



The Common Reader

Newsletter for the ECU English Department

Message from Department Chair Lida Cope



This spring brought with it several exciting changes, and I am honored to be part of those new beginnings as I take the helm of the Department as its new Chair. In July, **Anna Froula** rejoined the team of English Department officers as Associate Chair. In the main English office, we have worked very hard to reconfigure staff positions and conduct searches to fill them. This process will continue into the fall. It has been a difficult year and the current staff, **Tim Putnam**, **Autumn Pruitt**, and **Nikita Barnes**, have my deepest gratitude.

Thus far, we have hired a new Lead Administrative Assistant, **Shuntaye Baker**, while losing through career advancement **Samantha Hamilton** and, most recently, **Nikita Barnes**. We wish them all the best!

As *The Common Reader* abundantly demonstrates, our students have been out and about: presenting, writing, and receiving awards! Our faculty have also received a number of major awards, including the ECU Five-Year Achievement for Excellence in Research and Creativity Award (**Will Banks**), the ECU James R. Talton Jr. Leadership Award (**Margaret Bauer**), and

Continued on the back page



Marianne Montgomery, Harriot College Associate Dean for Faculty and Student Affairs and Associate Professor of English, coordinated a trip that took students from the Department of English, the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, and the School of Theatre and Dance to see *Fat Ham* on Broadway. Read more inside!

Publications & Creative Activity

Margaret Bauer. “Purple Birds.” *Nobody’s Home: Modern Southern Folklore*.

Helena Feder. “The Art of Living: Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie.” *The Writer’s Chronicle*. [Interview]

Gabrielle Freeman. “Desolate.” *Across the Margin*.

Gabrielle Freeman. “Danger, Illustrated.” *Across the Margin*.

Gabrielle Freeman. “Once More Become the Goddess.” *Across the Margin*.

Brian Glover. “James Howell’s *Familiar Letters*, Print, and History.” *Early Modern Literary Studies*.

Brian Glover. “The Boswell Papers, Big Game Hunting, and the Mediated Meaning of Place.” *CounterText*.

Maramé Gueye. “Omar: An Opera of the Past and Present.” *World Literature Today*. [Review]

Christy Hallberg. *Searching for Jimmy Page*. [Audiobook version]

John Hoppenthaler. “Bourbon, Cigarettes, Van Morrison.” *Birmingham Poetry Review*.

John Hoppenthaler. “Your Daydreaming Child.” *Poetry Northwest*.

John Hoppenthaler’s forthcoming collection of poetry, *Night Wing over Metropolitan Area*, had been designated a Top 50 Fall Pick by *Publishers Weekly*.

By the numbers...

During academic year 2022-2023, English faculty members

- published 4 books, 32 articles, 13 book chapters, 36 creative works, and 48 reviews;
- participated in numerous interviews and podcasts;
- gave 91 conference presentations or readings; and
- were engaged in 3 digital humanities projects.

John Hoppenthaler. “Southern Pines, July 2019.” *storySouth*.

John Hoppenthaler. “Eureka Springs.” *Valparaiso Poetry Review*.

John Hoppenthaler. “Passing.” *The Southern Poetry Anthology, Volume IX: Virginia*.

John Hoppenthaler. “Superstition.” *The Southern Poetry Anthology, Volume IX: Virginia*.

John Hoppenthaler. “After Listening to the Weather, I Pull into a Bar.” *Chautauqua: The Literary Journal of the Chautauqua Institution*.

Mark Johnson. “Formal Genre-Specific Knowledge as a Resource-Dispersing Feature of Task Complexity.” *Languages*.

Andrea Kittá. “God is My Vaccine: Religious Belief and COVID in the United States.” *Cultural Analysis*.

Marianne Montgomery. “Fat Falstaffs and Sullied Flesh in Dryden’s *Amboyna*.” *Materializing the East in Early Modern English Drama*. Arden Bloomsbury.

Ken Parille. “Reading Characters, People, and Properties.” *Boyhood Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal*.

Ken Parille. “Image over Text: ‘Visual Emphasis’ and ‘Understanding Comics.’” *Inks: The Journal of the Comics Studies Society*.

Ken Parille. Commentary. *Walt Disney's Uncle Scrooge: The Complete Carl Barks Disney Library*.

Kirstin Squint. “The Red Justice Project: An Interview with Brittany Hunt and Chelsea Locklear.” *North Carolina Literary Review*.

Kirstin Squint (with Miriam Brown Spiers). “‘Imagining Otherwise,’ Cherokee Futurism, and Riding the Trail of Tears: An Interview with Blake Hausman.” *North Carolina Literary Review*.

Kirstin Squint. “Angry Planet: Decolonial Fiction and the American Third World.” *MELUS: Multi-Ethnic Literature of the United States*. [Review]

Ekaterina Sudina. “Scale Quality in Second-Language Anxiety and WTC: A Methodological Synthesis.” *Studies in Second Language Acquisition*.

