

# ENGLISH



Newsletter of the Department of English

University of Oregon

1993-94

## Professor George Wickes Retires



George Wickes

George Wickes, who retired last June after twenty-three years in the English Department, isn't quite ready to give up teaching. He spent last fall in Siena, Italy, teaching in the University's study abroad program, and since returning has taught his favorite course (on James Joyce) and is now teaching an Honors seminar. "Actually," he explains, "what's brought me to this point is age. I reached three score and ten last year. But I'd rather go on a while longer if they'll let me."

He isn't ready to give up

overseas travel either. "I guess I've made a career of being an academic tramp," he says. "Altogether, I've spent something like eight years in Europe, mostly teaching." In fact, he spent the first six months of his life in Belgium, where he was born, and later served as director of the Fulbright program in Belgium for two and a half years. Subsequently he taught in French universities as a Fulbright lecturer on three separate occasions and inaugurated the English Department's faculty exchanges

with the University of Tübingen in Germany. His stint in Siena was his third in the University's overseas program, the other two being in Avignon and Bath. And under the auspices of the U.S. Information Service he has gone on extended lecture tours, once in Europe and twice in West Africa.

George Wickes has lived in Paris for considerable periods, and much of his research has been concerned with the American writers, artists, and composers who lived there during the first part of this century. His landmark study of these expatriates is *Americans in Paris*, first published in 1969, reissued in 1980, and after going out of print last year, about to be reprinted again. Among the creative artists whose work is discussed are Gertrude Stein, Ernest Hemingway, John Dos Passos, e. e. cummings, Man Ray, Virgil Thompson, and Henry Miller. While writing this

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## Wickes

book Wickes came to know several of them.

"I saw quite a bit of Miller in the 60s," he recalls, "when he and I were both living in the L.A. area." Beginning with an interview he did for the *Paris Review* in 1961, Wickes went on to do quite a bit of work on Miller, writing criticism, collecting a volume of essays, and editing several collections of Miller's letters: *Lawrence Durrell and Henry Miller: A Private Correspondence* (1963), *Letters to Emil* (1989), and now Miller's correspondence with James Laughlin, the founder and guiding genius of New Directions, which is scheduled to appear next year. "I never meant to specialize in Henry Miller," Wickes remarks, "but one thing just seemed to follow another."

Wickes has a number of portraits hanging on the wall of his office. One is a self-portrait of Henry Miller, done in a technique Wickes identifies as "ballpoint pen on shirt cardboard." Another is a photograph of Lawrence Durrell. "I happened to be there one day when a *Life* photographer appeared and took literally hundreds of pictures. I've always liked that one because I'm sitting at the other end of the bench and that's the manuscript of the Durrell-Miller correspondence between us." Also on his walls are line drawings of other writers he has interviewed and written about: Aldous Huxley, Christopher Isherwood, and Alice B. Toklas.

Another of the Paris literati Wickes met was Natalie Barney, a rich American woman who lived most of her long life in Paris, knew all the French writers, wrote mostly in French herself, and conducted a salon with the intention of bringing American, French, and English writers together. Though relatively unknown in this country at the time, Barney was a legendary figure in France, having appeared as a character in a number of works of fiction, to say nothing of scores of memoirs. Wickes wrote a biography of Barney titled *The Amazon of Letters* (1976), adopting the nickname given her by Remy de Gourmont. In connection with this biography Wickes interviewed a number of other intriguing characters, including Janet Flanner, known to *New Yorker* readers for her erudite and entertaining "Letter from Paris." This interview and others appeared in "A Garland for Natalie Barney," published in the *Paris Review*.

When teaching in Avignon Wickes became interested in the work of Frédéric Mistral, the Provençal poet who won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1904, and found his memoirs "a charming book that should be translated into English." Relying on Mistral's own translation of the memoirs into French, as well as the French-Provençal dictionary the poet had compiled, Wickes spent a sabbatical working on *The Memoirs of Frédéric Mistral: Translated from the Provençal* (1986). "In a way, it's translated from a language I don't really know, but by drawing on several Romance languages and Latin I could work it out. And I found

it easier to get the Provençal into English than the French; it's an earthier language while French is more abstract." Wickes looks back on this translation as "the task that has given me the most pleasure." Though still in print at New Directions, the translation has just been reissued in France by a publisher specializing in works on Provence.

Back in Eugene, George Wickes has other notable accomplishments to his credit. From 1974 to 1977 he served as the Director of the Comparative Literature program and from 1976 to 1983 as Head of the English Department. He played a significant role as Advisory Editor to the *Northwest Review* for twenty years, beginning in 1972 when the *Review* lost its University funding, and he undertook the task of keeping it alive. "All through the 70s and into the mid-80s we had to keep raising money. There was a time when I was going up to Portland with a tin cup in hand and spending quite a bit of time writing grant proposals. It was a struggle for survival, but I really enjoyed working with the staff of the *Review* during those early years."

