



The Inkwell Quarterly

Volume 5

Issue 4

Spring 2011

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Sir Salman Rushdie Visits Wilkes University

By Kristina Spaulding

On April 19, 2011, Sir Salman Rushdie visited Wilkes University, sponsored by the English Department, through the Allen Hamilton Dickson Fund. The idea for having Sir Rushdie come to campus was brought up by Dr. Marcia Farrell, who, when asked by Dr.



Photo Courtesy of Dr. Marcia Farrell

Lawrence Kuhar how much it would cost to bring him to the campus as a joke, found out, and well, the rest is history.

Farrell and Kuhar then put all of their time and effort into planning the event so that it would be one students and faculty would remember for the rest of their lives. "We wanted a student-centered event," Farrell said. "And, Sir Rushdie, himself, values student-centered experiences."

Sir Rushdie spoke in the Kirby Salon for English majors, select alumni, and faculty in a private Q&A session led by Farrell. With meeting Sir Rushdie in a more intimate setting, students from ENG 397: Salman Rushdie and its Contemporaries along with other English majors who submitted questions were able to ask him questions that they have been working on tweaking and perfecting for weeks after they were given notice that the author they have been studying for three months was coming to their campus.

During the Q&A, Kristina Spaulding, Tony Thomas, Amanda Kaster, Jon Kadjeski, Matt Kogoy, Phil Muhlenberg, David Cook, Annie Yoskoski, Sarah McNew, Sara Crolick, Mollie Rance, Matt Kovalcik, and Buddy Gouger asked Sir Rushdie questions that covered topics from the author's writing process to his views on pop culture, and even his movie and reading suggestions. Even though the session was only supposed to last from 3:30pm to 4:30pm, Sir Rushdie graciously agreed to stay later in order to answer all of the questions that had been submitted.

Junior Tony Thomas describes the private Q&A session as "something that I may never experience again with a world famous author. Sir Rushdie was interested in answering all of our questions at length. I felt that he would have been content spending the entire time there."

After the private lecture, a dinner was held in the Martz center for those who attended the private lecture, along with Humanities faculty and select administrative guests. Guests attending dined with a South African themed menu, which included spiced chicken with avocado with grapefruit salsa and chakalaka, a type of vegetable stir-fry.

Continued on p. 4

Congratulations, Graduates!

The *Inkwell Quarterly* and the English Department want to congratulate the following seniors on the completion of their undergraduate degrees in English this May:

Rachel Cannuli	Kellene Cappellini	Cassandra Colwell	Justin Jones
Matt Kogoy	Amanda Kaster	Matt Kovalcik	Shannon McDonald
Frank O'Shea	Kristen Pechulis	Anthony Truppo	

Additionally, we would like to congratulate Sarah McNew on the completion of her Masters of Education with a focus on English.

Dear readers,

As you may have noticed, the *Inkwell Quarterly* has undergone some changes this year under the direction of senior **Matt Kogoy** and the rest of the editorial staff. We've changed the colors, the name, and added a serialized Murder Mystery story. All things, we believe, help better reflect not only our own personal ideas, but embody who we are as a department.

In issue 5.4, the new Editorial Board has started making more subtle changes which we believe will continue to push our publication forward. We want to be more than a newsletter, and the English Department deserves more than just a newsletter. The study of English is a study of the exploration of language and human emotion, and we, the Editorial Board, intend to bring *Inkwell Quarterly* into that study.

In order to achieve this goal, we believe *IQ* must become more investigative, more assertive, and more diverse. Essentially, *IQ* will become the voice that Salman Rushdie spoke of: the voice of literature with its ability to challenge authority and change society.

This is a lofty goal which will require not only dedication from the staff, but the appreciation and passion of our readers. The meaning of language is constructed through communal understanding, and in order for *Inkwell Quarterly* to harness the true potential of language, we will need all of you.

In issue 6.1, you will see new features, including a critical analysis of the winning *Manuscript* poem from their Spring release, music and book reviews, a new serial story, and a brand new layout. Of course, the new *IQ* will still contain some of your favorite columns, including "Kuhar's Corner" and "Hamill's Hunches," the latter of which should be spectacular in the first fall issue given the great deal of time he has had to ponder on his 'hunch.'

The outgoing editors have done a fantastic job to move the *Inkwell Quarterly* forward, and we will follow behind their bright, burning stars as they move out against the horizon illuminating their and our still unknown futures.

Sincerely,

David Cook, Editor-in-chief

Faculty and Club Updates

By Miranda Baur

- **Dr. Chad Stanley** was awarded tenure by the Board of Trustees!
Stanley is currently working, in collaboration with **Dr. Anthony Kapolka**, Computer Science, on an article that considers representations of printing and textual production/reproduction in Jonathan Swift's and Umberto Eco's writing. He is also starting work on a regional history project, with **Dr. Loran Lewis (COM)**.
Additionally, Stanley is pleased to report that the **Writing Center** will be open this summer.
- **Dr. Mischelle Anthony** will be on Sabbatical in the Fall 2011 semester. She will be doing archival research in London, looking at owner writing in 18th-century copies of gothic and sentimental texts, paying special attention to the use of the dash, a punctuation mark that come into common usage during the 18th century, especially among women writers.
- **Dr. Helen Davis** has been invited to chair and moderate a plenary session at the Symposium on Queer and Feminist Narrative Theory, to be held in Columbus, Ohio on May 12-14, 2011.
Also, Davis was nominated and selected for the Wilkes Diversity Faculty Award for the 2010-2011 academic year. The award is sponsored by the Center for Global Education and Diversity. She will receive the award on May 2, 2011.
- **Dr. Marcia Farrell** presented the lecture "Imperial Duty and Domestic Commitments in the Commonwealth: home and children in the works of Laurens van der Post and Lucy Maud Montgomery" at the Faculty Forum on March 25, 2011.
Additionally, Farrell was invited to participate in an academic roundtable discussion about Jane Austen's *Emma* as part of the Bloomsburg Theatre Ensemble's world premiere performance of *Emma* on March 6, 2011.
- **Dr. Janet Stamer** delivered a paper at the national meeting of the *Shakespeare Association of America* from April 7-9, 2011, in Seattle, Washington, titled "A totting Throne held firme by Majestic": Intertextual Carpentry, circa 1636." Her presentation developed material that she researched while on sabbatical leave in the spring semester 2010 and will inform work in Eng 333 in the fall.

