



# Works Cited

*Department of English & Theatre*

## Scranton Hosts National & International Literary Artists & Scholars

Volume 2, Issue 5

Spring 2010

The University welcomed the largest single gathering of literary artists, critics, and scholars in its history when it hosted the twenty-fourth annual MELUS conference in early April. The four-day event, April 8-11, was highlighted by readings by noted authors Jay Parini, Marilyn Chin, Sonia Sanchez, and Dara Horn, and featured dozens of panels and sessions on multi-ethnic literature. MELUS is an acronym for The Society for the Study of Multi-Ethnic Literature of the United States. The gathering drew critics and scholars from across the nation as well as the UK, Canada, Norway, Italy, Lebanon, the United Arab Emirates, the Bahamas, and Puerto Rico. Co-hosts of the event and long-time members of MELUS, Joe Kraus, associate professor of English and director of the University Honors program, and Susan Mendez, assistant professor of English, were determined to bring the annual meetings to the Electric



ETHNIC TRANSFORMATION  
IN THE SELF AND THE CITY  
APRIL 8-11, 2010  
THE UNIVERSITY OF SCRANTON  
A JESUIT UNIVERSITY

City. "Scranton offers an ideal setting," Kraus explained, "as it's a small walk-able city with a rich tradition of welcoming wave upon wave of immigrants to northeast Pennsylvania in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, a tradition that continues in this new century. Scranton boasts a heterogeneous citizenry, but unlike some communities it also maintains many distinct ethnic traditions that find expression in the local architecture, the city's many celebrations and festivals, its foodways and religious practices." Although the two hundred-plus participants in this year's annual meeting were largely focused on giving and listening to presentations on current literary research and criticism, many took advantage of the pleasant weather to explore the Electric City on foot. The theme of this year's gathering was "Ethnic Transformation in the Self and the City," Kraus pointed out, and Scranton provides "an ideal backdrop for

### Inside this issue:

Notes from the Chair	2
Prize-winning Poets Visit Campus	2
A Veteran and A Novice	3
Department Events	3
Especially Memorable Moment?	4
Onwards & Upwards	6
Katie Pearl	6
CLOSE READING	7

## Congratulations!

Ana **Rojas**, lecturer, and her fiancé, Colin Dewey, decided to 'make it official' and were married in Manhattan during Spring Break 2010. This summer they'll spend a working honeymoon in New England. Just before Easter, proud Grandpa Len **Gougeon**, professor, welcomed his first grandchild, Natalie Teresa Dunn. Lynn **Scramuzza**, Department of English & Theatre faculty secretary and adjunct professor, was honored with the Provost's Part-time Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching. She also auditioned for and was chosen to sing the National Anthem for the Scranton -Wilkes Barre Yankees. The department sends a fond farewell to three of the wonderful work study students we have come to depend on: Courtney **Coccia**, Shawn **Kennedy** and Casey **Wunsch**. Both Shawn and Courtney have been accepted to the Master's program in education here at the University. Casey is off to the Big Apple to see what opportunities await her there. 📖

(Continued on page 6)



## Notes from the Chair

### Ask the Professor

*In which a Real College Professor answers your questions about life and literature!*

**Q:** I have to go down the shore with my new family & first my dad said I had to watch my creepy little step-brothers for three hours a day four days a week while he & Janine take “windsurfing lessons” & I didn’t want to so I went to the public library & grabbed the biggest old book I could find & then I told him I couldn’t babysit because this huge book was on my summer list for AP English which I’m not even taking & I had to read it & he said ok but then he said I have to read part of it before I can go out Friday but I said ok because Comcast was down again & anyway how hard could that be? But then I saw the first sentence—“An Author ought to consider himself, not as a Gentleman who gives a private or eleemosynary Treat, but rather as one who keeps a public Ordinary, at which all Persons are welcome for their Money”—& now I don’t really want to read any more but I still don’t want to babysit. I looked up “eleemo-sy-nary” because it sounded dirty & I thought I heard somebody say it on *Jersey Shore* but it wasn’t. So now I just have two questions. One, if the writer guy knew he was going to write that sentence ahead of time, why didn’t he bring enough lower case letters with him? And two, a public ordinary what?

