“There is nothing to writing. All you do is sit down at a typewriter and bleed.”
- Ernest Hemingway

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Photo by Josh Scheel
Designed by Maggie Fischer
Greetings!

I am pleased to introduce the Fall 2014 installment of the Gonzaga English Department newsletter. After a long hiatus, we begin what will hopefully become a regular biannual series. This newsletter has its genesis in Jeff Dodd’s Literary Editing and Publishing course: one of his students, Maggie Fischer, offered to create the newsletter as part of her final project. Thanks, Maggie!

Contrary to the national trend of dwindling English majors, our department has maintained relative stability with approximately 150 majors each year, in no small part to our dedicated faculty. We continue to offer a rigorous course of study, although it has evolved as our discipline has changed. One notable addition is the new Senior Seminar for our literature majors, a capstone course that offers a focused, in-depth study of a topic that leads to the production of a critical research paper for the Senior Project.

We have also developed a new Writing Concentration within the major that is attracting new students to our department. Tod Marshall, the director of the Writing Concentration, continues to put together a great Visiting Writer series every year. This fall semester, after our own Dan Butterworth, we welcomed Brenda Hillman and Joanna Luloff. In Spring 2015, we will greet Pulitzer Prize winner and National Book award finalist Marilynne Robinson, along with Douglas Kearney and Michael Gurian.

In Spring 2014, we said goodbye to Mike Herzog, who retired after over forty years of service to Gonzaga. His legacy remains strong in many things that we do, not the least of which is the new Wadden/Herzog scholarship. We thank him for shaping the lives of thousands of Gonzaga graduates, and we wish him well as he seeks out new adventures. This fall, we welcome a new tenure-track assistant professor of creative writing, Meagan Ciesla, who recently completed her PhD at the University of Missouri.

If you hold a BA in English from Gonzaga, please stay in touch! I would love to hear about the ways in which you have put your English degree to use since graduation.

Sincerely,

Jeff Miller
Associate Professor and Chair

Photo by Josh Scheel
Dan Butterworth began the year’s Visiting Writers Series by reading from his latest publication, a poetry collection titled *The Clouds of Lucca*. The book is inspired by his trips taken with Gonzaga’s Study Abroad programs, and explores the idea of awakening the self begins with the unfamiliar.

Dr. Tod Marshall recently published a third poetry collection titled *Bugle*, which explores some of the darker concepts of today, and attempts to make readers aware of the poetry in discordant moments.
Hannah Garrison (Middleton)
Gonzaga University Class of 2011

“I graduated from Gonzaga University in 2011. That summer I started an internship at Harper Street Publishing in the Yukon Territory, Canada. I worked for Harper Street for 6 months before returning to the US. After a brief stint of unemployment and travel, I took up a job as a technical writer/editor for Anvil Corporation in Bellingham, Washington, in 2012. I still work for Anvil in a part-time capacity while I work on my writing career.”
Literary London 2015 will be led by Dr. Tredennick and Dr. Easterling. They are very excited to be offering two English courses: Shakespeare in London and London: City as Text. Both courses will take advantage of the amazing art, architecture, and theater scene London offers. This season, the Royal Shakespeare company are performing Othello, and for the first time they have cast black actors in the roles of both Othello and Iago. Both the RSC and The Globe Theater are performing Merchant of Venice, providing an excellent chance to compare productions. There will be day trips to visit Cambridge University, Canterbury, and Hampton House, as well as a weekend excursion to Liverpool to visit the birthplace of the Beatles and the International Slavery Museum.

And, of course, London is home to some of the world’s greatest libraries, museums, and opportunities for music performances.

All travel and course related excursions are included, and there will be several free weekends during which students can explore the UK and Europe on their own.

There are still spaces available, so contact Dr. Tredennick, Dr. Easterling, or Study Abroad for more information!

Photo by Ingrid Ranum