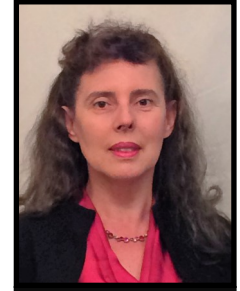


## Letter from the Chair

This newsletter highlights the many accomplishments of our students, faculty, and alumni/ae as well as three major events this semester we are inviting you to attend. Professor Jesse Alemán is the local organizer of the large C19 conference in March. The D.H. Lawrence Initiatives are hosting the second D.H. Lawrence Lecture in April. Professor Sarah Townsend organized the inaugural Irish Lecture Series in honor of Emerita Professor Mary Power. We are especially interested to hear from former students of Professor Power. Please see [page 6](#) of this newsletter for more information on these events. If you want us to feature your accomplishments on [our website](#), please [email us](#).



Anita Obermeier

## First Annual Karen McKinnon Poetry Contest

Poet and UNM alumna Karen McKinnon made a generous donation in 2016 to establish a poetry contest for undergraduate students, and this spring, the [first annual Karen McKinnon Poetry Contest](#) was held in February with [winners announced in April](#). The contest provided monetary awards to first (\$1000), second (\$500), and third place

(\$250) winners, who read their poetry aloud at the Undergraduate Open House in the English Department Lounge. The competition was judged by Karen McKinnon along with a committee of faculty readers, and submitted poems could be either in form or free verse. Each student who entered the competition could submit a single poem and had to have and maintain a 3.0 GPA.



Kelen Mahan, Prof. Diane Thiel, Carolina Bucheli, Dr. Anita Obermeier, and Daniel Porter.

The third place prize went to Carolina Bucheli for her poem "Strangers," second place went to Daniel Porter for his poem "Sing, Sweet Sunrise," and first place went to Kelen Mahan for his poem "Papa." Third place winner, Carolina Bucheli, studies English and Spanish literature with a minor in journalism. Second place winner, Daniel Porter, is double majoring in English, focusing on American Literary Studies, and Religious Studies. The first place winner, Kelen Mahan, is a double major in English and Philosophy. Mahan hopes to apply for MFA programs in the future after taking some time off from school to focus on other creative endeavors.



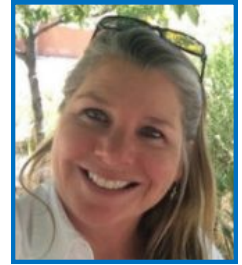
Undergraduate English Open House where the Poetry Contest award winners read their poetry.

## Current Faculty Awards and Honors



Marissa Greenberg, Associate Professor of British and Irish Literary Studies, [received the Wertheim Lecturership](#) for her various 2015 publications and her book *Metropolitan Tragedy: Genre, Justice, and the City in Early Modern England*.

Michelle Kells, Associate Professor of Rhetoric and Writing, was [selected as a faculty mentor](#) for the National Council of Teachers in English's Cultivating New Voices Program (NCTE-CNV). She also hosted the 2017 NCTE-CNV Institute on behalf of the University of New Mexico.



Sharon Warner, Professor of Creative Writing, [won the Arts & Sciences Faculty Teaching Excellence Award](#).

Bernadine Hernández, Assistant Professor of American Literary Studies, was named the [UNM 2016-2017 Outstanding New Teacher of the Year](#).



Todd Ruecker, Assistant Professor of Rhetoric and Writing, [received the Telfair Hendon Keleher Award](#) for his book *Transiciones: Pathways of Latinas and Latinos Writing in High School and College*.

Julianne Newmark, a Rhetoric and Writing Lecturer, [receives an Emergent Research Grant](#) from the Conference on College Composition and Communication to support her National Archives research.



