The subject of concern this month is TIMING. At the last Graduate Committee meeting (9/17/08), faculty discussed the current practices and policies for thesis and dissertation review by committee. (See the excerpt from the minutes printed in this newsletter.) These policies are documented in the Graduate Student Handbooks, available on the department website under links for current graduate students. The thesis and dissertation are significant written works that require careful reading by members of the committee and subsequent revision by the student. This is expected in order to make the learning process complete and in order to produce an acceptable piece of scholarship as the capstone requirement of your degree. Such an integral stage in the writing process requires time, and so the faculty has set reasonable deadlines for initial, director-approved drafts to be submitted to the committee. In the past, these deadlines have served as recommendations only, and in practice students have often worked on drafts until well into the semester during which they expect to graduate. Under current conditions, the members of a student’s committee might only view the thesis within two weeks of the deadline for submission, leaving the committee member little room for constructive feedback and evaluation. These conditions are not acceptable. The faculty decided that the early semester deadline needs to be made firm, and students need to be held accountable for completing a draft to be circulated to the committee six weeks prior to the final submission deadline established by the Graduate School. If a student fails to do so, he or she will not be eligible to graduate that term. These policies will go into effect beginning in the spring term 2009. It applies to students in all three programs, Literature, Rhetoric and Composition, and Creative Writing.

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**Interview with New Faculty Member Gurleen Grewal**

I am delighted to be part of the English department, and look forward to getting to know you all. I received my Ph.D. in English in 1991 from the University of California, Davis. My areas of concentration were 19th and 20th C. American and 20th C. British literature with an additional focus in two areas: Postcolonial Theory and Literature; Black feminist theory and African American Literature. After graduation I joined the Women’s Studies dept. at USF, where I was encouraged to practice interdisciplinary inquiry and transformative pedagogy. I have received two awards in outstanding teaching. I published *Circles of Sorrow/Lines of Struggle: The Novels of Toni Morrison* (LSU Press, 1998), which received the Toni Morrison Society Book Award in 2000. I have published articles on contemporary American and postcolonial women writers. In the last few years I have published in the areas of transnational.
The firm deadline means that students who expect to graduate in spring 2009 need to have a completed thesis or dissertation, one that has met with approval from the thesis or dissertation director, to be circulated to the other members of the committee by February 27th. The student can, and indeed is expected, to continue to work on the thesis or dissertation until the final has been approved by all members. Students should expect to receive critical feedback from the members of the committee in time to complete requested revisions and, if necessary, resubmit the chapters for final approval. Consequently, students need to work diligently with their directors prior to the semester during which they expect to graduate in order to understand clearly what expectations need to be met by the early semester deadline. This is particularly true for MA students who have a two-semester time period in which to register for thesis hours. The majority of the research and drafting for a thesis needs to take place in the term before you plan to graduate. Depending on the date for defense, PhD students may have an earlier deadline established with their director.

The faculty also revisited the question of the proposal for the MA thesis (see page 20 of the MA handbook) and agreed that this policy requires consistent implementation. In other words, MA students in their first semester of thesis need to complete a proposal that will be circulated for approval by the committee, after which it will be placed in their files. Details on the proposal are specified in the handbook, and a sample is available on the Blackboard Graduate Students Information website. Beginning next term, the Graduate Director will only approve thesis hours for a second term if the MA student has completed the thesis proposal with approval by the committee. The bottom line is that students need to organize their time for research carefully and be mindful of deadlines. Start early. Consult with your director regarding expectations, and be prepared to work with the constructive advice from all committee members. Thesis and dissertation cannot wait until the last minute, or month. If you have questions, and I suspect that you will, please consult with Dr. Sanders, your directors, and myself.

From the minutes of the Graduate Committee Meeting, Sept. 17, 2008

II.1 All present members agreed that effective next semester, the following language will be included in the MA and PhD handbooks to relieve the burden of determining a student’s graduation eligibility on faculty members: “The student must submit a director-approved draft to be circulated to the committee six weeks prior to the final submission deadline for feedback, revision, and approval by committee members. If a student fails to do so, he or she will not be able to graduate that term.” The language will be added to p. 20 of the MA handbook and p. 22 of the PhD handbook.

