LETTER FROM THE DEPARTMENT HEAD

Dear Friends of Purdue English:

This year has been an exciting one for the English Department. Four English faculty earned promotions: Arkady Plotnitsky was promoted to distinguished professor of English; Dino Felluga and Bob Marzec were promoted to full professors of English; and Roxane Gay was awarded tenure.

This spring, several faculty were also recognized by the College of Liberal Arts with major teaching awards: Dino Felluga was selected as a College of Liberal Arts Outstanding Undergraduate Teacher for 2015-2016 while Nush Powell and Derek Pacheco each won a Kenneth Kofmehl teaching award. English Department teaching excellence awards went to Dorrie Armstrong for Outstanding Graduate Teaching (Faculty), to Melanie Shoffner for Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching (Faculty), and to Brittany Biesiada for Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching (Graduate Student).

The honors continue. Roxane Gay won the 2015 PEN Center USA Freedom to Write Award. Angelica Duran and Melanie Shoffner each received Fulbright awards. Don Platt’s poem “The Main Event” was published in Best American Poetry; Marianne Boruch received an Indiana Authors Award and also had a poem selected for Best American Poetry; and Sharon Solwitz’s short story “Gifted” will be included in Best American Short Stories 2016. This year’s Outstanding Senior for English is Alexandri Cramer, a double major in English Education and Creative Writing.

Pat Sullivan won the 2016 College of Liberal Arts Discovery Excellence Award for the Humanities. Other faculty whose research was supported by Purdue include Chris Lukasik who won a Center for Humanistic Study grant; Jenny Bay who won a Center for Undergraduate Instructional Excellence grant; and Sharon Solwitz who won a Center for Artistic Endeavors grant.

Three faculty will be departing at the end of this academic year. Janet Alsup, who has served the department well for several years as Associate Head and Director of Undergraduate Studies, will move to C&I to serve as their head. Shelley Staples will move to the University of Arizona, and Bob Hicok will return to Virginia Tech. We wish them well in all their new endeavors.

In this newsletter, you will find stories about the many extraordinary achievements of our excellent faculty, graduate students, and undergraduate students. I would like to take a moment here to acknowledge those who make equally important every-day contributions: for example, the staff who keep our department running smoothly and without whom a head cannot do her job and also the program directors who keep the undergraduate majors and the graduate programs running efficiently. This year special recognition should go to Shaun Hughes and Janet Alsup who have led the department in rethinking our undergraduate majors and to Ryan Schneider who has led both faculty and graduate students in reviewing graduate education.

Finally, I would like to end with a few words of sincere gratitude. I would like to thank Dino Felluga and his graduate assistant Amy Elliot for putting together another terrific newsletter. On a personal note, as I come to the end of my first year at Purdue, I would like to thank everyone who has given generously of time, knowledge, and words of support to help me learn my way around Purdue. Most importantly, however, I would like to thank all the students, staff, faculty and friends of the Department of English who, through their generous contributions of both time and money, make the department a wonderfully collegial and intellectually stimulating place to work.

-Krista Ratcliffe, Head
Kenneth T. Kofmehl Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award

Professor Derek Pacheco and Professor Manushag Powell were awarded the 2015-2016 Kenneth T. Kofmehl Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award. The Kofmehl is the highest honor granted by the College of Liberal Arts for undergraduate teaching.

The award was established in 2003 to honor Dr. Kofmehl, professor emeritus of political science at Purdue for over 30 years. Nominees are evaluated based on teaching service, student ratings, student and faculty nominations, integration of teaching and scholarship as it relates to the faculty member's educational mission, and efforts to assist and motivate students outside of the classroom.

College of Liberal Arts Outstanding Undergraduate Teacher

Prof. Dino Franco Felluga was selected by the CLA Educational Excellence Committee as the 2015-2016 winner of the College of Liberal Arts Outstanding Undergraduate Teacher.

College of Liberal Arts Discovery Excellence Award

Prof. Pat Sullivan was selected as this year’s winner of the College of Liberal Arts Discovery Excellence Award for the Humanities. This award, given annually, represents the College’s highest recognition for scholarly achievement in the humanities.

Overall English Department Excellence in Teaching Award

Each year, the English department awards the “Overall English Department Excellence in Teaching Award.” Three awards were given for 2014-2015 in the areas of undergraduate teaching, graduate teaching, and instruction by a graduate teaching assistant. The department's Excellence in Teaching committee reviewed applications for evidence of significant reflection on practice, awareness of the institutional and cultural contexts of instruction, a willingness to modify and improve practice, and evidence of creativity and/or innovation in teaching. Congratulations to this year's winners:

Overall Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching: Professor Melanie Shoffner
Overall Excellence in Graduate Teaching: Professor Dorsey Armstrong
Overall Excellence in Teaching by a Graduate Student: Brittany Biesiada

(Pictured from left to right)
Marianne Boruch, Recipient of the National Author Award at the 2015 Eugene and Marilyn Glick Indiana Authors Award Dinner

Professor Marianne Boruch won the 2015 National Author Award, presented at the Eugene & Marilyn Glick Indiana Authors Award Dinner on October 15, 2015. The award recognizes an Indiana writer whose entire body of work is known and read throughout the country. Along with a cash prize of $10,000, winners were also invited to select an Indiana public library to receive a $2,500 grant from the Library Foundation. Prof. Boruch is splitting the grant between the Tippecanoe and West Lafayette public libraries.

Maren Linett and Al López, Recipients of Center for Research on Diversity and Inclusion Grants

Professors Linett and López have received research grants from the Center for Research on Diversity and Inclusion. The grants support faculty members’ scholarly research on diversity and inclusion in order to continue current projects and cultivate new ones.

Sharon Solwitz, 2016 Center for Artistic Endeavors Studies Fellow

Professor Solwitz has been selected as a 2016 Center for Artistic Endeavors Studies Fellow awarded by the CLA Faculty Development Center for her project “Wandering in the Wilderness.”

Jenny Bay and Dino Franco Felluga, 2016 Center for Undergraduate Instructional Excellence Fellows

Professors Bay and Felluga were selected as 2016 Center for Undergraduate Excellence Fellows awarded by the CLA Faculty Development Center. Professor Bay’s project is titled, “IDEALS (Internship Database for Experiential & Applied Learning Strategies) for the Liberal Arts”; Professor Felluga’s project is “COVE: The Central Online Victorian Educator.”

Elena Benedicto, 2016 Transdisciplinary and Interdisciplinary Research Grant Award Recipient

Professor Benedicto has received a 2016 Transdisciplinary and Interdisciplinary Research Grant. The program’s goals are to enhance Purdue’s research reputation both nationally and internationally in the humanities. The award seeks to foster innovation and excellence in research between CLA, other Purdue colleges, and the Discovery Park centers.

Chris Lukasik, 2016 Center for Humanistic Studies Fellow

Professor Lukasik has been selected as a 2016 Center for Humanistic Studies Fellow awarded by the CLA Faculty Development Center. The award supports his current project, “The Image in the Text: Intermediality, Illustration, and Nineteenth-Century American Literature.”
English Outstanding Senior

Alexandria Cramer, a double major in English Education and creative writing, was the English Department’s Outstanding Senior this year.

LITERARY AWARDS WINNERS (G=GRAD; UG=UNDERGRAD)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CREATIVE WRITING AWARDS</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Awards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bain-Swigget Award (UG—Best Poem)</td>
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<td>Barriss &amp; Iola Mills Award (G—Best Poem)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Booth Tarkington Award (G—Short Story or Novel Excerpt)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Church Award (UG—Short Fiction)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Flash Fiction or Prose-poem (G/UG)</td>
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<td>Federal Credit Union Award (G/UG—Short Story)</td>
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<td>Federal Credit Union Award (G/UG—Non-fiction)</td>
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<td>Original Play or Screenplay (G/UG)</td>
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<td>Poetic Sequence Award (Sequence of 5+ poems or 1 poem of 5+ pages)</td>
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<td>Polymnia Prize (UG—Sequence of 3-7 Poems)</td>
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<td>Sidwell Award (G/UG—Novel-in-Progress)</td>
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<tr>
<th>CLA &amp; INTERDISCIPLINARY AWARDS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Awards</td>
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<tr>
<td>CLA Diversity in Action Award</td>
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<tr>
<td>Department of Anthropology Award (G/UG)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Department of Philosophy Award (G/UG)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Disability Studies (G/UG)</td>
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<td>Environmental Studies and Nature Writing</td>
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<td>LGBTQ Studies (G/UG)</td>
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**LITERARY AWARDS WINNERS (G=GRAD; UG=UNDERGRAD)**

