FROM THE DEPARTMENT HEAD
A Year of Transition and Celebration
The year 2013 marks the Department’s 125th anniversary
By Marta Straznicky
Department Head

Welcome to the third edition of the Queen’s English Department’s Alumni Newsletter.

The year 2013 has been and will continue to be a year of transition for the Department: we graduate the last cohort of students who have completed their course requirements under the “old” curriculum, we say farewell to no fewer than four colleagues—Cathy Harland and Sylvia Söderlind retire this year, and Michael Snediker and Rosemary Jolly are taking up new positions at the University of Houston and Pennsylvania State University—and on 1 July we welcome to the helm Shelley King as our next Head of Department.

It is perhaps fitting that 2013 is also our 125th anniversary as an academic department, a milestone that occasions a look both to the past and...
to the future. There may be no past achievement in the Department greater than the creative, scholarly, and administrative contribution of George Whalley. A new biography of Whalley is underway by Michael DiSanto of Algoma University (please see right). Michael welcomes your reminiscences.

A number of annual events are now firmly ensconced in Departmental tradition: the sixth edition of Lake Effect was published this year (featured on p. 11); we hosted our sixth Writer in Residence, Phil Hall (p. 12); and we fêted the graduating class with a lecture and reading by Will Ferguson, the sixth annual Scotiabank Giller Prize-winning author to have visited the Department. The Departmental Student Council (DSC) once again organized a delightful banquet for graduating students, at which the fourth annual Fourth Years’ Choice Teaching Award was presented to Sam McKegney (p. 10). And perhaps it is time to add the Alumni Newsletter, now in its third edition, to the list.

As for the future, the Department is in the process of searching for a Queen’s National Scholar in the area of Indigenous Literatures and Languages, a field in which we have gained significant strength since the appointments of Sam McKegney and Petra Fachinger, and which represents an opportunity to work in partnership with the Department of Drama and the Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures (joint sponsors of the position).

We are delighted that Yaël Schlick, an adjunct member of the Department since 1998, will join our regular faculty as a full professor in July. A new literary internship course developed by Leslie Ritchie for the MA program has been tremendously successful in its pilot year (p. 4), and the growth in research collaborations between faculty and students, both graduate and undergraduate, points the way to a stronger integration of the Department’s teaching and research activities. We will feature some of these activities in next year’s Newsletter.

Enjoy catching up on the year’s work in English, and do please consider joining us for some of the Department’s quasquicentennial celebrations, featured on p. 13. Thanks to Shelley King for adding that particular word to our collective vocabulary, and for agreeing to pilot us through the first years of the next 125!

Marta Straznicky can be reached at englhead@queensu.ca.

**PROJECTS**

**George Whalley (1915-1983)**

Michael DiSanto is producing a biography and new editions of the poems and essays of the former Department Head

By Michael DiSanto

Associate Professor, Department of English, Algoma University

George Whalley was an eminent Canadian man of letters: a scholar, poet, naval officer, and secret intelligence agent during the Second World War; a leading expert on the writings of Coleridge; a CBC script-writer and broadcaster; a musician; a biographer; and a translator of Aristotle. He taught English at Queen’s University (1950-80) and was twice the Head of the Department. He was elected to the Royal Society of Canada (1959) and served as the president of the Kingston Symphony (1963-70). His most important books are *Poetic Process* (1953) and *The Legend of John Hornby* (1962). He edited or co-edited 11 books, published over 120 essays and reviews, and wrote or adapted over 50 scripts for the CBC.

An introduction to Whalley can be seen at www.georgewhalley.ca. The Web site, which I edit, includes examples of his prose and verse, recordings of him reading poetry, photographs, an extensive bibliography, and other items of interest. I am currently writing a biography and editing new editions of Whalley’s poems and essays. With Alana Fletcher (PhD candidate, English, Queen’s University) and Robin Isard (eSystems Librarian, Algoma University), I am editing a digital edition of the poetry manuscripts and typescripts. The print and digital editions of poems will be published in 2015 to celebrate the centenary of Whalley’s birth. Publication of the essays and the biography will follow shortly afterwards. Those who wish to share their reminiscences and copies of letters and photographs are encouraged to contact me at the e-mail address below.

