Welcome to Sangho Park, who is beginning the Ph.D. Program this spring!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

EGSA Conference: “This Land is My Land: Reclaiming Spaces and Narratives”
March 7-9, 2019

This March, EGSA will welcome scholars from around the country for “This Land is My Land: Reclaiming Spaces and Narratives,” our biennial graduate student conference.

In the original recorded version of Woody Guthrie’s most famous song “This Land is Your Land,” two controversial verses were expunged in order to paint a sunnier portrait of America. The missing lyrics depict much darker American stories of exclusion and disenfranchisement, which causes Guthrie to change his statement to a question: “Is this land made for you and me?” While later folk artists would reclaim the missing lyrics, this story of neglect and reclamation informs the theme of this conference. Guthrie aptly identifies in his lyrics the way that place shapes our experiences, emphasizing how different people experience place differently. The theme for the 2019 University of Tulsa English Graduate Student Conference, “This Land is My Land: Reclaiming Spaces and Narratives,” thus centers on the reclaimations of spaces and narratives, defining “space” in both literal and figurative terms. It seeks to answer questions such as how people have appropriated not only cultures but cultural spaces; how archives negotiate ownership—thinking about who has a right to what physical spaces, histories, and narratives; how we approach narratives outside of our own cultural experiences as instructors, researchers, and scholars.
We seek to address the following questions: How can we approach regional spaces and narratives in ways that honor their uniqueness while acknowledging their larger context? How do we determine what texts, spaces, or narratives to claim or to reclaim? How do (or should) we separate our personal heritage from the larger forces which govern cultural spaces? In exploring these questions, and listening to those voices that have been previously silenced, we as a community of scholars, teachers, students, and creators can revisit the histories of those around us to shape our future practice.

Please join us for this incredible event, which will feature a keynote address by Dr. Lisa Brooks of Amherst University!

Nieta M. Pinkerton Endowed Graduate Fellowship:

Congratulations to Blake Connelly, recipient of the 2018–19 Nieta M. Pinkerton Endowed Graduate Fellowship for International Research! Blake will travel to England this summer to study archival texts and resources such as personal letters or original manuscripts. “My research and dissertation focus on lesser-known mostly female authors, such as Charlotte Dacre, Mary Robinson, Joanna Southcott and Hannah More to name a few, who have been excluded from the conversation and scholarship of British Romanticism,” Connelly said. According to Connelly, his research delves into the ways in which the lesser-known female authors seek to dismantle the hierarchies placed upon them by society and the philosophical framework of the Great Chain of Being.

Connelly said that many of the less-examined voices of this time period were united in their attempts to challenge established hierarchies in society. He also argues that reactions to the intersections of religion and literature reveal cohesion among egalitarian voices, as well as a powerful counter-movement of authors seeking to maintain the status quo. “By examining original texts, manuscripts and primary documents from many of these authors and their contemporaries, I will gain needed insight into the subjects of my project and their cultural milieu,” Connelly said. “Many of these texts have not been examined in scholarly publications, due to their limited accessibility and unique subject matter.”

Connelly teaches advanced placement English literature and senior British literature at Jenks High School and was the 2012 Jenks Public School District Teacher of the Year. The content area skills he has gained through the doctoral program allow him to be an even better literature instructor and help him better prepare his students for college. His long-term goal is to become a college professor at a small liberal arts institution. “The aspect of my research that most excites me is shining a light on these lesser-known works in scholarship and being able to teach them to my students,” he explained.

GRADUATE NEWS

Awards and Honors

Congratulations to Carlos Acosta-Ponce, Al Hurlock, Amy Pezzelle, and Dayne Riley, our 2019–20 Bellwether Fellows!

Congratulations to Carlos Acosta-Ponce and Amy Pezzelle, who have been selected to teach spring 2019 First Seminars. Carlos will teach a course entitled “Studies in Comics: The Graphic Memoir,” while Amy will teach a course entitled “Read ‘Em and Weep: Pop Culture and the Novel.”
**Publications**

Clay Cantrell published poems entitled “The Old-Lyne Horse School Stance” and “Notes from My Time on the Farm” in *Crazyhorse*, and his poem “Animals and People Together” is forthcoming in *Main Street Rag*.

