



EDEN

English Department Electronic Newsletter



"If you don't know where you are going, any road will get you there. —Lewis Carroll

March 2009

Announcements

- ◆ The new EDEN will now be coming out monthly, so be on the look-out for it in your inbox!
- ◆ Summer 2009 registration begins Monday, March 16. Fall 2009 registration will begin Friday, March 20.
- ◆ Novelist **Lan Samantha Chang**, director of the Iowa



Writer's Workshop will be reading in the Cadillac Room of the University Center Thursday, March 12 at 7:30 p.m.

◆ **Tom Bissell**, award-winning journalist and author to visit NMU Tuesday, March 31. He will be reading at the Women's Federated Clubhouse at 7:30 p.m.

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Accomplishments



Jaspal Singh is one of three recipients of NMU's Distinguished Faculty Award for 2008-2009. She will receive the award and a special citation at the May graduation ceremony.



John Smolens's latest review in the *Turkish Board Review* is titled, "Lords of the Horizon and the Janissary Tree: Two Books by Jason Goodwin."



James McCommons wrote a feature article, "Last Ditch Rescues" for the March/April issue of Audubon magazine. He also wrote the cover article for the March 1 issue of the Sunday Travel Section in *The Oregonian*, the daily newspaper of Portland, Oregon. McCommons is currently working on a non-fiction book, *Waiting on a Train: Anticipating the Revival of the American Passenger Rail System*. He has also been interviewed by journalists working on articles about passenger rail for *Metropolitan Magazine*, *Good Magazine*, *Next American City*, *The Congressional Monthly*, and *The Associated Press*. McCommons has received a faculty grant for 2009-2010 to do further rail research.



Jen Howard's essay, "Fair Division," will appear in an upcoming issue of *Literary Mama*. Her short story, "What Cannot Be Mapped," will appear in *Quarterly West*.



Rebecca Johns' story, "Pieta," was a finalist for *The Mississippi Review's* 2009 fiction prize and will be published in the annual prize edition this summer.



Stephen Burn's monograph, "Jonathan Franzen at the End of Postmodernism," was published by *Continuum* in December.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Beverly Matherene's poem, "The Blues Cryin'" has inspired work by two painters in Torino, Italy: Lidia Chiarelli and Gianpiero Actis. Her poem is published online, with the paintings, in *Immagine & Poesia* (Image and Poetry).



Brian McMillan's essay, "Of Holy Leaves and Gypsy Moths," was accepted to be read at Ohio State University's Expanding Literacy conference in April. He also received the NMU Outstanding English MFA Graduate Student award.



Kia Jane Richmond presented, "Best Practices in Teaching Secondary English: Discussions of Effective Strategies and Concepts in English Language Arts" at the MARESA Fall Conference here in Marquette with Thomas Hyslop in October. She also presented at the NCTE Annual Convention in Texas this past November. Her presentation was titled, "Reaching Out, Teaching In: Academic Service Learning, 21st Century Literacy, and English Language Arts." Richmond will deliver two presentations at the CCCC Conference in San Francisco in March. These are titled, "Navigating Empathy: Making Waves Across Rhetorical and Affective Dimensions of Composition" and "Reaching Out Online: Pairing English Education Students with Youth Partners via Internet Writing Workshop." Richmond received the \$400 ASL Action Grant to help her EN 350 methods class to select books and write lesson plans for a new Native American Literature course at Baraga High School. She also solicited and collected \$2200 worth of books at the 2008 NCTE Convention in San Antonio for youth.



Russell Thorburn has published his third full-length book of poetry, *The Whole Tree as Told to the Backyard*, with Rocky Shore Books. Also, his poem, "Her Hair with Its Own Voice Wisps Across My Face" has been published by Bateau Press.



Sarah Wrangler has been accepted into the University of Idaho, Oregon State, and Oklahoma State's MFA programs and has also been offered a fellowship.



Ajani Burrell's short story, "The Cigarette," was published in the October, 2008 issue of *Fiction Weekly*. Another of Burrell's short stories, "Hairgeist," has been accepted for publication by *The Raven Chronicles* and will appear in a forthcoming issue.



Lisa Fay Coutley's poetry appeared in the December issue of *The Pedestal Magazine* and will also be featured in the spring issue of *Clackamas Literary Review*.



Katherine Aho has been accepted into the PhD in Rhetoric and Technical Communication program at Michigan Technological University. Also, her "Horrors Abound: Using Horror Genre Literature to Spark Literacy and Critical Thinking in the Classroom" has been published in the *Journal of College Literacy and Learning*, Volume 35, 2008-2009 issue.



Ben Wielechowski, Kyle Bladow, and Alison Spaude presented at the Fordham University Graphic Novels in Education Conference. Their presentation was titled, "Comics in Composition: Variations on Traditional Narrative Assignments."

Senior **Lori Stanis** (not pictured) has had an article accepted for publication in *The Christian Science Monitor*. The publication date is yet unknown.

Senior **Cole Schmidt** (not pictured) was awarded the NMU Outstanding English Graduating Senior award.



Adam Cocco was awarded the NMU Outstanding English MA Graduate Student award.

***Attention Faculty, Staff, and Students: If you have anything that you would like to be included in EDEN, or any ideas about how to improve the newsletter, please e-mail Stacy at stmilbou@nmu.edu.**

NMU English Department

2009 Specialty Classes

SUMMMER

FALL

◆ **EN 404: The English Language**

◆ **EN 410/505: Genres of Writing-
Travel- Italy**

Course will take place in Italy. Contact the English department for information.

◆ **EN 495/595: Grant Writing- Teachers**

◆ **EN 495W/595W: Special Topics Writing-**

Three different creative writing courses will be offered: poetry writing workshop (June 1-12) with Leslie Adrienne Miller, author of five books of poetry; memoir writing course (May 18-29) with Anya Anchtenberg, author of several novels and novellas, including her recently-completed *More Than Wind*; and a fiction course (July 13-24) with novelist Elizabeth Rosner, author of *The Speed of Light* which has been optioned by actress Gillian Anderson for her directorial debut.

◆ **EN 570: Seminar: American Literary Renaissance**

◆ **EN 588: UP Writing Project**

◆ **EN 592: Portfolio Project**

◆ **EN 490/514: Seminar in the English Language**

This is a graduate seminar, but is open to advanced undergraduates. The course will cover: contemporary grammatical and sociolinguistic approaches to the analysis of language, the development of the field known as “structuralism,” and the “linguistic turn” in analytic philosophy.

◆ **EN 495: Special Topics: Canadian Culture & Society: Southern Ontario**

Field-based course designed to give students the opportunity to experience first-hand cultural sites in Ontario. Students will visit Stratford, the site of the North American Shakespeare Festival to see four plays: *Macbeth* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, as well as two plays by Canadian playwrights. **This class will run from Sunday, August 15 to Saturday, August 22.** It is limited to 14 students. Students will need a passport and will have to pay an administrative fee. Contact the English department for details.

◆ **EN 495/595: Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages**

Designed for students who may be interested in teaching English to speakers of other languages. It will emphasize second language acquisition and ESL writing.

◆ **EN 601: Poetry Workshop**

Course focuses on the art of writing and reading poetry. Students will write 1-6 poems, depending on the number of credits being taken. Student work will be celebrated at an evening of poetry on the last day of class.

◆ **EN 430/530: Major Authors: Faulkner**

◆ **EN 495/560: 20th Century Poets**

For more information, contacts and resources visit us at

www.nmu.edu/english.