

Spring 2011

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# Department of **ENGLISH** Newsletter

# NOTE FROM THE CHAIR



Cristanne Miller

Another whirlwind semester—this one bringing a number of pleasures and prizes to the Department, as often occurs in the spring. We are delighted to welcome Walt Hakala to the Department as a joint hire with Asian Studies. Randy Schiff was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor with continuing appointment (“tenure”), and Andy Stott was promoted to the rank of Professor. Several English majors were honored with creative writing prizes, UB awards, and positions of honor. Our graduate

students won dissertation fellowships and received two of the College of Arts and Science’s coveted Awards for Excellence in Teaching.

In awards outside the University, emerita faculty member Susan Howe was awarded the Bollingen Prize for Poetry. We look forward to welcoming Susan back to UB for a celebratory reading on Friday September 16, 2011 and hope you’ll be able to join us for this special event.

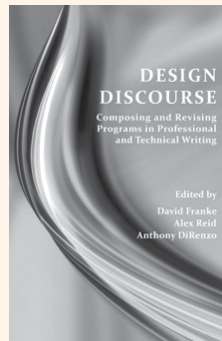
Despite continuing financial woes, the Department continues to be impressive and productive. Damien Keane was awarded a Fellowship at the Cornell University Society for the Humanities for 2011-2012. Bruce Jackson’s photographs were displayed in the “American Chartres: Buffalo’s Waterfront Elevators” exhibit at the Anderson Gallery from January 22 through May 1. And see the side panel for recently published books by faculty. We are less happy to announce the retirement of two colleagues who have served the English Department and profession in significant ways for decades: Mili Clark and Mark Shechner.

As we enjoy the coming of spring we also experience the proud pleasure of sending our graduating students on to the next phase of their lives. Thanks to all of you who have helped them with mentoring, internships, or financial assistance. We look forward to seeing all of them and you again at UB.

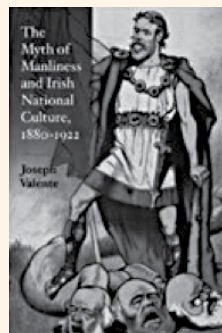
Cordially,  
Cristanne Miller



Joan Copjec’s *El Compacto sexual* (*The Sexual Compact*) was published by Paradiso editores (in coedition with 17, Instituto de Estudios Criticos, Mexico). The book consists mostly of new essays, not yet published in English.



Alex Reid co-edited *Design Discourse: Composing and Revising Programs in Technical and Professional Writing* with David Franke and Anthony DiRenzo, (Parlor Press, March 2010). The book addresses the challenges of developing curriculum in the fields of technical communication and professional writing.



Joseph Valente’s *The Myth of Manliness in Irish National Culture, 1880-1922* was published by the University of Illinois Press (2011). It offers the first contextually precise account of the male anxieties haunting revolutionary Ireland and demonstrates how the late Victorian ethos of manliness served to translate British rule as British hegemony and Irish resistance as Irish psychomachia.



Professor Randy P. Schiff’s *Revivalist Fantasy: Alliterative Verse and Nationalist Literary History* (2011) contributes to recent conversations about disciplinary history by analyzing the nationalist context for scholars and editors involved in disseminating the literary historical theory of an Alliterative Revival. Redirecting Alliterative Revivalism’s backward gaze, *Revivalist Fantasy* re-engages with the local contexts of select alliterative works.

## FEATURED FACULTY



**Walter Hakala** recently joined the English Department as Assistant Professor and teaches courses on South Asian literature and culture in conjunction with the Asian Studies Program at UB. He completed his PhD in South Asian Regional Studies at the University of Pennsylvania (2010), writing a dissertation on the history of Urdu lexicography entitled "Diction and Dictionaries: Language, Literature, and Learning in

Persianate South Asia." Prior to that, he completed an MA in Urdu literature (2004) from Jawaharlal Nehru University in New Delhi, India (his city of birth) and a BA in Asian Studies from the University of Virginia. He also lived for several years during his childhood in Peshawar, Pakistan and Rabat, Morocco, before settling in the United States.

His current research explores the intersections between the literature and lexicography of Hindi, Persian, and Urdu. His next project is a cultural history of the Delhi region during the first half of the eighteenth century. This spring, Professor Hakala taught two courses, "India in the Traveler's Eye" and a seminar on "Islam and South Asian Literature." He is excited about connecting with those in the university community who are interested in world literature and the study of Asian languages.

