



UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

Faculty of Arts

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH, FILM, AND THEATRE NEWSLETTER

Message from the Head Dr. Brenda Austin-Smith



This is the first newsletter of the academic year for us in the Department of English, Film, and Theatre,

and it is already nearly the middle of March. It seems we have all been so thoroughly engaged in the variety of creative, scholarly, and collegial activities that make up life in the university that we have not been able to slow down long enough to write about them. This is also my first appearance in the newsletter as Head, and though it comes late, my thanks is due to all of you for providing much needed support and advice to me as I figure out the details of our three program areas and how they interact.

In this newsletter you'll read about what your colleagues have been thinking and doing over the last several months, and I hope you'll be reminded of just how remarkable a group of students, staff and faculty we are. We have hosted guest speakers and writers, held symposia and professional development workshops, made films, produced plays and launched books. Undergraduate students in our department have even formed a new associa-

tion (you'll learn more about them in this newsletter).

You may have noticed new faces among us this year too: Anita King is our new Graduate Program Assistant, Melanie Matté has joined us as the new Film Studies and Theatre Program Assistant, Shane Stewart is the new Theatre Technical Director, and Alex Snukal is our Media Lab Technician. We also welcomed two new sessional appointments this year. Scott Crompton has been teaching in Film Studies, and Ian Ross has been teaching in our Theatre Program. Without the contributions of those who teach on contract, and who do service work for our program and for the university (very often in addition to their own research) it would be very difficult for us to offer the array of quality programs to our students that we do.

The academic year began with a reception at which we welcomed new graduate students and new sessional teachers to the department, and during which a number of pictures were taken of departmental footwear. I invite you to peruse those pictures and try to identify the owners of the shoes and sneakers that grace these pages, and to remember what a great year we've had.

"Sundry jottings, stray leaves, fragments, blurs and blottings."
- Robert Browning

APRIL 2015

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Message from the Associate Head

Dr. Alison Calder

Greetings everyone!

I hope your winter term is smoothly drawing to a close. As I write this, I'm snowed under, not just by the weather but also by the technicalities of Concur claims, event pre-approvals, and other bureaucratic delights. Here's hoping that spring thaw happens soon, in both literal and metaphorical senses.

One of the Department's big challenges remains student recruitment and retention. Because our classes draw on such a diverse group of students, it's difficult to create a group identity. However, we're working on several initiatives to try to increase a sense of community among our students. A number of enthusiastic undergraduates are organizing EFTSA, the English, Film, and Theatre Students' Association (see their write-up later in this issue, and check out their Facebook page). We have a pilot project going to develop an annual theme that can be used to inspire and organize events and perspectives both in and out of our classrooms. We continue to try to improve student access to our courses, such as by revising the calendar to clarify the prerequisites for advanced courses. Any suggestions you have in this line will be warmly received. And, of course, we have new, much-coveted DEFT swag! Preliminary research suggests that coffee really does taste better when it comes from a fabulous DEFT mug.

Another challenge we have is to ensure that the diverse and important work we do is seen by the wider university community. One way in which we might help to make our work visible and also help our students to develop additional skills is by encouraging the students to participate in events like the annual undergraduate research poster competition. While our disciplines traditionally have not displayed work in this way, there may be something to be gained by expressing ourselves via unusual means. To this end, DEFT will be holding some poster workshops in the fall, likely in collaboration with the Institute for the Humanities, to help our students learn more about this medium.

Best wishes for a productive and rejuvenating summer.



DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH, FILM, AND THEATRE UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS

APPLICATIONS DUE APRIL 30TH

OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE IN ENGLISH, FILM, AND THEATRE STUDIES IS RECOGNIZED BY A VARIETY OF PRIZES AND AWARDS. STIPENDS ATTACHED TO THESE AWARDS RANGE FROM \$50 TO \$3000. UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS STIPULATE THAT A STUDENT MUST BE A FULL-TIME STUDENT REGISTERED AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA FOR THAT PERIOD TO WHICH AN AWARD APPLIES. AWARDS FOR WHICH STUDENTS MAY APPLY, AND AWARDS FOR WHICH ALL ELIGIBLE STUDENTS ARE AUTOMATICALLY CONSIDERED ARE LISTED HERE:

http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/arts/departments/english_film_and_theatre/undergrad/departamental_undergraduate_student_funding.html



