

IRREGULAR LITTONIAN

Spring, 2007 - Number 42

GREETINGS AND SALUTATIONS! IN BETWEEN WASHING THE ROAD SALT OFF OF OUR CARS, WAITING FOR WARM WEATHER, AND OH YES, TEACHING AND READING AND WRITING, WE BRING YOU NEWS FROM THE LITERATURE PROGRAM AT STOCKTON.

STOCKTON IS DEFINITELY IN THE MIDST OF A GROWTH SPURT, AND THE CAMPUS IS A-BUSTLE WITH NEW CONSTRUCTION. THE F-WING HAS BEEN COMPLETELY REMODELED, WITH NEW CLASSROOMS, MEETING ROOMS, AND FACULTY OFFICES (SOME WITH A VIEW). GROUND HAS BEEN BROKEN FOR BRAND-NEW STUDENT HOUSING. AND THERE'S MUCH MORE TO COME; CHECK OUT THE "MASTERPLAN" FOR YOURSELF ON THE COLLEGE WEBSITE: [HTTP://PRESIDENT.STOCKTON.EDU/MASTERPLAN.HTML](http://president.stockton.edu/masterplan.html). OR EVEN BETTER, STOP BY FOR A VISIT!

THE LITT PROGRAM HAS BEEN GROWING AND CHANGING AS WELL. THIS YEAR WE CONDUCTED NATIONAL SEARCHES FOR TWO FACULTY POSITIONS, A REPLACEMENT LINE IN NEW MEDIA STUDIES AND NEW POSITION IN MULTI-ETHNIC LITERATURE OF THE US. WE HAVE ONCE AGAIN MADE SIGNIFICANT CHANGES TO THE MAJOR, INCLUDING INTEGRATING OUR EDUCATION AND GRADUATE TRACKS INTO A NEW LITERARY STUDIES TRACK, AND REINSTITUTING A LANGUAGE AND CULTURE STUDY REQUIREMENT. OUR IDEA FOR A "THEMATIC" SEMESTER TOOK SHAPE IN THE FALL AS WE CELEBRATED A "SEMESTER OF DRAMA" WITH MANY OF THE FULL-TIME FACULTY TEACHING DRAMA-RELATED COURSES, PARTICIPATING IN EVENTS LINKED TO THE COLLEGE'S THEATRE PRODUCTIONS, OR SIMPLY ACTING UP FROM TIME TO TIME.

GOINGS AND COMINGS

IT IS WITH MIXED EMOTIONS THAT WE REPORT THE UPCOMING RETIREMENT OF PROFESSOR **FRED MENCH**. (WE WISH HIM WELL, BUT WE WILL MISS HIM!) AFTER NEXT YEAR, FRED WILL PROBABLY BE AROUND 1 TERM PER YEAR FOR A BIT AS AN ADJUNCT, SPENDING THE REST OF HIS TIME IN TENNESSEE. THE LANG PROGRAM IS SEARCHING NOW FOR HIS REPLACEMENT (THOUGH WE KNOW HE'S IRREPLACEABLE). YOU CAN GET A GLIMPSE OF ONE OF FRED'S ON-GOING PROJECTS BY VISITING THE [FICTIONAL ROME WEBSITE](#).

SCOTT RETTBERG, WHO INTRODUCED MANY OF YOU TO DIGITAL MEDIA, HAS DECIDED TO REMAIN IN NORWAY WHERE HE IS WORKING AS AN ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR AT THE INSTITUTE OF HUMANISTIC INFORMATICS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF BERGEN, TEACHING COURSES IN WEB AESTHETICS AND WEB DESIGN. HE'S LOOKING FORWARD TO RETURNING TO THE USA IN MAY TO PRESENT AT MIT'S MEDIA IN TRANSITION CONFERENCE AND THE ELO'S FUTURE OF ELECTRONIC LITERATURE SYMPOSIUM AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND. HE IS ALSO VERY EXCITED ABOUT GETTING MARRIED TO JILL WALKER IN EARLY JUNE. FORMER STUDENTS CAN KEEP UP WITH SCOTT AND STAY IN TOUCH VIA HIS BLOG AT [HTTP://WWW.RETTTS.NET](http://www.retts.net). WE WISH SCOTT ALL THE BEST.

BRIAN KIM STEPHANS JOINED THE LITERATURE PROGRAM IN THE FALL OF 2006 AS A VISITING ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF NEW MEDIA STUDIES. WE ARE DELIGHTED TO ANNOUNCE THAT BRIAN WILL BE RETURNING NEXT YEAR AS OUR NEW TENURE-TRACK ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF NEW MEDIA STUDIES. BRIAN HOLDS AN MFA IN ELECTRONIC WRITING FROM BROWN UNIVERSITY. HE HAS PUBLISHED IN A VARIETY OF GENRES INCLUDING POETRY ([FREE SPACE COMIX](#) , ROOF BOOKS, 1998; [GULF](#) , OBJECT EDITIONS, 1998, DOWNLOADABLE AT [UBU.COM](#); [ANGRY PENGUINS](#), HARRY TANKOOS, 2000; AND [WHAT IS SAID TO THE POET CONCERNING FLOWERS](#) , [FACTORY SCHOOL](#), 2006), AND ESSAYS AND INTERVIEWS ([FASHIONABLE NOISE: ON DIGITAL POETICS](#), ATELOS, 2003 AND [BEFORE STARTING OVER: SELECTED WRITINGS AND INTERVIEWS 1994-2005](#), [SALT PUBLISHING](#), 2006. HE IS ALSO THE EDITOR OF THE /UBU ("SLASH UBU") SERIES OF E-BOOKS AT [WWW.UBU.COM/UBU](http://www.ubu.com/ubu) AND THE CREATOR OF [ARRAS.NET](#), DEVOTED TO NEW MEDIA POETRY AND POETICS, WHERE MOST OF HIS WORK, INCLUDING HIS OWN SERIES OF [ARRAS E-BOOKS](#), CAN BE FOUND.

