

Summer 2022

Newsletter for the Department of English at the University of Arkansas



Professor Sean Teuton Teaching a Spring '22 Graduate Course on Indigenous Autobiography

MESSAGE FROM THE DEPARTMENT

The spring semester came and went quickly, and now we are moving steadily forward through the summer sessions. We are happy to report that the first half of 2022 progressed well, with solid teaching and taking of classes in the midst of mask-lifting and getting used to seeing our colleagues' and students' faces again (a welcome sight!).

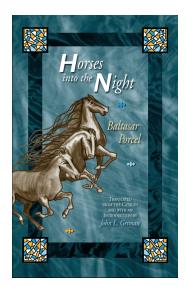
We invite you to read, below, the latest news about our current and past members of the department. As usual, our students, staff, faculty, and alumni have been engaged in a range of interesting activities, receiving notice for their impressive accomplishments.

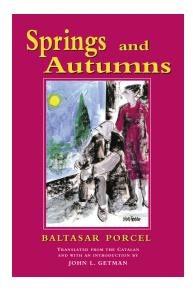
We hope you enjoy this most recent issue of the department's newsletter and have a wonderful rest of summer!

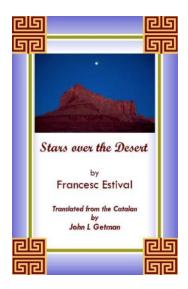
Table of Contents

Remembrance of John Getman (M.F.A. '89)	3
New Faces in the Department	4
Bon Voyage Faculty Spotlight: English Professor Constance Bailey	6
Alumni Updates	11
B.A. Alumni	11
M.A. Alumni	12
M.F.A. Alumni	13
Ph.D. Alumni	14
Program Updates	16
News from the Brown Chair in English Literacy Initiative	16
News from the Program in Rhetoric and Composition	18
News from the Undergraduate Program in English	18
News from the Program in Creative Writing and Translation	20
News from the Graduate Program in English (M.A. and Ph.D. Programs)	22
Updates from the GSE Organization	24
Recent Faculty Publications	27
King John: Shakespeare: The Critical Tradition, Second Edition, edited by Joseph Candido	27
King Henry V: Shakespeare: The Critical Tradition, edited by Joseph Candido	27
From Threatening Guerrillas to Forever Illegals: US Central Americans and the Cultural Politics of Non-Belonging, written by Yajaira Padilla	28
Reporting for Arkansas: The Documentary Films of Jack Hill, written by Dale Carpenter and Robert Cochran	28
Spring 2022 Graduates	29
Stay Connected	29

Remembrance of John Getman (M.F.A. '89)







We learned from Professor Emeritus John DuVal that **John Getman,** a graduate of the M.F.A. Program in Creative Writing and Translation ('89), died recently in Girona, Spain, at the age of 85. Getman, bilingual in English and Danish, translated works written in Catalan, and he published an original story in Catalan about Girona.

While working on his M.F.A., Getman translated two novels by Baltasar Porcel from Catalan, <u>Horses into the Night</u> (1996) and <u>Springs and Autumns</u> (2000). Both novels were published by the University of Arkansas Press, and <u>Horses into the Night</u> was listed by <u>Critic's Choice</u> as one of the eight best translations of the year and by <u>Publishers' Weekly</u> as one of the twenty-five best books of fiction for the same year, a list that included novels by Jules Verne and Albert Camus. In 2004, he published his translation of Francesc Estival's <u>Stars over the Desert</u> with Trafford Publishing.

Last Spring, Getman reconnected with the program when, despite his frail health, he visited Professor DuVal's translation workshop and contributed to it helpfully and energetically. Around that time, he received a contract with Bookvine Press to translate Maria Mercè Roca's novel, *Temporada Baixa*, and had begun work on it. We remember John Getman fondly and with much respect as both a supportive and an accomplished alumnus of the M.F.A. Program in Creative Writing and Translation.

—Jane Blunschi, Assistant Director of the Program in Creative Writing and Translation

New Faces in the Department

Maggie Fernandes is an Assistant Professor of Rhetoric and Composition. She holds a Ph.D. in Rhetoric and Writing from Virginia Tech. Her research interests center on digital cultural rhetorics, assessment, and content moderation on social media platforms. Her work has appeared in Kairos: A Journal of Rhetoric, Technology, and Pedagogy and enculturation: A Journal of Rhetoric, Writing, and Culture and is forthcoming in Reflections: A Journal of Community-Engaged Writing.





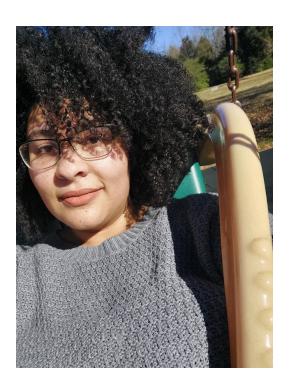
Photo Credit: Charles Bertram

Poetry and Translation for the University of Arkansas and the longtime poetry editor of *The Oxford American*. She is the author of two novels-in-verse, *American Purgatory* (2017) and *Render* (2013), as well as the English-language translator of Amal al-Jubouri's verse memoir of the Iraq War, *Hagar Before the Occupation / Hagar After the Occupation* (2011). Howell's work has received critical acclaim from such outlets as *The Los Angeles Times, Poetry London* (U.K.), *Asymptote, The Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, MINT* (India), and *The Kenyon Review,* and her Best Book of the Year honors include those from The Best Translated Book Awards, Foreword

INDIES Awards, The Nautilus Awards, and The Banipal Prize (U.K.). In 2019, she was named a United States Artists Fellow in Poetry. Howell's new work includes *A Winter Breviary*, a triptych of solstice carols written by Howell and composed by Reena Esmail, broadcast in part by the BBC and just published by Oxford University Press.

