Our first “hurricane” has passed; it must be time to start classes again. These past few months, I have been thinking about the profound impact that place or location has on literature and also, by necessity, on the ways we understand literature. Hurricanes are for us a rather prominent example of the shaping influence of environment. But transplanted Floridians also notice a lack of seasonal change. For us, there is no “season of mists and mellow fruitfulness,” no cooling temperatures, no autumnal foliage. How often we have lamented the absence of this time of fruition! A number of new faculty and a large group of new graduate students who come to us from the northern and Midwestern states will have to get used to our place. Our leaves fall in “spring,” and the humid months of “fall” hold the promise of the balmy paradise of “winter.” Just wait a few months (and keep a close eye on the Weather Channel).

We have a new class of sixteen MA, eight MFA and twelve PhD students; a total of thirty-six new graduate students. They come to us from schools as far away as Brigham Young University and Marietta College in the west, Wittenberg, Cleveland State, Notre Dame, Akron and Louisville in the middle states, SUNY Oswego and Boston College in the north and University of Texas, Alabama-Huntsville and Tennessee Tech in the south. We also have two international students, a Fulbright scholar from Indonesia and an exchange student from Sweden. We welcome you all and the many students joining us from around the state of Florida.

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Interview with New Faculty Member Heather Meakin

Let me say how delighted I am to join the Department of English at USF! I invite all of you to drop by my office (CPR 386) and introduce yourselves so that I can get to know everyone.

I received my B.A. and M.A. from the University of Toronto and my D.Phil. from Oxford University. My areas of specialization are Renaissance literature, especially poetry, and feminist theory. While at Oxford, I worked with Katherine Duncan-Jones, Dennis Kay, Julia Briggs and John Carey. My dissertation examiners were David Norbrook and Catherine Belsey. Professor Carey’s dazzling intellect and his immense generosity to his students has since become a model to which I aspire in my own career. The dazzling intellect part is proving much tougher than being kind to students! I spent a couple of years outside academe right after graduation from Oxford and, among other things, worked in New York City at Harper’s Magazine. During this time, Oxford University Press invited me to publish my dissertation on John Donne in their Oxford English Monographs Series, and that book came out in November 1998 with the title John Donne’s Articulations of the Feminine.

A postdoctoral fellowship returned me to academe at the University of Western Ontario where I started a project on the rhetoric of immortality in Renaissance literature and one on the sense of touch in the Renaissance. However, I had visited a museum in

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Important Dates

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<td>25 August</td>
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<td>New Faculty Research Panel</td>
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<td>Michael Bérubé Visit</td>
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<td>Stacy Holman Jones</td>
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<td>Lunch with a Scholar Series: Dr. Runge</td>
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*Cont. p. 2*
With this interest in geographical diversity, I want to draw your attention to the formation of a new group for international students in our program, headed up by Mantra Roy (from India) and Sarah Namulondo (former Fulbright scholar from Uganda). I hope all of you with international interests will consider participating in this informal, information-sharing group. Also, in this edition we have highlighted the international experience of one of our graduate students, Amy Clanton, who studied in Ireland this summer and describes how she learned about the Yeats International Summer School and what it involved. Please keep us aware of your own research initiatives, especially when they take you beyond our national borders. Regardless of the temperature and color of the leaves, the list of accomplishments in this newsletter indicates a high level of scholarly fruition. Our faculty, graduate students and alumni have published books and articles, presented at high profile conferences and earned important professional positions. Meanwhile, plans for a busy schedule of lectures and events, including visits by Michael Berube (September 23) and E. L. Doctorow (November 13), point to an abundance of activity this fall.

—Dr. Laura Runge

### Congratulations Summer Graduates

**PhD Rhetoric & Composition**
Julia L. Mason

**MA Literature**
Suzanne M. Desmond
Nancy H. Fletcher

### Interview Continued

Southeast England right after graduation as a treat to myself, to see what is called the Painted Closet of Lady Anne Bacon Drury. She was a patroness of John Donne, who wrote his *Anniversaries* on the occasion of the death of Lady Anne’s daughter, Elizabeth. I thought I would return home and read all about this fascinating little room (used not for storage but for meditation, reading and writing) comprised of pictures and Latin mottos that hinted at a formidable intellect (fitting for the niece of Sir Francis Bacon), but I could find only one article, or rather book chapter, on it. I decided I would write my own article on the closet, but that article has since become a 150,000 word typescript forthcoming from Ashgate Press, with a second companion volume to follow (hopefully Ashgate will be interested in it, too!).

