

POST PARADE

FORT HAYS STATE UNIVERSITY ENGLISH DEPARTMENT FALL 2006



Professional-Editing Students Give *Post Parade* a Bold New Look

ALSO INSIDE:

- English Graduate Wins FHSU Young Alumni Award
- A Tribute to the Lady of the Manor
- *Lines* Wins National Publication Award
- English Takes On Service Learning
- New Writing Program Is a Success

Note from the Editor

by Dr. Bradley Will

This edition of the English department's annual newsletter marks a significant departure from our usual editorial policy. This past spring, as part of the department's writing program, I had the pleasure of offering a new class—Professional Editing. Along with the usual copy-editing exercises and some intense grammar and usage exams, I gave my students the task of writing feature articles and making layout decisions for this issue of *Post Parade*. I am confident that my students are as appreciative as I am of the English department's willingness to provide this opportunity for student writers. I'm proud of my students' work, and I hope you as readers are pleased with the results.

In addition to my students, I also want to acknowledge and thank other contributors, specifically, Dr. Amy Cummins for her article on *Lines*, Dr. Steven Trout for his wonderful profile of Chris Luehrs, and Dr. W. James McHenry and Mitch Weber for their excellent photography.



The 2006 Post Parade team. Back row, left to right: Kathay Johnson, Kelly Chrisman, Brenten Antholz, Dr. Bradley Will, Luke Hachmeister, and Krystal Baugher. Front row, left to right: Jessie Maseberg, Lisa Schlegel, Shelby Jacobs, and Michelle Swayne. Photo by Dr. W. James McHenry.

Post Parade Fall 2006

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Cover Photo: Dr. W. James McHenry

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Fort Hays State University is a thriving liberal and applied arts, state-assisted institution with an enrollment of about 8,000 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 for the western Kansas region and beyond. Fort Hays State occupies the southwest corner of Hays, KS, 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.

Department's New Writing Program Is a Success

by Kelly Chrisman

In the past, Fort Hays State University English students had to choose between two options as they pursued their English degrees: literature or teaching. This year the English department offered a new concentration. For the first time, students were given the option of joining the new writing program.

Dr. Daniel Kulmala began campaigning for this new concentration three years ago as he noticed the growing trend among other universities to create writing programs. Kulmala explains that "an emphasis on writing and composition is the way of the future for English departments." As our society is growing and changing, the need for experienced writers is apparent. Kulmala explains that one reason for the recent expansion in the field of rhetoric and composition is the abundance of information available on the internet.

Previously existing courses such as Creative Writing and Technical and Report Writing are now part of the writing program, but the writing concentration has also expanded the current selection, offering several new courses: Professional Editing, Writing for Publication, Topics in Writing, Playwriting/Screenwriting, and Professional and Community-Based Writing. These courses will better prepare students by focusing on aspects of writing that broaden their career opportunities.

Dr. Bradley Will has also developed the format for a writing internship, allowing students to experience writing in the work environment. Will explains that students earn three credit hours in a sixteen-week semester and are required to be on-site for ten hours a week. In the spring of 2006, one student interned with the Hays Convention and Visitors Bureau,

writing material that promoted agricultural tourism. In fall 2006, one student will be interning with the Ellis County Historical Society while another student will edit an academic journal produced on campus. According to Will, these internships were placed through existing relationships with these institutions and the English department; in the future, however, students can individually seek businesses willing to cooperate in the internship program with approval from Will or their own advisors.

Dr. Cheryl Duffy, English Chair, acknowledges that these new courses are energizing the department while attracting a larger number of English majors. In fact, the number of incoming English majors increased 57% from fall 2004 to fall 2005. Incoming freshmen are not the only students interested in the writing program. The number of English majors also continues to grow due to internal transfers—students currently enrolled at FHSU who switched from a previous or undecided major to an English major. Duffy explains, "A great number of our students come as internal transfers, and the majority of those in the past year have chosen the writing concentration."

There is a preconceived notion that English majors are destined for teaching; however, there are also opportunities for employment as a writer. Web sites such as writejobs.com offer a glimpse into the many fields that an English graduate might enter. Duffy says, "Our program produces students who are flexible writers—who can adapt to a variety of rhetorical situations—because serving as an AmeriCorp grant writer is different from serving as a catalogue copy editor for Cabela's."



LaNette Schmeidler Parker addresses students and faculty in the English department, to the delight of Dr. Shaffer and everyone else in attendance. Photos by Mitch Weber, FHSU.