NCLR Publishes Issues Devoted to Native American Literature of NC

Kirstin Squint edited the special feature section focused on Native American literature of North Carolina for the 2023 issues of the *North Carolina Literary Review*.

Creative works in the print issue include nonfiction by Annette Saunooke Clapsaddle (Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians) and poetry by Mary Leuna Christensen (Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians) and Tonya Holy Elk (Oglala Lakota/Lumbee descent) as well as painting, photography, sculpture, and pottery by Cherokee, Lumbee, and Catawba artists.

In addition, the special feature section includes literary criticism by scholars of Native American and Southern literature and an interview with Cherokee Nation author Blake Hausman. Critical pieces spotlight Eastern Band writers Annette Saunooke Clapsaddle and Gladys Cardiff, as well as Lumbee writers Brittany D. Hunt, Leslie Locklear, Christina Pacheco, Barbara Braveboy-Locklear, Anetra L. Dial, Becky Goins, and Wendy Moore-Cummings. Also examined is the eighteenth-century testimonial of Teresa Martín, who was most likely a member of the Catawba Nation.

The print cover highlights paper weaving, a form created by Eastern Band and Santa Clara Pueblo artist Rhiannon Skye Tafoya. The design is based on the traditional Cherokee river cane basket.

For more information about ECU’s award-winning *North Carolina Literary Review*, please visit nclr.ecu.edu.



Faculty
Excellence
Recognized



Will Banks (left) received ECU's Five-Year Achievement for Excellence in Research and Creativity Award, which acknowledges "originality and excellence in research and creative activities performed while contributing to the academic functions of ECU."

Margaret Bauer (center) earned ECU's 2023 James R. Talton Jr. Leadership Award, which recognizes "outstanding servant leadership through exemplary performance that fosters the development of others and demonstrates strong character and ethical professionalism."

Anne Mallory (right) was the recipient of the 2023 UNC Board of Governors Distinguished Professor for Teaching Award for demonstrating "excellent or exceptional teaching ability."

Erin Clark Frost was inducted into ECU's 2022 Servire Society.

Christy Hallberg was recognized with an ECU Main Campus Faculty Book Author Award for *Searching for Jimmy Page*.

Amanda Klein was inducted into ECU's 2022 Servire Society.

Kirstin Squint was recognized with an ECU Main Campus Faculty Book Author Award for *Conversations with LeAnne Howe*.

Jessica Walker "In Pursuit." *Witness Magazine's* 2023 Literary Award in Creative Nonfiction.

Luke Whisnant was recognized with an ECU Main Campus Faculty Book Author Award for *The Connor Project*.

Welcome!

The following colleagues have recently joined the Department:

- **Shuntaye Baker**, lead administrative assistant
- **Will Eddins**, Teaching Instructor
- **Hannah Mayfield**, Teaching Assistant Professor
- **Jayde Rice**, Teaching Instructor
- **Ekaterina Sudina**, Assistant Professor in Linguistics

A blog series project by Academic Library Services manuscripts curator Patrick Cash explores the James H. and Virginia Schlobin Literature of the Fantastic Collection, which was established by the late **Roger C. Schlobin**. The collection consists of more than 3,700 individual items.

Presentations

Will Banks. “Failing Sideways: Queer Possibilities for Writing Assessment.” Conference on College Composition and Communication. Chicago, IL. [Panel]

Nikki Caswell. “Failing Sideways: Queer Possibilities for Writing Assessment.” Conference on College Composition and Communication. Chicago, IL. [Panel]

Desiree Dighton. “Activating Hope with Rhetorical Action: Data Literacy through Digital Power Projects.” Conference on College Composition and Communication. Chicago, IL.

Erin Clark Frost. “Do No Harm: New Reproductive Justice Conversations and Rhetorical Strategies for Becoming Involved.” Conference on College Composition and Communication. Chicago, IL.

Anna Froula. “Editing a Scholarly Compilation.” Demystifying Scholarly Book Publishing. ECU Scholarly Communications, Joyner Library. [Virtual panel]

By invitation of the New York Chapter of the Czechoslovak Society of Arts and Sciences and of the Czech and Slovak Cultural Center of Minnesota,

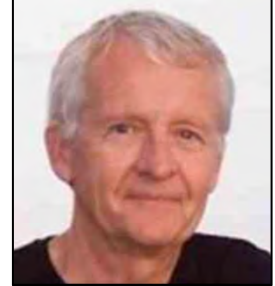
Lida Cope

gave two virtual talks about preserving the Czech language around the world.

In Memoriam

Renowned poet and Distinguished Professor Emeritus **Peter Makuck** died June 21.

