The Fall term was off to a great start this year with our Department retreat in September. It is always stimulating to get together to discuss those things that mean the most to us—our teaching and our research—and I think we were all motivated to explore more options in the classroom as we heard about the success of the pilot project courses for EAL students that Lisa Dorcich and Jen Mohammed taught in summer session, the plans for Alison Calder and Pam Perkins’s team-taught course, and the range of facilities offered by the Media Lab, as outlined by Katie Man. Discussing the benefits and frustrations of collaborative research projects undertaken by various members of the Department and the opportunities (pitfalls) presented by the growth of digital humanities helped us all to envision ways to preserve and expand what we value most in our discipline. I left the retreat with a renewed sense of our collegiality and of the intense shared commitment of Department members to our collective mission. That this commitment is recognized and appreciated was driven home by an official item of feedback from the external assessors of the Graduate Program in October. The graduate students turned out in force to meet with the assessors, who reported that the students universally praised the dedication and commitment of graduate supervisors and of the graduate teaching staff. We in turn value our dedicated and obviously very discerning graduate students!

THANK YOU

Special thanks to Darlene McWhirter and Vanessa Warne for their tireless work on the Graduate Program Review.
Message from the Associate Head

Dr. Lucas Tromly

Who is your model of an academic? A critic whose work had a profound impact on your thinking? A beloved teacher from your past? I myself favour Craig Pelton, Dean of Greendale community college on NBC’s comedy Community. Described by a rival administrator as a “pan-sexual imp,” Dean Pelton’s enthusiasm for his job leads him to dress in elaborate costumes, and frequently in drag, to deliver unimportant messages to the student body. His sustaining ambition is to make the cover of Dean magazine! Now that we are entering the dog days of the term, when marking and committee work are beginning to wear on us, there are worse models than a fictional academic so excited about his job that he puts on a toga to announce that the cafeteria has begun serving Caesar salad.

Message from the Graduate Chair

Dr. Vanessa Warne

It’s been another busy season for our graduate program, with new students to welcome, with student successes to celebrate and with the External Review of our graduate program prompting us to look closely at how we do things and how we might improve on current practice. I’d like to use this space to extend thanks to people who contributed their time and energy to the wellbeing of our program this year, to welcome our new students and to congratulate our students on their many successes.

Thanks to Glenn Clark for serving with great diligence as department representative on FGS Council. Thanks to our Graduate Selection Committee (Adam Muller, Pam Perkins and Serenity Joo) for their work to determine award recipients and admissions. Thanks also to our readers for the Warhaft Award and the Kroetsch Award. They are David Watt, Brenda Austin-Smith, Margaret Groome, Alison Calder and Warren Cariou. I would like to thank Diana Brydon for her efforts in supporting our international students with offers of employment as RAs in the Centre for Globalization and Cultural Studies, offers which played a key role in our recruitment of them and in their success securing visas. I would also like to congratulate Warren Cariou and Arlene Young on making great use of the GETS program to offer excellent financial support for several of our students. More generally, thanks to all faculty for your assistance with our very onerous but hopefully very useful External Review Process. Lastly, I would like to thank Darlene McWhirter for all her excellent work for our grad students and for bringing her energy and her administrative genius to our Graduate Office.

I would like to welcome to the department all of our new students and to welcome back those who are re-joining us, having already completed a degree here at U of M. We welcome Mandy Elliott and Riley McGuire as our new student representatives to the Graduate Studies Committee. I would like to welcome Jeremy Strong to the position of pAGES president and to thank outgoing pAGES president Dustin Geeraert for his work for and on behalf of our graduate students.

