



# DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

## NEWSLETTER

**UIC** COLLEGE OF  
LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES

### *Inside this Issue*

*Spring 2013*

Spotlight on Faculty.....2  
Colloquia.....3  
Alumna Reading.....3  
Undergraduate Studies....6  
Writing Center.....7  
First Year Writing.....8

#### Faculty

News.....4  
Publications.....5

#### Alumni

News, Publications.....8

#### Students

News.....10  
Publications.....11  
Awards.....12

### *Contributors*

Vainis Aleksa, PhD  
John Casey, PhD  
Charitianne Williams, PhD

Faculty, Staff, and  
Students of the UIC  
Department of English

### *Editor*

Neri Sandoval

### *Contact*

University of Illinois at Chicago  
English Department (MC162)  
601 South Morgan Street  
2027 University Hall  
Chicago Illinois 60607

www.uic.edu/depts/engl  
Tel: (312) 413-2200  
Fax: (312) 413-1005



## Message From the Department Head

Dear Colleagues,

At the moment I write this, it appears that the department will be without a permanent head for yet another year. Fortunately, **Mark Canuel** and **Walter Benn Michaels** established a culture of harmonious cooperation among the English faculty that is the envy of outsiders, and my main obligation as the interim head has been to preserve that community. Supervising such a well-trained, disciplined, and amicable group of colleagues has been a pleasure.

Next year, when I really retire from UIC to sun myself in winter-free Los Angeles, I will take great comfort in my sense that this quite extraordinary group of scholars and teachers knows how to take care of itself.

Next year, aside from the issue of the Head, the department can anticipate an energetic search for a Director of the First Year Writing Program. In preparation for that search, the department, in collaboration with LAS, will sponsor a one-day symposium on FYWP on April 26, 2013, with seven major scholars from around the country presenting, followed by a keynote by **Jerry Graff** and **Cathy Birkenstein-Graff**. Our hope is that this symposium will stimulate our own thought about the project of teaching Freshman writing and remind other areas of the university of the crucial importance of First Year Writing training to all intellectual work undertaken in the university.

Meanwhile, the members of the department continue to gather awards. There is room here to list only a few of the achievements of our students and faculty. The Graduate College named **Cynthia Barounis'** dissertation, "Revolting Men: Queerness, Disability, and the Remaking of American Manhood," the year's outstanding thesis in Fine Arts and Humanities. **Julie Fiorelli** won the Chancellor's Graduate Research Fellowship to work on her dissertation on "Space for Speculation: American Fictions of Racial Futures, c. 1890 – 1970." **Danielle Christmas** won a Graduate College Abraham Lincoln Fellowship, **Christina Pugh** received a Graduate Mentoring Award, **Rachel Havrelock** won the campus award for young researcher of the year in the Humanities. **Roger Reeves'** is one of the twenty-five poets in the nation to earn a NEA award for poetry. (Fittingly Simone Meunch [PhD UIC] also won, so 8% of the nation's premier poetry award money goes to poets associated with UIC!)

The continued success of the department is assured by a group of faculty and staff who have made my job easy. **Lisa Freeman**, as Associate Head, scheduled classes, assigned teachers, and handled the many little daily disturbances that inevitably arise. **Madhu Dubey** gracefully assumed the role of Director of Graduate Studies as if she were long used to it. **Joe Tabbi**, creating the new position of Associate Head for Promotion and Tenure, has adapted quickly to the responsibilities of the position. **Mark Bennett** has done a fantastic job of managing the First Year Writing Program since **Ann Feldman's** retirement. And, as most of you are probably aware, we could not operate at all without **Michael Fitzpatrick** and **Amy Liu**, who between them know all we need to know about the University, the College, and the Department. All of us owe these colleagues thanks for helping make the 2012-2013 academic year such a smooth one. Best wishes,

John Huntington  
Professor Emeritus and Interim Head

## Professor McCloskey Procures Four Honorary Degrees

Distinguished Professor of Liberal Arts and Sciences **Deirdre N. McCloskey** earned four honorary degrees this year for, in her words, “giving a humanistic turn to the pure theory of prudence.” She is an economist and economic historian who around 1980 got interested in the rhetoric of persuasion in her field and then wider literary matters, such as literary and social theory. Professor McCloskey teaches Economics, History, English, and Communications at UIC. Her main project for the next few years will be writing a six-volume tome on “The Bourgeois Era.” Volume I was published by the University of Chicago Press in 2006, and favorably reviewed. The second volume, *Bourgeois Dignity: Why Economics Can't Explain the Modern World*, was published in 2010. The institutions honoring McCloskey include:

- » The Copenhagen Business School, Doctor Honoris Causa in the History of Capitalism, April 19, 2012
- » Universidad Francisco Marroquin, Guatemala, Honorary Doctorate, May 5, 2012
- » Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Honorary Degree of Humane Letters, May 12, 2012
- » Jönköping University, Sweden, Honorary Doctorate, September 28, 2012

A well known economist and historian and retorician, Professor McCloskey has written sixteen books and around four hundred scholarly pieces on topics ranging from technical economics and statistics to transgender advocacy and the ethics of bourgeois virtues. Recently, her essay “Happyism: The Creepy New Economics of Pleasure” was the cover story in *The New Republic*, June 28, 2012. In October she gave the Heilbroner Memorial Lecture at the New School in New York City.



