

# Musings

Fall 2015

THE DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

English Graduate Newsletter

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From the Chair Kelly Wisecup joins the department	2
English Across Borders, by Daniel P. Smith	4
A Word from EGSO	5
New Graduate Students	6
New Degrees	7
Faculty News & Publications	8
Graduate Colloquia	10
Graduate News	
Papers & Conferences	11
Fellowships & Awards	12
Recent Work	13
Alumni News & Publications	14



## F·R·O·M T·H·E C·H·A·I·R



For just one year, I am back in office, giving Laurie Shannon a break before she returns for a second full term as Chair. In many ways, it's a transitional year. We have a new Dean in Weinberg, Adrian Randolph, a trained art historian and the first humanist to hold the office in more than a decade. Already he has launched an initiative in Native and indigenous studies, and our newly hired assistant professor Kelly Wisecup will play a central role in this expansion of the faculty and the curriculum. See her profile below.

Also underway is a university-wide Global Strategy Initiative, and we are pleased to have anticipated this move through hires in transnational literary studies. Building on the ground-breaking work of Brian Edwards in *Globalizing American Studies*, John Alba Cutler, Harris Feinsod, Rebecca Johnson, and Andrew Leong in differing ways reconfigure the linguistic and geographic reach of American literature. See the article on his cohort's work on page 4 of *Musings*.

And it's not just Americanists striking out in new directions: medievalist Susie Phillips is co-teaching a course with neuroscientist Indira Ramon on *Thought Experiments: Ways of Knowing in Neuroscience and the Humanities*. Early modernists Wendy Wall and William West are co-teaching a course on *Shakespeare's Circuits: Local, Global, Digital*. And James Hodge is teaching our first graduate seminar in digital media studies this spring.

As you can see, "English" at Northwestern continues to be a very capacious space indeed. Yet we also have noted recently a decline in the number of majors, as have many colleges and universities across the country. In response, we have convened an Ad Hoc Committee to consider how we might revise the undergraduate literature major and inform students of its many virtues. On the opposite page are two recent messages that we have sent to undergraduates: on the top right is a list of "Ten Life-Changing Skills You Will Acquire as an English Major," authored by Barbara Newman, and below that is information, put together for the annual Major/Minor Fair by Jennifer Britton and David Kuzel (the program assistants for our undergraduate Writing and Literature majors, respectively) about the employment and employability of our undergraduate majors. Please feel free to steal either or both for your own uses!

Best Wishes,

  
Susan Manning, Interim Chair, 2015-16

## N·E·W F·A·C·U·L·T·Y



Kelly Wisecup (Ph.D., University of Maryland-College Park, 2009) specializes in Native American literatures, early American literature and culture, and medicine and literature in the Atlantic world. She is the author of *Medical Encounters: Knowledge and Identity in Early American Literatures* (University of Massachusetts Press, 2013) and of "Good News from New England" by Edward Winslow: *A Scholarly Edition* (University of Massachusetts Press, 2014). Her articles have appeared in *Early American Literature*, *Early American Studies*, *Atlantic Studies*, *Studies in Travel Writing*, *Literature and Medicine*, and *The Southern Literary Journal*.

She recently co-edited (with Toni Wall Jaudon) a special issue on "Obeah and Its Literatures: Knowledge, Power, and Writing in the early Atlantic World" for *Atlantic Studies*. She is currently co-editing (with Alyssa Mt. Pleasant and Caroline Wigginton) a special forum on the relations between Native American and Indigenous studies and early American literary studies and history for *Early American Literature* and the *William and Mary Quarterly*.

In 2015, she is an Andrew W. Mellon/Lloyd Lewis Fellow at the Newberry Library, where she is at work on her current book project, "Assembled Relations: Compilation, Collection, and Native American Writing." This book investigates how Native American writers, diplomats, ministers, and tribal leaders adapted forms of compilation and collection—herbals, vocabulary lists, museum inventories, catalogs, and commonplace books—to restore and remake environmental, epistemological, and interpersonal relations disrupted by colonialism. Articles related to this project include "Encounters, Objects, and Commodity Lists in Early English Travel Narratives" in *Studies in Travel Writing* (2013) and "Medicine, Communication, and Authority in Samson Occom's Herbal" in *Early American Studies* (2012).

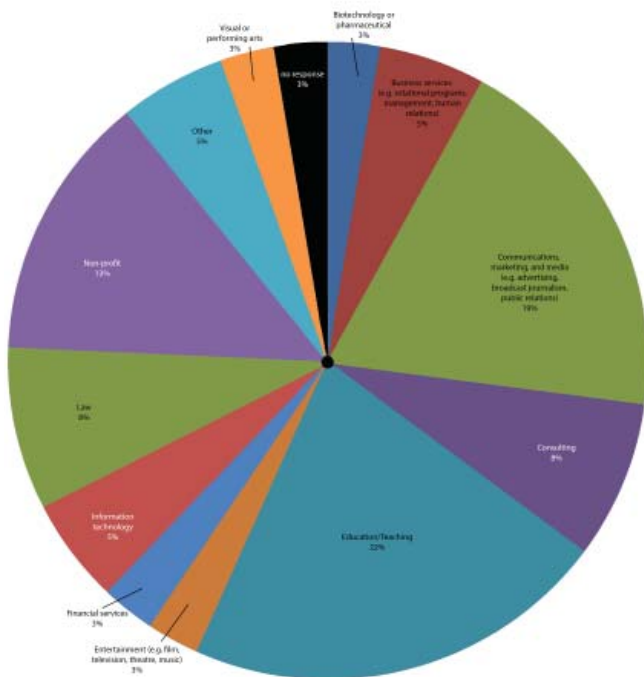
# Ten Life-Changing Skills that You Will Acquire as an English Major

1. Learn to read. Written texts are marvels of subtlety that contain far more than “information.” They can reveal — and conceal — meaning in ways you might never suspect until you learn the skill we call “close reading.”
2. Learn to write — coherently, persuasively, grammatically, and lyrically. Writing is a universally valuable skill that surprisingly few people possess, so it is in great demand.
3. Learn to speak. Develop confidence in expressing arguments orally, thinking on your feet, and defending your views tactfully and skillfully against opposing positions. Future lawyers, take note.
4. Learn how language works — its astonishing power and beauty, its dangers, its limits. Become an intentional master of the medium we use every day without thinking about it.
5. Develop empathy and insight into the minds of people different from yourself. There is no better way to do this than by studying fiction, drama, poetry, and other literary works. This is one reason that medical schools often seek humanities majors.
6. Obtain a sense of the remarkable diversity, and the equally remarkable continuities, that mark human life and thought across vast gulfs of time, space, and culture. The knowledge of human nature you will acquire from literature is at least as deep as, and intriguingly different from, what you will learn in Psychology. If that is your interest, consider English as a second major or minor.
7. Acquire an independent mind. Learn to see through manipulative uses of language, such as advertising and political propaganda, to avoid becoming their victim. Should you be so inclined, you will also have the skill to produce these forms of language.
8. Learn how the English language has shaped, and been shaped by, the historical experiences of colonialism and postcolonial independence. Find out how the English of Ireland, India, Jamaica, or Kenya differs from “standard English,” and discover the transformative effects of global English in business and technology.
9. Learn the differences that translation makes, whether linguistic or cultural. If you are proficient in another language, consider becoming a translator yourself — a skill that is in constant and increasing demand.
10. Acquire a source of joy and pleasure that will sustain you as long as you live, and pass it along to the next generation—because there is more to life than working and earning money.

