

English Department Newsletter

29 August 2012

Vol. 7, No. 1



The newsletter is published biweekly throughout the academic year.
The next issue will appear on 12 September 2012.

MEETINGS AND EVENTS

The next **English Department meeting has been postponed** to Tuesday, 11 September, 12:15 pm in KH 328.

Project FLIGHT's annual fundraiser "**Booktoberfest**" will take place **September 13 at the Pearl Street Grill's** new venue, Pearl @ the Webb. To date Project FLIGHT has delivered more than two million new books to the children of Buffalo and to urban neighborhood libraries/social agencies in addition to providing tutoring, parent workshops, and after-school programs. At this annual German-themed fundraiser, guests will enjoy excellent food, fine wine, a selection of specialty beers, and live music while browsing an exciting selection of raffle items and theme-baskets for auction and enjoying good company.



Project FLIGHT Board Members **Aimable Twagilimana** and **Barbara Bontempo** strongly encourage members of the English Department to participate. Barbara writes: "We would really love to see **participation from our English Department members**. Who better to support literacy than those who teach literature, writing, and language? In fact, we have an idea for an English Department donated

theme basket: A Babel subscription for this year's 4 author lectures, and several books by former or upcoming Babel authors! More on this at our first English Department meeting."

Meanwhile, visit [the Booktoberfest website](#) for event information or for tickets – or see Barbara or Aimable.

The **4th Annual Anne Frank Project, *Embracing Responsibility***, will be held September 12-15. Review the detailed schedule of events [here](#)... look in particular for the presentations of our colleagues **Heidi Dietz-Faletti**, "Poetry of the Holocaust: Nelly Sachs and Paul Celan"; **Ed Taylor**, "So Much to Unlearn: Becoming the Other in the Poetry of Lucille Clifton and Brian Turner"; and **Kevin Railey**, "Facilitating Diverse Learning Experiences."

REMINDERS and USEFUL INFORMATION

With all of the changes underway in the secondary schools, **securing student teacher placements** is becoming more and more of a challenge. If you have a connection to a secondary English teacher, please encourage him or her to work with one of our student teachers this year. Interested teachers can contact [Wynniefisher](mailto:Wynniefisher@rltp.org) (716-878-5501) for more information. One form of reimbursement for our cooperating teachers is a partial tuition waiver, so **graduate students enrolled in your courses might be candidates** to mentor our student teachers. There are still openings available for October 22–December 13, so please send those teachers Wynniefisher's way. Thank you!

Information about 2013-14 National Humanities Center Fellowships is posted [here](#). And click [here](#) for more about the Center and a list of Fellows for 2012-13.

Here are **two initiatives from [Road Less Traveled Productions](#)** (RLTP) to share with your students:

The **\$5 Mighty Taco Talkback Thursday** program offers a chance to watch live professional theatre at a very reasonable price. Students can attend Thursday evening performances of RLTP's regularly scheduled plays for **only \$5** (regular admission \$30), and are welcome to **stay for the Mighty Taco Talkback Thursday discussion** with the actors, and sometimes playwright, moderated by RLTP Literary Director Jon Elston. With their ticket purchase, **students also receive a \$3 coupon to Mighty Taco** to be used at any area location! The first RLTP production of the season, *From the Mississippi Delta*, opens September 14-



For its 4th annual **Buffalo Young Writers** contest, RLTP solicits 10-minute plays from young playwrights in the Buffalo area. The grand prize winner receives \$250 and a full production of their play during **Buffalo Young Writers Night**, held each year in May. On that same night, four runners-up will receive readings of their plays by professional local actors. The age requirement has been extended to allow students ages 15 through 23 to submit. (Three past winners of the Buffalo Young Writers contest have had their work accepted by RLTP's Emanuel Fried New Play Workshop, where local playwrights develop their original works.) The deadline is 1 March 2013.



Although the deadline for the **National Endowment for the Humanities** Division of Education's ["Enduring Questions" Grant Program](#) for course development is fast approaching (it's 13 September), it's not too early to think about applying for 2014... check out the website.

FACULTY NEWS and ACTIVITIES

The English Department and the Buffalo State community were deeply saddened by the death of **Steve Street**, lecturer in the College Writing Program, who passed away on August 17 at the age of 56. Steve had been a member of the English Department and the Writing Program since 2003. His writings appeared in literary magazines, including the *Missouri*



Review, the *Cimarron Review*, and the *Georgetown Review*. His work was nominated twice for the prestigious Pushcart Prize. Steve was an eloquent advocate for adjunct faculty, and his articles about the important role they play in higher education appeared frequently in *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. Obituaries recording Steve's important contributions to literature and to the profession were published in *The Buffalo News* and [The Chronicle of Higher Education](#).

A memorial for Steve Street will be held Thursday evening, October 18, at a Buffalo bar (Steve's brother is putting it together). More formal details will follow.

Adrienne Costello has announced that our English Education "undergraduate and post baccalaureate programs will continue to be Nationally Recognized through NCATE. Both SPA reports passed with no conditions. This is something we can all be proud of."

Barish Ali reports that Mina Ceylan Ali was born at Sisters of Charity Hospital at 5:15am on June 1. Her weight came in at 8lb 2oz and she is (was) 20.5" long.

We also welcome two somewhat larger colleagues to new tenure-track positions: **James Cercone**, who will be teaching English Education courses, and **Tim Bryant**, who specializes in 20th-century American literature.

In personnel committee news, **Adrienne Costello** and **Theresa Harris-Tigg** received tenure this spring. **Lisa Berglund** and **Ralph Wahlstrom** were promoted to the rank of full professor, and **Adrienne Costello** was promoted to associate professor.

Ed Taylor's summer included mourning the passing of Steve Street. It also included teaching two classes, enjoying Girl Talk at the Outer Harbor, doing a reading at Crane Library, and getting out of town on occasion. He reviewed books by [Louis Begley](#) and [Adam Levin](#) in the *Buffalo News*, and reviews of T. C. Boyle and Karl Taro Greenfield are forthcoming there. He has stuff forthcoming in *Gargoyle* and *Slipstream* magazines and being reprinted in an anthology on war published by the Kurt Vonnegut Memorial Library Foundation in Indiana. He'll be presenting at the Anne Frank Project Conference next week and at the New York College English Association Conference in October, and doing a reading at the Book Corner in Niagara Falls on September 29.

Charles Bachman and his wife Nancy found a couple of bearably cool days to hike/climb on the Conservation Trail in Allegany State Park. Charles reports: “The second hike, just last week, was rigorous to say the least. There was recent extensive tree blow-down from a storm, so we made it somehow through the full five miles (which ended up feeling like ten), Nancy again tying her trusty pink marking tape around selected trees (downed and otherwise), so that we didn’t get lost on the trek back. Other hikers will also profit from this. This our favorite trail in Allegany, and I’m working on a strange small picture/poetry book about it, tentatively titled *A Forest Pilgrim’s Progress*.”

STUDENT and ALUMNI NEWS

Alumni!—We want to share your news! Send updates and weblinks to [Lisa Berglund](#) or [Maureen Lougen](#).

And finally...

Here’s a [charming two-minute film entitled “Word Cloud,”](#) inspired by the *Visual Thesaurus*.

English Department Newsletter,
Buffalo State College
Compiled by Lisa Berglund, berglul@buffalostate.edu

English Department Newsletter

12 September 2012
Vol. 7, No. 2



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MEETINGS and EVENTS

The 4th Annual Anne Frank Project, *Embracing Responsibility*, will be held September 12-15. Review the detailed schedule of events [here](#)... look in particular for the presentations of our colleagues **Heidi Dietz-Faletti**, "Poetry of the Holocaust: Nelly Sachs and Paul Celan"; **Catherine Mettill**, "The Powers of Forgiveness"; **Ed Taylor**, "So Much to Unlearn: Becoming the Other in the Poetry of Lucille Clifton and Brian Turner"; and **Kevin Railey**, "Facilitating Diverse Learning Experiences."



Project FLIGHT's annual fundraiser "**Booktoberfest**" will take place **September 13 at the Pearl Street Grill's** new venue, Pearl @ the Webb. At this annual German-themed fundraiser, guests will enjoy excellent food, fine wine, a selection of specialty beers, and live music while browsing an exciting selection of raffle items and theme-baskets for auction and enjoying good company. Project FLIGHT Board Members **Aimable Twagilimana** and **Barbara**

Bontempo strongly encourage members of the English Department to attend. Visit [the Booktoberfest website](#) for event information.

As part of Buffalo State's "Year of the City" initiative, **the Rooftop Poetry Club** is hosting a series on the genius of Frederick Law Olmsted and the poetic nature of public spaces. The next event will take place **Friday, September 28, 3:00-4:30 pm**; presentations by **author Carey Anne Miller** and **poet Andrew Rippeon** will be followed by guided workshop activities led by **poets Irene Sipos and Lisa Forrest**. Meet at Bidwell Parkway's Colonial Circle by the statue of Daniel Davidson Bidwell.



Currently on display in Butler Library are two quilts by Catherine Mettelle, which she created in the early 1990s together with her ESL students, immigrants and refugees living in Chicago. One quilt, "The Enchanted Garden," won first place in a textile art exhibit in Evanston, Ill.



A concert of contemporary music, "Amblongus Pie: Dance, Music, Verse, and Song," will be presented on **Friday, November 9** at 8 p.m. in the auditorium of the Burchfield-Penney Art Gallery. The concert will feature a performance by **The Lehrer Dance Company** and pieces by John Cage. The concert is part of the "Musical Feast" series organized by Charles and Irene Haupt. As the literary adviser for the concert, **Ann Colley** has selected poems set to music by

contemporary composers: works of e. e. cummings, Jean de la Fontaine, Edward Lear, and Robert Louis Stevenson. Ann has also selected images to accompany this event. The performance of Edward Lear's "Nonsense Cookery" (including "Amblongus Pie") is part of an international celebration of his 200th birthday.

REMINDERS and USEFUL INFORMATION

Faculty: Don't forget to submit your ballots for the Chair Selection Committee this week. Annual English Department dues also are, well, due. See [Maureen Lougen](#) for more information.

With all of the changes underway in the secondary schools, **securing student teacher placements** is becoming more and more of a challenge. If you have a connection to a secondary English teacher, please encourage him or her to work with one of our student teachers this year. Interested teachers can contact [Wynnie Fisher](#) (716-878-5501) for more information. One form of reimbursement for our cooperating teachers is a partial tuition waiver, so **graduate students enrolled in your courses might be candidates** to mentor our student teachers. There are still openings available for October 22–December 13, so please send those teachers Wynnie's way. Thank you!

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FACULTY NEWS and ACTIVITIES

Jennifer Ryan will be giving a paper entitled "Goodness and Social Statement in Carol Shields's *Unless*" at the 2012 South Atlantic Modern Language Association convention in Durham, NC, 9-11 November.

When the Northeast American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies meets at Wesleyan University next month, **Lisa Berglund** will present a paper entitled "Rust of the Soul: Samuel Johnson on Sorrow, Reason and Condolence." She also will chair a roundtable on "Teaching Eighteenth-Century Life Writing" and attend the annual board meeting (she is second vice president/president elect for 2014).



On Friday, September 21, **Ann Colley** will chair a session at the **Buffalo Gardens Symposium** organized by UB's Gender Institute. There will be papers on urban and regional planning, the Massachusetts Avenue Project, Native American Ecological Perspectives, eco-criticism, contamination studies, and Grassroots Gardens of Buffalo.

On Saturday, September 22, Ann has been invited to share her recently written chapter "A Skin Disorder" with a **Mellon Foundation-supported group of Victorian studies faculty** meeting at Syracuse

University. The group reads the paper and then critiques it during the morning. In the afternoon, another person shares his/her work. The process is grueling but valuable. The group meets once a semester. If you are interested in attending either event, please contact [Ann](#) for more information.

Finally Ann has been invited to write an essay on Robert Louis Stevenson for a new *Encyclopedia of Victorian Literature* to be edited by Pamela K. Gilbert and Linda K. Hughes. Thank heavens the deadline is not until next September.