**Michael DiSanto can be reached at michael.disanto@algomau.ca**
FROM THE GRADUATE CHAIR

A Successful Year for Our Graduate Students

The Department’s graduate students have won numerous awards and have participated in a number of events this year

By Leslie Ritchie
Graduate Chair

Greetings from the Graduate Chair! As you will see from the articles below, 2012-2013 has been a terrific year for many of our students. Queen’s graduate students won seven SSHRCs and eleven OGS awards in spring 2013, a superb record of scholarship.

The Department is also delighted to congratulate Marc Fortin on his appointment at Université de Sherbrooke, Kate Hallemeier and Jon Gaboury on their appointments as visiting professors at Oklahoma State University, Brett Roscoe on his appointment at the King’s University, and Aaron Mauro on his postdoctoral fellowship at University of Victoria. For more about our graduates’ career paths, please see http://www.queensu.ca/english/graduate/graduate_news_wherearethey_now.php. If you are a former graduate student, please e-mail us and tell us your news.

The Special Topic Presentations, in which second-year doctoral students explore research issues germane to their dissertation research and present their findings to peers and faculty in thirty-minute papers, have just concluded, with a very strong showing of diverse research interests. The titles of these papers, and those from previous years, are archived on our Web site, for the curious.

Our students’ excellent research and writing was on display at conferences in North America and around the world this year. Please see p. 8 for details of some of their experiences.

Not only did our students go to conferences, they also planned their own. First-year PhD student Emily Murphy and MA student Maya Bielinski organized Queen’s University’s inaugural, one-day THATCamp, an open meeting where humanists and technologists of all skill levels learn and build together in sessions proposed on the spot (p. 6). Andrew Bingham and Dale Tracy organized a conference entitled “Modernity, Ideology, and the Novel,” which took place Vancouver.

This year also saw the beginnings of a new MA-level program in Literary Internship, a successful pilot project which is profiled in a full article on p. 4.

Fifth-year PhD students were given the opportunity to pursue teaching fellowships. Each teaching fellow had responsibility for planning and delivering a term-long course, lecturing, and supervising his or her own teaching assistants. This aspect of our program gives our graduate students valuable teaching experience for their academic CV, and it allows them to teach a course of their own devising, in their own field. Course offerings ranged from Arthurian legends to music and literature.

Our new graduate administrative assistant, Lovorka Fabek-Fischer, has just completed her first year on the job, and she continues to be a friendly source of help and information for our graduate students. I will continue as graduate chair until December 2013. Glenn Willmott will serve as interim graduate chair from January 2014 until September 2014, when the department will welcome Sam McKegney in this post.

Leslie Ritchie can be reached at gradengl@queensu.ca
New Internship Program
The Department’s new Internship Program gives graduate students valuable experience in the community

By Leslie Ritchie
Graduate Chair

Fall term 2012 marked the beginning of a pilot project on internships offered on a competitive basis to MA students in the Department. ENGL 892, or Literary Internship, is a new 3.0 credit course that offers MA students placements in research, literacy, language, and arts-related community organizations, with the aim of providing those students with job experience that is directly related to literary studies.

Students submit résumés to the graduate chair, and they rank their preferences for placement. The host organizations are then given the opportunity to view the students’ résumés and to rank their preferences for interns, and student and organization are matched by the graduate chair. Six students were placed: what follows are some descriptions of those placements in their own words, extracted from their end-of-term reports on the experience.

Maya Bielinski was an intern for Kingston WritersFest, and was “in charge of organizing, collating, proofreading, formatting, and writing the conclusion” for a document that outlined the duties undertaken by the planning committee members; she also designed, administered, and analyzed the results of a survey about the festival. Maya writes, “I am glad to have gleaned behind-the-scenes knowledge about the inner workings of a not-for-profit organization.”

