

2016

ENGLISH

2017

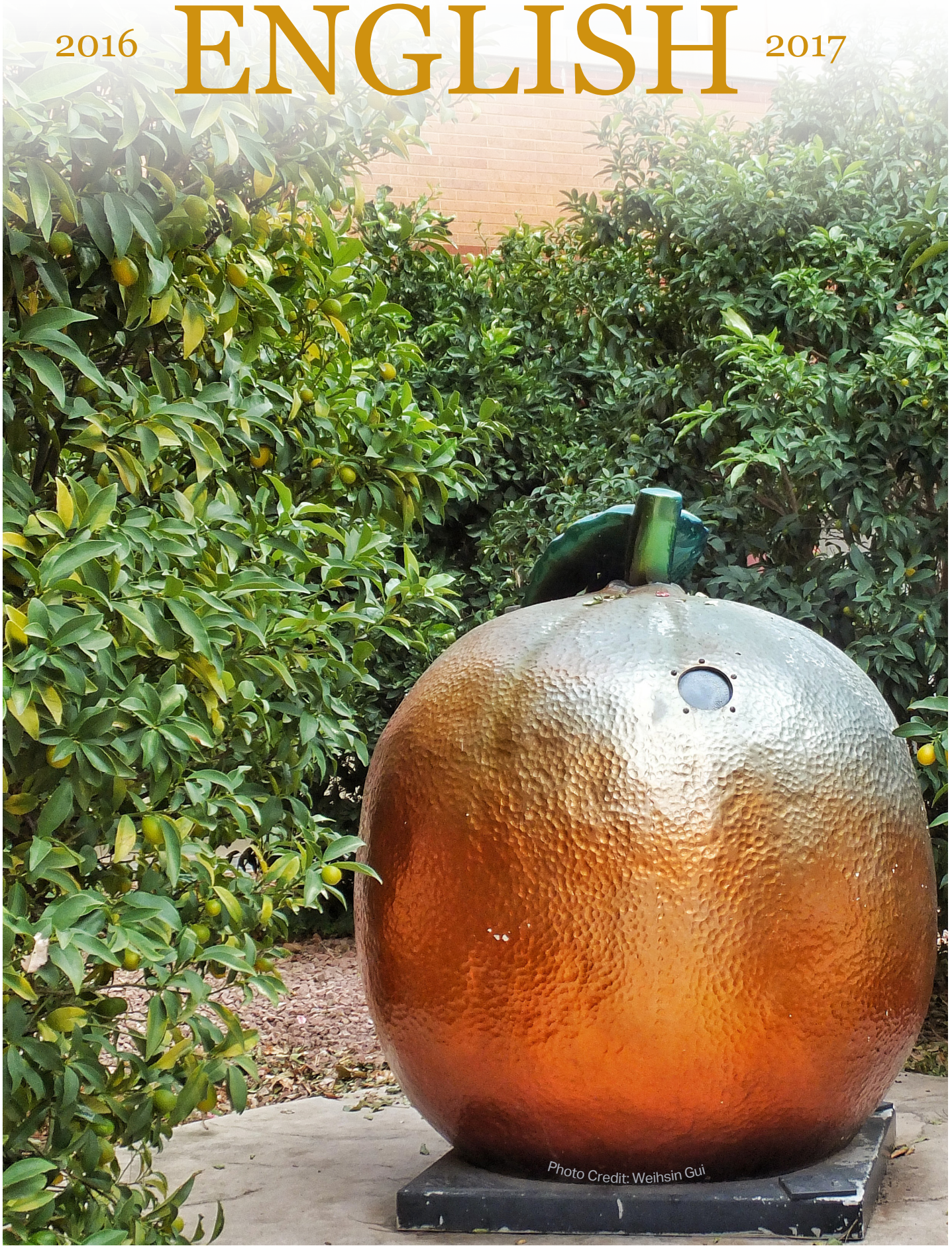


Photo Credit: Weihsin Gui

LAST SPRING THE DEPARTMENT ADOPTED THIS NEW MISSION STATEMENT

George Haggerty

The UCR English Department is committed to the study of English and American literatures and cultures. Our work is oriented by literature and by the question of the literary, even as it expands to consider a wide range of texts. Oral traditions, material objects, visual culture, performance art, and soundscapes figure in our scholarship alongside more traditional and other innovative forms. A broad and diverse understanding of English and American literature includes everything from medieval lyrics to film and digital media; from the plays of Shakespeare to the work of Louise Erdrich, Theresa Hak Kyung Cha, and Toni Morrison; from poetry by Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz to novels by Mary Shelley, James Joyce, or the poetry and prose of Cherrie Moraga or Gloria Anzaldúa.