ADALAINE B. HOLTON WILL BE JOINING THE LITERATURE PROGRAM IN THE FALL OF 2007 AS ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF MULTI-ETHNIC LITERATURE. ADALAINE RECEIVED HER PH.D. IN LITERATURE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ, WITH CONCENTRATIONS IN 19TH-AND 20TH-CENTURY AMERICAN LITERATURE AND AFRICAN AMERICAN LITERATURE. SHE IS CURRENTLY A VISITING ASSISTANT PROFESSOR AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE COUNTY. SHE HAS PRESENTED PAPERS AT A VARIETY OF NATIONAL CONFERENCES ON SUCH WRITERS AS ARTHUR SCHOMBURG, JESÚS COLÓN, AND W.E.B. DUBOIS. HER ARTICLE, "DECOLONIZING HISTORY: ARTHUR SCHOMBURG'S AFRODIASPORIC ARCHIVE" WAS PUBLISHED THIS SPRING IN THE JOURNAL OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY. WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING HER TO STOCKTON.

WHAT WE ARE DOING



FULL TIME FACULTY:

DEBORAH GUSSMAN WAS HAPPY TO COMPLETE HER TURN AS PROGRAM COORDINATOR THIS SUMMER AND RETURN TO THE CLASSROOM AS AN ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR. SHE TAUGHT A NEW COURSE IN AMERICAN DRAMA IN THE FALL, AND ENJOYED WATCHING HER TALENTED STUDENTS PERFORM SCENES FROM SUCH DIVERSE PLAYS AS ALBEE'S THE ZOO STORY, NORMAN'S GETTING OUT, AND HWANG'S M. BUTTERFLY. WHO KNEW THEY COULD ACT AS WELL AS THEY COULD WRITE? SHE PRESENTED A PAPER ON "USING NEW MEDIA TO TEACH EARLY AMERICAN WOMEN WRITERS" AT THE SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF AMERICAN WOMEN WRITERS CONFERENCE IN PHILADELPHIA IN NOVEMBER 2006, AND GOT TO SHOW OFF SOME RECENT HYPERTEXT PROJECTS CREATED BY LITERARY RESEARCH STUDENTS ON MARY ROWLANDSON AND CATHARINE MARIA SEDGWICK. GUSSMAN'S WORK ON SEDGWICK CONTINUES, WITH AN ENCYCLOPEDIA ARTICLE ON MARRIED OR SINGLE? PUBLISHED IN THE COMPANION TO THE AMERICAN NOVEL (NEW YORK: FACTS ON FILE, 2006), AND ON-GOING PLANNING FOR THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY SEDGWICK SYMPOSIUM TO BE HELD IN STOCKBRIDGE THIS MAY.

AFTER A BUSY SUMMER OF TEACHING AND SAILING, **LISA HONAKER** RETURNED TO STOCKTON IN THE FALL AS AN ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF BRITISH LITERATURE, HER PROMOTION EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1. HAVING TAKEN ON A LEADERSHIP ROLE IN STOCKTON'S POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT PROJECT OVER THE SUMMER, MUCH OF HONAKER'S FALL 2006 SEMESTER WAS TAKEN UP WITH COORDINATING, ATTENDING, AND CREATING EVENTS AND PRESENTATIONS FOR THAT PROJECT. SOME OF THOSE EVENTS INCLUDED HER OWN MEDIA ANALYSIS WORKSHOPS WITH STOCKTON FACULTY AND ABSEGAMI HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS AS WELL AS A TALK BY NEW YORK TIMES SUPREME COURT REPORTER LINDA GREENHOUSE, AN EVENT ATTENDED BY BOTH STOCKTON STUDENTS AND STUDENTS FROM ABSEGAMI AND BAYVILLE HIGH SCHOOLS. SHE ALSO WORKED WITH PROFESSOR NATHAN LONG, COORDINATING THE VISITING WRITERS SERIES, WHICH FEATURED POETS STEPHEN DUNN AND MARIE HOWE. HER WORK WITH THE POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT PROJECT LED TO HER PARTICIPATION IN THE AMERICAN DEMOCRACY CONFERENCE IN SNOWBIRD, UTAH IN JUNE AND A CARNEGIE FOUNDATION-SPONSORED MEETING IN PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA IN JANUARY. HONAKER ALSO SHEPHERDED TWO CLASSES THROUGH THEIR INTRODUCTION TO RESEARCH IN LITERATURE DURING THE FALL SEMESTER. THIS RATHER LARGE GROUP OF RESEARCH STUDENTS PRODUCED SOME GOOD CRITICAL ESSAYS ON SAMUEL BECKETT, INFORMATIVE POWERPOINT PRESENTATIONS ON CONTEMPORARY PLAYWRIGHTS, AND A HANDSOME HYPERTEXT PROJECT ON FIVE IRISH PLAYWRIGHTS ([HTTP://CAXTON.STOCKTON.EDU/IRISHPLAYWRIGHTS](http://caxton.stockton.edu/irishplaywrights)). COLLEGE PROJECTS AND TEACHING LEFT HONAKER LESS TIME FOR WRITING THAN SHE MIGHT HAVE LIKED IN THE FALL, BUT SHE CURRENTLY AT WORK ON A REVIEW OF A BOOK ON HENRY JAMES FOR THE JOURNAL ENGLISH LITERATURE IN TRANSITION AND HAS BEGUN RESEARCH FOR A PIECE ON THE SERIAL FORM IN TRADITIONAL PRINT AND NEW MEDIA.