## RedEye Features UIC Poet, Roger Reeves

This past January the Chicago-based newspaper, the *RedEye*, featured an article on Assistant Professor Roger Reeves. Written by alumnus **Erin Vogel** (English, 2011), the article explores Professor Reeves’ perseverance, and his willingness to take risks. Having earned a \$25,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts in 2013, Professor Reeves will begin to work on a collection of poems based on an 1885 race labor riot in Wyoming known as the Rock Springs Massacre. Reeves’s poems have appeared or are forthcoming in *Poetry*, *Ploughshares*, *American Poetry Review*, *Boston Review*, *Tin House*, *Gulf Coast*, and the *Cincinnati Review*, among others. His poem “Kletic of Walt Whit-man” was selected by Kim Adonizio for the *Best New Poets 2009* anthology.



## Luis Alberto Urrea Earns LAS Distinguished Professorship

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences has announced that Professor Luis Urrea will be awarded the title of LAS Distinguished Professor, which is conferred by the Dean of LAS. This honor is intended to recognize tenured faculty who have demonstrated significant, distinguished, sustained scholarship within the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, or interdisciplinary fields represented within LAS. Recipients are presented with a medallion by the Dean at an inaugural lecture held in the recipient’s honor, followed by a reception hosted by the College. The title of Liberal Arts and Sciences Distinguished Professor will be associated with the award winners for as long as they remain tenured members of the LAS faculty.



## Alumna Reading at Powell's Books

The English Department hosted its annual Alumni Poetry & Fiction Reading at Powell's Books on February 8, 2013. Sponsored by a collaborative effort from the UIC Program for Writers, the Department of English, and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Office of Advancement, the event featured alumna **Jackie K. White**.

**Jackie K. White** is the author of three chapbooks of poetry: *Bestiary Charming*, *Pesal-Tearing & Variations*, and *Come Clearing*. She is the co-translator of César Miguel Rondón's *History of Salsa* and is currently working on a translation of Sherezada Vicioso's *Algo Que Decir: Essays on Feminist Caribbean Literature*. An associate professor at Lewis University, White holds a Ph.D. in English from UIC where she specialized in Creative Writing and Hemispheric-American Studies. Jackie's poetry and translations can be read in such journals as *ACM*, *Black Water Review*, *Folio*, *Quarter After Eight*, *So to Speak*, *Spoon River*, and *Third Coast*.

The Program for Writers also hosts an annual One-on-One Reading series showcasing the work of a nationally known writer and a graduate student in the UIC Program for Writers. This year's event was honored by the participation of Professor **Davis Schneiderman** along with PhD candidate **Tadd Adcox**.

An associate professor of English and department chair, Schneiderman is a multimedia artist and the author or editor of eight print and audio works, including the novels *Drain* (Tri/Quarterly/Northwestern), *Abecedarium* (Chiasmus) and *Blank: A Novel* (Jaded Iris). His creative work has appeared in numerous publications including *Fiction International*, *The Chicago Tribune*, *The Iowa Review*, *Tri-Quarterly*, and *Exquisite Corpse*.

In addition to the annual Alumni Reading and the One-on-One Reading series, the Program for Writers sponsors the Friday Night Reading series throughout the academic year. The Friday Night Reading series highlights the work of current faculty members and graduate students. Faculty for the 2012-2013 reading schedule included professors **Christopher Grimes**, **Cris Mazza**, **Christina Pugh**, and **Roger Reeves**. This year's readers also featured: **Annah Browning**, **Matthew Corey**, **A D Jameson**, **Virginia Konchan**, **Katya Kulik**, **Elizabeth McDermott**, **Kat Meads**, **Derek Phillips**, **Brooke Wonders**, and **Lyndee Yamshon**.



PhD student **Annah Browning** introduces alumna **Jackie K. White**.

## Colloquia Showcase Emerging Scholarship

The English Department continues its tradition of Friday afternoon colloquia. The 2012-2013 program headlines a wide variety of speakers from within the department and from outside the UIC community. The colloquia provide an opportunity for UIC faculty, graduate students, and invited guests to present their current work and engage in spirited scholarly conversations. This year, the following have been scheduled to present their work at the colloquia: UIC faculty members **Zachary Lamm**, **Andrea Witzke Leavey**, **Mary Anne Mohanraj**, and **Nadya Pittendrigh**; UIC PhD students **Jennie Berner**, **Stephanie Boese**, **Ryan Brooks**, **Danielle Christmas**, **Shelly Conner**, **Matthew Corey**, **Julie Florelli**, **Alice Haisman**, **Laura Krughoff**, **Surbhi Malik**, **Madeleine Monson-Rosen**, and **Jenny Morse**; invited guest Professor **Phillis Levin** (Hofstra University), Professor **Colleen Lye** (UC Berkeley); Professor **Paul Stasi** (SUNY Albany); and poet **Tao Lin**.