STUDENT and ALUMNI NEWS

Alumni!—We want to share your news! Send updates and weblinks to [Lisa Berglund](#) or [Maureen Lougen](#).

English Department Newsletter,
Buffalo State College
Compiled by Lisa Berglund, berglul@buffalostate.edu

English Department Newsletter

26 September 2012
Vol. 7, No. 3



The newsletter is published biweekly throughout the academic year.
The next issue will appear on 10 October 2012.

MEETINGS and EVENTS

A symposium on the History of the Book will be held at the University at Buffalo on Friday, September 28, 12-3 pm in 420 Capen Hall (The Poetry Collection). The symposium features **Peter Stallybrass**, Walter H. and Leonore C. Annenberg Professor in the Humanities, University of Pennsylvania, speaking on "Gathering Paper: String, Thread, Pins, Wire, Laces, Folds," and **Randall McLeod**, Professor of English, University of Toronto, on "Ghostlier Demarcations." With questions contact [Carla Mazzio](#).



As part of Buffalo State's "Year of the City" initiative, **the Rooftop Poetry Club** is hosting a series on the genius of Frederick Law Olmsted and the poetic nature of public spaces. The next event will take place **Friday, September 28, 3:00–4:30 pm**; presentations by **author Carey Anne Miller and poet Andrew Rippeon** will be followed by guided workshop activities led by **poets Irene Sipos and Lisa Forrest**. Meet at Bidwell Parkway's Colonial Circle by the statue of Daniel Davidson Bidwell.

Ed Taylor will be reading Saturday, September 29, at the Book Corner in Niagara Falls as part of *Slipstream* magazine's latest annual issue launch, its 32nd. His flash fiction "Fable" is forthcoming in *Corium* magazine.

Currently on display in Butler Library are two quilts by Catherine Mettille, which she created in the early 1990s together with her ESL students, immigrants and refugees living in Chicago. One quilt, "The Enchanted Garden," won first place in a textile art exhibit in Evanston, Ill.

On Wednesday, October 3, **Peter Ramos will give a poetry reading**, at 7:30 pm, at the Center for Inquiry on Sweet Home Road, just behind UB North Campus. Peter will be reading new poems from the book he's finishing during his sabbatical this semester.

Conversations in and out of the Disciplines Lecture Series

The Buffalo State College English Department



Daniel L. Potts
Assistant Professor, Biology

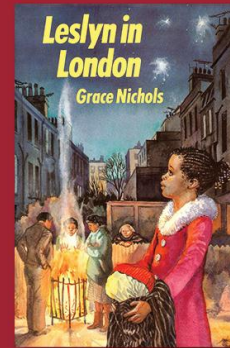
**“All that is solid melts
into air: post-industrial
ecosystem ecology”**

Friday, October 5
3:00–4:30 p.m.
Ketchum Hall 320

Karen Sands–O’Connor
Associate Professor, English

**“Being Black, Writing British:
Black British Writers for Children”**

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3:00–4:30 p.m.
Ketchum Hall 320



These talks are open to faculty, graduate students, and interested undergraduates

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REMINDERS and USEFUL INFORMATION

Friday, 29 September is the deadline for submissions to the 13th Annual **Faculty and Staff Research and Creativity Fall Forum**. The forum will be held on Thursday, October 25,

from 11:00 am to 1:30 pm in the Houston Gym. The goal of the forum is to develop, encourage, and support Buffalo State faculty and staff research and creativity, and to make collaborative research endeavors and grants more accessible; proposals related to the Year of the City are particularly welcome. To participate, complete the [online form](#).

The **New York College English Association Conference** will be held at here in Buffalo at Villa Maria College on October 12-13. The theme is "Literature and the Arts." **A special registration rate of only \$20 (including lunch) has been arranged for local graduate students** who wish to attend on Saturday. This is an excellent opportunity to introduce graduate students to the conference scene. Share [this registration form](#) with them; they should write "Graduate Student Attending Only" on the form. For more information, contact [Matthew Giordano](#) or [Lisa Berglund](#).

Faculty: Don't forget to **pay your dues**. If you itemize your taxes, your dues are deductible. Ask [Maureen Lougen](#) for specifics.

Please let your students know about the following **research opportunities from the Center for the Development of Human Services**: 1: Academic Mentor Program – an undergraduate (or graduate) English Education major to teach in a school. Compensation: \$12/hr. for 12 hours a week. 2: Graduate Researcher Program - Graduate student to edit CDHS materials. Compensation: \$4,300 for fall semester, \$4,300 for spring semester. Requires a three-person faculty committee to oversee the work. 3: Undergraduate or graduate student to edit CDHS materials, including procedure manual. Compensation: TBD. For information on these programs contact Gail Daniels, Director of CDHS College Partnership Development, at 878-4816

The **Undergraduate Research Small Grants Program** provides up to \$400 to assist students in carrying out their research and creative activities during the academic year; up to \$600 may be requested for single projects involving two or more students. The award may be used to defray the cost of travel, supplies, and other materials necessary to conduct the project; it is not intended as salary for the student. The deadline for [the fall round](#) is midnight, October 10, with faculty input and approval required by midnight, October 12.

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FACULTY NEWS and ACTIVITIES

At the American Literature Symposium on October 5 in New Orleans, **Tim Bryant** will present a paper entitled "Unutterable Shibboleth: Understatement as Generic Convention and Moral Code in Hemingway, McCarthy, and Wolfe." That last author is Gene Wolfe, a contemporary American writer of speculative fiction, including the four-part *Book of the New Sun*, whose protagonist evolves from apprentice torturer to interstellar Messiah.

Peter Ramos won a collaborative fellowship at St. Mary's College (for his poetry). He will be in residence for a week beginning October 21, working with visual artist Sue Johnson. Their plans for collaboration address the theme of "Future Shock: Unsettling Aesthetics from the Atomic Age." What does it mean to revisit an anachronistic New Frontier whose promises were all but completely unfulfilled? Peter also plans to spend one day at the Library of Congress, researching Muriel Rukeyser's correspondence with Octavio Paz for a chapter in his current critical project.

Back in August **Charles Bachman** was a guest soloist for the Temple Beth Zion Cabaret concert.

This past week at Homerton College, Cambridge's conference on "Caribbean Poetry: Word and Sound," **Karen Sands-O'Connor** spoke on "Painting a Poem of We Brits: Ways of Negotiating British Identity in Agard and Nichols." The organizers asked for a copy of the paper, and at some point you will also be able to look it up in the British Library's sound archive.

STUDENT and ALUMNI NEWS

Writing major Cynthia Delaney's play *Kindred* was presented September 14 to a full house at the Warren Enters Theatre, Upton Hall as part of The Anne Frank Project. It dealt with the issue of gay bashing/bullying and suicide. Ralph Wahlstrom reports that "it was wonderfully written, produced, and acted."



Writing major Amanda Pratt received a scholarship to attend the Preservation Plus Conference this week. Amanda is a double major in Writing and Physical Geography with a minor in Environmental Science. Preservation Plus is a week-long conference, holding educational sessions (tours, guest speakers, etc.) on urban planning, sustainability, and community revitalization in Buffalo. The conference is organized and presented by Preservation Buffalo Niagara in conjunction with Buffalo Tours.

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English Department Newsletter,
Buffalo State College
Compiled by Lisa Berglund, berglul@buffalostate.edu

English Department Newsletter

10 October 2012
Vol. 7, No. 4



The newsletter is published biweekly throughout the academic year.
The next issue will appear on 24 October 2012.

MEETINGS and EVENTS

WESTERN NEW YORK
NETWORK OF ENGLISH TEACHERS

WHAT'S WORKING IN YOUR CLASSROOM? WHAT ARE YOU STRUGGLING WITH? WHAT ARE YOU INTERESTED IN TRYING THIS YEAR? WHAT RESOURCES DO YOU NEED?

PLEASE JOIN US FOR ONGOING CONVERSATIONS WITH OTHER ENGLISH TEACHERS FROM WESTERN NEW YORK ABOUT TEACHING ELA. ALL ENGLISH TEACHERS, ADMINISTRATORS, TEACHER EDUCATORS AND PRESERVICE TEACHERS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.

NEXT OPEN MEETING:
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 4:00-8:00 PM
JFK MIDDLE SCHOOL
305 CAYUGA CREEK ROAD
CHEEKTOWAGA, NY 14227
PLEASE RSVP TO: WNYNET@GMAIL.COM

The Western New York Network of English Teachers is a professional social network designed to connect English teachers and English teacher educators across the region. We work to support and encourage meaningful teaching and learning in the secondary English Language Arts.

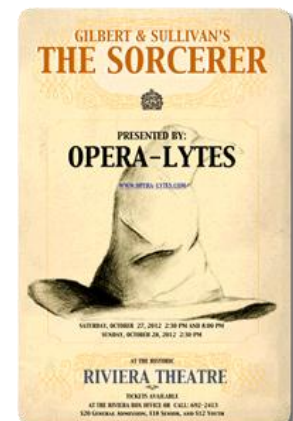
The **Western New York Network of English Teachers (WNYnet)** is a professional social network designed to connect English teachers and English teacher educators across the region.

At regular meetings, hosted by local schools, ELA teachers and other interested professionals can talk about teaching and learning in the secondary English classroom. A guest speaker series spotlights local teachers who have found success with specific instructional strategies and provides a forum for them to share their teaching approaches. The [WNYnet Facebook page](#) provides an active forum for ELA teachers to share ideas, ask questions and offer instructional support to one another.

The next WNYnet open meeting is October 18 at 4:00 pm at John F. Kennedy Middle School in

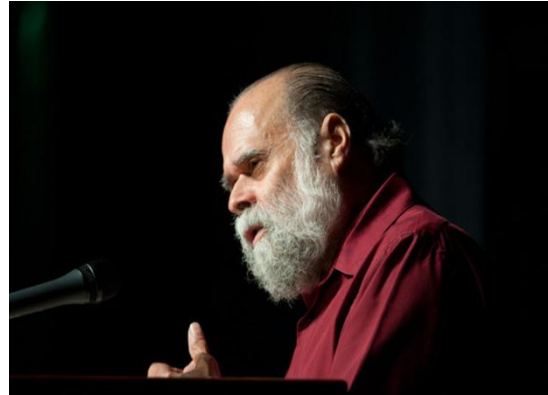
Cheektowaga. On **November 6** at 12:15 pm, in Bulger Communication Center E2, Cheektowaga Central High School English **teacher Joel Malley will speak on using digital technologies to support student reading and writing**. Both events are free and open to the public; RSVP to WNYnet@gmail.com by October 12 for the meeting next Thursday, and by October 15 for the November presentation. Questions? Email [Jim Cercone](mailto:Jim.Cercone).

Opera-Lytes presents **Gilbert and Sullivan's magical operetta *The Sorcerer*** for three performances at the historic Riviera Theatre in North Tonawanda, **Saturday, 27 October** at 2:30 pm and 8:00 pm and **Sunday, 28 October** at 2:30 pm. **Lisa Berglund** is a featured singer in the role of town busybody Mrs. Partlet, and **Sara Kovasci (Post Bacc '12)** is a member of the ensemble. For tickets and other information, visit the [Riviera Theatre box office](#). This production is a cornerstone event in **Western New York Opera Week**.



University College is pleased to announce that **Victor Villanueva, author of the 2012 Buffalo State Common Reading, will speak on November 2** at 3:00 pm in Rockwell Hall.

Villanueva is a professor of composition and rhetoric in the English Department at Washington State University and author or editor of five books and more than forty articles or chapters. In 1999 he was declared "Rhetorician of the Year" by the Young Rhetoricians Conference and in 2009 he received the Conference on College Composition and Communication Exemplar Award. In the article chosen for the Common Reading, "Colonial Memory and the Crime of Rhetoric: Pedro Albizu Campos," Villanueva explores issues of rhetoric, colonization, racism, and cultural identity. Contact [Michele Ninacs](#) for more information.



