



DEPARTMENT / UNIVERSITY NEWS

In The  
Spotlight

Faculty Search is Over

The English Department has concluded the search for a new full-time faculty member in 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century British literature and will be welcoming **Lisa K. Kasmer** in the fall. She received her Ph.D. from the University of California at Los Angeles and has had a brief stint as a Visiting Professor at the College of the Holy Cross. Professor Kasmer has received a variety of awards and has already published two reviews and two articles.

Don't Miss the  
Seminar on W. B. Yeats  
Offered Next Semester by  
Professor Stanley Sultan

This seminar focuses on William Butler Yeats' poetry, but also takes into account his dramatic and other writings. We will also explore his thoughts and beliefs along with his cultural role in Ireland and the world. Prerequisite: either a poetry course or permission by the instructor.

Chair's Tea

EVERYONE is welcome

Please join Professor Gertz 3:30-4:30 in her office on **March 4** and **April 16** for engaging conversation, tea and scones. This is a wonderful opportunity to get to know Professor Gertz and to meet other English faculty, majors, and graduate students.

Thursday  
March 25, 2004  
6:00 p.m.



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

A great chance for English majors and minors and other interested students to meet with English Department faculty and alumnae/i. This year's alum speakers: Jennifer Geller, Financial Editor for Bloomsburg News; Jeremy Goodman, minority recruiter to science programs at BU; Lakshmi Ramani, lawyer; and Ona Russell, novelist.

New Area of  
Specialization

We have a new Area of Specialization, **African American Studies**, advised by Professors Winston Napier and SunHee Kim Gertz. The requirements are:  
African American Literature I  
African American Literature II  
Harlem Renaissance  
African American Satire  
or an elective  
History 016 (Race and Ethnicity)  
An elective in Ethnic American literature

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.

Berlin Mitte  
A Photo Exhibit by  
Günter Wehrmann  
April 2-9  
Anderson House  
First Floor

The English Department is delighted to be able to host **Berlin Mitte**, a photo exhibit by Deputy Consul General **Günter Wehrmann** on mid-town Berlin. Sponsored by the German Consulate General in Boston, the exhibit will open on **April 2, 4:30-6:30**. Come enjoy refreshments and meet the photographer.

## Departmental Colloquia & Special Events

**MARCH 18, 7:30 p.m.**  
**HIGGINS LECTURE**

Grace Conference Room, University Center.  
**David Bevington, University of Chicago**,  
"Fathers and Daughters (and Wives) in  
Shakespeare's Late Plays"

**MARCH 25, 6:00 p.m.**  
**ALUM AND CHOWDER FEST**

Anderson House

**MARCH 31**  
**COLLOQUIUM**

**Matthew Gilbert**, "Rehearsing Hughes: Musicality  
in Langston Hughes's 'Blues Poetry'"  
**Susaye Gayle**, "Capitalism & Female  
Commodification in Selected Literary Works"  
**Ashlye Warner** on Gothic literature

**APRIL 2, 4:30-6:00 p.m.**  
**BERLIN PHOTO EXHIBIT**

Anderson House, first floor

**Deputy Consul General Günter Wehrmann**,  
photographer

**APRIL 17**  
**COLLOQUIUM**

**Jessica Kosowski**, TBA  
**Christina Wagner**, tentatively. "Spirituality in  
Female Protagonists in African American Novels"  
**James Smith**, Clark alum, TBA

**APRIL 14**  
**COLLOQUIUM**

**Kristen Sixbey**, TBA  
**Marybeth Gordon**, TBA  
**Nicole Ming**, TBA

**APRIL 23, 3:00 p.m.**  
**PARTY HONORING JOHN CONRON**  
Winton Faculty Dining Room, University Center

## GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS

### Graduate Reps. for Dept. Meetings

Matt Gilbert and Jordan DeMaio

### Graduate Student Council Reps.

Shiva Aliabadi, president, and Nicole Ming

**Congratulations to Ashlye Warner** who not  
only got her driver's license (thus getting hers before  
Professor Gertz, who still doesn't have one), but who is also  
engaged to be married soon.

### Congratulations to Laura Putnam

who was accepted to George Washington's Ph.D. program  
in English.

**Marybeth Gordon will be presenting her  
paper** at SUNY Buffalo's first Shakespeare Conference,  
being held April 23-24.

### Congratulations to Three M.A. Candidates

who passed their oral exams and received their degrees:  
Lauren Fidler, Nicole Gallant, and Dagmar Lonien

Learn about **Emily Darling's undergraduate  
Anton Fellow research** in England at Clark's active  
learning website:

[www.clarku.edu/research/access/anton/darlingInt.shtml](http://www.clarku.edu/research/access/anton/darlingInt.shtml)

## UNDERGRADUATES

### Congratulations to Lydia Keene-Kendric

who will be receiving The University of East Anglia  
Exchange Scholarship. The \$500 Scholarship  
supports English majors studying abroad at the  
University of East Anglia in England.

### Junior and Senior Representatives to the Chair

Junior: Susan Munroe

Senior: David Hahn

### Congratulations to Margaret Bethray

who was accepted to the MA in Creative Writing  
Programs at the University of Leeds Bretton Hall, and  
the University of Newcastle upon Tyne, both in England.

### Congratulations to David Hahn

who was accepted to the University of Chicago's Ph.D.  
program in English.



