Notes from the Chair

With me is Wingnut—our department mascot. She is owned by one of our talented graduate students, Rusty Rust, who, along with Dean Tsuyuki, has produced this latest newsletter. Rusty has served as writer and editor; Dean has again shared with us his artistic talent and amazing graphics. And, while they toiled, we benefited from hugs and licks from this angelic pup. Our special thanks to Dean, Rusty, and Wingnut.

This newsletter celebrates the achievements of faculty and alumni. It also celebrates the successes of our students with their multiplicity of talents and interests. In addition to possessing exceptional reading and writing abilities, the following three English majors are Renaissance women of the 21st century.

The College of Liberal Arts (CLA) Outstanding Undergraduate this year is Sierra Patheal. The accolades from the Department of Romance, German, and Russian Languages and Literatures, the University Honors Program (UHP), and our department are so impressive that she merits a website in her honor. One recommender, Tim Caron, notes: “Sierra will graduate with degrees in both English Literature and English Rhetoric and Composition, along with minors in German and mathematics (!), and for good measure, a certificate in Technical and Professional Communication.” The Director of the UHP Program, Nele Hempel-Lamer writes: “With [her] exceptional academic and extra-curricular qualifications, I was sure Sierra would go on to a prestigious MA/PhD program or maybe become an editor at a high-profile publishing house. I guess I really should not have been surprised, though, that Sierra’s immediate professional plans after graduation entail obtaining a California Teaching Credential and becoming a high school English teacher. Sierra’s caring nature and her love for languages and literature make her the perfect person to teach young adults.” Sierra has been accepted into Stanford’s MA in Education Program.

CLA has bestowed dual honors on Erin Arendse, a second-year student in our MA in Literature. We celebrate the brilliance and writing talent of our students, and we were delighted that Erin’s Master’s thesis, “A Textual Caribbean: Voices of the Multitude in Junot Díaz’s The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao,” was selected as the CLA Best Master’s Thesis for our commencement ceremony this year. In her examination of this Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, Erin combines her analysis of the book’s portrayal of the Dominican diaspora with Latino/a studies and digital humanities in order to demonstrate how Oscar Wao creates a space in which multiple voices and identities emerge from the history of totalitarianism. Erin was also selected for the Graduate Dean’s list, an honor given to only one percent of all graduating MA students. After graduation, she will travel to Mumbai, India for a year to work with a non-profit called iSanctuary.

Accepted into eight highly ranked law schools, in several cases with full funding, Sarah McAlister has been recognized for her superior writing abilities. In the formal acceptance letter, the Dean of Emory Law School, included a hand-written note for Sarah: “Thank you for such a strong application. Your impeccable writing skills will serve you well in law school.” Sarah credits our department for her success to date, and in a personal note, she wrote the following: “It has been an absolute honor and privilege to be a part of such an incredible English program. As a community college student in Sacramento, it was my dream to participate in the rhetoric and composition program at CSULB. Every moment since I was accepted to the university in 2012, I have loved being a part of it and of the program in technical and professional communication.”

It has been an absolute honor for us to have these students in our classes and in our programs. For more of our successes, please read further, enjoy this newsletter, and let us hear from you.

Eileen Klink, Chair
While some of our alumni go into teaching, others into academia, and still others into a wide variety of jobs, there is also a tradition of graduates of the English program engaging in civic advocacy. In the best tradition of advocacy, Grayson Flory has been using his English degree for environmental activism.

What was your degree at CSULB?

I completed my BA in English, with an Option in English Literature, in May 2010.

What did you do after graduating?

First I worked for Greenpeace for a while. After about a year I got sick of the bureaucracy and quit. I decided I needed a change, got rid of most of the stuff I owned, bought a backpack and hitchhiked with a friend to New York for Occupy Wall Street. I lived in the park for a while, and after our eviction I squatted in abandoned houses while organizing around food justice and environmental issues. Then I became disenchanted with Occupy and started traveling, looking for something new. I won't bore you with details, but basically I hitchhiked, bussed and trainhopped around the country, seeing awesome places (wolves in Yellowstone, whales on the Oregon coast, the Everglades of Florida, and lots of dirty cities), doing some work trade (pulled weeds and made trails at a health-and-wellness-center in Gainesville, FL, and a homestead in the Ozarks), and visited various political groups to help out where I could.

How did all this turn into a full-time gig?