Every fall, during Homecoming week at Fort Hays State University, a select number of alumni, friends, students, and faculty are recognized for their personal and professional achievements with prestigious awards. The Young Alumni Award recognizes the community and professional achievements of two alumni who graduated within the past ten to fifteen years. This past year, English graduate LaNette Schmeidler Parker accepted this award. She received a plaque to take home, and her name was permanently engraved on the large plaque displayed on the second floor of the FHSU Memorial Union.

While majoring in English at FHSU, Parker was a member of Sigma Tau Delta and highly involved in student government, serving as president of the student body. Additionally, she was editor of *Lines*, the campus journal of literature and art. As a graduate student, Parker also served as a teaching assistant for the English department.

Parker earned her bachelor of arts in English in 1995. One year later, she was awarded her master of arts in English from FHSU as well. From there she

moved to California to pursue her career. Today, Parker works as a communications consultant of Towers Perrin, a global human-resources consulting firm. Parker works in the change-implementation practice at Towers Perrin. She helps national and global companies manage their investment in people by creating and developing the information the

companies wish to share with their employees. This ranges from health-care information to compensation statements. Here it is crucial that her writing be concise and accurate. Before Towers Perrin, Parker worked for Pillsbury Winthrop as a manager and human-resources communication and project coordinator, and at Crosby, Heafey, Roach & May as an operations and human-resources assistant.

Additionally, Parker has not stopped studying English since she left FHSU. She attended the William Faulkner Writers' Conference in 2004 and finds time to attend fiction workshops, a hobby of hers. She enjoys attending week-long Advanced Fiction workshops with Tom Jenks and Carol Edgarian, who are nationally recognized editors that work with

“LaNette helped the students *and* professors in the audience see how much the business world values clear writing that targets a specific audience.”

—Dr. Cheryl Duffy

English Graduate, LaNette Schmeidler Parker, Receives Young Alumni Award

by Michelle Swayne and Brenten Antholz

well-known authors.

Despite the distance between California and Kansas, she occasionally returns to FHSU to talk with current students and visit faculty and friends. During her most recent visit, she gave a presentation to students and faculty. The main idea she wanted to convey to students was that there are more opportunities than teaching that can be realized with an English degree.

Her presentation was a unique experience for all who attended. Dr. Cheryl Duffy, Chair of the English department, said, "LaNette helped the students *and professors* in the audience see how much the business world values clear writing that targets a specific audience." More presentations with professionals,

such as Parker, who have utilized their English degrees in different fields, are being planned for the future.

Not only has Parker kept in touch with the university by actively conversing with students and faculty, but she is also working with the university endowment to set up a scholarship at Fort Hays on behalf of the Schmeidler family. She credits FHSU with one of her most valuable lessons in life, "There's no substitute for hard work and common sense."

FHSU would also like to congratulate Parker and her husband, Brion, as they welcomed the arrival of their first child, Ian Prose Parker, on the 6th of April, 2006. The family calls Mountain View, California, home.



Introducing Two New Faculty Members

Lexey Bartlett

by Jessie Maseberg

In the fall of 2005, Dr. Lexey Bartlett joined the English department faculty. Dr. Bartlett, who attained her PhD at the University of Texas in Arlington last May, classifies herself as a “generalist” but also specializes in nineteenth- and twentieth-century British and world literature. She teaches both Composition I and Composition II, Advanced Composition, and World Literature. Dr. Bartlett created a presentation for Research and Creative Activity Week on Hari Kunzru’s *The Impressionist*, specifically, the relationship between ritual tribal African scarification and the formation of identity. This relates back to her doctoral dissertation, *The Double Redux: Multiplying Identity in Post-Modern Fiction*, which examined how identities in post-modern fiction tend to be multiple instead of the traditional double.

Dr. Bartlett, a native of Texas, enjoys Hays, stating, “It’s nice to be in a smaller town because there are more local and individually based things going on.” As a child, Dr. Bartlett wanted to become either a forest ranger or a college professor. Later on in life, she also had leanings towards engineering school but settled for teaching, not only because she describes herself as “naturally pedantic” but also because it requires special skills and helps her to learn as well.

In her spare time, she enjoys knitting, watching movies, tinkering with computers (she admits to being a technology junkie with a special fondness for Macs), and reading. Some of her favorite authors are Jane Austen, Julian Barnes, Virginia Woolf, Jeanette Winterson, Hari Kunzru, and Jorge Luis Borges. She is also a fan of J. K. Rowling, and when asked which Harry Potter character she most identifies with, she answered, “Remus Lupin,” ominously stating, “I’ll let everyone figure out why.”