KRISTIN JACOBSON INTRODUCED STUDENTS TO THE WILD AND WACKY FICTIONAL WORLDS OF AMERICAN POSTMODERNISM DURING HER SENIOR SEMINAR COURSE IN THE FALL. IN THE END, THE SENIORS TAUGHT HER MUCH ABOUT THE FIELD IN THEIR THOROUGHLY RESEARCHED THESIS PAPERS. AND, JOINING THE REST OF THE LITERATURE FACULTY, JACOBSON (A.K.A. DR. J) ALSO FOCUSED ON DRAMA THIS FALL, TEACHING A COURSE ON VARIOUS KINDS OF "DOMESTIC DRAMAS." (THE COURSE COVERED EVERYTHING FROM LITERARY DRAMAS TO POPULAR TELEVISION PROGRAMS.) HER TEACHING OF POSTMODERN AMERICAN FICTION AND DOMESTIC DRAMAS DIRECTLY RELATES TO HER RESEARCH. CURRENTLY JACOBSON IS WORKING ON AN ARTICLE ABOUT THE CONNECTIONS BETWEEN THE POPULAR SUNDAY NIGHT REALITY TELEVISION PRO-

GRAM, EXTREME MAKEOVER: HOME EDITION, AND THE NINETEENTH-CENTURY HOME MANUAL, THE AMERICAN WOMAN'S HOME. SHE PRESENTED THESE IDEAS AT A NOVEMBER CONFERENCE SPONSORED BY THE SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF AMERICAN WOMEN WRITERS AND LOOKS FORWARD TO PRESENTING RESEARCH ON "BARBARA KINGSOLVER'S IMAGINED GEOGRAPHIES" THIS FEBRUARY AT THE TWENTIETH CENTURY LITERATURE AND CULTURE CONFERENCE IN LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY.

TOM KINSELLA HAS BEEN DOING MUCH THE SAME AS HE ALWAYS DOES. HE'S WORKING ON HIS BOOKBINDING RESEARCH IN HIS OFF TIME. CURRENTLY HE AND HIS RESEARCH ASSOCIATE HAVE AN EXHIBITION OF AMERICAN BOOKBINDING HISTORY ON DISPLAY, ENTITLED "BOUND AND DETERMINED" AT BRYN MAWR COLLEGE. ASSOCIATED WITH THAT EXHIBITION WAS A SEMINAR ON AMERICAN BOOKBINDING HISTORY THAT TOM HELPED TO ORGANIZE AND THAT HE SPOKE AT. IT WAS VERY WELL ATTENDED BY SCHOLARS FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY (AND CANADA) AND WAS A GREAT SUCCESS. HE'S JUST ABOUT FINISHED WITH A STUDY OF BOOKBINDER'S TICKETS THAT IS ALSO ASSOCIATED WITH THE EXHIBITION. THAT SHOULD BE PUBLISHED BY EARLY SUMMER. SO TOM HAS BEEN BUSY. HE'S TEACHING BOTH SECTIONS OF SENIOR SEMINAR -- ONE ON NARRATIVE THEORY AND THE OTHER ON TRAVEL LITERATURE. THE SENIORS ARE WORRIED AND WORKING HARD. AS USUAL AT THIS TIME OF YEAR, TOM IS BEGINNING TO THINK ABOUT POTATOES. HE'S GOING TO HAVE TO ORDER HIS SEED POTATOES SOON SO THAT HE CAN GET THOSE SPUDS IN THE GROUND.

NATHAN LONG IS CURRENTLY WORKING ON CONVEYANCE, A SHORT STORY COLLECTION ABOUT PEOPLE IN TRAVEL. HE WAS AWARDED A STOCKTON RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT GRANT AND WAS ACCEPTED TO A THREE-WEEK EASTERN FRONTIER RESIDENCY AT NORTON ISLAND, MAINE THIS PAST SUMMER TO WORK ON THE PROJECT. TO DATE, HE HAS COMPLETED TWENTY-THREE STORIES IN THE COLLECTION, TWELVE OF WHICH HAVE BEEN PLACED IN JOURNALS SUCH AS STORY QUARTERLY, INDIANA REVIEW, GLIMMER TRAIN, NATURAL BRIDGE, AND SALT HILL. WHEN COMPLETE, CONVEYANCE WILL BE COMPOSED OF ABOUT 30 SHORT PIECES LINKED THEMATICALLY BY TRAVEL--VIA FOOT, CAR, PLANE, TRAIN, BUS, ETC. WHILE THE STORIES HAVE THEIR OWN THEMES AND TOPICS, THE COLLECTION WILL ALSO CONVEY HOW CHARACTERS' ACTIONS AND BELIEFS ARE INFLUENCED BY MOTION AND, MORE SPECIFICALLY, BY EACH PARTICULAR MODE OF TRANSPORTATION. LONG'S PLAN IS TO FINISH THIS COLLECTION THIS YEAR AND SEND IT OUT TO PUBLISHERS IN THE FALL. HIS NEXT PROJECT IS TO RETURN TO HIS NOVEL, DIFFERENT FINLAND, WHICH HE WROTE AS HIS MFA THESIS. THIS FALL, POPULAR INK PRESS PUBLISHED A CHAPBOOK CONTAINING TWO OF LONG'S STORIES, "THE DOG" AND "THE LAST HOT DAY OF SUMMER". IT WAS ONE FIVE BOOKS PUBLISHED IN THEIR OPENING SERIES. IN 2006, LONG ALSO PUBLISHED "AT LIBERTY, TO SAY" AND "SENTRIES" IN THE THE TUSCULUM REVIEW, "UPSTREAM"



IN THE DOS PASSO'S REVIEW, AND "JEALOUSY" IN THE SECOND ISSUE OF THE JOURNAL FRINGE. "BILLY TIPTON DAY" IS FORTHCOMING IN LODESTAR QUARTERLY AND HIS SHORT STORY "REAL LIFE THINGS" WAS A FINALIST FOR THE GLIMMER TRAIN SHORT SHORT STORY CONTEST. IN ADDITION, LONG'S SHORT NON-FICTION PIECES, "TEMPTATION" AND "NOTHING TO LOSE" WERE PUBLISHED LAST YEAR IN THE SUN.