After about a year and half or two years, I applied for an internship at the Earth First! Journal, a (usually) quarterly radical environmental magazine that I had been reading religiously for the past few years. I was accepted and came down to Lake Worth, Florida (near Ft. Lauderdale). It has been nine months working here now, and I am no longer an intern but a full-timer. There are three of us who run the magazine, and we all do a great mix of work, but one of us does mostly business, one does distribution and outreach, and I am the primary editor.

I’m also in charge of the website www.earthfirstjournal.org (not really in charge, it’s an anarchist collective, but I bottomline it).

In what ways did your English degree prepare you for work at the Earth First! Journal?

Part of getting my degree involved doing a lot of editing on my own papers and those of fellow students. The experience of copy-editing material from a range of skill and education levels has been really helpful for my work at the Journal. We receive submissions from around the world—some from writers, some from activists who wouldn’t consider themselves writers, and some from folks for whom English is a second or third language. So the experience of editing a range of work at CSULB—from polished to fundamentally flawed—has paid off. Also, reading and writing the ridiculous amount I had to for my English degree—especially in the last two years—has no doubt had an impact on my ability to bust out material on crazy deadlines. Without the mild panic attacks I went through due to my own procrastination in college, I probably wouldn’t be able to handle the fast pace of publishing a quarterly magazine, updating a website daily, and all the other projects we find ourselves taking on, with a crew of as little as three people at a time.

Do you still have connections with CSULB?

I was just invited to speak at CSULB in March for the Animal Liberation Forum. I’ll probably be out there to give a presentation on the animal rights group Smash HLS and a police sting operation I was recently involved in (charges against me were just dismissed, woohoo!).
Annabel Adams (MA, 2011) is Director of Communications for HUMAN (“Helping Unite Mankind and Nutrition”), an award-winning healthy-vending franchise and healthful-foods distributor.

Erica (Hagaman) Brenes (MA, 2011) has been nominated for the 2014 Teacher of the Year at Golden West College, where she is a lecturer in the Department of English.

Adam Burgess (MA, 2008) is currently enrolled in the PhD program in English at Northern Illinois University.

Danilo Caputo (MA, 2013) has been admitted to the PhD program in English at UC Irvine and will begin in September.

Jason CaseM (MFA, 2009) earned a full-time position at LBCC this semester.

Jorge Guerra (BA, 2012) was our first graduate to be accepted into the MFA program in Fiction at the University of Iowa. This May he graduates with his MFA, and the university has asked that he stay on for an additional year to teach their students. This young man from Guatemala has found success in the midland cold of Iowa.

Kolleen Higgins (MA, 2007) is in her third year of a tenure-track position as an assistant professor in the Department of English at Cerritos College.

Adam Jacobson (MA, 2010) formerly the Director of Communications and Policy for the Los Angeles Business Council, is now Accounts Director at Swell Creative Group, a creative and strategic digital agency.


Cortney Kimoto (MA, 2013) accepted a job offer for a content writing position at Yahoo!

Ellie Mendoza (MA, 2008) is completing her PhD in American Studies this spring at the University of Iowa.

Paul Tavvar (MA, 2001) was named the 2013 Teacher of the Year at Golden West College, where he is an associate professor in the Department of English.

Jenny Webster (MA, 2008) is currently teaching in a full-time, tenure-track position at Windward Community College in Kaneohe, Hawaii.

Kacie Wills (MA, 2013) will begin the PhD program in English at UC Riverside in September and was awarded the Chancellor’s Distinguished Fellowship.
**Bahareh Alaei (MA)**  
presented at the Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC) on March 22, 2014 in Indianapolis, IN. She will also present at the Computers and Writing Conference in Pullman, WA in June of 2014.

**Erin Arendse (MA)**  
was named to the Dean’s List of Graduating Master Students.  
She was also awarded Best Thesis for “A Textual Caribbean: Voices of the Multitude in Junot Diaz’s *The Brief Wonderful Life of Oscar Wao*.”

**David Barrera (MA)**  
presented on the panel, “Dismantling Oppressive Spaces: Building Heterogeneous Identities through Interventions by Ethnic Film and Literatures,” at the conference for the National Association of Ethnic Studies.

**Sarah Hersh Besseling (BA)**  
secured a full-time position teaching English at Woodbridge High School in the Irvine Unified School District.

