



## Welcome from the Chair

For the first time this year, it is starting to feel like spring after a long and cold winter here in New Mexico. I want to take the opportunity to thank all of you who donated to the Rudolfo Anaya and Hector Torres fundraising efforts last year. I am happy to report that the fund to dedicate a room in Zimmerman library to Rudolfo Anaya has almost reached its goal, and the Hector Torres fund has been endowed. We hope to give the scholarship out soon. I would also like to call attention to the 2023 Helen Damico Memorial Lecture Series in April; this year's topic is "Medieval Women," a subject near and dear to Professor Damico's heart. See the flyer at the end of this newsletter with the link to the full program and stay tuned for an announcement about a celebration of her career later in the semester.



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](mailto:english@unm.edu).

## Faculty News



Alemán

**Jesse Alemán**, Professor of American Literary Studies and Associate Dean of Graduate Studies, has been named the 2022 Willa Cather Distinguished Lecturer at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

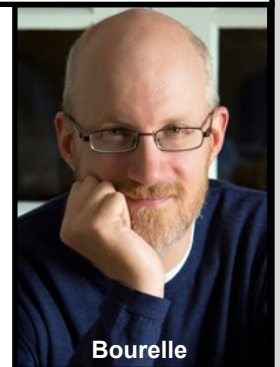
**Stephen Benz**, Associate Professor of Professional Writing, was the recipient of the Keleher/Telfair Hendon Award, which goes to junior professors for noteworthy contributions to the English Department.

**Andrew Bourelle**, Associate Professor of Creative Writing and Rhetoric & Writing, published a mystery/thriller novel titled, *48 Hours to Kill*.

**Jesse Costantino**, Assistant Professor of American Literary Studies, was the inaugural winner of the Mimi Reisel Gladstein Research and Travel Award for his paper, "Uneven Architectures: Ruin and Rubble in Contemporary Mexico City."



Benz



Bourelle



Costantino

## Faculty News (Continued)



Davila

Associate Professors of Rhetoric and Writing, **Beth Davila** and **Cris Elder** published their article, "Bullying by Disregard: Writing Program Administration and Violations of Academic Freedom" in *College Composition and Communication (CCC)*.

**Nahir Otaño Gracia**, Assistant Professor of Medieval Studies and British & Irish Literary Studies, was awarded the 2022 Medieval Academy of America Article Prize in Critical Race Studies for her article, "*Towards a decentered Global North Atlantic: Blackness in Saga of Tristram ok Ísodd.*"



Thiel

Thiel



Elder

**Bernadine Hernández**, Assistant Professor of American Literary Studies, published, *Transnational Chicana Perspectives on Ana Castillo*.

**Diane Thiel**, Regents' Professor of Creative Writing, received the Wertheim Research Award, an award given to senior faculty for noteworthy contributions to the English Department and UNM at large.



Wallace

**Belinda Deneen Wallace**, Assistant Professor of British & Irish Literary Studies, won the 2022 Prize for Best Article from the Canadian Committee on the History of Sexuality for her article, "Our Lives: Scribal Activism, Intimacy, and Black Lesbian Visibility in 1980s Canada," which appeared in the *Journal of Canadian Studies*.

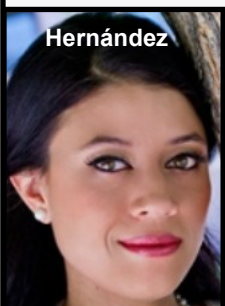


Otaño Gracia

**Sharon Warner**, Professor Emerita of Creative Writing, followed the publication of her craft book, *Writing the Novella*, with an article in *Fiction Writers Review*, "Are you Reading (or Writing) a Novella." Warner was also awarded a grant from the New Mexico Humanities Council to support the 4th Annual D.H. Lawrence Lecture.

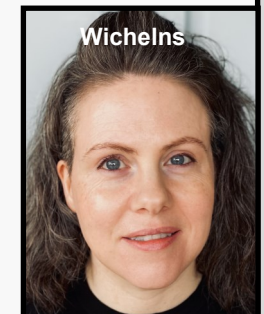


Warner



Hernández

**Kathryn Wichelns**, Associate Professor of American Literary Studies, published, "Campus Organizing Without Campus" in the American Association of University Professors' publication, *Academe*.



Wichelns

## Graduate Student News



Balderas

**Amy Beveridge**, MA student in Rhetoric and Writing, published her poem, “We Hunted the Invisible” with *Heron Tree*.

**Tania Balderas**, PhD Student in American Literary Studies, received a Bilinski Fellowship for her dissertation, “Resistance Narrative: Storytelling of Comparative Transnational Insurgencies in Mexico, US, and Haiti.”



Mincks

**Sunnie Clahchischiligi**, Rhetoric and Writing PhD Student, was awarded first place for best elder coverage by the Native American Journalists Association for her story on Navajo elders. This was her 18<sup>th</sup> overall journalism award and her 14<sup>th</sup> first place journalism award. Additionally, Clahchischiligi received a Bilinski Fellowship for her dissertation, “The Value of Storytelling Through Digital Family Narratives: A Case Study of a Diné Storyteller.”



Beveridge

**Vera Clyne**, MFA student in Creative Nonfiction, took 2nd Place in the 2022 Larry Morris Memorial Scholarship sponsored by the Hillside Community Church in Albuquerque.

