

# Musings

The Graduate Student  
Newsletter

Volume 5 Number 1

Fall 2001

## FROM THE CHAIR

As I enter my fifth and final year as Chair of English, it gives me great pleasure to reflect on the many accomplishments of our graduate students and faculty since the department undertook its major building effort in 1995. Since then we have risen steadily in the national rankings as we have attracted to our faculty some of the finest junior and senior scholars in the country. We have also recruited a distinguished cohort of graduate students who continue to set a breathtaking record of intellectual achievement as they publish essays in top literary journals, win national fellowships and prizes, receive Distinguished Teaching awards, attend major national and international conferences, and compete for some of the best jobs in the country.

This year I am especially pleased to welcome three dazzling new members to our faculty. Shannon Steen (Ph.D. 2001, Stanford University) is a beginning assistant professor with a specialization in modern drama and performance. Chris Lane (Ph.D. 1992, University of London) is a full professor who specializes in Victorian and Modern literature and psychoanalytic and gender theory. He is an extraordinary scholar who has published several books, including most recently *The Burdens of Intimacy: Psychoanalysis and Victorian Masculinity* (Chicago, 1998) and a splendid coedited volume entitled *Homosexuality and Psychoanalysis* (Chicago, 2001). Jennifer Brody, a distinguished African American scholar who works in the fields of African American, Victorian, Performance, and Gender Studies, will join our faculty as an associate professor in January. She has published a book entitled *Impossible Purities: Blackness, Femininity, and Victorian Culture* (Duke 1998), and she is currently working on a path-breaking study of the poetics and politics of punctuation entitled *The Style of Elements: Politically Performing Punctuation*. I also want to welcome eight new graduate students to our doctoral program, and five students to our Master's Program. You will hear more about this incredible new class of graduate students in this newsletter.

As you will see in looking over the contents of *Musings*, this has been a year of exceptional achievement for our graduate students and faculty. Four graduate students—Beth Charlebois, Joe Kraus, Celia Marshik, and Claire Waters—accepted tenure-track positions after turning down multiple offers elsewhere, including Harvard University. Emily Bryan, Leah Guenther, Michael Bryson, and Eric Le May—all working in Early Modern British literature—had articles (or in Eric's case a poem) accepted at major journals. An unprecedented number of graduate students delivered papers at conferences throughout the United States and abroad. Among these, Liz Fekete Trubey won an award for the best graduate student paper presented at the NEMLA Conference this year. Maintaining the English Department's reputation for the most

distinguished teaching (and most teaching awards) in the college, Matt Frankel won an Outstanding Graduate Student Teaching Award, and, among our faculty, Julia Stern won a well-deserved WCAS Distinguished Teaching Award. This year, too, over half our faculty have books published, under contract, or forthcoming from major university presses, including Paul Breslin's *Nobody's Nation: Reading Derek Walcott*, Reg Gibbons's translation of Euripides' *Bakchhai*, Chris Herbert's *Victorian Relativity: Radical Thought and Scientific Discovery*, and Wendy Wall's *Staging Domesticity: Housework and English Identity in Early Modern Drama*.

It has been a deeply gratifying experience to serve as Chair of such an intellectually vibrant department over the past five years. I hope that this newsletter will continue to serve as a public sphere of communication and sharing among past and present students and faculty. I wish you all the very best and urge you to stay in touch. *So long!*

Betsy Erkkila

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# CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW PHD GRADUATES

June 2001

**Michael Bryson**

*Milton Eikonoklastes: Divine Evil and Justification in Milton's Rejection of "Heav'n's King"*

**Kimberly Segall**

*Over My Dead Body: Trauma and Unreconciled Truths in South African Performances*

December 2001

**Matthew Cordova Frankel**

*An Aesthetics of Citizenship: Race, Representation, and the American Sublime*

**Kathryn Gucer**

*Talk of the Revolution: Politics, Language, and Paper Wars, 1628-1652*

**Elizabeth Ann Fekete Trubey**

*"I felt like the girls in books": Sentimental Readership in America, 1950-1870*

## JOB MARKET NEWS 2000~01

by *Wendy Wall*

We have some good news from our graduate students who have been on the job market this year.

**Celia Marshik** ('98) has accepted a tenure-track job at SUNY-Stony Brook, a major research institution. Celia was praised by her peers for her exceptional teaching and her scholarly presence at Yale and at Stanford where she has recently enjoyed visiting posts. As a department on the move, Stony Brook will be hiring several junior faculty in the next few years and Celia is excited to take a position there.

**Beth Charlebois** ('00) has now accepted a tenure-track job at St. Mary's College of Maryland, the public honors college of the state of Maryland. Located in St. Mary's City, not far from Washington D.C. and the Folger Library, St. Mary's is a highly selective liberal arts college with 1600 students (It was recently named the top public honors college in the country by *U.S. News and World Report*). She was pleased to discover the research support and small class size at St. Mary's and is thrilled to accept this position.