**Corey Leis (MA)**  
will present at the Computers and Writing Conference in Pullman, WA in June of 2014.

**Brian Le (MA)**  
secured a technical writing position at Research & Development in Redwood City, CA.

**Phuong Luu (MA)**  
presented on the panel, “Dismantling Oppressive Spaces: Building Heterogeneous Identities through Interventions by Ethnic Film and Literatures,” at the conference for the National Association of Ethnic Studies.

**Rudi Maravilla (MA)**  
presented on the panel, “Dismantling Oppressive Spaces: Building Heterogeneous Identities through Interventions by Ethnic Film and Literatures,” at the conference for the National Association of Ethnic Studies.

**Sarah McAllister (BA)**  
was accepted to eight law schools across the country.

**Sierra Patheal (BA)**  
was accepted to Stanford University’s Single Subject Credential/MA in Education program.

**Alejandro Rubio (MA)**  
presented his paper, presented on the panel, “Locas: Chicana Identity in *Love and Rockets*,” at the conference for the National Association of Ethnic Studies.

**Rusty Marilee Rust (MA)**  
presented on the panel, “Dismantling Oppressive Spaces: Building Heterogeneous Identities through Interventions by Ethnic Film and Literatures,” at the conference for the National Association of Ethnic Studies. Rusty was also awarded the Chancellor’s Distinguished Fellowship and will be mentored by Dr. Araceli Esparza and Dr. Eileen Klink.

**Katherine Steelman (MA)**  
presented her paper, presented on the panel, “Policing Bodies, Policing Borders: Blackness, Queerness, and Tijuana in the U.S. Imaginary,” at the conference for the National Association of Ethnic Studies.
WINNERS OF THE SPRING 2014 DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH SCHOLARSHIPS

The Isabelle McCaffrey Horn Memorial Scholarship is awarded to Cory Wilson
The Beatrice and Janosco Memorial Scholarship is awarded to Renee Moulton
The Gerald Locklin Writing Prize is awarded to Olivier Bochettaz
The James I. Murashige Jr. Memorial Award is awarded to Janna Jesson
The William T. Shadden Memorial Undergraduate Award is awarded to Toren Wallace
The William T. Shadden Memorial Graduate Award is awarded to Shane Eaves
The Mary Purcell Scholarship is awarded to Shouhei Tanaka
The John B. Williams Scholarship for Literature is awarded to Sierra Patheal

Distinguished Undergraduate Students
Violet Gregory & Kiya Wilson

Outstanding Undergraduate Students
Sean Dean
Megan Grant
Caitlin Hanley
Sarah McAlistier
Kristine McGowan
Alexander Ratanaprathum
Heath Reedy
Gina Ross
Rose Soto
Carly Stern
Matthay Vitalich
Toren Wallace

Winner of the Outstanding Baccalaureate Student Award
Sierra Patheal

Finalist for the Outstanding Baccalaureate Student Award
Lauren MacIntyre

Distinguished Graduate Students
Ramsey Mathews (MFA) & Rusty Rust (MA)

Outstanding Graduate Students
Bahareh Alaee
Dya Cangiano
Nicole Cloar
Corey Leis
Shane Eaves
Isel Garzarro-Chavarria
Joseph Hernandez
Mary Kinard
Zachary Mann
Renee Moulton
Cassady Ozimec

Dean’s List of Graduating Master’s Students
Erin Arendse

Best Master’s Thesis Award
Erin Arendse
for “A Textual Caribbean: Voices of the Multitude in Junot Díaz’s The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao”

What is SIGMA TAU DELTA? A Conversation with Cera Smith and Josh Connor

The brochures will tell you that the CSULB chapter of Sigma Tau Delta, the International English Honor Society, seeks to recognize high-achieving students in English language and literature. When speaking with Cera Smith, Sigma Tau Delta President, and Josh Connor, Sigma Tau Delta Treasurer, you will hear that Sigma Tau Delta provides the opportunity to meet other English students and a way to become involved with the field of English at an international level. CSULB has recently revived its Sigma Tau Delta Iota Pi Chapter with the help of Prof. Neil Hultgren and some enthusiastic English majors. This year Cera Smith and Josh Connor are trying to take our chapter to a new level, but they need the help of other students within the English program. If our Chapter receives enough student support, we can seek recognition as a club and receive funding from CSULB’s Associated Students Inc. This funding would help take our Sigma Tau Delta students to national conferences and allow us to host a conference of our own. If you would like to join a community of English enthusiasts on campus, you are encouraged to apply. Please visit www.csulb.edu/english/sigmataudelta/. The membership application and information about becoming a member can be found in the menu on the left.