Heaman Scholarship Application Deadline Approaching

Every year, **Drs. Pat and Bob Heaman**, Professors Emeriti, award the **Patricia Boyle Heaman and Robert J. Heaman** Scholarship to a student on the literature track. Preference is given to an upcoming junior or senior and to students from the Wyoming Valley, but *all* majors are encouraged to apply.

The recipient of this award is selected by a committee of English faculty members. The award decision is based on demonstrated excellence in English studies, potential for advanced study in English, scholarship, and financial need.

Those wishing to apply should submit a brief statements detailing their qualifications to **Dr. Larry Kuhar** and are due no later than May 9, 2011.

If you are interested in joining *The Inkwell Quarterly* staff and/or enrolling in English 190:Projects in Writing: Inkwell, please contact **Dr. Marcia Farrell** (marcia.farrell@wilkes.edu) or **Phil Muhlenberg** (philip.muhlenberg@wilkes.edu) for more information.

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Matt Kovalcil
By Matt Kogoy



Photo Courtesy

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Senior Spotlight: Farewell to the IQ Seniors

IQ decided to feature our graduating editors in the final Senior Spotlight of the year. Here are their stories:

Matt Kovalcik, *Inkwell Quarterly* Online Coordinator

By Matt Kogoy



Photo Courtesy of Matt Kovalcik

Matthew J. Kovalcik will be graduating this May after four exciting years at Wilkes University. Kovalcik, a longtime resident of Archbald, Pennsylvania, is an easy-going fellow who enjoys engaging in discussions that involve film, pirate death-metal, *Metacocalypse*, and *Magic: The Gathering*.

Kovalcik entered Wilkes with an eye towards creative writing and a concentration in Screenwriting. Since then, he's completed the beginnings of a screenplay and will present his draft at the Capstone Presentations. With such an enthusiasm towards creative writing, Kovalcik hopes to continue nurturing his creative darlings after graduation with the intent on publishing his works, becoming a world-renowned author, traveling into space, and becoming the first man to do a book signing on the moon. He's that dedicated.

Nowadays, Kovalcik spends his time chomping on ham sandwiches, playing *Super Smash Bros.*, and watching Westerns like crazy. Soon, though, the job market will be summoning him. In terms of career options, he plans on completing some freelance projects while continuing to write.

We at *The Inkwell Quarterly* wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors, and expect nothing but awesomeness from a man who's motto speaks for a generation—it's not that big of a deal. Maybe we should all learn something from Mr. Kovalcik; maybe it's not that big of a deal, maybe there's no deal at all.

This is Matthew J. Kogoy signing off. Good day to you.

Matthew Kogoy, *Inkwell Quarterly* Managing Editor

By Matt Kovalcik

Matthew Kogoy graduates this year at Wilkes University with a double major in English and History. This self-proclaimed "soft spoken debonair" has earned his reputation amongst his fellow classmates as a well read and articulate young sir. Also known by his moniker "Admiral Kogs-worth of the Fourth Federation," Kogoy has for many years become appreciative of fine music and film. Some of Kogoy's favorite music genres include blues rock and traditional folk music.

Kogoy's other interests include, dressing well, drinking Mountain Dew, and watching films (mostly foreign, independent or classics). Along with his reputation of being well read, Kogoy has stated that he will be reading *House of Leaves*, David Foster Wallace novels, and some philosophy books (specifically Plato's *The Republic*) in the near future.

Kogoy currently resides in Larksville, Pennsylvania, living with his family and dog Bandit.

By next spring, Kogoy is interested in living in Japan to teach English to Japanese students. To all of us from *The Inkwell Quarterly*, we say to you, Matthew Kogoy, adieu and good luck good, sir.

Amanda Kaster, *Inkwell Quarterly* Head Copy Editor

By Justin Jones

1. What was your favorite part of attending Wilkes?

I absolutely loved having the opportunity to learn and work diligently to acquire the knowledge I needed to succeed in an area of study I enjoy greatly. Amid the impatience to complete work and comprehend the complexities within any given course, I found my quest for understanding to be invigorating and tremendously rewarding. My capacity as a student was pushed to an entirely new level because of the expectations of my professors, and as a result directly impacted the amount of growth I experienced in my abilities as an English major. This semester is a testament to such a fact; whether in regards to Dr. Farrell's Salman Rushdie and His Contemporaries Senior Seminar to Dr. Kuhar's Postmodern Literature course, the amount of work I put in allowed me to reach new depths in my career as an undergraduate student, and for that I am not only immensely appreciative, but also ecstatic. I also enjoyed the additional opportunities Wilkes had to offer me as a student; whether in regards to extra-curricular activities to build my ability as a leader to spending a semester in Washington, DC, I was incredibly pleased with my experiences as a student.

Continued on p. 8



Photo Courtesy of Matt Kogoy

The Inkwell Quarterly Staff

Faculty Advisor: Dr. Marcia Farrell

Editor-in-chief: Dave Cook

Managing Editor: Kristina Spaulding

Assistant Managing Editor: Phil Muhlenberg

Senior Copy Editors: Tony Thomas and Carly Yantus

Copy Editing Advisor: Dr. Janet Stamer

Layout Editor: Elizabeth Voda

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Graduating Staff: Matt Kogoy, Matt Kovalcik, Justin Jones, Amanda Kaster, and Sonja Heisey

Faculty Contributors: Dr. Michelle Anthony, Dr. Larry Kuhar, and Dr. Thomas A. Hamill

Poetry In Transit 2011 seeks new verse

By Dr. Mischelle Anthony

Poetry In Transit, an award-winning community program, invites your participation. Patterned after London's Poems on the Underground program, Poetry In Transit displays poetry in advertising space inside Luzerne County Transportation Authority (LCTA) buses. The poems stay up for one year, with a monthly rotation so that riders can see all poems over time.

An advisory board from four area colleges (Kings College, Penn State Wilkes-Barre, Luzerne County Community College, and Wilkes University) will choose the winners from this year's submissions.

We would love to have one of your poems on the bus!

Here are the requirements:

Length: 6 lines or less (excerpts from longer works are fine, but you must choose the 6 lines to send)

Theme: Conflict

Please avoid profanity, outright political or religious statements

Languages: Any language is great, as long as you provide an English translation

Submission (Deadline is May 20th, 2011):

Email your poetry to: mischelleb.half@gmail.com

-or-

Mail your poetry to: Editorial Board

Poetry In Transit
English Department
Wilkes University
84 W. South St.
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18766

Calling all graduates: Senior Exit Survey

On behalf of the English department, Justin Jones created an exit survey for our graduates. The survey responses help the English department better understand student preparation for life upon graduation. If you are a graduating senior, please send your responses to the survey below to either inkwell@wilkes.edu or to Dr. Marcia Farrell at marcia.farrell@wilkes.edu.