Walt is impressed with UB undergrads. "Not coming from a background in English literature, I am stunned by how much students here love talking about books. It doesn't seem to matter if the text we are reading was written in the fourth century BC or last year: I never have to prod my students to share their opinions about the books we are reading." Walt has also been meeting with graduate students and looks forward to exploring new areas with them in his graduate seminar next Spring, "Islam and Literature."

This summer, Walt will continue his research on the history of South Asian dictionaries. He is currently busy translating a sixteenth-century Persian-Hindi vocabulary in verse for presentation this June at the Dictionary Society of North America annual conference in Montreal. He will also try to improve upon his very rudimentary Korean language skills with a lot of help from his visiting seven-year-old nephew and ten-year-old niece.

## Congratulations!



Susan Howe, UB SUNY Distinguished Professor Emerita in the Department of English and one of the preeminent poets of her generation, has been named the 2011 winner of Yale University's Bollingen Prize in American Poetry.

The award is one of the most prestigious available to American writers and is presented biennially by Yale's Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library to an American poet for the best book published during the previous two years or for lifetime achievement in poetry.

Howe received the award for her most recent book *That This* (New Directions, 2010), which evolved from her attempt to come to terms with the sudden death, in 2008, of her husband, Peter Hare, UB SUNY Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus in the Department of Philosophy.

The Prize also honors Howe's lifetime achievement in poetry and poetics. Previous Bollingen Poetry Prize winners include Ezra Pound, Wallace Stevens, Marianne Moore, E.E. Cummings, John Ashbery, Robert Creeley, Gary Snyder, and Adrienne Rich.

We look forward to welcoming Professor Howe back to UB for a celebratory reading and performance on Friday September 16, 2011.



The English Department Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony took place on Friday, May 13th in Clemens 120 from 11:00am-1:00pm. **Robert Daly**, SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor, and **Luc Barton**, winner of the CAS Outstanding Senior Award for the English Department and the Class of 1972 Senior Thesis Award, addressed the graduating seniors and their families.

What will you take with you from balmy Buffalo? You'll be relieved to know that I've opted for a short answer: the sources of inspiration. In "The American Scholar," Emerson wrote that books "are for nothing but to inspire," and in the essay called "Experience," he added that "the true romance which the world exists to realize, will be the transformation of genius into practical power." Although you may find your inspiration in any study, the Roman poet Vergil found his sources of inspiration in Greek literature, in the Muses who frequented Mount Helicon in Boeotia, (also called Aonia). May you bring the muses home to inspire your own life, and may you pass the inspiration along to others. Congratulations, and all good wishes.

-Robert Daly, SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor



Let's face it: we're English majors...We skipped over most of the group projects that our friends in the pharmacy and finance departments seemed to enjoy oh so very much. When most of UB was forming study groups to deal with the collective trauma of final exams, we were sitting at home typing valiantly about dialectics, dialogics, hermeneutics or whatever final assignment we had that semester ... Even when we were working together, we've all had very different focuses. People here have worked on everything from Homer to Hitchcock, "Twelfth Night" to "Twilight" and everything in between. We've all taken different paths to get here; and we've all gotten a lot out of this department, but that's also because we've all put a lot into it. And I think we know that that same variation—that same individuality which has made this department a joy to be a part of—is only going to continue into the future. The people who graduate from this department on Sunday will be going off to all manner of professions; we have future teachers, future publishers, future writers, future lawyers, future who-knows-what-else in our midst. All that stuff that they said at high school graduation about going off to the real world? Well, that might finally be coming true...

-Luc Barton, BA, 2011



**Andrew Wiktor**, Editor in Chief of the Spectrum and a joint major in English and Political Science, was chosen to be the senior undergraduate speaker at the UB Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony.

## Undergraduates Make a Class Donation to Repair Gertrude Stein First Edition

James Maynard (UB PhD, 2007) Assistant Curator,  
The Poetry Collection



Last fall, the Poetry Collection experienced what in all likelihood is a first in its nearly seventy-five year history when it received a generous group donation from the undergraduate students in Steve McCaffery's Modern and Contemporary Poetry course (English 361). Impressed and inspired by their class visit to the Poetry Collection, during which Curator Michael Basinski (UB PhD 1995) gave a history of the collection and presented a number of significant, rare, and otherwise noteworthy poetry items, the students in Professor McCaffery's class decided to make a class donation. Specifically, they wanted to raise funds to repair the binding of the Poetry Collection's first edition of Gertrude Stein's *Tender Buttons* (Claire Marie, 1914), an important volume of linguistic innovation and a favorite of the English 361 students. Once the repair work is complete, the class will be honored with an acknowledgement placed inside the book.

