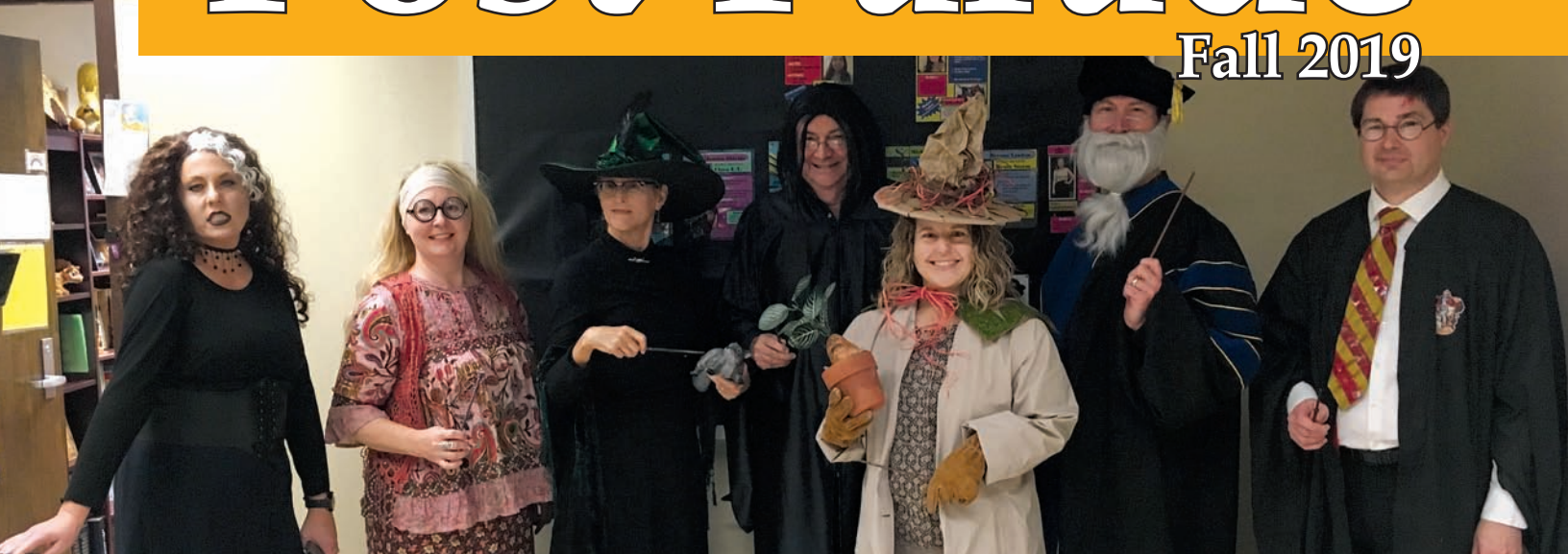




Post Parade

Fall 2019



Fort Hays State University English Department



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Back Row (left to right): Dr. Cheryl Duffy, Tori Ihnen, Amber Fisher, Jordan Darkis, Anniston Weber, Darian Housworth, and Emily Linder. *Front Row:* Trey Basa

Featured on the front cover:

FHSU Faculty as *Harry Potter*
Characters for Halloween 2018

Center photo (l. to r.):

Valerie Brown-Kuchera

(Lestranger),

LouAnn Gottschalk

(Trelawney),

Cheryl Duffy (McGonagall),

Carl Singleton (Snape),

Lexey Bartlett (Sprout),

Matthew Smalley

(Dumbledore),

Eric Leuschner (Harry Potter)

Bottom right photo:

Our esteemed judges,

Chris and Robert Luehrs

Our staff photo showcases the classy ensemble of student writers and editors who composed this year's Professional Editing class. We have them to thank for all the interviews, article drafts, peer reviews and initial page designs that went into the production of this year's *Post Parade*. I am especially grateful to Emily Linder, our student design editor. She worked with her classmates during the spring semester as they designed their pages—and she worked well into the summer to ensure a quality publication that the FHSU English Department is proud to share. —Cheryl H. Duffy

Managing Editor: Cheryl Hofstetter Duffy - Department of English, Fort Hays State University

Design Editor: Emily Linder

Fort Hays State University is a thriving liberal and applied arts, state-assisted institution with an enrollment of more than 13,000 students. It offers bachelor's and master's degrees in many fields and provides a wide variety of cultural and intellectual resources, not only for its faculty, staff and students but also for the western Kansas region and beyond. Fort Hays State University occupies the southwest corner of Hays, Kansas, a city of about 20,000 people located halfway between Kansas City and Denver on Interstate 70. The city and its people make their livings from across a wide spectrum of industries — agriculture, education, light manufacturing, medical care, oil, retail and technology.

Post Parade — Fall 2019

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Check Out This State Librarian!

It is no surprise that FHSU alumni are some of the best, and Eric Norris, the State Librarian of Kansas, is no exception. He graduated from Fort Hays State University with a Master of Arts in English in 2004 and has plenty to say about his time here at FHSU.

Norris appreciates that while attending FHSU as a graduate student and working as a graduate teaching assistant, he was given many valuable opportunities. “During my time in the English Department as a graduate student, I was able to fine-tune my research skills and deep-dive into informational and research databases, both of which have served me at every turn of my career as a librarian,” Norris says.

According to Norris, his time at FHSU helped him hone clear communication skills and develop confidence. He also gained excellent professional experience working with professors, instructors and students.

