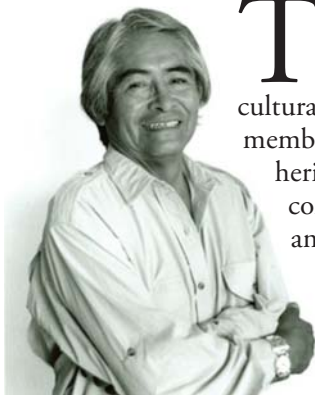


“Speaking for Life and Land”



Simon Ortiz

The English Department is pleased to welcome distinguished Native American writer, poet, and cultural activist Simon Ortiz as a faculty member this year. Ortiz, of Acoma Pueblo heritage, emerged as an early voice in contemporary Native American poetry and fiction in the 1960s. For the past 35 years, he has worked as a teacher, tribal leader, writer, and storyteller in several of the United States and in Canada, educating people of all ages on Indigenous literatures and cultures. As some of his most recent publications—*Out There*

Somewhere (2002), *From Sand Creek* (2000), and *Men on the Moon* (1999)—demonstrate, Ortiz addresses in both prose and poetry “issues of major concern regarding Native lands, communities, and cultures,” particularly as he says, “Indigenous liberation and decolonization.” Ortiz’s work has been praised for its simple yet beautiful lyricism, its embracing of ancient Indigenous oral traditions, and for its straightforward political insight. ASU students have the opportunity to study with Ortiz this fall in his two courses: “The American Novel: Indigenous Literary Assertion” and “Sovereignty: A Study of 20th Century Fiction and Modern Indigenous Reality, Literature, and ‘Indian Culture.’” Ortiz sees ASU as an opportune location for both undergraduate and graduate students who desire to study Native cultural traditions as the campus “sits in the midst of Indigenous social, cultural, and geographic homelands.”

Besides contributing his talents as a writer and teacher to the ASU community, Ortiz is also the coordinator of a new speaker series co-sponsored by the Department of English, the American Indian Studies Program, the Labriola National American Indian Data Center, the American Indian Policy Institute, the Department of History, and the Heard Museum (Phoenix). In accordance with ASU’s commitment to the beneficial growth of the cultural community in the Valley of the Sun, Ortiz initiated “The Simon Ortiz and Labriola Center Lecture on Indigenous Land, Culture, and Community,” to be given twice annually, beginning with a presentation by Dr. Ned Blackhawk on January 28, 2008, scheduled in the Monte Vista Room at the Heard Museum in Phoenix. Blackhawk, a Western Shoshone, is a historian and professor at the University of Wisconsin-

Madison. The second presentation by Wilma Mankiller, former Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation, is scheduled for October 2, 2008.

The lecture series will present not only talks on various aspects of Indigenous cultures, but performances by contemporary artists as well. “A unique feature of this series,” Ortiz comments, “is that it will offer a distinct and diverse orientation since presenters will be from Indigenous American cultural communities or will be presenting Indigenous topics and perspectives.” The series proposes to invite an impressive array of distinguished scholars, cultural historians, artists, writers, and tribal leaders, ranging from tribal elders Herman Agoyo and Peterson Zah to authors N. Scott Momaday, Leslie Marmon Silko, and Sherman Alexie. Ortiz hopes his courses at ASU and the lecture series will “enhance the study, appreciation, and continuation of all literatures of the world,” of which “Indigenous aesthetics, creativity, and intellectual endeavor” are crucial.

—Kathleen Hicks

ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY PRESENTS:

THE SIMON ORTIZ AND LABRIOLA
CENTER LECTURE ON INDIGENOUS
LAND, CULTURE, AND COMMUNITY

NED BLACKHAWK
“VIOLENCE OVER THE LAND:
LESSONS FROM THE EARLY AMERICAN WEST”

MONDAY, JANUARY 28, 2008
7:00 P.M. LECTURE | 8:00 P.M. RECEPTION & BOOKSIGNING
HEARD MUSEUM, MONTE VISTA ROOM (2301 N CENTRAL AVE)
WWW.HEARD.ORG | PHOENIX, ARIZONA

The Chair's Corner

The year 2007-2008 promises to be another exciting one in the Department of English! To new faculty, new students, and new staff, we are delighted to welcome all into the English department community. As we review highlights of the previous year—Shakespeare Birthday Bash; Beowulf Symposium; Sapphire Symposium; prestigious book prizes for Sharon Crowley and for Beth Tobin; Creative Writing colleagues featured in the “Celebrate the Season” of *Arizona Highways*; teaching award recognitions for Mark Lussier, Jim Blasingame, Paul Privateer, and Ryan Muckerheid; lifetime service awards for Alleen Nilsen; co-sponsorships of the Council of Writing Program Administrators Summer Workshop, The Second International Conference on Lao Studies, and the International Conference on Romanticism—we approach this new year with anticipation of The Simon Ortiz and Labriola Center Indigenous Lecture series to commence in January 2008. We appreciate the co-sponsors of this new interdisciplinary project. “Come Home to English 2007” was bigger than ever with a lecture by acclaimed Native author Sherman Alexie; the Art Gallery Opening with visual arts by department faculty, students, and staff; the Western States Rhetoric Conference hosted here; and an evening of live jazz with New Orleans’s own Kid Merv. This year’s Homecoming also signalled the unveiling of the Department’s new View Book, a succinct articulation of who we are, what we do, and how we do what we do for those interested to know that we are more than what many imagine us to be.

