

# English News

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## Department News

**Professor Samuel Smith and Rebecca Buckham '05** (who is currently enrolled in the MA program in English at Villanova University) both presented papers at the 2007 Conference on John Milton on October 26 and 27 at Murfreesboro, TN, a national bi-annual conference attended by more than one hundred scholars. Samuel's essay, "The Son's Solitude in *Paradise Regained*," and Rebecca's essay, "Eve's Fall and the Rise of Technopoly: Milton's Prophetic Critique," were both well-received.

**Professor Peter Powers** sang the lead male role of Alfredo in Verdi's *La Traviata* in a Capital City Opera of Harrisburg production at William Penn High School, November 8, 9, 10, and 11.

**Professor David Dzaka** gave a Presidential Scholar's Lecture on October 25. He presented a paper on his intellectual hero, Ngugi wa Thiongo.

**Professor Larry Lake presented his paper "Teaching Faithful Observers: Literary Nonfiction and the Journalism Student"** to an international conference of journalism educators in the Netherlands on October 2-6. His paper was based largely on his teaching of literary nonfiction and memoir here at the college, and proposed training journalists in ethnographic observation skills. The conference was sponsored by CHE (Christelijke Hogeschool Ede) and attracted delegates from numerous countries including South Africa, Russia, and Hungary. Conference activities included a field trip to the headquarters of Evangelische Omroep, a large Christian radio and television network similar in quality

and funding to American public broadcasting. While at EO, Larry and other professors, including Mark Fackler of Calvin College, were consultants to a program director, offering suggestions for development of a new documentary series.

**Professor Crystal Downing** presented a paper on the film *The Queen* at the international meeting of the American Academy of Religion, held this year in San Diego. Also, two of her essays on film were published last month.

"Deconstructing Herbert: The *War of the Worlds* on Film" was published in *Literature / Film Quarterly*, and an essay on *Hollywoodland* called "The Lost Action Hero," was published in *The Cresset*.

**The Writing Center is looking for a few new tutors for the spring semester.** Interested students should contact David Dzaka ([ddzaka@messiah.edu](mailto:ddzaka@messiah.edu)) by December 10 with an expository writing sample of no less than 5 double-spaced pages and the names of two professors who can attest to their excellent writing and interpersonal skills. Working at the Writing Center requires dedication and ongoing training. Applicants may be short-listed for an interview.

**Mackenzie Martin '08** received a Murray Library Research Grant. She will visit Vassar College to study the poem manuscripts and travel journals of Elizabeth Bishop, focusing on how patience is exemplified in Bishop's revision practices and how Bishop translated her raw observations during travel into poetry.



## Alumni News

**Carmen McCain '99** published "The Heroism of Ordinary People: An Interview with Helon Habila" in the Abuja-based newspaper *Leadership* on November 19, 2007. Carmen wrote her MA thesis on Helon Habila's novel *Waiting for an Angel*.

**Melissa Driver '07** was recently accepted to the University of Pittsburgh Law School.

## Opportunities

**The Cedarville Review** is accepting submissions in fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and photography until December 5, 2007. Submit fiction and nonfiction of up to 4,000 words, up to five poems, or 3-5 photographs. For more detailed submission guidelines or to submit electronically, visit <http://www.cedarvillereview.com>.

**Allegheny College is pleased to host a two-day conference on whiteness and racism** titled "Examining Whiteness: An Academic Conference on White Privilege and Racism in America" on April 4-5, 2008. Keynote speakers will be Lucius Outlaw (Vanderbilt University), Shannon Sullivan (Pennsylvania State University), Charles Mills (Northwestern University), and Linda Martin Alcoff (Syracuse University). Undergraduate students are invited to present their own work either in the form of complete papers or as a part of panel discussions.

Detailed information about the conference can be found at <http://www.allegheny.edu/warehouse/redirect.php?id=1&id2=166>. Any questions or inquiries can be sent to Eric Boynton ([eboynton@allegheny.edu](mailto:eboynton@allegheny.edu)).

### **Nominate undergraduate student writing for inclusion in The Norton Pocket Book of Writing by Students.**

This volume will include a variety of genres, including but not necessarily limited to literacy narratives, textual and literary analyses, reports, arguments, reading responses, poetry, memoir and other forms of personal essays, profiles, and mixed-genre pieces. Any excellent writing done for an English class will be considered. The first round of submissions are due by January 15, 2008. You can send submissions as a Word attachment to [mgoldthw@sju.edu](mailto:mgoldthw@sju.edu) with "Student Writing Submission" in the subject line of your email. Please also include the following information in the body of your email: name of student writer and contact information (email address, home address, and phone number); title of the submission; name of the school the student attends; the class for which the piece was written; instructor's name and contact information (email address, school address, and phone number); the assignment; and any other information about why you believe this submission is exemplary.

**Shiny Media's U.S. fashion and beauty blogs [www.shinystyle.tv](http://www.shinystyle.tv) and [www.shinygloss.tv](http://www.shinygloss.tv) are looking for interns.** Student bloggers would not

receive a stipend, however, students could blog on their own hours from home or campus. As added incentive, there would also be a chance of free beauty products to review. If students living in New York or Philadelphia are interested in the position, invitations to fashion events are also a possibility. If interested, contact Andrea Thatcher ([andrea@shinymedia.com](mailto:andrea@shinymedia.com)).

**The Ralph Flamminio Memorial Scholarship**, presented by The Pennsylvania Associated Press Managing Editors, offers \$3,000 for undergraduates interested in a career in print journalism. Applicants must be Pennsylvania residents and currently enrolled full-time at a four-year institution as well as have some journalistic experience (on-campus newspapers or professionally). To apply, send a cover letter describing your experience in print journalism, your interest in the field and what you might contribute to our craft as a journalist; something about yourself and your interests; a college transcript; up to five of your favorite (non-returnable) clips; and a letter of recommendation from a faculty member or professional to Larry Holeva, PAPME Scholarship Committee:

C/O The Citizens' Voice  
75 N. Washington St.  
Wilkes-Barre, Pa. 18711

The application deadline is April 15, 2008.

**Submit your papers to the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual National Undergraduate Literature Conference**, which will be held at Weber State University, April 3-5, 2008. Geoffrey Wolff, Eleanor Wilner, and Bret Anthony Johnston will be featured speakers at the conference. Submission categories include papers on American, British, and world literature, as well as creative essays, fiction, poetry, and creative works in Spanish. Submit your paper or creative work at [weber.edu/nulc](http://weber.edu/nulc) by January 18, 2008.

**The deadline to submit papers for the conference “C.S. Lewis, the Inklings, and the Call to Christian Community” has been extended.** The conference will take place February 7-9, 2008 at Azusa Pacific University. Dr. Tom Shippey and Dr. Diana Glycer will speak. Papers are invited on topics relating to Lewis’ life and work as well as the Inklings and their influence, the nature of Christian friendship or love, and the companionship and interaction between members of the Inklings. Abstracts of no more than 500 words should be e-mailed to Craig Boyd ([caboyd@apu.edu](mailto:caboyd@apu.edu)) by December 15, 2007.

**In addition to visiting Messiah’s Career Center for Vocation and Development, take a look at the new books located on the shelves in Boyer 201 (the resource room).** The new books include: *Careers in Journalism, I’m an English Major – Now What?, An Insider’s Guide to Creative Writing Programs, Great Jobs for English Majors,*

*Careers for Bookworms and Other Literary Types, Careers for Writers and Others Who Have a Way with Words, Make Money Reading Books, and The Creative Writing MFA Handbook.* Feel free to curl up on a resource room couch, browse through these titles at your leisure, and take some time to think about your future.