

BYWORDS

Department of English Newsletter



Intellectual growth
should commence at
birth and cease only at
death.



-Albert Einstein



www.english.umd.edu/bywords

DEPARTMENT COMMENCEMENT, MAY 2012



On May 21, 2012, the department celebrated the graduation of 254 students. Our esteemed department chair, Kent Cartwright, gave an inspiring welcome address. This was particularly poignant in that Kent will be stepping down from his successful

post as Chair at the end of this academic year. Following Kent's welcome, new BA Kelly Monique King addressed her friends, family, and colleagues, treating her choice of an English degree with great spirit and gusto. You can read Kelly's speech [here](#).

After a series of graduate and undergraduate award presentations, students received their degrees. The recipients included 227 new BAs, 14 MFAs, 3 MAs, and an astounding 10 PhDs. Those PhDs deserve mention for their long standing efforts in the department; they are Rebecca Borden, Amy Karp, Kelly McGovern, Donna Packer-Kinlaw, Joanne Roby, Marc Ruppel, Sara Schotland, Margaret Sinclair, and Jennifer Wellman--as well as one PhD in Comparative Literature, Rachel Jablon. Many congratulations to the newest BAs, MFAs, MAs, and PhDs!



Order Your Fall Semester Books!

It's time to order your fall 2012 textbooks. Deadlines for the University Book Center and Maryland Book Exchange pass quickly, so please do this as soon as possible to ensure availability!

We strongly recommend submitting your textbooks orders electronically as 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.

When ordering books electronically from University Book Center, please forward a copy of your confirmation to Isabella's attention 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.

Please note the new links to both MBE and UBC, listed below

The University Book Center:

www.umcp.bncollege.com

If questions arise, please email textbooks@ubcmail.umd.edu

Maryland Book Exchange:

http://marylandbook.com/textbook_adoptions.asp

If questions arise, contact Rossana Jessee at rjessee@nebo.com or call 301/927-2510 ext. 116.

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

Thank you,
Isabella

Events from The Center For Literary and Comparative Studies:

Alumni Book Group:

Mystery Novels: Academic & Maryland
(TBA, but for example, Dorothy Sayers, Gaudy Night, or Amanda Cross, or Laura Lippman)
Thursday, July 19, 2012
6:30 pm - 8:30 pm
2115 Tawes Hall

Local Americanists:

Elizabeth Fenton, "Grafting, Pastiche, and Intertextuality in *The Book of Mormon*"
Friday, October 19, 2012
2:30 pm - 4:30 pm
2115 Tawes Hall

W.J.T. Mitchell Petrou Lecturer

The Center for Literary and Comparative Studies, the Arts and Humanities Film Field Committee, and the ARHU Theory Colloquium will bring W.J.T. Mitchell to campus as our annual Petrou Lecturer on October 25 and 26, 2012. On October 25 Mitchell will deliver his Petrou Lecture, "Seeing Madness." On October 26 he'll direct a joint session of the Theory Colloquiums and Film Field Committee. Both events are public and all are invited to attend.

W.J.T. Mitchell is the Gaylord Donnelley Distinguished Service Professor of English and Art History at the University of Chicago and the editor of *Critical Inquiry*. One of our foremost theorists of visual culture, he is the author and recipient of numerous works and awards, including his *What Do Pictures Want?*, which won the MLA's 2006 James Russell Lowell in Language and Literature. His more recent publications include *Critical Terms in Media Studies* (with Mark Hansen; Chicago, 2010), *Cloning Terrorism: The War of Images*, September 11 to Abu Ghraib (Chicago, 2011), and *Seeing Through Race* (Harvard, 2010):

[Further information is available on the Center's webpage.](#)

[Please check the Department Calendar for more news and events.](#)

(NEWS)

FACULTY NEWS

Vin Carretta's *Phillis Wheatley: Biography of a Genius in Bondage* is the subject of a lengthy review by Darryl Pinckney entitled "Unknowable girl: Salvation for the mother of African-American literature" in the June issue of *Harper's Magazine*.

Maud Casey has been the Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation Creative Fellow at the Millay Colony for the Arts for the month of May. She read as part of the PEN International Festival and will participate in a reading and discussion with the artist Sal Randolph at Proteus Gowanus in Brooklyn in June.

