

Volume 27, Issue 3

GODDAMM!!

Winter is icumen in,

Lhude sing Goddamm,

Raineth drop and staineth slop,

And how the wind doth ramm!

Sing: Goddamm.

GODDAMM!! Everybody, winter is a coming in. The river will freeze, the students will sneeze, so bundle up please. And sing with me: GODDAMM what a semester. Let it snow.

#### Faculty Matters

Congratulations to Florence Boos, who was selected as a CLAS Developmental Studies Hybridoma Bank (DSHB) Faculty Scholar.

Tara Bynum's essay "Chasing Phillis Wheatley" (from Hedgehog Review) was featured in Arts & Letters Daily as an "article of note" on Nov 13.

Melissa Febos wrote a review of three memoirs for the New York Times Book Review that was in the 11/7/21 print edition and online. In October, Melissa gave a reading and talk at the Madison Public Library as part of the Wisconsin Book Festival. This month, she is giving in-person presentations of her book, *Girlhood*, at the New York State Writers Institute in Albany, and the Miami Book Fair, as well as a virtual presentation for the Portland Book Festival.

In October, Melissa Febos and Donika Kelly gave a joint reading at Grinnell College for their Visiting Writers Series.

Eric Gidal's essay on "Eighteenth-Century Scottish Poetry and Ecology" has just been published as part of *The International Companion to Scottish Literature of the Long Eighteenth Century* (Scottish Literature International, 2021), edited by Leith Davis and Janet Sorensen.

Loren Glass has a chapter on "The Album Era" in Caren Irr's edited anthology *Life in Plastic: Artistic Responses to Petromodernity* (Minnesota). <https://www.upress.umn.edu/book-division/books/life-in-plastic>

Blaine Greteman has received a Professional Development Award to begin work on his next book about Colonialism, Cosmography, and the English Book Trade.

Donika Kelly's poem "We Came Here to Get Away from You" was published in *The Nation*. Her poem "The moon rose over the bay. I had a lot of feelings," was featured on *The Slowdown* podcast, chosen and read by Ada Limón. .

Kathy Lavezzo published last week in the journal *postmedieval* an essay called "Whiteness, medievalism, immigration: rethinking Tolkien through Stuart Hall." She also published an essay that appeared this month in volume three of the six-volume *Bloomsbury Cultural History of Race*. It's called "Circum-Atlantic Colonialisms: Ireland and England, Spain and the Americas."

David Wittenberg has received a Professional Development Award to work on his next book, *Against Dialectic: A Theory of Opposition*.

#### Grad Matters

Enrico Bruno's article "The Mis-Education of Buster and Riley: Flight and Transgenerational Conflict in Ralph Ellison's Short Fiction" was just published in the Fall 2021 issue of *African American Review*.

Rebecca Flowers' essay, "Shark's Eye" was published in *Guernica* on Nov 16.

Conor Hilton's essay, "Jesus, Where's the Joy?", analyzing a variety of depictions of Jesus in film, has been published in the essay collection *Mormonism and the Movies* from BCC Press. <https://bycommonconsent.com/2021/11/18/bcc-press-announces-mormonism-and-the-movies/>

Maddison McGann gave an invited talk on pandemic time, narrative form, and Mary Shelley's *The Last Man* in the online Environmental Cultures Seminar Series at Cardiff University.

Darius Stewart hosted a virtual Hawks of Color discussion on "Uplifting Our Excellence" on Nov 19.

### Undergrad Matters

Congratulations to Mishma Nixon, who was recognized with a First-Generation Student Achievement Award.

### GEL Matters

Last year, GEL saw a massive increase in plagiarism cases, especially from international students who were taking their classes online. This led to conversations about the gaps in language skills, scaffolding, or other preparation that sometimes lead to plagiarism. These conversations eventually included members of the ESL program, Associate Dean Cornelia Lang, Kathryn Hall, and incoming Honors Director, Shaun Vercera, who is a specialist in brain sciences and learning acquisition. Over the course of those discussions, we decided that rather than approaching this solely as a disciplinary matter, it would be helpful to create a version of the GEL class that would be more welcoming to students from all ESL backgrounds, perhaps by foregrounding international authors, being mindful about selecting texts that employed idiomatic English, archaism, or dialects that may be difficult for English learners, and by foregrounding cross-cultural reading itself.

Jamie Chen has volunteered to design and teach the first version of this class, in Spring 2022, and staff in Academic Advising are informing students that it welcomes "all students who are interested in learning more about literature written by writers from around the world. This includes students who speak English as a second language, students who are international or exchange students, or students who have plans to study or work abroad and want to think more about what it means to read and write across linguistic, geographical, and cultural borders." We're excited to add it to our list of innovative GEL classes!