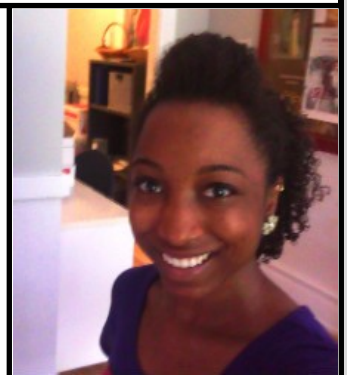
## Emeriti/ae Faculty News



Gary Harrison, Professor Emeritus of British and Irish Studies, published "John Clare's Agrarian Idyll: A Confluence of Pastoral and Georgic" in John Goodridge and Bridget Keegan's collection of essays, titled *A History of British Working Class Literature* from Cambridge University Press. His chapter shows how Clare's poetry appropriates and transforms the political valences of the pastoral and georgic modes to fashion a distinctive and radical poetic voice championing the rights of rural laborers and small farmers in the mid-nineteenth century. In addition, Harrison's review essay of recent work in Romantic ecocriticism was published in *European Romantic Review*.

## Staff News

Welcome to Ryann Davis! She recently joined the Department Staff as Administrative Assistant and Receptionist in the Front Lobby. She earned her Bachelor's degree in Philosophy from Connecticut College, where she was also an Administrative Assistant in the English Department. She is often found answering the phone and directing lobby traffic, but behind the scenes she also troubleshoots the Department Printing & Copying Machines, and designs and maintains the Department website, blog, and newsletters.





## Faculty Publications



Bethany Davila, Assistant Professor of Rhetoric and Writing, recently co-published the article [“At a Distance: The Encoding of Place in the University”](#) with Hannah Dickinson.



Jonathan Davis-Secord, Associate Professor of Medieval Studies, [published the article, “Revising Race in \*Lazarus’s Brut\*”](#) in the *Journal of English and Germanic Philology*.

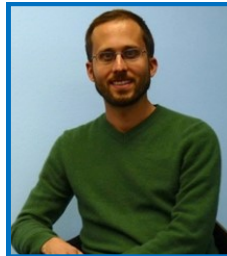
Anita Obermeier, Professor of Medieval Studies, [published the article “Maximum Humor: Sir Dinadan’s Post-Medieval Capers”](#) in the journal *The Year’s Work in Medievalism*.



Sarah L. Townsend, Assistant Professor of British and Irish Literary Studies, has [published an article](#) in the *Journal of Commonwealth Literature* on the nonwhite immigrant character disappearances in two contemporary British novels and an article on her Twitter-based “ABQUlysses” assignment in the *Journal of Interactive Technology and Pedagogy*.

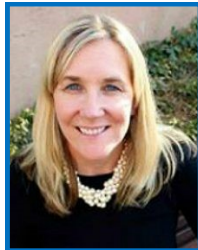


Charles Paine, Professor of Rhetoric and Writing, [published the co-authored article](#) “How to Create High-Impact Writing Assignments that Enhance Learning and Development and Reinvigorate WAC/WID Programs: What Almost 72,000 Undergraduates Taught Us” in a special issue of *Across the Disciplines*.

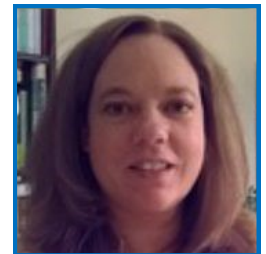


Todd Ruecker, Assistant Professor of Rhetoric and Writing, [published the co-edited volume \*Retention, Persistence, and Writing Instruction\*](#).

Cristyn Elder, Assistant Professor of Rhetoric and Writing, published [the co-authored article, “Designing High-Impact “Writing-to-Learn” Math Assignments for Killer Courses”](#) in a special issue of *Across the Disciplines*.



Lisa Myers, a 2015 UNM graduate and current department term lecturer, [published the article “T.H. White’s ‘Forest Sauvage’: Nostalgia and Loss](#) in *Studies in Medievalism XXVI: Ecomedievalism*.



Cristyn Elder and Bethany Davila, Assistant Professors of Rhetoric and Writing, [published the article “Welcoming Linguistic Diversity and Saying Adios to](#)

[Remediation: Stretch and Studio Composition at a Hispanic-Serving Institution”](#) in *Composition Forum*.