Eric Leuschner

by Kathay Johnson

The English department also welcomes Dr. Eric Leuschner. Dr. Leuschner received his doctorate from the University of Missouri-Columbia, and specialized in the history and development of the American and British novel from the late seventeenth and eighteenth centuries to today. His dissertation focused on the preface and why it is an important part of a novel, why it was popular, and why it has disappeared in contemporary novels.

Dr. Leuschner is currently teaching several sections of English Composition as well as World Literature, in which he focuses on campus novels. These novels, such as *Final Exam* by Julio Cortazar and *Bachelor of Arts* by R. K. Narayan, deal with college students and academics in a larger, global context. Dr. Leuschner has a continuing interest in the academic novel and in discovering why we, as students and teachers, are here to begin with.

Dr. Leuschner hopes to attain a permanent position at Fort Hays where he can enhance and contribute to the English department. He feels that it is important to aid students in their college career by helping them achieve their goals and helping them answer that eternal question, “What do I want to do?”

Dr. Leuschner would like to teach a class on eighteenth-century British literature, which is not currently offered at Fort Hays. He has published essays on Henry James, and he also has an essay on the academic novel coming out later this year.

English Department 2006-2007 Scholarship Recipients

Thanks to the generosity of all of our contributors, the following students received financial assistance for their studies. On their behalf, we would like to thank everyone who contributed to our scholarship fund.

John & Grace Bohannon Scholarships

Melissa Mikesell
Michelle Swayne

Alice McFarland Scholarship

Sheena Hernandez

English Department Scholarships

Ian Conkey
Catherine Edwards
Kara Gerstenkorn
Sabrina Hedding
Theresa Kraisinger
Jessie Maseberg
Christopher Rome
Drew Thomas
Alexandra Walston

Michael Marks Scholarship

Heather Teater

Roberta Stout Scholarship

Krystal Baugher

Non-Traditional Student Scholarship

Nathaniel Chaar
Diane Polifka

Graduate Student Scholarship

Amy Walker

English Department Freshman Honor Scholarships

Traci Bamber
Brady Peters
Emily Slothower
Sheridan Thompson

English Department Graduates December 2005/May 2006

Bachelor of Arts in English

Kelly Jo Chrisman *Summa Cum Laude*
Susan L. (Oborny) Deges *Magna Cum Laude*
Candice Joy Fulks *Summa Cum Laude*
Amy Katherine Morris *Cum Laude*
Mamie Lorena Palmer-Stimpson
Laura Elizabeth (Riese) Plank *Magna Cum Laude*
Christopher Lee Scheideman *Cum Laude*
Traci Ann Small
Amanda Kay Stinemetz
Kayci Ann Strickland *Summa Cum Laude*
Jamie Printess Weil *Cum Laude*

Master of Arts in English

Martha L. Aberson
Susan Lee Dickinson
Deena Jean Eaton
Catherine Soward Martin
Samantha Sue Scott

Master of Liberal Studies with English Emphasis

Gregory William Rohloff

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Several years ago, I had the opportunity to hear Chris Luehrs present a formal paper, co-authored with her husband Robert, at the annual conference sponsored by the Society for the Interdisciplinary Study of Social Imagery (otherwise known by the unfortunate acronym SISSI). As soon as Chris finished reading the first sentence of the essay, an analysis of Barbara Hambly's Benjamin January series, I said to myself, "This lady has presence." Slowly, and with a deep and sonorous voice, she went on to articulate one beautifully constructed argument after another, pausing from time to time to dart a fierce glance at individuals in the room. No one in the audience moved. No one breathed. The atmosphere was electric.

