Jobs

John Barnard has accepted a position as Lecturer in History & Literature at Harvard University.

Kristin Smith Bezio has accepted a tenure-track assistant professorship at the University of Richmond in Virginia, starting in Fall 2011.

Dan Salerno has accepted a position as Writing Specialist in the Humanities at Bates College.

Leslie Simon has accepted a tenure-track assistant professorship in the Philosophy and Humanities Department at Utah Valley University and will begin this fall.

Dissertation Defense

On April 8th, John Barnard defended his dissertation, "Icarian Exceptions: Race, Revision, and American Myth." On the committee were Professors Susan Mizruchi, Maurice Lee, Gene Jarrett, James Winn, and Hunt Howell.

Alumni News

Sara Pearson, who received her Ph.D. in 2008, was just voted tenure by her department at Trinity Western University.
Awards and Fellowships

Sheila Cordner, Heather Holcombe, Liam Meyer, and Holly Schaaf have been awarded Dissertation Fellowships for 2011-2012.

Karen Guendel won this year’s Outstanding Teaching Fellow Award.

Emily Griffiths Jones won this year’s Celia McCullough Millward Prize for the best dissertation prospectus submitted during the academic year. Emily also won the Humanities Foundation’s Summer Dissertation Fellowship for Early Modern Studies.

Prospectus

Emily Griffiths Jones’s prospectus, “Romance Narrative, Providential Time, and the Elect Community in Seventeenth-Century England,” was approved this spring. Her readers are Professors Murphy and Martin.

Oral Examinations

Karen Guendel passed her oral exam on April 25, 2011. Her examiners were Professors Costello, Lee, Riqeulme, and Rzepka.

Mary Kuhn passed her oral exam on February 18, 2011. Her examiners were Professors Brown, Howell, Korobkin, and Lee.

Conferences

Amy Bennett-Zendzian will present a paper titled "Stories Enough to Kill 'Em': Harriet Beecher Stowe and the Abolitionist Child" this June at the Children's Literature Association Conference: Revolt, Rebellion, Protest—Change and Insurrection in Children’s Literature, which will be held at Hollins University in Roanoke, VA. She will receive a departmental travel grant to attend.

Reed Gochberg will give a talk this summer, on "Location and Intellectual Community in Bronson Alcott's 'Concord Days'" at the Orchard House Summer Conversation Series. The series theme is "Creating a Vision: The Power of Place," and her talk is on July 14, 2011.

Rachel Greenhaus attended the British Women Writers Conference at The Ohio State University in April and presented a paper titled "When she appear'd herself": Masquerade and the Female Self in Eliza Haywood." She received a travel grant from the department to attend this conference.

Emily Gruber received a departmental travel grant to attend NeMLA 2011 in New Brunswick, NJ, to present her paper "William Shakespeare: Proud American" at a roundtable on "Shakespearean Adaptation and Appropriation." She also participated in a seminar on "Intellectual and Manual Labor in Early Modern England."

Emily Field presented a paper at NeMLA entitled "Picture out a Tale of Blood": William Apess and the Cultural Work of Children’s Captivity Literature." She received a travel grant to help defray expenses.

Emily Jones will attend a conference on "The King James Bible and Its Cultural Afterlife," held at The Ohio State University, May 5-7. She is part of a roundtable called "Early Modern Radicals" and her paper is titled "Biblical Hermeneutics and Sociopolitical Radicalism in Aemilia Lanyer's 'Salve Deus Rex Judaeorum.'"

Publication

Sheila Cordner’s article "Victorian Reading across the Lines and off the Page: Dickens's Model of Multiple Literacies in Our Mutual Friend" will be published in Reading and the Victorians, forthcoming from Ashgate.
Professor Bonnie Costello has been awarded an ACLS Fellowship and a Cullman Fellowship at the New York Public Library. Her article "Strange Pictures in My Head: Wallace Stevens in the New York Galleries." will appear in Wallace Stevens, New York and Modernism, edited by Lisa Goldfarb, forthcoming from Routledge in 2012. Prof. Costello’s invited lecture entitled “Marianne Moore and the Old Masters” was delivered at the University of Buffalo (November 8, 2010) and will be delivered at Oxford University (May 12, 2011). She will deliver a version of this lecture at the Rothemere Center at Oxford University on May 9.

Professor Gene Andrew Jarrett has been appointed for a two-year term (2012-2014) to the MLA’s William Sanders Scarborough Prize Selection Committee, which annually determines the most outstanding scholarly book on African American literature and culture. An essay of his, titled “African American Literature Lives On, Even as Black Politics Expire,” appeared in a March issue of the Chronicle of Higher Education, and another is forthcoming in the June issue of Early American Literature, titled “‘To Refute Mr. Jefferson’s Arguments Respecting Us’: Thomas Jefferson, David Walker, and the Politics of Early African American Literature.”

Professor Anita Patterson will be giving a keynote address at the Nagoya American Studies Summer Seminar (NASSS) sponsored by the Fulbright Foundation in Japan this summer (July 23-26). While she is there, Prof. Patterson will also be lecturing at Rikkyo University in Tokyo. The title of her keynote will be "Global America Revisited: Ezra Pound, Yone Noguchi, and Modernist Japonisme."


In late February, Professor John Paul Riquelme spoke to the English Departments at Texas Christian University and Southern Methodist University on T. S. Eliot's vexed reaction to Oscar Wilde and on the performative dimension of Wilde's post-incarceration revisions to An Ideal Husband. The latter talk drew on a TS of the play in the TCU archive with extensive expansions of the stage directions in Wilde's hand and developed a direction projected in Riquelme's review, in the current issue of Modern Drama (54.1), of Kerry Powell's recent book on Wilde and Victorian sexuality.

Professor Charles Rzepka received a BU Humanities Foundation Senior Fellowship for this fall to complete my book, Being Cool: Elmore Leonard and the Work of Writing.

In February, Kevin Van Anglen published a review of Leonard Neufeldt's The Coat Is Thin: Poems (Telford PA: DreamSeeker Books, 2008) in the jourmal Religion and the Arts. He also presented a paper entitled "Wooden Walls and Iron Sides: Resource Management, Supply Chains, and Security in the Age of Sail" at the MIT Geospatial Data Center--University of Wales Geospatial Cyber-Physical Supply Chain Summit held in Cardiff from 20-23 March. The topic of the conference was "Next Generation Architecture for Big Data, Cyber Security, and Geospatial Visualization" and his presence there was subvented by MIT. In February, Columbia UP decided to issue a corrected paperback edition of his “Simplify, Simplify” and Other Quotations from Henry David Thoreau, which has been available in hardback since 1996; and Yale UP authorized a third printing of the collection he co-edited in 2008, Environment: An Interdisciplinary Anthology (Yale UP).

“Now, what I want is, Facts.”

Thomas Gradgrind, in Hard Times