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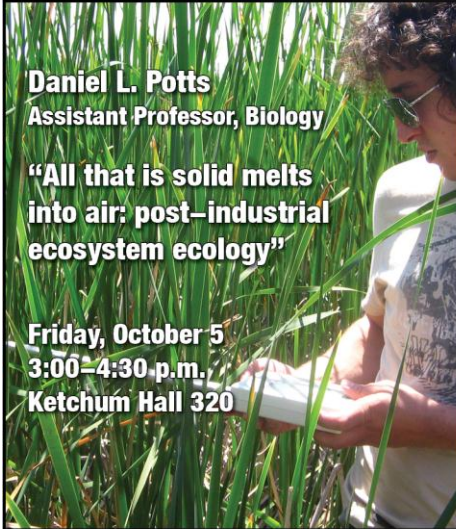
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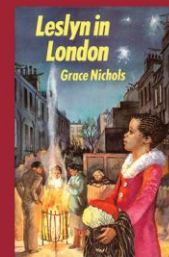
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REMINDERS and USEFUL INFORMATION

Don't forget to **pay your dues**. If you itemize your taxes, your dues are deductible. Ask [Maureen Lougen](#) for specifics.

To simplify the advising process, **use ANGEL to establish a group for your advisees**. On the ANGEL welcome page, scroll down the left sidebar and click on "Faculty-Request a Group." Once the group is created, you can add or remove advisee addresses, post announcements, contact advisees individually or as a group, and hold online office hours.

The **New York College English Association Conference** will be held at here in Buffalo at Villa Maria College on October 12-13. The theme is "Literature and the Arts." **A special registration rate of only \$20 (including lunch) has been arranged for local graduate students** who wish to attend on Saturday. The meeting begins at 8:30 in the main building at Villa Maria. This is an excellent opportunity to introduce graduate students to the conference scene. Share [this registration form](#) with them; they should write "Graduate Student Attending Only" on the form. For more information, contact [Matthew Giordano](#).

Please let your students know about the following **research opportunities from the Center for the Development of Human Services**: 1: Academic Mentor Program – an undergraduate (or graduate) English Education major to teach in a school. Compensation: \$12/hr. for 12 hours a week. 2: Graduate Researcher Program - Graduate student to edit CDHS materials. Compensation: \$4,300 for fall semester, \$4,300 for spring semester. Requires a three-person faculty committee to oversee the work. 3: Undergraduate or graduate student to edit CDHS materials, including procedure manual. Compensation: TBD. For information on these programs contact Gail Daniels, Director of CDHS College Partnership Development, at 878-4816



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FACULTY NEWS and ACTIVITIES

On Monday, October 8, **Charles Bachman** gave his annual poetry reading in Blue Mountain Lake, to a warmly receptive audience.

Susan Leist reports that she is "still in Grand Island. Our Renovation is mired down. Hope there will be some progress in October."

As of September 26, **Theresa A. Harris-Tigg** is a graduate of the Buffalo State - Achieving Success through Leadership Program.

Ralph Wahlstrom's very short story "Immunity" appears in the October 2 issue of [*Freeflashfiction*](#).

Check out pieces recently published in *The Buffalo News* by **Linda Drajem** (["Health Care Status Quo is Unacceptable"](#)) and by **Ed Taylor** (["Poem of the Week"](#)).

STUDENT and ALUMNI NEWS

Three of our graduate students are presenting papers at the New York College English Association meeting at Villa Maria College this Saturday, October 13 (see above for information on attending the conference). The speakers are:

- **Donna Yaeger**, "Matinees': Merrill, Music, Myth"
- **Timothy Collins**, "The Old From the New: Formal Readings of Rap Aesthetics"
- **Heidi Wallace**, "Speaking the Truth: Wallace Stevens and "The Man on the Dump"

Recent graduates **Lori Ann Woods** and **Michelle Mazur** gave a **joint presentation** at Buffalo State College's Anne Frank Project Conference this past month. Their talk was titled "Teaching Altruism through Action: Anne Frank's *The Diary of a Young Girl* and Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Runner*."

Alumni!—We want to share your news! Send updates and web-links to [Lisa Berglund](#) or [Maureen Lougen](#).

English Department Newsletter,
Buffalo State College
Compiled by Lisa Berglund, berglul@buffalostate.edu

English Department Newsletter

24 October 2012
Vol. 7, No. 5



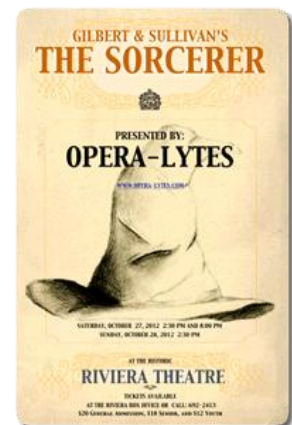
The newsletter is published biweekly throughout the academic year.
The next issue will appear on 7 November 2012.

MEETINGS and EVENTS

At the Faculty Research & Creativity Day **tomorrow** in Houston Gym, 11 am-1:30 pm, **Ann Colley is giving two poster presentations.** The first is on Three Ways of Looking at a Victorian City: above ground, on the ground, and underground. **Graduate student Donna Yaeger will also present a poster,** on the lengthy and compulsive walks Charles Dickens took at night through the city of London. Dickens walked as many as twenty miles from 12:30-5:30 a.m.

Ann's second poster presentation is a history of the **Conversations in and out of the Disciplines Lecture Series.** Posters from the very beginning of the series up to the present will be featured, and **David Ben-Merre** will share presentation honors.

Opera-Lytes presents **Gilbert and Sullivan's magical operetta *The Sorcerer*** for three performances at the historic Riviera Theatre in North Tonawanda, **Saturday, 27 October** at 2:30 pm and 8:00 pm and **Sunday, 28 October** at 2:30 pm. **Lisa Berglund** is a featured singer in the role of town busybody Mrs. Partlet, and **Sara Kovasci (Post Bacc '12)** is a member of the ensemble. For tickets and other information, visit the [Riviera Theatre box office](#). This production is a cornerstone event in **Western New York Opera Week.**

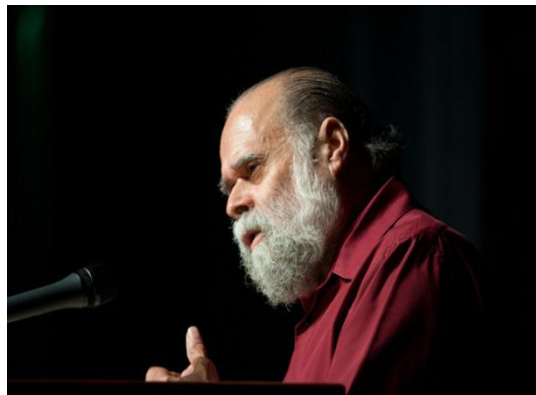


A new **Scholarly Adventures Series for English Graduate Students** will begin next Monday, 29 October 29 in KH 118 from 7-8 pm. **Adrienne Costello and Michele Ninacs will be sharing their research methods and experiences.** The goal of the lecture series, organized by **Ann Colley**, is to give graduate students a better understanding of what it is like to be engaged in a long-term research project. Two graduate students, **Keely Backes and Laura Hervey**, will serve as respondents. The discussion should help those who will be going on to write a thesis and possibly pursue a Ph.D. A second session, to be held Tuesday, 13 November at 7 pm in KH 320, will feature presentations by **Jennifer Ryan and David Ben-Merre.** The lectures series is open to all faculty and graduate students.



University College is pleased to announce that **Victor Villanueva, author of the 2012 Buffalo State Common Reading, will speak on Friday, November 2** at 3:00 pm in Rockwell Hall.

Villanueva is a professor of composition and rhetoric in the English Department at Washington State University and author or editor of five books. In 1999 he was declared "Rhetorician of the Year" by the Young Rhetoricians Conference and in 2009 he received the Conference on College Composition and Communication Exemplar Award. In the article chosen for the Common Reading, "Colonial Memory and the Crime of Rhetoric: Pedro Albizu Campos," Villanueva explores issues of rhetoric, colonization, racism, and cultural identity. Contact [Michele Ninacs](#) for more information.



WESTERN NEW YORK NETWORK OF ENGLISH TEACHERS

2012-2013 SPEAKER SERIES
The Western New York Network of English Teachers is a professional social network connecting English teachers and English teacher educators across the region. We work to support and encourage meaningful teaching and learning in the secondary English language arts.
Facebook
<http://www.facebook.com/group/WNYNET/>

JOEL MALLEY
TEACHING WRITING IN NEW TIMES:
THE DIGITAL WRITING WORKSHOP

JOEL MALLEY TEACHES ENGLISH AT CHEEKTOWAGA CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL AND IS THE TECHNOLOGY LIAISON FOR THE WESTERN NEW YORK WRITING PROJECT. JOEL HAS CONSIDERABLE EXPERIENCE INCORPORATING DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES INTO EXISTING FRAMEWORKS FOR TEACHING COMPOSITION. HE HAS BEEN PROFILED IN THE COLLEGE BOARD REPORT TEACHERS ARE THE CENTER OF EDUCATION: WRITING, LEARNING AND LEADING IN THE DIGITAL AGE AND HAS WRITTEN ABOUT MULTIMODAL COMPOSING IN THE ENGLISH JOURNAL. JOEL EARNED HIS BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ENGLISH EDUCATION (2000) AND MASTERS IN ENGLISH EDUCATION (2005) FROM BUFFALO STATE COLLEGE.

11/6/12

BULGER EAST 2
BUFFALO STATE COLLEGE

12:15 PM

HELP BY OCTOBER 10
Email: WNYnet@gmail.com

The **Western New York Network of English Teachers (WNYnet)** is a professional social network designed to connect English teachers and English teacher educators across the region. **On Tuesday, November 6**, WNYnet is sponsoring a presentation by Cheektowaga Central High School English teacher **Joel Malley, who will speak on using digital technologies to support student reading and writing.** The event, which will be held at 12:15 pm, in Bulger Communication Center E2, is free and open to the public. [Jim Cercone](#) has more information.

A concert of contemporary music, "Amblongus Pie: Dance, Music, Verse, and Song," will be presented on **Friday, November 9** at 8 p.m. in the auditorium of the Burchfield-Penney Art Gallery. The concert will

feature a performance by **The Lehrer Dance Company** and pieces by John Cage. The concert is part of the "Musical Feast" series organized by Charles and Irene Haupt. As the literary adviser for the concert, **Ann Colley** has selected poems set to music by contemporary composers: works of e. e. cummings, Jean de la Fontaine, Edward Lear, and Robert Louis Stevenson. Ann has also selected images to accompany this event. The performance of Edward Lear's "Nonsense Cookery" (including "Amblongus Pie") is part of an international celebration of his 200th birthday.



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

 <p>Daniel L. Potts Assistant Professor, Biology</p> <p>“All that is solid melts into air: post-industrial ecosystem ecology”</p> <p>Friday, October 5 3:00–4:30 p.m. Ketchum Hall 320</p>	<p>Karen Sands–O’Connor Associate Professor, English</p> <p>“Being Black, Writing British: Black British Writers for Children”</p> <p>Friday, November 16 3:00–4:30 p.m. Ketchum Hall 320</p>  
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These talks are open to faculty, graduate students, and interested undergraduates

REMINDERS and USEFUL INFORMATION

To simplify the advising process, **use ANGEL to establish a group for your advisees.** On the ANGEL welcome page, scroll down the left sidebar and click on “Faculty-Request a Group.” Once the group is created, you can add or remove advisee addresses, post announcements, contact advisees individually or as a group, and hold online office hours.

FACULTY NEWS and ACTIVITIES

Barish Ali will present a paper entitled “David Bowie and Literary Studies: A Reflection on Postmodern Pedagogy” at the David Bowie Symposium, which will be held at the University of Limerick, Ireland, from October 26-29. The conference has been featured in numerous news outlets including the [Irish Times](#), the [BBC](#), and the [Huffington Post](#).

Lisa Berglund has been elected President of the Phi Beta Kappa Association of WNY. This is what happens when you skip a meeting...