For additional information, contact Prof. Neil Hultgren, faculty advisor (Neil.Hultgren@csulb.edu), or Cera Smith, Iota Pi chapter president (cerasmith24@gmail.com).

“I wish I had gotten involved with Sigma Tau Delta earlier on. It is a great way to socialize with other English majors on campus, and professors love to hear that students are interested in our Honor Society.”
- Josh Connor, Treasurer

“I joined Sigma Tau Delta because I wanted to get involved in the English discipline and I wanted a community of like-minded people.”
- Cera Smith, President
FACULTY ADVISERS:
PROFS. RAFAEL ZEPEDA AND STEPHEN COOPER

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF:
ZACH MANN

ART DIRECTOR/GRAPHIC DESIGNER:
BRIAN MARK

POETRY EDITORS:
RAMSEY MATHEWS, SHANE EAVES

NONFICTION EDITORS:
OLIVIA SOMES, MATTHEW RAMELB

FICTION EDITORS:
JOSEPH HERNANDEZ, CASSADY OZIMEC

Additional Credits:

POETRY STAFF:
BLAIR ASHTON, DAVID DIAZ, JOSEPH HERNANDEZ,
MARY KINARD, AJ URQUIDI

FICTION STAFF:
MARCUS CLAYTON, CASANDRA HERNANDEZ RIOS, JORDAN
KHAJAVIPOUR, RAMSEY MATHEWS, MICHELLE SLIEFF

NONFICTION STAFF:
OLIVIER BOCHETTAZ, MARCUS CLAYTON, SHANE EAVES,
KYLEE HOELSCHER, RAMSEY MATHEWS, TAYLOR MIMS,
RENEE MOULTON, CHASE SELBY, AJ URQUIDI

ART STAFF:
JULIET JOHNSON, NATE CATBAGAN
ENGLISH GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

Organized and activated by a group of dedicated students, the English Graduate Student Association supplements the graduate school experience through co-curricular activities such as conferences, workshops, guest speakers, and panel discussions. Each activity is designed to enhance the student’s academic and professional development and offer opportunities for building relationships with faculty and peers.

EGSA MEMBERS

Kiki Shaver, President
Rachel Emiling, Vice President
Michael Benitez
Dya Cangiano
Nicole Cloar
Carolyn Lange
Corey Leis
Phương Lưu
Mark Ortega
Michael Palmorez
Doris Palmorez
Claire Pelonis
Monica Rosa
Rusty Rust
Mary Sotnick
Dean Tsuyuki

CV Workshop

EGSA hosted a CV workshop led by Dr. Gary Griswold, who introduced the purpose of creating a CV and discussed the format and components of a successful CV. Dr. Griswold’s presentation was followed by a question and answer session, and his informative PowerPoint presentation was made available for download through the English Department website. This inaugural event proved so successful that Dr. Griswold led an encore workshop in the spring.

Thesis Informational Session

EGSA welcomed Dr. Sarah Arroyo, who led a panel discussion about completing a thesis for the MA in English. She and the presenters discussed how to develop a thesis topic and timeline for completion. They also addressed how to form a committee, the writing process, and the benefits of completing a thesis. A list of potential MA Thesis Mentors was compiled and made available on the Department of English website.

Faculty-Student Mixer

Hosted by the Department of English in conjunction with EGSA, the faculty-student Halloween mixer encouraged students to meet and network with professors outside of the classroom, as well as to explore department organizations and opportunities. Rip Rap, Watermark, Sigma Tau Delta, HipPoetics, and Medieval and Renaissance Students’ Association were all represented.

PhD Application Panel

This panel was designed to answer questions related to the PhD application process, and featured Kiki Shaver, Dr. Araceli Esparza, and Lisa Brown. The panelists addressed searching for schools and programs, developing competitive and compelling writing samples and statements of purpose, and requesting letters of recommendation. The panel discussion was followed by a lively question and answer session.

Abstract Writing Workshop

EGSA worked with the Associated Students of Comparative Literature to host an abstract writing workshop. The workshop featured a presentation by Dr. Nhora Serrano, who explained how to write abstracts and stressed the competitive nature of submitting abstracts for review.

