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**S**PRING **2012** 



## NOTE FROM THE CHAIR



Dear Friends.

Surely no year has been busier, or more filled with causes for celebration, than this one! Our faculty, undergraduates, and graduate students are publishing, winning prizes, winning fellowships, and generally illustrating the Department's excellence. The alumni reunion was a joyful occasion (see the photographs on pages 6-7), and the Poetics Program celebrated its twentieth anniversary with two celebratory readings. Also, two faculty were promoted this spring: Dimitri Anastasopoulos to the rank of associate professor with tenure and Graham Hammill to the rank of professor.

More great news: the University at Buffalo has elected to go forward with plans for a full-fledged Center for Excellence in Writing, thanks to a proposal sponsored by the English Department (co-authored by Arabella Lyon, Alex Reid, and myself). We think this Center will help to foster a culture of writing across the campus, encouraging better writing from undergraduates and graduate students in all departments of the college and the many professional schools.

Within the Department, we are proposing to begin a new Certificate in Innovative Writing (CIW), providing focused opportunity for MA students to enjoy the benefits of intensive writing workshops within the critical context of an MA in English. There is no other program in the U.S., or perhaps the world, structured around this double focus on creative and critical writing, with particular emphasis on the kind of innovative work for which the Department has long been known. This Certificate program will enable us to teach graduate courses in the practice of writing for the first time in over a decade, thereby also allowing PhD students to take writing courses. And we are certain that the CIW will provide greater energy and opportunities for our undergraduate writers.

As the job market remains weak, we continue our deep concern for the employment prospects of our students. We are developing an increasingly robust placement program for graduate students and are working to develop more internships for undergraduates and MA students. We are also hoping to develop more funding support for students at all levels.

In short, we have had a great academic year and are looking forward to the next with enthusiasm and anticipation. Come see us when you're in town, join us at any of our many lectures, readings, or events, or let us know about your own accomplishments, enthusiasms, and plans. We'd love to see you and hear from you.

Cordially, Cristanne Miller

#### **NEW BOOKS**



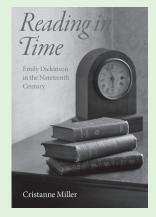
Professor Graham Hammill's The Mosaic Constitution: Political Theology and Imagination from Machiavelli to Milton (University of Chicago Press, 2012) is the first book to place Hebrew scripture at the cutting edge of seventeenth-century literary and

political innovation.

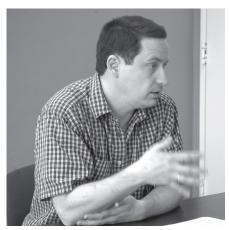
SUNY Distinguished Professor Bruce Jackson and SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor Diane Christian's In This Timeless Time: Living and Dying on Death Row in America (University of North Carolina Press, 2012) documents the capriciousness of capital punishment and captures the day-to-day experiences of Death Row inmates. U.S. Senator John Lewis writes, "In This Timeless Time underscores how urgent and critical it is to give voice to the voiceless, hope to the hopeless. This first-rate work



speaks to our shared need as Americans to right the wrong that is capital punishment."
Bruce also has eight photographs from his body of work included in the exhibition catalog for Wish You Were Here: The Buffalo Avant-garde in the 1970s (Albright-Knox Art Gallery, 2012).



SUNY Distinguished Professor Cristanne Miller's Reading in Time: Emily Dickinson in the Nineteenth Century (University of Massachusetts Press, 2012) provides new ways of situating Emily Dickinson in relation to nineteenth-century literary culture, examining how her innovative practices relate to the popular poetry of her day.



