

# EDEN

## English Department Electronic Newsletter

Volume 8, Issue 1

*December 2008*

Welcome to the December 2008 issue of EDEN! This issue features the activities of the English department and its members, as always, but also features course descriptions and announcements for open classes next semester. For more information on a course, please contact the respective instructor or the English Department.

In the mean time, please send me any professional or educational accomplishments or announcements that you would like to see in the next edition of EDEN, and we will share them with the rest of the department.

Rachel Hovel  
EDEN Editor

### *Someone Said It*

*Experience is not what happens to you. It is what you do with what happens to you.*  
--Aldous Huxley

### *Upcoming Events*

☞ With the generous support of the English Department and the Center for Native American Studies, two presentations by Anishinaabe storytellers are scheduled for December.

10am Dec. 2: Marty Reinhardt & Tina Moses in the Peter White Lounge

10am Dec. 4: Jim and Judy St. Arnold in the Whitman Commons

I hope that some of you and/or some of your students can attend!

### *Announcements*

☞ Elizabeth Monske's EN 595 class of 11 students submitted proposals to present at the Computers in Writing Conference this spring at the University of California-Davis. All eleven proposals and Liz's were accepted.

☞ EDEN is seeking a new editor for the next issue in winter and the 2009-10 school year! For more information, please contact the English Department secretary Lori Rintala at [lrintala@nmu.edu](mailto:lrintala@nmu.edu) or 227-2712.

☞ Each year, Career Services at NMU surveys recent graduates to find out how successful they have been in their career pursuits after graduation. While they do fairly well in getting surveys returned, they would like to do better. Please inform Career Services ([careers@nmu.edu](mailto:careers@nmu.edu)) or the English office if you have news about a recent graduate.

☞ Toni Rozich, a female English graduate student, is looking for a place to stay in Marquette on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings for the winter semester. Roommate must be female. Contact Toni at 906-341-5053, 286-0387 or [trozich@nmu.edu](mailto:trozich@nmu.edu).

### ☞ **2008-2009 WRITING REWARDS Student Essay Contest**

Pearson Education wants to show developing writers just how rewarding writing can be, and, with the resounding success of our first contest, is honored to sponsor this opportunity for students to be rewarded for their writing and to appear in future Pearson publications. Instructors and students can get full details about the essay contest at the WRITING REWARDS Web site: <http://www.pearsonhighered.com/writingrewards>. Pearson's "Student Essay Model" booklet, a compilation of last year's winning essays and honorable mentions, is available through your Pearson Representative.

Here is some information about the WRITING REWARDS Student Essay Contest:

- \* The content is only open to students enrolled in your school's developmental writing course at the time of submitting their essay.
- \* There will be 3 monetary prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place, and there will be 3 honorable mentions.
- \* The sponsoring instructors for the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place contestants will receive \$100 as a thank you.
- \* The contest is for essays on 1 of 13 topics (topics are listed on WRITING REWARDS Web Site).
- \* Instructors are free to assign one or more topics for their own course.
- \* Students may submit their essays through May 2009.

Serving as judges to select the winners are Pearson authors Lynne Gaetz and Suneeti Phadke ("The Writer's World" series), DJ Henry ("Writing for Life" and "Writing Matters") and Marcie Sims ("The Write Stuff").

Instructors, please email [writingrewards@pearson.com](mailto:writingrewards@pearson.com) if you are interested in having students participate to be supplied advertisement materials.

## Course Announcements

☞ **EN 411Z: Teaching World Literature**, Winter 09; 4-5:40 Tues & Thurs;

Instructor: Carol Ann Bays

English majors who plan to teach in high school or college (or just thinking about the possibility) will have an opportunity to survey the pedagogical literature, to become acquainted with a variety of resources for cross-cultural study, and to evaluate various approaches to teaching world literature. Students will “observe” my online world lit class, and I hope to include guest lectures by various faculty members who teach world literature. Students will then prepare a seminar paper and present an approach to a text of their choice (which they will assign to the seminar). (The bulk of our reading and the seminar project will involve non-western literature, which allows for World Culture credit.)

TEXTS: Ed. J. Paine, *The Poetry of our World: An International Anthology*, Harper Perennial 2001

John Loughery, ed, *Into the Widening World: International Coming of Age Stories*, Persea Books, 1994, ISBN 0892552042

Bernth Lindfors, *Approaches to Teaching Achebe's Things Fall Apart*, MLA of America, 1991

Achebe, Chinua, *Things Fall Apart*. (most reasonable paperback)

EN 411 has been changed to EN 411Z for the winter semester. It may be applied toward the world cultures requirement.

**Prerequisite:** Completion of the foundations of communication requirement, junior standing or instructor's permission.

**Note:** Does not satisfy the upper division or division II liberal studies requirement. Course may be repeated if topic differs.