PhD candidate **Zachary Lamm** presents his work at colloquia.

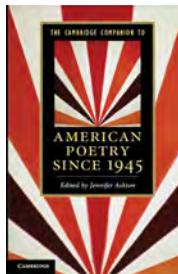
## English Department News and Publications



Professor **Sunil Agnani**'s book manuscript, *Hating Empire Properly: The Two Indies and the Limits of Enlightenment Anticolonialism*, is in production with Fordham University Press. Book Publication date scheduled for March/April 2013. For more information, please see the website listing. Also, professor Agnani's article "India and Haiti as Colonial Spaces of

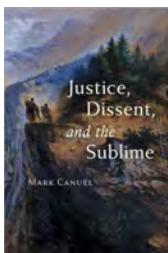
the Enlightenment" is forthcoming as a contribution to *L'Inde des Lumières; Entre l'orientalisme et les sciences sociales (XVI-XIXe s.) / Indian Enlightenment: Between Orientalism and Social Sciences (16th-19th century)* edited by Ines Zupanov and Marie Fourcade. This critical piece was in production with the *École des Hautes Études (EHESS)* Press in *Purushartha* (Vol. 31), a South Asia series. Agnani also presented a paper entitled "Enthusiasm, Enlightenment and Revolution: Edmund Burke's misrecognition of Jean-Jacques Rousseau?" at a conference organized by Jean-Francois Rochard (French Consulate of Chicago) and Ellen McClure (UIC) to mark Rousseau's 300th birthday.

Professor **Jennifer Ashton**'s edited volume for Cambridge University Press, *The Cambridge Companion to American Poetry Since 1945* (with an introduction and chapter contributed by Ashton), is due to appear at this year's Modern Language Association (MLA) near the end of December.



Lecturer **Cathy Birkenstein**'s 2010 *College English* article, "We Got the Wrong Gal: Rethinking the 'Bad' Academic Writing of Judith Butler," has been selected for reprinting in *Resources for Teaching Ways of Reading: An Anthology for Writers* by Bedford/St. Martins.

**Gary Buslik**'s essay "Escape" appears in *Best Travel Writing* Vol. 9 (Travelers' Tales).

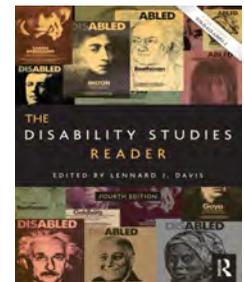


Professor **Mark Canuel**'s new book *Justice, Dissent, and the Sublime* was recently published by Johns Hopkins. "Justice, Dissent, and the Sublime, sits at the intersection of literary studies and political theory," writes Collin Jager (Rutgers University). He continues, "This alone makes it an important contribution to several interrelated discussions. This book makes a powerful argument for the importance of Romanticism in contemporary thinking."

Lecturer **John Casey** published an essay titled "Veterans" in the book *Civil War America: A Social and Cultural History with Primary Sources*. Casey's essay is part of a larger book manuscript on the cultural legacy of Civil War veterans for Fordham University Press, and he will be presenting material from that manuscript at the New England Modern Language Association meeting in Boston this March.

Lecturer **Marsha Cassidy** is the recipient of the 2012-2013 Teaching Recognition Award, a peer-reviewed honor conferred by UIC's Council for Excellence in Teaching and Learning. This is her third Teaching Recognition Award having won in 2002 and 2007.

Professor **Lennard J. Davis** had edited the fourth edition of *The Disability Studies Reader* published this past February by Routledge press. The Fourth Edition breaks new ground by emphasizing the global, transgender, homonational, and posthuman conceptions of disability.



Lecturer **Cassidy Garners** has won the University of Illinois Distinguished Service Award. Established in 1972, the award is bestowed upon alumni, faculty, staff, or friends of the University of Illinois Alumni Association, on behalf of the University of Illinois. It is awarded to individuals who have consistently demonstrated extraordinary commitment, dedication, and service to the advancement of the University of Illinois.

Professor **Gerald Graff** led a seminar on his work at Eastern Illinois University, and he spoke at a session of former MLA presidents at the 2013 MLA convention in Boston on the impact on higher education of the Common Core State Standards for K-12 schools. A 1986 article of his has been reprinted in a 35 year retrospective issue of *Profession* 2012.

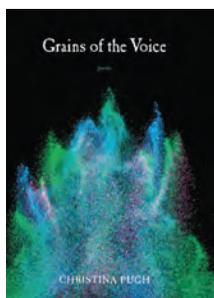
Lecturer **Cathy Birkenstein-Graff** and Professor **Gerald Graff** gave joint lectures on the teaching of argumentative writing at the State University of New York at Geneseo, Ohio Wesleyan University, and Kansas State University. They also held workshops on the teaching of writing for teachers at South Elgin High School in Honolulu, Hawaii and the Wheaton-Warrenville School District's Consortium of English Department Chairs.

