

PROFILES OF THIS YEAR'S NEW TENURE-TRACK FACULTY

Casey Keck completed her Ph.D. in the Applied Linguistics program at Northern Arizona University (NAU), where she also earned an M.A. in TESL. Her interests include academic writing, second language acquisition, and the application of corpus linguistics to language teaching. Casey has taught ESL to adult immigrants in Atlanta, intensive English courses for international students at NAU, and linguistics and grammar courses within NAU's MA-TESL program. In her spare time, Casey enjoys trail running, cooking, and playing with her two children, Elijah and Leah. This spring, Casey is teaching two graduate TESOL seminars (ENG 730 and 732), and the graduate writing class (ENG 670) for TESOL students.

Priya Abeywickrama obtained an M.A. in Applied Linguistics and TESL from Iowa State University, and returned to Sri Lanka to teach language assessment and teaching methods courses for teacher training programs. She then completed her Ph.D. in Applied Linguistics at the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA). Her thesis, "Measuring the knowledge of textual cohesion and coherence: A multitrait multimethod approach," combined her interests in language assessment and issues in second language literacy. Priya often presents her research at TESOL AAAL conferences and at the annual Language Assessment Research Colloquium (LTRC). In her spare time she likes to be outdoors, hiking and camping, and when she has the opportunity she loves to travel. Priya is currently leading a graduate TESOL seminar (ENG 731) and supervising student teachers (ENG 733); she is also teaching an undergraduate composition class (ENG 310) in CMS.

Jennifer Trainor received her M.A. in English Literature, with an emphasis in composition, in this department, and taught briefly in our Composition Program in the mid-1990s. She received her Ph.D. in Language, Literacy and Culture from U.C. Berkeley; before joining our faculty, she was an Assistant Professor at Santa Clara University for two years. Jennifer is a member of the National Writing Project, and currently serves on the Executive Committee for NCTE's Assembly on Research. She is teaching the thesis class for the M.A. Composition students this year; this spring, she is also teaching ENG 717, Projects in the Teaching Literature.

Gitanjali Shahani comes to SFSU with a Ph.D. from Emory University in Atlanta, and a B.A. and M.A. from the University of Bombay. Her dissertation examined the staging of global commerce in early modern English theater, with a focus on four items integral to England's imperial expansion—spices, textiles, gifts, and gold. With an interest in both Early Modern literature and post-colonial studies, Gitanjali will teach a wide range of interesting courses such as "Sex and the City in Early Modern Drama," a look at male and female erotic desire in a series of city comedies. This spring, Gitanjali is teaching an undergraduate course in Shakespeare (Representative Plays), as well as a graduate seminar in Shakespeare.

Jennifer Mylander completed her Ph.D. at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with what her advisor calls an "extraordinary dissertation," based on extensive archival work. In it she examines the transatlantic trading of books (and ideas) between England and colonial America in the 17th century. While at UIUC, Jen was nominated multiple times for an outstanding teacher award, and she won in 2002. She will teach courses in the Early Modern period including the writers Shakespeare, Milton, and Ben Jonson as well as courses on colonial exploration. Jen is teaching a course this spring on Renaissance-New World Encounters, as well as a graduate seminar in 16th-century literature ("Transatlantic Encounters").

Emily Merriman has joined us from Boston University where she earned a Ph.D. in Religion and Literature. Emily's areas of expertise include twentieth-century poetry in English, the Bible as Literature, and Caribbean literature. She is an experienced teacher, having taught at multiple universities and colleges in the Boston area (BU, MIT, Babson), and in London where she worked with a diverse student population for three years. Among the favorite writers of this published poet are Gerard M. Hopkins, Geoffrey Hill, Adrienne Rich, and Derek Walcott. Emily is currently teaching courses on 20th-century poetry and on London in literature; she's also leading a graduate seminar on Gerard Manley Hopkins.

