

2014

***Department of English***

***INKLINGS***



I went to the woods because I wished to live deliberately, to front only the essential facts of life, and see if I could not learn what it had to teach, and not, when I came to die, discover that I had not lived.

* Henry David Thoreau

**DR. KATHLEEN WALL RETIRES**



**What were your impressions of Regina and of the university when you first arrived?**

In 1990, when my colleagues in Winnipeg knew that I had an interview in Regina, they began to tell me that I would hate it. Regina was flat. (Winnipeg wasn’t?) Regina had terrible-tasting water. You could only buy unimaginative bungalows. But I still remember the day quite clearly: Ken Probert picked me up at the airport and drove me down Regina Avenue and through the park to the university. I was in love with Regina before I set foot in a university building. For my interview, I walked into a small board room on the fifth floor to see smiling faces gathered around an enormous table. Friendly faces like those of John Chamberlain, Peggy Wigmore, Bill Howard, Chris Murray, Cameron Louis, Ken Mitchell, Rick Harvey, Burton Weber, Keith Costain, and Jeanne Shami. I instantly felt welcomed. Ken Probert, who was head then, had given me precise instructions. I was not to read a paper I had written beforehand, but was to simply talk about my current research. So I had prepared by outlining my thought on women’s voices—primary texts I’d use and theoretical paradigms that would be helpful--on an enormous piece of drawing paper I’d stolen from my daughter, Veronica. I talked and they, bless them, smiled.

In those early days, when we still taught four courses a year that met four times a week, there was time to reflect, to delve into one’s research during the term, to connect with colleagues. No one taught on Wednesdays, so we often gathered mid-morning for conversation in the Faculty Lounge. I wonder if we were any less productive then than we are now? We had time to ponder, and time to share our ideas in an informal way with our colleagues. We also had regular pot luck parties, particularly at Christmas, and the OMADs were always catered by a department member. Rick Harvey made some pretty amazing food. He introduced me to the delights of fennel, with which he had garnished a tray of appetizers.

As I’ve talked to other people of my generation about the academy, the metaphor of boiling a frog comes up. If you want to boil a frog, you don’t drop it in a pot of boiling water. It will wisely jump right out. No, you put it in water of a comfortable temperature and then slowly turn up the heat. It will get so used to the higher and higher temperatures that it will stay put. When I came to the U of R in 1990, there were fewer committees, fewer meetings, fewer disagreements, but the water was turned up slowly, in part because the university, like our culture, has become a more complex place, and in part because we must now do more with less. The result is that we have less time to reflect on things like our discipline and its place in the intellectual world, our teaching practices, our choice of course topics, and our research interests. I think that when we look back at this time in the academy, we will see that our busyness has also made us less effective in the world beyond the academy. Robert Sirmin, who was director and CEO of the Canada Council for the Arts wrote this month in the *Literary Review of Canada* “The future of the human species, if not the planet, is increasingly at risk. Reflective capacity contributes to adaptive capacity, and adaptive capacity offers an evolutionary advantage critical to survival.” We’re failing to model, for our students as well as for the wider society, the acts of reflection that are crucial not only to our survival, but to our understanding of what it means to be human and how we can become more human and understand the humanity of others.

**You take your teaching very seriously and have won a prestigious award.  What classes do you particularly like to teach and how has your teaching evolved over the years?**

Yes, I won the Alumni Award for Undergraduate Teaching in 2001. One of the delights of Cameron’s time as chair of the department was his willingness to put together wonderful application packages for the awards given annually at convocation for research, teaching, and community service. My original reaction to winning was silence, in many ways. When David Barnard called to tell me, I went completely silent: he thought I’d hung up on him. I really didn’t think I deserved the award, and teaching the following fall was quite fraught. How could I possibly be an award-winning teacher? There was so much I didn’t know, just as there were so many times when I couldn’t seem to light up a classroom. Only this year could I articulate what I try to do with each class of students.

If you put “teaching practices” on a continuum, you might have “an expert lectures” on one end and “classroom discussion dominates, so we can pool our collective ignorance” on the other. Each year, with each group of students, I try to find the “sweet spot” between lecture and discussion. I try to ensure that the information I give in informal lectures challenges them and the assumptions they bring to a work, asking them to be more careful, attentive readers and ensuring that the reading experience takes them out of their own worldviews, rather than simply confirming what they think they already know. But I also try to do that in a way that empowers them and gives rise to discussion. One of the things we know about how students learn, is that the more they get to play with or review what they know, the more the material sticks with them. That’s at least part of what class discussion is for: it’s a kind of creative, informal review, and a chance for students to build on what they already know.

