

INKLINKS

English Graduate Studies Newsletter
University of South Florida, Tampa

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MESSAGE FROM THE GRADUATE DIRECTOR

My thoughts this month focus on graduate student research. In this newsletter you will read of the many recent paper presentations by our graduate students, an indication that both our MAs and PhD students are doing the sort of research that merits a venue at national conferences. This is good news! But how does this come about? To begin, students working in their classes latch onto solid ideas for their seminar papers and develop them in conversation with ongoing scholarship in the field. These essays may germinate into longer projects such as MA theses and PhD dissertations. With the mentoring of faculty in the area, students can learn about opportunities to present at conferences and to develop appropriate abstracts for

submission. You can also consult the CFPs in this newsletter, in the MLA Forthcoming Meetings and Conferences list (mentioned in last month's newsletter) and the Penn State Calls for Papers (see link on sidebar).

Students (and faculty) should be aware that the library offers a Research Consultation service for anyone beginning a research project and wanting individual attention from a reference librarian. There is an online request form (see right sidebar for the link). This may be just the thing to help you use some of the new databases and indexes that the library has acquired in recent years. (Thanks to Ann Basso for bringing this to my attention!)

A conference paper, of course, is shorter than a

seminar paper or a chapter in a thesis, and it needs to be adapted for oral delivery. Students should practice reading these 8-10 page papers for appropriate speed and clarity before they venture in front of a scholarly audience. The department offers students partial funding for travel to conferences; students can receive up to \$200 in reimbursement. To be eligible for funds, students must present at or otherwise participate in a conference. In order to get the funds, however, students must submit a Travel Authorization Request (TAR) to Daniel Kanouff at least two weeks PRIOR to travel. Students are also required to apply for travel funds from the Graduate and Professional Student Council.

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NEW PEOPLE: AN INTERVIEW WITH MICHAEL CLUNE, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF AMERICAN LITERATURE

Where is your degree from? What areas did you study? What subjects did you/are you publish(ing) in?

I received my Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins in 2006, and specialized in postwar American literature. I've published articles on postwar poetry and fiction in the *PMLA*, *Contemporary Literature*, and *Twenty-First Century Poetics*, (a forthcoming edited

collection). My book, *Freedom From You: The Fiction of Exchange 1944-*, is currently under review, and arises from my dissertation. In it, I explore the desire for a kind of human relation free of what many have seen as the limits of intersubjectivity. I argue that market exchange provides a number of important writers and artists with a model for such a relation, and that the works they

produce contribute to the unsettling contemporary fascination with the free market.

What research projects are you currently working on?

Many projects written in the 80's and 90's tried to show how literature was embedded in the social world. But the very success of this kind

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Important Upcoming Dates

- 29, 31 Oct. & 2 Nov.—PhD Exams
- 1, 2 Nov.—M.A. Exams
- 2 Nov.—Teaching Lit. Disc. Grp.
- 3 Nov.—Class Drop Deadline
- 6 Nov.—Works-in-Progress Colloquium: Michael Clune
- 12 Nov.—Veterans' Day: No School
- 22, 23 Nov.—Thanksgiving: No School
- 28 Nov.—PhD Application Workshop

English Graduate Links

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

Graduate Studies Thesis/
Dissertation Page:
<http://www.grad.usf.edu/newsite/thesis.asp>

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

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

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

Penn State Calls for Papers:
<http://cfp.english.upenn.edu/>

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GRADUATE DIRECTOR, CONT'D.

When we talk about the professionalization of graduate students, one of the things we mean is the presentation or publication of their scholarly writing. This is a high demand for people who are as yet being introduced to the methods and standards of research in our fields. I congratulate those of you who have begun this process! However, I also want to set some limits on your expectations because your highest priority should be on coursework and developing your base of knowledge. Students in

coursework should probably not present their work at more than one conference per semester, and one good conference per year is sufficient. More than this will detract from the quality of your performance and learning experience in your classes. When you move on to a PhD program or to a teaching position, you will be drawing on your experience in coursework; you'll want to have a deep well from which to draw.