© Barbara Newman, Professor of English, Northwestern University

## Northwestern English majors Classes of 2013 and 2014

Full-Time Employment (By Industry), six-months after graduation



## The Liberal Arts in the News

**On the Value of Humanities in Health Care, or Surfing the Waves**  
-*MedHumDoc*, October 8, 2015

**Turning to the Humanities in Times of Crisis**  
-*Baltimore Sun*, September 23, 2015

**That ‘Useless’ Liberal Arts Degree Has Become Tech’s Hottest Ticket**  
-*Forbes Magazine*, August 17, 2015

**A Top Medical School Revamps Requirements To Lure English Majors**  
-*NPR*, May 27, 2015

**We Don’t Need More STEM Majors. We Need More STEM Majors with Liberal Arts Training**  
-*Washington Post*, February 18, 2015

**Surprise: Humanities Degrees Provide Great Return On Investment**  
-*Forbes Magazine*, November 20, 2014

**In Defense Of The ‘Impractical’ English Major**  
-*Huffington Post*, March 14, 2014

For links to the articles, check out the online version of the newsletter at <http://sites.northwestern.edu/englishmusings/>

## E·N·G·L·I·S·H A·C·R·O·S·S B·O·R·D·E·R·S

By Daniel P. Smith

While university English departments have historically been structured around the so-called “national literatures” (British and American), emerging research continues to reveal a broader picture, Department of English chair Laurie Shannon says.

“Recent scholarship shows how connected the traditional canon always was to everything it excluded,” Shannon says. “At the same time, it reflects the overwhelming reality, intensified in the 20th and 21st centuries, of just how much literary production goes on that is better understood without the limiting horizon of national borders.”

At Northwestern, such transnational literary research is flourishing, particularly among English department junior faculty members who are crossing borders and broadening literary discourse for Northwestern students and the greater world.

### Rebecca Johnson

Since arriving at Northwestern in 2010, Johnson’s research has examined the history of the novel and the role of translation, specifically in Arabic literature of the 19th and early 20th centuries.

“People often think of novels as a European form that was exported elsewhere, but my research opens up the question of the definition of a novel through translation, particularly in the Arabic-speaking world,” Johnson says.

In venturing back more than a century, Johnson finds Arabic translations of western novels taking significant liberties in the composition of the text.

“It leads one to thinking about translation as a creative process and considering the translator as the author proper,” Johnson says.

Johnson’s quest to understand varied perspectives appears in a Kaplan Scholars first-year course she co-teaches titled “Global Orients.” That course, which investigates western representations of the east, has included a Skype encounter with Egyptian revolutionaries, a two-way dialogue in which both the activists and students challenge their preconceived ideas.

“I believe it’s valuable to be exposed to new knowledge, but also to think critically about what you think you already know,” Johnson says.

### Andrew Leong

Leong directs much of his research effort to 19th and 20th century Japanese literature in the Americas.

“While there’s much English-language literature about travelers to Japan, there’s very little in the other direction, particularly regarding how Japanese experienced life in places such as the United States, Brazil and Peru,” says Leong, currently in his third year as an assistant professor of English and Asian languages and cultures at Northwestern.

Leong’s award-winning translations of Japanese-language literature written and published in the Americas, however, spotlight Japanese life in the far western hemisphere.

*Lament in the Night*, for instance, details the immigrant experience and nightlife of Prohibition-era speakeasies in Los Angeles’ Japantown, while his ongoing book project titled *The Democratic Fetish* explores literature created by Japanese men in the U.S. during the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

“It’s important to think about literature as something not confined to restricted categories,” Leong says. “For any community, even a marginalized immigrant one, literature has proven to be a central part of daily life, and I hope we can all expand the idea of what literature is and can do.”

### John Alba Cutler

An emerging expert in U.S. Latino literature, Cutler researches an artistic genre hosting dynamic conversations around literature theory and literature studies as well contemporary politics. His latest book, *Ends of Assimilation: The Formation of Chicano Literature*, contends that Mexican-American literature sparks new thinking about how racial minorities and immigrants experience assimilation and offers deep insights into the nature of literary discourse.

“Immigrants always contribute to the evolution of literature,” Cutler says.

A 2013 recipient of the Weinberg College Distinguished Teaching Award, Cutler’s research naturally weaves into the classroom. One course titled “Manifest Destinies” explores the United States’ westward push in the 19th century and its impact on the nation’s relationship with Latin America, while another — “21st Century Latino Literature” — investigates how new Latino immigrants from the Caribbean and South America continue to reshape the Latino literary experience in the United States.

“I really want students to see how art and literature engage a far greater spectrum of experiences,” Cutler says. “Literature isn’t one thing, but many things and something still in formation. We are always contesting and pushing the boundaries.”

### Harris Feinsod

Embracing transnational literature of the Americas, Feinsod sparks new ways of thinking about our cosmopolitan cultural citizenship.

In his current book project, *Fluent Mundo: Inter-American Poetry from Good Neighbors to Countercultures*, Feinsod dives into the relations between U.S. and Latin American poets during the Cold War.

“For the longest time, we’ve considered poetry the literary art form most obstinately related to nationalism, but all the poets I studied were quite invested in a singular poetry of the Americas,” says Feinsod, who has launched a second book project examining modernist literature and culture’s “global imaginary” in the age of the steamship.

Feinsod’s research extends into the classroom with courses such as the recently concluded “Oceanic Studies: Literature, History, Environment.” An interdisciplinary class, Feinsod gathered students from English, environmental policy and engineering to investigate maritime literature, labor and environmental history “from Columbus to the contemporary shipping industry.”

“As our university is one invested in global studies and addressing our current age of globalization, there are longer histories here that are fascinating to explore,” Feinsod says.

*Daniel P. Smith is a freelance writer in Chicago. He writes frequently for Weinberg magazine and other Northwestern publications.*



# A W·O·R·D F·R·O·M EGSO

After a sweltering summer spent meeting at local Roger's Park coffee houses, the 2014-15 EGSO board began the academic year with the goal of strengthening existing structures within the organization. Building off of the achievements of the previous year's board, we set out to provide a sequence of programming that would continue to foster an already vibrant sense of community among the graduate student body, to address graduate student needs as articulated in the previous year's spring town hall meeting, and to acknowledge the strengths and accomplishments of our department while also utilizing them to help each other achieve our academic and professional goals.

We began the 2014 Fall quarter with the annual influx of new TAs into our much beloved fourth-floor office space, recently updated with a new set of computers thanks to the efforts of Kathy Daniels. Utilizing tech both low and high, Students-out-of-Coursework Representative Carli Leone converted existing wall space into field-specific message boards that allowed students to publicize academic events, and Archivist Corrine Collins inaugurated EGSO's online presence with a Canvas website featuring a multi-year archive for the EGSO board, programming calendar, and links to various resources.