Commenting on the respect these particular students developed for the materiality of the collection's holdings, McCaffery, the David Gray Chair of Poetry and Letters, states that "In my entire history of teaching this spontaneous collective gift was unprecedented. To me it indicates the value placed on rare and fragile items. It was a rare gesture and in our current predominantly digital world an almost revolutionary gesture."

(excerpted from *UB Libraries Today*)

## Congratulations

Congratulations and good luck to our graduating seniors. The following have shared their future plans:

- **Luc Barton** is going on to the English PhD program at Rutgers University.
- **Nathan Brown** hopes to dive in Thailand and teach English as a second language.
- **Julia Cuthbertson** is going to graduate school at UB to get her MA in childhood education.
- **Stefan Doyno** will attend Columbia Graduate School of Journalism.
- **Andrian Finch** is going to University of Rochester Business School to pursue public relations.
- **Rachel Horowitz** has a Fulbright to go to Morocco.
- **Lisa Kulka** will work for the Peace Corps beginning this summer. She later plans to earn her MA in English and eventually become an English professor.
- **Seth Pedone** is going to Medaille College for an MA in English, and will apply to UB's English department for the PhD.
- **Jessica Sheehan** is going to Niagara University for an MA in English Education, grades 5-12.
- **Amber Gerrity** hopes to get a job as a food writer.
- **Danielle Howard** will attend the Graduate School of Education at UB for an MA in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages.
- **Elizabeth Lee** will enter UB's Law School.
- **Laura Neese** is moving home to New York City, where she will set out on an adventure to dance and choreograph.
- **Josh Newman** is going to UB for an MA in English.
- **Lauren Nostro** is going to NYU Graduate School of Journalism.
- **David Sanchirico** is going to CUNY Graduate School of Journalism.
- **Brian Wilson** will attend the Graduate School of Education at UB for an EdM in School Counseling, hoping to be a guidance counselor in a middle or high school.
- **Amanda Woods** is going to CUNY Graduate School of Journalism.

## NEW POETRY CLUB

"We the Notorious Pronouns" (WTNP) is an independent poetry club founded by eight undergraduate students in early 2010. The group writes, shares, and reads poetry with other aspiring poets. Members include Patrick Riedy, John Cuttito, Peter Williams, Michael Koh, Katherine Kurtz, Jeremy Lessard, Bobby Clark, Vincent Cervone, and Kayla White. The Pronouns are publishing a literary magazine. For more information, email [wethenotoriousp@gmail.com](mailto:wethenotoriousp@gmail.com)



## NAME

The Spring 2011 issue of *NAME*, the Department's undergraduate literary magazine, was launched with a reading on April 25 at the Poetry Collection. The work of 23 students was included by editors Matt Allison, Xicong Chen, Michael Chung, Margaret Guzzino, Sonia Hassan, Michael Koh, Patrick Riedy, Hannah Whistler and Peter Letson Williams.

# UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE STUDENT PRIZES

## Fellowships

- **Jacob Jewusiak** won the *Bob and Carol Morris Dissertation Fellowship* to complete his thesis "Forms of Attention: Marginality and Temporality in the Mid-Victorian Novel"



- **Margaret Konkol** won *The Louis and Joan Slovisky Dissertation Fellowship* for 2011 to complete her thesis "Modernizing Nature: Modernist Poetry, Gender, and National Identity" Margaret also won *The Gender Institute Student Scholarship* for 2011-2012.
- **Jaechol Kim** received an Honorable Mention from the English Department to complete his thesis "Staging Nationhood: Topographical Liminality and Chorographical Representations in Elizabethan and Jacobean Drama"
- **Richard Owens** was awarded a *David Gray Chair Dissertation Fellowship* to complete "To Shrink the Confines": Charles Olson, Edward Dorn, J. H. Prynne and the Space of History."
- **Siobhan Scarry** won a *David Gray Chair Dissertation Fellowship* to complete "We: Intersubjectivity and Visions of Community in American Experimental Poetry (1850-1965).
- **Justin Parks** was awarded a *Fulbright Fellowship* to Finland for 2011-2012
- **Melissa Schindler** was awarded a *Fulbright Fellowship* to Brazil for 2011-2012

## Writing Prizes

**Morani Kornberg-Weiss** won the *Academy of American Poets Prize* as well as the *Friends of the Dan Liberthson Poetry Prize*.