## FROM THE CHAIR

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Hi Everyone,

We are particularly fortunate to have Dr. Lisa K. Kasmer join us in fall 2004. She is just as eager as we are to introduce her courses in eighteenth- and nineteenth-century English literature.

As most of you know, after each of the four candidates was on campus, I asked faculty and students for feedback. Here are some typical comments about Dr. Kasmer's stay:

- "From the perspective of a student, I thought she was the strongest of the four. She was a bit more poised, and a great deal more lucid in her presentation than the others. I also found her easier and more enjoyable to talk to than the rest."
- "She is at ease with presenting her material [...] She made the material enjoyable to hear and be involved with."
- "She definitely gets top billing."
- "As seen in her presentation, and in conversation, Prof. Kasmer thinks that new ideas, especially those of other disciplines can only advance literary study."
- "She's articulate, personal and very comfortable speaking with students."
- "[S]he seems to be a genuinely nice person with a great sense of humor"
- "I thought this candidate was definitely the best!"

There were a number of remarks similar to these. So, it's not hard to understand that we very much look forward to working with her this upcoming year. For those of you who have been waiting for instruction in eighteenth- and nineteenth-century British literature, you're in for an exciting adventure.

SunHee Kim Gertz  
Professor and Chair of English

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## ALUM NEWS

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**Boston based artist, Felice (Thoma) Bochman (MA '95)**, makes another foray into the fresco medium in her upcoming show, *Painting the Primitive: Memory and Feminine Identity*.

This cycle of frescoes conjures up images of pre-history, of limestone caves older than the origins of humanity. This time, life imitates art. For information, call 781-239-3900. The art exhibit runs **March 1-31, 2004 at the Felix Juliani Art Gallery, Massachusetts Bay Community College, 50 Oakland Street, Wellesley, MA. The opening reception will be held on Friday, March 5, 2004, 7:00-9:00 p.m.**

Don't miss **O'Brien's Desk**, coming out April 2004, by SunStone Press. **Author Ona Russell, MA '90**, will be one of our guest speakers on March 25 at the English Department's annual Alum and Chowder Fest.

**Congratulations to Cassie Johnson, BA '99**, who has been awarded a scholarship to attend Bentley's MBA program.

## FACULTY NEWS

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**Congratulations to Professor Virginia Vaughan, Clark's Andrea B. and Peter D. Klein '64 Distinguished Professor,** whose monograph, *Performing Blackness on English Stages, 1500-1800*, was accepted for publication by Cambridge University Press, UK.

**Congratulations as well to Professor Betsy Huang,** whose essay, "Prophetic Voices: Douglass, Ellison, and Butler," will be included in a collection on Black Science Fiction, edited by Professor Greg Hampton of Howard University.

### **Good Bye to Professor Shaoxian Pu**

Visiting scholar from the People's Republic of China, Professor Shaoxian Pu will be leaving us this month. He teaches English in the Department of Foreign Languages of Dali College in Yunnan Province of China. While at Clark, he followed through with his goal of studying the poetry of Robert Frost, as part of a larger project comparing the American poet's work with that of Luxun, a well-known Chinese writer. The project was sponsored

by the Yunan Education Council of China.

### **Did you know...**

**Dr. Lou Bastien has been selected for inclusion in the eighth edition of *Who's Who Among American Teachers, 2004.***

Only high school and college students who have been cited for academic excellence themselves in *Who's Who Among American High School Students* and *The National Dean's List* are invited to nominate one teacher from their entire academic experience.

The book is distributed on a complimentary basis to all state superintendents of public education and several hundred public libraries throughout the country.

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## HIGGINS SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES SPRING EVENTS SERIES 2004

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**MARCH 17, 4:30 p.m.** Rare Book Room, Goddard Library

**Daniel Aaron**, Harvard University Professor Emeritus of English and American Literature and co-founder of the Library of America, will present "A Reminiscence of Edmund Wilson," while the Library celebrates its recent gift of Wilson's first editions from Marcus McCorison, President emeritus of the American Antiquarian Society. Co-sponsored with Friends of the Goddard Library.

**MARCH 18, 7:30 p.m.** Grace Conference Room, Higgins University Center

**David Bevington**, Editor of Shakespeare's plays and Professor of English at the University of Chicago, will present "Fathers and Daughters (and Wives) in Shakespeare's Late Plays." Co-sponsored by the Medieval and Early Modern Forum.

**MARCH 22, 7:30 p.m.** Grace Conference Room, Higgins University Center

**Clarence Maxwell**, Director of Historical Research at the Bermuda Maritime Museum, will present "The Slave Conspiracy of 1761: Its Causes and the Consequences of the Sailors' Revolt."

**MARCH 27, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.** Grace and Lurie Conference Rooms, Higgins University Center

### **Third Annual Central Massachusetts Undergraduate Shakespeare Conference**

**Linda Woodbridge**, Distinguished Professor Literature at Pennsylvania State University, will be the plenary speaker. Co-sponsored by the Andrea and Peter Klein Distinguished Professorship.

**APRIL 6, 7:30 p.m.** Grace Conference Room, Higgins University Center

**Beth Gale**, Assistant Professor of French, and **Timothy Shary**, Associate Professor of Screen Studies, will present "A Discussion of Youth Narratives in French and American Cultures," a lecture based on their work in an interdisciplinary undergraduate Higgins seminar.

# 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  
Mythopoeics

## **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.