Fall Collation signaled the official start to the 2014-15 academic season, and featured stimulating talks by Professor Wendy Wall and doctoral candidate Hosanna Krienke, who juxtaposed issues of agency and authorship in discussions of early modern women's recipe books and Victorian accounts of spiritual convalescence. Laurie Shannon, in her last year as Department Chair before going on a one-year hiatus, opened the event by welcoming us all back to University Hall, while also emphasizing the particular rigors and challenges of sustained academic inquiry. Our post-Collation gathering offered an opportunity to foster relationships among students new and old, continuing the efforts begun by Students-in-Coursework Representative Uta Ayala in facilitating a more robust (and newly christened) year-long Peer Mentoring Program inaugurated by a series of new student week events, including a Welcome Back BBQ. Fostering productive academic relationships was also the focus of EGSO's quarterly colloquia, for which Uta recruited pairs of students at key stages of degree completion. Over the course of the year, doctoral candidates Rebecca Fall, Raashi Rastogi, and Alanna Hickey joined third-years Chad Infante, Todd Nordgren, and Mohwanah Fetus in presenting strong talks on thought-provoking work from their in-progress and developing dissertation projects.

Continuing the theme of utilizing existing departmental strengths, Carli Leone organized a series of workshops connecting graduate students with various on-campus resources. After beginning the year with Uta Ayala's crash course in teaching tech, Carli worked closely with Director of Graduate Studies Helen Thompson to develop a panel on crafting a compelling prospectus, additionally featuring the work of graduate students Kara Johnson and Hosanna Krienke and the immensely helpful advice of Professors Kasey Evans and Rebecca Johnson. Graduate Career Advisor Mearah Quinn-Brauner closed out the series with a workshop on career preparation, detailing on-campus resources for career exploration and skill development.

Last year's programs and events would of course have been impossible without these faculty and students' generous contributions of their time and expertise. Equally integral to our efforts were the day-to-day contributions of Jennifer Britton, Kathy Daniels, Dave Kuzel, and Nathan Mead, who answered every query and solved every crisis. We are incredibly grateful and immensely humbled to work with such outstanding mentors and colleagues. We closed out the year following the example of their service and fellowship, having facilitated programming in support of the second-year oral qualifying exams and the transition to the 2015-16 academic year, which the members of the new EGSO board have already kicked off in style. They'll be reporting on their accomplishments next Fall, and we wish them all the best in the meantime.

**Elizabeth Rodriguez and Simone Waller**, Co-Chairs  
**Carli Leone**, Students-in-Candidacy Representative  
**Uta Ayala**, Students-in-Coursework Representative  
**Corrine Collins**, Archivist

# NEW GRADUATE STUDENTS

**Nina Ahn** (Ph.D.) is from Los Angeles and received her B.A. in English from UC Irvine in 2006 and her M.A. in English from CSU Northridge in 2014. Her research interests include British and transatlantic literature from the long 18<sup>th</sup>-century, feminism, and post-colonialism.

**Elizabeth Badovinac** (M.A.) received her B.A. in English from Hope College in 2013. Her interests include Arthuriana works of past and present, ancient oral tradition reflections in medieval literature, and European Renaissance texts and societal values.

**Matthew Beeber** (Ph.D.) received his B.A. from San Diego State University, an M.A. from the University of Colorado at Boulder in 2014, and has just returned to the country after time spent living in Madrid, Spain. His interests include Virginia Woolf, global/transnational modernisms, and the Spanish Civil War.

**Jayne Collins** (Ph.D.) earned her B.A. with honors in 2013 from the University of Victoria in British Columbia. Her research

interests include modernist poetics, music, and memory.

**Brad Dubos** (Ph.D.) is from northeast Ohio, and earned his B.A. in Integrated Language Arts Education from Youngstown State University. He plans to concentrate on 19<sup>th</sup>- and 20<sup>th</sup>-century American literature, examining American authors' contributions to philosophical discourse. His current areas of interest include phenomenology, American responses to British empiricism, and problems of perception in literature.

**David Kaye** (M.A.) earned a B.A. in English and Fundamentals from the University of Chicago in 2008, after which he spent four happy summers on the Evanston campus as a staff member of the Northwestern School of Education and Social Policy's Center for Talent Development. More recently he has been a school teacher in Scottsdale, Arizona, finding himself serving as part amateur psychiatrist, part Socratic midwife, and part unordained cleric. His research interests include representations of city and country, education, and religious belief in 19<sup>th</sup>- through 21<sup>st</sup>-century literature.

**Sarah Lusher** (Ph.D.) earned her B.A. in English and History from the University of Texas at Austin. Her honors thesis, "The War Fought Between the Words," examined Virginia Woolf's portrayal of the linguistic divisions that plagued Britain during the Great War. Sarah's research interests include 19<sup>th</sup>- and 20<sup>th</sup>-century British literature, genre studies, poetics, and literary expressions of trauma and loss.

**Cameron Schell** (Ph.D.) received his B.A. and M.A. in English Literature from the University of Colorado at Boulder. His interests include British Romanticism, the Romantic Atlantic, (Anti)Slavery texts, Terror, Aesthetics, Ethics and the Sublime.

**Ekta Ajay Shah** (M.A.) earned her B.A. in English from the University of California, Riverside in 2014. Her research interests include 18<sup>th</sup>- through 20<sup>th</sup>-century American literature, South Asian discourse, and women's studies.

**Shannon Speshock** (M.A.) earned her B.A. in English Literature from Arizona State University in 2012. Her interests include the novels and poetry of the Modernist period as well as Feminist and Trauma Theories.

**Harrington Weihl** (Ph.D.) received his B.A. in English from Ohio State University and his M.A. in English from West Virginia University. His research focus is on transnational and anglophone modernisms, with particular attention to form and representation in the modernist novel. His secondary interests include digital humanities and Marxism.



# G·R·A·D·U·A·T·I·O·N

**Shane Clauser, Ph.D.**

Dissertation: "Early Modern Anglo-Spanish Relations: From Enmity to Amity"

**Maha Jafri, Ph.D.**

Dissertation: "Between Us: Gossip, Sociability, and the Victorian Novel"

**Nathan Leahy, Ph.D.**

Dissertation: "Finance Fictions: Crises, Value, and Nationalism in American Literature"

**Catherine Mullaney, M.A.**

Thesis: "'I Turned to Each Other': Juliana Spahr's Ecosystemic Poetics in *Well Then There Now*"

**Allyson Rosenthal, M.A.**

Thesis: "Writing a Lingo of One's Own: The modern female voice in FEMRITE's *A Woman's Voice* and *Memoirs of a Mother*"

**Whitney Taylor, Ph.D.**

Dissertation: "The Muse Function: The Poetics of Inspiration in Early Modern England"

# J·O·B P·L·A·C·E·M·E·N·T

**Christopher Shirley** (Ph.D. 2014), **Maha Jafri** (Ph.D. 2015), and **Whitney Taylor** (Ph.D. 2015) have been hired by the department as Visiting Assistant Professors for the 2015-16 academic year.

**Garrett Morrison** (7<sup>th</sup> year) has taken up a position teaching English literature at the Stevenson School on the Monterey Peninsula in California.