Mark Fitzgerald was selected to read in the Joaquin Miller Poetry Series this summer. He will read from his book *By Way of Dust and Rain* at the Rock Creek Park Nature Center's auditorium (near Joaquin Miller's Cabin) on Sunday, July 15, at 3 p.m.

Danuta Hinc was written up in the Baltimore magazine *Urbanite*. The interview discussed Danuta's writing, reading, and other interests.

Tom Lowderbaugh's student Katherine Breen was named as the student speaker for the Smith School commencement exercises. Tom served as Ms. Breen's editor as she worked on her speech over spring break. Ms. Breen also won the PWP writing contest award for her paper "Proposal to Improve RA Team Development during Training."

Brian Richardson gave an invited lecture, "The Fate of Reading in the Twentieth Century," at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro in February. In March, he organized and chaired two Unnatural Narrative panels and gave a paper on "The Boundaries of Narrative" at the International Narrative Conference in Las Vegas. In April, he spoke on "Reassembling the Story: The Polylinear Novel and Its Navigation," at the Novel Worlds Conference of the Society for Novel Studies at Duke University.

In May, Brian presented "Unnatural Lives: The Difference of Fiction" at the Narrative Matters Conference at the American University of Paris. In June, he'll give an invited lecture at the University of Bologna on "The Use and Abuse of Reading in Modern Narrative" and an Oberseminar, "Misreading Text and Other in Joyce's 'The Dead,'" at the University of Freiburg. He has also contributed a discussion of his theories of narrative to *Narrative Theories and Poetics: Five Questions*, edited by Peer Bundegaard. The book, *Narrative Theory: Core Concepts and Critical Debates*, by Brian Richardson with David Herman, James Phelan and Peter Rabinowitz, and Robyn Warhol, has just been published by Ohio State University Press.

(NEWS cont.)

FACULTY NEWS cont.

Martha Nell Smith will present at the Society for Textual Scholarship 2012 Conference (May 31 to June 2) at the University of Texas Austin on a panel that Marilee Lindemann is moderating, "Editing Forgeries: Dickinson Documents and Implications for Editorial and Literary Histories."

Joshua Weiner has poems & prose recently published or forthcoming in *AGNI*, *Literary Imagination*, *Southwest Review*, *Cincinnati Review*, *Harvard Review*, *Provincetown Arts*, *The New Republic*, and *Rough Cuts: Media Design in Process*, edited by Kari Kraus. His new book of poems, *The Figure of a Man Being Swallowed by a Fish*, will be published by University of Chicago Press in Spring 2013. The Amy Lowell Travelling Scholarship will take him and Sarah Blake and their two boys to Berlin for the next academic year.

STUDENT NEWS



Anna Bedford was awarded the University of Maryland Graduate Student Distinguished Service Award this

month. Anna has represented graduate students as a Senator in the University Senate, as President of the Graduate Student Government, as well as on several search committees (including the president's) and on campus, University System, and State committees and workgroups. Her advisor, Jane Donawerth, was one of her nominators for this award.

Anna also completed the University Teaching and Learning Program through the Center for Teaching Excellence. She received a certificate at the Distinguished Teaching Assistant Ceremony and will receive a notation on her transcript.

Adam Binkley's manuscript "RABBIT RABBIT" has won the MFA Program's 2012 Stanley Plumly Thesis Award in Poetry.

Logan Blizzard won the Sandy Mack Honors Award for the honors student with the most outstanding overall record in English.

STUDENT NEWS cont.

Isabella Cooper has won a 2011-2012 CTE Distinguished Teaching Assistant award for English.

Amanda Dykema has won a 2011-2012 CTE Distinguished Teaching Assistant award for English.

Megan Eden won the Spiegel Creative Writing Award, for the graduating senior with the most exceptional work in creative writing.

Michael Gosset has won a 2011-2012 CTE Distinguished Teaching Assistant award for English.

Omari James won the Mike Angel Award, presented to a graduating senior who has shown distinction, extraordinary merit, and great perseverance.

Amy Katzel has won a 2011-2012 CTE Distinguished Teaching Assistant award for English.

Laura Lauth has won the 2012 Carl Bode Prize for her dissertation entitled, "Strange and Absurd Words': Translation as Ethics and Poetics in the Transcultural U.S, 1830-1915."

