

# English Department Newsletter

28 September 2016  
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The newsletter appears biweekly throughout the academic year; the next issue will appear on 12 October 2016. Current and past newsletters are available on the [English Department website](#).

## DEPARTMENT AND FACULTY NEWS

Tom Ashbrook's "On Point" radio program from WBUR-Boston (available locally on WNED) earlier this week featured an interview with author Richard Zachs, who has recently published a book about Mark Twain. A link and the first paragraph of **TOM REIGSTAD's** *Buffalo News* review of Zachs's *Chasing the Last Laugh* is featured on the website [under "Tom's \[Ashbrook, that is\] Reading List"](#).

  
**THE  
DROP HAMMER  
STUDENT READING  
SERIES**

**Special Guest:**  
**Joey Nicoletti**



October 13th | Ketchum 212 | 4:30pm

to sign up  
or for more information  
contact Maureen  
([lougenm@buffalostate.edu](mailto:lougenm@buffalostate.edu))

Free and Open to the Public

**KAREN SANDS-O'CONNOR's** essay on Diversity in Children's Books (co-authored with London philosophy teacher Darren Chetty) will appear in the *Times Educational Supplement* on September 30.

**JOEY NICOLETTI's** creative nonfiction essay, "Other Plans," was published recently by [Wildflower Muse](#), and **JOEY** has five poems published in [Vanilla Sex Magazine](#).

**ED TAYLOR's** guest blog post for *North American Review*, "Blog," is up now: <http://northamericanreview.org/blog-ed-taylor/>.

On the opening day of this year's Anne Frank Project, September 28, **AIMABLE TWAGILIMANA** presented a workshop entitled "Your Values and the World." The session focused on brief free-writing assignments promoting participants' self-awareness as a foundation for leadership and engagement.

The editors of *Victorian Literature and Culture* (Cambridge UP) have asked **ANN COLLEY** to write an 8-page article on an exhibition of taxidermy now on view at the



Museum of Morbid Anatomy in Brooklyn. ANN will be going to NYC in early October to view the exhibit. One of the features of the show is a nineteenth-century piece called “The Kittens’ Wedding” created by Walter Potter, a well-known taxidermist in England.

(photo courtesy of *The New York Times*)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Laura Hinton, professor of English at the City College of New York, will give a dramatic reading from her latest book of poetry, *Ubermutter's Death Dance*, on Thursday, September 29, at 12:15 p.m. in Butler Library 210. The reading will include scripted movement, song, still photography, and video as Dr. Hinton explores various cultural and personal strategies for grieving as well as a historiographic view of women's contributions to public representation. Refreshments will be served.

Mark your calendar for the **Faculty and Staff Recognition Ceremony** on Thursday, October 6, at 12:15 p.m. in the Rockwell Hall Performing Arts Center. **LAURENCE SHINE** will be receiving a Chancellor's Award for Excellence. A reception will immediately follow the ceremony in the lobby of Rockwell Hall.



As part of its new Collection Development Policy, Butler Library is preparing for a **Print Retention Project**. This project will involve an evaluation of the collection and the **removal of very low-use items and obsolete materials**. To include campus community feedback in this process, the library will hold open forums on Tuesday, October 11, and Tuesday, October 18, at 12:15 p.m. in Butler Library 208.

**The English Department strongly encourages faculty and students (especially graduate students) to attend one of these forums and share your views of the importance of retaining infrequently accessed library materials.**

On October 17, **Dr. Malea Powell will speak on “Contemporary Issues in American Indian and Indigenous Literatures,”** in Rockwell 301 at 4:30 pm. This presentation is designed for undergraduate students, although all are welcome to attend. The following day, October 18, in CLAS A307 at 4:30 pm, **Dr. Powell will give a talk entitled “Disciplinary Futures, Decolonial Practices.”** Dr. Powell is Professor and Chair of the Department of Writing, Rhetoric and American Cultures at Michigan State University as well as a faculty member in American Indian and Indigenous Studies. She

is lead researcher for the Digital Publishing Lab at MSU, director of the Cultural Rhetorics Consortium, founder and editor-in-chief of *constellations: a journal of cultural rhetorics*, past chair of the CCCC, and editor emerita of *SAIL: Studies in American Indian Literatures*.

## Conversations in and out of the Disciplines Lecture Series

The Buffalo State English Department

Presents a talk by

**Kathy Doody**

Assistant Professor, Exceptional Education

**“Coursework to Practice:  
Au-some Experiences in  
Community Based Learning”**

Friday, October 21, 2016  
Ketchum Hall 320  
3:00–4:30 p.m.



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

As part of the English Education Brown Bag lecture series, poet and editor Mark Pawlak will give a talk entitled: "If You Enjoy It, You Understand It: The Poetry Pleasure Principle." Mark Pawlak is the author of nine poetry collections, most recently *Reconnaissance: New and Selected Poems and Poetic Journals*. He also edited *When We Were Countries*, fourth in a series anthologies of poetry and prose by high school-age writers. He is co-editor/publisher of the Brooklyn-based literary magazine and poetry press Hanging Loose, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary. A Buffalo native, Professor Pawlak teaches at the University of Massachusetts Boston. His presentation will take place on Thursday, October 27 at 12:15 pm in Ketchum 313.

## DEADLINES AND REMINDERS

The 17th annual Faculty and Staff Research and Creativity Fall Forum will be held on Thursday, October 27, from 11:00 am to 1:30 pm in the Houston Gym. To participate, complete the [online form](#) on the Call for Submissions tab of the [Fall Forum](#) page. Titles and abstracts or descriptions are to be submitted electronically by Friday, September 30.

The **Northeast Modern Language Association** will meet March 23-26, 2017 in Baltimore. NeMLA welcomes paper abstracts in American



Literature, Comparative Literature, Interdisciplinary Humanities, British Literature, Creative Writing, Women's & Gender Studies, Canadian Literature, Cultural & Media Studies, Modern Languages & Literatures, World Literatures, Disability Studies, and Ecocriticism & Urban Ecology. The deadline to submit for abstract proposals is September 30, 2016. For more information, visit [www.buffalo.edu/nemla.html](http://www.buffalo.edu/nemla.html).

Online registration for "**Jane Austen & the Arts**," an interdisciplinary conference to held at SUNY Plattsburgh, March 23-25, 2017, is now open. Proposals for any aspect of Jane Austen's engagement with the arts are invited; graduate students and advanced undergraduates have until **November 1** to submit proposals. The conference features Peter Sabor as keynote speaker, an English Country Dance and pre-dance workshop, and a book exhibit. All sessions are plenary. For details, please visit <https://janeaustenandthearts.com>.

## RECOMMENDED READING

Jonathan Zimmerman's article in *The Chronicle of Higher Education* begins: "[At] to the typical freshman orientation at an American college... here's one piece of wisdom our newcomers don't hear nearly enough: Close your windows. I'm talking about those distracting windows on your computer. A sizable body of research shows that people learn and perform much better when they focus on one thing at a time. Isn't that something every freshman should know?" Read the rest here: <http://www.chronicle.com/article/Welcome-Freshmen-Look-at-Me/237751>.

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