



DEPARTMENT CHAIR ERIC BERLATSKY'S SUPERHEROES CLASS

## Letter from the Chair

On behalf of the department of English, I am pleased to present our third annual newsletter for 2014-15. Last year was another busy and eventful year in the department. Our congratulations go to our graduates and student award winners listed in the pages that follow. This past year, we welcomed Tayari Jones as our Lawrence Sanders Writer in Residence and hosted readings by poets, novelists, and memoirists, Timothy Donnelly, Brian Turner, Robert Antoni, Juan Delgado, and Julie Wade. A literary agent, William Boggess, also gave a talk and provided advice to students and community members. Our first cohort of Creative Writing Honors students completed the program, while our literary Honors program gained in size and strength. The recently founded English Club also took the helm in organizing our first ever faculty/student Spelling Bee, won by Professor Becka McKay. We all look forward to renewing our spelling rivalry in the coming year. Also, for 2014-15, I would like to welcome Sunny Xiang and Adam Spry: two new Assistant Professors in the areas of Asian-American and American Indian literatures, respectively. Joining us fresh from completing their Ph. D.'s at University of California, Berkeley and Columbia University, we are excited for their contributions to departmental life.

We would also like to welcome three new Instructors, Claudia Amadori, Jake Henson, and Tiffany Frost, along with two Visiting Instructors, Ben Parham and Erin Kiley. In doing so, we bid a fond farewell to longtime Instructors in the department, J. D. Vivian, Lynne Hahn, and A.J. Ferguson. They will all be missed.

We also look forward to this year's "Off the Page" Creative Writing series, which will include visits by the creative nonfiction writer, Rebecca Solnit, and novelist Roxane Gay, who will be teaching two classes as a Visiting Writer in the department in addition to her public reading. We are also thrilled that this year's National Day on Writing events will include readings from new books by faculty members Kate Schmitt, Andy Furman, and Mark Scroggins. Also forthcoming this year will be our 2015 issue of the literary magazine, *Coastlines* (please submit your work if you are a student) and many other readings and lectures to be posted on our departmental website ([www.fau.edu/english](http://www.fau.edu/english)).

Please keep your ear to the ground for all of these upcoming events, as we head into a new year!

Eric Berlatsky  
Chair, FAU Department of English

# Department of English

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## Where Are They Now?

Discover the diverse paths of alumni from the Department of English.

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## Faculty Accomplishments

Find out all of the exciting and creative work done by English faculty this year.

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## Highlights from 2013-2014



Timothy Donnelly

In January poets **Timothy Donnelly** and **Brian Turner** read from their work. Donnelly's books include *Twenty-seven Props for a Production of Eine Lebenszeit* (Grove, 2003) and *The Cloud Corporation* (Wave, 2010; Picador, 2011), winner of the 2012 Kingsley Tufts Poetry Award. He is a recipient of *The Paris Review's* Bernard F. Conners Prize and fellowships from the New York State Writers Institute and the Guggenheim Memorial Foundation. He is the poetry editor of *Boston Review* and teaches



Tayari Jones

in the Writing Program at Columbia University's School of the Arts. Turner is the author of two collections of poetry—*Here, Bullet* and *Phantom Noise* (Alice James Books; 2005, 2010). *Here, Bullet* is a *New York Times* "Editor's Choice" selection and has won numerous awards (including the 2005 Beatrice Hawley Award and the 2007 Poets Prize). The 2009-2010 Amy Lowell Traveling Poetry Scholar, Turner has also been awarded a 2009 USA Hillcrest Fellowship, an NEA Fellowship, and a Lannan Literary Fellowship. His work has been published in *Poetry Daily*, *The Virginia Quarterly Review*, *The Georgia Review*, and others. He teaches at Sierra Nevada College.

In February, literary agent **William Boggess** gave a talk to our MFA students. He represents literary fiction and narrative nonfiction and provides editorial support for the agency's authors.

In March, **Tayari Jones**, Associate Professor in the MFA program at Rutgers-Newark University, read from her most recent book, *Silver Sparrow* (2011). She is also author of *Leaving Atlanta* (2002) and *The Untelling* (2005).

Jones is recipient of a Lifetime Achievement Award in Fine Arts from the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation. Her work has been supported by The National Endowment for the Arts and The United States Artists Foundation and the arts councils of Arizona and Illinois. She spent the 2011-12 academic year at Harvard University as a Radcliffe Institute Fellow, researching her forthcoming novel, *Dear History*.

## Upcoming Events

### ENGLISH DEPT BROWN BAG LECTURES

9/12/14: Rafe Dalleo will present "'A romance of the race, just down there by Panama': West Indians in the Harlem Renaissance and the U.S. Occupation of Haiti" (CU 321 at noon)

\*Look out for future brown bag lectures on 10/19 and 11/14!

#### FALL EVENTS:

**Monday, October 20 (6 PM): National Day on Writing** reading at the UCEW featuring our own Andy Furman, Kate Schmitt, and Mark Scroggins. Reception to follow; books for sale.

**Tuesday, October 21 (7 PM): Where Are They Now? English Alumni Panel.** Discover the diverse paths our alumni have taken after graduation. (AH 205, Boca campus)

**Wednesday, November 12 (7 PM): Writing and Publishing your First Book:** A panel discussion featuring David Poissant (author, *The Heaven of Animals*), Julie Marie Wade (author of *Wishbone: A Memoir in Fractures* and many other books), and Jaswinder Bolina (author of *Carrier Wave* and other books of poetry).

**Friday, November 14 (9:30 AM): Meet the Press.** The Tribune Company (*Sun Sentinel*, Forum Publishing Group, SFL TV) will be speaking to English majors about career opportunities. (CU 321, Boca campus)

#### SPRING EVENTS:

**Monday, January 27 (7:30 PM): Reading by visiting writer Roxane Gay**, NYT bestselling author of *Bad Feminist* and *An Untamed State*. Reception to follow.

**Thursday, February 12 (7 PM): Reading by Sanders Writer-in-Residence Rebecca Solnit**, author of *Wanderlust*, *A Field Guide to Getting Lost*, and many other works of nonfiction. Reception to follow.

**Wednesday, February 18 (7 PM): A reading by writer Phil Klay**, author of the short-story collection *Redeployment*.

**Thursday, March 26 (4 PM): Reading by Bingham Visiting Writer Lucy Brock-Broido**, author of *Stay*, *Trouble in Mind*, and other works of poetry.

## Meet Our New Faculty



**Sunny Xiang** received her Ph.D. in English from the University of California, Berkeley, in 2014. She teaches courses in Asian American literature and Asian literature in translation as well as across the twentieth-century Anglophone canon. Her research interests include Asian Anglophone literature, world literature, human rights, narrative and the novel, studies of race and ethnicity, and postcolonial studies. She is currently working on a book manuscript entitled "Voicing Asia: Post-Cold War Novels, Geopolitics, and Human Rights."

**Adam Spry** completed his Ph.D. in English and Comparative Literature at Columbia University in 2014. His research interests include Native American literatures, literature and the state, and critical indigenous theory. He is currently working on a book project that traces the movement of Ojibwe literary and cultural material between U.S., Canadian, and Ojibwe national contexts. Adam was raised on the Flathead Indian Reservation in Montana and is a White Earth Band Ojibwe.



**We are excited to have Roxane Gay join our faculty as Visiting Creative Writing Professor in Spring 2015!**



**Roxane Gay's** writing has appeared or is forthcoming in *Best American Mystery Stories 2014*, *Best American Short Stories 2012*, *Best Sex Writing 2012*, *A Public Space*, *McSweeney's*, *Tin House*, *Oxford American*, *American Short Fiction*, *West Branch*, *Virginia Quarterly Review*, *NOON*, *The New York Times Book Review*, *Bookforum*, *Time*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *The Nation*, *The Rumpus*, *Salon*, and many others. She is also the author of the books *Ayiti*, *An Untamed State*, *Bad Feminist*, and *Hunger*, forthcoming from Harper in 2016.