Even as faculty journey to Sichuan University in Chengdu, China as part of the Department’s new global engagement initiative, our students are also conversing with students at two Chinese universities and one Korean university. American and Chinese students are communicating electronically about environmental matters that affect us all globally and locally, and are sharing details of language and culture. Another phase of this global outreach is a proposed podcasting project, initiated by President Michael Crow, to position the English department as a new model for distance learning focused on access, impact, and excellence. Our plan is to present podcasts of our dynamic professors of literature, rhetoric and composition, linguistics, and English education to the world under the thematic umbrella of American Languages, Literatures, and Cultures.

We are grateful to Alabama attorney Scott Soutullo for establishing the new First-Generation Scholarship in African American Literature and Culture, and to Randel and Susan McCraw Helms for creating and funding the first Homecoming Writing Contest. Students, faculty, alumni, emeriti, staff, and department friends continue to add beauty to this ever-changing and rich desert landscape.

—Neal A. Lester



Neal A. Lester

Some Thoughts on Discourse

I have been trying to find a way to discuss Sharon Crowley’s contention that no one wants to debate civilly anymore. That’s one item she expounds upon in *Toward a Civil Discourse: Rhetoric and Fundamentalism* (University of Pittsburgh Press 2006), her newest book that recently received the Gary A. Olson Award from the Association of Advanced Composition and the David H. Russell Award from the National Council of Teachers of English.

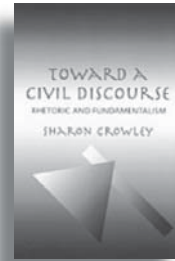
Sharon Crowley is a Professor of Rhetoric and Composition in the ASU Department of English, and her book has created a stir within academic and political communities. The volume “considers the ancient art of rhetoric as a solution to the problems of repetition and condemnation that pervade American public discourse.”

When we, as a community, are not able to discuss and debate openly, to have a civil discourse expecting possible solutions and resolutions as a result—how can we have a civil society? No way. Professor Crowley and I met by the fifth floor elevator. Happenstance, but perfect. I told her I was to write a brief item on her and her new book. She said she was honored that I’d write something. We did agree I’d send her a couple of brief questions.

A day or two later—after I’d walked and run up South Mountain trails arguing with myself—I sent her two questions: “How does America stand a chance of having a civil society if there is no way to debate the rights and wrongs of liberalism and Christian fundamentalism? And: “If American people are afraid to debate civilly, what are the chances for resolution?” Not long afterward, Sharon—she said it’s alright to call her Sharon—emailed me a reply that immediately made me smile: “Why don’t you ask some hard questions?”

After I’d walked and run up South Mountain trails arguing with myself—I sent her two questions: “How does America stand a chance of having a civil society if there is no way to debate the rights and wrongs of liberalism and Christian fundamentalism? And: “If American people are afraid to debate civilly, what are the chances for resolution?” Not long afterward, Sharon—she said it’s alright to call her Sharon—emailed me a reply that immediately made me smile: “Why don’t you ask some hard questions?”

—Simon J. Ortiz



Sharon Crowley’s answers to Ortiz’s questions emphasize the central point of her book: “There are pathways by which people with very different ideas can engage in civil discussion. There are openings. First, liberals and fundamentalist Christians must try to understand the principles and beliefs that guide each group.” Generosity, the ability to listen, and a kind spirit—keys to Crowley’s own personality—are qualities that infuse this important new scholarship with hope for change in the rhetorical hills and valleys of the American political landscape.



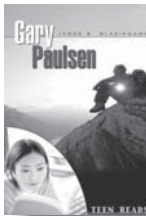
Sharon Crowley

Faculty Book Publications

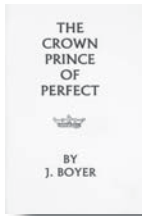


Writing is a way of expressing your spirit.

—N. Scott Momaday



James B. Blasingame
Gary Paulsen.
Greenwood, 2007.



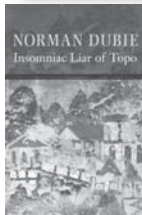
Jay Boyer
The Crown Prince of Perfect. OneAct Play
Depot, 2007.



Taylor Corse
and Allison P. Coudert,
trans. *The Alphabet of Nature* by F.M. van Helmont. Brill, 2007.



Bettie Anne Doebler
Breathing Between Dances. Almond Tree, 2007.



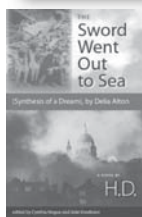
Norman Dubie
The Insomniac Liar of Topo. Copper Canyon, 2007.



Jessica Singer Early
Stirring Up Justice: Writing and Reading to Change the World. Heinemann, 2006.



David Hawkes
The Faust Myth: Religion and the Rise of Representation. Palgrave Macmillan, 2007.



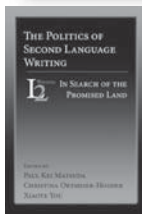
Cynthia Hogue
and Julie Vandivere, eds.
The Sword Went Out to Sea: (Synthesis of a Dream), by Delia Alton: *A Novel* by H.D. Univ. Press of Florida, 2007.



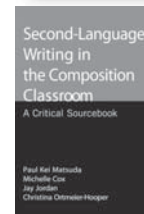
Elizabeth Horan
and Doris Meyer, eds.
Esta América Nuestra: Correspondencia 1926-1956, Gabriela Mistral / Victoria Ocampo. Editorial El Cuenco de Plata, 2007.



Neal A. Lester
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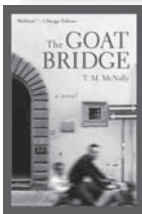
Paul Kei Matsuda,
Christina Ortmeier-Hooper, and Xiaoye You, eds. *The Politics of Second Language Writing: In Search of the Promised Land.* Parlor, 2006.



Paul Kei Matsuda,
Michelle Cox, Jay Jordan, and Christina Ortmeier-Hooper, eds. *Second-Language Writing in the Composition Classroom.* Bedford/St. Martin's, 2006.