I’m still interested in the rhetoric of immortality and the sense of touch, and have articles in various stages of completion on Margaret Cavendish, Mary Magdalene, John Donne, Milton, and Lucy Hutchinson. I’m also privileged to have been given the opportunity to translate and edit a late 16th-century manuscript compiled by Lady Drury’s father that is still in private hands in England. I LOVE teaching! My very first class assigned to me during my postdoc was... *The Novel!* I enjoyed every minute of it, starting with *Don Quixote* and finishing with Toni Morrison’s *Paradise*. At Case Western Reserve University, I taught the gamut of early modern literature courses, including Shakespeare, Milton, early modern women writers, the surveys, and a grad course on John Donne in which my students and I began writing a play in the voices of nine women (real and imaginary) important to Donne. I’ve also taught graduate courses on the rhetoric of immortality, seventeenth-century literature, and research methods. At the undergraduate level I’ve taught courses on *The Muse in Literature*, Re-cognizing Beauty, Feminist Literary Theory, Introductory Gender Studies, and Composition. I’m so happy to move from the seasons of Cleveland (gray, gray, gray, and gray) to Paradise! The snake in my bedroom, and cockroaches and spiders the size of fried eggs have not been so delightful, however. I used to be an avid cyclist and aerobics instructor until my spine protested several years ago and required surgery. I’m hoping to spend as much time outdoors as possible, though, birding, canoeing the Hillsborough River, and swimming with manatees! I have two wire-haired dachshunds, Finnegan and Dougal, and am generally mad for dogs. I hope to do some volunteer work with the local ASPCA or Humane Society.

—Heather Meakin
For the 2008-2009 school year, the department will have available a limited amount of funds in the amount of $200 per student for travel expenses related to academic conferences. Students must be presenting a paper or chairing a session to be eligible. In order to apply for department funds, you'll need to first apply for funds through the GPSC at http://www.gpsc.usf.edu/money.html (please note that funds from GPSC will only be allotted to students presenting papers). Once you have applied for travel funds through the GPSC, present your proof of application for GPSC funds to Daniel Kanouff (CPR 358-G). Be sure to apply for travel funds well in advance of your travel, as pre-approval paperwork must be completed. For questions on department travel funds, please contact Daniel at dkanouff@cas.usf.edu. While we do not foresee any changes to our current availability of funds, changes to the current policy are subject to further budget restrictions placed upon us by the university or the BOG.

For two weeks this summer I had the honor of attending the W. B. Yeats International Summer School in Sligo, Ireland. I initially learned of the school, an annual event now in its 49th year, while researching Yeats online. The school is organized by the Yeats Society Sligo, and is the society’s major yearly event in addition to smaller educational gatherings and outings which it sponsors throughout the year.

I submitted my application to the school last spring, and then decided to apply for one of the scholarships offered by the Yeats Society. The scholarship application required a letter of intent from the applicant and a letter of recommendation. I am indebted to Flora Zbar, for whom I had most recently written a paper in an area related to Yeats, for writing a persuasive recommendation for me. I was honored to receive a tuition scholarship from the Yeats society, as well as an additional scholarship from Kappa Delta Pi, an honors society I initially joined while working on my Master’s degree.

The program involved an intensive study of Yeats and his milieu. Each weekday morning began with two hour-long lectures by prominent Yeats scholars. Lecturing professors included, among many others, Ronald Schuchard of Emory University (compiler of the renowned collection of Irish literary manuscripts housed at Emory), Terence Brown of Trinity College Dublin (author of W. B. Yeats: A Critical Biography), Margaret Mills Harper of Georgia State University (author of Wisdom of Two: The Spiritual and Literary Collaboration of George and W. B. Yeats). Harper and Catherine Paul of Clemson University just completed editing Yeats’ A Vision: The Original 1925 Version, for which they held a book release and signing during the school.

Each afternoon, students attended a seminar class with one of the professors. The seminars were intimate groups of five to ten students, and I had the pleasure of studying with both Margaret Mills Harper and Catherine Paul. Harper’s seminar focused on looking at Yeats’ poetry through the system that he established in A Vision, and Paul’s seminar traced the similarities and differences between the work of Yeats and Ezra Pound. The school also included tours of historical sites, a performance of Yeats’ play The Dreaming of the Bones, and fiction and poetry readings, including a reading by Nobel Laureate Seamus Heaney.

Attending the Yeats International Summer School not only expanded my understanding of William Butler Yeats, but allowed me to work with and get to know (often over a drink at the pub!) Yeats scholars and students from around the world. It was pointed out that many of the school’s lecturers once attended as students. I hope that I will be able to follow in their steps.