Megan McIntyre is an Assistant Professor of Rhetoric and Composition and the incoming Director of the Office of Rhetoric and Composition. She previously held the same position at Sonoma State University in Rohnert Park, CA, from 2018-2022, where she also chaired General Education. She is currently in her fourth year as a CCCC Feminist Caucus Co-chair. Megan's research focuses on antiracist writing programs, postpedagogy, and social media. You can find some of her recent work in the Journal of Multimodal Rhetorics, Peitho, Academic Labor, Present Tense, and WPA: Writing Program Administration's special issue on Black Lives Matter and anti-racist projects in writing program administration. She also recently won a CCCC/NCTE research grant to study barriers to success in first-year writing by interviewing Educational Opportunity Program and Student Disability Services students and advisors.





Rose Rainey is a Northwest Arkansas native, having graduated from Springdale Har-Ber High in 2012. She ventured off to Russellville for a few years where she first completed two bachelor degrees, a B.A. in English and a B.F.A. in Creative Writing with a minor in anthropology and a minor in film studies, and she then completed a master's degree, an M.L.A. in Fine Arts. She has many hobbies such as video gaming, writing, reading, hammocking, and picking up new interests. She also has many dreams for her future, many of which involve traveling internationally, making her own clothes, singing in a band, and finally having a cat of her own. In the meantime, she intends to work in the English department, learning and helping as much as she can. Perhaps, one day, she will be a professor, teaching young minds to love the arts as much as she.

Bon Voyage Faculty Spotlight: English Professor Constance Bailey



We are very sad to announce that **Professor of English Constance Bailey** will be leaving the University of Arkansas after teaching a final course for our department this summer. In the fall, she will join the faculty of the English Department at Georgia State University in Atlanta.

For a send-off, we are dedicating the spotlight for this issue of our department newsletter to reviewing some of the amazing contributions that Dr. Bailey has made to our department community over the last several years, as well as some of the exciting activities and programs she participated in just this past year, both on and off campus.

Dr. Bailey joined the faculty of our department in the fall of 2016, after moving to Fayetteville from Long Beach, MS, where she had been an English faculty member at the University of Southern Mississippi, Gulf Park. For the past six years, she has held a joint appointment between our department and the <u>African and African American Studies Program</u> on campus. Her areas of specialization include African American folklore, American comedy and humor, and black speculative fiction, and her current book project is entitled *The Predicament of Crossing: The Black Collegian in the Popular Imagination*.

A favorite professor in the classroom, Dr. Bailey has taught a range of courses to which our students—both undergraduate and graduate—have flocked: African American Comedy, Humor, and Satire; Mississippi in the Popular Imagination; Liminality in Folklore, Fiction, and Film; Beyoncé and Black Feminist Theory; Octavia Butler and the Afro Futurist Aesthetic; Soul Food, African American Identity and the Politics of Food; The Black Collegian in the Popular Imagination; Black Feminist and Womanist Criticism; among other classes. Not surprisingly, Dr. Bailey received an Excellence in Teaching award from the department within the first two years of her being at the U of A.



Dr. Bailey Teaching on Octavia Butler and the Afro Futurist Aesthetic in Spring of 2018

In addition to offering wonderful courses, Dr. Bailey has contributed to our department and university in myriad other ways: advising individual students by directing or sitting on their committees, and participating in professionalization events for our graduate students and pedagogy panels for our department faculty. She has likewise been involved in hosting a number of exciting speakers on our campus, such as playwright Dael Orlandersmith, Professor Douglas Bristol, barbers from Skillz Unlimited Barbershop, author Kiese Laymon, Professor Cedric Burrows, Professor Lee Bebout, and Professor Shelley Ingram.

A sought-after presenter herself, Dr. Bailey has been invited to speak at events across campus, the region, and the country, including:

• the plenary welcome at Missouri Southern State University's Decolonial Day Institute;

- the Walton Readers Spotlight series hosted by Joel Thornton, formerly of the University of Arkansas Libraries; and
- a virtual Fayetteville Public Library-sponsored discussion of African American Poetry, focusing on the theme of Black Language and Music.

Just this past February, Dr. Bailey gave a lecture titled "On Their Own: Intersectionality, Signifying, and A Black Lady Sketch Show" at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, MN. The talk was extracted from Bailey's forthcoming publication "Signifying Sistas: Black Women's Humor and Intersectional Poetics" in the journal *Meridians*. Bailey received the invitation from Dr. David "Todd" Lawrence, Associate Professor and Interim Director of the Office of Student Diversity and Inclusion Services at the University of St. Thomas. When asked why he extended the invitation, Dr. Lawrence said that although he was finished with his doctoral program at the University of Missouri–Columbia when Dr. Bailey was an incoming graduate student, he knew that African American comedy and humor were in her areas of research, so when they decided to have a Black comedy week, Dr. Bailey immediately came to mind. In response to the invitation, Dr. Bailey responded, "It's always flattering to be thought of by one's peers."



Dr. Bailey Presenting at the University of St. Thomas in February

In April, Dr. Bailey also attended, with several U of A colleagues, the 10th Annual Faculty Women of Color in the Academy National Conference at Virginia Tech.