T. M. McNally
The Gateway: Stories. Southern Methodist University Press, 2007.



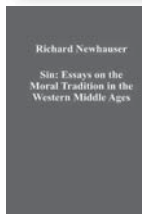
T. M. McNally
The Goat Bridge. Paperback. Univ. of Michigan Press, 2007.



Richard Newhauser
The Early History of Greed: The Sin of Avarice in Early Medieval Thought and Literature. Paperback. Cambridge Univ. Press, 2006.



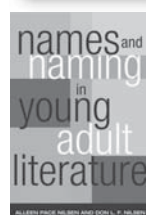
Richard Newhauser,
ed. *The Seven Deadly Sins: From Communities to Individuals.* Brill, 2007.



Richard Newhauser
Sin: Essays on the Moral Tradition in the Western Middle Ages. Ashgate, 2007.



Alleen Pace Nilsen
Joan Bauer. Greenwood, 2007.



Alleen Pace Nilsen
and **Don L. F. Nilsen**
Names and Naming in Young Adult Literature. Scarecrow, 2007.



Duane Roen
Views from the Center: The CCCO Chairs' Addresses, 1977-2005. Bedford/St. Martin's, 2006.



Ayanna Thompson
Performing Race and Torture on the Early Modern Stage. Routledge, 2007.

Global Engagements

Several ASU English faculty are spending their 2007-2008 sabbaticals exploring other parts of the world. While some of these intrepid researchers travel to exotic locales, the wonders of modern technology make it possible for others to complete their global research from the comfort of their own homes, or at least, the ASU Library.

9. Rosalynn Voaden

Completing monograph, *Household Saints: Saintliness and Domesticity in Late-Medieval Europe, 1200-1500*, which examines cultural forces shaping medieval women and men who elected to pursue a life of extreme spiritual rigor but who chose to remain in a domestic environment, rather than enter a monastery or convent.

2. Maureen Daly Goggin

Examining American conduct books ("how to behave" manuals) penned for women and men during the long nineteenth century (1789-1920), to look for discourses promoting and discouraging the gendering of invention and creativity.

7. Beth Tobin

Studying natural history collecting practices of Margaret Cavendish Bentinck, the second Duchess of Portland (1715-1785), whose shell collection was one of the finest in Europe. Received grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) for this project.

5. Melissa Pritchard

After two years spent writing the commissioned biography of Virginia G. Piper, *Devotedly, Virginia: The Life of Virginia Calvin Piper*, working on fourth collection of short stories, *The Odditorium*.

1. Taylor Corse

Studying cross-cultural connections between England and Italy in the late seventeenth century, examining John Dryden's adaptations of Boccaccio in "Sigismunda and Guiscardo" and "Theodore and Honoria," stories from the *Decameron*.

3. Mark Lussier

Completing monograph *Colonial Counterflows: From Orientalism to Buddhism* and doing further research on monograph, *Restoration Literary Economies of Desire*.

8. Laura Tohe

Working on libretto for the Phoenix Symphony, *Enemy Slayer: A Navajo Oratorio*, premiering 2008. Also, completing of manuscripts *Talking Woman* (poetry, narratives and stories), and *Border Towns: Margin as Place* (co-edited anthology of creative nonfiction).

6. Susan Scarberry-Garcia

Holding Visiting Professorship at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque, teaching two courses: *Navajo Narrative Traditions* (ENG 464/564) and *The Mythic Worlds of Momaday, Silko, and Tapahonso* (ENG 360).

4. Keith Miller

Using Bakhtinian theory and an interdisciplinary approach drawing on years of research on the rhetoric of Martin Luther King, Jr. and the civil rights movement, analyzing King's last oration as a Biblical hermeneutic in the nearly-completed book, *Martin Luther King's Biblical Epic: His Final and Greatest Speech*.

English Links, Past and Present



I continually find myself in the ruins / of new beginnings, / uncoiling the rope of my life / to descend ever deeper into unknown abysses... —Jimmy Santiago Baca

The Power of Song and Story: An Interview with Indigenous Scholar and Writer Henry Oso Quintero



Henry Oso Quintero meets the Dalai Lama

To gain insight into the texture of Indigenous literatures, we spoke with Henry Oso Quintero, (MFA Creative Writing 1995, and current doctoral student in English Literature) to learn about his work. Henry traces his bloodline to Apache, Yaqui, and Mexican ancestry, and his ethnic identity plays a central role in his creative and scholarly efforts.

As an Indigenous writer and scholar, are there particular aspects of Native American or Mexican life that you want to represent in your work?

HOQ: The greatest responsibility I feel is to represent myself. That is what many Indigenous elders who I hold in high esteem have told me, and I am continually trying to express myself as part of the whole. I especially love to encounter the instruction of native song and story. How a song makes us feel about our relationships with people, the water, and the air around is one of the most precious illustrative powers of literature.

What excites you about the current state of Indigenous literatures?

HOQ: The bounty that lies before us as a continent in this digital age is exciting. For instance, not only do we have texts

such as *Mountain Wolf Woman*, a turn-of-the-century autobiography of a Winnebago woman, we can locate the events that led to her family's introduction to the Lakota and peyote ceremony. From that, we can find contemporary Native Americans, like the great Native American activist Ruben Snake, a holder of a wealth of Winnebago oral literature and songs performed in *Mountain Wolf Woman's* time as well as just last weekend!

What does your current research project involve?