## English Department News and Publications

Professor **Robin Grey** has been elected to be an MLA Delegate for Disability Issues. Her three-year term starts in 2012.

**Rachel Havrelock** served as a visiting fellow at the Centre for Research on Arts, Social Sciences, and the Humanities (CRASSH) at Cambridge University from January through March 2013. Her February presentation was entitled "Pipeline: How Oil Created the Modern Middle East and How Water Can Transform It." Havrelock has also been named the 2012 "Rising Star" UIC Humanities Researcher of the Year. Her invited talks of 2012 include: "Biblical Borders and the Nation State," Yale University; "Jesus in the Talmud," Rice University; "The Joshua Generation: Politics and the Promised Land," Jewish Studies Colloquium, Brandeis University; and "Biblical Memory in Modern Israel," Jewish Memory and Nostalgia, Greenfield Summer Institute, Center for Jewish Studies, University of Wisconsin, Madison.

Clinical Assistant Professor **Mary Anne Mohanraj** has been awarded an Illinois Arts Council Professional Development Grant for next year; she hopes to use it to support a three-week writing residency at Ragdale next summer.



Professor **Christina Pugh**'s third book of poems, *Grains of the Voice*, is forthcoming from Northwestern University Press in the Spring of 2013. Informed by both the sonnet tradition and Roland Barthes's notion of the "grain of the voice" in music, the book contains poems originally published in *The Atlantic*, *The Kenyon Review*, *TriQuarterly*, and other publications. Pugh

was awarded a residency at the Ragdale Foundation in the summer of 2012. She also served as one of two final judges for the Ruth Lilly Fellowship, a national fellowship awarded by the Poetry Foundation. In the Fall of 2012, she was named Consulting Editor at *Poetry* magazine.

Lecturer **Mimi Rosenbush** received the 2012 Silver Circle Award for Teaching Excellence. Since 1969, the Silver Circle Award has been presented to some of UIC's best teachers and is one of the university's highest honors for teaching. She has also published articles on Jewish culture in *Tablet* Magazine and on the *Forward's* *Sisterhood* blog.



Professor **Anna Kornblub** and Professor **Roger Reeves** at the annual end of the year department party.

Lecturer **Lydia Siravia** presented with Professor Zitlali Morales (Curriculum and Instruction) at the 62nd annual conference of the Literacy Research Association in San Diego, California. Their talk was titled "Regaño as Caring: Discursive Strategies Promoting Bicultural Academic Identities in a Dual Immersion Classroom." This talk is also forthcoming in a special issue of *Linguistics and Education* in 2013. As an Assistant Director of the UIC Writing Center, Siravia presented a talk entitled "Paulo Freire and the UIC Writing Center: Social Justice and Praxis" at the International Writing Centers Association Conference.

**Andrea Witzke Slot**'s (known at UIC as **Andrea Witzke Leavey**) recently-published collection of poems, *To Find a New Beauty*, has made the top ten in two hot new release lists on Amazon. Andrea has been invited to read from her latest publication at Stony Brook University, The University of Texas at Dallas, and Collin College, among other universities, galleries, and reading series. Her scholarly paper is forthcoming in the book edited by Rebecca Harrison and Emily Hipchen, *Inhabiting 'La Patria': Identity, Agency, and 'Antojo' in the Work of Julia Alvarez* (SUNY Press). Her essay "Why We Need Book Reviews" was published in the fall issue of *Fifth Wednesday Journal* as the introduction to her new appointment as book review editor at the journal. Her poems have been published in *Verse Daily*, *Ginosko Literary Journal*, and *This Literary Magazine*. She is also involved in editing for the Afghan Women's Writing Project, and judging for the Poetry Foundation's Poetry Out Loud Regional Competition. Andrea has been invited to teach poetry workshops at the Chicago Public Library during Poetry Fest as well as for the Northwest Cultural Council and The Rhino Forum. This past October, she gave a paper on "Strategies for Teaching McCarthy's 'The Road'" at the ALA's Symposium on American Fiction.

## From The Office of English Undergraduate Studies

This year a number of exciting changes have taken place in the Office of English Undergraduate Studies. Under the leadership of Professor **Christopher Grimes**, a partnership was created between the LAS Advising Center and the Department of English. Undergraduate majors in our program are now advised by **Jennifer Rupert**. In the new position of Assistant Director of Undergraduate Studies, **John Casey** works in coordination with Jennifer Rupert and Graduate Assistant **Brianna Noll** to update existing course offerings, create events of interest to our majors, assist students in the selection of career paths after graduation, administer scholarships and awards, manage thesis and independent study projects, and provide general information about the English major. Our undergraduate students are encouraged to take advantage of regular events such as:

The **Workshop on Applying to Graduate School** that is offered each fall and the **Alumni Jobs Talk**, facilitated by Internship Coordinator **Linda Landis Andrews**, explore career options for students who plan to enter the workforce after earning their bachelor's degree. Students in attendance come away from these workshops with valuable information about what a graduate degree can offer, along with important strategies for selecting the right program and generating a strong set of application materials, as well as some hints on how to differentiate themselves from their competitors on the job market.