Message from the Graduate Chair

Dr. Vanessa Warne

As this is my last newsletter contribution as Graduate Chair, I'm going to keep it kind of short and somewhat sweet. Here is some of what I've learnt as Grad Chair:

- We have great students. They're smart, creative, generous, and hardworking. They are also inexcusably underfunded. In order to continue to recruit great students and in order to retain those we have, something drastic needs to happen to improve their funding and to allow our program to compete with similarly sized but far more generously funded programs across Canada.
- We have wonderful support staff. Anita, Darlene, Marianne and Mabelle have all been immensely patient with me and very helpful. Karen Dawn Lewandoski is a supportive and knowledgeable contact for DEFT at FGS. Our support staff care a lot about our students and I am very glad to have had a chance to work with them and learn from them. They are so good at their jobs that they convincingly hide the fact that they have way too much work to do.
- DEFT faculty have shown time and again their concern for the wellbeing of students and they have been open-minded, collegial and thoughtful respondents to proposals to make changes to our program. In this job, I've had the chance to see supervisors working very, very hard to support students through the thesis and dissertation process and I've heard great things

about the graduate courses taught in recent years. Arlene and Brenda are gifted administrators and lovely to work with.

I realize that there is a good chance that none of this is news to you. I figure that since I have been using committee and department meetings to update the department on initiatives, applications and graduations that I don't need to repeat myself here. Instead, I want to steal these last lines to say that being Grad Chair is good for you. I taught grad classes and I supervised students but I didn't really get how the pieces fit together (or where and why and when they fail to). Figuring out the policies and processes of our graduate program and of the Faculty of Graduate Studies hasn't always been pretty but I'm grateful I had the chance to do this. It feels good to understand how things work or at least to know more about them than I did before. For these reasons, I end with a benediction of administration: May the call of a foray into an administrative role be felt by many of us in the years to come, may we say yes when asked to do this work, and may we reap with gratitude its manifold rewards. Or something like that. Good luck, Glenn!

Enjoy!
-Vanessa

PROGRESS REPORTS

ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORTS MUST BE FILLED OUT AND RETURNED TO THE DEFT GRADUATE OFFICE, 623 FLETCHER ARGUE BUILDING, NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, MAY 15TH, 2015 FOR PROCESSING. FORMS MAY BE DOWNLOADED AT:
http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/graduate_studies/media/Progress_Report_2015.pdf

ADVISOR STUDENT GUIDELINES

ASG FORMS ARE AVAILABLE ON JUMP, AND ARE TO BE REVIEWED JOINTLY BY THE ADVISOR AND STUDENT. PLEASE SAVE A PDF COPY AND EMAIL TO THE GRADUATE PROGRAM OFFICE Anita.King@umanitoba.ca



Staff News

Brenda Austin-Smith's review article "Composing America," appeared in the Summer 2014 issue of *The Henry James Review*. Her essay "Secrets, Lies, and 'Virtuous Attachments': The Ambassadors and The 39 Steps" was reprinted in *Alfred Hitchcock: Critical Evaluations of Leading Filmmakers*. Ed. Neil Badmington, Routledge, 2014. Brenda gave three conference presentations this past year, one at the Film Studies Association of Canada on French film and Henry James, one on Canadian arts and culture at the Society for Socialist Studies, and one on the half-life of adaptation as part of the Mosaic "matter of life/death" conference last October. She was one of the co-ordinators of the Film Worlds reading group in 2014, and presented on her research to graduate students affiliated with the Centre on Aging. She was co-organizer of a number of events sponsored by The Affect Project, and most recently, gave a paper entitled "'So angry I cried': Hollywood Melodrama and Mixed Emotions" as part of an Affect Group panel on "Memory, Affect, and Nostalgia."

Michelle Faubert will be researching in May-June in London and Oxford for her edition of Mary Shelley's *Matilda* for Broadview Press, as well as for her monograph project on Romantic suicide. She also plans to submit a promised article manuscript to *Literature and Medicine* on long-eighteenth-century fears of literary suicidal contagion as connected to popular medical fears raised by inoculation and vaccination. Doubtlessly, though, most of her time this summer will be spent co-organizing the 2015 North American Society for the Study of Romanticism (NASSR) conference (with Peter Melville from UW), which will take place from August 13-16th in the Fort Garry Hotel.