Andrew Stott, Professor and Director of Undergraduate Studies for the English Department, has been selected to be the next Director of the UB Honors College. Andy is the winner of a SUNY Chancellors Award for Excellence in Teaching and has published two books, *Comedy* (Routledge, 2005) and *The Pantomime Life of Joseph Grimaldi: Laughter, Madness, and the Story of Britain's Greatest Comedian* (Canongate, 2009), the latter of which has won numerous awards including the 2010 George Freedley Award. Looking at this new position as less a shift to administrative staff and more an extension of his work in the English Department, Andy is excited to create new curriculum, build community in and outside the classroom, and work with UB students in the interdisciplinary and challenging environment of the University Honors College. Committed to the "think globally, act locally" approach of the Honors College, Andy plans to emphasize civic engagement and active student participation in their educational, local, and global communities. He is also pleased to continue teaching and working within the English Department.

Of Andy's selection, SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor Diane Christian writes: "In a national search, Andy Stott emerged from a pool of highly qualified candidates as a brilliant and visionary choice for Director of the Honors College and Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education. The Search Committee, Honors staff and students, and University administration were unqualified in their regard for him. Professor Stott succeeds the founding director SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor Kipp Herreid. He will lead Honors College development in the new heart of the campus Capen offices, setting a standard of excellence for undergraduate education at UB."

Associate Professor Rachel Ablow won an ACLS Fellowship for 2012-13 to work on her book project "Speaking Pain." Her book argues that Victorian writers consistently describe pain in terms that run counter to our usual assumptions that pain is essentially private, prior to or even resistant to language, and unavailable to doubt. Instead, she argues, they offer a model of pain that refuses to imagine the subject as prior to the social, that resists the reduction of pain to a medical or physiological problem, and so too negates any too-clear distinction between physical and emotional suffering. Such invocations insist on pain as an ethical and a political problem rather than simply a medical or even a psychological one. In addition, they call attention to pain's literary dimension, revolving as they do around the nature, limitations, and resources of language.

## Congratulations!

**Dimitri Anastasopoulos** has been promoted to the rank of Associate Professor.

**Graham Hammill** has been promoted to the rank of Professor and been awarded a 2012-13 Humanities Institute Faculty Research Fellowship.



Associate Professor Carine Mardorossian received a SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching. A member of the Department since 1999, Carine has taught a range of courses including immigrant literature, Caribbean literature, and environmental literature. She has just completed the manuscript for her second book, "Framing the Victim: Rape, Agency, and Masculinity in the Contemporary United States."

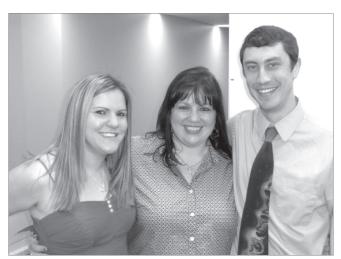
#### **Adjunct News**

**Doug Basford**, Assistant Director of Composition, has won a \$2500 poetry prize from the Dorothy Sargent Rosenberg Memorial Fund, the second time he has been awarded a prize by that organization. Out of 1600 applicants, Doug also received one of 30 fellowships to attend poetry workshops in Concordia University's 2012 Summer Literary Seminars hosted in Vilnius, Lithuania.

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## COMMENCEMENT





The English Department Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony took place on Friday, May 11 in Clemens 120 From 11:00-1:00. **Robert Daly**, SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor, and **Patrick Riedy**, winner of the George Knight Houpt Prize and the Friends of the University Libraries Prize, addressed the seniors and their families.



"As each of us moves forward, writing our own narratives, we will remember fragments of our experience here at UB. However, I like to believe that what we will remember more than anything is the collective search for truth through words. I feel it is safe to say that part of what we all hope for through literature is a better understanding of why we are here, on earth. If nothing else, literature offers us the

comfort of knowing we are not alone. . . . It is hard to make note of why each of us chose to study literature. Some of us want to be teachers, some lawyers, and some may want to boycott books for a few years. Whatever you plan on doing from this day forward, chances are words will find you at the proper time. Remember, then, how important it is to share those words, to write them down or tell your friends and family. Because words are, simultaneously, what we study to find ourselves and what we use to understand each other."