A wide range of critical formations shape our practice. To name only a few: archive studies; Asian American Studies; Black Studies; Feminist and Queer Studies; Hemispheric Studies; Latina/o Studies; Native and Indigenous Studies; Postcolonial Studies; SFTS (Science/Speculative Fiction and Technology Studies); and Transatlantic Studies. Literature, furthermore, is not only what we study: it is what we write. Our department has a history of supporting innovative critical practice across a range of formats, including experimental criticism, creative non-fiction, poetry and curatorial work.

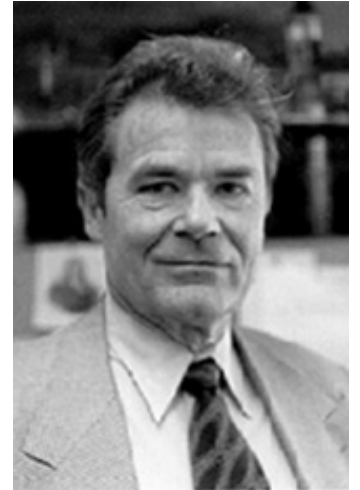
Both our undergraduate and graduate programs are structured around principles of justice and equality, and we pride ourselves that our own innovative research demonstrates these principles, as does our commitment to imaginative pedagogy. We take the meaning of instruction and mentorship seriously: the integrity of the faculty-student relationship is at the heart of our work. We show our broad range of interests and rich research profile in everything we do, and we share those interests with our students. Our teaching anchors our scholarship. As a department, we are committed to valuing the ways that teaching, service and scholarship inform and support each other.



Photo credit: Weishin Gui

THE CAMPUS LOSES A SENIOR RENAISSANCE SCHOLAR

Distinguished Professor Stanley Stewart was one of the founders of the Association of Literary Scholars, Critics, and Writers, and served as its president ten years ago. Stan began working at UCR in 1961, and passed away on February 9, 2016. Stan had begun teaching in Winter quarter, when he was suddenly taken ill and died in just a few weeks.



Professor Stewart was an impressively accomplished scholar: from his first book on early modern poetry, *The Enclosed Garden: The Tradition and the Image in 17th Century Poetry* (1966), to his very recent *Shakespeare and Philosophy* (2010), in which he explores the role that Shakespeare played in the thinking of philosophers from Kant to Kierkegaard. He was also a leading expert on the 17th-century poet and dramatist Ben Jonson, and he served as the longstanding editor of the *Ben Jonson Journal*. Professor Stewart has ranged across the literature and thought of the English Renaissance with a clear understanding of the rich and varied ways in which literature can offer insights into the complexities of social and cultural change. He has received a Guggenheim Fellowship and a Mellon Grant. He was the UCR Faculty Research Lecturer in 2000.

Stanley Stewart brought this profound erudition into the classroom. Throughout his career at UCR, he has been a master teacher, not only a recipient of the Distinguished Teaching Award, but also an inspiration to graduate students and undergraduates alike. Just this past Fall quarter he taught English 20A, Introduction to the English Literary Tradition, our required introduction to the English major, to over 200 students. One student comment says it all: "Dr. Stewart embodies what a teacher should be: Informative, kind, receptive, encouraging, intellectually challenging, dignified, confident, empathetic, responsible, and witty. Not all teachers on this campus can claim all these at once."

Stan Stewart was a devoted member of the English Department for 55 years. He was a towering figure in the profession and a guiding light to the students. He leaves a vacancy that is too huge to contemplate.



INA FELDMANN RETIRES AFTER THIRTY-FIVE YEARS IN THE DEPARTMENT

THIS IS WHAT GEORGE HAGGERTY SAID AT HER RETIREMENT PARTY:

Tina has been in the English Department since 1981.

She has worked with dozens of chairs and graduate advisors and hundreds of students, and she has made a difference to every one of them.

We joke that Tina is the one in the office with the long memory: that's no joke. I went in last week to ask her about a student I thought had finished nearly twenty years ago. "Oh," Tina said, "she never completed her degree." And she did that without looking at anything. Later when we checked, it turned out she was right.

Over the last 25 years Tina has become what I would like to call the spiritual center of the department, our soul. Of course we are not a religious school and such language can be suspect: so let me explain myself. Tina is the person who reminds us to be our very best selves. She remarks what are the fairest approaches to programmatic complications; she often sees what is right when those around her are floundering; she takes up collections—for our students, for our alumni, often for our friends across campus—and she reminds us why it is important to give; if we lose someone dear to us, she helps to organize memorials and she reminds everyone how important it is to attend; Tina also makes sure that her office is a safe space for the graduate students, and she offers them counseling far richer and more helpful than what her job description calls for; she remembers birthdays and anniversaries and helps us all to remember them too.