## F·A·C·U·L·T·Y P·U·B·L·I·C·A·T·I·O·N·S

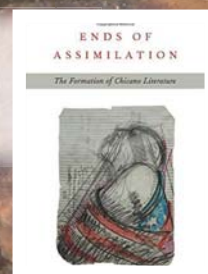
**Paul Breslin**

*The Tragedy of King Christophe*  
(translation)



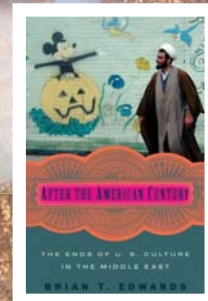
**John Alba Cutler**

*Ends of Assimilation: The Formation of Chicano Literature*



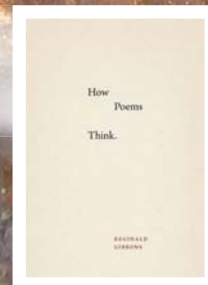
**Brian Edwards**

*After the American Century: The Ends of U.S. Culture in the Middle East*



**Reg Gibbons**

*How Poems Think*



# F·A·C·U·L·T·Y N·E·W·S

**Eula Biss** will have an essay on whiteness in the *New York Times Magazine* in December and is currently at work on essays about police brutality, the privatization of parenthood, capitalism, and debt (which are, in her mind, all connected). Her most recent book *On Immunity* was selected for the common read program at Western Michigan School of Medicine, where she'll be leading a writing workshop for 80 medical students. She was recently named one of *Crain's* "40 under 40," though she's just barely under 40....

**John Cutler's** book *Ends of Assimilation: The Formation of Chicano Literature* was published by Oxford University Press in February of 2015. The book critiques the way mid-20th-century sociologists portrayed immigrant assimilation and argues that Mexican American literature offers powerful insights into how individuals experience changes in language and culture. Writing for the *Los Angeles Review of Books*, scholar Ralph Rodriguez calls the book "a magisterial and gracefully written study [...] from which specialists and non-specialists alike will profit." Professor Cutler also presented work at several conferences in 2015, including the annual meetings of the Modern Language Association, the American Studies Association, and the Association for the Study of the Arts of the Present. He is currently working on a new book project examining the place of literature in early-20th-century Spanish-language newspapers in the United States.

This summer, **Nick Davis** contributed a short, illustrated history of LGBT cinema to *Love: A BFI Compendium*, published this fall by the British Film Institute. He also submitted two new essays about William Friedkin's landmark gay film *The Boys in the Band* (1970) and about *I'm Not There* (2007), Todd Haynes's postmodern study of Bob Dylan. Both will be published in scholarly anthologies next year. His long-form interview with Haynes will appear in *Film Comment* this November, as will some of his coverage of Arab and African cinema from this September's Toronto Film Festival. He will soon begin a semi-regular column in *Sight & Sound*, the UK's premier film magazine, alongside his academic publishing.

**Tracy Davis** was the recipient of the 2015 Humboldt Research Award which will allow her to spend time over the next three

years at the Universität zu Köln, where she will work closely with researchers at the Theaterwissenschaftliche Sammlung.

**Brian Edwards's** new book *After the American Century: The Ends of U.S. Culture in the Middle East* was published in November by Columbia. He has been busy promoting it this fall, giving talks at venues as diverse as the U of Minnesota, Iowa City's Prairie Lights Bookstore, and the Evanston Public Library, as well as in Morocco in December. The book tour picks up in early 2016, with events scheduled for the Seminary Co-Op, the Chicago Council on Global Affairs, Miami U of Ohio (and a Cincinnati bookstore), UCLA, Berkeley, and Doha, Qatar, with several others in the works. After nearly a decade of work, including numerous research trips to the Middle East and North Africa, it is a pleasure to be able to share the book with interested readers.

Other news: in June, Brian completed his two-year term as an Emerging Leader at the Chicago Council on Global Affairs, culminating in a group project he devised on the teaching of Arabic in Chicago Public Schools (CPS). Brian met frequently with CPS leadership and educators, published OpEds in the *Chicago Tribune* and *Chronicle of Higher Education*, and was lead author on a report entitled "Teaching Arabic in Our Schools: Globalizing Education for Chicago's Next Generation" (available online). He also gave a number of talks at area elementary, middle, and high schools on anti-Arab and anti-Muslim stereotyping.

He continues to direct the MENA (Middle East and North African Studies) Program at Northwestern, whose weekly Monday events typically fill the Hagstrum Room to capacity. MENA is growing quickly, with three job searches underway this fall. The program held its inaugural conference this fall, a four-day affair that hosted 18 speakers from the US and abroad. Finally, last spring, Brian was promoted to full professor of English and comparative literary studies and named the Crown Professor in Middle East Studies.

**Christine Froula** has several completed projects in the pipeline: "Dangerous Thoughts in Bloomsbury: British Aestheticism and Fictions of Empire"; "Unwriting *The Waves*"; "Ezra Pound's 'Comparative Literature of the

Present,' or, Triptych Rome—London—Pisa" (on the *Pisan Cantos*); and "The Zeppelin in the Sky of the Mind," developed from a paper given at Brandeis's "Aesthetics of Empire" conference in April. She'll give a paper titled "Make It Old: 21<sup>st</sup> Century Artists in Dialogue with Modernist Texts" at the Modernist Studies Association conference in November and is co-editing an anthology of works for the stage by Bloomsbury figures.

**Reg Gibbons's** new book, *How Poems Think* (Univ. of Chicago Press), is a "gallery" of inquiries into some of the modes and devices of poetic thinking, from ancient to modern and contemporary. The illustrative poems and passages are from Homer, Sappho, Pindar, Bakkhylides, Shakespeare, Greville, three Herberts (George, Edward, and Zbigniew), Pope, Wordsworth, Keats, Nerval, Whitman, Dickinson, three of the Russian "big four" (Pasternak, Tsvetaeva, Mandelstam) and later Russians as well (Voznesensky and our Northwestern colleague Ilya Kutik), Ezra Pound, Paul Celan, Mina Loy, modern Greeks (Ritsos and Elytis) two Williamses (William Carlos and C. K.), Robert Duncan, Gwendolyn Brooks and many others, and also texts by Dionysios of Halikarnassos, Sainte-Beuve, Donald Davie, Hélène Cixous, Yves Bonnefoy and others.

**Chris Lane** reviewed a study of Victorian London for the *Journal of British Studies* and wrote an invited review article on biopolitics and psychoanalysis for *Cultural Critique* titled "Analysis Terminable and Postponed." His essay "The Biological Citizen: Neuropsychiatry and the Unconscious," translated into French, reprinted in the collection *Actualités de la psychanalyse* (Editions Èrès) and his blog "Side Effects" at *Psychology Today* recently celebrated its millionth consecutive click. He continues to write also for the *Huffington Post*.

This summer **Susan Manning** hosted the fourth and final intensive summer seminar on "Dance Studies in/and the Humanities." Funded by the Mellon Foundation, this project has supported postdoctoral fellows on three campuses--Brown, Stanford, and Northwestern--as well as the summer seminars. A recent extension of the grant will bring a third and final cohort of postdoctoral fellows to all three campuses for 2016-18. Meanwhile, Susan has worked with current NU postdoc Amanda Graham to organize a working group on Critical Dance Studies, which will culminate with a symposium at the Block Museum (April 8-9) on "Performed in the Present Tense:



Reperformance, Score, Curation.”

**Juan Martinez's** short story, “Northern,” was just published in the Fall 2015 issue of *Huizache: the Magazine of Latino Literature*. A craft essay is forthcoming in *Because You Asked: A Book of Answers on the Art and Craft of the Writing Life*, and an essay on Nabokov and intermediality is forthcoming in the *Nabokov Online Journal*.