-Patrick Riedy, BA 2012

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

**Karina Galinskaya** will work for the AEON Corporation of Japan, teaching English to adults and college students in Okayama for a year.

**Caleb Houseknecht** will work as the Content Writer/Journalist for the company KegWorks.

**Zachary Lang** is going to SUNY Cortland for an MA in English.

Madeline Morcelle is going to Washington & Lee University School of Law.

**Sophie Moss** will attend SUNY Albany for an MA in Liberal Studies. Sophie also hopes to do some volunteer work with the Mohawk Hudson Humane Society, a capital region-based animal shelter and community outreach organization.

**Brittany Sager** will attend the Graduate School of Education at UB for an Ed.M. in Secondary English Education, while working as the Assistant Complex Director for Southlake Village with UB Campus Living.

**Caitlin Scully** is going to the Graduate School of Education at UB for an Ed.M. in English Language Arts Education for grades 5-12.

Rachelle Toarmino will be working at Talking Leaves Books, doing freelance artwork, writing, and interning for some local artists as their Public Relations Assistant. Eventually, Rachelle hopes to attend graduate school.

**Michael Tyson** is going to the Graduate School of Education at UB for an MA in Education.

**Lauren Waterman** is still deciding between Hofstra University, CUNY Hunter, and Adelphi University for graduate study in Secondary English Education.

**Erin Willis** plans to pursue a career in Student Affairs Administration by getting an MA from Canisius College and will be working in their study abroad office. Erin plans to work in international education or multicultural programming.

Kristy Woodfield will attend UB Law School.

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## Undergraduate Student News

### **C**ONGRATULATIONS TO

**Melanie Donofrio**, co-winner (with Kayla Rizzo) of the Arthur Axlerod Memorial Award for poetry. Melanie also won a Cook, Hammond, and Logan Prize.

Ruth Dosch, who received Honorable Mentions for the Scribbler's Prize for best piece of creative writing by an undergraduate woman and the Academy of the American Poets Prize.

**Leah Eliaszewskyj**, who received an Honorable Mention for the Arthur Axlerod Memorial Award for poetry.

**Anne Highley-Smith**, winner of the English Department Essay Prize; her essay is entitled "Men who come out here should have no entrails': The Self-Apocalyptic Consequences of Hollowness in *Heart of Darkness*."

Paige Melin, winner of the Academy of American Poets Prize.

Madeline Morcelle, winner of a SUNY Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence.

**Kayla Rizzo**, co-winner (with Melanie Donofrio) of the Arthur Axlerod Memorial Award for poetry.

**Brittany Sager**, winner of the Scribbler's Prize for the best piece of creative writing by an undergraduate woman. Brittany also received an Honorable Mention for the Friends of the University Libraries Prize and was selected as the 2012 UB commencement student speaker.

**Thawab Shibly**, who was awarded a Fulbright fellowship for teaching English and studying in Jordan in 2012-13. Thawab also won a SUNY Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence.

Rachelle Toarmino, winner of the Creative Non-Fiction Prize for best factual prose.



2012 Creative Writing and Library Prize winners, with Mike Basinski (PhD 1995), Curator of the Poetry Collection.

#### **Featured Students**

Patrick Riedy, winner of the George Knight Houpt and the Friends of the University Libraries Prizes, is a graduating English major, particularly interested in 20th- and 21st-century American poetry in addition to contemporary fiction and film. While an undergraduate at the University at Buffalo, Patrick began a small poetry press called PressBoardPress (http://pressboardpress.com/) with two friends he met through Karen Mac Cormack's poetry workshops. He has published two chapbooks, home poems (PressBoardPress, 2011) and when we were together in 1954 (PressBoardPress, 2012). Additionally, he has edited Letson Williams book me and me in a lifeboat (PressBoardPress, 2011) and is currently printing a chapbook of Michael Basinski's work titled Learning Poem About Learning About Being A Poet expected to be out in early May of 2012.



