

# English Department Newsletter

2 September 2015  
Vol. 9, No. 14



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

## DEPARTMENT REMINDERS AND NEWS

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>.

**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 **Writing Major** no longer requires an application or portfolio for admission. Students in good academic standing (GPA of  $\geq$ 2.0), as well as new freshmen and transfers, may fill out a change of major form in the office for immediate enrollment.

## FACULTY NEWS

[Reverse Graffiti](#), a second full-length poetry collection by **JOEY NICOLETTI**, was published this May by [Bordighera Press](#).

**ED TAYLOR** spent time on the International Space Station, until he woke up, still in Buffalo. He has CNF ("Meteorology--A Mix Tape") appearing in the fall issue of *WordRiot*, fiction ("Golden Hour") in the fall issue of *Serving House*, flash fiction ("Psyche's Sisters") in the fall issue of *Exterminating Angel*, and poetry ("Elegy") in the fall issue of *Gargoyle* and more poetry ("Still Life with Cars, December, Persephone") in the fall *Slipstream*. His children's story "Ayesha's Dream" appeared in the summer issue of *Lunch Ticket*. His book reviews of titles by Lidia Yuknavitch, Alan Paul, and Ken Kalfus appeared in the *Buffalo News* over the summer, and reviews of Mario Vargas Llosa and David Mitchell appeared in *Rain Taxi*.

**LORNA PEREZ** finished her interim chair duties in early July, and promptly got on a plane to visit the Italian Coastal town of Amalfi, where she went to the beach every day, ate gelato, and drank lots of espresso (and some wine). Additionally, her article "Subjects of Terrors: the Ethical Impulse in Alicia Gaspar de Alba's *Desert Blood*" is forthcoming in *Chicana/Latina Studies*, her creative work "Substitute Geographies" is forthcoming in the Spring 16 edition of *Label me Latina* and her panel on the Multigenerational Latina/o novel was accepted for the Northeast Modern Language Association Conference this spring.

## STUDENT NEWS

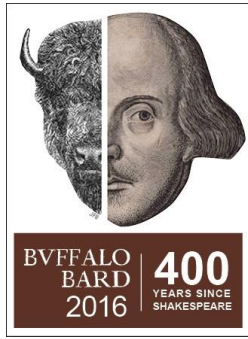
"My Dandelion Girl," a poem by MA student **LEIAH JETTER** was published in the *Buffalo News* Olaf Fub column on Monday; you can read it [here](#). **MARK FULK'S** poem "In a Virginia Walmart" appeared in the same column two weeks earlier! Read it [here](#). If you'd like to submit a poem to Olaf Fub, contact **Michelle Kearns** at [mkearns@buffnews.com](mailto:mkearns@buffnews.com).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

The [Buffalo Humanities Festival](#) will be coming to Ketchum Hall, the Albright Knox, 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.



**Kevin Spacey**, two-time Academy-award winner and producer and star of the smash Netflix TV series *House of Cards*, is coming to the University at Buffalo as part of the **UB Distinguished Speakers Series** on **Wednesday, April 27, 2016 at 8 p.m. in Alumni Arena**. But he is also speaking as a notable Shakespearean, a famous Richard III—the producer of *NOW: In the Wings on a World Stage*, a 2014 film documenting that play's global tour—with over 10 years as the Artistic Director of London's Old Vic Theatre. And in this US presidential campaign year, *House of Cards*, starring Spacey as President Frank Underwood and Robin Penn Wright as his equally ambitious wife Claire, is more than ever our new *Richard III*, our new *Macbeth*. **From August 20 until September 16** you have the chance to buy



discounted, reserved tickets to Spacey's appearance under the general heading of "Bvffalo Bard 2016: 400 Years Since Shakespeare," a year-long series of Shakespeare-themed events to commemorate the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Shakespeare's death. ***Select seating holds have been established for your exclusive consideration; ticket prices are set at a group rate which can't be matched by any other buying opportunity.*** Just go on-line at <https://www.ubevents.org/event/buffalobard> to review your options and make your purchase. Once you link to the Bvffalo Bard site, you will be prompted to provide a **GROUP CODE**. The Buffalo State Group Code is RICHARDIII.

## ALUMNI NEWS

**FELICIA DeLIBERO (BA '15)** spent the summer traveling in Europe and then moved to Florida, where she is working and planning to apply to graduate school. Check out her travel blog: [www.feliciaruth.com](http://www.feliciaruth.com).

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.

## RECOMMENDED READING

Grim: "The Coddling of the American Mind," in *The Atlantic*. Check it out at: <http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2015/09/the-coddling-of-the-american-mind/399356/>.

.... and Grimmer: Protesting *Fun Home* at Duke University, as reported by [Inside Higher Education](#).

While for the frivolous minded: [First Faculty Meeting of the Year Bingo](#).

English Department Newsletter, Buffalo State College;  
Compiled by Lisa Berglund, [berglul@buffalostate.edu](mailto:berglul@buffalostate.edu)

# English Department Newsletter

16 September 2015  
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## 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!

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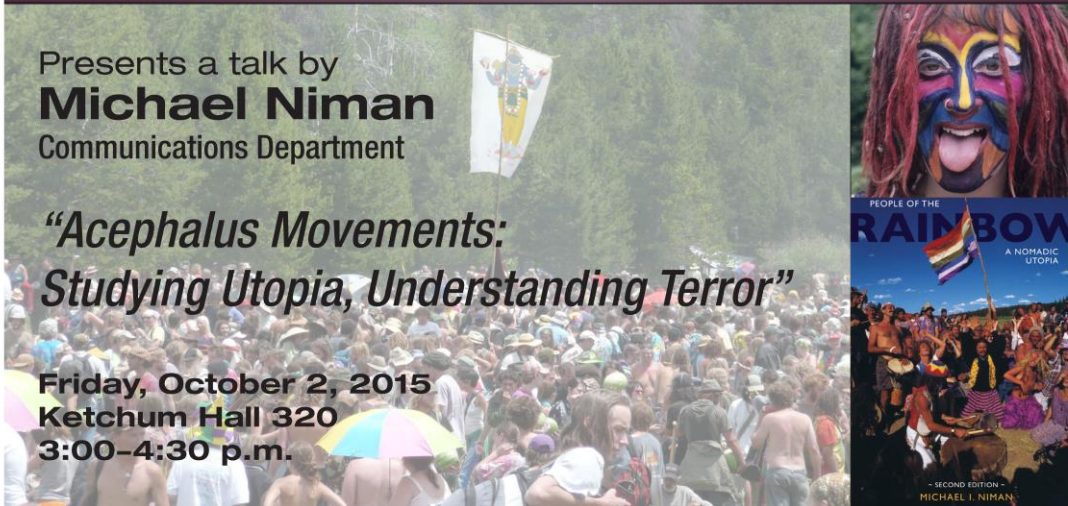
### Conversations in and out of the Disciplines Lecture Series

The Buffalo State English Department

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

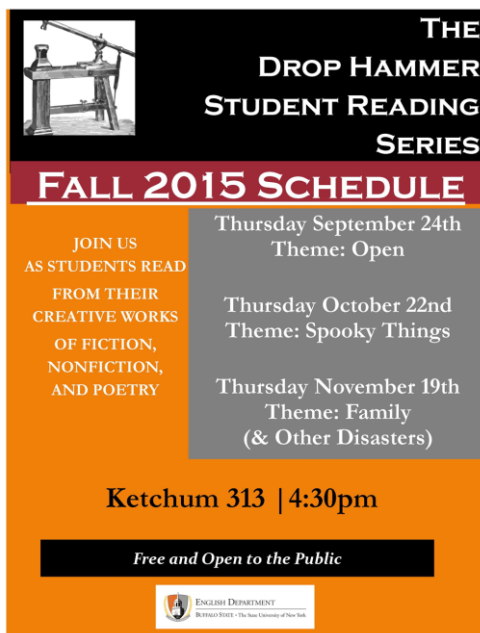
*"Acephalus Movements:  
Studying Utopia, Understanding Terror"*

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

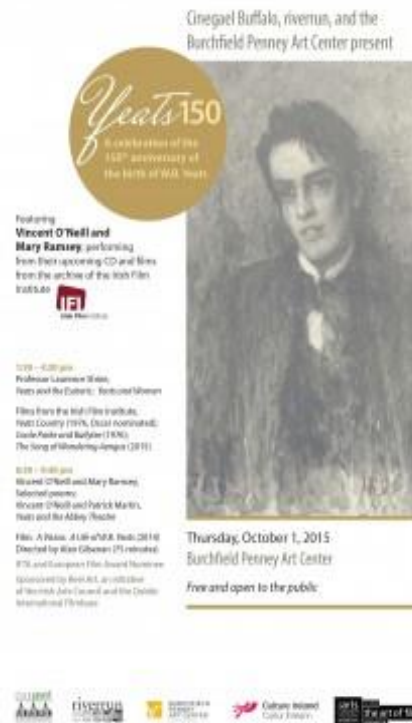
Thursday October 22nd  
Theme: Spooky Things

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



Gregoel 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 People and Babylon* (1982); *The Song of Wandering Aengus* (2011)

10:30 - 11:00 pm  
**Vincent O'Neill** and **Mary Ramsey**, *Reformed Women*; **Vincent O'Neill** and **Patrick Martin**, *Yeats and the Abbey Theatre*

Film: *A Poem of Love and War* (1916) Directed by **Alan Gilman** (FS restored) 875 and European Film Award Nominee. Sponsored by **Buffalo**, an 100th Anniversary of **World War I** and the **Centennial** of the **International Women's**

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

Logos for Buffalo State, Riverun, and other partners.

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.

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# English Department Newsletter

30 September 2015  
Vol. 9, No. 16

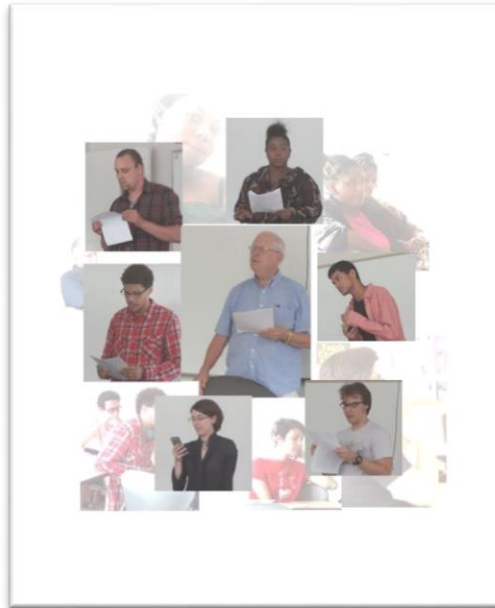


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## DEPARTMENT AND FACULTY NEWS

On Thursday, September 24 the English Department hosted our first **Drop Hammer Reading** of the 2015-2016 academic year and it was incredible!! Thank you to **GENEVA FREDERICK, TAHMEED AHMED, NATHANAEL STOLTE, JUDE LESTER, SHERWIN WILLAMS, and SARAH WEBB** for being our inaugural readers, as well as to all who attended and helped us to spread the word. Special thanks to **DAVID LAMPE** for kicking off the event!

