

Inklinks

The English Graduate Student Newsletter

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DECEMBER 2012

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Message from EGSA President	3
Dispatches from the Job Market	3
Reflections on the Job Market	4
Alumni Accomplishments	5
Graduate Accomplishments	6
Faculty Achievements	7
Recent Graduates and Doctoral Candidates	8
Events	9
CFPs	10

IMPORTANT DATES:

FINAL EXAMS WEEK, DEC. 8–14

COMMENCEMENT, DEC. 15

FINAL GRADE SUBMISSIONS, DEC. 18

DEADLINE TO APPLY FOR DOCTORAL CANDIDACY, DEC. 20

WINTER HOLIDAY, USF CLOSED, DEC. 24–28

NEW YEAR HOLIDAY, USF CLOSED, DEC. 31–JAN. 1

SPRING SEMESTER BEGINS, JAN. 7

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Message from Graduate Director

5 Things I Learned about Digital Humanities in 2012

As we close out the year, I wanted to be the first to present you a retrospective in list form. 2012 was a year that I devoted to learning about digital humanities and trying to integrate it into the English department through readings, blogs, social media, classes, workshops, and these monthly newsletter columns. So what stands out as a take away?

#5) Digital Humanities is so hot right now that it is folding into parody. The Samuel Jackson meme “Just say Digital Humanities” illustrates the term’s entry into popular media as a target for satire, but at the same time it illustrates the signifying power that the term seems to have accrued. Many job ads include reference to “digital humanities,” and while these are usually

media related, they also range from Shakespeare to poetics to African-American literature. This is a big bandwagon.

#4) Open Access is an ethical as well as a business decision for scholars. While print journals become increasingly untenable for economic reasons, libraries, governments, and the community outside of academia are pushing for access to the scholarly works, largely through digital dissemination. As both consumers and producers of this scholarship, we need to examine what is at stake in moving to open access. Open Access means acquiring a larger audience for our work, but it also means breaking up what David Parry calls the “knowledge cartels.” See his keynote address for the 2012 Computers and Writing conference for a well-considered argument in favor of open access scholarship.

(Thanks to Marc Santos for introducing this to me.)

#3) In English, Rhetoric and Composition holds the lead in taking the digital turn, but there are plenty of venues and lots of potential for the fields of literature and creative writing in digital humanities. Go online and search. Follow a blog or two in your area;

English Graduate Links:

Graduate School Homepage:
<http://grad.usf.edu/>

Graduate School Thesis/Dissertation Homepage:
<http://www.grad.usf.edu/thesis.asp>

English Department Homepage:
<http://english.usf.edu/>

USF Library Research/Consultation Request:
<http://asp.lib.usf.edu/Consultations/RSC.asp>

Modern Language Association:
<http://mla.org/>

University of Pennsylvania Call for Papers:
<http://cfp.english.upenn.edu/>

Graduate Director, continued

read the online journals and magazines and get involved. Start your own blog. Work with others who are interested in digital stuff—from archives to the Twitterverse. Most importantly, don't feel as though you are left out because you don't write code. All areas of the English department belong in digital humanities.

#2) Data mining might lead us away from close reading skills, as Mathew Wilkens in the recent [Debates in Digital Humanities](#) contends, but it also can be a tool for more effective close

reading. In my graduate course on the eighteenth-century novel and theory, students conducted small-data mining exercises using the full-text database of the [Hathi Trust](#) and presented their research to the class. In many cases, these text searches enabled a greater understanding of the author's use of language in comparative contexts, and so led to more informed close readings of the novels.

#1) This is just the beginning! If I was doubtful about the digital humanities at the be-

ginning of the year—and I didn't even have a Twitter account until June—I am thoroughly convinced that it is here to stay, and though amorphous, satirized, and at times controversial, the work included under the umbrella of the digital humanities is revolutionizing how we do English. The digital tools available to us can redefine how we teach, how we write, and how we communicate and create. The digital humanities represents a network of resources and potential that we have only begun to experience.

Attention: Upcoming Campus Visits

In January and February, the English Department will be hosting job candidates for four tenure-line positions. Included in these campus visits will be several opportunities for our graduate students to participate. The candidates will give job talks, usually lectures from their research, which are open to the entire department, after which will be question and answer periods. Additionally, job candidates will meet separately with our graduate students for informal chats. I invite you now to participate in these upcoming events. We do not have the dates available yet, because they are not scheduled. But scheduling will happen rapidly in January, and I want you to pay attention to the announcements for job candidates visiting.

It is VERY IMPORTANT for graduate students to participate in these visits. First, it is beneficial

to the department to showcase our informed and active graduate student body by having them participate. Second, it benefits the candidate by allowing him or her to see how our graduate students interact and to learn from them what the graduate experience is like at USF. Finally, it benefits you by giving you a voice in determining the future of our faculty and more importantly by introducing you to the practices of hiring that you may be experiencing soon. It is a great opportunity to see how the top candidates in our searches behave, what their research is like, and what they say in answer to the questions they field.