Perhaps the most crucial skill he was introduced to as a graduate student was the concept of a reference interview. “In very general terms, [a reference interview] is how a librarian clarifies a patron’s specific information need,” Norris says.

When asked which FHSU class resonated with him the most, the answer was short and sweet: “Every class I took from Dr. Singleton was memorable and influential!”

Norris, receiving his undergraduate degree from KU and his Master of Library Science from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, says that he definitely benefited from the smaller class sizes offered at Fort Hays State University.

“Far and away, the biggest benefit is smaller class sizes and the opportunity to work more directly with professors and instructors,” Norris says.

“Every class I took from Dr. Singleton was memorable and influential!”

He recognizes that highly motivated students will be successful no matter where they attend college, but, according to Norris, “FHSU provides an atmosphere that allows students to find the confidence in their abilities to be as successful as they can be.”

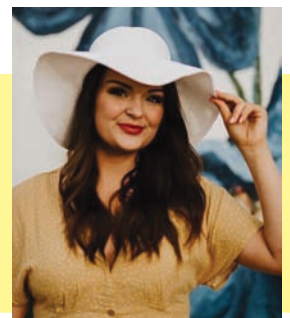
Before becoming the 17th Kansas State Librarian in 2018, Norris had served as the Director of the Hays Public Library for 13 years. “There isn’t a guidebook or a procedural that will teach you how to be a State Librarian, and though there are 49 other State Librarians, no one is the same as another. The old saying goes, ‘If you’ve seen one state library, you’ve seen one state library.’ And the saying is true,” Norris says.

From his beginnings as a GTA, to his director role at the Hays Public Library, to his current position as the State Librarian of Kansas, Norris has masterfully applied the skills and techniques he first developed as a student in the FHSU English Department.

About the Writer

Darian Housworth

Darian is a senior majoring in English (writing) with minors in Spanish and International Studies.



Literary Leaders: Sigma Tau Delta Achievements

By Jordan Darkis



In 2018, the Rho Psi Chapter of Sigma Tau Delta won the Outstanding Chapter Award, thanks in part to Judy Sansom's thoughtful application. Sansom, a graduate student and the president of the Rho Psi Chapter, submitted an application outlining the chapter's involvement throughout campus as well as within the community. Sansom's application also led to a 2nd place finish in the Outstanding Literary Arts Journal Award category for the chapter's literary journal, *Lines from the Middle of Nowhere*.

A WALK AMONG THE SUNFLOWERS: STEPHEN WOLF'S VISIT

New York author and Berkeley professor of literature and humanities Dr. Stephen Wolf visited FHSU in April to discuss his book *Central Park Love Song*. Wolf attended several classes and interacted with English majors in courses such as Brett Weaver's Creative Nonfiction, Carl Singleton's Literature of New York, as well as Cheryl Duffy's Professional Editing. The classes Wolf visited were right in line with his areas of expertise, treating attendees to both Wolf's history with Central Park and his writing process.

Wolf also participated in an open panel discussing his genre-defying book from a variety of angles. Panelists discussed how Central Park was created, dissected the autobiographical elements of death and nature from Wolf's life, and contemplated how these themes—and others—speak to people on a fundamental level.

Wolf mentioned that while he may not enjoy traveling, he appreciated the hospitality and eagerness with which everyone at FHSU had welcomed him. His visit, spearheaded by Linda Smith, was sponsored by the Departments of English, History, and Philosophy.

About the Writer *Emily Linder*

Emily Linder, a KAMS graduate, is currently an English major in the Writing Concentration. She is also pursuing a Communications minor.



Wizarding Week

Potterheads and Tigers celebrate the 20th anniversary of Harry Potter with a wizarding week of fun!

November 2018 marked the 20th anniversary for the famous Harry Potter franchise. Sigma Tau Delta and the University Activities Board invited students across campus to join in the celebration. Sigma Tau Delta has a long-standing history of orchestrating campus-wide events.

Judy Sansom, president of Sigma Tau Delta, was excited to plan the event. "As an English honor society, Sigma Tau Delta understands that literature is the foundation of knowledge, an expression of art and a tool for entertainment," Sansom says.

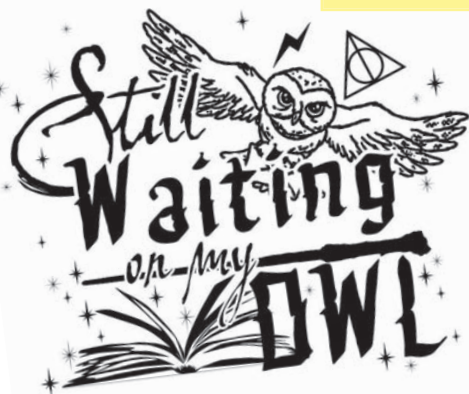
"We wanted to celebrate literature by offering individuals the opportunity to connect with it through arts, crafts, entertainment and even cosplay. The anniversary of Harry Potter provided us with an opportunity to do just that."

A scavenger hunt for Horcruxes, a visit from a hypnotist and crafts like creating your own wand provided a fun week's worth of celebration for a beloved franchise. Sansom captures the spirit of the event: "Literature connects us all, and that was our heart behind celebrating literature with this event."

About the Writer

Amber Fisher

Amber Fisher is an English Major pursuing a minor in Fine Arts and a certificate in Social Media Marketing. She loves her two dogs, Benny and Little Bit.



From **Jonathan Swift** to
PLANET GALLIFREY

By Darian Housworth

When you think “Dr. Eric Leuschner,” you might be more likely to think about eighteenth-century novels than to think about the sci-fi phenomenon *Doctor Who*.

