

## INSIDE THE FALL 2014 ISSUE

2

Faculty News



8

Alumni News



12

Recent  
Faculty Books

Awards | 10

Kudos to Grad Students | 12

Surrealist Symposium | 14



Surrealist festival (see page 14)

**HEADNOTE: STAN GARNER**

Welcome to the 2014-15 English Department Newsletter. Last year was a full year for the department. In the spring we underwent our scheduled ten-year Academic Program Review, and we spent the six months before the review conducting an intensive self-study. We collected data on our research, teaching, and service activities; our undergraduate and graduate programs; and our award-winning First-Year Writing Program, Writing Center, and ESL Program. We also looked at our resources and needs, our development efforts, and where we stand in relation to English Departments at other top universities. The final self-study document showcased our many strengths and accomplishments, and it included suggestions on where we need to allocate our energies and resources going forward. The review team noted how much we have accomplished over the last five years and praised our “terrific momentum.” As their report concluded, “the English Department should be a source of pride for UT Knoxville.”

One of the things we take most pride in is the community of undergraduate and graduate alumni of our department. Few things give us more pleasure than hearing from our graduates about their lives and what they are doing. The great variety of their professional and non-professional activities speaks to the versatility of the English major and the many life-paths it opens up. Unfortunately, it can be hard to keep track of those who have been part of our department. People change careers, relocate, or switch to new email carriers, and we fall out of touch with them. Over the past couple of years we have worked to set up

venues for interacting with our alums and allowing these alums to interact with the students currently pursuing degrees in English. We’ve overhauled our website so that it features up-to-the-minute information and news. You can access this site at <http://english.ut.edu>. We are in the process of developing an Alumni page on this website where we can include news about our graduates.

We’ve also established ourselves on social media. We would love to have alumni and other friends of the department follow us on our Twitter account, @UTKEnglish (<https://twitter.com/UTKEnglish>). You can let us know that you’re an alumnus or alumna by tweeting us using the hashtag #UTKEnglish-Alum. In addition to news about the department and its different constituencies, our Twitter account features tweets from our three student ambassadors (two undergraduates and one graduate student) that can give you an idea of the daily lives of English majors at UT. You can also “Like” our UT Department of English Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/UTKDepartmentOfEnglish>), which features weekly news about events, readings, pictures of campus life, and faculty and student news.

Most of all, what we would love is news about you. Tell us what you’re up to. Let us know what you’ve done with your English major after graduation. You can email news and updates to [englishweb@utk.edu](mailto:englishweb@utk.edu). Sharing your lives and experiences will be a great help to our current majors as they look for answers to the question “What Can I do with an English Major” (many more things than they think).

Whatever you’re doing and wherever you’re doing it, let me wish you a happy, healthy, and productive year.

## FACULTY NEWS

In October **Misty Anderson** directed a one-night performance of *The Recruiting Officer* as part of the CBT's run of *Our Country's Good*, for which she served as dramaturg. Also in October, she participated in an interdisciplinary workshop on Performance Studies in 18th-century Studies as a prelude to a special issue of *Eighteenth-Century Studies*, the flagship journal in the period. In December she delivered a talk entitled "Hoping for a Protestant Burial" for the 18th/19th-Century Studies Group at Columbia University. In February Misty Anderson hosted the 40th annual meeting of the Southeastern American Society for *Eighteenth-Century Studies* (SEASECS) in Knoxville at the Crowne Plaza hotel, with 175 in attendance. Her essay "Genealogies of Comedy" appeared in *The Oxford Handbook of The Georgian Theatre, 1737-1832* in March. She just finished her term as chair of the MLA Executive Committee on later eighteenth-century literature.

**Janet Atwill's** article "Memory, Materiality, and Provenance in Dio Chrysostom's 'Rhodian Oration'" will appear in the May 2014 issue of *PMLA*. This summer Janet will hold a nine-week Dumbarton Oaks Harvard Research Library residential fellowship in Byzantine Studies for work on her book project *Rhetoric and the Display of Art in Libanius*.

**Kirsten Benson** presented a conference paper, "New Teachers' Transfer of Pedagogical and Writing Knowledge to the Composition Classroom," at the Writing Research Across Borders Conference in Paris, France, in February. She also presented a paper, "Knowing and Doing: How New Writing Teachers Turn Knowledge into Practice," at the Conference on College Composition and Communication in Indianapolis,

Indiana, in March. In April the Graduate Students in English Association presented her with the 2013-14 award for Excellence in Mentoring Outside the Classroom.

**Amy Billone** chaired a panel and presented the following paper entitled "50 Shades of Hardy: Popular Culture Today and Nineteenth-Century Dream Energies" at the Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Studies (INCS) conference in Houston in March. Amy's paper—which is about the influence that Thomas Hardy's *Tess of the d'Urbervilles* had on E.L. James's *50 Shades of Grey*—is part of her book in progress, *All Was Well: Harry Potter and the Future of the Dream-Child*. *The Light Changes*, Amy's book of poems, was also designated by Kirkus as one of the Best Books of 2013, and it is a finalist for the IndieReader Discovery Award for 2014.

**Wendy Braun** completed her first term as co-editor of H-SAWH, H-NET's discussion network affiliated with the Southern Association of Women Historians which focuses on Women and Gender in the U.S. South. In addition to daily moderating activities and site management, she created multiple dynamic pages for Job Guides, Calls for Papers, lectures and workshops, and funding opportunities.

In addition to publishing her first book, *Transformable Race*, **Katy Chiles** was a seminar participant on the Native American Commons at C19: The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists. The American Antiquarian Society has named her a Botein Short-term Research Fellow, and she will carry out research for her second book in its archives this summer.



Katy Chiles introduces guest lecturer Anthony Appiah

**Gerard Cohen-Vrignaud's** article "Rhyme's Crimes" was accepted by the journal *ELH*, and his review of Claudia Kairoff's *Anna Seward and the End of the Eighteenth Century* (Johns Hopkins, 2012) appeared in the Fall 2013 issue of *Studies in Romanticism* 52.3 (Fall 2013). He gave three papers in the past year: an invited talk at the 18th/19th Century Colloquium at Vanderbilt University in October entitled "Splendors and Miseries of the British Sultanate, 1817-1821"; another called "Political Pestilence and Fatalism in Mary Shelley's *Last Man*" at the American Comparative Literature Association Conference in New York in November; and in January a third called "Form and Reform: Radical Constitutionalism and the Shelleyan Sublime" for the NASSR session at MLA in Chicago. Awarded a Fulbright Teaching Fellowship in the spring, Gerard is teaching in Morocco during this academic year.

**Dawn Coleman** presented two papers on Melville and conscience this past summer, one on *Pierre* at the American Literature Association meeting in Boston, the other on *Billy Budd* at the Melville-Whitman conference in Washington, D.C. In the fall she was appointed the new book review editor for *Leviathan: A Journal of Melville Studies* and an editorial board member of *American Studies*.