Do you need some inspiration in your (literary) love life? **Barbara Newman** has completed her book, *Making Love in the Twelfth Century: Letters of Two Lovers in Context*, to be published this spring by Penn. These hot Latin letters, newly translated, may or may not be those of Abelard and Heloise. During her leave she also wrote an article about Mechthild of Hackeborn, a 13th-century mystic who inspired Dante, and a catalogue essay for an upcoming exhibition at the Walters Art Museum, “A Sense of Beauty: Medieval Art and the Five Senses” (opening fall 2016). She’s back in the classroom now, teaching “Bible as Literature” and medieval Latin poetry. In 2015-16 she serves as president of the Medieval Academy of America.

**Emily Rohrbach's** book, *Modernity's Mist: British Romanticism and the Poetics of Anticipation*, appeared in Fall 2015, published by the new Lit Z series of Fordham University Press. She has been invited to present her work on the topic of historical poetics in 2016 at the University of Cambridge and at a symposium on “Literature & Contingency,” organized by Christina Lupton (University of Warwick) in Venice, Italy. In January, Emily will be starting a new position at the University of Manchester.

**Laurie Shannon's** 2013 book, *The Accommodated Animal: Cosmopolitanism in Shakespearean Locales*, has been awarded the 2015 Elizabeth Dietz Memorial Award by the journal *SEL: Studies in English Literature 1500-1900*.

**Helen Thompson** is completing final revisions of her second book, “Fictional Matter: Empiricism, Corpuscles, and the Novel,” which will be published by the University of Pennsylvania Press in Fall 2016. She recently presented material from the book at the University of Indiana, Bloomington (where she was fortunate to discover the Lilly Library’s wonderful collection in the history of science) and will give another talk later this year at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver. She is excited to continue working on eighteenth-century chemistry, empiricism, and literary representation in some new venues: a book project on seventeenth- and

eighteenth-century particles (or “corpuscles”) and non-mechanical forms of agency, an article on *Robinson Crusoe* and epistemology for the Cambridge *Companion to Robinson Crusoe*, and an article on “Corpuscles, Chymistry, and Empirical Knowledge” for a new series with Cambridge University Press, *Literatures in Transition*, in a volume on the period 1660-1714. She looks forward to teaching the second iteration of her class on second-wave feminist science fiction this Winter Quarter, and hopes her next project will enable further reflection on new materialist and feminist figurations of matter.

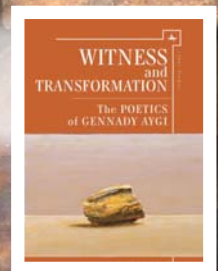
**Rachel Jamison Webster** is on leave this fall and when she returns will be delighted to direct our Creative Writing Program. Rachel has just returned from the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, where she has been staying with Oglala elders and doing research. She is finishing a manuscript called “Floating About on a Liquid Interior” that combines poems “mined” from John McPhee’s writing on geology and poems that incorporate the voices, history and spirituality of the Oglala Lakota people. Rachel’s cross-genre book of prose and poetry, *The Endless Unbegun* was published by Twelve Winters Press last February, and several poems were included in an anthology called *On Human Flourishing* (McFarland 2015). Rachel’s personal essays about single parenting, grief and healing have appeared in journals over the past year, including *Tin House*, *Juxtaprose* and *Drunken Boat*, and have been nominated for the Pushcart Prize and the Best of the Net award.

**Kelly Wisecup** has been awarded an Andrew W. Mellon / Lloyd Lewis Fellowship at the Newberry Library for 2015; she was also the recipient of an NEH summer stipend, both to work on her current book project, on Native American writing and eighteenth- and nineteenth-century sciences of collecting. She published an essay on the relations between eighteenth-century poetry and medicine in *Literature & Medicine*, and her co-edited special issue “Obeah: knowledge, power, and writing in the early Atlantic World,” about creole and African-derived medical and religious practices, was published in *Atlantic Studies* in June 2015. She gave invited talks at Bard College and the University of West Florida, at a Washington University symposium on science and religion, and at the Newberry Library, as part of One Book One Northwestern’s 2015 focus on Native American studies. At Northwestern, she is excited to coordinate the department’s Native American and Indigenous Studies speaker series.

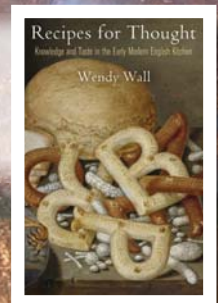
**Emily Rohrbach**  
*Modernity's Mist: British Romanticism and the Poetics of Anticipation*



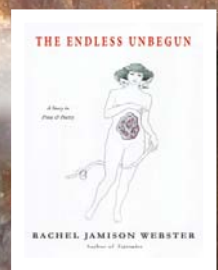
**Sarah Valentine**  
*Witness and Transformation: The Poetics of Gennady Aygi*



**Wendy Wall**  
*Recipes for Thought: Knowledge and Taste in the Early Modern English Kitchen*



**Rachel Webster** *The Endless Unbegun*



# American Cultures Colloquium

The American Cultures Colloquium at Northwestern has been revived after a year-long hiatus! The ACC is a forum where graduate students and Americanists from different disciplines and institutions can explore the methodologies and theories of multiple intellectual approaches through an annual speaker series, through writing workshops, and reading groups.

The ACC has already hosted a phenomenal talk by Elizabeth Maddock Dillon (Northeastern University). Over the course of the 2015-2016 academic year, the ACC will also be bringing Kate Masur (Northwestern University), Amy Lippert (University of Chicago), Marcial Gonzalez (University of California-Berkeley), Scott Lauria Morgensen (Queen's University), and Nathaniel Mackey (Duke University). This year's schedule includes topics ranging from the political functions of performativity and materiality in the eighteenth century to representations of Mexican farm laborers in Chicano literature since the 1960s, from the enforcement of due process prior to and during the Civil War to the intersections of contemporary indigenous decolonization movements and queer activism.

## G·R·A·D·U·A·T·E C·O·L·L·O·Q·U·I·A

### Early Modern Colloquium

The Early Modern Colloquium at Northwestern University is an interdisciplinary group of scholars and graduate students who meet regularly for lectures and workshops on research-in-progress. Last year, the EMC organized a series of successful workshops for PhD candidates, in addition to an exciting array of talks from prominent scholars including Peter Marx (University of Cologne), Cynthia Nazarian (Northwestern University), and Julian Yates (University of Delaware).

The 2015-2016 academic year will witness the EMC's continuing discussion and presentations from graduate students and visiting scholars, as well as a renewed commitment to interdisciplinary work. A pre-circulated paper by doctoral candidate Simone Waller will be the focus on the fall workshop, and the group will welcome visiting speakers including Michel Jourde (Ecole Normale Supérieure de Lyon), Katherine Eggert (University of Colorado at Boulder), and Gina Bloom (University of California at Davis).