-Dr. Laura Runge

WORKS-IN-PROGRESS COLLOQUIA

The Works-in-Progress Group will meet on the first Tuesday of every month in the English department seminar room (CPR-343) from 12:30-2 pm. Papers will be circulated one week prior to each meeting. Graduate students are welcome and encouraged to attend.

The schedule for this academic year is as follows:

November 6: Michael Clune
December 4: Maria Cizmic (Am Studies)

February 5: Andrew Berish (Am Studies)

March 4: Tova Cooper

April 1: Elizabeth Hirsh

PHD APPLICATION WORKSHOP NOV. 28

The placement committee workshop on PhD program applications will be on November 28. Details of time and place will be forthcoming. All interested MA and undergraduate English majors are encouraged to attend. Please save the date and watch for announcements.

TEACHING LITERATURE DISCUSSION GROUP

The next teaching literature discussion group will be held Friday, 2 November in CPR 204 at 2:00 p.m.

AN INTERVIEW WITH MICHAEL CLUNE, CONT'D.

of project has led to a new question: How is literature different? Why should we study literature as opposed to, say, sociology or economics? My work has attempted to answer this question while building on the valuable interdisciplinary links forged in the last two decades. My first project examines how the aesthetic fuses with the economic to create an alternative to social life. My new project examines the aesthetic as a kind of technology for transforming perception. If my first project tried to create a relation between literary criticism and social science without turning the former into a mere branch of the

latter, my new work tries to create a similar link between criticism and neuroscience. I'm interested in the way new developments have transformed a very old and simple idea: art makes things new. Art removes the effects of time from the neuropsychology of perception. Right now I'm working with Viktor Shklovsky, Vladimir Nabokov, George Orwell, John Ashbery, and recent research on the relation between time and perception.

What classes are you or will you be teaching? How would you describe the classes?

In the spring I'm teaching a gradu-

ate class on Contemporary Literature focusing on the image of city in postwar writing. In the past forty years, ideas about how cities are made, and ideas about how literary works are made, undergo a radical and basic shift. I want to explore the connection between these shifts, and also to see how new kinds of urban writing (urban fiction, rap, New York poetry) both reflect and accelerate the transformation of urban space.

What is your favorite/least favorite memory of graduate school?

I have some interesting memories of grad school and of Baltimore. I'm finishing a memoir on the

subject (I hope to have a complete draft by next summer). I find it easier not to talk about this kind of work while writing.

What are your first impressions of USF and/or Tampa Bay?

I love the area, especially South Tampa, where I live. I echo what Tova said in this space about the clouds: the sky here is just constantly interesting. It's a nice change for me. I spent the last couple years in Ann Arbor Michigan, where the sky often resembled the underside of a metal garbage can lid.

APHRA BEHN SOCIETY CONFERENCE TO HOST USF PRESENTERS

The Aphra Behn Society will host a number of USF students, faculty and alumni from 25-27 October in Albuquerque, NM.

Presenters include:

Marie Hendry, "Let Every Man Keep Clear of the World: Morality in Frances Burney's *Cecilia*."

Marisa Iglesias, "The Image of the Body in Eliza Haywood's *The British Recluse* and *Fantomina*."

Jamie Kinsley, "Immobilizing Moral Dilemmas in *Cecilia*: Burney's Innovations in Novel Tradition."

Susan Lee (M.A. Spring 2007), "Order through Disorder: The role of the Masquerade in Eliza Haywood's *Fantomina*."

Lina Michalewicz (M.A. Summer 2007), "Masquerade and

Madness: Identity and Socialization in Burney's *Cecilia*."

Laura Runge. Moderator of Masks, Madness, and Morality: Frances Burney's *Cecilia* Session and Bodies and Masks in Eliza Haywood's Fiction Session.

USF STUDENTS/FACULTY PRESENT AT 2007 NORMAN MAILER SOCIETY CONFERENCE

A large contingent of the English Department travelled to Provincetown, Massachusetts on the weekend of 11-14 October to attend the 2007 Norman Mailer Society Conference. Those that presented at the conference included:

Christine Grogan, "Daddy's Girl: Phallic Power and Perverse Pater-nity in *An American Dream*."