The English Department will be a sadder place without Tina. She has held us together through different chairs and different MSO's or FAO's, and she is always ready to remind us what we are doing here and why the well-being of every single graduate student is of crucial importance to us all. She makes sense of rules and regulations because she knows how and why they were conceived and what purposes they serve. She also knows how the lives of graduate students are better because of them.

But most of all I want to offer Tina my personal thanks. She and I have been in the department for almost exactly the same period. We have grown closer professionally and personally over the 35 years we have known each other, and I can say that I know very few in the university with the integrity and deep commitment that Tina has had. Again and again she reminds me what it means to be a member of the University of California, Riverside. She has great love for the English Department, and we all love her in return.



SAWYER SEMINAR REPORT

Sherryl Vint

The Speculative Fiction and Cultures of Science program hosted a Mellon-funded Sawyer Seminar during the 2015-2016 academic year. It was led by Sherryl Vint and Nalo Hopkinson. This Seminar on Alternative Futurisms brought scholars, writers, and artists to our campus to explore the intersections between ethnic identity and futuristic speculation. We fostered a dialogue about diverse ethnic visions of the future and explored the power of speculative fiction as a tool for social change. As part of this research program we hosted two conferences, provided the venue for the North American premiere of Mexican sf film *Los parecidos* (*The Similar*s by Isaac Ezban), and seeded a number of ongoing research collaborations. An archive of all our events and activities can be found at the Alternative Futurisms website.

The highlight of Fall quarter events was our opening conference, *Revising the Past, Making the Future* (<http://sawyer.ucr.edu/conference.html>), hosted at UCR's downtown Culver Center. The conference attracted approximately fifty presenters and double that number as attendees from the US, the UK, Canada, and Mexico, and featured a keynote by Canada film scholar Barry Keith Grant. It successfully brought together voices from across the various traditions we sought to put into dialogue, and was an ideal opportunity for UC Riverside graduate students to present their work to some of the field's major scholars. We were also able to collaborate with another UC Riverside grant (from the Getty Foundation) to curate an art show on Latin American art with sf themes, and to include three of the artists commissioned to produce new work for that upcoming show as part of our conference panel.

During Winter quarter, we hosted author Walter Mosley, whose oeuvre includes a number of speculative works, as a writer in residence. Mosley's science fiction books, including *Blue Light* (1988), *Futureland* (2002) and *The Wave* (2005), explore themes of social justice and systemic racism in near-future settings. During his time at UC Riverside, Mosley ran a masterclass for MFA students and gave a lecture on navigating the publishing industry that was included in UCR's prominent *Writer's Week* series.

We wrapped up the seminar series in Spring quarter with two prominent events, the first a conference on *Queer Futurities*, generously funded by the Department of English's Bredbeck lecture series, and a final conference entitled *Narrating the Future*. This wrap-up conference featured a keynote address by queer studies scholar Mel Y. Chen and a plenary talk by filmmaker and artist Alex Rivera, whose film *Sleep Dealer* (2009) has transformed our understanding of the possibilities for sf film. The final conference featured the research supported by the grant and conducted by the four scholars it funded, postdoctoral fellow Brian K. Hudson and graduate students Stina Attebery, Kai Cheang, and Taylor Evans.

REPORT ON THE CONFERENCE ON "PALESTINE, ISRAEL AND THE ASSAULT ON ACADEMIC FREEDOM"

UC RIVERSIDE OCTOBER 22-3, 2015

DAVID LLOYD

Last October, the Department of English was among the co-sponsors of a conference on academic freedom held at UC Riverside in response to recent efforts by various organizations to interfere with the freedom of both faculty and students to research, teach and study. Though focused now on the question of Palestine, these attacks are reminiscent of previous political attacks on academic programs like LGBT and Gender and Sexuality studies, to both of which the English Department has historically been committed. While only a few of these recent assaults have succeeded, and most have been found to be spurious or unfounded, they are intended to place academics engaged in public scholarship on the defensive and to create a climate of fear and hesitation whose effect will not only be to silence criticism of Israel but to create a generally chilling atmosphere for dissenting voices on campus. The impact of the assault on academic freedom will not be confined to the issue of Palestine and Israel.

For several years, academics, students, and engaged individuals globally have seen a marked rise in attacks on scholarship and teaching that express, or even merely include, perspectives critical of the State of Israel and its occupation of Palestine. These attacks have included the denial or withdrawal of tenure from academics; efforts to sanction or suppress the activities and even existence of organizations like Students for Justice in Palestine or the Muslim Students Association; attempts to censor or even "eliminate" classes deemed to be "biased" against Israel and to prevent speakers from appearing on campus; and threats to individual students and professors. They have provoked malicious personal attacks via social media on individuals who have criticized Israel publicly or engaged in organizing for Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS). These attacks have directly affected both students and faculty at UC Riverside, which made this campus a fitting location for the conference.