Now, despite retirement, Wickes finds his energies far from waning and expects to continue in academic life for some time to come. For one thing, his wife, UO English professor Molly Westling, has recently been named to take over as the new Head of the English Department at the end of Dick Stein's term next fall. What's more, Wickes has been asked to do another book on Mistral, using photographs of

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## Wickes

Provence to illustrate excerpts from the poet's works. Finally, as a consequence of critical interest in *Americans in Paris*, he has been invited to give the opening address at the Hemingway/Fitzgerald International Conference being held in Paris, July 3-9. Once again this "academic tramp" will be heading for Europe and in his address limning the forces which drew so many of the world's creative artists to that city. "I'm coming back to the same old topic. In a way, I've never left it."□

## Notes from the Head:

Spring has been balmy in Eugene this year—Queen's weather, they'd call it in England. And it has been remarkably good weather for the Oregon English Department as well, thanks in good measure to the generosity of alumni and friends. So I'll begin with thanks to the many of you who have been able to contribute to our many important projects, and with emphasis on one extraordinary gift.

As I write, the English Department is completing the last stages of a search to fill its first named position, the Barbara and Carlisle Moore Professorship. The donors, Professor Emeritus Carlisle Moore and his wife Barbara, are well known to many of our readers as long-time friends, supporters, and members of this

department, in which Carlisle Moore (whose primary focus as a scholar was on his 19th-century sound-alike, Thomas Carlyle) taught Victorian and modern literature for some thirty years. The gift provides a unique opportunity for the English Department to hire an important senior scholar, one we hope will also stimulate new directions in our collective work. We all are delighted, excited, and deeply grateful for a gift that will help define the shape of our department for many years to come.



Richard Stein, English Department head

Still other good news about gifts is the substantial progress we have made in moving towards the creation of our English Department Lounge. Many, many thanks to all of you who have contributed to this exciting project. See page 12 of the Newsletter for details.

These are not the only pieces of recent good news in Eugene. In spite of budgetary belt-tightening, the English Department was able to search this year to fill a vacancy in

Film History. We were fortunate enough to hire Dr. Kathleen Rowe, a dynamic teacher and already published scholar. Her new book on women in Hollywood comedy—*The Unruly Woman: Gender and the Genres of Laughter*—will appear shortly in the University of Texas Press Film Series. Congratulations, Kathleen, and welcome aboard!

It is also a pleasure to record the fact that three of our valued Assistant Professors have just been promoted to Associate Professor with Indefinite Tenure—Linda Kintz, Tres Pyle, and Bill Rossi. Three in one year is unusual; given the extraordinary work of these colleagues, it hardly was a surprise. Congratulations to them all!

A number of changes are taking place across the university, and I'll mention two that might be of particular interest to readers of this newsletter. The first has to do with the way we design our courses, and with the way students organize their work. Starting next fall, the University will shift from a per-course "norm" of 3 credits to a "norm" of 4 credits—a change intended to make each course more intensive so students focus on a smaller number of courses each term. In a department that stresses in-depth reading and writing, this is an extremely welcome change, with important consequences for the way we teach and the kind of students we attract. The second change is more ceremonial, but a sign of a new spirit of community in the department and the university. For the past two

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## Notes

years, all departments in the College of Arts and Sciences have been conducting their own separate commencement exercises. Ours have been moving, substantial, and impressively well-attended—less like the ceremonies of a department than those of a small college (we do have over 900 majors!). This is a new development I urge all readers to make time to see for themselves. You are always welcome at our departmental exercises (this year they take place on Sunday afternoon, June 13th). What better chance to revisit old haunts, and acquaint yourself with friends and colleagues from your years in the Oregon English Department?

And there is other news. You'll see some of it below in the summary of recent departmental publications and activities. You also can see it on site. In a period of intensive curricular planning and structural change within the University, English remains a lively center of intellectual excitement. I once again encourage all our readers to revisit Eugene and spend time with former teachers, colleagues, and friends. We'll be grateful for the chance to bring ourselves up to date with your news. And if you can't visit or else want to make sure the news is even more widely spread, I encourage you to send us information we can share in the next edition of this Newsletter. One of the main points of publishing it is to reconnect the

community we have helped to form—inside and outside academia, inside and outside Oregon. It is a way for all of us to more fully define an important sense of collective identity, one in which we take a great deal of pride. So please write:

Newsletter Editor  
English Department  
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Eugene, OR 97403

Thanks again for your generosity and your continuing interest in the University of Oregon English Department. Very best wishes for the summer!

*Richard L. Stein*  
*Professor of English*  
*Department Head* □

## New Department Head: Louise Westling

Next September, Louise (Molly) Westling will begin a three-year term as Department Head, replacing Richard Stein who ends his tenure this year.