—Dr. Laura Runge

Message from EGSA President

EGSA Fall Colloquium

“Pain and Healing”: All Pleasure, No Pain

In Beckett’s short story “First Love,” the narrator discusses his pains, declaring, “To be nothing but pain, how that would simplify matters! Omnidolent!” The theme of the EGSA’s Fall Colloquium this year was “Pain and Healing,” making no attempt to simplify these complicated issues but rather to “embrace the f/utility of our words” to cause, expose, and—potentially—to end pain.

It was my pleasure to attend the colloquium, which took place on Friday, November 16, in Cooper Hall 103. The colloquium coordinators this year, Kristen Gay and Whitney Templeton, did a fantastic job not only of choosing a provocative theme and crafting a thoughtful and stimulating call for papers, but also in generating interest for the colloquium. As a result, Kristen and Whitney received an especially high number of submissions, and the colloquium itself was well-attended by graduate students, undergrads, and professors (and the occasional lost student who confusedly wandered in,

sat down, and then tried to exit discreetly). There were three panels and 14 presenters in all, with students from both the MA/PhD literature track and the MFA program. Professor Rita Cirese also provided a delightful reading (for a look at the conference program, check out the page on our website: http://usfegsa.org/EGSA/Pain_%26_Healing.html). The presentations covered a wide array of topics, from eye shunts to Toni Morrison to S.A.D., each offering a productive new angle on the main theme. I especially enjoyed the interplay in each panel between the creative pieces and the literature papers, as well as the lively discussions after each panel.

I want to thank all the panelists for sharing their great work—it’s a privilege to labor alongside such talented people—and thanks also to everyone who attended and helped behind the scenes with the colloquium. Special props to Kristen and Whitney for all their creativity and hard work—the colloquium was a great success thanks to their efforts.

—Allison Wise
EGSA President

Dispatches from the Job Market, by Jude Wright

This time of year is the most stressful time to be on the job market. I know, as this my second attempt. Last year I made my first tentative effort at finding a job, something that I looked at as a kind of dry-run for this year’s search in earnest. And last November I wrote a little bit in *Ink-links* about my methodology for searching for jobs. (I would also recommend the excellent articles from last December and February by Kyle Stedman who actually got a tenure-track job.)

Anyway, as I was saying, this time of year is one of the most stressful times in the whole market season. Due dates for most (though not all) applications have passed or are about to pass. What once seemed a veritable flood of job postings in *The Chronicle of Higher Education* and on the MLA Jobs List has subsided into a trickle. Now all there really is to do (other than get those last few applications in) is to wait and

hope for requests for more materials, interview appointments, and signs of intelligent life behind the sometimes very faceless human resources departments. And the waiting, as everyone knows, is the hardest part. So while I’m waiting, I thought I’d share a few things I learned last year.

First, everyone who has gone on the job market will tell you how time-consuming it is, how much of your life will be lost writing and rewriting letters, filling out online forms, and wrangling with non-user-friendly and archaic application systems. They will advise you that you will spend far too much time tinkering with the font on your CV, or fixing formatting errors that have somehow found their way into your writing sample. They will tell you that you will lose a month of productivity searching and applying. You will not believe them (I didn’t), but they are right. Because the process is so time-consuming, it

is important to start as early as possible. If you are planning to go on the market next year, I suggest you begin drafting basic materials now. One of the great benefits to me this time around was all of the work I’d put in last year. It has been much easier to update my materials than to start all over from the beginning.

The time I’ve saved in having my materials ready has been spent searching and applying for a broad spectrum of jobs. Last year I applied for 23 jobs. As of today I have applied for 46, and I have 13 more on my spreadsheet. As the postings wind down and MLA approaches, I still add about one a week. These consist of tenure-track positions in my area (Victorian literature), broad nineteenth-century jobs, generalist positions, a few select Romanticist and Modernist jobs, and a number of community college jobs. I’ve spent a fair amount of

Continued on page 4

Dispatches from the Job Market, continued

time and effort adapting my letters and CV in order to more favorably pitch myself for a particular position. Dr. Gould is fond of telling prospective job-seekers that “you can always work harder” and this is how that advice is manifesting in my search.

Back to that number, 46. That is a lot. When I tell people that number they look shocked and aghast; they tilt their heads like confused puppies or cup their ears as though they have misheard. But that is the number, and it is a number that will be increasing. The number is significant for a couple of reasons. First, everyone I’ve talked to in academia says similar things: the market is bad, apply for as many jobs as you can. But the number is significant in another way because it means that I have

found 46 jobs to apply for.

I advise everyone to learn to be patient. This is the waiting game. Learn to be grateful to schools that send you rejections, because many will not notify you. Of the 23 jobs I applied for last year, I received actual rejections from 11 of them (one of which came as late as June.) I grew to think fondly of the few schools that actually sent me rejections after their first round of winnowing, rather than leaving me hanging, desperately hoping for a last-minute invite to an MLA interview.

Finally I want to encourage those of you contemplating the market to start working with the Job Placement Committee early. I’ve said that having my materials in good shape this year has been incredibly helpful. The reason those materials were in any kind of shape is primarily because of the truly great work

of Drs. Gould, Irizarry, and Sukrungruang on the committee last year. This year the committee consists of Drs. Irizarry, Sukrungruang, Zoetewey, and Altschuler, and if you are planning on being on the market next year, I would suggest you start attending as early as the spring.

