

# English Department Newsletter

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The newsletter is published biweekly during the academic year; past issues may be found on the department website. The next issue will appear in January 2018.

## DEPARTMENT & FACULTY NEWS



**ELJ's Blues Edition will be released this month and can be pre-ordered on the ELJ website:**

**<https://elmleavesjournal.com/order-issues/>.**

ELJ is proud to announce that the theme for its next edition will be BLACKOUT. Visit [elmleavesjournal.com](http://elmleavesjournal.com) to read material from past issues, for submission guidelines, for the blog, and for additional information. ELJ is *always* open to submissions, even between theme issues.

ELJ is proud to announce its Pushcart Prize nominees from the Winter 2016 DIRT Edition! They are Pamela Painter, "Knots"; Girija Tropp, "Dovetail"; William R. Soldan, "Trapper's Creek"; Susan Henderson, "Dead Eddie"; Lex Williford, "The Pool"; and Kathy Fish, "Everything's Shitty at Price King."

**JOEY NICOLETTI** has two new personal essays forthcoming: "Wine and Shine" will appear in the inaugural issue of *The Long Island Literary Review* and "Bafongool Day" will appear in the Blues issue of *ELJ*.

### **KAREN SANDS-O'CONNOR**

organized and spoke at "Diverse Voices?" This symposium at the UK National Centre for the Children's Book addressed how to make Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic writers, readers and characters part of Britain's national story. She was joined by several award-winning authors and pioneering publishers and editors. Here **KAREN** is pictured interviewing Guardian Children's Fiction Prizewinner Alex Wheatle.



**KIM CHINQUEE'S** short story collection *Shot Girls* is forthcoming in June 2018 with Ravenna Press. Her story "Poofy" (<http://magazine.nytyrant.com/poofy/>) was nominated by *New York Tyrant* for a Pushcart Prize. Her story "It's a Lot" was published in the recent issue of *Mississippi Review*.

The Buffalo State Mock Trial team successfully competed against St. John Fisher College at the federal courthouse in Rochester, NY, under the guidance of their faculty adviser **DAVID BEN-MERRE**. The full story of their achievement is on the Buffalo State website: <http://newsandevents.buffalostate.edu/news/buffalo-state-mock-trial-team-competes-Rochester>.

**MARK FULK** has completed and submitted essays on May Sarton, Susan Sontag, and Stephen King for a forthcoming volume entitled *Twentieth and Twenty-First Century American Literature in Context*. **MARK** and **ANGELA FULK** will host their Tea at Two on Fridays gathering this Friday, December 8 in Ketchum Hall 217. Faculty, staff, and students are welcome.



**Special Guests**  
Ralph Wahlstrom  
Olivea Wiggins

**THE DROP HAMMER STUDENT READING SERIES**

December 7th  
Ketchum 302  
12:15-1:30pm

for more information  
contact Nathan  
(stoltenw01@mail.buffalostate.edu)

The 2018 MLA conference will include a panel entitled "Alternative Facts and Fictions: Multiplicity and Indeterminacy in the Aftermath of the 2016 Presidential Elections," organized by **DAVID BEN-MERRE**. The panelists, including **BARISH ALI**, will reconsider the theory debates of the 1980s and after in light of the 2016 United States presidential election. Is indeterminacy responsible for this new world of "post-fact" or "post-truth"? Is poststructuralist decentering somehow complicit in the rise of "alternative facts" of recent newspeak, or does it offer a critical bulwark against it?

On Friday at 7 pm, **PETER RAMOS** will be reading at the issue launch of the literary journal *Mutata Re*, at the ECC City Campus Auditorium at 121 Ellicott Street.

## STUDENT & ALUMNI NEWS



English Education major Spencer Miliotto (left) was featured in Buffalo State's "Students Who Soar" series. You can find a link to this story on the Department website: <http://english.buffalostate.edu/newsevents>).

*Coffin Bell Journal* is a new dark literary publication started by English Department alumna **TAMARA BURROSS-GRISANTI** (visit

<https://coffinbell.wordpress.com>). TAMARA has been named Social Media Editor at New World Writing ([www.newworldwriting.net](http://www.newworldwriting.net)) and her work has recently been nominated for a Pushcart Prize.

## USEFUL INFORMATION

Don't forget to pay your faculty dues! These funds help us to support some department events and to reach out to our colleagues with flowers in times of sympathy or congratulations. MAUREEN LOUGEN can give you a receipt for your taxes.

## INTERESTING LOCAL-ISH CFPs

The Cary Graphic Arts Collection at Rochester Institute of Technology invites applications for a [research fellowship for the study of the history of graphic communication](#).

The fellowship is open to scholars engaged with subject areas covered by the library's holdings, which are described on the RIT website at <http://cary.rit.edu>. The Cary Collection fellowship is for one month of study in residence at the library, with a stipend of \$2,500 to cover travel and living expenses. The fellowship must be used in the summer of 2018. Applications are due January 19, 2018. To apply, send a research proposal detailing your project, a CV, and two letters of recommendation to: Dr. Steven K. Galbraith, Curator, RIT Cary Graphic Arts Collection, at [skgtwc@rit.edu](mailto:skgtwc@rit.edu).



The Second Bi-Annual Marantz Picturebook Research Symposium will be held August 5-7, 2018, at Kent State University in Kent, Ohio (three and one-half hours from Buffalo). The conference theme is "[Comics and the Graphic Narrative: The Future of the Movement](#)." The organizers are seeking original, interdisciplinary research in areas related to comics and graphic novels, in the following formats: Twenty-minute presentations followed by 10 minutes of discussion; panel submissions comprised of three 20-minute presentations followed by 20 minutes of discussion (or four 15-minute presentations followed by 15 minutes of discussion; or posters. The deadline for submission is January 15, 2018. More information is [here](#).



## RECOMMENDED READING

From the *New York Times*: "Laptops Are Great. But Not During a Lecture or a Meeting." <https://nyti.ms/2hVxlzm>

From the *Chronicle of Higher Education*: "The Pernicious Silencing of the Adjunct Faculty" <https://www.chronicle.com/article/The-Pernicious-Silencing-of/241601>

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