**Michelle Commander** delivered a paper in September entitled "You Are Now Leaving the United States of America": The Speculative, Mimesis, and Yoruba Revivalism in Oyotunji African Village"

at the Critical Ethnic Studies Association Conference in Chicago. In November she also gave a paper entitled “Afro-Atlantic Speculation: Mimesis and Dissent in Oyotunji African Village” at the American Studies Association in Washington, D.C.

**Margaret Dean** was presented the Angie Warren Perkins Prize at the Chancellor’s Honors Banquet in April. She also received the GSE’s 2013-14 award for Excellence in Mentoring Inside the Classroom.

Professor Emerita **Bethany K. Dumas** continues to Chair the IDP Linguistics Program. In February she delivered two papers: “E. E. Cummings: Miracles Revisited” at the Louisville Conference on Literature & Culture Since 1900 in Louisville and “The Pragmatics of Linguistic Variation” at the Southeastern Conference on Linguistics at North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. She was elected President of the University Women’s Club for 2014-15 and began serving in that position on April 29.

**Allen Dunn** began a three-year term as President of the Society for Values in Higher Education. In addition, he co-chaired the Theorizing Culture Workshop that focused on political theory and income inequality for the SVHE annual conference in July. His essay entitled “Who Killed Critique” appeared in *Criticism after Critique: Aesthetics, Literature, and the Political*, edited by Jeffrey Di Leo in 2014. He also presented two papers: “Occupying the Installation” at the ASAP Conference at Wayne State in Detroit and “The Central Man” at the Louisville Conference on Literature and Culture.

**Mary Dzon** presented a commentary on “Marian Emotions” at the recent

Sewanee Medieval Colloquium (on “Scholastic Emotions”) in April. She will deliver a paper entitled “Demythologizing the Golden Gate Kiss in Two Late Medieval Manuscripts” at the International Congress on Medieval Studies in Kalamazoo, Michigan, in May and a paper entitled “White, Brown, and Beautiful: The Color(s) of Christ’s Skin” at the New Chaucer Society International Congress in Reykjavik, Iceland, in July.



Amy Elias presenting at a Stanford colloquium on the contemporary

In October **Amy Elias** organized three panels and presented a paper entitled “Dialogic Ethics in Electronic Literature” at the ASAP/5 Conference in Detroit. In January she delivered a paper entitled “Pynchon’s Bleeding Edge” at the Modern Language Association Convention in Chicago, while in May, Amy delivered an invited talk entitled “The Contemporary, As Soon As Possible: Periodization vs. Relationality” as part of The Contemporary: An Interdisciplinary Working Group at Stanford University.

Emeritus professor **Allison Ensor** delivered two papers on Mark Twain: “‘They was all Moslems’: Islam in Mark Twain’s *Tom Sawyer Abroad*” at the

Seventh International Conference on the State of Mark Twain Studies held at Elmira College, Elmira, N.Y., and “How Samuel Clemens Became Mark Twain: The Definitive Account?” at the Tennessee Philological Association meeting in Nashville.

**Stan Garner’s** review of Samuel D. Hunter’s play *The Whale* (produced in Fall 2012 at Playwrights Horizon in New York) was published in the October 2013 issue of *Theatre Journal*, while his review of *The Murray Edwards Duse Collection* by Anna Sica and Alison Wilson appeared in the May 2014 issue of *Theatre Survey*. Eleanora Duse—“La Duse” to her admirers—was an Italian actress in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century.

Professor Emerita **Nancy Goslee** has joined the advisory board of *Studies in Romanticism*.

In November **Martin Griffin** delivered a paper entitled “Dave Burrell’s Blues: Identity, Race, and Foreign Service in 1950s Iraq” at the South Atlantic MLA conference in Atlanta. His article “‘Not a mask of power’: Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Eamon de Valera, and the Oblique Light of a Poetic Elegy” was published in the December 2013 issue of *Nordic Irish Studies*. His contribution to *The New York Times’ Disunion* series, “The Exile’s Lament,” appeared on December 14, 2013. In May he delivered two conference papers: “Unsteady Beliefs: Espionage Narratives in the Age of Fundamentalisms” at the Conference on Christianity and Literature in Santa Barbara and “The Naturalist Ordeal of Whittaker Chambers” at the American Literature Association conference in Washington, DC. Martin is also serving a three-year term as

...Faculty News continued on page 4



## Faculty News ...continued from page 3

a member of the SAMLA Book Award Committee.

**Tom Haddox's** review of Peggy Whitman Prenshaw's *Composing Selves: Southern Women and Autobiography* appeared in the Spring 2013 issue of *Tulsa Studies in Women's Literature*. In March he presented a paper entitled "Cynicism and the White Civil Rights Novel; or, Why We Don't Read Jesse Hill Ford" at the Society for the Study of Southern Literature Conference in Arlington, VA.

**Bill Hardwig's** article "Cormac McCarthy's *The Road* and 'a world to come'" appeared in a special issue on Naturalism and Science Fiction in *Studies in American Naturalism* (Summer 2013). Bill was also a participant in an invited seminar on the future of literary history led by Kenneth Warren at the C19 conference in Chapel Hill in March.

**Sally Harris** was awarded a Creative Teaching Grant from the Tennessee Teaching and Learning Center to develop online learning modules that will supplement in-class work. She served as "Volume Advisor" for *Uncle Silas* and *Carmilla* in the Nineteenth-Century Literature Criticism Series published by Gale/Cengage Learning. The volume on *Uncle Silas* came out at the end of last year, and the volume on *Carmilla* is forthcoming.

In October, **Nancy Henry** delivered a talk on "Historicizing Women Investors" at the North American Victorian Studies Association conference in Pasadena. Her essay "George Eliot and Finance" has been published in the *Blackwell Companion to George Eliot* (edited by Amanda Anderson and Harry Shaw). Her article

"Charlotte Riddell: Novelist of the City" has been published in the collection *Economic Women: Essays on Desire and Dispossession in Nineteenth-Century British Culture*, eds. Jill Rappoport and Lana Dalley (Ohio State UP, 2014). In March, she delivered a paper at the Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Studies Conference in Houston entitled "Economic Exhaustion and Literary Energy: Charlotte Riddell." In April, she delivered an invited talk entitled "Calculating Characters in Victorian Fiction" at the interdisciplinary conference "Calculating Capitalism" at Columbia University.

**James Hewitson's** article "I seem to myself like a spy or traitor": The Transatlantic Dimensions of Nathaniel Hawthorne's Civil War" will appear in the Fall 2014 issue of the *Nathaniel Hawthorne Review*. In March James delivered a paper entitled "The Cosmopolitan Dimensions of Frederick Douglass's Abolitionism" at the Nineteenth-Century Studies Association conference in Chicago.

**Heather Hirschfeld** recently signed a contract to edit the *Oxford Handbook of Shakespearean Comedy*, a multi-year project, and continues her tenure as Director of the MARCO Institute.



