



Dear Alumni, Parents, Students, and Friends of the UB English Department,

I am delighted to address you as the new chair of the English department. It is a great honor and pleasure to take on this role. I am especially grateful to Cristanne Miller, the outgoing chair, for all her hard work and dedication over the past many years.

I would like to call your attention to just a few of the exciting features you'll find in this year's newsletter:

- Introductions to our new hires: Jeehyun Lim (assistant professor), Tanya Shilina-Conte (assistant professor), Nicholas Hoffman (clinical assistant professor), Jason Maxwell (clinical assistant professor), and Nikolaus Wasmoen (visiting assistant professor). We are delighted to welcome them to our faculty.
- An article on Professor Nnedi Okorafor's foray into television production. "Game of Thrones" mastermind George R. R. Martin has optioned Nnedi's *Who Fears Death* for HBO. Congratulations Nnedi!
- Congratulations to Seong-kon Kim, alum of the UB graduate program, who was recently awarded a SUNY Honorary Doctorate in Humane Letters for his extraordinary achievements as an author and translator, and as

president of the Literature Translation Institute (LTI) of Korea.

- Highlights from this year's graduation ceremony. We are so proud of all our graduates. Stay tuned for what they do next!
- We are especially delighted to feature the four Fulbright scholars from the English department who will be studying and teaching abroad next year. This was a banner year for UB in the Fulbright competition, and an extraordinary one for the English department.
- A memorial to Victor Doyno, longtime UB faculty member and one of the country's foremost Mark Twain scholars. We are deeply saddened by his passing.

Also look for: heartfelt congratulations to our retiring faculty members, Alan Spiegel and Roy Roussel; an impressive list of faculty promotions, awards, recognitions, and publications; a story on the annual Robert Creeley lecture, this year headlined by world-renowned poetry critic, Jerome McGann; and updates on some of our programs.

To all the friends who read this newsletter, I want to say: thank you for your ongoing interest in the department. Please keep in touch! We always love to hear from you.

Sincerely,
Rachel Ablow



Okorafor's *Who Fears Death* Optioned by HBO

From Christian Holub at *Entertainment Weekly*

One week before the premier of the final season of the hit series *Game of Thrones* on HBO, UB's Nnedi Okorafor announced that the network was developing her award-winning novel *Who Fears Death* into a series. Okorafor added that *Game of Thrones* mastermind George R.R. Martin is also involved.

Okorafor, who was also promoted to Full Professor in 2017 and was the subject of UB's Signature Series in April, made the announcement on Twitter: "My novel *Who Fears Death* has been optioned by HBO and is now in early development as a TV series with George RR Martin as executive producer," Okorafor tweeted. As proof, she included in the tweet a selfie where she's standing in front of the HBO logo — presumably at the cable network's offices.

Okorafor's 2010 novel takes place in a post-apocalyptic future Africa riven by genocidal tribal conflict between the light-skinned Nuru and dark-skinned Okeke. The protagonist Onyesonwu (whose name is Igbo for the book's title, "who fears death") was born of an interracial rape. As she grows older she realizes she has magical powers — and even more importantly, that someone else with powerful magic is trying to kill her. *Who Fears Death* won the 2011 World Fantasy Award for Best Novel.



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PROMOTIONS



Rachel Ablow, promoted to Professor
Rachel came to UB in the Fall of 2006 as an Assistant Professor. She became an Associate Professor in 2008. Earning her PhD from Johns Hopkins University in English Literature, she specializes in Victorian Literature. Rachel is also the new Chair of the English Department.



Walt Hakala, promoted to Associate Professor with tenure
Walt came to UB as an Assistant Professor in both the English Department and the Asian Studies Program. He earned his PhD from the University of Pennsylvania in South Asian Regional Studies, with Highest Distinction. He specializes in Urdu/Indo-Persian Literature & Lexicography, Mughal & Early Colonial History in North India, Sufism & Islam in South Asia.



Jody Kleinberg-Biehl, promoted to Clinical Associate Professor
Jody came to UB originally as an Adjunct Professor in 2007. She became the Director of the Journalism Certificate Program in 2009, and the Advisor for *The Spectrum*, the student newspaper, in 2010. She became a Clinical Assistant Professor in 2013. She received her Masters degree from the Sorbonne, University of Paris in Art History, and Master of Arts degree from the New York University Graduate School of Journalism, NY, NY.



Elizabeth Mazzolini, promoted to Associate Professor with tenure
Elizabeth came to UB as an Assistant Professor from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in 2015. Earning her PhD from the Pennsylvania State University, she specializes in Science Studies & Environmental Humanities. Elizabeth is the new Director of Academic and Professional Writing and Teaching Fellows.



Nnedi Okorafor, promoted to Professor
Nnedi came to UB as an Associate Professor from Chicago State University in 2013. She earned her PhD from the University of Illinois, Chicago. Her course specialties are Intro to Creative Writing, Advanced Creative Writing, African Lit., Young Adult Lit., Speculative Lit. & Postcolonial Lit. Among her many awards, she is a recent winner of the Hugo Award for Best Novella (*Binti*) & the Nebula Award for Best Novella (*Binti*).



Bill Solomon, promoted to Professor
Bill came to the UB English Dept. as an Associate Professor, from Gettysburg College in 2007. He is also a Core Faculty Member in the Center for the Study of Psychoanalysis and Culture. He received his PhD from the State University of New York, Stony Brook. He specializes in 20th Century American Literature.



Hershini Young, promoted to Professor
In 2002, Hershini came to UB as an Assistant Professor from UC Riverside. She became an Associate Professor at UB in 2006. She received her PhD in Ethnic Studies from the University of California, Berkeley. Her specialty is Black performance studies, contemporary African diasporic literature, and queer studies.

WELCOME



Jeehyun Lim, Assistant Professor

Professor Lim's research and teaching focus on Asian American literature and culture, comparative race studies, and cultures of liberalism. Her first book, *Bilingual Brokers: Race, Literature, and Language as Human Capital* (Fordham UP, 2017), examines representations of bilingual personhood in Asian American and Latino literature in relation to social debates on bilingualism and the emergence of language as human capital in the second half of the twentieth century. Her second book project examines the Korean War in American literature and culture in the mid-twentieth and early twenty-first centuries. Other scholarly publications include a co-edited interdisciplinary volume of essays on the *Vietnam War, Looking Back on the Vietnam War: Twentieth-first Century Perspectives* (Rutgers UP, 2016), and articles in journals including *Modern Fiction Studies*, *Journal of Transnational Studies*, and *Biography*. She holds a Ph.D. in English from the University of Pennsylvania and was an assistant professor of English at Denison University in Ohio before joining the faculty at UB.