☞ **EN 200: Basic English Grammar and Usage** (2 credits)

Winter 09; Thursday 11:00 am – 12:40 pm (once a week)

Instructor: Dr. David Boe

Course description: “A course to familiarize the student with the fundamentals of English grammar. The course is designed to prepare future English and language arts education students to teach these concepts, to prepare students with insufficient knowledge of basic traditional grammar for advanced English language study, or to improve or refresh any student’s knowledge of basic English grammar.” No background in grammar is required, though completion of EN 211 is suggested. The course textbook will be “English Grammar for Writing” (Mark Honegger, 2005, Houghton Mifflin). If you have questions, contact the instructor at dboe@nmu.edu or at 227-2677.

☞ **Literature for Young Adults (available for 3 credits as ED 462 or EN 462, 1 credit available for an additional research credit in English only (EN 462R): GRADUATE CREDIT or UNDERGRADUATE CREDIT available.**

Want to take a great course in Young Adult Literature? Want to explore what is

happening in multiple genres and find ways to connect the classics to relevant modern/postmodern literature, incorporating technology into the literature classroom? Want help designing lessons that help you connect more fully to the adolescents in your classes while meeting the State Standards? **TAKE THIS COURSE!**

This course (cross listed as EN/ED 462), which meets on Tuesday nights 6-9:20 p.m., will be *co-taught* for the first time by Kia Jane Richmond (Associate Professor of English) and Markisha Smith (Assistant Professor of Education). Contact [krichmon@nmu.edu](mailto:krichmon@nmu.edu) or [markismi@nmu.edu](mailto:markismi@nmu.edu) with questions.

The class is also listed as an Academic Service Learning Class (ASL).

Prerequisite: Junior standing or instructor's permission. (Grad students are also welcome because EN 462 qualifies for graduate credit). Course description: A comprehensive study of books for young adults, designed for secondary school teachers. Needs and interests of adolescents are studied in conjunction with the application of selection principles to fiction and nonfiction of all types. Emphasis is placed on developmental reading for the accelerated, the average and the reluctant student.

### ∞ Winter 2009 Open Courses

These English courses still have openings. We would like to see you enroll.

Course	CRN	Sec	Title	Instructor	Days	Time
101	10363	01	Learning Skills Development	Anderson, C	T R	12-12:50
101	10364	02	Learning Skills Development	Anderson, C	T R	11-11:50
101	11062	03	Learning Skills Development	TBA	M W	1-1:50
102	10365	01	Personal Reading Improvement	Anderson, C	M W	12-12:50
102	10366	02	Personal Reading Improvement	Anderson, C	M W	11-11:50
110	12324	70	Good Books (Weekend)	Learst, A	S	9-12:40
111	10379	05	College Composition	Stone, M	MTWR	8-8:50
111	10390	16	College Composition	Appert, T	MTWR	3-3:50
200	12387	02	English Grammar	Boe, D	R	11-12:40
207	10979	01	Journalism: News/Report Writ	Bowers, F	T R	2-3:40
207	11117	02	Journalism: News/Report Writ	Bowers, F	T R	10-11:40
211D	12325	70	Tech & Report Writing (Weekend)	Goretzka, B	S	9-12:40
303	12391	01	Technical & Professional Writing	Monske, E	T R	11-12:40
366	10981	01	Applied Literary Theory	Brahm, G	T R	3-4:40
411Z	12576	01	Topics in World Lit: Teaching World Lit	Bays, C	T R	4-5:40
422	12406	01	Milton	Wood, D	T R	10-11:40
462	12408	01	Literature for Young Adults	Richmond, K	T	6-9:20
510	12412	01	Teaching Composition	Monske, E	W	6-9:20
530	11556	01	Major Authors: Milton	Wood, D	T R	10-11:40
590	11557	01	Seminar Brit Lit: Renaissance Sexualities	Wood, D	W	6-9:20
595	12525	01	Topics in World Lit: Teaching World Lit	Bays, C	T R	4-5:40
641	12417	04	Form & Technique of Poetry	Hummell, A	W	6-9:20

## *Faculty Accomplishments*

☞ **Stephen Burn's** co-edited volume, *Intersections: Essays on Richard Powers* was published by Dalkey Archive Press (U of Illinois). His essay, "The End of Postmodernism: American Fiction at the Millennium" appeared in Jay Prosser's *American Fiction of the 1990s* (Routledge), and an interview with Richard Powers was published in *Contemporary Literature*. In April and October, respectively. Burn's reviews of novels by Lee Siegel and John Barth were featured in the *Times Literary Supplement*.

☞ **Marek Haltof** published an essay recently on "Adapting the National Literary Canon: Polish Heritage Cinema" in *Canadian Revue of Comparative Literature/Revue Canadienne de Littérature Comparée* 34 (3) 2007: 298-306. In addition, his book on *The Cinema of Krzysztof Kieślowski: Variations on Destiny and Chance* (London, UK: Wallflower Press, 2004) has been recently published in Japanese (Tokyo: Suisseisha). Forthcoming later this year is also Czech translation (Prague: Casablanca). Both foreign editions include an additional chapter written exclusively for Japanese and Czech readers.

☞ **Jen Howard's** story "(Love is) Thicker than Water" appeared in *Night Train Magazine* last month. Her story "Slide" was a finalist in *Southeast Review's* World's Best Short-Short Story Contest and will appear in the upcoming issue.

