enhance the educational and cultural life of the Buffalo State campus during the 2016 calendar year. Application forms are available on the [FSA website](#).

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.



Committee chairs, your **monthly committee reports** are due by Friday for inclusion in the consent agenda for the department meeting on Tuesday, 3 November.

RECOMMENDED READING

In an op-ed piece in the *New York Times*, Molly Worthen, an assistant professor of history at the University of North Carolina, writes, “In the humanities, there are sound reasons for sticking with the **traditional model of the large lecture course** combined with small weekly discussion sections.” Find her essay, entitled “Lecture Me. Really.” at http://www.nytimes.com/2015/10/18/opinion/sunday/lecture-me-really.html?_r=0.

English Department Newsletter, Buffalo State College;
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