Russ Hirst presents an Society for Technical Communication service award to Russ Platz

Two of **Russel Hirst's** essays have recently appeared: "The Influence of Theology on the Rhetorical Theory of Austin Phelps," in the Sept. 2013 *Advances in the History of Rhetoric*; and "Improving Scientific Voice in the Science Communication Center at UT Knoxville," in *Journal of Technical Writing and Communication*. In October he delivered a paper entitled "Bonding with the Nuclear Industry: The University of Tennessee and Y-12 National Security Complex" at the annual conference of the Council for Programs in Technical and Scientific Communication (CPTSC) in Cincinnati.

**Thorsten Huth** delivered an invited lecture entitled "Doing the transcultural: Applied linguistics and second language pragmatics" at the University of Waterloo, Ontario, in October. As part of the visit, he conducted two workshops, one on teaching pragmatics and one on materials development. He also gave a one-hour workshop entitled "Teaching Compliment-responses at the Beginner's Level" at the 6th Regional Workshop of the Tennessee Foreign Language Teaching Association (TFLTA) on Saturday, March 29, in Knoxville.

**J. Ereck Jarvis'** article "Thomas Sprat's 'Mixt Assembly': Association and Authority in *The History of the Royal Society*" appeared in the Fall 2013 issue of *Restoration: Studies in English Literary Culture, 1660-1700*. His chapter "Green Ribband Width: The Broken Metaphors of Voluntary Association, c. 1680 and c. 2013" is forthcoming in the peer-reviewed collection *Social Networks in the Long Eighteenth Century: Clubs, Literary Salons, Textual Coteries*, edited by Ileana Baird and published by Cambridge Scholars. He presented the paper "Walpole's

Kinesthesia” on dance and gout in late eighteenth-century England at the Southeastern American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies conference in February.



La Vinia Jennings helps dedicate a commemorative bench in Eden Cemetery, Pennsylvania

Bench By the Road: **La Vinia Delois Jennings**, a board member of the Toni Morrison Society’s Bench By The Road Project, assisted in unveiling on April 24, 2014, a commemorative bench placed in Eden Cemetery in Collingdale, Pennsylvania, a suburb of Philadelphia. Eden Cemetery was founded in 1902 as a place to re-inter the remains of thousands of African Americans dating back from the late 1700s. It has since become the final resting place for numerous historical figures in African-American history, including opera singer Marian Anderson and writers Jessie Redmon Fauset and Frances Ellen Watkins Harper. The bench will be a part of an outdoor classroom and educational center. The six-foot, black steel bench located near the center of the cemetery is the eleventh placed worldwide by the Toni Morrison Society. Further information on the Bench by the Road project can be found on the Morrison Society website: <http://www.tonimorrisonociety.org/bench.html>.

**Marilyn Kallet** has had poems appear in *Ray’s Road Review*, *Connotation*, and *Bluestem*. She read her poetry at Lynchburg College on February 24 and hosted a book chat; she read again on February 26th at AWP in Seattle. With Margaret Lazarus Dean and Stephanie Dugger, she performed poetry for an event sponsored by the Commission for Women during Women’s History Month, March 26; with poet Bill Zavatsky, April 7; for Knoxville’s Poets for Preservation at Historic Westwood, April 19. Other outreach included her April 11th reading for Kingston Academy, a Tennessee juvenile center for court-mandated youth. Marilyn also served as judge for the University of Michigan’s Hopwood Poetry Contest. In March the Creative Writing Program hosted the 21st annual Young Writers Institute, co-directed by Marilyn and **Daniel Wallace**. Approximately 120 teens and teachers attended. Over the summer Marilyn taught her poetry workshop for VCCA-France in Auvillar.



Marilyn Kallet celebrates with Nancy Henry and her dog Angus after a talk by alum Karen Head on professionalizing while in graduate school.

**Lisa King’s** article “Competition, Complicity, and (Potential) Alliance: Native Hawaiian and Asian

Immigrant Narratives at the Bishop Museum” was published in the Winter 2014 special issue of *College Literature: A Journal of Critical Literary Studies* entitled “Native/Asian Encounters.” She spoke on “Teaching American Indian Rhetorics in All Rhetoric and Composition Classrooms” as part of a teaching workshop and delivered a paper entitled “Reclaiming These Hills: Cultural Rhetorics, Appalachian Settler Tourism, and Indigenous Self-Representation” at the 65th Annual Conference on College Composition and Communication in Indianapolis in March.

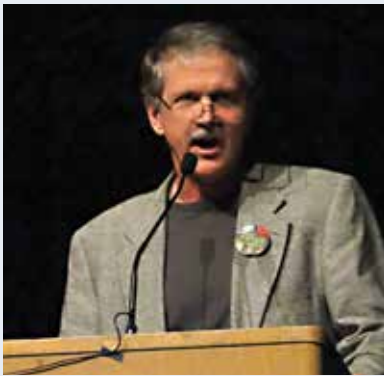
**Michael Knight’s** story “Water and Oil” was nominated for a Pushcart Prize by the editors of *The Southern Review*.

In Detroit this past October, **Ben Lee** moderated a roundtable on the contemporary legacies of Clement Greenberg’s landmark essay “Avant-Garde and Kitsch,” first published in 1939 in the *Partisan Review*. The roundtable, which Ben organized, was part of the fifth annual conference of the Association for the Arts of the Present (ASAP). In February, he presented a paper on Charles Olson and “Black Mountain Dispersal” at the Louisville Conference on Literature and Culture since 1900. This May, he’ll be one of three presenters on a panel on “Teaching the New York School” at the American Literature Association’s Annual Conference in Washington, D.C.

**Michael Lofaro**, general editor of *The Works of James Agee*, reports that  
...*Faculty News continued on page 6*

## Faculty News ...continued from page 5

the second and third volumes of the series have recently been published: Paul Ashdown's edited volume, *Complete Journalism: Articles, Reviews, and Manuscripts*, and Hugh Davis' edited volume of *Let Us Now Praise Famous Men*.



Chuck Maland delivering a talk on Chaplin, whose Tramp character recently turned 100.

**Chuck Maland** was a Visiting Professor of American Civilization and Film at the Université d'Angers in France in April, spending a week in residence and teaching classes on topics like the rise and fall of the American Western film. At the end of the week, he gave the opening plenary lecture a symposium on Chaplin's Tramp as Cultural Myth and Icon. The symposium was organized in part to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the first appearance of Chaplin's Tramp character, which occurred in February 1914. In July he delivered an invited paper on how Chaplin's studio records make it possible to reconstruct the production history of *City Lights* at the Birth of the Tramp Symposium in Bologna, Italy.

**Kelli MacCartey** participated in an NEH Summer Seminar entitled "Reassessing British Romanticism" this summer at the University of Nebraska,

Lincoln, under the direction of Dr. Stephen C. Behrendt.