Students interested in participating in a Drop Hammer Reading should contact [MAUREEN LOUGEN](#). The next Drop Hammer will be on October 22 and the theme is "Spooky Things."



**ED TAYLOR's** short story "Rumplestiltskin" was in the September issue of *Cobalt* and his poem "Shovel" will be in Vol 53, issue 1 (2016) *Southern Poetry Review*. His flash CNF piece "Still Life with Invasive Species" will be in *Canary* in 2016, and his poem "Leaf" will be in *Mobius* in fall 2015. He attended the 50th anniversary celebration of the National Endowment for the Arts on 9/29, in Washington DC at the National Museum of American Art (because he's a former employee).

**JENNIFER RYAN's** article, "'The Madness-Driven Violence': Black Bodies and the Evolution of a Radical Black Poetics," has just appeared in the Summer 2015 issue of *Modern Language Studies*, as part of a special feature on cultural responses to Trayvon Martin. Her article on Wanda Coleman's elegies, "Saying Goodbye: Elegiac Subjectivity in Wanda Coleman's *The World Falls Away*," appeared in the 2014 issue (published in Summer 2015) of *Hecate*, in a featured section commemorating

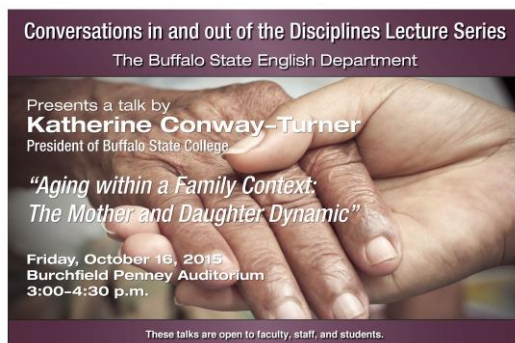


Coleman's work. Jennifer organized the section and wrote the introductory biographical note for the issue.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

The Fall 2015 conference of the [New York College English Association \(NYCEA\)](http://www.nycea.org/New_York_College_English_Association/Welcome.html), October 9-10, 2015, at Hilbert College in Hamburg, NY. For more information: [http://www.nycea.org/New York College English Association/Welcome.html](http://www.nycea.org/New_York_College_English_Association/Welcome.html).

[JOEY NICOLETTI](http://www.justbuffalo.org/event/rustling-the-leaves-2015-10-09/) will be giving a poetry reading at Talking Leaves (Main Street) on October 9, in support of *Reverse Graffiti*, his latest book. For more information: <http://www.justbuffalo.org/event/rustling-the-leaves-2015-10-09/>.



Mark your calendars for 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.

[Poets Joan Murray and Janet McNally](https://www.burchfieldpenney.org/events/event:10-25-2015-2-00pm-writers-and-poets-series-joan-murray-and-janet-mcnally/) will read from their work at the Burchfield Penney Art Center on Sunday, October 5 at 2 pm. For more information, visit <https://www.burchfieldpenney.org/events/event:10-25-2015-2-00pm-writers-and-poets-series-joan-murray-and-janet-mcnally/>.

## STUDENT AND ALUMNI NEWS

We've heard from [KAYLA COLLINS '13](#) (Writing): "I am a month away from finishing my master's thesis at Southern New Hampshire University. I will receive my MFA in Fiction this January. When I'm not working on my young adult novel, I work as a Staff Reviewer and Blog Manager at Young Adult Books Central. As manager of the blog, I've collaborated with YA author C.J. Redwine in designing logos, setting up posts with other authors, and even writing a few of the columns myself.

"This year, my writing was published at *Germ Magazine*, "Bite-Sized" and "Drowned," both poems. I was later invited to become a permanent writer for the magazine, and have since published pieces including: "A Life of Whens," "When You

Think about the Next Five Years," "When You Must Believe," "When You Must Be True," "Ciao, Baby," and "When You Think About Fiction." You can find that work [HERE](#).

"I also published my first short story at *1:1000*, another online magazine. After three stories, they invited me to become an editor and regular contributor and I have been doing that ever since. My published pieces there include: "Three of Swords," "Hanged Man," "Exulansis," "Calculations," and "Rust" (with more to come in the future). You can find that work [HERE](#).

"All of these wonderful writing ventures have been done under my pen name, Kayla King. I have a website and blog under this name as well, which you can find [HERE](#). As I continue to build my platform as a writer, I know my time at Buff State was so influential in creating the writer I am today."

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## 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.

## RECOMMENDED READING



The National Endowment of the Humanities has identified the **50 most important projects funded** during its first half-century of supporting research in the humanities. It's a wonderful testament to the importance of the humanities, with notable contributions to literature and language studies. Among the projects celebrated by NEH are the Dictionary of American Regional English (DARE),

What Middletown Read (a monumental study of American reading practices), the NEH Summer Seminars for Teachers, the Folger Shakespeare Library, the Library of America, the Laura Ingalls Wilder Memorial Society, the resurrection of the Tlingit language, and the Mark Twain Papers at UC Berkeley. Visit <http://50.neh.gov/> for more information.

Meanwhile, for Banned Books Week, visit the American Library Association's website ([www.ala.org](http://www.ala.org)) and pick out a book to read with your morning coffee. This year's top ten list of "challenged" books includes *Persepolis*, *The Bluest Eye*, *The Kite Runner* and *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*.

Or opt for a classic banned book, like *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*.

What? Oh, the Oompa-Loompas were advocating cannibalism when they celebrated children who enjoyed reading books about

Pirates wearing purple pants,  
And sailing ships, and elephants,  
And cannibals crouching round a pot  
Stirring away at something hot.  
It smells so good! What can it be?  
Good gracious, it's Penelope!

English Department Newsletter, Buffalo State College;  
Compiled by Lisa Berglund, [berglul@buffalostate.edu](mailto:berglul@buffalostate.edu)

# English Department Newsletter

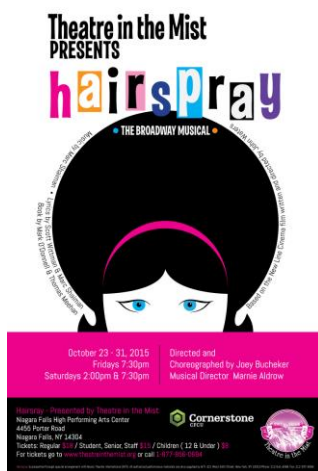
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## DEPARTMENT AND FACULTY NEWS

ED TAYLOR's flash CNF piece "Trash Fish" and his short story "Rejected Address" will appear in *Stone Canoe* issue 10 in 2016.



SÁRA KOVÁCSI stars as Tracy Turnblad in Theatre in the Mist's production of the musical *Hairspray*, which runs October 23-31. Visit [www.theatreinthemist.org](http://www.theatreinthemist.org) for ticket information.

Opera-Lytes presents *Opera on Broadway* at the Riviera Theatre on Friday, October 16. LISA BERGLUND has a couple of solos, and she also wrote the narration that accompanies this semi-staged concert. For tickets, visit [www.rivieratheatre.org](http://www.rivieratheatre.org). The concert will be repeated Saturday, October 17, at Clarence Presbyterian Church.

On June 18 at the 13<sup>th</sup> International Conference on New Directions in the Humanities at the University of British Columbia, HEIDI DIETZ FALETTI read a paper entitled "Astral and Terrestrial Visions in Manoel de Oliveira's *The Strange Case of Angelica*."

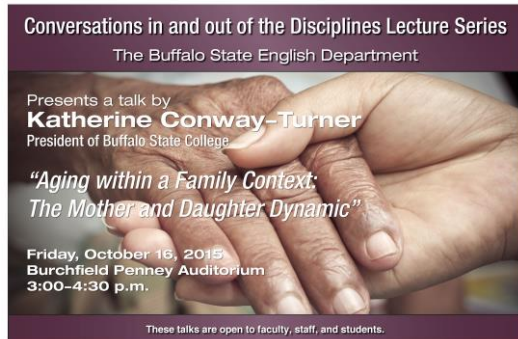
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MacArthur "Genius" Grant Recipient and Pulitzer Prize Nominee Karen Russell, author of a novel and two short-story collections, launches the *SUNY Geneseo Literary Forum* with a reading and book signing at 6pm **TONIGHT**, October 14 in the MacVittie College Union Ballroom. Free and open to the public; books for sale and a reception to follow the reading.

Poets Joan Murray and Janet McNally will read from their work at the Burchfield Penney Art Center on Sunday, October 25 at 2 pm. This reading is supported by the

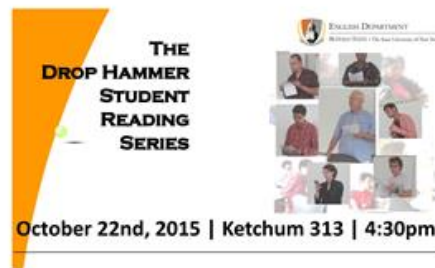
David and Ruth Lampe Endowment. The event is free and open to the public. For information, visit the [BPAC website](#).

On October 16, as part of the Conversations in and out of the Disciplines Lecture series, **PRESIDENT KATHERINE CONWAY-TURNER** will speak on “Aging within a Family Context: The Mother and Daughter Dynamic” (in the Auditorium of the Burchfield-Penney). Check out [the Daily’s article about Conversations](#), which copiously quotes program founder **ANN COLLEY**.



Mark your calendars for upcoming talks: 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 invites you to its second event of the semester on October 22. Special guest **DAVID LAMPE** will open the reading, which also will feature the work of **MARIAH HADDAD, NICOLAS CORREA, TAHMEED AHMED, KIA THOMAS, SHERWIN WILLIAMS, FRANCESCA AUSTIN, and NATHAN STOLTE**.



## STUDENT AND ALUMNI NEWS

In a postcard from London, **LAURA WOOD '14** writes, “I finally made it to England and the Globe!”

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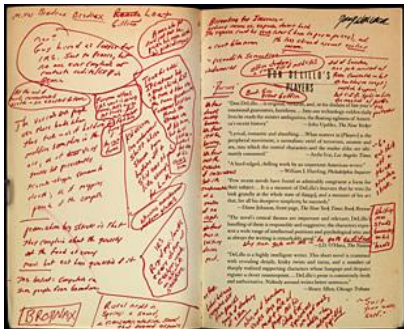


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Some interesting statistics about **e-books and the durability of print**: *The New York Times* reports that “E-book sales fell by 10 percent in the first five months of this year, according to the Association of American Publishers, which collects data from nearly 1,200 publishers. Digital books accounted last year for around 20 percent of the market, roughly the same as they did a few years ago.” Meanwhile, confirming the heartening evidence that printed books continue to find readers, the American Booksellers Association counted 1,712 member stores in 2,227 locations in 2015, up from 1,410 in 1,660 locations five years ago. Read the full article [here](#). (The illustration, by the way, is from one of David Foster Wallace’s annotated books, in the collection of the University of Texas, Austin.)