Tanya Shalina-Conte, Assistant Professor

Prof. Shalina-Conte teaches a wide variety of courses in film theory, media theory, global culture, theories of montage and representation, color and the moving image, avant-garde cinema, and gender. She is the founder of the Center for Global Film and Media at UB, which regularly organizes events and screenings that deal with topics of global communication environment. In 2016-2017, she served as curator of the riverrun Global Film Series (with a special focus on Iranian and Cuban cinema) held at the Burchfield Penny Art Center in Buffalo.



Nick Hoffman

Clinical Assistant Professor -
Rhetoric and Composition

Nick earned his M.A. in English from Miami University (Ohio), and enjoyed a career in political and nonprofit writing before transitioning to teaching writing in 2006. In 2016, he completed his Ph.D. in English from the University at Buffalo. Research interests include early modern poetry and prose, digital humanities, social media, and communication technologies. He has taught classes in British Literature, Renaissance Drama, and Film for Buffalo State College. Recently, he has been teaching in the Professional Writing Program at the University of Maryland.



Jason Maxwell

Clinical Assistant Professor -
Rhetoric and Composition

Teaches composition courses, and will be assisting in preparing new instructors. After growing up outside of Raleigh and receiving a BA in English from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, he attended graduate school at the Pennsylvania State University. At Penn State, he developed interests in the history and theory of rhetoric, critical theory, and critical university studies. These various interests inform his book on the development of theory and composition in the contemporary American university; the book is forthcoming from Fordham University Press. He is excited to join a department with such a rich history in literary criticism and theory and looks forward to meeting everyone this fall.



Nikolaus Wasmoen

Visiting Assistant Professor - Digital Scholarship and English

Prof. Wasmoen will teach courses and workshops on modernist literature, new media, and the digital humanities, and he is involved in efforts to create new interdisciplinary digital humanities curricula at the University at Buffalo. He received his PhD in English from the University of Rochester in March 2016, and is currently working on his first book project, *Editorial Modernism*, a study of the relationship between poetics and the work of manuscript, book, and periodical editing in the careers of T. S. Eliot, Marianne Moore, and Ezra Pound. He has contributed to a range of digital humanities projects including the William Blake Archive, Modernist Networks (ModNets), Man into Woman: Archive of the Life Narrative of Lili Elbe, and the Marianne Moore Digital Archive. This fall he will teach a new course on Cultural Data in collaboration with the Arts Management program and the Technē Institute.

GOODBYE

Jang Wook Huh, Visiting Assistant Professor, who came to UB from Columbia Univ. in 2014, accepted a position as an Assistant Professor at the University of Washington.

Roy Roussel, Professor - retired this past Spring. Roy began his career at UB in 1967 in the English Dept., and eventually he became a Professor in Media Studies.

Alan Spiegel, Professor - retired this past Spring after 50 years of service in the English Dept. He started as an Assistant Professor in 1967.

Andrew Stott, Professor of English, Dean of Undergraduate Education, Director Honors College. Prof. Stott has accepted a position as College Dean of Undergraduate Education for the Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Science at the University of Southern California. He has been a UB faculty member since 2002.

FACULTY NEWS

AWARDS

Diane Christian, SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor, and Bruce Jackson, SUNY Distinguished Professor, have been named the 2016 recipients of the National Federation for Just Communities of Western New York's Community Leader Philanthropy Award.

Walt Hakala, Associate Professor, was selected as a recipient of the 2017 President Emeritus and Mrs. Meyerson Award for Distinguished Undergraduate Teaching and Mentoring Award. Walt also received the University at Buffalo's Exceptional Scholars Award for Young Investigators.

David Schmid, Associate Professor, has been selected the 2017 recipient of the George N. Dove Award from the Popular Culture Association. The award is designed to recognize contributions to the serious study of mystery and crime fiction.

Hershini Young, Professor, won the Gender Institute's 2016-17 Excellence in Mentoring Award.

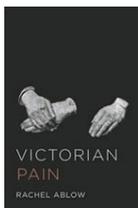
RECOGNITIONS

Carrie Bramen, Associate Professor, has been appointed director of UB's Institute for Research and Education on Women and Gender, an interdisciplinary center dedicated to advancing women's and LGBTQ leadership, vision and influence.

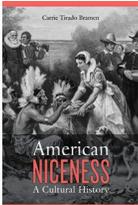
Bruce Jackson, SUNY Distinguished Professor's 1964-67 recordings of African American work songs in a Texas prison are now the basis for a play called "The B-Side," by NYC's Wooster Group.

Myung Mi Kim, Professor, has been appointed the James H. McNulty Chair in English

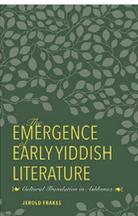
PUBLICATIONS



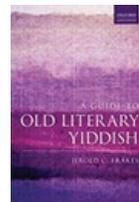
Rachel Ablow, Professor, published *Victorian Pain* (Princeton University Press, 2017)



Carrie Bramen, Associate Professor, published *American Niceness* (Harvard University Press, 2017)



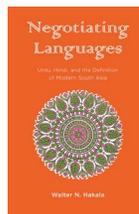
Jerold Frakes, SUNY Distinguished Professor, published *The Emergence of Early Yiddish Literature* (Indiana University Press, 2017)



Jerold Frakes, SUNY Distinguished Professor, published *A Guide to Old Literary Yiddish* (Oxford University Press, 2017)



Judith Goldman, Assistant Professor, published *agon* (the operating system print, 2017)



Walter Hakala, Associate Professor, published *Negotiating Languages* (Columbia University Press, 2017)



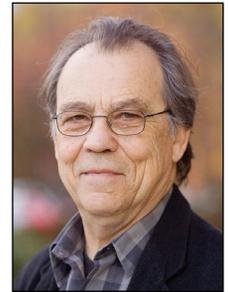
Hershini Young, Professor, published *Illegible Will* (Duke University Press, 2017)