AND ...A PREVIEW OF NEXT YEAR'S NEW FACULTY

The Composition Program will welcome two new professors in the fall: **Kory Lawson Ching** and **Tara Lockhart**. Kory earned a Master's degree in English in 1997 from the University of California, Irvine, where he studied medieval literature until finding that he was much more interested in composition pedagogy and writing research. Since entering the Writing Studies program at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2002, Kory has used sociocultural frameworks and qualitative methods to research a neglected pedagogical technique called "instructor-led peer conferences." His dissertation, based on this research, aims to reconfigure current understandings of response to student writing.

Tara is completing her dissertation, "Revising the Essay: Intellectual Arenas and Hybrid Forms," at the University of Pittsburgh, where she also earned an M.A. in English Literature. A selection of her dissertation, in which she explores Gloria Anzaldúa's hybrid prose construction and feminist epistemology, was published in the most recent issue of *Michigan Feminist Studies*. Lockhart has been awarded a Lillian B. Lawler Pre-Doctoral Fellowship and a Provost Humanities Fellowship for her research and has received the Department's Distinguished Teaching Award. She has been teaching introductory and intermediate writing courses, writing-intensive courses in literature, professional writing, and classes in film.

Also, **Larry Hanley** will join the Literature Program. He received his Ph.D. in English from University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1993 and has been teaching at The City College of New York since 1992. He has published numerous articles on twentieth-century American working-class literature, pedagogy, and the contemporary politics of higher education in the United States. His current book project, "Symbolic War: The Cultural Politics of Proletarian Literature," focuses on the place of radical writing within the context of elite and popular cultures of the American 1930s.

PROGRAM NEWS

Bruce Avery assumed the duties of Literature Program Coordinator this year, and he reports that the program's faculty have been busy creating new courses, including Caribbean Poetry, Shakespeare in Bollywood, Teaching Shakespeare, a new Chaucer course, a seminar in G. M. Hopkins, and many more to come. Bruce expressed appreciation for the inventive and active role taken by the junior faculty in rejuvenating the curriculum. He also tells us that the Early Modern literature faculty have been meeting and are making plans to revamp our Shakespeare and Early Modern Drama classes, and will have a tentative proposal by the end of the semester.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The English Department invites you to a colloquium on Friday, March 14, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., in HUM 587. Presentations will include scholarly papers and readings of creative works, as well as at least one performance piece. We certainly hope you will attend!

The department is presenting a performance of "Sonny's Blues" by Word for Word, the acclaimed theatrical company that performs short literary works in their entirety. Students of English 214 are the intended audience for this performance since many of the 214 faculty teach this short work by James Baldwin. As of this writing, however, a few tickets are still available, and can be purchased at the box office in CA129-D. Tickets are \$10, and the box office is open noon-4 pm.

The English Department and the Jane Austen Society of North America will sponsor a staged reading of a new adaptation of Jane Austen's *Lady Susan* by a local playwright. The event will take place in Humanities 587 (the Humanities Symposium Room) on Saturday, 26 April. More information will follow.

FACULTY NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

During the fall semester, **Tom Scovel** gave lectures on various topics in applied linguistics at several universities, including Eastern Mennonite University in Virginia, the University of Maryland, Cornerstone University in Michigan, and his alma mater, the University of Michigan. In mid-October, he gave talks at the University of Leuven (Belgium) and the University of Groningen (the Netherlands), and attended a conference that presented new evidence for the Sapir-Whorf hypothesis at the Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics (also in the Netherlands). In February, he completed editing a series of three articles that report on neuroimaging research on native speakers of Japanese and that he is co-authoring with former SFSU Visiting Scholars from Japan.

Nelson Graff presented a paper titled “Preparing Teachers: Conversations about the Realities of Secondary Teaching” at the International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (ISSOTL) last July in Sydney, Australia. He also presented a poster titled “How do new teachers assess their preparation for teaching diverse students?” at the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) conference in NYC in November. And, most of us know that Nelson wrote the proposal for a new concentration in the major in English Education and guided it through many levels of scrutiny and revision until its final approval by the Academic Senate; the new concentration will be fully implemented beginning in the Fall semester.