Signed, Confused In Neptune

**A:** We’re sorry, but no one is in the office right now to take your call.

Please call again during regular business hours.

**Q:** I am the editor of *The Minnow*, which is my high school’s literary magazine. OK, one of the editors. We have seventeen pages so far & we can’t dump any of them because we have to thank all our sponsors & because all our writers are on staff & we’re all going out with each other. I’m the new guy, so I got elected to write something for deadline. Something only three pages long, or maybe only two if we decide to go with a Notes or Autographs page in the back. At first, I didn’t know what to do, but then my girlfriend said they just finished reading *Metamorphosis* in World Lit, everybody knows that book now, & maybe I could do a parody. Great, I said, & immediately wrote *As Gregor Samsa awoke one morning from uneasy dreams he found himself transformed in his bed into a gigantic Republican*. It was going good, but then I remembered that my girlfriend’s dad is on the Republican County Committee so I knew I had to change it. I tried *a gigantic host of infomercials* & then I tried *a gigantic vice principal* & then *a gigantic Dallas Cowboy*, but none of those sounded as good as *a gigantic Republican*. What should I do?

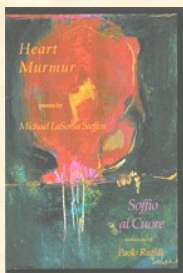
Signed, Pressed for Time in Mineola

**A:** You’re an artist, man. Don’t sell out.

— Jody DeRitter

## Prize-winning Poets Visit Campus


The University Reading Series welcomed poet Michael LaSorsa Steffen to campus in early April, and Alison Stine in early May to give public readings in the McDade Center for Literary & Performing Arts. Steffen’s collection of poems *Heart Murmur* won the Bodighera Poetry Prize and was published by Bodighera Press in 2009. He met with students in J. Hill’s WRTG 316



(Advanced Poetry Workshop) on Tuesday, April 6, to read a selection of his poems, to offer critiques of student work, and to discuss the craft of writing poems. “It was a stimulating session,” Hill reports, “thanks to Michael’s generous commentary, wit, and candor. Our students always enjoy the chance to hear from and interact with guest artists.

As in any good Writing program we endeavor to bring a variety of writers with differing sensibilities and experiences to the department.”

On Wednesday, May 5, Stine was on campus as a

guest of URS and gave a public reading at 8 p.m. in the Studio Theatre. She also met with Writing program students in a Q&A session, over dinner, and at a post-reading gathering. Her first collection, *Ohio Violence*, won the Vassar Miller Prize and was published by the University of North Texas. Her new collection, *Wait*, has just won the Brittingham Poetry Prize and will be published by the University of Wisconsin Press in 2011. Stine teaches at Denison University and Ohio University and is completing a Ph.D. in creative non-fiction at Ohio U. “I’m pleased that we were able to bring this exciting writer to campus,” says Hill, “especially so because the new book that’s garnered the Brittingham prize is sure to occasion great interest when it appears. Although some of the poems in the collection have been published in literary journals we enjoyed a ‘sneak preview’ of sorts when she read for us. It was a memorable evening.” 




## A Veteran and A Novice

An Army veteran with tours of service in Iraq and an aspiring poet in J. Hill's WRTG 216 Poetry Writing class in Spring 2009, Michael Farley spent two weeks in a summer workshop at the William Joiner Center for the Study of War and Social Consequences at UMass-Boston last June. With workshops begun in the 1980s, the Center enables beginning and emerging writers to study with distinguished practitioners of poetry, fiction, nonfiction, and translation. Recent guests directing workshops include Viet Nam veteran and prize-winning poet Bruce Weigl, Viet Nam veteran, Pulitzer Prize-winning poet and Princeton professor Yusef Komunyakaa, and the late great Grace Paley. "When the professor learned of my experiences in Iraq," explains Farley, "he alerted me to the summer program at the Center and urged me to apply. Having nothing to lose, I revised some of my work from his class and submitted an application. I was accepted for a week-long workshop." Michael is a sophomore Secondary Education/English major.