Professor Westling began her work in English Renaissance literature but her interests later shifted into modern fiction. Her books include *Sacred Groves and Ravaged Gardens: The Fiction of Eudora Welty, Carson McCullers, and Flannery O'Connor* (1985) and *He Included Me: The Autobiography of Sarah Rice* (1989), which she edited for an African American woman who grew up in rural Alabama during the Depression. *Sacred Groves* led to a broader

study of landscape in American fiction. She is now completing a book entitled "The Green Breast of the New World: Landscape in Twentieth-Century American Fiction." Other teaching and research interests include archaeology and myth as deep sources of literary imagery, Native American literature, and the work of Virginia Woolf.



*Louise Westling*

Having received her Ph.D from the UO in 1974 and having taught here since 1977, Westling brings what she calls "the long view of things" to the Headship. She looks forward to helping the department "make the most of our strengths and consolidate our diverse resources." □

## The EGSAC Voice

From the outset, 1993-94 proved to be a year during which a number of departmental decisions would seriously affect the graduate program. As co-chairmen of EGSAC, the English Graduate Student Advisory Council, Jeffrey McCarthy and Edwin

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## New Faculty Member Gordon Sayre Uses Early American Narratives to Examine Representations of Native Americans.

The English Department's newest member, Assistant Professor Gordon Sayre, has found the University of Oregon to be a wonderfully rewarding place to work. He considers his students to be "really impressive," particularly in their awareness of and eagerness to pursue issues of the representation of Native Americans. Sayre is interested in examining how explorers' writings from the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries provide images of Native Americans and their landscape, images that prevail in popular and critical discourses to this day.

Sayre received his A.B. with Honors in Comparative Literature from Brown University, and went on to graduate school at the State University of New York at Buffalo. There he recently completed his studies with a Ph.D., also in Comparative Literature. Sayre thus refers to his current research as "a comparative cultural study of white-Indian relations in the whole of northeastern North America." As the title of his dissertation, "Les Sauvages Américains: Representations of Native Americans in Narratives of Colonial Virginia and New France," would suggest, Sayre's inquiries involve not only the English colonies of America but also French settlements in Canada. In fact, he perceives his research as an attempt "to break down the barrier between anglophone and francophone, between Canadian and U.S. cultural history and scholarship."



Gordon Sayre

Applying his fluency in French to the study of this international field, Professor Sayre spent a year in Paris in 1991-92. As part of a teaching exchange program with the Institut Charles V, Université de Paris VII, Sayre taught English phonetics, pronunciation and writing. More importantly, this exchange enabled Sayre to conduct his dissertation research with original French editions of books about the Canadian colony. In addition, he used the opportunity to examine colonial documents at the French national archives.

With respect to both researching and teaching the culture and literature of pre-1800 North America, Sayre acknowledges that he is faced with the particular challenge of blending history with literature. The majority of the literature, after all, consists of histories, travel narratives, and other such non-fictional texts, materials which English students may be unfamiliar with reading and

analyzing. Sayre explains, "Interdisciplinary approaches are not an innovation, but a necessity in a field where the literature includes sermons, promotional tracts, diaries and political polemics." Concurrently, Sayre feels that part of his role as educator is to expose students to the complexities of colonial religions, to the contests for dominance waged by the various Protestant sects at the time.

During his first year here, Professor Sayre is teaching several new courses which suggest his diverse interests. In one course he examines the impact of travel narratives on the development of the early novel, reading texts such as *Robinson Crusoe*, *Gulliver's Travels*, and Aphra Behn's *Oroonoko*. Sayre is also leading a seminar which examines ethnographic writings from the seventeenth century. Seeking to trace early manifestations of what have become twentieth-century paradigms of anthropology, this course explores how certain rhetorical models and forms of ethnography continue to influence the representation of Native Americans.

In the immediate future, Sayre has an article forthcoming on "The French View of Tattooing in Native North American Cultures," as well as two book reviews. Additionally, during this upcoming summer, Sayre will be revising and preparing his dissertation for publication as his first book. In all, Professor Sayre's enthusiasm

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## Sayre

for his research and teaching keeps him quite busy.

In the future, he would like to research the debate over the fertility and value of North America carried on by colonists and Enlightenment scientists. Key figures in the debate include the French naturalist George Louis Leclerc, Comte de Buffon; the Dutch polemicist Cornelius de Pauw; and well-known Americans Hector St. John de Crèvecoeur and Thomas Jefferson. Sayre views Jefferson's *Notes on the State of Virginia*, an important text in his early American survey courses, as a counter-narrative to the theory promoted by Buffon, that all things American were smaller than their European counterparts. This belief even held that imported species inevitably degenerated after transplantation to the American colonies due to its deleterious soil and climate.