The founding editor of *Tar River Poetry*, Makuck helped build the journal into a nationally ranked publication



before his retirement from the Department of English in 2006.

Following his retirement, he was the 2008 Lee Smith Chair in Creative Writing at North Carolina State University. He was also a visiting writer at Brigham Young University and at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington.

Other honors bestowed on him include the Brockman-Campbell Award from the North Carolina Poetry Society and the Charity Randall Citation from the International Poetry Forum.

His poetry, fiction, and reviews have appeared in major literary journals including *The North American Review*, *The Sewanee Review*, *The Hudson Review*, and *The North Carolina Literary Review*.

BOA Press published his poetry collections, which include *Long Lens*, *Off-Season in the Promised Land*, *The Sunken Lightship*, and *Mandatory Evacuation*.

Makuck’s literary and personal papers are archived in ECU’s Special Collections.

Constance Haywood. “The Revolution Will Be Digitized: Examining the Role of Digital and Social Media Spaces in the Cultivation of Black Women’s Sexual Identity, Empowerment, and Freedom.” Gender to a Tea. ECU.

Constance Haywood. “Black Technical and Professional Communication: A New Body of Scholarship.” Conference on College Composition and Communication. Chicago, IL. [Roundtable]

Constance Haywood. “Hopeful Futures: BIPOC Scholars’ Critical Frameworks to Amplify and Protect BIPOC Communities.” Conference on College Composition and Communication. Chicago, IL. [Panel]

John Hoppenthaler. “My Dozen Years on the Masthead: *Kestrel* in Transition.” Annual Association of Writers & Writing Programs Conference. Seattle, WA. [Panel]

John Hoppenthaler. “Native/ Indigenous Poets Joy Harjo and Natalie Diaz.” Pink Hill, NC. [Workshop]

John Hoppenthaler. Poetry reading. Scuppernong Books, Greensboro, NC.

Mark Johnson. “The Effect of Task Complexity Features on L2 Writers’ Use of Cohesive Devices.” American Association for Applied Linguistics. Portland, OR. [Panel]

Donna Kain. “How Female STEM Students Present Themselves in Personal Statements.” Gender to a Tea. ECU.

Donna Kain. “Teaching for DEI: A CARE Discussion.” ECU.

Jim Kirkland. “Talking the Fire Out of Burns: Traditional Healing and Memory in Eastern NC.” History Speaks. Eastern Carolina Village and Farm Museum. Greenville, NC.

Visiting Assistant Professors Help Support Local Food Bank

Visiting Assistant Professors (left to right) **Cameron Green, Brendan Stephens,** and **Jessica Walker** gave readings of their works in support of The Greenville Branch of the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina.



Following the annual charity event in Faulkner Gallery, the writers, *North Carolina Literary Review* student interns, and fellow faculty enjoyed a reception hosted by **Margaret Bauer** and sponsored by *NCLR* and the Department of English.

Green’s “Goldmouth” was recently published in *The Citron Review*.

Stephens’ translations of German poet Matthias Politycki’s “Fieberphantasie (I)” and “Fieberphantasie (II)” were published in *Moon City Review*.

Andrea Kitta. “Health Legends and Conspiracy Theories.” Maldives National University.

Andrea Kitta. “God is My Vaccine: Religious Belief and COVID in the United States.” International Society for Ethnology and Folklore. University College, Dublin.

Andrea Kitta. “COVID Legends, Three Years Later.” Western States Folklore Society. Las Vegas, NV.

Andrea Kitta. “Lab Leaks, Bat Soup, and Common Cures: Folklore in the Time of COVID.” Alan Dundes Lecture. Berkeley, CA.

Wendy Sharer. “Hope Is in the How: Guidelines as Rhetorical Feminism.” Conference on College Composition and Communication. Chicago, IL. [Panel]

Jenn Sisk. “Gender in the Global Classroom.” International Women’s Day. ECU. Greenville, NC.

Leanne Smith. “QM Online Course Redesign.” CourseFIT Institute. ECU Office for Faculty Excellence. Greenville, NC.

Kirstin Squint. “Inside *North Carolina Literary Review 2023*: Highlighting North Carolina’s Indigenous Voices.” Southeastern Native Studies Conference. UNC-Pembroke. [Panel]

Kirstin Squint. “Tribalography, Water, and Retelling Removal in Joy Harjo’s *An American Sunrise*.” Association for the Study of American Indian Literatures. [Virtual]

Ekaterina Sudina. “Scale Quality in Applied Linguistics Survey

Research: Extent, Trends, and Determinants.” American Association for Applied Linguistics. Portland, OR.

Ekaterina Sudina. “Data and Participant Protection.” American Association for Applied Linguistics. Portland, OR. [Colloquium]

Amber Flora Thomas. Poetry reading. Poetry and Prose Reading Series. Greenville, NC.