*Linda Andrews speaks to the 2013 Alumni Jobs Panel*

In addition to these recurring events, the Undergraduate Studies Office administers **Awards and Scholarships** for our majors. It is also the place to turn for questions about **Independent Study** or pursuing a **Senior Thesis**. Each semester, undergraduate English majors who have completed a senior thesis have the opportunity to present their work in a colloquium format. Organized by Brianna Noll, Graduate Assistant, the next **Senior Thesis Presentation Event** will be held on Friday, May 10, 2013 from 12-2 pm in room 2028 University Hall (UH).

To stay informed about events such as these, please make sure to sign up for our **E-majors** listserv. Please contact John Casey ([jcasey3@uic.edu](mailto:jcasey3@uic.edu)) in order to be added to the list. You can also keep track of upcoming events on the Office of English Undergraduate Studies' Facebook page.

### New Personnel



*John Casey PhD, Asst. Director of Undergraduate Studies*

*Jennifer Rupert, Academic Advisor*

*Professor Christopher Grimes, Director of Undergraduate Studies*

### “The Real Deal on Jobs”

In the spring of 2013, **Linda Landis Andrews**, organized an alumni jobs panel for English majors. This year's invited guests were **Pavan Babu** (creative producer and filmmaker), **Dave Batka** (Editor and digital content coordinator), **Adrianna Delgado** (Teacher, Teach for America), **Randy Kim** (Immigrant Rights Organizer), **Zahra Neyestani** (Senior Copy Editor and Proofreader), **Anne Marie Saviano** (Writer/Producer at Tribune-WGN Television).



*English majors taking notes during the alumni jobs panel.*

## From The UIC Writing Center

Thanks to support from the Asian American Native American Pacific Islander grant, the Writing Center has extended its resources for students learning English. Tutors have received additional training through workshops designed by **Charitianne Williams**. Students in English 070 can join the “Writing Partners” program through which they work with a single tutor throughout the semester. The program is headed by **Lydia Saravia**, who coordinates efforts to support students who are interested in being a “Writing Partner” beyond English 070. The grant also awards an assistantship to a TESOL graduate student to provide onsite consultation for tutors. This year, the assistantship was awarded to **Saja Elshareif**, who completed her undergraduate English major in 2012. Saja has also developed workshops for tutors as well as conversational hours for students developing English speaking skills.

This year, the Writing Center has been very fortunate to welcome to its Assistant Director team two new members: **Tyrell Stewart** and **Kim O’Neil**. Tyrell teaches the tutor training course, English 222, while conducting research on his dissertation on the rhetoric of racial politics in a suburb of Chicago. Kim O’Neil is a liaison between the writing center and UIC’s Disability Resource Center. She trains tutors to be more resourceful when supporting students with a greater range of abilities. She will be teaching English 222 in the Fall.

Last year, three tutors presented at UIC’s Student Research Forum: **Nallely Dimas** on “The Relationship Between Writing, Language and Identity,” **Michelle Daily**, on “The Triangular Trade,” and **Fae Rabin** on “Reconciling Free Speech with Anti-oppression.” Fae Rabin is one of the very few UIC students who successfully placed into the Teach for American program. This spring, **Marta Shcherbekova** will be presenting her honors capstone project on developments in ESL tutoring.



*Photographs courtesy of Vainis Aleksa (Director of Writing Center).*

Other tutors who have received awards in 2012 include **Maira Dawood** (The Anne Hopewell Selby Award for Undergraduate Research, 2nd place) and **Mia Clarke** (The Robert and Corinne Silver Award, first place and the Paul Carroll Award in Creative Writing, second place.)

**Pearl Patel**, a tutor who will be graduating from the Business College, was nominated by Assistant Director **Lindsay Marshall** to attend a conference hosted by the Horatio Alger Association in Washington, D.C.. Together with other college students from across the country, Pearl joined a panel, “The State of the Nation’s Youth.”

Several tutors were published in UIC’s Freshman Read 2012: an Anthology of Student Writing: **Saja Elshareif**, “Reading for Love,” **Attiya Khan**, “My Freshman Year as a Commuter,” and **Katherine Katsivalis**, “Body of Art.”

Some tutors seek well-roundedness by competing not only academically, but athletically. **Michelle Helton**, double major in English and Biology, plays for UIC’s Rugby team; **Anthony Hollingsworth**, sprints for the UIC Track Team; **Alexis Artuso** is a champion in the Chicago area Mixed Martial Arts circuit; and **Tatiana Torres** dances for UIC Latin Dance and in the past has competed nationally as a karate black belt.

Forty tutors made the Fall 2012 College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Dean’s List.

Digging into the past: UIC and tutor alumna **Suraj Madoori**, BA 2008, was awarded the Albert Schweitzer award in 2010. Currently he has a blog on the Huffington Post.