BRIAN KIM STEPHANS HAS BEEN BUSY CREATING AND TEACHING NEW LITERATURE AND NEW MEDIA STUDIES COURSES, AND ADJUSTING TO LIFE AT STOCKTON MORE GENERALLY. A REVIEW ARTICLE OF ONE OF HIS PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED WORKS RECENTLY APPEARED ONLINE:

[HTTP://WWW.ECONOCULTURE.COM/M/INDEX.PHP?OPTION=COM_CONTENT&TASK=VIEW&ID=427&ITEMID=36](http://www.econoculture.com/m/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=427&Itemid=36) . BRIAN ALSO HAS A BOOK OF POEMS, KLUGE: A MEDITATION, FORTHCOMING FROM ROOF: [HTTP://WWW.ROOFBOOKS.COM/](http://www.roofbooks.com/) . LASTLY, HE HAS BEEN INVITED TO SPEAK TO THE [CENTRE DE RECHERCHE SUR L'INTERMÉDIALITÉ](#) IN MONTREAL ON MARCH 28TH ON HIS WORK AND NEW MEDIA LITERATURE ISSUES.

KEN TOMPKINS – NOW IN HIS 41 YEAR OF FULL-TIME TEACHING – HAS A CLASS THIS TERM ON PODCASTING. IT SEEMS TO BE ONE OF THE FIRST COLLEGE-LEVEL CLASSES ON PODCASTING IN THE COUNTRY. HIS STUDENTS ARE NOW WORKING ON VARIOUS LITERATURE PROJECTS USING PODCASTS TO DELIVER CONTENT. KEN ALSO CO-PRESENTED A PAPER THIS LAST JULY ON USING A WIKI IN UNDERGRADUATE CHAUCER CLASSES. DON'T KNOW WHAT A "WIKI" IS? LIKE WIKIPEDIA, IT IS A SITE WHERE ANY PARTICIPANT CAN EDIT ANY CONTENT. THE WIKI THAT KEN USED – NOW CLOSED BECAUSE OF ABUSE – OFFERED BOTH FACULTY- AND STUDENT-GENERATED CONTENT. THE PAPER WAS WELL-RECEIVED; APPARENTLY, WIKIS HAD NEVER BEEN USED IN CHAUCERIAN STUDIES BEFORE. FINALLY, KEN WROTE A SHORT PAPER FOR A "TECHNOLOGY IN THE CLASSROOM" SEMINAR HELD AT STOCKTON THIS LAST FALL. YOU CAN READ AND HEAR A PODCAST OF THE PAPER HERE: [HTTP://CAXTON.STOCKTON.EDU/PODPED](http://caxton.stockton.edu/podped)

ASSOCIATED FACULTY:

STEPHEN DUNN HAS HAD HIS POEM, "WHERE HE FOUND HIMSELF," ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN THE IOWA REVIEW, SELECTED FOR BEST AMERICAN POETRY 2007 (SCRIBNERS). THIS IS THE THIRD CONSECUTIVE YEAR THAT STEPHEN HAS HAD A POEM IN BEST AMERICAN POETRY. HIS POEM "SALVATION," ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN POETRY, WON A PUSHCART PRIZE. STEPHEN ALSO HAS POEMS FORTHCOMING IN THE NEW YORKER, PARIS REVIEW, THE AMERICAN POETRY REVIEW, TRIQUARTERLY, AND THE GEORGIA REVIEW.

G.T. LENARD, WHO SPENT HER SPRING BREAK IN ISTANBUL, WANTS TO SEND "A SHOUT-OUT TO EVERYBODY AND TELL YOU ALL THAT I MISS YOU. YOU KIDS DON'T CALL, YOU DON'T WRITE. I THINK OF ALL OF YOU SO OFTEN, AND I DON'T EVEN GET A CRUMMY POSTCARD." G.T. REPORTS THAT HER COURSES ARE GOING WELL, AND THAT SHE IS TEACHING FAULKNER THIS SEMESTER. ALL FORMER FAULKNERIANS ARE INVITED TO THE FAULKNER DRESS-UP DAY AND TRIVIA TOURNAMENT ON THE LAST CLASS OF THE SEMESTER (AS ALWAYS). SHOW UP AS YOUR FAVE FAULKNER CHARACTER AND HELP G.T. REFEREE THE TRIVIA TOURNAMENT (OR PARTICIPATE, IF YOU'D LIKE). FOR DATE, TIME, AND MORE DETAILS, DROP HER AN EMAIL.

LINDA NELSON, ALONG WITH HER CO-AUTHORS, FRIDA K. FURMAN AND ELIZABETH A. KELLY, OF THE BOOK, TELLING OUR LIVES: CONVERSATIONS ON SOLIDARITY AND DIFFERENCE, HAVE BEEN INVITED TO DO A NUMBER OF PRESENTATIONS AND READINGS