Hopefully, I’ll be writing up my further adventures on the market, including (fingers crossed) MLA interviews and campus visits, over the next several months. I’m happy to sit down with anyone over a cup of coffee (or something stronger) to answer questions about my experience, calm frayed nerves, ratchet up mutual freak-outs, or just generally commiserate. Feel free to email me at bjwright@mail.usf.edu or drop by my office in Cooper 301-K.

—Jude Wright
Doctoral Candidate, Literature

Reflections on the Job Market, by Kate Pantelides

Everyone tells you to get started early developing your materials. This is good advice, but it was kind of impossible for me to create good materials until the context was real. It became very real for me in early September when the job announcements started pouring in with due dates nearly two months earlier than I had expected. Now that I am knee-deep in my dissertation and have read actual position announcements, my materials are solid (but they weren’t when the dissertation and job ads were hypothetical). I would recommend spending time developing your dissertation instead of worrying about the job market until the summer before you “go on the market.” Brand your materials so that they all look the same by using a header, consistent fonts and/or a subtle document feature (nothing silly, trendy). I got this advice and so much more from an amazing professor who goes above and beyond the call of graduate student support duty. Because I don’t want to embarrass her, I will just say that her name rhymes with Ootaway.

So far I have had phone, Skype, and campus interviews, and I was recently offered a tenure-

track position from a large, comprehensive university. I have received so much good advice about these various job genres, so I will try to share some of the best tidbits here.

Apply to everything for which you are qualified—it helps you think about the different types of schools (R1, comprehensive, liberal arts, teaching university) and positions (different teaching loads, administrative duties, various tenure requirements); it gives you practice; and you can’t say no to a position until it is offered. My materials still need revision, but they are 1,000 times better than the first round that I sent out for early applications, even though I was very confident in them at the time.

For interviews, be prepared with a thesis statement for each answer and then a concrete, concise supporting detail (one of the many excellent pieces of advice from Dr. Altschuler). Like most things, there is a Goldilocks rule of interview prep—don’t over-prepare because you don’t want to sound re-

Continued on page 5

Reflections on the Job Market, continued

heard, but make sure that you have thought through the following and have them at your fingertips:

- two clear and engaging sentences about your dissertation (jargon-free)
- two clear sentences about your teaching philosophy
- a coherent question/topic that guides your research
- a research agenda (past, current, and future research projects)
- a great assignment you've designed that is representative of your teaching philosophy
- a course proposal (with ideas about assignments and readings)
- a class that you would like to teach at the university with which are you interviewing (complete with assignments and readings)
- a reason that you are interested in the particular university
- a coherent statement about how technology and new media impact you as a scholar
- questions about the position that demonstrate that you've done some research

Get excited about every interview—it will come through in the way you research the school, the way you answer questions, and the way you sound via Skype/phone, etc. Take up the placement committee (Drs. Altshuler, Irizarry, Sukrungruang, and Zoetewey have been a wealth of knowledge!) on their mock interview offer—it is so helpful. I kind of bombed my mock interview, which was ultimately a good thing because I (hopefully) got it out of my system, thought through the questions for which I was unprepared (thanks to Dr. Santos for asking tough questions and being generally awesome), and I got an offer from the interview I did afterward. Yippee! In addition to my earlier shout-outs,

thanks to Dr. Moxley (for incredible support, levity, and wisdom) and to Dr. Herndl (for always providing thoughtful, well-reasoned advice).

Most importantly, have a buddy with whom you share everything (thanks, Dan!!!). Remember that colleagues at USF are not your competition—they are your friends, and besides wanting your friends to do well, the better all of us do, the better it is for the program, for the students that come after us, etc. Your partner, your friends, your family, and the excellent USF community are all important resources, so don't shoulder it alone. Lucky for me, my husband is kind of obsessed with the job market, so he has been sending me job announcements throughout the process, tirelessly copy-editing, and giving me hugs when I feel overwhelmed. You definitely need a hugger.

The most stressful part so far has been the timeline and the fact that there is so little you can control. And there is disappointment—because you don't hear from schools, because you mess up an interview, because you might have to say no to a place that you love. But there is also the excitement that I will (hopefully) soon put into practice what I have long been preparing for. I will keep the relationships I have made here and find new collaborators, challenges, and opportunities.

Now that the idea of leaving is becoming real, it's emotional, and I'm incredibly nostalgic. Walking up to Cooper—let's face it, not the most impressive building on campus—I have such a warm feeling. Who would have expected that? But it's not the building that I'm really nostalgic about; it's the people who have been so generous and influential and have prepared me to make a home in a new institution . . . Maybe . . . I don't want to jinx myself before I sign a contract.

—Kate Pantelides
Doctoral Candidate, Rhetoric & Composition

Alumni Accomplishments

BOB BATCHELOR,

PhD Literature 2009
"From the Big Bang to Brad Pitt: Popular Culture Studies Meets Big History." Popular Culture Colloquium Series. Bowling Green State University. Bowling Green, OH. 27 September 2012.