Having thanked and welcomed, I’d like to end off with congratulations. Our students have enjoyed many successes in recent months, including the presentation of conference papers both nationally and internationally and the successful co-authorship of a paper that came out of the Queer Biopolitics Reading group, led by Serenity Joo. We were pleased to recently acknowledge the successes of our MA graduates with three awards: the Warhaft Award for 2011, won by Tim Penner; the Warhaft Award for 2012, won by Shoshannah Bryn Jones Square; and the Kroetsch Award, won by Marianne Mays Wiebe. Five of our students were awarded UMGFs in 2013. They are Gretchen Derige, Sabrina Mark, Erica Pflug, Cameron Burt, and Mike Hayden. Three students were successful in the SSHRC competition: congratulations to Stephanie George, Riley McGuire, and Michael Minor. These are very tough competitions and we’re delighted by their success in them. Lastly, I would like to congratulate our most recent graduates: our two recent MA graduates, Tara Evans and Anthony Werbiski, and our recent PhD program graduate, Melanie Brannagan, who successfully defended her dissertation in August.

With best wishes to all our graduate students, past and present, for a productive and enjoyable year ahead, Vanessa.
Phyllis Portnoy took part in two very exciting events this summer, trekking up Stromboli and Etna volcanoes in Sicily, and reading a paper, entitled 'Daniel and the Angel's Embrace: an Insular Innovation?,' at the International Society of Anglo-Saxonists Conference in Dublin.


In a futile attempt to keep up with her Victorianist colleagues Vanessa Warne and Bob O’Kell, Arlene Young scheduled five presentations at various Victorian Studies conferences for 2013. Over the course of the spring, summer, and fall, she delivered papers on Victorian nurses, typewriters, and general office workers in Venice, Italy (June), in London, England (August), in Pasadena, CA (October), and in Portland, OR (November). The one point of departure from Victorian working women was the presentation on the Child and the Donkey in A Child of the Jago in Vancouver in April.

Alison Calder is thrilled that her second poetry collection, In the Tiger Park, will be published by Coteau Books in April 2014.

Jonathan Ball will publish two books in early 2014. In the Winter season, University of Toronto Press will publish the monograph John Paizs’s Crime Wave in the Canadian Cinema series. In the Spring season, Insomniac Press will publish the anthology Why Poetry Sucks (a collection of humorous English Canadian experimental poetry, co-edited by Ryan Fitzpatrick). Jonathan is accepting suggestions for anthology inclusions until November 15, at whypoetrysucks@gmail.com.

Michelle Faubert has recently published the first major work on her new project, Romantic Suicide. The article in Essays in Romanticism argues that Mary Shelley’s little-known novella Matilda presents the Romantic-era suicide debate, as presented by three members of Shelley’s own family, via a plot about another kind of family drama, incest. This summer, Faubert also presented: a three-hour seminar at Northumbria University in Newcastle, UK, for her Visiting Fellowship, which was renewed for another three years; a paper at a conference on Romanticism at Oxford University; and a conference paper in Boston, MA, for the North American Society for the Study of Romanticism.

Jenifer Mohammed self-published an e-book on Amazon, Kobo, and iTunes this fall: Resurrecting Cybele which is a satire on a U of M, English graduate student, Cybele Moondragon who decides to resurrect a matriarchal cult and run it for profit in Winnipeg and all the problems that arise from being the head of your own cult. The ebook trailer is on youtube as well: http://youtu.be/Axkl5uxdq7w

Alexandra Kozelko has accepted a permanent job at the Centre for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning. We wish her the best of luck in her new position. We welcome back Tammy Shirtliff, who will provide part-time support in the main office for the remainder of the Fall term.
This has been a year of great changes for Theatre Program, particularly through the departure of two support staff stalwarts, both of whom have served the Theatre Program and DEFT for decades: Marilyn Loat and Dennis Smith have retired, leaving the rest of us a little stunned and quite sad, but very grateful nonetheless for all they have done for the Program and its students.