ON THE EAST COAST AND IN THE MIDWEST, INCLUDING DELIVERING THE PLENARY ADDRESS AT THE 30TH ANNUAL WOMEN'S STUDIES CONFERENCE IN BLACK RIVER FALLS, WISCONSIN, IN APRIL 2006. WITH REGARD TO HER JAMAICA RESEARCH PROJECT, LINDA DELIVERED A PAPER AT THE 13TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LEARNING, IN MONTEGO BAY, JAMAICA, IN JULY OF 2006. THAT PAPER, "TALKING AGAINST THE GRAIN: LIFE NARRATIVES IN OPPOSITION TO PATRIARCHY," REPRESENTS HER PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS OF THE NARRATIVE CONSTRUCTION OF AGENCY IN THE ORALLY-RENDERED LIFE STORIES OF A SMALL NETWORK OF WOMEN FROM MANDEVILLE, JAMAICA. THE DATA FOR THIS ANALYSIS CAME FROM HER 2005-2006 FIELD WORK ON THE ISLAND. LINDA'S RECENT ESSAY, "YOUR TURN AND MINE: CO-CONSTRUCTION AND BOUNDARY NEGOTIATION IN TRIADIC LIFE NARRATIVE DISCOURSE," WAS PRESENTED AT THE ANNUAL MEETINGS OF THE AMERICAN ANTHROPOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION, NOV. 06. THESE WORKS REPRESENT HER CONTINUING INTEREST IN CULTURAL CONSTRUCTIONS OF PERSONAL AGENCY IN THE ORAL AND LITERARY NARRATIVES OF AFRICAN AMERICAN AND AFRICAN CARIBBEAN WOMEN. LINDA ALSO HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO READ TWO POEMS FROM HER WORK IN PROGRESS, JAMAICA POEMS, AT AN AAA SESSION ORGANIZED BY THE SOCIETY FOR HUMANISTIC ANTHROPOLOGY, WHICH SUPPORTS THE FICTION WRITING OF ANTHROPOLOGISTS.



KUDOS!

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES! WE ARE PROUD OF ALL OF YOU.

**LITERATURE BACHELOR OF ARTS
SPRING 2006**

KATINA ARGIROPOULOS
SAIRA AZAD
TONI BAISDEN
KATHLEEN BAKER
KRISTIN BURNETT
ROBYN CHADWICK
MATTHEW CICALEASE
JILL CIENKI – CUM LAUDE
SHEILA DAVIS
JUDYTH DUNLEAVY
KATHLEEN DUNN
THOMAS EARLES
GABRIELLE FAIELLO
ANDREA FALCONE
MARYBETH FISHER
TRICIA GRETO – SUMMA COM LAUDE
ALLISON HARRIS
CHERYL HARVEY
MARYBETH HOLEVAS
CAROLE JECKI
MATTHEW KLEIN
ANDREA LELLEY
SEAN MCMAHON
JENNIFER MELORA

JESSICA MILLER
BRENT MOHRING
CORY NICASTRO
KIMBERLY PANICO
ELIZABETH PASCALE
AUDRA PATTERSON
ROBERT PLUNKETT
ALIKA PRIDGEON
NERMINE PRUSECKI – MAGNA CUM
LAUDE
ERIN RILEY
MICHAEL RIVERO – SUMMA CUM
LAUDE
ADRIENNE SCHREIBER
KEVIN SMITH
NICHOLAS STEYN
KATHLEEN TARICANI
CRYSTAL TAYLOR
JENNA URBAN
EDWARD VAN EMBDEN
KELLY WAMPLER
RAYMOND WELSH
TARA-MARIA WILLIAMS
DAVID ZWIRZ

FALL 2006

RITA M. APPALUCCI
MELISSA L. BONDAR
WILLIAM BOYER
JONATHAN L. BRANIN
JILLIAN CIANFRINI
SHEILA DAVIS
MICHAEL C. DONATO
CECILIA EKONG
JOSHUA ENYEART
STEPHANIE J. FABER
CYNTHIA FEDO
GINA T. FRANK
JENNIFER M. JONES
MICHAEL KAPPELER
LAUREN E. KEATING

ALICIA B. LASPINA
AMANDA R. LONGMORE
JENNA E. LONGMORE
CONOR LYNCH
JILLIAN L. MARONEY
CARLEY S. MASON – SUMMA CUM
LAUDE
PEARL L. MATTHEWS
KATHLEEN T. MICHELFELDER
MARYKATE PELLEGRINO
KRISTOPHER T. PETRILLO
ROBERT PLUNKETT
JULIA SMITH
MELISSA K. STEBNISKY
ELIZABETH VOLPE

ANGELA C. WALDRON
THERESA WELSH
WILLIAM WEND
JENNIFER E. WILLETT
MICHELE B. YACOVINO

SPECIAL KUDOS TO THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE COMPLETED OR ARE CONTINUING YOUR STUDIES AT THE GRADUATE LEVEL. **DOUG SKINNER** (CLASS OF '02) COMPLETED HIS GRADUATE WORK IN STOCKTON'S [MAIT PROGRAM](#) IN DECEMBER. **WILLIAM WEND** IS CURRENTLY WORKING ON HIS M.A. IN ENGLISH AT MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY. HAVE WE MISSED SOMEBODY? DROP US A LINE AND LET US KNOW WHAT YOU ARE STUDYING AND WHERE!

KUDOS TO **LISA DONATO**, A RECENT LITT PROGRAM ALUMNUS, WHO WILL BE LEAVING THE ARHU OFFICE WHERE SHE HAD BEEN WORKING AS A RESEARCHER AND OFFICE ASSISTANT THIS PAST YEAR TO JOIN BALLY TECHNOLOGIES AS A TECHNICAL WRITER. LISA WENT OUT WITH A BANG, SPENDING HER LAST AFTERNOON PRESENTING "A LIFE IN LETTERS" A LOOK AT THE FORTHCOMING SELECTION OF LETTERS BY LANGSTON HUGHES," A TALK IN THE [ARHU PRESENTS](#) LECTURE SERIES THAT SHOWCASED THE EXCELLENT WORK SHE HAS DONE AS AN ASSISTANT EDITOR OF THE FORTHCOMING BOOK THE SELECTED LETTERS OF LANGSTON HUGHES (ARNOLD RAMPERSAD AND DAVID ROESSEL, EDITORS).

CONGRATULATIONS ALSO TO SOME OF OUR CURRENT STUDENTS, WHO WERE AWARDED STOCKTON BOARD OF TRUSTEES FELLOWSHIPS FOR DISTINGUISHED STUDENTS DURING THE FALL TERM 2006. **LISA LONGO** WILL BE WRITING "A SPELL TO FIND THE RIGHT WORDS: A PLAY;" **SARA MOULTON** WILL BE WORKING ON A PROJECT ENTITLED "A POET'S VOICE INSPIRED BY ART;" AND **REBECCA LEOPOLD** WILL BE CONDUCTING RESEARCH ON "TUCKERTON: A TOWN OF HISTORY."