"Igniting Engagement in an Online M.A. Program in Public Relations." Poster presented at the 19th

Annual Celebrating College Teaching Conference. Kent, OH. 26 October 2012.

"Mailer and Updike: Probing American Culture as Writers and Celebrities." *The Mailer Review* 6.1 (2012): 129-44. Print.

"Publishing Opportunities in Popular Culture and American Culture Studies."

Roundtable participant, Midwest Popular Culture/American Culture Association (MPC/ACA) Annual Meeting. Columbus, OH. 14 October 2012.

"Starbucks: A Case Study Examining Power and Culture via Radical Sociodrama." *PRism* 9.2 (2012). Web. With Kaitlin Krister.

CR JUNKINS, MA Literature 2007 Performed

as Lord Mayor of London in Polk State College's production of *Richard the Third*.

JOHN A. NIEVES, MA Creative Writing 2006
"Labwork." *Beloit Poetry Journal* 63.2 (2012): 9.

"Colophon: Elegy in Fragments." *Louisville Review* 72 (2012): 14-15.

"Historiography." *Valparaiso Poetry Review* 14.1 (2012). Web.

"Year." *Mead: The Journal of Literature and Libations* 4 (2012). Web.

Graduate Accomplishments

ROBERT ALDERMAN

"The Stags Among the Trees." "Pain and Healing: EGSA Fall Colloquium 2012." University of South Florida Graduate Colloquium. Tampa, FL. 16 November 2012.

ANNA ANGELI

"Working Through Trianon Syndrome: Albert Wass' *The Witch of the Funtinel* and Collective Trauma." "Pain and Healing: EGSA Fall Colloquium 2012." University of South Florida Graduate Colloquium. Tampa, FL. 16 November 2012.

JESSICA COOK

"The Ecological Thought in Anna Barbauld's 'A Summer Evening's Meditation.'" South Atlantic Modern Language Association. Durham, NC. 9-11 November 2012.

PAUL T. CORRIGAN

Rev. of *Religion, Consumerism and Sustainability: Paradise Lost?*, ed. Lyn Thomas. *Ecozon@* 3.2 (2012): 217-220.

ANGELA EWARD-

MANGIONE

"Tempestuous Discontents: A Metacritical Analysis of the Case for Colonialism in *The Tempest*." South Atlantic Modern Language Association. Durham, NC. 9-11 November 2012.

ALLISON GIBBES

"An Afro-futurist Retelling of the Slave Era: The Science (Fiction) of Eugenics in Octavia Butler's *Wild Seed*." South Atlantic Modern Language Association. Durham,

NC. 9-11 November 2012.

DORI DAVIS

"Another Rotten Medlar: Taking Lucio's Measure (for Measure)." South Atlantic Modern Language Association. Durham, NC. 9-11 November 2012.

"Madness, Grace, and the Emperor's Daughter: Mutuality in *Sir Gowther*." South Atlantic Modern Language Association. Durham, NC. 9-11 November 2012.

WESLEY JOHNSON

"Mediated Violence: Gazing Into Trauma." "Pain and Healing: EGSA Fall Colloquium 2012." University of South Florida Graduate Colloquium. Tampa, FL. 16 November 2012.

KIMBERLY KARALIUS

"Scissors and Thorns." *Rose Red Review* (Autumn 2012). <http://roseredreview.org/2012-autumn-scissors-and-thorns-kimberly-karalius/>

"Broken Records and Noises." *White Ash Literary Magazine* (October 2012).

"When the Night Comes." *All Things Girl* (November 2012). <http://allthingsgirl.com/2012/11/when-the-night-comes-by-kimberly-karalius/>

DARRELL NICHOLSON

"Tucking In." "Pain and Healing: EGSA Fall Colloquium 2012." University of South Florida Graduate Colloquium. Tampa, FL. 16 November 2012.

MEGHAN O'NEILL

"It's Everybody's Story!": Spokesperson and Audience in Gerry Adams' Interment Mem-

oir *Cage Eleven*." South Atlantic Modern Language Association. Durham, NC. 9-11 November 2012.

KATE PANTELIDES

"Negotiating What's at Stake in Informal Writing in the Writing Center." *Computers and Composition: An International Journal* 29.4 (December 2012): 269-279.

DANA RINE

"Tsitsi Dangarembga's *The Book of Not: Tambu's Memoir*." South Atlantic Modern Language Association. Durham, NC. 9-11 November 2012.

JOY SANCHEZ

Panel Chair. Postmodern Theory, Race and Science Fiction. South Atlantic Modern Language Association (SAML). Durham, NC. 9-11 November 2012.

TANGELA SERLS

"Staying in a Woman's Place: The Postcolonial Woman's Memoir." South Atlantic Modern Language Association. Durham, NC. 9-11 November 2012.

ALAN SHAW

"Shunt, Gunk, Mack, Eye." "Pain and Healing: EGSA Fall Colloquium 2012." University of South Florida Graduate Colloquium. Tampa, FL. 16 November 2012.

