

Musings

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From the Chair Professor Susan Manning

Earlier this fall the new president of Northwestern, Morton Schapiro, accepted my invitation to attend a department meeting. “Morty,” as he asked us to call him, listened closely as the faculty introduced themselves individually. Then I took the floor to introduce the department collectively, having spent most of the previous week putting together statistics on our activities, figuring that was the way to appeal to a trained economist. In so doing, I learned a lot about the department that I would like to share with you.

Who are we? We are 34 tenured and tenure-track faculty; eight artists-in-residence and distinguished lecturers who teach creative writing, and five lecturers who hold administrative positions as College Advisors or Associate Deans. At any one time the English department also includes around 40 to 50 graduate students and a handful of Visiting Assistant Professors (typically recent Ph.D.s) to replace faculty on leave.

The tenure-line faculty is a diverse group in many ways. We have been gender-balanced for a decade or more. Currently, we are 16 women and 18 men, quite evenly distributed across ranks. We have not yet achieved comparable parity in terms of racial and ethnic background: four faculty of color are assistant professors, four are associate professors.

We are also very diverse in terms of research interests. Reading and interpretation—broadly defined—remain our primary activities, but our texts are many. We read canonical texts from Shakespeare to Dickens to Faulkner, but we also read texts in medieval Latin, in Arabic and in other languages. We read English-language texts written in the Caribbean, in Africa, and in India. We read political, philosophical, and religious writings, and we interpret music, film, visual culture, dance, and theatre. And we write in a range of genres—from a film blog to program notes for local theatres to poems, novels, critical essays and books. As scholars, writers, editors, and translators, we are frighteningly productive.

In terms of teaching and advising, we graduate on average 100 majors a year, of whom roughly 3/4 are Literature Majors and 1/4 are Writing Majors. We teach more than 4000 students each year. We estimate that around 1/3 of our undergraduate enrollments are from our own majors and minors. This means that 2/3 of our students are from other departments and schools across the university. We take pride in the excellence of our teaching.

Our Ph.D. program is small in comparison to our peers—as is the relative size of our faculty—yet we do well by our students. An average of 8 students

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In Memory of Alfred Appel

by Al Cirillo

Alfred joined the department, if I recall correctly, during a period when I was in Italy so I met him for the first time when I returned. Since we were both born and raised New Yorkers, we struck up an immediate rapport. Then, too, since we were of the same age and generation, we shared the same enthusiasm for the popular culture of the 40s and 50s as we had experienced it. We had our own views, of course; Alfred's enthusiasm for Nabokov and jazz was in contrast to my own for opera. But it was particularly the movies of the 40s and 50s that filled many of our conversations. And the one movie and its star that became a moment of illumination was Lana Turner in "The Postman Always Rings Twice," in which she co-starred with John Garfield. Never particularly distinguished as an actress, even by movie standards, nevertheless she was at her shimmering best in this film despite the censorship standards of the day leaving it considerably sanitized (by contrast with Visconti's Italian version, called "Ossessione"). Again and again Alfred and I would return to this film and Lana's shining moment, which filled the nostalgia of our youth. So I can only hope that he is now able to tell Lana how much we both appreciated her.

One final story. Since my name is Albert I was always referred to as Al in the department and Alfred was given his full name (during a number of years there was also an Alan in the department!). But I happened to have had a cousin Alfred with whom I grew up, and each of us was always referred to by our full name. One day I had to call Alfred (Appel) about something and, when he answered the phone I said, "Hello, this is Albert." Alfred said "I have never heard you refer to yourself as Albert before." My unthinking response was to say "That's to distinguish me from Alfred." There was a pregnant pause at the other end of the line followed by laughter as he said "But you are talking to Alfred!" Well, Alfred, this is Al, not Albert, saying rest in peace.

Rachel Jamison Webster (M.F.A. Warren Wilson) has published poetry and essays in print and online journals such as *Poetry*, *The Southern Review*, *Redivider*, *Perihelion*, and *Blackbird*. She is currently sending out two poetry manuscripts for publication and enjoying the release of a chapbook, *The Blue Grotto* (Dancing Girl Press 2009). She edits an online anthology of international poetry, *UniVerse of Poetry*, located at www.universeofpoetry.org, and is presently gathering poems and interviews for a film she's co-writing called, *One World, One Poem*. She is the recipient of an Academy of American Poets Young Poets Prize and an American Association of University Women Award, the latter for her implementation of writing workshops for homeless youth in Portland, Oregon. From 1998-2001 she worked closely with Chicago's First Lady Maggie Daley to establish literary arts apprenticeships for city teens. In this capacity, she edited two anthologies of writing by young people, *Alchemy* (2001) and *Paper Atrium* (2004).



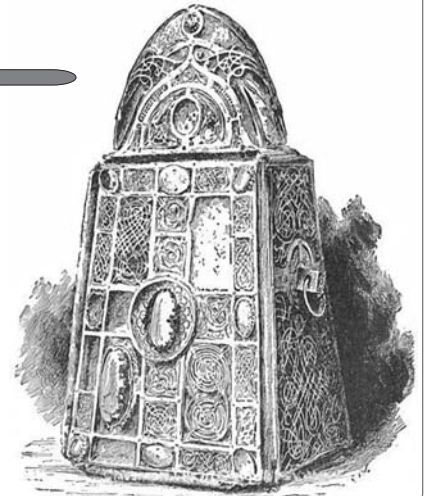
NEW Department Faculty

Emily Rohrbach (Ph.D. Boston University) teaches and writes about British Romanticism, especially second-generation writers, as well as psychoanalytic theory, historicisms, and aesthetics. A former junior visiting fellow at the Institute for Human Sciences in Vienna, she is completing a book-length project, *Dark Passages of Time: Romantic Historiography and the Literary Subject*, which shows how the sense of anticipation in Romantic literature evokes the unknowability of the subject poised on the horizon of a dark futurity. This discovery implies, moreover, that in their aesthetics of anticipation Romantic writers reshape the relation between literature and history to convey the difficulty of understanding the present as history when the moment is framed by an unknown future. A new project, *Romantic Encounters*, will examine spatial metaphors of mental exploration and interruption in Romantic poetry in relation to Romantic-period narratives of travel and exploration. She has published articles on Jane Austen, Anna Barbauld, and John Keats in *Studies in English Literature*, *European Romantic Review*, and *Revue d'Etudes Anglophones*, and has book reviews forthcoming in *Nineteenth-Century Contexts* and *Studies in Romanticism*. She is also co-editing a special issue of *Studies in Romanticism* on Keats, aesthetics, and politics to appear in summer 2011.





Alfred Appel
(1934-2009)



Meghan M. Daly grew up in Northeast Philadelphia and earned her undergraduate degree in English at UPenn. She loves bookstores and has (rather appropriately) spent the last year working at one. Her undergraduate thesis examines how *Othello*'s engagement with travelogues, pamphlets, and medical texts on race complicates and intensifies the play's treatment of companionate marriage. She continues to be interested in how fears about racial, socioeconomic, and gender difference animated and informed modernized perspectives on marriage in early modern England. She enjoys spending time at her family's beach house, exploring big cities, and cheering for the world champion Phillies.