Liza Wieland. (Emerita). Poetry reading. Poetry and Prose Reading Series. Greenville, NC.

Grants

Helena Feder was a co-recipient of a National Science Foundation Engines Development Award.

Maramé Gueye (with Maky Madiba Sylla) received a Helms Fellowship Grant from Indiana University's Lilly Library.

Transitions

Nikita Barnes, Administrative Support Associate, has accepted a position in ECU’s Office of Financial Aid.

Ahmed Dadzie, **Cameron Green**, **Brendan Stephens**, and **Jessica Walker** completed their one-year appointments as Visiting Assistant Professors.

Samantha Hamilton, Undergraduate Studies Administrator, has taken a job at ECU's Coastal Studies Institute.

Eddie Tariq Moore has accepted a tenure-track position in the Department of Language and Literature at NC Central University.

Michael Albers Retires, Leaving Lasting Mark on the TPC Field

Michael Albers began his career in the ECU Department of English in 2007 and retired at the end of spring semester 2023. He regularly taught research methods, technical writing, and editing courses in the technical and professional communication (TPC) program along with special topic seminars on usability methods and communicating complex information. He also chaired and served on numerous dissertations, theses, and comprehensive assessment projects' committees.



Albers' research publications focus on information design that answers real-world questions as well as the online presentation of complex information. He edited several journal special issues and published 6 books and nearly 60 journal articles, chapters, and proceedings.

In addition to his contributions to the University and to the field through his research publications, teaching, and mentoring, Albers also served in two leadership roles in the field of technical communication: as the editor of the Special Interest Group Design of Communication (SIGDOC) publication *Communication Design Quarterly (CDQ)* and as the founder of the Symposium on Communicating Complex Information.

Prestigious Music Award Named For Emerita

Faculty emerita **Lorraine Hale Robinson** was



honored by the NC Metropolitan Opera district competition in Charlotte by having a prestigious music award named for her.

This year's Lorraine Hale Music Instruction Encouragement Award carried a \$500 prize.

Robinson retired from the Department in December of 2012, having served for many

years as Director of the ECU Center for the Liberal Arts and as Senior Associate Editor of the *North Carolina Literary Review*. She remains an occasional reviewer for *NCLR* and has been a long-time performing artist and teacher of voice and piano.

Albers has been a Senior Member of the Association of Computing Machinery since 2010 and was named a Fellow in the Society of Technical Communication in 2011. He now resides in Virginia.

Before arriving at ECU, Albers had taught for eight years at the University of Memphis in Tennessee and worked for 10 years as a technical communicator, writing software documentation and performing interface design.

Outreach

Margaret Bauer, editor of *North Carolina Literary Review*, was interviewed by the Council of Editors of Learned Journals and in Black Lawrence Press' *Sapling*.

Margaret Bauer discussed her creative nonfiction and the latest issues of *NCLR* on the podcast *WordPlay*.

Matt Cox was elected co-chair of the Queer Caucus Meeting at the Conference on College Composition and Communication in Chicago, IL.

Erin Clark Frost and **Timm Hackett** were interviewed about artificial intelligence in the *East Carolinian* article "AI Chatbots Spark Conversation on College Writing, Academic Integrity."

Helena Feder facilitated a screening of the eco-feminist documentary *The Seeds of Vandana Shiva* during International Women's Day at ECU.

Maramé Gueye was a guest on the podcast *Feminismo Del Sur* with Aminata Toure, Senegal's former Prime Minister, to discuss reparations and feminist resistance to colonialism.

Christy Hallberg discussed her novel *Searching for Jimmy Page* on the following podcasts: *The Talking Book*, *Wild Women Who Write Take Flight* and *Rock is Lit*. An audio version of the book has recently been released.

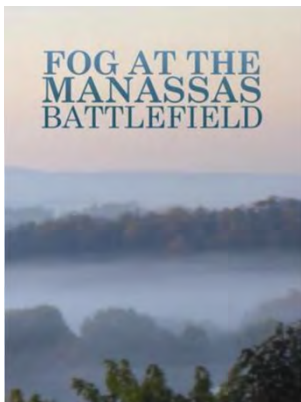
John Hoppenthaler taught a poetry workshop titled "Mail's In: The Epistolary Poem" at New York's Chautauqua Institution where he was Poet-in-Residence.

Mark Johnson appeared on TESOL International's podcast *TESOL Talks*, discussing Carolina TESOL's experience participating in the 2022 Advocacy and Policy Summit, which was held in Washington, DC.

Andrea Kitta's "An Epidemic of Meanings: The Tenuous Nature of Public Intellectualism, Reflexivity, and Belief Scholarship" was reviewed in *The Journal of American Folklore*.

Andrea Kitta was featured on several episodes of *The Chilling Podcast* where she discussed folklore, Witches, sleep paralysis, and The Old Hag.