"Then the story gets even better," he goes on. "A few weeks into the semester Hill called my attention to Brian



Turner's *Here, Bullet*, the award-winning collection of poems by an infantry veteran of the Iraq mission that was published in 2005. I ordered a copy and read it with great interest as I had begun to write poems about my time in-country as well." At the end of his week at UMass, Farley was invited to stay on for a second week. "Then they told me, By the way, you'll have the chance to meet and work with Brian Turner."

In addition to interacting with other writers, young and old, male and female, veterans and non-veterans, Farley was able to spend time exploring Boston's historic district. "Sitting in places like the Union Street Oyster House and Faneuil Hall inspired me to write about new subjects, and during the intense two-week session at the Center I began to develop my awareness and range as a writer in ways I never thought possible. If they'll have me, I hope to return in the future. It's a wonderful experience, and I would urge anyone taking classes in our Writing program to check out the Joiner Center website and talk to J. Hill." 

**O YOU IDIOT!**—On April 17, Teresa Grettano, assistant professor, took her WRTG 210: Advanced Composition class to New York to see Green Day's *American Idiot* on Broadway. This course situates argument in public discourse and the new media. "American Idiot" is the course theme song. Students were asked to analyze the song on the first day of class to discern the band's argument and to apply that argument to the course content. The musical enacts the entire *American Idiot* rock opera in which a group of 20-somethings try to make sense of the country's post-9/11 condition and their places in it. The trip was partially funded by the College of Arts and Sciences.



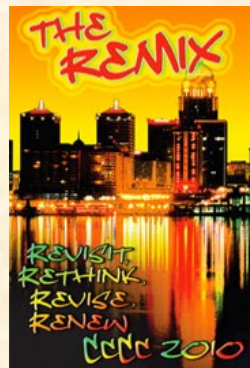
### O YOU YOUNG SCHOLAR!—

Michelle DeLaurentis and Matthew Mercuri, co-presidents of the Mu Omicron chapter of Sigma Tau Delta, and faculty moderator and professor Rebecca Beal hosted the 2010 Induction Brunch on May 2 in Brennan 509. The 2010 new members are Caitlin Burke, Joseph Canamucio, Stephanie Esagro, Michael Farley, Jason Mannion, Matthew Murphy, Joshua Perry, Rosa Todaro and Rose Marie Wong. Inductees to the national English honorary society must have at least a 3.5 GPA in English/Theatre/Writing courses, have at least a 3.4 GPA overall, have completed at least three semesters of college and at least two courses beyond an introductory level course in the department.



### O YOU WRITER and/or VISUAL ARTIST!—

On Thursday, May 13, *Esprit* editor-in-chief CJ Libassi will host a free public reading by contributors of poems and prose to the Spring 2010 issue. Faculty moderator Stephen Whittaker, professor, will distribute the Berrier Prizes for poetry, prose, and visual art. The reading takes place in TDC 405 and gets underway at 8 pm.



Over Spring Break four members of the department's composition and rhetoric faculty trekked to Louisville for the annual Conference on College Composition and Communication. Toni Glover, associate professor and composition director, was a discussion leader at a research network forum. Teresa Grettano, assistant professor, facilitated an event, "Understanding and Challenging the Rhetoric of Neo-liberalism," sponsored by Rhetoricians for Peace. Faculty Specialist Bonnie Markowski presented work on feminist pedagogy and new media. Faculty Specialist Beth Sindaco presented work on business communication course models.

**Works Cited** asks:*An Especially Memorable Moment in an English or Theatre class?*

**Michael O'Steen, associate professor**—My experience as an undergrad at Carnegie-Mellon University's School of Drama was beyond description. At the close of each semester we lived in fear of receiving little pink slips (yes, really pink) that told us our work was below par and we were not going to be invited back for the new semester. Our teachers were equally brutal and unusual. My favorite acting teacher was Yossi Israeli. At that time he was also the artistic director of the