In March, Senior Lecturer **Samantha Murphy** gave an invited talk on "The Role of Questions in the College Classroom" for the lecture series "UnCommons Teaching and Learning: Conversations and Community." This series is sponsored by the UT Libraries, the Tennessee Teaching and Learning Center, and OIT's Instructional Support group focusing on teaching and learning. In April, she presented a paper entitled "Reproducing the Commonwealth: Incestuous Economies in John Ford and John Milton" at the South Central Renaissance Conference annual meeting in Tucson, AZ.

**Taryn Norman's** article "Gothic Stagings: Surfaces and Subtexts in the Popular Modernism of Agatha Christie's Hercule Poirot Series" is forthcoming in the journal *Gothic Studies*.

**Mary Papke's** "Necessary Interventions in the Face of Very Curious Compulsions: Octavia Butler's Naturalist Science Fiction" appeared in the Summer 2013 issue of *Studies in American Naturalism's* special issue on Naturalism and Science Fiction. As she has for the past eleven years, she organized and facilitated the Historical Fiction Workshop for the Society for Values in Higher Education annual conference held in July.

**Yvonne Pelletier** presented a paper in March entitled "Cosmopolitan Infections: Mobility, Urbanity and Disease in Edith Wharton's *Custom of the Country* and *Age of Innocence*" at the

Nineteenth Century Studies Association Conference in Chicago. Emeritus Professor **Dick Penner** had two photographs displayed as part of the Arts and Culture Alliance of Knoxville's semi-annual exhibit at McGhee Tyson Airport entitled *Art in the Airport*. Dick's abstract photograph "Nova Scotia" was displayed in the Fall-Winter exhibit, and his nature image "Birches, Acadia National Park" is currently included in the Spring-Summer show. Suzanne Cada, who directs the events, notes regarding the current exhibition, "Of approximately 500 entries, only 46 were accepted for this exhibit." Dick taught courses and published in American, British, and International fiction in the English Department from 1965-2000.

**Jeff Ringer's** co-edited collection of essays *Mapping Christian Rhetorics: Connecting Conversations, Charting New Territories* has been accepted for publication by Routledge next year as part of its series *Studies in Rhetoric and Communication*. Jeff's co-editor on this volume is Michael-John DePalma of Baylor University. Two essays that Jeff and Michael-John co-authored appeared recently. "Adaptive Transfer, Genre Knowledge, and Implications for Research and Pedagogy: A Response" was published in the December 2013 issue of *Journal of Second Language Writing*, and "Adaptive Transfer, Writing Across the Curriculum, and Second Language Writing: Implications for Research and Teaching" was published in *WAC and Second Language Writers: Research towards Linguistically and Culturally Inclusive Programs and Practices*, ed. Michelle Cox and Terry Myers Zawacki (Parlor P, 2013). Finally, Jeff's single-authored essay "The Dogma



of Inquiry: Composition and the Primacy of Faith” appeared last summer in *Rhetoric Review*. In February Jeff chaired and presented on a roundtable-style panel called “Advancing the Study of Writing Transfer: New Directions in Theory and Research” at the Writing Research Across Borders conference in February at the Université Paris-Ouest Nanterre La Défense in Paris, France.

In March **Tanita Saenkhum** gave a talk entitled “Facilitating Students’ Transition from First-Year L2 Writing to Writing in the Disciplines” as part of the workshop “Opening Spaces for Multilingual Students: Creating Pathways for Transition” at the Conference on College Composition and Communication in Indianapolis. At the TESOL International Convention and English Language Expo that same month in Portland, Oregon, she organized a colloquium entitled “Professional Development of NNES Writing Professionals in TESOL” and delivered a paper as part of this colloquium entitled “Exploring Ways to Balance Research, Administrative Work, and Teaching as a Pre-tenure Writing Program Administrator.” Tanita was elected to a three-year term as the steering committee member-at-large for the Second Language Writing Interest Section (SLW-IS) of the TESOL International Association and was also invited to join the CCCC (Conference on College Composition and Communication) Committee on Second Language Writing for a three-year term.

**Urmila Seshagiri** published four pieces in the past year: “Making It New: Persephone Books and The Modernist Project” in a special issue of *Modern Fiction Studies* on Women’s

Fiction, New Modernist Studies, and Feminism; “Jhumpa Lahiri’s Real America: On *The Lowland*” in the October 9 issue of *LARB: Los Angeles Review of Books*; the review essay “The Boy of La Mancha: J. M. Coetzee’s *The Childhood of Jesus*” in the Winter 2013 issue of *Contemporary Literature*; and “Metamodernism: Narratives of Revolution and Continuity,” co-authored with David James, in the January 2014 issue of *PMLA*. At the Inaugural International Conference of the French Society of Modernist Studies at the Sorbonne Nouvelle in April, she was on a plenary panel and gave a talk entitled “High Anxiety: The Modernist Communities of *Vanity Fair Magazine*.”



Urmila Seshagiri and grad students discuss *Mrs. Dalloway*

Ph.D. student **Mike Shum** presented a paper entitled “All Theory Belongs to Us” at the Association of Writers and Writing Programs (AWP) Conference in Seattle in February.

**Art Smith** had two poems appear in *Atlanta Review* (Fall/Winter 2013): “Walter’s Hammer” and “The Cabinet Maker’s Apprentice.” Three of his poems

were reprinted in *The Southern Poetry Anthology, Volume VI: Tennessee*, which is published by Texas Review Press. Art served as judge for the 2013 Guy Owen Poetry Prize Contest for *Southern Poetry Review*, and he was the judge for the annual poetry book manuscript competition sponsored by C & R Press. He read his poems on a panel at the 2013 Southern Festival of Books in Nashville.

**Erin Smith’s** co-edited anthology *Not Somewhere Else But Here: A Contemporary Anthology of Women and Place* was published in January by Sundress Publications. Her collaborative chapbook with T.A. Noonan, *Skate or Die*, was published by Dusie Press. Erin also had poems accepted in the anthologies *Queer South* (Sibling Rivalry Press) and *FEAST: Poetry and Recipes for a Full Seating at Dinner* (Black Lawrence Press) and in the journals *NonBinary Review*, *Rappahannock Review*, *Cheat River Review*, *Bluestem Quarterly*, *ROAR Magazine*, and *Thrush*.

In April **Anthony Welch** presented an invited paper, “English Mock Heroic from Milton to Pope,” at the conference “Milton in the Long Restoration” at Stanford University. A volume of essays drawn from the conference is in preparation for Oxford University Press. He also delivered talks last fall at the Southeastern Renaissance Conference at Duke University and the biennial Conference on John Milton at Middle Tennessee State University.

**Allen Wier** is continuing as the inaugural UTC Foundation Visiting Scholar/Writer at the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga this year.

## ALUMNI NEWS

Jesse Graves, a UT BA and PhD in English, now an Associate Professor of English at East Tennessee State University, has recently garnered two significant recognitions following the publication of his second volume of poetry, *Basin Ghosts*. In October he learned that he will receive the 2015 James Still Award for Writing about the Appalachian South from the Fellowship of Southern Writers; it will be awarded during the Southern Lit Alliance's Celebration of Southern Literature in Chattanooga next April. Then at a November reading at Cornell University, he was awarded the Philip H. Freund Prize, an honor that carries with it a \$5,000 prize (or, as Jesse told his audience when he learned of the award, "like a million dollars in real world money.") Congratulations to Jesse on these recognitions!