**David D. Squires** won **The Joyce Carol Oates Prize for Fiction**, given annually for the best piece of creative writing fiction by an undergraduate or graduate student at UB. **Dustin Parrott** received an Honorable Mention.

**Adam Katz** received an Honorable Mention for **The Friends of the Dan Liberthson Poetry Prize**.

## Teaching Awards

Congratulations to **Stephanie Farrar** and **Margaret Konkol** for winning *The Graduate Student Excellence in Teaching Award*, and to **Debra Goodman** and **Joshua Lam** for winning honorable mention for Excellence in Teaching.

It is wonderful news that the English Department's record of recognition for its excellent graduate student teaching continues!



## Undergraduate Departmental Prize Winners

**Luc Barton**, winner of the *CAS Outstanding Senior Award*, awarded by the Dean's office for the best senior graduating from each

department in the College, the *Phi Beta Kappa Hildegard F. Shinnars Memorial Prize*, and the *Class of 1972 Senior Thesis Prize*.

**Caleb Clark**, winner of the *English Department Essay Contest*, for the best critical essay written in a UB undergraduate class. Caleb is a graduating senior; his essay was titled "Blood and Ink: Art's Agency in a Postcolonial Consciousness."

**Julianna Crumlish**, winner of the *George Knight Houpt Prize*, for demonstrated excellence and proficiency in the work of the English Department. Julianna is a graduating senior; her submissions for this prize were titled "Body and Soul: The Artistic Struggle in The Moon and Sixpence" and "The Type-Writer Girl."

**Claire M. Gay**, co-winner (with Jacob West) of the *Arthur Axelrod Memorial Award*, an annual prize for poetry. Claire is a senior English major; her winning poem was titled "Rich."

**Clare Paniccia**, winner of the *Scribblers Prize*, which is awarded annually for the best piece of creative writing submitted in competition by an undergraduate woman. Clare is a junior major; her submissions were titled "And Invitation," "Fools' Day," "I watched from above," "For fear of Solitude we cried," and "Remembering the past before it happened"

**Jacob West**, co-winner (with Claire Gay) of the *Arthur Axelrod Memorial Award*. Jacob is a graduating senior Architecture major; his submissions were untitled pieces and "For Jessica."

**Meghan Farrell** and **Jeremy Lessard** were awarded Honorable Mention for the *Class of 1972 Senior Thesis Prize*.

**Rachel Horowitz**, winner of a teaching *Fulbright Fellowship* in Morocco.

# SPECTRUM 60TH ANNIVERSARY REUNION

Saturday April 9th, 2011



The Spectrum 60th Anniversary Reunion was a grand success. Attended by around sixty alums, the day progressed from a visit to the Spectrum office to a panel discussion with Jo-ann Armao, Pamela Benson, Andrew Wiktor, and Ronald Banks (the first editor of the Spectrum), followed by a wonderful slideshow of the Spectrum's past sixty years, composed by Amanda Woods and Meg Kinsley. Alums reminisced about their own days as UB journalists and concluded the day with dinner at Byblos. All who attended now look forward to the next reunion—in 2016.

# FACULTY ACTIVITIES



Professor Bruce Jackson's photographs of Buffalo's waterfront grain elevators were the subject of an exhibit entitled "American Chartres: Buffalo's Waterfront Elevators" at the University at Buffalo's Anderson Gallery from January 22 to May 1st.