Garrett Morrison came of age in Southern California, earned his B.A. in English from Yale College, and plied his trades (tutoring, editing, blogging) in San Francisco until he moved to Evanston this past summer. He enjoys surfing, hiking, and other Left Coast pastimes, while his academic obsessions cluster around the early American Republic. He is particularly interested in the intersections between the F.O. Matthiessen-approved canon and the political, scientific, and religious discourses of the transatlantic Enlightenment. When not reading, he is either listening to weird music or wading through his Netflix queue.

Raashi Rastogi was born and raised in Virginia. Having earned her B.A. in English and Foreign Affairs from the University of Virginia, she spent two and a half years working for a business consulting company. She is fascinated by the treatment of embodiment and the grotesque in medieval literature, and would

like to investigate the conflation of sex with death, the role of the Ganymede figure, the association of homosexuality with the act of writing, and questions of authorship (among other topics). In her free time, she enjoys drinking tea in communal settings, cynically discussing politics, cavorting at ungodly hours, and smoking hookah.

Elizabeth Rodriguez is from Chicago, where she double-majored in English and history at Northeastern Illinois University. She is deeply interested in early modern English literature and harbors a mild obsession with the issue of female agency in revenge tragedy. When she isn't railing against the Chicago Transit Authority, she enjoys the wonderful theater available in the third most miserable city in the United States and is the co-writer of a show that was featured at the experimental theater festival at Gorilla Tango Theatre this past summer.

Alicia Sands comes to Evanston from Michigan (English B.A. from Hillsdale College), Florence, Italy (two years teaching English), and Boston College (an M.A. in English, and another in Italian). Her immediate interests include Tudor/Stuart literature, continental and classical influences on it (esp. Medieval and Renaissance Italian literature), and early modern conceptions of language, rhetoric, and translation, especially where they interact with post-structuralist and neo-cognitivist theories of language and culture. Her less immediate interests include sailing, enology, and generally reconciling *la vita scolastica* with *la dolce vita*.





Christopher Herbert

Chester D Tripp Professor of Humanities

words from the inauguration, by Jules Law

For more than thirty years Chris Herbert has been the ideal colleague: the model scholar, the model chair, the model dean. His combined record as a scholar, as a teacher, and as an administrator is unparalleled, I think, at any university in the country. The university has turned to Chris over and over again for his prowess as a tireless and imaginative administrator: chair of the English department from 1990 to 1993, and again from 1999 to 2000; associate dean of the college from 1993 to 1998; chair of the dept. of Spanish and Portuguese from 2002 to 2004. Yet despite reluctantly giving up the better part of 15 years of his career to administration, Chris also found time to win the College of Arts and Sciences distinguished teaching award twice; and to win three major national fellowships for his extraordinary scholarship as well. It's that scholarship that I will talk about today.

Many years ago—over twenty, to be inexact—I was pursuing research in London, England, and I came across an 1865 article in the *Illustrated London News*, reporting the recent “discovery” of the source of the Nile. What the article said, more or less verbatim, was that for all those who had become accustomed to hear that British imperialism was little more than a history of tawdry commercialism, hollow jingoism and chauvinistic aggrandizement, the discoveries of Livingstone, and Speke, and Burton must surely be a source of profound admiration. This article discomfited me to no end, though not yet having read the books Chris Herbert was to write over the next couple of decades, I could not quite explain why. The history seemed to me to be backwards. Surely, I thought, a skepticism about imperialism and a cynicism about Victorian moral ideals could not themselves have been Victorian commonplaces; such deconstructions were *our own* distinctively modern contribution to intellectual and cultural history. The Victorians were complacent, I was certain; skepticism was *our* modern prerogative.

Suffice it to say that Chris Herbert's entire career—stretching over a series of landmark critical studies—has been a monumental revision of this idea of the Victorian era. To borrow a key Herbertian critical term, it has been a career dedicated in the most serious and productive sense, to *laceration*. Not only to the laceration of many contemporary critical and ideological commonplaces, but more importantly to the rigorous analysis of the *self-laceration* at the heart of Victorian culture, a culture which, until Herbert's work, we have understood very imperfectly, even as we have paid it the dubious tribute of imitation. In a series of idiosyncratic and revisionary milestone studies—of comedy, of ethnography, of relativism, and of imperialism—Herbert has remapped the Victorian landscape. Each of these books— *Trollope and Comic Pleasure* in 1987, *Culture and Anomie* in 1991, *Victorian Relativity* in 2001, and *War of No Pity* in 2008—examines a key chapter in Victorian intellectual and cultural history, reading it alongside an important strain of late-twentieth century scholarship: thus, Victorian ethnography alongside culture studies; Victorian relativism alongside post-structuralism; imperialism alongside post-colonial studies. Probing in this way the genealogy of our own contemporary intellectual and scholarly landscape, Herbert has rewritten both Victorian and contemporary intellectual history. It sounds too easy to say that he has revealed the Victorians to be more modern than we have recognized, and we “moderns” more Victorian than we care to acknowledge. But this in fact is just what he's done.

This is not to say that Herbert finds in the Victorian period the genesis of our own progressive political sensibilities. True, he traces cultural relativism (for instance) back to the Victorians, and specifically to Victorian science, thus dispelling the either comforting or embarrassing presumption that it is a concept of more recent provenance. But Herbert is laceratingly clear

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Beyond the Degree : Recent Alumni Publications

Katy Chiles (2008)

Assistant Professor, University of Tennessee at Knoxville

"Becoming Colored in Occom and Wheatley's Early America."
Article appearing in *PMLA* 123.5 (2008): 1398-417.

Review of "A Hideous Monster of the Mind: American Race Theory in the Early Republic," by Bruce Dain.
Review appearing in *Early American Literature* 43.2 (2008): 511-16.

"Within and Without the Raced Nation: Intratextuality, Martin Delany, and *Blake; or the Huts of America*."
Article appearing in *American Literature* 80.2 (2008): 323-52.

Marcy Dinius (2003)

Assistant Professor, University of Delaware

"Best in Show: American Daguerreotypes at the Great Exhibition."
Article appearing in *Common-place* (July 2009).

"Teaching the Mechanics of Deception: Hoaxing, 'Hans Pfaall' and Antebellum Print Culture."

Article appearing in *Approaches to Teaching Poe's Prose and Poetry*. ed. Jeffrey Weinstock and Anthony Magistrale. New York: Modern Language Association (2008): 55-60.

Belinda Edmondson (1993)

Associate Professor, Rutgers University

Caribbean Middlebrow: Leisure Culture and the Middle Class.
Book published by Cornell University Press (2009).

"The Black Romance."

Article appearing in *Women's Studies Quarterly* vol. 35, nos. 1 & 2 (2007): 191-211.

Joan Gillespie (1996)

"Applying Standards to Creative Programming in Education Abroad."
Article forthcoming in *ACCU* (2009)

"How Study Abroad Shapes Global Careers: Evidence from the U.S."
Article co-authored with Emily Mohajeri Norris
Appearing in *Journal of Studies in International Education* (2009).

