



DEPARTMENT / UNIVERSITY NEWS



GRADUATING  
SENIORS

ENGLISH MAJORS

- Alexandra Andrade  
\* Jennifer Archibald  
\* Michele Astor  
\* Margaret Bethray  
Carrie Ann Brown  
Wendy Carney  
Heather Coates  
Benjamin Dozier  
Matthew Essig  
\* Joseph Flis  
Mary Gaziano  
Katelyn Gys  
\* David Hahn  
Samuel Holder  
Kathryn Larrivee  
Christa Loggie  
Bridget Martin  
\* Cathryn Morse  
Kelly Murphy  
\* Sarah Ralston  
Michael Ratkiewicz  
Catherine Rohn  
Gregory Smith  
Ryan Smith  
\* Edward Soufer  
Stefanie Stein  
Haley Tanner  
Thomas White

\*Recipient of Departmental Honors

ENGLISH MINORS

- Christina Brown  
Alicia Fidalgo  
Kriti Gaur  
Tefta Kosmo  
Sergey Shnyder

The English Department's faculty and staff will host a reception hour for graduate and undergraduate English Majors & Minors and their families at Anderson House Sunday, May 23 Immediately Following Commencement

Seniors—Don't Miss This!

Senior Brunch is served to graduating seniors by the Clark faculty, staff, and administration. This year's Senior Brunch is Friday, May 14, 12:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. in the University Dining Hall.

The menu is not the traditional dining hall fare. Last year's menu included eggs benedict, stuffed French toast, cheese blintzes, fresh fruit and yogurt. The wait staff will include Terri Rutkiewicz



WRITING CONTEST  
WINNERS

Prentiss Cheney Hoyt  
Poetry Contest

- 1<sup>st</sup>: Margaret Bethray: "Not Bitterness, But Hollowness"  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Nicole Rabin: "On the Airplane from Kona to LA"  
3<sup>rd</sup>: Karen Smith: "Goddess Rose: A Sonnet"

Short Story Contest

- 1<sup>st</sup>: Kriti Gaur  
"Rumors are like Cigarette Smoke"  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Gregory Dufresne: "Lasers and Forcefields"

3<sup>rd</sup>: Erica Silber: "Sleep's Love"

Loring Holmes & Ruth Dodd  
Drama Contest

Samuel A. Musen: "TRI-Angles"

Leroy Allston Ames Prize  
No prize awarded for 2004

Academic Spree Day  
Wednesday, April 28  
English Dept. Presentations

Tilton Hall Posters

Winners of the Drama, Short Story, & Hoyt Poetry Contests (Sponsor Stanley Sultan)

- Margaret Bethray '04
- Nicole Rabin '04
- Karen Smith '07
- Samuel A. Musen '06
- Kriti Gaur '04
- Gregory Dufresne '06
- Erica Silber '06

PRESENTATIONS

Margaret Bethray '04: Reading her poems from North-house: *Poems from the Edge of the World*

Kriti Gaur '04: "Purification and Characterization of Enzyme Glutamine Synthetase in the Dinoflagellate *Alexandrium Tamerense*"

Margaret Bethray '04: "Grendel Gone Berserk"

Haley Tanner '04: Gendered Language Frames in Print News Media: The Invisibility of Carol Mosley Braun"

David Hahn, Anton Fellowship: Ovid's Metamorphosis and European Art"

## DEPARTMENT/ UNIVERSITY NEWS

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### From Professor Lea

**Graham:** I have been working with four of our students in a "Poetry Apprenticeship" through the Citizen Schools Program. The purpose of the program is to teach middle school students a skill. Each apprenticeship results in some "product" (i.e., a publication, performance, etc.)

Our students: Nicole Rabin, Nick Delaini, Maria Schwartz and Alex Kelly have put together various

poetry writing and performance exercises that will end in a performance by the ALL School students in early May. We go each Wednesday to the school from 3:00-5:00 to work with the kids. Our students also meet a day or so before to plan activities and discuss strategies.

I am very pleased and impressed with their creative engagement, their diligence and hard work.

### Did You Know...

Ms. Academic Manners is up and running on the English Department's web site...xxxNEED MORE HERE.xxx

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## GRADUATE STUDENTS

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### Shiva Aliabadi and Marybeth Gordon present at Clark University's second annual Graduate Student Multidisciplinary Conference March 31, 2004

According to the 'Scarlet,' ...three other sessions included spectacular presentations from **Shiva Aliabadi** on "Contemporary Directions in Novel Narratology,"

**Marybeth Gordon** was awarded one of five Graduate Student Presentation Awards for her presentation on "I'll be True: Gender and romantic Speech Acts in Shakespeare's *Troilus and Cressida*." This award helped fund her trip to SUNY Buffalo's Shakespeare Conference April 23-24 where she presented the same paper.