**CLA & INTERDISCIPLINARY AWARDS**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Awards</th>
<th>1st Prize</th>
<th>2nd Prize</th>
<th>Hon. Mention</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School of Languages and Cultures Award (G/UG)</td>
<td>David O’Neil (G)</td>
<td>Sarah Bahr (UG)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Science Studies/Science Fiction Award (G/UG)</td>
<td>Brittany Biesiada</td>
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<td>VPA Award</td>
<td>Stacey Dearing</td>
<td>Kathryn Math</td>
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**LITERARY AWARDS WINNERS (G=GRAD; UG=UNDERGRAD)**

**KNEALE AWARDS**

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<tr>
<th>Awards</th>
<th>1st Prize</th>
<th>2nd Prize</th>
<th>Hon. Mention</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kneale (American Literature - UG)</td>
<td>Emily Rames</td>
<td>Emily Rames</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kneale (British Literature - UG)</td>
<td>Emily Rames</td>
<td>Baylee Bunce</td>
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<td>Kneale (Film Criticism - UG)</td>
<td>Sarah Bahr</td>
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<td>Kneale (History - UG)</td>
<td>Jill Bosserman</td>
<td>Jonathan Micon</td>
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<td>Kneale (Popular Culture - UG)</td>
<td>Lukas Plank</td>
<td>Sarah Bahr</td>
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<td>Kneale (Fiction - G)</td>
<td>Samantha Atkins</td>
<td>Bess Cooley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kneale (Poetry - G)</td>
<td>McKinley Murphy</td>
<td>Rachel Reynolds</td>
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<td>Kneale (Linguistics - G)</td>
<td>Jenna Conklin</td>
<td>Jenna Conklin</td>
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<td>Kneale (Literary Criticism - G)</td>
<td>Amy Elliot</td>
<td>Leah Pennywark</td>
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<td>Kneale (Pedagogy - G)</td>
<td>Jeffrey Gerding</td>
<td>Kyle Vealey</td>
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<td>Kneale (Rhetoric and Composition - G)</td>
<td>Nicholas Marino</td>
<td>Mary McCall</td>
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<td>Kneale (Second Language Studies - G)</td>
<td>Yue Chen</td>
<td>David O’Neil</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kneale (Theory and Cultural Studies - G)</td>
<td>Strand Sheldahl-Thomason</td>
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LITERARY AWARDS WINNERS (G=GRAD; UG=UNDERGRAD)
EXPOSITORY AND CRITICAL WRITING AWARDS

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<tr>
<th>Awards</th>
<th>1st Prize</th>
<th>2nd Prize</th>
<th>Hon. Mention</th>
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<tr>
<td>Babcock Award (Shakespeare - G)</td>
<td>Dustin Meyer</td>
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<td>Bass Williams Award (Black Literature - UG)</td>
<td>Jill Bosserman</td>
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<td>Braeger Award (Middle Ages Essay - G)</td>
<td>Justin Barker</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hugh McKee Memorial Award (Business Writing, Technical, or Health Communication - UG)</td>
<td>Sarah Myers Maria Touvannas</td>
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<td>Swedlund Award (News or Feature Story - UG)</td>
<td>Jill Bosserman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Von’s Book Shop Award (Literary Criticism - G)</td>
<td>Justin Barker</td>
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<tr>
<td>Woodman Award (Women’s Literature - UG)</td>
<td>Sarah Bahr</td>
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Purdue Writing Showcase 2016

Every spring, the Introductory Composition and Professional Writing programs at Purdue University host a Writing Showcase. The Writing Showcase is a day-long symposium that displays posters representing the year’s most innovative print and digital projects produced by English 106 and 108 students, professional writing students, and instructors.

Congratulations to this year’s winners:

Best Remediation to Presentation Design: Antonia Roach; “Society on Black Women and Food.”
Best Integration of Multi-Media: Colleen Denunzio; “This Little Place of Mine.”
Best Primary Research: Caroline Shanley; “An Ethnographic Examination of Greyhouse Coffee and Tea.”
Best Visualization of Research: Mart Hirt; “Research Portfolio.”
Best Collaborative Project: Christa Cheatham, Gina Clepper, and Andrew Ring; “Oral History Project with Westminster Village.”
People’s Choice: Savannah Hall; “The Negative Effect of Prostitution.”
Best Assignment Scaffolding Design: Libby Chernouski; “Scaffolding for Scholars: The Research Unit.”
Most Innovative Syllabus Approach Application: Stacey Dearing, Mary Beth Harris, Nick Marino, and Amy Elliot; “Writing with Warriors: Adapting Purdue’s ENGL 106 Curriculum for the Warrior-Scholar Project.”
Best Visual Narrative of Process: Maddie Mills, Colleen Denunzio, Mino Mohsenian, Rob Barringer, Katelyn Graham, and Renzo Alvarez; “English 106 Students’ Experiences with F2F and Online Writing Lab Tutoring.”
**MFS Modern Fiction Studies**

In 2015, MFS published two special issues — “Neuroscience and Modern Fiction” (guest edited by Stephen Burn) and “Infrastructuralism” (guest edited by Sophia Beal, Bruce Robbins, and Michael Rubenstein). In our two general issues of 2015, we featured articles on topics as diverse as Langston Hughes’s short fiction of the 1930s, Henry James’s *What Maisie Knew* in the context of fears about the emergence of the automatic Kodak camera and child photographers, the Mexican ancestry of John Grady Cole in Cormac McCarthy’s *All the Pretty Horses*, zombie figuration in Toni Morrison’s *Beloved*, and Aravind Adiga’s *The White Tiger* as an example of the new social novel in India.

In our fall issue, we announced Adam T. Jernigan’s essay “Paraliterary Labors in Sylvia Plath’s *The Bell Jar*: Typists, Teachers, and the Pink-Collar Subtext” as the winner of the Margaret Church Memorial Prize for the best essay to appear in volume 60. For more information about our current and future issues, please visit us at [www.cla.purdue.edu/english/mfs](http://www.cla.purdue.edu/english/mfs).

-John Duvall, Editor

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**BRANCH, 1775-1925**

*Britain, Representation and Nineteenth-Century History* ([branchcollective.org](http://branchcollective.org)) is based at Purdue and associated with RaVoN ([ravonjournal.org](http://ravonjournal.org)). **BRANCH** publishes articles of various lengths on events occurring from 1775-1925, especially in Britain. Last year, **BRANCH** reached a new milestone by reaching a half million words of material. Recently published articles are by such well-known critics as Florence Boos, James Chandler, Erika Rappaport, and Marjorie Stone.

-Dino Franco Felluga, Editor

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**Arthuriana**

Based at Purdue since 2009, *Arthuriana* continues to publish the latest cutting-edge criticism relating to the Arthurian Legend. Recent special-topics issues have focused on Layamon's *Brut*, Cinematic Interpretations of the Legend, and collections of articles in honor of the great Arthurian scholars Elizabeth Sklar and Al Lupack.

-Dorsey Armstrong, Editor
Robert Hass, Pulitzer Prize winning poet, at the 82nd Annual Literary Awards

April 21, 2016

Robert Hass is, first of all, a poet of great eloquence, clarity, and force, whose work is rooted in the landscapes of his native Northern California. Widely read and much honored, he has brought the kind of energy in his poetry to his work as an essayist, translator, and activist on behalf of poetry, literacy, and the environment. Most notably, in his tenure as United States Poet Laureate, Robert Hass spent two years battling American illiteracy, armed with the mantra, “imagination makes communities.” He crisscrossed the country speaking at Rotary Club meetings, raising money to organize conferences such as “Watershed,” which brought together noted novelists, poets, and storytellers to talk about writing, nature, and community. For Hass, everything is connected. When he works to heighten literacy, he is also working to promote awareness about the environment. Hass believes that natural beauty must be tended to and that caring for a place means knowing it intimately. Poets, especially, need to pay constant attention to the interaction of mind and environment. And when he is talking about poetry itself, whether Matsuo Basho’s or Elizabeth Bishop’s, Hass is both spontaneous and original, offering poetic insights that cannot be found in any textbook.


Awarded the MacArthur “Genius” Fellowship, twice the National Book Critics’ Circle Award (in 1984 and 1997), the Yale Series of Younger Poets in 1973, and the 2014 Wallace Stevens Award, Robert Hass is a professor of English at UC Berkeley.
Visiting Writers Series

Fall 2015

Frank X. Walker, poetry. September 16th: 5:30pm. Co-sponsored with the Black Cultural Center.

Tadd Adcox & Sarah Layden, fiction. September 28th: 7:30pm.

Brian Leung & Roxane Gay, fiction and nonfiction. October 6th: 7:30pm.

Mary Ruefle, poetry. October 19th: 7:30pm. Supported by the Thomas Scholl Endowment.