The conference was attended by faculty from throughout the UC system and beyond, including speakers from UCLA, Berkeley, Santa Cruz, and San Diego, as well as the University of San Francisco and even the University of British Columbia. Faculty represented a wide range of disciplines, from English, Comparative Literature and Rhetoric to International Relations, Anthropology and Middle Eastern Studies. Several community groups also took part, including a panel that hosted speakers from Jewish Voice for Peace and Palestine Legal, organizations that had both recently released extensive reports on campus climate and attacks on free speech. In addition to faculty panels, graduate and undergraduate students from various organizations across the state presented their own experiences. With at least 50-60 participants on each day, the conference was well attended and both days

provoked invigorating and lively discussion of the issues. Certainly the high quality of the papers, which reached beyond the immediate question of academic freedom to consider how we reflect and act upon situations of conflict and controversy, suggested that critical intellectual discourse flourishes in an atmosphere of open and unconstrained debate.

FACULTY NEWS

John Briggs was the 2015-2016 president of the Association of Literary Scholars, Critics, and Writers. During his tenure he led the Association's move from Boston University to Catholic University of America, where it has strengthened its finances and enlarged its membership. The next annual ALSCW conference, at the University of Dallas in 2017, will feature Bob Dylan's lyrical biographer and eminent literary critic, Christopher Ricks, as the keynoter.


Robb Hernandez had a year's fellowship at UCLA:

During his faculty residency at the Institute for American Cultures/UCLA Chicano Studies Research Center, Robb Hernández completed his book manuscript, *Finding AIDS: Archival Body/Archival Space and the Chicano Avant-garde* and submitted it for review. With CSRC support, he also presented works in progress at Pratt Institute, Manhattan College, Cal State L.A., Latino Art Now in Chicago, and L.A. Queer Biennial II. He co-edited a special dossier for *Aztlán: A Journal of Chicano Studies* entitled, "The People of Paper/La Gente de Papel: Rethinking Aztlán's Printed Matters." The forthcoming collection examines the material agency of paper in literature and art history ranging from the textual regimes of Spanish colonial authority in the production of the US/Mexico borderlands to contemporary debates of "having papers" in immigration discourse. He concluded his summer by giving a guest lecture/tour of the Latino cultural dimensions of Art AIDS America—a historic exhibition surveying over thirty years of artists' responses to the AIDS pandemic—at the Bronx Museum of the Arts in July.



Photo Credit: Lauren Click for Bronx Museum of the Arts

Over the last three years Professor **Andrea Denny-Brown** has developed the “Medieval Manuscript Digital Archive,” a digital collection of rare medieval manuscripts for teaching and research purposes. With the help of UCR’s Instructional Innovation Grant and two consecutive Innovative Use of Information Technology in Teaching grants, she has worked with curators, conservators, and digital design specialists at the Huntington Library to create complete, user-friendly digital versions of important medieval manuscripts for use in teaching UCR graduate and undergraduate students. This archive is the primary material for hybrid courses Denny-Brown has designed to teach skills for understanding medieval manuscripts and also skills in the digital humanities. In courses such as ENGL 151T, “Hacking the Medieval Manuscript,” and ENGL 260, “The Multimodal Manuscript,” students learn how to analyze, edit, and digitally curate rare literary materials in new and emerging digital environments, such as the brand new viewing platform Mirador (<http://iiif.github.io/mirador/>) and the exhibition site Omeka (<http://www.omeka.net>). In addition to the time spent developing the digital archive, students in these courses also learn about medieval manuscripts through hands-on exercises based in materials at UCR Special Collections and the Huntington Library.



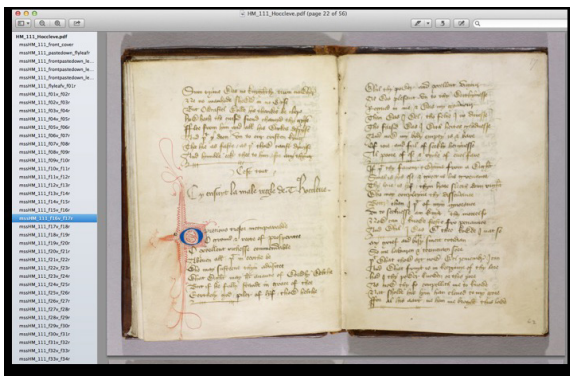
ENGL 151T: Hacking the Medieval Manuscript

