



Dartmouth College English Department



Spring 2008 Newsletter



From the Chair

This term we say good-bye to David Wykes, who will be retiring in June after 36 years at Dartmouth. Professor Wykes has taught a number of courses over the years, most recently “Reading and Writing the Short Story,” “The American Short Story in the 20th Century,” “The King James Version of the Bible,” “English Literature 1660-1714, including Drama,” “The Age of Satire,” “Order and Disorder in British Neoclassicism,” “Restoration Comedy,” and “Jonathan Swift.” Thank you, David, for all your contributions to the department.

As you begin to advise your sophomores for their summer term courses in the next few weeks, please keep in mind that the noted author Caryl Phillips will be here as a Montgomery Fellow.

Caz will be teaching a course called “Race and Class in Postwar British Fiction,” which will include the authors John Osborne, Samuel Selvon, E.R. Braithwaite, Shelagh Delaney, Hanif Kureishi, Salmon Rushdie, and Zadie Smith.



The course will also be screening films including *Look Back in Anger*, *To Sir with Love*, *Room at the Top*, *Flame in the Streets*, *Bhaji on the Beach* and *East is East*.

He will be giving a college lecture on July 15. See his website: www.carylphillips.com

A big congratulations to our reference librarian Laura Braunstein, who is expecting her second child in the fall!

Finally, please save the date: on Thursday, May 29, we’ll be having an end-of-year celebration at Jesse’s Restaurant. Partners welcome.

Gretchen Gerzina

Have you ever wondered where those prints that line the stairway came from (and just who are they)? What is the origin of the “Fish Dinner?” Why the Wren Room is called the Wren Room (falsely as it turns out)? Whose Coats of Arms adorn the Shakespeare Room?

All this and more is revealed in the brochure “Sanborn House - A History” available in the English Department from Deb Delmore.



A Page from the Library

by Laura Braunstein

New Library Home Page

The Library's new home page (<http://library.dartmouth.edu/>), which was released over Spring break features quick links right up front for searching the catalog, as well as for finding articles, videos/DVDs, and reserve materials. BorrowDirect and

DartDoc are also available directly from the home page. Two new areas highlight library resources by subject and teaching support. The new library catalog page has user-friendly tabbed views for each type of search, as well as features that allow users to limit searches to Web resources, audiovisual material, music scores, or other formats.

New English Subject Pages

As part of the Library's web redesign, the subject pages for individual departments and programs were also redesigned, including the new page for English and American literature (<http://libguides.dartmouth.edu/content.php?pid=5935>). The pages are dynamic and easily editable. Features include "quick links" to frequently used resources, frequently updated lists of new acquisitions and new publications by English department faculty members, and a live chat tool. The system can also support additional sub-pages for individual classes or programs.

Help Improve the Library

In April, all faculty will be given an opportunity to take the LibQUAL+ 2008 survey. When you receive the e-mail invitation, I encourage you to complete the survey. The information you provide will help the library better understand how we are serving you and plan for your needs in the future. We last conducted the survey in 2004 -- so this will be the first time we will be able to compare our results over time. Responses from 2004 helped improved access to library resources via Search360 & catalog enhancements, contributed to the library web redesign, and increased hours and study space at Baker-Berry. More information about the survey can be found at <http://www.dartmouth.edu/~library/home/committees/assessment/libqual/>



Faculty Accomplishments

Colleen Glenney Boggs gave a talk "Longfellow as Translator" as part of the National Endowment for the Arts' "Big Read" in Sudbury Mass. in March. She has also been selected to participate in this year's National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute. She will be examining "Forms of Being in Emily Dickinson's Poetry" at the National Humanities Center in North Carolina in July.

Michael Chaney was selected as the recipient of the Class of 1962 Faculty Fellowship and has been awarded a travel grant from the Institution of Southern Studies to continue his research on the poetry-pottery of Dave the Potter.

Woon-Ping Chin's book, *Hakka Soul: Memories, Migrations, and Meals* has just been published by the University of Hawaii Press.

Ernest Hebert was one of three judges for the Hemingway/PEN award given at their Annual Discovery Evening on March 3.

Gretchen Holbrook Gerzina's book *Mr. and Mrs. Prince* was published at the end of January, and she has been speaking in a number of places, including Historic Deerfield, bookstores, radio shows, (including a commentary on "All Things Considered"), the University of Vermont, and historical societies. Reviews have appeared in *The New York Times Book Review*, *The Boston Globe* and *The Christian Science Monitor*. She was the Frederick Douglass Visiting Fellow at the C.V. Starr Center for the American Experience in Maryland in March.

Mishuana Goeman was elected to the New England American Studies Association council in late 2007.

Thomas Luxon served on an external review team for the English Dept. at Carleton College in March.

Upcoming Events:



April 10: Thursday
4:00 PM
Wren Room Sanborn House
Poetry & Prose Lecture Series
Tom Powers reading
Reception to follow in Poetry Room

April 17: Thursday 7:00 PM
Howe Library, Hanover
Cynthia Huntington reading

April 24: Thursday 4:00 PM
Wren Room Sanborn House
In conjunction with Jewish Studies
Alicia Ostriker reading
Reception to follow in Poetry Room

April 25: Friday 6:00 PM
Rubin Museum, New York
“Language for New Century:
Contemporary Poetry from Asia”
Woon Ping Chin et al reading

April 29: Tuesday 4:15 PM
Haldeman Kreindler Room 041
“Bob Dylan’s 116th Dream: Reflections
on the Lyrics.” Lecture by Lou Renza

May 1: Thursday 4:00 PM
Wren Room Sanborn House
Poetry & Prose Series
A. Van Jordan reading
Reception to follow in Poetry Room

May 8: Thursday 4:00 PM
Sanborn Library, Sanborn House
Creative Writing Awards Ceremony
Victoria Redel speaker
Reception to follow in the Poetry Room

May 6: Tuesday 4:00 PM
Wren Room, Sanborn House
David Eng, Lecturer
Reception to follow in the Poetry Room

May 14: Wednesday 4:15 PM
Wren Room, Sanborn House
Daniel Gil, Lecturer
Reception to follow in the Poetry Room



Alumni News

Angel Chiang '06 has been accepted to
Harvard Law School.

Hannah Fries '04 has been accepted into Warren
Wilson’s MFA program in Poetry.

George Ramos '93 has been accepted into the
University of Michigan’s MFA
program in Poetry.

Amy Thomas Champion '97 is a doctoral
candidate in English at UC Berkeley, writing her
dissertation on scandal and self-representation in
the works and lives of Elizabeth Haywood, Lau-
rence Stern, Charlotte Smith and Lord Byron.

“I knew if I called Sanborn House, I would get
an answer.” Ed Zebroski '87 - on phoning from
Florida for information about which edition
of *Elements of Style* the faculty used. Ed was
lamenting the lack of writing facility among the
“younger” generation.



In 1596 Shakespeare was granted
a Coat of Arms, the one that is
carved over the fireplace in our
Shakespeare Room. He could then
call himself a gentleman.