But the other part of classroom discussion is giving students a voice. This year I was teaching Esi Eduygan’s remarkable *Half-Blood Blues.* In one of the novel’s tense moments, the narrator realizes he can have either love or the voice he has as a jazz musician. I asked my students two questions. First, “Which of you is willing to live the rest of your life without love?” Unsurprisingly, there were no takers. Then I jammed that question right up to the next one: “Which of you is willing to live the rest of your life without a voice that is respected and heard?” I think they were surprised by how primal the need for a voice is. I don’t, though, want to hear just any voices: I talk to my students about developing a credible voice that is backed up by clear expression, purposeful structure, and original ideas (not to mention attention to grammatical detail).

Perhaps I’ve remained fixed in the late sixties and early seventies, but I get on with the younger generation because I see them as their culture’s critics and rebels. Their ideas and their perceptions matter to me; I’m endlessly curious about what they are thinking and what their lives are like. When I add a good dose of respect for them and my own passion for literature, I find I can provoke their curiosity and get good discussions going. I over-over-plan my classes so that no matter where they take me, I feel I can follow and in turn can lead them farther. But that, of course, takes time. Until two years ago, when I returned from my last sabbatical, I would have told you I had the best job in the world.

At that time, though, I met some young people I would call “the 2008 generation.” They came of age during “the great recession” and apparently their parents told them “You go to university and get a job,” because many of them are interested in marks and credit hours and meeting requirements. They take vacations in the middle of term, or show up a week after everyone else. Many of them are simply less curious. They don’t write particularly well, and they haven’t read a lot. I’m not, of course, talking about all of the students; the truly curious and dedicated and intelligent students are still there. But when every student (including the brilliant ones) who came to see me about their essay in the fall of 2013 said, the minute they were in my office door, “I want to talk to you about my mark,” I knew that some shift in values has occurred, probably in the general society. As well, I simply found that I didn’t have the energy to be “on” according to a schedule.

**What are your post-retirement plans?  Will you stay in Regina?**

I’m really retiring to write. Yes, I keep a blog that gets between 1,500 and 2,000 visitors each month, and I try to post once a week. When I published *Blue Duets*, I was told that I had to have an online presence in the current marketing climate, so I started the “Blue Duets” blog. I had no idea what I was doing, so initially it was a mix of public diary and mini-essays about the ideas and the writing that excited me. As I continued to write, I realized that the blog gave me a chance to play the “public intellectual,” but to do this in a personal way that is engaging and not snobbish (I hope).

I have a book of ekphrastic poems inspired by my daughter, Veronica, nearly finished, and my study of Virginia Woolf’s aesthetics, *Virginia Woolf and the Poetics of Engagement*, is nearly done. As well, a second novel is taking over my brain and several notebooks. For the most part, since May I’ve maintained a disciplined schedule. I begin my day drinking my coffee and reading under the cat. I may be reading a manuscript someone wants help with, or I may be reading Benjamin’s *Arcades Project* as inspiration for the poems inspired by Veronica’s very edgy, very urban photographs. But by 10 a.m., I’m at the computer and Facebook and email are off-limits. I write from 10-12, and from 1-3 every day. I’m trying to do more quilting, but so far I’m so excited to have time to write and think, that I’m making very little headway on a quilt Bill and I are going to need before it gets much colder.

Yes, I’ll be staying in Regina. I have come to love this city and the prairies around it—in spite of the winters. So Bill and I (and Twig) will be staying here. Where else would I have such friends and such a group of former students who might read to me when I’m an old woman?