Notions such as these may seem absurd today, but Sayre's investigations of "how seventeenth- and eighteenth-century images of Indians contribute to modern stereotypes and to American values and self perceptions" have shown that old prejudices die slowly, providing him a particularly illuminating context from which to enter a number of current academic and cultural debates. □

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## EGSAC

McAllister led a strong effort to

voice the interests of graduate students during a time of change in both the department and the university.

EGSAC has always performed two important functions on behalf of English graduate students. By conducting fundraising efforts, the council is able to provide financial support for the many graduate students traveling to conferences to present papers. Secondly, EGSAC serves as a liaison between graduate students and the English Department. With the upcoming year's changes already in focus, EGSAC decided at its first meeting of the academic year to devote its energies primarily to the role of representing the English Department's graduate students.

In response to a College of Arts & Sciences committee report on enrollment pressures, the English Department drafted a plan to convert many of its instructor positions to tenure-track positions. EGSAC felt that such a change could reduce opportunities for graduate students to teach lower-division literature courses, and thus worked very hard to make their concerns known at departmental meetings.

Graduate student concerns about this issue led to discussions of the structure of the graduate program itself. In light of the potential reduction of teaching opportunities, EGSAC felt that the department should consider a renewed emphasis on the production of publishable work by graduate students. The council appointed a committee that would consider various options for implementing such a

format and present the council's proposals to the new Graduate Director, Marilyn Farwell.

EGSAC played a key role in representing graduate students' concerns in yet another important departmental decision, namely in the selection of the new Department Head. For the first time in department history, graduate students were given, through EGSAC, a voice in this process. Based on interviews with each of the candidates, EGSAC was able to make its own recommendation to the Department Council.

Finally, despite this year's focus on departmental changes and decisions, EGSAC did not entirely ignore its fundraising function. The council sponsored a film showing in the fall term; a very productive book sale, made possible with tremendous support from the entire department, was conducted at the end of the winter term; and a combination talent show and raffle took place this spring. All of these activities help to provide support for the many graduate students who have traveled to deliver conference papers this year. □

## Peer Advisors Form Literary Society

*H*oping to provide the over 900 English majors at the UO with a greater sense of community, the English Department's undergraduate peer advisors have created a literary society. The brainchild of peer advisor Don Stacy, this society is designed to provide students with an informal opportunity to

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## Literary Society

explore literature, meet their instructors outside of the classroom, and receive in-depth career counseling.

The focus of this program will be on relaxed discussion of literary topics. The inaugural meeting of the society this spring offered a screening of Tony Richardson's film *Tom Jones*, based on Henry Fielding's novel. Future activities under consideration include guest appearances by well-known writers and poets, various forms of presentations, and a marathon reading of Milton's *Paradise Lost*. □

## English Department Notes

### Faculty News

Diana Abu-Jaber has received a National Endowment for the Arts grant for the 1994-95 academic year.

Paul Armstrong will be a visiting professor at the University of Copenhagen for Fall 1994, under the sponsorship of the Danish Research Academy.

Martha Bayless has received notice that her book, *Parody in the Middle Ages: The Latin Tradition*, has been accepted for publication by the University of Michigan Press.

Suzanne Clark has received a grant from the Center for the Study of Women in Society (CSWS). She will be working on a project on Ursula Le Guin. Ed Coleman has made 10

presentations at high schools, colleges, and the Hult Center in Eugene over the course of the year.

Dianne Dugaw participated on the panel, "Curriculum Politics: Bring All Our Communities into the Classroom," at the CSWS Anniversary Conference, "At the Epicenter: Women, Research, and Communities," October 15, 1993.

Marilyn Farwell received a CSWS grant for the completion of her book, "Heterosexual Plots and Lesbian Narratives." Her article, "Toward a Definition of the Lesbian Literary Imagination," was republished in *Sexual Practice, Textual Theory*, edited by Susan J. Wolfe and Julia Penelope Blackwell, and her article, "When Is a Lesbian Narrative a Lesbian Narrative?" was published in the *CSWS Review* 1993. Marilyn's review of Wayne Koestenbaum's *The Queen's Throat: Opera, Homosexuality, and the Mystery of Desire* is forthcoming in an issue of *Ars Lyrica*. Also, Marilyn and Diana Abu-Jaber both spoke on a panel, "Speaking Our Lives and Communities," at the CSWS Conference.

Linda Kintz spoke on the panel, "Women and the Politics of Hate," at the CSWS Anniversary Conference.

Glen Love's article, "*Et in Arcadia Ego: Pastoral Theory Meets Ecocriticism*," was a nominee for the 1992 Walker award for the best essay of the year in the field of Western American Literature. Two of his essays are being reprinted: "On the Sublime and the Beautiful: Montana, Longinus, and Professor Norman MacLean," will be reprinted in

*Contemporary Literary Criticism*, edited by James Draper; and "Revaluing Nature: Toward an Ecological Criticism" has been reprinted in *Old West—New West: Centennial Essays*, edited by Barbara Meldrum. His essay, "Slouching Toward Altruria: Evolution, Ecology, and William Dean Howells," has been accepted for publication by the *Harvard Library Bulletin*. Glen also wrote an introduction for the recently republished Roderick Haig-Brown novel, *Timber*.