Danielle O’Connor and Jeremy Gardiner worked as interns for Kingston Literacy and Skills, where they were given the task of organizing a fundraising event: a reading of Charles Dickens’ A Christmas Carol. Danielle and Jeremy’s duties included finding a venue, volunteer readers, and choristers; “giving promotional interviews; writing press releases; organizing meetings and rehearsals; creating a promotional Facebook page; and designing posters and programs.” As Jeremy commented in his report, “the experience I’ve gained from organizing a professional social event, including improving my networking skills and expanding my social network, adding a second social media campaign to my résumé, and participating in my first ever on-air interview, will be useful far into my future. I also take great pride in having helped to create a new literary tradition for the Kingston community and in having helped to support a deserving community organization.”

Kaela Starkman interned with the Strathy Language Unit at Queen’s University, under the supervision of Anastasia Riehl. Kaela writes, “throughout my internship I both read and recorded instances of idiomatic Canadian English and dialectical idiosyncrasies in twentieth and twenty-first century Canadian prose fiction… [T]his internship provided me with a breadth of knowledge that I believe will be invaluable to my future studies.”

Adam Schwartz worked with Queen’s creative writing instructor Carolyn Smart to promote the Writer-in-Residence program, which this year featured Governor-General’s Award-winning poet Phil Hall. Adam assisted with marketing, “reaching out to the Journal’s arts department and CFRC,” the campus newspaper and radio station, respectively, to interview Hall and to rebroadcast several readings; he also arranged for the Campus bookstore to display books by visiting writers and sell books at readings. “Collaborating with these long-established Queen’s institutions created awareness for every reading across multiple platforms,” Adam writes.

Elias Da Silva-Powell interned in the Communications at GreenCentre Canada, and has profiled his experience here:
http://www.queensu.ca/sgs/students-perspective/elias.html

All in all, both interns and their host organizations found this experience to be beneficial, if more time-consuming than anticipated. The pilot program will continue in 2013. Organizations interested in a fall-term intern are urged to contact the graduate chair for information.

Leslie Ritchie can be reached at gradengl@queensu.ca
FROM THE UNDERGRADUATE CHAIR

A New Curriculum for a Thriving Department

The Department welcomed numerous literary figures to the Department this past year

By Scott-Morgan Straker
Undergraduate Chair

This year marked the end an era: the graduating class of 2013 comprises the last cohort of students who completed their English degrees under our old curriculum. From henceforward, almost all English students will be following the new curriculum, the highlights of which include a new core seminar for second-year Majors and Medials, broad historical coverage at the 300 level, and fewer distribution requirements at the 400 level, allowing students more opportunity to specialize. The loosening of the historical distribution requirements allows the Department’s course offerings to be less tied to specific historical periods, creating opportunities to create innovative new courses that would have been difficult to fit into the old curriculum. New courses approved this year include The Graphic Novel, Literature and Censorship, The Northern World: Vikings and Saxons (Old Norse and Old English literature in translation), and Literature and Modern Media. The latter two courses will be offered for the first time in 2013-2014.

This type of innovation is already under way: 2012-2013 saw the introduction of two new courses. One of them focused on romance, the most important narrative genre before the advent of the novel, and one that persists in modern culture in a variety of forms. The other, Literature and War, focused on the role played by literature both in creating and resisting collective narratives about the experience of war.

Perhaps the best result of the Department’s new curriculum is the fact that students can now have the sense of belonging to cohort. For instance, our 200-level courses are no longer a mixture of students in their second, third, and fourth years. Instead, at all levels of our course offerings, students are in groups where the insights and experiences are diverse, but the overall level of training and insight is comparable. In groups like this, everybody benefits: students can experience a sense of community with their peers who have gone through the program with them, and instructors can give students what they need far more precisely than they could when their courses contained a mixture of experts and novices.

The academic year 2012-2013 was also distinguished by a number of literary events hosted by the Department. In the fall term, the Department welcomed its sixth writer-in-residence, Phil Hall, winner in 2011 of the Governor-General’s Award for poetry and the Trillium Prize. In April, the Department’s sixth annual Giller Prize Event brought Will Ferguson to campus, where he delivered an entertaining talk and reading to an audience of students, faculty, and alumni. In October, the Department, along with the Four Directions Aboriginal Student Centre, hosted the playwright, novelist, and composer Tomson Highway. The Department thanks Carolyn Smart, Sam McKegney, and Marta Straznicky for their invaluable role in bringing these events about.