Part of what Patrick has enjoyed most about his undergraduate English experience has been the freedom to create his own course of study with encouragement to be creative and engage in many different disciplines and use the resources the university has to offer, particularly the Poetry Collection of the University Libraries. Patrick was also one of the founding members of We, the notorious pronouns, and the English Student Association. He will continue creating chapbooks for PressBoardPress and will, in all likelihood, be pursuing graduate school in the not too distant future.

Sonia Hassan, winner of the CAS Outstanding Senior in English Prize, writes that "Studying English has given me the opportunity to analyze, challenge, and defend my own ideas and interpretations. It has also given me the ability to understand and appreciate perspectives different from my own. I have been fortunate to synthesize my passions in the liberal arts with minors in Spanish and Musical Performance on Trumpet. For my Honors Thesis, I am writing a collection of poetry along



with a critical essay, analyzing my craft under Professor Myung Mi Kim. The terrifying blessing of an English major or education is that it gives you the skills for so many careers and the push to go and search out your desires instead of stuffing you into a cubical, law court, or medical practice for the rest of your life. After graduation, I will return to my summer job, continue writing, continue working on the application process for the Peace Corps, and continue preparing for all the adventures that surely await in my future."

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One of the many highlights of the weekend was the roundtable on "Why Read? Why Write?"—which sparked lively conversation continuing into the reception and dinner. Graduates from across the years spoke with feeling about ways their lives had been influenced by their time in the English Department at UB. Current undergraduates indicated that they feel they are similarly fortunate in having made their various ways to English.

Photographs by Joel Brenden



of us whose bent is primarily counter-culture. Thanks to the reunion, I feel part of a line of esteemed and inspiring graduates and a connection to UB English that I'd never felt before and I am grateful for it." (Debora Ott, BA 1971)

"Thanks again for sponsoring the Buffalo English reunion—it was great to see some old friends and former professors (also friends)—as well as to meet others in and formerly in the English Department." (Elliot Krieger, PhD 1974)

"I greatly enjoyed the reunion and talking to the alums. It's nice to know that there is life after graduation for an English major." (Carlton Brock, current junior)



For More Photographs of the reunion, go to http://english. buffalo.edu/reunion/. See there also the final program, including brief biographies of all readers or speakers and brief statements from several alums who were not able to join us in Buffalo.

To see the slide show of photographs edited by current English majors Allison Balcerzak and Carlton Brock, go to http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k31cJlv5MEM.



English Department alums-to-be Carlton Brock and Jennifer Tone were also in attendance.

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# GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS

### Congratulations!

**Maria Almanza** received a Ford Foundation Fellowship for 2012-13. The title of her dissertation is "Auxiliary Organs: Modernity and the Prosthetic Relation."

**Emily Anderson** won the departmental Joyce Carol Oates Prize for Fiction; her story is entitled "Calliope." Emily also received a Cook, Hammond, and Logan Prize.

**Leah Benedict** was awarded the first Riverrun Teaching Fellowship, for the best proposed literature syllabus, to teach English 264: Children's Literature, in the Fall of 2012.

## **Teaching Awards**

Congratulations to **Jason Marley**, **Courtney Pfahl**, and **Steven Ruszczycky** for winning UB Graduate Student Excellence in Teaching Awards.

Amelia "Gil" Bitely's first book, *Erekos* (Candlemark & Gleam, 2011), was named by *Publishers Weekly* as one of its "Best Books" for 2011. Amelia has also been named a finalist for the Bill Fisher Award for Best First Book (Fiction) by the Independent Book Publishers Association's Benjamin Franklin Awards. Her second novel, *Drakon*, will be published in December of this year.

Jacob Bodway won the Louis and Joan Slovinsky Dissertation Completion Fellowship. Jacob also received the Edna Steeves Prize for best graduate student essay at the NEASECS Conference in Hamilton, Ontario and an APPLE Award from the Committee for Excellence in Learning and Teaching at Jamestown Community College.