Jennifer Ryan's article "'The Omphalos of All We Are': Re-imagining the Captivity Narrative in Mark Danielewski's *House of Leaves*" has been accepted for publication in the spring 2013 issue of *The Polish Journal for American Studies*. This essay examines Danielewski's critique of early American colonialism by tracing the formalist influences of the captivity narrative in his experimental haunted-house novel.

STUDENT and ALUMNI NEWS

David Ben-Merre reports: Last weekend, at Villa Maria College, I had the wonderful opportunity to hear three of our graduate students present their work. In a talk titled "'Matinees': Merrill, Music, Myth," **Donna Yaeger** spoke about how James Merrill's operatic intertexts weave in and out of one of the poet's sonnet sequences. **Timothy Collins** presented work from his current master's thesis. His talk, "The Old From the New: Formal Readings of Rap Aesthetics," brought formal poetic techniques into our understanding of how to read and listen to popular culture. **Heidi Wallace** shared some of her work on modernist poetry. In "Speaking the Truth: Wallace Stevens and 'The Man on the Dump,'" she showed how Stevens's lyrical speaker constructs himself through the nuances of arbitrary language. Their presentations were part of this year's New York College English Association conference.

This Saturday, 27 October, **Heidi Wallace** and **Joelle Mann** will speak at the Northeast Popular Culture/American Culture Association at St. John Fisher College. Heidi Wallace will present "The Objective Death of Reinaldo Arenas" and Joelle Mann will present "Women of Epic Proportions: Speaking from the Borders of a Dominican-American Epic."

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English Department Newsletter,
Buffalo State College
Compiled by Lisa Berglund, berglul@buffalostate.edu

English Department Newsletter

14 November 2012

Vol. 7, No. 6



The newsletter is published biweekly throughout the academic year.

7:6 was delayed while the editor was on the road. The next issue will appear on 28 November 2012.

MEETINGS and EVENTS ** IDEAS about TEACHING

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

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Assistant Professor, Biology
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Associate Professor, English
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Black British Writers for Children"
Friday, November 16
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Ketchum Hall 320

Leslyn in London
Cress Richards

These talks are open to faculty, graduate students, and interested undergraduates

Editor's Note: The following interesting update from **Tim Bryant** has prompted me to inaugurate a section of the newsletter for reporting classroom successes and experimentation (we have no failures). I look forwarding to sharing 200-word descriptions of what you're up to.

Tim writes: On November 7, students in ENG 444 "The American Novel After 1900" continued their study of Mark Z. Danielewski's post-modern novel *House of Leaves* by playing a game of JENGA, modified to include discussion of key passages from the text.

Danielewski's haunting book tells the story of a family who moves into a mysterious house in which a dark, apparently endless hallway appears and haunts their lives with the threat of total collapse. During the session, students had the options of building upon each other's ideas via discussion of quotes from the book, or of pulling a block from the JENGA tower. Discussion commenced for 45 minutes with only one pull from the tower, which stood fearfully on a table in the center of the room, surrounded by the class. I facilitated the session and wrote the game rules, which reflect the unusual content and style of the novel (reportedly, Danielewski had to typeset the book himself in order to prepare some of the more typographically idiosyncratic features for mass publication). I plan to continue using game-like elements in my instruction and hope to start a campus group focused on the cultural study and educational use of games.

Presented by
Buffalo State College
English Department

THE
DROP HAMMER
STUDENT READING SERIES

FALL 2012

JOIN US AS STUDENTS READ
FROM THEIR CREATIVE WORKS
OF FICTION, NONFICTION, AND POETRY

Friday November 2nd
Wednesday November 28th
Ketchum 113 4-5pm

Free and Open to the Public

REMINDERS and USEFUL INFORMATION

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ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY

December 7, 5-7 pm

English Department Hallway

Please bring a dish

RSVP by December 6 to Maureen
or call (716) 878-5417

FACULTY NEWS and ACTIVITIES

Victoria Brockmeier presented a paper titled "Attic Grace: The British Museum and the Poetics of Modernity" at this year's Modernist Studies Association conference in Las Vegas (October 18-21). Based on research conducted in the museum's archives, the project reveals similarities between early twentieth century museology and poetry of the imagist decade, 1910-1920. Museums at this time created public spaces characterized by an extraordinarily dense sensory and intellectual information, often bringing together artifacts from widely dispersed cultures; however, curators appear to have expected that patrons would take in exhibits in a casual, wandering manner. The paper argues that Benjamin's notion of the flâneur therefore usefully illuminates the experience of the museum patron and modernism's ideal poetry reader at this time. She is currently investigating how she might return to London to follow the museum's records through the end of World War II.

On December 13 at the America's Forgotten Voices interdisciplinary conference, hosted by the University of Nottingham, **Tim Bryant** will speak on, "From Contact to Canon: Voices of Authority in Native American Literary Anthologies." His paper is based on his documentary analysis of anthologies that feature Native American literature and responses to a qualitative survey sent to the editors of those anthologies. The goal is to gain insight into the various intellectual and material influences on the selection and teaching of texts in this incredibly diverse and rapidly changing field.

The Rooftop Poetry Club hosted a reading featuring **Kim Chinquee** and alumnus **Eric Beeny** on Tuesday, November 6.

Barish Ali's article "Heteroglossic Sprees and Wandering Viewpoints in Orhan Pamuk's *My Name is Red*," co-authored **with Caroline Hagood** (Buffalo State alumna and current Fordham University PhD candidate), has been published in the current issue of *Texas Studies in Literature and Language* (54:4). [This issue](#), devoted to Modern Turkish Letters, represents the 100th anniversary of the journal.

Ralph Wahlstrom's article, "Be Here Now: Young women's war diaries, and the practice of Intentionality" will appear in the November issue of [English Journal](#).

Mark Fulk gave a poetry reading on October 17th at Talking Leaves on Main Street as part of the Raiders of Niagara series.

STUDENT and ALUMNI NEWS

Graduate students at Buffalo State have approved a Graduate Student Association (GSA), with an executive board, representatives from five schools, and a mandatory graduate student fee. The GSA will provide a voice for graduate student needs and concerns and will support the scholarly and professional needs of students. Among those elected to serve as graduate student senators through the duration of the 2012–2013 year was English MA candidate **Roy Bakos**, representing the School of Arts and Humanities.

Alumni!—We want to share your news! Send updates and web-links to [Lisa Berglund](#) or [Maureen Lougen](#).

English Department Newsletter,
Buffalo State College
Compiled by Lisa Berglund, berglul@buffalostate.edu

English Department Newsletter

28 November 2012

Vol. 7, No. 7



The newsletter is published biweekly throughout the academic year.
The final issue of the fall semester will appear on 12 December 2012.

MEETINGS and EVENTS

Presented by
Buffalo State College
English Department

THE
DROP HAMMER
STUDENT READING SERIES

FALL 2012

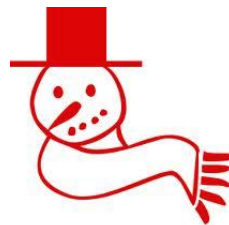
JOIN US AS STUDENTS READ
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Free and Open to the Public

ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY

December 7, 5-7 pm
English Department Hallway



Please bring a dish!

RSVP by December 6 to
[Maureen](#) or
call (716) 878-5417

The Drop Hammer Reading is TODAY!

IDEAS about TEACHING

As inaugurated in the 14 November issue, this column will post 200-word descriptions of classroom strategies, innovations and ideas. Thank you to **Jennifer Ryan** for this report:

MA students **Roy Bakos** and **Jill Jablonski** have just had a paper accepted for presentation at the 2013 Southwest/Texas Popular Culture and American Culture Associations Conference in Albuquerque, NM, on February 13-16. Their paper, "Different Shades and Different Meaning: Textual and Aesthetic Difference between the Two Versions of Neil Gaiman's *The Sandman, Volume 2: The Doll's House*," is a version of the final paper that six of the students in my Spring 2012 course, ENG 641: Studies in the Novel--Graphic Narratives, wrote as a group. After the class uncovered a particularly compelling reading of Gaiman's text during a discussion, I offered them the option of completing the final research paper collectively, with the caveat

that they submit it for publication. I designed an alternate version of the research assignment that included a reflective paper on the group composition process, a record of the meetings they held outside of class, a 100-word abstract of the paper, a list of three journals for which the article would be well-suited, and a cover letter to be submitted with the finished article. I required the group to complete a 35-page paper, rather than the usual 20 pages.

FACULTY NEWS and ACTIVITIES

Michele Ninacs just returned from Florence, Italy where she presented at the ICT (Information and Computing Technologies) for Language Learning International Conference. The organizing entity was PIXEL. It was an interesting conference: 350 attendees, 125 presenters, and 50 countries represented. Michele reports that “The US does some things very well, much better than in the EU particularly (like formal academic writing instruction), but we are woefully behind in second language teaching.”

Lorna Perez’s article “Haunting the House on Mango Street: Sandra Cisneros's Radical Revisions” is forthcoming, in the Fall 2012 (74.1) issue of *The CEA Critic*.

Barbara Bontempo, Lorna Perez, and Lisa Berglund are all finishing the semester-long incentive training program for teaching online courses. This summer they will be offering online versions of Futuristic Fiction, Ethnic American Literatures, and Shakespeare on Film, respectively.

STUDENT and ALUMNI NEWS

English Education student **Nyemh Ghareb** is leading an initiative to form SIGN (Studies in Graphic Narrative), a new student group devoted to the reading and study of comic books, graphic novels, and visual media. The group plans to meet weekly for reading and discussion sessions, to deliver public presentations of new research in the field, and to host guest speakers from the industry to talk about their craft. The group is working with **Tim Bryant** on a proposal with hopes of receiving recognition and funding for programming next year.

Alumni!—We want to share your news! Send updates and web-links to [Lisa Berglund](#) or [Maureen Lougen](#).

English Department Newsletter,
Buffalo State College
Compiled by Lisa Berglund, berglul@buffalostate.edu

English Department Newsletter

12 December 2012
Vol. 7, No. 8



The newsletter is published biweekly throughout the academic year.
The next issue will appear on 30 January 2013.

REMINDERS and USEFUL INFORMATION



NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE
HUMANITIES

It's time to start thinking about **the National Endowment for the Humanities summer seminars and institutes**. Among the topics for 2013 are Brazilian literature, reassessing British Romanticism, early modern manuscripts and printed books, African-American struggles for freedom and civil rights, American material culture in nineteenth-century New York, translation studies, African-American poetry, and Transcendentalism and social action. For a complete list of the 20 seminars, plus eligibility requirements and contact information, visit the [NEH website](#).

Or you might consider **directing a summer program yourself**—apply for 2014! The deadline is March 25, 2013.

FACULTY NEWS and ACTIVITIES

Whoops! **Barbara Bontempo** will be teaching Introduction to Literary Analysis online this summer (not Futuristic Fiction, as our last newsletter erroneously announced.)

STUDENT and ALUMNI NEWS

On November 28, **Ralph Wahlstrom** and his class in Rhetorical Theory (ENG 410) held a creative writing workshop for students at the Buffalo Academy for Visual and Performing Arts. The Buffalo State Writing majors who participated as workshop leaders were **Amanda Pratt, Michelle Scott, Leah Butzek, Cornelius Newman, Challis Cooks, Julia Figliotti, Amy Robb, and Cindy Delaney**. Also, Julia Figliotti, who is a senior in the Writing major, will be entering the Buffalo State Master of Science in Creative Studies Program in the fall.

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English Department Newsletter

30 January 2013

Vol. 7, No. 9

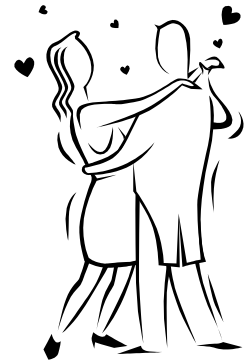


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MEETINGS and EVENTS

David Ben Merre is giving a talk at the **Albright-Knox on Friday, 1 February** as part of the 10th Annual James Joyce Celebration--"The New Joyce Scholars." David's talk, "Won't You Be an Artist's Moral': Rereading Joyce's 'Eveline'" will be given at 4 pm; Joyce Celebration events begin at 2:30 pm and include other scholars and music. You can see the full schedule [here](#).