Marilyn has been Administrative Assistant for Theatre and Film (and Classics) since 1985; as Gene Walz has pointed out, it was widely recognized that she was far and away the most efficient, most proficient admin assistant in University College, always on top of things, always superbly organized, always tactful but firm in her dealings with her gaggle of unruly academics. But Marilyn has meant much more to Theatre Program than efficient, always reliable support, vital though that has been. To generations of Theatre students she has been cheerleader, baby-sitter, confidante, valued adviser, Mom. And occasionally dragon lady in pursuit of missing rehearsal hall keys. For many years, Marilyn was really the heart of the Program, the only person who was in touch with all the students, as well as all the faculty and the other support staff. Marilyn was the person who really knew what was going on and who knew how the complex interplay of academic programs, creative programs, and production preparation actually works. One of the things that made Marilyn so special was her keen and sincere interest in the Theatre students, in what they were doing, where they were going, their problems, their triumphs.

For many, Marilyn has been the face and voice of Theatre Program as well as its heart, always the gracious hostess at events such as Irene Anderson night, and opening nights at the Black Hole or the Gas Station. Front of house was her special province, and for years (and on her own time) she instructed generations of students in the tasks of selling tickets, balancing accounts, managing junior student ushers, helping people find seats, and ensuring audience safety. Probably more importantly, she mentored the students in the gentle arts of audience relations, welcoming people to our shabby, stuffy, but somehow magical space; making them feel at home; making them feel special for coming. These were skills that Marilyn herself possessed in abundance.
Farewell to Marilyn Loat & Dennis Smith

Dennis has been with DEFT since 1981 as Technical Director and Production Manager of the Black Hole Theatre. (Before that, he was a student here.) He spent three years with CUSO in Zimbabwe, but for the rest of those years, has been an employee of the U of M. During his time here, Dennis has supervised the mounting of two hundred and seventy productions. For many of those productions, he was set and/or lighting designer as well. As primary instructor of our backstage course, he has taught hundreds of students in the arts and crafts of technical theatre: many of those students now make their living working in the entertainment industry, or by teaching technical theatre in schools and universities. All have “Dennis stories” to tell, most having to do with his legendary grumpiness, his perfectionism, and his mythic moustache. At Dennis’ retirement party, Rob Herriot, now a professional opera director, told me he can always tell when his stage manager has been trained at the U of M; U of M graduates are invariably better prepared and better at their jobs than those from elsewhere. Dennis has been a passionate and tireless advocate for his students.

Always the consummate professional, Dennis was the epitome of meticulous organization. He made a point of keeping abreast of developments in the rapidly evolving technology of the theatre, and his extensive knowledge has been invaluable in planning the new theatre in TAP. He has been a committed and dedicated artist in his inventive and ingenious work as a designer of sets and lighting. As manager, teacher, and artist, Dennis has been vital to the development of the Theatre Program at the U of M over the past 30 years – he’s a genius when it comes to making limited resources and a limited budget go a long, long way.

Farewell Marilyn and Dennis: we’ll long remember you for everything you’ve done for Theatre at the University of Manitoba.

_Pictured below (left to right): Chris Johnson, Dennis Smith, Marilyn Loat, George Toles_
THE BLACK HOLE THEATRE COMPANY’S 2013/2014 SEASON

LION IN THE STREETS
BY JONATHAN THOMPSON
NOV. 19 - 30

“This script is so harsh that it makes you feel like you’ve been stripped, beaten, and abandoned, and so compassionate that it releases floods of tears and gratitude with its touch.”
- Georgia Straight

ARISTOCRATS
BY BRIAN FRIEL
JAN. 24 - FEB. 2

“Brian Friel’s achingly beautiful 1979 play about the disintegration of Ireland’s gentry is so Chekhovian, you keep expecting his distinguished family to put down the whiskey bottle and start swapping tea from a samovar.”
- Variety

THE PILLOWMAN
BY MARTIN MCDONAGH
MAR. 11 - 22

“The Pillowman is one of those theatrical events that seldom comes along. It’s sincere, sadistic, haunting, and it is entirely unforgettable.”
- Broadway World

SEASON PASSES:
$39
$29 STUDENTS
PASSES MAY BE PURCHASED IN RMSE5 UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OR AT THE BOX OFFICE DURING THE RUN OF LION IN THE STREETS