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Pl a c e m e n t

Our students met with great success on the job market again this year, and five of them have begun first-time tenure-track Assistant Professorships this year:

Sarah Blackwood (Ph.D. 2009) - Pace University in New York, New York.

William Huntting Howell (Ph.D. 2005) - Boston University in Boston, Massachusetts.

Janaka Bowman Lewis (Ph.D. 2009) - University of North Carolina, Charlotte.

Jeffrey Knight (Ph.D. 2009) begins a three-year joint Assistant Professorship/Post-doctoral appointment as a Fellow in the Michigan Society of Fellows at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor.

Scott Proudfit (Ph.D. 2008) - University of Houston, Texas.

In addition, three of our other job-seekers earned one-year post-doctoral positions:

Leah Culligan-Flack (Ph.D. 2009, Comparative Literary Studies) and **Peter Jaros** (Ph.D. 2009) have both been appointed as Visiting Assistant Professors in the English Department here at Northwestern University during the 2009-10 term.

Sarah Mesle (Ph.D. 2009) is teaching as a Visiting Assistant Professor at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, on a one-year CIC (Committee on Institutional Cooperation) Teaching Postdoctoral Fellowship.



"Holistic Student Learning and Development Abroad: The IES 3-D Program Model."

Article co-authored with Larry Braskamp and Mary Dwyer

Appearing in *The Handbook of Practice and Research in Study Abroad: Higher Education and the Quest for Global Citizenship*. ed. Ross Lewin. Routledge (2009).

Bryan Hampton (2004)

Assistant Professor, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

"The 2009 Alabama Shakespeare Festival Othello."

co-authored with Craig Barrow

Article appearing in *The Upstart Crow* (2009).

Fleshly Tabernacles: Milton & the Incarnational Poetics of Early Modern England.

Book manuscript under review.

"Literature: Colonial American."

Entry appearing in *The Encyclopedia of Religion in America*. eds. Charles H. Lippy and Peter W. Williams. vol. 4. Washington, D.C.: CQ, (forthcoming 2010).

Hunt Howell (2005)

Assistant Professor, Boston University

"Spirits of Emulation: Readers, Samplers, and the Republican Girl, 1787-1810."

Article appearing in *American Literature* 81.3 (2009): 497-526.

Joseph Kraus (2000)

Assistant Professor, King's College

"Discovery. Invention. Creation."

Article appearing in *Southern Humanities Review*. 1st ed. vol. 44 (forthcoming 2010).

"How Beautiful Are Your Tents, O Jacob."

Article appearing in *Moment*. 6th ed. vol. 33 (2008): 43-45.

"The Sweetheart is Outside Herself: Writing the Contemporary American-Jewish Writer in S.L. Wisenberg's Ceci Rubin Stories."



Essay appearing in *Unfinalized Moments: Essays in the Development of Contemporary Jewish-American Fiction*. ed. Derek P. Royal. Lafayette, IN: Purdue UP.

James L. Lang (1997)

Associate Professor, Assumption College

On Course: A Week-by-Week Guide to Your First Semester of College Teaching.

Book published by Harvard UP (2008).

Karen Leick (2002)

Assistant Professor, Ohio State University

Editor, *Modernism on File: Modern Writers, Artists, and the FBI: 1920-1950*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan (2008).

Gertrude Stein and the Making of an American Celebrity.

Book published by New York: Routledge (2009).

"Introduction: Silence, Acquiescence, and Dread."

"Madness, Paranoia, and Ezra Pound's FBI File."

Entries appearing in *In Modernism on File: Modern Writers, Artists, and the FBI: 1920-1950*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan (2008): 1-19, 105-25.

"Popular Modernism: Little Magazines and the American Daily Press."

Article appearing in *PMLA* 132.1 (2008): 125-39.

Eric LeMay (2002)

**Associate Director of the Undergraduate Writing Program
Lecturer in the English Department, Columbia University**

Immortal Milk.

Book to be published by Free (forthcoming 2010).

Gayle Rogers (2008)

Assistant Professor, University of Pittsburgh

"James Joyce in His Labyrinth."

Article appearing in *PMLA* 124.3 (2009): 926-38.

Review of "Race, Transnational Modernisms and American Literature," by Anita Patterson.

Review appearing in *Critical Quarterly* (2009): 96-104.

Resumen de tesis [Dissertation abstract],

Appearing in *Revista de Estudios Orteguianos* 16/17 (May-November 2008): 332-34.

Kimberly W. Segall

Associate Professor, Seattle Pacific University

"Collective Mourning Practices in Iraq and South Africa."

Appearing in *Lamentations in Ancient and Contemporary Contexts*, eds. Nancy Lee and Carleen Mandolfo (2008): 177-94.

"Contestational Spaces and the Nervous Conditions of Postcolonial Theories."

Appearing in *Options for Teaching*, ed. Gaurav Desai (2009).



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matriculate each year, and of these 80% complete the Ph.D. Our placement has improved remarkably over the last decade, according to data collected by the Graduate School. How our students will fare in this year's market remains to be seen, but we certainly beat the odds last year. (See details in this newsletter.) So far this year, we have one fly-back to the Society of Fellows at Harvard, so we're hoping to beat the odds once again.

We are involved in all facets of the humanities at Northwestern. In any one year, we offer around 20 courses outside the department. We have courtesy appointments and other types of formal affiliation with African Studies, African American Studies, American Studies, Asian American Studies, Classics, Comparative Literary Studies, Gender Studies, Kaplan Institute for the Humanities, History, Latin American and Caribbean Studies, Latina/o Studies, the Law School, Middle East Studies, Medieval Studies, Religion, Performance Studies, Screen Cultures, and Theatre.

Morty seemed impressed by what he had heard. And, frankly, we were too. We all spend so much time engaged in our teaching and research that we don't always realize how much we manage to achieve collectively. So on a bright fall day, it felt good to sit back and take pride in our collective accomplishments. Morty was overheard exclaiming. "All this with such a small faculty!" Yes, indeed.

Chair, Department of English
November, 2009

Chris Herbert Inauguration

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about the deeply self-contradictory nature of cultural relativism, a concept at once inimical and necessary to our sense of social justice and of the possibility of positive political claims.



It would be fair to say that his work warns us everywhere against the assumption that intellectual and political positions map onto one another in any simple way. He relentlessly scrutinizes the complex psychic underpinnings of moralism while ever alert to the way in which such relentless critique has tended historically to breed its own pieties in turn. He has spent a lifetime showing how rigorously the most advanced Victorian thinkers dedicated themselves to criticizing dogmatism—whether the dogmatisms of utilitarianism, of positivism or of religiosity—and how consistently they attempted to make this criticism the grounds of social critique. But of course with Herbert there is always one more turn of the screw. Rather than showing us that Victorian intellectuals were the heroic precursors to our own pantheon of heroic demystifiers, he shows that we are heirs alike of Victorian positivism and Victorian relativism; of the injunction to be holistic and the contradictory injunction to be inductive. And he shows that each of these strains of thinking had then—as they have now—well understood ideological connotations and political affiliations. Our conventional understanding of the Victorian moral lifeworld (and of the genealogy connecting us to it) so oversimplifies these complex dynamics as to be grotesque: but it is compensated for by the extraordinary intellectual adventure and the sheer aesthetic pleasure of the bracing encounter with Chris Herbert's writing.