Survey Questions

1. What courses/events do you believe prepared you the most for your future pursuits?
2. What will you miss most about Wilkes?
3. Do you feel you have been sufficiently prepared for what lies ahead?
4. Anything else you'd like to say, you may say here.

"Rushdie," continued from p. 1

At 6pm, guests were led to the Dorothy Dickenson Dart Center for a lecture that was open to the public, where Sir Rushdie was introduced by Farrell as her "hero." Sir Rushdie then gave his lecture: "Public Events, Private Lives: Literature and Politics in the Modern World," followed by a brief question and answer period. In spite of the rain, the public lecture was well attended by the Wilkes and great Wilkes-Barre community.

Reflecting back on the public lecture, Thomas noted, "His lecture highlighted the importance of free speech and the freedom of an artist to pursue their vision, which was appropriate for a world where artists still risk their lives to express themselves with passion about how words can change the world."

After the public lecture, Sir Rushdie held a book signing and then left the campus to head back to New York City. Senior Amanda Kaster reflected back on the event, "having the ability to meet and engage a famous author is ultimately one of the definitive moments of my time at Wilkes, and I am forever grateful of the hard work from Drs. Kuhar and Farrell for all they did to make this experience a reality. On behalf of the students in ENG 397, I would personally like to thank Dr. Kuhar for taking the time to get Sir Rushdie to come to our campus. Also, I would like to thank Dr. Farrell for giving us the opportunity to meet the author we have come to admire this semester. It will be an experience we will carry with us long after we leave Wilkes University. Sir Rushdie's visit was a fantastic reminder of why we do what we do as English majors. Thank you for giving us that reminder."

Sir Rushdie is the author of eleven novels, including *Shane*, *Satanic Verses*, *Enchantress of Florence*, *The Moor's Last Sigh*, *Fury*, *Shalimar the Clown*, and, most recently, *Luka and the Fire of Life*. His novel, *Midnight's Children*, which deals directly with the aftermath of Indian independence in 1947, won the Booker Prize when it was published in 1981. It also won the Booker of Booker's in 2007, by popular vote, in honor of the fortieth anniversary of the prize.

Alumnae Spotlight: Melissa Leet, Literary Composer

By Annie Yoskoski

Melissa Leet (class of 2010) has been doing some amazing things since she has left Wilkes. Leet will be featured in the second issue of an international anthology entitled *Cover Stories*, to be released June 21, 2011.

Cover Stories is a selection of flash fiction stories based on songs, a type of writing known as cuphiction, which was a term first used in Mike Dawon's introduction to volume 1 in 2010. The writings are supposed to be seen as literary covers, and Leet has chosen to deal with classical pieces. Other writers featured in the anthology include Suzi M, Simon Neal, Derek Handley, and T.P. Whited.

When asked to describe her work, Leet said, "The stories I'm working on are horror fiction, nothing lovey-dovey. Dark, twisted, crazy fiction. Think Hunter S. Thompson meets Joyce in an alleyway. The piece that got me accepted to the work is similar to flash fiction that draws on gothic elements in an attempt to convey a deep sense of fear and horror within the story."

Right now the book is in its final phases and will be released on National Music Day. As of right now, Leet has four stories in the book.

If you would like to learn more you can go to <http://www.coverstoriesbook.com/> and check out the book for yourself.



Photo courtesy of Melissa Leet

Alumni Notes

- **Patrick Austin** is currently working at the Hoyt Library. In the fall, he will be teaching as an adjunct professor for the Wilkes English Department.
- **Chris Bednar** has been traveling to North Carolina to spend time with his baby boy, while also working in the risk management field and researching a fitting graduate path.
- **Melissa Bugdal** is finishing her first year in an M.A. program with an emphasis in composition, language, and rhetoric at Salisbury University while also serving as a Teaching Assistant for sections of first-year composition.
- **Jackie Butwinski** currently works as an Administrative Assistant for RIA Connect, Inc. in Tinton Falls, NJ.
- **Lauren Carey** is an SEO Manager and copywriter at Solid Cactus.
- **Amanda Flynn** is currently teaching 9th and 10th grade English at a public school on the Eastern Shore of Virginia while getting her Master's degree in Reading Education from the University of Virginia.
- **Bianca Sabia** is currently attending Arcadia University for an MA in English while holding a Graduate Assistantship at the school's Writing Center.
- **Zack Sobota** is the Running Backs coach for the East Stroudsburg University football program, as well as pursuing a Masters degree in the field of Sports Management.
- **Stefanie McHugh** completed year one of MA program at Duquesne University. She is preparing a conference paper on Sam Selvon's *The Lonely Londoners* and Salman Rushdie's *The Satanic Verses* for the American Comparative Literature Conference in Providence, RI in March 2012.

Salman Rushdie's *Shame*: A Novel Review

By Amanda Kaster

Sir Salman Rushdie reaches an entirely new dimension of literary brilliance in his third novel, *Shame*, which was published and released in 1983. The text grapples with the complexities of the dichotomy of honor and shame between Iskander Harappa, Raza Hyder, and their families in a country that is "not quite Pakistan" in the context of the fifteenth century and a post-independence world (22). Shame, or shame, is an incredibly crucial element in the text, dictating the lives of his characters and impacting the construction and plot of the novel.

Although male characters dictate a significant amount of attention in the overall plot line, one of the plots is crucial to comprehending the course of the novel. Through the process of disclosing intimate details about the private lives of women within the text, the reader better comprehends the collision between the two families. Sufiya Zinobia, daughter of Raza Hyder, is the personification of shame to her family, yet through her character, the story reaches completion. In order to accomplish such a task, Rushdie's reinvents the expectations and structures of the Westernized fairy tale frame. Such a transformation lends credence to the abilities of female characters to access the text in unfamiliar ways, specifically as their own story tellers. The narrator recognizes the capacity of women to usurp the roles of the men as chroniclers of history; he states:

"But the women seem to have taken over; they marched from the peripheries of the story to demand the inclusions of their own tragedies, histories, and comedies...to see my 'male' plot refracted, so to speak, through the prisms of its reverse and 'female' side" (181).