In fact, the English Department chair recently published an essay in *Doctor Who: Twelfth Night*. His essay examines the presence of the United Nations Intelligence Taskforce (UNIT), a military-affiliated organization in the series, to explore how *Doctor Who* addresses politics.

Leuschner makes connections between the military force used by UNIT, and the similar problems faced in the world today. He concludes his essay by noting that “*Doctor Who* continues to promote ideological and political work.”

For Leuschner, this journey to publication was not a quick one. In fact, the process took almost three years to complete. “I submitted the abstract in summer 2016 and finished the first submission in October [of 2016],” says Leuschner.

After revisions, the book was approved December 2017 and was published in the U.K. in November 2018. Shortly after its publication in the U.K., the book was published in the U.S. in January 2019.

Interestingly, Leuschner says that when writing this piece, he applied the same critical tools he has used to study and analyze many other works of literature, such as eighteenth-century novels, early twentieth-century publishing practices and novels about protest.

Clearly, whether you wish to analyze a piece of eighteenth-century literature or an extraterrestrial “doctor” in a time-traveling police box, the English Department at FHSU is the place for you!

Brand New Writing Certificate

Every college graduate needs to write well, but we can’t expect them all to be English majors. Fort Hays State University’s Department of English now offers a brand-new certificate to complement any major. The recently added Certificate in Writing is a 12-hour curriculum including one required course and three elective courses. Students pursuing the Certificate in Writing are required to take Advanced Composition, supplemented with three courses varying from Advanced Creative Writing to Writing for Publication to Nature Writing.

The Certificate in Writing certainly has promise for students across the colleges. General Education courses required by the university already include two composition classes, but the curriculum for the Certificate in Writing may pique students’ interest. As students branch out into the electives of the certificate, they have the flexibility to refine their written-communication proficiency in whatever manner suits them best.

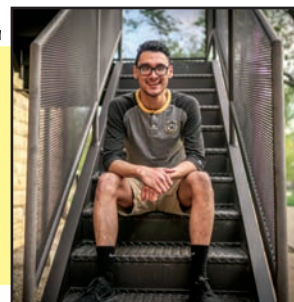
Many of the courses in the curriculum are more specialized forms of writing, appealing to students from any discipline, with any passion. For instance, students interested in undergraduate research will want to know how to write for their audience. The Technical and Professional Writing class can teach students how to write for their discipline. Additionally, students with a passion for the arts may want to pursue their writing dream. The Playwriting/Screenwriting class can help students who aspire to write the next great production.

For a full list of classes, visit fhsu.edu/english/fhsu-english-dept.-writing-certificate.pdf. For more information, contact the certificate coordinator, Dr. Cheryl Duffy, by email at cduffy@fhsu.edu.

About the Writer

Trey Basa

Trey is an English major with a concentration in literature. His passions include running for fun and writing poetry.



The Double Lives of English Majors

By Amber Fisher

English students often live double lives. That is, they pursue dual majors, minors and/or certificate programs. These different fields of study add value that employers will recognize.

Some students know exactly what they intend to do for a career, and some don't make their decision until later in their education. Tori Ihnen and Emily Linder are English majors in the Writing Concentration. Both are obtaining a minor in Communication Studies with an emphasis in Public Relations and Advertising.

Linder knew from the start that she wanted to add this minor, as she has always enjoyed graphic design and did projects in her extracurricular activities. She's following a longtime passion of writing and creation.

"It's very important to me that people know how best to communicate with one another, be it in professional, creative or everyday capacities. This is even more important when trying to sell a product or promote an event," Linder says.

Linder hopes to use her skills to help not just herself but also other writers. "Writing has always been the goal, but my love of fiction extends beyond creating it myself, and I would love to help other people get their work out on readers' shelves."

Ihnen, however, did not add a minor to her curriculum until her junior year after discovering that many of the English and Communication Studies courses correlate well together.



Emily Linder



Tori Ihnen



Josie Hemphill



Amber Fisher

"Adding a Communications minor has helped me realize my passions and given me the opportunity to broaden my skill set," Ihnen says. "Along with writing courses, I have been able to take professional speaking courses as well as courses covering crisis management. I believe that entering the workforce with multiple facets will make me stand out as an individual."

Josie Hemphill is an English major in the Teaching Concentration with a minor in Spanish. Hemphill decided to add this minor to her degree to give her more opportunities in her field and believes it will help her reach her goals.

"It helps me think more about places I could teach or work in the future with a foreign language in my repertoire. I have really enjoyed my Spanish classes here at FHSU so far, and a foreign language creates many other opportunities that I would not get without it," Hemphill says.

I myself am an English major in the Writing Concentration pursuing a minor in Art and a certificate in Social Media Marketing. I knew that my Art minor and certificate in Social Media Marketing would complement my major. With my graphic design experience, I've learned the importance of mastering the English language. My English major along with my minor and certificate is a smart, rare combination that will prepare me for my ambitions and show employers that I'm qualified for any task.

These decisions will give English majors a lead in the competitive job market upon graduation. Even more important, this additional education will enrich their lives beyond their careers.

“LITTLE SPOUSE” HAS BIG PLANS

Valerie Brown-Kuchera’s radio show takes off By Anniston Weber

From teaching English composition to writing her own audio essays and parenting three children, FHSU instructor Valerie Brown-Kuchera has a lot on her plate. An FHSU alum herself, Brown-Kuchera earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in 1995 and her Master of Arts degree in 1997 from FHSU.