**HEAD’S NOTE**

Troni Grande

Susan Sontag in “Aids and Its Metaphors” has famously argued that the dominant metaphor of the head (society as “a well-disciplined body ruled by a ‘head’”) can make authoritarian structure “seem inevitable, immutable.” I have wondered about the use of the term “Head” ever since I first arrived at the University of Regina, twenty years ago, fresh from a campus and department where the leader was a Chair! But my experience since, with seven exceptional leaders in the Department of English, has alleviated any fears I might have had about the hydra of authoritarian rule. Stepping into the role of English Department Head four months ago, I was heartened by the excellent work of my predecessors: Martin Bergbusch, Ken Mitchell, Peggy Wigmore, Cameron Louis, Jeanne Shami, Dorothy Lane, and Nick Ruddick. The Head is gone; long live the Head. Each Head has become the “corporate personality” in reassuringly consultative ways, accountable to faculty members and students in the first instance, working alongside colleagues in order to actively participate in the threefold mission of teaching, research, and administration that sustains the university, while collaborating with and learning from administrative leaders to improve the life of our university.

The last great Head, my immediate predecessor Nick Ruddick, deserves a special tribute. Every route I have taken in the past few months, as I embark on the journey of collaboration with other units and leaders, Nick has already navigated so capably. His legacy is clear in the words others use to describe him—“brilliant,” “excellent,” “collegial,” “wise.” This praise is the more remarkable, given the many weighty challenges that Nick faced during his tenure, particularly over the dwindling number of faculty members. Fortunately, faculty renewal is now on the upswing, with our currently advertised tenure-track position in the literature of the Medieval or Romantic periods, our recent term-position hiring of Dr. Patricia Cove, and our welcome renewal of the term position of Dr. Alexis McQuigge. *Esprit de corps*, as a colleague remarked, is high.

In every trial, Nick maintained a cool Head, with indomitable courage, unflagging courtesy, and warm collegiality towards every Department member. His many gifts as a scholar, teacher, and administrator were continually on display, whether in the immaculate copy of his e-mails, memos, and professional documents (not bad for a two-finger typist!), or in his calm maneuvering in department and committee meetings, or indeed in his eloquent and measured public speaking elsewhere in the University. Even in the Top 10 List of Things to Remember (“Some Things I Have Learned about Being Head, on One Sheet of Paper”), which he passed on to me when I became Head, Nick’s commitment to fairness, his humility and generosity in the face of others’ mistakes, and his fierce defence of the “academic integrity of the English Department” shine through. My personal favourite is the professional rule (or is it a life rule?) he passes on—never respond in anger, and “wait one sleep before sending important e-mails.”

Given his dazzling productivity as a scholar (nine books and counting, with a long list of chapter and article publications, not to mention unparalleled service as supervisor of a long and growing list of Master’s theses), Nick Ruddick may well exemplify better than any the “law of nature” outlined by The Time Traveller in the book that Nick himself so expertly edited, H.G. Wells’s *The Time Machine*: “It is a law of nature we overlook, that intellectual versatility is the compensation for change, danger, and trouble. . . . Only those animals partake of intelligence that have to meet a huge variety of needs and dangers.” Intellectual versatility: could there be a better description of the man who takes time out from his Headship to do a lecture-tour of University English at China Jiliang University (19 lectures in 10 days), who performs to perfection the seductive adversary in Milton’s *Paradise Lost*, who elects to take holidays touring Ukraine, Mongolia, and Russia on the Trans-Siberian Railway? What an impossibly huge hat to fill! Long live the versatile Nick—and to him our deepest thanks, for inspiring hope and purpose in this tremulous but persistent body.

**NEWS OF FACULTY**

**Jason Demers** published a report, *Warehousing Prisoners in Saskatchewan: A Public Health Approach* (2014), for the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives. The report received a great deal of attention on the television news and in the province's newspapers; it was the subject of the editorial in all three of the province's major newspapers the day after it was released. He also contributed the essay "Taking Deleuze in the Middle, or, Doing Intellectual History by the Letter" to *Trans/acting Culture, Writing, and Memory: Essays in Honour of Barbara Godard* (2013), published by Wilfrid Laurier University Press, and a three-book review essay entitled "Control, Resistance, and Racism in the Contemporary Prison" to the *Canadian Review of American Studies* (Winter 2013).

**Troni Grande** was thrilled to attend The Banff Centre from September 6-13, as a participant in the Writing with Style (Creative Nonfiction) Workshop, with the inspiring instructor Trevor Herriot. From August 9-12, Troni also participated in Anne McDonald's incomparable summer writing getaway, “The Novel: Beginning, Ending, Getting it out There,” held at St. Peter's College in Muenster, SK. During her sabbatical year, 2013-14, Troni completed the correspondence program at the Humber School for Writers, under the mentorship of acclaimed writer Helen Humphreys.