Amid the perplexities about the fairy tale structure which are defied, the richness and fluidity of Rushdie's writing alone makes this text an enjoyable, worthwhile read. The entanglement of the chaotic lives of the characters also functions as an additional dimension to *Shame* in Rushdie's repertoire because of the discussion that occurs below the surface about politics of the Eastern world, the position and oppression of women and society, and the truths of humanity in conjunction with shame. Despite the dark, obscure, and violent nature of the novel, Sir Rushdie's third text is an engaging read, one that entails "Revelation and obscurity, affairs of honour, blushings of all parts, the recession of erotic life, the open violence of public life [that] create the extraordinary Rushdie mood," according to Malcolm Bradbury of *The Guardian*.

Sigma Tau Delta Workshop at the United Hebrew Institute

Recently, Amanda Kaster, Erin Robinson, and Liz Voda, members of Sigma Tau Delta, along with Drs. Thomas A. Hamill and Sean Kelly, continued the honor society's tradition of conducting writing workshops at the United Hebrew Institute to assist students, ranging from fourth- to eighth-graders, with the development of ideas and story plotlines. The honor society members mentored the students by demonstrating to them that writing is a process which includes attention to revision and audience.

The workshops spanned a two-week period, during which Kaster, Robinson, and Voda gave the students one-on-one assistance on their writing by generating small-group discussions centered around writing activities. They also provided the students with concrete feedback on their work.

According to the students' teacher Barbara Welch and the Institute's Principal, Rabbi Raphael Nemetsky, "Our students learned what they need to do to move their writing forward." Both Welch and Nemetsky noted that they appreciated that the



Photo Courtesy of Barbara Welch



Photo Courtesy of Barbara Welch

workshops reinforced their educational goal of teaching the students that "one must change in order to grow not only as individuals but also as students."

The students noted that the workshops were "inspiring" and "amazing." One commented, "I love working with Wilkes because I always learn something new."

Another noted, "I learned that if there is an interesting part in my writing, there should be development of that part. It was an excellent experience writing with the

Wilkes honor students over these past four years."

The United Hebrew Institute looks forward to working with the students in Sigma Tau Delta in the upcoming academic year, as do the students: "The whole Wilkes program was a very enjoyable and educational one. I learned many different skills that will enhance my writing abilities."

English 397/497: The Inaugural Conference

By Kristina Spaulding

On Friday, April 1, 2011, students from both Dr. Michelle Anthony's ENG 397.A: Studies in Gothic Literature and Dr. Marcia Farrell's ENG 397/497.E: Salman Rushdie and his Contemporaries seminars presented their senior conference papers in Kirby Hall. The inclusion of the conference presentation as part of the senior seminar came about during a department meeting at which the English faculty discussed ways to elevate the seminar experience. The faculty decided that they would incorporate a the mock conference activity that has been a part of several 300-level courses by expanding the presentations to a more public format.

When asked about the event, Farrell explained, "Our (Dr. Anthony and my) goals were to elevate the discussion that occurs in the Senior Seminar while also giving everyone a way to receive effective feedback on their works-in-progress. Both Dr. Anthony and I have repeatedly said that we couldn't be happier with the way that the conference turned out, especially since we were really able to sit back and enjoy listening to the different panel presentations while everyone involved took charge of the discussion."

Buddy Gouger noted, "It was nerve-racking at first, but the conference consisted of mostly my peers and their feedback, which really helped me develop my final draft of the paper. All in all, it was a great experience and really demonstrated what a paper for a conference should be like."

Matthew Endress, Alicia Lewis, Marrison Fedor, Kelly Clisham, Erin Robinson, Joseph Waichulus, Cassandra Colwell, Justin Jones, Liza Prokop, Johnathan Kadjeski, Matthew Kogoy, Philip Muhlenberg, Sarah McNew, Mollie Rance, Matthew Kovalcik, Tony Thomas, Buddy Gouger, Amanda Kaster, Sara Crolick, David Cook, and Kristina Spaulding presented their seminar papers at the conference.

Light refreshments were served after the presentations.

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Miranda Baur, Jami luncheon-mystery p concluding installm of the mystery auth

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Women's A

by Miranda Baur

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Colwell, Justin Kovalcik, Tony papers at the

Mothers, Mayhem, and Murder: An Invitation from *IQ*

On Sunday, May 8, 2011, starting a 1pm in Kirby Hall, *The Inkwell Quarterly* invites all English majors, minors, faculty, and their mothers to a murder mystery pot luck luncheon.

English majors **Buddy Gouger**, **Cassandra Colwell**, **Amanda Kaster**, **Tony Thomas**, **Holly Evans**, **Miranda Baur**, **Jamie Alderiso**, and **Matt Endress**, under the direction of **Kristina Spaulding** will lead a luncheon-mystery performance of *The Last Train to Paris* to celebrate Mother's Day and the release of the concluding installment of *The Murder in Kirby Hall*, *IQ*'s serialized murder mystery, and the announcement of the mystery author's identity.

IQ encourages all members of the department to treat their mothers to this luncheon theatre as guests will follow the trail of a mysterious murder around the halls of Kirby and participate in attempts to uncover his or her identity before learning the identity not only of the Kirby killer but also of the mysterious author of the serialized tale.

If planning to attend, please bring your sleuthing abilities and a dish to share.



Women's And Gender Studies Conference

by Miranda Baur

On April 7 and 8, 2011, Wilkes' Women's and Gender Studies Department, led by **Dr. Ebonie Cunningham Stringer** and **Amanda Kaster**, hosted a conference which focused on "Women in Popular Culture."

Over the two day conference, various activities took place, including a banned book fair, poetry slam, documentary screening, and discussions held by students, speakers and faculty on women's and gender related topics such as Literature and Gender Studies, Girls and Women in the Media, and Sex and Human Trafficking.

Also, students were encouraged to make cards for Mackenzie Marx, a second-grader at Hanover Township with Acute Myeloid Leukemia.

"The 2011 Women's and Gender Studies Conference went very well;" comments Kaster. "Not only was the theme tremendously helpful in drawing in a wide range of attendants from the university and community because popular culture is relatable to everyone in all walks of life, but it also allowed for various sessions that do not fall into your stereotypical conference schedule . . . it was exciting to see students and professors actively and collectively engaging in the content within the numerous presentations and discussions we had available."

Stringer and Kaster would like to thank the English faculty and students who assisted throughout the conference.