In addition to presenting at scholarly venues and participating in academic conferences, Dr. Bailey has recently branched out, speaking through popular audio platforms as well as writing in more personal genres—launching a new podcast through Apple, <u>Unpack This!</u>, with former colleague Vox Jo Hsu, now a professor at UT Austin; and publishing an essay, <u>"It's Coming from Inside the House,"</u> on the <u>Women in Higher Education</u> website. The latter describes Dr. Bailey's own experience with "the unique precarity of a certain type of academic—those whose proximity to home in the form of family has been both a blessing and a curse." Dr. Bailey concludes the piece by observing, "Many of us come from families that have sacrificed much for us to be in these spaces; yet it seems they get so little in return. . . . [T]o whom do we pay our debt?"



Left: Dr. Bailey and U of A guest speaker and author Kiese Laymon; top right: Dr. Bailey, Professor Niketa Reed (Journalism) and students from Dr. Bailey's "The Black Collegian in Popular Culture" course on the University of Arkansas-Pine Bluff campus; bottom right: Dr. Bailey with author and Virginia Tech professor Lucinda Roy at the Annual Faculty Women of Color in the Academy National Conference.

Needless to say, we are going to miss Dr. Bailey dearly, and we hope to stay in contact with her. She reassures us that she will be maintaining ties to the U of A through ongoing work groups and future collaborative projects with her colleagues in our department.

To conclude, we are extremely grateful for the amazing impact that Dr. Bailey has had upon the Department of English at the U of A; we thank her for the incredible support and the valuable opportunities she has provided to so many of our faculty, staff, and students alike. We wish her the very best at GSU!



Dr. Bailey with students in her combined undergraduate and graduate Summer 2022 course, "Octavia's Brood: Octavia Butler and the Afro Futurist Aesthetic"

Alumni Updates

B.A. Alumni



Jeremy Billingsly (B.A. '12) has a new publishing house, Sley House, and it has already released three titles since 2021: A Mind Full of Scorpions, Tales of Sley House, and Ground Control. Sley House has also recently updated its <u>submissions page</u>, continues to release new podcast episodes, and plans to branch out into audio books at some point. Jeremy says they may start with recording a short story from an up-and-coming author for the podcast and then record some classic short stories to release as an audiobook. He also says that they are going to conventions this year and that they are implementing ideas to pay Sley House contributors so that they can meet those authors' needs better.

Cate Casey (B.A. '21) was named a 2022-2023 Fulbright Finalist.

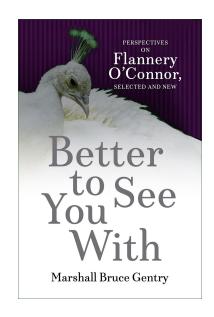
Clara Davis (B.A. '21) is currently attending graduate school full time through the University of Oklahoma. She is pursuing a master's degree in Library and Information Science, and she is presently employed part time at the Fayetteville Public Library in Fayetteville, AR.

Marshall Bruce Gentry (B.A. '75) had his book <u>Better to See You</u>

<u>With: Perspectives on Flannery O'Connor, Selected and New</u>

published this past March by Mercer University Press in Macon,
Georgia. The book collects twenty of his essays on the works of
O'Connor. Most but not all are previously published. Here is a bit
from the back cover:

"Along with thoughts about where the study of O'Connor has been and where it is going, Gentry proposes original ideas on O'Connor's children (how they are neglected as well as how they are empowered), on O'Connor's fascinating manner of narrating, on gender issues as they relate to O'Connor's life and work, and, of course, on the popular topics of religion and race."





Michael Karnes (B.A. '77) has retired from his career in Medical Diagnostic Imaging Sales and moved back to Northwest Arkansas.

Hiluard G. ("Buddy") Rogers, (B.A. '70) received his A.M. from the University of Missouri-Columbia in 1971, and he received his Ph.D. (English Literature, Renaissance) from the University of Texas-Austin in 1977. He was a Lieutenant Colonel in the U.S. Army (Medical Service Corps), until he retired in 1996. He was also a Financial Advisor with ING Financial Partners until he retired in 2010.

Jordan Smith (B.A. '22) has released her first solo poetry collection, *NoteWorthy*, published by Bottlecap Press this summer.

M.A. Alumni

Coty Darst (M.A. '19) was recently hired as one of the new DEI Consultants on the University of Arkansas campus in Fayetteville.

Robert Ellis (M.A. '18) recently won the Southern Association of Colleges and Employers' "New Professional Award" and will be serving as the President of the Arkansas Association of Colleges and Employers (AACE) for 2022-2023.

Misty Gallo (M.A. in English and M.A. in Teaching '97) was recently named Teacher of the Year at Allen High School (the largest school in Texas) and subsequently was named Secondary Teacher of the Year for the Allen Independent School District. She is currently being considered for Regional Teacher of the Year.

Olivia Jorgensen (M.A. '22) has been hired by KFSM Channel 5 News in Fayetteville as their new Traffic Coordinator.

Jackie Lawrence (M.A. '14) was promoted to Director of Inclusion Strategy at J.B. Hunt in October of 2021. She also gave the closing keynote speech at the Arkansas Association of Colleges and Employers conference in May.

James Martin (B.A. '95, M.A. '01) joined the University of Arkansas Global Campus as an instructional designer in December 2021. He works with faculty to develop online courses. Courses in the Department of English will be one of his primary responsibilities.

Becky McLaughlin (M.A. '86), a Professor of English at the University of South Alabama in Mobile, recently won the university's Dean's Lecture Award.

Wanda Maureen ("Mo") Miller (M.A. '71) graduated from the University of Arkansas under the name "Wanda Miller Harrell." She is now a retired English professor and writer. Her latest and seventh book, <u>Solange: Daughter of the Last French Casquette Bride in New Orleans</u>, was published by Atmosphere Press in 2021. She now lives in Manhattan Beach, CA, and mostly plays pickle-ball and revises short stories cut from her autobiographical novel, <u>Last Trip Home: A Story of an Arkansas Farm Girl</u>, published by She Writes Press in 2018. She would love to hear from her old graduate student friends that she partied with in the late 1960s.