MA student **Sára Kovásci** and professor **Lisa Berglund** are featured soloists in **Opera-Lytes' concert "Broadway in Love,"** to be presented at Amherst Community Church on Friday, 8 February at 7:30 pm (\$12/\$15, includes dessert) and at Orchard Park Presbyterian on Sunday, 10 February at 4 pm (\$10).



REMINDERS and USEFUL INFORMATION

Deadlines are approaching for various **Undergraduate Research Opportunities**. The Small Grants program deadline is 20 February; abstracts for the Student Research and Creativity Celebration are due 19 March (this program is also open to graduate students); and applications for the Undergraduate Summer Research Fellowship are due on 2 April. More information and application forms are available online at www.buffalostate.edu/undergraduateresearch.



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\$1,200-\$3,900 to help defray travel and other expenses for these one- to five-week residential programs. Or consider **directing a summer program yourself**—apply for 2014! The deadline is March 25.

At **Mighty Taco Talkback Thursdays**, student admission is only \$5 and includes a post-performance discussion with the actors, and sometimes the playwright, moderated by RLTP Literary Director Jon Elston. **Students also receive a \$3 coupon to Mighty Taco!** The next RLTP production is **Annie Baker's *Circle Mirror Transformation***, opening on Friday and running through 17 February at **710 Main Theatre** (the former Studio Arena). The play follows the lives of five small-town strangers as they leave their comfort zones and join together in an "Adult Creative Drama" community education course in rural Vermont. Showtimes are Thursdays through Saturdays at 8:00 pm and Saturdays & Sundays at 2:00 pm. Talk-backs will be held February 7 and 14. Teachers accompanying a group of students may also receive the \$5 Mighty Taco Talkback promotion. Student tickets otherwise are just \$17, half the price of general admission. Visit the RLTP [website](#) for more information.

FACULTY NEWS and ACTIVITIES

David Ben Merre published a crossword puzzle in the 9 January 2013 *New York Times*, and that triumph is the subject of a featured interview in the Sunday 27 January [Buffalo News](#).

Marietta Frank from the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford and **Karen Sands-O'Connor** have been offered a contract from Palgrave-Macmillan for their co-edited collection on Internationalism in Children's Series.

In December, **Lisa Berglund's** article "I am lost without my Boswell': Samuel Johnson and Sherlock Holmes" was published in *The Age of Johnson* (Vol. 22) from AMS Press.



Kim Chinquee has a lot of publications to report: her collection *Pistol* was published in December 2012, as part of the [Ravenna Press Triple Series](#). The following flash fictions have recently appeared: "Flicker," in [The Literarian](#); "Hood," "Intermission" and "He was a Pro" in [Web Conjunctions](#); "So Long," "Snapshot" and "Ridge," plus a short story, "Hand," in the Winter 2013 in Absentia print issue of [Conjunctions](#). [Green Mountains Review](#) has published "Cartwheel" and accepted "Moon" and "Cheerleader" for future publication, while the short story "The Meat Place" was accepted for the Fall 2013 issue of [Ploughshares](#). A review of Carole Maso's *Mother and Child* is forthcoming in the next issue of *American Book Review*.

An author interview and reprint of Kim's flash "No One Was with Him" were published in [Thumbnail Magazine](#); and her story "Shot Girls," originally published in the *Mississippi Review*, was included in the anthology *25 Provocative Women Writers* (Black Lawrence Press). In December, Kim became an associate editor of the literary journal [New World Writing](#). Her

panels "Poetics of Fiction in/at Buffalo" and "Yoga and Writing" were accepted for the AWP conference to be held in Boston, March 6-9; Kim also will read at the East Meets West Reading on March 7, at the Bell in Hand, Boston.

Peter Ramos is back from sabbatical (Fall 2012). He writes: "I worked on my poetry and criticism; I wrote creatively at two artist residencies: Virginia Center for the Creative Arts (VCCA) in June, and the Colab Residency at St. Mary's College of Maryland in October. I was able to finish my second full-length collection of poetry (now to threaten/beg/cajole someone to publish it). I also did research for my book of criticism (on the specific ways U.S. and Latin American poets translated and influenced each other) at the Beinecke Rare Books and Manuscript Library at Yale, the Rare Book Collection at Vassar College (where Muriel Rukeyser and Elizabeth Bishop--both pen-pals with and translators of Mexican poet, Octavio Paz--were once undergraduates), the Library of Congress, and Special Collections at University at Buffalo." Peter's review of *The City She Was*, Carmen Gimenez Smith's second collection of poems, is available in the winter 2013 issue of *Pleiades*. "Easter," a poem, was published in the summer issue of *Colorado Review*.

STUDENT and ALUMNI NEWS

The English Department extends its congratulations to our students who graduated in December 2012! **Kevin Andrews, Philip Bowman, Steven Bruckman, Susan Gromley, Jamisyn Huckle, Matthew Kanaley, Michael Luciano, Monika McFoy, Mallory McManus, Sarah Miller, Chelsey Nabozny, Patricia Rosekrans, Jennifer Skelton-Hawkins, and Kaitlyn Taylor.**

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English Department Newsletter, Buffalo State College
Compiled by Lisa Berglund, berglul@buffalostate.edu

English Department Newsletter

13 February 2013

Vol. 7, No. 10




The newsletter is published biweekly throughout the academic year.
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MEETINGS and EVENTS

The **English Department faculty forum with the candidate for chair of English, Lisa Berglund**, will be held this Friday, February 15, in KH 320, 3-4:30 p.m. The New Chair Search Committee encourages all faculty to attend and learn Dr. Berglund's views on and plans for the English Department and its successful management. The Committee will ask Dr. Berglund questions previously sent by faculty; if time remains, questions may be asked from the floor. It is important that as many people as possible participate in the forum so we can be an informed voting population. Please make every effort to attend.

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



Presents a talk by
Professor Kevin K. Williams
Department of Earth Sciences and Education

**“Detecting Subsurface Ice
in the Canadian Arctic”**

**Time: Friday, February 22
3:00-4:30 p.m.**

Location: Ketchum Hall 320

These talks are open to faculty, graduate students, and interested undergraduates

Carole Knuth will read her poetry in the **Burchfield Penney Poetry series**, Sunday, February 24 at 2 pm. Carole will be reading from *When the Morning Breaks* (2010). She will share the podium with Sandra Cookson of Canisius College, who will read from *Two Loons Taken for Vultures* (2011).

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At Road Less Traveled's **Mighty Taco Talkback Thursdays**, student admission is only \$5 and includes a post-performance discussion with the actors, and sometimes the playwright, moderated by RLTP Literary Director Jon Elston. **Students also receive a \$3 coupon to Mighty Taco**. The current RLTP production is **Annie Baker's *Circle Mirror Transformation*** (it got 4 stars from the *Buffalo News!*), running through 17 February at **710 Main Theatre** (the former Studio Arena).



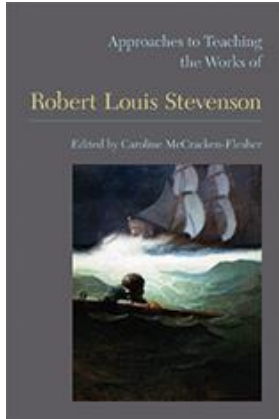
The play follows the lives of five small-town strangers as they leave their comfort zones and join together in an "Adult Creative Drama" community education course in rural Vermont. Showtimes are Thursdays through Saturdays at 8:00 pm and Saturdays & Sundays at 2:00 pm. There is a talk-back tomorrow, February 14. Teachers accompanying a group of students may also receive the \$5 Mighty Taco Talkback promotion. Student tickets otherwise are just \$17, half the price of general admission. Visit the RLTP [website](#) for more information.

FACULTY NEWS and ACTIVITIES

Theresa Harris-Tigg will be attending the National Association for Professional Development Schools Conference in New Orleans this weekend, with sixteen other faculty and Elementary Education students. Buffalo State is expected to receive an award at the conference. Theresa reports: "We all have our T-Shirts and are ready to represent the college. My participation in attending this conference is to collaborate with other faculty across the country regarding the quality structure for a Secondary Professional Development School. My goal is to write a quality RFP proposing a partnership with Lafayette High School as a Professional Development School by the end of spring 2013."

Lorna Perez's article "Haunting the House on Mango Street: Sandra Cisneros's Radical Revisions" has been published in *the CEA Critic* 74:1 (Fall 2011).

Ed Taylor's short story "A Gift" is forthcoming in *Great Lakes Review*, and poems "Bear Crossing" and "Icarus" are forthcoming in *Gargoyle*. His review of Chilean novelist Alejandro Zambra's *Ways of Going Home* is forthcoming in the *Buffalo News*.



At NEMLA (Boston, March 22), **Ann Colley** will give a paper entitled "An Absence of the Touching Hand." The paper is part of Ann's ongoing work on skin. Much of the paper has to do with the idea of touch and the haptic visuality of painting. She will specifically discuss two paintings showing women lying or standing on bear or wolf skins: Sir Lawrence Alma-Tadema's "In the Tepidarium" (1881) and James McNeill Whistler's "Symphony in White, No. 1: The White Girl" (1862).

Also, Ann's essay "Exposure and Image: A Visual Approach" has just appeared in *Approaches to Teaching Robert Louis Stevenson*, published by MLA.

STUDENT and ALUMNI NEWS

Alumni!—We want to share your news! Send updates and web-links to [Lisa Berglund](#) or [Maureen Lougen](#).

English Department Newsletter, Buffalo State College
Compiled by Lisa Berglund, berglul@buffalostate.edu

English Department Newsletter

27 February 2013

Vol. 7, No. 11



The newsletter is published biweekly throughout the academic year.
The next issue will appear on 13 March 2013.

MEETINGS and EVENTS

The **English Education Student Association (EESA)** will welcome new members at their inaugural meeting on **Thursday, February 28, 12:15-1:30 pm**, in KH 320. Pizza and other refreshments will be provided. The association is open to all students in, or considering, English Education as a major. EESA is focused on supporting English Education students throughout the program by bringing them together for networking, peer advisement, and professional development.

SUNY's Office of Global Affairs has awarded Barish Ali a \$5,000 grant to develop and run a Summer Abroad program in Turkey. Starting this summer, Barish will take at least five students to Istanbul, where he will teach a pair of courses on Turkish and Middle Eastern




literature and culture at Boğaziçi University, one of Turkey's most prestigious universities.

From among a strong SUNY-wide pool of applications, Barish's proposal was one of two that were awarded the grant even though priority was given to campuses with Turkish dual diploma programs. This study abroad program will, in fact, be the first step towards the establishment of a dual diploma partnership between Buffalo State and a Turkish partner institution. A dual diploma program "is an undergraduate program in which students spend half

of their education at a campus of the State University of New York (SUNY) and half at a Turkish university" (suny.edu.tr). Student recruitment is underway; if you have any students who may be interested in the program please ask them to contact [Barish](#) directly. An **informational session about the program, organized by the International Education Office, will take place during Bengal Pause on Tuesday, March 12 in Ketchum 200.**

This Sunday, 3 March, **Lisa Berglund will be a featured soloist** in the Chromatic Club concert "Divas Go to Hollywood." Lisa will be singing "Mad about the Boy," "Thanks for the Memory," "Arthur Murray Taught Me Dancing in a Hurry" and the showstopper "What a Movie!" from Bernstein's opera *Trouble in Tahiti*. The concert (\$7/\$5) will begin at 3 pm at the Montante Cultural Center (Main Street in Buffalo, between Glendale and Eastwood). For more info, call 884-4887 or 876-4125.

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



Presents a talk by
Professor Kimberly A. Blessing
Department of Philosophy and Humanities

**"Theistic and Atheistic
Theories about the
Meaning of Life"**

**Time: Friday, March 15
3:00-4:30 p.m.**

Location: Ketchum Hall 320

These talks are open to faculty, graduate students, and interested undergraduates

REMINDERS and USEFUL INFORMATION

The **Estelle M. Engel Memorial Scholarship** is a \$1,250 award for English, English Education, Writing, TV and Film Arts, and Journalism majors; applications are due to the dean's office by 1 April. Students need three writing samples and a letter of support from a faculty member. Encourage your best writers to apply!