Reggie Watson led faculty discussions of Jason Mott's *Hell of a Book*.



Patrick Bizzaro and **Resa Crane Bizzaro**, faculty emeriti, have released a poetry-and-photography collaboration titled *Fog at the Manassas Battlefield* (Redhawk Publications).

The collection is a modern commentary on the Civil War site, which is located in Northern Virginia, and features poetry Bizzaro has written over the span of fifty years. The works are accompanied by the photography of Crane Bizzaro.

Mentoring Fellow Aims to Support ECU Faculty

By Lacey L. Gray

Jenn Sisk (right) is making a positive difference for faculty, now and in the future, as ECU's Fellow for Mentoring and Inclusion. She will serve in this position through summer 2024.



The fellowship is a collaborative effort between the offices of the provost, faculty excellence, and equity and diversity that was created to foster professional development and mentorship.

Sisk's goal is to build upon their work by engaging with faculty to answer the questions: What do faculty need at different phases of their careers? What can the university do to better support all faculty?

Sisk wants to strengthen the ECU and Greenville community by creating an inclusive culture of mentoring and support for all faculty and contributing to the continued recruitment and retention of diverse faculty.

"As the university is changing, and the type of positions we have to offer are expanding, it is important to make sure that all faculty are represented," she said. Faculty mentors who invest in their mentees, she continued, help ECU feel more like home to those individuals, giving them a sense of community. That feeling may foster the likelihood of faculty staying in Greenville long term and investing not only in the university, but in the community.

A longer version of this News Services story is archived online at ecu.edu.



"Teaching ENGL 2201 Speed 'Dating'" was held during a weekly graduate teaching assistant (GTA) meeting. Coordinated by Writing Foundations Director **Tracy Morse**, each GTA had eight minutes to ask an experienced faculty member questions about teaching ENGL 2201: Writing About the Disciplines. In the spirit of "speed dating," the GTA then moved to the next faculty member for eight minutes, gaining valuable tips in a fun and collegial atmosphere.

Hosted Events

Donna Kain and **Samantha Hamilton** coordinated a Mardi Gras gathering for current and potential English majors.

Tracy Morse and the Writing Foundations Committee presented “A Cross-Institutional Comp Chat with University of Belize Writing

Instructors,” which featured **Randy Marfield** (PhD '16, MA '07).

The Writing Foundations Committee also hosted “Contemplating ChatGPT? Policing is Not Pedagogy,” which focused on the use and potential misuse of artificial intelligence writing tools.



The Contemporary Writers Series hosted a reading in the main campus library’s Faulkner Gallery during National Poetry Month.

Student **Hannah Ramsey** (far left) – recipient of this year’s Bill Hallberg Award in Creative Writing – read her prize-winning poem “Say Grace” to begin the evening. Featured poets **Michael Waters** and **Mihaela Moscaliuc** (far right) then presented works from their various collections and answered questions from an enthusiastic audience.

John Hoppenthaler (second from left) was the evening’s emcee. Co-sponsors of the event were ECU’s Department of English, Office of the Provost, and Gender Studies Program.

Student & Alumni News

Publications

Jessica Cory (MA '12). "The Politics of Recognition and the Power of Place in Lumbee Women's Poetry." *North Carolina Literary Review*.

Jessica Cory (MA '12). Co-editor. *Appalachian Ecocriticism and the Paradox of Place*. University of Georgia Press.

Ashten Shope (MA '22). "Aurora's Edge." *Snarl*.

Presentations

Nicole Elizabeth Allen (PhD student). "The Return of What? Coherence Issues in ECU's Return of Pirate Nation Covid Resources." Research and Creative Achievement Week. ECU; Greenville, NC.

Steven Amador. (PhD student). "A Survey of a Co-evolutionary Review Strategy for Writing Center Exit Forms/Session Notes." Research and Creative Achievement Week. ECU; Greenville, NC.

The following Creative Writing students presented their work in Faulkner Gallery during National Poetry Month:

Onyx Bradley

Brad Fornes

Charlie McKeown

Keni Orourke

Alex Pickens

Amrina Rangar

Blake Rose

Three Department of English graduate students worked as editorial assistants on the 2023 issues of the *North Carolina Literary Review*: **Cassidy Barbee**, **Keegan Holder**, and **Daniel Moreno**.

English majors **Lauren Cekada** and **Ashley Mills** were undergraduate interns.

Some of the book review layouts were designed by **Desiree Dighton's** ENGL 2885: Writing and Document Design students.

Steven Amador (PhD student). "(On/Off)line Documenting of Queer Culture Festival Attendance by an LGBTQIA+ University Club in Korea." Conference on College Composition and Communication. Chicago, IL.

