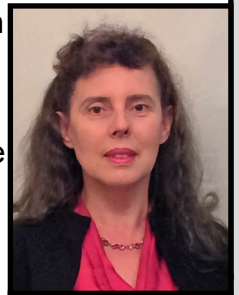




Welcome from the Chair

The Fall semester has brought new students and renewed energy to campus, which has also been evident in the intellectual life of the department. Last week, the DH Lawrence Ranch Initiatives [celebrated the centenary](#) of Lawrence's arrival in New Mexico, followed by a lecture for the Mary Power Irish Studies series. This week, we are commemorating the 50th anniversary of the publication of Rudolfo Anaya's seminal book, *Bless Me, Ultima* with the screening of the 2012 eponymous film this [Friday, September 30th, 2022](#). I remember fondly when Sharon Warner organized the marathon reading of *Bless Me, Ultima* for the 40th anniversary when Rudolfo Anaya was still with us. We are thrilled and honored to be celebrating so many momentous occasions in the English Department this Fall.



Anita Obermeier

We greatly enjoy celebrating the many accomplishments of our students, faculty, and alumni/ae through our [newsletters](#) and [blog](#). If you would like to feature your accomplishments in our next newsletter as well as on our [website](#), please fill out and submit [this form](#) for our [Alumni Spotlight](#), or email us at english@unm.edu.

Faculty News



Davis-Secord

Several members of the English Department faculty received grants from UNM's new WeR1 Faculty Success Program, an internal funding initiative created to aid faculty work within the challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic: Associate Professor of Medieval Studies, **Jonathan Davis-Secord**; Assistant Professor of Medieval Studies, **Nahir Otaño Gracia**, Assistant Professor in American Literary Studies of Native American Literature, **Sarah Hernandez**, and Assistant Professor in British and Irish Literary Studies, **Sarah Townsend**.



Otaño Gracia



Hernandez

Sarah Hernandez furthermore co-organized the 28th Annual Oak Lake Writers' Society Retreat, which is a supportive community of more than 30 Oceti Sakowin writers and scholars committed to preserving and perpetuating Dakota, Lakota, and Nakota cultures, oral traditions, and histories through the development of culture-based writing.

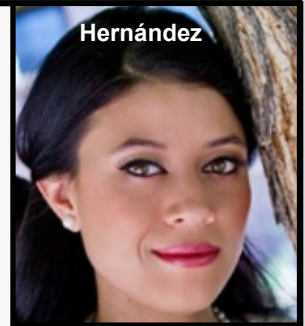


Townsend

Faculty News (Continued)



Jesse Alemán, Professor of American Literary Studies, Presidential Teaching Fellow and Acting Dean of Graduate Studies, was the recipient of the Mimi Reisel Gladstein Research and Travel Award for his paper, "When Cubans Go South: Latinx White Nationalism in the Daze of Slavery." Alemán also published "Always in Resistance": An Interview with Ken Gonzales-Day in *Aperture*; as well as "The End of English," in *PMLA*.



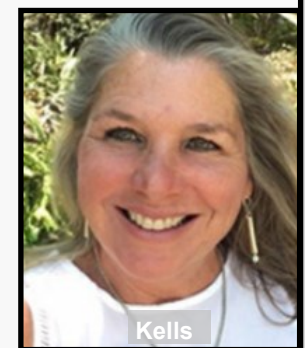
Stephen Benz, Associate Professor of Professional Writing, published his book, *Topographies*; a book of poetry titled, *Americana Motel*; and "En Route" in *Boulevard*.



Andrew Bouelle, Associate Professor of Rhetoric & Writing and Creative Writing, published a thriller titled, *48 Hours to Kill*; as well as "G Is for Garden" in the anthology, *G Is for Ghost*; and finally, "When Time is the Enemy: The Ticking-Clock Thriller" in *Crimereads*.



Marissa Greenberg, Associate Professor of British & Irish Literary Studies, published "Playing (In) the Streets: *The Merchant of Venice* and Adaptation" in *Games and Theatre in Early Modern England*; "Shakespeare's Ghosts: Staging Colonial Histories in New Mexico" in *Shakespeare and Latinidad*.



Bernadine Hernández, Associate Professor of American Literary Studies, was the recipient of the Keleher/Telfair Hendon Award, an award that goes to junior professors for noteworthy contributions to the English Department.



