

# English News



## Department News

The next installment of the Faculty Reading Series will feature **Helen Walker**, and will take place on Tuesday, Feb. 13 at 7:30pm in Boyer 231. Refreshments will be served following the reading.

## Faculty News

### *Recent Faculty Additions*

We are excited to welcome **Heidi Lee**, who is joining the English Department faculty this spring. She recently relocated to her native territory of central PA, along with her husband, Mike, and her 6-month-old daughter, Lydia.



A graduate of Houghton College, Professor Lee pursued her Master's Degree in English at Penn State, then went on to Notre Dame, where she received her PhD in English with an emphasis Colonial/19<sup>th</sup> century American Literature. During her post-grad studies, she taught a variety of courses in Composition & Rhetoric, American Literature, and a topics class titled "Food and Consumption in North American Literature." The latter is a course Lee hopes to incorporate into a future First Year Seminar. This semester, she is teaching two major courses, "The Bible as Literature" and a survey class of American Literature before 1900, as well as two general education American Literature courses.

In the fall of 2006, three poems by **Matt Roth** were published in literary magazines. "Easter Morning" appeared in *American Literary Review* while "Burial Amulet with Twin Figures" and "Jonah" were published in *Blue Mesa Review*.

**Helen Walker** spent 3 weeks in New Zealand planning a cross cultural trip for January of 2009. It is open to everyone, but she thinks a bunch of English majors would fit very well in the gorgeous summer that is New Zealand in January. Her reading in the evening of February 13th will be writing that came out of this trip.

## Alumni News

**Janel Atlas ('04)** and her husband, James, welcomed the arrival of another daughter, Charlotte Zorah on December 20, 2006.

**John Vaitl ('05)** recently took a new position at the Carlisle Sentinel.

**Matthew Armes ('05)** was spotlighted in his hometown of Erie's local magazine, *Tangent*, last December. The article detailed the start of his successful career as a production assistant for ESPN's "Monday Night Countdown."

An essay by **Ruth Trimmer ('06)** titled "Life into Art: Solzhenitsyn's Bread of Life" was published in *The Oswald Review* in fall 2006.





## Student News

**Liz Larabee ('07) and Elizabeth Yopez ('07)** presented papers at the Undergraduate Conference in Medieval and Early Modern Studies at Moravian College on December 2, 2006.

**Tiffany DeRewal ('07)** received a \$450 research grant for work on her honors project on Vladimir Nabokov. She will travel to the Berg Collection at the New York Public Library to investigate Nabokov's handwritten notes from the 1950's.

## Opportunities

**TESOL Minor** New to English Department—Did you know that one school district in southern Texas is in the process of hiring 57 new teachers of English as a second language for this coming school year alone? The status of English as the global language of commerce and the continuing attraction of the United States for new immigrants from all parts of the world has meant that the need for those with skills in teaching English as a second language has exploded. The English department is happy to announce that beginning this spring it will be offering a new minor in Teaching English as a Second Language, taking over responsibility for that minor from the Modern Language Department. Details of the minor can be found at the following URL: <http://www.messiah.edu/academics/catalog/0607/minors.html#TESOL>. Some course designations and names will change, but the curriculum will remain the same. If you have interest in exploring this field, please feel free to contact Professor Powers.

### 2007 Student Writing Contest

The Conference on Christianity and Literature announces its annual contest for student writers. Submissions of poetry, fiction and creative non-fiction will be accepted, and students may submit up to three pieces. Entries must be received by March 9, 2007. For more information, visit [www.pepperdine.edu/sponsored/ccl](http://www.pepperdine.edu/sponsored/ccl).

### Summer Writers Institute

Hosted by Skidmore College from July 2-27, this institute will feature creative writing courses in poetry, fiction, and nonfiction. Students may enroll for two weeks, or for the entire four-week session. For more information, visit [www.skidmore.edu/summer](http://www.skidmore.edu/summer)

### NYU Summer Publishing Institute

The Institute is developed, designed, and taught by faculty who are top professionals in book, magazine, and online publishing—including editors, literary agents, designers, marketers, and publicists. For further information, visit [www.scps.nyu.edu/publishing](http://www.scps.nyu.edu/publishing) and click on "Summer Intensives"