Eula Biss recently won a Pushcart Prize for her essay "Time and Distance Overcome," which appeared in the February 2009 issue of *Harper's*, and an Illinois Arts Council Award for her essay "Nobody Knows Your Name." Her second book, *Notes from No Man's Land: American Essays* (Graywolf Press), was released this past spring and the title essay "No Man's Land" was recently reprinted in the anthology *Read Hard* (McSweeney's). Her essay "Relations" is included in the *Best American Nonrequired Reading 2009* (Houghton Mifflin) and a Spanish translation of her essay "Time and Distance Overcome" appeared in the spring issue of *Etiqueta Negra*. Her review of Chinua Achebe's new collection of essays, *The Education of a British-Protected Child*, is in the fall issue of the *Columbia Journalism Review*. Her current projects include caring for a sweet little baby boy and writing a long essay about pain.

Katharine Breen has just finished copy-editing her first book, *Imagining an English Reading Public, 1150-1400*, to be published by Cambridge University Press in spring 2010. She has recently been invited to give talks at the Newberry Library, Loyola University, and the RMMLA on literary (as opposed to art historical) approaches to medieval manuscript images. This work will form the kernel of her new book project, on experimental forms of verbal and visual allegory in the later Middle Ages. In the meantime, she has been thoroughly enjoying teaching a class on medieval English poetry of social protest, featuring the connections between William Langland's *Piers*



Plowman and the so-called Peasants' Revolt of 1381.

Leah Culligan-Flack presented a paper at the North American James Joyce Association conference in June, and was asked to write a conference overview for the James Joyce Quarterly, set to be released later this Fall. In November, she is chairing a seminar entitled "Modernist Ephemeria" at the Modernist Studies Association conference in Montreal, and December will find her in the 2009 MLA conference in Philadelphia, delivering a paper titled "Closing the Window to the West: The Specter of Petersburg in Mandelstam's *Egyptian Stamp*."

John Alba Cutler's essay on Mexican American narratives of the Vietnam War appeared in the Fall 2009 issue of *American Literature*. This past year he was involved in the founding of the Latina and Latino Studies Program at Northwestern and has created two new courses in the English Department - Introduction to Latino Literature and Special Topics in Latino Literature - both of which he is teaching this year. John is also pleased to be the co-organizer, along with Geraldo Cadava (History), of the Newberry Seminar in Borderlands and Latino Studies for 2009-2010. He is currently enjoying teaching an American Studies seminar on immigration and xenophobia in American culture.



Barbara Newman has won a Mellon Distinguished Achievement Award, one of four offered annually in the nation. This institutional grant will provide \$1.5 million for program-building in Medieval Studies, enabling Northwestern to pursue all kinds of promising initiatives from 2010 through 2013. In the meantime, Barbara has published her translation of the collected saints' lives by Thomas of Cantimpré, and revised the *Life of Juliana of Cornillon* for another Brepols volume. Forthcoming articles this year include "Redeeming the Time: Julian, Langland, and the Art of Lifelong Revision" in the 2009 *Yearbook of Langland Studies* — just to prove that she is (occasionally!) a medieval English scholar; "Eliot's Affirmative Way," to appear in *Modern Philology*; "Agnes of Prague and Guglielma of Milan," in *Medieval Holy Women in the Christian Tradition, c. 1100 – c. 1500*; and "Latin and the Vernaculars," in the *Cambridge Companion to Christian Mysticism*. She is working on two book projects, one on crossover (the interface between sacred and secular writing in the Middle Ages), the other on coinherence (a way of constructing the self in communion with other selves, human and divine). This year she will be teaching courses in medieval Latin, the Bible and literary imagination, the cult of the Virgin Mary, and "Pagan and Christian in Medieval Literature."

Nick Davis continues work on his manuscript "The Desiring-Image," deriving an alternate model of queer cinema from Deleuzian theories of film and desire. He will present key sections of the book this year at the Chicago Film Seminar and at the Society for Cinema & Media Studies' 50th Anniversary Conference in Los Angeles. Meanwhile, Nick's essays on Dorothy Arzner's "The Wild Party," Pixar's "The Incredibles," and Ang Lee's "Brokeback Mountain" appeared last spring in *Fifty Key American Films* from Routledge, and his essay on the star images and political activism of Julie Christie and Vanessa Redgrave is forthcoming in *Screen Stars of the 1970s* from Rutgers. He is currently teaching a freshman seminar on the films of 1991, as that's when all the students - dear things - were born.

Faculty

Tracy C. Davis is editing *The Broadview Anthology of Nineteenth-Century British Performance*. She recently delivered the Helen Morrin Lecture at Washington University at St. Louis, and in October visited the University of Iowa as the Ida Cordelia Beam Distinguished Visiting



Professor in American Studies. From January through April 2010, she will be in residence at Queen Mary University of London as Distinguished Visiting Professor in the Department of Drama. Her new research is on blackface performance in nineteenth-century Britain.

Brian Edwards is back on campus after spending last year on leave...but he never left the classroom. Thanks to a Mellon New Directions Fellowship, he spent 2008-09 at the University of Chicago as a graduate student—in cultural anthropology and Middle East studies—putatively opening new directions in his ongoing research on the circulation of American texts and cultural forms in the Middle East and North Africa. This was good preparation for the position of Director of Graduate Studies of English, which he assumed this fall on his return to Northwestern. He wasn't the most

Joe Epstein has a new book called "The Love Song of A. Jerome Minkoff and Other Short Stories", due for publication by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt in the Spring of 2010.

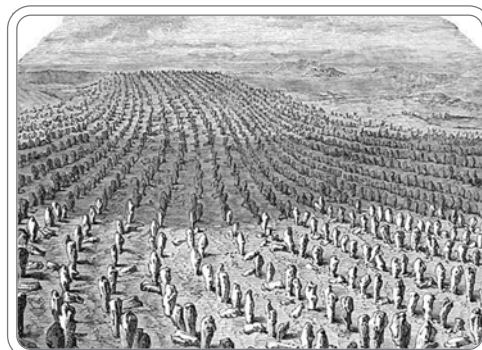
Betsy Erkkilä is looking forward to teaching at Dortmund University and Bochum University next Spring on a Fulbright Lecturer and Research Fellowship in Germany. She is happy to say that her edited volume, *Ezra Pound: The Contemporary Reviews*, is in press and forthcoming from Cambridge UP in 2010. In honor of the sesquicentennial of the publication of Whitman's "Calamus" poems in the 1860 *Leaves of Grass*, she is editing a small volume of Whitman's *Live Oak, with Moss and Calamus: Poems of Male Intimacy and Love*, which will be published by Iowa UP in Fall, 2010. A collection of her Whitman essays, entitled *The Whitman Revolution: Why Poetry Matters*, will be published by Iowa UP in 2011.