*Please welcome our new Instructors and Visiting Instructors! Congratulations to Tiffany Frost, featured in last year's newsletter, who has become a permanent instructor.*

## INSTRUCTORS



**Claudia Amadori** earned a B.A. in English (2006) and an M.F.A. in Creative Writing (2008) from FAU. She received an M.A. in English (2010) and a Ph.D. in English (2014) from the University of Miami. Claudia's research and teaching fields include: 19<sup>th</sup> century American and British Literature, Transatlantic Literary Studies, African-American Literature, Caribbean Literature, and Creative Writing (Fiction, Nonfiction). Claudia's dissertation "Shape-Shifting Creole Identities: Representations of Creole Figures in Nineteenth-Century Anglophone Transatlantic Literature" is a study of American, British, and Caribbean texts, and examines the historical and geographical shifts in literary depictions of West Indian Creoles, who were the offspring of colonizers and/or slaves in the Americas. Claudia is the recipient of the following awards from the University of Miami: The Center for the Humanities Dissertation Fellowship 2013-14, The Dean Summer Research Fellowship 2012-13, and The Mary K. Parker Price 2009-10.

**Jake Henson** received his MFA from FAU in 2011. His thesis is a multi-modal collection of fiction, creative nonfiction, and visual art. He has continued to work in and experiment with the combination of language with a variety of forms such as digital photography, stencil making, paper sculpture, artist books and screen printing – in an effort to access the reading experience with an authenticity of expression that resonates with audience. He has taught a wide range of courses on writing and literature: from creative writing to the college essay and business writing at FAU, Tallahassee Community College, back to FAU, Palm Beach State College, and once again – at FAU. Jake finds his interactions with his students as well as the community of writers and thinkers at the university to be an important aspect of his artistic practice. He is happy to be back with the FAU community and is always interested in collaborative projects.



## VISITING INSTRUCTORS



**Benjamin Parham** holds a Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing from FAU. Currently, he is revising two short stories and developing a narrative framework to extend his novel. He is originally from Georgia.



**Erin Kiley** earned both her B.A. and M.A. in English at FAU. Her research interests include Feminist and Cultural Studies, particularly representations of women in popular culture, as well as postmodern consumer culture.

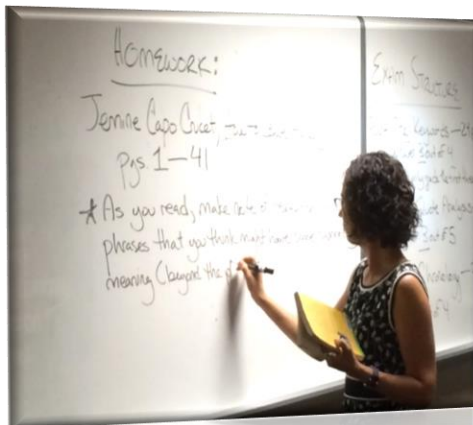
## Faculty Moves...Moving On Up

**Barclay Barrios** started a new position as Assistant Dean in January of 2014. As an Assistant Dean for Arts and Letters, he manages the college's certificate programs and interdisciplinary majors, oversees Student Academic Services, and coordinates the college's assessment and credentialing endeavors. He also works closely with the Dean on the college newsletter and other promotional materials and serves as the college's point person for all student success initiatives.



**Adam Bradford** is currently serving as the Associate Chair. His new duties include creating and managing the department's schedule of course offerings and assisting the chair to administrate the affairs of the department.

**Wendy Hinshaw** is currently Director of Writing Programs in the Department of English. The Writing Program oversees the instruction of more than 300 sections of writing-intensive ENC and LIT courses each year, and works closely with faculty, instructors and GTAs to develop and implement the curriculum for these courses. This year the Writing Program is developing lesson plans and activities to incorporate the Mobile Access for Research and Innovation Output Cart (aka "MARIO Kart"), a new technology resource available to all instructors and GTAs teaching for the English Department. We are also developing a series of Pedagogy Brown Bags to support ongoing pedagogical and professional development in our department. Wendy Hinshaw is also Director of the Internship Program for the Department of English, and is working closely with Shantelle Maxwell to support students currently partnering with local businesses and organizations.



**Elena Machado Sáez** was appointed the Director of FAU's Center for Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies in January 2014. As part of her position, she oversees the undergraduate and graduate certificate programs as well as the MA in Women's Studies program. She successfully obtained a Technology Fee Grant for the renovation of AH 207, which will become the WGSS Center's seminar room and was also the principal investigator for the collaborative research grant funded by the College of Arts and Letters on "Surviving Slavery: Combatting Sex trafficking in South Florida." She is especially excited about the WGSS Center hosting the Southeastern Women's Studies Association conference from March 25-29, 2015.

# Spelling Bee

## The Ultimate Showdown English Faculty vs English Majors

WINNER, DR. MCKAY WITH ENGLISH CLUB PRESIDENT, DANIELLE FONTANA



#SpellingBeeTrashTalk



#UltimateShowdown

On March 14, 2014, the English Club held the very first Spelling Bee, pitting a team of English faculty members against a team of students majoring in English. The prize: Bragging rights and a \$20 Visa gift card. There was excitement leading up to the spelling bee. Faculty competitors were trash talking and English majors followed suit.

The email battle began when Professor Bucak wrote, "Just so y'all know, I have e-mailed this list to my mother and she is quizzing me daily. This, people, is how I nailed elementary school. Look out, students. #spellingbeetrashtalk."

In response, Professor Furman said, "Big deal. I've been doing calisthenics, deep-breathing exercises, and transcendental meditation."

The day prior to the Bee English Club President, Danielle Fontana, sent a taunting email to faculty competitors: "I hope all of the calisthenics, deep-breathing exercises and daily quizzes from your parents have gotten you ready to face off against your students in the Bee tomorrow. Let's not forget what Macbeth said toward the end of his soliloquy: "...a poor player that struts and frets his hour upon the stage and then is heard no more.""

In front of a packed audience, faculty and students were asked to spell words like "braggadocio," "flibbertigibbet," and "pulchritudinous." The final round came down to Professor Becca McKay and student Terry White. Showing no end in sight, Assistant Dean and Spelling Bee Judge, Barclay Barrios, began using words from his sudden death list. In the end, Professor McKay won the competition by correctly spelling "thalassophobia," which means fear of the sea!

The English Club is planning to have another Spelling Bee this upcoming spring.

### 2014 Spelling Bee Competitors

#### Students:

Cameron McCaffrey  
Terry White  
Staci Brodi  
Avery Godwin  
Claudia Kisielewicz  
Danielle Fontana  
Rodolphe Ganthier  
Reagan Gaherty  
James Finch  
Lisa Chiles

#### Faculty:

Professor Eric Berlatsky  
Professor Elena Machado  
Professor Becca McKay  
Professor Adam Bradford  
Professor Andrew Furman  
Professor Dan Murtaugh  
Instructor Mary Sheffield  
Professor Kate Schmitt  
Professor Papatya Bucak

# A W A R D S



(Left to Right) Monique McIntosh, Kim Grabenhorst, Dan Brede (trustee, Lawrence A. Sanders Foundation), Ian Rice, and Jamie White



James Turner with Professor Mary Faraci

## Undergraduate

**Outstanding Senior Award:** tie between Claudia Kisielewicz and James Turner. Finalists for the award were Babette Cieskowski, Cameron McCaffery, Andrew LeClair, and Meredith Hammer.