LIFE AFTER STOCKTON

OUR LAST NEWSLETTER INCLUDED A FEATURE ON ONE OF YOUR FELLOW ALUMNI, **MICHELE WENDT**, A TEACHER AT GALLOWAY COMMUNITY CHARTER SCHOOL. IN THIS ISSUE, WE FOCUS ON ANOTHER RECENT GRADUATE, **NICOLE STATUTI** (CLASS OF '05). NICOLE AND DEB GUSSMAN HAD COFFEE AT THE BARNES AND NOBLE BOOKSTORE IN MARLTON OVER WINTER BREAK, AND THEY CONTINUED THE CONVERSATION WITH THE ON-LINE INTERVIEW THAT FOLLOWS.

DEB: HI NICOLE! WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING SINCE YOU GRADUATED FROM STOCKTON?

NICOLE: AFTER I GRADUATED STOCKTON, I MOVED TO NEW YORK. I DIDN'T HAVE A JOB WHEN I MOVED UP HERE; I JUST KNEW THAT THIS IS WHERE I WANTED TO BE. IT WAS A HUGE GAMBLE AND I QUICKLY REALIZED HOW QUICKLY YOU COULD LIQUIDATE YOUR BANK ACCOUNT IN SUCH AN EXPENSIVE CITY. LOOKING BACK, MAYBE IT WAS RISKY TO COME UP HERE WITHOUT A JOB SECURED BUT THE WHOLE THING WAS SUCH A CATCH-22. IT IS NEARLY IMPOSSIBLE TO GET HIRED WITHOUT RESIDENCY AND IT WAS DIFFICULT TO GET RESIDENCY WITHOUT A JOB. I HAD FOUND THE APARTMENT, SO I JUST WENT FOR IT. FOR THE FIRST 6 MONTHS OR SO, I WAS WORKING FOR A TEMP AGENCY DOING ADMINISTRATIVE JOBS FOR DIFFERENT MEDIA COMPANIES INCLUDING SUNDANCE AND PUBLICIS GROUPE. IT WAS ACTUALLY A GREAT EXPERIENCE, IN HINDSIGHT, BECAUSE I WAS GAINING A LOT OF HIGHLY MARKETABLE SKILLS I WOULD USE LATER TO PROCURE A PERMANENT POSITION. IT WAS DIFFICULT, THOUGH, BE-

CAUSE YOU ARE SANS HEALTH INSURANCE AND STEADY INCOME MOST OF THE TIME. SOME OF THE POSITIONS WERE TEMPORARY BECAUSE THE PERSON WAS OUT DUE TO ILLNESS, MATERNITY OR VACATION BUT THERE WERE SOME EMPLOYERS WHO WERE TRYING OUT NEW EMPLOYEES BEFORE HIRING THEM. UNFORTUNATELY, THERE WERE ALSO THE EMPLOYERS THAT WERE JUST SO HORRIBLE THAT NO ONE WANTED TO STAY WITH THEM; I HAD A COUPLE OF THOSE TOO. ONE OF MY BOSSES USED TO CALL ME THE "HIRED HELP" TO HER COLLEAGUES. NEEDLESS TO SAY, I LEFT HER TO HIRE SOME NEW HELP SOON AFTER. I GOT TO A POINT AFTER THAT WHERE I FELT LIKE I JUST COULDN'T SEEM TO FIND MY BREAK. I REALIZED MORE SO THAN EVER HOW LUCKY I AM TO HAVE SUCH SUPPORTIVE FAMILY AND FRIENDS. THEY WERE PERPETUALLY TELLING ME JUST TO PERSEVERE UNTIL I FOUND THE POSITION THAT WAS RIGHT. THEN, IT FINALLY HAPPENED. I GOT A JOB WITH TIME INC. WORKING FOR ONE OF THE TOP MAGAZINES IN THE COUNTRY AS AN ADVERTISING COORDINATOR.

DEB: WHAT DO YOU LIKE BEST ABOUT YOUR CURRENT JOB? ANY SPECIFIC PLANS FOR THE FUTURE?

NICOLE: WORKING FOR TIME INC. IS DEFINITELY A HUGE PART OF LOVING MY JOB. THEY TREAT THEIR EMPLOYEES REALLY WELL... LOTS OF PERKS, VACATIONS, AMENITIES... AN ALL AROUND A GREAT COMPANY. ALSO, I HAVE INCREDIBLE CO-WORKERS AND WE ARE A REALLY CLOSE-KNIT TEAM. AS FOR THE POSITION ITSELF, WORKING IN ADVERTISING HAS PROVED TO BE VERY CHALLENGING AND INTERESTING BUT I DEFINITELY KNOW THAT EDITORIAL IS STILL THE PLACE FOR ME. I AM IN THE PROCESS OF TAKING ON AN EDITORIAL POSITION WITHIN TIME INC. I HAVE LEARNED A GREAT DEAL IN ADVERTISING AND AM SO GLAD THAT I HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN AN ENTIRELY DIFFERENT FACET OF THE MAGAZINE. I DON'T THINK YOU CAN FULLY UNDERSTAND AN INDUSTRY WITHOUT WORKING KNOWLEDGE OF THE VARIOUS COMPONENTS. I AM REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO EMBARKING ON THIS NEW CAREER ADVENTURE.