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Vol. 9, No. 18



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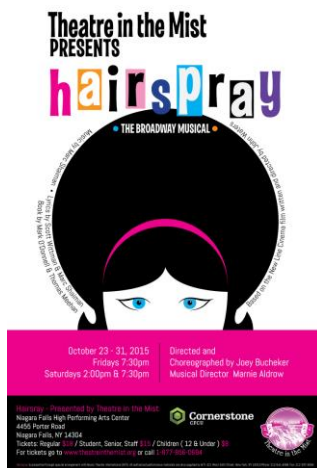
## DEPARTMENT AND FACULTY NEWS

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](mailto:bryanttj@buffalostate.edu) if interested.



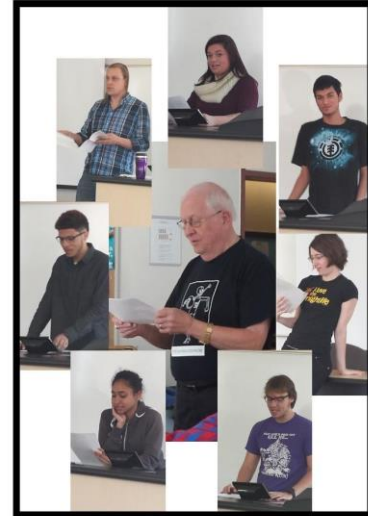
**SÁRA KOVÁCSI** stars as Tracy Turnblad in Theatre in the Mist's production of the musical *Hairspray*, which concludes this weekend, October 30 & 31. Visit [www.theatreinthemist.org](http://www.theatreinthemist.org) for ticket information.

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](http://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](http://www.nytimes.com/2015/10/18/opinion/sunday/lecture-me-really.html?_r=0).

English Department Newsletter, Buffalo State College;  
Compiled by Lisa Berglund, [berglul@buffalostate.edu](mailto:berglul@buffalostate.edu)

# English Department Newsletter

12 November 2015  
Vol. 9, No. 19



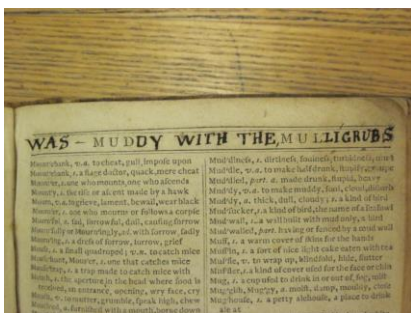
The newsletter appears biweekly throughout the semester; the next issue will appear on 2 December 2015. Current and past newsletters are available on the [English Department website](#).

## DEPARTMENT AND FACULTY NEWS

**ED TAYLOR** is collaborating with Arts and Humanities Associate Dean Carlos Jones on a movement/word piece for the April 21-23, 2016 Dance program "Rap." Ed also has poetry ("Still Life with Sky Burial," "Elegy") forthcoming in *St. Petersburg Review*, and his review of Mario Vargas Llosa's novel *The Discrete Hero* just appeared in *Rain Taxi* (<http://www.raintaxi.com/category/current-edition/>).

**TIM BRYANT** published "The Vanishing Trace of Violence in Native American Literature and Film" in David Schmid's two-volume essay collection *Violence in American Popular Culture*, published by Praeger. The article identifies how the historical conception of North American Indians as a "vanishing race" translates into a vanishing trace of violence elliptically present in contemporary films and the writings of N. Scott Momaday, Leslie Marmon Silko, James Welch, Louise Erdrich, Gerald Vizenor, and Sherman Alexie.

**KAREN SANDS-O'CONNOR** faced a double whammy last weekend, speaking in Birmingham at the Blackness in Britain conference on children's biographies of Marcus Garvey, and at Newcastle University on the activist children's writers Leila Berg and Beverley Naidoo.



Last Tuesday **LISA BERGLUND** gave a lecture in the University at Buffalo Honors College entitled "A MOST horrible MOUse was MUDDy with the MULLigrubs: What Early Americans Wrote in their Dictionaries." Lisa's article on Hester Lynch Piozzi's edition of her correspondence with Samuel Johnson will appear in *Solitude to him was horror*, a collection on Johnson's friendships that is forthcoming from Bucknell University Press in 2017.

Congratulations to **KIM CHINQUEE** on the glowing Buffalo News review of "Hand," which appears in the short-story collection *Buffalo Noir*. Jeff Simon calls it

“splendid.” Read his article at <http://buffalo.com/2015/11/01/news/buffalo-noir-from-the-anchor-bar-to-nottingham-terrace-to-south-buffalo/>. And ANN COLLEY’s most recent book was reviewed in the prestigious *Times Literary Supplement*; the reviewer calls *Wild Animal Skins in Victorian England* “absorbing, original and meticulously researched.” If you’re a subscriber you can read the rest of the review at <http://www.the-tls.co.uk/tls/reviews/history/>; if not, English Department faculty can find a copy saved on our Shared Drive (it’s called *TLS in Brief Nov. 6*).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

The next **DROP HAMMER STUDENT READING** is Thursday, November 19 at 4:30pm. Students interested in participating should contact [MAUREEN LOUGEN](#) to sign up. The guest presenter will be **CHARLES BACHMAN**.

In collaboration with the Burchfield Penney Art Center and riverrun, Talking Leaves...Books will host **an evening with publisher Robert Weil and editor/translator Ann Goldstein, to discuss the new edition of *The Complete Works of Primo Levi***. The event will take place at the Burchfield Penney Art Center at 7 pm on Friday, November 20. Buffalo writer and attorney Sam Magavern will moderate the discussion of the fifteen-year project to bring all of Levi’s work into English. This event is free and open to the public; anyone wishing to have a copy signed by the publisher or editor is expected to purchase it from Talking Leaves, to support the sponsor of the presentation.

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 runs through November 22; visit [roadlesstraveledproductions.org](http://roadlesstraveledproductions.org) for ticket information.

**CHUCK MANCUSO** discusses “The Last Great Days of the Buffalo Jazz Club Scene” to conclude this semester’s Conversations In and Among the Disciplines series. His talk will be given on Friday, December 4 at 3 pm in Ketchum 320; a wine and cheese reception will follow.

## 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>.

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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](#).

## RECOMMENDED READING

Presidential candidate Marco Rubio's claim that America needs welders more than it needs philosophers got a lot of traction after this week's debate. Here's what the New York Times turned up: <http://www.nytimes.com/politics/first-draft/2015/11/11/philosophers-and-welders-react-to-marco-rubios-debate-comments/? r=0>. Forbes also did the math: <http://www.forbes.com/sites/katiesola/2015/11/11/rubio-welders-philosophers/>.



English Department Newsletter, Buffalo State College;  
Compiled by Lisa Berglund, [berglul@buffalostate.edu](mailto:berglul@buffalostate.edu)

# English Department Newsletter

2 December 2015  
Vol. 9, No. 20



The newsletter appears biweekly throughout the semester; the FINAL ISSUE of 2015 will appear on 16 December 2015. Current and past newsletters are available on the [English Department website](#).

## DEPARTMENT AND FACULTY NEWS

ED TAYLOR's poem "Mordred" is forthcoming in *The Literary Review* and his [review](#) of the odd debut novel *Bats of the Republic* appeared in last Sunday's Buffalo News.

KIM CHINQUEE'S flash fiction "Knock-Knock" will be included in the forthcoming anthology *Funny Bone: Flashing for Comic Relief*, by the UK editors of [Flash: The International Short-Short Story Magazine](#). This anthology's mission is to support [Comic Relief](#), which provides global funds and assistance to combat poverty and social injustice. Kim's flash fiction "Highball" will appear in the next issue of Georgia State's literary journal [Five Points](#). She received a special mention for her work in *Buffalo Noir* in a recent [NPR interview](#) with the anthology's editor, Ed Park. In addition, she is editor for the Fall 2015 issue of [New World Writing](#).



Joan Wilking's story "clutter," published in the Harvest Issue of *ELJ (Elm Leaves Journal)*, received special mention in the Pushcart Prize XL: Best of the Small Presses.

Students in THERESA HARRIS-TIGG's ENG390W Teaching Writing course are working with students at PS80, and the middle-schoolers visited their mentors at Buffalo State last month, as featured in [this story](#) in the *Daily*.

November was a busy month for AIMABLE TWAGILIMANA, who served as an application reviewer for the President's Young African Leaders Initiative ([YALI](#)), which involved reading 45 applications in the "business and entrepreneurship" track, scoring, and writing short reviews of each. Aimable published [an opinion piece on leadership](#) in *The New Times* (a Rwandan daily) on November 29. Just Buffalo invited Aimable to facilitate a discussion of *The Beautiful Things that Heaven Bears* at Betty's, as one of the events organized around the November 18 BABEL lecture featuring the novel's author, Ethiopian American writer Dinaw Mengestu.

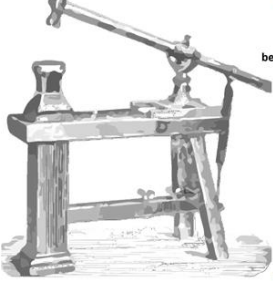
The second edition of Aimable's book *Historical Dictionary of Rwanda* was published by Rowman & Littlefield on November 6. It is a mini-encyclopedia of

Rwanda with a substantial introduction, a chronology, a 50-page bibliography, and hundreds of articles of various lengths on major economic, social, and cultural features, history, literature, significant persons, places, events, trade, international relations, homegrown solutions to development challenges, and leadership. You can read certain parts (e.g., the introduction) for free on [amazon](#).

*The Encyclopedia of Victorian Literature* has been added to the Butler Library collection; it features a long, long entry on Robert Louis Stevenson by ANN COLLEY. Ann describes the four-volume set as “an excellent collection of entries written by leading Victorian scholars that should be helpful both for those doing research and also those teaching a particular Victorian subject.”

KAREN SANDS-O'CONNOR gave a lecture at Newcastle University on November 18 entitled "Past Histories, Present Debates: Stephen Lawrence, Mary Seacole and the National Curriculum," one of several Leverhulme lectures she will be giving this year. This particular lecture generated a lively debate, and will eventually become a chapter in her forthcoming book on *Publishing for a Black British Child Audience*.

## UPCOMING EVENTS



ENGLISH DEPARTMENT  
BUFFALO STATE - The State University of New York

878-5277 | english@buffalostate.edu

**DROP HAMMER  
STUDENT READING SERIES**

**'December Enjambment'**

Join us for an end-of-semester celebration as Buffalo State's best student writers read from their work in fiction, poetry, and non-fiction.

Tahmeed Ahmed  
 Geneva Frederick  
 Steven Jura  
 Da'Jae Rogers  
 Nathan Stolte  
 James Taback  
 Sarah Webb  
 Sherwin Williams

With special guest: Dr. David Lampe

Thursday, December 3 | 4:00-5:30 P.M. | Cleveland 418

Free & Open to the Public

The English Department Faculty Holiday Party will be held at Lisa Berglund's house on December 11, beginning at 6:30 pm. Please sign up to bring a dish to share.








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

Presents a talk by  
**Chuck Mancuso**  
Professor of Music

"The Last Great Days of the Buffalo Jazz Scene"

**Friday, December 4, 2015**  
**Ketchum Hall 320**  
**3:00-4:30 p.m.**

These talks are 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>.