**The Fenton Hollingsworth Memorial Scholarship in English for short story writing:** Craig Ryan

**Best Essay in LIT 20XX:** Ashis Mohanty, "Lost in Translation" (Julianne Curran, Instructor)

**Best Essay in ENC 110X, Fall 13:** Christopher Minasi, "Human and Nonhuman" (Marianna Gleyzer, Instructor)

**Best Essay in ENC 110X, Spring 14:** Becca Wexelman, "Eating Ethics" (Kathleen Moorehead, Instructor)

## Graduate

**Aisling Awards for the best publications in *Coastlines*:** Monique McIntosh for nonfiction, Beckett Ananda for fiction, and Nuala Carr for poetry.

**Thomas Burnett Swann Award (to be used this year for travel to literary conferences or events):** Monique McIntosh, Jason Stephens, and Stephanie Anderson.

**Sanders fellows:** Kim Grabenhorst (fiction) and Jamie White (poetry).

**Outstanding GTA:** Gyasi Byng

**Most Promising GTA:** Mary Bogue

# Congratulations to our 2013–2014 Honors Students!

## *LITERARY STUDIES TRACK*

Adele Mettawa

Danielle Haugk

Claudia Kisielewicz

Christopher Kerr

Sample Honors abstract from 2014: Claudia Kisielewicz, "A Citizen of the World": Global Citizenship and the Representations of Globalization in Michelle Cliff's *Into the Interior*"

This thesis argues that the novel *Into the Interior* (2010) by Michelle Cliff can be interpreted through the framework of globalization to examine how the text imposes resistance to hegemony on a global scale. By having her first-person narrator declare herself to be "a citizen of the world," Cliff insists on the mentality of global citizenship that advocates universal human rights as a means of resisting global marginalization. The narrator's worldview is expressed also through the representations of globalization that include both economic and cultural forms. Cliff presents globalization as being both an economical process as well as a system of cultural exchanges through her multiple references to cultural forms such as literature, film, art, and mass media. Antonio Gramsci's conception of cultural hegemony is adopted in showing how resistance of the oppressed can be enacted on a global level through the creation and proliferation of cultural forms that thereby subvert the domination of what Gramsci's calls "civil society."

## *CREATIVE WRITING TRACK*

Samiyeh Nasser

Babette Cieskowski

Kyle Paul

Beckett Ananda

Jason Wilson

Kelsey Kwolek

For the creative writing track, each honors student had to complete a study of a single author, write a reflective essay on their own writing, and complete a thesis-length manuscript. These manuscripts included a collection of lyric and narrative poetry, a creation-myth novella, a novella on a video-game developer who lives off the grid, and short stories with content as varied as a school lock-down, a Palestinian family feud, and a mysterious pig from space.





Associate Professor Barclay Barrios is pumped up about his new job as Assistant Dean



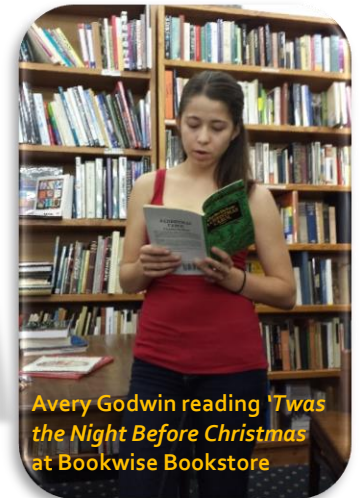
Coastlines at the National Day on Writing event



Professor Furman enriching the lives of students



Shari Lefler, Mikaela von Kursell, Risa Polansky Shiman, and Brittany Ackerman



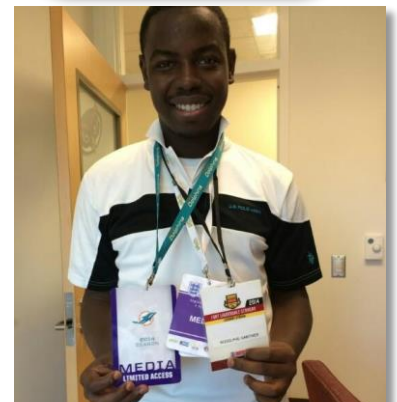
Avery Godwin reading 'Twas the Night Before Christmas at Bookwise Bookstore



Professor Kate Schmitt teaching Literature of Adolescence



BATTLE OF THE CUPCAKES- SCOTT WON!



English major Rodolphe Ganthier showing off his sports press passes from his internship with Raith Media



English Club members Danielle Fontana and William Peery spending time with their favorite advisor. Shantelle



To Be or Not to Be...That is the Question



Mary Sheffield's Creative Writing Workshop Class

# Student Activities and Organizations

## ENGLISH GRADUATE STUDENT SOCIETY



Happy New (School) Year from the 2014-2015 English Graduate Student Society (EGSS) board! We are already off to a good start in both organizing and hosting the social and educational events we have lined up for the year. The “Definitely-Not-Hosted-By-EGSS Fall Picnic” brought together faculty members, new and returning students, alumni, friends, and family at Meadows Park for

a pot-luck bash. We wish to thank everyone who attended! For those who were unable to attend: fear not—there are rumors on the wind of an equally-fun-filled spring picnic.

This year’s Fall EGSS Conference is scheduled for Wednesday, November 12 and Thursday, November 13. Be sure to plan on attending some—or all—of the fantastic readings and panels. Last year’s fall and spring conferences showcased a wide spectrum of research presentations and student panels, along with keynote addresses from Dr. Low and Dr. Mann. Like us on Facebook at English Graduate Student Society at Florida Atlantic University, or follow us on Twitter at @EGSSFAU to keep up to date on future event dates and details. You may also contact this year’s EGSS board President, James White, with any burning questions, angry rants, delightful compliments, and/or *Mean Girls* memes at [jameswhite2013@fau.edu](mailto:jameswhite2013@fau.edu).

## SIGMA TAU DELTA

The Sigma Tau Delta Kappa Rho Chapter spent their summer brainstorming events and creating content. One of the goals of the society is to share a love of literature with its fellow students and the community. In order to further accomplish this, Sigma Tau Delta has gone digital. You can now keep up with the International English Honor Society throughout the semester via Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and their blog. In addition to launching the chapter onto various social media platforms, Sigma Tau Delta has kept busy by planning several exciting events for the Fall 2014 Semester. The society will be holding their annual Night of Creative Reading at the Jaffe Center this November, as well as organizing a field trip to the Miami International Book Fair, and hosting a Protagonists vs. Antagonists costume party on Halloween. Sigma Tau Delta has entered the 2014-2015 school year with a focus on connecting through a shared passion—literature. If you would like more information about upcoming events and/or membership please contact Gabby Martin ([gmarti61@fau.edu](mailto:gmarti61@fau.edu)) or Greta Wolf ([gwolf10@fau.edu](mailto:gwolf10@fau.edu)).

## ENGLISH CLUB

The English Club has been making waves since it launched in 2012. The purpose of the English Club is to provide a social networking group for all English majors and minors. The club serves as a creative and expressive outlet for students with similar interests and goals. Last year, the club put together the first faculty/student Spelling Bee and is looking forward to renewing the rivalry this year.

On Thursday, October 30, the English Club is hosting a murder mystery Halloween costume party called: *I Know What You Did Last Semester*. The event will take place at Bookwise Bookstore and attendees will be dressed as their favorite literary character or villain. The club will be taking part in community service and assisting the Florence Fuller Child Development Center. In addition, they will be teaming up again with Kristin's Closet, a nonprofit organization, to donate prom gowns to underprivileged high school students who would like to go to prom but cannot afford to buy a dress.