Charles Baxter, fiction. November 5th: 7:30pm.

Spring 2016

Randa Jarrar, fiction. February 25th, 7:30pm.

Melissa Fraterrigo, fiction. March 2nd, 4:30pm. Co-sponsored with Honors College.

Jarett Kobek, fiction. March 10th, 6:00pm. Co-sponsored with Modern Fiction Studies.

Richard Siken, poetry. March 23rd, 7:30pm.

Sycamore Review

Sycamore Review published its first issue in 1989 and has been running consistently ever since. The first issue was dedicated to Ann Griffith Lindsey, a Purdue University graduate student and poet who had campaigned for a literary journal, but died in a car accident before her dream could become reality. To this day, her parents have continued her dream with a generous bequest in Ann’s name. In the past year, “The Heart of it All + A Free Beer” by Allison Davis (issue 26.2), was selected to be reprinted in Best American Poetry, 2016 anthology. Additionally, the Wabash Prize for Fiction winner “Ghost Jeep” by Micah Dean Hicks (issue 27.1) was featured in Ploughshares’ regular column “The Best Story I Read in a Lit Mag This Week.” This is the third story from Sycamore Review to be featured in this column over the last two years.

A special congratulations to Kara Krewer, Sycamore Review’s former editor-in-chief for receiving a 2016-2018 Wallace Stegner Fellowship at Stanford, one of the most prestigious fellowships for emerging poets and fiction writers. Kara is the fourth poet in from Purdue in the last six years to receive this honor.
MARS 2015 Symposium
In early September, 2015, MARS hosted its annual symposium. This year's speaker was Professor Paul Strohm, Professor Emeritus, Columbia University; and former holder of the J.R.R. Tolkien Professorship of English Language and Literature at the University of Oxford; who spoke on “Reading Chaucer in the Renaissance.”

Medieval and Renaissance Studies
MARS students and faculty were well represented at the 50th International Congress on Medieval Studies (May 2015) at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo. Some of the highlights involving English Department faculty and students were a session on “The Line that Lies Within: Form and Poetics in the Pricke of Conscience” organized by Justin Lynn Barker and Dana M. Roders and sponsored by MARS. On behalf of the Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Studies, Shaun Hughes organized two sessions. Dana M. Roders, winner of the 2015 Thomas Ohlgren Award for Best Graduate Student Essay in Medieval and Renaissance Studies, presented her prize-winning paper, “Foulest Materie: Sin and Mutability in The Pricke of Conscience” in a session on “Medieval English Literature.” The winner of the 2015 Thomas Ohlgren Award for Best Graduate Student Essay in MARS was Justin Lynn Barker for an essay entitled “Unstable Matter and Poetic Authority in Thomas Hoccleve’s Series.” A version of this paper will be presented at the 51st International Congress on Medieval Studies under the auspices of the International Hoccleve Society.

Comitatus
Comitatus, the Purdue Graduate Student organization for students in Medieval and Renaissance Studies was the host this year for the 4th Annual Symposium of the Indiana Medieval Graduate Consortium held on campus March 4-5, 2016. The Symposium Co-Chairs were Jessica Auz and Arielle McKee, both doctoral students in the Department of English. In response to the theme “Exploring the Premodern World,” there were 21 papers given by students from a range of universities across the country including Purdue, Indiana University, the University of Texas at Arlington, and others. The symposium also included a Creative Session at which Lauren Mallett, Maryam Ghafood, and Anthony Sutton were featured writers. The featured speaker was Richard Firth Green, Distinguished Humanities Professor of English Emeritus at The Ohio State University, whose topic, “Sir Orfeo among the Figmenta” drew upon material from his forthcoming book, Elf Queens and Holy Friars: Fairy Beliefs and the Medieval Church.

Early Atlantic Reading Group Annual Colloquium
The Early Atlantic Reading Group (EARG) Colloquium was held on April 8th and 9th, 2016. This year’s theme was “Transatlantic Circulation: Ideas out of Bounds.” Melissa Homestead from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln was the guest speaker and gave her key note address, “Adventures in Transatlantic Circulation: Tracking Women Authors and their Books, the 1790s to the 1830s.” The colloquium features graduate students from Purdue and students from outside the university. Please be on the lookout in the fall for the 2017 EARG CFP. Details about the organization are available through our website: http://earg.weebly.com.
Dino Felluga took a small group of Honors College students to Paderno del Grappa and Venice, Italy during Purdue’s Maymester. The course asked the question: how did we come to be who we are? To answer that question, the class aimed throughout to think like anthropologists, examining the most important moments in the modern understanding of the human in the Western world, with an eye always to the changes happening today because of the digital revolution. All aspects of the human were explored: visuality, space, time, psychology, knowledge, faith, government, art, architecture, music, science, urban space, discipline and punishment. A large focus of the course was the Renaissance, and the area surrounding Venice was particularly influential in the transition from a Medieval to a post-Renaissance way of thinking about all aspects of the human. The program took advantage of the location by seeing and hearing firsthand the art, architecture, music, urban design, and scientific artifacts that were discussed in the course.
Reading London 2016

The Reading London study abroad program takes students to one of the world’s most dynamic cities to focus on the study and teaching of British literature. In the process of learning about literature, students also engage with the culture, history, and character of England as conveyed by the city of London. Undergraduate and graduate students are welcome, although the program is designed with undergraduates in mind.

Reading London is led by Melanie Shoffner, Associate Professor of English Education.
CUBA IN THE 21st CENTURY: POLITICS, CULTURE, AND GENDER STUDIES

A semester-long study abroad collaboration between the College of Liberal Arts at Purdue University and the Instituto de Filosofia/Institute for Philosophy in La Habana (Havana, Cuba)

CALL OUT: APRIL 26, 6-8p
BRNG 1284
Spring 2017
Deadline to Apply: September 15

FOR MORE INFORMATION
Professor TJ Boisseau, Women’s, Gender, & Sexuality Studies
tjboisseau@purdue.edu
Professor Elena Benedicto, English
ebenedict@purdue.edu
purdue.edu/studyabroad
Maymester in London
Global Studies in London and the U.K.

In Maymester 2016, Robert Marzec and his graduate assistant Pamela Carralero will be taking 18 students to London as participants in the Global Studies in London study abroad program. The 6-credit, two-course program introduces students to the rich literary, historical, and cultural context of London and the English countryside. Students began work with a week of classes at Purdue before flying out to spend three weeks in London where they will tour the city, have private access inside the stone circle of Stonehenge at sunset, and spend a night in Oxford and tour its colleges. This year a new addition to the program has been added, with a trip to Boscastle on the beautiful Cornwall coast and a lecture by guest speakers from the National Trust foundation to learn about how the British coast has been affected by soil erosion over the last few years.

In the past, during their time off, students have explored sites as Westminster Abbey, the London Eye; attended a live performance at Shakespeare’s Globe Theatre; and have seen a musical in London’s Soho district. Students and parents wanting more information about the program should contact Dr. Robert Marzec: rmarzec@purdue.edu. In the fall, applications for the 2017 program will be opened. Only 15 slots are available, so apply sooner rather than later! Go to: http://www.studyabroad.purdue.edu/programs/flyer.cfm?flyer=1087&SICountryCode=495.

Maymester in London is led by Robert P. Marzec, Professor of English, Associate Editor of *Modern Fiction Studies*, and author of works on Global, Ecological, and British studies.
Emily Allen
As the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs in Purdue’s Honors College, Emily Allen enjoys her work with undergraduates from across campus and looks forward to moving into a new, state-of-the-art residential complex this summer. Her summer plans also include completing a joint book manuscript, *The Verse-Novel and the Problem of Form*, which she is writing with her English Department colleague, Dino Felluga, and looking back with satisfaction on her current graduate seminar, “The New Formalism,” which is convincing her all over again that the skills we burnish as literary scholars are absolutely critical for the future of the academy—and for the future, period.

Janet Alsup
Janet Alsup published two books with Routledge Press in 2015, one single-authored monograph entitled *A Case for Teaching Literature in the Secondary School: Why Reading Fiction Matters in an Age of Scientific Objectivity and Standardization* and a co-edited collection, *Literacy Teaching and Learning in Rural Communities: Problematizing Stereotypes, Challenging Myths*. Her scholarship on teacher professional identity development continued, as she began research for a new edition of her book *Teacher Identity Discourses: Negotiating Personal and Professional Spaces* (Routledge, 2006). This new edition explores how the experiences of beginning English teachers in 2016 compare and contrast to those reported in 2006. Additionally, Professor Alsup continued her work as English Associate Department Head and presented at the NCTE Convention in Minneapolis, the CEE Conference in New York, and at Al Akhawayn University in Ifraine, Morocco. This year she was selected as a senior fellow in Purdue’s Teaching for Tomorrow program.