MWF 2:10-3 Watkins 1117

Professor Andrea Denny-Brown
Office address: 2207 HMNS
Office Hours W 12-1 and by appointment
andreadb@ucr.edu

This course will introduce students to the study of medieval English manuscripts in the digital age. Before the invention of the printing press, and long before online books, literary works were painstakingly hand-written by scribes and hand-illustrated by artists. Paper was made from animal skins, and quill pens were made from goose feathers; illustrators hand-prepared the paints and gold leaf they used to decorate each page. In today's world we can access these rare books in digital form; but how exactly do we understand what we are seeing? In this class you will learn the basic techniques of medieval book-making, writing, and illustrating, as well as how to use and interpret such books in the digital age. We will examine the highly interactive mode of medieval books, where margins were intended to leave room for a reader's own notes, and where “grotesques,” or hybrid creatures—part human, part animal, part plant—were painted into the margins to provoke or amuse a book's readers. In this class you will

Andrea Denny-Brown's undergraduate course, “Hacking the Medieval Manuscript”



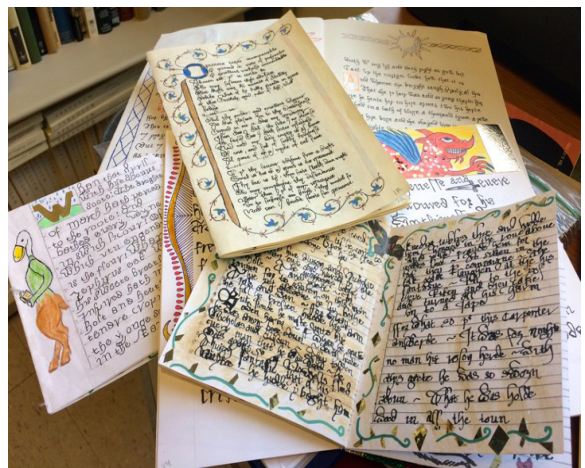
Students learn how to read medieval manuscripts digitally, using The Medieval Manuscript Digital Archive



UCR graduate students Cody Hoover and Mariam Galarrita page through a large medieval antiphonal



UCR undergraduate students in Denny-Brown's course 151T: “Hacking the Medieval Manuscript” examine medieval manuscripts at UCR Special Collections



Undergraduate students are assigned to “make” their own manuscript quires by hand, to better learn the artisanal processes behind of medieval manuscript production

Weihsin Gui reports on Placement:

The English department's job placement advising team, currently consisting of Weihsin Gui and Emma Stapely, provide informational sessions on various topics (sometimes with guest speakers) tailored to specific aspects of the academic job search, such as applying for jobs at liberal arts and community colleges, and applying for postdoctoral fellowships. In addition to reviewing and editing application materials, the job placement advisors also conduct mock interviews and organize mock job talks and teaching demonstrations, offering constructive feedback to ensure job seekers are well prepared for the actual events. The graduate workshop in professionalization matters (ENGL410) allows ABD grad students to learn about how to make the most out of academic conferences, how to search and apply for external funding, and also to circulate and develop work-in-progress with an eye to publication.

THE DEPARTMENT MAKES TWO EXCITING HIRES THIS YEAR

Mark Minch emerged from the Indigenous Studios Search and comes to us as one of several faculty appointed in this field. Dr. Minch received his Ph.D. in the Rhetoric Department of the University of California, Berkeley in 2014. Since that time, he has been awarded the prestigious Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in Native American Studies at Wesleyan University. He has also been awarded an equally prestigious postdoctoral fellowship at the Center for the Humanities at Tufts University, where he will finish revising his dissertation for publication. Dr. Minch (Susanville Indian Rancheria) is a rising star in critical Native American Studies and rhetoric and his work would complement, strengthen and enlarge the growing and dynamic field of Native American and Indigenous Studies on campus generally and in the Department of English in particular. We are delighted to welcome Professor Minch to UCR.



Fuson Wang emerged from the UCR-Huntington Library Search in the Departments of Art History, English, and History. He was one of two appointments in that search. These candidates will have two years' fellowship at the Huntington as part of their first six years at UCR. Fuson Wang is an astonishing scholar of the longer eighteenth century and Romantic period. His work on the medical history of Romanticism is truly groundbreaking. His file includes several important publications from key venues like *Eighteenth-Century Contexts*, *Eighteenth-Century Fiction*, and *European Romantic Review*. He is also well on his way to completing a book-length manuscript entitled *Romantic Disease Discourse: A Radical Literary History of Smallpox Inoculation*.