DEPARTMENT NEWS

Department Launches Minor in Global Film

Following its long and vibrant history of teaching in the area of Film Studies, the English Department is excited to announce the creation of the new Global Film Minor, to be launched in Fall 2017. The program will be coordinated by Tanya Shilina-Conte, an Assistant Professor and Director of the Center for Global Film and Media. Although the program will be housed in English, it is designed to transcend disciplinary boundaries, building on rich fields of expertise in various UB departments. Department courses will include Film Directors (Buffalo Film Seminar), Writing About Film, National Cinemas, Film Genres, Contemporary Cinema, Film Theory, Modernism and Film, and Shakespeare in Film I and II. Courses in this minor will introduce students to audiovisual analysis, artistic forms and cultural practices in a range of countries, and novel forms of cinematic storytelling. Students will gauge the impact of new and emerging technologies on contemporary cinema and explore developments in international film production, reception, exhibition, and distribution. The Minor will also provide students with a unique perspective on contemporary social and political issues, such as immigration, gender and sexuality, disability, human rights, and climate change. As Tanya Shilina-Conte points out, the minor would be helpful to students aiming to enter careers in publishing (print- and online-based), teaching, film criticism and filmmaking, audiovisual research and archiving, curating, screenwriting, public relations, and community outreach.

ANNUAL ROBERT CREELEY LECTURE ON POETRY & POETICS



Jerome McGann

Jerome McGann, John Stewart Bryan Professor at the University of Virginia, fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and one of the founders of the field of digital humanities, was the featured speaker for UB's second annual Robert Creeley Lecture on Poetry and Poetics on March 30, 2017. His talk was called "Reading Poetry."

"McGann's work has foundationally changed how we think about poetry," says Myung Mi Kim, the James H. McNulty Chair in the Department of English and director of the UB Poetics Program. "He is a galvanizing figure, at the forefront of the field in very specific and unique ways."

"Galvanizing is a great word to describe McGann because his mind works in ways that constantly bring diverse elements together," Cristanne Miller, SUNY Distinguished Professor and Edward H. Butler Professor of English notes. "He started as a critic of Byron's poetry, but questions about Byron brought in so many other questions that he was soon writing about things that few would have predicted."

The event also featured a conversation with and an excerpt from SUNY Distinguished Professor David Felder's concert film, "Les Quatre Temps Cardinaux," a complex song cycle written in part as a response to Creeley's poems "Spring Light" and "Buffalo Evening."

"We're trying every year to bring more than one kind of artistic expression into play to show ways how, not just Bob's work, but poetry generally enters a variety of artistic fields," Miller says.

Creeley (1926-2005) was author of more than 60 books of poetry and criticism. He served as Samuel P. Capen Professor of Poetics at UB and was a faculty member for 37 years, beginning in 1966. He left UB in 2003 to become a Distinguished Professor at Brown University.

His legacy, however, remains as much about community as poetry, and his namesake lecture series is designed purposefully as an energizing public celebration of poetry.

"That spirit is so important," says Kim. "Creeley bridged many pockets of readers and makers of poetry. He showed how poetry can be manifest in everyday pursuits as much as it can be part of a literary life."

Creeley's footprint in Western New York remains profoundly visible today and can be seen in such local institutions as Just Buffalo Literary Center, founded by Debora Ott, a former student of Creeley who inspired her to establish the organization and take poetry into the community. Jonathan Welch, owner and founder of Talking Leaves, Buffalo's venerable independent bookstore, was an admirer of Creeley and lists him among the lures that attracted him to Western New York.

"We also built in a high school poetry contest to the lecture and celebration," says Kim. "The winner and runners up, as well as their classmates and families in the audience, will be further exposed to the poetry community at large."

Miller and Kim say SUNY Press has agreed to publish a volume of successive Creeley lectures and their responses every other year.

Last year's Creeley Lecture coincided with the 25th anniversary of the UB Poetics Program. The coordinators collected remembrances of Robert Creeley, and Kim and Miller have edited a forthcoming stand-alone volume including that lecture, responses to it and essays developed from the conference. The volume, titled "Poetics and Precarity" (SUNY Press), is expected to appear in January 2018.

Information in this article taken from the UBNOW, written by Bert Gambini, published March 16, 2017.

<https://www.buffalo.edu/ubnow/campus.host.html/content/shared/university/news/ub-reporter-articles/stories/2017/03/creeley-lecture.detail.html>

EMILY DICKINSON MARATHON READING



(photo: Tom Hammond)



(photo: Jody Kleinberg-Biehl)



(photo: Woodrow Brown)



(photo: Woodrow Brown)

For the entire marathon reading, check out the Emily Dickinson YouTube link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qaR_rzhMZA

PROGRAM DIRECTOR NOTES

CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF PSYCHOANALYSIS AND CULTURE

During 2016-2017, the Center for the Study of Psychoanalysis and Culture (CSPC) hosted a robust lineup of professors and clinicians, who all offered both public lectures and seminars. Anna Kornbluh (University of Illinois, Chicago) kicked off the fall semester with a series of talks in conjunction with the department's Juxtapositions Lecture series. Elissa Marder (Emory University) followed with a memorable close-reading of "fixation" Freud's case of "paranoia running counter to the psychoanalytic theory of the disease." Dany Nobus (Brunel University/Freud Museum) began the spring semester with an investigation of "The Poetic Wisdom of Psychoanalysis"; he was followed by Aaron Schuster's (University of Chicago) week-long residency that opened with a lecture on "Genet's *The Balcony* as a Theory of Trump" and concluded with a Q&A on his recently published book, *The Trouble with Pleasure: Deleuze and Psychoanalysis* (MIT 2016). Our year concluded with a visit from Tom Eyers (Duquesne University), who delivered a lecture and seminar on "Psychoanalyzing Form."

During 2017-2018, CSPC will publish the inaugural issue of a new print journal, designed to take up where our former journal, *Umbr(a) A Journal of the Unconscious*, left off. The journal will be designed and edited collaboratively at UB by the faculty and students of the CSPC; each subsequent issue will revolve around a theme determined by the editorial board.