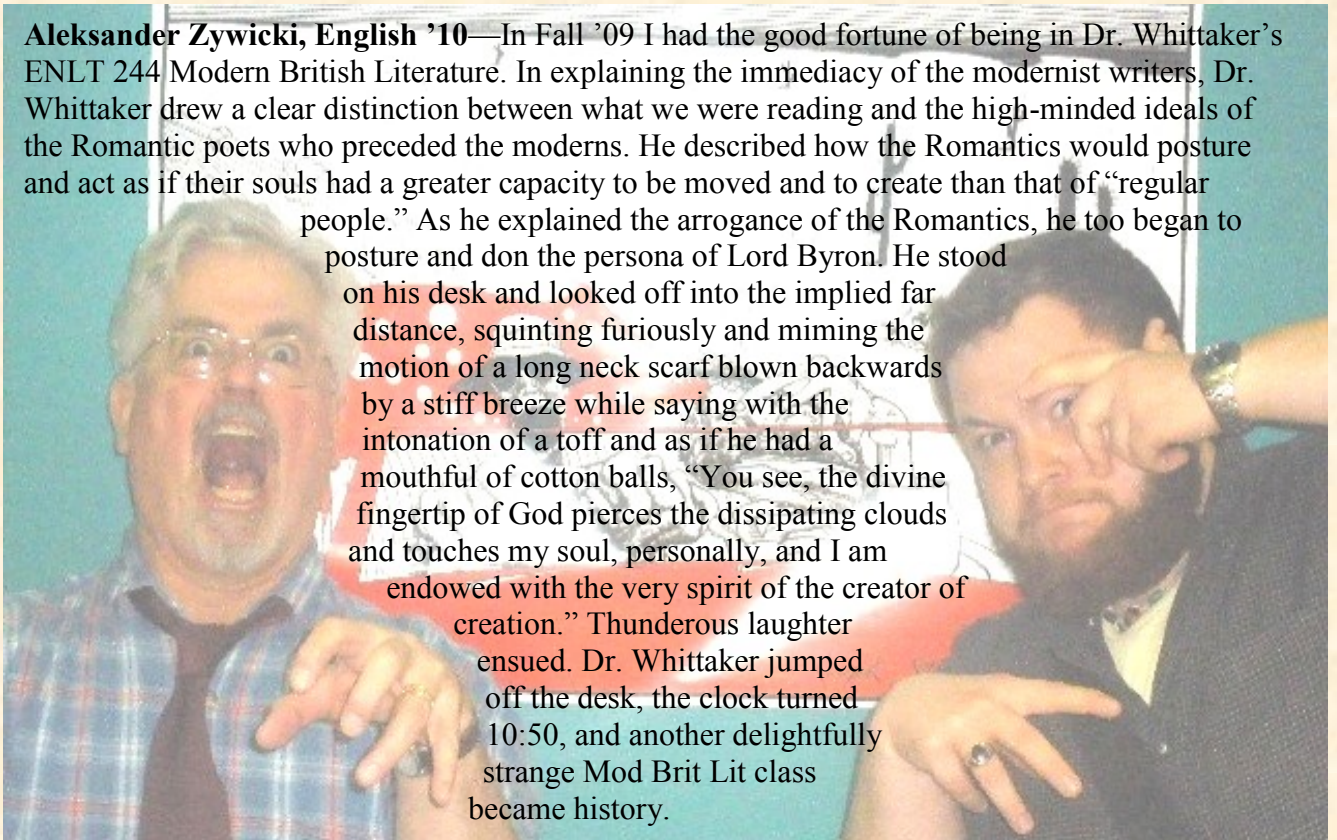
Habima Theatre in Tel Aviv, the national theatre of Israel. In a harsh tone and with a thick accent he once told a classmate, "You make me hate theatre!" He was also fond of saying to us, "Let's have a moment of silence for ignorance." One day he said, "Acting is not getting pregnant by a bee. It is this can of Sprite!"—and we all knew exactly what he meant.



**Aleksander Zywicki, English '10**—In Fall '09 I had the good fortune of being in Dr. Whittaker's ENLT 244 Modern British Literature. In explaining the immediacy of the modernist writers, Dr. Whittaker drew a clear distinction between what we were reading and the high-minded ideals of the Romantic poets who preceded the moderns. He described how the Romantics would posture and act as if their souls had a greater capacity to be moved and to create than that of "regular people." As he explained the arrogance of the Romantics, he too began to

posture and don the persona of Lord Byron. He stood on his desk and looked off into the implied far distance, squinting furiously and miming the motion of a long neck scarf blown backwards by a stiff breeze while saying with the intonation of a toff and as if he had a mouthful of cotton balls, "You see, the divine fingertip of God pierces the dissipating clouds and touches my soul, personally, and I am