Speaking of which: this Spring will mark the return of our Service Learning partnership with the local schools, which has been paused for two years due to Covid! We're putting plans in place, and if all goes well you can expect to see the return of local 4-5 graders to the halls of EPB in Spring 2022.

Blaine Greteman, GEL Director

### ATI Matters

This fall, ATI officers have embraced a return to in-person meetings by creating new opportunities for members, including two service projects that benefit children. In September, members created alphabet flashcards and hand-written letters to assemble into literacy packets for the Love Letters for Literacy Project. Packets were donated to preschoolers in the interest of bridging the childhood literacy gap. This month, the chapter collaborated with the student group From Cover to Cover and tied fleece blankets to donate—with a book—to children (through the local Ronald McDonald House).

In October, Cassidy Pekarek (President and Secretary), Meghan Anderson (Vice President), Alicia Edmundson (Historian and Publicity Officer), and Ting Gao (Treasurer and Membership Officer) held the induction ceremony for new members at the IMU River Amphitheater, a gorgeous fall setting for the festivities. Congratulations to the following new members: Nika Drnovsek, Julia Fout, Noreasa Higgins, Olivia Knox, Emily Miller, Jacob Sammon, Corinne Swann, Jacqueline Wahl, and Mikey Waller!

Looking ahead to spring, several ATI members also revised and submitted papers (critical and creative) for the Sigma Tau Delta international convention, to be held in Atlanta. The convention offers students a wonderful way to share ideas, showcase writing, and meet professional writers and other undergraduates from across the United States and beyond. Notification of acceptance is expected in December. With meetings twice a month, ATI had had a busy and productive semester!

ATI new members after fall inductionATI officers during fall inductionATI induction elbow bumps and masks

Anne Stapleton, ATI Advisor

### Advising Matters

The pandemic pushing most courses to online for the 2020-2021 academic year has shown some interesting side effects for our undergraduate students. The students are excited to be back in person but are reporting these things as challenges.

They are physically tired walking the distance between classes after a year of operating in one room and on zoom.

They are emotionally stressed by new navigation of time management, guessing time to get between physical locations and, in some cases, social anxiety increased by being "live" in class again.

Some seniors who missed a whole year on campus are slightly resistant to graduating on time even if they can for fear of having missed out on critical campus experiences.

Sophomores or transfer students who were never on campus before felt like first year students but had few orientation activities to help them acclimate to campus. We have tried to help them out in the department but it's still quite the adjustment for them when faculty and staff assume sophomores know what is going on, but they feel like first-year students.

The undergraduate academic advisors continue to offer a hybrid of face-to-face office hours and zoom online office hours. So far appointments have been somewhat evenly divided, with just a tilt towards online (particularly on rainy or dreary days). Early in the semester students were nervous about being back in person so we saw a start to the semester with quite a few preferring online meetings. The return to campus has been particularly beneficial for the publishing track or student groups where they work together on literary magazines, the English Society and ATI Honors Society who can now socialize and plan in person and the casual side conversations that happen more naturally when students and faculty leave the classroom together.

Kate Torno, Senior Academic Advisor

### Staff Matters

Corey Campbell gave a reading of her short fiction at the Friends of Writers Levis Prize Reading in early November. She is the 2021 recipient of the Larry Levis Postgrad Prize in Fiction from Warren Wilson College.

### Emeritus Matters

Despite the obstacles of the season, and just in time for his recent retirement, comes *Trickster Tactics: A Festschrift in Honor of Peter Nazareth*, ed. S. G. Ellerhoff (Goa 1556, 2021), a collection of essays in honor of our esteemed colleague. The eclectic contents reflect Peter's many areas of interests in a volume that was a complete surprise for him. The cover features a painting by one of Peter's former students, Michelle Van Ness, and the acknowledgements include some interesting added details about the stealthiness of the project, with thanks to John Lyons and Hannah Sorrell, who "during the 2020 pandemic, ... got into Peter's office and took the photo of the painting for the front cover." A copy of the book is available in 308 EPB for anyone interested. There are still hopes for a retirement party for Peter, most likely next semester.

### Upcoming Matters

DCG Meeting - November 19, 2021 | 1:30-2:30 pm | Zoom

IWP Cinematheque: *Cléo from 5 to 7* (dir. Agnès Varda, France, 1962) presented by Habib Tengour - November 21, 2021 | 6:00 pm | E101 AJB

The Krause Essay Prize Ceremony Honoring Wesley Morris - November 30, 2021 | 7:00 pm | Zoom

EC Meeting - December 3, 2021 | 1:30-2:30 pm | Zoom

Faculty Meeting - December 10, 2021 | 1:30-2:30 pm | Zoom