Publication Workshop

This workshop was designed to introduce students to the process of submitting for publication. Dr. George Hart talked with students about strategies to increase their opportunities for publication by researching the style of each journal and submitting material to various outlets.
ALUMNI & STUDENTS: WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Please get in touch and tell us about your current activities, future plans, and professional or personal accomplishments. Send an email to Prof. George Hart at george.hart@csulb.edu.

In your email, please include your name, your CSULB degrees and when they were conferred, and your address. Let us know if we can include your activities and accomplishments in a future newsletter.

RE/INVENTIONS 2014: “NATURE +”

On April 10, 2014, the third annual Re/Inventions conference brought together over 20 scholars and a large audience with more than 120 in attendance. Re/Inventions welcomed visiting scholars from our local CSUs, several of our own CSULB colleagues, and Dr. Ursula Heise from UCLA. Organized “by students for students,” the conference provides graduate students and advanced undergraduates the opportunity to share their current scholarship. Hoping to attract papers reflecting the department’s interest in eco-critical approaches to scholarship, Re/Inventions announced “Nature +” as its theme.

Dr. Heise’s keynote lecture, “From Ark to ARKive: Narrative, Database, and Endangered Species,” introduced the abundance of books, photographs, paintings, documentaries, and websites relating to individual endangered species and the global panorama of biodiversity loss generated by the current mass extinction of species. Focusing on a related expression of concern over endangered species, global biodiversity databases that have been created on the Internet over the last 25 years, Dr. Heise argued that they should be considered as a contemporary form of ecological epic. Drawing on the digital humanities and the work of media theorists and historians of science, her talk analyzed the interplay of narrative and catalogue in these databases: in the justifications for their creation, in the structure of their metadata, in the taxa of organisms that receive preferential coverage, and in the entries on particular species.
Featured Course
COMMON CORE: ENGLISH 310

Dr. Sarah Arroyo taught English 310: “Applied Composition” in the spring 2014 semester. Applied Composition is offered every semester and is taught by several faculty members. The class is an advanced writing course, for English Education majors, that focuses on developing students’ writing as well as discussing the teaching of writing. Students in the course are also required to observe in a middle or high school English classroom for 30 hours. This blend of becoming advanced writers while thinking about teaching writing provides a rich experience for our future teachers.

Dr. Arroyo designed the course around the Common Core State Standards (CCS), which will be implemented by K-12 schools in California this year. Common Core requires both students and teachers to utilize a variety of technologies in their writing and teaching. Thus, students learned how to achieve the goals set forth in the CCS by becoming rhetoriccially and technically proficient with a wide range of platforms. Students interacted with multimodal material throughout the semester and completed three major projects, one of which required them to create a multimedia site they could use with students at a specific grade level. For the Common Core Multimedia project, students first chose specify English-Language Arts (ELA) standards on which to base the project. They then devised the content for the project and chose a platform online for hosting it. Many of the students “tested” their projects with the students they were observing and received extremely positive feedback.

NAES Conference:
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ETHNIC STUDIES

David Barrera, Phuong Luu, Rudi Maravilla, Alejandro Rubio, Rusty Rust, Katherine Steelman, and Dr. Araceli Esparza traveled to Oakland, CA over spring break to present their work at the 42nd Annual National Association for Ethnic Studies Conference.

The conference brought together artists, academics, and activists to discuss the decolonization of Ethnic Studies. The theme of the conference asked participants to envision research justice as ceremony: “Research justice is a critical, intersectional praxis that can unlock the power and knowledge of our own communities both within and outside of academia.” Angela Y. Davis was the conference keynote and shed light on her work to end the prison system with Critical Resistance in Oakland, CA.

All six of our students presented their work which illuminated critical interventions in Ethnic American film and literature.
Featured Course
ENGLISH 370: CHICANA/O AND LATINA/O LITERATURE

Dr. Araceli Esparza and Dr. Dennis López co-developed English 370: “Chicana/o and Latina/o Literature,” a new course that is cross-listed with the Department of Chicano and Latino Studies. This course offers students the opportunity to examine a rich body of literary works from the canons of U.S. literature, and it specifically has expanded our English Department’s offerings in U.S. ethnic literatures. Before the course was created, the Department only offered one course on the literature and culture of Chicana/o and Latina/o communities, Sexing Chicana Literature (English/Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies 442), which focuses exclusively on writings by Chicana authors. We now offer two new courses that focus on Chicana/o and Latina/o literature: ENGL/CHLS 370 and English 489J, a special topics course on Latina/o and Chicana/o cultural production.