Deadlines are approaching for various **Undergraduate Research Opportunities**. The Small Grants program deadline is 20 February; abstracts for the Student Research and Creativity Celebration are due 19 March (this program is also open to graduate students); and applications for the Undergraduate Summer Research Fellowship are due on 2 April. More information and application forms are available at www.buffalostate.edu/undergraduateresearch.

It's time to start thinking about **the National Endowment for the Humanities summer seminars and institutes**. Among the topics for 2013 are Brazilian literature, reassessing British Romanticism, early modern manuscripts and printed books, African-American

struggles for freedom and civil rights, American material culture in nineteenth-century New York, translation studies, African-American poetry, and Transcendentalism and social action. For a complete list of the 20 seminars, plus eligibility requirements and contact information, visit the [NEH website](#). The Summer Programs are tuition-free.

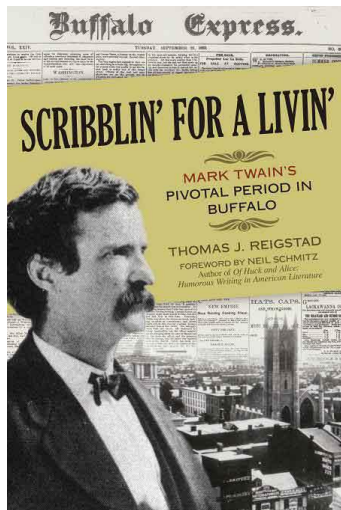
Participants receive stipends of \$1,200-\$3,900 to help defray travel and other expenses for these one- to five-week residential programs. Or consider **directing a summer program yourself**—apply for 2014! The deadline is March 25.



IDEAS about TEACHING

The [Buffalo State Record](#) has a story on the **new after-school digital writing workshop** for West Side youth at the Buffalo State Community Academic Center. **James Cercone** is heading the program, which will provide teaching and tutoring opportunities for Buffalo State education majors. West Side students, grades 4-8, will work closely with Buffalo State students on producing short films about the children's life experiences.

FACULTY NEWS and ACTIVITIES



Jeff Simon's rave review of **Tom Reigstad's** new book *Scribblin' for a Livin': Mark Twain's Pivotal Period in Buffalo* (Prometheus Press) appeared in last Sunday's *Buffalo News*. Simon writes: "Inside the book is the exhaustive, extraordinary history of Mark Twain in Buffalo that so many have wanted for so long. To call it definitive at this particular moment may well be understatement. As University at Buffalo professor Neil Schmitz quite rightly observes in the book forward, 'this is it. There isn't any more to be said about Mark Twain in Buffalo. If you want to think about the subject or write on its issues, this is the book that is open before you.'" Read the rest of the review [here](#) or visit the [book's website](#).

Karen Sands-O'Connor's poem "First Night Sled -- Delaware Park" was the *Buffalo News's* Poem of the Week on Sunday, February 17.

Angela Fulk will present at the NeMLA Convention in Boston next month in a session called "Using and [Re]Fusing the Bible: Revision and Parody in Medieval Britain." Her presentation is entitled "Earthly and Heavenly Kings as War Leaders in the Old English *Genesis* Poem."

"Unlikely Places," a flash fiction by **Kim Chinquee**, was published in [New Orleans Review](#) and her flash fiction, "Maid of the Mist," will be published there next week.

Heidi Dietz-Faletti attended the Southwest/Texas Popular Culture and American Culture Associations 34th Annual Conference in Albuquerque, February 13-16. In the session "Alfred Hitchcock: Alfred Hitchcock 1: Hitchcock and His Style," Heidi read a paper entitled: "The Caligarian Cabinet of Norman Bates in *Psycho*."

STUDENT and ALUMNI NEWS

Writing Major **Kayla Collins** was accepted into the 2013 Summer Writing Program at New York University.

Congratulations to **Keely Backes, Steven Grzelewski, Megan Koller, Brian Rich, Joseph Doherty, Rebecca Kazmierski, Erin McDonough** and **Joanna Reed**, who earned their MS.Ed. this past December:

Alumni!—We want to share your news! Send updates and web-links to [Lisa Berglund](#) or [Maureen Lougen](#).

AND FINALLY

Did you see the editorial in the [New York Times](#) on 19 February, entitled “The Trouble with Online College”? Very interesting stuff, but don’t read just the editorial—make sure you browse through the comments section, too.

A propos of our initial discussion in last week’s Forum, about the higher education and the humanities, check out the American Historical Association [Roundtable of Links on the Value of the Humanities](#) (I know, I know, at Buffalo State history isn’t in the humanities... you can take it up with the AHA).



And as proof that Shakespeare can enrich your life, here’s Ian Frazier’s wonderful exposé (in iambic pentameter, mostly) of [why Richard III ended up buried in that parking lot in Leicester](#).

English Department Newsletter, Buffalo State College
Compiled by Lisa Berglund, berglul@buffalostate.edu

English Department Newsletter

13 March 2013


Vol. 7, No. 12



The newsletter is published biweekly, kind of, throughout the academic year.
The next issue will appear on 3 April 2013.

MEETINGS and EVENTS

Conversations in and out of the Disciplines Lecture Series
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These talks are open to faculty, graduate students, and interested undergraduates

Roy Cook, of the philosophy department at the University of Minnesota, will present "**She-Hulk and the City**" on **Wednesday, March 20, 4:30-6:00 pm** in Bulger Communication Center South as the Buffalo State Philosophy and Humanities Department's Year of the City public lecture. John Byrne's *The Sensational She-Hulk* includes many subtle interactions between the fictional world that the She-Hulk inhabits and the actual city within which these comics were produced. Cook will discuss how the overlap between the two complicates and enriches our understanding of fiction within serialized narrative art.

REMINDERS and USEFUL INFORMATION

SUNY's Office of Global Affairs has awarded Barish Ali a \$5,000 grant to develop and run a Summer Abroad program in Turkey. Starting this summer, Barish will take at least five students to Istanbul, where he will teach a pair of courses on Turkish and Middle Eastern

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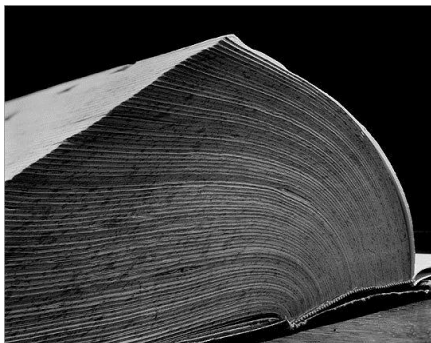
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FACULTY NEWS and ACTIVITIES

Barbara Bontempo and **Tamara Rabe** will be among those honored next week at Buffalo State's Annual 25-Year-Employee Luncheon.

On March 9, **Lorna Perez** presented a paper entitled "Ambiguous Signs and Incomplete Signification: The Juarez Murders and Embodied Violence in Alicia Gapsar de Alba's *Desert Blood*" at the 1st Biennial Latina/o Literature Conference hosted by John Jay College in New York City. The conference—the first of its kind to bring together scholars who specifically study Latina/o Literature and Criticism, featured some of the most prominent figures working in the field. Lorna reports that it was a humbling and invigorating experience.



A long article by Jennifer Howard, "[In the Digital Era, Our Dictionaries Read Us](#)," appeared Monday, 11 March, in *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. **Lisa Berglund**, as Executive Secretary of the Dictionary Society of North America and a scholar of the history of lexicography, is quoted in several paragraphs at the end of the piece.

Victorian Literature and Culture (Cambridge UP) has accepted **Ann Colley's** article: "Portrait, Empire & Industry at the Belle Vue Zoo, Manchester." The essay, based upon research Ann did in the Chetham Library's archives, examines how Belle Vue, a popular Victorian zoo three miles from the center of industry, incorporated technology and empire into its structure and operation. In the essay, Ann uses the metaphor of portraiture to work out her argument. She also places her discussion within the context of two industrial novels: Dickens's *Hard Times* and Gaskell's *Mary Barton*.

On Saturday, March 2, Ann met all day at the University of Rochester with other faculty who teach Victorian studies to discuss work in progress. Three people submitted drafts of chapters or articles to the group, which included faculty from Cornell, Syracuse University,

SUNY Brockport, Brock University, and NYU. Finally, Ann is currently reviewing a book proposal on Robert Louis Stevenson for Oxford University Press.

Jennifer Ryan will present a paper entitled "The New National Family in *The Known World* and *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*" at the 2013 MELUS Convention in Pittsburgh on March 15.

Over the past several months the Buffalo Public Schools, Say Yes, and national consultants have been managing the development of a strategic plan for BPS. **Theresa A. Harris-Tigg** sits on the Strategic Planning Steering Committee, which provides guidance to several task forces that include members of the community, BPS, higher education, and business sector. The plan should be finalized and approved by the board by August 2013.

STUDENT and ALUMNI NEWS

Michelle Mazur has been admitted into the PhD program in Comparative Literature at the University at Buffalo.

Aimee Levesque, who earned her BA and MA at Buffalo State, received a LEND (Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities) Fellowship through the University of Rochester. Aimee is currently getting her PhD in Learning and Instruction at the University at Buffalo.

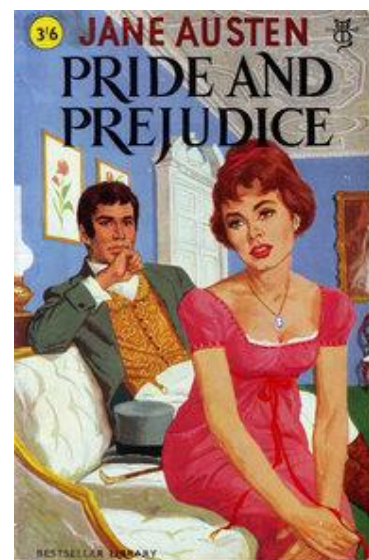
At the 2013 Louisville Conference On Literature and Culture since 1900, held February 21-23, graduate student **Joelle Mann** presented a paper entitled "Reading across Uncanny Desires: A Whirligig State of Mind in *Orlando*."

AND FINALLY

The English Department Newsletter 7.11 linked to a *Times's* editorial on online education; here's a commentary from the [UUP Voice](#). VP for Academics Jamie Dangler writes that SUNY plans to add 10 new online bachelor's degrees and three-year bachelor degree programs, but "we're left with questions about implementation issues, realistic possibilities, the need for thoughtful planning and reasonable transitions, and the need to assess exactly what is and isn't good..."

On a more serious note, check out this *New York Times* [piece](#) on the covers of Jane Austen novels.

English Department Newsletter, Buffalo State College
Compiled by Lisa Berglund, berglul@buffalostate.edu



English Department Newsletter

3 April 2013

Vol. 7, No. 13



The newsletter is published biweekly, kind of, throughout the academic year.
The next issue will appear on 17 April 2013.

MEETINGS and EVENTS

Novelist Mick Cochrane will read from his latest work, *Fitz: A Father. A Son. And A Gun.* on Tuesday, 9 April at 1:40 pm in Caudell Hall 212.



Niagara County Community College Professor Emeritus of English **E. R. Baxter III** will read from *Niagara Lost and Found: New and Selected Poetry* and from *Niagara Digressions*, this **Thursday, 4 April at 7pm** at Talking Leaves Bookstore, 3158 Main Street in Buffalo. Professor Baxter has received a New York State Creative Service Award for fiction and a Just Buffalo Award for Fiction. The reading is free and open to the public.

Lisa Berglund is on the program of the **Buffalo Chromatic Club concert**, Sunday 14 April at 3 pm at the Montante Cultural Center on Main Street. Lisa will be singing five of William Bolcom's witty "Cabaret Songs"; the program also features vocal and instrumental music by Bach, Berlioz, Brahms, Britten, Berlin... you get the idea.

Tom Reigstad will sign copies of his book *Scribblin' for a Livin': Mark Twain's Pivotal Period in Buffalo* at the Barnes & Noble on the Buffalo State campus on Monday, 15 April, 5:30-7 pm.