☞ **Ron Johnson** has been awarded a one-semester sabbatical in 2009-10 to complete work on his manuscript *The Last Rodeo*.

☞ **Beverly Matherne** has two poems in *Greenhouse*, from May Apple Press, 2008, an anthology celebrating the first five years of the Rustbelt Roethke Writers' Workshop. Matherne also has a poem in *A Cadence of Hooves: A Celebration of Horses*, a 600-page anthology of poetry from Yarrow Mountain Press, 2008. She is in the excellent company of over 170 poets, including David Baker, Annie Finch, Joy Harjo, Jane Hirshfield, Maxine Kumin, Gregory Orr, and C.K. Williams.

AMERICAN VOICES: The Poetry of Nine Poets, a course being offered this fall at Swansea University in Wales, UK, features work by Beverly Matherne (English), alongside that of Walt Whitman, Robert Frost, and contemporary poets Stanley H. Barkan, Laura Boss, Vince Clemente, Charles Adés Fishman, Maria Mazziotti Gillan, and Tino Villanueva.

The course, which focuses on poetry inspired by ancestry and womanhood, is being taught by Peter Thabit Jones, distinguished poet and publisher of *The Seventh Quarry*, one of the finest poetry magazines in the UK.

Matherne was a featured poet at the Dylan Thomas Centre in Swansea in May, 2007.

✎ **Brian McMillan** recently had a poem accepted at *New Orleans Review*. He also had two poems published over the summer. They will appear in December in *The Arsenic Lobster*. He also had his first-ever fiction story accepted. It will appear in an upcoming issue of *Takahe*.

✎ **Dominic Ordning** gave a presentation at the Society for Utopian Studies annual meeting in Portland, Maine in November entitled "Private Religion and the Over-Soul in Emerson and Jim Harrison's Upper Michigan."

✎ **Dr. Jaspal Kaur Singh** was awarded a year sabbatical leave in 2007-8. Please find below a list of her professional development activities during this period:

- Travelled to South Africa and India, where she presented papers at AUETSA (Association of University English Teachers of Southern Africa), University of Kwa-Zulu Natal, and Contemporary Theory Conference, University of Goa, respectively.
- Published: "Africa in India: The African Diaspora in India in Kamal Amrohi's Film *Razia Sultan*." *India in Africa, Africa in India*. Ed. John Hawley. Bloomington, IN: Indiana UP, 2008. 273-288.
- Published: "The Construction of Sikh Identity and Ideas of Nations/Homelands in Indian and Diasporic Imaginations." *Journal of Contemporary Thought*. Ed. Prafula Kar, Baroda University, India (forthcoming 2008).
- Co-directed a Documentary: *MAGIC (Making Art Grow in Children)*: Cape Town, South Africa, 2007.
- Forthcoming: Singh's monograph *Representation and Resistance: South Asian and African Women's Texts at Home and in the Diaspora* from the University of Calgary Press (November 2008).
- Forthcoming: Co-edited an anthology, *Transnationalisms and Diasporas: Indian Writers and Identity Politics* (2009), STE (Science, Technology, Education), South Africa.
- Forthcoming: three poems and one short story from Michigan State University's *The OffBeat Journal* (2008).
- Presenting a paper, "The Sikh Diaspora and Notions of Torture in Manoj Punj's *Desh Hoya Pradesh (Nation and Alienation)* at the South Asian Literary Association, an allied organization of the Modern Language Association, San Francisco, December 2008.

✎ **Heidi Stevenson** will be presenting a paper titled, "Chasing a Different Wave: Paddling Away from Textbooks" at the 2009 Conference on College Composition and Communication, held in San Francisco, CA in 2009 from March 11-14. She is presenting as part of a panel, "Riding the Textbook Wave: The Textbook Company View of Composition Studies, and What We Can Do to Change It," alongside NMU English Dept. Master's Program alum and current Ph. D. candidate at UW-Madison, Christine (Gideon) Stephenson.

☞ **Casey Thayer** has a poem "Marti's Prom Dress, circa 1966," forthcoming in Crab Orchard Review.

☞ **Rob Whalen** has been awarded an NEH Fellowship for 2009-10 to complete work on his digitized Herbert manuscript project.

### *Student Accomplishments*

☞ NMU English alum and former *North Winder* Becky Kratz, now teaching English for the Peace Corps in Thailand, was recently selected to become one of two co-editors for *Sticky Rice*, the Peace Corps Thailand magazine. Excerpts from her blog will also be published in an article about service learning in the upcoming fall issue of *Horizons* magazine. Becky was a wonderful student and *North Wind* staffer who is fondly remembered by many here at NMU.

### *Feedback*

\*What did you think of this issue of EDEN?

\*What do you want to see in the next issue?

\*Email [rhovel@nmu.edu](mailto:rhovel@nmu.edu) with any comments, questions or concerns. **Faculty and students are asked to send announcements of courses and events, as well as news of your accomplishments.** Undergraduate and graduate students are also encouraged to submit poems for possible publication.

Thank you!

Rachel Hovel  
EDEN Editor