Dorsey Armstrong
Dorsey Armstrong was awarded a Humanities Center Fellowship for Fall 2015 and spent that semester continuing work on her current monograph: *Medieval Multiples: Twins in Middle English Literature and History*. In January 2016 she taped her seventh lecture series for The Teaching Company—on the Black Death and its effects on medieval society. Her lecture series for the Teaching Company on King Arthur was released in June 2015, and she continues to serve as Editor-in-Chief for the quarterly academic journal *Arthuriana*. She is currently preparing a new course for the English department (team-taught with Professor Manushag Powell) that will be offered in Fall 2016: Dragons in Literature and Culture.
Elena Benedicto

Professor Benedicto finished her sabbatical completing the first phase of her Motion Predicates project. She taught specialized courses in CIESAS-Sur in Chiapas-Mexico and further collected data in Costa Rica and Nicaragua. She has presented her research in several international conferences: on Sign Language in FEAST-Barcelona, in TISLR-Melbourne, and in DGfS-Konstanz, Germany; on indigenous languages in ACALING-Nicaragua, in CILLA-Austin, TX, and in SSILA-Washington, DC. Her paper on Linguistic Ideologies is coming up in a Mouton-deGruyter volume on Language Documentation. She is currently working on writing the results of her Motion Predicates Global Synergy Grant. She is creating undergraduate Global experiences in Cuba, Costa Rica and Nicaragua to develop international and intercultural global competencies. She mentors undergrad students in her IELLab, in a variety of projects in collaboration with graduate students. She has received a Transdisciplinary and Interdisciplinary Grant to study the inter-implications of linguistic ideologies and the (under)development of multi-lingual grammars.

Margie Berns


Marianne Boruch

(Yaddo, The Anderson Center, the American Academy in Rome, and Denali National Park in Alaska), an English Department graduate teaching award, a Pushcart Prize for the poem “Mudlest,” and inclusion of her poem “I Get to Float Invisible” in the forthcoming Best American Poetry anthology. She was also the “national division” winner of the 2015 Eugene and Marilyn Glick Indiana Writers Award.

Marlo D. David

Marlo D. David’s book Mama's Gun: Black Maternal Figures and the Politics of Transgression is forthcoming with the Ohio State University Press as its Fall 2016 selection for the Black Performance and Cultural Criticism series. Her essay “‘I Got Self, Pencil and Notebook:’ Literacy and Maternal Desire in Sapphire’s PUSH” also appears in the Spring 2016 issue of Tulsa Studies of Women’s Literature. In preparation for her next manuscript project, Marlo has secured a Purdue Library Scholars Grant to begin archival research on experimental African-American playwright and filmmaker Bill Gunn. She will use the grant to travel to archives in New York City and Los Angeles to locate unpublished plays and screenplays by Gunn. On a personal note, Marlo was married last year, and is expecting a son in May 2016.

Bradley Dilger

In his second year at Purdue, Bradley Dilger is still very glad to be a part of the Department, and appreciates the continued generosity of the English staff, students, and faculty. He has been working through data collected in his longitudinal study of writing transfer, submitting three articles co-authored with his collaborator Neil Baird, with several more to follow in the next year. His chapter “West Palm” was published as part of Florida, an innovative collection illuminating the Sunshine State as a network. With Shelley Staples and a great team of graduate and undergraduate students, Dilger is developing Crow, a web-based archive for research and professional development in corpus linguistics and rhetoric and composition. This summer, Dilger will share progress on Crow at several conferences, then begin a term as Director of Composition.


Narrating 9/11 challenges the notion that Americans have overcome the national trauma of the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. The volume responds to issues of war, surveillance, and the expanding security state, including the Bush Administration’s policies on preemptive war, extraordinary rendition, torture abroad, and the suspension of privacy rights and civil liberties at home.

Building on the work of Giorgio Agamben, Slavoj Žižek, and Donald Pease, the contributors focus on the ways in which post-9/11 narratives help make visible the fantasies that attempt to justify the ongoing state of exception and American exceptionalism. Narrating 9/11 examines a variety of contemporary narratives as they relate to the cultural construction of the neoliberal nation-state, a role that mediates the possibilities of ethnic and religious identity as well as the ability to imagine terrorism.

Touching on some of the mainstays of 9/11 fiction, including Jonathan Safran Foer’s Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close and John Updike’s Terrorist, the book expands this particular canon by considering the works of such writers as Jess Walter, William Gibson, Lauren Groff, Ken Kalfus, Ian McEwan, Philip Roth, John le Carre, Laila Halaby, Michael Chabon, and Jarett Kobek. Narrating 9/11 pushes beyond a critical focus on domestic realism, offering chapters that examine speculative and genre fiction, postmodernism, climate change, and the evolving security state, as well as the television series Lost and the film Paradise Now.
Lance Duerfahrd
Lance Duerfahrd is director of the Film and Video Studies Program, a thriving community of cinéphiles with over 150 majors and minors. His article, “Kinski Al Dente: Physical Acting in the Spaghetti Western,” will be appearing later this year in the critical anthology Klaus Kinski: Beast of Cinema. Lance’s article on his production of Samuel Beckett’s Waiting for Godot in Zuccotti Park during the Occupy Wall Street protest will be appearing in an upcoming issue of Samuel Beckett Today/Aujourd’hui. His piece examines the intersection between theater, resistance, public space, and worklessness. Lance is also directing a documentary titled From the Dead about Rick Cluchey, one of the last century’s most renowned actors of Beckett’s work, who found his calling while serving a life sentence in San Quentin.

Angelica Duran
Angelica Duran has turned in the manuscript for the volume she is lead-editing, Milton in Translation (Oxford UP). Her research leave in Spring 2016, with a fellowship at the UT Austin Harry T. Ransom Center, enabled her to complete her monograph Milton among Spaniards, contracted with Northwestern UP. Also forthcoming are her English co-translation of a 19th-century Spanish play, Milton: A Dramatic Scene in One Act and in Verse and a co-guest edited Special Issue called “Milton in the Americas” for the journal Milton Studies. She been awarded a 2015-16 Fulbright Grant for a project conducted in Oaxaca, Mexico called “Benito Juárez’s Schooling and Cultural Education,” which will form part of her next monograph, Milton in Hispanoamerica. She is serving concurrently on two MLA groups, as Treasurer (2012-21) of the Milton Society of America and Executive Board member of the Poetry & Poetics Forum (2016-19).

John Duvall
In June 2015, John Duvall was the keynote speaker at a conference on Don DeLillo hosted by the University of Sussex. August 2015 saw the publication of a collection of essays, Narrating 9/11: Fantasies of State, Security, and Terrorism (Johns Hopkins UP), that John coedited with Robert Marzec. John’s essay, “Representing the Enemy Other; Jarett Kobek’s ATTA, Postmodernism, and the Architectural Unconscious” appeared in the volume. Also in August, John (at age 59!) won first athletic contest. He took 1st place in the men’s solo division at the CASA 24-Hour Cycling Challenge, logging 400 miles on the Subaru test track in Lafayette.

Dino Franco Felluga

Critical Theory: The Key Concepts introduces over 300 widely-used terms, categories and ideas drawing upon well-established approaches like new historicism, postmodernism, psychoanalysis, Marxism, and narratology as well as many new critical theories of the last twenty years such as Actor-Network Theory, Global Studies, Critical Race Theory, and Speculative Realism. This book explains the key concepts at the heart of a wide range of influential theorists from Agamben to Žižek. Entries range from concise definitions to longer more explanatory essays and include terms such as:

- Aesthetics
- Desire
- Dissensus
- Dromocracy
- Hegemony
- Ideology
- Intersectionality
- Late Capitalism
- Performativity
- Race
- Suture

Featuring cross-referencing throughout, a substantial bibliography and index, Critical Theory: The Key Concepts is an accessible and easy-to-use guide. This book is an invaluable introduction covering a wide range of subjects for anyone who is studying or has an interest in critical theory (past and present).
Dino Franco Felluga

Prof. Felluga published two books in 2015: *Critical Theory: The Key Concepts* with Routledge and the million-word *Encyclopedia of Victorian Literature* with Wiley-Blackwell, the latter of which was chosen as an Outstanding Reference Source for Adults by the American Library Association. In addition to presenting at the Trollope Bicentennial Conference in Leuven, Belgium, he delivered papers on keynote panels at the Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Studies conference in Atlanta and the North American Victorian Studies Association conference in Honolulu. Articles of his were published in *19: Interdisciplinary Studies in the Long Nineteenth Century and Modern Language Quarterly*.

