

Footnotes

English Department News and Notes

A Message from Department Chair Robin Inboden

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This year, more than others, has been marked by big changes in the English Department. As many of you know, **Dr. J. Arthur Faber** is retiring at the end of the year after serving Wittenberg since 1966. He was celebrated at a university reception on April 20 and will be the guest of honor at a department dinner May 10. After that, it's off to writing, wood-working, and traveling. Also departing will be **Dr. Iveta Jusova**, who has spent two years with us in a visiting position. She will now be Director of Comparative Women's Studies in Europe for Antioch University, which will involve teaching courses in her specialties at Antioch and at several European partner locations. **Dr. Jusova** has brought enormous energy to the department, and we are thrilled for her to have found a position that fits so perfectly with her interests. Finally, we must bid a reluctant farewell to **Dr. Lauren Proll**, who, for personal, family reasons, has accepted a job at the Gann Academy in Waltham, Massachusetts. She referred to teaching at Wittenberg as her "dream job"; we only wish the dream could have gone on forever. We wish her the very best in her new position, and we will miss her very much.

On a more positive note, we also have some major accomplishments and a new faculty person joining us next year. We are very proud that **Dr. Carmiele Wilkerson** won this year's ODK Teaching Excellence Award--congratulations! **Dr. McClelland's** new book, *Tattoo Blues*, has just come out; the timing of publication, while perfect for summer reading, was not so conducive to the kind of welcome the book deserves here at Wittenberg. Thus, to avoid the spring rush, a fall book-signing party will be planned. And finally, a new faculty member will be joining us in the fall; some of you have already met her. **D'Arcy Fallon**, specializing in teaching creative non-fiction and journalism, will join us in the fall after a career in professional journalism, an M.F.A., and a teaching position at University of Colorado at Colorado Springs in which she recently won the top teaching award for the College of Arts and Sciences. I know you'll look forward to meeting and taking classes with her in the fall.

Finally, there are some changes coming in the major itself. We expect to get final approval for changes in the major curriculum that we have been considering and developing for the last several years. All English majors in the classes of 2005, 2006, and 2007 will be receiving letters at their home addresses over the summer explaining the new changes and how they will affect them. We are excited about the new major, and think it will better integrate reading and writing in the major while offering all students more flexibility in their course planning.

Enjoy this first issue of our newsletter, and have a great summer of reading, writing, and adventure!

The fall issue of *Footnotes* will be published in September, 2004. Please send news and notes to English Department Secretary Patti Birt, at pbirt@wittenberg.edu, or mail to Patti Birt, English Department, Wittenberg University, P. O. Box 720, Springfield, OH 45501.

English Department Writing Awards

Congratulations to the following students whose work was honored at the Department Awards Colloquium on Thursday, April 22 in Ness Auditorium. Each award winner received a certificate and a cash prize.

Sophomore Writing Award: **Alison Davis**

Junior Writing Award: **Melissa Barrett**

Senior Writing Award: **David Ober** and **Heather Stansfield**

Poetry Award: **Sarah Garrison**

Playwriting Award: **Melissa Barrett**

Fiction Award: **Elizabeth Powers**

Non-Fiction Award: **A. J. Kessler**

Creativity Award: **Sarah Garrison**

Koppenhaver Award: **Sarah Garrison**

Excellence in Literary Studies Award: **Laura Drinkwine** and **Val Fidler**

Oral Comprehensive Examinations

The following senior English majors passed their oral comprehensive examinations with distinction: **Becky Barnes, Nikki Bibler, Laura Drinkwine, Vanessa Earley, Val Fidler, Sarah Garrison, Rebekah Hackett, Frank Lasik, David Ober, Katie Preuss, Meg Richmond, Kelli Slezak, Anitra Walden, Matt Werbach, and Anna Wolfe.**

Departmental Honors

The following students will graduate with Department Honors this year: **Tricia Connelly, Laura Drinkwine, Vanessa Earley, Val Fidler, Alan Gustafson, Drew Heverin, Abigail Klene, David Ober, Meg Richmond, and Anna Wolf.**

New Departmental Technology Assistant

The English Department welcomes **Callon Holloway** as its student technology consultant for the next academic year. Callon is an English major and a Writing Center peer tutor who moderates several online bulletin board systems and maintains his own web page. He replaces **Dustin Eastman**, who served the department admirably in this position this year.

