

# CLARK UNIVERSITY ENGLISH TIMES

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## DEPARTMENT / UNIVERSITY NEWS



### English Department Faculty Search

The English Department is conducting a search for a new full-time faculty member in 19<sup>th</sup> Century British Literature, with demonstrated interest in 18<sup>th</sup>-century British literature, as well as in interdisciplinary approaches and/or literary theory. Undergraduate and graduate students are strongly encouraged to attend the finalists' presentations next semester. Keep on the lookout for updates.

### Writers' Club For Students & By Students

Come and read your writing to other students and hear their commentary on your work. In return, hearing what other students are writing can be an inspiring experience. The group is open to all forms of writing and all students. We meet Wednesday evenings at 7:00 in the Anderson House basement lounge. Please contact Nicole Rabin at [nrabin@clarku.edu](mailto:nrabin@clarku.edu) for more information.

### Junior and Senior Representatives to the Chair

Junior: Susan Munroe  
Senior: David Hahn

### May Term 2004 in Luxembourg May 16 -June 12

Undergraduates may again study in the heart of western Europe in 2004, during Clark University's May Term in Luxembourg. By offering three courses in Munsbach, in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, the *Leir Center in Luxembourg-Clark University* continues to help develop international perspectives for Clark faculty and students. Applications are due in the Office of Study Abroad Programs by **Friday, January 30.**

The courses offered this term are **France and Europe: Globalization and the French Exception**, HIST 0006: Professor Theresa McBride, College of the Holy Cross  
**Earth, Air, Water, and Fire: Environmental Chemistry--European Style**, CHEM 080:

Professor Donald Nelson, Clark University  
**(Re)Inventing the Past: Creating and Representing the National Histories**, HIST 125: Professor Janette Greenwood, Clark University

### English Department Writing Contests

**DEADLINE:**

**Friday, March 19, 2004**

**12:00 NOON -No exceptions**  
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)

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

## GRADUATE STUDENT BUSINESS

### Graduate Reps. for Dept. Meetings

Matt Gilbert and Jordan DeMaio

### Graduate Student Council Reps.

Shiva Aliabadi and Nicole Ming

### Congratulations to Shiva Aliabadi

who was named president of the Graduate Student Council.

### Congratulations to Two M.A. Candidates

who passed their oral exams and will be receiving their degrees:

Sheri Chriqui & Dagmar Lonien



## FROM THE CHAIR

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Hi Everyone,

This has been an eventful semester, one whose texture has been complexly varied for the English Department, one, I believe, we won't forget for a while. We began with university recognition of a number of our Department members, recognition which has continued in various forms, both from inside and outside Clark--you've been following these kudos, I hope in *The English Times*. While this doesn't surprise us (we are a dynamic Department, whose faculty are *all* active scholars--a statement few English Departments can make), it's gratifying to receive external recognition for our efforts.

While our scholarly and pedagogical accomplishments continue to flourish, we were all deeply saddened by the news that Professor Heather Roberts decided she would rather pursue an all-teaching career, one in which she would not actively pursue scholarship, although there are enough indicators that her field would well benefit from her engagement in that respect. We are working, though, to try to keep her in the Clark community in some fashion.

At the same time, we've also started the planning for a number of activities, events, and programmatic changes that may very well be of interest to you. Next semester, for example, we'll be bringing in three candidates for the tenure-line position in 19th Century British Literature. The more feedback we can get from undergraduate and graduate students, the better able we'll be to make a choice. So, please attend all three of their talks, and let us know what you think. We are also setting up our annual Alum and Chowder Fest in March, as well as a poetry event with a very well known Canadian poet, Dennis Cooley. In addition to these activities and events, the Annual Undergraduate Shakespeare Conference will again be hosted by Clark University in a week-long celebration. Be sure to be on the look-out for that event as well! And as a last item in this list (and in some ways the most exciting): we will be hosting the first speaker of the newly formed *Medieval and Early Modern Forum*, Professor David Bevington, from the University of Chicago, well known for both his excellent work in medieval studies as well as in the Renaissance, a rarity among scholars.

We sincerely hope that you will be able to attend these activities. The more you attend, the more we'll be able to converse and exchange opinions, the more we'll learn about each other, and thus, the stronger we will be as a community.