If you have suggestions for next year's conference, contact Stringer at Ebonie.Cunningham@Wilkes.edu and Kaster at Amanda.Kaster@Wilkes.edu.

Heyna or No?

By Tony Thomas

A Wilkes student, who just so happened to be a foreigner to the Wyoming Valley, ventures away from the crisp green campus and towards The Square. The student goes to purchase a sandwich at Circles and overhears a puzzling conversation.

"Hey Jim what are you doing tonight? Wanna git a couple two tree beers after work?"

"I dunno, I was thinkin' of goin' upta Nannycoke."

"Dats okay. Lorraine is gonna run me over to Plitmit and we're gonna git some hoagies from Red's."

The people having the conversation may seem a little odd to the Wilkes student. If you spend enough time around people who have lived most or their whole lives in the Wyoming Valley, you'll start to hear peculiar phrases and odd pronunciations. What you are hearing is the accent of the Wyoming Valley, which is known as Northeast Pennsylvania English. The accent is just one of many that exists throughout the United States, and is found in the Coal Region, which spans several counties in the Northeast. Many of the phrases and pronunciations are a result of Eastern European immigrants learning how to use the English language.

Here are a few examples of many common phrases and pronunciations in Northeast Pennsylvania English:

A creek is known as a *crick*.

A hamburger is a *hamburg*. A Sloppy Joe is a *wimpie*. A sub is a *hoagie*. In the morning you have a *cuppa* coffee.

Something that belongs to me is *my-un*.

I don't go to the mall. I go *upta* mall.

The city to our north is not Scranton. It is *Scran-in*. Nanticoke is *Nannycoke*, and Plymouth is *Plitmit*.

If you want someone to take you somewhere, ask them to *run you over to* the store.

If you are talking to more than one person refer to the group as *Youz* guys.

I've got *nuttin* behind my back.

If you want to address more than one item, you say, a *couple two tree*.

And finally, the most infamous of all the Valley pharses....*heyna* or no; the weather is finally nice, heyna or no? It is a phrase seeking affirmation, similar to the phrase, "isn't that correct?"

Now who wants to go downda Square and get some hamburgs?

"Spotlight," continued from p. 3

2. What do you plan to do after graduation?

Currently, my plans for graduation are a bit ambiguous. I am applying to a semester-long fellowship program where female college students and graduates are placed in internship positions with women in Congress in Washington, DC. I am also looking into dedicating a year to an AMERICORP-Vista program. Several opportunities involving the creation of programming for military families and dependents have become available in several states around the country, as have a few positions with organizations centered on the empowerment of young girls. Attending graduate school is also an interest of mine, but it would be ideal to experience some of the world prior to deciding exactly what I would like to focus on in graduate school.

3. What have you learned from the English Department?

The English Department collectively taught me to perform my very best in everything I seek to accomplish; I have always been a dedicated student, but each faculty member I had helped me to reach an entirely new level of ability, knowledge, and understanding within the major. They also taught me to be myself and embrace my passions; my fervor for Women's and Gender Studies topics was cultivated in the various English courses I took, and because of this, the entirety of my identity, on a personal and academic level, has been altered, for which I am grateful.

4. What will you miss the most?

I will miss the friends I have made in my English classes who have become comparable to family and the professors who have directly impacted every facet of my identity as an undergraduate student. I cannot thank either parties enough for assisting me throughout my four years at Wilkes. I was once a quiet, self-conscious English student when I entered my first English class, but because of the environment fostered by students and faculty, I have become comfortable and unafraid to voice my perspectives. I will miss such a welcoming, intellectual environment.

Justin Jones, *Inkwell Quarterly* Assistant Managing Editor
By Amanda Kaster

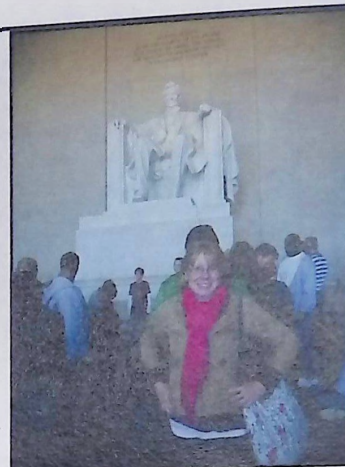


Photo Courtesy of Amanda Kaster



Photo Courtesy of Justin Jones

One of the several English majors to graduate in the Spring 2011 semester from Wilkes University is Justin Jones, editor of the Manuscript and Assistant Managing Editor of the Inkwell Quarterly. Jones marks his undergraduate career as one of tremendous growth in terms of development of abilities and responsibilities over the period of eight semesters.

"I would say that the highlight of my stay here at Wilkes is the fact that I was able to claw from an unsuccessful first two years GPA-wise and take responsibility as a student as well as a staff member on both IQ and Manuscript," he said.

In particular, he notes how his writing, both academically and creatively, has matured since he entered his freshman year, which he credits to his professors and peers in the English department.

In between his numerous extra curricular and academic achievements, Jones has held the position of Manuscript editor throughout the school term, which he has found to be incredibly worthwhile. He states, "The most rewarding part of being editor of Manuscript was being able to look at the finished product of both the Fall and Spring workload and be proud of what the staff and myself have created. I've created new friendships in my position and together we've created something that will last well past when we all graduate."

Currently, Jones intends to apply for jobs as either a copy writer or public relations writer at a variety of companies in order to "pay the bills and eventually...write novels." We wish Justin the best of luck in his future endeavors and hope to read one of his novels in the future.

Sonja Heisey, *Inkwell Quarterly* Photographer
By Dr. Marcia Farrell

Arriving to Wilkes from Newmanstown, PA (which is halfway between Hershey and Reading), Sonja Heisey transferred to Wilkes as a sophomore from Elizabethtown College. Although Wilkes was her second choice, Heisey made the decision to transfer because she "wanted to experience living in an area different from [her] hometown."

Majoring in Integrative Media, with a concentration in English, Heisey has transformed two campus publications with her work—*The Manuscript* and *Inkwell Quarterly*. Noting that she would "like people to remember me as a nice person," Heisey adds that she would also like them to "remember the things that I've made for *Manuscript*."

Although Heisey does not have a lot of spare time, when she is able to find a few minutes to herself, she likes to exercise, read, or experiment in the kitchen. For her senior capstone project, she created a website (sonjaheiseydesign.com, check it out!). She says, the website is "a compilation of the best parts of all your videos you've created throughout school that is under two minutes, and ten perfect static pieces or sets for your portfolio."