**UBThisSummer** 2011

The Department of English at the  
University at Buffalo presents

## Shakespeare in the Summer: *Stratford and Buffalo*

**Dr. Barbara Bono**  
Senior Professor  
in Shakespeare Studies

**Itinerary**

**Early July** Pre-theatre barbeque and get-acquainted meeting at the Bono's Parkside home  
*The Merchant of Venice*, Shakespeare in Delaware Park

**July 15-17** Trip to Stratford Festival, Canada, accommodations at The Queen's Inn  
Performances include:  
*Titus Andronicus*, The Tom Patterson Theatre  
*Richard III*, The Tom Patterson Theatre  
*The Merry Wives of Windsor*, The Festival Theatre  
*Twelfth Night*, The Festival Theatre

**Late July** Pre-theatre pot-luck and discussion at the Bono's Parkside home  
*As You Like It*, Shakespeare in Delaware Park

**Enrollment in the program provides you with:**

- pre and post-performance lectures and discussions
- great seats for all four Stratford performances
- tours of the Stratford Festival Theatre and Costume Warehouse
- 2 nights accommodations at Stratford's historic Queen's Inn
- 3 pub lunches to accompany the pre-performance seminars

**Cost: \$1,250 per person based on double occupancy**  
**Program limited to 25 participants**

Further details and registration information at: [www.cas.buffalo.edu/summer/workshops.php](http://www.cas.buffalo.edu/summer/workshops.php)

College of Arts and Sciences  
University at Buffalo, The State University of New York

## Congratulations!

Randy Schiff has been promoted to the rank of Associate Professor.

Andrew Stott has been promoted to the rank of Professor.

## Faculty Retirements



"It has been like so awesome"

**Mark Shechner** has taught at UB since 1970. A scholar of Joyce, twentieth-century American culture and literature, and Jewish American literature, he has published four scholarly books, most recently *Up Society's Ass*, *Copper: The Fiction of Philip Roth* (Wisconsin, 2004) and

edited two books, most recently *Jewish Writing and the Deep Places of the Imagination* (Wisconsin, 2005). During his years at UB he enjoyed Fulbright or Visiting Lectureships to Jagiellonian University (Krakow, Poland), Hebrew University (Jerusalem, Israel), and Doshisha University (Kyoto, Japan). Mark served as Department Chair from 1997-1999 and 2005-2006. For ten years he has been writing fiction, and his first story, titled "Moby's Story," will appear later this year in *The Texas Review*. It is part of a novel titled *Call Me Moishe: The True Confessions of a White Whale*, and it is in part the retelling of *Moby Dick* from the whale's point of view. It takes place in two locales: the South Pacific and a city on Lake Erie called Snowport, New York, where there is a University built in a swamp known as U.S., the University of Snowport. It features two characters named Mo: Moby Dick and his amanuensis, an English professor named Moishe Dickens. Another book, "Snowport Stories," will collect all the shavings, peelings, and scrapings that fall loose from the novel.

**Mili Clark** (BA U Texas, Austin, PhD Queen's, Canada) has taught at UB since 1972. She has published on Milton, edited a literary issue of *Concrete Garden*, and taught Medieval literature and culture, Milton, seventeenth-century literature, and Composition for the Department, receiving an Award for Teaching Excellence from the Student Association. Mili served as Director of Composition and Teaching Fellows from 1993 until 2008, helping build and then bring the Department's Composition Program both literally and figuratively into the twenty-first century. She will be retiring as of January 3, 2012.

**Mindy Aloff** (MA, 1974) has had several books published since 2008, including *Hippo in a Tutu: Dancing in Disney Animation* (Disney Editions, 2008) and the forthcoming edited collection "Leaps in the Dark: Art and the World by Agnes de Mille" (University Press of Florida, spring 2011). She also serves as editor for the newsletter of the *Dance Critics Association*.

**Ben Cady** (BA, 2005), a second-year student at NYU Law School, was recently elected editor-in-chief of the *NYU Review of Law & Social Change*.

