# English Department Newsletter

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Past issues of the newsletter are available on the department website.

# **EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES**



The Northeast Modern Language Association, an organization of teachers and scholars of literature, language, and culture, is holding its 54th Convention in Niagara Falls March 23-26, 2023. NeMLA's theme this year is RESILIENCE. There are opportunities for **undergraduate student participation**! Encourage your undergraduate students to submit an abstract for a Poster Presentation in the NeMLA <u>Undergraduate Forum</u>. The deadline to <u>submit an abstract</u> for a poster presentation is November 15, 2022.

Faculty and graduate students can access the <u>general</u> <u>call for papers here</u>.

The 2022–2023 "Conversations in and out of the Disciplines" series kicks off Friday, October 21, as JOE CLEARY (Sociology) presents "Ethnography on the East Side before, during, and after a Tragedy." The talk, followed by a brief Q&A, will begin at 3:00 p.m. in Ketchum Hall 320. A short wine and cheese reception will follow. Everyone is welcome.

Mark your calendars for the second talk of the fall semester, when MARCUS WATSON (Africana Studies), will present "Making Sure We Teach Black Studies, Not 'Negro Studies'" at 3:00 p.m. Friday, November 4. Spring 2023 presentations will feature HILARY LOCHTE (English Education), KIMBERLY KAMPER-DEMARCO (Psychology), and A. D. ANNAS (Television and Film Arts).



The **English Department Book Sale** has resumed, with hours on Mondays, 3-4 pm, and Tuesdays, 12:15-1:30 pm (except the first Tuesday of the month). New stock has been added! In spring 2022 the Book Sale has raised \$388.00 for student and non-tenure track faculty research and travel expenses.

## **DEPARTMENT NEWS**

The Western New York Network of English Teaching, part of the **Center for English Teaching at Buffalo State**, received a \$5,000 grant from the Cullen Foundation. The grant will support the Center's work to encourage and support student-run literary arts magazines in local secondary schools.

### **FACULTY NEWS**

At the Faculty and Staff Awards Ceremony last week, DAVID BEN-MERRE was recognized with the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Activities. His profile from the event's program is available here:

https://suny.buffalostate.edu/news/faculty-and-staff-recognition-ceremony-october-13.

DAVID also published an article on the relationships between poetry and crossword puzzles in the summer 2022 issue of *Texas Studies in Literature and Language* 64 (2): 115–143. The article, "The Moon Slides Down the Stair / To See Who's There," is available online. An interview about the piece is also available.

The English Department was saddened to hear of the passing of THERESA HARRIS-TIGG, a retired member of the English Education faculty, on September 6 after an illness. She also was a former member of the Buffalo School Board. Her obituary from the Buffalo News may be viewed at:

https://buffalonews.com/news/local/theresa-a-harris-tigg-67-former-buffalo-school-board-member-dedicated-to-education/article\_ed3cea24-2fc1-11ed-bf6e-33b05a6c51b0.html.



ED TAYLOR's creative nonfiction piece "Fire in a Box" is forthcoming in ACM.

LISA BERGLUND presented a paper on "Hester Lynch Piozzi in the OED" at the East Central American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies conference in Wilmington, DE, October 13-15, 2022.

The Emily Dickinson International Society (EDIS) Graduate Fellowship was awarded to CHERYL WEAVER to support research for her dissertation, the working title of which is "Emily Dickinson's Epistolary Network: Women's Friendships in Antebellum New England and Abroad." The dissertation engages with the intersections of postal history, literature, and biography to analyze the letter-writing practices of young women educated in antebellum New England. CHERYL also was elected a Member-at-large at the July 2022, EDIS conference held in Seville, Spain. As part of the Margaret Fuller Society panel at the

Thoreau Annual Gathering held July 6-10, 2022, in Concord, Massachusetts, CHERYL presented a paper entitled "'I found your note here several days since': Margaret Fuller and Postal Delivery from Europe."

### STUDENT & ALUMNI NEWS

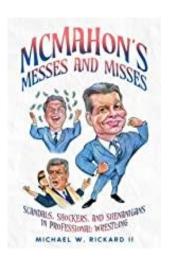


MELISSA BRAWDY BA '23 has published a novel about rival high school football players, *Everything Before Us.* The novel appeared in August and is available on Amazon as a paperback or on Kindle: <a href="https://a.co/d/cLRdaku">https://a.co/d/cLRdaku</a>

Inclusive Theater of Western New York received a grant from the Cullen Foundation to create/run an anti-bullying "Voices Project" with St. Mary's High School in Lancaster. The grant supports racial/cultural diversity, collaboration, community engagement, and access to underserved and previously unreached communities. The

Founder, Executive and Artistic Director of Inclusive Theater is AIMEE LEVESQUE BA '06 MA '09.

MICHAEL W. RICKARD II BA '17 MA '20 published his latest book, McMahon's Messes and Misses, this summer. The book, available via Amazon in paperback or on Kindle, is an overview of Vince McMahon, tracing his origins, how he developed the wrestling company into a global juggernaut, and its future. Michael's press release reports that he is a former attorney and retired bank robber. He is the author of the books, Wrestling's Greatest Moments, Laughing All the Way to the Bank (Robbery): How an Attorney Survived Prison, Flunky: Pawns and Kings, Don't Call Me Bush Beans: The Legend of a Three-Legged Cat, and Don't Call Me Bush Beans 2: I'm Not a Scaredy Cat. His articles have appeared at the wrestling site Ten-Bell Salute, the YouTube channel WrestleLamia, Wrestling Merchandise and Memories, The Mid-Atlantic Gateway, and Pro Sports Extra.



JASON WRIGHT BA '12 reports that "After teaching English internationally in Asia and the Middle East for the past several years, I have been accepted into the M.S. Ed Literacy Specialist program at the University of Buffalo. I will start Fall 2022."

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