ODK Professor of the Year

Congratulations to **Carmiele Wilkerson**, who received the prestigious Omicron Delta Kappa Award for outstanding teaching at the Honors Convocation April 16 in Weaver Chapel.

Wittenberg Literary Society

The Literary Society is currently seeking individuals interested in celebrating the written word by participating in conversation, poetry readings, book circles, live performances, movie viewing, and other activities. There will be one more meeting before the end of the year to elect new officers and discuss next year's agenda. Please look for e-mails and fliers advertising this meeting, or contact **Melissa Barrett** (s05.mbarrett) with questions.

National Poetry Month Poetry Festival

Rick Incorvati and the Wittenberg Literary Society led the campus in commemorating National Poetry Month by organizing a poetry festival that took place in Ness Auditorium on April 12. The afternoon reading brought together students and faculty, creative writers and poetry readers from across campus. Each speaker introduced his or her poem and explained to the audience what it was about the selected poem that made reading it a particularly rich experience. A variety of cultural voices emerged in the poems: these included **Ted Trautman's** dynamic reading of Canadian poet Shane Koyczan, **Dr. Jennifer Oldstone-Moore's** reading of a Tang dynasty poem, **Dr. Doug Andrews's** translation of Romantic-period Russian poetry, **Dr. Carmiele Wilkerson's** evocation of Caribbean dialect, **Heather Stansfield's** reading of a sonnet by the Chilean poet Pablo Neruda, and **Dr. Scot Hinson's** reading of a selection by the German poet Rainer Maria Rilke. The event was very well attended and well received. Students interested in being involved in the planning of this and other similar events should contact **Melissa Barrett** (s05.mbarrett) for information on how to get involved in the Wittenberg Literary Society.

Preparing Future Faculty

Cynthia Richards and **Robin Inboden** both hosted Ohio State University graduate students for the Preparing Future Faculty Program this spring. The program fosters mentoring relationships for graduate students interested in teaching at liberal arts colleges.

Paris Summer Writing Program

The Paris summer writing program will be led again this summer by **Mimi Dixon** and **Kent Dixon**. Participating in the program will be three Wittenberg students and others from Harvard, Fordham, Stevens, and Columbia. Spaces are still available but interested students should contact Mimi or Kent soon.

Faculty Notes

Lori Askeland has signed a contract with Greenwood Press to edit a reference book on the history of adoption and foster care in the United States. On April 16th, she presented a paper entitled, "White Teacher, Black Culture: On Doing Justice, Loving Mercy, and Walking Humbly" at the 4th Annual "Quest for Community: A Call to Action" conference at Wright State University. She also has a review essay entitled, "Unbridled Pageantry, Or Here Comes the Eruption of Queer Desires," in the current issue of *American Quarterly* (March 2004), the official publication of the American Studies Association.

Ty Buckman will deliver a paper at the Pacific Northwest Renaissance conference at Western Washington University on May 7 entitled "Metamorphosis/Conversion/ Regeneration: Changing Shapes and Changing Sides in Renaissance Epic." His article, "Just Time Expired": Succession Anxieties and the Wandering Suitor in Spenser's *Faerie Queene*, appeared recently in *Spenser Studies: A Renaissance Poetry Annual*.

In the summer of 2002 **Bob Davis** was awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship to study medicine and culture at the Penn State College of Medicine in Hershey, PA. As part of that fellowship, he worked with nurses at the Hershey Hospital, "shadowing" nursing shifts in the Surgical Intensive Care Unit. He wrote an essay based on that experience called, "The Practice of the Everyday in the Literature of Nursing" – which has been accepted for publication by the *Journal of the Medical Humanities* for the winter of 2004. He presented a portion of the nursing essay at the Vital Signs Conference on Literature and Medicine at Duke University on April 23, 2004 and is giving the plenary lecture on "Nursing and American Literature" at the Nursing and Narrative Conference at the Penn State College of Medicine on June 19, 2004. Bob Davis has also been selected as an "Honorary Class Member" by this year's graduating class.

Kent Dixon divided his spring sabbatical between work on a novel, a collection of stories, translations, and travel.

Mimi Dixon took part in a seminar on Teaching Shakespeare on Film at this year's Shakespeare Association of America meeting in New Orleans. Her paper, "The Ear...Hath not Seen": From Word to Image in Two Screen Adaptations of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*," compared Peter Hall's and Michael Hoffman's film versions of Shakespeare's comedy. She also was awarded a \$5000 grant in creative non-fiction by the Ohio Arts Council for a group of personal essays entitled "Waiting" and "The King and Me."