Jennifer Arin is serving on the advisory board of a new literary journal called *Tuesday: An Art Project*; the invitation to join the board was a result of having some of her work published in *Tuesday*, and of being the subject of an interview by an editor of that journal. *Tuesday* has already gotten high praise in, among other media, *The Boston Globe*. Jennifer is also doing poetry segments on “Henry’s Garden,” a show that airs on local station KRON (channel 4) on Saturday mornings. In a recent update, Jennifer tells us that some of her poetry is due out soon in the journal *Gastronomica* (UCB Press).

In October, **Michael Krasny** published *off Mike: A Memoir of Talk Radio and Literary Life* with Stanford University Press.

Julie Paulson has written two articles on medieval drama for publication: one appeared in the May 2007 issue of *Theatre Survey*, and the other is due out in the Spring issue of *Journal of Medieval and Early Modern Studies*. She attended the Folger Shakespeare Library’s production of and workshop on the “Second Shepherds’ Play” in December, and will give a paper on pedagogy at the International Congress on Medieval Studies at Kalamazoo in May.

Martha Klironomos is currently Associate Editor of the *Journal of Modern Greek Studies* (Johns Hopkins Press), and is also serving as Secretary of the Modern Greek Studies Association of North America. She presented papers last year at the Modern Greek Studies Association Symposium at Yale; at a conference sponsored by the University of Birmingham on “Diaspora and Migration: Otherness, Identity and Movement In and Out of Greece”; and, at a conference on Nikos Kazantzakis that was held at the University of Crete. Her publications last year include two essays and a book review: Martha’s essay on early twentieth-century British women travellers to Greece was published in *Literature Compass*, and an essay on George Seferis was included as an entry in the *Dictionary of Literary Biography* (volume 322 on Nobel Prize Laureates in Literature, Part 4). And, Martha’s review of Tryfon Tolides’s *An Almost Pure Empty Walking* was included in the Fall 2007 issue of *Harvard Review*.

Elana Dykewomon participated in a number of local literary events last year: she co-authored KPFA’s Lesbian Poetry Hour in honor of Gay Pride Month; in October, she was a featured reader in San Francisco’s LitCrawl; and, she participated in a community response panel to the film “Gendercator” at the LGBT Center. Elana also read at a book launch party for “Love, Castro Street,” and was among the spoken word performers at the CalArts 2007 showcase of Northern California Alumni Works at Fort Mason Center. Farther afield, Elana was a guest speaker in three classes at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln, and gave a reading/lecture sponsored by UN-L at the Great Plains Art Museum titled “Going Beyond the Pale: Situating Lesbians in Literature.” Last March, she presented papers at the annual conference for the Association of Women in Psychology (“Lesbian Quarters: On Building Space, Identity, Institutional Memory and Resources”) and at the Pacific Sociology Conference (“Are We Ready to Throw Our Weight Around? Fat Women and Political Activism,” co-authored with Esther Rothblum). Elana will be on the fiction faculty for Lambda Literary Foundation Writers Retreat for Emerging LGBT Writers, Aug. 10-17 in Los Angeles. More information can be found at <http://www.lambdaliterary.org/retreat/index.html> Elana asks that we inform LGBT student writers about this event and encourage them to apply.

On top of his duties as Academic Senate Chair, **Jim Kohn** has been busy with his work as a docent for the Fine Arts Museums in San Francisco. In December, he led tours of the Louise Nevelson exhibit at the De Young. In February, Jim conducted tours at the Palace of the Legion of Honor in conjunction with a new exhibit of ancient artifacts excavated from the Dead Sea in Israel (this exhibit runs until August). He will lecture on the exhibit of Annie Leibovitz's photography at the California Palace of the Legion of Honor on Sunday, March 9th at 11:30 a.m., and will give tours of the exhibit on March 15th at 1:30 p.m. Jim is also participating in "Love, Romance and Scandal," a docent tour at the Legion which focuses on the racier pictures and statues in the museum. Jim is doing museum tours, and walking tours of the San Francisco Botanical Gardens, on an ongoing basis; contact Jim directly about specific dates.