Matthew Hofer, Professor of American Literary Studies, received the Elizabeth Wertheim Faculty Research Award given to senior faculty for noteworthy contributions to the English Department and UNM at large.

Michelle Hall Kells, Associate Professor in Rhetoric & Writing, along with Professor Levi Romero in Chicano Studies, received a research grant from the Center for Regional Studies for their collaborative project, "La Cultura Cure: Testimonios de la Nueva Mexico Digital Archive Project."



Faculty News (Continued)



Mueller

Daniel Mueller, Professor of Creative Writing, published, "After Logic" in *Gargoyle*.

Carmen Nocentelli, Associate Professor in British & Irish Literary Studies and Comparative Literature, along with Su Fang Ng, a Professor of English at Virginia Tech, co-edited, *England's Asian Renaissance*.

Anita Obermeier, Professor of Medieval Studies, has published five scholarly book reviews; two in *Mediävistik* and one each in *Arthuriana*, *Reading Religion*, and *Modern Philology*.



Otaño Gracia

Nahir Otaño Gracia, Assistant Professor of Medieval Studies and British and Irish Literary Studies, published "Broken Dreams: Medievalism, *Mulataje*, and *Mestizaje* in the Work of Alejandro Tapia y Rivera," in a special issue of *Arthuriana* titled, *Race, Equity and Justice in Arthurian Studies*.

Diane Thiel, Regents' Professor of Creative Writing, published more than 20 poems in 20 different academic journals, such as the *Hudson Review*, *The Rush*, *The Hopkins Review*, *Notre Dame Review*, and the *Harvard Review*.



Thiel

Sarah Townsend, Assistant Professor in British and Irish Literary Studies, published "Muslim Integration and the *Hijabi Monologues Ireland*" with the *Irish University Review*; "The 'New Irish' Neighborhood: Race and Succession in Ireland and Irish America" in *Routledge International Handbook of Irish Studies*; and "Legacies of Land and Soil: Irish Drama, European Union, and the Unfinished Business of Modernism" in *The Edinburgh Companion to Irish Modernism*.



Nocentelli



Obermeier



Townsend

Graduate Student News



Clahchischiligi

Sunnie Clahchischiligi, PhD Student in Rhetoric & Writing, won this year's Doris O'Donnell Innovations in Investigative Journalism Fellowship from the Center for Media Innovation at Point Park University for her project investigating how potentially thousands of students on the Navajo Nation went missing during the pandemic and exposing a myriad of educational failures.



Mincks

American Literary Studies doctoral student, **Madeline Rose Mendoza** was the recipient of a New Mexico Higher Education Department Scholarship.



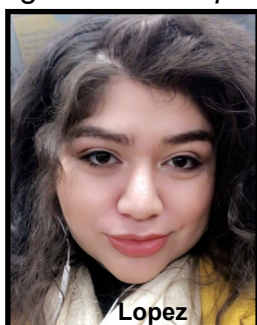
Mendoza

Emma Mincks, a Ph.D. candidate in British and Irish Literature, was awarded the Donald E. Jordan, Jr. – Willard C. Potts, Jr. Award for exceptional work by an emerging scholar at the annual meeting of the American Conference for Irish Studies West (ACIS-West). Mincks was the first scholar from UNM to receive this award.

English graduate students, **Amanda Kooser**, **Kennia Lopez**, **AJ Odasso**, and **Jennifer Tubbs** were published in the 2020-2021 issue of UNM's Literature and Arts Magazine *Conceptions Southwest*.



Kooser



Lopez

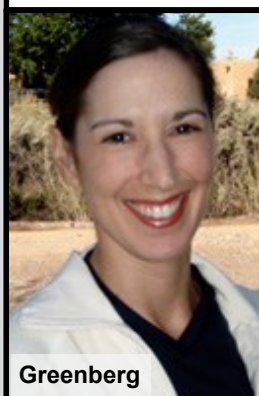


Odasso



Tubbs

Undergraduate Student News



Greenberg

Brigid Shaski and her mentor, Associate Professor of British & Irish Literary Studies, **Marissa Greenberg**, received a 2021 Arts & Sciences Support for Undergraduate Research Experience (ASSURE) fellowship. The ASSURE program is designed to foster faculty-undergraduate research collaborations.