## Alumni News and Publications

**Jenn Beening** has become the Associate Editor and Social Media Strategist for EQAL, a new media company that focuses on celebrity-influenced networks and brands. Although the position begins as a six-month contractor job, her editorial leaders are confident that if she performs well enough they will be able to offer her a full-time position on their team. Beening writes, edits, and publishes posts on the company's partner's website and "cross-promotes" the content on their various social media pages. "Essentially, I am a celebrity! (Or at least pretending to be one on the internet)," she writes to us, "We have a pretty impressive client list and it continues to grow by the quarter. I am so thrilled to be working for this company and I finally feel like my hard work has paid off! I seriously would like to thank you for all of your help and positive advice while I was searching for a job in my new city."

Alumna **Adrianna Delgado** (BA, English 2011) has been accepted by Teach for America to teach in New York as a member of its 2013 corps. In announcing the appointment Teach for America wrote, "We believe Adrianna will bring new energy and leadership to the challenge of closing the academic achievement gap for students in New York." Since graduating, Adrianna has served the department by participating on this year's alumni jobs panel.

**Allison Funk** has landed a public relations and content writing internship with the interactive agency, Springbox. When her internship ended in February, the agency contracted her as a copywriter. Allison writes posts, monitors social media handles, strategizes social campaigns and writes website content for brands. In an email to our department, Allison writes, "I love the job and there is potential for me to be hired on full time in the near future. It took some time, but I feel very good about my current position and the opportunities coming my way. The tools you gave me have been extremely valuable as I navigate the close-knit digital marketing community here in Austin--I can't thank you enough!"



Dr. **John Guzowski** (B.A. English, 1971), Professor Emeritus at Eastern Illinois University, has received the 2012 Creativity Award from the Polish American Historical Association for *Lightning and Ashes*, a book of poems about his parents' experiences in German concentration camps. Guzowski has also read his poems recently for the Polish Studies Program at UIC and Loyola University-Chicago. Selections from *Lightning and Ashes* read by the poet can be found on YouTube.

## From The First Year Writing Program (FYWP)

The First-Year Writing Program is for undergraduate students at UIC, comprising a series of writing courses required to graduate.

This semester, two new programs expanded resources for English Language Learning and Bilingual students, and their instructors. New sections of English 160 and 161 that target ELL and Bilingual students were introduced. Students can register for these classes by contacting the instructor and requesting departmental permission to enroll. While the curriculum of both classes mirrors that of First Year Writing classes in general, daily lessons and feedback practices reflect TESOL centered pedagogy and practice.

**The Supporting the Writing of English Language Learners** (SWELL) is a professional support and development group. SWELL provides not only basic training and support, but also a space where instructors can discuss their experiences with ELL students in the classroom; receive focused, individualized assistance from TESOL trained specialists on immediate, specific concerns; and learn about the issues and opportunities for ELL and bilingual UIC students outside of the classroom. In the Spring of 2013, SWELL held open office hours from 1-3pm every Wednesday in the Writing Center, 105 Grant Hall. For more information, contact Charitianne Williams, or [swell.uic@gmail.com](mailto:swell.uic@gmail.com).

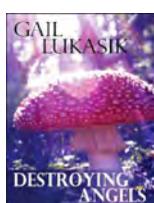
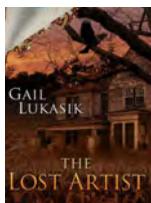
Targeted 160/161 and SWELL are both a result of collaboration between the UIC AANAPISI Initiative, which is fully funded by the U.S. Department of Education's Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander Serving Institutions, and the English Department.

## Alumni News and Publications Continued

**Salwa Halloway** (BA, former winner of the VanKeuren Award) is finishing her Masters of Arts degree in Comparative Literature at University College London. Come October, Salwa will be teaching English as a Fulbright student in Malta, where she hopes to pass on to others her “love for English--a love that blossomed while studying at UIC.” Pointing to stellar faculty and Professors in English such as **Sunil Agnani, Eugene Wildman, Anne Winters, J. Linn Allen, Luis Urrea** and **David Schaafsma**, Salwa describes her success as “very much a reflection of the aforementioned professors who nurtured and guided” her throughout her undergraduate career.



**Gail Lukasik** (M.A. and Ph.D.) has had three literary mysteries published since 2006. Her stand-alone literary mystery *The Lost Artist* (Five Star/Cengage) was released in June 2012. Kirkus Reviews described the book as “a highly intriguing tale loaded with suspense and historic interest.” To learn more about *The Lost Artist*, her other two books, and Lukasik’s upcoming events, please visit her professional website.



Having recently moved to Massachusetts, **Eric Piper** has begun working for the academic publisher Wiley-Blackwell in their philosophy and religion journals division. Piper looks back fondly on his UIC courses and is thankful for the preparation they gave him.

**Alex Shakar**’s novel *Luminarium* has won the Fiction Category Award at the 32nd annual Los Angeles Times Book Prizes. Shakar was among 12 authors presented with an award during a ceremony that launched the Los Angeles Times Festival of Books at the University of Southern California.