Scott-Morgan Straker can be reached at ugrad.english@queensu.ca.
PHOTO ALBUM

THATCamp

Graduate students in the Department organized the inaugural Queen’s University THATCamp, a one-day “unconference” where humanists and technologists collaborated on a variety of projects in the digital humanities.

Photographs: Held at Douglas Library this past February (top-right), graduate students participated in the first THATCamp at Queen’s. University archivists Heather Home (middle-right) and Jeremy Heil (middle-right and bottom-left) brought their knowledge and expertise to this one-day event organized by first-year PhD student Emily Murphy and MA student Maya Bielinski.
FROM THE GRADUATE ENGLISH SOCIETY CO-CHAIRS

A Diverse and Creative Community

The Graduate English Society brings the Department’s graduate students together academically and socially

By Jaspreet Tambar and Julia Gingerich
Graduate English Society Co-Chairs

This past year for the Graduate English Society (GES) has been one of taking great initiatives. Recent university-wide discussions regarding program completion times have brought to light the growing financial and professional challenges faced by Queen’s graduate students. In keeping with fostering a strong and supportive academic community at Queen’s, the GES has been active in representing the concerns of its constituents both to the department and to the university at large.

We have worked alongside the Society for Graduate and Professional Students (SGPS), the School of Graduate Studies (SGS), and the Department faculty to address troublesome changes to university policies, and to collaborate on ways in which we may make the graduate English program at Queen’s more efficient. Currently, we are in the process of negotiating the possibility and terms of structural changes to the program that may enable students to meet the deadlines established by university administrators while continuing to produce strong doctoral research.

Beyond addressing these pressing concerns, the GES has also been busy organizing fundraising, professional, and social events. Our social convenors scheduled an exciting orientation week, which actually covered two weeks and included extradepartmental events, to introduce new students to the graduate community at Queen’s. Their work, however, along with that of the rest of our members, extends throughout the academic year. Our fundraising events this year included a playful Valentine’s Day candygram sale, and a Book and Bake sale in March. Every academic year, we hold a weekly coffee hour and organize annual social events, including the fall-term Snowflake Gala and the post-winter-term Spring Fling, which provide students the opportunity to engage with professors and colleagues outside of the classroom.

In addition to cultivating a strong social community, GES members have also organized successful academic events, which include the international digital humanities conference “Come Together: Digital Collaboration in the Academy and Beyond,” with keynote speaker Diana Brydon; a roundtable of faculty and PhD candidates titled “Behind the Scenes: Examining the Theoretical Grounds of Literary Study”; THATcamp, The Humanities and Technology Camp, an “unconference” hosted by Queen’s University Libraries (see p. 6); and two Works-in-Progress events, in which faculty and graduate students presented and received constructive feedback on their works in progress.

The GES strives to foster a positive, mutually respectful, supportive, diverse, and creative community. Our work this year has continued to contribute to what is a strong, informed, and involved community of graduate students. As the winter term comes to an end, we expect our social and professional activities and initiatives to continue through the spring and summer terms, though hopefully with more sun than stress!

Graduate English Society Co-Chairs Jaspreet Tambar and Julia Gingerich organized a number of activities for the Department’s graduate students this past year.
GRADUATE STUDIES

Spreading the Word
The Department’s graduate students participate in a number of conferences and other travel activities

By Leslie Ritchie
Graduate Chair

Disseminating one’s research, conversing with and meeting new colleagues, examining the latest books in one’s field, meeting publishers, and not least of all, exploring new places—these are just a few of the many pleasures of the professional conference in literature. Conferences are vital to students’ intellectual growth, and to forming a professional academic CV. Graduate students at Queen’s are eligible to apply for a conference travel supplement twice a year, and we are delighted to support them in the promotion of their research. In 2012-2013, our graduate students travelled to conferences of the Modern Language Association, the Shakespeare Studies Association, the American and Canadian Societies for Eighteenth-Century Studies, and numerous other professional organizations devoted to literary scholarship. Here are a few of their stories.