BHTC.CA
BOX OFFICE:
204-474-6880
Black Hole Theatre

Presenting our 2013/2014 Mainstage Season

**Lion in the Streets**
By Judith Thompson
November 19-23, 26-30 at the Black Hole Theatre

*Lion in the Streets* comprises a series of interconnected episodes which provide graphic glimpses into the desperate lives of 28 characters played by 8 actors. The young protagonist, a Portuguese immigrant to Toronto named Isobel, is a ghost in a purgatorial condition, reliving her past at the moment before she dies, and is finally freed from the world’s suffering in a moment of understanding and forgiveness. *Lion in the Streets* will be directed by Ivan Henwood, Associate Artistic Producer at Winnipeg Jewish Theatre, Co-artistic Director at Snakeskin Jacket and University of Manitoba Theatre Program alumnus.

*Mature subject matter, language and content may be offensive to some.*

**The Aristocrats**
By Brian Friel
January 24-25, 27-February 2 at the Gas Station Theatre

The return of the entire O’Donnell family to the old family home to celebrate a wedding reveals them as the remnant of a once great tradition. The irony inherent in the title echoes that found in Chekov’s great works which expose the almost elegiac decline of the aristocracy caught between past and future, between rural and urban lives and narratives. In presenting *The Aristocrats*, The Black Hole Theatre Company brings Brian Friel, widely known as the Irish Chekov, to this year’s Festival. One of Brian Friel’s masterworks, *The Aristocrats* is inspired by Chekov’s Three Sisters, and demonstrates the enduring influence of Anton Chekov in both form (naturalism and tragicomedy) and content. Director Dr Bill Kerr will be able to share his passion for the playwright’s work which he spent several years studying.

**The Pillowman**
By Martin McDonagh
March 11-15, 18-22 at the Black Hole Theatre

We close our 2013/2014 season with the Winnipeg premiere of *The Pillowman* written by the acclaimed Anglo-Irish playwright, filmmaker and screenwriter Martin McDonough. Cruel and mostly gruesome short stories are told in a sequence that reveals a brutal history of a writer and his brother. The central character, Katurian, is under interrogation. His short stories bare an uncanny resemblance to the recent grisly killings of three children. The University of Manitoba’s Kevin Ramberran is directing his first Black Hole Theatre Company mainstage and bravely taking on content of swallowed razor blades, severed toes and crucifixion.

*Mature subject matter, language and content may be offensive to some.*

Adults $15, Students/Seniors $12
For exact performance times and dates please visit our web site, [bhtc.ca](http://bhtc.ca)
For Season Subscription inquiries and reservations, contact our box office at 474-6880
The CCWOC has had another busy fall, with the introduction of our new Songwriters-in-Residence, John K. Samson and Christine Fellows. John and Christine have been leading a weekly songwriting workshop which has been a great success, and they have also visited several classrooms and met individually with many students to talk about their work. They have plans for more amazing events in the coming weeks, so watch for information about these on our website. John and Christine also still have time available to meet with student writers and songwriters, so please contact them at ccwocwriter@cc.umanitoba.ca to make an appointment for a consultation.

The Centre is also very pleased to announce our new partnership with the Canadian Consortium for Performance and Politics, a project funded by a new SSHRC Partnership grant headed up by the U of M’s Peter Kulchyski and Diana Taylor of New York University. For the next seven years, this project will enable a group of two dozen researchers to undertake research into manifestations of performance and politics from across the Americas. Using the theoretical lens of Performance Studies, this group of scholars will make particular efforts to understand Canada’s cultural place within the Western hemisphere. The CCWOC will be the physical home of this project in Canada, working in conjunction with the networks already established by NYU’s Hemispheric Institute for Performance and Politics. This project will be sponsoring many events for artists and researchers in the coming years, including the Hemispheric Institute’s Encuentro in Montreal next June (for more information see hemisphericinstitute.com). For more information about the partnership, please contact our new staff person Kimberley Wilde at kimberley.wilde@umanitoba.ca.