Elaine J. Francis

Elaine Francis continues to investigate the syntactic, semantic, discourse-pragmatic, and cognitive factors that underlie the grammar and usage of complex sentence structures. She is first author on a study of Cantonese resumptive pronouns which was published in the journal *Lingua* last year. Her most recent study of relative clause extraposition in English, which she presented at the 2016 meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, is forthcoming in the journal *Language and Cognition*. These and other experiment-based projects have involved graduate and undergraduate students in the Experimental Linguistics Lab here in Heavilon Hall. In addition, she is working on a book entitled *Marginal Acceptability and Linguistic Theory*, for which she received a Social Sciences Center Fellowship in fall of 2015. In this book, she considers how linguists can better understand the nature of language users’ implicit grammatical knowledge despite the very indirect relationship between mental representations and observable linguistic behavior.

Sandor Goodhart

Following a keynote talk Prof. Goodhart delivered at the Australian Girard Seminar at the University of Sydney (and subsequent lectures in Sydney, Canberra, and Adelaide at Charles Sturt University, American Catholic University, and elsewhere), he lectured in October at the University of Western Sydney on mimetic theory and the movies. Prof. Goodhart spoke on Levinas and analytic philosophy at a conference in Paris in April 2015. And in July he brought more than a hundred scholars to Purdue for the annual North American Levinas Society meeting, sponsored in part by the Partner


Awarded a 2016 Outstanding Reference Source designation by the American Library Association.

The four-volume, million-word Wiley-Blackwell *Encyclopedia of Victorian Literature* provides a comprehensive overview of Victorian literature for a new millennium of students and scholars. It is useful not only to students and non-academics but also to scholars seeking an overview that benefits from the many scholarly trends and investments of the last three decades (particularly, the expansion of the canon to include popular, lower-class and female authors). At the same time, the encyclopedia points forward by showcasing some of the new methodologies and critical theories that are being applied to Victorian literature today. As such, it includes articles not only from established scholars but also from many of the exciting new scholars taking the study of the period in fresh directions and to new objects of inquiry. The encyclopedia is a scholarly, authoritative and critical overview of the field as it currently stands, and includes entries on key figures, works, genres, topics, and criticism. Contributors include such well-known Victorianists as Patrick Brantlinger, Regenia Gagnier, Catherine Gallagher, Kate Flint, and Herbert F. Tucker.
University Fund Grant in its second year. He also lectured last July at the Colloquium Violence and Religion in Saint Louis, and in November, at the Jewish American Holocaust Literature Symposium. In January, Prof. Goodhart chaired the Jewish American Literature Forum in Austin, and was subsequently elected as a three-year delegate to the Modern Language Association Convention.

**Shaun Hughes**

Professor Hughes published “The Old Norse Exempla as Arbiters of Gender Roles in Medieval Iceland,” New Norse Studies: Essays on the Literature and Culture of Medieval Scandinavia, ed. Jeffrey Turco, Islandica 58 (Ithaca: Cornell University Library, 2016), 255-300. He gave papers on “The Pre-Christian Iceland of the Íslendingasögur as Subcreation: Towards the Rehabilitation of Those Family Sagas Written After 1400” at the Medieval Academy of America, 90th Annual Meeting. University of Notre Dame in March 2015 and in October a presentation on “Transgressive Romanticism and the Emergence of the Novel in Iceland,” at the International Conference on Romanticism: “Transgressive Romanticism,” held at Park City, Utah. He currently serves as Director of Literary Studies and Director of English Language and Linguistics in the Department of English while in the School of Interdisciplinary Studies in the College of Liberal Arts he is Director of Medieval and Renaissance Studies.

**Michael Johnston**

In 2015, Michael Johnston was named a University Faculty Scholar for the period of 2015–2020. He spent a blissful Spring semester on sabbatical in Oxford, working on his second book. While there, he examined medieval manuscripts in numerous libraries throughout the U.K. and Europe. He also gave several talks in London and Oxford based on his current research, and once back in North America presented work in Seattle and Montreal. In 2015 he also published two essays: “Sir Degrevant in the ‘Findern Anthology’” (Cambridge, University Library MS Ff. 1.6)” in the journal Studies in Bibliography; and “Mercantile Gentility in Cambridge,” University Library MS Ff.2.38,” in Fiona Somerset and Nicholas Watson, eds., Truth and Tales: Cultural Mobility and Medieval Media. His proudest accomplishment was the release of his edited collection, The Medieval Manuscript Book: Cultural Approaches (Cambridge Univ. Press, 2015), co-edited with Michael Van Dussen.

**Michael Johnston and Michael Van Dussen, eds.,**

The Medieval Manuscript Book: Cultural Approaches (Cambridge Univ. Press, 2015)

Traditional scholarship on manuscripts has tended to focus on issues concerning their production and has shown comparatively little interest in the cultural contexts of the manuscript book. The Medieval Manuscript Book redresses this by focusing on aspects of the medieval book in its cultural situations. Written by experts in the study of the handmade book before print, this volume combines bibliographical expertise with broader insights into the theory and praxis of manuscript study in areas from bibliography to social context, linguistics to location, and archaeology to conservation. The focus of the contributions ranges widely, from authorship to miscellaneity, and from vernacularity to digital facsimiles of manuscripts. Taken as a whole, these essays make the case that to understand the manuscript book it must be analyzed in all its cultural complexity, from production to transmission to its continued adaptation.
ENGLISH NEWSLETTER

FACULTY NEWS

Christian Knoeller

Christian Knoeller organized, chaired, and presented papers on four conference panels addressing Native American and Midwestern literature featuring Purdue graduate students. Classmates from the Reading the Midwest seminar (to be offered again next fall), Rachel Bonini, Michelle Campbell, Lauren Mallett, and Chea Parton spoke in interlocking sessions at the Society for Study of Midwestern Literature. At the Midwest Modern Language Association conference, he again organized and chaired two sessions the permanent section on Native American literature which he has coordinated for several years: “The Significance of Place: Cultural Geography in the Writings of Louise Erdrich” and “Cultural Inversions: Tradition and Change in the Novels of Louise Erdrich.” Purdue graduate student Rachel Bonini again participated. Finally, Professor Knoeller also presented “Reading Stone for Environmental History” at the Association for the Study of Literature and Environment. He is presently completing his Reading Environmental History manuscript for the University of Nevada Press.

Robert Paul Lamb

Prof. Lamb’s The Hemingway Short Story: A Study in Craft for Writers and Readers (Louisiana State University Press, 2013) was reissued in paperback last year: http://www.amazon.com/Hemingway-Short-Story-Writers-Readers/dp/0807162299/ref=tmm_pap_swatch_0?_encoding=UTF8&qid=&sr. His agent is currently marketing his completed new manuscript, Huck and Jim’s America: Slavery and Race in Mark Twain’s World. He is now working on his sixth book, a historicist study of African American slave narratives. Last year, Bob received a department Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching Award, the 54th teaching award/honor of his career. He would like to give a shout out to his former dissertator, Eric Carl Link, the new Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Indiana University/Purdue University at Fort Wayne, as well as two of his former Purdue undergraduates, Brian McCammack and Maria Windell, respectively hired to tenure-track assistant professorships at Lake Forest College and the University of Colorado at Boulder. Photo: Bob and his goddaughter Maisie Scott.

Robert Paul Lamb, The Hemingway Short Story: A Study in Craft for Writers and Readers

The sequel to Lamb’s award-winning Art Matters: Hemingway, Craft, and the Creation of the Modern Short Story, hailed by novelist Russell Banks as “terrific, the best thing on Hemingway’s stories I’ve ever read.”

“These fine-grained elucidations of exemplary stories complement the broader discussion of narrative poetics in Lamb’s equally impressive Art Matters. Lamb’s treatment brings biography, cultural history, criticism, and theory to bear on each paragraph. Reading The Hemingway Short Story is like attending a master class on literary craft; an expert scholar-critic reveals the subtle methods and moves that produce the distinctive, memorable effects that comprise Hemingway’s literary signature.”—J. Gerald Kennedy, author of Imagining Paris: Exile, Writing, and American Identity

“Lamb’s insightful readings delight and instruct, and will be cited for many years to come.”—Susan F. Beegel, editor of The Hemingway Review

“This remarkable volume is absolutely persuasive in its clarity, precision, and thought. Anyone interested in fiction will value this thoroughly researched, beautifully written book. Summing up: Essential. Upper-division undergraduates through faculty and professionals.”—Choice
**Maren Linett**

Maren Linett’s second book, *Bodies of Modernism: Physical Disability in Transatlantic Modernist Literature*, is in production at the University of Michigan Press; it will be published late in 2016. She is now working on a new book project, tentatively entitled *Literary Bioethics: Disability, Animality, and the Human*. In the past year, Professor Linett presented work at conferences of the Modern Language Association and the Society for Disability Studies, and in March 2016, she gave the Sherry Levy-Reiner Memorial Lecture at the University of Cincinnati. Professor Linett has launched a new undergraduate minor in Critical Disability Studies, a program housed in the School of Interdisciplinary Studies within the College of Liberal Arts. To celebrate the new minor, she organized a symposium, which took place on February 18, 2016, with talks by four fantastic visiting scholars.