II.7 All present members agreed that, effective next semester, the following language regarding the thesis proposal will be included in the MA handbook, p. 20, para. 5 (after “…employ.”): “This needs to be completed and approved by the first semester of the second year. The Graduate Director will not approve further enrollment in thesis hours without an approved thesis proposal in place.”

Interview Continued

feminism and globalization (an extension of postcolonial feminist studies). I am interested in life writing/memoir; I have completed a memoir Oxbow Lakes that I hope will find a publisher soon. An area I wish to explore in my future research is nature writing (poetry and prose). Currently I am working on an article on Zora Neale Hurston and nature. This fall I am teaching Postcolonial Literature, and in the future I expect to be teaching upper level undergraduate courses on writers of the Indian Diaspora (“world literatures in English”), Toni Morrison, and nature writing.

Given the current shortage of faculty in Women’s Studies, for the next three years, I am expected to do 50% of my teaching there. However, I expect the classes to be cross-listed, so courses such as “Women’s Spiritual Memoirs” will be available to students in English. I confess I resented and resisted being in Florida when I moved here from California, but I have found this a good place to be. I have come to love the land, the water, the birds, and the vivid quality of light here. I enjoy the outdoors whether it is gardening, cycling, or kayaking. I practice yoga and sometimes teach classes on yoga philosophy at the yoga studios in town. All in all, I’m happy to be here and part of the growing community of the English department.

Alumni News

KAREN BROWN (PhD 2008)


PATTY McCabe-Remmell (MA 2006):
Accepted a position as an adjunct instructor of Freshman English at Finger Lakes Community College in Canandaigua, New York. She also owns Ad Astra Professional Services, a technical writing and document service.
Interview with Fulbright Scholar, Tesa Rarastesa

I was so excited when I got the chance to come back to USF for my Ph.D. It is not the first time I studied in the U.S. I got my Master’s Degree in American Studies from USF in 2002. At that time I got a scholarship from the World Bank. The World Bank gave a grant to public Universities in Indonesia for graduate study. Since I work in Sebelas Maret University, a public University in Solo (the city where I live), I got a chance to join the program after I failed to get a Fulbright scholarship. Since then I had been trying so many scholarships to go to Australia and England but I failed until finally I tried to apply for Fulbright scholarship and this time I got it successfully. My fate brings me back to the U.S. I actually got accepted in Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge but I wanted to come back to USF instead, I guess I long to live in Tampa again. Now I’m doing my Ph.D. in Literature. I want to do my dissertation on Postcolonial Literature. I studied Literature when I was in undergraduate and now I am glad I can study Literature again.

In Indonesia, I teach American Studies subjects including “American Popular Culture” and a “Seminar” based on my M.A. degree. In the University where I work, I cannot choose what subjects I want to teach. The Department determines what subjects I have to teach. Since I got Graduate Certificate from Women’s Studies Department in 2001 from USF, the Department wants me to teach “American Women.” Since I have been in the United States and I want my students to develop a better academic culture, I encourage them to ask as many questions as possible and express their opinion freely. Most Indonesian teachers do not like their students to disagree with them or to ask them too many questions. For me, when students ask many questions it means that they are highly motivated to know more and it shows that their mind is active. I think this kind of situation makes the class alive. This is the major difference between the academic atmosphere in the U.S. and in Indonesia. The Indonesian professors feel superior to the students, even the graduate students. Most of the time, the graduate students have to finish their studies in a very long time just because they don’t get along with the consultants, not because of something academic. So personal feeling pays an important role in supervising the students’ theses. I think this is a sad reality; of course there are still professors who are objective in grading the students. Since I was a student in Indonesian schools I was raised in that kind of culture, it’s very difficult for me to change drastically when I studied in the U.S. for the first time which required the students to talk more than the professors. At first, it crushed my self-confidence but then I found the experiences very beneficial. Now that I got the second chance to study in the U.S. again I feel more prepared. I have become more open minded and refuse to believe in the stereotype of American people. I find wonderful people here, the professors, my class mates, and friends. They are very helpful and very understanding.