We will also host an exciting series of lectures and seminars. In October, the Center is a co-sponsor of a lecture that Kaja Silverman (University of Pennsylvania) will offer in the department of Visual Studies. Later in the same month, UB Ph.D and Center alumnus Peter DeGabriele (Mississippi State University) will return to Buffalo to give a talk, "Translating Property: Occupation and Language in Enlightenment Natural Law." And in the Spring, thanks to a grant from UB's Creative Arts Initiative, CSPC will join UB Art Galleries to sponsor the residency of visual artist and psychoanalyst Bracha Lichtenberg Ettinger (Tel-Aviv). This residency will feature a major exhibition at UB Anderson Gallery, a public lecture, gallery talks, and a three-week graduate seminar.

This residency represents our ongoing commitment to interdisciplinary research and to making CSPC a site for international collaboration between UB and clinicians, philosophers, and artists from around the world. Another example of such collaboration is the regular participation of many of our faculty and students in the Training Seminar in Lacanian Psychoanalysis offered in Québec City by GIFRIC (Groupe Interdisciplinaire Freudien de Recherches et Interventions Cliniques et Culturelles). We hope to develop such collaborations in future years.

All Center events are free and open to the public. Along with interested participants from UB and the greater Buffalo community, we look forward to welcoming our speakers and joining in fruitful discussions and explorations.

- **Ewa Plonowska Ziarek**
Executive Director, Center for the Study of
Psychoanalysis and Culture

- **Steven Miller**
Director, Center for the Study of
Psychoanalysis and Culture

<http://www.buffalo.edu/cas/english/graduate/psychoanalysis.html>

POETICS PROGRAM

The Poetics Program is pleased to announce that *Poetics and Precarity: The University at Buffalo Robert Creeley Lectures in Poetry and Poetics* (edited by Myung Mi Kim and Cristanne Miller) will be released shortly by SUNY Press. This is the first volume of a series from SUNY Press that will serve to highlight the Poetics Program and the UB English Department's commitment to cultivating new modes of critically engaging with poetry and poetics.

During Fall 2017, Poetics Plus will offer an interlinked series of events, including talks and seminars featuring visits by writers and scholars. Of special note: the Pulitzer winning poet Rae Armantrout, will be presenting her work on Friday, September 22 downtown at the Western New York Book Arts Center. The scholar Christopher Chen, will give a public lecture drawn from his current book project, a comparative study of contemporary African American and Asian American experimental writing on Tuesday, October 24, also at WNYBAC.

Looking ahead: the next Robert Creeley Lecture in Poetry and Poetics will be delivered by the prominent poet and essayist, Lisa Robertson in April. In the spirit of Robert Creeley's devotion to fostering multiple audiences for poetry and cross-conversations about poetry, we will conduct a poetry contest for high school students in the greater Buffalo area and, moreover, invite the community at large to participate in the various events associated with the Creeley Lecture.

I hope to see colleagues, friends of the English Department, students present and past, and fellow travelers in poetry at many of the Poetics Program events throughout 2017-18.

- **Myung Mi Kim**
Director, Poetics Program
<http://www.buffalo.edu/cas/english/graduate/poetics.html>

SAVE THE DATE
Two upcoming movie series:
free and open to the public!



October 12-14, 2017

Second annual riverrun Global Film Series at Burchfield-Penney Art Center

The riverrun Global Film Series features the outstanding films of a country in focus with an emphasis on globalizing transformations and cinematic innovations. The series in 2017 will focus on the films of Cuba. **Series Curator: Tanya Shilina-Conte**, UB English (tshilina@buffalo.edu); **Keynote address: Ann Marie Stock**, College of William & Mary (World Film Locations: Havana; Framing Latin American Cinema).

The riverrun Global Film Series joins riverrun's continuing Cinegael Buffalo program, which has focused on Irish film since 2004. **Director: Patrick Martin** (pmartin@bsk.com).

Congratulations to the English Department Award Winners:

2016 Writing Award Winners

Mariele Anneling and Sarah Grimaldi: Winners of the **Axlerod Memorial Award** for poetry. Honorable Mention: **Alexander Blum, Shaun Nowicki**

Anonymous: Winner of the **Scribblers Prize** for the best piece of creative writing by an undergraduate woman. Honorable Mentions: **Ruby Anderson, Cassandra Norris**

Alexander Blum: Winner of the **Creative Non-Fiction** prize for best factual prose.

Nicole Moran is the winner of the first annual **Walter and Miriam Hass Student Excellence Award**. Nicole is pursuing a B.A. in English and a B.S. in both Mechanical Engineering and Aerospace Engineering. She will use the award funds to attend the 10th annual meeting of the World Federation of Science Journalists in San Francisco, California, October 26-30, 2017.

Lisa Gagnon: Winner of the **George Knight Houpt Prize** for excellence and proficiency in the work of the English Department.

Sushmita Gelda: Winner of the **English Department Essay Prize**.

Christopher Krysztowicz: Winner of the **Joyce Carol Oates Prize for Fiction**.

Ellen Lutnick, Anonymous, and Lisa Lu: Winners of the **Albert Cook, The Mac Hammond, and the John Logan Prize** in poetry, fiction, or drama. Honorable Mentions: **Nicholas Allen Jones, Evan Murphy**

CAS Outstanding Senior Award for English - Sushmita Gelda

Phi Beta Kappa (ΦΒΚ) inductees:

Katherine Chien	Bryn Smith
Lisa Gagnon	Sarah Stanford
Kathryn Sands	

Sigma Tau Delta (ΣΤΔ) inductees:

Katherine Chien	Elisha Jackson
Lauren Fibich	Gerard E. Kennedy
Michael Fiorica	Christopher Krysztowicz
Jeffrey W. Guiher	Paul Lashway
Stephanie Hare	Elisabeth Woldeyohannes

2016 University Libraries Winners

Anonymous: Winner of the **Academy of American Poets Prize**.

Virginia Scott Freeman: Winner of the **Friends of the University Libraries Prize**.

Claire Nashar: Winner of the **The Dan Liberthson Poetry Prize**.