ASIDE FROM MY JOB WITH TIME INC., I ALSO DO FREELANCE WRITING AND VOLUNTEER. FOR SOME TIME, I WAS FREELANCING WITH ABC NEWS RADIO HERE IN NEW YORK BUT I KEPT GOING BACK TO THE WRITING. THAT IS DEFINITELY MY TRUE LOVE AND I DO [IT] WHENEVER I CAN. I HAVE MOSTLY BEEN WRITING CREATIVE NONFICTION AND SOCIO-POLITICAL SHORTS ON TOPICS LIKE GENDER AND RACE. THE GREAT THING ABOUT FREELANCING IS THAT YOU GET TO WRITE ABOUT WHATEVER YOU WANT. I CAN WRITE AND NOT HAVE TO THINK ABOUT THE MARKET I'M TARGETING... IT ALMOST FEELS MORE CANDID IN THAT WAY. THE DOWN SIDE, THOUGH, IS THAT SOMETIMES YOU CAN ONLY TARGET NICHE PUBLICATIONS AND EVEN THEN THEY MAY NOT PUBLISH YOUR WORK. DESPITE THAT, I AM STILL WRITING WHAT I WANT TO WRITE. I AM TRULY ENJOYING HAVING THE CHANCE TO CREATE WITHOUT THE THOUGHT THAT I NEED TO HAVE IT PUBLISHED IN A CERTAIN PLACE OR SO I CAN PAY RENT THIS MONTH. HAVING A GREAT FULL TIME JOB TAKES A LOT OF PRESSURE OFF IN THAT RESPECT. I KNOW THAT I HAVE A JOB I LOVE AND I GET TO PURSUE ONE OF MY PASSIONS AS WELL AND SEE WHERE IT TAKES ME.

I ALSO WORK WITH A SHELTER THAT SERVES HOMELESS, DISADVANTAGED AND NEEDY CLIENTS. I DO CLOTHING DISTRIBUTION, WHICH PROVES TO BE A VERY CHALLENGING POSITION. MOST PEOPLE DO FOOD DISTRIBUTION WHERE THEY ARE BEHIND A TABLE HANDING OUT FOOD. WITH CLOTHING DISTRIBUTION, I'M IN THE FRONT LINES INTERACTING WITH THE CLIENTS ONE-ON-ONE. IT'S HARD BECAUSE A LOT OF THE CLIENTS COME IN PRETTY AGITATED AND AREN'T THE EASIEST TO HELP. THEY ARE USED TO BEING ON THE DEFENSIVE AND IT TAKES A WHILE FOR THEM TO GET TO KNOW AND TRUST YOU. WHEN YOU DO GET THROUGH TO SOMEONE, THOUGH, IT IS INCREDIBLY REWARDING. IT'S ALMOST AS IF THEY ARE SO USED TO BEING IGNORED OR HAVING MONEY

THROWN AT THEM THAT WHEN SOMEONE TREATS THEM LIKE A HUMAN BEING IT MAKES A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE FOR THEM. IT'S BEEN EXCEEDINGLY CHALLENGING BUT ALSO EXTREMELY GRATIFYING. I AM ALSO CURRENTLY WORKING ON GETTING INVOLVED AT ONE OF THE LOCAL NEIGHBORHOOD CENTERS AS LITERACY VOLUNTEER. THE CENTER I AM INVOLVED WITH HAS BOTH ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS LIKE WRITING WORKSHOPS AND STANDARD TUTORING FOR AT-RISK STUDENTS. WHEN I MOVED TO NEW YORK, I KNEW I WANTED TO BE INVOLVED IN NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATION AND THESE PROGRAMS HAVE BEEN A GREAT WAY TO DO IT.

DEB: WHAT DO YOU ENJOY MOST ABOUT LIVING IN NEW YORK CITY?

NICOLE: IS "EVERYTHING" A GOOD ANSWER? I REALLY LOVE NEW YORK THOUGH I DO THINK IT'S A BIT OF AN ACQUIRED TASTE FOR SOME PEOPLE. A LOT OF PEOPLE TELL ME THEY LIKE NEW YORK BUT COULD NEVER LIVE HERE AND SPOUT OFF A PLETHORA OF MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT THE CITY AND ITS INHABITANTS. UNFORTUNATELY, THERE IS A WHOLE SIDE OF NEW YORK A LOT OF VISITORS DON'T HAVE THE CHANCE TO EXPERIENCE. THEY USUALLY GO TO TIMES SQUARE OR OTHER PLACES THAT "NEW YORKERS" DON'T VENTURE INTO. THE CITY IS INCREDIBLE BECAUSE IT'S REALLY JUST A CONGLOMERATION OF LOTS OF LITTLE NEIGHBORHOODS. YOU CAN FIND A SMALL-TOWN-FEEL IN A CITY OF OVER 8 MILLION PEOPLE PRETTY EASILY. THERE ARE TIMES I WILL JUST TAKE THE SUBWAY AND HOP OFF AT A RANDOM STOP TO FIND MYSELF IN AN AREA THAT I HAD NEVER SEEN BEFORE. THE CITY IS CONSTANTLY REVEALING ITSELF TO ME.

I ALSO LOVE STRANGE THINGS ABOUT THE CITY... THE SUBWAY PROBABLY BEING MY FAVORITE. I HAVE FOUND TO BE ONE OF THE MOST SOCIO-ECONOMICALLY DIVERSE PLACES, FULL OF INTERESTING AND WONDERFUL PEOPLE. YOU REALLY GET ALL THE WALKS OF LIFE... FROM HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS TO MILLIONAIRES... JUST EVERY SINGLE BACKGROUND AND PERSUASION YOU CAN THINK OF. THERE IS ALWAYS THIS ENERGY... THIS LIFE ALL AROUND YOU IN NEW YORK. I HAVE SEEN SO MANY STRANGE AND FASCINATING THINGS HERE. PEOPLE KIND OF JUST DO THEIR OWN THING. YESTERDAY, I SAW AN OLD WOMAN WALKING A PARROT ON A LEASH (TRUE STORY). NEW YORKERS ARE SO INTERESTING...

DEB. HAVE YOU READ ANY GOOD BOOKS LATELY? ANY RECOMMENDATIONS?