Jesús Costantino, Assistant Professor of American Literary Studies, [published the essay “Harlem in Furs”](#) in *Modernism/modernity*.

## Alumni/ae News

Natalie Scenters Zapico, UNM MFA Alumna, [received the 2017 PEN Joyce Osterweil Award for Poetry](#) for her poetry collection, *The Verging Cities*. Her collection also won numerous other awards.



Dr. John D. Miles, UNM Rhetoric and Writing Alumnus, has been [named an ACE Fellow by the American Council on Education](#). He currently holds an impressive array of positions in the English department at Wofford College where he is an Associate Professor of English.

Dr. DÍana Noreen Rivera, UNM English PhD Alumna, was awarded a 2017 CMAS-Benson Latin American Collection Research Fellowship to support her research on Américo Paredes's unpublished writings.



Find out more about alumni accomplishments on our [Alumni Spotlight Page](#). We'd love to share your news and accomplishments in our next newsletter. Please send a brief description and any relevant photos to [english@unm.edu](mailto:english@unm.edu).

## D.H. Lawrence Lecture

The [inaugural D.H. Lawrence Lecture](#) was held on February 23rd with a presentation by poet Mark Doty. Doty is the author of nine books of poetry, three memoirs, and a book about craft. The event was hosted by the D.H. Lawrence Ranch Initiatives and the UNM Alumni Association with support from the Witter Bynner Poetry Foundation and the Department of English Language and Literature. The [D.H. Lawrence Ranch Blog](#) provides more information about the lecture series and the recorded video of the lecture can be accessed through [the Lobo Living Room](#).



## Graduate Student News

### Awards

Brian Hendrickson, PhD candidate in Rhetoric and Writing, received the American Association of Colleges and Universities' [2017 K. Patricia Cross Future Leaders Award](#).

Natalie Kubasek, PhD candidate in American Literary Studies, was nominated for the [Tom L. Popejoy Dissertation Prize](#).

Sinae Kang, a British and Irish Literary Studies PhD candidate, was nominated for the [Graduate Dean's Dissertation Fellowship](#).

Rachel Gift, an MA student in Rhetoric and Writing, and Ana June, an MFA student, [received the Susan Deese-Roberts Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award](#).

Ana June also [won the Arts & Sciences T.A. Teaching Excellence Award](#).

Emma Mincks, PhD student in British and Irish Literary Studies, was [named the Outstanding Core Writing Instructor](#) by the English Graduate Student Association.

David Puthoff, PhD in American Literary Studies, and Karra Shimabukuro, a PhD candidate in British and Irish Literary Studies, [both participated in UNM's Shared Knowledge Conference](#). Shimabukuro made it to the final round of the LoboBites contest.

### Fellowships

Olivier Baker, PhD candidate in American Literary Studies, [received a 2-year UNM Andrew W. Mellon Dissertation Fellowship](#).

Justin Larson, PhD candidate in Medieval Studies, Abigail Robertson, PhD candidate in Medieval Studies, and Morgan Sims, PhD candidate in Rhetoric and Writing each [received a Russell J. and Dorothy S. Bilinski Education Foundation Fellowship](#).

### Publications

Brian Hendrickson published "[Studying and Supporting Writing in Student Organizations as a High-Impact Practice](#)" in a special issue of *Across the Disciplines*.

## Conference Participation

Professor of American Literary Studies Jesse Alemán, PhD student Lauren Perry, and PhD candidate Amy Gore [presented at the Modern Language Association conference.](#)



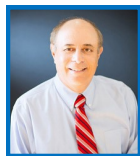
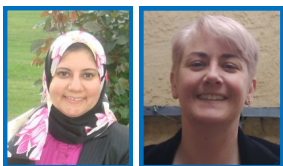
Amy Gore, Lauren Perry, and Jesse Alemán

Eight Rhetoric and Writing faculty and three graduate students [participated in the Conference on College Composition and Communication \(CCCC\).](#) Many of them were workshop facilitators, speakers, and chairs at the conference. Participants are pictured below.