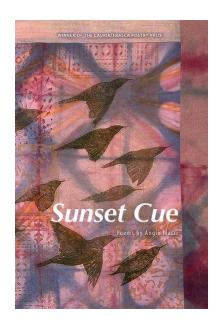
Bailey Rhodes (M.A. '22) has been hired as an English Teacher at Bentonville High School for the 2022-2023 school year.

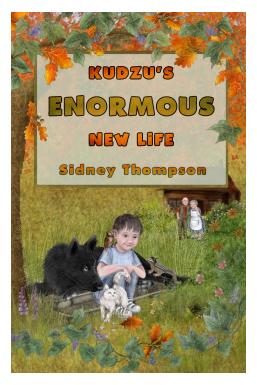
Morgan Scholz (M.A. '17) was hired as the new Vice President of Human Resources for AcreTrader.

M.F.A. Alumni

John Hennessy (M.F.A. '96) informed us that <u>A New Orthography</u>, by Serhiy Zhadan, which John co-translated with Ostap Kin, was a Finalist for the PEN Award for Poetry in Translation (2021) and co-winner of the Derek Walcott Prize for Poetry (2021). In addition to publishing his own poems in recent journals, John not long ago published with Ostap translations of poems by Yuri Andrukhovych in *The New York Review of Books* and *The New Statesman*. They have another forthcoming in *The TLS (Times Literary Supplement)*. John and Ostap have also finished a new anthology of poems in translation, <u>Babyn Yar: Ukrainian Poets Respond</u>, forthcoming in the new Harvard Library of Ukrainian Literature.

Angie Macri (B.A. '92, M.F.A. '96) has won the Lauria/Frasca Poetry Prize for her book <u>Sunset Cue</u>, published by Bordighera Press in April 2022.





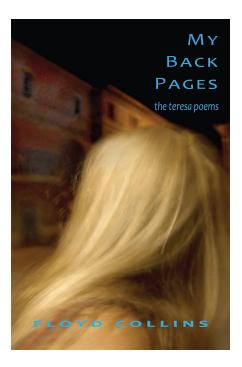
Sidney Thompson (M.F.A. '94) has written a new middle-grade novel, *Kudzu's Enormous New Life*, released by Atmosphere Press this past March. The book tells the story of the unlikely friendship between a chipmunk, a stray German shepherd, and a 3-year-old boy on the autism spectrum. They each have much to communicate but have few tools to do so, until they meet each other.

Craig Weeden (M.A. '80, M.F.A. '80) writes screenplays, graphic novels, and fiction, both solo and with comics legend Jimmy Palmiotti (Harley Quinn, Painkiller Jane, Deadpool, Black Panther). Jimmy and Craig are developing Jimmy's graphic novel Queen Crab into a TV series for MiLa Media. Their graphic novel Found is currently being serialized on Zestworld. Craig just finished writing the action thriller Dark Red for Leigh Simons Productions and is now working on their documentary No Fallen Heroes. He's also a contributing writer for Pipeline Artists.

Ph.D. Alumni

Floyd Collins (M.F.A. '88, Ph.D. '97) had his doctoral dissertation, Seamus Heaney: The Crisis of Identity, published by Delaware University Press in 2003. His fourth volume of poetry, What Harvest: Poems on the Siege and Battle of the Alamo, appeared from Somondoco Press in 2011. A book of critical essays titled The Living Artifact was published by Stephen F. Austin State University Press in September 2021. A volume of poetry titled My Back Pages: The Teresa Poems is forthcoming from Stephen F. Austin State University Press in September 2022. His poetry and critical essays appear on a regular basis in The Arkansas Review, The Georgia Review, The Gettysburg Review, and The Kenyon Review.

In 2007, Floyd received the Allen Tate Poetry Prize from *The Sewanee Review.* He published a 9,600-word essay titled "The



Ghost of Frank Stanford: A Memoir" in the August 2020 issue of *The Arkansas Review*. While a student at the U of A, he won three Peter Foundation Fellowships, the John Ciardi Award for Poetry, the AWP Intro Award, The Academy of American Poets Prize, and the C. Vann Woodward award for Nonfiction.

Liam Conway-Nesson (Ph.D. '09) is now wrapping up his 7th year of teaching secondary school at Kamehameha Schools, Hawai'i. At Kamehameha, they focus on Hawaiian cultural education mixed with progressive core standards, and emphasize interdisciplinary and project-based learning. Liam reports that they have done everything from coastal hikes focusing on indigenous mythology to sugar cane processing while reading a WWII-era memoir. Liam lives there with his wife, Jessica, and two daughters, Chloe (10) and Eleanor (6). He says that alumni and professors are welcome to visit!

Garrett Jeter (Ph.D. '18) has been promoted to Full Professor at Georgia Military College in Warner Robins, GA.

Russell H. Goodyear (M.A. '70, Ph.D. '77) has retired from Midland College, TX, as a full professor of languages and literature, and he is currently enjoying life in Lake Buchanan, TX. He taught English, Spanish, Latin, and humanities. He really appreciates the training that he received as a generalist at Fayetteville. His travels took him to the Etruscan tombs, Rome, Pompei, the Hagia Sophia, Crete, Mycenae, London, and Paris. He saw several plays at the New Globe Theater, spent a night at the Kopinsky Palace, and toured Provence. It has been a great 80 years.