On Wednesday 17 April, **Ann Colley** will be the featured speaker at the **Western New York Phi Beta Kappa Association dinner**. Ann's topic (nicely judged for post-prandial entertainment) is "A Skin Disorder: Collecting Animal Skins in Victorian Britain." Her talk is an illustrated examination of the Victorian enthusiasm for amassing and arranging exotic specimens, in particular the collecting of skins. If you would like to attend the dinner, please contact [Lisa Berglund](#) (PBK president) and reserve your seats no later than **5 pm on Monday, April 8**. Dinner is \$26 and includes three courses, coffee/tea, and tip. Entrée choices this month are chicken, salmon and meatloaf. The meeting begins around 6:30 pm with cocktails at Windows on the Green Restaurant in the Westwood Country Club in Amherst. By the way, if you are a member of PBK and would like more information on the regular activities of the WNY Association, talk to Lisa Berglund.

Your Department of English would like to invite you to attend our annual

Spring Fling!

Friday April 12th at 6:30pm

to help us celebrate our department, faculty, programs, students and alumni.
In other words - to celebrate *you*.

Students, alumni, current and retired faculty, and guests will gather in the **Bulger Atrium at 6:30 p.m.**
We'll have refreshments, an open bar, a basket raffle and speakers from each of our majors:

Dr. Ann Colley will present on Literature,
Dr. James Cercone will speak on English Education,
and Writing Major Amanda Pratt will read a selection of her work.

The cost is \$20 per person. You can reserve your attendance by sending an RSVP to lougenm@buffalostate.edu
or calling the office at 878-5417, and then send a check to the
English Department by April 5th, payable to the Buffalo State College Foundation.

We look forward to seeing you and hearing about your lives and careers,
and we can't wait to share our news with you.

The night will be a wonderful time to reconnect with friends
and meet new people who share so much with all of us in the English family.

Our hosts for the evening will be Laurence Shine and Maureen Porter.

We can't wait to see you!

On April 18 at 12:15pm in Bulger Communications Center West 2, **veteran Sweet Home High School English teachers Lisa Feyes (a 2006 alumna of Buffalo State) and Heather Paolucci** will discuss the work they have done implementing a yearlong *Readers and Writers Workshop* approach to English Language Arts Instruction in their classrooms. They will discuss the impact the pedagogical approach has had on their teaching and their students' learning. Heather and Lisa will share resources for teachers to use in their own classrooms. Those interested in attending should RSVP to wynnet@gmail.com by Friday, April 11 to reserve a space. Seating is limited. [Contact Jim Cercone.](#)

Peter Ramos and Charles Bachman will read from their work on Friday, 26 April at 3 pm in Ketchum Hall 320. Refreshments (above and beyond the poetry) will be provided.

REMINDERS and USEFUL INFORMATION

[Provost's Incentive Grants](#) for Faculty Research, Scholarship, and Creativity are offered through the Academic Affairs Office to provide faculty members with funds to assist with travel, purchase of materials, conference fees, and other support for scholarly, research, or creative activities. The application deadline is 4 pm on Thursday, 2 May, for activities taking place during the 2013-2014 academic year. All full-time Buffalo State tenured and tenure-track faculty are eligible. Please contact [Cara Angie](#), ext. 3841, for more information.

Please inform your graduate students of this terrific opportunity: **the 2013 riverrun Special Collections Internship at the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library.** Under the direction of the Special Collections Manager/Rare Book Curator, the intern will conduct research on one (or more) of the following B&ECPL Rare Book collections listed below.

- Oz Collection – Study of Baum's Oz literature, examination of RBR's holdings on Oz and related material, and recommendation of additions to collection.

- Little Harlem Club – Club on Michigan Avenue owned and operated by Ann Montgomery from the 1930s through early 1960s, where Count Basie, Louis Armstrong, Billie Holiday and others performed. Study would be of this club and other clubs of the time period, and the programs and photographs in the collection.
- Cuneiform – Study of Babylonian history, the tablets and cones themselves, and the Edgar Banks Expedition that procured them.
- Bruce Shanks Collection – Study political cartoons in the collections and *Buffalo News*, and the context of his work from 1930s through early 1970s.
- Zorah Berry Collection– Buffalo impresario who brought many important musicians, (Rachmaninoff, Heifetz, etc.) to Buffalo from the 1920s to late 1950s. Study would include the Zorah Berry Scrapbook Collection, Buffalo Programs and Zorah Berry Music Series and photo collection.

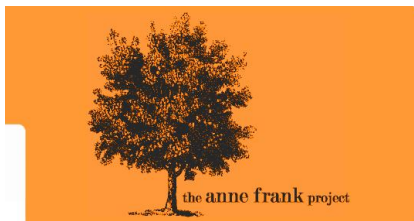
Research will include history and provenance of the collection, significance of the collection locally and beyond, and value and importance of the collection to the Library, monetarily and/or culturally. The intern shall conduct two public presentations on the completed research and the collection and shall submit a written report for archival public information purposes. Research and presentation(s) shall be completed over the course of June, July and August. It is anticipated the intern will work 12 hours per week for a period of 10 weeks. Compensation: \$2,000.

The intern must be a current Graduate student in a Humanities or Social Sciences field, such as Literature, History, Art or Library Science; possess excellent research, organizational and



computer skills; be detail-oriented; have excellent oral and written communication skills; and be self-motivated and able to work independently. The candidate must submit a resume and an essay, not to exceed two pages, expressing interest in an internship of this nature, which collection they would choose to research and why. The resume and essay are due **May 17, 2013** to: Jeannine Doyle, Human Resources Officer, Buffalo and Erie County Public Library, 1 Lafayette Square, Buffalo, NY 14203.

The Anne Frank Project is now accepting proposals from faculty, staff, students and



community members for the Anne Frank Project 2013, "Transforming Lives," to be held on the Buffalo State campus September 10–13. The proposal deadline is Wednesday, May 1. For more information on AFP 2013 and easy online proposal directions, please visit [AFP 2013: Transforming Lives](#).

SUNY's Office of Global Affairs has awarded Barish Ali a \$5,000 grant to develop and run a Summer Abroad program in Turkey. Starting this summer, Barish will take at least five students to Istanbul, where he will teach a pair of courses on Turkish and Middle Eastern literature and culture at Boğaziçi University, one of Turkey's most prestigious universities. Student recruitment is underway; if you have any students who may be interested in the program please ask them to contact [Barish](#).

FACULTY NEWS and ACTIVITIES

Ralph Wahlstrom's flash fiction piece, "black cat" was just published [here](#). He composed the background music on his iPad.

On March 28, **Tim Bryant** presented a paper entitled "Agency and Adaptation: The Rules and Roles of Chance in Fantasy Games and Film" at the Popular Culture Association/ American Culture Association conference in Washington, D.C. A couple of days later, Tim returned to Buffalo to reunite with former UB classmates at the SUNY Council on Writing conference, where he presented "The Ethics of Vade Mecum in Mentorship." Its name meaning "go with me," a vade mecum is a guidebook kept on one's person for quick reference at all times. Tim spoke about how the idea of referential companionship has informed his approach to mentorship since working with fellow graduate students during his doctoral program.

Susan Leist reports: "I am in California, visiting babies. Soon, though, we leave for a month-long voyage to the South Seas. I will visit Robert Louis Stevenson's house among lots of other places. It is a trip we have always wanted to take. Our new apartment got almost finished before we left on January 30. We still have pictures to hang and touch-up painting to do before the deck construction starts."



Michele Ninacs was a co-facilitator for a full-day workshop entitled "Writing Transitions and Rhetorical Partnerships Across Elementary, Secondary, and Post-Secondary Levels" at the Conference on College Composition and Communication annual conference held in Las Vegas last week. No, she did not come home any richer.

At the conference "Victorian Play(s): Excess and Expression," to be held 27 April 2013, at Glendon College, Toronto, **Ann Colley** will present the paper "Excess and Empire at the Belle Vue Zoo, Manchester."

Lisa Berglund's article "Hester Lynch Piozzi's Theory and Practice of the Anecdote" has been accepted for a collection on eighteenth-century moral education, *Beyond Sense and Sensibility*, to be published by Bucknell UP.

Peter Ramos presented his paper, "Nostalgia for a Common World: Muriel Rukeyser's Translations of Octavio Paz and Pablo Neruda," at the 2013 Louisville Conference on Literature and Culture Since 1900, in Louisville, Kentucky. Peter reports: "Also in attendance at the conference was Buffalo State College MA **Joelle Mann**, who presented on Virginia Woolf's *Orlando*. Our papers were well received. I was proud of Joelle, who easily held her own on a panel of presenters that included associate professors of English."

STUDENT and ALUMNI NEWS

Cynthia Delaney, a Writing Major, has been awarded the 2013 Phillip Santa Maria Award for Student Leadership in Equity and Campus Diversity, and the SUNY Chancellor's Award.

Sigma Tau Delta has launched its postcard poetry project. For March the theme was women writers (in honor of women's history month). Each month the society will pick a theme, and post postcards around campus with poems that speak to that theme. The poems can come from well-known authors, little known authors, local authors, or can feature unique work. If

you would like to submit a poem (short enough to fit on a postcard), you can send them to Buffalostate1871@gmail.com. Read more about the project in the [Buffalo State Record](#).

Alumna (and theater department faculty member) **Mary Jane Masiulionis** conducted a workshop for Kaleida Health professionals entitled "Acting and the Business Professionals- The Ties that Bind." It was an active workshop integrating the principles of acting and their relationship to the Health Care and Business Professions and the concepts and applications of acting that can enhance performance in the business world.

BA students **Sasha Cine and Stephanie Lewandowski** graduated in J-Term. Congratulations!

English Department Newsletter, Buffalo State College
Compiled by Lisa Berglund, berglul@buffalostate.edu

English Department Newsletter

17 April 2013

Vol. 7, No. 14



The newsletter is published biweekly throughout the academic year.
The final issue for this year will appear on 1 May 2013.

MEETINGS and EVENTS

As part of the Buffalo State Native American Student Organization's celebration of "Finding Our Community," **Tim Bryant will speak** on "The Cultural Work of Contemporary American Indian Literature" **TODAY**, Wednesday, April 17 in Bulger West 2 at 4 pm.

Charles Bachman will give a related presentation tomorrow, Thursday, April 18 in Upton Hall 230, again at 4 pm.

Tomorrow, April 18 at 12:15pm in Bulger Communications Center West 2, **veteran Sweet Home High School English teachers Lisa Feyes (a 2006 alumna of Buffalo State) and Heather Paolucci** will discuss the work they have done implementing a yearlong *Readers and Writers Workshop* approach to English Language Arts Instruction. They will discuss the impact the pedagogical approach has had on their teaching and their students' learning. Heather and Lisa will share resources for teachers to use in their own classrooms. [Contact Jim Cercone](#) for more information.

Peter Ramos and Charles Bachman will read from their work on Friday, 26 April at 3 pm in Ketchum Hall 320. Refreshments (above and beyond the poetry) will be provided.

To formally celebrate the hard work and scholarly achievements of students who are completing master's theses, an **English Department Graduate Research Symposium and Reception will be held on Monday, 29 April, beginning at 6 pm, in KH 320**. Students will present selections from their theses or projects, and a modest reception will follow. Fellow students, faculty, family and friends are invited. For more information, ask [Lisa Berglund](#).

THE DROP HAMMER STUDENT READING SERIES

Open Mic Reading

THURSDAY, APRIL 18TH

4:00-5:30PM

KETCHUM 212

Bring your piece(s) to read
for a slot of up to ten minutes,
and grab a friend for support.
No need to sign up in advance.

Show up and read,
and enjoy the works of other writers.



REMINDERS and USEFUL INFORMATION

[Provost's Incentive Grants](#) for Faculty Research, Scholarship, and Creativity are offered through the Academic Affairs Office to provide faculty members with funds to assist with travel, purchase of materials, conference fees, and other support for scholarly, research, or creative activities. The application deadline is 4 pm on Thursday, 2 May, for activities taking place during the 2013-2014 academic year. All full-time Buffalo State tenured and tenure-track faculty are eligible. Please contact [Cara Angie](#), ext. 3841, for more information.