SHARON SNOW PINSON

"Riptide." "Pain and Healing: EGSA Fall Colloquium 2012." University of South Florida Graduate Colloquium. Tampa, FL. 16 November 2012.



Faculty Achievements

ANN BASSO served as Academic Advisor for *The Jew of Malta*. On November 12, 2012, she attended the premiere in New York at the International Film Festival Manhattan.

AMY CLANTON
CREATE Scholars Program: Creating Experiences and Activities through Teaching Enhancement grant awarded by the USF Department of Undergraduate Research toward purchasing books and hiring a graduate student assistant for the course LIT 3301 Cultural Studies and the Popular Arts: The Fantastic and Unfamiliar.

Introduction. *The Edge of Knowledge: Culture, Literature, and the Occult*. By Stephanie Moss. Dubuque, IA: Kendall-Hunt, 2012. Print.

DIANNE DONNELLY has recently published her third book, *Key Issues in Creative Writing*, eds. Dianne Donnelly and Graeme Harper. UK: Multilingual Matters, 2012.

CHRISTINE GROGAN elected unanimously, will serve the three-year term as president of the Katherine Anne Porter Society.

CARL HERNDL was co-author of the proposal for the new Patel College of Global Sustainability at USF that passed USF Faculty Senate on Wed., 14 November 2012. The new college will have an "Institute for Applied Rhetoric of Science and Sustainability," of which Prof. Herndl will be the founding director.

"From ROS to RTSM, from Cartesian Anxiety to Praxiography, the anti-(Cartesian)-Anxiety Treatment." Plenary session.

Association for Rhetoric of Science and Technology. Orlando, FL. 14 November 2012. With Lauren Cutlip.

"Multiple Ontologies in Pain Management: Towards a Postplural Rhetoric of Science." With Scott Graham. *Technical Communication Quarterly*.

"Praxiography, the Anti-(Cartesian)-Anxiety Treatment: The Myth of Latour's Social Construction Meets Buffy the Vampire Slayer." The Hutton Lecture at Purdue University. November 2012.

Videotaped an interview for the Association of Rhetoric of Science and Technology (ARST) oral history project in which a group of senior scholars were interviewed to archive a history of the sub-field. The interview will be online and available at the ARST website.

REGINA HEWITT
"From Scottish Enlightenment Philosopher to Postcolonial Sociologist: The Vocation of the Traveler in John Galt's *Voyages and Travels*." SAMLA Conference. Research Triangle, NC. 9-11 November 2012.

JOHN LENNON
"The Parasitic Rider: The Hobo, Empire and Boxcar Politics." American Studies Association (ASA). San Juan, Puerto Rico. 15-18 November 2012.

HEATHER MEAKIN won, with her publisher Ashgate Press, two publication grants from the Paul Mellon Center for Studies in British

Art to cover substantial costs associated with the reproduction of 96 illustrations for her book, *The Painted Closet of Lady Anne Bacon Drury*, which will be released in November 2013.

SUSAN MOONEY
"Traces Historicized: Beckett Traced." Rev. of *Samuel Beckett*, by Andrew Gibson. *Journal of Modern Literature* 35.4 (Summer 2012): 187-91. Print.

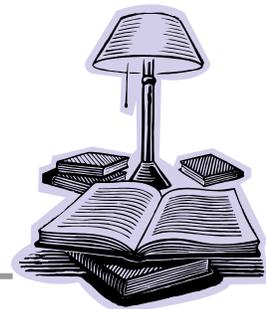
PAT ROGERS
Rev. of Tobias Smollett, *The Adventures of Roderick Random*, ed. James G. Basker. *The New Criterion* (November 2012): 10-13.

LAURA RUNGE
"ABO and the Future of Academic Publishing," roundtable participant in CELJ Future of Academic Publishing. SAMLA. 9 November 2012.

"The Hillsborough River Project: Reading from Memoir," Sierra Club of Tampa Bay. Lecture, reading, and slide presentation. Ybor City, Florida. 14 November 2012.

IRA SUKRUNGRUANG was awarded the 2013 Artsmith Writers Residency Fellowship.

"Playing With Buddha." *Shambhala Sun* (2012).



Congratulations!

Fall 2012 Graduates

Sam Corbett, MA Lit

Portfolio Papers:

1. "Broken Men, Self-Deception, and Rhetoric of Blame"
2. "Watchman, What of the Night? Freud and the Fearful Dimension"
3. "Consciousness, Memory, and Impressionism: *Under the Volcano*"

Chair: Professor Elizabeth Hirsh

Joshua Cundiff, MA Lit

Portfolio Papers:

1. "Androgyny in *Edward II* and *The Dutchess of Malfi*"
2. "Influence and Ambiguity in the *Heart of Darkness* and *Blood Meridian*"
3. "Science Fiction and Fantasy in *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*"

Chair: Professor Ylce Irizarry

Lauren Cutlip, MA Rhet/Comp

Thesis: *Talking about Talk: The Problem of Communication as an Object of Study in Citizen Participation Research*

Major Professor: Professor Carl Herndl

Brittney Geil, MA Lit

Portfolio Papers:

1. "'Something is Rotten' When 'Limbs are Lopped': Disease and Dismemberment Recall the Memento Mori Tradition in Shakespeare's Tragedies"
2. "A Pocket of One's Own: Stitching a Revolutionary Identity for the 18th Century American Woman"
3. "Color Battles, Body Wars, and Identities in Flux: On Not Being Afraid to Embrace Difference with Identities on the Margin"

Chair: Professor Gary Lemons

Gregory Hartley, PhD Lit

Dissertation: *"Lower Sacraments": Theological Eating in the Fiction of C. S. Lewis*

Major Professor: Professor Nicole Guenther Discenza

Scott Neumeister, MA Lit

Thesis: *Circling Back Home: A Lifelong Odyssey into Feminism*

Major Professor: Professor Gary Lemons

Grace Veach, PhD Rhet/Comp

Dissertation: *Tracing Boundaries, Effacing Boundaries: Information Literacy as an Academic Discipline*

Major Professor: Professor Joe Moxley

Spring 2013 Doctoral Candidates

Literature:

José Aparicio

Allison Wise

Rhet/Comp:

Jessica Eberhard

Megan McIntyre



Events

G.R.A.S.P. (Graduate Research and Scholarly Publication) Works-in-Progress Group

G.R.A.S.P. will meet on **Friday, December 7, at 4:00 p.m. in CPR 343**. G.R.A.S.P. is designed to help the English Department's graduate students achieve their scholarly research and publication goals. G.R.A.S.P. utilizes Google Docs and face-to-face workshops to review scholarly works produced by graduate students. In December, we will review two book reviews. E-mail Angela Eward-Mangione (eward@mail.usf.edu) to request a copy of the reviews or for access to the Google Group.

Graduate Placement Committee

While any student may attend these sessions, those who will be on the market for the first time this fall are strongly encouraged to work with the Placement Committee.. Don't try to navigate the job market on your own! Let us help you in your search for full-time academic employment. Meetings will be held on **Fridays from 1:30-3:00pm in CPR 343**.

December 7: Open Q & A on MLA, CCCC, AWP

This will be the last scheduled meeting of the semester. We will leave it open to discuss any and all questions that arise about conferences, next steps, and trying to enjoy break.

Teaching Discussion Group

Please join us for our final teaching discussion group of the semester on **Friday, December 7, from 3:00-4:00 p.m. in CPR 343**.

Brianna Jerman has selected an article for us to consider. Because it is long, she has identified excerpts for those of us who want to participate but may have too many other assignments to read. See PDF in email from Laura Runge.

Dunn, Patricia. "Learning Differences: The Perspective of LD College Students." *Learning Re-abled: The Learning Disability Controversy and Composition Studies*. Fort Collins: The WAC Clearinghouse, 2011. 96-153. **Read pages 96-100 and 147-153 (if you're printing it, it's pages 1-5 and 48-54 on the PDF.)**

Brianna has asked that instead of reading the whole thing, the group only read the introduction (**pages 96-100**; stop at the heading "Nick") and the summary and conclusion (**pages 147-153**). This 12-page chunk basically gives you the meat of her argument, but the whole chapter is included in case anyone is interesting in reading more of the student interviews later.

Please join us! All are welcome!

Calls for Papers

The University of Georgia English Graduate Organization Conference Strangeness, In Context: Investigating the Outlandish, the Uncertain, and the Simply Bizarre

**March 23-24, 2013
Submission Deadline:
10 December 2012**

Where is the line between the dainty and the horrifying in Edith Wharton's works? Between the earnest and the fantastic in Frank Zappa's? What is the effect of an expected reflexivity in

Christopher Nolan's? How do different methods of communication—verbal, physical, visual—affect notions of strangeness and acceptability? When is "bizarre" art a perfectly appropriate rendering of life, and the "usual" stunningly inadequate?

The ways we interpret that which gives us pause say as much about us as they do about the work we're interpreting, or the artist responsible for its creation. Indeed, being a participant in an artistic endeavor often means having to navigate a

world whose nature reveals an underlying—or unsettling—strangeness. Whether our reaction is to flee or to linger, we are forced to somehow classify people, places, and things that resist study. And behind our study are often unstable notions of the concrete, whether in the form of physical locations or intangible facts. Our conference will consider instability across multiple genres. We hope to explore the intersections of the strange and normal; of the extreme and the commonplace; of the outlandish and the

merely landish; of things ghoulish and not.

Other topics might include, but should in no way be limited to: Where and how do certainty and instability interact? What role does uncertainty play in the extraction or creation of meaning? To what extent does a "strange" work establish its own context? When does genre fiction eclipse its boundaries; when do those boundaries nourish? What is the difference between the strange and the absurd? How do notions of entertainment and art affect

Calls for Papers, continued

those differences?

We seek participants from across the humanities. Interdisciplinary and creative writing submissions are heartily encouraged. Please submit panel or paper proposals of no more than 300 words to wangoed@uga.edu.

Katherine Anne Porter Session at the 2013 American Literature Association Conference, Chaired by Christine Grogan
Submission Deadline: 14 December 2012.