**Claire Waters** ('98), Assistant Professor at University of New Mexico, went on the job market in a limited way and garnered a stunning three tenure-track job offers--from Harvard University, University of Maryland, and University of California, Davis. She has now accepted the job at Davis, where her husband teaches in the Economics department.

**Josh Charlson** ('98) has deferred for one year an offer for a multi-year teaching position in the Expository Writing Program at Harvard.

**Joe Kraus** ('00), who just earned tenure at Oakton Community College, has accepted a position as Assistant Professor of English at King's College in Wilkes-Barre, PA.

**Kimberly Segall** ('01) has accepted a position as Visiting Assistant Professor in Postcolonial Literature at Seattle Pacific University for 2001-02, and **Ben Pauley** will make his way to Oberlin College in Ohio to serve as Visiting Instructor.

Others had impressive achievements that bode well for the future: **Matt Frankel** missed getting a tenure-track job at Columbia University by a hair; and **Tim Rosendale** ('98) was amongst three finalists for a job at Williams College in Massachusetts. This coming academic year, the English Department has been able to offer Visiting Professorships to **Michael Bryson**, **Brad Deane** ('99), **Matthew Frankel**, **Katie Gucer** and **Liz Fekete Trubey**.

# MEET OUR INCOMING STUDENTS

## PHD STUDENTS

**Katy Chiles** plans to focus on modern American literature, looking at issues of race and gender. She obtained her BA from U of Kentucky ('98), where she examined how certain novelists incorporate traditional African-American story-telling techniques into their narratives to create communities of women. Since graduation, Katy has volunteered with AmeriCorps, substitute taught in both public and private school systems, and worked the past two years as a UK Admissions Counselor. Katy is a 2001 Jacob K. Javits Fellow.

**Jonathan Foster** comes to Chicago from Philadelphia, where he has lived since graduating from Amherst ('96). In Philadelphia, Jonathan worked in international sales of digital imaging software. He was able, however, to travel extensively, including six months in Ecuador and Peru in 2000. Having concentrated on the Renaissance as an undergraduate, he is now interested in modernism, 20th-c poetry, and the position of the arts in public policy and contemporary culture. He maintains lifelong interests in fantasy and "weird" fiction (being a Tolkien and Lovecraft fan to some excess). Jonathan's less literary pursuits include backpacking, vegetarian cooking, and politics/global affairs.

**Deana Greenfield** graduated with a BA in English from Grinnell ('00). After 4 years in Iowa corn fields she returned to her hometown as a Graduate Admissions Assistant for U of Chicago. At NU she is looking to further an interest in "post-colonial" literatures of the world with a focus on authors of the Caribbean diaspora. As a former editor and writer for her college literary magazine, she is hoping to find a creative niche in a new place with fresh voices. On her floor right now are works by Tennessee Williams, JD Salinger, Earl Lovelace and Tananarive Due. Go figure. She also holds tightly to the belief that graduate school will be easier than the torturous process of writing a "bio blurb."

**Peter Jaros** is a native of California and a graduate of Yale ('98). A year spent in Japan teaching English energized him with new perspective on America and American identity, and helped him decide to focus on 19th and 20th-c American literature. He is especially interested in the fuzzy boundaries between religious and secular discourses and in the uses of analogy. Peter is trying hard to coax his heart out of San Francisco, where he has spent the last year and a half teaching ESL and working for a software company.

**Sarah Mesle** graduated from U of Iowa, where her studies focused mostly on feminist theory and representations of female sexuality. She also earned a teaching certificate; the questions raised by doing so forged an interest in the relationship of class and literature. After graduating, she worked in the Education Department at Chicago's Adler Planetarium, where she enjoyed heated conversations about both critical pedagogy and the workings of black holes (occasionally at the same time). At NU she hopes to find time to investigate the literary fallout of early 20th-c astronomical discovery.

**Melvin Pena** is truly a wonderful person. He revels in studying literature, primarily British, and mainly the novel, from Al Pope to Jimmy Hogg, placing him in the 18th-c and Romantic Era. He spent the past six years of his young life at Notre Dame, where he earned a BA ('99), and an MA ('01). He enjoys watching cartoons and listening to music of which no

one but he has ever heard. Occasionally, Melvin writes and publishes poems about goats and other such underappreciated domestic farm animals.

**Yedida Soloff** graduated from U Pennsylvania ('96), and promptly moved to New York City to pursue a publishing career. Having edited books ranging from true-crime paperbacks to career guides, she couldn't be happier to be returning to literature. Yedida looks forward to exploring Victorian novels at Northwestern.