After graduation, she hopes to work for a publishing company in the design or marketing department and seeks to create a life for herself that allows her to enjoy being outside. "The first thing I want is a job where I can actually use my education," she says. "After that, I'd like a nice little apartment that allows animals and has a yard. Once I'm settled in to my apartment, I'm getting a dog." All of us at *Inkwell Quarterly* will miss Heisey, and we wish her the best as she moves forward.



Photo Courtesy of Sonja Heisey

Danny Boy
By Kristina Spaulc

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Manuscript
By David Cook

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faculty, and alumni

Danny Boyle Presents *Frankenstein*

By Kristina Spaulding

On March 17, 2011, students from Dr. Helen Davis's ENG 335 class and Dr. Michelle Anthony's ENG 397 A class traveled to Allentown, PA to witness a broadcast of Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* directed by Danny Boyle. The National Theatre Live broadcasted the play from London at Allenton Symphony Hall.

What was interesting about Boyle's rendition of Shelley's book, however, was the fact that he had actor's Johnny Lee Miller and Benedict Cumberbatch play the reverse roles of Victor Frankenstein and the Creature, which they alternated on different nights. Danny Boyle stated in an interview with Guardian UK, "Having the roles of Frankenstein and the Creature reversed highlights the incestuous relationship between genius and madness."

This particular simulcast featured Johnny Lee Miller as Victor Frankenstein and Benedict Cumberbatch as the Creature. For more information please log on to <http://www.nationaltheatre.org.uk/ntlive>.

Sigma Tau Delta Induction Ceremony

On Sunday, April 17, 2011, Sigma Tau Delta inducted twelve new members: Cassandra Colwell, Rachel Cannuli, Marrison Fedor, Victoria Hevener, Jonathan Kadjeski, Matt Kogoy, Alicia Lewis, Alex Madaya, Jason Neare, Briana Nissen, Morgan Palermo, and Liz Voda.

They join current members: Sara Crolick (President/Web Director), Erin Robinson (Vice President), Kristen Pechulis (Secretary), Amanda Kaster (Historian), Anthony Truppo (PR Director), Shannon McDonald (Alumni/ac Liaison), Jessica Maher, Amy Demchak, Phil Muhlenberg, Kelly Cappellini, Liza Prokop, Mollie Rance, Dave Cook, and Frank O'Shea.

Manuscript Unveiling

By David Cook

On Tuesday, May 10, 2011 at 2p.m. in the Kirby Salon, the Wilkes Manuscript Society will unveil their final issue for the 2010-2011 school year, an event which also marks the final publication under *Manuscript* Executive Editor, Justin Jones.

Jones, a senior English major, has high expectations for his final release, as well he should given the resounding positive feedback from the Fall 2010 release.

"This may be the meatiest *Manuscript* since 1947. I'd have to consult the archives on that, but I'm pretty sure. We hit the century mark in page numbers, which means lots of writing, and lots of cool photos," said Jones.

Outside of page numbers, Jones did not want to get into the specifics of the *Manuscript* design, but did leak a few spoilers.

"I'd like to tell Ashley Bringmann, Sonja Heisey, Miranda Baur, Bethany Guarilia, Holly Evans, Kristina Spaulding, Jeffrey Ford, and the stamp happy Peter Polyak that I will never forget how much effort they put into making Manuscript what it has become. My goal when taking over was much like Ezra Pound's literary goal, which was to "make it new." Under the watch of Dr. Anthony and Dr. Kelly, you guys have helped me make Manuscript new. It has become everything I hoped it would, and without you, there would have been nothing. Kenneth Stucker, bud, we missed you this semester, but you brought the Spring cover to life. Thank you. Finally, I'd like to thank our readers. If I knew that no one picked up Manuscript and enjoyed reading it, I don't think I would have had the drive I did to please you all. PEACE! I'm out of here!" said Jones.

"*Manuscript* has a history of being dark and dreary. We wanted to incorporate that, but change it. [So] if you are a fan of noisy colors, you are going to love this upcoming issue of *Manuscript*. If you loved the Fall confidential folder cover, you are going to love this issue. Even if you don't like color but you like shiny things, you will love this issue" said Jones.

While the hard work is over now, Jones said the issue was difficult to edit and format given the gargantuan size of the upcoming release. The editing, however, was not Jones' biggest concern with the upcoming release, format was.

"Without Sonja Heisey and her unique ability with graphic design and work with *InDesign*, I don't think the 100 page issue would be possible. She put a lot of hours into making the inside pages look good," said Jones.

With Jones's tenure coming to a close, he has a great deal to be proud of, and for him, the thing he honors the most, is the journey.

"I started as a guy who didn't even know he was registered to take *Manuscript* for credit, to a regular staff member, to assistant executive editor, to executive editor," said Jones, "I wasn't sure I could take on the responsibility of being the commander-in-chief when the interview process was being held, so I originally applied to be the assistant to the editor, for a smaller workload. Things happened, and the editor position was mine."

Others who are looking to follow in Jones's footsteps, or who simply want to be a part of the *Manuscript* Society should contact next year's editor Ashley Bringmann, or faculty advisor, Dr. Michelle Anthony.

"Being a part of this group has been the most fun part of being a Wilkes student for me, and I encourage anyone interested to give it a shot," said Jones. The Wilkes Manuscript Society is the campus literary and arts magazine and features poetry, prose, and art from students, faculty, and alumni in its semiannual releases and membership is open to all Wilkes University students.

Emma by the BTE

On Sunday, March 6, 2011, Dr. Marcia Farrell took several students enrolled in English 234—Justin Jones, Ashley Bringmann, Holly Evans, and Briana Nissen—along with English department office assistant, Deb Archavage, Dr. Helen Davis, and Prof. Gina Thackara to see the world premiere performance of *Emma* by the Bloomsburg Theatre Ensemble.

The play, adapted by Jon Jory, was directed by Andrew Hubatsek. Jory, who is attempting to adapt all of Jane Austen's novels for the stage, chose the BTE for the world premiere of *Emma*, the third of this sequence of adaptations. Anastasia Peterson portrayed the heroine, Emma Woodhouse.

In celebration of the premiere, the BTE hosted special Jane Austen Weekends, including an academic roundtable discussion prior to the March 6 performance, featuring Drs. Terence Riley and Janice Broder, from Bloomsburg University, and Farrell. Farrell was asked to participate because of her interest in Austen and expertise in Bollywood adaptations of Austen's work, including the 2010 release of *Aisha*, an Indian adaptation of *Emma*.