Every Sunday morning, Brown-Kuchera brings her audio essays to life in her five-minute High Plains Public Radio show titled “Little Spouse on the Prairie,” which airs at 8:35 a.m. on “Weekend Edition.” In each episode, Brown-Kuchera discusses her daily life as a midwestern woman while also lovingly poking fun at her husband and children.

The amount of work that goes into her show is extensive – each episode goes through a lengthy process before finally being aired and posted on the HPPR website.

“Each audio essay is about 700 words long,” Brown-Kuchera says. “It takes about an hour to write up an episode. If my husband does something hilarious, which is a frequent event, I can write it up quicker than that.”

The episode is then recorded with the help of Ron Rohlif, an Informatics professor at FHSU. From there, it is transmitted to HPPR, where the regional content manager, Angie Haflich, processes and schedules it to air. Brown-Kuchera then submits a transcript for editing along with a photograph that relates to the theme of the episode.

“I spend a great deal of time taking or selecting the photographs,” Brown-Kuchera says. “I apply the same set of filters to each episode’s photograph to maintain thematic consistency. The filters make the photos look tattered and old since much of the show’s content focuses on my love of vintage things such as houses, men, furniture and clothing.”

Working with a variety of people to put her show together is one of the most rewarding experiences Brown-Kuchera says she has gained from “Little Spouse.” The theme song for the show, “The Little Spouse Rag,” was written by Kelly Werts, a talented Kansas City folk musician and composer. Brown-

Kuchera also says interacting with the listeners to her show on social media and at public radio promotional events has been something she’s very much enjoyed.

In addition to allowing her to meet and interact with people, Brown-Kuchera’s show has earned her an award. In its first year, her sketch show received 2nd place in the Kansas Association of Broadcasters commentary category. In an interview with The Hays Daily News, Brown-Kuchera says she was thrilled to receive this award because she was being compared to all the commentary shows in the state, including non-comedy broadcasts.

Brown-Kuchera has goals for “Little Spouse.”

“The University Press of Kansas is communicating with me about forming a collection of essays, which is exciting,” Brown-Kuchera says. “However, I don’t think I will have time to work on putting that collection together until 2020, because I am also working on my Ph.D., teaching full time and chairing a time-intensive statewide committee. Not to mention trying to parent three kids and actually stay married to my husband.”

But her busy schedule doesn’t keep this hilarious midwestern mom from expanding on her show.

“A dream would be to get Kansas Public Radio to pick it up,” Brown-Kuchera told Hays Daily. “I want to keep this show going really strong. I want to have fresh material all the time as I complete this Ph.D. As soon as I get done with that, I’m going to be hitting the sidewalks and getting it marketed to bigger areas.”



THE LIFE & TIMES OF A LAW LIBRARIAN

ALUMNA KRISTIN ROTH'S UNIQUE OCCUPATION

By Emily Linder



Kristin Roth is a 2016 graduate of Fort Hays State University with a rather unusual occupation. Using her English degree with a Writing Concentration, Roth has been working as Assistant Librarian at Johnson County's Law Library since August of 2017.

Law librarians assist the public, judicial staff and attorneys with finding legal books and resources to use in their cases. This work is similar to other librarian positions, and Roth brings plenty of experience to the table, having worked in her high school library before going on to work two years in the Hays Public Library's Young Adult Department. As this issue went to press, Roth was on schedule to complete her master's degree in library science during summer 2019.

Among all the skills required of librarians, Roth cites her reference experience as being among the most important, but also acknowledges that knowing when to stop helping visitors can be just as vital.

"For example," says Roth, "if a person who plans to represent themselves in court walks in and asks for the paperwork for annulment, I can show them the general section on annulment for research, and I can show them a group of potential forms, but I can't tell them which one to use because that is legal advice."

In addition to helping locate materials, Roth also relies on her ability to talk to vendors of law resources and keep the library's budget balanced. Because of this, she has some advice for college students getting ready to graduate and enter specialized careers.

"I didn't take any finance classes at Fort Hays; I learned what I know now through practical experience," says Roth. "It is important to take practical classes outside of your major. Take a look at job ads that you might want to apply for in the future, and if there is a way for you to take a class and learn at least the basics of a listed skill, definitely do it."

Memory Lane:

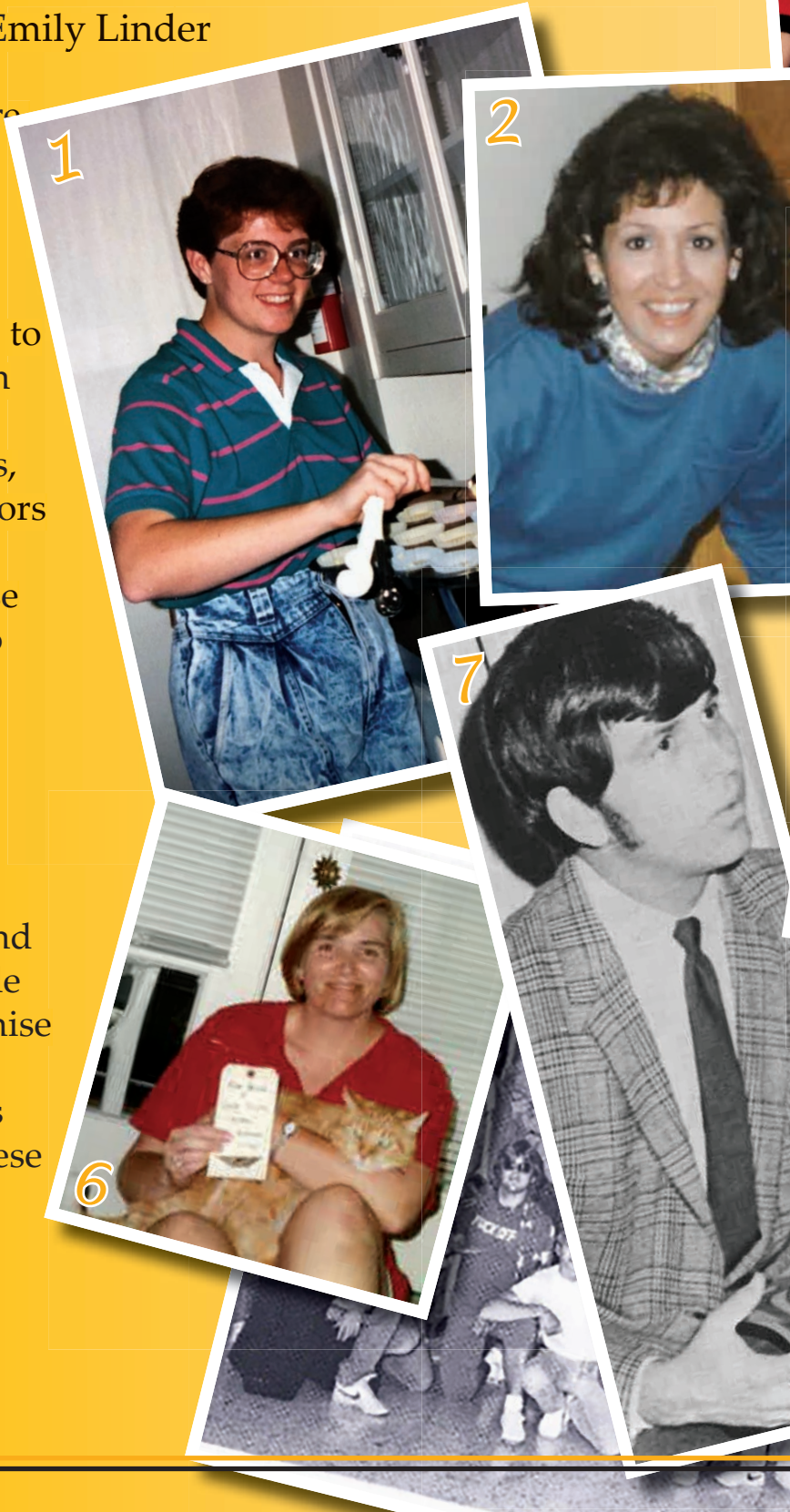
The Faces of FHSU's English Department

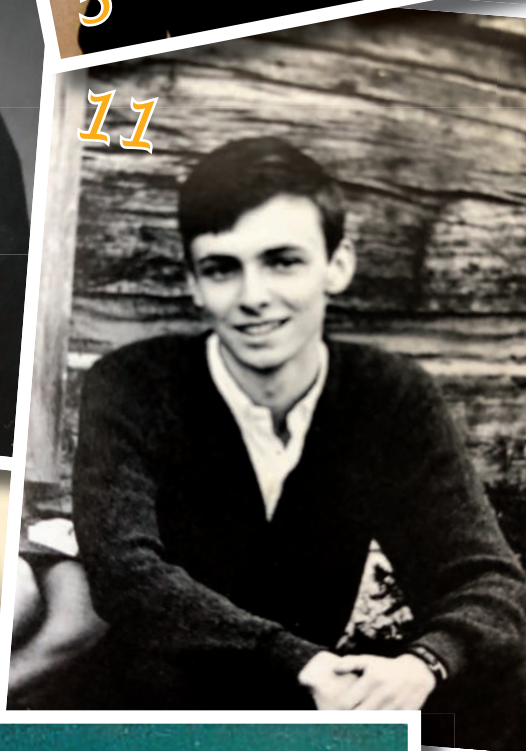
By Emily Linder

Assembled for your viewing pleasure, this collage displays retired and current FHSU professors as undergraduates. Members of the English Department dove deep into the depths of their personal archives to bring you a collection of photos from a (possibly?) simpler time. It can be hard to remember after all the exams, papers and pop quizzes that professors assign—all seemingly due within a week of one another—that even these esteemed scholars and Ph.D.s had to start somewhere.

While some of the fashion choices displayed may seem questionable now, rest assured that most of these professors could have worked as models based on style, confidence and charisma alone, but chose the humble path of the educator due to the promise of all the coffee they could drink. The student body is thankful for this sacrifice, and as such, the faces of these faculty members are memorialized here as a reminder.

Check page 18 to see if you correctly identified our faculty from their photos!