Katricia G. Pierson (Ph.D. '04) began serving as Crowder College's ninth president on January 1, 2022. Crowder College is a community college in Neosho, Missouri, with approximately 5,000 students. Previously, Katricia served as president of East Central University (Ada, Oklahoma) from 2017 to 2022.

Katie W. Powell (Ph.D. '21) has been hired as an Assistant Professor Educator with the Department of English at the University of Cincinnati in the Professional Writing Track. She will be teaching courses on business and professional communication, as well as special topics such as Writing Cincinnati, Social Media and Social Justice, and more.

Rachael Price (Ph.D. '16) received the Donaldson Award for Teaching Excellence, the highest honor given by Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, where Rachael is an Associate Professor of English.

Andy Trevathan (Ph.D. '15) was recently promoted to Senior Instructor after successfully passing her mandatory 6-year review. Ms. Trevathan is employed at Louisiana State University (LSU) in Baton

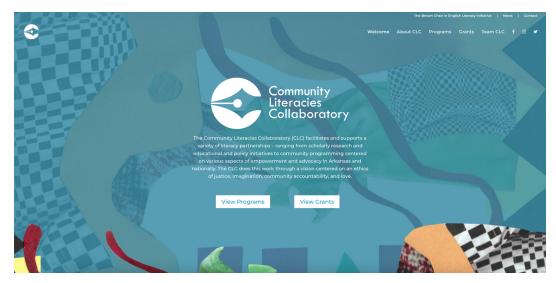
Rouge where she teaches classes in the UWP (University Writing Program) as well as other courses such as Business Writing, Introduction to Poetry, and Technical Writing.

Kathy Van Laningham (B.A. '74, Ph.D. '85) retired from her position as Vice Provost for Planning at the University of Arkansas in 2018. She was in Academic Affairs for 26 years, beginning in 1992. She spends her time reading, golfing, and cooking, in that order of priority.

Program Updates

News from the Brown Chair in English Literacy Initiative

The <u>Brown Chair in English Literacy Initiative</u> has been busy this past spring, offering a number of exciting events and even starting up a new program. On May 6th, the Brown Chair in English Literacy Initiative <u>launched a new center</u>, the <u>Community Literacies Collaboratory</u>. That international virtual event introduced attendees to the <u>CLC's website</u>, which explains the organization's mission: "The Community Literacies Collaboratory (CLC) facilitates and supports a variety of literacy partnerships — ranging from scholarly research and educational and policy initiatives to community programming centered on various aspects of empowerment and advocacy in Arkansas and nationally. The CLC does this work through a vision centered on an ethics of justice, imagination, community accountability and love."



Home Page for the CLC Web Site: https://communityliteraciescollaboratory.com/

One of the initial programs that the CLC is hosting is **The Literacy Exchange**, through which community literacy facilitators can offer workshops on "literacy research methods and methodology, writing workshops and presentations on applied literacies programs, as well as trainings on incorporating various kinds of literature into K-12 classrooms, creating after-school youth literacy programs and doing adult literacy work."

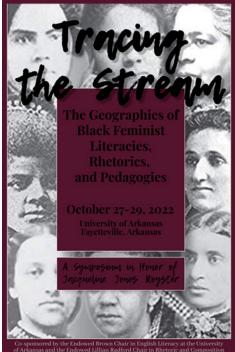
The Literacy Exchange, in conjunction with the Fayetteville Public Library, has already offered two workshops, "Planning Writing Projects" and "Contemplative Writing," which were led by Beth Godbee, founder of Heart-Head-Hands: Everyday Living for Justice.

Another program being offered is the **Possibilities Hub**, through which the Community Literacies Collaboratory funds "seminars, reading groups or a series of talks that explore a topic through and/or about literacy to expand individual and communal capacity to understand what literacy work can be and do today."

The first Possibilities Hub seminar, "Abolitionist Study Group: Literacies Toward Freedom," took place this past spring as part of the Brown Chair's programming for the 2022 National African American Read-In. Seminar participants discussed topics including the history of prisons and policing in the U.S., reform and/vs. abolition, queer and Black feminist approaches to abolition, disability justice, carceral connections between psych wards and nursing facilities, and abolition in practice.

A third CLC-sponsored program is **Outside-the-Box**, which "invites community literacies workers to write thought-provoking, accessible, brief policy memos, reports or essays on a timely issue within literacy learning and practice." These texts will be used to inform the public on how to develop or enhance literacy-focused activities "across a wide range of contexts." Those whose texts are accepted for publication will be compensated for their work.

The Community Literacies Collaboratory will also, on Oct. 27-29, hold its first biennial symposium, "Tracing the Stream: The Geographies of Black Feminist Literacies, Rhetorics, and Pedagogies." Co-convened with Carmen Kynard, the Lillian Radford Chair of Rhetoric and Composition and a professor of English at Texas Christian University, the symposium "will



(re)consider challenging and necessary questions about what it means (or could mean) to study, teach and activate the Black feminist literacies and rhetorical tradition in 2022 and beyond."

The symposium will be held in conjunction with a graduate seminar that **Professor Eric Darnell Pritchard,** the Brown Chair in English Literacy for the University of Arkansas, is offering in Fall 2022.

Finally, the CRC will be calling for grant proposals twice a year: Sept. 30th and Feb. 28th. More details on how to apply will be provided on the website by the end of the summer.