Prentiss Clark won a Robert and Carol Morris Dissertation Completion Fellowship. Her dissertation is titled "Measures of Intimacy: From Skepticism to Ethics in the Writing of Ralph Waldo Emerson." Prentiss writes, "I look forward to devoting a year solely to research and writing—the rare privilege and opportunity the Morris fellowship makes possible."

#### FUTURES OF AMERICAN STUDIES:

The UB Humanities Institute is subsidizing five doctoral students to attend the Futures of American Studies Institute at Dartmouth. Congratulations to Chris Cowley, Stephanie Farrar, Josh Lam, Steven Ruszczycky, and David Squires.

Ronan Crowley won a Robert and Carol Morris Dissertation Completion Fellowship. His dissertation, "Gifts of the Gab: Quotation, Copyright, and Irish Writing" makes extensive use of UB's renowned James Joyce archive. "News of the fellowship left me speechless! It's a great privilege to be so honored," Ronan commented.

Kristina Marie Darling was a recipient of the first Riverrun Research Fellowship to travel to the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library at Yale University where she will conduct research on Modernist poet H.D.'s work on silent films. Kristina won a Cook, Hammond, and Logan Prize for her poem titled "Footnotes to a History of Dress." She was nominated for a 2012 Pushcart Prize and she won Artist Residencies at The Santa Fe Art Institute, The Osage Arts Community, and at The Vermont Studio Center.



FIFTH-YEAR OPLER/
DOUBRAVA FELLOWSHIPS
WERE AWARDED TO:

Leah Benedict Amelia Bitely David Hadbawnik John Hyland Sean Reynolds **Michael Hurst** won a Humanities Institute Fellowship for his dissertation, "Bodies of Knowledge:The Material Soul of Transcendentalist Epistemology."

Margaret Konkol received a three-year Brittain Postdoctoral Fellowship at Georgia Tech University.

**Morani Kornberg-Weiss** won the first Ruth and Isadore Bob Young Dissertation Fellowship from the Institute of Jewish Thought and Heritage. Her dissertation is titled "Lyrical Discourse and the Question of Nationalism in Israeli Literature After 1948." Morani also received an Honorable Mention for the Dan Liberthson Poetry Prize from the University Libraries.

Siobhán Scarry's book of poems, *Pilgrimly* was a named finalist in the Tupelo Press 2011 First/Second Book Award, a semifinalist in the 2011 Brittingham Prize and Felix Pollak poetry series at the University of Wisconsin Press, and named the runner-up for the 2012 Juniper Prize sponsored by the University of Massachusetts Press.

Alex Thayer received an Honorable Mention for the Joyce Carol Oates Prize for Fiction

### **Riverrun Fellowships**

We are pleased to announce that the **Riverrun Foundation** will be providing two Research Fellowships to graduate students in the English Department every year to conduct research in archives outside of Buffalo and a Teaching Fellowship for the best literature syllabus proposed by a graduate student. We are grateful for this generous support of our graduate students.

Special thanks to **Seth Cosimini** for helping put together this Spring 2012 newsletter.



### Robert Duncan MacCloy (BA 1954)

#### Reminices about his years at UB

I always wanted to be a superlative in something and I suppose I might be close to being the oldest graduate of the UB Department of English still standing. Unfortunately I left the Buffalo area two weeks after graduating in 1954 and eventually lost contact with all of my classmates and teachers. I am, therefore, grateful to Cristanne Miller for taking the time to organize the department reunion, where I discovered that the UB Department of English is still the vital organization that I remember from almost sixty years ago.

In those days, I was something of a citizen immigrant. Although born in the U.S. in 1930, my family returned to Scotland that year, after my father died, and I did not return on my own until 1948. An unpleasantness called World War II made overseas travel difficult.

In 1949-1951, I began taking college-level courses at Millard Fillmore College, an extension of UB, then studied full-time on campus 1952-1954. I became an English major at the end of my sophomore year and have never regretted this decision, although, as a Scot, I once had some trepidation when a young assistant professor referred to Robert Burns as a "minor transitional poet." I managed, however, to overcome my bias, advised him never to visit Glasgow or Edinburgh, and "carried on."