**Emma Mincks**, PhD candidate in British and Irish Literary Studies, was awarded the American Conference for Irish Studies (ACIS) organization’s Krause Research Fellowship for Irish Studies for their research project about Nineteenth Century Ireland, Literature and contemporary repercussions. Mincks furthermore received a Bilinski Fellowship for their dissertation, “Affective Orality: Teeth and the Commodity of Character in Eighteenth and Nineteenth Century Social, Medical, and Literary Exchanges 1770-1900s,” as well as a conference travel bursary from The Society for the Study of Nineteenth-Century Ireland ([SSNCI](#)). Mincks was additionally was selected to attend the National Humanities Center’s remote Graduate Student Summer Residency Program along with **Brandy Reeves** who is a PhD student in American Literary Studies.



Reeves



Clahchischiligi



Clyne

**Chrysta Wilson’s**, American Literary Studies PhD candidate, piece, “Beyond the Macabre: Edgar Allan Poe and the Psychology of Horror” was featured in The National Humanities Council’s recent column, *Pasa Por Aqui*.



Wilson

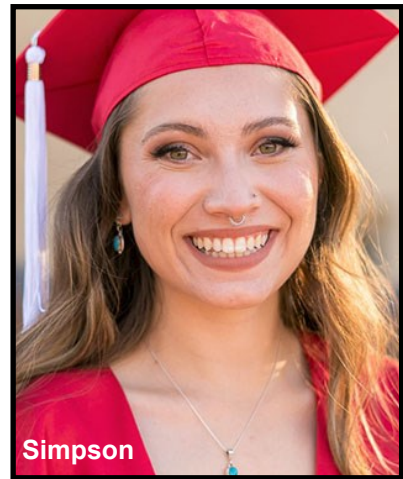
## **Undergraduate Student News**

### **6<sup>th</sup> Annual Karen McKinnon Poetry Awards**

1<sup>st</sup> place prize went to undergraduate student in English Studies, **Benjamin Tabáček** for “Homesick,” which was additionally published in *Scribendi*, UNM’s publication for undergraduate Honors students.

2<sup>nd</sup> place prize went to first-year undergraduate, **Ariel Menendez** for “La Chicana.”

3<sup>rd</sup> place prize went to undergraduate student in Conflict, Peace, and Diplomacy in Asia and the Middle East Studies and current Editor in Chief of *Limina*, **Indica Simpson** for “Résumé.”



### **Undergraduate Publications**

#### *Conceptions Southwest*

**Julia Langeway**, “For Cloudcroft,” Winner of the CSW Award for Literature

**Solana Armijo**, “i, an event”

**Dayana Calle**, “A Cup of Coffee”

**Jeanette DeDios**, “Zeedń” and “luminescent”

**Julia Langeway**, “Brenna”

**Tyra Lechner**, “Laundromat”

#### *Limina*

**Spenser Willden**, “Understanding Genocide in Erik Ehn’s Soulgraphie and ‘Maria Kizito’”

**Nell Johnson**, “Unser Driving”

**Mercy Rabern Jones**, “‘Unclean! Unclean!’ Infectious Disease and the Cultural ‘Other’ in Bram Stoker’s Dracula” which won an English Department Award.

## Emeriti/ae & Alumni/ae News



**Michael Joseph Hogan**, long-term Freshman Writing Director and UNM English Professor Emeritus passed away in March 2022. He revamped the Department's writing program, set clear guidelines for teaching assistants and lecturers, and put the program in the forefront of the educational services provided by UNM to its students.



Professor Emerita of British & Irish literary Studies, **Feroza Jussawalla** and doctoral alumna in British & Irish Literary Studies and current Adjunct Faculty, **Doaa Omran** co-edited a special issue of *Women Studies: an Interdisciplinary Journal* (Taylor & Francis). Their issue was titled "Muslim Women Speaking Persistently" (Vol. 51, issue 2).



**Mason Pellegrini**, MA alumnus in Rhetoric and Writing, won a prestigious Fulbright award to travel to Santiago, Chile.



Alumnae **Megan Malcom-Morgan** (MA English, 2016) and **Ana June** (MFA Creative Writing, 2017) collaborated on a retrospective of Judy Chicago's 1972 art installation, "Womanhouse" which was developed by a consortium of NM artists and installed in a mid-century home in Belen.



**Lauren Perry**, alumna of the ALS PhD program, published a chapter, "Animal Texts: How Coyote America and American Wolf Embody the Literary Animal through a Cross-Disciplinary Approach" in *Interrogating Boundaries of the Nonhuman: Literature, Climate Change, and Environmental Crises*.



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.

## 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](#).



THE UNIVERSITY of NEW MEXICO  
College of Arts & Sciences, Institute for Medieval Studies

2023 Helen Damico Memorial Lecture Series

# Medieval Women



Saint Hedwig of Silesia with Duke Ludwig I of Liegnitz and Brieg and Duchess Agnes, 1353  
The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles, Ms. Ludwig XI 7, fol. 12v

**April 24-27, 2023**

**Lectures will be presented in person in Woodward Hall 101 at 6pm**

This event is free and open to the public. For a full schedule and further information,  
call 277-2252 or visit <http://ims.unm.edu>