



ENGLISH TIMES

VOLUME IV, ISSUE 3

FEBRUARY 19, 2001

SPECIAL ALUMNI ISSUE

DEPARTMENT NEWS

Congratulations to Heather Roberts and our Department!

We're very happy to announce that, after the customary third-year review, Professor Roberts has been reappointed as an assistant professor in our Department. We're grateful and fortunate and look forward to a long relationship with her.

Chair's Tea

EVERYONE is welcome

Please join Professor Gertz **3:30-4:30** in her office on the **first Wednesday** and **third Thursday** of every month for engaging conversation. This is a wonderful opportunity to get to know Professor Gertz and to meet other English faculty, majors and graduate students.

This semester's schedule:

Thursday, March 22

Wednesday, April 4

Thursday, April 19

Did You Know...

The Anderson House has received a facelift! The Chowderfest would be a great opportunity to see what wonders fresh paint and new lighting fixtures have done for our house.



English Department Writing Contests

Open to all Clark undergraduate students, including matriculated COPACE students.

- Loring Holmes & Ruth Dodd Drama Contest (Prize: \$250)
- Prentiss Cheney Hoyt Poetry Contest (Prizes: \$50-\$250)
- Short Story Contest (Prizes: \$50-\$250)
- Leroy Allston Ames Essay Contest (Prize: \$250)

DEADLINE:

Friday, March 23, 12:00 NOON
-No exceptions

For further information, please come to the English Department office.

President Bassett's Inauguration Week March 26-30, 2001

One of our own graduate students, Liz Noyes, will be a delegate from New Hampshire College to President Bassett's inauguration. Come join the festivities.

English Majors and Minors

Please send your email addresses to Professor SunHee Kim Gertz at Sgertz@clarku.edu

March 14, 2001

5:30 p.m.



Don't let the CHOWDER FEST & ALUMNI DAY pass you by...

for English majors and minors and other interested students to meet with English Department faculty and alumnae/i.

Shakespeare Conference

English Majors **Joel Pinsker** and **Scott Pezza** have had their papers accepted for presentation at an annual Shakespeare Conference to be held at Susquehanna University in Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania.

Faculty Search

The English Department has concluded the campus interviews for a new full-time faculty member in 19th century British literature and we're currently in the final phase. Thanks to all who participated in the search.

GRADUATE STUDENT BUSINESS

Departmental Colloquia Spring 2001 Schedule

Refreshment Coordinator

Jack Haringa

23 FEBRUARY

Jenn Doohar, Career Services on
Dossiers & Resumés

Andy Rimmington "A Paradigm
for Doubt: The Common
Structure of *Piers Ploughman* and
The Confidence Man"

John Conron
TBA

6 APRIL

Mark Espy "Evidence and Reasoning:
An Examination of Methodology in
Literary Investigation"

John Dean, Versailles

13 APRIL

Bernd Elzer

Heather Roberts

27 APRIL

Kathy Webber

Liz Noyes

Virginia Munro

Student Council Reps.

Kellie Dahlstrom & Mark Espy

Department Meetings Reps.

Liz Noyes & Andy Rimmington

Second Annual

Clark University Graduate Student Cross-Discipline Research Exchange

March 15, 2001

8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Higgins University Center

See Andy Rimmington for more
information.

FROM THE CHAIR

In September last year, I sent a letter to our alums, informing them of where we are now and where we're headed.

Needless to say, we in the English Department were, are, grateful, and somewhat overwhelmed, with the responses sent to us from our English alums. Some of them were short, some a bit longer--all of them fascinating. Those of you who've written to us: you have enhanced, enlarged, our sense of community.

Unfortunately, we won't be able to include but a fraction of the glimpses into the lives of our alums. And some of you who've written to us prefer to remain in the background, so we haven't included your names here. Nonetheless, we do want to let all of us involved with Clark's English Department to get at least a small sampling of your communications. So, below a phrase or two from most of you who shared comments with us.

Allow me to stop here just for a moment, though: it's difficult to capture the flavor or your remarks, and I apologize that my compression of your messages hasn't done you justice.

And just a note: in trying to decide how to order your remarks, I've rejected a number of elaborate schemes and settled for the alphabetical. Those who've changed their names upon marriage will be listed with their maiden names first and in parentheses.