Thanks to our generous scholarship contributors:

Alan and Kay Hoffman, *Hays, KS*

Ann Marks, *Snellville, GA*

Arlin and Thelma Morgan,
Topeka, KS

Bob and Dianne Hooper, *Bogue, KS*

Brent and Wonda Phillips,
Concordia, KS

Bruce and Kris Bair,
Corpus Christi, TX

Carey Griffin-Wingett, *Topeka, KS*

Carol Strauss, *Newport Beach, CA*

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Donald Richardson, *Phoenix, AZ*

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Drew and Abbey Thomas,
Prairie Village, KS

Ed Moore, *Kansas City, MO*

Edwin and Mary Lou Durall,
Winter Springs, FL

Eldon and Karen Zimbelman,
Wichita, KS

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Voss, *Birmingham, AL*

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Lawrence, KS

Richard and Jane Weideman,
Grand Rapids, MI

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Schnell, *Newton Centre, MA*

Robert and Lisa Swift, *Tucson, AZ*

Robert and Virginia Vocelli,
West Hartford, CT

Ron and Judy Sherard, *Hays, KS*

Sheri Olsson, *Independence, MO*

Steve and Glenda Shepard,
Johnson, KS

Steven and Patricia Ottem,
Limon, CO

Taylor Lunsford, *Hays, KS*

Warren and Pam Shaffer, *Hays, KS*

William Elliott and Janice
Schmidtberger Elliott,
Oakland, CA

Scholarship Winners 2019-20

Alice McFarland Scholarship
Anna Criswell

Roberta Stout Scholarships
Jessie Hemphill
Cassidy Locke

James R. & Ruth Start Scholarship
Kinsey Barton

Michael Marks Scholarship
Cherokee Wright

**Elizabeth Jane "Betty" Lenz
Scholarship**
Tristan Wilson

Non-Traditional Student Scholarship
Christopher Day

English Development Scholarship
Katie Nowak

English Department Scholarships
Miguel Lopez-Lemus
Citlalli Cobian
Kinsey Barton
Maggie Revell
Madison Seery
Kaitlynn Pell

Lloyd Oswald Scholarships
Amy Krob
Jaicie Simon
Meagan Englert
Megan Wilson
Aaron Pierce

**The Ralph F. Voss/Elvon & Ruby
Feldkamp Scholarship**
Stacie Rupp

**Graduate Student English
Scholarships**
Nanette Brown
Noah Golaboff

International Teaching Presents Cultural Similarities and Differences

Fort Hays State University English instructor Jason Harper has influenced students across the globe.



Jason Harper began his teaching endeavors as a Wichita State University graduate student in 2004 but packed his bags within two years to begin a new adventure teaching in a foreign country. A partnership opportunity allowed him to teach in Paraguay. Only a year later Harper transitioned into a new culture, where he would spend ten years as a teacher in China.

"I taught college composition courses in a partnership program between Fort Hays State University and two Chinese universities, a program that enables students throughout China to earn a bachelor's degree from American university faculty members via courses taught only in English," Harper says.

In a recent essay, he recalls the dynamics of the Chinese classroom setting compared to those in America. In "A Murmuration of Starlings," he uses the specific example of an American student using a hangover to excuse herself from class, while a student of his in China turned a paper in the day after she had died in her sleep. (Technically, she turned it in thanks to the conscientious concern of her peers.)

Harper presented this essay last April for the oldest literary magazine to date. To celebrate 50 years, The North American Review held a writing convention in Iowa,

and Harper enjoyed sharing his experiences and networking with those around him: "It was an amazing conference with unbelievably talented attendees," Harper says. "One person in the audience recognized my piece about China that appeared previously in CNN travel. A few people commented that the essay I presented needs to be developed into a longer work—perhaps a book—about my experiences teaching abroad."

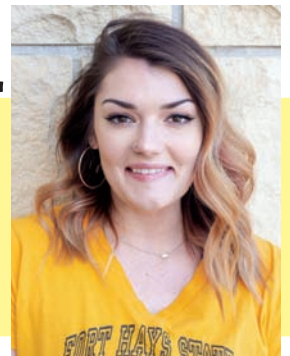
His international students weren't the only ones enlightened during his time spent abroad. Harper himself had to learn to avoid certain cultural faux pas. As an instructor who believes in the power of red ink, Harper had to adjust this style to accommodate Chinese belief. "In China...I learned that 'in ancient times' the color red was reserved for the dead," he says. "The names of the deceased were written, painted or engraved in red on gravestones and plaques in village centers."

Although his time teaching internationally has ceased for now, he teaches English at FHSU and serves as an International Coordinator between FHSU and its China programs. Harper is thankful for the opportunity to share his global encounters with other scholars. His teaching endeavors are proof that there are no limits to your career, especially when you're willing to venture outside your country's borders.

About the Writer

Tori Ihnen

Tori is a senior majoring in English (writing) and minoring in Communications with an emphasis in Public Relations and Advertising.



Writing Center Bot

Graduate students create online source for additional writing help

For students looking for extra writing assistance outside of the Writing Center's business hours – help is on the way. Graduate students Judy Sansom and Jessica Shields are in the process of creating an online bot to answer common grammatical and structural essay questions. (For the less tech-savvy among us, a bot is an online system that can interact with internet users without the assistance of a person.) The bot will run through the Writing Center's Facebook page and provide an easily accessible, quick alternative for students who can't make it into Forsyth Library to get additional help with their papers. While not yet completed, the bot is set to be mostly functional by the fall semester of 2019. The Writing Center will still offer free 30-minute, in-person consultations. Meetings can be scheduled on the Writing Center's website (fhsu.edu/WritingCenter) or through their Facebook page (facebook.com/WritingFHSU).

About the Writer

Anniston Weber

Anniston is a sophomore majoring in English with a concentration in writing.

She dreams of one day writing for BuzzFeed News. Also, she loves her pug named Norman.