Morgan Banville (PhD '23). "Teaching and Learning about Privacy and Surveillance: Doing Hope through the Digital Rhetorical Privacy Collective." Conference on College Composition and Communication. Chicago, IL.

Codi Renee Blackmon (PhD student). "Seeking Sista Blackademics for Support: The Labor of Being a Black Woman Doctoral Student at a Primarily White Institution." Research and Creative Achievement Week. ECU; Greenville, NC. [Poster]

Janine Butler (PhD '17). "Advocacy for Sound, Captions, and Access in Video Composition Projects across the Disciplines." Conference on College Composition and Communication. Chicago, IL.

Michael Gordon Byrd (PhD student). "Consubstantiality in The Legal Profession." Research and Creative Achievement Week. ECU; Greenville, NC.

Kasen Christensen (PhD student). "The Negotiation is the Game: How TRPGs Influence Player Agency through Document Design." Research and Creative Achievement Week. ECU; Greenville, NC.

Kasen Christensen (PhD student). "ChatGPT and other Artificial Intelligence Writing Tools." Writing Foundations Workshop. ECU; Greenville, NC.

Jessica Cory (MA '12). "Inside *North Carolina Literary Review* 2023: Highlighting North Carolina's Indigenous Voices." Southeastern Native Studies Conference. UNC-Pembroke. [Panel]

Wonderful Faison (MA '14). "Counterstories from the Writing Centre: Intersectional Theory and Practice." Conference on College Composition and Communication. Chicago, IL. [Panel]

Elizabeth Marie Gagne' (PhD student). "Emotional Labor in the Writing Center: A Pilot Study." Research and Creative Achievement Week. ECU; Greenville, NC. [Poster]

Yvonne Kao (PhD student). "Identifying and Applying Sound

Design Principles for Multimodal Content Creation: Analyzing Professional Content Creators' Adobe Instructional Videos." Research and Creative Achievement Week. ECU; Greenville, NC.

Bess McCullough (PhD student). "Implications of Looking/Seeing: Visual Rhetoric in the College Writing Classroom." Conference on College Composition and Communication. Chicago, IL.

Bess McCullough (PhD student). "Optics of Implication: Rhetorical Performance in Zoom Quarterly Earnings Webinar." Research and Creative Achievement Week. ECU; Greenville, NC.

Temptaous McKoy (PhD '18). "Black Technical and Professional Communication: A New Body of Scholarship." Conference on College Composition and Communication. Chicago, IL. [Roundtable]

Temptaous McKoy (PhD '18). "Troubling 'Presence': (Re)Making, Thinking, Doing Coalition." Conference on College Composition and Communication. Chicago, IL. [Workshop]

Ruby Nancy (PhD '20). "From the Front Lines: Experiential Accounts of the 2020–2022 Job Market." Conference on College Composition and Communication. Chicago, IL.

Ruby Nancy (PhD '20). "Narratives of Hope and Disruption: A Public Praxis of All Things Queer and Rhet." Conference on College Composition and Communication. Chicago, IL. [Roundtable]



Senior Teaching Instructor **Gera Miles** (center) hosted a mini-Game P.L.A.Y. event for students in English 1500 Pixels and Perceptions: Addressing Inequality in Gaming, a course co-taught by **Erin Clark Frost**, Associate Professor in English, and James Coker, Assistant Dean of Graduate Admissions and Enrollment Management.

Approximately 40 students and 9 ECU police officers gathered in the Student Center Gaming Room where they played non-violent games and talked about relationships in a safe and supportive atmosphere. Game P.L.A.Y. co-coordinator Dion Dail (right) helped facilitate.

Numerous students indicated that Miles' explanation of connection theory as a way to combat implicit bias was a lesson they will always remember.

Thank you to Audra Thomas, Director of ECU Student Center Operations, for supporting the event.

Scholarships Available

The Department of English offers a variety of scholarships to qualified undergraduate and graduate students:

Charles and Patricia Moore Scholarship in English
McKinley and Barbara Price Study Abroad Endowed Scholarship
Russell Christman Memorial Scholarship • Ebbs Scholarship
Bill Hallberg Award • Debbie O'Neal Award
Paul Farr Memorial Essay Award • Friends of English Scholarship

Note that awards are dependent upon funding levels and may not be offered every year. To contribute, please click on "Make a Gift" at English.ecu.edu. External, national, and international scholarships are also available to students.

Rocky Elizabeth Patacsil (PhD student). “Rhetorical Strategies for Awareness, Change, and Reclamation.” Research and Creative Achievement Week. ECU; Greenville, NC.