Maureen Fry has been nominated for a Pushcart Prize for her poem, "The Way It Is." She also received Honorable Mention in the Akron Art Museum's *New Words 2004* poetry competition for her poem, "I Forget You." She was one of eight winners invited to read their poems at the awards ceremony on April 18th.

Karen Hayes presented a paper called "The Silent Nod is Not Always Comprehension: Working with International Students in the Writing Center" for the International Writing Center Association-National Conference of Peer Tutors in Writing conference in Hershey, PA, in October 2003. Based on a survey of Wittenberg's writing center advisors, the paper grew from a presentation she did for the Writing Center itself in 2002.

On April 8, 2004 **Scot Hinson** delivered a paper at the 2004 Joint Conference of the National Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association and the SW/Texas PCA/ACA conference in San Antonio, TX on representations of Asian masculinity in the films of Chow Yun Fat entitled "Monks and Punks: Constructions of Masculinity in Recent Hollywood Kung-Fu Action Movies." Also, portions of an essay on Marsha Norman entitled "The Other Funeral: Narcissism and Symbolic Substitution in Marsha Norman's *Traveler in the Dark*," from the publication: *Marsha Norman: A Casebook* will be reprinted in a Gale Series publication of *Twentieth Century Literary Criticism*.

Robin Inboden presented a paper on Elizabeth Barrett Browning and Samuel Taylor Coleridge at the inaugural conference of the North American Victorian Studies Association in Bloomington, IN last October.

Rick Incorvati gave a paper on Walter Scott's *Redgauntlet* at the Queer Romanticism conference in Dublin, Ireland last August. He read another paper at the International Conference on Romanticism at Marquette University in November on the topic of sympathy in Scott's *Waverley*. He has also been contracted to edit two novels by Thomas Holcroft (*Mantborn, or the Enthusiast*, and *Alwyn, or the Gentleman Comedian*) for the forthcoming collected works published by Pickering and Chatto. Rick also has an article on teaching the poetry of women's friendship forthcoming this fall in a collection entitled *Reading and Teaching British Women Writers* (published by Peter Allen).

Iveta Jusova has recently had a book manuscript accepted for publication by Ohio State University Press entitled: *The New Woman and the Empire: Gender, Racial, and Colonial Issues in Sarah Grand, George Egerton, Elizabeth Robins, and Amy Levy*. She will join Antioch University in the fall as Assistant Professor of English and Women's Studies and Director of Comparative Women's Studies. She will team-teach three women's studies classes and supervise students' independent projects in Europe (Warsaw, Berlin, Amsterdam, Brussels, and London) every fall, and then teach one women's studies or English literature class each spring at the Antioch campus.

Michael McClelland's second novel, *Tattoo Blues*, was published in April. Mac says the novel is a light-hearted beach book, nominally a mystery but mostly just another humorous look at the foibles of the human race. The novel was written with the generous assistance of a Wittenberg research grant, and is set in the sleepy Gulf Coast fishing village of Cedar Key, Florida. It features a runaway college student in search of authenticity, a slightly shady tattoo artist, an alcoholic ex-journalist stumbling towards redemption, and a flatulent manatee named Molly.

Jody Rambo's poem "Hard Currency" was published earlier this spring in *The Seattle Review*. Another poem, "Lygophobia," will appear this fall in the 100th volume of *Poet Lore*, the oldest continuously published poetry magazine in the U.S.

Cynthia Richards has recently published book reviews in *Tulsa Studies in Women's Literature*, HistoryNet, and the *Scrib-lerian*. Her article on Mary Hays appeared this year in *Eighteenth-Century Women*, and she has an article forthcoming in a collection on Mary Wollstonecraft. Richards's edition of *The Wrongs of Woman* by Mary Wollstonecraft and *Memoirs of the Author of the Vindication of the Rights of Woman* by William Godwin was published last fall to very favorable reviews. She has also received a Fulbright Award for next year.

David Savola presented a paper entitled "Walking the *Green Hills of Africa*: Giving Expression to Nature" at the Association for the Study of Literature and Environment Conference in Boston, June 4, 2003. The paper examines allusions to Thoreau's "Walking" in Hemingway's *Green Hills of Africa*.

Student Notes

Tricia Connelly (04) recently completed a collection of poems for her honors thesis entitled "Letters from the Edge: Struggles for Self-Recovery."