Sarah Stanford: Winner of the **Journey of Discovery Research Project**

UB English, Anthropology, and Global Gender Studies major (and Asian Studies minor) **Hanna Santanam** and Environmental Studies major and Asian Studies minor **Kayleigh Hamernik** were both awarded South Asian Flagship Language Initiative (SAFLI) Boren Awards for AY 2017-18. This award will support the full cost of Hindi language study this summer at the University of Wisconsin's South Asia Summer Language Institute and this fall at the American Institute of Indian Studies Hindi Language Program in Jaipur.

UB "Journey of Discovery" Library-Supported Research Prize - **Sarah Stanford**

The University Libraries Undergraduate Research Prize recognizes students who produce significant academic inquiry requiring use of information resources, the Libraries, and the collections.

JOURNALISM AWARDS

Three Spectrum editors, two of them English majors, received this year's Rosalind Jarrett Sepulveda Journalism Education awards totaling \$2,000. The awards, sponsored by UB alumna Rosalind Jarrett Sepulveda, include a trip to New York City, registration to College Media Association's four-day spring student media conference and two nights at the conference hotel in mid-town Manhattan. Two students, **Max Kalnitz**, an English major and The Spectrum's senior arts editor and **Michael Akelson**, a Communication major and The Spectrum's senior sports editor, won the full award and received the trip, the hotel and the registration. **Madelinn Fowler**, an English major and a Spectrum news editor, won an honorable mention, which earned her free registration to the conference, among the largest in the nation for college media.

The conference attracts thousands of students, media professionals and professors from around the country and offers hundreds of workshops and training sessions with working journalists and educators from across the country. While in NYC, students also meet with Spectrum alumni and take tours of the media agencies where they work, including Reuters and CNN. They report back to students about the trip and their experiences after spring break.



Winners of the English Department Writing Prizes, as well as the Undergraduate Library poetry prizes.

Photo by Nick Dolce

Fulbright Winners

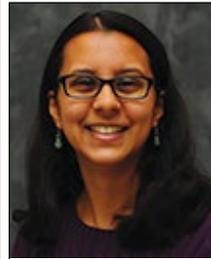
Four students from the English department were honored with Fulbright Scholarships for 2017-2018. This is a remarkable achievement for the students and the department. Congratulations to Lisa, Sushmita, Farhana, and Sarah!



Lisa Gagnon

Lisa Gagnon, a graduating senior majoring in English and linguistics, will study and teach English in Latvia as part of a Fulbright's English Teaching Assistantship. Gagnon, who also studied music performance and plays the cello, says she wants to teach and enrich the lives of Latvian students through music and creative writing, while learning cross-cultural communication skills to bring back to Buffalo.

(photo: Douglas Levere)



Sushmita Gelda

As a Fulbright-Nehru ETA, I will teach English to students in Grades 5-7 in Kolkata, India. I will teach at Akshar School, a school that has an integrated approach to learning where special-needs students learn alongside neurotypical students. I will also volunteer at Tiljala Shed, an NGO dedicated to improving the lives of rag pickers in Kolkata. As a volunteer, I plan to help write reports, project proposals, and grants.

(photo: Douglas Levere)



Farhana Hasan

A teacher of English as a second language in the Buffalo Public Schools, she earned her bachelor's degree at UB in 2014, and will serve as a Fulbright English teaching assistant in Malaysia. Hasan says she sees the diversity of Malaysia — and the integral role Malaysia plays in the lives of Buffalo's refugee population — as an opportunity to expand her international perspective.

(photo: Douglas Levere)



Sara Stanford

Sara will receive a bachelor's degree in psychology and English. She will serve as a Fulbright English teaching assistant in Malaysia. Stanford applied for the fellowship because of her "passion for empowering students, my interest in working with culturally and linguistically diverse populations, and my desire to learn and grow as an educator."

(photo: Douglas Levere)

GRADUATION CEREMONY MAY 2017



(photos: Gabrielle Marek)

PLACEMENT NEWS

Tenure-Track Placements

Shayani Bhattacharya, Assistant Professor, Lebanon Valley College (Declined lectureship at National University of Singapore)

Daniel Gomes, Assistant Professor, Bakersfield College

Jaechol Kim, Assistant Professor, Yonsei University in Korea

Minna Niemi, Assistant Professor, Arctic University of Norway

Steven Ruszczycky, Assistant Professor, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo

Siobhan Scarry, Assistant Professor, Bethel College

David Squires, Assistant Professor, Louisiana State at Lafayette (Declined professorships at Hartwick College and Fayetteville State)

Divya Victor, Assistant Professor, Michigan State University

Post-Doctoral Fellowships, Clinicals, VAPs

Leah Benedict, Clinical Teaching Professor, Western Washington State University

Ronan Crowley, Marie Curie Fellow, University of Antwerp

Nick Hoffman, Clinical Assistant Professor, SUNY-Buffalo

Joshua Lam, Assistant Professor (non-TT), Michigan State University

Matt Rigilano, Ahmanson-Getty Postdoctoral Fellow, UCLA

Alt-Ac (MA earned, PhD not yet earned)

Leslie Nickerson, Office and Membership Coordinator, VOICE-Buffalo/NOAH

Kristina Marie Darling, Associate Editor-in-Chief, Tupelo Press

AWARDS

UB Outstanding PhD Dissertation Award - **Shosuke Kinugawa**

Presented annually by the Graduate School, the Outstanding PhD Dissertation Award acknowledges a truly outstanding dissertation researched and written by a UB doctoral student who has received a PhD from UB within the past five years. Dissertations nominated for this award are expected to be highly distinctive with the potential to make an impactful contribution to the author's respective field of study.

riverrun Awards

Matthew Connolly, "Heroes of the Professional Managerial Class: Pop, Race, and the Paraliterary."

Laura Hensch, "Registers of Silence and Voice: The Multi-Sensory Effects of Experimental Punctuation and Typography in the British Modernist Novel"

Dipanjan Maitra, "Romeiking Joyce: James Joyce and the Press Clipping Service."

FEATURED ALUMNUS

Scholar honored by SUNY for cultural ambassadorship

Kim Seong-kon, president of the Literature Translation Institute of Korea and Seoul National University professor emeritus, was honored by the State University of New York last month for his lifelong contributions to strengthening academic and cultural ties between the US and Korea.