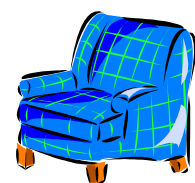
Finally--

Many thanks to those of you who wrote to us, and *please* do keep in touch with us. We are eager to learn about you and what you're doing. For example, on **March 14th, we will have our Chowder Fest and First Alum Day.** We'll begin at 5:30 for the chowder and then have presentations at about 6:30 p.m.

Many, many of you graciously volunteered to be a part of the Alum Day festivities, and I am deeply grateful for that. I do have to confess that I struggled with the selection process. Finally, I decided that this time, I would exclude those of you who are teaching, since our majors see us every day, and then to select with a "first come, first serve" approach among the various professions represented--decidedly unfair, but I just didn't know how else to set the program. I'm hoping we're starting a tradition here and those of you who volunteered your services might be willing to do so again in the future.

In any case, please do join us, if you can, on Alum Day. It'd be great to see you.

SunHee Kim Gertz
Chair of English



ALUM NEWS

- Arnieri, Jen is successfully pursuing her graduate education in law in the hopes of becoming a criminal lawyer.
- Bank, Stanley (1955) who worked with Karl Anderson received his Ph.D. in English teacher education from Columbia, published *American Romanticism* with Putnam's in 1969, as well as other articles and books throughout his career as a professor, administrator, and chair at Lehman College of CUNY before retiring in 1998. He writes, "...from Clark I got a love of study and literature, and a life-changing experience. I arrived at Clark without goals and without any inkling of the pleasures of learning. I left committed to the life of the mind."
- Barnes, Caroline B. (1962, MA Ed. 1971) taught at Sutton High School as well as at Shrewsbury Junior High, making sure that her students knew their lives were "more than just passing parades" that they can listen, and learn, and grow with their experiences in the world around them." Caroline also finds that her English major contributes by allowing her to take stories and poems to the elderly.
- Beck, Tamara especially remembers Serena Hilsinger and Stan Sultan.
- Breau, Jim (1977) registered his interest in getting future issues of *English Times*.
- Brooks, Charlie (1972, MA 1975) remembers Jay Elliott, his MA thesis advisor, warmly and since his time at Clark has been working in software. Currently, he is senior software architect for Genuity, Inc. (formerly GTE Internetworking) in data communications. He writes, "Although the connection between an English major and a software architect may seem tenuous, I know that the skills that were reinforced in the English department (critical thinking, clear, concise writing, etc.) have stood me in good stead during my career...And certainly after presenting papers in Stanley Sultan's "Intro. to Graduate Studies" seminar, public speaking has held no greater terror!"
- Brousseau, Elaine remembers John Conron and Virginia Vaughan well and is currently working on her Ph.D. dissertation, which treats 19th-century American Shakespeare productions. Could that be a coincidence?
- Cantor-Adams, Deborah (1986) remembers well the conference that SunHee Kim Gertz took her to and even her paper topic on gender and power in Chrétien de Troyes' *Erec et Enide*. She has been working in publishing, design, and manuscript editing. Now working for MIT Press, Deborah married a Clark alum, David Adams; they have a son, Ben, who's almost 4.
- Cohen, Alan J. (1973) enjoyed learning about professors he'd had classes with while studying at Clark.
- Cronin, Larry (1981) writes to let us know that even later, as a lawyer, he remembers the individualized attention he received from our faculty. He writes, "I know that much of the success that I have enjoyed through the quality of my written work is directly attributable to what he learned as an English major at Clark."
- (Fink) Lovisolo, Kathy (1987) remembers SunHee Kim Gertz's courses, in particular translating Chaucer, as well as her advisor, Charles Blinderman. She has worked for several major publishing companies before becoming Production Manager for Manhattan's Simon & Schuster company. She has a 4-year old boy, who loves reading--no coincidence there.
- Ford, Nancy H. graduated from Clark about 50 years ago and currently spends summers with her husband in Oregon and the remaining seasons on their boat in Mexico. How perfectly idyllic!
- Gershon, Allison L. was happy to reconnect with us through the Chair's letter to the alums.