One of the reasons I want to come back to Tampa is that it has similar climate to Solo. Solo is a small city but it is important city in Indonesian politics. If something happens in Solo it will spread out to Jakarta, the capital city of Indonesia. People believe terrorists like to hide in Solo because it is quiet and not as big as Jakarta. But it doesn’t mean that Solo is not a safe city to live in. I have been living in Solo since 1968. I hope this will not make Americans afraid of going to Solo.

In my leisure time I like to watch movies, read, and write poems. In 2001 I got two of my poems published in the U.S. I have been writing poems since I was in Elementary school. When I studied in the English Department in 1988-1992, I learned to write poems in English. They were published in Indonesian Time, an English newspaper in Indonesia.

Graduate Accomplishments

KENDRA BRYANT has been awarded the ZAMI scholarship, an award memorializing poet, activist, theorist, educator, Audre Lorde. Bryant is being recognized at an award ceremony in Atlanta, Georgia at the end of September.


BRYAN RICE

KATHLEEN ROBINSON-MALONE is a visiting assistant professor of rhetoric at Eckerd College.

MANTRA ROY
“West Rules, East Follows?: A Post-Colonial Analysis of 300, Borat, and Blood Diamond.” Reading After Empire, Stirling Scotland. 4 September 2008.

VIVIAN TAYLOR

EGSA Announcements

EGSA requests papers for this month’s works in progress meeting. If you have a paper that is in progress and that you want to publish, then send the essay to Taylor Mitchell at tmitche2@mail.usf.edu. EGSA members will meet to discuss papers on October 17, 2009 in CPR 257 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Reminder emails will be circulated throughout the month.

EGSA announces the first interdisciplinary graduate student conference at USF, scheduled for March of 2009. The theme for this conference is “Anything but Safe: Sex, Sexuality, and Gender.” Conference committee members are needed. If you are interested in helping organize this conference, please contact Jessica McKee at jdmckee@mail.usf.edu.
English Professor Elected to British Academy

PAT ROGERS, DeBartolo Professor in the English Department at the University of South Florida, has been elected to the British Academy with installation on September 22. On a par with the National Academy of Sciences in the United States, the British Academy focuses on the Social Sciences and Humanities. It was chartered in 1902 by King Edward VII. Each year it elects up to 38 Ordinary Fellows based in the United Kingdom and up to 10 Corresponding Fellows based elsewhere. Besides Dr. Rogers, the other scholars elected this year based in the United States are Daniel Kahneman of Princeton University, Martha Nussbaum of the University of Chicago, Peter Phillips of Yale University, and Bas van Fraassen of San Francisco State University. Past Fellows of the Academy include John Maynard Keynes, Karl Popper, Isaiah Berlin, Louis and Mary Leakey, A. J. P. Taylor, Kenneth Clark, C. S. Lewis, and Henry Moore. Election recognizes a scholar’s entire body of work. Dr. Rogers, a specialist in Eighteenth-Century British Literature, has authored or edited 44 books. His most recent are The Cambridge Companion to Alexander Pope (Cambridge University Press, 2007) and Edmund Curll, Bookseller (Oxford University Press, 2007). An edition of papers from the 20th DeBartolo Conference is forthcoming from the University of Delaware Press. Rogers is currently working on a biography of British poet Alexander Pope.

More Faculty News

IRA SUKRUNGRUANG won the Just Desserts Short-Fiction Prize sponsored by Passages North: A Literary Magazine.


“Thirteen Ways of Looking at Fat.” (essay) Bellingham Review 31.60.

Call for Papers: Conferences and Publications

ICFA: International Conference on the Fantastic in the Arts
18-22 March, 2009
Orlando, Florida
Submissions should be sent to the appropriate division head. See website: www.iafa.org.

Southwest/Texas Popular and American Culture Associations
24-28 February 2009
Albuquerque, New Mexico
Submission Deadline: Nov. 15, 2008
http://swtxpca.org/documents/home.html

Rethinking Configurations of Knowledge and Evidence in Literature and Literary Theory
Date of Publication: Nov. 2009
Date of Conference: 26-30 Nov. 2009
Miami, Florida
Submissions Deadline: Jan. 5th 2009
cfp.evidence@albertina-foundation.org
Please enclose a brief CV and publication list with submission.