**Mary Cappello**, (PhD '88), was recently named a 2011 Guggenheim Fellow in Creative Arts/Nonfiction. Cappello will use the award to compose *In the Mood: Toward a Psychology of Atmosphere*, a series of experimental meditations on "mood" and cross-disciplinary acoustical phenomena. Cappello's previous books include a book-length essay on "awkwardness" that was a *Los Angeles Times* bestseller (*Awkward: A Detour*); an anti-chronicle in response to a breast cancer diagnosis (*Called Back*) that won a ForeWord Book of the Year Award and an Independent Publisher's Prize (IPPY); and a memoiristic hybrid on the twinned legacies of violence and creativity in an Italian American family (*Night Bloom*). Her most recent book, *Swallow: Foreign Bodies, Their Ingestion, Inspiration, and the Curious Doctor who Extracted Them* (The New Press, 2011) emerged out of a collection of "foreign bodies" housed in Philadelphia's Mutter Museum: nearly 2000 swallowed or aspirated "things" that pioneering laryngologist Chevalier Jackson extracted nonsurgically from the airways of people in the early 20th century and that he also saved and framed. Part psychobiography, part cultural history, part philosophical meditation, *Swallow* brings Jackson's incomparable contributions to the history of medicine to light while restoring the narratives, lives, and longings that haunt his collection. Cappello was the recipient of the Bechtel Prize for Educating the Imagination from Teachers and Writers Collaborative, and the Dorothea Lange/Paul Taylor Prize from Duke University's Center for Documentary Studies. A former Fulbright lecturer at the Gorky Literary Institute (Moscow), she is currently Professor of English and creative writing at the University of Rhode Island. You can read her work in places like *The Georgia Review*, *Salmagundi*, *Michigan Quarterly Review*, *Raritan*, and elsewhere.

**Bruce Clarke**, at Texas Tech, has been named a Horn Professor, the highest honor a faculty member can receive from the university. He is a long-time member of the Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts (SLSA) and served as president, 2006-08.

**Dan Collins** (PhD, 2006)--who took time in between to have two children and get an MSW in Health and Mental Health Social Work at UB--has now replaced his old UB English Department buddy Kevin Costa as teacher and Senior Project Coordinator in the upper school at the Nichols School here in Buffalo.

**Kevin Costa** (PhD, 2006) left Nichols School to head the Drama Department at the McDonogh School in Baltimore, MD. He has also become the Education Director of the semi-professional Chesapeake Shakespeare Company, and this fall he directed his first production, a mobile production

(the audience moves from site to site) of Shakespeare's *Titus Andronicus* in the ruins of the Patapsco Female Institute Historic Park.

**Michael Cross** (PhD, 2010) has published a new book of poems: *Haecceities* (Cuneiform Press, 2010) and co-edited the magazine *On: Contemporary Practice #2* (2010) with Buffalo graduates Kyle Schlesinger (PhD, 2006) and Thomas Donovan (PhD, 2009).

**Michael Davidson** (PhD, 1972) is Distinguished Professor of Literature at the University of California, San Diego. He has recently published *Universal Design: The Work of Disability in an Age of Globalization*, *The Disability Studies Reader*, ed. Lennard Davis (Routledge, 2010), and "Pregnant Men: Modernism, Disability, and Biofuturity in Djuna Barnes," *Novel* 54.3 (Summer, 2010). *Outskirts of Form: Practicing Cultural Poetics* will be published in 2011 by Wesleyan University Press.

**Amy Dunkin**, who was editor-in-chief of *The Spectrum* in 1975-76, is now director of academic operations at the City University of New York Graduate School of Journalism.

**Neil Easterbrook** (MA '85, PhD '88) has been promoted to full professor of English at Texas Christian University, where he's taught since 1991. He's published almost 100 scholarly essays and reviews, and is now completing a book on the British writer China Miéville. This spring, he was a plenary speaker at the 2011 *Science Fiction Studies* symposium on "singularity." In 2009, he won the Pioneer Award from the Science Fiction Research Association for Excellence in Scholarly Criticism for an essay entitled "Giving an Account of Oneself: Ethics, Alterity, Air." In 1995, he won the Jack Mathenia award for an essay about Italo Calvino, called "The Reasons Why Living was Beautiful."



**Linda Hanley Finigan** (BA, 1970), editor-in-chief of *The Spectrum* in 1969-70, has just published her first novel, *Love and War*. From a star-struck young girl's handshake with JFK during the 1960 campaign through the battlefields of Vietnam and the student protests at home, *Love and War* encompasses an era whose politics and passions continue to resonate in our own: the story of war and its aftermath when the warriors come home. Linda served as a Congressional aide to Arizona Democrat

Morris K. Udall in Washington, as a press spokesman for the People's Coalition for Peace and Justice and as a nightly newscaster for Chapel Hill's PBS affiliate WUNC-TV. She is the author of numerous short stories and two other novels.

**Alexander Clark Johnston** (BA, magna cum laude, 2008; MLS, Library Science, 2009) is an Assistant Librarian at the University of Delaware in Newark, DE where he works in the Library's Special Collections. He primarily

works with the book unit, managing the extant print collection. The collection has a phenomenal variety of early printed books, English literature from the early modern era onwards, artists' books, and books related to the history of printing, all of which makes for a very fun and inspiring working environment.