This year will be just as exciting as the last! Please visit our website to find out more information about our club:

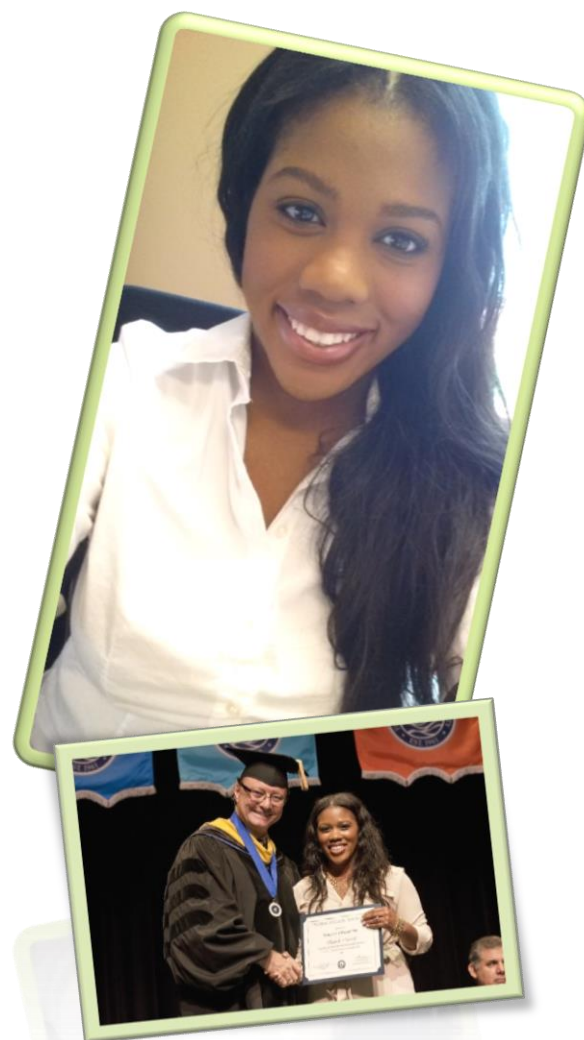
[www.fau.edu/english/english\\_club.php](http://www.fau.edu/english/english_club.php) and follow us on twitter:

<https://twitter.com/RealFAUEngClub>



## EXCELLENCE AND INNOVATION IN UNDERGRADUATE ADVISING

Please join the English Department in congratulating our advisor, Shantelle Maxwell, who received the **Excellence and Innovation in Undergraduate Advising Award** in Spring 2014! Students who have been advised by Shantelle know that this award is well-deserved. In the words of FAU alum Nicole Wieder (class of 2012), "She works tirelessly with her undergraduates to make sure they are on track to graduate and is consistently checking in to make sure students are enjoying their classes and that they are getting the most out of their college experience." Shantelle has been described as someone who has "boundless energy and enthusiasm" and "consistently goes above and beyond the call of duty." English majors and faculty wholeheartedly agree! Congratulations Shantelle!!!



# Faculty Spotlight Q&A

Questions for Dr. Andrew Furman (Interview by Shari Lefler)

***Your current book, *Bitten: My Unexpected Love Affair with South Florida*, focuses on naturalism and the environment in South Florida. In your creative writing process, at what point do you start to focus on environment and setting the scene?***

My writing is really inspired by both character and setting. They really go hand in hand, and it's hard to privilege one over the other. I think character was always more important to me initially, but the longer I've lived here, the more setting and place have become dominant in my writing process. Sometimes I'll start with place as something I want to explore. So I'll set a family outside Titusville, for example. That's one of the things I'm working on now. I'm interested in that place and its history. But it took a while; it might've taken ten years before place, Florida specifically, really seeped into my creative process in that way.

***What role does research play in your writing process?***

Research plays a huge role in my writing, and usually it's where I begin. Once I find a topic I'm interested in — if it's oak trees, for example — I want to know everything about live oak trees before I begin writing. I really foreground a lot of my work in research. Often the research will inspire a direction for a piece, and the piece will evolve depending on where the research takes me.

***Your current book is non-fiction, but you also work in fiction. Which genre do you prefer to work in? Is there one that you favor over the others?***

Well, I don't do poetry, and I haven't written a play. I consider myself a writer of prose. I tend to think and write in sentences. Between fiction and non-fiction, I don't think there is one I favor. I tend to vacillate between the two, and I think that's because different genres allow you to exercise different muscles as a writer. If I've been working concertedly in non-fiction, my favorite genre would be fiction because I'm looking forward to getting back to the things you can do in fiction that you just can't do in non-fiction, which is make things up. I find that both are appealing for different reasons.

***You also teach a lot of Literature classes. How does literature influence your creative writing, and how does your creative writing influence your interpretation of literature?***

Emerson said books are meant to inspire, and that's really how I feel. Even in my workshop classes, I teach a lot of literature because I'm constantly inspired by different models. I think when you're a writer, you're a part of a conversation. The more aware you are of the conversation, the range of voices, the stronger your own writing and voice will be.

***How do you balance teaching and writing in your life?***

It's hard. To be honest, it's hard to ever feel like you're giving your all to one or the other. I just try to be in whatever moment I'm supposed to be in. Teaching is a big part of my job, and I enjoy it. So when I'm teaching, I try to give all my attention to that and vice versa. That's one of the reasons I write at home. I don't do any writing in the office. When I come to the office, I have my teaching cap on. I try to set aside separate times and spaces for each endeavor.

***Why did you decide to go into academia?***

I think for the same reasons a lot of people do. It seemed like a really great life: to be able to stay in college, to continue reading and writing as a career. I was just fortunate that circumstances aligned. I got into grad school, and I was able to secure a position every step of the way. It's great work if you can get it.

***And why FAU?***

Primarily because that was the place that offered me a tenure line job. It's worth noting that it's a very difficult job market. I feel strongly about this: if you're going to go down that road and get a terminal degree and you want that tenure line job, you have to be willing to relocate. I was just really lucky I fell in love with the place when I got here. It happened to be that the place that offered me a job was a really good match for me.

DR. ANDREW FURMAN



Shari Lefler is an MFA student and recipient of the President's Award at Florida Atlantic University. Her focus is on non-fiction, especially travel and family memoir. Since entering the program, she has served as a non-fiction editor for Coastlines Literary Magazine, and Vice President of Graduate Teaching Assistants for the English Graduate Student Society.

# Graduate Student Spotlight Q&A

Questions for Adam Phillips (Interview by Kristina Forman)

## **What made you choose Rhetoric and Composition?**

I started off actually as a MAT (Masters in Arts and Teaching), focused in English. And they were starting to 'phase out' the program, but it was more designed to teach high school and things like that and I'm more interested, personally, in going on to pursue a Doctorate and teach in the college level. So I went to change it to a Masters in general; I almost went to a literature focus and they persuaded me that since I started with the Masters in Arts and Teaching, Rhetoric and Composition was a new and emerging field and it [seemed] much more marketable in comparison to other degrees [like] the Masters in general. Even if I don't pursue a Doctorate I can still go out and teach freshman composition, or some type of composition class almost anywhere in the country. The main thing was marketability for me at that point, in case I take a year off or two before pursuing my Doctorate degree.

## **How long have you been studying? What is your current class standing?**

I'm just working on thesis hours right now. Within the program, they started to develop an exam option. So instead of writing a thesis, I'm going to write a 15-20 page paper, take a 4-hour in-class test on about 25-30 readings, like books, journal articles, stuff like that...then I will also have a take-home portion which I believe is mostly essay-form answer. I'll be taking that in the spring. That will actually be the first semester they offer the exam option for Master's students in English.

## **Do you feel prepared?**

Right now I feel prepared to know what I'm going to be reading about. I've only read about 4 to 5 of the things on the list although it gets monotonous because it's for scholarly activity, I found actually that this reading is much more interesting than other scholarly [works] I've had to read about.