Jon de Tombe, a first-year doctoral student, writes, “I travelled to Edmonton for the conference of the Canadian Society of Eighteenth-Century Scholars to present a paper on the digital transcription and editing of Early Modern manuscripts. This experience was valuable to me because, in addition to exposure to other research and scholarly methods and to the professional network of scholars in attendance, it enabled me to make a concerted effort in a field that is not directly related to my doctoral research, thereby expanding my knowledge and experience. This opportunity opened new avenues of research to me and allowed me to join ongoing conversations about similar projects.”

Second-year PhD student Drew MacDonald attended the Northeast Modern Language Association Convention (NeMLA) in Boston, to present an essay on Mary Wollstonecraft, Edmund Burke, and the sublime. Drew writes, “My dissertation on Thomas De Quincey will draw on this research about Burke and the aesthetic of the sublime. This was my first conference, and I was impressed with the range of research. But the city of Boston was also an essential part of the experience: in Britain, Burke’s aesthetic of the sublime quickly became entangled with the politics of the French Revolution; and that revolution derived, in part, from the earlier American Revolution. Boston has preserved its revolutionary history, and it was a special moment to walk the streets and battlegrounds where those events took place.”

Amber Hastings, a third-year PhD student, also attended NeMLA. Amber writes, “While the panel I presented on was slightly outside of my historical area ... the content of my paper was similar to my dissertation. My research focuses on women and suicide in the nineteenth century, and this conference allowed me to present some of my thoughts on this topic to a receptive peer group. Their comments and questions following the presentation have helped me to think about different perspectives and ways that I can navigate this topic. On a basic level, the interest that people had in my paper reassures me that the work that I’m doing is important to people, and that they want to know more about this topic.”

Occasionally, our students engage in extended travel to work in locations or archival collections that are important to their archival research. Fourth-year PhD student Carla Manfredi is currently engaged in one such study. Carla writes: “In June-July 2011, I began my doctoral research with the Robert Louis Stevenson collection at the Writers’ Museum in Edinburgh, Scotland. During the 2012-2013 academic year, I returned to Edinburgh to complete the research begun during the previous summer. My archival research has produced an in-depth study of Stevenson’s ‘South Seas’ photograph albums: a detailed analytical description of the albums as material objects ... as well as an interpretative analysis of the images themselves. Broadly, my thesis examines Stevenson’s South Pacific literary and photographic production in the context of late-nineteenth century visual anthropology: I contend that Stevenson’s role as a visual anthropologist has not been sufficiently elucidated. In fact, juxtaposing the photographic albums with his anthropological writings demonstrates that visual research practices and issues of representation (visual and textual) were central to both his travels and fieldwork. At the City of Edinburgh Museum, a sophisticated image database permitted me to view and manipulate the photographs at extremely high resolution; this technology enabled detailed study otherwise impossible with traditional photographic magnification. Moreover, although the original albums are in a fragile state, I was given a unique opportunity to examine and handle them—considering my interest in the physical quality of these artifacts, this access was both a highlight of my trip, and an essential component of my work.”

Leslie Ritchie can be reached at gradengl@queensu.ca
FROM THE ENGLISH DSC CO-CHAIRS

Having Fun and Feeling Pride
The English DSC organizes numerous events for undergrads to get to know one another

By Alexander Hopewell and Alana Rodger-Jacobson
English DSC Co-Chairs

The English Departmental Student Council (DSC) functions as an approachable liaison between the Department and its students, offering a wide variety of Departmental events throughout the year as well as representing students at Department meetings, Faculty Board, and Arts and Science Undergraduate Society (ASUS) DSC Assemblies.

After the DSC representatives have been elected in each class, we have a general meeting near the end of September at which the representatives can volunteer for the various executive committees that help us organize that year’s events. Our first Department event, which was held in October this year, was Tea with Profs. The event gives students an opportunity to meet with their professors in a relaxed environment, and we were pleased with both the turnout and the number of students who volunteered to provide baked goods.