The Young Adult Novel Studies calls for submissions for journal publication. Deadline: 15 Oct. 2008
Completed articles and 1-page vita to Elise Wormuth at (earthman@sfu.edu) WITH cc to (studiesinthenovel@unt.edu)

2009 Southwest/Texas Popular Culture/American Culture Association
Albuquerque, NM, 24-28 February 2009
250 word paper proposals, or 500 word panel proposals to Ximena Gallardo xgallardo@lagcc.cuny.edu Submission Deadline: 15 Nov. 2008.

The Humanities Review is calling for submissions to be considered for publication in The St. John’s University (Queens, NY) literary journal. For submission info visit: http://www.thehumanitiesreview.com.

The Faculty and Graduate Research Seminar invites graduate students from all disciplines to submit papers for informal meetings of scholars. This event is hosted by the USF history department. Meetings will be held on Thursday afternoon at 4:30 in SOC254. For info contact Dr. David Johnson at djohnson@cas.usf.edu.

Palm Beach Poetry Festival
Palm Beach, Florida Jan. 2009
http://www.palmbeachpoetryfestival.org/

The Journal of Literacy and Technology calls for submissions for journal publication. For submission guidelines, see:
www.literacyandtechnology.org/

Florida Collegiate Pride: GLBT Conference
Daytona Beach, Florida
Embry Riddle Aeronautical U.
For more information, contact conference coordinator Andrew Striker at strik686@erau.edu or

Humanities and Sustainability: Ecology in the Information Age
8-9 May 2009
Fort Myers, Florida
See http://www.fgcu.edu/cas/HandSCon/ for more information.

Expanding Literacy Studies: Graduate Conference
3-5 April 2009 The Ohio State U
http://www.literacystudies.ohio-state.edu

Saw Palm is published by the MFA Creative Writing program at the U of South Fl. Works must be received during the period of August 1 to October 15 each year. For more information, see: http://www.sawpalm.usf.edu/0708/1/aboutus.aspx
October 2008  Inklinks 5

Upcoming Events

Committee to Help Graduate Students in the Job Market

This fall, the English Department Placement Committee will host a series of meetings to help grad students facing the job market. The meetings are designed primarily for those who will be on the market this year, though some of the information may be of interest to students at earlier stages in the program. It’s never too early to start thinking about the job market and to begin planning your search! If you plan to be on the market this year or next, you are warmly invited, strongly encouraged, and otherwise firmly nudged to attend our information sessions and workshops:

**Workshop 1 (CVs and cover letters)**
Wednesday, 8 October 3:00-4:00 SOC 160

**Workshop 2 (abstracts and teaching philosophies)**
Friday, 17 October 2:00-3:00 CPR 343

**Interviewing Techniques**
Wednesday, 19 November, 3:00-4:00 (place TBA)

**Mock Interviews**

To be scheduled first week of December

The Placement Committee considers itself a supplement to, not a substitute for, the normal advising or mentoring that takes place between a student and the members of his or her dissertation committee. We absolutely and actively encourage students to work closely with their directors to revise and refine their job application materials. Our meetings and workshops are designed to introduce students to the job market, create and revise their application materials, and prepare for interviews.

Students on the job market this year but unable to attend any of the workshops should contact Marty Gould (mgould@cas.usf.edu), who will be happy to schedule an individual appointment. Students may also contact the other members of the Placement Committee: Jay Hopper, Gurleen Grewal, and Meredith Zoetewey.

Teaching Literature Discussion Group


Poetry Readings: Brian Turner

Poet Brian Turner will give a poetry reading on October 6th at 7:00pm at USF GraphicStudio. Brian Turner earned an MFA from the University of Oregon and lived abroad in South Korea for a year before serving for seven years in the US Army. He was an infantry team leader for a year in Iraq beginning November 2003, with the 3rd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division. Prior to that, he was deployed to Bosnia-Herzegovina in 1999-2000 with the 10th Mountain Division. His poetry has been published in *Poetry Daily*, *The Georgia Review* and other journals, and in the *Voices in Wartime Anthology* published in conjunction with the feature-length documentary film of the same name. He received a 2007 NEA Literature Fellowship in Poetry. This event is co-sponsored by the English Department and the Florida Literary Arts Coalition.