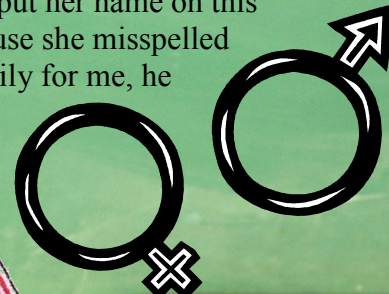
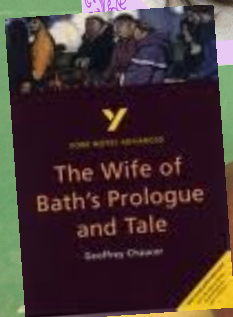
endowed with the very spirit of the creator of creation." Thunderous laughter ensued. Dr. Whittaker jumped off the desk, the clock turned 10:50, and another delightfully strange Mod Brit Lit class became history.



**Deirdre Reedy, Education (English), '11**—I entered my first English class at Scranton to find a kindly-looking man perched on the big desk at the front of the room. I felt at ease: here, I thought, was probably the nicest professor at the U. Dr. Frank Jordan began the class by saying, “We’ll meet on Mondays and Wednesdays, but I often teach on Tuesdays and Thursdays, so if I say Tuesday I mean Monday and so on. Also, you won’t be able to read my handwriting on your papers, so if you have questions, please come see me.” He is so cute! I thought. What a nice guy. He handed out the syllabus and continued to speak in a soft voice. “Sometimes a student will start staring out the window or looking at the clock on the wall,” he told us. “People get distracted, you know? When this happens, I usually YELL or THROW THINGS!” As he said this he threw a piece of chalk in our direction, and a student who had already zoned-out in the back of the room was so startled he knocked his books off his desk. “This behavior usually gets their attention,” Dr. Jordan said, smiling. We burst out laughing, the whole class, Dr. Jordan and the sheepish student included. When my turn came to get yelled at that semester I didn’t mind at all. When the laughter died down, Dr. Jordan always had a wink or a smile for the student staring out the window or at the clock on the wall.



**Teresa Grettano, assistant professor**— I had a difficult relationship with feminism as an undergrad. I struggled to reconcile the beliefs I was taught by my Italian American family (the traditional gender roles, distrust for governmental authority, and “take care of your own” attitude) with the material conditions of my existence as a woman. Still, I chose to do a feminist reading of “The Wife of Bath” for my Chaucer class. When the professor handed back our papers, he announced, ‘Even if this student didn’t put her name on this essay, I would know who she was because she misspelled “feminism” three different ways.” Luckily for me, he had a sense of humor (as do I), and he explained my error not as carelessness or lack of intelligence, but as a physical manifestation of my struggle.



## Scranton Hosts *(Continued from page 1)*

reflections on that theme.”

“We had an amazing number and range of session panels with presenters giving papers on the works of dozens of novelists, poets, and playwrights,” Mendez said. “Some panels were dedicated to specific literary artists such as Edward P. Jones, Junot Diaz, Walt Whitman, Bharati Mukherjee, and Anzia Yesierska.” Representative paper titles listed in the MELUS Schedule of Events include “The Presence of Welsh Immigrants in Life and Literature,” “The Paddy Beyond the Pale: A Cultural Theory of Transnational Irish-American Ethnicity,” “Multi-Racial/Ethnic Identity and the City: Rebecca Walker’s *Black, White and Jewish*,” and “Female Immigrants Navigating the Pavements in Sandra Cisneros’ *The House on Mango Street*.”

Accommodating the participants’ personal schedules due to travel and teaching obligations--“getting everyone slotted into a time and place that worked for them”--was a major challenge, Mendez said. “Susan did the job with aplomb,” Kraus noted, and both Joe and Susan emphasized the “team effort” of many administrators, staff, faculty, and students at the University as well as colleagues at Marywood University, Penn State-Scranton, Kings College, and

Penn State-Hazleton. “The Provost, the Associate Provost, the CAS Dean and, of course, Father Pilarz, S.J., provided invaluable support, advice, and encouragement,” Joe noted. “The assistance of Lynn Scramuzza and Frani Mancuso was almost miraculous. They made huge problems vanish.” Kraus also praised Gemma Williams, English ‘10, who “was tireless in handling correspondence with individual scholars.”