She has several essays in press or forthcoming: "Whitman, Melville, and the Tribulations of Democracy" will be published in a Blackwell *Companion to American Literature and Culture*, ed. Paul Lauter, in 2009; "Angels of History: Poe and Democracy" will be published in *Poe and American Culture*, ed. Jerome Mc Gann and J. Gerald Kennedy, by LSU Press in 2010; "Before the Novel," the opening chapter of *The American Novel to 1870*, ed. J. Gerald Kennedy and Lee Person, will be published as part of the *Oxford History of the American Novel* in 2011; and "Lincoln in Europe," will be published in *The Cambridge Companion to Abraham Lincoln*, ed. Shirley Samuels, in 2011. These are inspiring projects, but her first love is still her book in progress *Imagining the Revolution: Literature and Politics in Insurrectionary American*, which she hopes to complete with the support of a research fellowship next year.

Christine Froula contributed an essay on the role that representations of sex play in Joyce's conception and practice of an Irish avant-garde literature to the volume *James Joyce in Context*, ed. John McCourt (Cambridge, 2009). In March she presented

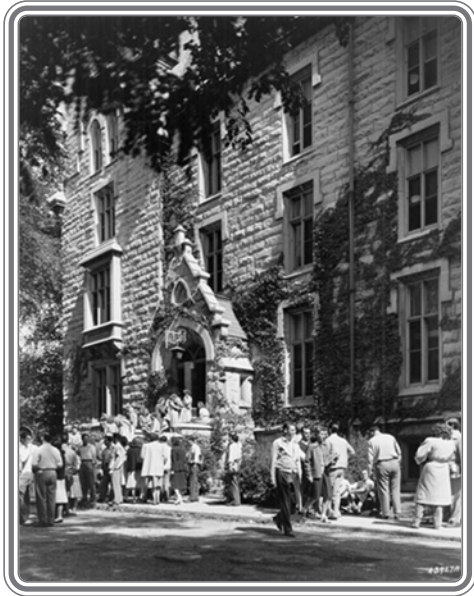
"Abstraction and Empire," on Jacob Epstein's sculpture and its reception in London and France, at a conference on Autonomy and Commitment in the Modern British Arts at the University of Paul Valéry in Montpellier, France, and then visited Dublin to examine the newly discovered manuscript of *Ulysses's* "Proteus" episode (the novel's earliest extant draft) in Ireland's National Library for another essay, "Scribbling into Eternity: Paris, Proust, 'Proteus,'" to appear in the proceedings of the 21st International James Joyce Symposium. She will present "Past Proust Present: Yellow Walls 1660-2000," at the MLA's Late-Nineteenth and Early-Twentieth Century Literature Division meeting on "Past and Present" in Philadelphia in December and a plenary talk at the Modernism and the Orient conference in Hangzhou, China, in June. Meanwhile, she is helping the Block Museum plan lectures, an Alumnae course, and a one-day symposium for this winter's exhibition *A Room of Their Own: Bloomsbury Art in American Collections* and is working on a biography of Virginia Woolf for the Critical Lives series published by Reaktion Press (London). She enjoyed helping her colleagues shepherd all ten 2009 Honors in English students to success and hopes to do the same this year.

Reginald Gibbons shared the stage with our former colleague, Anne Winters, and others on September 15th at a poetry reading at the Stop Smiling Storefront, during the GRANTA magazine events in Chicago. He will (re)tell the Oedipus myth and read his translations of the five odes from *Oedipus the King* at the National Hellenic Museum on December 3rd, sponsored by that organization and the Poetry Foundation. A bilingual volume of his poems will be published in Spain in



y News

traditional graduate student though; during his leave year, he managed to travel to Cairo (four times) and Tehran (for the 30th anniversary of the Islamic Revolution, the Fajr Film Festival, and to teach a graduate seminar at the University of Tehran, while sneaking in some heart-racing skiing at Shemshak). In March, as a Fulbright Senior Specialist, he consulted and lectured at Cairo University, Giza, on the development of an American Studies program in the shadow of the pyramids. During the summer, in between daily intensive Persian classes in Hyde Park, he guest edited a special Cairo Portfolio for the NYC literary journal *A Public Space* (in bookstores now). Finally, Brian completed work on *Globalizing American Studies*, now in production at the University of Chicago Press for a 2010 publication. He has new essays forthcoming in *The Believer*, *American Literary History*, *Early American Literature*, a book on Henry James and Alfred Hitchcock, and the *Blackwell Companion to Comparative Literature*.



December, and his new book, *Slow Trains Overhead: Chicago Poems and Stories*, will be published in the spring of 2010 by the University of Chicago Press.

Mary Kinzie spent seven warm weeks in Marfa, Texas, on a Lannon Foundation residency to write poetry.

Jules Law's essay "There's Something About Hyde" will appear in this year's 40th anniversary issue of the journal *Novel*, and his book, *The Social Life of Fluids: Blood, Milk, and Water in the Victorian Novel*, will be published by Cornell University Press in 2010. Jules began his new job as Director of the Kaplan Humanities Scholars Program this year, and was also named to the Associated Student Government's honor roll. Away from Northwestern, Jules was appointed Secretary of the Board of Directors at Centro Romero, Chicago's largest Latino immigrant and refugee organization.

Larry Lipking enjoyed a glorious spring with Jo at Clare Hall, Cambridge, where he worked on Newton, courtesy of a Mellon Emeritus Fellowship. Then, back to England in September to give a paper on "Johnson and Genius" (Newton again) during Johnson's 300th-birthday party, at Pembroke College, Oxford - a swell affair. His most recent publication is an essay, "Lost in Translation: The Prague School and the World of Literature" in a volume

on *The Prague School and Theories of Structure* (V&R unipress, 2009). He is currently writing a little piece on "The Poet" for the

Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics.

Susan Manning spoke on panels this fall at the Museum of Contemporary Art, the Dance Center at Columbia College Chicago, and TimeLine Theatre. Last spring she gave lectures at the University of Surrey and at Chichester, presenting an overview of her Paris exhibition *Danses noires/blanche Amerique* for a British public. Now she has to figure out how to "translate" the catalogue text, written for a European public, for an audience in the U.S. She currently is co-editing a volume titled *New German Dance Studies* and plotting ways to integrate her research interests in African-American theatre dance and modern dance in Germany and in the U.S.

Jeffrey Masten gave lectures last spring on Shakespeare, editing, and queer theory at the University of Alabama, Middlebury College, and the University of Pennsylvania. At the Shakespeare Association of America annual meeting, he organized the panel "Epistemology of the Crux," giving a paper entitled "The Passion of the Crux." In September, Masten was named Herman and Beulah Pearce Miller Research Professor in Literature at Northwestern.

Shauna Seliy read from her new work at the Juniper Summer Writing Institute. Her book, *The Trials and Tribulations of Lucas Lessar*, was chosen as one of the best books of the year, by the *Sunday Independent*, South Africa.

