

# Footnotes

## English Department News and Notes

### A Message from Department Chair Robin Inboden

Hope you're enjoying Keats's "season of mists and mellow fruitfulness"—ah, autumn! For us in academe, of course, fall is not seen as a time of ripening and harvesting but of new beginnings. And we certainly have lots of new things happening in the English Department this fall! The most noticeable changes are all the new faces you see in the hallway. We are fortunate to be joined this fall by a new tenure-track faculty member and several adjunct teachers, as well.

**D'Arcy Fallon**, Assistant Professor of Creative Writing, comes to us from the University of Colorado-Colorado Springs, where she won a major teaching award last year. She also has substantial experience as a journalist. Her B.A. is from San Francisco State University and her M.F.A. from Antioch University—Los Angeles. Her primary fields of interest are creative non-fiction, journalism, and fiction.

**Ellen Jones**, Ph.D. Cornell University, is widely-published in Irish and British Modernism and an independent scholar living in Columbus. She is teaching ENGL 310: 20<sup>th</sup>-Century British and Irish Literature with the theme "The Politics of Modernism."

**Johnny Pryor**, an English Department alumnus and attorney in the City Prosecutor's Office, is teaching an evening section of ENGL 180A called "Literature and the Law." He is very active in local alumni events and is enjoying this foray into teaching.

**Dana Oswald** is currently completing her dissertation in medieval literature at Ohio State University, where she has a distinguished teaching record. She is teaching two sections of ENGL 101 originally slated for Dr. Richards, who mentored her last spring in the Preparing Future Faculty Program that familiarizes graduate students with the experience of teaching at a liberal-arts institution.

**Emily Leverett** is also writing her dissertation at Ohio State in medieval literature. She is teaching a section of ENGL 101 and a section of ENGL 180A on changing ideas of heroes and the heroic in a diverse selection of texts.

We are also looking forward to a great semester of events, kicked off in fine style by Dr. Incorvati's talk on "Sir Walter Scott and the Troubling Matter of Sexuality" and by the big Welcome Back English! Party on Tuesday, September 28. Be sure to put all the upcoming events on your appointment calendar. See you soon!

The Winter issue of *Footnotes* will be published in January, 2005. 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. This issue of *Footnotes* was edited by **Callon Holloway (06)** and **Ty Buckman**.

## The Literary Society

For readers, writers, thinkers, talkers, observers” holds meetings every Wednesday at 8:00 pm in the basement of the Student Center. Contact **Melissa Barrett (05)** for details.

## English Department Colloquium Series

Ohio Poetry Circuit poet **Deborah Digges**, Thursday, October 21, 4:00-5:15 pm in Ness Auditorium.

Alumni Careers Day, Friday, October 22, 4:00-5:15 pm in Hollenbeck 318.

Poetry reading by **Jody Rambo**, Thursday, November 11, 4:00-5:15 pm in Ness Auditorium.

English majors are required to attend departmental colloquia; the public is warmly invited.

## Faculty Notes

**Ty Buckman** spent three weeks in China and Tibet this summer on a research trip funded by the University’s Freeman Foundation grant. With a small group of other Wittenberg faculty, he visited key sites on the ancient Silk Road in preparation for teaching a unit on Marco Polo’s *Travels* in his WittSem this fall.

**Bob Davis** became the director of the WittSem program last spring and helped launch 31 new first-year seminar courses as a replacement for Common Learning. Additionally, his essay "Democratic Vistas" will be published next year in a new volume of collected essays called, *A Companion to Whitman*, a comprehensive collection of Whitman scholarship edited by Donald Kummings. He is also presenting a paper at the Midwest Modern Language Association Meeting in November on "Whitman and 19th Century Sympathy."

**Rick Incorvati's** article "Darsie Lattimer's 'Little Solidity'" is forthcoming in *Romanticism on the Net* and was the basis of his English Department colloquium September 23rd. In October, he will give a paper entitled "Thomas Holcroft, Self-Governance, and the Extravagance of the Spouting Club," which examines the ethical concerns raised by a particular kind of informal late-eighteenth-century drama. The paper, which is part of a larger project on Thomas Holcroft, will be delivered at the International Conference on Romanticism at Texas A&M International University. He has also been invited to review the book *Knowledge and Indifference in English Romantic Prose* for the *Keats-Shelley Journal*.

**Cynthia Richards** sends greetings from the Czech Republic, where she is teaching British and American literature at Palazky University in a city (Olomouc) where the big event of the fall season is an International Poetry Festival. The town is all abuzz with excitement, and so far, the experience of teaching American literature to students who find its idyllic portraits of a classless society Orwellian rather than inspiring in tone has been exhilarating. She looks forward to returning to Wittenberg in the spring semester with lots of stories to tell.

## Student Notes

**Anna K. Finkelstein (06)** began her study abroad program in Senegal, and has been posting about the trip regularly at [www.xanga.com/boo1502](http://www.xanga.com/boo1502).

**Melissa Barrett (05)** was recently elected the President of the Literary Society, with **Torren Stanley (06)** elected Vice President, **Liz Powers (06)** as Secretary, and **Bill Childers (06)** as Treasurer.

## Alumni/ae Notes

**William R. Wallace (04)** and **Sarah Garrison (04)** and their band The Wading Girl recently signed with the New York label "American Laundromat Records," and have started a tour that includes Springfield and Boston.

**Carolyn A. Emigh (03)** recently accepted a position at Georgetown University in the John Carroll Programs as a Program Administrator. She will be responsible for the non-academic side of the program--admissions, advising the undergraduate research journal, overseeing work-study students in the office and planning programs, events and activities.

**Nick Wenzel (03)** was recently hired as a high school English teacher in London, Ohio.

**Justin Bitner (02)** works as a Scholarship Advisor at Robert Morris College in Chicago as he contemplates graduate study in English.

**Jared Harding (01)** has yet to "use that Wittenberg English degree," but has backpacked through Australia, signed with a pro Basketball club in Denmark, and finally signed with another team in Ireland, Westaro Castlebar.

**Dan Stroeh (01)**, winner of the National Student Playwriting Award, will be visiting Witt the week of October 25, where he will speak in several venues before setting out on his "Kerouackian road trip."

**Gina Aldridge (99)** is working as an English teacher at North Hardin High School in Kentucky.

**Debbie Cassell (99)** works for *Furniture Style Magazine* as the Managing Editor.

**Jill Fowler (96)** is currently teaching two writing courses at Polk Community College in Winter Haven, Florida.

**Eve Gerken (94)** currently teaches Upper School English at the Hackley School in Tarrytown, NY. Eve holds the M.A.T. in English from Indiana University and will be completing an M.A. in English from Middlebury College this summer. She has presented on Emily Dickinson and taught creative writing internationally, and after she earns her M.A., she will be looking into Ph.D. programs.

**Kelli Landes (94)** works in the education department at the Adler Planetarium & Astronomy Museum in Chicago, where she doesn't get to use her English major much but has great fun. Dr. Inboden was gratified to know, however, that Kelli's English major does enrich her life, as she is reading "more and more" 19th-century literature after being hooked by "trashy" novels like *Lady Audley's Secret* and *The Moonstone*.

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**Jeff Prucher (94)** works in software quality assurance (an obvious path for an English major, he remarks), having survived the dot-com boom (and bust) intact. He and his wife live in San Francisco.

**Megan McCann (93)** is now the Manager of Operations at Geneva Technical Services Consulting in Chicago.

**Cate Prato (79)** is currently working as a Columnist for the *Boston Globe*, and as a freelance writer.

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