The Anne Frank Project is now accepting proposals from faculty, staff, students and community members for the Anne Frank Project 2013, "Transforming Lives," to be held on the Buffalo State campus September 10–13. The proposal deadline is Wednesday, May 1. For more information on AFP 2013 and easy online proposal directions, please visit [AFP 2013: Transforming Lives](#).

Please inform your graduate students of this terrific opportunity: **the 2013 riverrun Special Collections Internship at the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library**. Under the direction of the Special Collections Manager/Rare Book Curator, the intern will conduct research on one (or more) of the following B&ECPL Rare Book collections listed below.

- Oz Collection – Study of Baum's Oz literature, examination of RBR's holdings on Oz and related material, and recommendation of additions to collection.
- Little Harlem Club – Club on Michigan Avenue owned and operated by Ann Montgomery from the 1930s through early 1960s, where Count Basie, Louis Armstrong, Billie Holiday and others performed. Study would be of this club and other clubs of the time period, and the programs and photographs in the collection.
- Cuneiform – Study of Babylonian history, the tablets and cones themselves, and the Edgar Banks Expedition that procured them.
- Bruce Shanks Collection – Study political cartoons in the collections and *Buffalo News*, and the context of his work from 1930s through early 1970s.
- Zorah Berry Collection– Buffalo impresario who brought many important musicians, (Rachmaninoff, Heifetz, etc.) to Buffalo from the 1920s to late 1950s. Study would include the Zorah Berry Scrapbook Collection, Buffalo Programs and Zorah Berry Music Series and photo collection.

Research will include history and provenance of the collection, significance of the collection locally and beyond, and value of the collection to the Library. The intern shall conduct two public presentations on the completed research and the collection and shall submit a written report for archival public information purposes.

Research and presentation(s) shall be completed over the course of June, July and August. It is anticipated the intern will work 12 hours per week for a period of 10 weeks. Compensation: \$2,000.



The intern must be a current Graduate student in a Humanities or Social Sciences field, such as Literature, History, Art or Library Science; possess excellent research, organizational and computer skills; be detail-oriented; have excellent oral and written communication skills; and be self-motivated and able to work independently. The candidate must submit a resume and an essay, not to exceed two pages, expressing interest in an internship of this nature, which collection they would choose to research and why. The resume and essay are due **May 17, 2013** to: Jeannine Doyle, Human Resources Officer, Buffalo and Erie County Public Library, 1 Lafayette Square, Buffalo, NY 14203.

FACULTY NEWS and ACTIVITIES

Jennifer Ryan's paper "Taking the Blues Back Home: Jayne Cortez's Eco-poetics" has just been accepted for presentation on the "Activist Poetics" panel at the 2014 Modern Language Association Convention in Chicago. The panel will be chaired by Meta DuEwa Jones, a scholar whose work Jennifer has long admired.

David Ben-Merre has been elected to the Faculty Senate as a representative of Arts and Humanities.

On March 30, **Lorna Perez** presented a paper "Tropicalizing Diasporic Identity: Esmeralda Santiago and Julia Alvarez's Strange Fruits" at the 43rd annual Popular Culture Association – American Culture Association National Conference held at the Washington Marriott Wardman Park in Washington DC.

STUDENT and ALUMNI NEWS

Two undergraduate English majors will present papers as part of the BSC Student Research and Creativity Celebration on Saturday, 4 May. **David Buczek** will present a talk entitled "Chaucer's Game of Chess" and **Tamara Burross** will speak on "Disembodied Presences: Reflection on Narrative Voice in Virginia Woolf." The presentations will take place during Humanities Session III, 1-4:45 pm, in Butler Library 210.

English Department Newsletter, Buffalo State College
Compiled by Lisa Berglund, berglul@buffalostate.edu

English Department Newsletter

1 May 2013

Vol. 7, No. 15



This is the final newsletter of the academic year.

The future format of the newsletter is undetermined but it will return—no fear!

MEETINGS and EVENTS

Ink Club Week is underway; the remaining events this week are **TONIGHT**, May 1, “Ink Idol” (our spin on American Idol- singing competition) and **TOMORROW**, May 2, “Tha Cypher” (MC, Freestyle rap battle). Both take place in Bulger S2 at 7:30 pm.

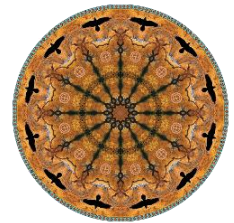
TOMORROW at 12:15 pm in Ketchum 313, **Timothy Lipps ('12)** will give a presentation on **his experiences as a student teacher**. He will share lesson plans and strategies that English Education students can use to help make their two student teaching placements successful. This free event is sponsored by the English Education Student Association at Buffalo State.

The Student Research and Creativity Celebration will be held this Saturday, 4 May, in Butler Library. English Department students are presenting in the following sessions:

Humanities III Session, Butler 210: 1:00-2:00 **Dave Buczek** (English), “Chaucer’s Game of Chess” and 2:00-3:00 **Tamara Burross** (English), “Disembodied Presences: Reflection on Narrative Voice in Virginia Woolf”

Poster Sessions: 1:30-2:30 **Amanda Pratt** (Writing), “Children With Psychiatric Disorders: A Rhetorical Analysis of DSM-IV Diagnostic Criteria for ADHD”; 1:30-2:30 **Rachael Saathoff** (Eng Ed), “How do I Teach Students to Pursue Excellence?” and 2:30-3:30 **Cynthia Delaney** (Writing), “One of the Boys: An Ideological Criticism of Masculinity in *Breaking Bad*”

The APSWNY/C.G. JUNG CENTER presents a three-part discussion led by Philosophy Professor George Hole, “**Finding Jung in the Symposium, Plato’s Most Revealing Dialogue.**” The series will take place on successive Wednesdays, beginning May 1 **TONIGHT**, and continuing May 8 and 15, 7:30-9:00 pm at the C.G. Jung Center, 408 Franklin St. (side door). For fees and other information visit the Jung Center [website](#).



Road Less Traveled Productions is in the midst of its final production of the season, Sarah Ruhl’s *The Clean House*. At **Mighty Taco Talkback Thursday performances**, May 2 and 9 at 7:30 pm tickets are only \$5 and students will receive a \$3 Mighty Taco coupon. After the show, there is a discussion led by RLTP’s Literary Director, Jon Elston, and members of the cast. For more information, visit the [RLTP website](#).

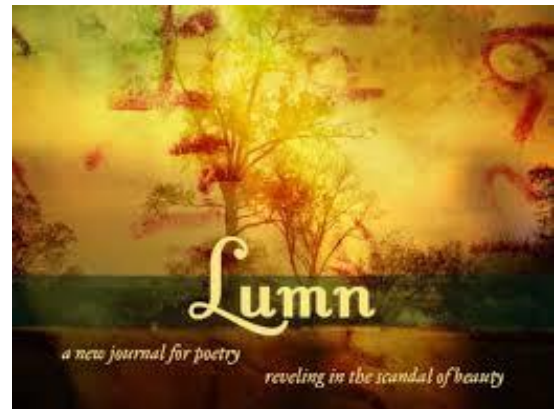


Opera-Lytes presents **Gilbert and Sullivan's *The Pirates of Penzance, or The Slave of Duty***, at Alleyway Theatre, May 10, 11, 16 (pay what you can), 17, and 18, all at 7:30 pm, and May 19 at 2:30 pm. The show is **directed by Lisa Berglund, who also will give a pre-curtain lecture on "Pirates as Parody"** (with music director Jim Welch at the piano) on Sunday, 19 May at 2 pm. *Pirates of Penzance* features terrific songs like "I am the very model of a modern major general" "Tarantara!" and "Poor wandering one," to say nothing of pirates shouting "Aaahrrr!" Ideal family entertainment! For tickets and more information, visit www.operalytes.com.

REMINDERS and USEFUL INFORMATION

TODAY is the deadline to submit proposals to The Anne Frank Project 2013, "Transforming Lives," to be held on the Buffalo State campus September 10–13. For more information on AFP 2013 and proposal directions, visit [AFP 2013: Transforming Lives](#).

Victoria Brockmeier's fledgling poetry journal, *Lumn*, is raising money on Kickstarter.com to print its first issue, including super new poems by Nate Mackey, Deborah Bogen, Dan Beachy-Quick, and others. Kickstarter itself featured the campaign as a staff pick on Media Bistro, a site that covers trends and innovations in people's use of social media, highlighted it in an article last week. For supporting *Lumn*, you can get not only digital and physical copies of the first issue, but also hand-printed letterpress broadsides, made in collaboration with Nicholas Dowgwillo of Buffalo State's Art



Department, one-of-a-kind handmade journals, and more. Check out the magazine's distinct mission, read a set of sample poems, and find out more [here](#). The campaign concludes **TOMORROW** May 2 at 11:59 pm, so get in on it while it's live!

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We received the following information from St. Bonaventure: "As of today [25 April] we still have three places left in [St. Bonaventure's MA program in English](#). Along with space, we still

have funds, too. **We can award 2-3 more of our Learning Teaching Fellowships.** If you have seniors that are still exploring graduate school options, please encourage them our way. I will be glad to provide information and connect them with our program director, Dr. Kaplan Harris. Students should have a major or minor in English, literature or a related field to enter the program.”

Applications are being accepted for the "**Integration of Undergraduate Research into the Curriculum**" program. Modest stipends will be provided to faculty members to support the development of new courses or the revision of existing courses to include a substantial undergraduate research, scholarly, or creative activity. The expected outcomes are submission of a course revision or new course proposal to the College Senate Curriculum Committee and teaching the course. This program is not intended to support minor revisions to courses that already include a research component. Lower- and upper-level courses are eligible, and courses targeting specific student audiences (e.g., non-majors, pre-majors, and majors) are acceptable. The deadline for proposals is **Tuesday, May 14**. Applications are completed [online](#).

FACULTY NEWS and ACTIVITIES

Theresa Harris-Tigg is running (unopposed) for a seat on the Buffalo School Board, in the East District. Elections are next Tuesday, 7 May—wherever you’re registered, don’t forget to vote!

THE DROP HAMMER STUDENT READING SERIES

Open Mic Reading

THURSDAY, MAY 9, 3:00 PM, IN BUTLER 210

Bring your piece(s) to read for a slot of up to ten minutes, and grab a friend for support.

No need to sign up in advance.

Show up and read, and enjoy the works of other writers.



Here’s a [video of Peter Ramos](#) reading a poem from his book *Please Do Not Feed the Ghost* (BlazeVox Books, 2008). The press asked poets to record themselves reading their work for last month’s Buffalo Small Press Book Fair. “The drunken routine is pure theatre in service of the poem’s subject.”

STUDENT and ALUMNI NEWS

Cynthia (Cindy) Delaney has been invited to enter the Michigan Technological University Rhetoric and Technical Communication graduate program. (**Ralph Wahlstrom** reports, “MTU is my doctoral alma mater, so I’m thrilled. It’s a great program and a great fit for her.”) She is receiving a tuition fellowship and a two-year stipend. The program at Michigan Technological University is one of the only Rhetoric and Technical Communication graduate programs in the U.S. housed in a Humanities Department.

Two of our students have been awarded internships: **Amy Robb** will be working at Niagara-USA, updating their blog and writing for iloveny.com, and **Melissa Ann Bisso** has an internship for the fall with WNYMuslims as part of their writing team.

We had a terrific time at the inaugural **English Department Graduate Research Symposium and Reception** last Monday. Thanks to **Jen O’Dee, Sarah McMichael, Roy Bakos, Joelle Mann, Heidi Wallace** and **Tim Collins**, who presented selections from their Masters’ Theses, and to the friends, faculty and fellow students who showed up to learn and to applaud their hard work.



And Finally...

Shannon Reed is one of my favorite columnists for the *Visual Thesaurus*: her observations on teaching writing are always smart, entertaining and *useful*. Check out her latest piece, [“Always Never Something.”](#) on eliminating five overused words from our students’ prose.

English Department Newsletter, Buffalo State College
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