HOQ: I am researching the songs and stories of a man named Rufus Kills Crow Indian, who worked with native people released from federal prison during the 1960s and 1970s in the Pacific Northwest and British Columbia. I plan to visit the area to research this geographical/cultural connection and its longstanding musical and literary traditions. The English faculty agree that my dissertation can be constructed creatively, utilizing graspable avenues of poetics, ethnomusicology, anthropology, and American studies in order to best present the totality and profundity of Indigenous song and oral literature in a university setting. I owe a lot to the department, but especially to Mark Lussier, Norman Dubie, Beth Tobin, Cynthia Hogue, and Joe Lockard, not to mention our chair and his belief in presenting literature in new ways.

—Ginger Hanson and Sheila Luna

Henry's piece entitled "Excerpts from Eight Buffalo Hides: My Life on Parchment (Poetry and Songs of Borderlands and Action)" was published in the Spring/Summer 2006 issue of *Hayden's Ferry Review*, which includes a CD of Indigenous songs performed by Henry and his colleagues.

ASU English Emerita Reflects on Campus Connections

When I retired ten years ago, I wanted to travel the world and write poetry. I spent time in Europe and Oxford, England, writing poems and researching funeral sermons for women. After ten years, my strength for wandering waned, and now I am finding new connections with ASU.

I was delighted to hear that Karla Elling was pioneering an emeritus lecture series for the English Department. Since she had encouraged the poet-scholar side of me years ago, I was happy to share my new poems in two separate readings. Many emeriti have returned to the English Department (Nick Salerno, John Evans, Bert

Bender, Beatrice Gordon, Thelma Richard, Helen Nebeker, Alan Johnson, and Marvin Fisher) to share their achievements and retirement discoveries. Psychologist Barbara Levy, wife of department Americanist Leo Levy, also read from her novels published in her retirement.

The new Emeritus College at ASU was established to encourage more presence of the roots of current excellence and change and to garnish enrichment from those who have contributed so much to ASU. It is a wonderful way of partnering across disciplines. Helen Nebeker presented a special signing there and Alan Johnson read one of his superb pastoral poems.

The new Emeritus College is a meeting place for all the writers in the faculty who want to reflect upon their rich experiences. Writing and reading groups, Piper Center classes, poetry readings, and a new press are a few of the liveliest aspects of the College. Small grants are available from the College, and Gene Valentine has been able to fund a project he is working on with handmade paper.

With the myriad opportunities for emeriti, reconnecting with ASU is like coming home. —Bettie Anne Doebler



Bettie Anne Doebler

New Faculty & Staff



We are storytellers from a long way back. And we will be heard for generations to come. —James Welch

Jessica Singer Early—English Education

Jessica Early, Assistant Professor, began her English education and literacy research in Portland, Oregon, where she taught high school while working toward reform in the public school system. This involved “teaching teachers how to teach,” and she developed a new curriculum which is set forth in her book *Stirring Up Justice: Writing and Reading to Change the World* (Heinemann 2006). She wrote the book while simultaneously studying first-generation Latino students and the mentors in their lives for her dissertation at the University of California, Santa Barbara, which she also hopes to develop

into a book. She continues researching secondary language education at several Valley schools. Beyond balancing her time between teaching, writing, and researching, Early enjoys a few recreational activities, including practicing *Ashtanga*, or “eight-limbed” yoga and exploring Arizona hiking spots. Although she enjoys swimming here, she is a surfer, so the absence of an ocean may be an even bigger adjustment than the heat. Next semester, she will teach a doctoral seminar on “Current Research in Secondary English Education.”

—Dawn Durante



David Hawkes—Literature



Despite concerns that new faculty might spontaneously combust or melt upon their arrival to ASU, David Hawkes assured me of his enjoyment of moving to Arizona and assuming his position as Associate Professor of English. Hawkes recently relocated from Easton, Pennsylvania, where he taught at Lehigh University (Bethlehem, PA). He originally hails from Cardiff, Wales—a beautiful city, I might add—and received his BA from Oxford and PhD from Columbia University. Hawkes is teaching courses in Milton and Shakespeare this fall and

will teach a course on witchcraft, magic, and sorcery in the spring. His research interests include Renaissance English literature, the seventeenth century, and John Milton. He also examines the “Faust Myth” which bridges concepts of Satan, witchcraft, evil, and economics. His latest book, *The Faust Myth: Religion and the Rise and Representation* (Palgrave Macmillan 2007), addresses these latter research interests. Hawkes iterates how happy he is to be here. He (truly) loves the weather and the wonderful people of ASU.

—Alicia Wise

Paul Kei Matsuda—Linguistics / Rhetoric & Composition

Paul Matsuda, Associate Professor, comes to ASU from the University of New Hampshire, where he was the Director of Composition. With second language writing as his area of expertise, one of Matsuda’s main goals over the past ten years has been to establish a “disciplinary identity for the field of second language writing through historical and philosophical inquiry.” He is also interested in writer identity in written discourse, and has been exploring the role of identity in academic writing. Some of Matsuda’s hobbies include cooking, web design, and home improvement, areas where creativity and aesthetics can be combined with productivity. Matsuda

admits that his challenges this coming academic year include getting to know his colleagues and students in the Department of English, as well as familiarizing himself with the institutional culture of ASU. He will also be working toward bringing the Symposium on Second Language Writing to ASU, possibly in 2009. What drew Matsuda to ASU? “The structure of programs is ideal for the kind of interdisciplinary work that I do, which integrates insights from and contributes to various areas of English studies. I’ve also been impressed by the work of many of the ASU colleagues and graduate students I came to know at conferences and through publications.”