Several of **Ellen Peel's** articles have recently been accepted for publication: "Imagining the Constructed Body: From Statues to Cyborgs" is included in *Teaching World Literature* (forthcoming in the MLA's *Options for Teaching* series); "'God is Change': Persuasion and Pragmatic Utopianism in Octavia Butler's Earthseed Novels" will appear in *Afro-Future Females: Black Writers Chart Science Fiction's Newest New Wave Trajectory* (Ohio State University Press); and, "The Song of Roland: Structuralism and Beyond" was accepted for inclusion in *Approaches to Teaching the Song of Roland* (MLA, 2006). Ellen was also invited to review Carolyn Dever's *Skeptical Feminism* for *Clio: A Journal of Literature, History and the Philosophy of History*. Last summer, Ellen presented a paper, "Protean Metaphor in Narrative," at a meeting of the International Association of University Professors of English that took place at Lund University in Sweden.

Esther Chan's proposal to conduct a Reading Institute for Academic Purposes (RIAP) for 25 secondary teachers was accepted for funding; this is the fifth RIAP to take place at SFSU under Esther's direction. The goal of the project is to equip secondary teachers with strategies and resources to help prepare their students for the academic demands of college. If you are interested in learning more about the RIAP, please contact Esther: echan@sfsu.edu

Jennifer Trainor has a book, *Persuaded by Race: Rhetoric, Emotion, and Racism in an All-White High School*, forthcoming from Southern Illinois University Press in November of this year. Jennifer was invited to submit "The Wages of Whiteness? Literacy and Life Goals in an All-White Suburban High School" for inclusion in *Literacy as a Civil Right* (Peter Lang); also, her article, "The Persuasive Power of Racism and the Hidden Curriculum of High School," will appear in the September issue of *College Composition and Communication*.

Emily Merriman has an essay included in a new collection titled '*Catch if you can your country's moment*': *Recovery and Regeneration in the Poetry of Adrienne Rich* (Cambridge Scholars Press, 2007). Emily's essay, "'The spider's genius': Verse Technique as Liberating Force in Adrienne Rich" is the first in the volume. Last November, Emily participated in a panel on American Literature after 1865 at the Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association Conference held in Bellingham, WA, presenting a paper on "Plain Style in T.S. Eliot's *The Waste Land*." She is currently an organizer of an international conference on English poetry (1950-2008) and the Public/Private Divide that will be co-sponsored by the College of Humanities, and will be held at the Sorbonne this June. And, the first edition of *66: The Journal of Sonnet Studies*, just about to be published, will include two of her sonnets: "The Fig Tree" and "Sonnet III."

Members of the TESOL faculty report that **Gail Weinstein** is the recipient of this year's James E. Alatis Award for Service to TESOL, a prestigious award that acknowledges outstanding and extended service by TESOL members at international, regional, and local levels. Gail will receive the award at the upcoming International TESOL Convention in New York. Gail herself reported on her most recent doings: in December, she gave workshops during a ten-day speaking tour in Israel, including a stop with a group of Palestinian teachers in Hebron in the West Bank. This particular group continues to work online with Gail on a special project to explore the possibilities for moving toward learner-centered teaching in the West Bank, and to develop locally appropriate language lessons. Gail also presented at JALT in Tokyo with two MATESOL graduates, **Yasueh Kawamorita** and **Akie Nyui**, on the topic of a thematic unit written by Akie and Yasueh following the model of Gail's text *Learners' Lives as Curriculum*. She has been invited back to Japan for a speaking tour.

Bruce Avery won an appointment for last fall as a Faculty Associate at SFSU's Center for Teaching and Faculty Development (CTFD), and used this opportunity to study methods of teaching complex texts to large lecture classes. In May, he'll lead a workshop for CTFD on this topic, and also plans to convene a discussion with English Department faculty who have taught, or will be teaching, large lecture courses. Bruce has been awarded a sabbatical for the coming fall semester to work on his book-in-progress on Shakespeare pedagogy. He is also slated to talk about the book in August at the British Shakespeare Association conference in London.