Provost Harold Baillie hosted a welcoming reception for MELUS on Thursday, April 8, and President Scott Pilarz, S.J., introduced plenary speaker and noted poet and novelist Jay Parini, who like Father Pilarz is a Scranton native, before a reading of his work on Friday. The third day of the conference was distinguished by readings and dialogues by plenary speakers Marilyn Chin, Sonia Sanchez, and Dara Horn.

“Susan and Joe and Lynn deserve high praise for bringing the MELUS conference to Scranton,” said Jody DeRitter, professor and department chair. “It’s a highly-regarded international society of literary critics and scholars, and the fact that it agreed to convene its twenty-fourth annual meeting on our campus attests to the many hours of hard work put in by Joe, Susan, Lynn and others in our department and the university.” 📖

## Onwards & Upwards

**Caitlin Burke, Theatre '10**, will pursue her MFA in the Costume Design program at Brooklyn College. She was also offered an apprenticeship at Actor's Theatre of Louisville.

**Janelle Caso, Theatre '10**, will begin a Stage Management Apprenticeship at the Actor's Theatre of Louisville.

**Monica Chavez, Theatre '10**, has been hired as a Master Electrician and lighting designer for the summer at Millbrook Playhouse.

**Michael Flynn, Theatre '10**, has been cast in three upcoming productions this summer at Millbrook Playhouse.

**Jenna Gilligan, English '10**, has been accepted to M.A. in Publishing programs at Emerson University, New York University, and Pace University. Although a New Yorker, she’s settled on Emerson in Boston.

**Matthew Mercuri, English/Philosophy/Bio & Biochemistry minors '10**, will attend New York University’s School of Medicine and is excited by the prospect of living on First Avenue.



Hank Willenbrink, assistant professor, welcomed Obie award-winner Katie Pearl to campus in conjunction with his Solo Performance class, THTR 284. Nationally-recognized as a strong voice in experimental theatre, Pearl gave a talk and conducted a well-attended workshop in addition to meeting individually with theatre students.

## CLOSE READING

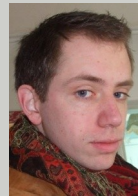
Teresa **Grettano**, assistant professor, was awarded an Information Literary Stipend by Weinberg Memorial Library to develop a new special topics course, "Rhetoric and Social Media." She will collaborate with Donna Mazziotti, librarian. Weinberg also awarded Grettano a Teaching Enhancement Grant to attend the 2010 Digital Media and Composition Institute at the Ohio State University this summer. For two weeks Grettano will meet with other professors to read and discuss current scholarship in the field of computers and composition and the application of emerging technologies in new and established Writing courses.



Jennifer **Lewis**, English/Philosophy/Biology minor '09, and former editor of *Esprit*, has been selected to edit the new literary magazine yet to be named from Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia. Now completing her first year of med school, Lewis has also been awarded a summer grant to analyze and report on the reflection essays written by all first-year students. Michelle **DeLaurentis**, English '11, read her short story, "My Reflection," at Sigma Tau Delta's national convention in St. Louis in mid-March. She recently received a Scholarship Application Essay Award from SigmaTD national headquarters. Matthew **Mercuri**, English '10 and editor-in-chief of *Esprit* in Fall '09, published a story, "Astigmatic," in the 2010 issue of the Sigma Tau Delta *Rectangle*, the honor society's

national journal of creative writing. The issue also contained two poems, "Finite" and "Locomotion," by Alison **Swety**, English '09. She works as a proofreader for Cadient Group, a digital marketing firm, and recently participated in a writing workshop that meets once a week in Center City Philadelphia. Rebecca **Beal**, professor, has a review of a book by Winthrop Wetherbee, *The Ancient Flame: Dante and the Poets*, forthcoming in *Studies in the Age of Chaucer* and an article, "What Chaucer Did to an 'Orazion' in the *Filostrato*: Calca's Speech as Deliberative Oratory," forthcoming in *Chaucer Review*. Each year Beal surveys ten journals and annotates essays and reviews therein for possible inclusion in the Annotated *Chaucer Bibliography*. In mid-July of this year she will chair a session she co-organized on "Italian Matters: Rhetoric, Civic Culture, and Literary Writing" at the New Chaucer Society Congress in Siena, Italy. Her Spring 2010 Schemel Forum class on the Camelot Legends was the focus of