### Congratulations to The Following M.A. Candidates who passed their oral exams and will be receiving their degrees:

**Natalie Mühlberger**, March 18

"Cruel Intentions: Female Villainy in Antebellum Women's Writing" Director: Heather Roberts

**Emily Darling**, March 24

"The Lord of Misrule: Variant Representations of Misrule in Literary Texts" Director: SunHee Kim Gertz

**Matthew Gilbert**, March 24

"Rehearsing Langston Hughes: Interconnectivity of Narrative, Lyric and Music in Hughes's Blues Poetry" Director: John Conron

**Jessica Dalzell**, March 29

"Chicana re-visions: modern erosions in the rural narrative of Ana Castillo's *So Far From God*" Director: John Conron

**Laura Putnam**, March 29

"Reading the Red: The Blush as sign, Narrative, and Narrator's Touchstone in Three American Texts" Director: SunHee Kim Gertz

### Congratulations Laura Putnam

who received funded offers from Ph.D. programs at George Washington University, Binghamton University and Tufts University. She has decided to go to Tufts.

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## UNDERGRADUATE NEWS

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### Genie Giaimo and Lydia Keen-Kendric Receive The University of East Anglia Exchange Program Scholarship

for an English major who wishes to study abroad with our partner institution in England, The University of

East Anglia. Lydia will be studying at UEA in Fall 2004 and Genie; in Spring 2005.

### Junior and Senior Representatives to the Chair

Visit us on the web at [www.clarku.edu/departments/english](http://www.clarku.edu/departments/english)

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## For 2004-05 Academic Year

Senior Susan Munroe, and Junior Ksenia Verlyguina

**Congratulations to Haley Tanner**, recipient of **Hazel Hughes Endowed Award in Women's Studies**. This prize is awarded to the senior Women's Studies student who best exemplifies the program's goals of excellence in academic achievement and service.

**Congratulations to Susan Munroe** who has been designated an **Alice Higgins Scholar**. Her summer research project will involve traveling throughout the southern and southwestern United

States in order to determine if travel can affect social change.

**Congratulations to David Hahn** who has been accepted to the University of Chicago with fellowship support

**Congratulations to Bridget Martin** who has been accepted to the University of Connecticut at Storrs with fellowship support



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## FROM THE CHAIR

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Hi Everyone,

Ordinarily, at the end of an academic year, my thoughts tend to focus on our graduating students, who, I imagine, are looking towards the future with an odd mixture of nostalgia, anticipation, fear, joy, and hope--all tinged by excitement. I know our faculty and staff join me in sincerely wishing our graduating students all the best for the years ahead, and we especially hope that you, and all our alums, will remember that you can always, always, think of us as one of your homes, your alma mater, Latin, as you no doubt know, for "nourishing mother."

Remembering will be the theme of this From the Chair, for this year it is especially important for us to remember and to commemorate. A profound sense of loss seems to weigh heavily on the Clark community, understandably so. I cannot remember a year so heavily marked by death. Many of us knew or worked with at least some of these members of our community who died so recently:

Bob Baker, a Professor Emeritus of our Psychology Department  
Michele Bash, Class of 2007, who had not yet declared her major  
Rita Dumont, a member of our Physical Plant  
Kay Goodell, a member of our Goddard Library staff  
Bob Hsu, a Professor of our Economics Department  
Kenner Myers, a member of our Education Department, and  
Ronald Olson, Class of 2004, one of our History majors

We wish their families and loved ones peace and strength.

These, our deaths, seem antithetical to the very idea of community, since death does tear at the tapestry of relationships that have evolved here over time. And when thinking about, remembering, each individual who passed away, at times, there seems to be no remedy, no answers.

In the middle ages, so we are taught, people lived in *memento mori*, "in remembrance of death," a precept exhorting that we lead our lives knowing we will die, for keeping death present in our minds should help us to make meaningful choices. As a verse in a hymn attributed to Notker Balbulus (a monk of St. Gall, who lived in the ninth to the tenth centuries) summarizes, *Media vita in morte sumus*: "In the midst of life we are in the presence of death."

But deepening this perspective on *memento mori*, our remembering and commemorating those who have passed away starts mending the torn fabric of our community. Our mending highlights a special place in the tapestry, a place worthy of the care that remembering implies, a marked space that allows us to re-visit the past, even as new threads and patterns are woven into it, for our community still remains in place even as its daily life and rhythms change from year to year. The

events, speakers, courses, conversations, and days we share with one another as well as each person who walks through Red Square or enjoys the lounge in Anderson House contribute to the tapestry.

We are fortunate to be participants in a university, which, at its best, encourages us to be open to learning, to remembering, to incorporating our knowledge and experiences into our lives. We are a community constantly shifting, constantly marked by departures, departures to be mourned and departures to celebrate. For those who are moving on, perhaps uppermost in your minds is the fact that we are also a community that encourages the acquisition of expertise. When we face departures of any sort, however, we often feel the limits of expertise. At those moments, I find it helpful to remember an idea found in a slim volume called *Zen Mind, Beginner's Mind*, by Shunryu Suzuki, a monk who practiced Zazen, "In the beginner's mind there are many possibilities, but in the expert's there are few." Allow me to wish that those of you who are moving on balance expertise with the beginner's mind, just as departures can balance new beginnings.

Let us keep one another in our memories,

SunHee Kim Gertz  
Professor and Chair of English

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## FACULTY BUSINESS

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### **Congratulations to Professor Jay Elliott**

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**Congratulations as well to Professor Betsy Huang**, who received her Ph.D. from University of Rochester last month.