Margaret McBride was chosen as the Most Outstanding Instructor in Composition for the year 1993-94. She was also a member of a panel, "Progenitors of Fantasy and Science Fiction," and moderated one, "Racism in Fantasy and Science Fiction," at ORYCON 15, a science fiction convention, in Portland.

Candace Montoya was chosen as the most outstanding Instructor in composition for the year 1992-93.

Tres Pyle's essay, "Demands of History: Narrative Crisis in *Jude the Obscure*," will be published by *New Literary History*.

Bill Rossi has been awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities University Teachers Fellowship for the 1994-95 school year. Titled "An Alternative Science in Henry Thoreau's Environmental Writing," this project will be a study of Thoreau's dual career as a writer and naturalist, examining both his relationship to the natural science of his day and his alternative practice and representation of scientific knowing. Also, Bill has two articles appearing: "Thoreau As Philosophical Naturalist-Writer" was published in *Thoreau's*

*World and Ours: A Natural Legacy*; "Poetry and Progress: Thoreau, Lyell, and the Geological Principles of *A Week*," will be published by *American Literature* this June. Steve Shankman has published two articles: "Through Pope to Homer, Through Homer to Pope" was published in *Hellas* (Fall, 1993), and a translation of *Pindar's Third Pythian Ode* appeared in *la fontana* (March, 1994). Also, an article entitled "'Art with Truth Ally'd': Pope's *Epistle to a Lady* as Pindaric Encomium" is forthcoming in *Classical and Modern Literature: A Quarterly*. Steve presented his paper, "William Collins, Anna Barbauld, and the Rhetoric of the Sublime," at the South-Central Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies Conference, Houston, TX, Feb. 1993. At this conference Steve chaired a panel on the topic, "How Classical was Neoclassicism?" Sharon Sherman has been elected to the Executive Board of the American Folklore Society. Nathaniel Teich's article, "Teaching Empathy Through Cooperative Learning," appeared in *Presence of Mind: Writing and the Domain Beyond the Cognitive*, edited by Alice Brand and Richard Graves. □

### Graduate Student News

**Bette-B. Bauer** presented three conference papers this past year: "The Undoing and Reassembling of Forms in Virginia Woolf's *The Waves*" at the Northwest British Studies Society Meeting; "Madame Duval: The Carnavalesque and the Proper Lady" at the

Northwest 18th-Century Studies Conference; and "'Spiritual Life, Spiritual Death': Eudora Welty's Narrative Strategies" at the American Literature Association National Conference.

**Bettina Becker** presented her paper, "The Creation of the Self in Harriet E. Wilson's Autobiographical Novel *Our Nig*," at the UO English Department's "Soundings" conference, May 6-8, 1993.

**Vido Butler** will teach English Language and Literature at Hunan University in Southeast China during the year 1994-95.

**Nancy Casciato** presented her paper, "Postmodern Feminists Do the Locomotion," at the UO English Department's "Soundings" conference.

**Lou Caton** has recently presented two conference papers: "The Multicultural Canon, *The Sacred Hoop*, and *Ceremony*: How Shall One Teach the Native American Novel?" at the Pacific Northwest American Studies Association Conference in Bend, Oregon, April, 1993; and "A Romantic Interpretation of Jamaica Kincaid's Mother-Daughter Plot in *Annie John*" at the UO English Department's conference, "Soundings," which Lou also helped to organize.

**Steve Close** presented "Cometh Like a Fleeting Ghost: Signifyin(g) on the Whitemale Canon in *Beloved*" at the "Soundings" Conference and presented "Unspeakable *Beloved*" at the Pacific Northwest American Studies Association Conference.

**Joshua Daniels** presented his paper, "Conscience and Violence: Civil Disobedience and Presaging the Civil War in Stowe's *Uncle Tom's Cabin*," at

the UO English Department's "Soundings" conference. He also presented his paper, "*Uncle Tom's Cabin* and Questions of Political Morality," at the Pacific Northwest American Studies Association Conference in Bend, Oregon.

**Elizabeth Davis** presented "Poe's Tales of the Arabesque: Shadows Cast by the Other" at the UO English Department's "Soundings" conference.

**Marylynn Diggs**, Ph.D. '94, received an Outstanding Graduate Student Teacher of Composition Award for the year 1993-94. She also presented her paper, "Re-thinking the 'Romantic Friendship' Hypothesis: Pathology and Lesbian Representation in Mid-19th-Century American Literature," at the UO English Department's "Soundings" conference.