**Ruth Williams** was born and raised in Paris, Texas--well, raised anyway. Her birthplace must remain anonymous. Deciding that life might hold more than longhorns and aggies, she took off for the wilds of Wellesley College ('01). After a brief stint in the bosom of her Bundrenesque family, she arrives at NU with plans to specialize in Victorian lit. An obsessive greeting-card buyer and new member of the International Wizard of Oz Club, she can be found scribbling letters or attempting to read *Magus Mirabilis in Oz* in her spare time. She loves Little League Baseball and Britain's favorite busybody, Hyacinth Bucket.

## MA STUDENTS

**Alena Altmayer** is interested in studying 19th-c British Fiction, focusing on historical as well as gender issues. She has lived in the Chicago area most of her life, except for the 4 years she spent as an undergrad at Boston College ('00). She hopes to become an English teacher/professor, unless the world of publishing draws her in on a permanent basis.

**Sharon Hoyer** majored in English and Music ('00) at Madonna University, a small Catholic college in the Detroit suburbs. The subsequent surreal year of cubicle farming at a large corporation specializing in banking hardware exacerbated her passion for academia beyond consolation, and she resolved to continue her study of literature. A lover of all the arts, Sharon has dabbled in (to varying degrees of success) theatre, drawing, dance, and poetry, and now seeks to focus her energies on studying American literature and culture, particularly that of the last century.

After earning his BA from Dartmouth College ('00), **Brian McEvoy** taught high school English in Los Olivos, California. He is interested in studying both early and contemporary American Literature in an effort to reconsider how literary genres and traditions are shaped.

Though **Mark Penney** earned his AB in Geological Sciences at Princeton ('96), he plans to return to his love for literature while at NU. In law school, Mark participated in thirty-odd theatrical productions, and served as an editor of the *Harvard Environmental Law Review*. Intending to pursue a PhD, his academic interests revolve around modern drama, focusing in particular on the ways the major European dramatists of the early part of the 20th-c have shaped the way English drama is conceived, written, and performed today.

Following her year at NU, **Kate Posey** plans to teach high school English. After growing up in Southeast Wisconsin, she attended college at Duke University ('99). Kate spent her junior year abroad at Oxford where she became familiar with the writings of James Joyce. Later, she completed an independent study on *Finnegan's Wake*. Here she plans to continue her focus on 20th-c Irish Literature.

# CURRENT PHD STUDENTS

## FELLOWSHIP AWARDS

**Marcy Dinius** has been awarded the Alumnae Dissertation Year Fellowship (DYF) for 2001-02, and is working on "'The Camera and the Pencil': Literature and Photography in Antebellum America." Only one of eight graduate students selected nationally, Marcy also participated in a Mellon Interpretative Seminar on the topic of Reading, Writing, and Region, spending June and July in residence at the Huntington Library in Pasadena, California.

**Chris Hager** has earned the WCAS Brady DYF for 2001-02. His dissertation is currently entitled, "Aggression and Forbearance: A Political Narratology of the American Novel."

In Spring 2001, **Karen Leick** earned a research fellowship from the Graduate School.

**Eric LeMay** and **John Martin** have both won DYFs from the Graduate School for 2001-02. Eric continues to work on his study, "Lively Shadows: Dreams and Ontology in Milton's *Paradise Lost*," while John is focusing on his project, "The Confession Box: Confessional Discourse and the Gothic Poetic."

**Erin Redfern** has earned the Janet Mead & Thomas E. Unterman Graduate Fellowship, working on "The Beast in the Bottle: Alcoholic Masculinity in Post-War American Literature." Erin has also been named one of four graduate affiliates to the Center for Humanities in 2001-02.

## OTHER AWARDS & PRIZES

This year's Teaching Assistant Mentors are **Emily Bryan** and **Derik Smith**, who serve as sounding boards for the Department's 4 new TAs, inviting them to observe as they lead discussion sections, freshmen seminars, and upper level courses. Mentors then observe the new TAs as they teach.

In Spring 2001, WCAS named **Matt Frankel** the recipient of the Outstanding Graduate Student Teaching Award for 2000-01, a prize given by a committee of faculty and students.

**Liz Fekete Trubey** received the award for the best graduate student paper delivered at the Northeast Modern Language Association (NEMLA) Conference this year. The paper, entitled "Imagined Revolution: The Female Reader and *The Wide, Wide World*," will be published in a future issue of *Modern Language Studies*.

## PUBLICATIONS

**Emily Bryan's** essay, "Nineteenth-Century Charade Dramas: Syllables of Gentility and Sociability" is forthcoming in *Nineteenth-Century Theatre*, January 2002.

**Leah Guenther's** paper entitled "'To Parley Euphues': Fashioning English as an Early Modern Fad" has been accepted for a forthcoming issue of *Renaissance Studies* (Oxford University Press).

In February, *Milton Quarterly* accepted **Michael Bryson's** article "'That far be from thee': Divine Evil and Justification in *Paradise Lost*" for publication.