**John Marvin** (PhD, 2004)'s essay, "Finnegans Wake III.3 & The Third Millennium: The Ghost of Modernisms Yet to Come" was recently published in *Vinchnar, David and Louis Armand. Hypermedia Joyce* (Prague: Litteraria Pragensia Books, 2010). The essay was originally presented in a panel at the North American James Joyce Conference at Cornell in 2005.

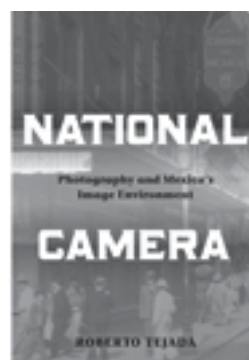
**Scott Oldenburg** (PhD, 2006) now Assistant Professor of English at Tulane University, published his article "Toward a Multicultural Mid-Tudor England: The Queen's Royal Entry Circa 1553, The Interlude of Wealth and Health, and the Question of Strangers in the Reign of Mary I" in *ELH* 76.1 (2009): 99-129. The essay was also awarded The 2010 Martin Stevens Award for the Best New Essay in Early Drama Studies from The Medieval and Renaissance Drama Society.

**Jacob Paul** (BA, 1995) published his debut novel *Sarah/Sara* this last May with Ig Publishing. *Sarah/Sara* unfolds as the journal of Sarah Frankel, an American-born Jew who, shortly after finishing her undergraduate studies at Columbia, moves to Israel. It has been described as "an engrossing meditation on the meaning of faith in the modern world."

**Mark Francis Schwab** (PhD, 1976): The great grand nephew of Buffalo Mayor Francis Xavier Schwab (1920-27), Mark published *The Spouse Stealer* with Xlibris in October 2010. The story is set during the height of Buffalo's Baby-Boomer's interaction with the last of its blue-blooded, gilded-class monies. Mark has also written tourism news stories, poetry, and fiction. He currently resides in the Adirondack footprint, working on two more books of fiction, each containing seven historically based short stories: *The High Peaks* and *Saratoga Times*.

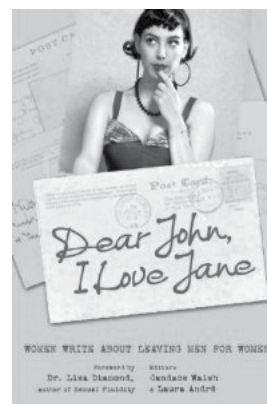
**Chuck Teixeira** (BA, 1976) is a lawyer and poet working in San Francisco. His work has appeared in *Esquire*, *Slipstream*, *Portland Review*, *Grasslimb*, *Schuykill Valley Journal*, *Library Journal* and *San Francisco Daily Journal*—as well as in publications of the Bureau of National Affairs (Thompson West and Matthew Bender). Chuck does volunteer work in the Soka Gakkai International, a Buddhist organization devoted to peace, culture and education. His personal contributions to culture consist of playing and

refusing to play the piano accordion. Chuck's favorite activity is hiking in the Sierra, Cascade and Coastal ranges, where his wilderness skills blur the distinction between tent-camping and sanity. Chuck has two adult children, Emily and Justin, neither of whom has any interest in practicing law or writing for publication. Chuck thinks education is important because, with four degrees, he can barely make a living. Chuck's children think education is a waste of time because, even with four degrees, he can barely make a living. Best wishes for the English Department faculty and fellow students -- to each of whom I owe a great debt of gratitude.



**Roberto Tejada** (PhD, 2004) recently received a Distinguished Endowed professorship from SMU, Meadows School of the Arts in Dallas, Texas. Roberto's book *National Camera: Photography and Mexico's Image Environment* was published by University of Minnesota Press in 2009, the same year he published *Celia Alvarez Munoz* (UCLA Chicano Research Center, 2009). Roberto is also the author of several books of poetry.

**Roland Vegso** (PhD, 2007)'s book manuscript "The Naked Communist" has been accepted for publication by Fordham University Press. Roland is an assistant professor at the University of Nebraska and is currently translating one of Professor Rodolph Gasché's early German books.