**Alfred López**

Alfred López spent much of 2015 promoting his latest book, *José Martí: A Revolutionary Life*. Praise for his biography of Cuba’s national hero has come from the *Washington Post*, *Miami Herald*, and many online publications. López was a featured presenter at the 2015 BIO [Biographers International Organization] Conference at the National Press Club. He promoted *A Revolutionary Life* with multiple book-signings and invited lectures at Cornell, Illinois State, and CUNY (City University of New York), and interviews with the *Miami New Times*, *Tampa Tribune*, *Huffington Post*, and National Public Radio. Purdue also recognized Prof. López by awarding him the Center for Research on Diversity and Inclusion’s Excellence in Research Award. Prof. López’s new work includes articles in *Cuban Studies* and the *Journal of Florida Studies*. He also continues to write for the *Huffington Post*, contributing articles on Cuba and Cuba-related issues that have reached tens of thousands of readers.

**Christopher Lukasik**

This past year Professor Lukasik presented papers at Columbia University, Universität Regensburg (Germany), Universität Passau (Germany), Universität Heidelberg (Germany), the Center for Intermediality Studies (CIMIG) at Karl Franzens-Universität Graz (Austria), Universität Wien (Vienna), the American Studies Association Convention (Toronto), the Rhode Island School of Art & Design,

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**Robert P. Marzec**


In this extensive historical study of scientific, military, political, and economic formations across five centuries, Robert P. Marzec reveals how environmentality has been instrumental in the development of today’s security society-informing the creation of the military-industrial complex during World War II and the National Security Act that established the CIA during the Cold War.

"Militarizing the Environment is essential reading for anyone committed to understanding the new imperialism and its cynical, sinister appropriation of critical environmental ideas like resilience, adaptation, and sustainability."

-Rob Nixon, author of *Slow Violence and the Environmentalism of the Poor*
and the Center for Historic American Visual Culture Conference (Worcester). This past summer he was invited by the Universität Passau to teach a graduate seminar in American Visual Cultural Studies to students from across Europe. Professor Lukásik also won Excellence in Graduate and Undergraduate Teaching Awards from the Department of English.

**Robert Marzec**

In 2015 Marzec’s new book *Militarizing the Environment: Climate Change and the Security State* was published by the University of Minnesota Press. His co-edited collection with John Duvall also appeared, *Narrative 9/11: Fantasies of State, Security, and Terrorism* (Johns Hopkins). In addition to other essay publications Marzec was awarded an INNOVATE grant with Leigh Raymond (Director, Discover Park Center for the Environment) to develop a new Environmental and Sustainability Certificate Program for the university. He will also be offering his Maymaster Global Studies in London and the UK Program this summer. Interested students can find info on the program’s website: purduelondon.weebly.com.

**Daniel Morris**

Daniel Morris received an INNOVATE grant to develop a course in Poetry and New Media studies. He was named President of the Reception Studies Society. He published a book of poetry, *Hit Play* (Marsh Hawk Press, 2015), and a scholarly work, *Not Born Digital: Poetics, Print Literacy, New Media* (Bloomsbury, 2016). Morris also co-edited a special double issue of *The William Carlos Williams Review* on the poet’s relationship to visuality.

**Derek Pacheco**

Prof. Pacheco is Assistant Editor of *The Nathaniel Hawthorne Review*, a scholarly journal featuring peer-reviewed articles and book reviews on the life and works of Hawthorne. He is also the new editor of the *Emerson Society Papers*, featuring articles, book reviews, and news about the Ralph Waldo Emerson Society’s activities. In June 2015, he delivered a paper on queer theory and *The Hobbit* at the Children’s Literature Association Conference in Richmond, VA. His essay on “Hawthorne and the American Revolution” in *Hawthorne in Context* (Cambridge University Press) is forthcoming in fall 2016. Last spring, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences awarded Morris a Distinguished Faculty Award for his research and teaching in American letters.

**Hit Play (2015)**

“In a channel surfing acoustically explosive mash-up of socio-cultural commentary, Morris’ pun-drenched *Hit Play* is a witty tour-de-force of juicy jouissance. Pulsing with the rhythms of jazz, counterpointed with ironic rock-riff decadence, it reads as an a-semantic asylum for postindustrial consumerism. And as you Hit Play spinning Dante, Duchamp, Blake, Gaga and Doris Day, Frank O’Hara, Donna Summer and Man Ray, it establishes itself as a vibratory nexus of meaning and desire; a schizophonophilia of recycled culture.” – Adeena Karasick

“Maybe the title of this book isn’t the imperative it appears to be. I see it more as a generic tag. There is the passion play, agit-prop, dramatic monologue, and now the “hit play,” which in olden times we knew as a “greatest hits” collection. It’s not that this isn’t a group of lyric poems, but the lyric here means to draw on the many subgenres of recent decades and compile them. Among them, Morris lays an emphasis on Flarf: a slight whiff of danger, a sense of dislocation, a riddled pop sensibility. Though you can locate the voice, that’s all the more reason *Hit Play* is prone to the embattled questions of attribution and complicity that play out in lyric form every 100 years or so. Morris’ sweep is wider than pretty much anyone’s. It’s the kind of book you’d like to read on shuffle mode, if Morris hadn’t taken care of that for you at the outset.” – Patrick Durgin

“A poet of extraordinary inventiveness and a master of registers, Daniel Morris is one of the best kept secrets of American letters. We, “who never realized the cause of suffering was hope,” are taken by this book back into our own world, beneath tabloid culture and its exploitation of suffering, and shown sorrow.” – Gabriel Gudding
Venetria K. Patton

On January 11, 2016, Venetria K. Patton was appointed the head of the School of Interdisciplinary Studies in Purdue University’s College of Liberal Arts. Patton has been director of the African American Studies and Research Center for 12 years, and Provost Fellow for Diversity and Inclusion. The School of Interdisciplinary Studies was founded in 2014 and is the home of 14 programs, including African American Studies, American Studies, Asian Studies, Asian American Studies, Comparative Literature, Film and Video Studies, Global Studies, Jewish Studies, Latin American and Latino Studies, Linguistics, Medieval and Renaissance Studies, Peace Studies, Religious Studies and Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies.

Donald Platt


Arkady Plotnitsky

Arkady Plotnitsky was appointed a Distinguished Professor of English last December. During the last year he has published articles in Philosophical Transaction of Royal Society, Foundations of Physics, and Undecidable Unconscious: The Journal of Deconstruction and Psychoanalysis, and essays in collections on Romanticism, Postmodernism, continental philosophy, and the philosophy of mathematics and science. He was a plenary speaker at several conferences and gave invited lectures on these subjects here and in Europe. He is the co-founder of a new center at Purdue: “The Center for the Study of Louisville...”

Daniel Morris

Not Born Digital: Poetics, Print Literacy, New Media (2016)

Not Born Digital addresses from multiple perspectives – ethical, historical, psychological, conceptual, aesthetic – the vexing problems and sublime potential of disseminating lyrics, the ancient form of transmission and preservation of the human voice, in an environment in which e-poetry and digitalized poetics pose a crisis (understood as opportunity and threat) to traditional poetry.

"This is one of the best studies to date of what happens to poetry and the poetic in our ‘new media age.’ Himself a poet, Daniel Morris understands as have few critics that the real effect of the digital on younger poets is to create an entirely new sense of materiality, of poetry as the archive of experience rather than a finished product. For the poets . . . , it’s not a matter of writing ‘digital poetry’ but of making use of the new constraints the digital puts upon us.”

- Marjorie Perloff, Stanford

"As long as ‘old’ media persist, writers will worry, contest, play with, theorize, explore, and explore their relationship to ‘new’ media. From this position, Daniel Morris reads across generations from Wiener and Howe, through Codrescu and Goldsmith, to ‘experiments in digital citizenship’. . . , offering a careful and sometimes controversial poetics of convergence culture as these poets negotiate issues of personal and historical trauma, archiving, memory, witness, authorship, and some sort of human future.”