James Boyd and **Maureen Turner** participated in a conference entitled “Race in the Writing Center: Towards New Theory and Praxis” at the University of Chicago, Illinois, at the end of February. They talked about the role of race in SFSU’s English Tutoring Center, where the student population is diverse but the majority of the tutors are European-American. In the talk, Maureen and James explored how we might acknowledge the legitimacy and importance of multiple literacies; how students’ dialects and vernacular affect their academic performance and self-image; how standard written English plays into the power structures of our society; and most importantly, how to reconcile these disparities.

At this year’s CCCC in New Orleans, **Amy Love** and **Jerome Schwab** will present “Universal Design for Learning: Pedagogy, Not Technology” with Neil Lindeman of the Technical and Professional Writing program. They will discuss the potential of Universal Design for Learning, a concept more often associated with technology, as a new pedagogy which can change our teaching to include all students, regardless of disability or learning style. Also, Jerome and Amy have received confirmation that Pearson Prentice Hall has scheduled the fall publication of their co-authored freshman composition reader, *Changing Society: Readings for the Engaged Writer*. And, Amy is a Faculty Associate at CTFD this spring; she’s developing an accessible instructional multimedia package on using Turnitin, part of a grant through EnACT.

At the upcoming International Linguistics Association conference in New York in April, **Shelley Waksler** will present a paper on “Accommodating Phonological Variation in Speech Processing.” She will also present “Feature specification and Underspecification in the Mental Lexicon” at the Berkeley Phonetics and Phonology Forum in March. Shelley recently served as a linguistic consultant for a reporter at National Geographic Traveler who wrote a piece on San Francisco culture. Here’s a link to the piece:

<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/places/places-of-a-lifetime/sanfrancisco-cultural-tips.html>

David Gill was invited to participate on a panel on Philip K. Dick at Vericon VIII, the annual science fiction convention hosted by Harvard University. Also on the panel, entitled “The Multiple Myths of Philip K Dick,” was Anne Mini, who is the daughter of Kleo Apostolides (Dick’s second wife) and Norman Mini (an old friend of Dick’s from their Berkeley days). David spoke about the mixed reception that Dick’s Library of America release has received in the mainstream media, as well as of his own difficulties developing a cohesive sense of who Philip K. Dick was. David sends this URL for his blog entry on the experience:

<http://totaldickhead.blogspot.com/2008/02/back-from-harvard.html>

An essay by **Bill Christmas**, “‘From threshing Corn, he turns to thresh his Brains’: Stephen Duck as Laboring-Class Intellectual” will appear in *The Making of the Working-Class Intellectual in Eighteenth- and Nineteenth-Century Britain* (Ashgate, 2008). Also, his review of a special feature on “Rakes, Male and Female, in the Literatures of the Long Eighteenth Century” will appear in the Spring issue of *The Scriblerian*.

The Hudson Review included **Meg Schoerke’s** omnibus review of five books of poetry in its Summer 2007 issue. Meg reviewed the work of Landis Everson, Stanley Moss, Dick Davis, Jean Nordhaus and Kevin Young.

Patty Baldwin, **Helen Gillotte-Tropp**, **Sugie Goen-Salter** and **Joan Wong** will soon have new textbook out with Pearson, *Composing for Success: A Student’s Guide to Integrated Reading and Writing*. They designed and wrote the text with SFSU students in mind, particularly those taking the IRW classes in the English Department (ENG 104, 105, 106). Patty, Helen, Sugie and Joan are continuing to work on revisions, but a preliminary edition will be available for instructors in April.

Geoffrey Green anticipates that his short story cycle *Voices in a Mask* (Northwestern University Press) will be released in September or October of this year.