### Long Nineteenth Century Colloquium

The Long Nineteenth Century Colloquium, co-chaired this year by Todd Nordgren, Sarah Roth, and Alex Lindgren-Gibson (History), supports Northwestern scholars of 19<sup>th</sup>-century Britain in their creation of a community across disciplinary boundaries, research interests, and career stages, offering engagement with current trends and topics in the field. A big thank-you to last-year's returning chairs Sarah Roth and Alex Lindgren-Gibson for last year's excellent series of talks: Pamela K. Gilbert (University of Florida) on "'Oh Blush Not So!' The Victorian Evolution of the Blush," Mo Moutlon (Harvard University) on "Practical Co-operation and the Postcolonial State: The Strange Triumph of Co-operative Creameries in Ireland, 1890-1945," William Cohen (University of Maryland) on "Why is there so much French in *Villette*?" and Aviva Briefel (Bowdoin College) on "Impossible Ghosts: Material Culture at the Limits of Evidence."

The 2015-16 Speaker Series has already seen a campus visit by Talia Schaffer (CUNY). Kate Flint (University of Southern California), Deborah Cohen (Northwestern) and Erika Rappaport (UC Santa Barbara) will be speaking in the coming quarters. Our visiting scholars will continue the well-received lunchtime graduate student master-classes on cross-disciplinary topics along with their talks. We will also be continuing last year's successful graduate student in-progress workshops, which provides students an interdisciplinary audience for their in-progress dissertation projects.



## G·R·A·D·U·A·T·E P·A·P·E·R·S & C·O·N·F·E·R·E·N·C·E·S

### English Graduate Student Organization 2014-15 Colloquium Series

#### FALL, 2014

**Rebecca Fall** (6<sup>th</sup> year) “Bro Nonsense”

**Chad Infante** (4<sup>th</sup> year) “On The Quagmire of Black and Indian Concordance and Dissonance”

#### WINTER, 2015

**Todd Nordgren** (4<sup>th</sup> year) “‘A dragonfly in the carapace of a tortoise’: Arthur Cravan and Avant-Garde Self-Fashioning”

**Raashi Rastogi** (7<sup>th</sup> year) “‘You frame my thoughts and fashion me within’: Alba Amicorum, Commonplacéd Subjects, and Early Modern Assemblages”

#### SPRING, 2015

**Mohwanah Fetus** (4<sup>th</sup> year) “‘And yet this world seemed strangely familiar to him’: Generational Memory and Caribbean Phenomena in Junot Díaz’s *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*”

**Alanna Hickey** (6<sup>th</sup> year) “‘No laws to treat my people ill’: Political Complaint in the Ojibwe Elegy”

#### OCTOBER 2014

### BABEL Working Group 3<sup>rd</sup> Biennial Meeting Santa Barbara, CA

*Founded in 2004, the BABEL Working Group is a collective of scholars (including scholars of medieval, early modern and Victorian studies, critical and cultural theory, film and women’s studies, new media studies, critical sexuality studies, and so on) who are working to develop new cross-disciplinary alliances between the humanities, sciences, social sciences, and the fine arts.*

**Lee Huttner** (4<sup>th</sup> year) “Hydroerotics: Loving & Drowning in the Renaissance”

### Illinois Institute of Technology Digital Humanities Series Chicago, IL

*The Humanities and Technology Speaker Series began in 2012 as the Digital Humanities Speaker Series, and brought speakers from outside IIT and from departments across IIT to discuss the current state of the art in digital humanities and explore disciplinary issues within the emerging field.*

**Andrew Keener** (4<sup>th</sup> year) “How to ‘Do DH’ With Others: Digital Methods in Philology and Book History”

#### NOVEMBER 2014

### 57<sup>th</sup> annual African Studies Association Meeting Indianapolis, IN

*Established in 1957, the African Studies Association is the flagship organization devoted to enhancing the exchange of information about Africa, past and present. The ASA supports understanding of an entire continent in each facet of its political, economic, social, cultural, artistic, scientific, and environmental landscape.*

**Delali Kumavie** (2<sup>nd</sup> year) “Misrecognizing Love: Violence, Time and Space in Véronique Tadjo’s *As the Crow Flies*”

#### JANUARY 2015

### Multidisciplinary Graduate Student Conference Newberry Library’s Center for Renaissance Studies Chicago, IL

*The Center for Renaissance Studies’ annual graduate student conference, organized and run by advanced doctoral students, has become a premier opportunity for graduate students to present papers, participate in discussions, and develop collaborations across the field of medieval, Renaissance, and early modern studies.*

**Casey Caldwell** (3<sup>rd</sup> year) “Funny Thing about Syphilis: The Sexual Economy of a Jest in *Twelfth Night*”

#### MARCH 2015

### 45<sup>th</sup> annual Renaissance Society of America Conference Berlin, Germany

*Founded in 1954, the Renaissance Society of America promotes the study of the period 1300-1650. The RSA brings together scholars from many backgrounds in a wide variety of disciplines from North America and around the world.*

**Rebecca Fall** (6<sup>th</sup> year) “‘Hey non nony’: Senseless Circulations in Broadside Ballads and Popular Drama”

#### APRIL 2015

### 43<sup>rd</sup> annual Shakespeare Association of America Conference Vancouver, Canada

*The Shakespeare Association of America is a non-profit professional organization for the advanced academic study of William Shakespeare’s plays and poems, his cultural and theatrical contexts, and the many roles he has played in world culture.*

**Meghan Costa** (7<sup>th</sup> year) “‘Blackface is not history’: Teaching Racial Impersonation in the Renaissance Classroom”

MAY 2015

**50<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies**

Kalamazoo, MI

*The International Medieval Congress is an annual gathering of more than 3,000 scholars interested in Medieval Studies. It features more than 550 sessions of papers, panel discussions, roundtables, workshops, and performances.*

**Stephanie Pentz** (4<sup>th</sup> year) “‘Of oo blood’: Trajan and trans-nationalism in *Piers Plowman*”

**Northwestern University’s Department of French & Italian Graduate Student Conference**

Evanston, IL

**Sarah Wilson** (5<sup>th</sup> year) “Radical Negativity and Base Medievalisms: Apophatic Mysticism in Georges Bataille’s *Atheological Summa*”

JUNE 2015

**10<sup>th</sup> International Melville Conference**

Tokyo, Japan

**Ean High** (4<sup>th</sup> year) “The Shades of Melville’s Silence: Religious Hearing in *Moby-Dick*”

**G·R·A·D·U·A·T·E F·E·L·L·O·W·S·H·I·P·S & A·W·A·R·D·S**

**Casey Caldwell** (3<sup>rd</sup> year) was awarded the English Department’s 2014-15 Teaching Award for Excellence as a Teaching Assistant.

**Rebecca Fall** (6<sup>th</sup> year) won two long-term fellowships this year: the Mellon/ACLS (American Council of Learned Societies) Dissertation Completion Fellowship and the Mellon-CES (Council of European States) Dissertation Completion Fellowship, which she will be holding as an honorary fellow.

**Alanna Hickey** (6<sup>th</sup> year) has been selected as one of the 2015-17 Northwestern University Presidential Fellows. She has also won a Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship, which she will be holding concurrently with the Presidential Fellowship.

**Kara Johnson** (5<sup>th</sup> year) was chosen as the 2015 Lawrence Lipking Fellow, and will be working in residence at the Newberry Library in the coming year.

**Kara Johnson** and **Hosanna Krienke** (6<sup>th</sup> year) were selected as co-recipients of the English Department’s 2014-15 Teaching Excellence Award.

**Andrew Keener** (4<sup>th</sup> year) was awarded a Libraries Research Award from Columbia University, and used the award to research Columbia’s extensive archival holdings in Renaissance education and drama during the summer in New York City.