- Alan Golding, Professor of English, U of Louisville
Manushag Powell

Last year, Professor Powell published two essays (“Teaching Jonathan Wild: A Novel for All Classrooms” in MLA’s Approaches to Teaching Henry Fielding, and “Eliza Haywood: Periodicalist?” in the Journal for Early Modern Cultural Studies), as well as a review essay on “Marvelous Contradictions” in depictions of eighteenth-century magic and wonder in the Huntington Library Quarterly. She also taught pirates, early drama, and a fantastic class on Gothic literature, attended both ASECS and “The Future World of Eighteenth-Century Studies: A Conference in Honor of Felicity Nussbaum,” won two fantasy football tournaments, and had only a half dozen or so exhausted breakdowns as she fought off her toddler’s pitiless attempts at germ warfare. She looks forward to another excellent year ahead.

Victor Raskin

Victor Raskin has continued with his interminable keynote addresses, invited plenary papers, and humble submissions at more international conferences than anybody should ever go to in any one year, but he cannot stop before machine learning is finally dead! He has also signed a contract for the first one of a two-volume book on computational semantics and missed only one deadline so far. He contributed an invited chapter on humor for the OUP Word Handbook and is sending out an invited chapter and a half for Salvatore Attardo’s (Ph.D., ENGL-Purdue, 1991) Routledge “Handbook on the Linguistics of Humor.”

Charlie Ross

Charles Ross is looking forward to the publication of his and Joel Davis’s modernized edition of Philip Sidney’s Arcadia (1593), the source for so much of Shakespeare’s poetry. The cover will feature work by a modern artist. There’s an oddly erotic quality to it that matches Sidney’s strange art: the richness, emptiness and suggestion of fullness, the wilted flower that undercuts the heroic. The royal purple fits Sidney’s aristocratic status while also suggesting the problems that brought him, as it does his heroes, who keep making mistakes despite their cleverness. The book is really about the heroines Pamela and Philoclea, and Greek art is full of vases and cups. This edition will be presented at the Renaissance Society of Probability and Contextuality Across Disciplines”. His new book, “The Principles of Quantum Theory: The Nature of Quantum Reality and the Spirit of Copenhagen,” will be published in the summer of 2016.

This edited collection focuses on the preparation of secondary English Language Arts (ELA) teachers to effectively teach English language learners (ELLs) in 21st century ELA classrooms. As the ten chapters in this book attest, while ELA teacher educators recognize the importance of educating pre-service and in-service teachers to teach ELLs, they struggle with how to do so. The increasing diversity and established needs of today’s student population, however, require English teacher educators to consciously consider what is needed to prepare ELA teachers for ELL students. English teacher educators must ask and answer difficult questions: What does ELA teacher preparation look like when it meaningfully incorporates preparation to teach ELLs? How does ELA curriculum change when teacher educators address ELL learning, specifically? How can ELA teachers learn to work more effectively with ELLs in their current classrooms? The chapters in this collection address those questions, covering a range of topics that includes the current state of ELL education in the ELA classroom, approaches to leveraging the talents and strengths of bilingual students in heterogeneous classrooms, best practices in teaching writing to multilingual students and ways to infuse the secondary English teacher preparation curriculum with ELL pedagogy.

Luciana C. de Oliveira and Melanie Schoffner, eds., Teaching English Language Arts to English Language Learners: Preparing Pre-service and In-service Teachers (forthcoming 2016)
ENGLISH NEWSLETTER

FACULTY NEWS

Melanie Shoffner, ed., Exploring Teachers in Fiction and Film: Saviors, Scapegoats and Schoolmarm (2016)

This book about teachers as characters in popular media examines what can be learned from fictional teachers for the purposes of educating real teachers. Its aim is twofold: to examine the constructed figure of the teacher in film, television and text and to apply that examination in the context of teacher education. By exploring the teacher construct, readers are able to consider how popular fiction and film have influenced society’s understandings and views of classroom teachers.

Organized around four main themes—Identifying with the Teacher Image; Constructing the Teacher With Content; Imaging the Teacher as Savior; and The Teacher Construct as Commentary—the chapters examine the complicated mixture of fact, stereotype and misrepresentation that creates the image of the teacher in the public eye today. This examination, in turn, allows teacher educators to use popular culture as curriculum. Using the fictional teacher as a text, preservice—and practicing—teachers can examine positive and negative (and often misleading) representations of teachers in order to develop as teachers themselves.

James Saunders

Professor Saunders has spent some time this year learning about escaped slave communities that existed on the outskirts of Indiana towns. 2015 saw the publication of “James Alan McPherson and the Metaphor of Dance” and “The Storyteller's Gift: Howard Frank Mosher's Ongoing Literary Enterprise.” Essays on Shirley Jackson are forthcoming. Saunders is currently involved with doctoral projects including the interconnectedness of biology and technology, and how technology has led to a lessening of humaneness.

Melanie Shoffner

Prof. Shoffner will have two edited books published in 2016: Exploring Teachers in Fiction and Film: Saviors, Scapegoats and Schoolmarm (Routledge, now officially in print) and Teaching English Language Arts to English Language Learners: Preparing Pre-service and In-service Teachers (Palgrave Macmillan) with Prof. Luciana de Oliveira (University of Miami). Thanks to the Study in a Second Discipline Fellowship, Prof. Shoffner is currently immersed in the historical study of World Wars I and II. Prof. Shoffner continues her work as Chair of the Conference on English Education (CEE), editor of CITE (English) and member of the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) Executive Committee. She maintains her youthful exuberance by volunteering in a local kindergarten classroom—because 5-year-olds are fun.
Tony Silva


Sharon Solwitz

Sharon Solwitz's prime accomplishment is a signed contract from Random House (Spiegel and Grau) for her novel *Once, in Lourdes*. The publication date, which seems to stretch on interminably, is June 2017, though possibly earlier. “Magnify, Sanctify” won first prize in fiction from the *American Literary Review* in spring, 2015, and can be read online. “Gifted” received an honorable mention from *New Millennium* and was published summer, 2015, in *The New England Review*. An essay on Alice Munro came out this summer as well, in *Writer’s Chronicle*. “Vibrato” received an honorable mention from *Nimrod*, *Once, in Lourdes* was the sole finalist in the AWP novel contest. “Imposter,” published the previous year, was named “distinguished” in *Best American Short Stories* 2013.

Irwin Weiser

Irwin Weiser spent much of his 2015 sabbatical in New Zealand and Washington, D.C., where he met with faculty and administrators at a number of universities and with U.S. Department of State staffers who are involved with international education. During that time, he delivered two papers based on research he has been conducting with first-year international undergraduate students at Purdue to learn more about their language and cultural preparation and their motivation for coming to the U.S. to earn degrees. He is currently working on an co-edited collection with Shirley K. Rose titled *The Internationalization of U.S. Writing Programs*.

Luciana C. de Oliveira and Tony Silva, eds.,

*Secondary Language Writing in Elementary Classrooms: Instructional Issues, Content-area Writing and Teacher Education* (2016)

Second Language Writing in Elementary Classrooms focuses on L2 writing in elementary classrooms. It features chapters that highlight research in elementary classrooms focused on the writing development of multilingual children, and research in teacher education to prepare elementary teachers to teach L2 writing and address L2 writers' needs. Part I presents instructional issues for L2 writers at the elementary level. Part II focuses on content-area writing. Part III focuses on L2 writing teacher education at the elementary level.
Matthew Allen
Matthew Allen has been working with the Purdue Language and Cultural Exchange (PLaCE) program while completing his dissertation. Fortunately, these are related endeavors. PLaCE is a new instructional unit that supports international students who learned English as a second language and who will benefit from language and cultural support as they “bridge” to the U.S. university context. In PLaCE, Matthew primarily works to develop and deliver integrated-skills courses for incoming students. He also works on complementary projects, including the ACE-In (an Internet-based, semi-direct, post-entry English proficiency test), Short Courses for specific language skills, and a Language Partner Program. His dissertation investigates silent and oral reading fluency for advanced English language learners. He (with colleague and department alum Lixia Cheng), will present parts of this research at AAAAL and GURT. In the past year, he presented on writing rubrics at MwALT and using technology for oral English practice at TESOL.

Justin Barker
Justin’s article “Alle kynnes thynge’s: The Ecology of Piers Plowman” will appear in Parergon in Spring 2016. In April she will present her paper “Indeterminate, Dynamic Matter and Poetic Authority in John Metham’s Amoryus and Cleopes” at Method and the Middle English Text at UVA. Additionally, she will present “Unstable Matter and Poetic Authority in Thomas Hoccleve’s Series” as part of the International Hoccleve Society session at Kalamazoo 2016. She is also co-organizing a panel on behalf of the Medieval Academy of America: “The Modern Grail: Insider Tips from Search Committees to Land That Academic Job (A Roundtable).” Justin has received a New Chaucer Society Donald Howard Travel Scholarship and will be participating in the NCS Graduate Workshop at the New Chaucer Society 2016 Biennial Congress in July. Finally, on behalf of the Medieval Academy of America, Justin has started an undergraduate mentor program for Kalamazoo 2016.