- Gitelman, Heidi (1980) shares Allison's sentiment.
- Goodman, Jeremy was pleased to learn that SunHee Kim Gertz became Chair. Jeremy is doing very well in an administrative post at Boston University.
- Hartman, Sue was very pleased to hear from us and would like to keep in touch through the *English Times*.
- (Huckaby) Voss, Solange (1998) worked with John Hancock Funds in Financial Services and Human Resources before starting her own Personal Chef business. She remembers her time as an English major as a rewarding experience.
- Hurley, Brian wasn't a major, but remembers his English courses with SunHee Kim Gertz as pivotal. He's now a successful veterinarian, who also writes and instructs others how to do so in the field. He and his wife have a lovely daughter named Madison.
- Imbrascio, Nicole (1998) remembers Clark's English and Theater Arts program warmly. Nicole is currently finishing her M.A. Degree in English and teaching at UMASS-Boston and expects to go on for her Ph.D. Very positively influenced by Virginia Vaughan, Nicole plans to continue in Renaissance studies and Shakespeare.
- Johnson, Cassie is happily working with Akamai Technologies as a "translator" of sorts between various groups--engineers and customers, and so forth. She's now known as "Dr. Smooth #2" (she's not secondary in talent; she got to the company later than the first).
- Johnston, Maura remembers Serena Hilsinger as one of the best professors she's encountered.
- Kakouros, Ekaterini went to Greece after graduation, worked as an art consultant, and now works in Clark's own Office of Study Abroad Programs. She just got engaged to be married as well.
- Kallor, Scott (1995) remembers his time as an English major on the pre-med track fondly. Just about to finish med school and begin residency, Scott reports, "I am so glad that I had the opportunity to read and study" American literature with John Conron and Shakespeare with Virginia Vaughan.
- Kelley, Kristin (1993) fondly remembers working with Serena Hilsinger on her senior thesis.
- Knotts, David Alan went to seminary school upon graduating from Clark and has been a United Methodist minister for the last thirty years and recently became a licensed psychologist as well. He reports, "The skills I learned at Clark have helped me to analyze and communicate the biblical narrative to my congregations throughout the years...Every day I listen to the human story and find that the use of metaphor, allusion, and story are significant elements of my treatment. "
- Kopka, Patrick (1990) was greatly influenced by John Conron and Charles Blinderman while studying at Clark, after which he received a M.A. in Professional Writing at USC. Since then, he has been a successful screenwriter, who has written, for example, with the Farrelly brothers.
- Kornreich, Jen has been in Manhattan working at Bloomberg television and is currently assistant producer in the special projects department.
- (Kosloski) Teich, Jennifer recently celebrated a perfect wedding, after having successfully earned a MFA in creative writing and working as a grantwriter. She is currently thinking of applying to Ph.D. programs.
- Larkin, Tiim gladly remembers his mentor, SunHee Kim Gertz, and reports that he finished graduate school at UMASS Lowell and is now teaching 6th grade near San Francisco.