Marie Hendry, "The Book of the Teacher: Norman Mailer's Role in *Ancient Evenings*."

Constance E. Holmes, "D.T., A Decidedly Unreliable Narrator" and Moderator of Cultural Perspectives

and the Americanness of *An American Dream* Panel.

Donald L. Kaufmann, "*An American Dream*: High Quotient Legacy Novel."

Taylor Joy Mitchell, "American Dreamers: Norman Mailer and Amiri Baraka."

Deborah Noonan, "World War II and its Character(istics) in Mailer's First and Latest Novels."

J'aimé Sanders, "Mailer's 'Professor' of Existential Psychology and the American Existential Experience."

Phillip Sipiora, "Metaphoric Moments and Movements in *The Castle in the Forest*."

K. Vivian Taylor, "Mailer's Maddening, Murderous, and Framing Moon in *An American Dream*."

Shannon Tivnan, "Authority and Narrative in Norman Mailer's *The Castle in the Forest*."

Ray Vince, "The Grammar of God and the Contingency of Evil: Mailer's *Castle in the Forest* and the Boundaries of Language" and Moderator of the Ideology and Politics Panel.

ALUMNI NEWS

Linda Sarbo was appointed Graduate Writing Assessment Coordinator for California State University, Long Beach. Dr. Sarbo received her PhD in Rhetoric and Composition from the University of South Florida in 1996. Prior to joining the CSULB faculty, she worked for USF's Department of Professional and Work-force Development.

RECENT GRADUATE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

GINNA WILKERSON

3rd place in the Fog City Writers' Poetry Contest for her poem "Ginna in the Silence."

Honorable Mention in the Cedar Hill Press Poetry Contest for her poem "Hiding Brings Me Home."

Attended poetry workshop led by Minnie Bruce Pratt. Southern Women Writers' Conference. Berry, GA, 29 September, 2007.

DOUG WILCOX

Taught a thesis writing seminar in Sofia,

Bulgaria, Summer 2007.

QUENTIN VIERGE

"The Scathing and Hapless Fools: A Reinterpretation of Shylock and Malvolio as Fools," Rocky Mountain MLA Convention, Calgary, Ontario, 5 October 2007.

We would like to hear about your recent publications, presentations, and other accomplishments. Send an email with all the necessary information to Brian McAllister

(bmcallis@mail.usf.edu).

RECENT FACULTY/STAFF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

DR. SARA DEATS

Dr. Deats will participate in a panel discussion on "Marlowe and Gender" at the Marlowe Symposium, 10 November in Washington, D.C., sponsored by the Washington Shakespeare Theatre.

JAY HOPLER

Jay Hopler has recently participated in readings at Denison University, College of Wooster, Earlham College, Albion College, Hope College, Florida Southern College and the St. Petersburg Times Festival of Reading. He has also been interviewed by *The Albion Review*

and the Tampa community radio station, WMNF.

DR. ELTON SMITH

In July, Distinguished University Professor, Dr. Smith, was invited to attend the Oxford Round Table conference at Oxford University in England. The focus of the conference, which included over 35 renowned scholars world-wide, was "Allusions to God in Literature and Poetry: Britain and America." Dr. Smith gave the opening and closing remarks. He presented his paper, "The Poet Laureate: At War with Himself," which was submitted for inclusion in *The Oxford Forum*.

EGSA FALL COLLOQUIUM

The EGSA will be holding its Fall Colloquium on 2 November at 1:00 p.m. in the Grace Allen Room of the Library. The theme for the colloquium is "Dramatic Happenings: Theatre and Drama from Marlowe to Flava Flav" and will incorporate a wide range of discussions about drama and theatre.

If you are interested in presenting, please send an abstract to Taylor Mitchell (tmitche2@mail.usf.edu), or Brian McAllister (bmcallis@mail.usf.edu).