Our other major events throughout the year are Robbie Burns Night, Beer with Profs, and the Fourth-Year Banquet. The DSC hosts Robbie Burns Night every year on 25 January in honour of the Scottish poet Robert Burns, and the event involves a lot of music, drinks, toasts, and poetry readings by students. The night was a great success, as always, and we were glad to see a number of graduate students there, as well. Of course, the one event we look forward to all year is the Fourth-Year Banquet, which is held in honour of the graduating class. This year, the Banquet was held on 2 April at Milestones Restaurant, and, while it took a few months of organization on behalf of the DSC, the event was a huge success. The DSC also presents the Fourth-Year Choice Award at the Banquet, and we were very happy to announce that, after collecting nominations throughout winter term, Sam McKegney was chosen by the graduating class as the recipient of this year’s award.

This year also saw a number of firsts for the DSC. As incoming co-chairs, one of our biggest goals was to enhance the social aspect of the DSC, and, to this end, we hosted several English Nights Out at local pubs with the intention of allowing English students to meet other students in the Department and fostering a sense of pride and camaraderie. Also, for the first time, ASUS requested that the DSCs hold a general election to select their incoming executive for the 2013-2014 academic year in an effort to make student government at Queen’s more representative. We will certainly keep in contact with the new co-chairs, Madeeha Hashmi and Maria Stellato, next year to see how the English DSC’s first-ever elected executives are enjoying their positions.

Overall, the DSC has had a very fun and successful year, and, as graduating students, the sadness of leaving Queen’s is tempered by the pride we both feel having studied and worked with such a wonderful Department throughout our time here. We know we are leaving the DSC in the hands of two students who have demonstrated their commitment to the Department time and time again, both by taking the time to run in the election and by supporting us at every event this year. More than anything, the DSC is a platform for students to get involved with their Department, and we are more than confident that the incoming executive will only serve to advance this goal. Cha Gheill! ☑
PHOTO ALBUM

The Fourth-Year Banquet and MA Convocation 2013

Photographs (clockwise from top-right): students at the fourth-year banquet with Undergraduate Chair Scott-Morgan Straker; graduating MA students celebrate at fall convocation; students at the fourth-year banquet with Chris Fanning, Sam McKegney, and Laura Murray; Ruth Wehlau, Yaël Schlick, and Tracy Ware; Sam McKegney, recipient of the Fourth-Year Choice Award.
CREATIVE WRITING

Showcasing Students’ Creativity

The anthology Lake Effect collects the work of the Department’s senior creative writing students

By Carolyn Smart
Department of English

April 2013 marks the publication of Lake Effect 6, the newest in a series of anthologies featuring the work of the senior creative writing students at Queen’s University.

Although CWRI 296 (Creative Writing) has existed for nearly 20 years, it wasn’t until 2003 that plans fell into place for a formal method of showcasing the students’ very fine work. The course is offered every second year and draws the best students from the four creative writing classes now offered each year, both in the classroom and online. The first five Lake Effect volumes were designed and published by Laurie Lewis, the recently retired owner and publisher of the Artful Codger Press in Kingston. Laurie had been a student in CWRI 296 and felt it vital to produce a printed record of the work, an early record of some writers who have gone on to achieve national and even international literary success.

The first volume, simply called Lake Effect, not by coincidence contained the work of the new publisher I have chosen for the series, Christina Decarie, who along with her husband, the artist DJ Berger, runs Upstart Press, also situated in Kingston. Although the look is strikingly different, many features have been maintained in the new volume, as a sense of history and consistency is important to the series.

The process that produces these volumes is a lesson in the realities of book publishing: the early part of the term consists of a very intensive editing process. Work is submitted and discussed for possible inclusion in the anthology, followed by the serious editing of those stories and poems, proofreading, design, and other details of production for the final product. Students fundraise and pre-sell to cover the costs of printing; cover art is discussed; the launch of the book is planned as a major event, including the publicity, promotion, and venue choice for the public reading and celebration that surrounds the launch.

The high quality of the students’ writing in each of the six anthologies is a reflection of the calibre of creativity found in the students at Queen’s, and it has been my great pleasure to encourage and promote their work in this way.