Laurie Shannon published two essays conjoining animal studies and the history of ideas this past year: "The Eight Animals in Shakespeare" in *PMLA* and "Poor, Bare, Forked: Animal Sovereignty, Human Negative Exceptionalism, and the Natural History of *King Lear*" in *Shakespeare Quarterly*. She also published essays on George Gascoigne and the mid-sixteenth-century milieu of the Inns of Court (in *The Oxford Handbook of Tudor Literature*) and on George Cavendish's 1550s *Life and Death of Cardinal Wolsey* entitled "The Touch of Office: Supernumary Erotic Economies and the Tudor Public Figure" (in *Queer Renaissance Historiography*). This

year she will co-teach a course on "Society and The Question of Species" in the Kaplan Humanities Scholars Program, and she'll be presenting a paper (on *Genesis*, the mythic foundations of political life, and *As You Like It*) on the plenary panel session at the annual meeting of the Shakespeare Association of America.

Viv Soni's book, *Mourning Happiness: Narrative and the Politics of Modernity*, is currently in production with Cornell University Press and is due out in Spring of 2010. The book describes the narrative processes by which a politics of happiness comes to be eclipsed in the eighteenth-century, in novels, sentimental moral theory, Kant's ethics, Rousseau's political theory and the American Revolution, while also using Greek ideas of happiness - Solon, Aristotle, tragedy, Athenian funeral orations - to theorize what a utopian politics of happiness would look like, and how happiness might be rooted in narrative. An essay from this book, "A Classical Politics without Happiness? Hannah Arendt and the American Revolution" will appear in volume 74 of *Cultural Critique*, in a special issue on *Classical Reception and the Political*. In addition, he has finished editing a special issue of the journal *Eighteenth Century: Theory and Interpretation* on *The Crisis of Judgment*. His introduction and essay contribution to this volume mark the beginning of a new project, which will diagnose a contemporary "crisis of judgment" in the theoretical humanities, trace its genesis in the eighteenth-century, and describe how certain exemplary novels from the period offer viable alternative accounts of judgment from which we can learn. A second new project, about the importance of utopian imagining and writing for sustaining an active and engaged democratic polity, is also in the offing. Viv's essay, "Modernity and the Fate of Utopian Representation in Wordsworth's *Female Vagrant*," will appear in *European Romantic Review* 21.2 in a special issue devoted to *Romanticism and Modernity*. He gave a talk on "The Choice between Utopia and the Utopian Imagination in Johnson's *Rasselas*" at the Samuel Johnson Tercentenary at





Carl Smith is spending the 2009-10 academic year as the R. Stanton Avery Distinguished Fellow at the Huntington Library in San Marino, California. He is working on a book on the intellectual and cultural history of urbanization in the United States in the nineteenth century.



Additionally, his 2006 book, *The Plan of Chicago: Daniel Burnham and the Remaking of the American City*, was the Fall 2009 selection of the One Book, One Chicago Program of the Chicago Public Library, chosen in celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of Burnham and Bennett's vision for the city and surrounding region. Events surrounding the book, scheduled throughout September and October, extending until February in some cases, have included films and performances, lectures, panel discussions, and exhibits in various locales throughout the area. Burnham's reimagining of the city in 1909 is now regarded as a landmark in the history of urban planning and, to quote Mayor Daley's introductory remarks, "Smith's book gives remarkable insight into the need for and creation of such an ambitious plan for our city(...)."

Harvard's Houghton Library, and another on "Idealism and the Materiality of Utopia" at the University of Michigan's *Idealism Matters* conference.

Julia Stern's *Mary Chesnut's Civil War Epic* will be published by the University of Chicago Press in January of 2010.

Wendy Wall spent the last year ensconced in rare book rooms reading manuscript books of early modern recipes. She travelled to the British Library, the Wellcome Library for the History of Medicine, the Whitney Collection at the New York Public Library, the Szathmari Collection at the University of Iowa Library, the Folger Library, the Esther Aresty Collection at The University of

Pennsylvania, and the Huntington Library. Besides making her very hungry, this research has allowed her to research and to write portions of her new book project, *Strange Kitchens: Knowledge and Taste in Early English Recipe Books*. Professor Wall has three articles forthcoming from this project (on distillation and conceptions of mortality, on literacy and recipe book history, and on carving). In addition she published an essay on authorship in *Shakespeare Studies*, and contributed a piece on "Women in the Household" to *The Cambridge Companion to Early Modern Women's Writing*.

Over the last year, **Will West** organized "Phenomenal Performances: Getting a Feeling for Shakespeare's Theater," a

conference on the experiences of early modern playgoing, that brought a dozen scholars in historical phenomenology to Northwestern. He also gave talks on early Renaissance ideas of what a "theater" was at the University of California, Berkeley, and at Northwestern; on encyclopedic reading and knowledge at Harvard; and on the work of German critic Robert Weimann at Shakespeare's Globe in London. He also led a workshop on practical iconoclasm at the Summer Institute for Performance Studies at Northwestern, during which he encouraged graduate students from across the country to break things.

Recent Graduates

Sarah Blackwood (Betsy Erkkilä)

"The Portrait's Subject: Picturing Psychology in American Literary and Visual Culture, 1839-1900"

Leah Culligan-Flack (Christine Froula)

"Modernism's Odysseys"

Peter Jaros (Julia Stern)

"Persons, Publics, Physiognomics: Reading and Performing Character in the Early Republic"

Jeffrey Knight (Jeffrey Masten)

"Compiling Culture: Textual Assembly and the Production of Renaissance Literature"

Hyun-Jung Lee (Christopher Lane)

"Evil Genius: Victorian Popular Fiction as Moral Philosophy"

Janaka Lewis (Dwight McBride)

"Freedom Promised, Freedom Told: Black Women's Narratives of Emancipation and Reconstruction, 1861-1892"

Sarah Mesle (Julia Stern)

"Sentimental Literature in Proslavery America"



Papers Conferences & Publications

Sarah Blackwood (Ph.D. 2009)'s keyword essay titled "Psychology" will be published in *Henry James in Context*, edited by David McWhirter, in 2010.

Vanessa Corredera will be presenting a paper entitled "A Face 'Begrimed and Black': Othello, Desdemona, and the Black Body" at the Midwest Modern Language Association conference this November. She will also be circulating a paper in April 2010 at the Shakespeare Association of America conference.

Anna Fenton-Hathaway (6th year) presented two papers this past spring. The first, "Relevance vs. Defamiliarization: Which Conflicts Should We Teach, and How?," evaluated pedagogical strategies for a panel on teaching at the Nineteenth-Century Studies Conference in Saratoga, NY. The second paper, "Imagining Backward, Imagining Forward: Victorian Poetics of Aging," was presented at the British Women Writers Conference, held in April at the University of Iowa.

Christie Harner (7th year) chaired a panel entitled "Victorians Down Under" at the 2009 Northeast Modern Language Association, and presented a paper on that panel entitled "Coding Caldigate: The Vagaries of English-Australian Law."