A poem of **Eric LeMay's** is forthcoming in *The Western Humanities Review*.

## PAPERS

Five students gave papers at this year's Narrative Conference held at Rice University in March 2001. **Marcy Dinius** presented "America in Black and White: The Daguerreotype, Sentimentalism, and Narrative Realism in *Uncle Tom's Cabin*." **Chris Hager** presented "Lincoln in the 1850s: Republican Restraint as Narrative Theory." **John Martin** presented "Mobile without Motive: Confessional Narrative and the Politics of the Perverse." **Erin Redfern** delivered a paper entitled "'Oozing and Crawling of Its Own Will': Character and Narrative in Steinbeck's *Cannery Row*." And **Derik Smith** offered "Subjectivity's Imperial Drive: Homosexuality as Unfounding Ground in Jamaica Kincaid's *My Brother*," which he reprised at the English Department's Visiting Day. John and Marcy also gave their papers again for the Graduate Student Colloquium held in late April.

**Charlotte Artese** presented "'Caesar's Britains': Imperial Analogy and Colonial Identity" at the Group on Early Modern Studies Conference in New Orleans in November 2000.

Likewise, **Emily Bryan** delivered a paper on Type and Typology at the Group on Early Modern Studies Conference. In spring, Emily participated in a seminar on early modern acting companies at the Shakespeare Association of America conference in Miami. This fall she will deliver a paper, "Jonson's Tutorial: *Bartholomew Fair*, the Sub-Tutor and an English Lawyer," at a special session on University Drama at the International Medieval Congress.

**Ashley Byock's** paper, "Radical Bodies and Domestic Space: The Politics of Home in Stowe and Douglass," was accepted for the October 2001 Tufts Graduate Student Conference, "Homing Desires."

In early August, **Ryan Friedman** presented a paper, "Protest Movements: Dancing and African American Social History in *Stormy Weather*," at the Susan Porter Symposium on Hollywood Musicals and Music in Hollywood held at the University of Colorado, Boulder.

**Chris Gaul** presented his paper "Melancholic Manhood in Emerson's Nature" at Keele University's American Mourning Conference, May 11-12, in Keele, England.

**Leah Guenther** will present a paper called "Ruffianly Hair, Bushy Beards and Periwigs: The Early Modern Barber as a Maker of Men" at the Newberry Graduate Conference in June. She is also on the docket for the Renaissance Society of America conference in Tempe, Arizona, April 11-13. Her paper is entitled "Policing Masculinity in the Early Modern Barber's Shop."

**Bryan Hampton** presented "'The night-founded Skiff': A Miltonic Parable on Restlessness and Conversion in *Paradise Lost*" at the Murfreesboro Conference on John Milton in October. He also spent a few seconds of his summer riding a bucking 1200-lb. bull with 2 1/2-ft. horns.

In June, **Hunt Howell** gave a talk entitled "New Worlds, New Continence: Fables of the American Colonial Belly" at The Future of American Studies Symposium at Dartmouth College.

## PAPERS CONTINUED

**Ben Pauley** presented "'Far from a consummate lawyer': William Godwin's guide to law for the sensible layman" at a colloquium called "Reform, Revolution, and Reaction: British Politics and Literature Around 1800," last April in Munich, Germany.

**Kimberly Segall's** paper, "Colonizing the Postcolonial? Tensions between (Inter)National Law and Local Cultures," has been accepted for this Fall's MMLA Conference.

**Glenn Sucich** presented "By Gradual Scale Sublim'd: Raphael's Tree and the Miltonic Critique of Judgment," at this year's Annual Conference on John Milton held at Middle Tennessee State, October 18-20.

## ALUMNI/AE NEWS

**Cynthia Baule** (PhD '00) has accepted a position with McGraw-Hill in Los Angeles. She will be a critical reader for their high school world history textbook.

**Jim Lang** (PhD '97), who is now teaching full-time at Assumption College, and who wrote several columns for the *Chronicle of Higher Education* about his first year on the job, has now been contracted by the *CHE* to write five columns a year until his tenure bid in 2006.

**John Young** (PhD '98), Assistant Professor at Marshall University, recently published "Toni Morrison, Oprah Winfrey, and Postmodern Popular Audiences" in *African American Review*, Volume 35, Number 2.

## FACULTY PROFILES

In July, **Paul Breslin** went as an invited observer to the first Favorite Poem Project Institute at Boston University, where Robert Pinsky, Louise Glück and other poets worked with Boston-area school teachers and administrators to develop ideas for teaching poetry to children. Upon returning, he has talked with poets Mary Kinzie, Reg Gibbons, and Anne Winters about offering a similar summer program at NU, with initial planning help from Gail Burnaford in our School of Education & Social Policy and from Dean Eric Sundquist. Paul recently received the 2001 George Kent Prize of *Poetry* magazine for a review essay, "Tracking Tiepolo's Hound," in the April 2001 issue, and will be giving a presentation on T. S. Eliot for the Poets on Poets series at the Columbia University School of the Arts on November 8th.

