

BYWORDS

Department of English Newsletter

“ It is not in the stars
to hold our destiny
but in ourselves.”

- William Shakespeare



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES

The English Department's commencement ceremony was held on May 20th, 2011, in the Reckord Armory. The graduation was called to order and closed eloquently by the Dean of Arts and Humanities, James F. Harris. Harris was celebrating the end of his long tenure as ARHU's dean. Also among the celebrants (and celebrated) were 230-plus students receiving Bachelor's degrees. A moving address was given by one of those undergraduates, Teddy Powers. Powers wrote and spoke on the value of words to the human experience. He motivated new graduates, saying, "So go bust down those doors and motivate others with your words...but make people speechless through your actions."



Along with all the new BAs were 17 MFAs, 7 MAs, and 5 PhDs.

After over one hundred years of collective schooling, these new Doctors of Philosophy deserve hearty congratulations. Mariah Bauer wrote her dissertation "Novel Heroes: Domesticating the Eighteenth-Century Male Adventurer" under the direction of Laura Rosenthal. Katy D'Angelo wrote "From Objects to Self-Projected Thing: Modernist American Poetry as a Study of Objects," under director, Elizabeth Loizeaux. Heather Moreland McHale wrote "Erotic Transgressions: Sexualities and Romance in Graham Greene's Fiction" under John Auchard. Thomas Joseph Moretti wrote "Is this your manly service?": Religion, Gender and Drama in Early Modern England, 1558-1625" under Ted Leinwand's direction. And our only new PhD in Comparative Literature, Mirona Magearu, wrote "Digital Poetry: Comparative Textual Performances in Trans-Medial Spaces" under



directors Regina Harrison and Silvia Carolosi.
Congratulations all!

(Left, MFAs, left to right: Tom Earles, Adam Pellegrini, and Jackie Orlando. Above, MAs: Courtney Connolly (left) and Shanna Charles (right).)

www.english.umd.edu/bywords

Order Your Summer and Fall Semester Books!

Order your Summer and Fall textbooks electronically. This will allow UBC to post them on Testudo as soon as the order is received and verified. Please note that each bookstore requires separate electronic forms. If a course does not require textbooks, both stores and the department need to know.

If you're placing orders "exclusively" with UBC, please note this, in their new form "comment screen," and if MBE becomes your "exclusive" bookstore, e-mail Marge Robling at mrobling@md.bookex.com to let her know.

When ordering books electronically from University Book Center, please forward to Isabella's attention, a copy of your confirmation, for the Main English Office file, either by hard copy or by e-mail attachment. We don't need a copy from MBE, unless they're exclusive.

When you've ordered books, please be in contact with Isabella Mouton in 2119 TWS or at imoulton@umd.edu.

For updating or placing new book orders:

The University Book Center:
<http://www.umcp.bkstore.com>
click on "Faculty," than on "Register"
(if it's your first time)

Maryland Book Exchange:
<http://www.marylandbook.com>
click on "Faculty Information," then on "Faculty Adoptions Form"

FYI, Faculty **must** [submit acknowledgement](#) with the state's Textbook Affordability Law.

Please order your books ASAP.
Thanks,
Isabella

PLACEMENTS AND AWARDS

Kathleen Bossert has accepted an appointment as visiting assistant professor of English at Franklin and Marshall College in Lancaster, Pa.

Tanya Clement has accepted a tenure-track position as Assistant Professor in the School of Information at the University of Texas at Austin.

Schuyler Esprit has accepted a tenure track position as assistant professor of English at Trinity Washington University in Washington, DC.

Rebecca Lush has accepted a tenure-track assistant professor position in the Department of Literature and Writing Studies at California State University, San Marcos.

Vera Tobin (PhD 2008) has accepted appointment as an assistant professor of Cognitive Science at Case Western Reserve University. This appointment will begin after a fellowship at University of California, Santa Barbara .

Elizabeth Veisz has accepted a tenure-track appointment as assistant professor of English at Bridgewater State University in Bridgewater, Massachusetts.

Ena Djordjevic won the Academy of American Poets Award. And Honorable Mentions were given to Jessica Dyche and Amy Katzel.

Andrew Marsh won the Katherine Ann Porter Fiction Prize, with Jacqueline Orlando and Heather Zadig honorably mentioned.

Please check out the department website's "Prizes and Awards Page" (<http://www.english.umd.edu/academics/graduate/achievements/prizes>) to see the major awards won by graduate students. And <http://www.english.umd.edu/academics/undergraduate/award> to check out our undergraduate award winners!

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

The next edition of Bywords will be released September 19.

Please send us any and all updates on new publications and accomplishments by September 5.

*Please include dates, locations, and titles of papers/lectures/etc. in your news submissions.
Bywords e-mail: englweb@umd.edu*

*Stay tuned to
www.english.umd.edu
for more news!*

(NEWS)

The Department Celebrates the Work of Sandy Mack



On the afternoon of May 11th, faculty, staff, and students gathered on the rooftop deck to celebrate Maynard "Sandy" Mack's retirement from the department. The day was warm and beautiful, the food delicious, and the mood pleasant. Over 100 people came to see Sandy off. The event's expansive

and abundant attendance was testament to Professor Mack's work in the department and the University community as a whole.

