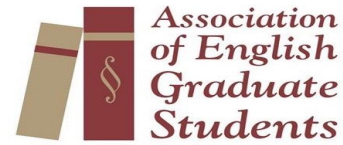


May 5, 2017



AEGS NEWSLETTER

Announcing your new board

John Brick (PhD Co-President), Davis Wetherell (MA Co-President), Magdalen Patchet (RA Liaison), Peter Spaulding (Treasurer), and Erin McNulty and Kathryn Hendrickson (Co-Communication officers)

We would like to thank the outgoing board for their hard work and accomplishments for the 2016-2017 academic year. Cheers to John Brick, Catherine Simmerer, Alex Frissell, Sarah Holland, Jackielee Derks, and Sareene Proodian.

2016-2017 Accomplishments

Every Master's student passed the M.A. exam, so a big congratulations to all of them!

This year's Donna Decker (Ph.D., 2004) award was presented to Matthew Burckanoski (PhD, 2020) for his paper "The Past Tensed: Herman Melville's 'Benito Cereno' and Putnam's American Version," and the Sarah Mayville (M.A., 2010) award went to Patrick Mullen (M.A., 2017) for his paper "Moral Gower': An Examination of the Peasant's Revolt in Gower's *Visio Anglie*."

This year's McCabe Teaching Award winners were Catherine Simmerer (M.A.) and Danielle Clapham (Ph.D.).

AEGS travel grants were awarded to Jessie Haynes, Kathryn Hendrickson, and Thomas Moore.

Three of our Ph.D. students won fellowships. Andrew Hoffmann received the John P. Raynor, S.J. Fellowship; Carlyne Hurlburt was awarded the English Department Dissertation Fellowship; and Wendy Fall received the Smith Family Fellowship.

Huge thanks for everyone who helped fill our Father Gene's Help Center bin with clothes for charity. Part of the university's and our mission is to help our community, and it's something we hope to continue to do.

AEGS held two fundraisers this year: a professional photo shoot and the inaugural Shakespeare 5K (the ONLY one in the U.S.). A huge thank you to photographer John Paulson, husband to our own Jackielee Derks, for donating his time and studio for the professional photo shoot project. On April 22nd, with the help of Silver Circle Sports, we had our first Shakespeare 5K. Many thanks to those who participated and a special thank you to Dr. and Mrs. Curran, Mrs. Barbara Curran, C. J. Hribal, and an anonymous donor for donating to AEGS to help graduate students fund travel to conferences.

We had two great workshops: first, Dr. Cedric Burrows led a talk on Professionalization and Marketing for Academia, and, second, Dr. Lilly Campbell, Elisa Coghlan, and Emily Blanchard held a panel, chaired by Jackielee Derks, on Transferring Skills for the Non-Academic Job Market.

Individual Scholarly Accomplishments

Sheila Arndt: Published her short stories “Twice on Tuesdays” in *The Tishman Review* (July 2016), “Everything Lightened Like Bones” in *Euonia Review* (October 2016), and “Galileo” in *Chiron Review* (Spring 2017). Her poems, “Milwaukee, Summer, 2015” and “There are no plums and are you coming?” were published in *Ink in Thirds* (November 2016). She received an Honorable Mention from *Glimmer Train* for their “Family Matters 2017” contest for her story “Falling in Love is Just a Way of Looking.” She presented her paper, “There is No Such Thing as Dystopia When Beyoncé’s in the Room” at MMLA in November 2016. Sheila accepted an offer to attend the University of New Orleans Creative Writing Workshop’s MFA program in Fiction and will be finishing her dissertation remotely.

Matthew Burchanoski: Presented “Forever? Forever Ever?: Why Khaliq, Hip Hop, and Sampling History” at the Midwest Popular Culture Association Conference in October 2016. He was also the recipient of the Donna Decker award.

Danielle Clapham: Presented “The Hidden Hierarchy: Ethnic Diversity and the Myth of Equality in Norris’ *The Octopus*” at MMLA in November 2016. She was awarded the McCabe Teaching award for the 2016-2017 academic year.

Jackielee Derks: Presented “Who’s the Fairest of Them All?: Aesthetic Obsession and the Female Body in Helen Oyeyemi’s *Boy, Snow, Bird*” at the Midwest Conference on British Studies in September 2016. Her article, “Snow White Remixed: Confronting Aesthetic Obsession and Race in Helen Oyeyemi’s *Boy, Snow, Bird*” will be published in the *Journal of Contemporary Rhetoric*’s upcoming special edition, “Remix Rhetoric.”

Wendy Fall: Presented “Spike is Forgiven: Sympathy for the Neo-Victorian Vampire and the Insidious Durability of Rape Culture” at the “Buffy at 20 Conference” in April 2017. This summer, she will be presenting “Varney the Vampire: Echoes of Penny Popular Fiction in Modern Rape Culture” at the International Gothic Association’s Biennial Conference in Cholula, Mexico. Wendy was also awarded the Smith Family Fellowship.

Thomas Moore: Presented “The Poststructural Ethics of David Foster Wallace’s ‘Octet’” at the Third Annual International David Foster Wallace Conference in July 2016; “The Ravages of Achievement-Oriented Masculinity: Delusions of Exceptionality in David Foster Wallace’s ‘Good Old Neon’” at NeMLA in March 2017; and, “Reconsidering Cliches of Competitive Masculinity: Lovelessness and Exceptionality in David Foster Wallace’s ‘Good Old Neon’” at the American Literature Association Conference in May 2017. He will present the same paper at the Fourth Annual International David Foster Wallace Conference in June 2017. Thomas will attend University of Illinois in Chicago’s Ph.D. program in English Literary Critical Studies in Fall 2017.

Patrick Mullen: Presented “‘Moral Gower’: An Examination of the Peasant’s Revolt in Gower’s *Visio Anglie*” at the Multidisciplinary Graduate Student Conference at the Newberry Library in January 2017. He was awarded the Sarah Mayville award for the same paper. Patrick will attend Queen’s University in Ontario in Fall 2017 for his Ph.D. in English Literature.

Magdalen Patchet: Presented “The Unfamiliar Margaret: Margaret of Anjou in Shakespeare’s *Richard III*” at the Central Illinois Interdisciplinary Graduate Conference in March 2017.

Sareene Proodian: Presented “Vera Brittain’s *Testament of Youth*: the Death of the Feminine and Rise of a Feminist” and “The Feminine and the Machine: Bodies in Mary Borden and Evadne Price” at the Midwest Conference for British Studies in September 2016. She has accepted a position as Student Services Specialist at Herzing University in Menomonee Falls.

Catherine Simmerer: Presented “Holmes Dogs the Hound: Distinctions of Genre in Doyle’s *Hound of the Baskervilles*” at the Midwest Conference for British Studies in September 2016. She presented a shorter version of this paper as part of the English/History presentation series. She also wrote a character biography for G. K. Chesterton’s detective Father Brown, to be published in Eric Sandberg’s *100 Greatest Literary Detectives*, projected to be published in 2017. Catherine won the M.A. McCabe Teaching award.

Peter Spaulding: Will present “The Abolition of Maps: A Comparative Reading of David Foster Wallace’s *Infinite Jest* and C. S. Lewis’ *The Abolition of Man*” at the Fourth Annual International David Foster Wallace Conference in June 2017.