ENGL 370 provides students the opportunity to explore and develop broader knowledge about Chicana/o and Latina/o literary works, including poetry, short stories, plays, and novels such as Their Dogs Came with Them by Helena Maria Viramontes. The course hopes to instill in students an appreciation and understanding of the interrelated histories of works by authors representing the various Chicana/o and Latina/o backgrounds. Equally important, the course emphasizes the significance of Chicana/o and Latina/o cultural works to the study of U.S. literature.

During the semester, students study the formation of Chicana/o and Latina/o identity, and they practice integrating knowledge from multiple perspectives and methods in discussions about Chicana/o and Latina/o literature and culture. Students also study the interrelations between literature and the social, economic, political, and historical contexts—domestic and international—that are critical to the understanding Chicana/o and Latina/o literature and culture. This course focuses primarily on literature but also places literary texts side by side with relevant legislation and institutional policies, historical documents, and critical accounts from the fields of sociology, anthropology, geography, immigration and law, critical race studies, gender studies, and political economy. Professor López first taught the course during fall 2013, Professor Esparza taught it during spring 2014, and Professor Anna Sandoval from the Chicano and Latino Studies Department will teach it during fall 2014.

Michael Heller’s *THIS CONSTELLATION IS A NAME: COLLECTED POEMS 1965-2010* was published in 2012 by Nightboat Books in New York City. He is also the author of a score of other books of poetry and criticism, including the prize-winning collection of essays on Objectivist poets, *Conviction’s Net of Branches*. Anne Waldman has praised him as “one of our best poets … (he) has carried Oppen’s dictum that poetry establishes ‘precise information on existence’ forward. His erudition and scope astound: Jewish mysticism finds company with Baudelaire and Tibet.”

Christopher Buckley has published numerous volumes of poetry, including *White Shirts* (2011) and *Rolling the Bones* (2010), which received the Tampa Review Prize. Other volumes include *Blue Autumn* (1990) and *Dark Matter* (1993), both from Copper Beech Press; *Star Apocrypha* (2001) from Northwestern University Press; and *Modern History: prose poems 1987-2007* (Tupelo Press, 2008). His poetry has appeared in dozens of magazines over the past 40 years, including *The New Yorker, American Poetry Review, Field*, and *POETRY*. He has received two NEA creative writing fellowships as well as a Guggenheim Fellowship in poetry.

Myriam Gurba just released her newest book of poetry, *Sweatsuits of the Damned*, this March, and she performs yearly with Sister Spit when the production visits Long Beach. She has written a novel/collection of short stories, compiled into one text, *Dahlia Season* (Manic D); and she has composed collections of poetry, including *Wish You Were Me* (Future Tense), *Menudo & Herb* (self-published), and *A White Girl Named Shaquanda* (self-published). Catch her if you can; her performances are jarring and hilarious.
When I was an undergraduate English major, my parents wanted me to be a high school teacher, while I dreamed of an adventurous life as an international news reporter. Only one obstacle stood in my way: I disliked newsroom politics more than I disliked the constraints of teaching in public school. However, career options other than education and journalism were simply not on my radar. Where could I try out a position in editing for a publisher or in public relations for a non-profit agency? Thankfully, I discussed my dilemma with my writing professor that semester, and she told me about a new offering in the course schedule: an internship for credit. I ran down a few leads in my home town, and by the following semester I had secured a public relations internship with the local art museum. After graduation, I then landed a plumb position as an editorial assistant at a romance novel publisher. This career path would not have been possible without that internship.

If my story resonated with you, dear English major, then I’ve got good news for you! Not only does our department offer an internship, but we also offer a certificate in Technical and Professional Communication (TPC), which includes the internship and much more. The TPC program is intended for students who know that written communication will be important in their professional lives across a variety of fields, including business, science, technology, government, public service, or non-profit work. Moreover, the TPC program is unique in that the certificate can be completed as an adjunct to a baccalaureate or post-baccalaureate degree, or students may pursue the certificate as a stand-alone, post-baccalaureate program. Students may tailor much of their course of study to their proposed career path, and they will be working with faculty who are themselves practicing professional communicators and educators. For more information, please visit the TPC program website, which is linked to from the Department of English home page, at http://www.csulb.edu/colleges/clac/departments/english/technical-and-professional-writing. To schedule an advising appointment, please contact Jennifer Smith at Jennifer.Smith@csulb.edu or Dr. Gary Griswold at William.Griswold@csulb.edu.