Fuson Wang received his B.A. at Stanford University and his Ph.D. at UCLA in 2014. His letters of recommendation

are impeccable; his teaching evaluations are strong; and his writing sample was both beautiful written and compelling. Even more impressive, he won over a diverse search committee of faculty from three departments as compellingly as he won over the English Department, who voted unanimously to approve his appointment. We are delighted that Fuson Wang will be joining our department and the College and that he will be representing us at the Huntington Library.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS AND PUBLICATIONS

John Briggs delivered the presidential address at the 2016 annual conference of the Association of Literary Scholars, Critics, and Writers. He also gave the lead lecture, on the philosophical status of rhetorical invention, introducing a three-day conference on the relevance of rhetoric for the Great Books curriculum of Great Hearts schools. Great Hearts is an association of charter schools enrolling 13,000 lottery-enrolled students.

Adriana Craciun was in residency at the Institute of Advanced Studies in the Humanities at the University of Edinburgh, as a Fulbright Visiting Professor. At IASH, she conducted research for her new book, *Arctic Enlightenments*. *Arctic Enlightenments* focuses on the Svalbard Global Seed Vault in the High Arctic and its links to earlier Enlightenment and nineteenth-century efforts (textual, archival, experimental) to extend botanical life into deep time. While on this Fulbright, Craciun was able to visit Svalbard and present her research there, as well as at the University of Edinburgh, the University of the Highlands and the Islands, the University of London, and the University of Glasgow. In Edinburgh she conducted archival research at the National Museum of Scotland, the University of Edinburgh, and the extensive collections and herbarium of the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh.

Adriana Craciun's *Writing Arctic Disaster: Authorship and Exploration* (Cambridge University Press, 2016) was short-listed for the Michelle Kendrick Book Prize given annually by the Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Adriana Craciun and Simon Schaffer co-edited *The Material Cultures of Enlightenment Arts and Sciences* (Palgrave, 2016)

Kimberly Devlin and Christine Smedley co-edited a volume entitled *Joyce's Allmaziful Plurabilities: Polyvocal Explorations of "Finnegans Wake."* It was published by the James Joyce Series at University of Florida Press (2015).

Jennifer Doyle was invited to curate a feminist performance art series for The Broad Museum in Los Angeles. Her program, "The Tip of Her Tongue," was inaugurated in November 2015 with a performance by Karen Finley. Other artists featured in this series include Martine Syms, Jibz Cameron, Cassils, Xandra Ibarra, Tanya Tagaq, Juliana Snapper and Boora Yoon. The series was named by Artforum as a highlight in its 2016 review of the year in performance. She continues her work with Human Resources Los Angeles, an art space in

Chinatown, Los Angeles.

John M. Ganim is the 2015-16 President of the Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association (PAMLA). He delivered the Presidential Address at the 114th Annual Conference of PAMLA in Pasadena on November 11. The conference was held from November 11-13, and featured over 300 papers and presentations, some of them by UCR graduates and faculty.

Weihsin Gui recently co-edited a 2016 special issue of the journal *Interventions on Singaporean Literature* in the context of neoliberalism and globalization, in which he has an essay on the novels of Singaporean-American writer Fiona Cheong. Gui's essay on global modernism in the work of Malaysian and Singaporean authors Wang Gungwu, Lloyd Fernando, and Lydia Kwa has been accepted for publication in *Singapore Literature and Culture: Current Directions in Local and Global Contexts*, an essay collection forthcoming from Routledge in early 2017. Gui has also been invited to be the contributor for the Southeast Asia section of the Year's *Work in English Studies*, an important bibliographical reference work published by Oxford Journals.

George E. Haggerty's new book, *Queer Friendship: Male Relations in the English Literary Tradition*, will be published by Cambridge University Press.

Robb Hernández published a number of essays in 2015-6, including: "Coastal Traffic: Triangulated Encounters in Art/AIDS/Americas," in *Art AIDS America* (2015) edited by Rock Hushka and Jonathan D. Katz for the University of Washington Press; "Straight Talk, Queer Haunt: The Paranormal Activity of the Chicano Art Movement," in *Out of the Closet, Into the Archives: Researching Sexual Histories* (2015) edited by Amy Stone and Jaime Cantrell for SUNY Press; and a conceptual piece about curating the lost oeuvre of Mundo Meza's "frozen art" aesthetic in *Curatorial Dreams: Critics Imagine Exhibitions* (2016) edited by Shelley Ruth Butler and Erica Lehrer for McGill-Queen's University Press. He is also the recipient of a \$250,000 Getty Foundation Exhibition and Implementation Grant with UCR ARTSblock for the successful completion of *Mundos Alternos: Art and Science Fiction in the Americas*, scheduled to open in the Fall of 2017. He is currently co-editing the exhibition catalog.