a recent feature piece in *The Times Leader*. "Shakespeare on Film." On March 5, Jason **Brubaker**, Criminal Justice/Theatre minor '09, and a current MFA student in Brooklyn College's theatre program, had two new plays, *Hey God?* and *Twisted Dis* given a staged reading by Scranton students in the Studio Theatre. His *Hey God?* will also be given a reading at the Irish Repertory Theatre in Manhattan in June. Hank **Willenbrink**, assistant professor, had a showcase performance of *A Singular Event* at Performance Highways, a prestigious experimental performance venue in Santa Monica. Created in collaboration with Judy Bauerlein and Marc Shaw, the performance explores, says Willenbrink, "the ramifications and memory alterations of an Alzheimer's patient through a multi-media theatrical event." Willenbrink directed a reading of Stephen Karam's *Speech & Debate* on March 11 in the Studio Theatre. The performance was made possible by a grant from the Office of Equity and Diversity. In mid-March Willenbrink, Rich **Larsen**, professor and academic theatre program director, and Je **Tellier** took a van-load of University Players to the Humana Festival of New American Plays in Louisville, Kentucky. The nation's premiere showcase for new theatrical works, the Humana Festival has produced plays by Lee Blessing, Marsha Norman, Naomi Iizuka, Donald Margulies, and others. In addition to seeing many performances, students were able to meet with a wide range of professional theatre people from across the nation. Earlier in the academic year, in November, Willenbrink took members of the Players to New York to see *In the Next Room (or the vibrator play)* produced by Lincoln Center at the Lyceum Theatre on Broadway. Written by Sarah Ruhl, the play was directed by Les Waters, associate artistic director of Berkeley Repertory Theatre. Les met with attending Scranton students prior to the performance. This meet and greet was also attended by Thomas Jay Ryan, cast member of *In the Next Room*. Joe **Hartmann**, History/English minor '04, teaches science and math at a parochial school in Brooklyn. Samantha



**Morales**, Theatre '11, Michael **Flynn**, Theatre '10, Sarah **Neitz**, International Studies '12, and Rich **Hawran**, Neuroscience/English minor '10, took center stage in the Players production of Ionesco's *The Chairs* in late February and early March. Directed by returning guest artist Bob E. Gasper (*A Number, Columbinus*), the Royal Theatre production played to an enthusiastic audience undaunted by the campus visitation of snow and more snow. Michael **O'Steen**, associate professor, directed a one-week workshop and public reading of a new play *The Whistleblower* by Carol Kras as part of the National Playwrights Program in January. The play O'Steen directed was one of a number of plays in



a regional competition held this year at Indiana University of Pennsylvania; national finalists earn a professional production at The Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. O'Steen also presented several acting and musical theatre seminars to theatre faculty and students from some fifty college and university theatre departments. He directed the Players production of Steve Martin's *The Underpants* in early December and served as fight director for the Players production of Lanford Wilson's *Redwood Curtain* in the Fall '09 season. In late April O'Steen traveled to New York to choreograph the Actors Equity production of the musical *Sugar* at Westchester Broadway Theatre. Janelle **Caso**, Theatre '10, continues to work professionally as a stage manager for the Goodwill Theatre in Binghamton, N.Y., and as a member of the theatre program here at Scranton. Jeff **Trainor**, English/Theatre '06 and a recent Acting MFA graduate of Roosevelt University, works with the clowning performance group TASK in Chicago. In early April, Michael **Friedman**, professor, presented a paper, "Editing a Collaborative Text: *Titus Andronicus* and the Demise of Mutius" in a seminar on New Directions in Editing at the annual Shakespeare Assn. of America conference, held this year in Chicago. His article "Horror, Homosexuality, and Homiciphilia in McKellen's *Richard III* and Jarman's *Edward II*" appeared in a recent issue of *Shakespeare Bulletin*. His Spring 2010 Schemel Forum offering on "Shakespeare on Film" was

(Continued on page 8)

Department of English & Theatre  
McDade Center for Literary and Performing Arts  
Scranton, PA 18510

Phone: 570-941-7619  
Fax: 570-941-6657

380

Don't forget to visit us on the web!