## Have a Facebook?

The English department likes to stay busy. So “like” the following pages on facebook in order to stay up-to-date with the latest news and events:

- o The Department of English Page
- o Office of Undergraduate Studies Page
- &
- o The UIC Writing Center



**UIC**  
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
AT CHICAGO

**Department  
of English**

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES

### Enclosed is my gift of:

- \$50       \$100       \$250  
 \$500       \$1000       Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Please direct my gift as follows:

- Anne Hopewell Selby Memorial Fund** (33775058)  
Student research & travel; outstanding graduate student essay award
- LAS English General Fund** (33334704)  
Development of new fellowships, programs, & other initiatives in the Department of English

### My enclosed gift is in the following form:

- My check payable to **University of Illinois Foundation**
- Please charge my credit card:  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Mastercard      \_\_\_\_\_ American Express  
 \_\_\_\_\_ VISA      \_\_\_\_\_ Discover Novus

- This is a joint gift with my spouse/life partner \_\_\_\_\_

Name (as it appears on card)

Credit card number      3-4 digit security number      Exp. date

Address

City      State      Zip

Phone      E-mail Address

Signature

Your gift is tax deductible as allowed by law. Please return this card with your gift. Gifts can also be made online at <http://connect.las.uic.edu/gift>. 5M 63A

**University of Illinois Foundation**  
c/o UIC LAS (MC 228)  
601 S. Morgan Street  
Chicago, IL 60607-7104

Your gift is deeply appreciated. Thank you.

## Graduate Student News and Publications

**James Tadd Adcox** has been invited to speak this semester at Ohio Northern University and Illinois College. His work has recently been published in *The Collagist*, *Redivider*, and in *The Way We Sleep Anthology* (published by Curbside Splendor Press). A collaborative project with Robert Kloss, *If There is to be a Zeitgeist*, will be published this March as an ebook from NAP Press. Issue 5 of *Artifice Magazine*, of which Adcox is a founding editor, is forthcoming in March as well.

**Annah Browning** has poems forthcoming in *Vinyl*, *The Superstition Review*, and *Transom*. Her poem “The Marriage” was nominated for the *Best of the Net Anthology* by *Anti-*. Annah has also participated in the local Chicago reading series Wit Rabbit and Ipsento. Her chapbook, *The Marriage*, is being published by Horse Less Press in October.

**Danielle Christmas** has presented at the American Historical Association’s January conference in New Orleans and the Association for Jewish Studies Chicago conference in December.

**Shelly Conner**’s short story, “Hysteria,” has been accepted for publication in *Reverie Midwest Journal of African American Literature*.

**Virginia Costello** has published one of her dissertation chapters: “The Passionate Anarchist and Her Idea Man,” in *Shaw and Feminisms*, edited by D.A. Hadfield and Jean



PhD students planning *Critical Conversations*, an ongoing student-organized forum that orients graduate students within contemporary conversations in literary theory.

Reynolds, The University Press of Florida, 2013. She also received an invitation to publish another chapter in *Literature and Anarchism*, and an invitation to present at the International Shaw Conference in London, England, June 2013. In May of 2012 she was awarded a minigrant after she attending the Faculty Summer Institute.

**Smita Das**, Institute of the Humanities Dissertation Fellow, presented a lecture entitled, “Coolie: Narratives of Race, Labor, and Sexuality,” at the Institute for the Humanities. Drawing upon a comparative history of labor migrations, Das investigates how early twentieth century writers negotiated the terms of citizenship and national belonging through the figure of the deviant, unruly, or “wandering” indentured subject.



## Liberal Arts & Sciences (LAS) Department of English General Fund

In the spring of each year, the Department of English acknowledges graduate and undergraduate students’ excellence in writing and teaching through several different year-end awards. **The Department of English Distinguished Teaching Award**, **The Betty Stuart Smith Award**, **The Charles Goodnow Endowed Award**, and the **Gloria Fromm Award** are only a few of the numerous awards sponsored by the Department of English. Not only does the **LAS English General Fund** help support these highly competitive distinctions, but also aids the development of new fellowships, programs, and other initiatives in the Department of English. Your contribution to the General Fund also expands opportunities for student support and student travel.



*Jennifer Moore* accepts the *Goodnow Award in Prose* delivered by Professor *Cris Mazza*

## Graduate Student News and Publications Continued



*Adam Jones (A D Jameson) reads from his book, *Amazing Adult Fantasy*, at a Program for Writer's Friday Night Reading Series.*

Congratulations are in order for **Andy Farkas** who has recently accepted the Assistant Professor of Creative Writing position at Rocky Mountain College in Billings, Montana.

In June 2012, **Julie Fiorelli** received the Michael Sprinker Prize from the Marxist Literary Group for her essay, "Imagination Run Riot: Apocalyptic Race War Novels of the Late 1960s." Julie also received a Chancellor's Graduate Research Fellowship from the UIC Graduate College for Spring 2013.