The topic for the session will be "Reading and Teaching Katherine Anne Porter." Please send proposals of 250 words or less to Dr. Christine Grogan at cgrogan@mail.usf.edu by the deadline of December 14, 2012. The conference will take place May 23-26, 2013, at the Westin Copley Place, 10 Huntington Avenue, Boston, Massachusetts. Conference details and information about hotel reservations will be available through the Web site of the American Literature Association (www.americanliterature.org)

Eighteenth- and Nineteenth-Century British Women Writers Conference

4-6 April 2013
Albuquerque, NM
Submission Deadline:
15 December 2012

The English department at the University of New Mexico is pleased to host the 2013 British Women Writers Conference. The conference will be April 4-6, 2013 at the Hyatt in downtown Albuquerque, NM. The conference theme is "Customs," and we look forward to a wide range

of unique presentations on the topic.

Customs are often thought of as the habits or social norms that dictate behavior, sometimes so rigidly that they appear to be laws. Conversely, though, "custom" can refer to a product or service tailored to the "customer's" individual specifications, or the taxes or duties on imports/exports, the governmental department charged with implementing such fees, or the place in which all items entering a country from foreign parts are examined for contraband. Regardless of its particular connotation, "custom" denotes a sense of rigidity, restriction, or control; it is these forms of social, economic, and/or personal limitations that we wish to explore with this year's conference. Prospective panelists are encouraged to think of "customs" broadly as the term might apply to British and Transatlantic women writers and their often-underrepresented contributions to literary studies.

Please send abstracts of 250 words for panel proposals by November 15, 2012 and for individual paper presentations by December 15, 2012 to BWWC2013@gmail.com. Check out our website at 2013BWWC.com.

First Annual Symposium on Medieval and Renaissance Studies

17- 19 June 2013
Submission Deadline:
15 December 2012

The Annual Symposium on Medieval and Renaissance Studies provides a conven-

ient summer venue in North America for scholars in all disciplines to present papers, organize sessions, participate in roundtables, and engage in interdisciplinary discussion. The goal of the symposium is to promote serious scholarly investigation of the medieval and early modern worlds. We invite proposals for papers, sessions, and roundtables on all topics and in all disciplines of medieval and early modern studies. Submit proposals online at <http://smrs.slu.edu/>.

The plenary speakers for this year will be [Peter Brown](#), of Princeton University, and [Andrew Pettegree](#), of St. Andrews University.

CRUELTY
University of Southern California
Los Angeles, CA

April 12-13 2013
Submission Deadline:
6 January 2013

This conference will explore the many definitions of cruelty, both banal and extraordinary. Cruelty can be inherent in the ways that we perceive, interact with and take pleasure in one another and ourselves. At times it cannot be distinguished from violence. Cruelty is lived and experienced differently across boundaries, borders, bodies, and time periods. It continues to spread and mutate with globalization in the 21st century.

The evolving representational stakes of cruelty help to define what horrifies and what titillates us, or both, in literature and culture.

Cruelty in *The Duchess of Malfi* differs structurally and historically from cruelty in *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, from the cruelty of contemporary cyberbullying and from masochism in the works of Kathy Acker. As individuals and in groups, we participate in and shape spaces, ranging from utopias to classrooms, that can be defined by and in response to cruelty.

Cruelty entangles desire and intimacy with modern technology, social media, and surveillance. It can include self-perpetuating violence endemic to systems, state-sanctioned cruelties, state-level schadenfreude, investment in goals or strategies that harm more than heal, indifference to others' suffering, and delight in inflicting pain. Cruelty indexes the transnational and the cognitive, the systemic and the intimate.

We invite submissions that explore the topic of cruelty from diverse perspectives and fields. For individual submissions, please send an abstract of no more than 300 words by Friday, January 6, to uscaegs@gmail.com. We also welcome panel proposals composed of three to four presenters on a related theme. To propose a panel, please send a 300-word panel abstract, and include all paper titles.

In addition, creative presentations relating to the theme of the conference, such as poetry, short fiction readings, films or performances, are enthusiastically encouraged. In addition to an abstract of no more than 300 words, please indicate the

Calls for Papers, continued

estimated duration of the event, as allotted time may vary depending on the proposed project.

Direct any specific inquiries to Chris Belcher at cbelcher@usc.edu, or see the conference website at uscrueltyconference.wordpress.com.

The 15th Annual Conference of the Marxist Reading

**21-23 March 2013
University of Florida
Submission Deadline:
11 January 2013**

This conference proposes to follow Marx's imperative to exit the "noisy" public sphere "where everything takes place on the surface and in full view of everyone" and instead enter "into the hidden abode of production" so that we may better understand the political power of the word "work," the concept it signifies, and its material consequences for workers and non-workers around the world. The MRG invites scholars to join us in rethinking work, a fundamental but under-theorized concept in Marxist thought, by submitting scholarly papers and presentations that investigate work from a Marxist perspective. Topic include, but are not limited to, the following: cultural representations of work and work politics; work in a globalized economy; the necessity of unemployment and unpaid labor in capitalism; utopian visions of work; jobs vs. work vs. labor; refusal of work and anti-work politics; work and identity politics; sex as work and/or anti-work; the reification of intellectual labor; posthu-

manist conceptions of work; and, disability/inability to work.