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## DEADLINES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Undergraduate and graduate students can apply for scholarships of \$3,000 offered by United University Professions (UUP). To qualify, applicants must be full-time undergraduates with a minimum GPA of 3.75; or full-time graduate students who have completed at least nine credits, and hold a cumulative GPA of at least 3.95. For more information, visit <http://www.uupinfo.org/scholarships/scholarship.php>.



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](#).

## RECOMMENDED READING

As a coda to the “Gender Bender” Humanities Festival, check out this article in the *Chronicle of Higher Education*: [“The Professor is a Drag Queen.”](#) And mark your calendars for next September’s Humanities Festival, whose theme will be “Renaissance” (part of the Arts & Humanities Year of Shakespeare). Dava Sobel will be the keynote speaker.

English Department Newsletter, Buffalo State College;  
Compiled by Lisa Berglund, [berglul@buffalostate.edu](mailto:berglul@buffalostate.edu)



# English Department Newsletter

3 February 2016

Vol. 10, No. 1



The newsletter appears biweekly during the semester;  
the next issue will appear on Wednesday, 17 March 2016.  
Current and past newsletters are available on the [English Department website](#).

## DEPARTMENT AND FACULTY NEWS

Congratulations to **MICHELE NINACS** who has been granted continuing appointment (tenure) and promoted to associate professor, effective next year. Michele also has been awarded a sabbatical for the spring of 2017.

**DAVID BEN MERRE** will be giving a talk this month at UB entitled "Violet Blossoms and Violent Letters: On Virginia Woolf and Lyric Reading." The date is Wednesday, February 17 at 3:30 pm and it will be in Clemens 360.

**ED TAYLOR's** football op-ed essay "God Bless the Buffalo" is appearing Super Bowl week in *The Public*. His review of Rick Moody's latest novel, "Hotels of North America," appeared January 24 in the *Buffalo News*. Ed's poems "Still Life with Current Events" and "Still Life with Weekend, Laundry, Ulysses, Second Thoughts" are forthcoming in the spring 2016 issue of *Clackamas Literary Review* and his story "Rumpelstiltskin" appears in the current [New World Writing](#).

A book review and an essay by **JOEY NICOLETTI** appear in the Winter 2016 *VIA: Voices in Italian Americana*, and two poems, "To Donald Trump" and "To Fred Grandy," in the Winter 2016 issue of [The Potomac](#). Joey was featured at the John D. Calandra Italian-American Institute on January 20, where he read poems from *Reverse Graffiti*, his latest poetry collection, and some new work.

**GERALDINE BARD** and **AIMEE LEVESQUE** each earned an Online Course Design Specialization Certificate from the Instructional Resources Department.

**KIM CHINQUEE's** flash fictions "I Figure" and "I Have to Fly" were accepted for publication in *NOON* 2017. On May 4 at 7 pm, she will read at the Center for Fiction in NYC, in celebration of *NOON* 2016's launch. Her flash fictions "In My Gear, With All of My Equipment," "Swinging High," "Art on the Wall," and "Touch Me" were nominated for The Best Small Fictions 2016 to be published by Queen's Ferry Press. She was recently named Senior Editor of *New World Writing*.

Lots of news from **TOM REIGSTAD**: (1) He was the voice of Jack Kemp on a [Heritage Moments radio spot](#) (concerning racism and the old Buffalo Bills) on January 14-23 on WBFO-FM; (2) Two different snippets of an interview with Tom about Mark Twain and Buffalo were aired on WBFO-FM on December 21 and 28, 2015, to help promote the "Mark Twain Comedy Award" show on WNED Television; (3) on January 11 he was one of six alumni/veterans to speak at a half-day Military Roundtable for 200 11th grade English students (who had read *A Farewell to Arms*, *The Things They Carried*, etc.) beforehand at Sweet Home High School. Each gave a presentation on their military experiences and engaged in Q&A with the students; and (4) Tom published two book reviews that the *Buffalo News* featured on the Sunday book page: [Twain's End](#) by Lynn Cullen (December 20, 2015) and [Mark Twain's Autobiography](#), Vol. 3, eds. Benjamin Griffin and Harriet Elinor Smith (September 20, 2015).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

The **Drop Hammer Student Reading Series** resumes February 11, with the theme of "Love." The readings begin at 4:30 pm; due to the overwhelming response last semester, the series has moved to a bigger venue: Ketchum 320. We're also adding readings devoted to "Flash" writing -- fiction, poetry, essays or creative nonfiction of 1,000 words or less. Those readings will be held February 29, March 28 & April 18, at 1-1:50 pm in Ketchum 302.



The College Planning Council (CPC) is holding **focus group meetings** as part of writing a new strategic plan for Buffalo State. This document will guide the college for the next five years, and it is critical that all voices be heard. Among the meeting dates are: for faculty of the School of Arts & Humanities, Tuesday, February 9, 12:15-1:15 pm, Bulger East; for untenured faculty, Thursday, February 11, 12:15-1:15 pm, Butler 208; for adjunct faculty, Tuesday, February 16, 5:30-6:30 pm, Cleveland Hall 418; and an all-campus open forum, February 18, 12:15-1:15 pm, Bulger East. This is an open invitation and no RSVP is required.



## STUDENT AND ALUMNI NEWS

**ILENE R. FLEISCHMANN, MA '73**, has made a substantial planned gift to Buffalo State. In recognition of her generous contribution, the college is dedicating the Ilene R. Fleischmann Writing and Publication Suite in Ketchum Hall. A dedication ceremony will take place later this semester. You can read more in the Winter 2015 issue of [1300 Elmwood](#).

Ilene Fleischmann and President Conway-Turner

If you'd like to share an update on your post-Buffalo State activities, either for the alumni bulletin 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.

## DEADLINES AND OPPORTUNITIES

The second SUNY Undergraduate Research Conference will take place on Friday, April 15 at SUNY-Cobleskill. The online student submission deadline this year is [this Friday, February 5](#). In addition to receiving subsidies for conference registration and poster printing from the Office of Undergraduate Research, BSC student presenters may also benefit from a free travel bus arranged in conjunction with UB. The bus will depart from UB-South Campus at 6 am on the conference morning and return to Buffalo at 10 pm that evening (WNY students will not be assigned the earliest presentation time slots, in order to facilitate travel plans). Please encourage your students to apply; for more information, visit the conference website: <http://blog.cobleskill.edu/SURC/surc.html>.



An [English graduate student conference to be held at SUNY Brockport](#), will be held on Saturday, April 23 (Shakespeare's birthday!). The SEGUE conference invites two

types of proposals: a 15-minute paper that will investigate the symposium topic of dissenting voices in literature, philosophy, history, and/or art; or original creative works of fiction, nonfiction, poetry and/or a hybrid of any of these genres. Creative works may approach the symposium topic in a direct, oblique or unconventional manner. Abstracts of 300 words are due by February 29; for more information, visit [digitalcommons.brockport.edu/segue](http://digitalcommons.brockport.edu/segue).

Each summer, the [National Endowment for the Humanities](#) supports residential seminars and institutes for faculty who teach American undergraduates. Participants in these two- to five-week programs receive stipends to help cover travel and living expenses. Topics for summer 2016 include: *Beowulf* and Old Norse-Icelandic Literature, Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*, *The Commonplace Book and Its American Descendants*, *Native American Histories and the Land*, and *Religion, Secularism, and the English Novel, 1719-1897*. For complete information and eligibility requirements visit the [NEH Summer Programs website](#). Most deadlines are in late February. The National Endowment for the Humanities is also accepting applications for grants to direct a summer program for college faculty or schoolteachers on a humanities topic of your expertise, in 2017.



## RECOMMENDED READING

A thoughtful [blog](#) on the limits of teaching composition, entitled: "I Cannot Prepare Students to Write Their (History, Philosophy, Sociology, Poly Sci., etc...) Papers."

And [an article from the New York Times](#) with new insights about teaching, publishing and intellectual history, based on the Open Syllabus Project.

English Department Newsletter, Buffalo State College;  
Compiled by Lisa Berglund, [berglul@buffalostate.edu](mailto:berglul@buffalostate.edu)

# English Department Newsletter

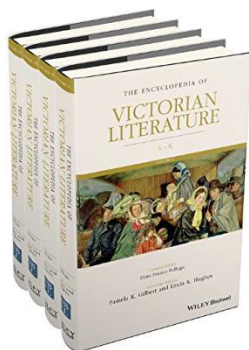
17 February 2016  
Vol. 10, No. 2



The newsletter appears biweekly during the semester; the next issue will appear on Wednesday, 2 March 2016. Current and past newsletters are available on the [English Department website](#).

## DEPARTMENT AND FACULTY NEWS

**JENNIFER RYAN** has been asked to give the keynote speech for SUNY Fredonia's annual Big Read event. Her talk, "'A Great Fish-Net': Metaphor and Memory in Zora Neale Hurston's *Their Eyes Were Watching God*," will take place at the Fredonia Opera House at 7 p.m. on March 9.



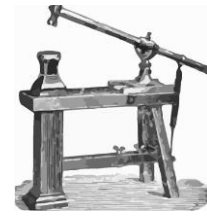
*The Blackwell Encyclopedia of Victorian Literature* in which **ANN COLLEY** has a long essay on Robert Louis Stevenson was recently named the most outstanding reference book by the American Library Association.

Ann has been contacted by Jenny Uglow, a renowned biographer, historian, and former editorial director of Chatto & Windus, to meet with her in London. Uglow is now writing a biography of Edward Lear and is already consulting Ann via email. Ann would like everyone to know that Ashgate publishers has recently been taken over by and absorbed into Taylor & Francis (a large corporation). This is the end of a publishing house that supported many academics and their projects. It is a great loss. When news got out that Ashgate was being absorbed, many petition and letters were sent to try and prevent this. Editors, commissioning editors, and other people associated with Ashgate have lost their jobs. What books that might have been supported by Ashgate are now being considered by Rutgers. This is the loss of a firm that has been very important to people's careers, and leaves a great hole.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

The last **focus group meeting** for the new Buffalo State strategic plan will take place tomorrow, February 18, 12:15-1:15 pm, Bulger East. This is an all-college forum; no RSVP is required. If you have not yet participated in one of the strategic planning sessions, do make every effort to attend!

**The Drop Hammer Student Reading Series** continues on February 29 with our **inaugural “Flash in the Pan”**: fiction, poetry, essays or creative nonfiction of 1,000 words or less. The reading will take place in the Fleischmann Writing and Publication Suite (Ketchum 302) at 1:00 pm; [contact Maureen Lougen](#) if you would like to read.



On Friday, February 26, **M. STEPHEN PENDLETON** (Political Science) will present “From Bad Air to Bugs: Buffalo’s Role in the Vanguard of the Public Health Revolution: 1832-1910” for the **Conversations in and out of the Disciplines series**. The talk will be followed by time for questions and a short wine and cheese reception. And mark your calendars for the second and third talks of the semester: on Friday, April 22, **Jason Grinnell** (Philosophy and Humanities) will present “Codifying Excellence: The Tension between Ethics and Accountability”; and on Friday, April 29, **Alice Pennisi** (Art Education) will present “Painting as Research, Activism, and Teaching Tool: Nine American Boys Series.” All Conversations events are held at 3:00 pm in Ketchum 320.