—Amy Clanton
As president of EGSA I would like to welcome all to the new semester. I am excited about meeting the incoming teachers as well as touching base with the returning staff over the next few weeks. EGSA plans to host a number of occasions that will be aimed at preparing those involved with publishing, conferences and creativity. We will also be having a picnic at Riverfront Park toward the close of September, the exact date of which will be announced when we draw closer to the time. I encourage everyone to become involved with EGSA over the next few months. The sense of community that we have the potential to build through this program could prove to be very rewarding. Good luck with the start of the new semester!

—James Ricci

EGSA Happenings

Colloquiums
Works in Progress
Performance Readings
Banyan: Graduate Journal
National Graduate Student Conference

Graduate Accomplishments

ANN BASSO


AMY CLANTON
With a full tuition scholarship from the Yeats Society Sligo and a supplemental scholarship from the honors society Kappa Delta Pi, Amy Clayton attended the W. B. Yeats International Summer School in Sligo, Ireland this summer.

ASHLEY DONNELLY has taken a position as full time Instructor of Communications at Ball State U.

TAYLOR MITCHELL, JAMES RICCI, and QUENTIN VIEREGGE

DAISY PIGNETTI

She was also named the 2009 moderator of the Conference on College Composition and Communication's Emerging Social Software Special Interest Group.

DANIEL PANTANO noted in Poets and Writers, July/August 2008.

GARY SIMONS

ALICIA THOMPSON

QUENTIN VIEREGGE

ALUMNI NEWS

FRANCES AULD (PhD 2005):
Accepted position as an Assistant Professor of early British Literature at Albany State University.

ANNA BESKIN (MA 2007)
Beginning the doctoral program in English at Fordham University.

ALLISON BRIMMER (PhD 2005):
Assistant Professor of Humanities at Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale, teaching Composition, Professional Writing, and Cultural Studies. She is also the president of a newly formed NSU branch of the American Association of University Women as well as the secretary and Newsletter Editor of the Assembly of Expanded Perspectives on Learning.

GREG GIBERSON (PhD 2004):
After graduating in 2004, Giberson took a position as WPA and Assistant Professor in Salisbury, Maryland. Since 2006, he has been an Assistant Professor of Writing and Rhetoric at Oakland University in Rochester, MI.

Alumni News Cont. .Page 5
Alumni News, Continued

MARY MADDEN (PhD 2006)

JULIA MASON (PhD 2008) started a tenure-track Assistant Professorship at Florida Atlantic University this summer.

KATE OLIVER (PhD 2000): Assistant Professor of English at UCF.

CATHY (RODRIGUEZ) PARISIAN (MA 1998) received her PhD from Virginia University in 2006 and starts a tenure-track Assistant Professorship at UNC Pembroke this fall.

TOM PEELE (PhD 2002)
Associate Professor at Boise State U. Ed. Queer Popular Culture, published by Palgrave-MacMillan. He will be teaching French cultural studies at the Université de Pau et des Pays de l'Adour in France in the fall of 2008 and will remain in France on sabbatical through the spring of '09.

RAY VINE (PhD 2005)
Visiting Assistant Professor in the Department of English and Writing at the University of Tampa, teaching Major Authors: Literature of the American South, War in Literature and Film, and Composition and Rhetoric.

ROSALIE BAUM


SARA DEATS, Gordon Deats

NICOLE GUENTER DISCENZA.

MATTHEW DIOMEDE

LAURA HEAD

REGINA HEWITT

JAY HOPLER won the USF Outstanding Research Achievement Award for 2007-08.

CLAUDIA JANNONE has been awarded a Fulbright to Tunisia where she will write a book of poems based on the nation’s wealth of Roman mosaics. She will also be teaching advanced writing, American popular culture, and creative writing.

SUSAN MOONEY

STEPHANIE MOSS is a division head in International Alliance of the Fantastic in the Arts, which meets every March in Orlando.
Faculty Achievements Continued

**SHIRLEY TOLAND-DIX**

**MEREDTH W. ZOETEWEY**


“Lego Model Documentation Project” coauthored with Julie Staggers.

Professional Writing Online. 2008


Committee Member and Panel Chair, Conference of the Association of Teachers of Technical Writing, New Orleans, LA. April 2008.


Upcoming Conferences and Calls for Papers

**ICFA:** International Conference on the Fantastic in the Arts
18-22 March, 2009
Orlando, Florida
Submission Deadline: 30 October 2008
Submissions should be sent to the appropriate division head. See website: [www.iafa.org](http://www.iafa.org).

**Expanding Literacy Studies: Graduate Conference**
5 April 2009 The Ohio State U
Submission Deadline: 15 October 2008
[http://literacystudies.osu.edu/conference](http://literacystudies.osu.edu/conference).