Two members of the department staff, **Maureen Turner** (ETC) and **Virginia Ramos** (graduate programs assistant) are working on their culminating projects for their Master’s this spring. Maureen is an M.F.A. candidate in Creative Writing, and is writing a novel; Virginia, an M.A. candidate in Humanities, is writing on emergent narratives by multilingual and multicultural authors of the 20th and 21st centuries.

Jen Mylander will have an article titled “Instruction and English Refinement in America: Shakespeare, Anti-theatricality, and Early Modern Reading,” included in the book of essays *Shakespearean Educations: Power, Citizenship, and Performance*, forthcoming from the University of Delaware Press. Also forthcoming is her review of Matthew Brown’s *The Pilgrim and the Bee: Reading Rituals and Book Culture in Early New England*, in *Early American Literature*.

Beverly Voloshin edited a special issue of *Pacific Coast Philology* entitled “Transoceanic Dialogues” (2007). She serves as vice president of the Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association and is helping to organize the 2008 conference.

Gitanjali Shahani’s co-edited volume, *Emissaries in the Early Modern World: Mediation, Transmission, Traffic, 1550-1700* (with Brinda Charry), is forthcoming from Ashgate. Her essay “‘A Foreigner by Birth’: The life of Indian Cloth in the Early Modern Marketplace,” will be appearing in an edited volume entitled *Global Traffic: Discourses and Practices of Trade in English Literature and Culture, 1550-1700* (Palgrave).

William (Rusty) Jones will have an essay titled “‘People Have to Watch What They Say’: What Horace, Juvenal, and 9/11 Can Tell Us About Satire and History” appear in the journal *Helios* in Fall, 2008. He has also accepted a position as Assistant Professor of English Literature at Murray State University in Murray, Kentucky beginning in the fall.

Dan Langton has published poems in *New York Quarterly*, *Southern Poetry Review*, *Long Island Quarterly*, *The American Poetry Journal*, *Parthenon West Review* and the *9/11 Memorial*. A group of his poems has been translated and published in China. He has appeared in his 25th anthology/textbook. He has published his sixth collection, *The Sonnets*.

NEWS ABOUT FORMER STUDENTS

Garret Bruen (M.A., 2007) received a full fellowship for the Ph.D. program at the Claremont Graduate School.

Mac Collins, a recipient of last year’s Graduate Student Award for Distinguished Achievement, was accepted to the Golden Gate University School of Law.

April Davidauskis (M.A., 2007) is attending University of Southern California, where she received a Provost’s Ph.D. Fellowship.

Matt Dolloff (B.A., SFSU) finished his Ph.D. at the University of Texas last spring. His dissertation, “Meditating the Muse: Milton and the Metamorphoses of Urania,” was written under the direction of John Rumrich.

Chris Gabbard (B.A. and M.A., SFSU; Ph.D., Stanford) is working on the philosophical and medical construction of mental disability in the eighteenth century. His essay “From Idiot Beast to Idiot Sublime: Mental Disability in John Cleland’s *Fanny Hill*” is forthcoming in *PMLA*. Chris has been granted tenure at the University of North Florida, where he is Associate Professor and Graduate Director in the English Department.

Nina Handler (M.A., SFSU) is an adjunct faculty member in the English Department at Holy Names University in Oakland.

David Heinke (M.A., 2007) will begin Stanford’s Teacher Education Program in Mathematics for the MAT degree this summer.

Lisa Phillips Howe (M.A., 1994) received her Ph.D. in English from Brandeis in 2005.

Aleksondra Hultquist (M.A., 2003) is finishing her dissertation at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and plans to accept a tenure-track job offer from the University of West Georgia.

Timothy Johns (M.A., 1994) is a full-time lecturer at New York University. He completed a dissertation, “Mixed Humanity: The Staging of Labor in South African Literature and Film, 1830-1930,” in English literature at SUNY Stony Brook in December 2005. He has published in the *Journal of the African Literature Association*, *Atlantikos: A Journal of Transatlantic Scholarship*, and the *Dictionary of Nineteenth-Century Journalism* (forthcoming). He has also served on panels at the following conferences: African Literature Association, Modern Language Association, North American Victorian Studies Association, Research Society for Victorian Periodicals, “Postcolonial Victorians?” (New College, Oxford University), “Transatlantic Victorian Feminism” (University of London), The Photography and Memory Project (Yale), and the Marxist Literary Group.