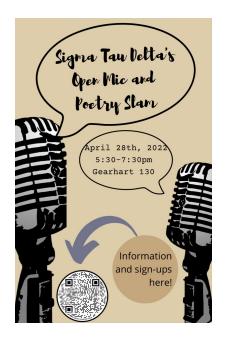
News from the Program in Rhetoric and Composition

As noted earlier in this newsletter, we are very happy to welcome two new faculty members to the Department of English and the <u>Program in Rhetoric and Composition</u>: **Dr. Maggie Fernandes** and **Dr. Megan McIntyre**! (See "New Faces in the Department" on pp. 4 and 5.) We are also excited to announce that Dr. McIntyre started her position as the full-time director of the Program in Rhetoric and Composition on July 1st. She is replacing our interim director, **Dr. Adam Pope**, to whom we are very grateful for his assuming that role over the last three years. Dr. McIntyre will be overseeing the teaching assistant orientation in August, to be attended by 23 new graduate instructors!

News from the Undergraduate Program in English

This past spring, **Professor Sean Dempsey** stepped into the position of Director of <u>Undergraduate Studies</u> for our department, taking over that role from **Professor Karen Madison**. Along with **doctoral candidate Gracie Bain**, who assisted him, Dr. Dempsey organized a number of wonderful events for our English majors.

In March, **Sigma Tau Delta**, the recently re-started honors society for English majors and minors, hosted a virtual meeting to review undergraduate recruitment and event planning. In addition, there was a low-stakes group discussion about several poems focused on the themes of hope and resilience. Later, in April, Sigma Tau Delta offered a resume-building workshop and then partnered with the undergraduate English program to offer a poetry slam/open mic event!



Check out some of our recent undergraduate course flyers, many of which were designed by **Rose Rainey**! (See "New Faces in the Department" on p. 5.)



News from the Program in Creative Writing and Translation

A lot has happened in the <u>Program in Creative Writing</u> <u>and Translation</u> over the past few months!

English/Creative Writing major E. Marie Gray was awarded the undergraduate Felix Christopher McKean Memorial Award for her poem "The Voyeur." Gray's poem was subsequently featured in the Spring 2022 issue of *The Diamond Line*, the U of A's undergraduate literary magazine. The Spring 2022 issue of the magazine was released in May. The magazine is developed by undergraduate students enrolled in the Literature Magazine Production course (ENGL 3903), taught by Jane Blunschi, Assistant Director of the Program in Creative Writing and Translation.

Professor Padma Viswanathan and editor Edwin Frank were named runners up for the TA First Translation
Prize for a debut literary translation <u>for their work on</u>
<u>São Bernardo</u> by Graciliano Ramos.

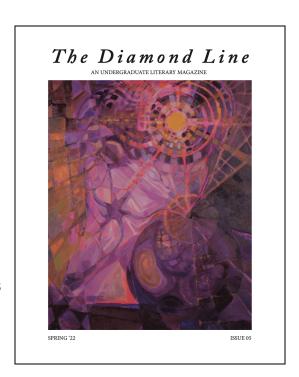
Patrick Cottrell and Sarah Gerard, 2021-22 Walton Visiting Writers in Fiction, gave virtual readings of their work in February.

Maggie Smith, the Spring 2022 Walton Distinguished Reader, gave a public reading from her new poetry collection, *Goldenrod*, at the Fayetteville Public Library in April. The event was hosted by *The Arkansas International* and the U of A's Program in Creative Writing & Translation, and it was also part of this year's TruLit Literary Festival line-up of events.

And speaking of *The Arkansas International*, the first pieces from their Issue 12 can now be accessed <u>on the magazine's website!</u>



E. Marie Gray





Assistant Director of the M.F.A. Program Jane Blunschi's story "Cardio Annihilation" was <u>published in *Cream City*</u> *Review* (Issue 46.1).

Visiting Professor Jennifer Croft <u>toured virtually</u> with Olga Tokarczuk for Croft's translation of Tokarczuk's <u>The Books</u> of Jacob.

Professor Geffrey Davis's poem "Requiem with Remission: A Poem for Sunday" appeared in *The Atlantic* in January, and three more of his poems ("The Waiting," "Mercy From the Orchard," and "The Almost Bridge") were published by *Crazyhorse* in April.

The following M.F.A. students had their work published this past spring:

- First-year translator Joaquín Gavilano's poem "It's a dream and I am running." was published by Hooligan Mag.
- Third-year poet S Pierrot Langland's poem "Tell Mama" was published at Susurrus.
- Fourth-year poet (now recent graduate) Hiba Tahir
 had an essay on "Women's History Month" <u>published</u>
 in the Mid-America Arts Alliance's Voices of Our
 Region series and her poem "My Dream About the
 Family Dinner" <u>published by Hooligan Maq</u>.
- Fourth-year fiction student (now recent graduate)
 Kaitlyn Yates's story "Bite" appeared in Porter House Review.

Finally, first-year M.F.A. in Fiction student **Sophie Trist**, recipient of the Carolyn F. Walton Cole Endowed Fund in Creative Writing, <u>was featured in the *Fulbright Review*</u>.



Sophie Trist

News from the Graduate Program in English (M.A. and Ph.D. Programs)

The Graduate Program in English is excited to announce that six M.A. alumni will be continuing their graduate studies in English as incoming doctoral students at the University of Arkansas this fall:

Jessica Allee, Olivia Cash, Michael Menase, and John Plavcan. Another M.A. alum, Bethany Cole, will be starting her Ph.D. in Philosophy at the University of Arkansas, and M.A. alum Devin Shepherd was admitted to the M.F.A. Program in Intermedia Studies at the University of Maine.