The Centre has sponsored a number of readings and visiting lectures this term, including a reading by Joseph Boyden and a talk on orality in the Medieval period by Arizona State University’s Rosalynn Voaden. We also hosted a very successful poetry workshop by Jennifer Still, who gathered her group of poets in the U of M’s “Star Factory” planetarium for an unforgettable creative exploration of poetry and astronomy. On Halloween, we will be hosting a graphic novel writing workshop by the hugely successful graphic novelist David Robertson. Please contact us to sign up for this opportunity to learn from one of the most innovative practitioners of the genre. We have several other readings and events planned for this fall, so please watch our website or follow us on Facebook for more information. In the winter term, we will be welcoming the British playwright and community activist Louise Wallwein as our writer-in-residence, so polish up your play scripts for when she arrives.

We are always looking for suggestions about new workshops, performers and lectures, so please contact us with any ideas you have.

The University of Manitoba Literary Society

The University of Manitoba Literary Society hopes to provide a community for writers, readers and performers, whether their academic pursuits nurture these interests and especially if they do not. It serves as a resource to find out about the literary goings-on on campus and in the city, a support network for proofreaders and critics, a format for critical discussion and appreciation, and a club to work alongside in fundraising for literacy foundations and spreading the appreciation for the arts. We have already been able to participate in the Thin Air festival, and look forward to organizing writing workshops, and fully utilizing the expertise of the CCWOC’s writers-in-residence.

Chimwemwe Undi, undergraduate student in the Dept. of Linguistics, is thrilled to be serving as the president for the 2013/14 academic year, and we hope that anyone interested will contact us at umlitsociety@live.ca or find us on Facebook.
The Centre for Globalization and Cultural Studies welcomed several new associate graduate students working as research assistants to CRC and Centre Director Diana Brydon in September 2013. MA students Sameera Abdulrehman and Mohammed Ishrat Ismail were joined by PhD students Jessica Jacobsen-Konefall (Queen’s) and Chigbo Arthur Anyaduba. In October, Dr. Kseniya Zaika arrived as an International Council of Canadian Studies-funded postdoctoral scholar, working on comparative Canadian and Russian governance approaches to multicultural and indigenous questions. She will work at the Centre until mid-January 2014. A CRC-funded postdoctoral fellow will join the Centre in January 2014 to help with our participation in the Ethical Internationalism in Global Higher Education (EIGHE) project (funded by the Finnish Academy) and the SSHRC-funded “Brazil/Canada Knowledge Exchange.” Both projects will present at Congress (Brock University May 2013), and plans are underway for BRCAKE to hold team workshops in Winnipeg beforehand (from May 19-23).

Director Diana Brydon has joined the International Advisory Board of the Concurrences Centre for Colonial and Postcolonial Research at Linnaeus University, Sweden, and participated in the annual board meeting with the centre’s research scholars in early November 2013. The Centre has been invited to act as one of two External Observers associated with a “Bodies in Transit” application submitted to the Spanish Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness by Dr. Belen Martin-Lucasa at the University of Vigo.

The Association of Graduate English Students (pAGES) in the Department of English, Film, and Theatre at The University of Manitoba is pleased to announce our 2014 colloquium entitled Muddling the Middle: Queries, Quandaries, and Quarrels with In-Betweenness, scheduled for January 24th, 2014. In conjunction with the UMIH Research Cluster “Queer Biopolitics,” pAGES has invited Dr. Scott Herring, author of Another Country: Queer Anti-Urbanism, to participate as a distinguished guest speaker during the event. We welcome papers of approximately 7 minutes in length from Honours students, graduate students, and faculty that explore anything within the broad spectrum of topics that this title suggests. Both creative and critical writing forms are welcome. Paper topics can include, but are not limited to:

- The geographical middle and challenging borders (Winnipeg, globalization, technology, etc.)
- Transitioning over the middle (in terms of disciplines, bodies, identities, etc.)
- Queerness/queering
- Death and life (the undead and the supernatural, animality, environmentalism, etc.)
- Liminality/limits
- Bridges/bridging
- Temporal middles (between historical periods, representations of the past and future, etc.)