Anie Patterson Partin (PhD student). “Teaching Social Justice in a Post-MAGA World: Writing Past the Stop WOKE Act.” Conference on College Composition and Communication. Chicago, IL. [Poster]

Anie Patterson Partin (PhD student). “Seeking Sista Blackademics for Support: The Labor of being a Black Woman Doctoral Student at a Primarily White Institution.” Research and Creative Achievement Week. ECU; Greenville, NC. [Poster]

Cecilia Shelton (PhD '18). “Black Technical and Professional Communication: A New Body of Scholarship.” Conference on College Composition and Communication. Chicago, IL.

Cecilia Shelton (PhD '18). “Troubling ‘Presence’: (Re)Making, Thinking, Doing Coalition.” Conference on College Composition and Communication. Chicago, IL. [Workshop]

Jason Lee Sugg (PhD student). “Intersecting Rhetorical Velocity and Antiracism as Strategies for the Creation of University Crime Notifications under the Clery Act.” Research and Creative Achievement Week. ECU; Greenville, NC.

Ashleigh Hill Taylor (MA student). “Where’s Jim Cantore?: Using Humor & Affective Ecologies for Crisis Communication.” Research

and Creative Achievement Week. ECU; Greenville, NC. [Poster]

Stephanie West-Puckett (PhD '17). “Failing Sideways: Queer Possibilities for Writing Assessment.” Conference on College Composition and Communication. Chicago, IL. [Panel]

Transition

Morgan Banville (PhD '23) has accepted a tenure-track position at Massachusetts Maritime Academy.

The Department of English offers

Two Majors

BA, English

BS, Professional Writing and Information Design

Five Minors

English

Professional Writing and Information Design

Linguistics

Creative Writing

Film Studies

Three Certificates

Multi-Cultural Literature

Business and Technical Communication

Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages

In April, East Carolina University students, along with three faculty members from the Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences Department of English, had the unique experience of traveling to New York City to watch the creative reinterpretation of William Shakespeare's *Hamlet* in the Broadway play *Fat Ham*.



Marianne Montgomery, Harriot College Associate Dean for Faculty and Student Affairs and Associate Professor of English, coordinated the trip that took 16 students from English, Foreign Languages and Literatures, and the School of Theatre and Dance to NYC. The students traveled via Amtrak with Montgomery; **Margaret Bauer**, Rives Chair of Southern Literature and Professor of English; and **Donna Kain**, Associate Professor of English.

After seeing the Pulitzer Prize-winning play last summer, Montgomery was inspired to take a group of students to see it in NYC. Playwright James Ijames, who is originally from North Carolina, and director Saheem Ali transformed Shakespeare's *Hamlet* into the set of a North Carolina family barbecue in what *The New York Times* calls "a hilarious yet profound tragedy smothered in comedy."

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English majors (left to right): **Chris Long**, **Jonah Seretti**, **Taylor Edmondson**, and **Alli Swinson** at the American Museum of Natural History.



(Left to right): **Marianne Montgomery**, English major **Anna Bradley**, and **Margaret Bauer**.

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According to Montgomery, she wanted students to take away that they have the power to tell their own stories and write their own endings and that Shakespeare belongs to everyone and can be freely remixed, adapted, and reworked. She said the play offered students an opportunity to experience professional theater and reflect on the big questions about family and community, race and gender, and tragedy and comedy.

In addition to attending the Saturday night performance of *Fat Ham*, students explored the city, visiting landmarks like the Brooklyn Bridge and the Stonewall Inn, seeing the Manhattan skyline and the Statue of Liberty from the Staten Island Ferry, and marveling at a planetarium show at the Rose Center for Earth and Space at the Museum of Natural History.

The co-curricular trip was sponsored by Harriot College's Department of English, Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, Program in Gender Studies, and Whichard Distinguished Professorship in the Humanities; the *North Carolina Literary Review*; ECU's School of Theatre and Dance; and the Ledonia Wright Cultural Center. Bauer's participation was funded by the Rives Professorship in Southern Literature.

A longer version of this News Services story is archived online at ecu.edu and is accompanied by a photo gallery. More photos can also be found on the Department of English's social media sites.

Thank you to ECU alumna **Sarah Elizabeth Arnold** (BFA '05) whose generous gift helped make the New York trip possible!



The group at the Rocky Mount, NC, Amtrak station.

Awards

Jamal-Jared Alexander (MA '17). "Centering the Marginalized: Perceptions of Graduate School, Career Goals, and Barriers." Council for Programs in Technical and Scientific Communication Research Grant for Antiracist Programs and Pedagogies.

Morgan Banville (PhD student). Emergent Researcher Award Grant. Conference on College Composition and Communication. [Team]

Onyx Bradley (BA student). "To the Little Girl I Used to Be" and "To the Monster Under My Bed." Honorable Mention. Jaki Shelton Green Performance Poetry Competition.

Brent Cameron (MA '22). 2023 Graduate Research Award for Writing in WPA Studies. Council of Writing Program Administrators.