**Jean Hillabold’s** Recent/Forthcoming Publications

Under her pen name, “Jean Roberta,” Jean Hillabold (Instructor) has had two works of her erotic fiction recorded in audio versions in October 2014: “Alpha Male” (unpublished story) in *The Dirty Thirty*, edited/recorded by Rose Caraway (Stupid Fish Productions) and *The Flight of the Black Swan: A Bawdy Novella* (Lethe Press, recording by ACX), narrated by suitably posh-voiced English actor Catherine Carter. In September, Jean’s story “Shelter” appeared in *Forbidden Fruit: Stories of Unwise Lesbian Desire* (LadyLit), and a previously-published story appeared in *Milk Round*, e-book about breast-feeding (House of Erotica, UK). Jean’s 2015 publications will include stories in *Best Lesbian Erotica 2015* (an annual anthology; “Jean Roberta” has had stories in eight previous editions) and in two “mammoth” anthologies from Constable and Robinson, UK: *The Mammoth Book of Uniform Erotica*, and *The Mammoth Book of Best New Erotica* *13*, a sporadically-published series of the best erotic stories in English that have appeared in a calendar year.

**Cindy MacKenzie** attended the 39th Annual International Conference of Improving University Teaching “The Connected Classroom,” in Vancouver, B.C. in June. In August, she attended the 26th annual meeting of the Emily Dickinson International Society, “Emily Dickinson and New England Writers,” co-sponsored by the Emily Dickinson Museum, in Amherst, Massachusetts, August 8-10. As part of her sabbatical project, she stayed another week in Amherst where she spent time researching in the archives at the Frost Library of Amherst College, for a project focussing on the process of publication carried out with Roberts Bros. by Dickinson’s first editor, Mabel Loomis Todd. From there, she travelled to Concord to visit (for the second time) the remarkable and authentically preserved homes of Louisa May Alcott (Orchard House) and across the street, of Ralph Waldo Emerson. A trek to Authors Ridge in Sleepy Hollow Cemetery led to the graves of Nathaniel Hawthorne, Henry David Thoreau, Bronson and Louisa May Alcott, and Ralph Waldo Emerson. Outside the town, at Walden Pond, Cindy donned her bathing suit and plunged into the waters of that historic body of water where she had a most memorable swim! She is now preparing for a journey to Shanghai, China to participate in an international translation project (Nov 21-24) and conference, “Emily Dickinson Dwells in China: Possibilities of Translation and Transcultural Perspectives” where Chinese scholars prepare and present translations of Dickinson’s poems into Chinese. At Fudan University in Shanghai, she will present a paper, “To Estimate the Pearl: Dickinson’s Translation of the Oriental Aesthetic,” and deliver a lecture on the significance of Dickinson’s letters to a seminar of 40 graduate students of comparative literature. She also plans to attend the 130th MLA Annual Convention in Vancouver, B.C. January 2015 where she will chair a panel on new work in Dickinson studies.

**Jan Purnis** contributed a chapter entitled, “The Belly-Mind Relationship in Early Modern Culture: Digestion,Ventriloquism, and the Second Brain” published in *Embodied Cognition and Shakespeare’s Theatre: The Early Modern Body-Mind*, a collection edited by Laurie Johnson, Evelyn Tribble, and John Sutton (Routledge, 2014). She also contributed a chapter, tentatively entitled “Bodies and Selves: Autoscopy, Out-Of-Body Experiences, Mind-Wandering and Early Modern Consciousness.” She attended the Pacific Northwest Renaissance Society’s annual conference, “The Global Renaissance,” held in Kelowna October 17-18 where she presented a paper called “Donne’s Sermons and the Resurrection of the Body in the Colonial Context.” Jan was also elected secretary to the Pacific Northwest Renaissance Society.

With the aid of her indispensable Research Assistant, Lara Stoudt, she continues to work on a SSHRC-funded project on cannibalism and digestion in early modern literature and culture, spending part of June and July in London doing research for the project. Researching at the British Library and the Wellcome Library, she also attended several events at the Globe Theatre, including a lecture by Shakespearean scholar James Shapiro and a reading of Ben Jonson’s *Every Man in His Humour*. She and Lara will be giving a talk related to this project on October 31st.