Kim was conferred with a SUNY Honorary Doctorate in Humane Letters during the commencement ceremony on May 19 at the University at Buffalo campus. He also gave a speech at the event for graduating students.

SUNY, which includes campuses at Buffalo, Albany, Stony Brook and Binghamton, said the school decided to honor Kim for being a "cultural and literary bridge between the US and Korea as a master interpreter of American literary culture for Korean readers."

Kim Seong-kon, president of the Literature Translation Institute of Korea and professor emeritus at Seoul National University, gives a speech at the commencement ceremony of the State University of New York at Buffalo on May 19.

Kim received his doctorate in English literature from SUNY at Buffalo in 1984, and has taught at Seoul National University.

"The SUNY at Buffalo was the wellspring of literature studies in the 1970s when I studied there," Kim told The Korea Herald, adding that scholars like Michel Foucault, John Coetzee, Charles Olson, Robert Creeley, John Barth and Leslie Fiedler had taught there.

Kim also received the International Distinguished Alumni Award from the school in 2012 and served as president for the SUNY at Buffalo Alumni Association Korea Chapter from 2013 to 2015.

By Joel Lee (joel@heraldcorp.com)



David J. Bookbinder (BA, 1973) recently published *Paths to Wholeness: Fifty-Two Flower Mandalas*. He is now a psychotherapist in private practice. In *Paths to Wholeness*, a self-help book and image portfolio rolled into one, he has distilled the best of what he has learned as a therapist, writer, photographer, and near-death survivor. The result: a thoughtful, pragmatic book that both shows and tells the story of a seeker who, having traversed his own winding path toward awakening, now helps his clients and readers find balance, listen deeply, inspire hope, build resilience, overcome fear, and more fully love themselves and others.

Robert Coe (MA, 1978) is a writer living in Jersey City. His journalism has appeared in *The Times Sunday Magazine*, *Vanity Fair*, *Rolling Stone*, *Esquire*, *New York*, *The Village Voice*, and *American Theatre Magazine*. His play *War Babies* at the La Jolla Playhouse in California received a Drama-Logue Award for Best Play. His book for *The Photographer* (music by Philip Glass) opened the first NEXT WAVE Festival, where he also served as dramaturge and occasional co-writer for Laurie Anderson's *United States: Parts I-IV*. His first book, *Dance in America*, was the official guide to PBS television's long-running "Dance in America" series. More recently he published *JOCK: A Memoir of the Counterculture*, about his years as a distance runner at Stanford. Next up: *NOTHING LIKE I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE: An Autobiography of Downtown New York, 1974-1989*.

Elizabeth A. Dobbs (MA 1970, PhD 1976) became Professor Emerita of English at Grinnell College in July 2013 after 37 years of being at Grinnell. She currently does volunteer teaching each week at Head Start (three- and four-year olds are great fun to teach!) and in an ESL class at the local Community College; she also tutors and teaches a 5-week workshop at a medium security prison nearby. The workshop uses a method she cooked up back in the 90s to teach argumentative writing by building on syntax, she calls it "Dr. Syntax" after Rowlandson's cartoon character. In retirement she is also doing a lot of travelling: England, but also Turkey, China, India, and is about to leave for Tanzania.

Jennifer (Ferguson) Friedman (BA, English and Legal Studies, 1994) joined the law firm Schröder, Joseph & Associates, LLP. Her law practice consists of practice in state and federal courts. Jen and her husband Scott are excited that their oldest, Madeline, just completed her first year at UB. Jen's email address is jfriedman@sjalegal.com.

Erica DeSanto Galioto (Ph.D. 2005) is an associate professor of English at Shippensburg University, where she teaches courses in American literature, psychoanalysis, and English education. Her research focuses on a concept she calls "real-world therapy": everyday experiences in fiction and life that occasion therapeutic effects outside a clinical setting. Recently appearing in *Skin, Culture, and Psychoanalysis*, her article, "Split Skin: Adolescent Cutters and the Other," adds a psychoanalytic dimension to the growing body of work that recognizes cutting as a form of self-therapy. Other recent publications include articles on Gillian Flynn's *Gone Girl*, Sapphire's *Push* and *The Kid*, Philip Roth's *American Pastoral*, and A.M. Homes' *The End of Alice*. egalioto@gmail.com.

Brian W. Gastle (BA, 1989) is currently a professor at Western Carolina University. This past year, he joined the editorial board of D. S. Brewer's John Gower series and co-edited *The Routledge Research Companion to John Gower* (2017). He just presented on a Caxton edition of Gower's *Confessio Amantis* at the Early Book Society/John Gower Society joint Congress in Durham, England. As part of this research he secured permission to post a digitized copy (which he photographed) of the Caxton edition on the John Gower Society web site (www.johngower.org).

Evan Gottlieb (MA, 2000; PhD, 2002) was promoted to Full Professor in the School of Writing, Literature, and Film at Oregon State University. His most recent book is *Romantic Realities: Speculative Realism and British Romanticism* (2016). In May-June of 2017 he was a Visiting International Scholar at the University of Glasgow. evan.gottlieb@oregonstate.edu.

Aeron Haynie (BA, 1986) is an Associate Professor of English and currently the Executive Director at the Center for Teaching and Learning, University of New Mexico in Albuquerque, NM.

Amy Hezel (BA, 1999) received an MA in English and Book Studies from the University of Iowa, where she worked for the Walt Whitman Digital Archive. She then moved to Oakland, CA and worked in the library software industry. Most recently, Amy has relocated to Denver, CO where she is the ILS & E-Resource Librarian, Assistant Professor at Regis University. Her research interests continue to focus on 20th century American literature and book studies and she recently gave a paper at the Humanities Education and Research Association (HERA) Annual Conference on Kerouac: "Destiny and Discovery: Early American Puritan Self-Identity in Kerouac's *On the Road*".

Kapila Kapoor (BA, 2015). During her last semester, she interned at the Office of U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand. With good timing and hard work, that internship turned into a full time job! Over the past two years, she has been working as the Regional Assistant in the Western NY area where she manages the internship program, meets with constituents needing help with problems involving a federal agency, advancing events for the Senator, and writes letters of support, event letters, and constituent letters on behalf of Senator Gillibrand. This fall, she will be returning to UB for law school. Eventually, she hopes to work on issues regarding prison reform and prisoner law.