Works in Progress Meetings

Graduate students and faculty are invited to attend the faculty works-in-progress group, which meets the first Tuesday of each month from 12:30-2pm in CPR 343. Papers will be circulated via email one week prior to the meeting.

The schedule of presenters for the Works-in-Progress Group for this academic year is:

- **October 7:** Annette Cozzi (Humanities)
- **November 4:** Michael Clune (English)
- **December 2:** Cynthia Patterson (English)
- **January 13:** Maria Cizmic (Humanities)
- **February 3:** Adriana Novoa (Humanities)
- **March 3:** Heather Meakin (English)
- **April 7:** Laura Runge (English)

Fiction Reading and Discussion

Rita Ciresi, professor of English, will present a fiction reading at the University of Tampa, Plant Hall Music Room, on Tuesday, October 21, 8:00 p.m.

Lunch with a Scholar Series

On Tuesday October 21 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.
E. L. Doctorow Talk 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 6:30pm.

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 Talk
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.

“Literacy for the Documentary Generation”
More performance than lecture, Todd Taylor's presentation “Literacy for the Documentary Generation” will invite teachers and students of literature, composition, art, film, and communication to reflect together on evolving notions of “literacy” in the age of YouTube, MySpace, reality television, and documentary film. The aim will be to better understand how new media experiences and sensibilities relate to traditional academic literacies, specifically in terms of potential conversions from media consumption to media production. Todd Taylor is the Director of the Writing Program and Professor of English at UNC Chapel Hill. His research and teaching explore the intersection of literacy and digital technologies. He most recently published “Take 20” (Bedford/St. Martin's 2008), a documentary film about the teaching of writing. Todd graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School in Tampa and completed his PhD in English at USF. (see also http://www.unc.edu/~twtaylor). This presentation will be at the University of Tampa on October 24th at 5:00 p.m. The exact location to be announced.

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.

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

Florida College English Association Conference
The FCEA Annual Conference will be held at the Hampton Inn and Suites in Ybor City, Florida on October 16-17, 2008. Presenters, including USF faculty and graduate students, will be speaking about the people, places and history of Florida. For more information, see: http://www.flacea.org/Conferences/callforpapers2008.htm

The Mailer Review
The Second Issue of The Mailer Review, a joint publication of The University of South Florida Department of English and The Norman Mailer Society, is at the printer and due to be received and distributed October 1, 2008. It is a Memorial issue of 576 pages, devoted to Mailer's life, which sadly ended November 10, 2007. Graduate students involved in its creation are Associate Editors Shannon Zinck and Jim Miller, and Managing Editor Constance E. Holmes, all under the supervision of Editor Dr. Phillip Sipiora.
## October 2008

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<td>Brian Turner poetry reading at 7:00 p.m. Graphic Studio</td>
<td>Faculty Works in Progress Discussion Group: Annette Cozzi 12:30-2:00 CPR 343</td>
<td>The Mailer Review: Slavery and Abolition Series</td>
<td>Slavery and Abolition Series; Workshop on CVs and Cover Letters SOC 160 3:00-4:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>James Brock (FIU) discusses FI poetry and poet Grace Allen 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Lunch with a Scholar Series: Dr. Laura Runge University Club; Rita Ciresi Fiction Reading U of Tampa Plant Hall Music Room 8:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Douglas Jesseph: “Philosophy and Mathematics in the 17th Century” Grace Allen Room 2:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Gender Disparities in Salaries of Full Professors at the USF in 1998: Evidence, Consequences, and Recommendations for Solutions* 3:00 p.m. Place TBA</td>
<td>Faculty Works in Progress Discussion Group: Michael Clune CPR 343 12:30-2:00</td>
<td>10 History and Literature Discussion Time and Place TBA</td>
<td>11 Veterans Day Holiday</td>
<td>Teaching Literature Discussion Group: 3:00-4:00 p.m. CPR 343</td>
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<td>E.L. Doctorow Talk 6:00 p.m. Alumni Center</td>
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