**Brad Deane** just received an advanced contract from Routledge for his study entitled *The Making of the Victorian Novelist: Anxieties of Authorship in the Mass Market*. It will be published as part of a new series of books by younger scholars edited by William Cain. The title of the series is "Literary Criticism and Cultural Theory."

In the fall, **Brian Edwards** signed a contract with Duke for his book-in-progress, *Morocco Bound: American Adventures in the Maghreb*, which explores the place of North Africa in 20th-c American literature and cultural production as well as responses to American Orientalism in Maghrebi cultural production. In May, Brian presented a paper entitled "Disorienting America's Maghreb" at the annual Glow Flows conference held at NU, and a paper at the International Association of Philosophy and Literature on the Algerian work of Frantz Fanon. The resulting article, "Fanon's al-Jaza'ir, or Algeria translated," will appear in *Parallax's* special issue on Fanon. Brian has two other articles forthcoming. "Yankee Pashas and Buried Women: Containing Abundance in 1950s Hollywood Orientalism" will appear in *Film & History*, and "The Well-Built Wall of Culture: Old New York and Its Harems," will appear in The Norton Critical Edition of Edith Wharton's *The Age of Innocence*. This summer he led 15 members of the World Affairs Council on a political and cultural tour of Morocco, where he has lived and still visits regularly for research. Brian designed the trip to work against Orientalist stereotyping of Morocco, and built the trip around the theme of Young Morocco (based on Henry James' idea of "Young Italy"). He stayed on for a month in Morocco, accompanied by his wife Kate Baldwin and their 2-year-old son Oliver. Oliver now likes to perform the Muslim call to prayer at opportune (and occasionally inopportune) moments.

**Betsy Erkkila** worked this year on 19th-c American poets, especially Emily Dickinson. She wrote an essay on "The Emily Dickinson Wars" for *The Cambridge Companion to Emily Dickinson* and another es-

say entitled "'Looking Oppositely': The Politics and Art of Emily Dickinson" for the *Oxford Historical Guide to Emily Dickinson*, and is indebted to 2nd-year graduate student **Cole Hutchison**, for his expert research assistance on the political contexts of Dickinson's work. Did you know that the Republican party had one of its first meetings in the Washington DC offices of Dickinson's father, Edward? Betsy wrote a review essay on "Dickinson and History" for the *Emily Dickinson International Journal* (Spring 2002), delivered a paper on Dickinson for the Society of American Women Writers, and chaired a Dickinson session at the ALA. She gave a Plenary session talk on "Public Love: Whitman and Political Theory" at the Dartmouth American Studies Institute this summer; the essay is forthcoming in *Whitman 2000*. One of the highlights of her year was her inauguration as the Henry Sanborn Noyes Professor of English; her inaugural lecture "The Poetics of Whiteness: Poe and the Racial Imaginary" has been published in *Romancing the Shadow: Poe and Race*. This year she hopes to finish *Mixed Bloods and Other American Crosses* and the Riverside edition of Poe. In addition to Larry, Suli, and their big dog Luc, her secret passion is still tap-dancing.

In July **Christine Froula** gave a lecture titled "A Fin in a Waste of Waters: Modernist Aesthetics and the [Woman] in *The Waves*" at a symposium on "Le pur et l'impur: A la redécouverte de Virginia Woolf" at the Centre Culturel International de Cerisy la Salle in Normandy; and a paper, "*Gaudier-Brzeska*: Abstract Form, Modern War, Vorticist Elegy," at the 19th International Ezra Pound Conference, "Ezra Pound and the Twentieth Century" at the Université de Paris-Sorbonne, France. Her article "*Mrs. Dalloway's* Postwar Elegy: Women, War, and the Art of Mourning" is forthcoming in January in a special issue of *Modernism/Modernity* on Gender and War.

**Susannah Gottlieb** and her husband, Peter Fenves (German Department), became parents on August 1, 2001 at 7:48 am. His name is Daniel Inbo Gottlieb Fenves, and he weighed 8 pounds, 12 ounces. Susannah also just finished a year as a Whiting Postdoctoral Fellow in the Humanities at the University of Chicago. She had two books accepted by Stanford University Press. One of them is called *Regions of Sorrow: Anxiety and Messianism in Hannah Arendt and W.H. Auden*; the other, an edited volume of Hannah Arendt's writings is called *Hannah Arendt: Reflections on Art and Literature*. Also, an essay of Susannah's recently appeared in *Comparative Literature* called "'Reflection on the Right to Will': Auden's 'Canzone' and Arendt's Notes on Willing."