## **How many classes are you currently teaching?**

I teach two. All graduate assistants either teach two classes or they teach one class and they work at the Writing Center; or they might work on a research project with a professor, or they might be assistant to the

Chair of the Writing Department or something like that.

## **What has your experience within FAU's graduate studies program been like, broadly, and how do you feel about the Writing, Rhetoric and Composition program at FAU, more specifically?**

The graduate studies are phenomenal. I mean, FAU...they're known as the "Dark Horse." I forget which magazine they put it in, for MFAs (Masters of Fine Arts), within the United States. They have a *phenomenal* Masters of Fine Arts program. Our English department as well has some phenomenal scholars. I only had a few of them but Dr. Martin, he taught me literary criticism, he's phenomenal, especially when it comes to science fiction; Dr. Swanstrom, her and Dr. Hinshaw, who's in my program, Rhetoric and Composition; she's actually the Chair of our Writing Department here as well...we have *phenomenal* minds here...they're willing to help just as much as I am with my students. They really invest the time, especially in the graduate programs. We only have, I think...usually it's about 15 students to each class, so there's a lot of one-on-one time you can get with your professor. When it comes to the graduate program, it's not a huge program because it is at a smaller division so there's more of a sense of intimacy. I know pretty much everyone in the graduate program; it's a very tight-knit community, and the programs are advancing significantly, especially over the last couple of years.

## **Currently you are pursuing your Master's but have you considered where you might pursue your Doctorate's?**

So I'm pursuing places like Ohio State, Penn State, also University of South Florida up in Tampa, which has a really, really strong Rhetoric and Composition program that broke down at one point but now it's back and just keeps building up. So it's a really strong program...and then also Rutgers...Three [of my] thesis committee members actually all hail from USF, Ohio State, and Rutgers, which are the main schools that I'm pursuing. That's one of the reasons I chose them, and we have about four Rhetoric and Composition instructors within our program, so it's still a budding type of program. But Rhetoric and Composition in general, and the way that we

teach it and focus on it now, is still an emerging field. I mean, we've always had freshman English/freshman composition, but actually separating Rhetoric and Composition from Literature in English is something new that we've been doing in the last half century.

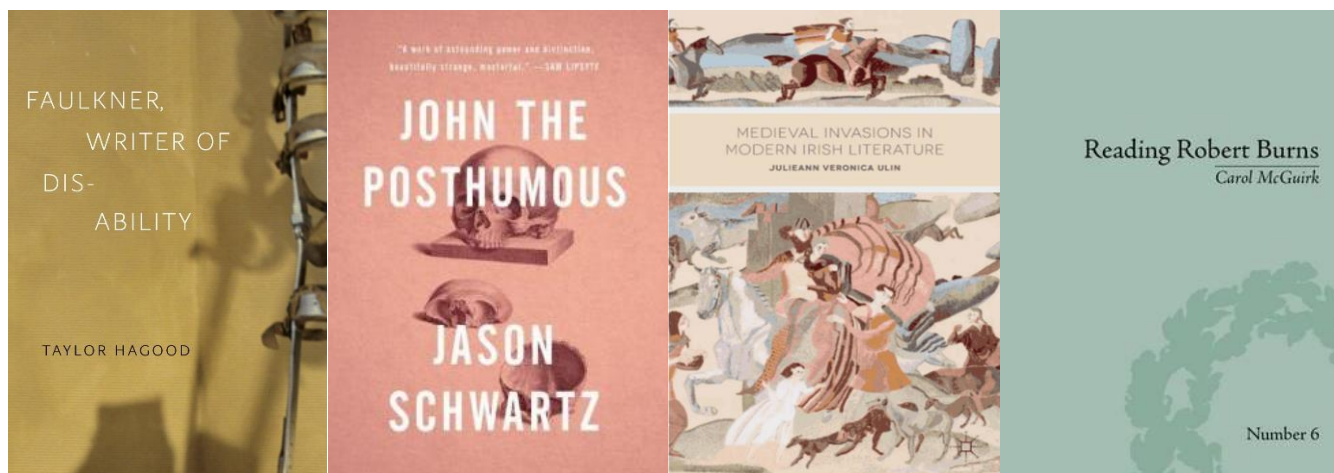
## **Do you think that it was important to establish that distinction?**

I think it's important to have it simply because there *is* a distinction between writing rhetorical arguments and reading literature and writing about literature. They're two separate things. Granted, they have a lot of similar characteristics. I think it's also possible that we could potentially use literature at one point within composition classes to teach them something about writing...it's still up for debate right now. It's been a debated subject since the early 90's. I think literature definitely has possibilities but right now we need to acknowledge, and it has been a growing acknowledgment even in literary studies, that Rhetoric and Composition is separate from literature, and even though they're housed within the same department, there needs to be a distinction.



Kristina Forman is an undergraduate student in her senior year at FAU. She is double majoring in English and Studio Art, and is also working on a certificate in Women's Studies. Her goal is to educate others on the various relationships between written and visual story-telling, fictional or otherwise.

## Faculty Accomplishments



**Don Adams** gave an invited guest lecture in December 2013, at the U.S. Consulate American Center in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. The lecture was entitled, "Somerset Maugham's *The Razor's Edge*: Asian Spirituality Meets American Materialism." He also gave a presentation in February, 2014, in the FAU English department's Brown Bag series. That lecture was entitled, "The Reorientation of Fu-Manchu: Western Detective Fiction in Asia."

**Eric Berlatsky** published "It's Me...or the Eggplant: Pleasure, Pop, and Prince in Hanif Kureishi's *The Black Album*" in *Write In Tune: Representing Contemporary Music in Fiction*. Eds. Erich Hertz and Jeffrey Roessner. New York: Bloomsbury, 2014. 139-54. He also published "Between Supermen: Homosociality, Misogyny, and Triangular Desire in the Earliest Superman Stories" in *Comics Forum*. Ed. Ian Hague. April 11, 2013. <http://comicsforum.org/2013/04/11/between-supermen-homosociality-misogyny-and-triangular-desire-in-the-earliest-superman-stories-by-eric-berlatsky/>.

**Papatya Bucak** published "Three Things I Have Never Told Anyone" in *The Rumpus*.

**Adam Bradford** published *Communities of Death: Whitman, Poe, and the American Culture of Mourning* (University of Missouri Press, 2014).

**Oliver Buckton** developed and taught a new course in Fall 2013, "James Bond: 50 Years" to mark the 50th anniversary of the first James Bond film, *Dr No*, starring Sean Connery, which was released in 1962. The course covered Ian Fleming's novels and many of the films based on them. He was invited to chair a panel and deliver a paper celebrating the 160th anniversary of Oscar Wilde's birth, at the Northeast Modern Language Association (NeMLA) Convention in Harrisburg, PA, April 3-6 2014. The title of the panel was "Oscar Wilde's Diversity: Celebrating the 160th Anniversary of Oscar Wilde's Birth," and Dr. Buckton's paper was entitled "Oscar Wilde's London: Sexuality and aesthetics in the fin de siecle metropolis." Professor Buckton was awarded a \$1500 College Faculty Advisory Board Travel Grant by the Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters for the purpose of attending the NeMLA convention to chair a panel and deliver a paper on Oscar Wilde.

**Sika Dagbovie-Mullins'** essay "Star-Light, Star-Bright, Star Damn Near White: Mixed Race Superstars" was reprinted in *The Bedford Book of Genres: A Guide and Reader*, edited by Amy Braziller and Elizabeth Kleinfeld (Bedford/St. Martin's, 2014). She also published book reviews in *African American Review*, *Anthurium*, and *Safundi: Journal of South African and American Studies* (forthcoming).