—Jessica Guyette



John McGann—Scheduling



John McGann is a new staff member in the Department of English main office. He’s a Phoenix native and can recall when the Valley only had one freeway. John was previously an Office Specialist, Sr. for the NAU Distance Learning Department in Phoenix. Before that, he received a BS in photography from the NAU School of Communication, with a minor in business in 2003. During that time, he was a photographer for NAU

in Flagstaff, and also did a few other freelance photography assignments in the area. John has no regrets about moving back to Phoenix because he really likes the diverse atmosphere on the ASU campus—and the winters in Flagstaff are just plain cold. In his spare time, he enjoys hiking, meteorology, swimming, cultural events, and Scrabble. He also enjoys playing with his new puppy, Bandit.

—Steven Accardi

Richard Newhauser—Literature



Before taking a position as Professor at ASU, Richard Newhauser was a Professor in the Department of English at Trinity University. Prior to that, he taught at the Universität Tübingen in Germany. Newhauser is credited with such publications as *Sin: Essays on the Moral Tradition in the Western Middle Ages* (Ashgate 2007), *The Early History of Greed: The Sin of Avarice in Early Medieval Thought and Literature* (Cambridge University Press 2006), and the edition *In the Garden of Evil: The Vices and Culture in the Middle Ages* (Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies 2005). After receiving his Master's degree in English and Creative Writing from the University of Chicago, he earned his

PhD from the University of Pennsylvania, where he focused on Old and Middle English philology, Chaucer, and Middle English allegory and romance. He's excited to be working with good colleagues in the medieval field and with graduate students as they embark on their professional careers. He looks forward to working with The Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, a transdisciplinary unit, especially since he is working to create his own transdisciplinary course that incorporates art history, music history, English, and other literary disciplines, focusing on medieval and Renaissance topics.

—Katherine Celius

Carole Redden—Advising

Look out first-year students and fellow English patrons on the fifth floor—you are about to be converted! Carole Redden, a new Academic Specialist in Undergraduate Advising radiates positivity that can't be resisted. An ASU alumna herself, Redden knows the ins and outs of resources this campus has to offer. Currently, Redden teaches an English course geared toward understanding empowerment and social change, college success courses for incoming

students, and this fall, workshops on grade-level appropriate information and pertinent skills and tools needed to succeed in future semesters and upon graduation. "How can I expect success when I haven't given them the tools to succeed?" was her quip to me that resonated long after we spoke. Since I am proud to say I am a new member of Team ASU headed for P. F. Chang's Rock-n-Roll Marathon, let's just say her energy is contagious!

—Kiva James



Christa Theilen—Advising



With over 800 English majors, the Department of English is pleased to add another Undergraduate Advisor and thrilled that Christa Theilen accepted the post. Originally from Brainerd, Minnesota, Christa moved to Flagstaff in 2001 and worked at Northern Arizona University's Gateway Student Success Center, where she was an advisor to first-year and transfer students and those undecided on a major. She received her BA in Spanish from the University of Minnesota and has studied in Mexico and

Spain. After receiving her K-12 certification for ESL, she taught English as a Second Language for five years in the Minnesota public school system before moving to Arizona. She loves working with students and is looking forward to advising our English majors and helping devise strategies to deal with retention issues. Christa is enjoying the desert and in her spare time can be found hiking Camelback Mountain or Piestewa Peak, or biking the many trails around the Valley.

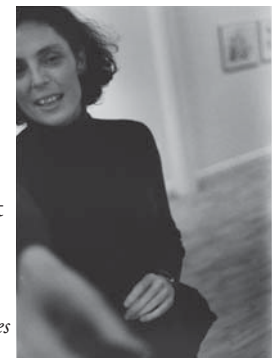
—Sheila Luna

Carol Vernallis—Film & Media Studies

Carol Vernallis is a new Associate Professor in the Film and Media Studies Program. For her, ASU is the perfect choice of universities because of the Center for Film, Media, and Popular Culture's exciting new inter-tech program, and the proximity to the film industry's mecca, Los Angeles. She frequently makes the trip to conduct research and interviews for her upcoming book *The New Cut-Up Cinema: Music, Speed and Memory*, which focuses on soundtracks of contemporary prismatic and intensified films.

Although her formal background is in music, Vernallis came to film when assisting a fellow friend and student in the production of his films. Vernallis's research on the relations between images and texts, her numerous publications, and her music videos have reached international markets, making her a leader in the field. Her current courses are "American Film Directors" and "Music Video and Its Siblings," where students use Blackboard to discuss film clips.

—Kiva James



Well(s) Said: A Column

“my father lived on stories / over the rough rims on
mason jars / danced with the wounded shaman /
low over the stumps on the fourth of july

—Gerald Vizenor

Prewriting Arizona:

A Selection of Ancestral Puebloan and Other Ancient Native American Petroglyph Sites

