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# Much Ado about ... Quite a Lot: An English Department Newsletter

Department of English

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# Much Ado about . . . Quite a Lot

An English Department Newsletter



In the areas of research, scholarship, creativity, and teaching excellence, the English faculty has enjoyed a rich and varied year. The quality of the faculty's work is evident in the public recognition and honors they have received. We are pleased to share some of our achievements.

**Deb Logan's** *The Collected Letters of Harriet Martineau* (5 vols) was nominated for the Modern Language Association's Best Letters Edition. Deb's most recent monograph is entitled *Harriet Martineau, Victorian Imperialism, and the Civilizing Mission* (Ashgate, 2010). She also published two book chapters and read papers in Galway, Ireland; Pretoria, South Africa; and Cambridge, England. This summer she continues her research on the British Raj in Delhi, Mumbai, and Calcutta. Deb is also the editor of *Victorian Newsletter*, a journal of Victorian literature and culture sponsored by WKU.



**Alison Ganze Langdon** published *Postscript to the Middle Ages: Teaching Medieval Studies through The Name of the Rose* (Syracuse UP), and authored one of its chapters. She also published an essay, "'Na Maria, pretz e fina valors': A New Argument for Female Authorship" in *Romance Notes*.



**David Jack Bell's** second novel, *The Girl in the Woods*, was released by Delirium Books; a short fiction anthology entitled *Commutability*, which he co-edited with Molly McCaffrey, our newest instructor, comes out in August. David was also the featured author at Hypericon Six in Nashville this summer



**Angie Jones** was co-editor for the *Norton Mix*, a new online reader database from W.W. Norton (2010). She also serves as faculty advisor/editor for *Areté*, WKU's Honors College newsletter. In October *Areté* received the third place national award for student-produced newsletters from the national Collegiate Honors Council, the publication's second national award in two years.





**Tom Hunley** published a poetry chapbook and more than a dozen individual poems. Garrison Keillor twice read Tom’s poems on “The Writer’s Almanac.” In addition, Tom’s small poetry press, Steel Toe Books, published two books this year by underrepresented poets. Allison Joseph’s *My Father’s Kites* and Richard Newman’s *Domestic Fugues*.

**Elizabeth Winkler** will soon see publication of the second edition of her linguistics textbook, *Understanding Language* (Continuum). She also published an essay, “A Gender-based Analysis of Discourse Markers in Limonese Creole” and is working with Liberian linguists to create an orthography of the unwritten native language, Kpelle, as part of an effort to make it the co-national language of Liberia (along with English).



**Sandra Hughes**, who was nominated for the prestigious Acorn Award, published an essay on “The Prometheus Myth and Literary Creativity in Hawthorne,” delivered three conference papers, and is this summer conducting research in Italy and reading a paper in Greece.



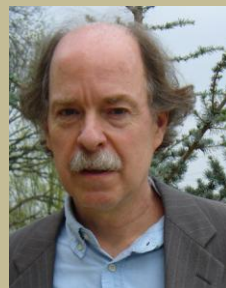
Based on his experience creating/organizing our Undergraduate Conference on Literature, Language, and Culture, **Ted Hovet** published a chapter entitled “Creating an Academic Conference for English Majors” in NCTE’s *Undergraduate Research in English Studies*. He also published an essay, “America on Display: Constructing and Containing Images of the United States.” Finally, Ted was instrumental in the creation of the new Film major.



**Beth Weixel**, who just completed her first year at WKU as our Shakespeare and Early Modern Literature specialist, was awarded Best Dissertation in the Arts and Humanities (2010) by the University of Minnesota. She also has an essay forthcoming on the “Decline of the Aristocratic Forest in *The Faerie Queene*” in *Spenser Studies*. In addition, she read two conference papers, one in Canada and one in Hawaii.



Last fall **Lloyd Davies** read a paper at the International Conference on Romanticism, delivered a guest lecture on Romantic Poetry at King’s College in New York City, and conducted research at Bar-Ilan University in Israel while on sabbatical.





**Dale Rigby** has a creative non-fiction essay entitled “My Playing Weight” forthcoming in *SportLiterate*. This summer he attended the Wakonse Conference on College Teaching and was awarded a scholarship to attend the Bear River Writers’ Conference.

**Jane Olmsted**’s poem “Imperative” won Honorable Mention in the Vivienne Haigh-Wood Poetry contest sponsored by *Melusine*, a online literature and art journal. Dr. Olmsted will also be interim director of Women's Studies next year.



**Niko Endres** published “Petronius in West Egg: The *Satyricon* and *The Great Gatsby*” in the *F. Scott Fitzgerald Review*, and presented conference papers in the U.K., Netherlands, France, and Germany.



This summer three faculty—**Niko Endres, Kelly Reames, and Walker Rutledge**—are reading papers at the International Hemingway Conference in Lausanne, Switzerland in July.



This summer **John Hagaman** is leading the 25th Invitational Summer Writing Project Institute, funded by state and national grants. Among other activities, the Institute is sponsoring a Writing Retreat and a Holocaust Institute, and is collaborating with the Reading Project on a two-day workshop entitled “The Literate Classroom.”

No fewer than six faculty were nominated by their students for the PCAL Teaching Award: Fabian Alvarez, Alison Ganze Langdon, Deb Logan, Kelly Reames, Dale Rigby, and Walker Rutledge. Moreover, two of our adjuncts, Sandra Wales and James Lowe, won Part-time Faculty teaching awards. And of course last year one of ours, Sandy Hughes, won the University Teaching Award.

A note on the quality of our students:  
Three English majors who graduated in May—Jennifer Dooper, Eileen Ryan, and Dawn Reinhardt—were awarded Fulbright Scholarships to study/teach in Argentina, South Korea, and Germany, respectively.