**Delali Kumavi** (2<sup>nd</sup> year) received a Summer Travel Grant from the Buffett Institute for International and Studies, and the Hans Panofsky Travel Grant from the Program of African Studies.

**Chris Shirley** (Ph.D. 2013) and **Jade Werner** (Ph.D. 2013) are co-recipients of the 2014-15 Jean H. Hagstrum Prize for Best Dissertation. Chris’s dissertation is titled “Reading by Hand: Manuscript Poetry and Reader Identity in Early Modern England,” and Jade’s is “The Gospel and the Globe: Missionary Enterprises and the Cosmopolitan Imagination, 1795-1860.”

**Sarah Wilson** (5<sup>th</sup> year) received a Schallek Grant from the Medieval Academy of America, which she will use to support travel and archival research in London and Oxford over the coming months.



## R·E·C·E·N·T G·R·A·D·U·A·T·E W·O·R·K

**Katie Blankenau** (2<sup>nd</sup> year) and **Casey Caldwell** (3<sup>rd</sup> year) attended the 2015 Summer Institute Cologne, which included seminars on the historiography and studies of classics, the early modern period, theatre, film, and sound is held at the University of Cologne's Theaterwissenschaftliche Sammlung, home to one of the largest archives of theatre history in Europe.

In January and February, **Rebecca Fall** (6<sup>th</sup> year) was in residence at the Huntington Library as a Francis Bacon Foundation Fellow, reading through manuscript collections and the printed pamphlets of John Taylor, the "Water Poet." She also spent a week in March performing research at the Bodleian Library with support as an Affiliate of the Kaplan Institute for the Humanities, looking at nonsense texts collected in manuscript miscellanies. In addition, her essay "Pamphilia Unbound: Digital Re-Visions of Mary Wroth's Folger Manuscript, V.a.104" was published early in 2015 in *Re-Reading Mary Wroth*, edited by Katherine R. Larson, Naomi J. Miller, and Andrew Strycharski (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2015).

**Alanna Hickey** (6<sup>th</sup> year) was also at the Huntington in January and February, researching Ojibwe hymnbooks for a dissertation chapter on Jane Johnston Schoolcraft's elegies. Over the summer, she was at the Bancroft Library, looking at poetry printed in California periodicals during the Gold Rush.

**Ean High's** (4<sup>th</sup> year) article, "In War Time: Whittier's Civil War Address and the Quaker Periodical Press," was published in the British journal *Quaker Studies*, 19/2 2015 [229-242].

**Chad Infante** (4<sup>th</sup> year) was chosen as the Northwestern's sponsored participant at the 2015 School of Critical Theory held during the summer at Cornell University, a six week intensive program that featured seminars and lectures from scholars across the US and the EU.

**Delali Kumavie** (2<sup>nd</sup> year) attended the Johannesburg Workshop for Theory and Criticism from the end of June through early July. The theme for the workshop was "Bios, Techné, and the Manufacture of Happiness."

During the summer of 2014, **Andrew Keener** (4<sup>th</sup> year), with a team of undergraduates, undertook an effort to report Northwestern's holdings in early modern printed books up to the year 1700 to the English Short Title Catalogue (ESTC). This project boosted Northwestern's representation in the ESTC for this period from an initial 188 items to over 1,400. In conjunction with the project, Andrew curated "Midwest Renaissance" this summer just passed, an exhibit showcasing some of the most exciting early modern books held at Northwestern's Charles Deering McCormick Library of Special Collections. In July, Andrew **also** presented a paper entitled "Printed Polyglots: John Baret's Alvearie and Renaissance Dictionary Technologies" at the Society for the History of Authorship, Reading, & Publishing (SHARP) in Longueuil/Montreal, Canada. His proposal was awarded a Delmas Scholarship through the Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation and SHARP.

Last fall, funding from the Huntington Library and the Woodrow Wilson Foundation allowed **Elizabeth Rodriguez** (7<sup>th</sup> year) to spend six weeks in London at the National Archives in Kew. She digitized and transcribed nearly 60 records, which compose a majority of the National Archives' legal holdings related to sexual assault between 1500-1700. As part of her dissertation on sexual and political consent in early modern England, Elizabeth is curating an online, text-searchable edition of these records to encourage their wider accessibility and study.

**Susanna Sacks** (3<sup>rd</sup> year) spent the summer studying Chichewa and contemporary poetry in Malawi under the auspices of a Summer Foreign Language grant from The Graduate School, an Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship, and a Morris Goodman Award.

# A·L·U·M·N·I N·E·W·S

**Carla Arnell**, (Ph.D. 1999), Associate Professor at Lake Forest College, will see her essay “Seeking Wisdom and Cultivating Delight: Teaching Literature for Life” published in a forthcoming issue of the Duke University Press journal *Pedagogy*.

In September, **Kimberly Baldus** (Ph.D. 1997), Teaching Professor in the Pierre Laclède Honors College at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, received the Chancellor’s Award for her dedication to student success.

**Craig Berry** (Ph.D. 1992) gave two presentations at the Fifth International Spenser Society Conference in Dublin this past June: “The Words of *A View*” described the process and preliminary results of preparing the text of Spenser’s *A View of the Present State of Ireland* for the WordHoard database; “EEBO-TCP Curation with AnnoLex and LibraryFinder” reported on two tools that several undergraduates from Northwestern and Washington University in St. Louis, under the direction of Professor Emeritus Martin Mueller, have used successfully to improve the transcription quality of some five hundred drama texts from the EEBO-TCP corpus. Berry developed AnnoLex with support from Academic and Research Technologies at NU. He has contributed a chapter on Chaucer to the collection *Spenser in Context*, forthcoming from Cambridge University Press, and currently serves as Digital Projects Editor at *The Spenser Review*.

**Laura Braunstein** (Ph.D. 2000) is the Digital Humanities and English Librarian at Dartmouth College. Her coedited collection, *Digital Humanities in the Library: Challenges and Opportunities for Subject Specialists* was published by the Association of College and Research Libraries in 2015. She is a member of the MLA’s Advisory Committee on the *MLA International Bibliography*, and serves on the board of the Schulz Library at the Center for Cartoon Studies in White River Junction, Vermont. The library world has offered a few opportunities for mini-NU reunions: Laura recently co-taught with Christie Harner (Ph.D. 2010), who has taken a position at

Dartmouth, and, in the summer of 2015, she and John Edward Martin (Ph.D. 2006) spoke together about mentoring for #altac careers at the American Library Association’s annual conference.

**Chris Buczinsky** (Ph.D. 1994) is an Associate Professor at Calumet College of St. Joseph. His essay, “The Performance of the Pastoral in *Mister Rogers’s Neighborhood*” will be published in a collection of essays called *Revisiting Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood: Teaching and Learning about Self and Community* edited by Kathy Merlock-Jackson and Steven Emmanuel (McFarland & Company Publishers).

Last year, **Katy Chiles** (Ph.D. 2008), Associate Professor at the University of Tennessee, was awarded both a Research & Creative Achievement Award from the UT Chancellor’s Office and a University Outstanding Teaching Award from the UT Alumni Association.