Listed by distance from Arizona State University in Tempe

- 0 MILES** “A” Mountain (also called Hayden Butte Preserve and Tempe Butte) – 222 E. 5th St., Tempe, AZ, between Mill Ave. and Sun Devil Stadium – The majority of the 500 petroglyphs on this site were inscribed by the Hohokam, who inhabited the area between 1 and 1450 C.E. The petroglyphs can be seen along the trail on the mountain’s south side. No fee. No wheelchair access, though binoculars provide a glimpse of the petroglyphs from 5th Ave.
- 13 MILES** South Mountain Park – 10919 S. Central Ave., Phoenix, AZ – Hundreds of Hohokam petroglyphs can be seen from the trails throughout this 16,000-acre preserve. Includes “graffiti” by Juan Bautista de Anza (whose explorations later led to the founding of San Francisco). No fee. No wheelchair access.
- 29 MILES** Deer Valley Rock Art Center – 3711 W. Deer Valley Rd., Phoenix, AZ (near Glendale) – Managed by the ASU Dept. of Anthropology in consultation with the Hopi, Yavapai, and Gila River tribes, this 47-acre site, part of an ancient trade route along the eastern slope of the Hedgpeeth Hills, contains more than 1,500 petroglyphs from 500 to 5,000 years old. Fee. Interpretive Center. Wheelchair access.
- 42 MILES** White Tank Mountain Regional Park – 13025 N. White Tank Mountain Rd, Waddell, AZ – Both the Black Rock Loop Trail and the Waterfall Trail of this nearly 30,000-acre park, once home to the Hohokam, provide wheelchair access to hundreds of petroglyphs, some approaching 10,000 years in age. Fee. Horseback riding also available.
- 100 MILES** Painted Rock Petroglyph Site – off I-8 west of Gila Bend, AZ – Hundreds of petroglyphs with add-ons by historical visitors such as Juan Bautista de Anza, the Mormon Battalion, and the Butterfield Overland Mail. Fee.
- 113 MILES** V-Bar-V (or V-V) – off I-17 on State Route 179, next to Beaver Creek Campground, 12 miles southeast of Sedona, AZ – This is the largest petroglyph site in the Verde Valley. The large clusters of petroglyphs rival those at Newspaper Rock, Utah; are beautifully preserved; and indicate vernal and autumnal equinoxes and summer and winter solstices. Red Rock parking pass required. No wheelchair access. V-V is my favorite U.S. petroglyph site, “bar” none. Open Fri., Sat., Sun., Mon. (One exit further south on I-17 sits Montezuma Castle, reminiscent of the cliff dwellings at Mesa Verde National Monument in Colorado. Fee. Wheelchair access.)
- 129 MILES** Signal Hill Picnic Area – Saguaro National Park, Tucson, AZ – Petroglyph covered boulders appear on the trail ¼ mile from the picnic area. Fee. No wheelchair access.
- 130 MILES** Palatki and Honanki Ruins and Petroglyph Rock Art – just west of Sedona, AZ – Palatki, a Hopi word meaning “red house,” and Honanki, meaning “bear house,” were inhabited between 1150 and 1300 C.E. by Ancient Puebloans (called by the Spanish *Sinagua*—“without water”). The thousand or so petroglyphs carved and painted nearby are apparently unrelated, dating back 6,000 years. Fee. Reservations required. No wheelchair access.
- 143 MILES** Sears Point – 75 miles east of Yuma off I-8, Dateland, AZ – This former travel route used by Spanish explorers, California-bound settlers, and the Butterfield Overland Mail has at least two miles of petroglyphs, estimated in the thousands, though the best panels can be seen from the parking lot. No fee.
- 177 MILES** Petrified Forest National Park, AZ – The relatively few petroglyphs are visible mainly through a viewing scope, but the displays of animal and plant fossils and the immense petrified logs, belonging to one of the world’s largest concentrations of petrified wood, are amazing. Fee. Wheelchair access.
- 190 MILES** Crack-in-Rock Hike – Wupatki National Monument, north of Flagstaff, AZ – The petroglyphs at Wupatki National Monument can be viewed only along a strenuous, 16-mile, overnight, ranger-guided hike, but include figures that look like fire-breathing dragons. The trip is offered weekends in April and October through a lottery system. The ruins, however, are open year round and are among the largest and best preserved in the United States, calling to mind the ruins at Chaco Canyon, New Mexico. The Wupatki ruin, from the Hopi meaning “tall house,” is multistory, with over 100 rooms, plus a nearby amphitheater and a ball court. Entrance fee includes additional ruins and nearby Sunset Crater Volcano National Monument. Partial wheelchair access both to the ruins and volcano.
- 240 MILES** Homolovi Ruins State Park – Winslow, AZ – In Hopi, Homolovi means “place of the little hills.” The two ruins in this 5-acre park are partially wheelchair accessible, but the petroglyphs are not. Fee sometimes.
- 300 MILES** Canyon de Chelly National Monument – Chinle, AZ – Both the cliff dwellings and the petroglyphs are spectacular, but can only be accessed via four-wheel drive. Admission to the park is free, but since the park is on Navajo land, visitors must arrange in advance to be accompanied by a paid Navajo guide, definitely worth the cost.

—Cornelia Wells

In Memoriam: Mark Harris~1922-2007

Our colleague Mark Harris, aged 84, died May 30 at Cottage Hospital in Santa Barbara, California. Harris taught in our Creative Writing Program from 1983 through his retirement in 2001, following which he moved to California with his wife Jo in order to be close to their grown children and grandchildren. Harris's most famous novel, *Bang The Drum Slowly*, was published in 1956 and is narrated by Henry "Author" Wiggen, the New York Mammoths' ace left hander. It chronicles a winning season of this fictional professional baseball team as well as Henry's relationship with his terminally ill friend Bruce Pearson, the Mammoths' third-string catcher. Even those who have never read the book are likely to know Harris's screen adaptation. Directed by John D. Hancock, this 1973 film



Mark Harris in 1984

starred Michael Moriarty as Henry and Robert De Niro

as Bruce. It's the role generally credited with launching De Niro's long and distinguished career.

Bang The Drum Slowly was one of four baseball novels Harris wrote—the others were *The Southpaw* (1953), *A Ticket To Seamstitch* (1957), and *Looked Like Forever* (1979)—and late in his career his nonfiction writing about the sport was collected in *Diamond* (1994). These are the books by which many readers know him, but Harris's talents and interests were at once wider and deeper. In a publishing and writing career that spanned nearly a half-century, Harris published some dozen books of fiction, a half-dozen books of nonfiction (reportage, memoir, biography), screen adaptation, edited volumes, a produced play, television work, and more. He was a well-established writer with an impressive list of credits—not to mention a seasoned teacher—by the time he arrived at ASU. This was a critical moment in the development of the Creative Writing Program, just as it was establishing its Master of Fine Arts degree. His impact on that program will not soon be forgotten, nor will he.