Laura Drinkwine (04) will soon finish her student teaching experience at Northeastern High School, where she has been teaching College Prep Senior English and General Junior English. She plans to continue teaching next year, perhaps in the Dayton area. She also recently completed an honors thesis entitled "Reading, Performance, and Self-Knowledge: Jane Austen's Critique of Education in *Pride and Prejudice* and *Mansfield Park*."

Vanessa Earley (04) successfully completed an honors thesis entitled: "Using the Past in the Present Struggle: Paule Marshall's *The Chosen Place, the Timeless People*."

Holly Erickson (04) is planning to combine her English major with her self-created environmental studies major to attend graduate school in environmental policy.

Val Fidder (04) will marry her junior-high sweetheart Chris Doersen on July 11; they both plan to teach English at the high school level. She also recently completed her honors thesis: "The Great Unsaid's: The Importance of Mother-Daughter Communication in Amy Tan's *The Bonesetter's Daughter* and the Kitchen God's Wife."

Sarah Garrison (04) had a poem, "beans y rights" published in the Autumn 2003 edition of *Small Spiral Notebook*, an online journal showcasing poetry, prose, and photography. The poem may be read at: <http://www.smallspiralnotebook.com/Autumn2003/sarahgarrison.shtml>. She is also anticipating the 24th edition of *Paragraph*, which will include one of her short short stories.

Alan Gustafson (04), a Phi Beta Kappa inductee, successfully completed his honors thesis: "Recovering Hope Through the Visual Arts: Walt Whitman's Civil War." He currently plans to attend Stetson Law School in the fall.

Drew Heverin (04) presented a paper entitled "The Promise and Righteousness of Knowledge" at the National Undergraduate Literature Conference at Weber State University in Ogden, UT. This semester he also completed an honors thesis on Italian political theorist Niccolo Machiavelli and the figure of the Machiavel in English Renaissance drama. He has signed on to join the Peace Corp after graduation and teach English in Asia.

Abbie Klene (04) recently completed an honors thesis that explored crime and criminality in the works of Fyodor Dostoyevski, B.F. Skinner, and Anthony Burgess. Next year she will enter a PhD program in neuropsychology at the University of Wisconsin in Milwaukee.

Frank Lasik (04) has received an assistantship at The Ohio State University through the Theatre Department where he will be pursuing his MA in Theatre.

Kate Lampe (06) will study abroad at St. Catherine's College, Oxford University, for the 2004-2005 academic year. She plans to send out a weekly e-mail entitled "The Oxford Picture of the Week"; if anyone is interested in receiving it, they can e-mail her at s06.klampe@wittenberg.edu.

Liz Maxson (04), as a result of three enjoyable years working in the Writing Center, is interested in pursuing a career in the publishing industry after graduation. She has been accepted to the Denver Publishing Institute for this summer.

Katie Platt (04) recently accepted a copy editing position with Beacon Publishing in Ashland, Ohio starting June 1.

Katie Preuss (04) has been teaching tenth grade English at North High School this semester. Next year she will teach English at Glenbrook South High School in Glenview, IL, where she also hopes to assist as a volleyball coach.

Brandon Stanfill (04) will start work this fall with for Teach for America in inner city Newark, New Jersey. After his two-year commitment he plans to attend law school or graduate school.

Billy Wallace (04) plans to tour the country in a run down old Ford e150 van and play rock 'n roll in many dive bars along the way.

Alumni/ae Notes

Michelle Bolin (02), after a year in the wilds of New Hampshire working for VISTA and then working in a library, is applying to master's programs in library science.

Elizabeth Ingenthron (02) is studying in the master's program in theology at St. Louis University.

Richie Stracke (02) attends the law school at Case Western Reserve University and is an enthusiastic cinephile.

Joshua Keiter (01) has been accepted into the Ph.D. program with a fellowship at SUNY Binghamton this fall.

Susan Davis (00) and **Lisa Ottum (02)** are both pursuing Ph.D.'s in English Literature at Indiana University.

Lauren Schmidt (00) writes for the critically-acclaimed TV drama *The West Wing*, and was nominated for a Writers' Guild of America Award for an episode she co-wrote this year.

Jeremy Glazier (97) has been hired at Ohio Dominican in Columbus as a tenure track Assistant Professor. A cluster of his poems will also be published in the summer issue of the *Paris Review*.

David Wilson (93) is a Ph.D. candidate at Michigan State University and has published several novels under the pseudonym D. Harlan Wilson.