Top: Joseph Bartolotta, Tiffany Bourelle, Andrew Bourelle, Zoe Speidel, Brian Hendrickson. Bottom: Todd Ruecker, Mariya Tseptsura, Bethany Davila, Cristyn Elder, Julie Newmark, Bee Chamcharatsri.

PhD candidates Doaa Omran, Dalicia Raymond, Abigail Robertson, Karra Shimabukuro, and Jessica Troy; PhD students Alex Ukropen, Gerald Lavin, and Bradley Tepper [participated in the International Congress on Medieval Studies.](#)



Doaa Omran, Karra Shimabukuro, and Bradley Tepper



Dalicia Raymond, Gerald Lavin, Stephanie Violette (MA in history), Jessica Troy, Abigail Robertson, and Alex Ukropen.

## Spring 2017 Graduates

### PhD Graduates

Ann D'Orazio, British and Irish Literary Studies  
Brian Hendrickson, Rhetoric and Writing  
Julie Williams, American Literary Studies

### MFA Graduates

Catherine Hubka, Nonfiction  
Paula Hughson, Poetry  
Ana June, Nonfiction  
Celia Laskey, Fiction  
Aaron Reeder, Poetry  
Lucas Shepherd, Fiction  
Jason Thayer, Nonfiction  
Charles Wormhoudt, Poetry

### MA Graduates

Emily Frontiere, Medieval Studies  
Rachel Gift, Rhetoric and Writing  
Anjanette Griego, Rhetoric and Writing  
Jacob Ketcham, Rhetoric and Writing  
Donald McIver, Rhetoric and Writing  
Richard Moya, Rhetoric and Writing  
Misty Thomas, Language and Literature

Congratulations Graduates!

## Giving Opportunities

Many of the accomplishments of our faculty, alumni, and students have been made possible by scholarships and fellowships established by alumni donations. If you would like to support one of our diverse scholarship and research opportunities, you can learn more about them and make an online gift by clicking on a fund name when you visit our [English Department Funds Page.](#)



## Upcoming Events



### The Inaugural Mary Power Lecture Series in Irish Studies

Named in honor of Professor Emerita, Mary Power (pictured left)

**Thursday, February 22, 2018**

**7 pm**

**Zimmerman Library - Waters Room**

Matthew Spangler (pictured right), an internationally acclaimed playwright, director, and Professor of Communication Studies at San José State University will give a lecture focusing on recent initiatives in the performing arts that aim to represent the experiences of refugees and asylum seekers in Ireland and the U.S.



Former students of Mary Power are especially encouraged to attend this celebratory event



### C19 Now! Climate Talk

Jenni Monet & discussant Dr. Jennifer Nez Denetdale

**UNM Keller Hall Plenary**

**Friday, March 23, 2018**

**6pm**

**Reception to follow**

Jenni Monet, a tribal citizen of the Laguna Pueblo in New Mexico, is an accomplished multimedia journalist and documentary filmmaker who has been chronicling the contemporary lives and issues of indigenous peoples worldwide.

# Climate

the fifth biennial conference of  
C19: The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists

Albuquerque, NM  
March 22-25, 2018  
University of New Mexico, Host  
[c19conference.org](http://c19conference.org)

**Join us for the 2nd Annual D.H. Lawrence Lecture:**

**Reading D. H. Lawrence in New Mexico: The Case of 'The Woman Who Rode Away'**

**Thursday, April 5, 2018**

**6 pm**

**UNM Continuing Education Auditorium**

In this lecture, Dr. Andrew Harrison, Director of the D.H. Lawrence Research Centre at the University of Nottingham, UK will discuss the reception by both feminist and postcolonial critics of one of D.H. Lawrence's most controversial short stories, showing how our changing understanding of it reflects broad cultural trends and accompanying shifts in Lawrence's popular and academic reputations. Dr. Harrison will also provide a fresh biographical reading of the story which situates it firmly in its moment and place of composition, revealing surprising and under-appreciated aspects of Lawrence's belief in his psychic abilities and the power of his words.