WRITING TIGERS WINNERS

— 101 —

1st- "Breaking the Silence"

Hannah Feldman

(Morgan Chalfant)*

2nd- "The War on Drugs Has Failed"

Logan Miller

(Brett Weaver)*

3rd- "The Restriction of Speech"

Creighton Renz

(Brett Weaver)*

— 102 —

1st- "The Influence of Online Classes on Healthcare Training"

Briauna Hysaw

(Pauline Scott)*

2nd- "Puppy Mills Pose a Serious Threat to Society"

Hannah Korth

(Sharon Wilson)*

3rd- "The Path of Rediscovering an Identity"

Sheena Zeng

(Brett Weaver)*

* Student's Instructor



Graduate Students Shed Light on Classic Literary Works

—By Tori Ihnen

The College English Association (CEA) hosted its 50th annual conference this past March, and three Fort Hays State University graduate students joined in the celebration. Karel Schulz, Vanessa Schumacher and Stacie Rupp (pictured l. to r.) traveled with FHSU English professor Pauline Scott (far left) to present on a panel in New Orleans.



The students collaborated on three different literary works to find a similar thread pertaining to the overall theme of the conference: vision. After extensive research, fundraising and overall preparation, Rupp, Schulz and Schumacher created a cohesive project that embodied this overarching theme: “Operating in the Dark: Literal and Figurative Blind Spots in Shakespeare, Shelley, and Fitzgerald.”

In addition to their presentation, the students were able to network with other participants and develop their professional speaking techniques. As first-time conference attendees, they were very pleased with the turnout at their panel and the connections they made. “The conference was graduate student friendly, and our panel was well received,” Rupp says. “We proudly represented FHSU, and we are planning to return next year!”

FHSU Recognized English Students and Faculty as Finalists for Three Esteemed Awards in 2019

The English Department at Fort Hays State University is filled with outstanding students and faculty members, and last spring, three members were recognized for their outstanding achievements.

By Darian Housworth

Torch Award Finalist: Alexis-Athena Wyatt

The Torch Award recognizes an outstanding senior each year. Alexis-Athena Wyatt was honored to be selected as a finalist for such a prestigious award. “To be recognized for my dedication, leadership, and scholarship during my four years at FHSU feels like a dream. I am so thankful for this entire experience,” said Wyatt. “So many faculty members have impacted me, including Mrs. Wilson, Dr. Duffy and Dr. Bartlett. These professors have always made themselves available for me whenever I have needed them.” After graduation, Wyatt will complete her secondary-school student teaching in Topeka, Kansas.



Lighthouse Award Finalist: Judy Sansom

The Lighthouse Award, established in 2018, recognizes an outstanding graduate student each year. Judy Sansom credited many great mentors during her time at FHSU, including Dr. Amanda Fields, Dr. Cheryl Duffy and Dr. Lexey Bartlett. Sansom was most proud of her academic presentations at both the Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC) and International Writing Centers Association (IWCA). After graduation, Sansom plans to teach at the high school or college level. Sansom says her ultimate goal is to teach at the college level while directing a writing center. She also hopes to begin “chiseling away” at a Ph.D. soon.



Pilot Award Finalist: Dr. Lexey Bartlett

The Pilot Award is the highest honor among teaching faculty. Graduating seniors are given an opportunity to recognize and show gratitude toward those who commit themselves as educators. Sansom and Wyatt both worked as Writing Consultants at the Writing Center under Bartlett. Both Wyatt and Sansom attributed much of their success to the guidance and advice they received from Bartlett in and outside of the classroom. “Working with students is what I love the most,” said Bartlett. “I am teaching students how to be professionals beyond just the classroom and even beyond the English department.”



The Legacy of James R. and Ruth Start

By Trey Basa

The impact of a scholarship is more than just awarding a student money. Scholarships play a vital role in the education system and have impacts that stretch through the generations. Such is the case with the James R. and Ruth Start Scholarship.

The namesakes of the scholarship had once been students themselves at Fort Hays State University in the late 1910s. James Start received his degree from FHSU in 1919 before joining the faculty as a professor of English and speech. Ruth Start received her teaching certificate to begin her career in Western Kansas. James went on to coach the debate program to an overwhelming success in the '20s and '30s.

In the 1927 yearbook, student Alexander Woolcott wrote a dedication to James: "A gentleman of the old school; Professor James R. Start's association with the students of Fort Hays is one of kindly interest and consideration for their problems and points of view.... He displays a rare and cultural sense of humor and, above all, a kindly courtesy."



In 1965, James was honored by President M.C. Cunningham when the theater in Malloy Hall was named Felten-Start, honoring him for his contributions to the speech and drama department. After his passing in 1972, many of James's colleagues and students wanted to remember him and his wife by giving gifts to the Foundation to start the scholarship. For decades, James R. Start greatly impacted students and faculty alike. Posthumously, he has continued to impact generations of FHSU students.

Most recently, the James R. and Ruth Start Scholarship has had a positive impact on English major Anne-Sophie Dalmasso (pictured to the left), the 2018-2019 recipient. "This scholarship has been a great help for me, especially considering how hard money is to come by as a college student. This scholarship has helped alleviate some of the financial burdens of being a full-time college student," Dalmasso says. She is working on her English degree with a Literature Concentration, and she plans to pursue a career in education to share her passion of literature.

This Is One Special Collection!

By Trey Basa

Perhaps the most treasured assortment of texts in Forsyth Library is the Special Collections housed on the ground floor. Special Collections collects and preserves different items concerning special topics of study ranging from Kansas and the American West to Genealogy to American Military History. Although nearly every piece of the Special Collections is unavailable for checkout to everyday patrons, Forsyth Library and Library Specialist Patty Nicholas welcomes researchers to use these resources during regular operating hours.

Of special interest to English alumni might be the Nancy Vogel Collection, 1923-2014.