According to Jones, "Seeing EMMA on-stage during our trip to Bloomsburg was an experience simply reading Jane Austen could not create. While reading Austen's work will always be the smarter option when trying to get the true meaning of her fiction, seeing her stories performed up close bring excitement and even comedy that may be missed from just reading. The actors were on-point and the structure of the play was nearly flawless. I'm glad I was able to attend this trip."

Spring Capstone Schedule and Student Teacher Assignments

The Spring 2011 English capstones will be held on Wednesday, May 4, from 3–5 pm, and Thursday, May 5, from 1–3:30pm in the Kirby Salon. Presenters include:

Student	Advisor	Student	Advisor
Anthony Truppo	Dr. Larry Kuhar	Matt Kogoy	Dr. Marcia Farrell
Amanda Kaster	Dr. Chad Stanley	Cassandra Colwell	Dr. Chad Stanley
Matt Kovalcik	Mr. Bernie Kovacs	Mollie Rance	Dr. Thomas A. Hamill
Kelly Cappellini	Dr. Larry Kuhar	Justin Jones	Dr. Mischelle Anthony

English seniors wrapping up their student teaching assignments on Friday, May 6, 2011, include Rachel Cannuli (at Crestwood Senior High School), Shannon McDonald (at Crestwood Senior High School), Kristen Pechulis (at Northwest Area High School), and Frank O'Shea (at Wyoming Valley West High School).

Current Events: A Rhetorical Reflection on the Death of Osama bin Laden

By Tony Thomas

"I want justice. And there's an old poster out West, I recall, that says, 'Wanted: Dead or Alive.'"
-President George W. Bush when asked if he wanted Osama bin Laden dead.

I was 11 years old when the planes flew into the World Trade Center Towers. I remember sitting in art class watching the country try to make sense of what was unfolding before our eyes. Later that afternoon Osama bin Laden and al-Qaida would be blamed for orchestrating the attacks. Three years later bin Laden would finally assume responsibility for the attacks. President Bush announced that the United States would seek justice for those who died in the 9/11 attacks. Years passed and the face of the 9/11 mastermind proved to be incredibly elusive. Now and then false reports of his death would appear in the news. I, like many Americans, felt that we would never know the fate of Osama bin Laden.

And then, on a quiet Sunday night, news would break that President Obama would be addressing the nation at a most peculiar time. The media reported that he would speak at 10:30 PM, a strange time for any announcement. Whatever President Obama had to say would have to be important. I had CNN on at the time, waiting to hear what would be said. Wolf Blitzer broke that the announcement would be dramatic and related to national security and was not related to the attacks in Libya. I could not fully fathom what the news would really be about.

I flipped back and forth between all three major news stations. I alerted everyone in the house that the President would be making a major announcement shortly. Then, I flipped to Fox News, and Geraldo Rivera spoke the most unreal words I have ever heard... "Fox News is confirming that Osama bin Laden is dead." I rushed downstairs to tell everyone to put the news on. We stared, transfixed at the words scrolling across the screen. *Osama bin Laden is dead.*

The President's words kept getting pushed back and back. By eleven, all news outlets were reporting that Osama bin Laden had been killed. But I needed to hear it from the President that he was dead. I could not believe what I was seeing. Then, President Obama entered the East Room of the White House and told the world that Osama bin Laden had been killed during a military operation conducted by the United States.

President Obama reminded us of that moment when we Americans became vulnerable. That moment when destruction and chaos descended upon us and when the American way seemed gone forever. President Obama reminded the country, just as President Bush did,

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 - President Ol

The Murder in Kirby Hall: Part four

Suddenly, Jones began to cry. "I like to write this shit, not live it. You guys, this is just not cool." His hands were shaking and his face had a strange red tint. "You did call the police, right? I don't wanna' die. I finally handed in all of those late papers, and I was going to ask—"

Jones was cut short by a blood curdling scream from Dr. Anthony.

"That was Dr. Anthony," said Jamie as her eyes once again filled with the excitement of the chase. "Let's go see what happened!"

With that, the group ran back up the three flights of Kirby Hall, a not so easy task when you consider the number of times it's happened so far in this day, and burst into Dr. Anthony's office.

"She's not here," said Jones.

"Thanks, Jones, for your wonderful observations," said Jamie. "Oh my God! There, on her chair, that's blood. Jones, that is blood, isn't it—"

Those last words choked out of Jamie's mouth. The events of the day had finally caught up with her, and she wept and fell to the floor. In a rather fortunate turn of events, she fell to the floor near Dr. Anthony's desk where she discovered her glasses, broken and covered in blood. "But where is the body?" she said while crying, half trying to pull the group back together.

A moment later, a door slammed in the hallway, and then another, and another. The doors of all the offices were being opened and closed. Nobody could make out which door, or who was doing it. Nobody knew if they were safe.

"We should go, but quietly. Maybe nobody knows we came up here," said Jones.

The group agreed, and began to sneak out of Dr. Anthony's office, in what can only be described as a Scooby-doo-like fashion. As they were creeping into the hallway, all huddled together and on tip-toes, they heard a voice coming from within Dr. Farrell's office.

"That door has been locked all day" said Jamie. "There is no way Farrell could have gotten in this building without us seeing her. I mean, even if we did miss her, we would have heard her scream at the sight of all the bodies and all the blood that's all over the place."

"That doesn't matter now," whispered Jones. "If she is in there, and hasn't called attention to herself, then, she is probably the killer."

"Well, let's see if we can hear what she's saying or at least find out who she's talking to," said Jamie in a defiant tone. She, after all, was in charge.



Continued on p. 12

"Rhetorical Reflection," continued from p. 10

that the United States was never at war with Islam. The United States of America was at war with an extremist ideology that promoted violence and destruction instead of peace and community.

After the 9/11 attacks America was unsure when our normal way of life could continue. When was it okay to laugh again? When was it okay to live without fear again? Even baseball, perhaps the most American out of any sport, was unsure about when to continue. Slowly America began to return to the life that we used to have. On September 21, the New York Mets would play their rivals, the Atlanta Braves, in New York City at Shea Stadium, whose parking lot was used as a relief center during the days following the attacks. The New York Mets would fall behind 2-1 until Mike Piazza hit the go-ahead home run in the 8th inning that ultimately won the game. That home run may have been the greatest home run ever hit by a New York Met and certainly was the greatest home run Mike Piazza would ever hit. That moment, however brief it was, was filled with joy and excitement.