INKLINKS

UPCOMING REGIONAL CONFERENCES

- **The Asian Experience in the Caribbean and the Guyanas: Labor, Migration, and Culture**
1-3 November, 2007
University of Miami, Coral Gables, FL
<http://scholar.library.miami.edu/cls/>
- **Florida College English Association**
8-9 November, 2007
Indian River Community College, Ft. Pierce, FL
<http://ffacea.org>
- **South Atlantic Modern Language Association**
9-11 November, 2007
Atlanta, GA
Inquiries: Christine Gallant (cgallant@gsu.edu)
<http://samla.gsu.edu/convention/convention.htm>
- **7th Annual Louisiana Conference on Language and Literature: On and Off the Page: Mapping Place in Text and Culture**
21-23 February, 2008
Lafayette, LA
Inquiries: Matthew Hackler (mbh1010@louisiana.edu)
<http://english.louisiana.edu/laconference>
- **New College Conference on Medieval and Renaissance Studies**
6-8 March, 2008
Sarasota, FL
<http://faculty.ncf.edu/MedievalStudies>

CALLS FOR PAPERS

- **The Mailer Review**
Interested in notes and essays related to the life and work of Norman Mailer for Issues 2 and 3.
Inquiries: Dr. Phillip Sipiora
(sipiora@cas.usf.edu)
- **7th Annual Louisiana Conference on Language and Literature: On and Off the Page: Mapping Place in Text and Culture**
21-23 February, 2008, Lafayette, LA
Abstract Deadline: 31 October, 2007
Inquiries: Matthew Hackler
(mbh1010@louisiana.edu)
<http://english.louisiana.edu/laconference>
- **29th International Conference on the Fantastic in the Arts**
19-23 March, 2008, Orlando, FL
Abstract Deadline: 31 October, 2007
<http://www.iafa.org>
- **College English Association National Conference**
27-29 March, 2008, St. Louis, MO
Abstract Deadline: 1 November, 2007
<http://www2.widener.edu/~cea/>
- **Space, Place, and Imagination: 2nd Annual URI Graduate Student Conference**
29 March, 2008, Kingston, RI
Abstract Deadline: 5 November, 2007
Inquiries: Laurie Carlson
(lcarlo2@cox.net)
<http://cfp.english.upenn.edu/archive/Graduate/0784.html>
- **2nd Annual Graduate Student Conference in Comparative Studies: Representing Affect/Affecting Representation**
17-18 January, 2008, Ohio State Univ., Columbus, OH
Abstract Deadline: 10 November, 2007
Inquiries: AffectAndRepresentation@hotmail.com
<http://cfp.english.upenn.edu/archive/Graduate/0798.html>
- **Women, Home and Nation: Private and Public Spaces**
14-15 March, 2008, SUNY-Binghamton
Abstract Deadline: 16 November, 2007
Inquiries: Antonio Sobejano
(romlang@binghamton.edu)
- **Writing and Filming the City: Florida International University Conference on Spanish and Spanish American Cultural Studies**
6-8 March, 2008, Miami, FL
Abstract Deadline: 1 December, 2007
<http://web.gc.cuny.edu/rcmi/10thConference.htm>
- **32nd Comparative Drama Conference**
27-29 March, 2008, Culver City, CA
Abstract Deadline: 11 December 2007
Inquiries: (compdram@lmu.edu) or (kwetmore@lmu.edu)
<http://myweb.lmu.edu/compdrama/>

October 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
21	22	23	24	25	26 “The Reality of Getting Published,” Graduate School	27
28	29 Ph.D. Qualifying Exam	30 USF Writers Series	31 Ph.D. Qualifying Exam			

November 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 M.A. Comp. Exam	2 Ph.D. Qualifying/ M.A. Comp. Exams Teaching Lit Disc Grp EGSA Colloquium	3
4	5 Meredith Walters Reading, Graphicstudio	6 Works-in-Progress Colloquium (Michael Clune)	7 Michael Waters, Poetry Reading, Grace Allen	8 FCEA Conference	9 FCEA Conference SAMLMA Convention	10 SAMLMA Convention
11 SAMLMA Convention	12 Veteran's Day No School	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22 Thanksgiving Break No School	23 Thanksgiving Break No School	24
25	26	27	28 PhD Application Workshop	29	30	

December 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4 Works-in-Progress Colloquium	5	6	7 Last Day of Classes	8
9	10 Finals Week	11 Finals Week	12 Finals Week	13 Finals Week	14 Finals Week	15 Commencement