Layne Farman published “Ba-rock(que) and Roll Baby,” a review of *The Art of James Joyce: International James Joyce Symposium*, in the fall issue of the *James Joyce Supplement*.


**Conferences**

Beth Csomay will present a paper entitled “Freeing the Bonds that Bind Me: Pushing Boundaries in A Sicilian Romance” at the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies Conference.

Dr. Jeff Drouin and Carlos Acosta-Ponce attended the conference of the Modernist Studies Association in Columbus, OH in November 2018. They gave a digital presentation on two magazines that are being digitized for the Modernist Journals Project, *Samhain and transition*. Alex Barchet and Harrison Brockwell have also contributed to the digitization of these two titles, which will begin appearing in late Winter.

Gail Ellis will present a paper entitled “Societal Trends and Political Commentary in Seventeenth-Century Fortune-Telling Literature” at the annual conference of the South-Central Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies.

Megan Gibson will present a paper entitled “Eighteenth-Century Richardson Fan Fiction and the Authority of Interpretation” at the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies Conference.

Destiny Hrnčíř presented a paper entitled “‘Ernest’ and ‘Game’ Explored in The Canterbury Tales” at the University of Virginia’s 2018 Medieval–Renaissance Conference.

Lily McCutty will present a paper entitled “I begin to guess what is design’d for me’: Female Intuition in Fielding’s The Old Debauchees” at the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies Conference.

Jenna Niece will present a paper entitled “Tripping the Line Elastic: Limitations and Masculinity in Neil Gaiman’s ‘How to Talk to Girls at Parties’” at the 2019 Popular Culture/American Culture Association Conference.

Amanda Pate presented a paper entitled “Innocence and Virtue in Red Riding Hood Retelling Crimson Bound” at the 2018 Popular Culture/American Culture Association Conference.

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**Upcoming Events**

Please mark your calendars for the following EGSA events:

**January**

**January 18, 2019**

Welcome Back Party

**January 25, 2019**

The Exam Process and Beyond with Dr. Airey

**February**

TBA

Game Night

**March**

TBA

Professional Series: Research Talk with Dr. Airey

**March 7–9, 2019**

EGSA Conference: “This Land is My Land”: Reclaiming Spaces and Narratives

**April**

TBA

EGSA Goes to the Philbrook

**April 26, 2019**

End of the Year Party

Be on the lookout also for an introduction to writing groups with Dr. Airey and an introduction to the job market with Dr. Drouin later this semester.
Amy Pezzelle will present a paper entitled “How Women Warriors Create Hopeful Futures in LeAnne Howell’s Shell Shaker” at the 2019 Multi-Ethnic Literature of the United States (MELUS) Conference.


Marie Sartain presented a paper entitled “Artistry, Patr(e)onage, and Monetary Support: Problems with Commodifying Webcomics” at the 2018 South-Central MLA Conference.

**Milestones**

Congratulations to Aubrey Delammermore, who graduated with her M.A. in December!

Al Hurlock successfully defended his dissertation prospectus and has been admitted to candidacy.

Tulsa Studies in Women’s Literature is pleased to welcome Caleb Freeman, our new Publicity Internet, and Lily McCully, our Book Review Editor-in-Training.

**ALUMNI NEWS**


Lindi Smith (Ph.D. ’16) has accepted the position of Senior Digital Editor for the Dallas County Community College District.


**FACULTY NEWS**

Dr. Jennifer Arey’s book Religion Around Mary Shelley has received final approval from Pennsylvania State University Press; it will be forthcoming in 2019. Her essay, “Cult: The Case of Mary-Catherine Cadrière,” is forthcoming in Studies in Eighteenth-Century Culture as part of “Devotion in the Enlightenment: A Forum,” edited and introduced by Dr. Laura Stevens. She will be presenting a paper entitled “They ‘presume boldly to exhibit themselves’: Women and the Politics of Likeability in the Works of Charlotte Dacre” at the upcoming meeting of the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, and a paper entitled “Half an Hour well employed: Women’s Private Devotions and Family Prayer Books in Eighteenth-Century England” at the IZEA Conference in Halle, Germany.