David Lloyd recently published *Beckett's Thing: Painting and Theatre* (Edinburgh University Press, 2016). <https://edinburghuniversitypress.com/book-beckett-039-s-thing-hb.html>

His "Introduction: On Irish Experimental Poetry" appeared in

Irish University Review, vol. 46, no. 1, 2016, pp. 10-19. <http://www.eupublishing.com/toc/iur/46/1>

Richard T. Rodriguez published "The Aesthetics of Politics: Cultural Nationalist Movements and Latina/o Literature" in *The Cambridge Companion to Latina/o American Literature*, ed. John M. Gonzalez (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2016).

Stephen Sohn was awarded tenure and promoted to Associate Professor.

James Tobias' special issue of the journal *Music, Sound, and the Moving Image*, on musical innovation in audiovisual media with attention to digital technologies, was published in January 2016 by Liverpool University Press. Dr. Tobias was also named to the editorial board of the innovative web-based journal for African-American and Afro-diasporic film and video, *Liquid Blackness*, produced by Georgia State University in Atlanta GA.

Traise Yamamoto's article, "Coded Critiques: Japanese American Incarceration Literature," was published in *The Cambridge History of Asian American Literature* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2016).

Another essay will appear in "Reaching Across the Barbed Wire: Interracial Friendships in Young Adult Japanese American Incarceration Literature," in *Growing Up Asian American in Young Adult Fiction*, ed. Ymitri Mathison (Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, forthcoming).



GSEA Elections resulted in the following governing board:

President: Miranda Steege

Miranda is a third year student in the English program who studies Victorian literature and culture, and queer theory.

Vice President: Hannah Manshel

Hannah Manshel is a fourth year student in the program working on early- and 19th century American literature. Her dissertation project will use Puritan religious and literary thought as critique of 19th century literary sentimentality.

Treasurer: Sarah Buckner



Sarah is in her second year in the program, working in 20th and 21st century African American Literature and Women's literature.

OTHER NEWS:

This fall, GSEA teamed up with our Director of Graduate Studies, Andrea Denny-Brown, to organize a writing retreat near the end of the quarter. A group of English grad students spent two full days sitting quietly in a room together, sharing food and writing. GSEA plans to hold similar retreats each quarter.

GSEA also sponsored a faculty panel at (dis)junctions entitled "Object Choices." Drs. Jayna Brown, Robb Hernandez, David Lloyd, and Stephen Sohn shared stories about how they decided what they study, the paths their work has taken, and any surprises or obstacles they have encountered along the way. They spoke about the need to pursue what feels most urgent and important, even when faced with personal or professional resistance.

GSEA will be organizing a pedagogy panel early in winter quarter.

(dis)JUNCTIONS 2016

The twenty-third annual (dis)junctions graduate conference took place Friday and Saturday, October 28-29, 2016. The conference theme this year was "Crude Matter," and invited presentations dealt with such topics as materiality, consumption, embodiment, the senses, affect, and more. (dis)junctions's keynote speaker was Kyla Wazana Tompkins, associate professor at Pomona College and author of *Racial Indigestion: Eating Bodies in the 19th Century*.

(dis)junctions this year was a highly selective and curated conference, with only 22 total presentations from graduate students primarily in Southern California but also other areas of the country. Our UCR faculty panel, organized by GSEA and moderated by GSEA president Miranda Steege, saw the most attendance, including many undergraduates. The faculty panelists were Robb Hernandez, Stephen Hong Sohn, David Lloyd, and Jayna Brown. The conference organizers this year were Cody Hoover and Aaron Roberts. We would like to give a special thanks to Professor George Haggerty, Professor



(L to R) Jayna Brown, Robb Hernandez, David Lloyd and Steven Sohn

Jennifer Doyle, GSA, GSEA, Grad Division, the Center for Ideas and Society (and our other sponsors), Kacie Wills, Chelsea Silva, Aran Park, Stina Attebery, Zeke Crago, Addison Palacios, and those who moderated panels and attended.

GRADUATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Rebecca Addicks-Salerno has traveled to Italy to examine eighteenth-century wax and plaster models of dead bodies corrupting in their coffins. These amazing figures are useful in Rebecca's research on Ann Radcliffe and science.

Laurence Dumortier has been publishing essays on websites such as *The Hairpin* for the past two years. One of them was selected as a "Notable Essay" in Best American Essays 2016.

Emily Mattingly started teaching as an Assistant Professor in Liberal Studies at the University of the Arts, Philadelphia, where she is also Director of the First Year Writing Program. Here is her faculty page:
<http://www.uarts.edu/users/emattingly>

GRADUATE STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Kim Devlin

Over the past year, we awarded twelve "Friends of English Publication Awards," with a \$300 prize for each from our funds of donations. Below are the winners, their essay or volume title, and their publication venues.