Nancy Vogel started working as an Instructor of English at Fort Hays Kansas State College in 1965, and returned in 1971 after obtaining her Ph.D. from the University of Kansas. She retired from the University in 2000. Nancy Vogel's collection features her collected personal correspondence and research about Young Adult Literature author Maureen Daly. An itemized list of the collection can be found at <https://scholars.fhsu.edu>.

If you or anyone you know may be interested in donating materials to the Special Collections of Forsyth Library, please contact the coordinator of the Special Collections, Brian Gribben, by email at b_gribben@fhsu.edu.

EXPLORING ENGLISH ELSEWHERE

Students are often told to step outside the box when faced with new and challenging situations. The same is true for English majors. Spending time in the classroom is a great way to connect as a class while learning about rare texts from Nathaniel Hawthorne or the various ways to teach writing. Fort Hays State University's English majors, however, hit the road for a different perspective. From teaching creative writing in a high school classroom in Ellis all the way to presenting at the annual Sigma Tau Delta Convention in St. Louis, FHSU English majors are eager to reach new heights in their education.



TIMELESS TEXTS

Dr. Matthew Smalley, assistant professor of American literature, traveled with his students to the Spencer Library at the University of Kansas in April 2019 to show his Hawthorne and Melville class unique texts from the two authors and how their work has been perceived throughout history. The trip allowed the class to see the different ways that texts circulate in a culture and consider how the ways that we encounter texts inflect their meanings. During the trip, Smalley and his class saw a piece of sheet music that contains a lesser known Hawthorne poem as the lyrics. Smalley expressed an even more interesting fact: that the lyrics are about burial at sea, a major thematic focus of Melville's fiction. Smalley, a fan of *Moby Dick*, also wished to show his students the different representations of Melville's novel—such as being retold through a collection of art pieces. While at the library, the class got the chance to work with special texts and learn how to care for them.

THE ELLIS HIGH EXPERIENCE

For almost ten years, Dr. Cheryl Duffy has taken her Theories of Rhetoric and Composition students to various high schools in the area to give students a day's worth of teaching experience. Just last November, Duffy took her students to Ellis High School to show them what teaching is like firsthand. Duffy reached out to Sarah (Jarmer) Tomsic, an FHSU English graduate who currently teaches at EHS, to discuss the details of the project. Tomsic and her English colleague Alyssa Dawson requested that Duffy have her students prepare lesson plans focused on creative writing, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* and the use of direct quotations. Keeping in mind the high schoolers' skill level, the FHSU students had complete creative freedom when it came to making their lesson plans.



Inspired by Smalley's class, English major Samuel Ayers created a sculpture entitled "Moby-Dick: Octahedral View," made entirely of pages from Melville's work of the same name.

About the Writer

Jordan Darkis

Jordan Darkis is an English major in the Writing Concentration. He will return to FHSU to pursue his M.A.



...continued from page 10...

1. Sharon Graham
2. Linda Smith
3. Valerie Brown-Kuchera
4. Brenda Craven
5. Matthew Smalley
6. Pauline Scott
7. Al Geritz
8. Linda McHenry
9. Brad Will
10. Cheryl Duffy
11. Carl Singleton
12. Eric Leuschner
13. Brett Weaver

SHAKESPEARE IN THE PARK

During mid-September of 2018, English majors experienced Shakespeare's work up close and personal at the Flint Hills Shakespeare Festival in St. Marys, Kansas. Shakespeare under the Stars, a new attraction, features classic plays performed live. With this addition to the festival, students enjoyed the performance of *The Merchant of Venice*, a play about friendship, greed and religion. Students also found themselves immersed an atmosphere that included food, drinks and souvenirs matching the time period. Dr. Pauline Scott and Dr. Lexey Bartlett sponsored the students.



DATE WITH KATE

Last fall, five FHSU students traveled to Wichita for the annual Kansas Association of Teachers of English (KATE) Conference. Dr. Carl Singleton and Jason Harper accompanied the students. A panel presentation led by students Judy Sansom, Meagan Englert, Jessica Shields, Alexis-Athena Wyatt and Tristan Wilson explored the important themes of bullying, racism, family dynamics and fear that occur throughout the Harry Potter series. According to Sansom, the purpose behind the panel was to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the series. Exploring these themes will hopefully empower students to overcome difficult situations that occur in their everyday lives.



CONQUERING CONVENTIONS

FHSU students also traveled to St. Louis, Missouri, for the 2019 Sigma Tau Delta Convention. Among the eleven FHSU students attending, Cassidy Locke, Judy Sansom and Tristan Wilson presented their work at the convention. Wilson, who served as Student Representative, and Jessica Shields, who served as Assistant Student Representative, were planners for the convention all year. Back: Mackenzie McGregor, Cassidy Locke, Tristan Wilson, Makayli Allender, Eric McFarlane, Merrit Hammeke, Judy Sansom. Front: Jessica Shields, Dr. Lexey Bartlett, Alexis-Athena Wyatt, Meagan Englert.



TIGERS LOOSE IN NYC

During the 2019 spring semester, Dr. Carl Singleton taught a course on the literature of New York. One exciting part of the course was that the entire class traveled to New York City and visited literary landmarks that had appeared in their readings—sites such as the New York Public Library and The Empire State Building, which was a location seen in *The Catcher in the Rye*. Pictured in Central Park are Dr. Singleton, Drew Reisner, Karel Webster, Tristan Wilson, Cassidy Locke, Stacie Rupp and Merrit Hammeke.



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