Congratulations to alumna **Jo Angela Edwins**, who was named the 2014 winner of the 5th Annual Carrie McCray



Jesse Graves

Nickens Fellowship in poetry by the South Carolina Academy of Authors. The award was established in 2009 to support South Carolina poets whose work employs skilled verse composition and reflects a heightened awareness of the human condition. Edwin's manuscript was chosen in a blind competition by this year's judge, poet Lavonne J. Adams, who praised Jo Angela's mastery of poetic form, and also cited the coherence of voice in Jo Angela's work – poems that speak to one another, and that echo in a manner that makes one feel as if they've experienced a much lengthier collection – as the determining factor for her selection. Jo Angela, an Associate Professor in the English Department at Francis Marion University in Florence, South Carolina, received the fellowship award last April when the South Carolina Academy of Authors met at Furman University.

We sometimes read about alternative careers for Ph.D.s in English, and **Katie Dorman Hoffman** has followed one such path. After teaching stints at Hampden-Sydney College and Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Katie married Brett Tiller, a banjo picker from Jonesborough, TN, and—having missed the mountains—moved back to East Tennessee. After doing some freelance jobs for the Appalachian Regional Commission, Crooked Road (Virginia's Heritage Music Trail), and some other regional cultural heritage organizations, Katie has established her own business, Appalworks (see [www.Appalworks.com](http://www.Appalworks.com)), which is devoted to promoting and supporting "arts, heritage, and cultures in the region, treating them as valuable and dependable elements of sustainable economic development." Earlier this year Katie was guest curator, with her friend Dr. Jean



Jo Angela Edwins

Haskell (retired Director of the Center for Appalachian Studies and Services at East Tennessee State University), of "Changing Appalachia: From Custom to Cutting Edge," an exhibit at the Portsmouth Art and Cultural Center in coastal Virginia. The exhibit showcases the vibrant and innovative elements of Appalachian culture in an attempt to counterbalance negative stereotypes about the region. Their account of the exhibit and the reasons behind it, "Changing Appalachia," is available here: <http://www.appalachianhistory.net/2014/04/changing-appalachia-custom-cutting-edge.html>.

**John Talbird** continues to publish his fiction in a variety of venues. He has three flash fictions in the Fall 2013 issue of the online journal *Hamilton Stone Review*. In paper, you can find two of John's micro stories in the most recent issue of the UK journal *Ambit*. (John adds that to those who check out this work, despite the fact



## Alumni News continued...



Katie Dorman Hoffman

that they list him with the poets, John thinks these are stories.) Also, John's long story "Daydream Nation," which was

published in *Ploughshare's Solos* series last year, has been reprinted in an omnibus of the first nine stories and essays in the series.

In November Emeritus Professor Don Cox and Maria Bachman, UT English Department Ph.D. and department chair at Coastal Carolina University, took over as editors of *Victorians Institute Journal*. A refereed journal with both print and on-line versions (see <http://victorian.utk.edu/>), the journal "publishes articles, reviews, and newly edited texts of interest to scholars in nineteenth-century cultural studies."

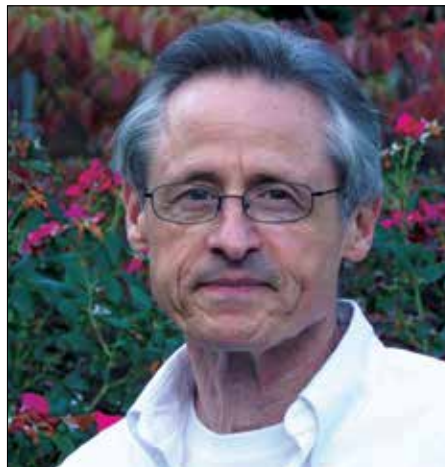
We encourage our graduates to send along good news about their current activities. We're pleased to be in touch with you.

## MARK LUPRECHT RETIRES

Although our colleague Mark Luprecht retired at the end of the academic year, it doesn't seem to have slowed him down much. Many of you know that Mark came to UT to head the Honors Program in 2003, and he joined the English Department after serving in that role. A specialist in modern literature, particularly the work of Iris Murdoch, Mark also served ably as Director of Undergraduate Studies from 2007 to 2012.

Among his contributions in the office was helping the department develop some common aims in our sophomore-level courses.

Mark hasn't slowed down much since retirement. This fall he gave a paper on the 2001 Iris Murdoch biopic, *Iris*, starring Judi Dench, and he's revising that for a book collection, *Biopics and the British National Character*, that SUNY Press will publish. He's also arranged to teach an interdisciplinary course (art history and ancient lit) in Italy in Fall 2015 to students from the three Arizona public universities and the U of Hawaii-Hilo—part of a scholarship program for first-generation college students. We're happy to hear that Mark is thriving and wish to thank him again for his many contributions to UT and the department.



Mark Luprecht

### WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Please join us in congratulating our graduates who have moved on to new jobs or begun new PhD programs:

#### **Katharine Burnett**

Tenure-track assistant professor at Fisk University

#### **Deidre Garriott**

Tenure-track assistant professor at Virginia Military Institute

#### **Christian Gerard**

Assistant professor at the University of Arkansas-Fort Smith

#### **Michael Levan**

Tenure-track assistant professor at the University of St. Francis

#### **Matthew Raese**

Visiting assistant professor at Graceland University

#### **Joshua Robbins**

Tenure-track assistant professor at University of the Incarnate Word

#### **Carolyn Wisniewski**

Tenure-track assistant professor at Indiana University of Pennsylvania

#### **Royce Best**

Entering the Ph.D. program at The Johns Hopkins University

#### **Staci Conner**

Entering the Ph.D. program at University of Tennessee, Knoxville

#### **Joseph Seale**

Entering the Ph.D. program at the University of Georgia

## AWARDS

Congratulations to faculty who were honored for their achievements in College and University awards ceremonies the past year.

**English Department Members Honored at the College Winter Convocation:** The English Department was well represented in the awards ceremony held at this year's College of Arts and Sciences Winter Convocation. **Misty Anderson** was awarded a College Convocation Senior Research Award for a publication record that includes her recent book *Imagining Methodism in Eighteenth-Century Britain: Enthusiasm, Belief, and the Borders of the Self* (Johns Hopkins UP, 2012). In the teaching category, **Michael Knight** was awarded a College Convocation Senior Teaching Award, **Bill Hardwig** received a College Convocation Junior Teaching Award, and **James Hewitson** was recognized with a College Convocation Lecturer Teaching Award. Finally, **Margaret Dean** received a College Convocation Advising Award. This year's convocation was held in the new Natalie Haslam Music Building.



