

OU English Department

OU College of Arts and Sciences

October

2017

*Get to know the OU
English Department!*

Brett Burkhart

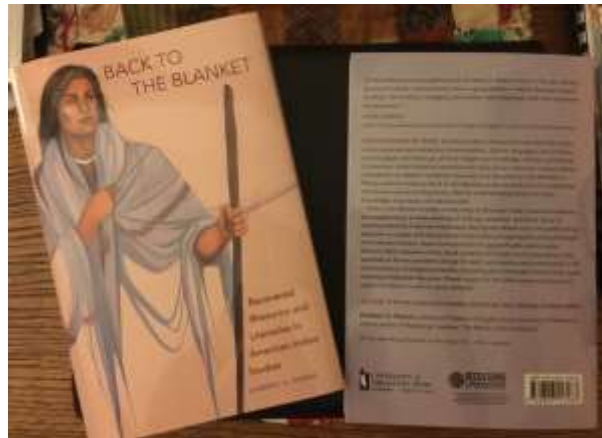
Brett presented the following paper at RTG:

Going to the Water: Cultural and Spiritual Resilience in Volatile Landscapes and Liminal Spaces, Returning the Gift: Native American Literary Festival, Norman, OK, October 10, 2017.

Kimberly Wieser

Dr. Wieser's book, *Back to the Blanket: Recovered Rhetorics and Literacies in American Indian Studies*, officially comes out November 15th, but it's already the number one selling book for the University of Oklahoma Press this week. The book is part of the Recovering Languages and Literacies of the Americas Initiative, funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. The cover art, *Moving Forward*, is by Muscogee Creek artist Dana Tiger. The hardcover is a dusky heather color, and Kim couldn't be more pleased.

She has only one regret. She didn't think to include acknowledgements. She says thank you to the entire department for your patience and support during this project.



Daniela Garofalo

Dr. Garofalo gave a talk titled "Abandoned By Providence: Loss in Jane Austen's *Persuasion*" at the LACK 2 Conference in Colorado Springs.

English Events

English Speaker Series

R. John Williams presented “The Invention of the Future.” He is the author of *Buddha in the Machine: Art, Technology and the Meeting of East and West*.

DJ Stevie Johnson presented “Hip Hop as Poetry, Literature and Cultural Expression,” which addressed how Hip Hop functions not simply as “party music” or as social commentary outlet but rather as a survival strategy for a cross section of Black male college students.

Dream Course

On Thursday, Oct. 12, Dr. Martha Carlin of the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, spoke to a large, appreciative group about "Putting Dinner on the Table in Chaucer's London." Dr. Carlin was the third speaker for the Presidential Dream Course, MRS 3023, "Exploring Medieval & Renaissance Studies," which is sponsored by the English Dept.

Dr. Carlin took her audience through the markets and inns of medieval London, giving a new perspective on the Tabard Inn where Chaucer's pilgrims met before setting off for Canterbury. The refreshments for this talk were based on medieval recipes, including bunyols (cheese fritters) and klein krebs (fried shrimp).



Returning the Gift

October 8-11, Rilla Askew, Kimberly Wieser, and others hosted the 25 anniversary Returning the Gift Conference at the Thurman J. White Forum building, with some events at Jacobson House and the Jim Thorpe Multicultural Building. Nearly two hundred people attended the various events, with even greater attendance for the shared events for Indigenous People's Day. Writers included Joy Harjo, Simon Ortiz, Diane Glancy, Linda Hogan, LeAnne Howe, Gloria Miguel, William Yellowrobe, Carolyn Dunn, and around one hundred other published Indigenous writers at various stages in their careers. There were workshops, academic presentations, a play performance, readings, a digital storytelling workshop and presentations by young people from Riverside Indian Indian School in Anadarko led by our Ph.D. Rachel Jackson, and a live painting event with Kiowa-Choctaw artist Stephen Paul Judd, who also attended OU. Kimberly and Elizabeth Sweetly were interviewed about the event on KFOR's "Rise and Shine."