## STUDENT AND ALUMNI NEWS



The Anne Frank Project’s fourth student delegation to Rwanda spent three weeks touring the country, teaching drama-based education, and participating in community-building experiences. The students, who will be giving a series of presentations on their experiences, include English Education major **LILLY INGLUT**; her talk is tomorrow, Thursday, February 18, 12:15–1:30 p.m. in Technology Building 160.

**JAMES CERCONE** and three students from the English Education program--**RENE BONILLA, ALYSSA MORETTI, AND SPENCER MILLIOTTO**—will be at Canterbury Woods tomorrow evening to speak to residents about the *Digital Writing Workshop*, an after-school program for young people living in the city of Buffalo. The session will share pre-service teachers’ experiences developing and running the program, which serves recent immigrants, English language learners, and other students from Buffalo’s public schools. Content created by young people, including digital videos, poetry and other original works will also be shared.

**TAMARA BURROSS BA '14** recently published her story "Migraines for Hegel" in [New World Writing](#).

English and Philosophy double major **CLAYTON PITCHER** was one of two Buffalo State students selected to attend the Exploring Liberty Philosophy Conference this weekend at the College of New Jersey in Trenton, NJ – all expenses paid by TCNJ.

If you'd like to share an update on your post-Buffalo State activities, either for the alumni bulletin 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.

## DEADLINES AND OPPORTUNITIES

[ELJ's Dirt Edition](#), due out late spring, will be accepting submissions ([eljbuffalo@gmail.com](mailto:eljbuffalo@gmail.com)) until March 1. To date, this issue will include work by Bobbie Ann Mason, Brandon Hobson, Robert Lopez, Kathy Fish, Laurie Kaiser, Ed Taylor, Girija Tropp, Avital Gad-Cykman, Lydia Copeland-Gwyn, and others.

[The Undergraduate Research Small Grants Program](#) provides up to \$400 to assist students in carrying out their research, scholarly, or creative activities during the academic year; up to \$600 may be requested for a single project that involves two or more students. The deadline for submission of applications by students is Tuesday, February 23; mentors have until Thursday, February 25, to complete their portion of the application. Applications for the Small Grants Program are [completed online](#).



An [English graduate student conference to be held at SUNY Brockport](#), will be held on Saturday, April 23 (Shakespeare's birthday!). The SEGUE conference invites two

types of proposals: a 15-minute paper that will investigate the symposium topic of dissenting voices in literature, philosophy, history, and/or art; or original creative works of fiction, nonfiction, poetry and/or a hybrid of any of these genres. Creative works may approach the symposium topic in a direct, oblique or unconventional manner. Abstracts of 300 words are due by February 29; for more information, visit [digitalcommons.brockport.edu/segue](http://digitalcommons.brockport.edu/segue).

Each summer, the [National Endowment for the Humanities](#) supports residential seminars and institutes for faculty who teach American undergraduates. Participants in these two- to five-week programs receive stipends to help cover travel and living expenses. Topics for summer 2016 include: *Beowulf* and Old Norse-Icelandic Literature, Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*, *The Commonplace Book and Its American Descendants*, *Native American Histories and the Land*, and *Religion, Secularism, and the English Novel, 1719-1897*. For complete information and eligibility requirements visit the [NEH Summer Programs website](#). Most deadlines are in late February. The National Endowment for the Humanities is also accepting applications for grants to direct a summer program for college faculty or schoolteachers on a humanities topic of your expertise, in 2017.

## RECOMMENDED READING

This story from [The Chronicle of Higher Education](#) describes a course entitled “Novel English Majors” that teaches English majors to “identify and articulate the usefulness of their educational choices”: <http://chronicle.com/article/Feeding-English-Majors-in-the/235042>. David Lodge’s novel is one of several on the reading list, but the students also interviewed professionals from a range of careers, explored their technophobia, and weighed “the alt-ac narrative.”

English Department Newsletter, Buffalo State College;  
Compiled by Lisa Berglund, [berglul@buffalostate.edu](mailto:berglul@buffalostate.edu)





# English Department Newsletter

2 March 2016

Vol. 10, No. 3



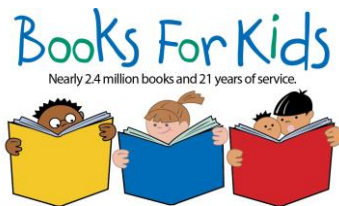
The newsletter appears biweekly during the semester;  
the next issue will appear on Wednesday, 16 March 2016.  
Current and past newsletters are available on the [English Department website](#).

## DEPARTMENT AND FACULTY NEWS

Please congratulate **LAURENCE SHINE**, who has received the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Adjunct Teaching! He joins the English Department's two previous winners of this prestigious award, **DENNIS WOJTASZCZYK** and **ED TAYLOR**.

**TIM BRYANT** published an article, "Building the Culture of Contingency: Adaptive Choice in Ludic Literature from Role-Playing Games to Choose Your Own Adventure Books," in McFarland Publishing's collection *The Role-Playing Society: Essays on the Cultural Influence of RPGs*.

Yesterday the Books for Kids book donation campaign kicked off its twenty-second year; the community drive was founded by **GERALDINE BARD** and **ELIZABETH CAPPELLA**. In 2015, Books for Kids distributed 74,414 books to individual children. Books for Kids hopes to raise \$20,000 this year; donations are used to purchase special needs books, including bilingual books, Braille books, multi-cultural books and books for children with learning and/or physical challenges. Visit [www.buffalonews.com/booksforkids](http://www.buffalonews.com/booksforkids) for a list of collection sites for books and donation information.



**AIMEE LEVESQUE** was a Guest Contributor for the Museum of disABILITY History's newsletter; her article, "The Paradox of Happiness," appears in the Winter 2016 edition.

**ED TAYLOR's** poem "Anthropocene Era" will appear in a forthcoming anthology on drought. He will be featured **TODAY** as a reader at Center for Inquiry/Just Buffalo Literary Café at 7:00 pm; the Center for Inquiry is located at 1310 Sweet Home Road in Amherst. His poem "Man/Woman" appeared in the Buffalo News "Sunday Gusto" section February 28.

**KAREN SANDS-O'CONNOR** completed a mini-tour of the UK by giving lectures at Homerton College, Cambridge ("From Empire to Empire Windrush and Beyond: Black British Literature for Children") and Roehampton University, London ("Politics and Publishing: Black Power, British Publishing and Child Readers"). Both talks overran their allotted time periods because of the interest of the audiences.

On Sunday, March 6 at 3 pm, **LISA BERGLUND** will sing a set of Aaron Copland's *Old American Songs* in a concert given by the faculty of the Community Music School and the Active Members of the Chromatic Club. The overall program ranges from Hugo Wolf lieder to Broadway show tunes. Tickets are available at the door; the concert will take place at St. Paul's Lutheran Church on Main Street in Snyder.

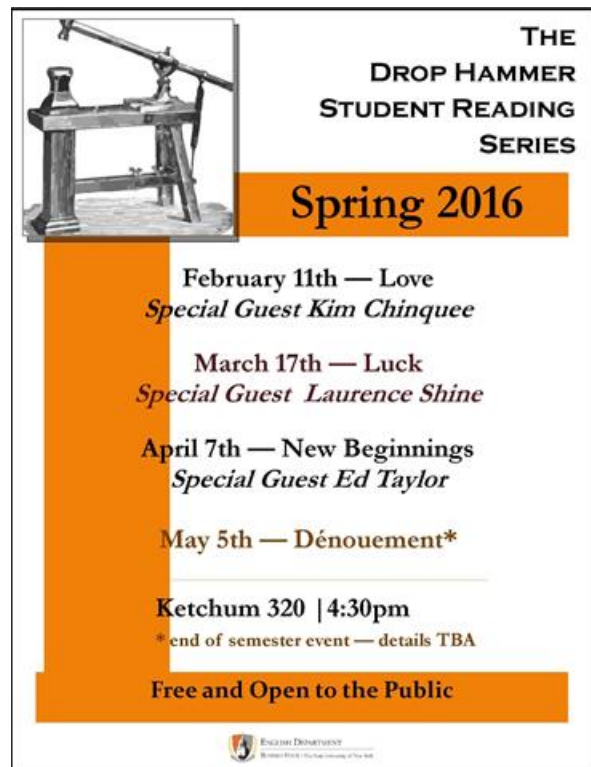
In the *Buffalo News* on February 14, **TOM REIGSTAD** published a [review](#) of Stacy Schiff's *The Witches: Salem. 1692*.

The *Buffalo News* also recently carried the [obituary](#) of **CYNTHIA DWYER**, a freelance writer who had been a hostage in Iran in 1980; Mrs. Dwyer was the wife of the late **JOHN DWYER**, a former chair of this department.

## STUDENT AND ALUMNI NEWS

A [profile](#) of **STEPHANIE BRIECHLE**, who graduated with a BA in English this summer, has appeared in the *Cheektowaga Bee* under the title "Resident Overcomes Challenges to Continue Education."

Writing major **STEVEN JURA** was honored at a reception yesterday for Arts and Humanities students whose work will be on display in the Dean's Student Art Gallery throughout 2016. If you happen to be in Rockwell 222, check out Steven's two short creative writing pieces, along with sculpture, painting, jewelry, photography, and other student works.



**THE  
DROP HAMMER  
STUDENT READING  
SERIES**

**Spring 2016**

February 11th — Love  
*Special Guest Kim Chinquee*

March 17th — Luck  
*Special Guest Laurence Shine*

April 7th — New Beginnings  
*Special Guest Ed Taylor*

May 5th — Dénouement\*

Ketchum 320 | 4:30pm  
\*end of semester event — details TBA

**Free and Open to the Public**

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT  
Buffalo State University

## DEADLINES AND OPPORTUNITIES: For Students

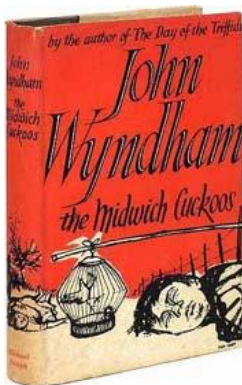
**The \$1,250 Estelle Engels Tuition Scholarship** is available to an undergraduate major in Communication, English, or Television and Film Arts. Candidates must have completed at least four semesters at Buffalo State, have at least 45 credit hours, and

a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher. Four copies of at least three different samples of writing and one letter of support from a faculty member are due to the Office of the Dean of Arts and Humanities, Rockwell Hall 222, by Friday, April 1, 2016. The name of the candidate should not be on any writing samples. Candidates also should write an application letter describing how receiving the award will make a difference in their life and help them attain their goals.

The 18th annual **Student Research and Creativity Celebration** (SRCC) is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, April 29 and 30. The event is open to both undergraduates and graduate students. SRCC applications are [completed online](#). Applications are due by midnight on Tuesday, March 15. For more information, visit the [Undergraduate Research](#) website or scan the QR code on the event posters.