Faculty Profiles continued on page 5...

## FACULTY PROFILES CONTINUED...

**Jay Grossman's** book, *Reconstituting the American Renaissance: Emerson, Whitman, and the Politics of Representation* has been accepted for publication by Duke and will appear in 2002. He is completing work on a Web site entitled "Brothers in Arms: Masculinity in Whitman's Civil War," part of "The Classroom Electric," a constellation of Web sites on Emily Dickinson, Walt Whitman, and 19th-c American culture supported in part by a grant from the U. S. Department of Education's Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education. He will present "Whitman at Auction," on the significance of Whitman's experiences in New Orleans in the 1840s, at December's MLA convention, where he will also chair a roundtable discussion on "Archival Research and New Technologies" in 19th-c American literary studies.

**Chris Lane's** essay "The Arnoldian Ideal, or Culture Studies and the Problem of Nothingness" will appear this December in a Princeton University Press collection entitled *Disciplinary at the Fin de Siècle*. His review of Arnoldian criticism will also appear shortly in *Victorian Studies*. Chris's essay on the Italian philosopher Mario Mieli, forthcoming with Feltrinelli Press in Milan, is being translated into Italian and French. In September, Chris gave an invited lecture on Mary Kingsley at The Fisher Center, Hobart and William Smith Colleges; in October, he lectured on Robert Browning in the Humanities Center at Harvard.

**Jules Law** recently completed two chapters of his book on Victorian fluids, one on George Moore's *Esther Waters*, and another on *Dracula*. This last spring he presented a paper at the International Narrative Conference on *Frankenstein, Dracula*, and the film *Strange Days*. Having recently perfected his recipes for Beef in Orange Sauce and Hot and Sour Soup, he proceeded this past summer to work on Peeking Duck, with mixed success.

This year **Lawrence Lipking** published review articles in *The New Republic* on Thomas Gray (Feb. 12) and Frances Burney (Oct. 8) and has finished an essay on "Literary Criticism and the Rise of National Literary History" for the 18th-c volume of the forthcoming *Cambridge History of English Literature*.

This year **Susan Manning** is serving as Acting Director of the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Program in Theatre and Drama. Her essay titled "Modern Dance, Negro Dance, and Katherine Dunham" will appear in the November 2001 issue of *Textual Practice*. She continues to work on her book titled *Modern Dance, Negro Dance, and Queer Culture*, which will be published by the University of Minnesota Press.

Faculty Profiles continued on page 7...

## FACULTY AWARDS & PUBLICATIONS 2000~01

### Awards:

Tracy C. Davis: George Freedley Award, Theatre Library Association  
Betsy Erkkila: Inaugurated as Henry Sanborn Noyes Chair of English  
Susannah Gottlieb: Whiting Postdoctoral Fellow in the Humanities, University of Chicago  
Barbara Newman: Guggenheim Fellowship  
Carl Smith: forthcoming inauguration as Franklyn Bliss Snyder Professor of English & American Studies  
Alex Weheliye, Humanities Center Grant, Weinberg College of Arts & Sciences

### Recent Publications:

Paul Breslin: *You Are Here* (poems, TriQuarterly Books, Fall 2000)  
Tracy C. Davis: *The Economics of the British Stage, 1800-1914* (Cambridge, 2000)  
Reg Gibbons: translation of Euripides' *Bakkhai* (Oxford, 2001)  
Chris Herbert: *Victorian Relativity: Radical Thought and Scientific Discovery* (Chicago, 2001)  
Chris Lane: coeditor of *Homosexuality and Psychoanalysis* (Chicago, 2001)  
Blakey Vermeule: *The Party of Humanity: Writing Moral Psychology in Eighteenth-Century Britain* (Johns Hopkins, December 2000)

### Forthcoming Publications:

Paul Breslin: *Nobody's Nation: Reading Derek Walcott* (Chicago, 2001)  
Bradley Deane: *The Making of the Victorian Novelist: Anxieties of Authorship in the Mass Market* (Routledge, forthcoming)  
John Domini's novel *Talking Heads 77* (Red Hen Press, Fall 2001)  
Brian Edwards: *Morocco Bound: American Adventures in the Maghreb* (Duke, forthcoming)  
Reg Gibbons: *It's Time*, a new volume of poetry (Louisiana State, Fall 2002)  
Reg Gibbons: translation of Sophocles' *Antigone* (Oxford, Fall 2002)  
Susannah Gottlieb: author of *Regions of Sorrow: Anxiety and Messianism in Hannah Arendt and W.H. Auden* and the editor of *Hannah Arendt: Reflections on Art and Literature* (Stanford, forthcoming)  
Jay Grossman: *Reconstituting the American Renaissance: Emerson, Whitman, and the Politics of Representation* (Duke, 2002)  
Chris Lane: *Civilized Hatred: The Antisocial Life in Victorian Fiction* (Chicago, forthcoming Spring 2003),  
Susan Manning: *Modern Dance, Negro Dance, and Queer Culture* (University of Minnesota, forthcoming)  
Barbara Newman: *God and the Goddesses: Vision, Poetry, and Belief in the Middle Ages* (Pennsylvania, 2002)  
Wendy Wall: *Staging Domesticity: Housework and English Identity in Early Modern Drama* (Cambridge, 2001)