Finally, she has been accepted into a seminar on “Disgusting Shakespeare,” which is being held as part of the Shakespeare Association of America annual meeting in April, 2015. Jan was granted tenure by Campion College last spring.

**Nicholas Ruddick** published a chapter, “Embodiment Problems: Adapting *Solaris* to Film,” in the critical anthology *Lemography: Stanislaw Lem in the Eyes of the World,* edited by Peter Swirski and Waclaw M. Osadnik (Liverpool: Liverpool University Press, 2014), pp. 65-92. This is an examination of the film adaptations by Boris Nirenburg (1968), Andrei Tarkovsky (1972), and Steven Soderbergh (2002) of Stanislaw Lem’s *Solaris* (1961), probably the best-known science fiction novel by a non-Anglophone writer. On 24 October 2014 Nick served as external examiner on a PhD thesis, “Fractional Prefigurations: Science Fiction, Utopia, and Narrative Form” by a candidate at the University of Saskatchewan.

**Melanie Schnell** presented a lecture at the annual New Feminist Research Lecture series for the Women’s and Gender Studies Program at the University of Saskatchewan on March 28th.  Entitled, "Recounting the Truth of War Through Feminist Fiction," she discussed the research she undertook in Sudan for her novel *While the Sun is Above Us*. Members of the U of S English Department, the MFA in Writing, and the Interdisciplinary Center for Culture and Creativity were also in attendance.  This is one of several readings, presentations and fiction workshops that she has given across the province in the past two years in response to her novel, including reading as a guest author at Word on the Street and the Festival of Words. Melanie's novel has been listed as an additional resource to support Saskatchewan’s Grade 12 curriculum. She is currently fiction editor of *Grain* magazine for the 2015 winter edition.

**Garry Sherbert** was the invited keynote speaker at the 12th Graduate Student Conference in Comparative Canadian Literature, *Literary Alterities: Silence, Voice and (In)visibility in Canadian and Québécois Literature*, held at Université of Sherbrooke on May 1. Garry’s paper, entitled “‘The Law of the Family’: Autoimmunity in Turcotte’s *The Body’s Place*,” is slated for publication in the conference proceedings. Garry also presented his paper “*Ghost Dance*: Derrida, Stiegler, and Film as Phantomachia,” at the conference *A matter of lifedeath*, hosted by the journal *Mosaic* at the University of Manitoba on October 2.

**Michael Trussler** presented the paper “The Darkness of the Contemporary: Nathan Englander’s *What We Talk About When We Talk About Anne Frank*” at the *13th International Conference on the Short Story in English* held at the University of Vienna in July. He also did a public reading at the conference from his collection of short fiction *Encounters*. Along with **Medrie Purdham**, he edited *The Wascana Anthology of Poetry, Short Fiction, and Critical Prose* which was published in April 2014 by the University of Regina Press.

**ORLENE MURAD ACADEMIC DISCUSSIONS**

**-Bev Montague**

Dr. Patricia Cove, the newest member of the English Department, opened the Fall 2014 Orlene Murad Academic Discussions on October 24 with a talk entitled “Dickens and the Legacies of the Revolutionary Era."

On November 14, Dr. Marcel DeCoste, will be presenting a paper, "The Despair and Hope of the *Imago Dei*: Lordship, Judgment, and Mercy in Aronofsky’s *Noah*."

Both talks are followed by a reception.

**ALUMINI**

Sue Sorensen (BA English '85), now Associate Professor in the Department of English at Canadian Mennonite University in Winnipeg, announces her latest book release, The Collar: Reading Christian Ministry in Fiction, Television, and Film, which is published by Wipf and Stock. Combining thematic analysis and close readings, The Collar is a wide-ranging study of the many ways—heroic or comic, shrewd or dastardly—Christian ministers have been represented on page and screen. Sorensen is also the author of the novel *A Large Harmonium* (2011), winner of the Manitoba Book Award for Best First Book. More information is available on the author's website: www.suesorensen.net.