The Manitoba Association of Playwrights and the Manitoba Writers' Guild have named their new playwriting prize "The Chris Johnson Award", recognizing **Prof. Johnson's** contribution to Winnipeg theatre over the past three decades.

Mark Libin's article, "Marking Territory: Rawi Hage's Novels and the Challenge to Postcolonial Ethics" was recently published in *English Studies in Canada*.

Dana Medoro will be presenting on Poe at a conference in Finland in May. Her paper is part of her book, forthcoming with the University of New Hampshire Press. She recently got a poem accepted for publication in *Prairie Fire*. It's titled "Three Charms for the Animal Liberation Front." The poem is about a page long and took a flipping year to write.

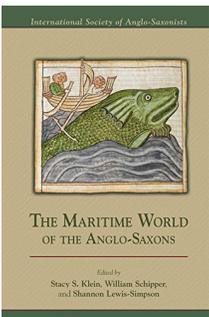
Robert O'Kell has kept busy in retirement. He delivered a paper, "Classifying Political Enemies: the 'Arch Villain' and the 'Mephistopheles of Statesmanship,'" at the annual conference of the North American Victorian Studies Association in November, 2014. He will also give a paper, "The Victorian Body Politic," at the Victorian Studies Association of Western Canada meeting in Kelowna in April; and he has three reviews (a book on Gladstone and the two latest volumes of the Benjamin Disraeli Letters) forthcoming in the *Canadian Journal of History*, the *University of Toronto Quarterly* and *Victorian Studies* respectively.

Judith Owens has had two essays published recently: "Patrilineal Raleigh" in *Literary and Visual Raleigh* (Manchester U P) and, just last month, "Warding off Injustice in Book V of *The Faerie Queene*" in *Taking Exception to the Law: Materializing Injustice in Early Modern English Literature* (U of T Press). Her paper "'Ylike to me was libertee and lyfe': Intimations of



Amorality in the December Eclogue” has been accepted for presentation at the Fifth International Spenser Conference, being held this June in Dublin. Bits and pieces of these papers will eventually find their way into the book she writing, tentatively entitled “Instructional Settings: Shakespeare, Spenser, and Early Modern Pedagogical Culture.”

Finally in print, *The Maritime World of the Anglo-Saxons* features St. Brendan fixing his anchor into the scaly rind of the sea-beast on its cover. Read on for more tales of Anglo-Saxon seafaring, including **Phyllis Portnoy’s** piece, “Verbal Seascapes in Anglo-Saxon Verse.”



George Toles has finished writing his monograph on Paul Thomas Anderson, which will be published

in the coming year by University of Illinois Press. His next project, growing out of his graduate seminar topic, will be a study of Theatre in Film in the Early Sound Era. George will be directing Pulitzer Prize Winner Annie Baker’s *Circle Mirror Transformation* at the Winnipeg Fringe this summer. He was invited to Michigan State University and Boston University this term to lecture on Paul Thomas Anderson and

his work with Guy Maddin. Jonathan Rosenbaum, the most respected, widely published film critic in the United States, came to Winnipeg in March for a public interview with **Guy Maddin**, in honour of the Criterion DVD release of *My Winnipeg*. (George wrote the film’s dialogue.) George’s 2012-2013 Film Production course premiered its feature length film, *Dream a Little Dream*, at the Winnipeg Cinematheque in January. Our Director of Technical Studies, Jim Agapito, did an exceptional job working with the twenty three students in the course throughout the shoot and in post-production. The 2014-15 Film Production course is currently shooting an adaptation of Claude Chabrol’s New Wave classic, *The Cousins*, at various locations in the city. Anita King’s daughter, Adriana, has a major role in the production, in addition to functioning as Art Director and Costume Coordinator for the project.

Lucas Tromly is co-organizing “Lost Luggage: A City University of Hong Kong / University of Manitoba Travel Writing Contest” for the second year in a row. Students from both institutions are invited to submit short pieces of original travel writing. All entries will be posted at www.medium.com/lost-luggage. The contest closes April 1, 2015.