Carolyn Smart can be reached at smartc@queensu.ca

Creative-writing instructor Carolyn Smart edits Lake Effect, an anthology of students’ creative writing (photo courtesy Bernard Clark).
WRITER-IN-RESIDENCE 2012-2013

Phil Hall

The University’s sixth writer-in-residence was award-winning poet Phil Hall

By Carolyn Smart
Department of English

The University’s sixth writer-in-residence was the highly acclaimed poet, Phil Hall. Raised on a farm in the Kawartha region and educated at the University of Windsor, he has published thirteen volumes of poetry, five chapbooks, and a recording of labour songs.

In 2001, he was shortlisted for the Governor General’s Award for poetry, and in 2011, his collection Killdeer won that award, as well as the Trillium Prize. In 2006, and again in 2012, he was shortlisted for the Griffin Poetry Prize.

Phil spent this past fall term at Queen’s, spending two days a week meeting with students, faculty, and members of the Kingston community to discuss their writing. He offered the first in a series of lectures about language, the Page Lecture—dedicated to the much-loved Kingston writer and artist—Joanne Page, which will be offered annually in future years by a wide selection of writers. The 2013 Page Lecture will be given by Erin Mouré in October.

As the Canada Council suggests, the residency should primarily enable the author to work on a writing project of his or her choice, and Phil completed the editing of a new collection of poetry entitled The Small Nouns Crying Faith.

Carolyn Smart can be reached at smartc@queensu.ca

Phil Hall was the University’s sixth writer-in-residence. His collection Killdeer won the Governor General’s award for poetry in 2011

WRITER-IN-RESIDENCE 2013-2014

Tim Wynne-Jones

The University will welcome the internationally recognized writer Tim Wynne-Jones as seventh writer-in-residence

By Marta Straznicky
Department Head

The recipient of many awards and honours, Tim Wynne-Jones is recognized internationally as a leading contemporary writer of complex and challenging fiction for young adults. Among his most recent works is the novel Blink & Caution (left). He is one of the most admired and sought-after literary mentors in Canada. His residency will be the first time the University has hosted a writer who is best known for children’s and young-adult literature.

In addition to mentoring individual writers and pursuing his own creative work, Wynne-Jones will give a series of public lectures on fiction and the craft of writing while at Queen’s during the Fall of 2013.

This residency is generously supported by a Visiting Artist grant from the Principal’s Development Fund.

Marta Straznicky can be reached at englhead@queensu.ca
125TH ANNIVERSARY
Celebrating a Milestone
The year 2013 marks the Department’s 125th Anniversary, and the Department will celebrate this important milestone with a number of special events

By Shelley King
Department of English

The academic year 2013-2014 marks an important milestone in the history of the Department. In 1888, Professor James Cappon (1854-1939) was appointed to the first Chair in English at Queen’s, which makes this year the 125th anniversary of the founding of the Department. There’s even a word for that: quasquicentennial!

We have planned a number of alumni-themed events throughout the year to celebrate this important milestone, and we hope you will be able to join us.

Creative-writing instructor Carolyn Smart is organizing a series of readings by creative writers who are alumni of the Department, and we will also be inviting three graduates of our doctoral program to return to deliver academic papers and to speak with current graduate students about their experiences as professors of English.

If you will be on campus in September or October, you might want to visit Special Collections in Douglas Library, where you can explore our exhibit “125 Years of Canadian Literature at Queen’s,” which looks at the history of the Department in terms of its role in shaping the study of literature written in Canada.

In particular, we hope you will plan to join us at Homecoming on 4-5 October. Our theme will be “reconnecting”—with fellow English alumni, with professors past and present, and with the study of literature.

On Friday 4 October, you will be able to reconnect with friends at “So Where Are You Now?”; an Alumni mixer reception. The following morning, take the opportunity to reconnect with literature at the “Battle of the Books,” a panel discussion (lively and opinionated, we hope) previewing this year’s Giller Prize nominees. Finally, you will have the opportunity to reconnect with faculty: in the tradition of the DSC “Tea with Profs” and “Ale with Profs,” we will be hosting “Wine and Cheese with Profs and Emeriti,” where you will be able to share memories (fond or otherwise) of courses and classes. Current faculty will, of course, be there, and recent retirees Edward Lobb and Cathy Harland have confirmed that they plan to attend, as have previous retirees Phil Rogers and Fred Colwell.