Dr. Dennis Denisoff has been elected a member of the MLA Delegate Assembly, serving as the Central/Rocky Mountain Representative for a 3-year term. His article “Sexuality” appeared in the “Key Words” special issue of Victorian Literature and Culture (46.3, 2018), pp. 882-85. He has also been contracted to guest edit a special issue of VLC on new developments in Decadence studies (Winter 2020). In fall 2018, he gave an invited lecture entitled “Toward an Eco-Decadent Theory of Trans-species Relationality” at Michigan State University. He also gave conference papers at NAVSA (2018) on “What Decadence Offers Eco-Sexuality: From Heinrich Knaan to Guillermo del Toro,” and at the MLA (2019) on “Michael Field Reading Antoine Watteau's Affections.” Later this spring he is giving invited lectures at the University of Exeter, Queen Mary – University of London, and Stockholm University addressing his recent book Arthur Machen: Decadent and Occult Works (2018).

Dr. Grant Jenkins's essay, “Vagabond and a Slave: *Frankenstein* as (African American) Slave Narrative” will be forthcoming in Issue 2, Volume 2 of the *Journal of Foreign Languages and Cultures*. It argues that without African American slave narratives, particularly Olaudah Equiano’s 1789 *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano, or Gustavus Vassa, The African, Written by Himself*, Shelley’s novel would not have been possible. By looking closely at the formal, generic, and ideological elements of both narratives, he concludes that Shelley draws intertextually upon the slave narrative tradition in constructing her own story. Furthermore, Equiano’s political challenge to an entire economic and social order enables Shelley’s own social critique, which emerges as much more complex and ambiguous than previously thought.

Dr. Holly Laird has accepted the editorship of *Contemporary Women’s Writing*, adding to our department’s strengths in the study of women’s literature.

Professor Keija Parssinen has an opinion piece coming out in *Slate*, interviews of Leila Aboulela and Aminatta Forna forthcoming in *World Literature Today*, and a new short story coming out in *The New Territory*. She was a MacDowell Colony Fellow in 2018.

Dr. Don James McLaughlin will hold the Hench Post-Dissertation Fellowship for the 2019 calendar year, sponsored by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, at the American Antiquarian Society in Worcester, Massachusetts. Dr. McLaughlin will use the fellowship to complete his book in progress, *Infections Affect: The Phobic Imagination in American Literature*, which explores the rise of phobia as a psychological diagnosis, political metaphor, and literary aesthetic in the long nineteenth century. Dr. McLaughlin was also recently awarded a 2019 Quarry Farm Fellowship by the Center for Mark Twain Studies. Dr. McLaughlin will use the fellowship to complete a book chapter on Twain's unfinished manuscript *3,000 Years among the Microbes*.

Dr. Laura Stevens has received a Fulbright Award and will spend the summer at Martin Luther Universität Halle-Wittenberg. She will present on “Pressing Questions in British Literature and Beyond: Intersectionality” as part of the Presidential Roundtable of the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies Conference, and will discuss “Teaching Race in the Eighteenth Century in the Twenty-First Century Classroom” as part of the ASECS Presidential Session Workshop. Later this semester, she will deliver a keynote address at the John F. Kennedy Institute for North American Studies at the Freie Universität Berlin. She is co-organizer of “The Place of Religion in the Enlightenment,” an international conference co-sponsored by faculty at Halle's Martin Luther Universität. Her introduction to “Devotion in the Enlightenment: A Forum” is forthcoming in *Studies in Eighteenth-Century Culture*.

As director of the TU Institute for Bob Dylan Studies, Dr. Sean Latham is organizing *The World of Bob Dylan*, an international gathering of scholars, fans, musicians, and artists that will place from May 30 to June 2 at venues across the city of Tulsa, including Gilcrease Museum and Guthrie Green. It will feature keynote lectures by leading music critics, appearances by major recording stars, and dozens of panels on all topics related to Dylan’s music, context, life, and legacy. Participants will also get a VIP look into the Bob Dylan Archive and have a chance to see a major exhibition of Dylan’s works. Registration is now open. Dr. Latham is also working with Dr. Brian Hosmer (History) on a collection of over thirty essays on Dylan’s work that will feature work by Greil Marcus, Gayle Wald, Ann Powers, and many other scholars and critics. The book, also called *The World of Bob Dylan*, will be published by Cambridge University Press in 2020. Dr. Latham is at work on several other Dylan-related projects including a biography of the songwriters’ creative life and a large-scale collaboration on folk writing and modernity with colleagues at the University of Southern Denmark.