

English News

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Messiah College English Department

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Department News

Anglophone World Literature Professor Hired

The English Department is pleased to announce the hiring of Rochelle J. Almeida for its position in Anglophone World Literature. Professor Almeida is currently a Visiting Professor of English at Fairfield University and has taught for a number of years at Fairfield and at New York University. She has received doctorates from both the University of Bombay in India and St. John's University, New York. She has also pursued postgraduate studies at Exeter College, Oxford University. A specialist in South Asian literature, Professor Almeida has published two books, most recently *The Politics of Mourning: Grief-Management in Cross-Cultural Fiction* (Farleigh Dickinson University Press, 2004). She also has a work of fiction in circulation at several presses. Her newest project is a study tentatively entitled *Invisible Minorities: Representations of Christians and Parsees in South Asian Literature*. Professor Almeida has been honored by being included in *Who's Who Among America's Teachers, 2002*. In the fall semester she will teach a course in the First Year Seminar program entitled "Race, Color, Religion--Cultural Intersections in Global Literature." Her course in the English department this fall will be entitled "International Women Writers Through the 20th Century." The English department invites you to join us in welcoming Professor Almeida to our community.



Professor Promoted

Congratulations to Professor Crystal Downing, who was informed in February that she has been promoted to the level of full professor effective August 1, 2005.

Faculty News

Adjunct instructor in English Pauline Stevick has received notice from Kent State University Press (Ohio) that they will release her book, tentatively titled *Beyond the Plain and Simple: A Patchwork of Amish Lives*, in 2006. A series of vignettes describing Amish persons and customs, the book focuses on the ways in which members of the Amish community live out their faith against the background of their collectivist culture, emphasizing their individuality rather than presenting them as "cookie cutter" characters.

Stevick also has reviewed the book *Fixing Tradition: Joseph W. Yoder, Amish American* by Julia Kasdorf in the December 2004 issue of *Brethren in Christ History and Life*. Kasdorf is on the faculty of The Pennsylvania State University but formerly was a member of the English department at Messiah College.

"The
characteristic
common to
God
and
man
is apparently that:
the desire
and
the ability
to
make
things
up."

- Dorothy Sayers,
The Mind of the Maker

On Campus

Kerry Brooks earned the ETS Recognition of Excellence for receiving a Praxis II score of 200 on the English content knowledge exam.

Events Sponsored by Sigma Tau Delta, the English Honor Society:

Join English majors on Tuesday March 22 for a viewing of the controversial film *Thelma and Louise*, with a discussion afterwards led by Sarah Wilson, Jordan Windholz, Rachel Petersen, Lucas Sheaffer, and Erin Ryan, followed by refreshments. Film starts at 6:30 pm in Parmer Cinema, discussion at 8:30, and refreshments at 9 in the Atrium. If you only have time for a study break at 9, come join us then.

On Thursday, April 28 Janel Atlas, a 2004 graduate, will tell how she started her own business as a freelance writer. She will give advice on how to set up a business two months out of college and solicit paid commissions while still writing about what personal interests. In the Athenaeum in the library at 4:30 (with refreshments).

Alumni News

Tiffany Eberle Kriner, Class of 1998

Tiffany accepted a job offer from Wheaton for the fall of 2006, and has been offered a one-year post-doctoral fellowship for research from the Erasmus Institute at Notre Dame.

Scott Mylin, Class of 1994

Scott is a senior writer/creative lead at HT Klatzky & Assoc, a regional advertising/integrated communications agency, and has been an advertising copywriter since 1997.

Kristie Di Lascio, Class of 2000

Currently Kristie is pursuing a Masters degree in Linguistics at the University of Florida and will present her paper, "Methods of Teaching English Pronunciation to Native-Chinese Speakers," at two Linguistics conferences this semester. During the summer of 2005 she will be conducting research analyzing the tonal differences between Sichuanese and Mandarin in Sichuan Province, China, for her thesis.

Andrea Cumbo Dowdy, Class of 1997

Andrea has earned an MA in Literature from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland and finished an MFA in Creative Writing at Antioch University in Los Angeles last June. She has taught English at several colleges and universities, and is considering getting a Ph.D. in Creative Writing or English.

Jocelyn Turner Mathewes, Class of 2004

Jocelyn recently had several of her photographs accepted to the most recent issue of *F-Stop Magazine*, an online publication. Her portfolio can be found at <http://www.restless.org/~jocelyn/>. Also, Jocelyn recently had a piece chosen for display in the annual international photography show at the Fraser International Gallery in Bethesda, MD.

John Francis Maher, Class of 2001


John, now a singer/songwriter in Philadelphia, recently recorded "The Philadelphia EP," a collection of five acoustic songs, and is working on a full-length album.

Marianne Krahulec, Class of 1991

Marianne is a teacher and drama coach at Carlisle High School. Her play "Emma T.: A Hero Quest" was performed by Carlisle High School students for Black History month.

Opportunities

Pennsylvania Women's Press Association is announcing its annual Teresa Spatara Scholarship of \$1,000 to a print journalism major who is working toward a newspaper career. Both female and male students may apply; for eligibility, the student must be a Pennsylvania resident, a print journalism major in a Pennsylvania college or university, and classified as a junior, senior, or graduate level student for the fall of 2005. Application deadline is April 25, 2005. See Dr. Powers for an application or e-mail Teresa Spatara at terspa@aol.com.



The Southern Teacher's Agency is now accepting applications for English and Language Arts teaching jobs in southern private, college-prep schools. Teaching certification is preferred, but not required. STA provides a free service to teachers by working to connect teachers with positions. For more information visit www.SouthernTeachers.com.

Interested in studying at Oxford or participating in other programs run by the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities? The Epicenter is sponsoring two information sessions on March 17 and 18 with Amber Palmer, Student Programs Representative from the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities.

Writing Aloud, a reading series produced by InterAct Theatre Company in Philadelphia, is looking for submissions for its 2005-2006 season. Writing Aloud presents contemporary short fiction, read on stage by professional actors. Pieces can be from 2,000 - 5,000 words. Deadline is April 1. For guidelines and more information: WritingAloud@InterActTheatre.org or 215-568-8077.

University of Pennsylvania Health Systems is looking for summer interns to work with their marketing initiatives. The intern will be responsible for writing, editing, and proofreading marketing materials, as well as general office duties. Resumes and cover letters can be e-mailed to Tricia Bell at tricia.bell.ups.upenn.edu Further information can be found at the English Department bulletin board and the Internship Center.

Summer 2005 Institutes of Georgetown University is accepting applications. This Washington, D.C.-based program combines courses for academic credit with competitive internships, leadership development activities, site briefings, and lectures led by prominent policy experts. The program runs from June 4 through July 30, and the application deadline for summer programs is March 31st. Apply online at www.dcinternships.org.