Please submit a 250-word abstract for a 20-minute presentation along with contact information to theufmrg@gmail.com by January 11, 2013. Please indicate any a/v requests. Authors of accepted papers will be notified by February 3. For questions concerning the conference, please contact us at theufmrg@gmail.com. For more information, please visit our website: <http://www.english.ufl.edu/mrg/>. Attached please find a call for papers for the third volume of *Trans-Scripts*, the interdisciplinary journal in the Humanities and Social Sciences at UC Irvine. The deadline for submissions is January 1, 2013.

The theme of the third volume of *Trans-Scripts* is "Thinking Activism." We welcome submissions from graduate students in the humanities, social sciences, and law. All submissions will be reviewed by students and faculty to ensure the highest quality of work. Though primarily a forum for student work, faculty contributions are welcome. Past contributors include Étienne Balibar, Hortense Spillers, Lee Edelman, and Roderick Ferguson.

Founded in 2010, *Trans-Scripts* is a student-run and edited interdisciplinary journal. It's editorial collective consists of graduate students who specialize in a diverse range of academic fields, including English, Anthropology, History, Critical Theory, Comparative Literature, Political Science, Women's Studies, African-

American Studies, Criminology, and Philosophy. For more information, the *Trans-Scripts* journal can be accessed at the following website:

<http://www.humanities.uci.edu/collective/hctr/trans-scripts/index.html>.

Please direct all general inquiries about the journal or any comments on published pieces to our 2013 volume's Editor-in-Chief, M. Shadee Malaklou, atshadee.malaklou@gmail.com.

**Pride and Prejudice: Celebrating 200 Years of Jane Austen's Best-Loved Novel
Lucy Cavendish College, University of Cambridge
June 21-23, 2013
Submission Deadline:
15 February 2013**

2013 marks the bicentenary of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*, one of the best-loved English novels of all time. Our conference will celebrate two hundred years of *Pride and Prejudice* by uniting the past with the present. Leading Austen specialists will consider the novel both in its original historical context and through the lens of the numerous screen adaptations and literary spin-offs the book has subsequently inspired. There will also be a conversation between Janet Todd and P. D.

James, whose most recent thriller is *Death Comes to Pemberley*, readings from *Pride and Prejudice* by popular modern authors and media figures (Sophie Hannah, Miriam Margolyes, and Rowan Pelling),

and screenings of classic Jane Austen film and television adaptations, as well as a Regency ball and a day trip to Austen's home village of Chawton. For full details of the current programme, please visit our website at: www.prideandprejudice.org.uk.

Having finalised an exciting lecture programme, we are now seeking proposals for contributions to a complementary series of panel discussions. Proposals for individual 20-minute papers or panels on *Pride and Prejudice* are equally welcome.

Proposals for panels should consist of a minimum of two and a maximum of four papers, and include the names of the session chair; the names, affiliations and email addresses of the speakers; and short 200-word abstracts of the papers. Individual paper proposals should consist of a 200-word abstract of the paper with brief details of your current affiliation.

Proposals for either papers or panels should be sent by email to the conference organisers, Professor Janet Todd and Dr Chloe Preedy, by Friday, 15 February 2013: janeausten@lucy-cav.cam.ac.uk.

December 2012

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2	3	4	5	6	7 Last Day of Fall Classes Placement Committee Meeting, 1:30, CPR 343 Teaching Discussion Group, 3pm, CPR 343 G.R.A.S.P. , 4pm, CPR 343	8 Final Exams
9 Final Exams	10 Final Exams	11 Final Exams	12 Final Exams	13 Final Exams	14 Final Exams	15 Commencement (Tampa)
16	17	18 Final Grade Submission for Fall 2012, 11:59pm	19 English Dept. Holiday Party, 11am, CPR 343	20 Last Day to Apply for Doctoral Candidacy	21	22
23	24 Holiday USF Closed	25 Holiday USF Closed	26 Holiday USF Closed	27 Holiday USF Closed	28 Holiday USF Closed	29
30	31 Holiday USF Closed					

January 2013

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		1 Holiday USF Closed	2	3	4	5
6	7 Spring Classes Begin	8	9	10	11 Placement Committee Meeting, 1:30pm, CPR 343	12
13	14 Campus Visits for Job Candidates	15 Campus Visits for Job Candidates	16C Campus Visits for Job Candidates	17 Campus Visits for Job Candidates	18 Campus Visits for Job Candidates	19
20	21 Dr. MLK Jr. Holiday No Classes	22 Campus Visits for Job Candidates	23 Campus Visits for Job Candidates	24 Campus Visits for Job Candidates	25 Campus Visits for Job Candidates Placement Com- mittee Meeting, 1:30pm, CPR 343	26
27	28 Campus Visits for Job Candidates	29 Campus Visits for Job Candidates	30 Campus Visits for Job Candidates	31 Campus Visits for Job Candidates		