Our convocation award winners: from left, James Hewitson, Bill Hardwig, Misty Anderson, Margaret Dean, and Michael Knight.

## ADVANCED DEGREES GRANTED

### Spring 2014

Ph.D.: **Tyler Efrid**, "The 'Vast and Terrible' Trauma: American Literary, Naturalism, Ethics, and Levinas" (Dunn); **Christian Gerard**, "Talk to Me: An Apology for Poetry" (Smith); Colin Mort, "Infinite Islands: The Seatrees" (Knight); **Virginia Murphy**, "A Mirror for Spectators: The Dramaturgy of Participation and Unreliable Mirror Figures in Sixteenth-Century Drama" (Hirschfeld); **Matthew Raese**, "The Contemporary Encyclopedic Novel" (Elias); **Carolyn Stice**, "Mirror in the Dark: Poems" (Kallet); **Julie Tyler**, "The People Who Do 'This' in Common Book Clubs as 'Everyday Activists'" (Elias); **Ryan Woldruff**, "This Humbling River: A Novel" (Knight)

M.A.: **Jonathan Brehm**, "The Hungover Romance of 'We'" (Kallet); **Kory Douglass**; **Kenneth Gerling**; **Staci Poston Connor**, *The Liminal Mirror: The Impact of Mirror Images and Reflections on Identity in The Bloody Chamber and*

*Coraline*" (Billone); **Chase Ramsey**; **Joseph Seale**, "What Men Do and other Stories" (Knight); **Natalie Updike**, **Joanna Zimmerman**, "We Know What We Are, but Know Not What We May Be": Victorian Adaptations of the Shakespearean Gaze" (Henry).

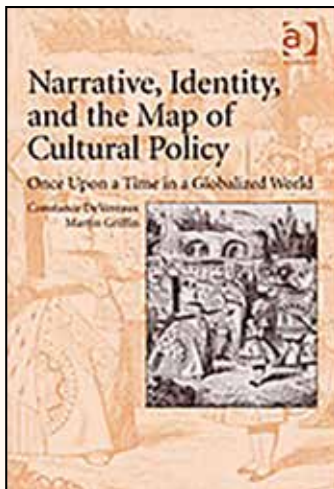
### Summer 2014

Ph.D.: **Tricia George**, "The Auchinleck Manuscript: A Study in Manuscript Production, Scribal Innovation, and Literary Value in the Early 14th Century" (Heffernan); **Whitney Jones**, "Innocent Artists: Creativity and Growing Up in Literatures of Maturation, 1850-1920" (Billone); **Carolyn Wisniewski**, "The Problem of University Writing Instruction: Reflective Practice and the Development of Teaching Expertise in Graduate Teaching Assistants" (Keene)

M.A.: **Royce Best**, "Eruptive Baroque Hysteria in English Neoclassical Literature" (Anderson)

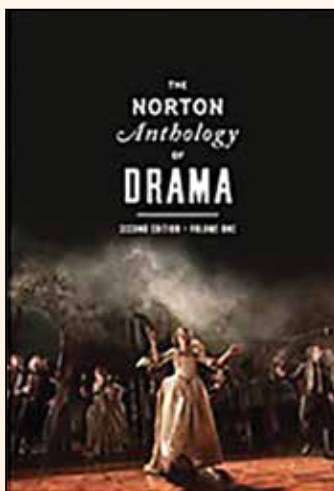


## RECENT FACULTY BOOKS



*Narrative, Identity, and the Map of Cultural Policy: Once Upon a Time in a Globalized World*, by Martin Griffin and Constance DeVereaux

*Narrative, Identity, and the Map of Cultural Policy: Once Upon a Time in a Globalized World*, by Martin Griffin and Constance DeVereaux of Colorado State, was published in October by Ashgate. James Phelan calls the book “a major contribution to narrative studies,” in which the authors “adeptly deploy narrative theory to address an impressive array of issues in cultural policy and, in so doing, they provide a model for how to do interdisciplinary research in this age of the Narrative Turn.”



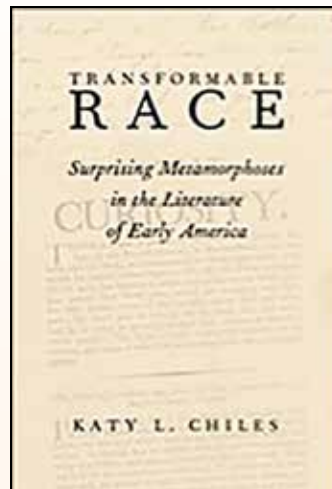
*Norton Anthology of Drama*, edited by Stan Garner, along with J. Ellen Gainor and Martin Puchner

The second edition of the *Norton Anthology of Drama*, edited by Stan Garner, J. Ellen Gainor (Cornell), and Martin Puchner (Harvard), is now out; new plays in this edition include Sophie Treadwell’s *Machinal*, Harold Pinter’s *The Homecoming*, and Caryl Churchill’s *Cloud Nine*.

*The Light Changes*, Amy Billone’s new volume of poetry, was published by the Hope Street Press. *The Kirkus Review* has called it “moving, psychologically nuanced free verse on death, rebirth and the powerfully generative potential of loss.”

Katy Chiles’s *Transformable Race: Surprising Metamorphoses in the Literature of Early America* (Oxford UP), argues that the notion of “transformable race” structured how early American texts portrayed the formation

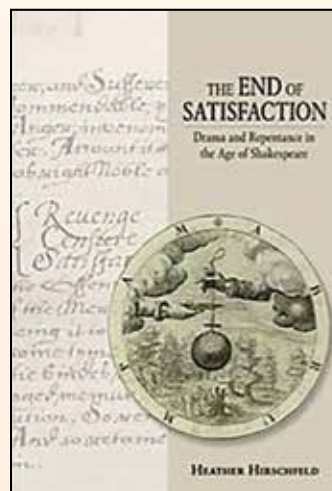
*The Light Changes*, by Amy Billone



*Transformable Race: Surprising Metamorphoses in the Literature of Early America*, by Katy Chiles

of racial identities. Examining figures such as Phillis Wheatley, Benjamin Franklin, Samson Occom, and Charles Brockden Brown, *Transformable Race* demonstrates how these authors used language emphasizing or questioning the potential malleability of physical features to explore the construction of racial categories.

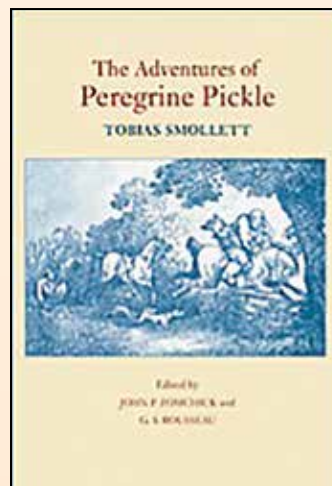
Heather Hirschfeld’s second book, *The End of Satisfaction: Drama and Repentance in the Age of Shakespeare*, was published this spring by Cornell University Press. The book recovers the historical specificity and the conceptual vigor of the term “satisfaction” during the sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries. Focusing on the term’s significance as an organizing principle of Christian repentance, Heather examines the ways in which Shakespeare and his contemporaries dramatized the consequences of its re- or de-valuation in the process of Reformation doctrinal change.