Prof. George Toles introducing Guy Maddin and Jonathan Rosenbaum



Guy Maddin and Jonathan Rosenbaum



Theatre News

Dr. Bill Kerr

We began the year with a return to Shakespeare and the Manitoba premiere of *Titus Andronicus* co-directed by Chris Johnson and Bill Kerr and featuring a cast of twenty seven and much blood. *Hay Fever*, our contribution to *CowardFest*, was quite possibly BHTC's most visually stunning production ever. I want to particularly note the work of our new production team of Karen Schellenberg as Production Manager and Shane Stewart as Technical Director whose excellent work on the technically very difficult *Titus Andronicus* was surpassed by their superlative work, in collaboration with set designer Jeremy Rampton and director Margaret Groome, on *Hay Fever*.



I also want to thank our new Office Admin, Melanie Matte who has also done an excellent job and adapted very quickly to the complicated demands of our Film and Theatre programs.

We are currently producing Edward Albee's masterwork *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf* which will run March 17-28 in the Black Hole Theatre, directed by senior student Daniel Tompkins with a sterling cast, including Darcy Fehr as George. Instead of our final Lunchbagg, we have the *Fire in the Hole* festival of new works in the Black Hole Theatre, from March 30-April 4th (no show Good Friday) which will feature the staged readings of 16 new student works over 6 days.

In the upcoming Fringe Festival look for productions directed by George Toles, *Circle Mirror Transformation* by Pulitzer Prize winner Annie Baker; Ivan Henwood, *Tape* by Stephen Belber (with grad student Kevin Ramberran and alumni Justin Fry and Natashia Durand); and Bill Kerr, *Disco Pigs* by Enda Walsh (with alumna Megan Andres and current student Dan Grant). Bill Kerr will also be acting in a production of *A Behanding in Spokane* by Martin McDonagh, directed by alumna Kelly Jenken and with alumni Ray Strachan and Paul Duncan.

Next season we move into our new Conklin Theatre which is growing apace in the Tache Arts Complex. Uncertainty created by the move and the recent announcement of an unsuitable (for us) choice of a Master Playwright for the festival means the season is still in some flux. We can state now, however, that the season will begin in Homecoming Week with a special Alumni Fundraising production supervised by Chris Johnson and that the March Mainstage play will be the Premiere of a new Ian Ross work which is currently under development as a part of our new play development initiative. Look for an early reading of selections from the play on the last day of our *Fire in the Hole Festival*.

Finally, I am happy to announce that we have recently received a new scholarship to award, the Sidney Shep, and a substantial upgrading of the Florence Kane scholarship which we will now be able to give to up to three students. Many thanks to these donors who help make our students' work possible.



Black Hole Theatre Company News

Karen Schellenberg

Conklin Theatre Update

Work continues to move forward on the new performance space of the Black Hole Theatre Company and the Theatre Program. We hope to begin moving in over the summer with the transition complete by next spring.

Hay Fever, part of *CowardFest* was a great success. New Technical Director Shane Stewart and Alumnus Set Designer Jeremy Rampton outdid themselves in creating a playing space for the cast's parlour games. This production was our last in the Gas Station Theatre as we look to put all our efforts into creating the Conklin Theatre next season.

Titus Andronicus by William Shakespeare got the Black Hole Season off to a gory start. We were amazed to learn that no one had attempted to produce this play in Manitoba before. Very proud of the whole team and the fantastic production.



Kevin Ramberran and Karen Schellenberg inspect the Conklin Theatre construction site.



Titus Andronicus

Theatre Events

Fire in the Hole Festival, 2015

7:00 p.m. March 30, 31, and April 1, 2, 4

2:00 p.m. Matinee, Saturday, April 4

FREE ADMISSION

Five evenings and an afternoon of staged readings of new, student written one-act plays from DEFT's Theatre Program. Ian Ross' playwriting students wrote them, Bill Kerr's dramaturgy students dramaturged them, and Chris Johnson's directing students are directing them. Some are funny, some are serious, and

more than a few are thought-provoking. Three plays each time, and a different three every time, 16 in all! The last reading Saturday night will be scenes from Ian Ross' new play, in progress, which the Theatre Program commissioned to open the new Conklin Theatre next spring.