**Candace Walsh** published her second anthology, *Dear John, I Love Jane: Women Write About Leaving Men for Women* (Seal Press) in November 2010. She is also writing for the *Huffington Post* and *AfterEllen.com* as the food columnist. Candace lives in Santa Fe where she is completing a food memoir called *Licking the Spoon* that will be released by Seal Press in the spring of 2012.

## Charles Masino (BA 1950)

### Reminisces about his years at UB:

"During the first week of May 2010, I celebrated the 60th anniversary of my graduation from UB. I had planned to give a lengthy explanation of my wonderful experience as an English major and all that resulted because of it. I will deal only with one experience. As a major in English beginning in my junior year, I wanted a right to a carrel. I became a library page with carrel privileges. At the beginning of my senior year, an opening as an assistant to Professor Abbott, the Director of Libraries, opened and I got the job. What an experience that turned out to be!

In retrospect, the best part of that experience was my involvement with the early Joyce collection. I am probably the only person alive who was an active participant with what was happening at the time. I was a fringe player, but involved. I knew because of the anticipation of the English Department for the arrival of the Joyce memorabilia that something important was happening, but I couldn't grasp it because I was not yet aware of Joyce's genius. There was high excitement when the shipment arrived. The modern poetry room was emptied so it could house the Joyce memorabilia. After it was unpacked, I sat opposite Professor Abbott as he translated Joyce's Greek writing into English, dictating it to me to record. He did this with me rather than his secretary because of the content of the work. He would never dictate that content to a woman.

I have forgotten so much after so long, but the opening night I still remember vividly. It was a social event--black ties, evening gowns, mink coats. All tables had been removed from the main reading room. At least 200 chairs filled the room facing the rostrum from which a guest speaker spoke of Joyce.

Now 60 years after the opening night, learning that UB houses the best Joyce collection in the world, I find pride in having been part of it all at the very beginning. In a small way, I was part of it all. And the creative manner in which Professor Abbott arranged for cataloging without funds, etc. What a learning experience! So by choosing English as a major I gained separate educations--the traditional one and the many valuable experiences associated with being an assistant to Professor Abbott, a true mentor to me."

**Historical footnote:** Charles indeed remembers the first purchase of materials for what is now the largest and most significant collection of Joyce manuscripts in the world. The Greek Abbott translated is from one of the Zurich notebooks, Joyce's very early notes that eventually led to the novel *Ulysses*. The opening took place on April 18, 1951, and the speaker was probably Oscar Silverman, a Joyce scholar later to become the Chair of the English Department and then Director of the University Libraries. Send us your memories (and photographs) of experiences here at UB!



## In Memoriam: Ann Haskell

**Professor Ann Haskell**, who retired from the University at Buffalo English Department in 2007, passed away on Friday October 22, 2010 at her home in Troy, VA. Professor Haskell was a Chaucerian scholar whose books included *Essays on Chaucer's Saints* and *A Middle English Anthology*. In addition to her scholarly work, she wrote

op-ed columns, personal essays and articles for many publications including *Smithsonian* magazine, the *Washington Post*, *Baltimore Sun* and *The New York Times*. She received her doctorate in English and philology cum laude from the University of Pennsylvania in 1964 and began teaching at UB in 1966, specializing in Chaucer, medieval life and literature, and children's literature. For 37 years, she served as a mentor and adviser to hundreds of students and was known for her generosity and scholarship. She maintained a home in Provence in Southern France for 40 years, taught a program abroad on the culture of Provence and famously lived as a medieval woman in Provence for a period, an experience she documented in a major feature of the *Smithsonian* magazine.

**Roz Mandelcorn** (BA, 1977, now of Los Angeles, CA) remembers Professor Haskell: "She was one of my favorite instructors in graduate school and a wonderful mentor. While I had not been in contact with her in years, images of her and the classes she taught that I attended flooded my memory as soon as I read the headline. I would like to take this opportunity to extend my sympathies to her family and tell them how grateful I am that I had the chance to study with her at UB."

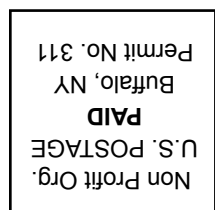
Be sure to check out the English department on Facebook!

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Buffalo-NY/University-at-Buffalo-Department-of-English/148392333825?ref=ts>

To sign up for the alumni listserv, please email Sophia Canavos at [scanavos@buffalo.edu](mailto:scanavos@buffalo.edu)



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