**Rafe Dalleo** spent his 2013-2014 sabbatical as a Scholar-in-Residence at the New York Public Library's Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, researching the impact of the US occupation of Haiti on Caribbean writers and activists. A section of that project titled "'The independence so hardly won has been maintained': C.L.R. James and the U.S. Occupation of Haiti" was published in the spring 2014 issue of *Cultural Critique*. In the upcoming academic year, Professor

Dalleo will serve as a Peace, Justice and Human Rights Faculty Fellow.

**Mary Faraci** published *The Many Faces and Voices of Angela Thirkell: A Literary Examination of the Brotherton Collection*, The Angela Thirkell Society of North America, 2013. Her note, "The Morris: 'What the Little Girl Saw'" appeared in *The William Morris Society Newsletter* (June 2014): 13-15. She has been invited to speak on "Angela Thirkell and the Publications of the William Morris Society Today" at the National Meeting of The Angela Thirkell Society in Ft. Lauderdale on October 11, 2014. She has also been invited to give a talk on Angela Thirkell's connections with the Pre-Raphaelites at the King Library of The Society of the Four Arts in Palm Beach on October 22 as part of the Florida Voices book club series.

**Andy Furman** published a book, *Bitten: My Unexpected Love Affair with Florida* (University Press of Florida 2014). His essay, "The Green Vision of Saul Bellow," appeared in *The Chronicle of Higher Education* (4 Aug, 2014) <http://chronicle.com/article/The-Green-Vision-of-Saul/147965/>

**Jeff Galin** has a forthcoming article, "The Effectiveness of Writing Across the Curriculum in a Baccalaureate Social Work Program: Students' Perceptions," with two colleagues in social work in *Advances in Social Work*, Vol 15, No 2 (2014).

**Taylor Hagood** published the edited collection, *Critical Insights: The Sound and the Fury* (Ipswich: Salem P, 2014) and a review entitled "Race, Family, and the Plantation Legacy in United States and Caribbean Writers" in *Anthurium: A Caribbean Studies Journal* 11.1 (2014): Article 6. He collaborated on the digitizing of Faulkner's *The Sound and The Fury* for the NEH-funded DIGITAL YOKNAPATAWPHA project. Dr. Hagood was interviewed by the journal *Southern Spaces*--published under the title "The Digital Yoknapatawpha Project: An Interview with Taylor Hagood." His presentations and lectures took him to Chicago; Washington, D. C.; Munich, Germany; Venice, Italy; and Eichstaett, Germany.

**Wendy Hinshaw** published "Regulating Girlhood: Protecting and Prosecuting Juvenile Violence" in the journal *JAC* 33.3-4 (2013): 487-506.

**Elena Machado Sáez** published "Static Signals: Celia Cruz, Santería and Markets of Latinidad in Jennine Capó Crucet's *How to Leave Hialeah*" in *Write in Tune: Representing Contemporary Music in Fiction* (2014), edited by Erich Hertz and Jeff Roessner. She organized a three-day seminar on "Canon Formation, Markets of Latinidad and the Shifting Cultural Capital of US Latino Writers Seminar" at the 2014 American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA) Conference. As part of this seminar, Professor Machado Sáez presented on "How Junot Díaz unseated Julia Alvarez: critical popularity, the MFA generation and the US Latino/a literary canon." She was also honored to an invited speaker at UC Berkeley's symposium From Coalitions to Comparativism: Chicana/Latina Studies and Native American Studies Now in April 2014. Dr. Machado Sáez looking forward to having her new monograph, *Market Aesthetics: The Purchase of the Past in Caribbean Diasporic Fiction*, be published by University of Virginia Press in Spring 2015.

**Julia Mason** published "Rhetoric after the Fall: Sin and Punishment in Christian Visual Culture" in *Visual Communication* 13.1 (2014): 95-113.

**Carol McGuirk** published *Reading Robert Burns: Texts, Contexts, Transformations* (London: Pickering & Chatto, 2014).

**Becka McKay** had twelve poems published in *Fortnightly Review* (<http://fortnightlyreview.co.uk/2014/03/happiness-bedtime/>), one poem published in *Triquarterly* (<http://www.triquarterly.org/issues/issue-145/hypnagogic-hands>), one poem published in *The White Stag Journal*, and four poems published in *Shearsman* magazine. She also had three translations published in *Eleven Eleven Journal*. She served as a judge for two national translation awards--the BTBA poetry award and the PEN Translation Award. She was recently invited to serve as Visiting Faculty for next summer's Nida School of Translation Studies in Misano Adriatico, Italy.

**Susan Mitchell** was final judge for the "Discovery"/*Boston Review* Poetry Contest, a national competition for poets who have not yet published a first book of poems: the four winners read their work at the 92Y Unterberg Poetry Center in NYC. She read new poems, as well as poems from her books *Rapture* and *Erotikon*, at the Washington Art Association in Washington, Ct on July 13, 2014. She has two poems forthcoming in *Fence* magazine.

**Mark Scroggins** has published three essays in journals: "'I am not an occultist': Esotericism, Literary History, and Autobiography in *The H. D. Book*" in *Talisman: A Journal of Contemporary Poetry and Poetics*, "Susan Howe's Hauntologies" in *FlashPoint*, and "Ruskin's Rock, Ruskin's Waters" in *Parnassus: Poetry in Review*. His chapter "Modernism and the

International Novel" appeared in *The Oxford History of the Novel in English, Volume 6: The American Novel 1870-1940*, "The Objectivists and the Left" in *The Cambridge History of American Poetry*, and "The 'half-fabulous field-ditcher': Ruskin, Pound, Geoffrey Hill" in the collection *News from Afar: Ezra Pound and Some Contemporary British Poetries*. He as well published three book reviews and two segments from a long modular poem in progress. His collection of essays and reviews, *Intricate Thicket: Some Late Modernist Poetries*, is forthcoming from the University of Alabama Press.

**Lisa Swanstrom** co-edited a special issue of *Digital Humanities Quarterly* on the topic of "the Literary" (spring 2013). Her essay, "Cyberpunk," appeared in the *Johns Hopkins Guide to Digital Media* (spring 2013), and her article, "Nature's Agents: Chreods, Code, Plato, and Plants," appeared in electronic book review (summer 2014). A research project she is a part of (the Consortium on Electronic Literature) received an NEH Digital Humanities Start-Up Grant to create a search engine for electronic literature.

**Julieann Veronica Ulin** published her monograph, *Medieval Invasions in Modern Irish Literature* (Palgrave 2014). The book was nominated for the American Conference for Irish Studies Donald Murphy Prize for Distinguished First Books and the American Conference for Irish Studies Robert Rhodes Prize for Books on Literature. She also published "'Oh! To be Able to Paint in Color Rather than in Words!' Kate Chopin's *The Awakening* and Impressionism" in *Critical Insights: The Awakening* (Salem Press 2013) and "Le Fanu's Vampires and Ireland's Invited Invasion" in Sam George and Bill Hughes (eds.), *Open Graves, Open Minds: Representations of Vampires and the Undead from the Enlightenment to the Present* (Manchester University Press 2013). In spring 2014, she received the Northern Campus Exceptional Faculty Award.