Centre for Creative Writing and Oral Culture Dr. Warren Cariou

The CCWOC had an inspiring term, thanks in part to Writer/Storyteller-in-Residence Dovie Thomason. Dovie captivated the audience at her welcome reception with her telling of “My Name is Dovie,” a story about family relationships in Indigenous communities. During her time at CCWOC, Dovie has been actively connecting with members of the university and local community through her “Young Adult Paranormal Romance” workshop, writer consultations, and a performance at the National Research Centre for Truth and Reconciliation. Dovie has made many new friends during her stay in Winnipeg and her welcoming nature will be missed when she returns home to Pennsylvania.

CCWOC Director Warren Cariou has expanded his creative practice with new works of petroleum-photography, aptly called *Petrography*. Using sunlight and Athabasca tar sands bitumen, Warren has crafted images to show the effects of Canadian petroleum development. One of these images has recently been acquired by the Getty Conservation Institute in Los Angeles. For more information on these works of art and the historic process used to create them, visit warrencariou.com/petrography/.

Lab technician Teddy Zegeye-Gebrehiwot has helped facilitate several exciting projects this term, including a performance art piece by director Doris Difarnecio and Anishinaabe performers Shavon Chartrand-Sinclair and her daughter Mallory Sinclair. Teddy also helped storyteller Kay Stone to record and edit the stories of renowned Kainai Elder Flora Zaharia, in preparation for the forthcoming publication of Flora’s work in the prestigious Storysave project. Teddy also facilitated a basic filmmaking workshop for students in the “Sport, Film and Society” course in the U of M’s Faculty of Kinesiology and Recreation Management.

This fall CCWOC is excited to welcome Writer-in-Residence Kitty Fitzgerald, the critically acclaimed British author of *Pigtopia* and several other celebrated works of fiction. Kitty will host a six-week workshop and will be available for consultations during regular office hours. Please visit our website for more information on Kitty and other future events at CCWOC: <http://umanitoba.ca/centres/ccwoc/>.

Centre for Globalization and Cultural Studies Dr. Diana Brydon

New Personnel at the Centre

A new doctoral student, Melanie Dennis Unrau, joined Chigbo Arthur Anyaduba and Mohammed Ishrat Ismail as a research assistant at the Centre in the fall of 2014. Melanie’s PhD dissertation will be on protest poetry and recent social movements, including the anti-pipelines movement, Idle No More, the Quebec student protests, and Occupy. Melanie is a co-editor of the volume *Seriality and Texts for Young People: The*

Compulsion to Repeat (Palgrave Macmillan, 2014). She is the author of a poetry collection, *Happiness Threads: The Unborn Poems* (The Muses’ Company, 2013), poetry editor at *Geez* magazine, and a member of the Artist Mothers collective at Mentoring Artists for Women’s Art.

Recent BA graduate and incoming MA student David Shaw, current undergraduate BA student Hannah Skrynsky, and MA student (entering our doctoral



programme in the fall) Vanessa Nunes, began work as research assistants at the Centre in early 2015. They were joined by visiting Brazilian student, Adriano



Henriques Lopes da Silva, who took up a six-month Emerging Leaders of the Americas Fellowship to work under the supervision of Diana Brydon on the project, “Multiculturalism and Globalization: A comparative study of

Canada and Brazil.” He is a Linguistics MA student enrolled in the Graduate Program of Linguistic Studies at the Federal University of Uberlândia (UFU). He took his first major in Tourism at the Federal University of Ouro Preto (UFOP) and the second major in Modern Languages at Federal University of Uberlândia (UFU). Currently, he is a member of the Group of Studies in Language and Subjectivity there. His current research project in Brazil investigates the representation of Brazil abroad, specifically the transition of the Brazilian image abroad since the country’s emerging economy gave a new status to Brazil in the beginning of the 21st century. Part of that image is Brazil’s multicultural identity, and the policies that foster or discourage social inclusion. Of special interest to Brazilians and to his research in Canada, is to understand how multiculturalism, globalization and identity studies are developed within the Canadian context. He believes that a comparative study between the immigration policies in Canada and in Brazil is needed, since the policies influence the inclusion of groups that might be excluded by their history and origin. At the same time, these policies also could help citizens to feel part of a national identity.