**Palm Beach Poetry Festival**
Palm Beach, Florida
January 2009
Submission Deadline: 31 October 2008
[http://www.palmbeachpoetryfestival.org](http://www.palmbeachpoetryfestival.org/)

“New Voices” in Anglo-Saxon Studies
May 7-10, 2009
Kalamazoo, MI
Submission Deadline: 15 September
Inquiries to Stacy Klein at ssklein@rci.rutgers.edu

**SEA SECS: Southeastern Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies**
5-7 March 2009
Charlotte, NC
Submission Deadline: Session Proposal 1 September 2008
Submission Deadline: Paper Proposal 1 November 2008
Send brief abstract to program chair Dr. Dan Ennis at dennis@coastal.edu. Snail mail submissions may be sent to Dr. Dan Ennis, Department of English, Coastal Carolina University, Conway, SC 29528.

A panel for the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies: International Aphra
26-29 March 2009
Submission Deadline: 15 Sept.
Send 1-2 page abstracts to Dr. Karen Gevirtz, Dept. of English, Seton Hall University, 400 South Orange Avenue, South Orange, NJ 07079 or as email attachments to gevirtka@shu.edu

**FECA: Florida English College Association**
10-16 October, 2009
Ybor City, Florida
Submission Deadline: 19 September 2008
Send a 100-200-word abstract to Donald Pharr, MC 2127, Saint Leo University, P.O. Box 6665, Saint Leo, FL 33574-6665.

**SAML A: South Atlantic Modern Language Association**
7-9 November
Louisville, KY
Submission Deadline: Passed

**Vagantes Medieval Graduate Student Conference 2009**
5-7 March 2009
Florida State University
Submission Deadline: 1 October 2008
Email a brief vitae and abstract of no more than 300 words to: Carey Fee careyfee@yahoo.com

**SAMLA: South Atlantic Modern Language Association**
7-9 November
Louisville, KY
Submission Deadline: Passed

**FECA: Florida English College Association**
10-16 October, 2009
Ybor City, Florida
Submission Deadline: 19 September 2008
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**SAMLA: South Atlantic Modern Language Association**
7-9 November
Louisville, KY
Submission Deadline: Passed
Upcoming Semester Events

**Slavery and Abolition Series**

Presented by the Department of Africana Studies and the Institute on Black Life with co-sponsorship from the Florida Studies Center, Humanities Institute, History Department, Provost’s Office, and College of Arts and Sciences Dean’s Office. All programs will be in the Grace Allen Room, 4th Floor Tampa Library, 3:00-4:15 PM, unless otherwise noted.

**September 1: Joseph Miller (U of Virginia)** “The Era of Atlantic Slaving in the Perspective of World History”

**September 17: Kwabena Akurang-Parry** (Shippensburg U) “‘What Our Views on the Subject of Abolition Are…’: Using the Case of Abolition in the Gold Coast (Colonial Ghana) to Rethink African Agency in the Global Abolition” Room 101 (Marshall Center)

**September 24: Sowande Mustakeem (Michigan State U)** “I Never Have Such a Sickly Ship Before: Disease, Mortality & the Politics of Enslaved Health Care Aboard Slave Vessels”


**October 8: Roquinaldo Ferreira (U of Virginia)** “Africa and Brazil in the Atlantic World”

**October 22: Jane Landers (Vanderbilt U)** “Slavery in the Spanish Caribbean and the Failure of Abolition”

**November 5: Sherwin Bryant (Northwestern U)** “‘In Gorgona Road’: Marked Bodies, Contraband Slave Trading, and the Social Landscape of Eighteenth-Century Barbacoas (Colombia)”

**November 19: Matt Childs (Florida State U)** “The Slaves’ War Against Enslavement: Cuban Slave Resistance in an Atlantic Perspective”

**November 26: Jeff Needell (U of Florida)** “Abolition in 1888 & the Role of Afro-Brazilians: Assumptions, Arguments, & Analysis”

**December 3: Stephen Hall (Ohio State U)** “‘Framing Accounts of the Diaspora’: William Wells Brown and the Creation of Postbellum History”

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**International Student Group Meeting**

The International Student Group will be meeting on Friday August 29th at 2:30 in room CPR 301. For more information, contact Sarah Namulondo at namulond@mail.usf.edu or Mantra Roy at mroy@mail.usf.edu.