# Ba GRADUATES

## 2013-2014

### FALL 2013

Abdolkarim, Saer

Angles, Haylee

Bradford, Imani

Bringas, Samantha

Cieri, Moriah

Cooper, Julia

Coyle, Patrick

Criddle, Heather

Curtis, Gareth

DeLuca, Robin

Desanges, Marie

Friel, John

Gabriel, Maya

Ghebrehiwet, Kahsai

Guitelman, Martina

Lang, Austin Ray

Lopez, Celia

McGriff, Lindsey

McMichael, Craig

Millares, Rebecca

Millward, Katherine

Mueller, Samantha

Murray, Jennifer

Nicholson Marzouca, Suzette

Olivares, Nicole

Rivera, Stephanie

Ross, Christopher

Royer, Taahira

Russell, Erica

Schwarz, Cynthia

Torres, Stefanie

Trudel, Michael

Tutler, Stephen

Vanderwarf, Adam

Whitaker, Kelsey

Yates, Craig

Yerian, Zachary

### SPRING 2014

Accime, Rebecca

Ahumada, Marcella

Antunes, Maria

Beharovic, Daniella

Blanc, Rebecca

Blue, Jaimie

Brams, Alexander

Bridges, Timothy

Cieskowski, Babette

Crescenzo, Nicolena

Damhesel, Rosemarie

De Leon, Melissa

Deodat, Yenandani

Donatelli, Julie

Friona, Farrah

Gaherty, Reagan

Gassant, Christele

Geletka, Matthew

Gruber, Kathryn

Hammer, Meredith

Harms, Leann

Jimenez, Lisandra

Kabinoff, Melanie

Kerr, Christopher

Kircheisen, Christopher

McCaffrey, Cameron

McLeod, Judene

Mettawa, Adel

Monet, Debra

Mongiove, Raquel

Montague, Amanda

Montalbano, Peter

Moses, Eric

Nadelman, Rachel

Nori, Chelsea

Orengo, Michael

Ow, Whe

Ozyjowski, Cassandra

Price, Justin

Richard, Erica

Riley, Kelly

Robinson, Dwayne

Roca, Alejandra

Saling, Elizabeth

Santos, Alyssa

Sena, Richard

Small, Emily

Spadone, Kara

Tornopsky, Zeena

Tucker, Kayla

Tuncer, Dilara

Wasnock, Alicia

White, Emily

Xenidakis, Maria

Zepeda, Isaac

### SUMMER 2014

Bennett, Stephanie

Brooks, Brittney

Burdick, Pascal

Cosenzo, Matthew

Cronin, Christopher

Davis, Mattea

Ducatel, Roseline

Ferrara, Adam

Freitas, Emanuel

Garcia, Lucas

Gomez, Ashley

Heath, William

Hill, Mykal

Jiminez, Lisandra

Leclair, Andrew

Lloyd, Nicholas

Mayer, Patty

Mesa, Madeline

Milton, Derreck

Mogan, Shauna

Paul, Kyle

Ruane, Alyssa

Whitton, Elizabeth

Wilson, Jason

Winters, Brittney



## MA AND MFA GRADUATES



Spring 2014 MFA: Nuala Carr, Christopher Irving, Benjamin Parham, Caryn Suhr, and Mikaela von Kursell

Fall 2013 MFA: Negean Mohi & Catherine Shelton

Spring 2014 MA: Gyasi Byng, Marianna Gleyzer, Jeffrey Miller, & Horlring Velcy

Fall 2013 MA/MAT: Maegan Arney-Ruiz (MAT), Connor Boyle, Erin Kiley, Oscar Ruiz, Amy Shaw, & Adam Whit

**The Howard Pearce Award for the Best Master's Thesis:** Amy Shaw for "I'd Rather Be a Sage than a Cyborg: Re-theorizing Posthumanism through Religious Wisdom Literature"

**ABSTRACT:** The topics of identity and subjectivity are well-trodden paths in posthuman thought, and the trend has been to reduce the self to its material, social, and technoscientific components. Yet the posthuman model of subjectivity—influenced by the tenets of postmodernism—tends to be disabling because it does not focus on the subject's agency or the possibility of liberation from social tyranny. In this thesis, I use a sampling of what I call "religious wisdom literature"—specifically, the wisdom books of the Old Testament and contemporary Buddhist writings—to challenge the assumption that the self is indistinguishable from the ideologies that produce it. I provide models from religious texts that instead, emphasize critical agency, flexibility, and resistive power. I also suggest that focusing on these qualities may ultimately be useful in the composition classroom, where we can use "self-centered" expressivist techniques (reflective assignments, emotional awareness) to meet the social-epistemic goal of ideological critique. Ultimately, posthumanism, with its emphasis on the construction of subjectivity, is better suited to question strict materialism and inquire into the inspiring possibilities of ancient wisdom.

### **MFA Thesis Awards:**

#### **Rebecca Harthcock for poetry**

**ABSTRACT:** *Asunder* is a poetic work in various forms. As a manuscript, it includes an erasure of chapter five in William Faulkner's *Absalom, Absalom!*, two poetic images, and a handful of more traditional forms (including a sonnet) that focus on themes of loss and faith.

#### **Mary Ann Hogan for nonfiction**

**ABSTRACT:** *The Hurricane Notebooks* is a manuscript-length memoir of the narrator's quest to piece together the enigmatic character of her late father. She does this through her discovery of his private notebooks as well as her unearthing of four generations of family turmoil.

#### **Cathy Shelton for fiction**

**ABSTRACT:** *Authority* is a fictional collection of mixed poetry, prose, and experimental forms of writing. The collection addresses the exchange of power between the reader and the writer surrounding a text, while challenging the forms writing takes on the page during this exchange. Behind this search for authority and the meta-fictional manipulation of the writer, however, is the struggle of an author suffering with depression. An author, who is willing to alienate and risk confusion, in order to share their experiences of disorientation, fear, morbid humor, and constant doubt, hoping to find understanding with a faceless reader.



Nicole Wieder, NewBeauty Magazine

## ALUMNI NEWS

### Where Are They Now?

**Alexandra Shevock (B.A., '13)** recently moved to Madrid after accepting a teaching position for CIEE (Council on International Educational Exchange).

**Alexis Gaaney (B.A., '13)** was accepted into Florida Coastal School of Law in Jacksonville, FL. She is planning to become an environmental lawyer.

**Amy Shaw (M.A., '13)** is an adjunct professor at Middlesex College in Connecticut.

**Andrew LeClair (B.A., '14)** accepted a position to teach 12<sup>th</sup> grade English at Boca Raton Community High School.

**Angelique Nixon (M.A., '02)** is an Assistant Professor of English at Susquehanna University. She is also the author of *Saltwater Healing - A Myth Memoir and Poems*, published by Poinciana Paper Press in 2013.

**Beau Ewan (M.F.A., '13)** is a tenure-track professor in the English Department at University of Hawai'i's Kapiolani Community College.

**Brittany Schade (M.F.A., '13)** has accepted a teaching position as Assistant Professor of Interactive Design at Western Washington University in Bellingham, WA, which she will begin this fall. To see more of her work visit [brittanyschade.com](http://brittanyschade.com).

**Brittany Stahnke (B.A., '12)** was accepted into the Master of Social Work program at Florida Atlantic University.

**Brisa Romero (B.A., '12)** is a Fund Development Associate for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Palm Beach and Martin Counties.

**Catalina Pire Schmitt (B.A., '12)** was accepted into Emerson College Publishing and Writing Program in Boston, MA. She is also working at the college as a Tutor for the Writing Center.

**Chelsea Williams (B.A., '12)** is teaching English at Lake Worth Community High School in West Palm Beach, FL.

**Craig Smith (M.A., '00)** is an Assistant Professor at the College of the Bahamas.

**Christopher Irving (M.F.A., '14)** is working as a full time grant writer at PBSC.

**Daniel Dickey (B.A., '13)** was accepted into Harvard University's Higher Education graduate program and will begin Fall 2015. Currently, he works for Teach For America as an English and Creative Writing teacher at Miami Northwestern Senior High School in Miami, FL.