—Jay Boyer

Word Lover's Corner:

The Indigenous Names of America

Ursula K. Le Guin, in her 1983 essay "Along the Platte," writes about the round trip she took with her husband driving a VW van from their home in Oregon to visit relatives in Georgia. Crossing the North Fork of the Little Nemaha on their way home, she writes, "The rivers of America have beautiful names. What was the language this river was named in? Nemaha—Omaha—Nebraska . . . Eastern Siouan, I guess. But it's a guess."

Later when they are "humming along beside the Platte," a river they will cross and re-cross eleven times in Nebraska and once more in Wyoming, she writes, "There's a language I know. Platte means Flat. It's pretty flat along the Platte, all right. . . ." The language Le Guin refers to is French, but actually the name of the Platte River was also influenced by its Choctaw name of *ni*, meaning "river," and *bthaska*, meaning "spreading flat." French explorers learned enough Choctaw to understand and translate the Indian name into their own language, *Rivière Plate*, then English speakers came along and transposed it to Platte River. The original Choctaw name, slightly altered for the convenience of English speakers, provided the state of Nebraska with its name.

According to Albert H. Marckwardt in his 1958 *American English*, the maps of our country "from Walla Walla to Waxahachie" and "from Kissimmee to Kalamazoo" are jotted with Native American names. Twenty-seven of the 50 states have names that can be traced in some way to an Indian origin. Most have been simplified or adapted for the convenience of English speakers, while one (Idaho) is thought to have been faked for commercial reasons. In Arizona, most of the counties are named after Indian tribes: Apache, Cochise, Coconino, Gila, Maricopa, Mohave, Navajo, Pima, Pinal, Santa Cruz, Yavapai, and Yuma.

Indians had little to do with the adoption of these names, but in the last several years, Native Americans have taken an

The land is sacred. These words are at the core of your being. The land is our mother, the rivers our blood.

—Mary Brave Bird

active role in determining how Indigenous words will be used. Examples include the 2003 renaming of Arizona's Squaw Peak to Piestewa Peak, the February, 2007 "retiring" of Chief Illiniwek as the athletic mascot at the University of Illinois, and the 1992 redesignating Custer National Battlefield as Little Bighorn National Battlefield.

An especially interesting example of Native Americans' recent proactive approach occurred in 1993 when the Federal Center for

Disease Control located in Atlanta, Georgia, announced that it was naming a newly discovered disease Four Corners

Hantavirus "in honor"

of the area on the Navajo Reservation where it was discovered. Arizona Navajos protested, and the Center then announced the name as Muerto Canyon Hantavirus, but again the name was found offensive because the nearby Muerto (Spanish for "the dead") Canyon had been the site of a Navajo massacre. In June of 1994, the Center said it would use the name Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome for the disease, which by then had killed 42 people in 18 states. The now official name comes from the Hantaan River in South Korea, where the first strain was discovered when it infected 3,000 American soldiers during the Korean War.

—Alleen and Don Nilsen



Arizona's recently renamed Piestewa Peak, flying the Stars and Stripes

Progress Reports

All cultures (lived and literary) are largely inherited without our knowledge and through the miracle of the imagination and life are constantly in a process of transformation.
—David Treuer

Student Stories

Many of our graduate students are busy presenting papers, publishing, and earning awards. In September, Valerie Fazel spoke at the Reception Study Society's Biennial Conference in Kansas City on "Shakespeare Films, Vblogs, and Active Audience Participation," and in October, Fify Juliana presented "Students Writing in the Academy: It's All a Second-Language Phenomenon," at the Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association Convention in Calgary, Alberta. With Elizabeth McNeil and Larry Ellis, Michael Jung presented the panel "Indigenous Dance Movements: Prophecy, Resistance, and

Cultural Assertion through the Ghost Dance and the Dance of the Lakes" at the American Folklore Society/Folklore Studies Association of Canada Joint Annual Meeting in Quebec. In November, at the LSNZ Conference in New Zealand, Peter Wegner presented his paper "Change in Rhetorical Appeals of the State of the Union Addresses (1790-2006)," and received a 2007-08 Graduate Student Grant from the ASU Graduate College. Stephanie Maroney will present in January 2008 at the Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities her work, "Curry Powder: Eating Indian(s)." Ryan Skinnell recently co-authored a chapter

with Dr. Irene Clark entitled "Accessing the Performative through Genre: Genre Theory and Literary Texts" for Clark's upcoming book, *Genres of Academic Writing: Theoretical Insights, Pedagogical Opportunities*. Finally, Jen Santos published a paper in *Particip@tions* called "Data on Data: An Ethnographic Study of Viewer Response to *Star Trek: The Next Generation*" and received the Graduate College Dissertation Fellowship.

—Steven Accardi

After a brief hiatus, the undergraduate English Club (EC) is back in action and ready to make waves in the department. Many exciting EC activities are in the works this semester, including a social event with the Graduate Scholars of English Association, a holiday book drive, and a festive end-of-the-year party featuring a winter storytelling contest. The spring semester holds even more opportunities to get involved with the EC. We are participating in the 2nd Annual Beowulf Symposium and in the English Department celebration of William Shakespeare's 444th birthday. Plus, club members are currently crafting scholarly and creative works to submit to the

23rd Annual Undergraduate Literature Conference at Weber State University in Utah. If our works are selected for the conference, we will be taking a travel expenses-paid group trip to the Beehive State in April 2008. Finally, our book club-within-a-club, headed up by Jessica Parks and Beverly Tryk, has embarked on another year of literary adventures, starting with the November selection *Love in the Time of Cholera*, by Gabriel García Márquez. December has been deemed "Mile-Long Novel Month" (Stephen King's *The Stand* and Leslie Marmon Silko's *Almanac of the Dead* are current candidates for that read). Join the English Club by signing up on our



English Club members pose in costume with friends and alumni at a Come Home to English 2007 event. From left: EJ Johnson, Ginger Hanson, Jessica Parks, Ajia Wallace, and Beverly Tryk.