The Buffalo office of **U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand is looking for interns for the 2016 Summer and Fall Semesters**. Typical intern duties include supporting staff with constituent outreach and advocacy events, participating in meetings with community leaders and organizations, monitoring daily regional news, and serving as an advocate on behalf of Buffalo for the Senator. Interns may apply for college credit through their department or college career office. An online application is available at <http://www.gillibrand.senate.gov/services/internships/>. Deadlines are **April 1 for the Summer position and June 3 for the Fall position**. Contact Kapila Kapoor at (716) 854-9725 or [Kapila Kapoor@gillibrand.senate.gov](mailto:Kapila.Kapoor@gillibrand.senate.gov) for more information.

## RECOMMENDED READING



Here's a fun list: **The Worst Children in (Adult) Literature**. But shouldn't it include the loathsome Pearl from *The Scarlet Letter*? [http://www.abebooks.com/books/lord-flies-bad-seed-evil/worst-children-literature.shtml?cm\\_mmc=nl\\_-nl\\_-CPrpt01-h00-childrAM-123324GN\\_-01cta&abersp=1](http://www.abebooks.com/books/lord-flies-bad-seed-evil/worst-children-literature.shtml?cm_mmc=nl_-nl_-CPrpt01-h00-childrAM-123324GN_-01cta&abersp=1).

English Department Newsletter, Buffalo State College;  
Compiled by Lisa Berglund, [berglul@buffalostate.edu](mailto:berglul@buffalostate.edu)

# English Department Newsletter

16 March 2016

Vol. 10, No. 4



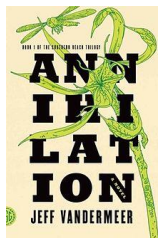
The newsletter appears biweekly, more or less, during the semester;  
the next issue will appear on Wednesday, 6 April 2016.  
Current and past newsletters are available on the [English Department website](#).

## DEPARTMENT AND FACULTY NEWS

A selection from **ANN COLLEY's** "The Odyssey and Dr. Novak" appeared in the March 15 issue of [New World Writing](#).

**KAREN SANDS-O'CONNOR** continued her UK tour by giving a lecture, "The Education of Several Lifetimes: Eric and Jessica Huntley's Biographies Project," for the Media and Creative Studies program at Edge Hill University near Liverpool.

"Why Should Hester Lynch Piozzi Be Doctor Johnson's Mrs. Thrale?" an article by **LISA BERGLUND**, will appear in the next issue of *Names: A Journal of Onomastics* [64:4 (2016)].



**TIM BRYANT** will present a paper, "The Weird Wonder of VanderMeer's Area X: *The Southern Reach Trilogy*," at the International Conference on the Fantastic in the Arts, in Orlando on March 17.

At this week's Northeast Modern Language Association in Hartford, **MARK FULK** will present a paper entitled "The Autonomy of the Aesthetic Realm in the Works of Susan Sontag and Harold Bloom"; he also will participate on an invited roundtable presentation called "Zen Publishing: From Presentation to Juried Article."

"5 Skandhas," **ED TAYLOR's** collaboration with Associate Dean Carlos Jones, will be performed April 21-23 as part of "RAP--Dance & Spoken Word," the spring 2016 Casting Hall Productions program in Upton Hall.

A crepuscular video of **CHARLES BACHMAN** reading poems from his collection *I Ride the Dark Wind Horse* is available on Youtube: check out the atmosphere at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u-J\\_1pjG40Y](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u-J_1pjG40Y).

## STUDENT AND ALUMNI NEWS

As part of her student teaching placement, post baccalaureate student (and BA '15) **SHEREE GRANT** hosted an event on Monday, March 14 at International Preparatory School. Dr. Drew Kahn gave a presentation entitled "A Personal Account of a Repairing Nation," as part of a unit on genocide for her 11th graders.

Sheree wrote, "I wanted to give my students in this placement an opportunity to draw connections from all the material they've learned, to a personal experience. I am very fortunate to have supportive administrators that are willing to allow me to create and host this type of event. Prior to my student teaching experience, as a Buffalo Public School Substitute teacher, I've seen a need for students in urban schools to be able to make sense of what they are learning through additional resources, and having Dr. Kahn as a guest speaker is an honor. There will be a Q & A segment at the end." Sheree adds, "**DANIELLE WOMACK**, my cooperating teacher, is a Buffalo State alumni [BS '03, MEd '08]. She teaches tenth and eleventh grade at International Preparatory School. She's an awesome teacher and such a wonderful role model."

## DEADLINES AND OPPORTUNITIES: For Students

Applications for **English Department Scholarships and Prizes** are due at midnight, Saturday, March 19. Visit the English Department website for more information. Students also may access application requirements and drop boxes via the English Department Organization on their Blackboard homepage.

**The \$1,250 Estelle Engels Tuition Scholarship** is available to an undergraduate major in Communication, English, or Television and Film Arts. Candidates must have completed at least four semesters at Buffalo State, have at least 45 credit hours, and a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher. Four copies of at least three different samples of writing and one letter of support from a faculty member are due to the Office of the Dean of Arts and Humanities, Rockwell Hall 222, by Friday, April 1, 2016. The name



THE  
DROP HAMMER  
STUDENT READING  
SERIES

**THURSDAY March 17th**

Ketchum 320 | 4:30pm

Theme: **LUCK**

Special Guest

**Laurence Shine**

Free and Open to the Public



of the candidate should not be on any writing samples. Candidates also should write an application letter describing how receiving the award will make a difference in their life and help them attain their goals.

The Buffalo office of **U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand** is looking for interns for the 2016 Summer and Fall Semesters. Typical intern duties include supporting staff with constituent outreach and advocacy events, participating in meetings with community leaders and organizations, monitoring daily regional news, and serving as an advocate on behalf of Buffalo for the Senator. Interns may apply for college credit through

their department or college career office. An application is available at <http://www.gillibrand.senate.gov/services/internships/>. Deadlines are **April 1 for the Summer position and June 3 for the Fall position**. Contact Kapila Kapoor at (716) 854-9725 or [Kapila.Kapoor@gillibrand.senate.gov](mailto:Kapila.Kapoor@gillibrand.senate.gov) for more information.

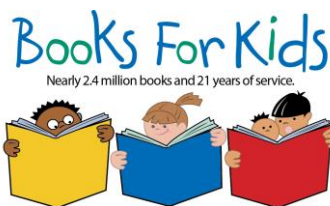
## EVENTS AND REMINDERS

On Monday, March 28, Dr. Emma Smith, of Oxford University, author of *The Making of the First Folio* (Chicago, 2016), will speak on: **“From the Barbican to Buffalo: Why Shakespeare’s First Folio Matters.”**

The presentation will be given twice: from noon to 1:30 pm at the “Ring of Knowledge” at the downtown Buffalo and Erie County Public Library at 1 Lafayette Square, and from 3:30-5:00 pm in Capen Hall 107 at the UB North Campus. The second presentation will be followed by a reception at the Western New York Book Arts Center (WNYBAC) at 468 Washington Street in Buffalo, at which she will sign books and attendees will have the opportunity to handprint a letter-press poster with a line from Shakespeare’s *Sonnets*.



The Philosophy Department will host its 2016 James Grunebaum Lecture on April 4, at 4 pm in Butler 210. Dr. Erik Schmidt, associate professor of philosophy at Gonzaga University, will speak on **“Thinking through Shakespeare: Finding a Model for Philosophical Literary Criticism.”** His talk is part of the Buffalo State series of “Year of Shakespeare” activities.



Books for Kids, the community drive founded by **GERALDINE BARD** and **ELIZABETH CAPPELLA**, hopes to raise \$20,000 this year along with collecting physical books; donations go to purchase special needs books, including bilingual books, Braille books, multi-cultural books and books for children with learning and/or physical challenges. Visit [www.buffalonews.com/booksforkids](http://www.buffalonews.com/booksforkids) for a list of collection sites for books and donation information.

## RECOMMENDED READING

According to a story on “the shrinking humanities major” reported by [Inside Higher Education](#), from 2012-2014 the number of bachelor's degrees awarded fell 8.7 percent.

English Department Newsletter, Buffalo State College;  
Compiled by Lisa Berglund, [berglul@buffalostate.edu](mailto:berglul@buffalostate.edu)

# English Department Newsletter

6 April 2016  
Vol. 10, No. 5



The newsletter appears biweekly during the semester;  
the next issue will appear on Wednesday, 20 April 2016.  
Current and past newsletters are available on the [English Department website](#).

## DEPARTMENT AND FACULTY NEWS

**CAROLYN MARCILLE, PhD** “had the best spring break on record!” She earned Distinction on her defense of her dissertation, “Technology and Colonial Power in South Asian Postcolonial Literature and Science Fiction,” and she received the Outstanding Graduate Student Research Award.

This June and July, **ANGELA FULK** will be attending an NEH Summer Institute on “Teaching *Beowulf* in the Context of Old Norse Literature” at Kalamazoo. Last month she attended the 47th annual NeMLA convention in Hartford, CT, March 17-20. In her capacity as Area Director for Professional Development and Pedagogy, she organized and presided over a successful panel on “Publishing in Peer-Reviewed Journals” that also featured **MARK FULK** and **LORNA PEREZ**, as well as Laurence Roth, the editor of *Modern Language Studies*. Angela also presented in a different workshop on the topic “Benefits and Limitations of a Union” for adjunct faculty.



### THE DROP HAMMER STUDENT READING SERIES

**TOMORROW!**  
**April 7th**

Ketchum 320 | 4:30pm

**Theme:**  
**New Beginnings**



**Special Guest**  
**Ed Taylor**

Free and Open to the Public



ENGLISH DEPARTMENT  
BINGHAMTON UNIVERSITY • The State University of New York

Lots of other news this week from **LORNA PEREZ**: On March 3, she led a discussion of Louise Erdrich’s *The Round House* with the Just Buffalo Writing Center, which works with high school age emerging writers. When Erdrich came to visit for the BABEL series, the students met with her in a small group setting and asked questions, many of which were inspired by this earlier session. At the NeMLA meeting, in addition to participating in the publishing panel, Lorna co-chaired a seminar on The Multi-generational Latino Novel and read a paper entitled “Haunted Generations: Nation Building and Possession in Rosario Ferre’s *The*

*House on the Lagoon.*" Her flash fiction/poetry piece "Substitute Geographies" is forthcoming in the Spring 2016 Issue of [Label me Latina](#). Her paper "Disrupting Time: A Theory of Haunting in *Their Dogs Came With Them*" has been accepted for the Latino Studies Association Conference this summer in Pasadena, CA. Finally, with Ruth Goldman Lorna is leading the Women and Gender Studies book club for students. They are reading Maggie Nelson's *The Argonauts* in anticipation of her visit to the Just Buffalo Studio reading series on April 29 at the Karpeles Manuscript Museum (admission is free).

At the 2016 AWP Convention in Los Angeles on April 2, **JENNIFER RYAN** spoke on a panel honoring late poet Jayne Cortez. The panel, entitled "Out of LA: A Tribute to Jayne Cortez (1936-2012)," also included poet-critics Laura Hinton and Aldon Nielsen, performance artist Pam Ward, and poet Patricia Spears Jones.