**Marcy Dinius** (Ph.D. 2003), Assistant Professor at DePaul University, was awarded an NEH Fellowship to complete her book “Anxiety and Influence: David Walker’s Appeal and Antebellum American Print Culture.” She has just finished a stint at the Library Company in Philadelphia and will be shifting back to Chicago to do some research at the Newberry. The project begins from the observation that for a self-funded, hand-printed pamphlet that circulated underground, *Walker’s Appeal to the Coloured Citizens of the World* (published in three editions in 1829 and 1830) had an immediate, significant, lasting, and, thus, outsized impact. It will be the first book-length study dedicated to the far-reaching effects of *Walker’s Appeal* on antebellum American print culture, including renegotiations of the freedom of the press; of the circulation, distribution, and ownership of politically controversial texts; and of ideas about authorship and intellectual property that its publication and circulation occasioned.

**Christopher Hager** (Ph.D. 2003) is an Associate Professor at Trinity College. His

first book, *Word by Word: Emancipation and the Act of Writing*, was released in paperback by Harvard University Press in September 2015. His current book project, a study of the epistolary culture of the U.S. Civil War, was awarded a Franklin Research Grant from the American Philosophical Society; a Summer Stipend from the National Endowment for the Humanities; and one of the NEH’s new Public Scholar grants. Having recently completed a three-year term as co-director of the Center for Teaching and Learning at Trinity, Chris will spend the 2015-16 academic year away from Trinity as the Nancy Schaeen Visiting Scholar at DePauw University’s Prindle Institute for Ethics. He also recently held short-term fellowships at the Summersell Center for the Study of the South at the Univ. of Alabama and the Willson Center for Humanities & Arts at the University of Georgia.

**Coleman Hutchison** (Ph.D. 2006) is Associate Chair of the Department of English and an Associate Professor at the University of Texas at Austin. His recent publications include *Writing About American Literature* (Norton, 2014) and *A History of American Civil War Literature* (Cambridge UP, 2015).

**Heidi Kim** (Ph.D. 2010), Assistant Professor at the University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill, edited *Taken from the Paradise Isle: The Hoshida Family Story*, which came out this summer from UP Colorado. This volume tells the story of the Hoshidas, a Japanese American family from Hawai’i island, from their early days as children of plantation laborers to their incarceration on the mainland during World War II, when they were tragically separated from each other. It combines the family’s memoir, diary, letters, artwork, and photos with archival research and scholarly apparatus. She will be giving several readings at venues around the country, including the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles, through 2017 (the 75th anniversary of the commencement of the incarceration). More information can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/HoshidaFamilyStory>

**Greg Laski** (Ph.D. 2012), Assistant Professor at the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, recently



completed his book manuscript, tentatively titled “Untimely Democracy: The Politics of Racial Progress in American Literature after Slavery”; the manuscript is now under review. Greg has forthcoming essays in *Pedagogy* and *Approaches to Teaching Charles W. Chesnutt*, and he is currently editing “A. D. 2150,” an unpublished short story on the prospects of racial progress that W. E. B. Du Bois revised late in life. In addition to this editing project, he is co-coordinating a forum on “Democracy” for *J19: The Journal of Nineteenth-Century Americanists* that will extend the conversation on the subject he convened at a special session at the 2015 MLA convention. He continues in his role as the Director of the Core Literature course taken annually by nearly 1,000 students at the United States Air Force Academy, and he recently won a Mellon Grant to fund the Democratic Dialogue Project, which

aims to bridge the military-civilian divide by facilitating conversations between students at the Air Force Academy and Colorado College.

**Ryan Friedman** (Ph.D. 2004), Associate Professor at Ohio State University – Columbus, recently became the Director of the university’s Film Studies Program.

**Melissa Daniels Rauterkus** (Ph.D. 2012), Assistant Professor at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, has an essay coming out in *American Literary Realism* in the Winter 2016, vol. 48, no. 2 issue entitled, “Racial Fictions and the Cultural Work of Genre in Charles W. Chesnutt’s *The House Behind the Cedars*.”

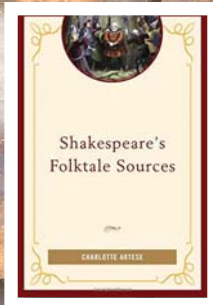
**Wendy Roberts** (Ph.D. 2012), Assistant Professor at SUNY Albany, was awarded two

NEH long term fellowships for her book in progress, one at the American Antiquarian Society and one at the Massachusetts Historical Society for a combined thirteen-month research grant for 2015-2016. She also has a forthcoming chapter entitled “Evangelical Print Culture” in the *Blackwell Companion to American Literature, Volume 1*.

**Abram Van Engen** (Ph.D. 2010) Assistant Professor at University of Washington in St. Louis, won a fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities. During the year-long sabbatical (2016-17), he will be working on his second book, a history of John Winthrop’s “city on a hill” sermon in American culture. His first book, *Sympathetic Puritans*, appeared this past spring from Oxford University Press.

## A·L·U·M·N·I P·U·B·L·I·C·A·T·I·O·N·S

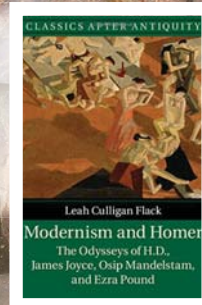
**Charlotte Artese**  
*Shakespeare's Folktale Sources*  
(U. Delaware, 2015)



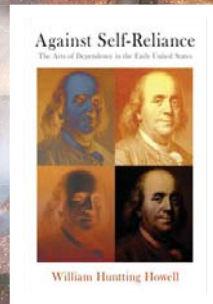
**Laura Braunstein**, co-ed.  
*Digital Humanities in the Library: Challenges and Opportunities for Subject Specialists* (Association of College & Research Libraries, 2015)



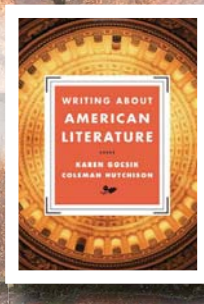
**Leah Flack**  
*Modernism and Homer: The Odysseys of H.D., James Joyce, Osip Mandelstam, and Ezra Pound*  
(Cambridge, 2015)



**Hunt Howell**  
*Against Self-Reliance: The Arts of Dependence in the Early United States*  
(U. Penn., 2015)



**Cole Hutchison**  
with Karen Gocsik  
*Writing About American Literature* (Norton, 2014)



**Cole Hutchison**, ed.  
*A History of American Civil War Literature*  
(Cambridge, 2015)



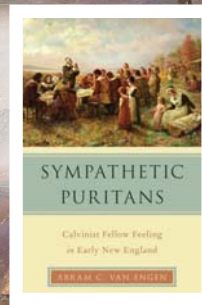
**Heidi Kim**, ed.  
*Taken from the Paradise Isle: The Hoshida Family Story*  
(U. Colorado, 2015)



**Gayle Rogers**  
with Sean Latham  
*Modernism: Evolution of an Idea* (Bloomsbury, 2015)



**Abram Van Engen**  
*Sympathetic Puritans: Calvinist Fellow Feeling in Early New England*  
(Oxford, 2015)





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 our most sincere thanks, our valued donors from this past year.

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# Musings

2015 - 16

The Department of English  
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Volume XIX • Number 1

Contributions Courtesy of  
the Faculty, Graduate  
Students, & Alumni of  
the Northwestern University  
English Department

Designed & Edited by  
Nathan Mead

read online at:

<http://sites.northwestern.edu/englishmusings/>