Professor Mack has been with the English Department since 1975. During that time, he has served as director of the Lilly Fellows Program and Director of English Honors. He has received the Kirwan Undergraduate Education Prize and the Regents' Teaching Award, amongst others, and was honored as Case Maryland Professor of the Year. But mainly, Professor Mack has dedicated his working life to uncovering and exploring Shakespeare with his undergraduate students. In an article written a full nine years ago, the *Baltimore Sun* praised Sandy Mack's receptive teaching style. *Sun* writer, Wayne Hardin, wrote "To him, teaching is learning." In the same article, students and faculty praise Professor Mack--he "listens" and "entertain[s];" is "wonderful" and "energetic." And in the words of former Dean of ARHU Robert Griffith, "I know of no one . . . who more fully embodies the ideals of what it is we should be about in higher education." Collective thanks to Sandy Mack for all the hard work, and congratulations on a well-deserved retirement! Good luck in the next phase!



(Department Chair, Kent Cartwright, watches while Sandy Mack unveils a literal chair--gorgeous, hand-crafted, and engraved with the University seal.)

(NEWS cont.)

STUDENT NEWS

Jesse Freeman (MFA candidate in Fiction at UMD), who has been coordinating the Postcards from My Country project for Writers' House for the past year, recently won a GAMMA award for his investigatory and literary reportage on Alice Walker and Jean Toomer, and was nominated for an EMMY award for his documentary about the life of Raymond Andrews. Nominees for the Emmy were announced at an event in Atlanta on Friday and the ceremony will be in June or July.

Nathan Kelber presented on Text Analysis during a session at Great Lakes ThatCamp at Michigan State University after receiving a fellowship from the Center for History and New Media. He also helped organize the UMD Bloodwork conference, attended UMD's Racial Consciousness Symposium, and attended UMD's Theorizing the Web Conference.

Jasmine Lellock will present "Staged Magic: Conjury and Alchemy in The Tempest" at the World Shakespeare Congress in Prague in July. She also recently presented at three conferences: "'Mother's Blood' and Dis-ease in Early English Anatomy Texts," Bloodwork Conference, University of Maryland; "'And necromantic books are heavenly': Magic and Performance in Marlowe's Doctor Faustus," Princeton Graduate Student Conference: "Science and Magic: Ways of Knowing in the Renaissance," April; and "'Then have you lost a sight, which was to be seen, cannot be spoken of': Spectacle and Automata in The Winter's Tale," Shakespeare Association of America, Seattle.

ALUMNI NEWS

Donald Hall has just been appointed Dean of Arts and Sciences at Lehigh University:

<http://www4.lehigh.edu/news/newsarticle.aspx?Channel=%2fChannels%2fNews%3a+2011&WorkflowItemID=8fcb4dfe-a568-4844-b21a-e7bcf26bd28a>

FACULTY NEWS

Maud Casey has a story forthcoming in Fairy Tale Review (The Brown Issue) and will be teaching at the Nebraska Summer Writers Conference in June.

Robin Earnest, J.D., LL.M. and **Pamela Gerhardt, M.F.A.** have been selected for the 2011-2012 Senior Lecturer positions for the Professional Writing Program.

Michael Olmert, along with Alan Paul, assistant director of OLD TIMES at the Shakespeare Theatre in D.C., was on a public panel discussing the hints and allegations on parade in this difficult and trying play by Harold Pinter.

Brian Richardson guest edited and introduced the current number of the journal *Style*, a special issue on the implied author. At the ISSN conference in St Louis in April, he organized a panel on fictionality and read a paper, "Nabokov's Experiments and the Nature of Fictionality." In May, he will speak on "Unusual and Unnatural Narrative Sequences" at the conference on Postclassical Approaches to Narrative Sequence sponsored by the Réseau Romand de Narratologie in Fribourg, Switzerland. He will lecture on "Unnatural Narrative Theory" at the University of Ghent in June. The following articles of his have recently appeared: "The Trope of the Book in the Jungle: Colonial and Postcolonial Avatars," in *The Conradian* 36.1, 1-13; "Narratology, the Question of Method, and the Unusual Text," in *Théorie, analyse, interprétation des récits*, edited by Sylvie Patron, 57-70; "Endings in Drama and Performance: A Theoretical Model" in *Current Trends in Narratology*, edited by Monika Fludernik and Greta Olsen, 181-99; and "Transtextual Characters," in *Characters in Fictional Worlds: Understanding Imaginary Beings in Literature, Film, and Other Media*, edited by Jens Eder, Fotis Jannidis, and Ralf Schneider, 527-41.

Martha Nell Smith was just voted Chair-Elect of the University Senate. She'll be Chair-Elect 2011-12 and then Chair 2012-13. She also delivered a lecture at the Emily Dickinson Museum Tuesday, May 10th, as part of the National Endowment for the Arts Big Read initiative. Sponsors for "Ah' the Sea! Reading Dickinson Erotically" were the Emily Dickinson Museum, Amherst College, and the NEA:

<http://www.emilydickinsonmuseum.org/node/317>