**JOEY NICOLETTI** reports that his latest poetry chapbook, *Wide Asleep*, will be published this summer. He has new poems forthcoming in *Two Bridges Review*, *Valparaiso Poetry Review*, and *Cacti Fur*, and the anthologies *Poet Sounds: A Poetry Anthology Inspired by The Beach Boys' Album Pet Sounds* and *Two Countries: Daughters and Sons of Immigrant Parents*. Joey's review of Joseph Benevento's poetry collection, *Expecting Songbirds: Selected Poems 1983-2015* will appear in the next issue of *Voices in Italian Americana*.

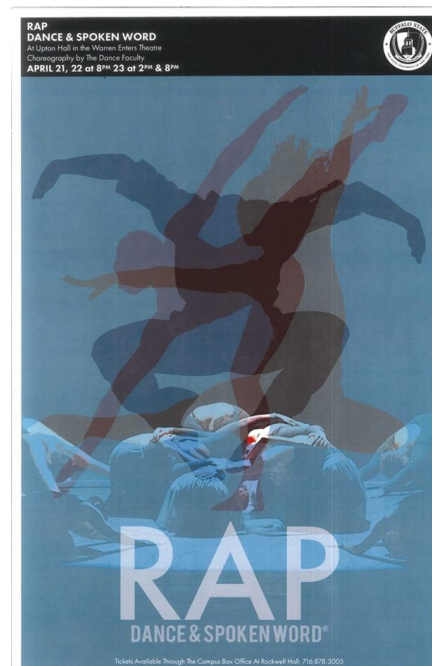
## STUDENT AND ALUMNI NEWS

The Buffalo Small Press Book Fair will be held on April 9 and 10 at the Karpeles Manuscript Museum, from 11 am to 5 pm each day. On April 9, English Education student **NATHAN STOLTE** and **RACHEL L. JOHNSON BA '08** will read from their work: Nathan will read at 2 pm, Rachel at 2:20 pm.

**STACY CREECH MA '15** will be attending McMaster University's PhD program in English and Cultural Studies, where she has been awarded a highly-competitive Ontario Trillium Scholarship.

**RACHEL KELCHLIN BA '16** has been accepted into the master's programs at the University of Rochester, Stony Brook University, Fordham University, Northeastern University and the University at Buffalo.

Writing major **STEVEN JURA** will read from his fiction and English Education majors **SPENCER**





MILIOTTO and KARINA SEVERINO will give a poster presentation on “Making Student Podcasts from Authentic Student Writing” to supporters of the School of Arts and Humanities as part of the A&H Contributors Celebration in Upton Hall, Thursday, April 21 at 5:45 pm.

## EVENTS AND REMINDERS

The English MA Program will host a **career planning panel discussion** at which recent MA and MS graduates will talk about what they have done with their degrees. Undergraduate students are also invited! Speaking will be: JAMES COLOMBO, technical writer at BAK USA; DEBRA GOODMAN, member relations manager at the Buffalo Museum of Science; ANGELA LAMBRIX, school media specialist/librarian at Tapestry Charter School; AIMEE LEVESQUE, adjunct professor in English and Ph.D. candidate at UB; and LINDA MROZ, team manager for the Buffalo Beauts. The panel will be held **TODAY, Wednesday, April 6, at 6 pm in Ketchum 320**. Our five panelists will discuss their educational experiences and their careers, answer questions, and mingle with us as we enjoy refreshments. Please to join us!



## DEADLINES AND OPPORTUNITIES: For Students

The Buffalo office of **U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand is looking for interns for the 2016 Fall Semester**. Typical intern duties include supporting staff with constituent outreach and advocacy events, participating in meetings with community leaders and organizations, monitoring daily regional news, and serving as an advocate on behalf of Buffalo for the Senator. Interns may apply for college credit through their department or college career office. Deadline is **June 3**. An application is available at <http://www.gillibrand.senate.gov/services/internships/>. Contact Kapila Kapoor at (716) 854-9725 or [Kapila\\_Kapoor@gillibrand.senate.gov](mailto:Kapila_Kapoor@gillibrand.senate.gov) for more information.

## RECOMMENDED READING

For information on the new citation formats approved by MLA, check out the article at [\*Inside Higher Education\*](#).

English Department Newsletter, Buffalo State College;  
Compiled by Lisa Berglund, [berglul@buffalostate.edu](mailto:berglul@buffalostate.edu)

# English Department Newsletter

20 April 2016

Vol. 10, No. 6



The newsletter appears biweekly during the semester; the final issue for the spring semester will appear on Wednesday, 4 May 2016. Current and past newsletters are available on the [English Department website](#).

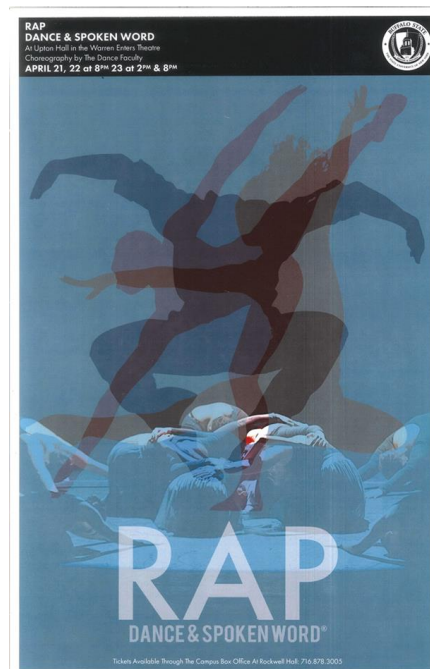
## DEPARTMENT AND FACULTY NEWS

Congratulations to **KEVIN RAILEY**, dean of the Graduate School and former English Department chair, who this week was named provost at St. John Fisher College in Rochester.

On April 18, **BARISH ALI** presented on "The Future of Kurdistan" at Tapestry Charter High School. His presentation was part of the International Institute of Buffalo's [Great Decisions Discussion Series](#), a set of discussions about global issues, international events, politics, and history as outlined annually by the [Foreign Policy Association](#).

**ED TAYLOR's** dance-spoken word collaboration with Associate Dean Carlos Jones, "5 Skandhas," will be performed April 21-23 in Upton Hall as part of the Casting Hall production "Rap--Dance and Spoken Word." He read at Rust Belt Books on April 16 in a Poetry Month event featuring area writers. Ed's review of John Wray's novel *The Lost Time Accidents* appeared April 17 in the *Buffalo News*, and his *News* review of Mark Leyner's novel *Gone with the Mind* is forthcoming.

**AIMEE LEVESQUE** gave an invited lecture at the Westchester Institute on Human Development (WIHD) on Thursday, April 14. Aimee spoke about an area of her dissertation research – Health Literacy and Persons with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities – to participants of WIHD's LEND (Leadership Education on Neurodevelopmental and other Disabilities) Program. The LEND Program trains



future leaders in a variety of disciplines to improve the health of children who have or are at risk of developing neurodevelopmental disabilities or similar conditions such as autism and intellectual disabilities.

On April 6, **TOM REIGSTAD** was a panelist at a session on "From Research Question to Results: The Publication Pipeline" at the annual Conference on College Composition and Communication in Houston, TX. The session was sponsored by the International Writing Centers Association; fellow panelists were co-editors of *The Writing Center Journal*. On April 12 Tom presented an illustrated lecture on "Mark Twain in Buffalo" to the Friends of the Aurora Library in East Aurora.

Busy week for **KAREN SANDS-O'CONNOR**: she gave speeches on Independent Black Publishing for Children after 1985 for Newcastle's English Department and on Bogle L'Ouverture Press for Newcastle's Centre for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, and also went to London to advise the charity BookTrust on book selection for reluctant readers.

## STUDENT AND ALUMNI NEWS



**ASHLEY WESELAK** (left), who will graduate this May from the MS program, has been awarded a Fulbright Language Teaching Assistantship and in September will leave for a year in Rwanda..

Three English majors will be conducting 2016 Summer Research Fellowships through the Office of Undergraduate Research.

**CLAYTON PITCHER**, with mentor **AIMABLE TWAGILIMANA**, will work on "Deleuze on the Shore: Self-Realization in the Post-modern Era." **JILLIAN CUSTODI**'s project, "The Postcolonial

Feminine: Power and the Periphery in *Wide Sargasso Sea*," is being directed by **LORNA PEREZ**. **JUDE LESTER**, an Arts and Letters major—English concentration, will be mentored by **AIMEE LEVESQUE** (herself a former recipient of the fellowship); his project is "To E or Not to E: Writers in an Electronic Age."

Terrific graduate school news from two Writing majors from the class of 2013: **AMANDA PRATT** has accepted an offer from University of Wisconsin--Madison and will enter the PhD program in Composition and Rhetoric in the fall; and **MICHELLE SCOTT** has been accepted into the University at Buffalo School of Social Work Master of Social Work degree program, where she will be an Arthur A. Schomburg Fellow. The fellowship includes full tuition and an annual stipend of \$12,000.

Writing major **STEVEN JURA** has won the School of Arts and Humanities Estelle M. Engel Memorial Award for excellence in writing.

At the College's Honors Convocation on Thursday, April 21, the following students are among those who will be honored: English majors **CAROLYN BALDWIN**, **TIFFANY BASSETT**, **SUSAN BLAKE**, **KATHARINE BROWN**, **JEREMY DRAKE**, **KAYLEIGH EDGINGTON**, **NICHOLAS FOX**, **DYLAN HARRISON**, **GABRIELLA HOLMES**, **LEIAH JETTER**, **BRIAN JOHNSON**, **MARY KELLY**, **KEVIN KNOTT**, **WILLIAM LAHACHE**, **ABIGAIL OWCARZ**, **MEGHAN PROVENZANO**, **LEANNE REUMAN**, **MICHAEL RICKARD**, **ADAM RUBIN**, **MICHAEL SPITZ**, **BRITTANY WILCOX**, **NASIRAH WILSON** and **NICOLE ZAK**; English Education majors **HALA ALOMARI**, **JAMES BURCHALEWSKI**, **LAUREN CARROLL**, **MONICA CARUANA**, **JENNA CASKINETT**, **SHEREE GRANT**, **SHAINA HIBBARD**, **LILLIAN INGLUT**, **JESSICA KANGAS**, **MICHELLE KUEBLER**, **STEVEN LEFFLER**, **KAYLEE MELVEN**, **SPENCER MILIOTTO**, **JENA NUNNARI**, **WILLIAM O'NEIL WHITE**, **AMANDA PARADOWSKI**, **LIAM PHELAN**, **ANDREA RASHAD**, **PETRINA SCAGLIONE**, **KARINA SEVERINO**, **BRIANNA SMITH**, and **CHRISTINA WARD**; and Writing majors **LOLADE JACOBS**, **ANTHONY LUTA**, **HANNAL SCHUL**, and **KAITLIN SCIRRI**.