**RETIRED FACULTY NEWS**

**Nils Clausson** published three poems—“A Formalist’s Complaint,” “Waiting for the Paradigm to Change,” and You, Robert Frost”—*in Pennsylvania English* (Vol. 32, Nos 1&2), pp. 30-32. His article “‘Hours Continuing Long’ as Whitman’s Rewriting of Shakespeare’s Sonnet 29,” which was originally published in *The Walt Whitman Quarterly Review*, Vol. 26, No. 3 (Winter 2009), was reprinted in *Out Spoken: Perspectives on Queer Identities*, eds. Wes D. Pearce and Jean Hillabold (University of Regina Press, 2013), pp. 203-17. His annotated bibliography of Benjamin Disraeli was published by Oxford University Press as part of its online Oxford Bibliographies series ([www.oxfordbibliographies.com](http://www.oxfordbibliographies.com)).



**Jeanne Shami** and **Ken Mitchell** travelled with **Nick Ruddick** and Britt Holmstrom through China, Mongolia, and Russia on the Transiberian Railway (April 26 through May 10), an adventure of a lifetime that involved exhausting heat and humidity, blizzards, and everything in between. They remain good friends. In the course of this adventure they visited the Great Wall on a day when it seemed as if they were the only ones there; saw the famous Pryzbewski horses in their habitat in a Mongolian conservation park, two hours or so from Ulaan Bataar; had milk tea in a yurt or *ger* with a local woman and her young goat; walked along Siberia’s Lake Baikal; saw endless birch forests and the backsides of villages on the long train ride from Irkutsk to Moscow; ate delicious local potato pancakes and some not-so-delicious local smoked fish purchased from railway platforms; experienced the architectural beauties and culture of Moscow; attended a ballet at the stunning Mariinsky Theatre in St. Petersburg; stood beneath Raskolnikov’s apartment in that same city on a rainy morning; and mastered the subway systems of three large cities (Beijing, Moscow, and St. Petersburg – well Nick mastered them, let’s be honest). They even had a near-disastrous experience on the St. Petersburg subway at rush hour when Ken’s wallet was pickpocketed by an experienced gang of thugs. In the end, he lost only money when the gang’s girl returned the wallet – empty of cash – but with Ken’s passport intact. Something good is coming of it in the form of a short story which Ken has just about completed. Stay tuned.

While they were in Beijing, at the very beginning of their trip, they were wakened in the wee hours by a phone call from **Julia Mitchell** (B.A. 2007) announcing that she had successfully completed her viva and had earned a Ph.D. in History from University College, London. Her dissertation entitled “Subterranean Bourgeois Blues: The Second English Folk Revival, c. 1945-1970” is currently being revised for publication and she has had an article entitled “ ‘Farewell to ‘Cotia’: The English Folk Revival, the Pit Elegy, and the Nationalization of British Coal, 1947-70” accepted by *Twentieth Century British History* (forthcoming 2014). Currently, Dr. Mitchell is working as a vocational counselor at Luther High School and applying for postdocs. She was pleased that she earned her doctorate just before her father, Ken, was awarded the University of Regina’s first Doctorate of Letters at Convocation on June 5.

And in other news, Jeanne and co-applicant **Anne James** (M.A. 2006) have been awarded a SSHRC grant totaling $172,467.00 to design and populate a bibliographic database of manuscript sermons over the next four years. Their project entitled “English Manuscript Sermons and Sermon Notes 1530-1715: Interpreting the Archive” placed second in the national Insight Grants competition. Their University of Saskatchewan collaborators are Jon Bath and Brent Nelson, Director of the Digital Humanities Institute and specialist in 17th-century sermons respectively. Jeanne also published a book chapter entitled “The Lovesicke Spouse: John Stoughton’s 1624 Paul’s Cross Sermon in Context” in a volume of essays on Paul’s Cross sermons: Paul’s Cross and the Culture of Persuasion in England, 1520-1640, ed. Torrance Kirby and P. G. Stanwood (Leiden: Brill, 2014), 389-409.

**Ken Mitchell**, a Professor Emeritus of English at the University of Regina was presented with an honorary Doctor of Letters at Convocation on June 5 – the first time in the University of Regina’s history that someone will receive this particular honour. Honorary degrees are the highest honour the University can bestow.

**UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS**

The following Undergraduate students have won scholarships:

**WINTER 2014**

**Jaimie Orr,** Ken Mitchell Scholarship in Creative Writing

**Credence McFadzean,** Dr. Wilma Ebbit Memorial Scholarship in English

**Sonia Stanger,** Sadie and Norman Ratner Prize in English

**Beth Kelln,** Orlene Murad Prize

**Avnee Paranjape,** Elizabeth Blight Memorial Scholarship

**FALL 2014**

**Justin Malone,** ElizabethBlight Memorial Scholarship, Ethel Toupin Memorial Scholarship

**Avnee Paranjape**, Leslie Dybvig Scholarship, Dorothy and Leon Goldman Award in English

**Zoe Beaulieu-Prpick,** Torville Honours Scholarship

**Jolyn Michaelis**, Torville Scholarship

**Benjamin Woolhead,** Torville Scholaship

**Ava Tomasiewicz,** Torville Scholarship

**Laura Billett,**  Torville Scholarship

**Paige Moreside,** Royal Society of St. George Scholarship

**NEWS OF GRADUATE STUDENTS**

**Literary Eclectic IX**, a graduate student conference in which we partner with the University of Saskatchewan, was held at the University of Regina on October 3rd and 4th. This enormously successful conference was headlined by award-winning writer Trevor Herriot, giving the keynote lecture on Friday evening, and student panels, featuring speakers from University of Regina, University of Saskatchewan, University of Winnipeg, and University of Manitoba, occupied us on Saturday. We are all looking forward to 2016, when we will again host this excellent conference.

Special thanks to Kathleen Wall, the outgoing graduate chair, for her excellent advance planning; to Danielle Myers for unflagging support and encouragement; to Alexis McQuigge and Nick Ruddick, the program committee; to Patricia Cove, Lara Stoudt, and Callyn Yarn for their work on registration welcoming, and social; to the most excellent Jeremy Whalen for his efforts on Trivia Night, and to Troni Grande for her support.

Congratulations to our newest M.A. graduates, **Rhonda Hellman** and **Shauna Koester**, who convocated in October.

**Ph.D. candidate Colleen Biro** completed her Major Field Exams in late August and is busily prepared for the Focused Field, to be conducted in April 2015. Ms. Biro is also the winner of a Saskatchewan Innovation Scholarship, one of the province’s most important scholarships for graduate degrees.

Congratulations to **Lara Stoudt** and **Samantha Storey**, who earned SSHRC M.A. awards for their thesis work, on Christina Rossetti’s devotional poetry (Stoudt) and Guy Gavriel Kay’s fantasy trilogy, *The Fionavar Tapestry*.

New M.A. candidate **Credence McFadzean** (Creative Writing and English) has been awarded a Saskatchewan Innovation Scholarship; he is also the winner of the Lucy Murray Scholarship. We are delighted to welcome Credence into the program following his spring graduation with a B.A. Hons (Creative Writing option).

Congratulations to new M.A. students **William Wenaus** and **Jessica Eggertson**, who have been awarded Graduate Student Scholarships. William, a University of Regina Honours English grad, is focusing on global modernisms; Jessica, with a B.A. in Film frm the University of Manitoba, is studying film adaptations.

We are delighted to welcome the 2014 graduate student cohort: Lara Stoudt, Courtney Stroh, William Wenaus, Credence McFadzean, Jessica Eggertson, Roopa Rajasekhara, and Amy Hunter.

**Lara Stoudt** was awarded a SSHRC grant for her master's thesis titled, "Allegory and the Soul's Journey in Christina Rossetti's Devotional Poetry and Prose." The focus of Lara's thesis is to investigate Rossetti’s concept of the soul’s journey as demonstrated in her devotional prose and two narrative poems, “Goblin Market” and “The Prince’s Progress” and to compare the allegorical elements in these works to Bunyan’s text *The Pilgrim’s Progress*. Lara was also honoured at the 2014 Spring Convocation with the 2014 Luther College Medal of Distinction, an award given to one student that has demonstrated a strong academic record as well as leadership and service according to the values of Luther College.

**PLEASE FORWARD YOUR NEWS TO:**

**Cindy MacKenzie, Editor**

[cindy.mackenzie@uregina.ca](mailto:cindy.mackenzie@uregina.ca)

***INKLINGS***

***3737 Wascana Parkway***

Department of English, AH 313

University of Regina

Regina, SK S4S 0A2