Stina Attenbury, "Zombie Tapeworms in Late Capitalism: Accelerating Clinical and Reproductive Labor in Mira Grant's *Parasitology*" (*Medical Humanities*, 2016).

Stina Attenbury, "Indigenous Posthumans: Cyberpunk Surgeries and Biotech Boarding Schools in Syfy's *Helix*" (*Extrapolation*, 2016).

Ezekial Crago, "Advocating Incredulity: Orson Welles, Film Noir, and the Suspension of Belief" (*Interdisciplinary Humanities*, 2016).

Taylor Evans, "The Technology of Race: White Supremacy and Scientifiction" (*Journal of the Fantastic in the Arts*, 2016).

Ann Garascia, "Handcrafting Archives: the Sounds of the Cockette's Intimate Archiving Practices" (*Criticism*, forthcoming 2017).

Graham Hall, "Ambitious But Underwhelming" (A Review of *Black and Brown Planets*, *Science Fiction Studies*, 2015).

Ryan Leack, "Ecocentering the Self: William Howitt, Thoreau, and the Environmental Imagination" (in *Romantic Ecocriticism: Origins and Legacies*, Lexington Books, 2016).

Lorenzo Servitje, "Triumphant Health: Joseph Conrad and Tropical Medicine" (*Literature and Medicine*, 2015).

Lorenzo Servitje, "H5H1 for Angry Birds: Plague Inc., Mobile Games, and the Biopolitics of Outbreak Narratives" (*Science Fiction Studies*, 2016).

Lorenzo Servitje, "Birthed from the Clinic: The Degenerate Students of Edward Berdoe's *St. Bernard's*" (*Critical Survey: Special Issue on Victorian Science*, 2016).

Lorenzo Servitje, *Endemic: Essays in Contagion Theory* (co-edited with Kari Nixon, Palgrave Macmillan, 2016).

Lorenzo Servitje, *The Walking Med: Zombie Narratives and the Medical Image* (co-edited with Sherryl Vint, Pennsylvania State University Press, 2016)

DEPARTMENT PARTY AND AWARDS

Kim Devlin and her husband Bill Dahling once again hosted our end of the year party. It is always a delightful event with pot luck fare, a sizzling barbecue, and ample beverages for young and old. This event always includes faculty, staff, graduate students, and undergrads, and we use the event to celebrate the year and to award achievement within the department. We distribute awards to graduates and undergraduates alike. Here are some of the winners:

Undergraduate Essay Contest Winners:

- Jill Hoo – "A Story A Story: Caribbean Myth and History in the Poetry of Anne Sexton"
- Kaitlin Wong – "Under My Skin: Queer Confession in Tarnation"
- Michael Gillis – "The Paradox of Intersubjectivity in 'Nausicaa'"

Michael Chesney Award: Elizabeth Boutigian

Friends of English Junior Award: Austen Au

Friends of English Senior Award: Christi Ehrmantrout

English Department Service Award: Ashley Simon

Emory Elliott Award: Kristen King

Graduate Essay Contest Winners:

- Jose Alfaro - 1st place for "Engañame; or The "Non-Arriving" Latino in Melville's Benito Cereno"
- Hannah Manshel - 2nd place for "Feeling the Ghosts: Haunting and the Law in M. NourbeSe Philip's Zong!"
- Courtney Scuro - 3rd place for "How History Feels: Affective Temporality and the Landscape(s) of Romantic Appeal in Sir Walter Scott's Kenilworth"

Emory Elliott Award: Hannah Manshel

Stephen Cullenber Award: Taylor Evans

Outstanding TA Award: Daniel Ante-Contreras

Thank You to Our Friends

On behalf of the English Department, I would like to thank all of our "Friends" for their generous donations. We especially appreciate those of you who provide annual gifts. As a consequence of your support, this year we were able to give "Friends of the UCR English Department Graduate Student Publication Awards" to several of our most promising graduate students. These awards are a great incentive for our students to publish their work in a variety of distinguished journals and edited volumes. The wide spectrum of topics reflects the intellectual diversity of our students and of our amazing faculty. On account of your continued giving, we are in the process of designing other ways to financially support our students and faculty. I would like to thank the members of the Committee on the "Friends" Newsletter: Kim Devlin and Erica Edwards. A special shout-out goes to Christy Gray, on the English Department staff, who worked to produce such a wonderful online version of the Newsletter. Our photographs have been provided by Andrea Denny-Brown, Weihsin Gui, and Robb Hernandez.

Thanks to everyone!

George Haggerty
Distinguished Professor and Chair

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