**David Weiss** (B.A., '12) is working for Live Nation as a concert promoter for many large name acts such as Pretty Lights, Drake, STS9, Umphrey's McGee, etc.

**Dwayne Robinson** (B.A., '14) accepted a position at Plantation High School to teach 10<sup>th</sup> grade English.

**Eduardo Astigarraga** (M.F.A., '08) published in *Southeast Review* and *Passages North*.

**Elizabeth Diaz** (B.A., '12) is an English teacher and softball coach at Palm Beach Lakes High School.

**Eva Pudick** (B.A., '12) was accepted into the Center for Publishing Program at New York University, one of the top programs in the country.

**Gareth Curtis** (B.A., '13) accepted a position at Gulfstream Middle School as an English teacher.

**Gloria Panzera** (M.F.A., '10) and **Courtney Watson** (MFA , '09) began a literary magazine, *Rum Punch Press*: <http://www.rumpunchpress.com/>

**Gyasi Byng** (M.A., '14) is a PhD student at the University of Rochester. She recently published a book review in *Small Axe's* online platform, *sx salon*: (<http://smallaxe.net/wordpress3/reviews/category/contributor/gyasi-byng/>).

**Hillary Boles** (M.F.A., '09) was accepted into NEA (National Education Association) Master Teacher Program.

**Janelle Garcia** (M.F.A., '12) published in *Quarter After Eight*.

**Jennifer Murray** (B.A., '13) was accepted into Florida Atlantic University's English graduate program.

**Jennifer Szekeres** (B.A., '12) was accepted into Florida Atlantic University's Higher Education Leadership graduate program.

**Johanna Ayala** (M.A., '09) is a Teacher/Tutor at Juno Beach Preparatory School.

**John Friel** (B.A., '13) accepted a position at One Twelfth Inc as a copywriter and a social media manager.

**Jordan Holmes** (B.A., '12) is a student at the University of Miami School of Law in Coral Gables, FL.

**Juanita Hopkins** (B.A., '13) accepted a position at John I. Leonard High School teaching 10th and 11th grade English.

**Kaitlyn Laichak** (B.A., '12) accepted a position as an Assistant Media Specialist at The University School of Nova Southeastern University.

**Keisha Hatchett** (B.A., '11) is a Reporter and Editor for the Forum Publishing Group, a subsidiary of Sun Sentinel and one of the largest newspaper chains in the nation.

**Khristian Mecom** (M.F.A., '11) published in *Slice*.

**Lana Powers** (B.A., '12) recently completed a Masters degree in Speech and Language Pathology at the University of South Florida. She is working as a Speech and Language Pathologist at a private practice in Tampa.

**Lisandra Jimenez** (B.A., '14) was accepted into the University of Central Florida's Higher Education graduate program. She is also an intern at Stetson University in the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Involvement.

**Lorinda Gonzalez** (B.A., '13) is an Independent Writing and Business Communications Specialist at Distinctive Writing, a company she founded in 2008.

**Mary Long (M.F.A., '13)** is Faculty Program Planning Specialist with the College of Letters, Arts, and Sciences at the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs.

**Mary Sheffield's (M.F.A., '09)** "The Geometry of Children" is in the current issue of *The Florida Review*.

**Maegan Ruiz-Arney (M.A.T., '13)** is a 5th grade Language Arts teacher at Confluence Academy, a charter school in St. Louis, for the 2014-2015 school year.

**Michael Linder (M.A., '11)** accepted a position as a Financial Planner at Morgan Stanley in Connecticut.

**Mike Shier (M.F.A., '12)** was accepted into the Ph.D. Creative Nonfiction Program at Illinois State University with full funding.

**Monica Sedore (M.A., '12)** is the Writing Studio Coordinator at Keiser University in Daytona Beach.

**Molly McFadden (B.A., '13)** accepted a position as a Litigations Assistant for Broad and Cassel Law Firm in West Palm Beach, FL.

**Natalie McMichen (B.A., '12)** is in her second year of graduate school pursuing a Masters in Library Science & Information Studies. She also works at Rollins College Olin Library as a Collections Data Specialist.

**Nicole Oquendo (M.F.A., '12)** has been working on a blog called *Time to Publish* where she documents sending out a piece of work every day. Here's a link: <http://timetopublish.com/fiction-submissions/return-brief-hiatus-cactus-heart/>. She has two chapbooks forthcoming; "gendersex wulf," & "self is not a pack of she," in CutBank, forthcoming; "archipelago," BorderSenses, forthcoming.

**Nicole Wieder (B.A. '12)** is an editorial assistant for NewBeauty Magazine at Sandow Media in Boca Raton, FL.

**Rachel Broderick (B.A., '12)** was accepted into Seattle University School of Law in Seattle, WA.

**Rachel Nadelman (B.A., '14)** accepted a position in Gwangju, South Korea teaching English to Kindergarten and Elementary school students at a private school.

**Tabitha Zangre** accepted a position teaching 9<sup>th</sup> grade English Honors at East Ridge High School in Clermont, Florida.

**Ray Gibson (M.F.A., '09)** Glass Lyre Press has selected Raymond Gibson's chapbook, "Speak, Shade" for publication in 2013/2014.

**Rebecca Eagen (B.A., '13)** accepted a position as an Academic Mentor and Tutor for the Student-Athlete Center for Academic Excellence at Florida Atlantic University.

**Rebecca Radic (B.A., '12)** was accepted into the graduate program for Library and Information Science at the University of South Florida in Tampa, FL.

**Ryan O'Shea (M.F.A., '13)** recently took on the role of Sales Director at the Phoenix Theatre, a professional, contemporary theatre in Indianapolis. In summer 2013, Ryan traveled to London for four weeks to begin her Certification in Fitzmaurice Voicework®.

**Shauna Morgan Kirlew (M.A., '00)** is an Assistant Professor of English at Howard University in Washington, D.C.

**Simone Puleo (M.A., '12)** was accepted to the Comparative Literature and Cultural Studies Ph.D. program at the

University of Connecticut. He is focusing on the intersections of American literature and Italian literature in late 19th century and early 20th Century movements.

**Sloan Davis** (B.A., '12) was accepted into the Masters of Fine Arts Program at City College in New York.

**Victoria Green** (B.A., '12) accepted a position teaching English as a Second Language with WOOF (World Organization of Organic Farmers).

**Zachary Scalzo** (B.A., '12) was accepted into the Language and Linguistics Comparative Literature Program at Florida Atlantic University.

**Ray Gibson** (M.F.A., '08) published in *White Stag Journal*.

**Stephanie Derisi** (M.A., '12) was accepted into the PhD Literature program at the University of South Florida with a full stipend.

**T.A. Noonan** (M.F.A., '06) is Literary Arts Director for *Sundress Academy for the Arts* & Associate Editor of *Sundress Publications*. She recently edited the anthology *Not Somewhere Else But Here: A Contemporary Anthology of Women and Place* (Sundress Publications, forthcoming).

**Taryne Taylor** (M.A., '08) is Assistant Professor at Santa Fe College in Gainesville.

**Victoria Fedden** (M.F.A., '09) completed a second manuscript and now has a literary agent, Terra Chalberg at Chalberg & Sussman. Her post from her blog *Wide Lawns and Narrow Minds* was recently picked up by the Huffington Post: (<http://www.huffingtonpost.com/victoria-fedden/> & [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/victoria-fedden/back-to-school-the-70s-vs-today\\_b\\_5716891.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/victoria-fedden/back-to-school-the-70s-vs-today_b_5716891.html)).



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Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters  
Department of English  
777 Glades Road  
Boca Raton, FL 33431

or visit:

<https://fauf.fau.edu/NetCommunity/SSLPage.aspx?pid=1740&frcrld=1>

Thank you for your support!