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**Teaching Literature Discussion Group**

The first Teaching Literature Discussion Group is scheduled for September 5 from 3:00-4:00 pm in CPR 343. We will read and discuss a short piece by N. Katherine Hayles, “Hyper and Deep Attention: The Generational Divide in Cognitive Modes” in Profession 2007: pp. 187-199. In this article she addresses the strengths and weaknesses of two very distinct cognitive modes, and she argues that the trend in younger generations is toward “Hyper Attention”. Hayles discusses the implications this has for higher education and raises some ideas about what it means for teaching literature.

The schedule for the rest of the semester will be: Fridays Oct. 3, Nov. 7, and Dec. 5, all from 3:00-4:00 p.m. in CPR 343.

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**New Faculty Research Panel Discussion**

On September 18 at 4:30 in the Grace Allen Room of the Library, panelists Shirley Toland-Dix (English) and Antoinette Jackson (Anthropology) will discuss informally their present post-doctoral research. Both panelists are recipients of the McKnight Junior Faculty Fellowship Program that promotes excellence in teaching and research. A reception will be held at 4:00.

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**Michael Bérubé Visits USF**

On September 23, Michael Bérubé, Paterno Professor at Penn State University, will be visiting USF and will give a talk on "The Aesthetics of Cultural Studies" at 3:00-4:30 in the Library’s Grace Allen Room.

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**Lunch with a Scholar Series**

On Tuesday September 30th at the University Club in Tampa, Dr. Laura Runge will present “Swords, Pistols, and Ladies: Dueling in the Age of Reason” for the USF Lunch with a Scholar Series.

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**Works in Progress Group**

Graduate students are invited to join the works-in-progress group, which meets the first Tuesday of each month from 12:30-2pm in the English Department seminar room starting in October. Faculty will present drafts of chapters, conference papers, and articles. Copies of the work to be discussed will be circulated via email one week prior to the meeting.
E. L. Doctorow Visit and Related Events

Great Books Discussion Group: *The March*

On October 23 at 7:00 p.m., the Humanities Institute and the Alumni Association will present a “Great Book” discussion of *The March*. The discussion will be moderated by Dr. Phillip Sipiora and will take place in Traditions Hall of the Alumni Center. A reception will be held at 6:30.

Panel Discussion: History and Literature

A joint English/History Department panel will convene on November 10th to discuss the intertwine of literature and history. The panelists will be Professors Elizabeth Hirsh, Regina Hewitt, Shirley Toland-Dix (all from English) and Professors Scott Perry and Tamara Zwick (from History). Department Chairs Fraser Ottanelli (History) and Hunt Hawkins (English) will moderate. This event is co-sponsored by the English Department and the Humanities Institute with generous support from private donors.

E. L. Doctorow Visit

On November 13, Author E. L. Doctorow will visit USF and give a talk. Edgar Lawrence Doctorow is widely recognized as one of America’s great masters of the historical novel. His novel, *The March*, is a fictional account of General William Tecumseh Sherman's infamous military rampage from the burned-out ruins of Atlanta to the Atlantic ocean, and north into the Carolinas, leaving a path of destruction that affected the South for generations. *The March* recently received the 2006 PEN/Faulkner Award and the 2005 National Book Critics Circle Award and was a finalist for the 2005 National Book Award. The talk will take place at 6:00pm at the Alumni Center and is free and open to the public. This event is co-sponsored by the English Department, and the Humanities Institute with generous support from private donors.

Creative Writing Events

On October 6 at 7:00 p.m., Poet Brian Turner will give a poetry reading at USF GraphicStudio. This event is co-sponsored by the English Department and the Florida Literary Arts Coalition.

On October 15th, Poet James Brock will give a poetry reading. Dr. Brock will speak at 5:30 p.m. in the Grace Allen Room (Library) with a reception at 5:00. This event is co-sponsored by the English Department.

August 2008

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**1** Labor Day Holiday, USF Campus Closed

**3** Teaching Literature Discussion Group 3:00-4:00 CPR 343

**10** Slavery and Abolition Lecture Series Grace Allen Room 3:00-4:15

**17** Slavery and Abolition Lecture Series Marshall Center 101 3:00-4:00

**18** New Faculty Research Panel: Shirley Toland-Dix Grace Allen Room 4:30

**19** Fall 2008 Graduation Application Due; Format Check Deadline for Thesis/Dissertation

**23** Michael Bérubé Lecture

**24** Slavery and Abolition Lecture Series Grace Allen Room 3:00-4:15

**25** Stacy Holman Jones discussing Torch Songs: Performing Resistance from Billy Holiday to Edith Piaf Grace Allen Room 1:30

**28** Lunch with a Scholar Series: Dr. Laura Runge 12:30 University Club Wei Zhang Discussing “Yellow Emperor’s Philosophy” Grace Allen Room 1:30