**Rachel Dresbeck** presented her paper, "A Tomb of One's Own," at the Bowling Green, Ohio, conference, "EX/Pressing Feminisms," February, 1993. Rachel also served as co-director for the UO conference, "Practicing Postmodernisms," May, 1993.

**Delia Fisher** presented her paper, "Across the Boundaries: Narrative Transgressions in H.D.'s *Helen of Egypt*," at the UO English Department's "Soundings" conference. Also, Delia presented "Neither Dot Nor Line: American Women Writers Disrupt Linear Plot" at the Pacific Northwest American Studies Assoc. Conference.

**Bill Gholson**, Ph.D. '94, has accepted a tenure-track position, starting Sept. 1994, as coordinator of the writing program in the English Department at Southern



Oregon State College in Ashland. Also, Bill received the Outstanding Graduate Student Teacher of Composition Award for the year 1992-93. He presented his paper, "Kurt Vonnegut and the Shaping of Character," at the UO English Department's "Soundings" conference.

David Gilcrest presented his paper, "Robert Frost and the (Dis)consolations of Rhetoric," at the Pacific Northwest American Studies Association Conference.

Jeff Harrison presented his paper, "Sunsets, Hills, and Words: Dickinson's Elusive Horizon in Poem 1241," at the UO English Department's "Soundings" conference.

Erick Heroux read his paper, "Equiano's Hybrid Narrative and Ethnographic Self-Fashioning: The 'Cultural' in an Intercultural Epoch," at the UO English Department's "Soundings" conference.

Wendy Johnson read her paper, "Identity and Seduction: The Woman Writer and Her Mentor," at the College Composition and Communication Conference, San Diego, April, 1993. She also presented "'I Have Been with God like an Untoward Child': A Mother's Troubles in Anne Bradstreet's Writing" at the UO English Department's "Soundings" conference.

Thomas Kealy presented his paper, "Eco-justice and the Ideology of Nature," at the UO English Department's "Soundings" conference.

Perrin Kerns has been awarded a research grant from CSWS to travel to the Beinecke Library at Yale to read H.D.'s papers. She was also awarded a UO merit

scholarship of \$1500 for the 1993-94 academic year. Perrin has recently presented two conference papers: "The Sea Between: Emily Dickinson and Lyric Time" at the UO English Department's "Soundings" conference; and "'We rise again from death and live': The Gesture of Faith in H.D.'s *Trilogy*," at the Pacific Northwest American Studies Association Conference.

Janna Knittel presented her paper, "Christina Rossetti and the Politics of Devotional Poetry," at the University of Washington conference on 18th- & 19th-Century Women Writers, in Seattle.

Rob Koppelman, Ph.D. '94, has just accepted a tenure-track assistant professorship at Gainesville College, Gainesville, Georgia. He presented "Warren's Desert Places: A De-Centering Self" at the Robert Penn Warren Circle conference in Bowling Green, Kentucky, April, 1993. Rob also read his paper, "The Movement Towards Syncretism in *Life Among the Piutes*," at the UO English Department's "Soundings" conference, and he presented "Beyond the Manichean Allegory: Rhetoric and Spirituality in the Work of Sarah Winnemucca Hopkins" at the Pacific Northwest American Studies Association Conference. Creighton Lindsay worked as Administrative Assistant for an NEH seminar at Oregon State University on "*Walden* and the American Transcendentalist Movement: Thoreau, Emerson, and Fuller," summer 1993. His article, "Troubled Gardens: Peter Taylor's Pastoral Equations," has been published in *The Craft of Peter Taylor*,

edited by C. Ralph Stephens and Linda B. Solomon.

Roark Mulligan, Ph.D. '94, has accepted a tenure-track assistant professorship in the Department of English at Christopher Newport University in Newport News, Virginia. Roark also presented his paper, "A Dialectic Act: Resuscitating the 'Real' in Theodore Dreiser's *An American Tragedy*," at the UO English Department's "Soundings" conference. Also, he read "From Low Cost, Detachable Collars to American High Culture: Clyde Griffiths's Quest for Fashion in *An American Tragedy*" at the Pacific Northwest American Studies Association Conference.

Amy Novak received the Sarah Harkness Kirby Essay Award for the best seminar paper submitted during fall term of 1993. Titled "Blinded by the Light: Constructing the Subject in the Realm of the Image," this paper was written for Tres Pyle's Literature and Ideology seminar.

Louis Orsini received the Sarah Harkness Kirby Essay Award for the best seminar paper submitted during spring term of 1993.

Pamela Parker, Ph.D. '94, is one of two candidates selected for a two-year Lilly Fellows Program in the Humanities and the Arts fellowship, beginning in August '94, at Christ College of Valparaiso University in Indiana. Also, Pam presented her paper, "Public Acts, Public Fictions: Charlotte Brontë and Elizabeth Gaskell and the 'Condition-of-England' Novel," at the Women Writers of 18th- & 19th-Century Britain conference, May, 1993.