The series offered stimulating talks that generated lively Q&A conversations and were well attended by large audiences of colleagues and students alike. We look forward to scheduling another series of monthly lunchtime faculty presentations when the department resumes this rewarding endeavor next year.
Dr. Sarah Arroyo
presented at the Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC) on March 22, 2014 in Indianapolis, IN. Her panel, “Videocy in the Age of Open Access: The Challenges to Scholarship,” discussed the proliferation of online video literacy (videocy) and made suggestions for scholarly interventions.

Dr. Araceli Esparza
presented her paper “Imagining Solidarity: Cherrie Moraga’s Theory of Solidarity in This Bridge Called My Back” at the 42nd annual Conference for the National Association of Ethnic Studies.

Suzanne Greenberg
will publish her forthcoming novel, Lesson Plans (Prospect Park Books, May, 2014), which was selected as the Library Journal Fiction Spring Pick.

Dr. George Hart
was an invited speaker at the Robinson Jeffers Fall Festival in Carmel, CA, where he shared his paper, “The Lamp in My Tower: Building and the Biology of Consciousness at Tor House,” in October 2013.

David Hernandez
was awarded the Pushcart Prize XXXVIII: Best of the Small Presses for Best American Poetry in 2013.

Dr. Lloyd Kermode
organized the 21st Annual CSU Shakespeare Symposium, CSU Long Beach, March 1, 2014. The keynote speaker was Jonathan Burton from Whittier College. Fifty delegates from CSU, UC, and other local and national institutions were in attendance. He also presented his paper “Nor Time Nor Place Did Then Adhere: The Space-Time Problem in Macbeth” at the 2014 Annual Meeting of the Renaissance of America in New York City.

Dr. Dennis López

Dr. Bill Mohr
was awarded Beyond Baroque’s 2014 George Drury Smith Award. He presented a paper at PAMLA last year in San Diego and was also invited to present in February at this year’s AWP conference in Seattle.

Dr. Martine van Elk
presented her paper “‘Keep Her With You at Home’: Domesticity, Art, and Women Writers in the Dutch Republic” at the 2014 Annual Meeting of the Renaissance Society of America in New York City.
Stephen Cooper

“Nothing Human Is Foreign to Me.” Afterword to Joel Williams’s short story collection A House Burning (Cap-o-Joe Press, Kindle edition, 2013). This is the American edition of Du sang dans les plumes (Paris: 13e Note Editions, 2012), a collection of short stories by first-time Native American author Joel Williams. Mr. Williams is a prisoner in California’s Mule Creek State Prison whom Professor Cooper has been mentoring by mail since 2009.


“Posłowie,” Fotograf z Auschwitz [“Afterword” to The Photographer of Auschwitz], by Anna Dobrowolska. (Warsaw: Grupa Filmowa Rekontrplan, 2013).

Tyler Dilts


Araceli Esparza


Brian Finney


Suzanne Greenberg


Elizabeth Hoffman


Neil Hultgren


Bill Mohr (selected)

“American Baseball” OR 12; Spring, 2014

“The Sermon of the Passionate Nihilist.” OR 11; Fall, 2013

Solo Nolo – “The Wrong Side of History”

Alan Rifkin

Wounds to Bind: A Memoir of the Folk-Rock Revolution, coauthored with We Five’s Jerry Burgan. Rowman and Littlefield.

Patty Seyburn (selected)


“Roethke, Ecclesiastes and the Michigan Left-Turn in Lynda Hull’s ‘Magical Thinking.’”

“Apologia to Shirley and Coleridge.” Poetica magazine, forthcoming spring/summer 2014.

Martine van Elk


Dianne Vipond


Charles Webb (selected)


Mark Williams

You can help us fund scholarships and student activities, bring writers and lecturers to campus, and continue our outreach efforts by making a tax-deductible donation to the Department of English.

Making a gift is easier than ever! We accept gifts by cash, checks and credit cards in annual, quarterly or monthly payments.

You or your spouse may be eligible for a matching gift from your employer. This is an easy way to double or triple the impact of your giving to CSULB. Please contact your human resources office to see if you qualify.

If you would like to make a donation, you can make your check payable to CSULB Foundation Friends of English and send it to the following address, or you can contact Mr. Fitzgerald directly.

Howie Fitzgerald, Director of Development
College of Liberal Arts / CSULB
1250 Bellflower Blvd, MHB-209B
Long Beach, CA 90840-2401