*The End of Satisfaction: Drama and Repentance in the Age of Shakespeare*, by Heather Hirschfeld

Tobias Smollett, *The Adventures of Peregrine Pickle*, ed. John Zomchick and George Rousseau (U of Georgia Press). Smollett’s second novel, a picaresque satirical portrait of 18<sup>th</sup> century Europe, was published in 1751. This is the final volume of the University of Georgia Press’s complete edition, *The Works of Tobias Smollett*.

*The Adventures of Peregrine Pickle*, by Tobias Smollett





## KUDOS TO OUR GRADUATE STUDENTS

M.A. student **Royce Best** has recently accepted Johns Hopkins University's offer to work on his PhD in Restoration and eighteenth-century literature as the recipient of the Gloria Flaherty Fellowship for eighteenth-century studies. He has recently published a book review of Tony C. Brown's *The Primitive, the Aesthetic, and the Savage: An Enlightenment Problematic* in the *Journal for Early Modern Cultural Studies* and a review essay in *Restoration: Studies in English Literary Culture, 1660-1700*. He also delivered a paper at this year's SEASECS conference in Knoxville entitled "Let's Have a Kiki': Didactic Communal Theatre in Restoration Comedy at the Flea."

M.F.A. student **Brooks Clark** published a story in the April 10 issue of *MetroPulse* about the successful search to determine the real 'mountain boy' that Robert Mitchum used as the basis for his movie *Thunder Road* and the song "The Ballad of Thunder Road."

In April, Ph.D. student **Kerri Considine** presented a paper entitled "Mediating Machines: Modernist Technological Anxieties on the Stage and Screen" at the 2014 Comparative Drama Conference in Baltimore. Kerri also performed in a staged reading with the SEASECS Players at the 2014 SEASECS conference in Knoxville. In the fall she was commissioned by the city of Knoxville to write a short script for the media event announcing the Christmas in the City events in Knoxville.

Ph.D. student **Emily Cope** will deliver two conference papers later this month at the Conference of the Rhetoric Society of America in San Antonio: "Crossing Borders in Women's Oratorical Education: Mapping Out Emerging Research Opportunities for Feminist Historiography" and "The Inspiration of Delivery': How a Southern Baptist Preaching Manual Shapes American Expectations for Authenticity in Public Oratory." In March, she delivered a paper entitled "Clunky Rhetorical Stuff: Novice Composition Teachers' Perceptions and Presentation of Rhetoric" at the Conference on College Composition and Communication in Indianapolis. Emily received the Chancellor's Citation for Extraordinary Professional Promise at the Chancellor's Honors Banquet in April.

M.F.A. candidate **Andrew Dillon's** poem "A Confirmation" was published this month in the online *Burlesque Press Variety Show*. Burlesque Press also accepted a proposal from Andrew to read at their "Hands On Literary Festival" in New Orleans.

Ph.D. student **Andrew Eichel** received funding last summer from the English Department and the Marco Institute to conduct archival research in England and Scotland and deliver a conference presentation entitled "Marginal Manifestoes:

Medieval Texts and the Translator's Note" at the University of St. Andrews (June 2013). He has since had two other conference presentations accepted: "Old Hermeneutics, New Faces" for a USC-sponsored panel at the Congress on Medieval Studies at Kalamazoo next May, and "The Anglo-Saxon Enterprise of Biblical Translation and Contemporary Hermeneutic Paradigms" for the Transforming Scripture conference at St. Anne's College, Oxford, also in May. Andrew was also invited in October to give a talk to English Department M.A. students at his alma mater, Eastern Illinois University, about applying to and succeeding in literature doctoral programs. He currently has two essays under review, as well as a translated Old English poem.

Ph.D. student **Richard Hermes** presented a paper entitled "Reading Theory Like Fiction" on a panel entitled "The Influence of Theory on a Creative Practice" at the Association of Writers and Writing Programs (AWP) Conference in Seattle in February.

**Kristi Maxwell's** essay "The Unbearable Witness of Being: On Anne Carson's *Plainwater*," is forthcoming in *Anne Carson: Ecstatic Lyre* (part of the University of Michigan Press's Under Discussion Series). Kristi also has two books of poetry forthcoming in 2014: *That Our Eyes Be Rigged* (Saturnalia Books) and *PLAN/K* (Gold Wake Press).

Ph.D. student **Julia McLeod** delivered a paper entitled "Intertextual Space: The Meyrick 'Nest' and the Jewish Woman Question in *Daniel Deronda*" at the Dickens Universe Conference held at LSU last April.

This past summer, Ph.D. student **Melissa J. Rack** received a Newberry Renaissance Consortium Grant to conduct research for her dissertation *Corynna's Glasse: Neoteric Poetics in the Elizabethan Epyllia* at the Newberry Library in Chicago. Last fall, she was selected to participate in the Newberry's 2013 Dissertation Seminar for Literary Scholars, for which she received the Thomas Wheeler Traveling Fellowship and an additional Fall 2013 Newberry Renaissance Consortium Grant. The seminar brought together a diverse community of graduate students writing dissertations in early modern literature and offered comments, perspectives, methods, and criticism, with the intention of helping Ph.D. candidates voice the larger historical, intellectual, and theoretical significance of their research. Additionally, her review of Elizabeth Bearden's *The Emblematics of the Self: Ekphrasis and Identity in Renaissance Imitations of Greek Romance* has been accepted for publication in *The Sidney Journal*.

M.A. student **Joseph Seale's** short story "Tea Time" was accepted for publication online by *Blackheart Magazine* in

June. His story “Stick Folk Love” appeared in the April 2014 issue of *The Emerson Review*. In November Joe presented a paper entitled “The Martyrdom of Saint Me: Elements of Determinism in Chuck Palahniuk’s *Choke*” at the South Atlantic Modern Language Association (SAML) Conference in Atlanta.

Ph.D. student **Mike Shum** published a story in *Midwestern Gothic* called “The Disappearance of Herman Grimes.” This story was recognized by *Ploughshares* in their weekly feature “Best Story from a Lit Mag that I Read This Week.” In addition, Mike published an essay in the October issue of *The Writer’s Chronicle* entitled “The Golden Pelt: John Berryman and the Fame Equation.”

Ph.D. student **Kendra Slayton** presented a paper entitled “Criseyde Tied in *Lust Leese*” at the Southeastern Medieval Association Conference in Boone, NC, in October.

Ph.D. student **James Stewart** has an essay entitled “Thomas Chestre’s *Sir Launfal* and the Knight in Need” forthcoming in *Arthuriana*, to be published in 2015.