So far in 2022, our graduate students have also pursued the following internship opportunities:

- M.A. students Val Brown and Taylor Pike as well as Ph.D. student Heathermarie Moats have interned with the <u>Magdalene Serenity House</u> in Fayetteville, AR.
- M.A. student Kayla Green has interned with <u>Two</u>
 <u>Friends Books</u> in Bentonville, AR.
- Ph.D. student Andrea Rogers has interned with <u>Lawrence Panther</u>, assisting him in his development of Cherokee language courses at the University of Arkansas.
- M.A. student Abigail Ross has interned with <u>Prose</u>
 <u>Creative</u> in Fayetteville, AR.



Taylor Pike at Magdalene Serenity House

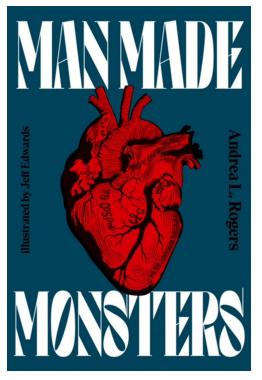
We are so grateful to local internship providers, like the ones above, for offering these valuable experiences outside of the classroom to our graduate students, allowing them to apply their writing, research, and communication skills in diverse professional settings.

This past spring, our English graduate students also made 14 presentations at various conferences (many offered in virtual format). Along with presenting at our own Graduate Students in English (GSE) organization's annual conference (see p. 25), our students presented at conferences sponsored by the College English Association, the Department of Languages and Literature at Northeastern State University, the International Congress on Medieval Studies, the

Japan Society for Medieval European Studies, the Popular Culture Association, the Southeastern American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, the Southwest Popular/American Culture Association, and the University of Ottawa (Research Centre on the Future of Cities).

In addition, M.A. student **Abigail Ross** received the "Best in Show" award for best graduate student presentation at our 2022 GSE Conference, and doctoral students **Tiffany Elder** and **Mitchell Simpson** were both accepted into the University of New Mexico's Summer Seminar on Paleography (through UNM's Institute for Medieval Studies), supported by an outside fellowship (CARA) from The Medieval Academy of America.

M.A. student **Braden Taylor** was appointed to be the Assistant Program Chair of the 2022 Arkansas Philological Association Conference, was awarded the Tiffany Marcantonio Research Grant by the Graduate Professional Student Congress (University of Arkansas), and had his book review of *Beowulf: A New Translation*, by Maria Dahvana Headley, accepted for publication in the next issue of the *Philological Review*.



Likewise, doctoral student **Andrea Rogers's** forthcoming YA debut novel, *Man Made Monsters*, will be released by Levine Querido in October.

We are equally proud of the accomplishments of our graduate English faculty in the first part of 2022.

In January, **Professor Sean Teuton**, with artist Pam Longobardi, gave a talk, "One Person Can Make a Difference," which was <u>part of the Educator Speaker Series</u> hosted by Crystal Bridges Museum.

In February, **Professor Eric Darnell Pritchard's** essay "Two Boys on Bicycles, Falling in Love" <u>appeared in *The New York Times*</u>. Professor Pritchard also was named one of seven "Extraordinary People" in the Jan-Feb 2022 issue of *SWERV Magazine*.

In April, <u>it was announced in the *Newswire*</u> that **Professor Robin Roberts** was one of the first four faculty members on campus to earn the Association of College and University Educators (ACUE) certification.

In May, **Professor Mohja Kahf** was acknowledged for receiving an outstanding distinction as the holder of the James E. & Ellen Wadley Roper Professorship in English beginning in the 2021-2022 academic year.

Also in May, **Professor Lissette Lopez Szwydky-Davis** was written about in the *Newswire* for being one of two humanities faculty members on campus to receive summer stipends from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Finally, in June, <u>the *Newswire* announced</u> that **Professor Mary Beth Long** had been selected as one of the 21 Connor Faculty Fellows for 2022.



Professor Mohja Kahf

Updates from the GSE Organization

Can we just say (one more time) how amazing our <u>Graduate Students in English (GSE)</u> organization is? Our GSE officers consistently run a tight ship when it comes to ensuring that their organization is, truly, a source of support and opportunities to our graduate student community, which includes M.F.A. students in Creative Writing and Translation, M.A. and Ph.D. students in English, and M.A. and Ph.D. students in Comparative Literature and Cultural Studies.

This past spring, the GSE was as active as ever, offering for the first time the GSE Mentorship Program, which paired GSE officers with incoming graduate students who were looking for some extra guidance on preparing for their classes as teaching assistants, completing work for their own graduate courses, and preserving their personal downtime.



In addition, the GSE hosted their second

Book and Bake Sale of the academic year in late March (see the above picture).

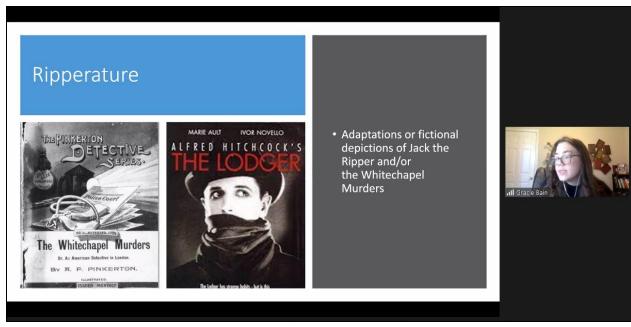
Other wonderful events hosted by the GSE included **two virtual hangouts** in April (one for the M.A. students and one for the Ph.D. students) and a **Reading Day Party** for all GSE members that was held at Prairie Street Live in Fayetteville just before finals week in May.



Another new tradition the GSE tried out in late spring (which we look forward to being continued in the fall) was a monthly **Coffee Hour** for faculty and students.