## EVENTS AND REMINDERS

At the 18th Annual Student Research and Creativity Celebration April 29 and 30, the English Department's 2015 recipients of Undergraduate Research Fellowships will present their work: **ALEXANDRA ASENJO** (faculty mentor **BARISH ALI**) will speak on "Modern Theory for a Modern Age: A Contemporary Approach to Navigating Social Media Storm," and **CATHERINE MORSE** (faculty mentor **AIMEE LEVESQUE**) will present her poster "Bringing Jane Austen into the YouTube Age: Web Series Adaptations and the Way We Interact with Literature." Other students from English who will present original research are: **FRANCESCA AUSTIN** (faculty mentor **GREGG BIGLIERI**), "Expression and Perception"; **JUDE LESTER** (mentor **AIMEE LEVESQUE**), "To E or Not to E: Writers in an Electronic Age"; **SPENCER MILIOTTO** (faculty mentor **JAMES CERCONI**), "Creative Writing, Media Production, and Literacy Development in a Digital Writing Workshop"; and **MICHAEL RICKARD** (faculty mentor **BARISH ALI**), "Live and Die in L.A.: Understanding Neo-Noir."

## Conversations in and out of the Disciplines Lecture Series

The Buffalo State English Department

Presents a talk by

**Professor  
Jason Grinnell**

Department of  
Philosophy and  
Humanities

### ***“Codifying Excellence: The Tension Between Ethics and Accountability”***

Friday, April 22, 2016 • Ketchum Hall 320 • 3:00-4:30 p.m.

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

Gov. Cuomo, in 'State of the State' address, unveils fourth ethics reform package since taking office

Erie County DA Aims to Strengthen County Code of Ethics

Debra Gekker  
Wall Street Short on Ethics, Report Finds



For surely such fellows are the most charming spectacle in the world when they enact and amend such laws as we just now described and are perpetually expecting to find a way of putting an end to frauds in business and in the other matters of which I was speaking because they can't see that they are in very truth trying to cut off a Hydra's head.  
-Plato, Republic 426e

## DEADLINES AND OPPORTUNITIES: For Students

The Buffalo office of **U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand** is **looking for interns for the 2016 Fall Semester**. Typical intern duties include supporting staff with constituent outreach and advocacy events, participating in meetings with community leaders and organizations, monitoring daily regional news, and serving as an advocate on behalf of Buffalo for the Senator. Interns may apply for college credit through their department or college career office. Deadline is **June 3**. An application is available at <http://www.gillibrand.senate.gov/services/internships/>. Contact Kapila Kapoor at (716) 854-9725 or [Kapila.Kapoor@gillibrand.senate.gov](mailto:Kapila.Kapoor@gillibrand.senate.gov) for more information.

## RECOMMENDED READING

The 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Shakespeare is being commemorated worldwide this Saturday. In Buffalo, you can see two complete sets of the Four Folios of Shakespeare, the 17<sup>th</sup>-century collections that preserved his 37 (?) plays. Buffalo is one of the very few cities *anywhere* that can boast two sets of Folios. Visit the Poetry Collection at the University at Buffalo, or the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library—both exhibits run through this year, but now's the time for a pilgrimage. And then you can sit back and reread the play whose title is delightfully misspelled on the title page of the Fourth Folio: *Hamlet Rpince of Denmark*.

English Department Newsletter, Buffalo State College;  
Compiled by Lisa Berglund, [berglul@buffalostate.edu](mailto:berglul@buffalostate.edu)

# English Department Newsletter

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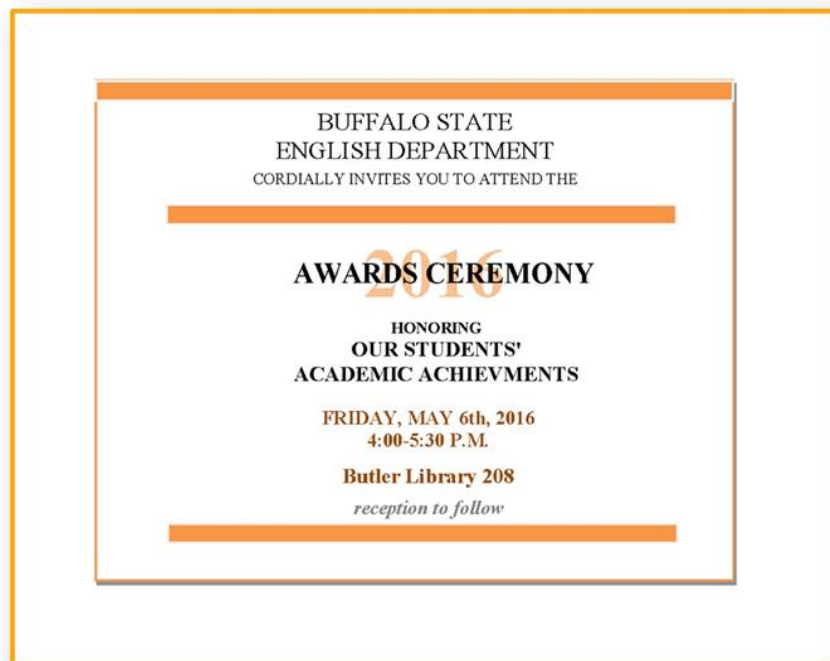
This is the final issue for the spring semester; the next issue will appear on 31 August 2016.  
Current and past newsletters are available on the [English Department website](#).

## DEPARTMENT AND FACULTY NEWS

**KIM CHINQUEE** will be reading for the [NOON 2016](#) launch on May 4 at 7 p.m. at Book Culture on Columbus Avenue in New York City. Her essay "Recoil" (about her experience during the Boston Marathon bombings), has been accepted for publication in *Notre Dame Review*.

**KAREN SANDS-O'CONNOR** took part in her first Carnegie Medal Shadowing group recently; the shadowing groups read all the shortlisted books for the Carnegie Medal (the top British award for children's literature) and then give their verdict to the librarians who make the decision.

The New York State Education Department Learning Standards review workgroup received more than 1,000 applications for its English Language Arts Committee, and **TOM REIGSTAD** is among the classroom teachers, curriculum specialists, parents, college professors, and members of the business community selected to serve. The workgroup is reviewing the New York State P-12 English Language Arts Standards.



Late-breaking news: yesterday **THERESA HARRIS-TIGG** was re-elected to the Buffalo School Board, representing East District.

## STUDENT AND ALUMNI NEWS

Alumna **RACHEL L JOHNSON** is one of several featured readers at two events this month. First up is the Screening Room Series on May 18, at 7:30 pm, to be held at the Screening Room Cinema Café, Northtown Plaza Business Center, 3131 Sheridan Drive, Amherst. Admission is \$2.

Additional reading slots are available! Second, on Saturday May 21, at 4 pm Rachel will read at a free event at the Spiritual Cafe of St John's-Grace Episcopal Church, 51 Colonial Circle, Buffalo.

At the English Education Student Association's *Alumni Speaker Series* on April 21 three recent graduates—**PETRINA SCAGLIONE**, **MATTHEW HAHN**, and **WILLIAM JAMES O'NEIL WHITE**—discussed their experiences student teaching and their work in classrooms after graduation.

**MARGO MASUR MA '16** will compete in the 4-Minute Thesis Contest on Friday, May 6. Margo's thesis (adviser Jennifer Ryan) is entitled "Inhumanly Beautiful": The Aesthetics of the Nineteenth-Century Deathbed Scene." The competition, which is open to the public, will take place at 1:00 pm in the Social Hall in the Campbell Student Union.

"I absolutely loved the department's courses and faculty with whom I took them; Ben-Merre, Ali, Bachman, Colley, Berglund, Bontempo, to name a few," writes **DAN GRAHAM BA '10**. "Since graduating, I enrolled in the English graduate program in 2011 at the University of Connecticut-Storrs to work with Chris Vials, with



whom I had taken a handful of classes when he was a faculty member in Buffalo State's English department. I received my M.A. from UConn in 2013 and entered the Ph.D. program that fall. I have been teaching courses at UConn in college writing and nineteenth-century American literature since entering the program in 2011. I have also presented my work at conferences including the Modern Language Association and American Studies Association. I aim to defend my dissertation, 'Spectral Speculations: The Political Economy of American Spiritualism, 1848-1905,' in the coming fall semester, and will be conducting related research at the Mary Baker Eddy Library in Boston, MA on a summer fellowship."



Here are photos from just a few of the many English Department student presentations from last weekend: Clockwise from left are, at the Student Research and Creativity Celebration, **TIFFINI ROGERS** with her poster "Life Begets Life: The Moral and Ethical Dilemma of Stem Cell Research"; **CATHERINE MORSE** and her poster "Bringing Jane Austen into the YouTube Age: Web Series Adaptations and the Way We Interact with Literature." And **SUSAN BLAKE**, pictured with **LAURENCE SHINE**, gave the Laurence Shine Fellowship Research Presentation "To Grow a 'Right Rose Tree': 1916 & the Sacrificial Alternative to World War" at the Irish Center in Buffalo.

And **SUSAN BLAKE**, pictured with **LAURENCE SHINE**, gave the Laurence Shine Fellowship Research Presentation "To Grow a 'Right Rose Tree': 1916 & the Sacrificial Alternative to World War" at the Irish Center in Buffalo.





The *Buffalo News* Home of the Month feature on April 23 took us inside the Elmwood Village apartment of **THERESE DEUTSCH-LANDER BA '03**; check out the article and gallery of photos [here](#).

## EVENTS AND REMINDERS

At Commencement on May 13, **KYLE BRADSTREET**, English BA '02, MA '04, writer and producer of “Mr. Robot,” will receive the Young Alumnus Achievement Award and deliver the commencement address at the morning and afternoon ceremonies. **ASHLEY WESELAK BS '13 MS '16** will speak at the evening ceremony as the recipient of the President’s Medal for Outstanding Graduate Student.



Soon to be published: **ELJ's THE DIRT EDITION** with work from Pia Z. Ehrhardt. Susan Henderson, Lydia Copeland Gwyn, Michael Martone, Bobbie Ann Mason, Pamela Painter, Joan Wilking, Girija Tropp, Bill Soldan, Ed Taylor, Peter Tiernan, David Newman, Lex Williford, Steven Wingate, Kathleen McGookey, Kathy Fish, Brandon Hobson, Robert Lopez, Myfanwy Collins, Lydia Copeland Gwyn, Tiff Holland, Laurie Kaiser and Avital Gad-Cykman. Cover art by Joan Wilking.

The Opera-Lytes production of Gilbert and Sullivan’s *Patience*, a satire of artistic follies and pretension, opens on Friday, May 6 at Alleyway Theatre, with additional performances on May 7, 12, 13, 14, and 15. The performance, updated to the 1960s, is directed by **LISA BERGLUND** and features **SARA KOVACSI** as Jane. For tickets and more information, visit [www.operalytes.com](http://www.operalytes.com).

## RECOMMENDED READING

[“Stop Saying ‘I Feel Like’.”](#) says Molly Worthen, *New York Times* contributor and history professor at UNC Chapel Hill. She argues, “‘I feel like’ masquerades as a humble conversational offering, an invitation to share your feelings, too — but the phrase is an absolutist trump card. It halts argument in its tracks.”

I feel like *Hamlet* is boring.  
But that’s how I feel.

Buffalo State College; Compiled by Lisa Berglund, [berglul@buffalostate.edu](mailto:berglul@buffalostate.edu)