**Amy Gates** received the 2012 UIC Newberry Library Graduate Research Stipend for her dissertation project titled "Translating the Dead: Bodies, Burials, and British Romanticism." In addition, Amy will be presenting her paper, "'The Hand Accustomed to Command': Physiognomic Authority in Wollstonecraft's 'Cave of Fancy'" at the British Women Writers Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico, in April 2013.

PhD Candidate **David Jakalski** presented a paper at the 2012 South Atlantic Modern Language Association (SAMLA) conference.

In 2012, **Virginia Konchan** presented on the "Poetry and Publishing" panel at the Chicago Writers Conference (with Kathleen Rooney and Daniel Borzutzky), and presented academic papers on post-apocalyptic literature at the "Enunciating the End" English Department Graduate Student Conference at Concordia University, and the hermeneutics of surface reading in Barthes' *S/Z* at the "Shifting Tides, Anxious Borders" Graduate Student Conference at Binghamton University. Her poetry appears in *Indiana Review*, *Western Humanities Review*, *Everyday Genius*; an essay on contemporary poetics in *Quarterly Conversation*, and a short story in *Joyland*. In summer 2012, Virginia was the Inaugural Poetry Fellow at Scuola Internazionale di Grafica in Venice, Italy, and a Poetry Fellow in the Ox-Bow Faculty Artist Residency Program.

**Tyler Mills'** poems have appeared last year in *2River View* ("Aiolos and the Bag of Winds" and "Telemachos"), *Connotation Press* ("Oracle"), *Great River Review* ("Violinist"), *Memorious* ("Cyclops," nominated for a Pushcart Prize, and "Nestor"), *Poetry Northwest* ("A Beginning in the Voice of Einstein" and "Hiroshima"), and *Spoon River Poetry Review* ("Kalypso"). Also, Tyler Mills presented "A 'Page Versus Stage Alliance': The Paradox of Performance in Thomas Sayers Ellis's Skin Inc.: Identity Repair Poems" at PAMLA in Seattle in Oct. 2012. She was awarded the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences PhD Student Travel Award from UIC to assist with travel. She would like to thank Professor

Jennifer Ashton for supporting the project.

**Monica Westin** will be presenting a paper on the concept of "rhetorical presence" at the International Society for the History of Rhetoric conference this summer. Her review essay on the aesthetics of cuteness appeared in the special art issue of *The Believer*.

**Snežana Žabic's** haibun "Why Wichita" has appeared in *Marco Polo Arts Magazine* in the summer of 2012 and was selected a finalist for the magazine's 100x500 contest for short prose. Her poem "The Ghost Book" is forthcoming from *Word For/Word*. Her poetry manuscript *Translation Manual* was a finalist for The Elizabeth P. Braddock Coconut Book Prize. Snežana presented "Angelina Jolie in the Shadow of The Night Porter: War, Sex, and Violence in Films By Two Generations of Women" at the 111th Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association in San Francisco.



*Writing Center tutors engage in dialogue during **Mile 8** with **David Marincic**.*

## Department of English Unveils Student Awards

The Department of English announced its year-end awards for the 2012-2013 academic year during its annual year-end department celebration held near the end of Spring 2012. These awards were announced after the printing of the 2012 newsletter. Undergraduate student awards were presented to **Jacob Caiya**, first place in the Anne Hopewell Selby Award in Critical Writing; **Mia Clarke**, second place in the Paul Carrol Award in Creative Writing and the Robert and Corinne Silver Award; **Caitlin Enos**, first place in the Paul Carroll Award in Creative Writing; **Timothy Oravec**, second place in the Anne Hopewell Selby Award in Critical Writing and the Ernest C. Van Keuren Award; **Veronica Linda Gonzalez**, Raymond and Wilma Champion Award; **Scott Browning** placed first and **Maira Daiwood** placed second in Anne Hopewell Selby Award for Undergraduate Research.

Graduate student awards were presented to **Cynthia Barounis**, Department of English Distinguished Teaching Assistant Award; **Stefanie Boese**, Kogan Bonus Award; **Danielle Christmas**, Lincoln Fellowship Award; **Brooke Wonders & Chris Findeisen**, Anne Hopewell Selby Award; and **Laura Krughoff**, Betty Stuart Smith Award. The Program for Writers presented the Goodnow Award in Prose to **Mathew Corey** and **Jennifer Moore**. In addition, the Paul Carroll Award in Creative Writing was presented to **Dorisa Costello**. English Education presented the Woods-Lindley Prize to **Celina Bondie** and her mentor teacher **Wendy Baxter**.



Associate Professor  
*Christina Pugh* alongside  
*Timothy Oravec*.



Although UIC is a public university, many of its resources for ensuring the highest quality education for both undergraduate and graduate students come from the generous donations of individuals, businesses, and foundations. Your contribution helps the department maintain its standards while it envisions and shapes a brilliant future. To make a contribution, please visit the department website.



THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE  
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
AT CHICAGO

# UIC

Department of English (MC 162)  
2027 University Hall  
601 South Morgan Street  
Chicago Illinois 60607-7120

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Nonprofit Org  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Chicago, IL  
Permit No. 4860