Heather Lindenman has won a James A. Robinson award for 2011-2012 for excellence in teaching academic writing.

Rebecca Lush has won the 2012 Alice L. Geyer prize for her essay, "The "Other" Woman: Early Modern English representations of Native American Women, 1579-1690."

Sarah Sillin has won a James A. Robinson award for 2011-2012 for excellence in teaching literature.

Nancy Stewart has won a 2011-2012 CTE Distinguished Teaching Assistant award for English.

Sohayl Vafai won the Houppert Shakespeare Prize, given to the undergraduate student who has produced the best essay on Shakespeare. Sohayl also won the Sara Ann Soper Service Award, which is given annually to a graduating English major who has performed exemplary community service.

Rob Wakeman has won the 2012 Kinnaird Prize for his essay, "A Calendar of Seasonal Discontent for Shepherds, Lover, and Other Petty Gods."

(NEWS cont.)

STUDENT NEWS cont.

Jenny Wang has won the Horrell Award, which is presented to the most academically distinguished graduating English major. Jenny also won the prestigious University Medal.

ALUMNI NEWS

Kathleen Bossert has accepted a tenure-track appointment as assistant professor at Notre Dame of Maryland University in Baltimore. She's recently been a visiting assistant professor at Franklin and Marshall. Kate completed her dissertation (Spring 2010), "The Tudor Antichrists, 1485-1603," under a committee composed of Kent Cartwright (chair), Theresa Coletti, Donna Hamilton, Ted Leinwand, and Philip Soergel (History).

Lara Crowley has accepted an appointment as a tenure-track assistant professor at Northern Illinois University. Lara completed her doctorate in Fall 2007, with a dissertation on "Manuscript Context and Literary Interpretation: John Donne's Poetry in Seventeenth-Century England." Her committee was composed of Donna Hamilton (chair), Neil Fraistat, Gary Hamilton, Marshall Grossman, and Philip Soergel (History).

Tim Crowley has accepted an appointment as a tenure-track assistant professor at Northern Illinois University. He finished his doctorate in Summer 2009, with a dissertation entitled "Feigned Histories: Philip Sidney and the Poetics of Spanish Chivalric Romance." His committee members were Donna Hamilton (chair), Theodore Leinwand, Elizabeth Bearden, Ralph Bauer, Kent Cartwright, Carmen Benito-Vessels (Spanish).

Julie Enszer (MFA; thesis directed by Stan Plumly), now a PhD candidate in WMST, won the prestigious Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation WMST Fellowship for 2012-2013. Her dissertation "The Whole Naked Truth of Our Lives: Lesbian Print Culture in the United States 1969-1989" is codirected by Martha Nell Smith (with Deborah Rosenfelt, WMST). This award was featured on the University of Maryland's home page.

ALUMNI NEWS cont.

Maria Gigante has accepted a tenure-track position as assistant professor in the Department of English at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo. Maria will be working in the department's new Rhetoric and Writing program. In June, she will defend her dissertation, "Science in the Public Eye: Communicating and Selling Science through Images." The members of her dissertation committee are Jeanne Fahnestock (chair), Shirley Logan, Vessela Valiavitcharska, Scott Wible, and Shawn Parry-Giles (Communication).

T.J. Moretti has accepted an appointment as a tenure track assistant professor of English at Iona College. T.J. defended his dissertation, "Is this your manly service?: Religion, Gender, and Drama in Early Modern England, 1558-1625," in May, 2011. His committee was composed of Ted Leinwand (chair), Kimberly Coles, Theresa Coletti, Kent Cartwright, and Philip Soergel (History).

Dear friends and colleagues,
Sadly, this will be my last edition of *Bywords*. I've enjoyed following your achievements, stalking your publications, and celebrating those moments along with you. I look forward to reading further editions of the newsletter, now as an alum (twice over). These two years in the MEO (and three as a graduate student) have been rife with constant challenge, inspiration, creation, and growth.

I thank you all, as always,

Catherine

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

*The next edition of Bywords will be released approximately September 28. Please send us any and all updates on new publications and accomplishments by *September 17*.*

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!*

**Photograph is "Water Drops," taken by Fox Kiyo
January 15, 2007.**