All my life, I have felt privileged to have studied under such distinguished UB English professors as Dr. Henry Ten Eyck Perry, once Department Chair and a world authority on Jacobean and Restoration drama at the time; Dr. Oscar Silverman, whose classes on Shakespeare were "awesome" before the word was in popular vernacular; and Dr. Willard Bonner, who convinced me that the world really did need another Byron.

Another outstanding class I took was "Creative Writing" taught by Sloan Wilson, who went on to become one of the most successful writers of the 1950s. Two of his novels, *The Man in the Grey Flannel Suit* and *A Summer Place* were made into major motion pictures. I still have some of my writing assignments with his comments. Maybe they will show up on *Antiques Roadshow* someday and be deemed to be worth thousands of dollars. (If it ever happens—Yes! I promise to donate it all to the Department of English!)

In those days, the program emphasized a tutorial approach and junior and senior English majors were fortunate to spend at least two hours twice a week with a professor. I remember that for most sessions there were only three or four students, a significant difference from the giant classes at many universities these days. Of course, sixty years ago almost everyone did not go to college as they do today. Another major difference was the availability of student loans, grants, and scholarships. Most students paid cash for their tuition and books and graduated without thousands of dollars in credit card debt.

Even with the availability of loans and grants, without parental support funds were always tight and transportation to class often became a problem. For a hundred dollars, I acquired a twenty-one-year-old 1930 Pontiac. It had almost no brakes and, for once, I appreciated Buffalo snow. There were

always plenty of snow banks to drive into on the Main Street campus—an excellent way to slow down or stop. Eventually a wheel came off this "jalopy" when I was on a date with the girlfriend, a student at Buffalo State Teachers College, who eventually became my wife. She presented an ultimatum: "Get a new car if you want any more dates with me." So I did. And we did. We celebrated our sixtieth wedding anniversary last year. At times I do wish I still had that car—it is probably worth a fortune now!

Since I was often working almost full-time, I was not able to participate in many extracurricular activities, but I was news editor of SPECTRUM for one year: 1951, maybe? I remember that the next year most of the staff were reprimanded for an April Fools' Day "spoof" issue that was considered a bit risqué for its time.

In my final semester, in 1954, I had my only academic experience as an educator, teaching remedial English to freshmen engineering students who were in danger of having to drop out since passing freshman English was a nonnegotiable requirement at the time. It was a struggle, but by the end of the semester I did get all of them to understand what constitutes an English sentence. I like to think that they went on to distinguished careers designing rockets to the moon and building world-class interstates.

After graduation, it was on to a career in advertising and public relations with major companies and agencies. (It was not quite like *Madmen*—but it was never dull!) Subsequent writing was mostly for trade and business publications and electronic media. In the mid-1980s, my wife and I started our own public relations agency specializing in smaller companies and industries with problems. It turned out to be a profitable niche that previously had been overlooked.

Today, with the increasing emphasis and support for math and science programs, there is a constant need to remember that education should also be the study of life—and how to live it well. In this respect, I am glad to discover that the UB English Department continues to deserve an A+. It is my hope that all alumni will support its dedicated faculty in a challenging environment.



The oldest and youngest alums to attend the reunion: Robert Duncan MacCloy and Eric Pastore (BA 2008).

Susan Bachmann (BA 1971, PhD 1984), an English teacher at El Camino College in the Los Angeles area, co-authored (with Melinda Barth) the college composition notebook *Between Worlds:* A Reader, Rhetoric, and Handbook, 7th ed. (Longman, 2012). Susan will always be indebted to Leslie Fiedler, who directed her PhD dissertation and deepened her love of visionary literature, Shakespeare, and Faulkner. She is

BETWEEN WORLDS A Reader, Rhetoric, and Hendbook

grateful for her teaching experiences as a graduate TA in the Department of English from 1975-1977 and for her undergraduate writing experiences as an editor for SPECTRUM from 1968-1971, a vital time to have been covering events at UB.