Blackboard site or by contacting Ginger. Hanson@asu.edu. View meeting information and other details on Blackboard or on the web at www.asu.edu/english/ause.

—Ginger Hanson

Program News Briefs

Creative Writing

- Garnered prestigious Silver Quill Award for an article on its Mayo Clinic Poetry project featured in the Summer 2007 *ASU Research Magazine*.
- In 2007, alumnus Sean Nevin (2002) received a National Endowment for the Arts Literature Fellowship in Poetry, an Arizona Commission on the Arts Project Grant, and an Eastern Frontier Education Foundation Fellowship.

English Education

- The Arizona English Teacher Association awarded Lynn Nelson its Lifetime Service Award in October 2007.
- The Mesa Writing Project, co-organized by Jim Blasingame, offered K-12 teachers a chance to learn techniques from professional writers and to develop strategies for teaching writing.

Linguistics/TESOL

- Dawn Bates is chairing ASU's Interdisciplinary Committee on Linguistics. English will become the new home of the Graduate Certificate in Linguistics.
- In Spring 2008, Mark James will teach a TESOL course at Sichuan University in China, and Roy Major will host a Visiting Scholar from there.

Writing Programs

- Offered a record-setting 500+ writing classes.
- Helped coordinate summer 2007 workshops, institutes, and the conference of the National Council of Writing Program Administrators.
- Trained 37 new Teaching Assistants, the largest class to date.

Rhetoric & Composition

- Maureen Daly Goggin and Beth Fowkes Tobin are collaborating on a three-book series edited collection *Women and Things: Gendered Material Practices 1750-1950; Women and Material Culture of Textiles; and Material Women: Consuming Desire and Collecting Objects, 1750-1950*.
- Peter Goggin organized the 2007 Western States Rhetoric and Literacy Conference on Sustainability, October 25-27, 2007, at ASU.

Literature

- Shakespeare's Birthday Bash (April), pioneered by Bradley Ryner, and a reading of *Beowulf*, organized by Heather Maring (March), were huge successes.
- The Arizona Book Association awarded 2007 awards to books by Laura Tohe (*Tseyi, Deep in the Rock*) and Simon Ortiz (*Beyond the Reach of Time and Change: Native American Reflections on the Frank A. Rinehart Photograph Collection*).

Giving Back



[T]here's much more...than the question of material success. You are out to save your soul after all, and be the best thing that you can be in your whole being. —N. Scott Momaday

The Scott Soutullo First Generation African American Literature Scholarship



Scott Soutullo

The Department of English is offering a new African American literature and cultural studies scholarship for undergraduate, degree-seeking students at the Tempe campus, thanks to the generous pledge of Alabama attorney Scott Soutullo. Although Soutullo has never attended Arizona State University and didn't know anything about the university until about a year ago, his reasons for choosing to award the scholarship are very

much connected to the university, in particular to Professor Neal Lester.

A graduate of the University of Alabama, Soutullo credits his own deeper understanding of African American experience to two courses in African American studies he took in 1993 as a student of Lester's. Lester's "spirit and his lessons" stayed with Soutullo through the years, and when he learned that Lester had moved from Alabama to the ASU English

department, Soutullo contacted him, some sixteen years after graduating.

Soutullo was moved to tell Lester of an incident in his professional life as an attorney that "touched...powerfully on the issue of race relations," an incident about which he knew his former professor would be interested in learning. It was Lester, Soutullo says, who then asked him to consider establishing a scholarship for first-generation students at the university. "Well," says Soutullo, "inspiration took over, and I agreed that this scholarship would be a great thing to do."

Soutullo sees the scholarship as a "perfect means" of emphasizing an area of literature he feels is under-promoted: "Everybody knows about Shakespeare, but they also need to know about Hurston and Hughes," he says. What long-term impact does he anticipate for scholarship recipients? Soutullo believes their study should enrich "the way they interact with and experience their world" as well as "promote empathy among people of diverse ethnic backgrounds."

The scholarship award for Spring 2008 is set at \$2500. First and second place awards of \$1500 and \$1000, respectively, may also be available.

—Rossana Lhota

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accents on ENGLISH

NEWSLETTER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH AT ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

Coming Events . . .

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| “Mysticism and Sailing Lake Pleasant”
James Ney, Professor Emeritus
LL 316, 3:15 p.m. | November 28, 2007 |
| The Simon Ortiz and Labriola Center Lecture on Indigenous Land, Culture, and Community
Featured Speaker: Ned Blackhawk
A Conversation and Booksigning
Labriola Center, Hayden Library 209, 10:30 a.m.
“Violence over the Land: Lessons from the Early American West”
Heard Museum (2301 N Central Ave) Phoenix, 7:00 p.m. | January 28, 2008 |
| Shakespeare’s Birthday Bash
William Shakespeare turns 444
ASU Tempe campus, more information TBA | April 23, 2008 |
| Young Adult Writing Project (YAWP)
G. Lynn Nelson, Director
LL Building, M-F, 8:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m. | June 9-27, 2008 |



[R]eally there is no one right way to read the literature of a community. Any way is as legitimate as another. But if you try to see it as a local, grassroot-level dialogue between the text and the community in which it’s set, you get so much more out of it.

—Craig S. Womack