Get to know the OU English Department!

Amanda Cuellar, Matt Kliewer, Haeyoung Lee, and Jordan Woodward

It's been a busy summer. Matt Kliewer, Haeyoung Lee, Amanda Cuellar, and Jordan Woodward have been working on a documentary about the water crisis in Southwest Kansas titled *Our Kansas*. They focus on the drying up of the Arkansas River and the depletion of the Ogallala Aquifer and the subsequent effects on life in that region. They have conducted interviews with local farmers and residents and are hoping to finish production before the end of the year.

Amanda Cuellar and Matt Kliewer also just spent a week with a film crew from Los Angeles and New York working on a documentary for *Independent Lens* on Wilma Mankiller. The documentary is being directed by Valerie Red-Horse. Amanda and Matt were brought on as Production Assistants after Valerie reached out to Dr. Nelson.

David Anderson

Dr. Anderson was invited to give a keynote address in Chile. The conference is “Shakespeare 400: Reception, Transmission and Recreation of His Legacy in Latin America,” marking the quatercentenary of Shakespeare’s death. His talk will be the keynote address, called “Shakespeare and Cultural Contingency: The Roman Plays.” It will take place at the University of the Andes in Santiago on 1-2 September.

Sandy Tarabochia

Dr. Tarabochia was a funded participant in the 50th Anniversary Dartmouth Institute and Conference in August. The focused eight-day institute was designed to recall the original 1966 Dartmouth event while looking forward to the future of writing research. Along with renowned CRL scholars including Chuck Bazerman, Deborah Brandt, Ellen Cushman, and Clay Spinuzzi, participants grappled with current issues in writing research, teaching, and learning, pointing toward the discipline’s future in empirical work striving to answer the most fundamental questions about the communication and construction of meaning across disciplinary, modal, linguistic, and national frontiers. The application process was competitive as only members from past cohorts of the groundbreaking program, Dartmouth Summer Seminar for Writing Research, were eligible. In addition to sharing her own emerging research on the writing development of early career faculty across
disciplines, Dr. Tarabochia was a respondent for the conference plenary, “Writing as Understanding,” by Professor David Galbraith of the University of Southampton.

Amanda Klinger


Jim Zeigler

Dr. Zeigler contributed to a book of critical essays that won a Will Eisner Comic Industry Award at the 2016 Comic-Con in San Diego this summer. The “Eisners” are the “Oscars” for graphic novels and comic books. Zeigler’s chapter “The Secret History of Miscegenation: Jimmy Corrigan and the Columbian Exposition of 1893” is included in Blacker the Ink: Constructions of Black Identity in Comics and Sequential Art (Rutgers). The collection was previously recognized as Best Edited Collection of 2015 by the Popular Culture Association.

Bill Endres

The editorial board of ARC Humanities Press, an international publisher, voted to give Bill Endres a contract on his book project Digitizing Manuscripts: Materiality, Methods and Ethics in 2D and 3D Imaging.

Over the summer, Dr. Endres gave a variety of invited talks and presentations at conferences, including: "Digitally Across Time: Learning from 125 Years of Photographs of the St Chad Gospels" at Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland; "Transformed Materiality: Advanced Imaging Techniques and the Study of Medieval Manuscripts" at the International Medieval Congress, Leeds, England; "Conditioned by Textual Remediation: Interactive Digital Technologies for Expanding Rhetorical Inquiry & Expression" at the Rhetoric Society of America Conference, Atlanta, GA; "Beyond 2D: Representing the Materiality of Medieval Manuscripts" at the International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI; and "OVAL: A Virtual Ecosystem for Immersive Scholarship and Teaching" (with Matt Cook & Will Kurlinkus) at the Conference of the Alliance of Digital Humanities Organizations, Krakow, Poland.

Dr. Endres presented the keynote address for the International Calligraphy and Lettering Arts Society, September 24, Lichfield, England. His talk was titled, “Intrigues & Revelations: Digitizing the St Chad Gospels.”

Using Reflectance Transformation Imaging (RTI), Bill Endres digitized pages of the 9th-century Hereford Gospels, Hereford Cathedral Library, England. This library is the oldest surviving library in Britain that once chained books. Bill’s images reveal dry-point drawings and palimpsest pages.

Vincent Leitch


Joyce Coleman


Su Fang Ng

After completing a visiting fellowship at Heidelberg University at the end of March 2016, Dr. Ng was a visiting fellow at All Souls College, Oxford University from April-June 2016. At Heidelberg, she gave a Fellows Dinner Talk on "Translinguality and Anglo-Malay Exchanges in the Early Modern East Indies" on January 20, 2016; at
Professor Askew also gave a public reading from her novel KIND OF KIN at The Book Hive in Norwich, UK, followed by a lively discussion about American politics and immigration.

