

English News
May 2011
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“Summer afternoon -
summer afternoon; to
me those have always
been the two most
beautiful words in the
English language. “
~Henry James

Department News

The Paul W. Nisly Endowment for Literature, Vocation, and Reconciliation.

In recognition of
Professor
Paul Nisly's
distinguished career, the
English Department is
proud to report that we
are four-fifths towards
our goal on the Paul W.
Nisly Endowment. The
purpose of this fund is to
promote further
understanding of the
writing and study of
literature as a form of
Christian vocation. It
especially promotes
activities that encourage
inquiry into how this
vocation is related to the
task of peacemaking, the
quest for social justice,
and the work of

reconciliation of human
beings to one another
and to God. The
following are the
programs involved:
Symposium on
Literature,
Peacemaking and Social
Justice, the Paul W.
Nisly
Writer-in-Residence
Program, and a Student
Scholarship. For more
information please
contact Bob Brown at
BBrown@messiah.edu.

Rhoda Janzen's Reading at Messiah College

This spring, the English
department's Poets and
Writers Series featured
Rhoda Janzen, professor
of writing at Hope
College in Michigan and
author of the memoir
"Mennonite in a Little
Black Dress." Besides
the evening reading and
book signing in
Hostetter Chapel, Dr.
Janzen was also a guest
in Dr. Lake's Memoir
Workshop, where she



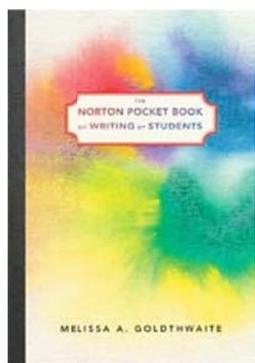
discussed the
controversies
surrounding the writing
of memoir, suggested
that students who want
to write should read
extensively in their
chosen genre, and
discussed the writing of
her second memoir
"Backslidden" which
should appear in
2012. Her current
memoir has been on the
New York Times
bestseller list for over 40



Dr. Lake at CCCC

Dr. Larry M. Lake
recently attended the
Conference on College
Composition and
Communication, known
better by its abbreviation
"4 C's," in Atlanta. He
attended workshops on
Hawaiian and Native
American protest
literature, as part of his
development of courses
in world and
postcolonial literature,
other sessions on
improving the whole
class writing workshop,
and one on using food
and food politics as a

focus for student writing. Another session, "The Lyric Essay: Reading, Writing, and Teaching the "Beautiful Wild Child" of Creative Nonfiction" was organized by **Melissa Goldthwaite**, Messiah College class of '93. Dr. Goldthwaite is the editor of The Norton Pocket



Book of Writing by Students (2010) and has taught writing at St. Joseph's University for ten

years.

Poetry Reading!

Christine Perrin and the Contemporary American Poetry class took to the road again to hear contemporary poet, Stanley Plumly, read at Gettysburg College. They came away with a strong appreciation for the humility and respect that they have experienced as students at Messiah College.

Tea N' Books

The British Topics Inklings class intends to

follow in the footsteps of their mentors this semester (Sayers, Tolkien, Lewis) and have tea at the Midtown Scholar in Harrisburg.

Holy Week Events The Wednesday of Holy Week, the Intro to Poetry class celebrated with a poetry liturgy, and on Maundy Thursday, the British Topics class compiled a radio drama of Sayer's *Man Born to be King*.

Gardening!

On Service Day, Sigma Tau Delta (the English Honor Society) joined with the Grantham Community Garden to get the land ready for summer! Workers relished in the warm sun while planting flowerbeds and preparing the herb garden.

Alumni News

Nate Windon '10 has been accepted to six graduate programs in English: Maryland, Pittsburgh, Villanova, UMass, Boston College, and University of

Connecticut. He has chosen to attend Connecticut, not only due to the quality of their program, but also because they offered him a substantial financial package.

Ernestia Fraser '07 received her MFA in Creative Writing with a Concentration in Screenwriting in 2009 from Chatham University in Pittsburgh, PA and won the MFA Finalist for Best Thesis in the Fiction category for her screenplay *Inside the Fallen Moon*. In 2010, her first book, *Carnival of Love*, was accepted for publication by Caribbean Studies Press and this past school year, she has been teaching Religious Knowledge, U.S. History, and Bahamian Social Studies at Mt. Carmel Preparatory School in Nassau, Bahamas.

Please forward any additional alumni news to Marialana Gaetano mg1243@messiah.edu, under the subject heading "Alumni News."

Events and Opportunities

Job Opportunity!

Do you have a writing as well as science background? Do you have *four years of experience* in either of these fields? Then the science writer position at Kelly Government solutions might be for you! It is a contract position with the potential to be hired as a federal government employee. Follow the link for more information: <http://tinyurl.com/3cfwb63>.

Internship!

Health America is providing current students the opportunity to become involved in a full-time internship program beginning May 21 and ending August 26. Positions are offered in Medicare Sales & Operations, Health Services and Utilization Management, Product Development and Implementation, Legal and Regulatory Compliance, Finance

and Budgeting, Commercial Sales, Communications, and Underwriting. Pay starts at a minimum of \$9.00 per hour. Contact the Internship Center for more detailed information and visit <http://careers.cvty.com> for an application.

Internship Resource!

The Annual Internship Guide, which lists a variety of internship opportunities at PNA-member newspapers can be found at http://www.pa-newspaper.org/web/2005/09/student_resources.aspx. The guide is alphabetized by city and includes editorial, advertising, photography, and other valuable learning opportunities.

The Mennonite Central Committee United Nations Liaison Office

offers one unpaid internship this summer for interested and qualified college and university students

with a background in Peace Studies, International Studies, Political Science, International Development, Communications or other related fields along with interest and capability of web page development for the office. Applicants must be available to work for a minimum of 4 weeks, maintaining an average of 40 work hours per week between July 12 and August 17. Lodging at Menno House in Manhattan can be provided, but interns are required all other expenses including food and transportation. The application is due via email to unoffice2@mcc.org by Monday, May 2. Interviews will be conducted with a limited number of candidates by phone during the two weeks following the application deadline. The successful applicant will be notified of his or her acceptance by Monday, May 9.

Writing Contest: the Norton Writers Prize. Submission should be



from an assignment done for a writing class, and winners will be considered for inclusion in the next edition of the Norton Pocket Book reports, profiles, evaluations, arguments, memoirs, proposals, of Writing by Students. Acceptable genres include “literacy narratives, literary and other textual analyses, mixed-genre pieces, and more: any excellent writing done for an undergraduate writing class will be considered.” Deadline is May 27. See <http://books.wwnorton.com/books/norton-writers-prize/> for more details.

A Marcellus Shale Developmental Experience. The Morgan Family has 36 acres of land on the

Marcellus Shale to be a demonstration site of sustainability and permaculture design and as an educational retreat center. They are looking for Environmental Science, Sustainability, English, Theater, History, and Journalism students with an interest in interdisciplinary studies and working on the land, but who would also participate in conducting interviews with people who have lived through the coal boom and who now have a stake in the Marcellus Shale Development. These interviews will be turned into a short play and be performed in August. While there is no compensation for this experience, the Morgans



will provide room and board.

Writing Contest! The Conference on Christianity and Literature is hosting their 2011 student writing contest for works that suggest the author’s spiritual inquiry and take the form of either poetry, creative non-fiction, fiction, or academic essays. Besides having the work published on the CCL website, the prize also includes a selection of books, a subscription to “Image” magazine, and a one-year membership in CCL. Entries are due by May 13. See www.pepperdine.edu/sponsored/ccl for information on format and the process of sending an entry.