### **Betsy Huang nominated for this year's Outstanding Teacher Award**

Betsy is one of five faculty members to be nominated this year. To quote Dean Doug Little, "This is quite a remarkable achievement for a first-year faculty member."

### **Professor Lucilia Valerio Attends Conference**

Professor Valerio attended a conference in San Antonio, Texas, March 24-27, on "Making Composition Matter: Students, Citizens, Institutions, Advocacy."

### **Professor Lea Graham Attends Conference**

Professor Graham recently attended the AWP (Association of Writers and Writing Programs) Conference in Chicago where she took part in a reading of small presses with the rest of the editing team of *Near South*, a literary journal of which she's an associate editor.

**Professor Bill Tapply to teach a Workshop for the 50th Anniversary New Hampshire Writers' Project, spring program series.** His workshop, *How to Write a Mystery Novel*, will run May 22 9:00-12:00 at Franklin Pierce Law Center, Concord, New Hampshire.

### **Professor Lea Graham has Article being published**

Professor Graham's essay, "Out of the Ordinary: The Extraordinary Collaboration of Michael Anania and Ed Colker" has been accepted for publication and is tentatively scheduled to come out in a book of essays through Moyer Bell Press about the Chicago poet, Michael Anania.

### **A Fond Farewell to Professor John Conron who is retiring after 27 years at Clark**

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### **Professor Lisa Kasmer to Attend Conference**

Professor Kasmer will be speaking May 7 to the 18<sup>th</sup> Century Interdisciplinary Group at the the CUNY Graduate School and University Center on her book project, tentatively titled "Regendering History: Women and the Genres of History, 1760-1830."

## Professor Lisa Kasmer has Paper accepted for Conference

Professor Kasmer's paper, "The Reimagining of Medieval Italy in Mary Shelley's *Valperga*" has been accepted for the 2004 Conference of NASSR (the North American Society for the Study of Romanticism).

## Professor Jay Elliott

**Attended several "knit-ins"** to read his story from the book, *Knitlit Too: Stories from Sheep to Shawl...and More Writing About Knitting*, most recently at Tatnuck Bookseller on Chandler Street in Worcester on April 18.

## Professor Virginia Vaughan to Teach Seminar at the Folger Institute this Fall

While on sabbatical this coming fall, Professor Vaughan will be teaching a course, **Emerging Ethnographies in Shakespeare's England**. The Folger Institute is a center for advanced study in the humanities sponsored by the Folger Shakespeare Library and a consortium of forty colleges and universities. Institute programs gather graduate students and faculty from a variety of disciplines and institutions. Participants are encouraged to find their own connections to the topic designated for investigation in any given program and to pursue their individual research interests within the scope of that topic.

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# ENGLISH DEPARTMENT FACULTY

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### John J. Conron, Ph.D.

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

### Betsy Huang, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of English. Professor Huang researches and teaches representations of ethnic and racial identities in 20<sup>th</sup>-century American literature and popular 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.

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, Associate Professor of English. Professor Napier specializes in critical theory, 20<sup>th</sup> 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.

(on leave - Spring 2004)

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.

Andrea B. and Peter D. Klein '64 Distinguished Professor, 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 seventeenth century to the present. She teaches courses in Shakespeare at the introductory and advanced level in addition to the seminar "Studies in the Renaissance." Professor Vaughan is also Director of The Higgins School of Humanities.

### Louis Bastien, Ph.D.

Major British Writers II  
Terrible Beauty: Art of Tragedy  
Mythopoetics

### Jim Dempsey, M.A.

Feature Writing

### Michael Eldridge,

Introduction to Screen Writing

### Anne Geller, Ph.D., Director of the Writing Center & Writing Program

Literacy, Learning and Writing

### Lea Graham, Ph.D.

Intro to Literature & Composition  
Writing on Race  
English Poetry I

### Diane Moul, Ph.D.

Intro to Literature & Composition

**Marsha Nourse, M.A.**

Expository Writing

**Jen Plante, M.A.**

Expository Writing

Intro to Literature & Composition

**Claire Schomp, M.A.**

Expository Writing

**Denise Stephenson,**

Culture and the News

**Bill Tapply, M.A.T.**

Creative Writing: Fiction

Writing the Novel II

Writing for Magazines

**Lucilia Valerio, Ph.D.**

Intro to Literature & Composition

**Office Hours**

There are copies of faculty office hours outside the front lounge. Please help yourself.

**Emeriti Faculty**

**Jesse C. Cunningham, Ph.D.**

History of the novel

**Serena Hilsinger, Ph.D.**

Modernist literature and women writers.

**The Writing Center**

is located in Corner House. 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).

**The Center for Community Engagement and Volunteering (CEV)**

is located on the first floor of Corner House. The Center assists students in finding a community service placement suitable for a particular class requirement or personal interest. Office hours are 9-5, Monday through Friday. Stop by for the “Coffee and Tea with the CEV” any Wednesday between 1-4, or call Allison Schei at 508-421-3785 for an appointment.