Gary Kenney (BA, 2016) has been admitted to Hofstra Law School for fall 2017. He worked for City Corps, teaching fifth-graders in the Jamaica Plains neighborhood in Boston.

Shosuke Kinugawa (PhD, 2016) was the winner of the Graduate Schools "Outstanding PhD Dissertation Award" for 2016-2017, for his dissertation "Mark Twain's Secret Writings." Dr. Kinugawa is currently an Assistant Professor at the Kobe City University of Foreign Studies in Japan.

John M. Krafft (MA, 1976; PhD, 1978), retired from teaching at Miami University in May but intends to remain an active Pynchon scholar. He may still be reached at krafftjm@miamioh.edu.

William J. Kullback (BA, 1982) is the Chief Financial Officer at BioLegend, Inc., in San Diego, CA. He has been married to Marianne for 27 years w/ 3 children, Alison, Daniel and Nicole. He is a 6 time Boston Marathon finisher w/ 52 total marathons completed to-date. bkullback@yahoo.com

Chris Leise (PhD, 2007) is an associate professor at Whitman College in Walla Walla. He is the author of a recent book, *The Story upon a Hill: The Puritan Myth in Contemporary American Fiction* (University of Alabama Press).

Clifford J. Marks (PhD, 1992) is an English professor at the University of Wyoming; he recently published an article on Marjane Satrapi's *Persepolis*; he is a 13 year survivor of malignant brain cancer. He pursues approaches to literature through the study of cognitive neuroscience.

Deborah Meadows (BA, 1977), is a poet whose recent books are *The Demotion of Pluto: Poems and Plays* and *Translation: the bass accompaniment* (Selected Poems). She is an Emerita faculty at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona.

Daniel G. Payne (PhD, 1993) is currently a professor of English at the State University College at Oneonta, where he has taught creative writing workshops in screenwriting and creative non-fiction, and courses in American literature. His book-length works include "Voices in the Wilderness: American Nature Writing and Environmental Politics" (1996); "The Palgrave Environmental Reader" (2005); "Writing the Land: John Burroughs and His Legacy" (2008); and "Why Read Thoreau's *Walden*?" (2013). Payne also directs the biannual John Burroughs Nature Writing Conference and Seminar, commonly referred to as the "Sharp Eyes" Conference, at SUNY Oneonta. Payne was honored with the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching in 2012. <https://www.oriononthedunes.com/>

Elizabeth Petrino (BA, 1984) received her MA and PhD from Cornell. She was promoted to Professor of English at Fairfield University. A specialist in nineteenth-century American literature and women's poetry, she is co-editor with Mary Lou Kete, University of Vermont, of *Lydia Sigourney: Critical Essays and Cultural*

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Views (U. of Massachusetts Press). After serving as Chair of the English Department for five years, Dr. Petrino will be starting as an Associate Dean in the College of Arts and Sciences at Fairfield. epetrino@fairfield.edu

Marion Quirici (PhD, 2015) won the Adele Dalsimer Award, given by the American Conference of Irish Studies for the best dissertation in the field for 2016.

Julia Ramirez (Certificate in Creative Writing, 2016), published a book of poetry, *Sentience*, available on Blurb.com. Currently working on two other writing projects with hopes of publishing yet again.

Allison Randolph (BA, 2010) has been admitted to the UB Masters in Library Science program.

Charles Rybak (BA, 1992) has been named Dean of the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences at UW-Green Bay. He had been a member of the UW-Green Bay Humanistic Studies and English faculty since 2010. From 2003-2010, he was a member of the UW-Colleges' English department as well as UW-Colleges Online. Additionally, he has several years experience as a high school English teacher. "The English department at UB means the world to me, and without my time there, I would have never gone on to graduate school to eventually become a Full

Professor of English. The department at UB truly prepared me for a way of life, and I'll always be grateful for that."

Tom Trinchera (BA, 1994) has been a Reference & Instruction librarian at Dutchess Community College for 18 years and he's been living in Poughkeepsie NY for that long. Most recently he trekked down to Queens NY to volunteer with the UB Alumni Association at a tiny grade school in Ozone Park. The local volunteer organization, Dutchess Outreach, has awarded him their Life Saver honor. In March 2016 he went with an anthropology professor and her students to Peru, their eventual destination was Machu Picchu – it's every bit as mystical as you've heard! He also experienced a lot of firsts on that trip: crossing the equator, visiting South America, seeing the desert and his first visit to a Latin American country. The Andes were incredible and he got to do something he'd wanted to do for at least 15 years: taking a short flight over the Nazca geoglyphs. trinchert@sunydutchess.edu

Gordon Wylie (BA, 1976) received his JD in 1983 from Brooklyn Law School. He currently is Vice President, Litigation Counsel, and head of the litigation unit at Guardian Life Insurance Company in N.Y., N.Y. He has always remained an avid literature enthusiast and plans to spend a great deal more time with it and writing especially after he retires.

EMERTI

Howard Wolf had three related one-act American plays published in early in 2017: *Home at the End of the Day*: "Reunion Of A Summer Evening"; "Blue Nights In South Florida"; "Twilight Unveiling At The Hotel De Dream." He also had an essay in *The Indo-American Review* (21): "Henry James's Use of Gardens in America's Gilded Age"; a short one-act in the same volume, "Lonely At The Top"; and a long story, "At The Edge Of The West," will come out in the *North Atlantic Review*. He is currently putting together a collection of published short fiction: *Exiles by Starlight*.

IN MEMORIAM



Victor Doyno, Professor Emeritus and recipient of a Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching, passed away on November 16, 2016, after a long struggle with Alzheimer's disease. He will be dearly missed.

Vic was quintessentially concerned about teaching individual students and forwarding collective faculty and intellectual interests. He and Sociology Professor Emeritus Lionel Lewis authored a painstaking, paper-based early study of campus workplace conditions. My favorite memories of Vic were of him in his later years in the Department, when his office had grown too packed for comfortable student conferences, so that I would see him in the declining light on the benches in the hallway talking to students as I left for the day. Long live such scholar/teachers!

--Barbara Bono
UB Associate Professor of English

Vic transcended adjectives. When I was leaving the university for the day, and he was waiting for his night class, I always told him I was leaving the integrity of knowledge in his hands. I meant it.