To help with the planning, we now have a Facebook page where we will post details of times and places for events as they become available, and where we will share moments from the rich history of the Department of English: find us at www.facebook.com/qeq2013.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at qeq@queensu.ca. We look forward to seeing you!

Shelley King can be reached at kings@queensu.ca.

James Cappon, the first Chair in English at Queen’s, in a painting by Group-of-Seven member F.H. Varley. Commissioned by Queen’s in 1919, it is now held by the Agnes Etherington Art Centre.

HOMECOMING 2013
Anniversary Events
The Department will host a number of 125th-anniversary events during Homecoming

We hope you will be able to join us for these special 125th-anniversary events during Homecoming 2013:

Reconnect with Friends
“So Where Are You Now?”: Alumni Mixer Reception
Friday 4 October 2013, 5.00 p.m. – 7.00 p.m.
Room 517, John Watson Hall

Reconnect with Literature
“Battle of the Books”: A Panel Discussion Previewing this year’s Giller Prize Nominees
Saturday 5 October 2013, 10.30 a.m. – 12.00 p.m.
Joseph S. Stauffer Library

Reconnect with Faculty
“Wine and Cheese with Profs and Emeriti”: Sharing Memories
Saturday 5 October 2013, 5.00 p.m. – 7.00 p.m.
Agnes Etherington Art Centre

Queen’s University Department of English Newsletter 2013

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NEW FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

Bookshelf
A selection of books published by members of the Department this past year


Gibbon aspired to combine the critical analysis of the eighteenth-century philosophe with the older traditions of the humanist and scholarly historian. His different uses of numbers, to inform and to persuade, illustrate his remarkable fusion of these characters. This book, the first to be devoted to a historian’s use of numbers, shows how carefully Gibbon interrogated and deployed the numerical evidence in his sources: to create a more accurate historical narrative; to demonstrate his own reliability and candour as an historian; and to convince readers of the validity of his interpretations of characters and events.


The Instructor’s Guide offers help from planning a course and developing a syllabus to preparing exams. For authors and works in the Anthology, entries provide a “hook” to start class discussion, a quick-read section to refresh instructors on essential information about a text or author, teaching suggestions that call out interesting textual or contextual features, and other resources. The Guide devotes two completely revised chapters to using technology in the classroom, offering suggestions for teaching the Anthology’s multimedia with the texts and for incorporating the media into traditional or distance learning courses.


In Feminism and the Politics of Travel After the Enlightenment, Schlick analyzes the intersections of travel and feminism in writings published during the late-eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, a period of intense feminist vindication during which women’s very presence in the public sphere, their access to education, and their political participation were contentious issues. Schlick examines the gendering of travel and its political implications in various works, arguing that travel is instrumental in furthering diverse feminist agendas. The epilogue alerts readers to the continuation of the utopian strain of the voyage and its link to feminism in modern and contemporary travelogues.


Shakespeare’s Stationers shifts Shakespearean textual scholarship towards a new focus on the earliest publishers and booksellers of Shakespeare’s texts. This collection is the first to explore the multiple and intersecting forms of agency exercised by Shakespeare’s stationers in the design, production, marketing, and dissemination of his printed works. Nine critical studies examine the ways in which commerce intersected with culture and how individual stationers engaged in a range of cultural functions and political movements through their business practices. Two appendices, cataloguing the imprints of Shakespeare’s texts to 1640 and providing forty additional stationer profiles, extend the volume’s reach well beyond the case studies, offering a foundation for further research.


Modern writing has been filled with strange new hybrid human-animal creatures. Feeding on consumer society, these “modern primitive” figures often challenge mainstream ideals by discovering wealth in habitats and resources rather than in economic exchange. Modern Animalism explores representations of the human-animal “problem creature” in a broad assortment of literature and comics from the late nineteenth century to the present. Drawing on a wide range of scholarship, from environmental economics to psychology, Willmott examines modern and postmodern allegories of the environment, the animal, and economics.