Brenda Machosky (M.A., SFSU; Ph.D., Comparative Literature, University of Wisconsin) began a position last fall as Assistant Professor of English at the University of Hawai'i West O'ahu, which is a growing branch campus of the UH system. Brenda had been a postdoctoral fellow at Stanford, a visiting assistant professor of English at Cornell, and a lecturer in Humanities at San Francisco State. Her book *Faces of Allegory: Thinking Art Other than Aesthetics* will be published by Fordham University Press in the coming year.

Jennifer Molidor, who did her B.A. and graduate studies at SFSU, finished her Ph.D. in Irish Studies at Notre Dame last year. Her dissertation is entitled "Mother Ireland's Daughters: Maternal Aesthetics in the Modern Irish Short Story."

Nirshan Perera (M.A., SFSU) passed his qualifying exams in the literature program at UC Santa Cruz. He also gave a paper at the Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association Conference at Riverside in November, 2006.

Both Nirshan and **Vanessa Rapatz** (B.A., SFSU) returned in the spring at the College's invitation to speak at a panel on exploring graduate studies, organized by Professor Ilona Vandergriff. Vanessa is a graduate student at UC Davis.

Iris Ralph (B.A., SFSU) received a doctorate in English from the University of Texas in 2005. Her dissertation was an ecocritical inquiry into the work of Stephen Crane, James Agee and William Carlos Williams. Since then, Iris has lived in her native Australia and in Japan; taught ESL; and published on James Agee, Walker Evans and Patrick White. She is active in the Association of Studies for Literature and Environment.

Leif Sorensen (M.A., SFSU; Ph.D., NYU) is a visiting assistant professor of English and American Literature at Middlebury College.

Darryl Stephens, who left our graduate literature program as an ABT (all but thesis), recently completed his doctorate in English at UC Berkeley while employed as a writer for the federal government.

Lal Zimman (M.A., 2006) has begun his doctoral studies in the Department of Linguistics at the University of Colorado in Boulder.

Lisa Zunshine (B.A., SFSU) recently published *Bastards and Foundlings: Illegitimacy in Eighteenth-Century England* with Ohio State University Press.

At the Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Conference last November, **Liberty Stanavage** (M.A.), **Erin Syehara** (B.A.), and **Roland Finger** (B.A.) gave papers. Liberty is working on her dissertation in Renaissance literature at UCSB; Erin is in a master's program; Roland is an assistant professor at Concordia University.

Lastly, news about former students who also taught in the department: **Mitra Ganley** (M.A., 2004), **Andrew King** (M.A. 2003), **Alex Leyton**, (M.A., 2002) and **Jen Levison** (M.A., 2005) all began tenure-track positions at CCSF last fall.

~ A note from the chair ~

Let me begin with some comments about colleagues. Jim Brogan, who pioneered a course on gay love in literature, will be retiring this spring, while Helen Gillotte-Tropp, who was the prime mover of the integrated reading and writing program for first-year students, will "FERP" in the fall. We have been fortunate to hire a group of exceptionally accomplished and energetic faculty in recent years, and four new colleagues will be joining us in the fall. In the English office, we have a dedicated staff--Irina Simon, Harriet Rafter, Ceci Herrmann, and Virginia Ramos.

The number of departmental scholarships has been gradually increasing; donors, to whom we are most grateful, include alumni and current and former members of the faculty. Our newest scholarship has been donated by Deborah Moore, an alumna.

Ms. Moore has also made a donation to the department which has helped us bring Word for Word's production of "Sonny's Blues" to campus to enrich the experience of English 214 students. Thanks go to Anita Cabrera and Ceci Herrmann for working out many of the details which have made the performance possible.

– Bev Voloshin