## FACULTY PROFILES CONTINUED...

**Jeffrey Masten's** essay "More or Less: Editing the Collaborative" appears in the new issue of *Shakespeare Studies* (2001). He will be speaking at the Folger Library conference "Transactions of the Book" in early November. He has recently begun a joint appointment in the Northwestern Gender Studies program.

Volume 30 of *Renaissance Drama*, the annual journal edited by **Jeffrey Masten** and **Wendy Wall**, was published in August. PhD candidate **Christopher Rebacz** served as the editorial assistant on this volume of essays. Volume 31, entitled "Performing Affect," on the performance of early modern emotions, is currently in press.

**Bill Savage** has been busy being gainfully unemployed fall quarter. He presented a paper on Jack Kerouac ("Teaching Beat Reading: The Pedagogical Challenge of Spontaneous Prose") at a conference on Beat Writers at UMass-Lowell; he will be presenting a paper on *The Simpsons* and *South Park* at MMLA in Cleveland in November; and he has coedited, with David Schmittgens, Nelson Algren's *Chicago: City on the Make, 50th Anniversary Edition, Newly Annotated* from the University of Chicago Press. This volume is in bookstores now.

**Shannon Steen** has recently arrived from Stanford University, where she completed her degree. She spent the spring putting the finishing touches on her dissertation and helping to organize "Cartographies of

Race," a ten-week artist-in-residence program at Stanford for artists from the San Francisco Bay Area working in a variety of media (visual arts, spoken word, performance art and music). This fall, she participated in the panel "Internal Relations, International Relations: Musical Enactments of Race in the Interwar Period," which she organized for the American Studies Association meeting in Washington DC, and gave a plenary paper at the American Society for Theatre Research meeting in San Diego entitled "Realizing Race, Realizing Nation." She is currently at work on her book project, *Racing Modernity: Orientalism, Primitivism, and Whiteness in American Modernist Performance*.

Last year, **Julia Stern** received the WCAS Distinguished Teaching Award. Her paper entitled, "Charlotte Temple, *Charlotte Temple*: Fetishizing Death in the Early American Novel," was given at the Olahundo Institute for Early American Studies Conference in Glasgow, Scotland, in July. Two recent essays will appear in forthcoming publications: "The Politics of Tears: Representing Death in the Early American Novel," to be published in *Mortal Remains: Understanding Death in Early America*, Eds. Brustein and Isenberg (U Pennsylvania Press); and "The State of Women in *Ormond*; or, Patriocide in the New Nation," in a volume entitled, "Revising Charles Brockden Brown," eds. Barnard, Kamruth, & Shapiro (U Tennessee Press).

## REMINISCENCES FROM OUR ALUMNI/AE

### HAL DENDURENT

Proud Northwestern PhD in English  
M.A., PhD, Northwestern University, 1969, 1972 (English).  
NDEA Fellowship (3 years), Woodrow Wilson DYF  
Program Manager, Product Development, Intermecc Technology Corporation (Norand), Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

How did Hal go from a Northwestern PhD in English to industrial software program manager? The long answer can be found in his resume and business biography; visit <http://dendurent.com/res.htm> and <http://dendurent.com/business.htm> for more information.

The short answer is that teaching didn't suit him, though he enjoyed scholarly research and writing. Still, he looks back on his experience at Northwestern with the greatest of pleasure. It was one of the best times of his life. He's pleased to receive the graduate newsletter "Musings" and read about the accomplishments of faculty and students. Hal can also testify that nonacademic careers can be challenging, interesting, and rewarding in many ways... even intellectually!

Perhaps Professor Cirillo will remember Hal from his Donne course long ago, in another century.

Best wishes to all in the new millennium,

Hal Dendurent, Mount Vernon, Iowa  
[hal@dendurent.com](mailto:hal@dendurent.com)

## IN MEMORIAM

by *Barbara Newman*

It is with sorrow that we report the death of **Cindy Gould** (PhD 1994) on March 3, 2001, of ovarian cancer. She was only 38 years old. Cindy earned her degree with a dissertation on Chaucer and Gower, under the direction of Barbara Newman. She had been teaching literature and writing for many years, though at the time of her death she was working for a LaSalle Street law firm. Friends remember her fondly for her kindness, humor, and wit, but few were aware of her secret passion for fiction writing. Cindy's aspirations were known to *Chicago Tribune* columnist Eric Zorn, however, because she was a member of his Someday Is Now (SIN) Society. SINners promised to spend half an hour every day during 2001 working toward the fulfillment of some personal goal, and Cindy had hoped to complete her first novel.