The Centre also welcomed a new postdoctoral fellow in January 2015. Dr. Libe García Zarranz is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Centre for Globalization and Cultural Studies, where she researches at the intersection of contemporary feminist writing in Canada, affect studies, and critical posthumanism. She is also a Scholar in the

P. E. Trudeau Foundation, a Research Affiliate for the Canadian Literature Centre at the University of Alberta, and a Board Member of CWILA (Canadian Women in the Literary Arts). García Zarranz has published and co-edited special issues on affect, ethics, and the body in contemporary Canadian writing, feminist theory, and film. She is currently completing a book titled *TransCanadian Feminist Fictions: New Cross-Border Ethics*.

Dr. García Zarranz’s postdoctoral research considers critical posthumanism as an analytical framework from which to rethink the roles of ethics and affect in contemporary feminist transnational writing in Canada. The methodological questions that fuel her project can be summed up as follows: How do recent articulations of the posthuman condition, in their critique of exclusionary policies and systemic violence, allow for a re-configuration of affective and ethical boundaries? How are writers such as Dionne Brand, Rita Wong, and Larissa Lai contributing to the creation of a feminist posthuman ethics by problematizing multiple boundaries beyond negative critique? These authors are assembling a feminist archive that not only advocates for a politics of resistance, but also contributes to the formulation of alternative ethico-affective relations beyond traditional enlightenment ideologies, exclusionary epistemologies, and necropolitical impulses.

The Critical Posthumanism(s) Group

Composed of graduate students and faculty members, this working group meets bi-monthly at the Centre to discuss the multiple manifestations of the field commonly understood as “critical posthumanism” (Braidotti 2013; Colebrook 2014; Wolfe 2010). Insisting on understanding Posthumanism(s) in its plurality, we want to find potential alliances between this critico-ethical framework and other related areas of enquiry such as new materialisms, animal studies, affect theory, and native studies. The group is open and the reading list is always in progress, so feel free to join us at our next meeting! Contact Dr. Libe Garcia Zarranz for further information.



Message from pAGES

Jeremy Strong

The pAGES team would like to thank the department for enthusiastically supporting both our annual Bake & Book Sale and the 2015 Colloquium, *Making Sense*. Funds raised through the Bake Sale initiative were used in part to support inviting our guest lecturer Dr. Andrew Burke to participate in the 2015 Colloquium and also to deliver a standalone lecture. pAGES would also like to thank Dr. David Watt and UMIH for their support of Dr. Burke's visit.

The graduate student webpage that pAGES has been working towards making a reality is now up and running. Special thanks to Dr. Warne and the graduate committee for supporting the initiative to create an official web space for DEFT graduate students and also to Alex Snukal at the Media Lab for working hard to help us create the page. Any graduate students who would still like to feature their research interests

and image on this page are invited to do so, and can contact Jeremy Strong at: umstron9@myumanitoba.ca. Please take some time to view the site and please don't hesitate to get in touch with pAGES with your suggestions as to how we can best use this space. The site can be found at: http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/arts/departments/english_film_and_theatre/faculty/graduatestudents.html

Graduate students are encouraged to attend the final pAGES meeting of the 2014-2015 academic year, at which time, the committee will accept nominations and vote on the 2015-2016 executive committee. All graduate students are welcome and encouraged to attend. Please contact Jeremy Strong for more details at: umstron9@myumanitoba.ca.