**Mark Tabone’s** essay “Beyond *Triton*: Samuel R. Delany’s Critical Utopianism and the Colliding Worlds in ‘We, in Some Strange Power’s Employ, Move on a Rigorous Line,’” appeared in the Fall issue of *Utopian Studies*. Mark also presented a paper entitled “Corporate versus Concrete Utopia in Colson Whitehead’s *Apex Hides the Hurt*” at the Society for Utopian Studies’ Annual Meeting in Charleston, SC on November 16th.

Ph.D. student **Andrew Todd** presented a paper entitled “Spatiotemporal Rebalancing in Tom Stoppard’s *Arcadia*” last April at the 2013 Annual Meeting of the American Comparative Literature Association in Toronto. His paper “*xkcd*, Participation, and the Narrating Audience: A Model for the Interactive Construction of Texts” has been accepted for the International Conference on Narrative in Boston this coming March.

## CONTRIBUTORS

*Thanks to all our contributors; private donations have played a huge role over the years in helping create a margin for excellence in the English Department. We very much appreciate your generosity.*

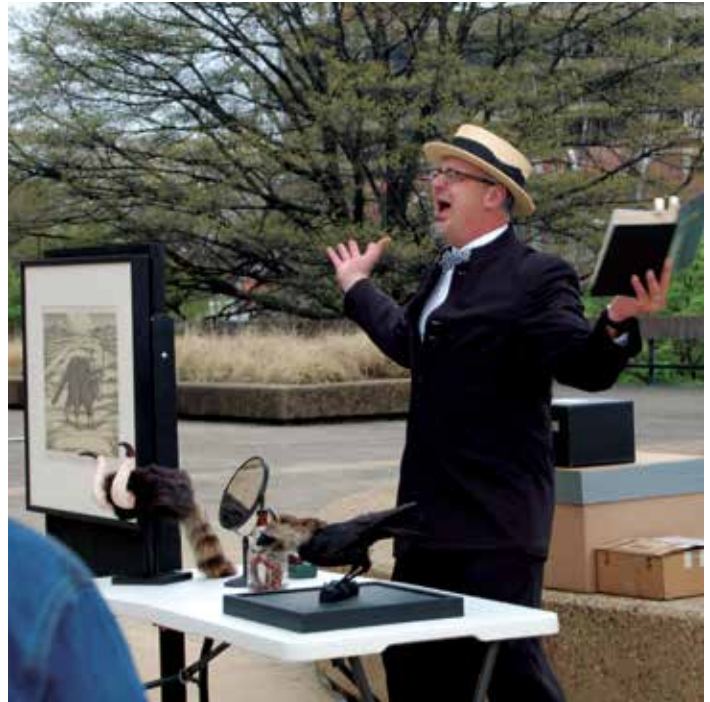
Austin, Marvin and Virginia	Manson, Harry and Linda
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Booth, Charles	Milstead, Claudia
Bowers, Bege	O’Malley, Leslie
Brown, Michael	Pillow, Stephen
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Coltman, Evelyn	Sherrod, Melissa
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## SURREALIST SYMPOSIUM

Last spring, the Creative Writing Program, along with the English Speakers' Committee, the Office of Research and Engagement, and University Libraries, offered a Surrealist Symposium at the university, featuring Mark Polizzotti, Director of the Publications Program at the Metropolitan Museum of Art and author of *Revolution of the Mind: The Life of André Breton*; former MLA President Mary Ann Caws, scholar and translator of Desnos and René Char, author/editor of more than thirty books; poet Bill Zavatsky, translator of Desnos, Breton, Larbaud; scholar Jonathan Eburne, and UT poet/instructor Kristi Maxwell. Marilyn Kallet and Darren Jackson read Surrealist-inspired poetry as part of the symposium. Rimbaud also made a guest appearance during the reading by Bill Zavatsky, and tried to shut him down, but Rimbaud was no match for the living poet Zavatsky.

Events also included a three-day Surrealist film festival (April 4-6) organized by Richard Hermes and Nathan Smith: films screened included Luis Bunuel and Salvador Dali's Surrealist classic *Un Chien Andalou* and David Lynch's *Mulholland Drive*. The weekend also features a Dadaist Field trip featuring "Europa and the Bull-Raccoon," a talk by Beauvais Lyons.

Chris Caldwell, Humanities Librarian at the Hodges Library, organized a rare book exhibit of Surrealist texts. The Ewing Gallery loaned the library an original Dali print, *St. Anthony in the Desert*, as part of the exhibit.



Dadaist field trip with preacher Beauvais Lyons rhapsodizing about the bull-raccoon



Left: Two invited speakers at the festival, Mary Ann Caws and Jonathan Eburne

Below: Mark Polizzotti of the Metropolitan Museum of Art with a vintage film clip



Sweet Surrealism—festival organizer Marilyn Kallet and Lou Gross





## WELCOME TO HILARY HAVENS



This fall semester we're welcoming a new colleague into the department, eighteenth-century British fiction specialist Hilary Havens. Hilary did her undergraduate degree at Harvard, a master's at Oxford, and completed her Ph.D. at McGill University. She also served a year as an Assistant Professor at Concordia University in Montreal. One of her special areas of interest is the life and work of Frances Burney, but Hilary also has secondary interests in women's writing generally and digital humanities projects. She is a welcome addition to an active working group in the department, one focusing on 18th and 19th century British and American literature. In her spare time, Hilary also plays some tennis: she grew up on the hard courts of California, played tennis at Harvard, and already is adjusting to the clay courts in Knoxville.

Hilary Havens

## ANNOUNCEMENT: NANCY HENRY AWARDED NEH

We're pleased to announce that our colleague Nancy Henry, thanks to an NEH Fellowship, is spending the 2014-15 academic year working on an upcoming book project on women and the 19th-century cultures of investment. In the project Nancy is contributing to studies of finance and culture that have been growing since the publication of Mary Poovey's *The New Economic Criticism* in 1969. The project will engagingly combine archival research about how women in England managed their money with an examination of how investing spinsters, widows, and wives were represented in fiction from the 1840s to the 1890s. Nancy notes that historians have estimated that women made up 5-20% of the investing public in England during this period, and she will argue "that investing was not just something women did; rather, it was a distinctly modern way of thinking about independence, risk, global communities and the future in general." Investing provided single women a legal way to achieve financial independence, and even single women were able to vote in shareholder meetings, even though they could not vote in political elections. Blending her previous work in colonial



At the Dickens University conference in Santa Cruz this summer: from left, Becky McGann, Matt Smith, Nancy Henry, and Gerard Cohen-Vrignaud.

and postcolonial studies, the history of finance, and the theory and practice of biography, Nancy aims to place the lives and writing of Victorian women within the context of global 19th-century economies. We're looking forward to reading the book!

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Please let us know of changes of address and any major publications, awards, grants, fellowships, or appointments that have come your way.

We will be glad to report them in our next issue.

If you would prefer in the future to receive the newsletter in electronic form rather than in hard copy, please email Leanne Hinkle at [hinkle@utk.edu](mailto:hinkle@utk.edu) with your contact information."