NICOLE: ACTUALLY, I HAVE BEEN READING A LOT LATELY. EVERY YEAR, I RE-READ TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD BY HARPER LEE AND THE AWAKENING BY KATE CHOPIN. NOVELS ARE SUCH LIVING WORKS. IT'S AMAZING HOW READING THE SAME NOVEL, AT DIFFERENT POINTS OF YOUR LIFE, CAN MAKE IT SEEM COMPLETELY FRESH AND DIFFERENT. THIS PAST SUMMER, I WAS LOOKING FOR A CAMPY, GARISH NOVEL AND PICKED UP JACQUELINE SUSANN'S VALLEY OF THE DOLLS BECAUSE I HAD NEVER READ IT BEFORE. I WAS COMPLETELY ENGROSSED! RIGHT AFTER, I READ THE BEST OF EVERYTHING BY RONA JAFFE AND WAS SO AFFECTED. JAFFE HAD THE SAME CONCEPT AS SUSANN; BOTH NOVELS DEALT WITH THE LIVES AND LOVES OF YOUNG WOMEN IN NEW YORK. THOUGH THESE NOVELS WERE WRITTEN IN A DIFFERENT TIME PERIOD WHEN WOMEN WERE IN A DIFFERENT PLACE SOCIALLY, AS WAS THE WORLD IN GENERAL, THERE IS A GREAT AMOUNT OF RELATE-ABILITY THAT SPANS ACROSS GENERATIONS. I THINK THAT IS WHAT MAKES ANY NOVEL SO GREAT. THE HOURS BY MICHAEL CUNNINGHAM EXAMINED THIS SAME CONCEPT. THREE DIFFERENT WOMEN, IN THREE DIFFERENT DECADES, DEALING WITH THE UNDERCURRENT OF THESE SAME PROBLEMS THAT FACE ALL WOMEN... SO FASCINATING. MY FUN RECOMMENDATIONS WOULD BE SOME OF THE SHORTS BY CARSON McCULLERS. SHE IS SUCH A STRANGE AND BRIL-

LIANT WRITER. I'M RARELY DISAPPOINTED BY ANY OF HER WORK. ALSO, I WOULD BE REMISS IF I DIDN'T RECOMMEND BRYAN FOGEL AND SAM WOLFSON'S JEWTOPIA. IT WAS PROBABLY ONE OF THE FUNNIEST THINGS I HAVE EVER READ. I COULDN'T PUT IT DOWN.

DEB: ANY SHOUT OUTS TO ANYONE AT STOCKTON?

NICOLE: DEFINITELY... YOU, BILL DALY, LISA HONAKER, LINDA WHARTON AND HENRY VAN KUIKEN... WOULD BE A GREAT START. EVERY SINGLE DAY, I APPLY SOMETHING THAT I LEARNED AT STOCKTON TO MY DAILY LIFE WHETHER IT IS IN RELATIONSHIPS, AT WORK OR JUST AS A MEMBER OF SOCIETY. THESE PROFESSORS, AND OTHERS, TAUGHT ME HOW TO CRITICALLY THINK; THEY NEVER SPOON-FED ME ANYTHING. THEY TAUGHT ME HOW TO EXAMINE ALL THE INFORMATION AROUND ME AND CREATE MY OWN IDEAS AND OPINIONS. I FEEL MY TIME AT STOCKTON MADE ME MORE OPEN-MINDED AND ABLE TO SEE BOTH SIDES OF A SITUATION AND CRITICALLY ASSESS IT. I ALSO FEEL THEY ESPECIALLY HELPED ME UNLOCK A LOT OF POTENTIAL IN MY CAREER AND ABILITY TO CREATE THAT I DIDN'T KNOW WAS THERE. I AM SO GRATEFUL FOR THEIR INFLUENCE AND WISDOM.

THAT'S ALL FROM NICOLE. IS SOMETHING EXCITING GOING ON IN YOUR LIFE? BE SURE TO DROP TOM KINSELLA, PROGRAM COORDINATOR, A LINE, SO WE CAN TELL EVERYONE ABOUT IT.

LITT PROGRAM UPCOMING EVENTS

THE BASH

OUR ANNUAL LITT/LANG BASH CONTINUES TO BE THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE YEAR FOR MANY OF US, AND IT JUST KEEPS GETTING BIGGER AND SWANKIER (WELL, BIGGER ANYWAY). THERE WILL BE GOOD FOOD, MUSIC, AND AWARDS APLENTY FOR ESSAYS, WEBLOGS, POETRY AND FICTION. PLEASE COME AND JOIN THE FUN. THIS YEAR'S SHINDIG IS SCHEDULED FOR FRIDAY, APRIL 20TH AT 4:30 PM IN THE TRLC.

THE VISITING WRITERS SERIES:

ALUMNI READING: DAVID FLOYD (POET) AND DAN GROTE (NOVELIST)
THURSDAY, APRIL 5, 8 PM

STOCKPOT READING WITH EMARI DIGIORGIO
THURSDAY, APRIL 19, 8 PM

ALL OF THESE READINGS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. BY THE WAY, WE WELCOME CONTRIBUTIONS TO SUSTAIN THE VISITING WRITERS SERIES. IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN MAKING A DONATION (OF ANY SIZE), PLEASE CONTACT NATHAN LONG AT 609-652-4887 OR NATHAN.LONG@STOCKTON.EDU

WELL, TO QUOTE BUGS BUNNY, "THAT'S ALL FOLKS." BE SURE TO KEEP US INFORMED OF THE GOINGS-ON IN YOUR LIVES. WE REALLY DO LOVE HEARING FROM YOU. IF YOU GET A CHANCE, DROP US A LINE WITH NEWS ABOUT YOUR JOBS AND FAMILIES.

DEB GUSSMAN FOR
THE LITERATURE PROGRAM

LISA HONAKER
KRISTIN JACOBSON
NATHAN LONG
TOM KINSELLA
BRIAN STEPHANS
KEN TOMPKINS