Zorn memorialized Cindy Gould in two eloquent columns in the *Tribune*, dated April 16 and April 23. In the second column he recalls an anecdote from her teaching days at Northwestern. In one of Cindy's freshman composition classes, a student submitted a rather trite essay containing the line, "Words cannot describe the beauty of an autumn leaf." How would you have responded if your own student committed that faux pas? Cindy wrote in the margin, "Give it a shot! That's why we write."

# THANKS TO PROFESSOR EVANS

by Al Cirillo

When I arrived at Northwestern in September of 1964, new PhD in hand, as a “wet-behind the ears” beginning Assistant Professor, Larry Evans had preceded me by two years, having arrived from Harvard in the Fall of 1962. He already seemed like an established member of the Department and, as the saying goes, he almost immediately began to show me the ropes. I was quickly awed by what appeared to be his encyclopedic knowledge not only of the history of the department and its interactions but also of his apparent in-depth information about the workings of the entire university administration, issues that I have not mastered to this day. But beyond all of this was what seemed to me to be his complete knowledge of undergraduate majors, virtually all of whom he seemed to know as soon as a name was mentioned. He knew all of the students in my very first classes before I even began to recognize anything about them. When I say he knew them, I mean he knew their “track records,” their personalities, their tics and foibles, and he appeared to have his finger on the pulse of the entire undergraduate English major body. It was not surprising, then, that through the years he served with great distinction on many occasions as the Director of Undergraduate Studies. Even then, in 1964, after only two years at Northwestern, Larry’s reputation as a teacher was legendary and this, by the way, was well before the implementation of formal or institutionalized student evaluations akin to the current CTECS. My office in those years was on the same floor as Larry’s and the line up of students waiting to see him every day he was on campus was astonishing. He was apparently the *ipso facto* advisor of choice well before any formal advising system was in place. Students just naturally flocked to him as a faculty member with whom they enjoyed an instant rapport.

Larry was scheduled to retire from Northwestern at the end of the last academic year, August 2001, when he was suddenly felled by a stroke just before the start of Spring Quarter. He is now undergoing slow recovery from that condition and I recently spoke to him via telephone in connection with this piece. In his indomitable way he says that he hopes soon to be able to come to campus at least one day a week. When questioned about what he considered the highlights of his career, he immediately mentioned an Honors Seminar he taught some years ago as well as his service as Director of Undergraduate Studies. It is also worth noting that he served successfully as Associate Chair at one point during his tenure here. All of us in English (faculty, students, staff) owe Larry a long standing ovation *in absentia* for his great service to the Department and to the student body over his years here. By way of conclusion, I think it only appropriate that we hear directly from a couple of students--undergraduate and graduate--who can speak firsthand of their knowledge of Larry as a teacher, advisor, and friend.

Steve Rozenski, a senior English major, offers the following thoughts on Larry:

“My first quarter at NU I took Introduction to 20th Century British Literature and was transfixed by the charismatic and captivating lectures of Professor Evans. I first met him after a lecture in which he had quoted the preface to Blake’s ‘Milton’; as the hymn setting of the text was my school song, I felt obliged to stay after and sing it for him. He asked if this was an audition for the role of class clown.

As I took more classes in the English department, I continued to be impressed with his assiduous dedication to the quality of undergraduate education. Stopping by his office to chat or solicit advice became a highlight of my days; his unflagging confidence in the importance and value of literature has sustained me throughout my time at Northwestern and will continue to inspire me throughout my life.”

And Bradley Deane (PhD Northwestern), Visiting Assistant Professor, has this to contribute:

“I’d like to offer a few words about Larry Evans as a teacher, but perhaps it’s more fitting to let his students speak for me. Time after time, English majors have told me that the professor who has meant the most to them is Larry Evans. In a department of wonderful teachers, he has distinguished himself through an unflagging commitment to students that extends far beyond essay grades and attendance records. His students sense in him someone genuinely interested in them as people with lives outside the classroom, and having had the opportunity to teach with him – and hence to learn from him myself – I can wholeheartedly confirm this impression. No one has helped or encouraged me more to grow as a teacher, and I’m far from the first to find that his desire to help did not fade with the end of a term or an academic year. We could perhaps count the number of students Larry Evans has taught (and the number would be prodigious!), or even tally those who name him as the best they’ve known (prodigious again!). But his ultimate contribution to our department, his efforts to welcome students into a community of learning, defies calculation.”

**We welcome your thoughts and news.  
Please send e-mail to  
[grad-english@northwestern.edu](mailto:grad-english@northwestern.edu)  
or write to:  
*Musings*  
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