- Levy, Howard reports of his love for the extraordinary teaching in our department, particularly of Stan Sultan and Serena Hilsinger, and of his love of poetry which was nurtured while at Clark. Since leaving Clark, he's published poetry in various venues, and his first book of poetry, *A Day This Lit*, has just come out with CavanKerry Press.
- Lynn, Tom (1979) remembers Serena Hilsinger and Stan Sultan with fondness, especially as he follows in their footsteps: Tom is an assistant professor of English at Penn State, after teaching in junior and high school for a number of years.
- Ludwig, Karen recognizes John Conron's influence on her not only while at Clark, but afterwards. For ten years, Karen was Director of Therapy and Psychiatry at Sweetser ME, before becoming the Director of Adult Community Based Services. Her approach is narrative therapy, as strongly influenced by Michael Foucault.
- Mass, Alan (1968) tells us that Clark instilled in him a love of languages and writing that influenced him in his careers as a journalist and trial attorney.
- McCarthy, Kelly finds it difficult to believe that she is now an alum. Deeply influenced by Virginia Vaughan, Kelly's now finishing her M.A. in Library and Information Science at Simmons.
- da Mota, Leslie tells us, "Frankly, Clarkies just don't know how good they have it, yet!" Happily following a family tradition, Leslie is teaching in Chicago, where she also works with a Community Based Organization (CBO) that works with Spanish-speaking communities. She reports that working with SunHee Kim Gertz has helped her in her work, and she writes, "[m]ost especially, assuming the challenge of being responsible for my own learning."
- Norman, David (1985, M.A.) remembers Clark as an international student (from England) and is glad to see that we still have an emphasis on international perspectives.
- Nugent, Patricia writes that working with SunHee Kim Gertz on her honors thesis, for which she received highest honors, "remains my greatest accomplishment." Working in theater upon graduating from Clark, Patricia is now applying to graduate school in library science.
- Ousley, Laurie is a graduate student working on her Ph.D. dissertation at SUNY Buffalo.
- Paglinco, Carrie (1997) is very grateful to SunHee Kim Gertz for helping her through her senior year. Carrie is currently located in Greensboro, NC in a marketing department for the arena there. She is in the same line of work that she did at Worcester's Centrum Centre as an intern.
- (Pitcher) Melanson, Molly (1991) worked for Scudder Funds, received a M.A. in Education from Simmons College, and now is the happy mother of one-year old identical twins, Max and Luke.
- Reich, Marti (1968) remembers traveling to the UK with Serena Hilsinger and James Beard as a pivotal experience, one that probably gave birth to her love for travel in Europe. She has grown children and step-children and now owns a promotion business in NY, working almost exclusively for publishing.
- Ripley, Jim (1968) is in Texas, after having earned an M.A.-- another degree in religion. Jim finds the newsletter an especially pleasant reminder of life at the English House.
- Robillard, Amy (1994) reports that receiving the *English Times* brought back quite a few memories. Amy is currently in her first year of a Ph.D. program in Composition and Cultural Rhetoric.
- Rogovin, Larry (1977) loves the idea of receiving the *English Times* via e-mail.
- Rosenblum, Rachel (2000) shares the same sentiment.

- Roth, Phyllis (1966) wonders if Stan Sultan is still terrifying new students :-). A professor herself, she was the Chief Academic Officer for ten years and Interim President for a couple of terms at Skidmore College.
- Sanguinetti, Marc is working with UnumProvident in an Internet position that combines his talents of imagination, creativity, and technical ability.
- Sarma, Lakshmi (1996) is working as a tax attorney for the PA Department of Revenue in Harrisburg, after having graduated from Temple Law School in 1999.
- Scanlan, Mark reports of his being influenced by John Conron and SunHee Kim Gertz. Having taught for a number of years, Mark is now applying for a Ph.D. program.
- Shirley, Steve (1969) conveyed how much Clark means to him, letting us know as well that Serena Hilsinger was an especially important influence.
- Siegel, Jeff (1981) is another one of you who would like to receive future issues of the *English Times*.
- Smith, Jane (1978) remembers the English House as her home away from home. Married to a Clark alum, she now helps raise three children, teaches, and writes--her third novel is on the Fall 2001 HarperCollins list.
- Smith, Jennifer has been working with Harvard's Family Research Project and has decided that she would like to return to graduate school.
- Stynes, Tess (1982) was news editor for *The Scarlet*, and since graduating from Clark, has been working with newspapers, even with a stint at Pace University, where she earned her MBA in marketing and organizational behavior. Currently, Tess is a copy editor for Dow Jones in its Overseas Copy Desk Department.
- Treitman, Rick (1973) has taught English at the high school level, worked as a tech writer, a director of marketing, and held various high-tech management jobs. He currently owns high-tech bookstores in Massachusetts.
- Ulerich, Dave (1977 MA) worked with Jay Elliott while at Clark and remembers his time often. After Clark, he taught in public schools, worked for the Social Security Administration, and has been District Manager for about six years.
- Voss, Seth (1995) has been working in Financial Services for John Hancock Funds and sees a direct correlation between his success in marketing and the skills he's learned as an English major.
- White, Lisa (1986) works with the Federal Court Library in Boston, is married, and has a wonderful 3-year old named Annie.
- (Williamson) Moriarty, Beth has two children and reports to us, "I still brag about having had Ginny Vaughan for Advanced Shakespeare! Now I'm hoping my sister will attend Clark in 2002."
- Wilner, Michael (1980) has fondest memories of learning with Charles Blinderman and of being an English major at Clark. Michael is a derivatives, futures, and options trader in energy, is married, has two sons, Tammis (11) and Jem (8), and is still is deeply inspired by the 19th century.
- Zimmerman, Scott landed his dream job: he's working with the NBAA producing videos

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT FACULTY

Full-Time Faculty

Charles S. Blinderman, Ph.D.