Maha Jafri (3rd year) presented a paper titled "Origins in *The Origin* and *The Way of All Flesh* as Evolutionary Narrative" at the annual Narrative conference in Birmingham at the beginning of June.

Jeffrey Knight (Ph.D. 2009) has four articles forthcoming in 2009: "Making Shakespeare's Books: Assembly and Intertextuality in the Archives" in *Shakespeare Quarterly* 60:3 (2009), "Fast Bind, Fast Find: The History of the Book and the Modern Collection" in *Criticism* 51:1 (2009), "'Furnished' for Action: Renaissance Books as Furniture" in *Book History* 12 (2009), and "On Pens and Needles: Sewing Text" in *The*

Renaissance Collage, eds. Juliet Fleming, William Sherman, and Adam Smyth.

At the annual Narrative conference, held in Birmingham this past June, **Sarah Lahey** (5th year) delivered a paper entitled "The Politics of Dirt: Race as Continuum in Fanny Kemble's American Journals."

At the 2008 Midwest Modern Language Association conference, **Greg Laski** (4th year) presented a paper titled "Falling Back into History: The Uncanny Trauma of Blackface Minstrelsy in Spike Lee's *Bamboozled*," where, along with Sarah Lahey, he also chaired a panel on psychoanalysis and American Studies. More recently, he gave his paper "A New Millennium?: Thinking about Race in the Twenty-First Century" at the University of Chicago Minority Graduate Student Organization's annual conference in May 2009. Later in the year, at the November Midwest Modern Language Association conference in St. Louis, he will be presenting a paper entitled "Slavery's Recurring Story Lines" at the African American literature panel.

Jenny Lee (5th year) presented a paper at the University of London this July at the workshop entitled "Inquisition and Confession in England after Lateran IV," and was invited to contribute to a forthcoming essay collection based on the conference proceedings.

Hugh McIntosh (4th year)'s essay, "The Social Masochism of Shakespeare's Sonnets," has been accepted for publication by *Studies in English Literature* and will appear in the Winter 2010 issue.

Lorna Mellon (3rd year) presented a paper entitled "The Publicity of the Wound: Circulating, Commodifying, and Consuming Testimony in America" at last year's Midwest Modern Language Association conference in Minneapolis.

Melvin Peña (8th year) gave a paper at the Winter 2009 English Department Graduate Student Colloquium entitled "Ennobling Friendship: Feeling World Citizenship in James Boswell's *Journal of a Tour to Corsica*."

Wendy Roberts (5th year) presented "The Language of the Perfected: Poetry and the Transatlantic Revival Community" at the Society of Early Americanists' 6th Biennial Conference in Bermuda, a welcome escape from Chicago's March weather. Last year, and somewhat closer to home, she was the Special Topic Session Organizer for "Cultures of American Poetry" at the Midwest Modern Language Association in Minneapolis. Her article, "Demand My Voice: Hearing God in Eighteenth-Century American Poetry," is forthcoming in the 2010 "Methods for the Study of Religion in Early American Literature" special issue of *Early American Literature*.

Earlier in 2009, **Joshua Smith** (6th year) returned from his stay in England to present "The Romance of Fulk le Fitz Waryn

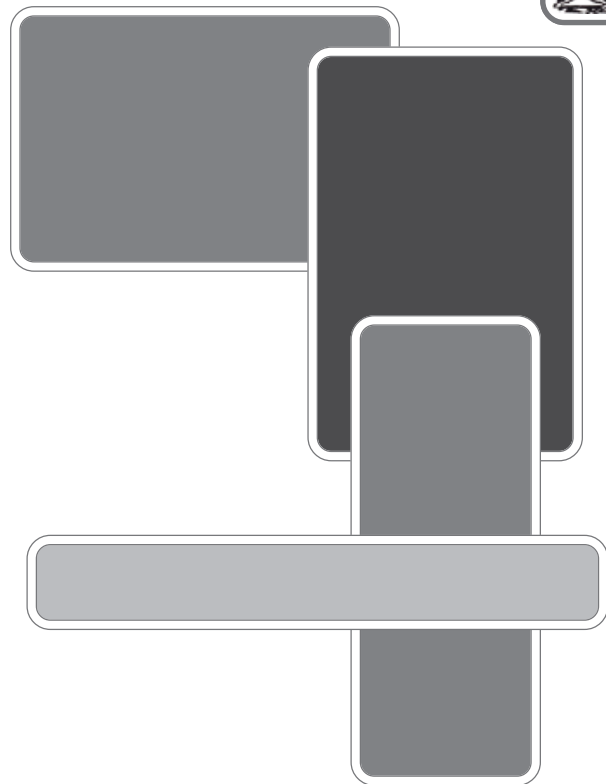




and Its Marcher Milieu” at the Medieval Academy of America in Chicago. Once back in England, he presented “The Literary Culture of the Welsh March” at the Institute of Historical Research Director’s Seminar in London, and “The Welsh Tales of Walter Map’s De Nugis Curialium” at the Department of Anglo-Saxon, Norse, and Celtic Graduate Seminar at Cambridge.

Abram Van Engen (6th year) made several paper presentations during the 2008-09 year: “Puritan Sympathy and John Winthrop’s City on a Hill” at the English Department’s Fall Collation, “‘Advertising’ the Domestic: Anne Bradstreet’s Sentimental Poetics” at the Society of Early Americanists’ Conference in Bermuda, “Demonstrating the Spirit: The Emotional Design of Puritan Preaching” at the College English Association Conference, and, finally, “Puritanism and the Power of Sympathy” at the American Literature Association Conference in Boston.

Jade Werner (3rd year) presented her paper entitled “The breaking asunder” of Fanny Kemble: Trauma and Hygiene in Journal of a Residence on a Georgian Plantation in 1838-1839” at the “Strangers, Aliens, & Foreigners” conference, a global, multi-disciplinary conference sponsored by Inter-Disciplinary.net and held in Oxford, England, at the end of September.



Fellowships & Other Awards

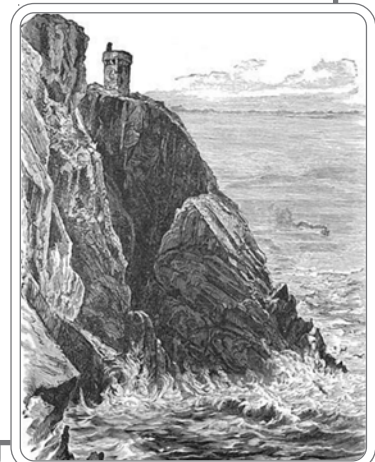
Jeffrey Knight (Ph.D. 2009) won the ACLS-Mellon Recent Doctoral Recipients Fellowship, which will give him a year of paid research leave which can be used within the next two years during his time as an assistant professor at Ann Arbor University.

Hyun Jung Lee (Ph.D. 2009) was chosen to receive the 2008-09 Hagstrum Prize for Best Dissertation for her project entitled “Evil Genius: Victorian Popular Fiction as Moral Philosophy.”