Undergraduates Alex Dickey, Michael Johnson, Blake Moore, Lily O'Connor, and Zoe Perls were published in the 2020-2021 issue of *Conceptions Southwest*. Dickey's "Nuevo" won the CSW Award for Poetry.



Shaski



Emeriti/ae & Alumni/ae News



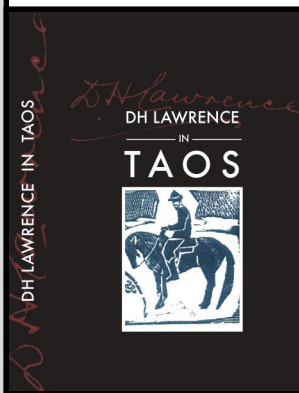
Professor Emerita of British & Irish literary Studies, **Feroza Jussawalla** collaborated with doctoral alumna in British & Irish Literary Studies, **Doaa Omran** to coedit and publish their book, *Memory, Voice, Identity: Muslim Women Writers from across the Middle East* (Routledge, 2021).

MFA alumnus, **Mario Montoya** was recently interviewed for the web series *Behind the Screen: Conversations with Cool People* about his forthcoming memoir, "Numb: The Boy Who Couldn't Feel."

Find out more about the accomplishments of our alumni/ae on our [Alumni Spotlight Page](#). We'd love to share your news and accomplishments in our next newsletter, please complete and submit [this form](#) with an update and any relevant photos.

Events

The English Department hosted a centenary celebration of D.H. Lawrence's arrival to Taos, NM on September 16-17th, 2022. The weekend featured a film screening of "D.H. Lawrence in Taos" directed by Peter Davis; a poets' brunch fundraiser for the D.H.L. Ranch; a lecture entitled, "Frieda Lost and Found: Uncovering Treasures and Stories at the D.H. Lawrence Ranch" overviewing forthcoming plans and recent activities at the ranch - including the discovery, in February 2022, of a long missing oil painting of Frieda Lawrence in a barn on the property; and finally the world premiere of Lawrence's unfinished play, *Altitude* presented by Professor Jim Moran of the University of Nottingham, our very own Professor Sharon Oard Warner, and Taos Onstage.





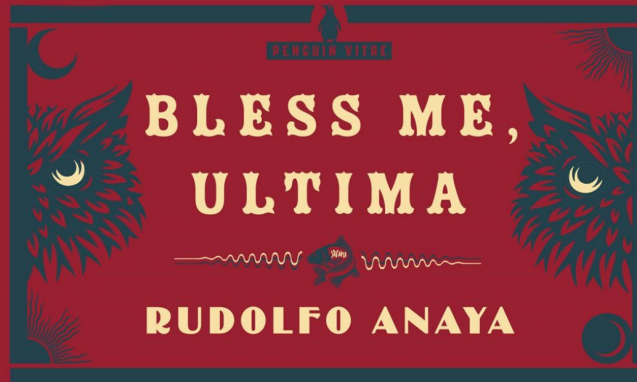
DEPARTMENT OF
ENGLISH LANGUAGE
& LITERATURE

**THE NATIONAL HISPANIC
CULTURAL CENTER
& THE UNM DEPARTMENT
OF ENGLISH**

National
Hispanic
Cultural
Center

PRESENT

**A Film Screening of Carl Franklin's Bless Me, Ultima
In Celebration of the 50th Anniversary Edition of**



**Film Screening on Friday, September 30 @6:30pm
Albuquerque Journal Theatre
National Hispanic Cultural Center
1701 4th Street SW**

**With a pre-film introduction by Dr. A. Gabriel Meléndez
Distinguished Professor of American Studies (Retired)**

*Author of So All Is Not Lost: The Poetics of Print in Nuevomexicano Communities,
Hidden Chicano Cinema: Film Dramas in the Borderlands and
The Book of Archives and Other Stories from the Mora Valley, NM*

**This is a free, ticketed event and open to the public
For tickets, visit <https://my.nmculture.org/11390/13088>**

**Part of Hispanic Heritage Month and in partnership with the
2022 Rudolfo and Patricia Anaya Lecture on the Literature of the Southwest
featuring Erika L. Sánchez
October 6 @7pm at the NHCC
For lecture tickets, visit <https://my.nmculture.org/13688/13689>**

For more information, visit <https://english.unm.edu/dept-life/events/anaya-lecture/index.html>

Cover Image to *Bless Me, Ultima*, Copyright Permission Penguin Vitae, 2022