Have a wonderful Holiday Season and all the Best in the New Year!

SunHee Kim Gertz  
Professor and Chair of English

## FACULTY NEWS

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### **Professor Virginia Vaughan, Clark's Andrea B. and Peter D. Klein '64 Distinguished Professor, Presented**

a paper, "Ariel's Song: Staging 1.2. of 'The Tempest'" at the Second Blackfriars Playhouse Conference in Staunton, Virginia, October 22-26. Two former students were with her on the program. Robert Madison MA '78, Professor English at the U.S. Naval Academy, presented a demonstration on "Midsummer's Faire" Distributing Shared Speeches in 'A Midsummer Night's Dream.'" Jacquelyn Bessell MA '94, Ph.D. '96, assistant professor of theater at the University of Utah, directed a workshop with actors from the Shenandoah Shakespeare Acting Company. The conference was held at the Blackfriars Theatre, a replica of the early 17<sup>th</sup>-century playing space used by Shakespeare's acting company.

### **President Bassett Reviewed *African-American Authors, 1745-1945: A Bio-Bibliographical Critical Sourcebook*,**

ed. Emmanuel S. Nelson (Westport, CT; Greenwood, 2000). Resources for American Literary Study 28 (2000): 170-171.

### **Anne Ellen Geller, Director of the Writing Center and Writing Program, Presented a Sound Essay in October**

about the Clark Writing Center on a panel titled "Alt Assessment: Student Voices Talk Back" at the International Writing Centers Association (IWCA) Conference. Geller co-produced the essay with Tim Dzurilla '05.

### **From the November 30, 2003 Issue of The Boston Globe:**

In William G. Tapply's 20th Brady Coyne novel, the nifty "Shadow of Death," Boston-based lawyer Coyne attempts to unravel a series of untimely deaths somehow linked to Ellen Stoddard, a candidate for the U.S. Senate from Massachusetts, and her missing husband, Albert, a Tufts history professor.

Brought in by political dealmaker Jimmy D'Ambrosio, Coyne hires private investigator Gordon Cahill to track Albert, who, we're told, hasn't been himself lately. When a body identified as Cahill's is found immolated in the PI's charred Corolla, the State Police want details of his final assignment. Despite his pleas, neither D'Ambrosio nor Stoddard is willing to release Coyne from his vow of trust, so the affable attorney must pick up Cahill's investigation. Soon he's in Southwick, N.H., where he seeks the links among the missing Stoddard, some suspicious financial dealings, and what once seemed the accidental death of a young teen during a snowstorm 30 years ago.

Tapply's yarn builds slowly, as Coyne gathers seemingly disparate facts while he tries to understand what's what with Professor Stoddard, and we meet sympathetic characters along the way who unwittingly face the same danger as Cahill did. By the time the attorney pieces together the puzzle, the body count has risen, and it's quite possible he may be next. A tasty and entirely plausible twist wraps up this satisfying yarn by Tapply, a consummate pro.

### ***The Boston Globe* is not Alone in its Praise of Bill Tapply's Latest Novel**

Toronto's Globe and Mail also ran a review, on 11/23/03, of which the following is an excerpt:

This is Tapply's 20th Brady Coyne novel. A bare handful of authors can keep a series going that long. Fewer still can keep the characters and plots fresh. Tapply does both. The Coyne series just keeps getting richer and the plots better. [...] This is another superb Coyne novel with some sharp twists.

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## ALUM NEWS

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**Congratulations to Christina Rizzo, BA '03,** one of ten poets admitted to Bennington College's M.F.A. program. She will be working with David Lehman and Jane Hirschfield., two of her favorite poets.

# ENGLISH DEPARTMENT FACULTY

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

(on leave - Fall 2003)

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.**

Intro to Literature & Composition  
Intro to Medieval Literature  
Literature of the Fantastic

## **Erin Boutin, M.F.A.**

Expository Writing

## **Tim Connolly, M.A.**

News Writing

## **Jim Dempsey, M.A.**

Feature Writing

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

The Essay: Reading & Writing

## **Lea Graham, Ph.D.**

Expository Writing  
Creative Writing: Poetry  
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

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

Expository Writing  
Creative Writing: Fiction  
Writing the Novel

## **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.