Cathy Peppers has won a

Graduate School Doctoral Research Fellowship for the year 1994-95, one of only three such prestigious awards to be given out to the entire University.

**William Petty, Ph.D. '94**, presented his paper, "The Reinvented Self Reinventing: Philip Roth's Autobiographical Act," at the UO English Department's "Soundings" conference, and he read "'This Times This Times This Times This': Philip Roth's Post-modern Turn" at the Pacific Northwest American Studies Association Conference.

**Paige Price** received an Outstanding Graduate Student Teacher of Composition Award for the year 1993-94. She also presented "If You're Not Going to Come, Where Are you Going?" at the UC Riverside conference, "Unnatural Acts," February, 1993.

**Judith Shears** won the Sarah Harkness Kirby Award for the best seminar paper written during winter term of 1994.

Titled "Into the Sunset: Western Codes in *Thelma and Louise*," this paper was written for Julia Lesage's graduate film seminar.

**Russell Shitabata** read his paper, "Vampires and the Abjection of Adolescent Sexuality in *Lost Boys*," at the UO English Department's "Soundings" conference.

**Eric Todd Smith** read his paper, "The Image of Nature and National Destiny: Powell's *Exploration of the Colorado River*," at the Society for Interdisciplinary Study of Social Imagery meeting in Colorado Springs, March, 1993, and he presented "The 'Nature' of Ecocriticism: Nature, Theory, and the Postmodern

Teacher/Critic" at the "Practicing Postmodernisms" Conference at the UO, May, 1993. He also read his paper, "The Ideology of Nature and Exploration: National Destiny and Charles Wilke's *United States Exploring Expedition*," at the UO English Department's "Soundings" conference.

**Ernest Stromberg** presented his paper, "Land, Language, and Identity in N. Scott Momaday's *The Way to Rainy Mountain*," at the UO English Department's "Soundings" conference. Also, Ernest has published a book review in the February, 1993, issue of *The Rocky Mountain Review*.

**Andy Viles** presented his paper, "A Bad Joke Among Dead Bodies: Freneau's 'The Indian Burying Ground'," at the UO English Department's "Soundings" conference.

**Nic Witschi's** review of *The Oxford Companion to Australian Literature* appeared in the March, 1994, issue of *English Language Notes*.

**Lidia Yukman** presented her paper, "En Face de l'Histoire: Reading Faces in Duras' *Hiroshima, Mon Amour*," at the "Disordering the Disciplines" Conference at the State University of New York, Stonybrook.

**Devin Crowe, Paige Price, and Lidia Yukman** presented their paper, "A Kink in the System: Performance, Perversion, and PhDs," at the UO English Department's "Soundings" conference.

**Meg Steinke and Lidia Yukman** received Graduate Teaching Awards of Merit for the year 1992-93. □

## Alumni News

**Charles Aria, B.A. '79**, has taught 7th grade English at Fords Middle School in New Jersey for the past ten years.

**Michael Grey Bader, B.A. '80**, received the Master of Divinity in 1987 from Vanderbilt Univ. Divinity School. He was ordained to the ministry of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in 1990 and has served churches in Texas, Missouri, and Kansas.

**Sandra J. Burr, B.A. '86**, recently bid farewell to her job as an assistant editor for a publisher of juvenile nonfiction trade books. Returning to academia at The College of William and Mary, she received an M.A. in English in '91 and is well on her way to a Ph.D. in American Studies.

**Christina Calson, B.A. '92**, recently completed a teacher certification program and moved to Tempe, AZ. She is currently teaching 7th grade Language Arts at McKerry Middle School, where she feels thrilled by the overwhelming and hectic pace of teaching.

**Janet M. Cliff, M.A. '83** (Folklore), taught as a Fulbright lecturer to Russia during the 1993-94 academic year. In the fall she taught American Folklore at Urals State Univ. in Ekaterinburg, and in the spring she taught both American Folklore and Native American Folklore & Literature at the Institute of World Literature's Folklore Dept. in Moscow.

**Donna Crawford, B.A. '78**, has joined the faculty of the English Department at the University of Richmond in a non-tenure track position while she completes her dissertation at the University of

California, Riverside.

**Pam Dane**, Ph.D. '92, **Maria DePriest**, Ph.D. '91, and **Carol Faulkner**, Ph.D. '92, are all teaching part-time at Lane Community College. Also, Carol presented her paper, "The Proletarian Novel and Working Class Literature," at the UO English Department's "Soundings" conference.

**Claudia Gottschall**, Ph.D. '93, presented her paper, "'Unspeakable Visions of the Individual': Beat Consciousness and Its Textual Representation," at the UO English Department's "Soundings" Conference.