Alicia Hatcher (PhD '21). 2023 ECU Humanities Doctoral Dissertation Award for *Performative Symbolic Resistance: Examining Symbolic Resistance Efforts of Black Professional Athletes through a New Methodological Analytical Framework*.

Chemistry major **Carson Stanley** received the Department's Paul Farr Memorial Essay Award for "The Politics of Attention: Indigenous Postmodernity in Heid Erdrich's *Pre-Occupied*."

The essay was written as an assignment in **Kirstin Squint's** ENGL 3250: Native American Literature course.



Shay Beezley (BA '09) led a team that received the 2023 Ruth Brown Memorial Award at the University of Central Oklahoma Inaugural Metadata Justice Symposium for "creating a significant professional development opportunity for librarians and archivists wanting to take on metadata justice work." Beezley is the Assistant Director of Metadata and Cataloging at Chambers Library at UCO.

Zach Lundgren (PhD '19). *Turkey Vulture*. Birdy Poetry Prize.

Bess McCullough (PhD student). "Optics of Implication: Rhetorical Performance in Zoom Quarterly Earnings Webinar." Research and Creative Activity Week Award: Humanities and Social Sciences. ECU. [Podium presentation]

Ruby Nancy (PhD '20). 2023 Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Award. University of Minnesota system.

Cecilia Shelton (PhD '18). Emergent Researcher Award Grant. Conference on College Composition and Communication. [Team]

Graduation

The Department of English Recognition Ceremony for spring graduates was held May 6 in Wright Auditorium.

Shainah M. Andrews (BA '19) – author, poet, spoken word artist, and certified ESL educator – was the keynote speaker. **Megan Kathleen Smith** was named Outstanding Graduate Student, and **Vedika Vibhakar Modi** was named Outstanding Undergraduate Student.

Doctor of Philosophy

Morgan Catherine Banville

Master of Arts

Lenora Caroline Neal Brooks

Jeremiah Tee David

Bradley Mark Fornes

Aaren Michelle Guzman

Sharese Darmonique Hardaway

John William Hendrix II

Tanika Latasha Hood

Florencestine Jones

Alexis Nicole McCloskey

Honorina Middough

Andy D. Moody

Alyssa R. Overton

Joshua Shusterman

Megan Kathleen Smith

Dani Elizabeth Tart

Markiesha Keyonna Thompson



Bachelor of Science

Lukis Ormondo Padu

Bachelor of Arts

Madison Grace Craft

Dasani Amaris Cropper

Jackquelyn Alexis Derritt

Destiny Shivaya Allure Dixon

Adrian Angel Flores Rosas

Megan Lynn Howell

Karli Madison Lilley

Christopher Daniel Long

Ryan Patrick Luck

Eric Daniel Martinez

Vedika Vibhakar Modi

Cody Evan Parrish

Tiandra Reaves

Faith Alexandria Richmond

Blake Vaughn Rose

Cassie Elizabeth Stancell

Emma Katherine
Wilbur

Quimyra Williams



Chair's Message

Continued from the front page

the UNC Board of Governors Distinguished Professor for Teaching Award (**Anne Mallory**).

On the hiring front, we have been fortunate to bring in four new faculty this spring, including Assistant Professor in Linguistics **Ekaterina Sudina**, Teaching Assistant Professor **Hannah Mayfield**, Teaching Instructor **Will Eddins**, and Teaching Instructor **Jayde Rice**. As we welcomed these new colleagues, we also said goodbye to others. **Ahmed Dadzie**, **Cameron Green**, **Brendan Stephens**, and **Jessica Walker** completed their visiting tenure, and **Mike Albers** retired after a distinguished 16-year career in the Department.

The semester ended on a celebratory note with the Spring 2023 Commencement activities including our very own Recognition Ceremony held in Wright Auditorium with inspiring speeches by **Shainah M. Andrews** (BA '19), and two Outstanding Student Award recipients, **Vedika Vibhakar Modi** (BA) and **Megan Kathleen Smith** (MA).

Finally, allow me to publicly congratulate former Chair **Marianne Montgomery** and wish her success as Harriot College's Associate Dean for Faculty and Student Affairs. She remains active in our Department while championing interdisciplinary scholarship and finding innovative ways to help faculty and



In what is quickly becoming an annual summertime event, the 30-plus-year-old Bate Building underwent much-needed renovations. This year, the elevators were upgraded, making each floor temporarily look like pirate treasure waiting to be revealed.

students collaborate. Recently, she brought together several sponsors and coordinated a successful student trip to New York City to watch *Fat Ham* on Broadway.

As the Department continues to grow and strive to make a difference, it relies on **you** for **feedback and support**. Let us hear from you: Share your ideas and let us **feature** your professional growth and accomplishments to inspire the next generation of graduates. Find more information on our website: English.ecu.edu.

Together, all of us are showing the world what it means to *Go English!*