Finally, we don't want to fail to mention the GSE's 2022
Interdisciplinary Conference, which took place on April
1st in virtual format. This year's theme was
"Aberrations, Deviations, and Mutations." Professor
Lissette Lopez Szwydky-Davis gave the keynote
speech, entitled "Adaptation, not Aberration."

Graduate and undergraduate students made presentations at the conference on a wide range of topics, and one of the panels was made up of students from the University of Arkansas at Monticello. (Thanks to Dr. Kay Walter from UAM for organizing that collection of wonderful papers!)



Gracie Bain, 2021-2022 GSE President, Presenting at the Spring GSE Conference

We would like to thank the 2021-2022 GSE Officers for all of the incredible work that they did this past academic year. We are so grateful for your outstanding efforts! We also want to thank **Professor Mohja Kahf**, who has served as the GSE Faculty Advisor for the last two years!

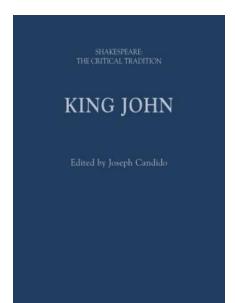


And we are excited to welcome the incoming GSE officers, who will be taking over for the 2022-2023 academic year! **Professor Bill Quinn** will be serving as the new GSE Faculty Advisor!

WELCOME!!! President: Skye Oliver Vice President: Braden Taylor Treasurer: Ana Rodriguez-Mesa Historian/Secretary: Abigail Ross Media Development Director: David Berg Student-Faculty Liaison: John McManus MA Liaison: Anna Mercer MFA Liaison: Sarah Barch PhD Liaison: Elizabeth Bonkoski RCO Liaison: Jessica Allee CLCS Liaison: Kelsey Berkel

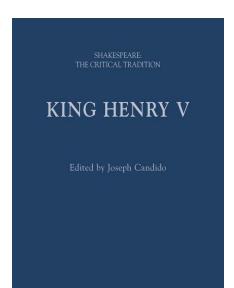
Recent Faculty Publications

To conclude our Summer 2022 department newsletter, we list below the most recently published books either written or edited by members of our department faculty. Major congratulations to **Dr. Joe Candido**, **Dr. Yajaira Padilla**, and **Dr. Robert Cochran!**



King John: Shakespeare: The Critical Tradition, Second Edition, edited by Joseph Candido

King John: Shakespeare: The Critical Tradition, Second Edition, was published by The Arden Shakespeare in December of 2021.



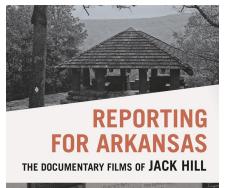
King Henry V: Shakespeare: The Critical Tradition, edited by Joseph Candido

<u>King Henry V: Shakespeare: The Critical Tradition</u> was published by The Arden Shakespeare in February of 2022.



From Threatening Guerrillas to Forever Illegals: US Central Americans and the Cultural Politics of Non-Belonging, written by Yajaira Padilla

<u>From Threatening Guerillas to Forever Illegals: US Central</u>
<u>Americans and the Cultural Politics of Non-Belonging</u> was published by the University of Texas Press in May of 2022.



Reporting for Arkansas: The Documentary Films of Jack Hill, written by Dale Carpenter and Robert Cochran



<u>Reporting for Arkansas: The Documentary Films of Jack Hill</u> was published by the University of Arkansas Press in June of 2022.

Read the recent Newswire article on this book!

We love using our department newsletter to promote the recently published books of our faculty, staff, current students, and alumni. If you are interested in purchasing one or more of these texts, please note that we have tried to include a link to the website where each is being sold.

Spring 2022 Graduates

We congratulate all of the following Spring 2022 graduates! (Note: The B.A. list includes both English and English/Journalism majors, English minors, and Rhetoric and Writing Studies minors.)

B.A. Graduates

Carmen Alves Taylor Boleman Thomas Burnam Amelia Bushek

> Aura Comer Mary Durr

Helen Edwards

Jese Espenschied

Allison Flory

Lauren Ganim

Maricruz Garcia

Laura Gardner

Molly Goetz

Brantley Goins

E. Marie Gray Laurel Harkins

Taylor Hasselwander

Toby Haymore

Jenna Hinson

Jacob Jackson

Caroline Jennings

Elizabeth Kelley

. Alexandra Kimmell

Kaleigh Koc

Caitlyn Laster

Cassidy Mallory

Ashley Marcum

Abigail Martinez

Rebecca Mays

Landon McKay

Kenneth Meeks

Gage Miranda

Morgan Nance

Sydney Nichols

Jennie Orlando

Sarah Price

Ember Ramsfield

Anna Richardson

Olivia Schaap

Jordan Smith

Keighley Smith

Zoe Sparks

Trevor Speight

Victoria Trammell

Katelynn Tyner

Lauren Upson

Gabrielle Vatthanatham

Bradley Watson

Allison Watts

M.A. Graduates

Jessica Allee

Val Brown

Bethany Cole

Ellie Davis

Tyler Houston

Sarah Hurst

Olivia Jorgensen

Michael Menase

Martha Pearce

Angelena Pierce

John Plavcan

Bailey Rhodes

Devin Shepherd Lauren Shively

John Strange

M.F.A. Graduates

Louise Cole

Kate Davis

Alys Dutton

Karstin Johnson

Mackenzie McGee

Cade Scott

Mar Stratford

Hiba Tahir Kaitlyn Yates

Stay Connected

Stay connected with the Department of English by liking <u>our Facebook page</u>, and please consider <u>giving a gift</u> to support our students at the University of Arkansas. And watch for our next department newsletter, which will be coming out in fall or winter!