Jenny Lee (5th year) was awarded a Diversifying Faculty in Higher Education in Illinois Fellowship, and is currently performing research at the Newberry Library as the 2009-10 Lipking/Newberry Fellow. She was also the recipient this past year of a Graduate Research Grant from the Northwestern Graduate School, and a Schallek Award from the Medieval Academy.

In an unexpected turn (at least to him), **Nathan Mead** (Graduate Program Assistant) has been given an excuse to pen a bit more self-aggrandizing prose this year, having received the 2009 Phil Waldenberg Staff Mentor of the Year Award. Officially described as an award recognizing “a Weinberg College Staff member who has shown outstanding leadership in coaching and mentoring other staff members...an individual who selflessly helps other staff members in WCAS in furthering their career, personal or educational pursuits,” Nathan joins a cadre that includes no fewer than four other current and past members of the University Hall staff, including English’s inimitable Kathy Daniels, which all just goes to show that the English department produces on all levels, academic *and* administrative.

Jason Malikow (5th year) won a fellowship from the American Indian Graduate Center in support of his work on representations of the subaltern proletariat in the American canon.



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early modern colloquium

The Northwestern **Early Modern Colloquium** is an interdisciplinary group of scholars and graduate students who meet regularly to attend lectures and to workshop essays and chapters-in-progress. This past year, the EMC hosted events featuring scholars that included Michael Schoendfeldt (Michigan), Brad Gregory (Notre Dame), Alan Galey (Toronto), and Northwestern faculty Linda Austern (Musicology), Kasey Evans (English), and Edmund Campos (English).

The 2009-10 series is already underway, with new co-chairs Vanessa Corredera and Michael Slater (both in their 4th year in English) at the helm. This year's illustrious cast has already included Elizabeth Spiller (Florida State University) and Mary Floyd-Wilson (University of North Carolina Chapel-Hill), and later in the year will include Roger Freitas (University of Rochester), Harry Berger (University of California Santa Cruz), Jeff Masten (English, Northwestern), Frances Dolan (University of California Davis), Edward Muir (History, Northwestern), and Jesus Escobar (Art History, Northwestern).

The EMC would like to thank the Northwestern University Alice Kaplan Institute for the Humanities, the Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences, the Department of English, and the Graduate School for their support in making these events possible.

The Graduate Colloquia

The **Long Nineteenth-Century Colloquium** is an interdisciplinary group of graduate students, faculty, and visiting scholars who study nineteenth-century British metropolitan and imperial culture, art, literature, and history. Closing out its third year of programming at the end of the 2008-09 academic year, the LNCC ventured beyond its founding disciplines (Art History, History, and English) to host a discussion of "Global Connections in Enlightenment Thought" with the University of Chicago's Sankar Muthu. The LNCC co-sponsored Professor Muthu's talk with Northwestern's Department of Political Science. Our second guest, Jennifer Green-Lewis (English, George Washington University), considered visual technologies and literary practices in her talk, "Modernist Pictures of Victorian Memories." The LNCC's third speaker was Mary Roberts, who joined us from the University of Sydney to discuss "Enacting Artistic Identities: An Inquiry into Ottoman and Orientalist Self-Portraiture." Professor Roberts's visit was co-sponsored by Northwestern's Keyman Program in Turkish Studies. The new co-chairs for the 2009-10 academic year are Maha Jafri and Jade Werner, both in their third year of doctoral study in the English Department.

The LNCC would like to thank the Alice Kaplan Institute for the Humanities for our 2008-09 funding and extend thanks, too, to Northwestern's Department of English and Department of Art History for their generous and consistent support.

Long Nineteenth Century Colloquium



Fellowships & Other Awards

continued from page 13



Jackie Murdock (4th year) was awarded the 2008-09 English Department Award for Excellence as a Teaching Assistant.

Melvin Peña (8th year) was nominated for the WCAS Weinberg College Outstanding Graduate Student Teacher Award and was chosen by a former student to be the academic advisor for the Zeta Beta Tau fraternity, Northwestern chapter.

Wendy Roberts (5th year) is reaping the benefits of a windfall year, being the recipient of the Charlotte W. Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship, the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship, a position as the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Fellow in Early American Religious Studies, as well as five months of research funding from the McNeil Center for Early American Studies and three months of funding from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation (for research at the Huntington Library). Finally, she was a finalist in the 2008-09 competition for the Northwestern University Presidential Fellowship.

Wendy Roberts and **Wanalee Romero** (4th year) both received funding to attend the Futures of American Studies Summer Institute at Dartmouth College over this past summer.

Chris Shirley (3rd year) attended the 2009 Mellon Summer Institute in English Vernacular Paleography, allowing him to perform in-residence research at the Folger Shakespeare Library during the month of July.

Nat Small (5th year) was awarded the 2008-09 English Department Teaching Excellence Award.

The end of the 2008-09 academic year saw the **American Cultures Colloquium** at Northwestern complete its eighth successful year of programming. The ACC brings Americanists from different academic specialties and institutions into dialogue with one another, allowing scholars using multiple intellectual approaches to participate in conversations about a shared set of cultural artifacts and contexts. This year, the ACC was pleased to host speakers from various fields and disciplines including African American studies, American studies, Art History, Communications/Rhetoric, English, French, History, and Native American studies. Our events regularly drew large audiences of faculty, graduate students, undergraduates, and alumni from across the university into provocative conversation with elite scholars from around the country.

American Cultures Colloquium

The ACC would like to thank Northwestern University's Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences, The Graduate School, the Alice Kaplan Institute for the Humanities, African American Studies, American Studies, Art History, Asian American Studies, the Buffett Center for International and Comparative Studies, the Center for the Writing Arts, Communication Studies/ Program in Rhetoric and Public Culture, English, French & Italian, Gender Studies, History, Latina/o Studies, the Liberalism Reading Group, Performance Studies, Political Science, Radio, Television & Film, and the Screen Cultures Center for making these events possible.

In 2009-10, the ACC, co-chaired by **Greg Laski** and **Hugh McIntosh** (both in their 4th year in English), will host an impressive series of talks on topics ranging from Afro-Latin music to the rise of creative writing programs in the United States. The 2009-10 series includes lectures by **Timothy Brennan** (University of Minnesota), **Carla Kaplan** (Northeastern University), **Michael Warner** (Yale University), **Julia Stern** (Northwestern University), **Hazel Carby** (Yale University), **Mark McGurl** (University of California, Los Angeles), and **Frank Lambert** (Purdue University). In January 2010, the ACC, working with the Program in Rhetoric and Public Culture, will host a roundtable on "Globalizing American Studies" featuring Northwestern professors **Brian Edwards**, **Dilip Gaonkar**, and **Kate Baldwin**. For details about the 2009-2010 series of lectures, please visit our website: <http://www.english.northwestern.edu/acc>.



We are grateful to everyone who has donated to the department over the years. It is with your continued support that we are able to offer our graduate students the many opportunities for research and professionalization funding available to them. Here we list, with thanks, some of our most generous donors from this past year.



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