--Bob Daly
SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor of English

I remember a wild party at the Doynos, circa 1969, Joe Riddel and Norman Holland looking to duke it out, Roy Roussel roaring up and down the street on his Harley, a lot of clamor and clatter, Vic searching me out, sore perplexed, how were we ever going to restore order and bring closure to the evening. I was of no use. Vic was the soul of tact. He got everyone safely out and politely shut the door on us. He is an important and beloved figure in Mark Twain studies. His edition of Huckleberry Finn is a thing of beauty.

--Neil Schmitz
UB Emeritus Professor of English

Vic was such a mensch, and I loved him dearly. He was a Chicago boy with an Italian father and an Irish mother (Finnegan), and he became Vic O'Doyne on every St. Patrick's Day. He was a fervent supporter of public education and not afraid to speak up publicly against corporate-bureaucratic encroachments on it. Walking into Vic's office gave you the same thrills of going on a roller coaster: given the stacks of books and articles, you were never quite sure you would get out alive, but knowing Vic, you knew that, if push came to shove, you would be crushed by the very best.

--James Holstun
UB Professor of English

Hemingway says in Green Hills of Africa that "All modern American literature comes from one book by Mark Twain called Huckleberry Finn." We were fortunate to have Vic among us for so many years to make that book live for generations of students. Vic was a good, fair, and liberal man. He never treated any colleague with anything but civility and respect. He set an unsurpassed standard of academic decorum. We were not close, but one didn't have to be close to Vic to see these virtues at work.

--Howard Wolf
UB Emeritus Professor of English

UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE:

Fri., Sept. 22 @ 8:00pm: Rae Armantrout - *Poetics Plus* - Western New York Book Arts Center, 468 Washington St.

Wed., Oct. 11 @ 7:00pm: Lance Olsen (U of Utah) - *Exhibit X Fiction Series Reading* - Hallwells, 341 Delaware Ave.

Oct. 12-14 @ 7:00pm: *riverrun Global Film Series 2017* - Cuban Cinema & Culture - Burchfield Penney Art Center, 1300 Elmwood Ave.

Fri., Oct. 13 @ 8:00pm: Amaranth Borsuk (U of Washington) - *Poetics Plus* - Western New York Book Arts Center, 468 Washington St.

Wed., Oct. 24 @ 8:00pm: Christopher Chen (UC, Santa Cruz) - *Poetics Plus* - Western New York Book Arts Center, 468 Washington St.

Thurs., Nov. 2 @ 5:00pm: Feminist Cybersecurity Workshop - *Gender Institute Event* - rm. 101 Baldy Hall

Thurs., Nov. 2 @ 8:00pm: Peter Manson - *Poetics Plus* - Western New York Book Arts Center, 468 Washington St.

Mon., Nov. 6 @ 7:00pm: Edie Meidav (U Mass, Amherst) - *Exhibit X Fiction Series Reading* - Hallwells, 341 Delaware Ave.

Wed., Nov. 8 @ 12:00noon: Feminist Research Alliance Workshop: Hershini Young (UB Prof.) - *Gender Institute Event* - 207 UB Commons

Thurs., Nov. 9 @ 4:00pm: Pursuing Careers in the Publishing Industry - *English Dept. Event* - rm. 306 Clemens

Thurs., Nov. 16 @ 8:00pm: Redell Olsen (U of London) - *Poetics Plus* - Western New York Book Arts Center, 468 Washington St.

Fri., Dec. 1 @ 8:00pm: Works in Progress - *Poetics Plus* - Rust Belt Books, 415 Grant St.

Mon., Dec. 4 @ 4:00pm: Jonathan Kramnick (Yale U) - "On Handsomeness, Considered as a Category of Aesthetics" - rm. 306 Clemens (*Juxtapositions Lecture Series*)

Check out our website for more information on Upcoming Events: http://www.buffalo.edu/cas/english/news-events/upcoming_events.html

THE BUFFALO FILM SEMINARS SERIES 35/FALL 2017

Dipson Amherst Theatre, 3500 Main Street, Buffalo, NY
Tuesdays at 7:00pm

Sept. 26: Jacques Demy, *The Umbrellas of Cherbourg*, 1964

Oct. 3: Robert Altman, *M.A.S.H.*, 1970

Oct. 10: Alan J. Pakula, *All The President's Men*, 1976

Oct. 17: Andrei Tarkovsky, *Nostalghia*, 1983

Oct. 24: Wim Wenders, *Wings of Desire*, 1987

Oct. 31: Mike Nichols, *Postcards From the Edge*, 1990

Nov. 7: Tran Anh Hung, *The Scent of Green Papayas*, 1993

Nov. 14: Hayao Miyazaki, *The Wind Rises*, 2013

Nov. 21: Andre Zvyaginstev, *Leviathan*, 2014

Nov. 28: Pedro Almodovar, *Julieta*, 2016

Dec. 2: Billy Wilder, *Some Like It Hot*, 1959

Further information at: <http://buffalofilmseminars.com>

☆wishlist—☆wishlist—☆wishlist—☆wishlist—☆wishlist

Many generous alums designate their annual University giving to the English Department. We are grateful for their donations, which support student tuition, student research projects, dissertation and travel fellowships for graduate students, and English Department programs.

What's on our wish list right now?

- Funds to support graduate student research and dissertation writing.
- Funds to support undergraduate education through small achievement awards, trips to performances, technologically enhanced classrooms, special opportunity workshops
- Funds to support our membership in the Folger Library Shakespeare Consortium

If you would like to support the Department, you can designate the **English Department** when responding to any of the University fund-raising efforts. You can also send a check payable to **UB Foundation, Inc.**, indicating "**Department of English**" on the memo line. Checks should be sent to Cindy Johannes, University at Buffalo Foundation, PO Box 730, Buffalo, NY 14226-0730, phone: 716-645-8720. Or you can donate through the English Department's website: <http://www.buffalo.edu/cas/english.html> by clicking on "Giving to UB."

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Thank you for your support and continued interest in UB's Department of English!

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To sign up for the alumni listserv, please email Sophia Canavos at scanavos@buffalo.edu

To submit information or to contact us: english-department@buffalo.edu