In July her essay “Home Territory” was published in the summer edition of This Land.

On September 24, she will be a featured reader at the Creative Writing Celebration in Tulsa. As part of the festival, she will also serve on a creative writing panel called Tulsa in the Literary Imagination.

Joyce Coleman and CMRS

Dr. Coleman, Rudolph C. Bambas Professor of Medieval English Literature and Culture and director of the Center for Medieval & Renaissance Studies, recently announced the creation of the Derdeyn-CMRS Graduate Student ResearchTravel Scholarship. The scholarship takes its name from Frieda Derdeyn Bambas, who established the Bambas Professorship and a separate Bambas Scholarship in honor of her husband Rudolph, who was a professor of Anglo-Saxon in OU’s English Department from 1949 to 1985. The name also reflects the support of Frieda’s nephew and heir, Col. Conrad Derdeyn, in accessing unexpended income in the Bambas Scholarship account to fund OU graduate students in medieval and/or Renaissance studies for research-related travel.

This experience will be especially useful for med/Ren students “landlocked” in Oklahoma, since relevant manuscripts and documents are most likely to be held in Europe or on the east or west coasts of the U.S.— and all the historical sites, of course, are overseas. Apart from giving access to important resources, the scholarship will also offer our med/Ren students a valuable opportunity to experience the material reality of the books, artifacts, buildings, and landscapes that they have read and studied so much.

The amount of the scholarship will necessarily vary with the funds available each year, but the hope is to provide enough funding to cover a round-trip flight from Oklahoma to the research site, as well as some local travel.

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Oxford, she gave a Visiting Fellows Seminar on "Literary and Other Lives of Interpreters" on May 17, 2016.


In August, she attended an intensive Portuguese short course. She gave a paper on Marlowe at the Sixteenth Century Studies Conference in Bruges, Belgium, August 18-20. Currently, she has a VPR grant to enroll in second-year Persian.

Rilla Askew

This summer Professor Askew spent five weeks in the UK on a Junior Faculty Fellowship researching Reformation martyr Anne Askew, who was burned as a heretic in 1546. The fellowship gave her the opportunity to immerse herself in the landscape and historical records of Lincolnshire, where she grew up, as well as conduct research at the British Museum and Library in London.
Daniela Garofalo

Dr. Garofalo participated on a plenary panel at the ADE West in Phoenix, AZ on crises chairs face in English Departments.

James Zeigler, Sara Day, Rita Keresztesi, Kenneth Hodges

English grad program administrator Sara Day and Professors Rita Keresztesi, Kenneth Hodges, and Jim Zeigler (not pictured) participated in the second annual OU Assessment Forum on Friday, September 16. Assessment has become an important part of the work of the department.

Kathleen Welch

Professor Kathleen Welch left out two items from the last newsletter. In addition to the previously mentioned paper presented at the May Rhetoric Society of America meeting in Atlanta, she presented two other papers as well: 1. "Magnetic Rhetoric;" and 2. "Writing Women in Plato's System of Rhetoric."

In addition, she conducted sponsored research in Rome during the summer. She worked on material rhetorics on the Palatine Hill and nearby locations for her research on the Aspasia project.
Tea with the Professor

In September, Jonathan Stalling held the Tea with the Professor focused on Chinese poetry in English. He invited students to submit poems to the English Jueju Competition for $500.

In this "Tea with the Professor,” Dr. Jonathan Stalling, Editor of Chinese Literature Today, Curator of the Chinese Literature Translation Collection and Professor of English prepared Chinese teas and gave a short presentation about his efforts to introduce the Chinese Jueju form into the English language over the last two decades. Students were invited to read to read their work and discuss their experiences learning to write English poetry in this form. For more information about Jueju see the Newman Young Writers Award (for English Jueju) here: http://www.ou.edu/uschina/newman/youngwriters.html.

The competition will give a $500 prize for the best English Jueju in Elementary, Middle, and High School as well as College levels.

Showcase Series

On Friday, September 23, Vincent Leitch gave the first Showcase presentation of 2016-17. Titled “Theory Now: Update on the Norton Anthology of Theory and Criticism 3rd Edition (2018),” the talk explored what’s happening now in the field of literary and cultural theory and whether it is possible to give a coherent account of it or to map it. Vince described which schools, movements, and trends are thriving and which are not and who the major twenty-first-century figures might be.
Fall Faculty/Staff Party

English Department Faculty and Staff attended a pool party to celebrate the fall semester enjoying Potluck and Punch.

Gabriela Rios, Stephanie Weaver, Will Kurlinkus, Roxanne Mountford, Molly Lehman and Friends