Message from EFTSA

Laura McKay, Felicia Pulo, Hannah Skrynsky

Sometimes it can be easier to find a lecture hall in the most hidden corners of Isbister than it is to find like-minded people who share your passion for literature, theatre, and all things arts. The English, Film, and Theatre Students' Association (EFTSA) is striving to change that by providing students with opportunities to meet fellow undergraduates from the Department of English, Film, and Theatre. With a successful

Meet n' Greet at The Hub under our belt, as well as the interdisciplinary undergraduate colloquium held in March, EFTSA is looking to expand our event calendar (and guest list!) to include field trips, information sessions, and other social and scholarly events. Interested in joining EFTSA? Find out what we're up to and how you can participate at: www.facebook.com/EFTSA

NEXT ISSUE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH, FILM, AND THEATRE NEWSLETTER IS SCHEDULED FOR PUBLICATION IN FALL 2015. PLEASE FORWARD YOUR SUBMISSIONS TO ENGLISH@UMANITOBA.CA BY SEPTEMBER 15



Successful Defenses 2014-2015

June 2014:

Katie Thorsteinson, MA (critical), *National Roots and Diasporic Routes: Tracing the Flying African Myth in Canada*

Riley McGuire, MA (critical), *Circuits of Desire: Exploring Queer Space, Public Sex, and Technologies of Affiliation*

Stephanie George, MA (critical), *"I Think I'm Canadian": Spatial Un-belonging and Alternative Home-making in Indigenous and Immigrant Prairie Literature*

July 2014:

Jeremy Strong, MA (creative), *"Meaning Machines": A Psychosocial Cartography of Bodies in Post-Apocalyptic Fiction*

August 2014:

Tim Bandfield, MA (critical), *Puppet/eer as god: The Metatheatrics of Ronnie Burkett's Theatre of Marionettes*

Caitlin McIntyre, MA (critical), *Queer Animals and Agriculture in James Joyce's A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*

Breanna Muir, MA (critical), *Olfaction in William Faulker's Fiction: Exploring Gender and Race through the Sense of Smell*

September 2014:

Geza Reilly, PhD, *"Escape from the Prison-House of the Known": Reading Weird Fiction in its Historical Contexts*

December 2014:

Nadine LeGier, PhD, *"My Letters Are All Talk": Community in Nineteenth-Century Epistolary Narratives of Deafness and Disability*

Lesley Glendinning, PhD, *Making Space: Positioning Self and Other in Early Modern Women's Writing*

February 2015:

Sabrina Mark, MA (critical), *Changing Clothes: Female Dress and the Widening Sphere in the Fiction of L. M. Montgomery*

March 2015:

Barbara Romanik, PhD, *Go West: Urbanism, Mobility, and Ingenuity in Western Canadian Writing and Everyday Practice*

Coursework Graduates:

Lia Alvarez, MA

Sameera Abdulrehman, MA



Theatre Alumni News

Dr. Chris Johnson

Gerry Atwell has joined the board of the Plug-In Gallery.

Jessica Burleson has a new job as the Executive Director of the Professional Association of Residents and Interns of Manitoba.

Ari Cohen performs in the new TV series, *Gangland Undercover*. His most recent stage appearance was in *The Waiting Room* at Tarragon Theatre in Toronto last month.

Audrey Dwyer is back in town to perform in the RMTTC production of Christopher Durang's *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike*.

Rob Herriott directed Edmonton Opera production of Mozart's *The Magic Flute* in January.

Jeff Madden directed the Winnipeg Mennonite Theatre production of *Nude With Violin* for *CowardFest* 2015.

Guy Maddin's new film, *The Forbidden Room*, premiered at the Sun Dance Film Festival.

Ross McMillan directed the Echo Theatre production of *Blithe Spirit* for *CowardFest* 2015. Performers included alumni **Sarah Constible**, **Stefanie Wiens**, and **Steve Ratzlaff**.

Carson Nattrass, **Gord Tanner**, and **Ian Ross** were three of the series of solo actors who performed the Theatre Projects Manitoba production of *White Rabbit, Red Rabbit* in January.