And how fitting that the New York Mets would play on the day Osama bin Laden died. How fitting that the game was tied 1-1 while chants of *USA USA USA* filled Citizen's Bank Park in Philadelphia. The game lasted 14 arduous innings, but the Mets managed to triumph and win 2-1. A win that symbolizes the resilience of New York and that America will simply not give up even when victory seems out of reach and implausible.

Shortly after the 9/11 attacks, President Bush would stand, surrounded by New Yorkers, above the rubble of the towers and proclaim, "I can hear you, the rest of the world hears you. And the people who knocked these buildings down will hear all of us soon." Those may have been the greatest words that President Bush ever spoke. On the night of May 1, 2011, as those of us on the East Coast prepared for bed, we finally may have that moment of closure that all of us, across America, have been seeking since the first plane struck the Towers.

As I write this, celebrations across America continue as we move into a new day of uncertainty in the wake of bin Laden's death. While days ahead may still be unclear and dangerous, we cannot forget those moments that unite us as Americans. We can stand together, regardless of race, religion, politics, and sexuality, and be as one. The War on Terror may never be won, but when the citizens of the world embrace reason over ignorance, tolerance over bigotry, and love over hatred, then we come close to eradicating the poisonous logic of the enemies of freedom. Thousands of innocents have lost their lives during the attacks and the events that followed. Nothing could ever replace those losses.

Hundreds of people began to fill the streets across the country. A crowd of hundreds stood in front of the White House, waving American flags, singing "God Bless America." In New York City, crowds formed near Ground Zero chanting and singing. So many different Americans united in their love for country and their brothers and sisters. When I first heard that crowd sing "God Bless America," tears welled in my eyes at the sight and sound. All I saw and heard were Americans.

I hope that we all can begin to see past petty differences and love each other as brother and sister.

I hope that the power of reason and love will triumph over ignorance and hatred.

I hope that one day, we can all gather, as citizens and celebrate the power of life and happiness.

God bless America.

"Tonight, I can report to the American people and to the world, that the United States has conducted an operation that killed Osama bin Laden the leader of al Qaeda, and a terrorist who's responsible for the murder of thousands of innocent men, women, and children."
- President Obama announcing the death of Osama bin Laden

"Kirby Killer," continued from p. 11

Dr. Farrell's door was cracked open, but it was dark outside and only shadows could be seen inside the room as Jamie pecked in.

"You don't really have time to bury her. Maybe you can we can just pull off a far off place to take care of the problem. I mean, think about it, M—"

Before Jamie could hear the name of the person Dr. Farrell was talking to, thunder shook the entire building, and lightning flashed across the sky. A moment later, the power was out.

"Guys," said Jamie in her quietest whisper, "I think Dr. Farrell and whoever she is talking to are the killers. I heard her say 'you don't have time to bury her.' She had to be talking about Dr. Anthony. Then she said something about pulling a 'far off place', which has to be code for moving out of the country."

"Not exactly," said Koval "or, well it could, I mean, but in the novel *A Far Off Place*, the main character, Franc—well I don't remember his name, but, he blows up his old home so the African Rebels can't use it as a headquarters. So, they are probably going to blow up Kirby so no evidence can be found. Pretty logical."

"Well, then. If we stay outside this door until the lights come back on, we can stop her and her accomplice from blowing up the joint and getting away with murder," said Jamie.

So the group sat there, in the dark, waiting for the power to come back on. The dark plays tricks on the mind, though, and in a house as old and as historic as Kirby Hall, the tricks can be more mischievous. Shadows danced around them, creaking noises were heard on the steps, the wind howled through the doors and slammed open doors shut. All around our group of heroes and possible murderers, the sounds of a blood-filled night were closing in.

How long would they have to wait? What would Dr. Farrell have to say for herself, and who is her accomplice? Is she even the killer? Are there even more questions that can be asked to draw out the suspense?

Find out at the Kirby Hall Murder Mystery Party on May 8, where the final chapter will be released.

Summer plans

Many of our majors shared their summer plans with *IQ*:

Rachel Cannuli:

I may be working at Sylvan Learning Center, and I will be tutoring students.

Cassandra Colwell:

This summer I plan on saving up money before I move back to London in the Fall for Grad School.

Sara Crolick:

This summer I will be going to several music festivals that Josh's band is playing in. We're planning a trip to the beach, and we're going to spend as much time at our cabin as possible. Also, I'm sneaking in a rendezvous with the GRE at some point.

Caevaun DuBarry:

I will be in NY for the summer and may secure summer employment.

Buddy Gouger:

I plan to work my summer jobs of TJ Maxx and roofing while attempting to complete my summer reading list for myself, and possibly learn a little Russian.

Vicky Hevener:

I'll be going home to Philly and preparing for London.

Kendle Jemiola:

So far, and plans shouldn't change much, I'm just working and existing.

Amanda Kaster:

I will be working at a summer camp.

Erin Robinson:

This summer, I will be freelancing, working in the Writing Center, waiting tables, studying for and taking the GREs, training to be a direct-service volunteer for the Victims Resource Center, working on writing workshops for the Domestic Violence Service Center with Dr. Stanley, and, I hope, driving out west to visit graduate schools! Oh, and reading, of course.

Kristina Spaulding:

This summer I plan on hanging out with my cat Mikey, where we will lay together and watch reruns of Jersey Shore. Going to the beach, reading, of course. I will also be a bridesmaid in my cousin's wedding and am throwing my best friend a 4th of July engagement party since I am her maid of honor.

Tony Thomas:

I will be picking up more hours at Best Buy. I have a cruise to the Bahamas in June which is my first time ever leaving the country. In August my family will vacation in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina for the 17th straight year. I will be driving one of the car's during the rough 15 hour drive. We always leave late around 8 PM to avoid traffic. I will also be contemplating where to attend graduate school.

Annie Yoskoski:

I am going to Disney at the end of May and then the beach in July. I'll also work. I am helping out a family friend in his photography studio.

A Modernist Moment...

Although he is often included as a central figure within the group, E. M. Forster always characterized himself as residing on the fringes of the intellectuals known as the Bloomsbury Group—a coterie of writers including, among others, Virginia and Leonard Woolf, Vanessa and Clive Bell, and Lytton Strachey who believed firmly in the tenets of liberal humanism.