Professor of English, Adjunct Professor of Biology. Professor Blinderman's major research areas are in Victorian literature, especially the influence of Darwinism.

John J. Conron, Ph.D.

Professor of English. Professor Conron researches and teaches 20th-century American literature (painting, photography, architecture and landscape architecture, literature and film) and relations between American art and culture.

James P. Elliott, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of English. Trained as textual editor in the field of American literature, Professor Elliott has been associated with the Edition of the Writings of James Fenimore Cooper for twenty years.

SunHee Kim Gertz, Ph.D.

Professor of English, Department Chair. Professor Gertz's research and publications are concerned with semiotics and western European literature in the late Middle Ages. She also researches links between Asian and European literatures.

Fern L. Johnson, Ph.D.

(Sabbatical - FY 2000-01)

Professor of English. Professor Johnson is a sociolinguist specializing in the study of gender, race, and culture in language and is also Director of the Communication and Culture program.

Winston Napier, Ph.D.

E. Franklin Frazier Chair, Assistant Professor of English. Professor Napier specializes in critical theory, 20th-century African American literary culture and African American philosophy.

Heather Roberts, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of English. Professor Roberts specializes in the study of pre-1865 American literature, history and culture. Her research explores the role of fiction in cultural production.

Stanley Sultan, Ph.D.

(Sabbatical – Spring 2001)

Professor of English. Until recently, Professor Sultan's scholarly interest was largely in the poetry, fiction, and drama of modernist writers. In the past few years he has devoted more attention to critical theory, literary history, and theoretical issues in literary history.

Virginia Mason Vaughan, Ph.D.

(Leave of absence – Spring 2001)

Andrea B. and Peter D. Klein '64 Distinguished Professor, Mellon Fellow at the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington D.C., Professor of English. Professor Vaughan specializes in Renaissance literature, especially in Shakespeare, but as a cultural historian, she is also interested in appropriations of Shakespeare's texts from the 17th century to the present. She teaches courses in Shakespeare at the introductory and advanced level in addition to the seminar "Studies in the Renaissance."

Part-Time Faculty

Jim Adams

Expository Writing

Louis Bastien

Intro to Literature & Composition

Intro to Medieval Literature

Barbara Blatner

Intro to Literature & Composition

Jeanne Braham

Creative Writing: Fiction

Trevor Code

English Poetry II

Diane Moul

Intro to Literature & Composition

Jen Plante

Intro to Literature & Composition

Denise Stephenson

Culture and the News

Bill Tapply

Expository Writing

Lucilia Valerio

Intro to Literature & Composition

Modern Fiction: Women Writers

David Williams

Expository Writing

Professor Virginia Vaughan

is on a leave of absence this semester taking an Andrew W. Mellon research fellowship at the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C. With her co-author, historian Alden T. Vaughan, she is researching the nexus of prejudicial opinions that fostered English participation in the exploitation and enslavement of black Africans in early modern England and English America.

The Writing Center

Directed by **Anne Geller**, the Writing Center has moved to Corner House (corner of Woodland and Charlotte Streets). The Writing Center offers assistance with writing for any class in any discipline, at all stages of the writing process (trying to understand a writing assignment, brainstorming, composing, getting unstuck, writing revising, seeking citation information, editing, proofreading).

Office Hours

There are copies of faculty office hours outside seminar room II. Please help yourself.

WRITING CENTER NEWS

ANNOUNCING

The Seventeenth Annual Conference of the
Northeast Writing Centers Association

Saturday, March 31, 2001

8:30 am to 5:00 pm

Higgins University Center, Clark University
Worcester, Massachusetts

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Howard Tinberg

Author of Border Talk: Writing and Knowing in the Two Year College

Direct any conference questions to Anne Ellen Geller, (508) 793-7469, angeller@clarku.edu.

Or visit the conference web site at www2.clarku.edu/resources/writingcenter/NEWCA