**Barbara Cole** (PhD 2006) has been appointed to the position of Artistic Director of the Just Buffalo Literary Center.

Anne Coon (BA 1974, MA 1978, PhD 1986) has published three books of poetry, most recently *Via del Paradiso: Poems from Siena* (Foothills Publishing 2006), as well as a collaborative work with a photographer, *Colleagues* with John Retallack (RIT Cary Graphic Arts Press 2011), and a general audience book exploring patterns in poetry and mathematics, *Discovering Patterns in Mathematics and Poetry* co-authored with mathematician Marcia Birken (Rodopi 2008). Her poetry has also appeared in numerous journals and magazines, including most recently *Nimrod*,

Via del Paradiso



Anne C. Coo

Redactions, Grey Sparrow, and the Baltimore Review. Her poem "Queen Anne's Lace" is included in the McGraw Hill college-level anthology Literature: Reading Fiction, Poetry, Drama. After twenty-eight years at Rochester Institute of Technology, where she was a Professor of English and Senior Associate Dean, she now concentrates on her writing, both poetry and fiction, and teaches undergraduate Creative Writing and graduate courses in an interdisciplinary degree program part-time at Nazareth College in Rochester.

Barbara DeMille (PhD 1978), finds her time as an undergraduate and graduate student in English from 1966 until 1978 to have been one of the most liberating experiences in her eighty years. She has written a piece reflecting the tenor of her time at UB: the late 1960s and the early 1970s, with the turmoil, the heady ideas, the surge toward social justice that grew from the Civil Rights Movement into those fierce protests against the war in Vietnam. "None of it was perfect; there were many faults and flaws. However there was progress. Injustices were corrected. And I like to think that some of that progress originated in the ferment among those fierce souls who found their sustenance in UB's Department of English." Her article "Back to School," originally published in the *Journal of Family Life*, can be found at http://english.buffalo.edu/alumni/news/.

**Fraser Drew** (PhD 1952) celebrates his ninety-ninth birthday in June 2012 and sends best wishes to all UB alums. (Photo is of Fraser in 1952.)

**Louis Fumerelle** (BA 2002) accepted a position as a Registration Services Officer at Columbia Law School.

Amanda Jonas (BA 2011) was a finalist in the Investigative Reporters and Editors 2011 Awards' Student Media category for her SPECTRUM story on UB's lack of compliance with ADA regulations; her story is titled "A Shameful Low in Higher Education" and can be found at http://english.buffalo.edu/alumni/news/.

**Seong-Kon Kim** (PhD 1984), emeritus professor and former Dean of Seoul National University, and current Deputy Minister of Culture in Korea, has received the 2012 Distinguished International Alumnus Award from UB.

Kandace Lombart (PhD 2002) published an obituary for poet Ruth Stone in *The Independent*. Kandace's dissertation was the first on Stone at UB. While an adjunct professor in the Buffalo area, Kandace contributed to discussions within MLA which resulted in the authoring of the "Part-Time Faculty Travel Grant." Kandace also founded the educational travel tour company "Medieval Moments, Illuminating Itineraries." Her obituary for Stone can be found at http://english.buffalo.edu/alumni/news/.



Robert Miklitsch (PhD 1981), Professor of Film in the Ohio University English Department, published *Siren City: Sound and Source Music on Classic American Noir* (Rutgers University Press, 2011). This book was named an "Outstanding Academic Title of 2011" by *Choice* magazine.

