This is the sixth newsletter of the academic year, and the last issue of the fall. Our first issue of the Spring term will be published in early February.

DEPARTMENT REMINDERS

Grading: Grades are due a week from today, December 17th by 9pm. Please check your email for reminders on this.

Graduation Awards: Though it seems too soon, it is time to nominate students for graduation awards. To find out more information on awards, or to nominate a student, please email Dr. James Cercone, with the subject line “student awards”.

Campus Holiday Party: Today is the last day to RSVP for the Campus Holiday Party hosted by President Conway Turner, to be held this Friday in the Student Union. You can find more information here: http://wwwd.buffalostate.edu/dailybulletin/frompresident/campus-holiday-party-december-12---last-day-rsvp

Faculty Senate Meeting: The last Faculty Senate Meeting of the Semester will be held this Friday, December 12th at 2pm in Butler 210.

FACULTY NEWS

PROFESSOR KIM CHINQUEE as been selected to serve as Judge for Indiana Review's 2015 Fiction Prize. http://indianareview.org/

Last week DR. ANN COLLEY'S Wild Animal Skins in Victorian Britain: Zoos, Collections, Portraits, and Maps was published. While a Visiting Fellow at Wolfson College, University of Cambridge, Ann has given two talks on the book and has given a paper at the annual North American Victorian Studies Association. She looks forward to showing the book to colleagues. Ashgate has done an excellent job in the layout and in the placement of over sixty illustrations, some in color.
DR. LORNA PEREZ’S article “Subjects of Terror: The Ethical Impulse in Alicia Gaspar de Alba’s Desert Blood” will be forthcoming in Chicana/Latina Studies: The Journal of Mujeres Activas en Letras y Cambio Social.

DR. RALPH WAHLSTROM’S novel Kesh has been named a finalist in the Children category in EPIC’s eBook Competition for 2015.

UPCOMING EVENTS
BABEL: David Henry Hwang’s Babel reading was postponed due to snow. His event, which has tickets still available, has been rescheduled for Feb 10. You can find more info here: http://campaign.r20.constantcontact.com/render?ca=3b39c4c7-ad42-4e87-aa8e-542f7a377c66&c=1d611940-5961-11e4-bf98-d4ae528e486a&ch=1d664960-5961-11e4-bf98-d4ae528e486a

ELJ
The Harvest Edition of ELJ is about to launch. Stay tuned for details! Students interested in working on the next issue (Dirt!) can do so by enrolling in ENG 357: Literary Publishing. The course is open to all SUNY-Buffalo State students.

STUDENT NEWS
English major TAMARA BURROSS’s poem, "Brunch With Mother," has been published in the current issue of New World Writing: http://newworldwriting.net/fall-2014/tamara-burross/. Her work has also been nominated for a Pushcart Prize!

USEFUL REMINDERS AND THE PROFESSION
The NEH Summer Institutes and Seminars have been released. The deadline for these is early March. You can find more information here: http://www.neh.gov/divisions/education/summer-programs
NeMLA

If you are traveling to Canada for this year’s NeMLA conference in the spring, there is information on travel guidelines, entry into Canada, as well as a Conference Letter you may provide when you cross the border. You can find that information here: https://www.regonline.com/builder/site/emailviewer.aspx?eventid=1580308&aid=M9fdjG5CuW7BFatyAt4D9w==&emailid=PXpQ/KdKcDE=&typeid=9&themeid=-1

Also, if you are a voting member of NeMLA, please keep in mind that elections are now open. Both DR. MARK FULK and DR. ANGELA FULK are running for positions. Mark is running for 2nd Vice President and Angela is running for Member-at-Large representing contingent and adjunct faculty.

DR. LISA BERGLUND sent along the following interesting bit: There is an interesting study on reading via Kindle v. codex. The study is problematic (only included two experienced Kindle readers) but it does confirm what many of us have long thought, that there are tactile/kinetic elements to reading and information retention. http://www.theguardian.com/books/2014/aug/19/readers-absorb-less-kindles-paper-study-plot-ereader-digitisation

ALUMNI NEWS

Alumni, we want to show off your achievements and hear about what you are doing. We’ve created an alumni booklet featuring profiles of English Department Alums that demonstrate the wide variety of things one can do with an English major. We have also created an alumni bulletin board in Ketchum Hall featuring Alumni profiles. If you would like to be featured, please send an email to Maureen Lougen (LOUGENM@BuffaloState.edu) with the subject line “alumni board” (feel free to include a recent professional photo). Also, we would love to hear from you to find out what you are up to. Please feel free to send your news and achievements for this newsletter to Maureen Lougen with the subject line “alumni newsletter item”. Please include your graduation year and degree info.

BRIAN PIETRUS (BA, 11) is working on his graduate thesis in Columbia College Chicago’s MFA program in Creative Nonfiction. Since January 2013, Brian has been teaching undergraduate Writing and Rhetoric courses every semester, while also working as a writing tutor at school and interning part time at a public relations firm in Chicago.

Reminder: Please let us know your news and achievements for the next newsletter. Send your info to Maureen Lougen (LOUGENM@buffalostate.edu), copied to Lorna Perez (perezll@buffalostate.edu) with the subject line “newsletter item”.