Elizabeth Boyle
In 2015, Elizabeth A. Boyle’s article, “‘Becoming a Part of Her Innermost Being’: Gender, Mass-Production and the Evolution of Department Store Culture in Edith Wharton’s ‘Bunner Sisters,’ was published in American Literary Realism. This past fall, she presented an essay titled “Memorialization, Living Histories, and Mixed-Race Bodies in Frances W.E. Harper’s Minnie's Sacrifice” at the Midwest regional PCA/AGA conference. This semester she will present “To me you are not a man, but a nation': Mary Mann, Domingo Sarmiento, and (Co)Authoring American Identity in Life in the Argentine Republic” at the Early Atlantic Reading Group Annual Colloquium.

Michelle Campbell
Last June, Michelle presented “Lucy Parsons: A Midwestern Anarchist Writer” at the Society for the Study of Midwestern Literature and organized the Anarchism and the Body Conference at Purdue University. Her chapter on Octavia Butler and post-anarchist feminism was published in Specters of Anarchy: Literature and the Anarchist Imagination in August 2015. In March 2016, she presented two talks at Indiana State University’s Women’s History Month Colloquium as an invited guest speaker. This spring, she will be presenting papers at the EARG Colloquium, Midwestern History Association, and The Society for the Study of Midwestern Literature. She is currently guest editing a special edition of Anarchist Developments in Cultural Studies and is planning on apply for a National Endowment for the Humanities grant with a team of scholars to translate and collect the writings of 19th century French radical Jenny P. d’Hericourt.

Stacey Dearing
Stacey Dearing presented her paper “Reflecting on Folly: Disease and Communitism in the Journal of Joseph Johnson” at the Native American and Indigenous Studies Association in Washington D.C. last June. She also presented her paper “Of things invisible to mortal sight’: Witnessing in Samson Agonistes” at the Conference on John Milton in Murfreesboro, TN in October. Stacey is highly invested in graduate student professionalization, serving as co-chair of the professionalization committee and as the President of the Early Atlantic Reading Group, organizing professionalization events such as a writing retreat, reading groups, and conference preparation. She also received a departmental Excellence in Teaching Award. This summer, Stacey will be returning for her third year as a writing instructor for the Warrior-Scholar Project at the University of Michigan to prepare college-bound veterans for academic success.

Amy Elliot
Last July, Amy presented on Lord Byron and George Eliot at the North American Victorian Studies Association (NAVSA) Conference in Hawaii. She attended the four-day NAVSA professionalization workshop as well. She also joined the Warrior-Scholar Project summer program at the University of Michigan as a writing instructor preparing veterans to attend college. She was a 2015 Humanities Without Walls Fellow for a 3-week summer program...
in Chicago on the public humanities. In the fall, she participated as part of the pilot study with the Purdue Polytechnic pairing English 106 Composition with Tech 120 Intro to Design. In March 2016, she presented on efficacy of graduate student writing groups on a panel with the Purdue Writing Lab at the East Central Writing Centers Association based on her work with Purdue’s Military Family Research Institute. She currently serves as treasurer of the Early Atlantic Reading Group and presented on Coleman’s Bluebeard at their annual colloquium. Amy was also awarded an Excellence in Teaching Award by the English department.

Joshua Galat
Joshua’s first article, “The nameless something: Authorial Suicide and the True Body of the Autobiography of Mark Twain,” is forthcoming Spring 2016 in the Mark Twain Journal. He currently has two additional articles under review elsewhere. Last summer, Joshua earned a PUF fellowship to travel to Nancy, France and participate in an intensive summer school dealing with the philosophy of science. While in Nancy, he gave a conference presentation titled “Lacan and Mathematics.” Joshua also worked with Dr. Sandor Goodhart and Pamela Carralero to organize and manage the Emmanuel Levinas conference held at Purdue during the summer. He presented a paper called “The Hospitality of the Law and The Trial for the De-Facement of the Other” and contributed to a special pedagogy session on Levinas and Midrashic reading. Last year, Joshua was awarded an English Department Excellence in Teaching Award.

Mary Beth Harris
Mary Beth has been working away on her dissertation Women Writers and the Genealogy of the Gentleman: Masculinity, Authority, and Male Characters in Eighteenth-Century English Novels by Women. In March, she presented twice at this year’s American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies; she presented a paper “Uncovering the Gentleman: Recovering the Male Characters of Eighteenth-Century Women Writers” and discussed her presentation “What’s in a Rake?: Unbracketing Masculine Desire in Amatory Fiction,” as part of a roundtable on Amatory fiction. In November, she presented her paper “The Singularity of Arabella’s Dress as Material Generic Power in Charlotte Lennox’s The Female Quixote,” at the Aphra Behn Society Conference. Besides remaining an active participant in EARG, Mary Beth has also continued “killing it” on the Purdue Department Bowling Team.

Katie Hummel
This year, Katie Hummel presented papers at three conferences: the Southern Humanities Council Conference in Louisville, KY; the British Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies Conference in Savannah, GA; and the EARG Spring Colloquium at Purdue. During the fall semester, she developed a new syllabus for her section of ENGL 106 that was linked with TECH 120, and also began working as a tutor in the Writing Lab. In February, she was selected as the College of Liberal Arts’ M.A. nominee for the Excellence in Teaching Award for the Midwest Association of Graduate Schools (MAGS). She looks forward to starting her Ph.D. in postcolonial literature and eco-criticism in Fall 2016.

Cody Krumrie
Cody Krumrie’s paper “A Spectrum of Authority: Performing Sovereignty in A King and No King” was accepted for presentation at the 40th Comparative Drama Conference in Baltimore.

Lauren Mallett
Lauren Mallett’s poetry appears in Tupelo Quarterly and Smartish Pace. Last summer she was a Teaching Associate for the Reynolds Young Writers Workshop and a Lead Instructor for the Indiana Writers Center Young Writers Workshop. This coming August, she will join the faculty of Francis Marion University as Assistant Professor of Professional Writing.

Christy McCarter
This year Christy was selected to participate in the Digital Rolls and Fragments Project, facilitated by Yale’s Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library, which works to produce digital editions of medieval texts. She was also selected to participate in two Research Methods Workshops at the Newberry Library (“Medieval Studies at the Newberry” and “From Manuscript to Print: Evolution or Revolution”), for which she received two Newberry Renaissance Consortium Grants. In April, she will present her paper, “The Canterbury Tales as a Literary History of the Book,” at the Method and the Middle English Text conference at UVA. Additionally, Christy organized a Medieval and Renaissance Studies sponsored session, titled “Editing for Form: Attending to Manuscript Realities” for this year’s International Congress on Medieval Studies. On campus, Christy represented Comitatus as secretary, and will chair a panel at Purdue’s hosting of the Annual Indiana Medieval Graduate Student Consortium conference, titled “Arthurian Characters and Community.”

Rebekah Mitsein
In November, Rebekah Mitsein presented a paper on Oronoko and the trans-Saharan luxury trade at the Aphra Behn Society Biannual Conference. In January, her article “Humanism and the Ingenious Machine: Richard Ligon’s True and Exact History of the Island of Barbados” was published in JEMCS. This spring, she will be sharing her research on Ethiopian women in eighteenth-century British literature at ASECS. She graduates in May, and next fall she will be joining the faculty at Boston College as Assistant Professor of Eighteenth-Century British Literature and Culture.

Adrianna Radosti
Adrianna Radosti presented her paper, “Give me food: Feasting and Communion in the Contes del Graal,” at the 2016 Newberry Library Multidisciplinary Graduate Student Conference in Chicago, IL. Her travel to the conference was generously funded by the Newberry’s Center for Renaissance Studies Consortium. Adrianna also presented a paper titled “We Have Met the Enemy
and He is Us: Transnational Conflict in *A Burnable Book*” in the medieval studies track at the Popular Culture Association Conference.

**Leah Pennywark**
This year Leah Pennywark has presented on hardboiled masculinity at MELUS, ethnofuturism at ASA, and is presenting at ALA on Cold War detective fiction this May. She has enjoyed her second year as an editorial assistant at MFS and a new position as an acquisitions, editorial, and special projects assistant at Purdue University Press. She also has a forthcoming article in LIT on eugenics and hygiene.

**Heather Wicks**
Heather Wicks published a chapter, “‘The monument woos me’: Necrophilia as Commemoration in Thomas Middleton’s The Lady’s Tragedy,” in *Sexuality and Memory in Early Modern England* published this January by Routledge. This March she will be presenting a paper at the Shakespeare Association of America’s annual conference in New Orleans. She received the SAA’s Graduate Student Travel Award for her paper on Shakespeare and Ford.

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