Charles Molesworth (PhD 1968) recently retired from forty years of teaching at Queens College, CUNY, with short breaks at the University of Toulouse and the Universite de Paris-VIII. In 2009 he published *Alain* 



Locke: The Biography of a Philosopher (University of Chicago Press), which will be followed in this year with *The Works of Alain Locke* (Oxford University Press), along with *And Bid Him Sing: A Biography of Countee Cullen* (University of Chicago Press). Earlier work included two volumes of his poetry, the first biography of Marianne Moore, and monographs on Gary Snyder and Donald Barthelme. He continues to write a column on the visual arts for *Salmagundi*,

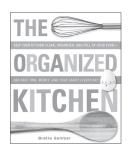


most recently on the Chinese artist Wei Wei. His articles and reviews, in places like the *New Republic* and the *New York Times*, deal chiefly with modern and contemporary writers. Recently his research has been focused on the relationship between Roger Fry and J. Pierpont Morgan, the latter having hired the former as a curator at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Charles remembers Buffalo fondly, especially Al Cook, Robert Creeley, and Irving Massey. His dissertation was on the seventeenth-century country-house poem.

**Alessandro Porco** (PhD 2011) has accepted a position as assistant professor at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington.

**Rebecca Sanchez** (PhD 2009) has accepted a position as assistant professor at Fordham University.

Brette McWhorter Sember (BA 1990) has written over 40 books or college textbooks since she left UB, on topics such as business, law, and family issues. She is the author of the newly released cookbooks *The Muffin Tin Cookbook* (Adams Media, 2012), *The Parchment Paper Cookbook* (Adams Media, 2011), and *The Organized Kitchen* (Adams Media, 2012). Her web site is www.BretteSember.com.



Lisa Stahl (BA 1974) is publishing an article on Parisian wine bars in an upcoming issue of *Wine Enthusiast*. Lisa has published more than forty articles in *Art and Living*, including a recent cover story on the Israel Museum and former director of the MoMA James Snyder. In addition to her work in publishing, Lisa has had an eclectic career as a writing and political analysis teacher at institutions such as Los Angeles Community College and the University of Redlands, Whitehead Division and as a writing coach for research scientists in biotechnology at the UCLA School of Medicine. She has also worked in publicity writing, development, and as an actor in the film industry.

**Brandon Stickney** (BA 2000) has published a new book, *The Amazing Seven Sutherland Sisters* (Niagara County Historical Society, 2012).

Elizabeth Willis (PhD 1994), the Shapiro-Silverberg Professor of Creative Writing and Professor of English at Wesleyan University, has been awarded a 2012 fellowship in Poetry by the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation. Elizabeth has published five books of poetry, most recently Address



(Wesleyan University Press, 2011). She has also edited a volume of essays entitled *Radical Vernacular: Lorine Niedecker and the Poetics of Place* (University of Iowa Press, 2008).

#### IN MEMORIAM:

Louis Slovinsky (BA 1961), born in 1937 in Shenandoah, Pennsylvania to a family of coal miners, worked the nightshift at Buffalo General Hospital and summers as a steelworker to put himself through UB. After graduating in 1961, Louis's life became decidedly different. Moving to New York City, he began what would be an enormously successful career as a business executive by landing a copywriting job for NBC. He worked his way up to be the chief spokesman for Time, Inc. and retired in 1992 as the senior vice president of HBO. Post-retirement, Louis pursued the artistic talents and tendencies he carried with him from childhood, becoming a successful sculpture, painter, and writer. His art may be found at http://slovinskyart.blogspot.com/ and http://slovinskysculpture. blogspot.com/. In 2004, after Louis's work had appeared in numerous group shows, Berkeley College in New York City mounted a solo exhibition of his work. Finding equal success as a writer, he published *Alan Siegel: On Branding and Clear Communications* with Jorge Pinto Books in 2007. Serving with the U.S. military in Europe, teaching writing and marketing at home and abroad, and learning to fly, Louis maintained a lifelong enthusiasm for living. He died at home on 17 February 2012. Louis is survived by his wife Joan, sons Paul and Peter, his grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. We continue to be grateful to Louis and Joan for the Dissertation Completion Fellowship they have awarded to UB graduate students for the past two years, and have promised for the coming three.

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