Please send titles and short descriptions of papers (under 200 words) to Riley McGuire at Riley.Mcguire@umanitoba.ca by December 15, 2013.
Message from the prometheic Association of Graduate English Students

I am pleased to inform the department that there is a high level of interest in and enthusiasm for pAGES as we begin the 2013-2014 academic year. Due to this fact, we have voted to create two new positions on our executive committee. The first of the two is that of Film Representative and the second is Theatre Representative. We have also added a second person to share the often heavy duties of GSA representative. Finally, we are also currently working to add an ACCUTE (Association of Canadian College and University Teachers of English) graduate student representative to our executive and will inform the department when that position has been filled.

Plans for the 2014 colloquium are well under way. This year we are excited to co-sponsor visiting scholar Dr. Scott Herring, author of the recent book Another Country: Queer Anti-Urbanism. Dr. Herring is an Associate Professor of English at Indiana University and has agreed to deliver a short paper at our colloquium. As in previous years, we encourage professors to contribute to the colloquium and help make it a success by delivering a paper or attending the conference and reception to follow. The colloquium will take place on January 24th throughout the day in the Cross Common Room at St. John's College. Please see the included Call For Papers for this event. If you know that you would like to deliver a paper, please try to submit a title and short description by December 15th.

There are also several projects and events currently in planning stages for this year, including a potential creative writing publication, exploring the possibility of a graduate student webpage and a multi-faculty debate event.

On behalf of pAGES, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the department sincerely for the creation of a space for graduate students to congregate, study and brew coffee. Our lounge at 611 Fletcher Argue is being put to good use and encourages our students to stay connected with the department and to interface with professors and support staff on a regular basis. Thanks also to all members of the department for your strong support this time of year with graduate student funding applications.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Strong

2013-2014 pAGES Executive:

President: Jeremy Strong
Secretary: Stephanie George
Treasurer: Katherine Thorsteinson
PhD rep: Mandy Elliot
MA rep: Riley McGuire
Film rep (new position): Katie Leitch
Theatre rep (New position): Kevin Ramberran
GSA reps: Kendra Magnus-Johnston and Karalyn Dokurno
Member at Large: Caitlin McIntyre
Social Convener: Breanna Muir
Creative Writing rep: Kristian Enright

The NEXT edition of the Department of English, Film, and Theatre newsletter is scheduled for publication in Spring 2014. If you would like to contribute to this upcoming issue please forward your submission/s via email to english@umanitoba.ca by February 14, 2014. Submissions are to be submitted electronically and should be in “finished” form. Suggestions and contributions are always welcome!
Graduate Travel Awards & Funding

Faculty of Graduate Studies - Graduate Student Travel Conference Travel Award
http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/graduate_studies/media/FGS_Travel_App.pdf

The Faculty of Graduate Studies allocates funds to assist Master’s and Ph.D. student with costs for travel, for presentations of paper, posters, or other creative work pertinent to their studies.

One year trial: no deadline date. Please submit application before travelling.

Faculty of Arts - Graduate Student Conference Travel Fund
http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/arts/awards/3006.html

To be eligible for a Faculty of Arts Graduate Student Conference Travel Award students must be:
*enrolled full-time in a graduate program in The Faculty of Arts;
*presenting a paper, or have another significant role, at the conference or workshop.

Grants are dispersed two times a year after the following application deadlines:
April 1
November 1

University of Manitoba - Graduate Students' Association
http://www.umgsa.ca/docs/Grants_Donations/conference_grant_application_form.pdf

Conference grants are available for graduate students attending or presenting at conferences. Applications are available online only, and grants will be disbursed monthly. Please complete your application once you have already attended a conference.

NOTE:
For more Graduate Award information, visit the Faculty of Graduate Studies Awards Database
http://webapps.cc.umanitoba.ca/gradawards/

Applications for Conference/Travel funding which require departmental approval/ letter of support from the Department Head are to be submitted a few days in advance of the deadline to:
Graduate Program Assistant
Department of English
623 Fletcher Argue Building
Ph. 474-7365