[http://academic.scranton.edu/  
department/english/Newsletter/](http://academic.scranton.edu/department/english/Newsletter/)

#### Alums and Students!

If you have information for the  
Newsletter, please mail to:

Works Cited  
Department of English & Theatre  
University of Scranton  
Scranton, PA 18510

or as an attachment in Word format to:  
[scramuzzal2@scranton.edu](mailto:scramuzzal2@scranton.edu)

### THE UNIVERSITY OF SCRANTON

Pride  
PASSION  
PROMISE

### EXPERIENCE OUR JESUIT TRADITION

Works Cited is published Fall and Spring  
by the Department of English & Theatre.

Editor: John Meredith Hill

Production & Design Manager:  
Lynn Scramuzza

Proofreading: Courtney Coccia

## CLOSE READING *(Continued from page 7)*

mentioned in the recent *Times Leader* feature article mentioned above. Kate **Brennan**, English/Theatre '03, recently closed in a production of *Angels in America* in Philadelphia. Katie **Morrison**, Communication/Theatre '09, travels the NYC metro-area in a professional children's theatre company. Eileen **Patterson**, English/Philosophy '08, has finished her schooling at the American Music and Drama Academy in Manhattan. Anthony **Mercado**, History/English & Int'l Studies Minors '09, is in his second term at the famed Stella Adler School of Acting in Manhattan. Rebecca



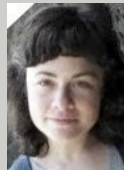
**Steinberger**, English MA '95, professor and chair of the English department at Misericordia University, has published a new book, *The Renaissance Literature Handbook*. Joe **Koivisto**, English '09,




is a technical writer for the Hershey Company and says "I'm sure Dr. Fraustino will be glad to hear his technical and business writing class was the final selling point on my resume. I work on a computer all day and argue about punctuation with damn near everybody in the department." Len **Gougeon**, professor, gave a presentation on "Transcendental Abolition" at a colloquium held at the Concord School of Philosophy in July 2009. The event was held at Orchard House, home of Bronson and Louisa May Alcott. He also presented a paper on "Thoreau's Civil War" at the Thoreau Society Annual Gathering in Concord in July. Gougeon will use a University Summer Research Grant to research archival holdings on the Civil War at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill. The University of Georgia Press has just issued a Twentieth Anniversary paperback edition of Gougeon's *Virtue's Hero*, a book that a recent editorial in *Nineteenth-Century Prose* commended for having had "as profoundly positive an effect on our understanding of Emerson as any book published in the last thirty years." In February, Gougeon gave a presentation for the Research Seminar Series on "Cultural Conflict: Thoreau, Great Britain, and the American Civil War." Joe **Kraus**, associate professor, published an essay--"Discovery. Invention. Creation."--in the Winter 2010 *Southern Humanities Review*. Another recent publication, "Everybody Should Have at Least One Disreputable Friend," appears in *Sleet Magazine* (Vol. 2, No. 1). Brendan



**Curry**, English/Philosophy '01 and former editor of *Esprit*, edits nonfiction at W.W. Norton in New York and alerts everyone to the publication of Nicholas Carr's *The Shallows: What the Internet is Doing to Our Brains*. Sara **Sutter**, Philosophy/English minor '07, whose poems have appeared in *Esprit* and other journals, has been awarded a graduate



assistantship and full tuition waiver at Portland State University where she will enter the MFA program in creative writing (poetry) in Fall 2010. On April 14, Stephen **Whittaker**, professor, addressed the second Philosophy Cafe sponsored by Phi Sigma Tau on the topic, "Plato Rules, Aristotle Drools: Philosophy as Art vs. Philosophy as Criticism." 



*Humana Festival Roadtrip, Louisville, KY--Sixteen students, three faculty (see Close Reading), five plays, three days--whew!*