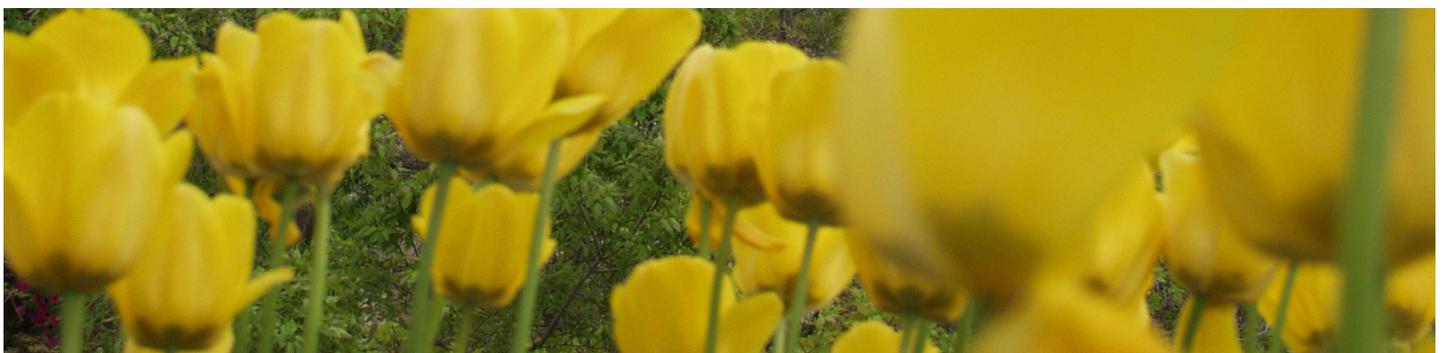
Tracy Penner performed in the Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre production of *Private Lives* for *CowardFest* 2015.

Christine Reinfort graduates from the professional acting program at Studio 58 in Vancouver this spring.

Angela Robbie (Gannon) has come back to work with us for a time this spring, playing Martha in the Black Hole production of Albee's *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* Angela's "day job" is teaching English at St. John's High School. Her daughter, Rowan, performed in the Black Hole production of *Hay Fever*.

John Stinson has a new job as the CEO of the Manitoba Lotteries and Liquor Commission.

Annie Tuma graduates from the professional acting program at George Brown College in Toronto this spring.





Graduate Travel and Awards Funding

Faculty of Graduate Studies – Graduate Student Travel Conference Travel Award (NEW application process!)
http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/graduate_studies/funding/forms.html

Effective April 1st, 2015 the application process for FGS Travel Awards will become predominantly electronic and will no longer be reimbursement based, but rather an award given directly to the student: \$750 for a North American conference and \$1000 for an international conference. The new web-based application form will allow students to electronically append the following (required) documents to their application:

- confirmation that the paper / poster has been accepted by the conference organizers;
- a one page abstract of paper / poster being presented; and
- a document signed by the department head confirming the significance of the travel to the student's current program.

Students are eligible to apply **any time before the conference and up to one month after the conference** end date. Applications will not be accepted beyond one month after the last date of the conference.

The following information will **no longer be required** as part of a complete application package:

- Transcripts (FGS will download and print them from Apply Yourself); and
- a \$100 contribution from the applicant's Department/Unit/Faculty/Advisor.

Successful applicants will be required to submit proof of presentation/attendance and a copy of boarding pass/hotel receipt upon return in order to claim the award. The award (\$750 for a North American conference and \$1000 for an international conference) will be paid out in full to the student; Travel Claim Forms and journal entries to FOPs will no longer be used to disburse the award. Visa expenses to attend a conference will no longer be covered.

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

Application deadlines: April 1st and November 1st

Graduate Students' Association – Conference Grants

<http://www.umgsa.org/our-services/conference-grant-application/>

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 and hand it in within four months of your return from the conference.

Notes:

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 at least 4 days in advance of the deadline to: Graduate Program Assistant, 623 Fletcher Argue Building, ph: 474-7365



Whose Shoes?

We spotted some outrageous footwear (no laces?!) at this year's DEFT Welcoming Reception in September.

Can you guess whose shoes these are?

Answers in the next issue!







SPRING CONVOCATION

9:30 AM

TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2015

INVESTORS GROUP ATHLETIC CENTRE (IGAC) ON THE FORT GARRY CAMPUS

FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY: ARTS

MASTER OF ARTS: ARTS

MASTER OF ARTS (JOINT WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG)

MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (JOINT WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG)

FACULTY OF ARTS

BACHELOR OF ARTS - HONOURS

BACHELOR OF ARTS - ADVANCED

BACHELOR OF ARTS - INTEGRATED STUDIES

BACHELOR OF ARTS

FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF CONVOCATION DATES VISIT:

http://umanitoba.ca/student/records/convocation/convocation_dates_and_times.html