**Susan Lochrie Graham**, M.A. '71, is an Anglican priest in the Diocese of Toronto. She tutors in New Testament Interpretation at Trinity College, University of Toronto. **Paula A. Green**, B.A. '91, currently works as a technical writer for Santa Clara Plastics of Boise, Idaho. She also works for the American Council on Education as a G.E.D. essay grader, and she volunteers in the marketing/public relations department of the Idaho Shakespeare Festival.

**Thomas Grundy**, Ph.D. '93, who had poems published in the November and December 1993 editions of the *Yellowstone Gazette*, has accepted the position of Visiting Instructor in the Faculty of Letters at Nagoya University, Japan. He will be teaching a variety of literature classes and one writing and one conversation class a year. Also, Tom gave the keynote address, "On the Politics of Pedagogy," at the annual conference of Oregon Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (ORTESOL), 1993. The Oregon School Study Council Bulletin

which he wrote, *ESL/Bilingual Education: Policies, Programs, and Pedagogy*, was published in December, 1992.

**Todd Gummer**, B.A. English & Music, '90, resides in Las Cruces, NM, with his wife **Wendy Wick** (UO '91). He is studying for a second bachelor's degree in Animal and Wildlife Sciences, en route to a career in veterinary medicine.

**Elizabeth Hyatt**, B.A. '92, is currently in her first year in the Ph.D. program in English and American literature at Brandeis University.

**Lynn Kilpatrick**, B.A. '91, attends Western Washington Univ. as a post-baccalaureate student. She hopes to enter the Education Program in Fall '94 in order to obtain teaching credentials for grades 6 through 12.

**Cindy La Com**, Ph.D. '92, is a tenure-track assistant professor at Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania. She received a UO 1993 GTF Award for Outstanding Teaching.

**Katy Lain**, M.A. '92, currently on a leave of absence from Bowling Green State Univ.'s American Studies Ph.D. program, is working on a book about a recent celebrated malpractice lawsuit. Recently married to **Jeff Stofer**, whom she met at UO, Katy lives in Los Angeles.

**Bonnie Lee**, Ph.D. '93, has a 1993-94 post-doctorate appointment in the English Department at the University of Oregon, and also teaches at Silvercrest School and in the Eugene Bible College.

**Richard Leeson**, Ph.D. '82, is Professor of English and Director of Teacher Education in English at Fort Hays State

University, Kansas. He has just published a book, *William Inge: A Research and Production Sourcebook*, and is now under contract to Greenwood Press to write a book on African-American playwright **Lorraine Hansberry**.

**Marion Gibbs Lord**, B.A. '39, now 86, still remains an active gardener, reader, and traveler. This past spring she took a cruise down the Inside Passage.

**Ruth Van Buskirk McGuire**, B.A. '45, enjoys retirement in the Colorado Rockies. She taught junior high and middle school for nearly 20 years in the Denver Public School System. **Hal Myers**, B.A. '84, currently works as a copywriter for an advertising firm in Tokyo, Japan. He arrived in Tokyo via a route which included teaching English in Junction City, OR, and ESL in Saudi Arabia.

**Michael Snell**, Ph.D. '93, has accepted a tenure-track position at Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, TN. His wife, **Cheryl De Krei**, has accepted an instructorship there and will be working on completing her UO Ph.D.

**Robert Stevens**, B.A. '35, has been married to **Margaret Wordsworth Stevens** (UO '35) for 54 years.

**Rob Taylor-Manning**, B.A. '85, currently practices law in Seattle.

**Karla Krampert Walters**, M.A. 1972, Ph.D. 1980, currently teaches at the University of New Mexico as an assistant professor in University College. She and her husband **Ken** are moving to Seattle this summer.

**Lawrence Wheeler**, Ph.D. '93, remains on the faculty of the Honors Program at Portland State University. □

## Contributions to the University of Oregon English Department: The English Department Lounge Moves Closer to Reality

Closer and closer! Due to the extremely generous response of the UO English Department alumni and friends, our new annual giving priority—first announced in last year's Newsletter—is well on the way to becoming a reality. As Department Head Dick Stein describes it, this project is a "lounge and reading room where students and faculty can meet and talk informally, a place to help sustain the sense of community that makes this department a meaningful place to work."

Contributions to last year's annual giving appeal resulted in gifts amounting to \$17,000, including an anonymous donor's especially generous contribution of \$10,000. This total is almost one-third of the amount now estimated by the Office of University Planning to be necessary for the conversion of the southernmost area of the current main office space in PLC. We are enormously appreciative for this outpouring of generosity, and also very excited as plans become increasingly concrete for changes that should have a positive impact on everyone who works and studies in the Department of English.

If you agree with us that the English Department Lounge is a wonderful and worthy idea, you will soon have another opportunity to take a share in bringing this project into being. And we will, of course, keep you posted about the progress of the lounge in next year's Newsletter!

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