Sadly, Chris's formidable presence—her charismatic air of confidence, wisdom, and command—will now be felt less frequently on Third Floor, Rarick. After more than fifteen years of teaching, she is retiring. Her contribution to FHSU is beyond reckoning. Never one to suffer fools—or lazy students—gladly, Chris *demand*ed excellence from her classes. Students who chose to apply themselves found in Chris a teacher both generous and patient. Students who did not . . . well, they soon changed their minds. All learned to heed the warning posted on her office door: "Lack of planning on *your* part does not constitute an emergency on mine." Chris also made sure that official functions in the English department were conducted with appropriate decorum, and she was not above reminding her colleagues, when necessary, that respect and common courtesy are no less important to the life of a department than fleeting academic honors or display cases filled with publications. For years, she made the necessary preparations for the English department's Parents Day reception, graciously opened her home for English Honor Society



A Tribute to the Lady of the Manor

by Dr. Steven Trout

initiations (as well as other events), and saw to it that Linda Leiker, our beloved administrative assistant, was recognized, along with the department's work-study student, on each Secretaries' Day. Outside the department, Chris played a major role in the annual FHSU Madrigal Dinner. Indeed, together with Robert, she helped sustain this now vibrant campus tradition for more than a quarter of a century. Sometimes she made her contributions behind the scenes. On other occasions, she took center stage as, appropriately enough, "The Queen of England" or "The Lady of the Manor."

To her many tasks, Chris brought unique credentials. In 1962, she completed a BA in History at Valparaiso University in Indiana. (Robert tells me that she nearly majored in English, but decided against it after discovering that she could not avoid an especially disagreeable Shakespeare Professor). Four years later, she graduated from Washington University in St. Louis, one of the top institutions in the country, with an MA in History. More than two decades passed before Chris decided that one MA was not enough. She received her second graduate degree, an MA in English from Fort Hays State, in 1992.

Chris's advanced training in both History and English gave her considerable versatility as an instructor. In addition to teaching English Composition I, Composition II, and Principles of Multiculturalism on a regular basis, she often co-taught virtual-college courses with her husband, including the ever-popular Religion, Heresy, Magic, and Myth, a class that enabled the couple to express their shared passion for the occult, classic horror fiction, and of course, bats. Never one to waste her talents, Chris even found a pedagogical outlet for culinary skills: how I wish I could have taken her course titled The Social History of Cookery! In addition, although she seldom brought the subject up in conversation during her years at FHSU, Chris is an accomplished scholar whose work combines the two disciplines she knows best. Since 2000, she and Robert have co-authored seven papers on historical detective fiction (with all due respect to Dr. Luehrs, I think I



Chris and husband, Dr. Robert Luehrs, dressed for the FHSU Madrigal Dinner.

know who is responsible for the grace and lucidity of the prose contained in these papers) and presented them at national or regional conferences. One of these pieces has appeared in a scholarly essay collection. Another is forthcoming.

Christiane Luehrs, our Lady of the Manor, you have made the FHSU English department a richer place over these many years, and I will miss seeing you each weekday morning at 8:30 AM. The halls of Castle Rarick will seem empty without your grumpiness, your contagious laugh, your dedication to teaching (Who else would require students to write an annotated bibliography with 30 entries?), your keen appraisals of campus personalities, and above all, your warmth and consideration for others. The FHSU English department wishes you a long and happy retirement. Huzzah!

Lexey Bartlett spent her first year as an Assistant Professor acclimatizing to the students and faculty of Fort Hays as well as to western Kansas, which she found not at all difficult, not missing the heat, humidity, traffic, and swagger of the Dallas-Fort Worth area. Aside from teaching Composition I, she developed a course in visual literacy for Advanced Composition and developed her first service-learning project in a World Literature class, a student-led public discussion of *Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe. This summer she taught a graduate course in Magical Realism and worked on an article on Hari Kunzru's 2002 novel *The Impressionist* and the practice of scarification. In August she attended the Creativity Workshop in Dublin, bringing back new techniques for accessing creativity to share with students and faculty at Fort Hays.

Only one of 300 men living in Lewis Field owned a car; coeds trekked to the power plant to wash their hair in soft water; and many students, due to limited facilities or funds, mailed home dirty laundry. Such accounts of 1940s and '50s-era student life at Fort Hays State peppered four alumni interviews conducted by students in **Brenda Craven's** fall Composition II class. In order to complete this service-learning project, students accessed resources in Forsyth Library's archives department, planned, implemented, and ultimately transcribed the interviews in order to create a permanent oral history. In addition to coordinating this project, Brenda attended the Conference on College Composition and Communication in Chicago and the National Writer's Workshop in Wichita.

In her second year at FHSU, Assistant Professor **Amy Cummins** has grown fond of walking along the Big Creek levee to gaze at the buffalo. She appreciated the opportunity to teach a Summer 2005 graduate course on nineteenth-century American women writers. Dr. Cummins enjoyed co-advising Sigma Tau Delta and the English Club and working on writing with students and fellow faculty. She admired the English majors whose diligent efforts with FHSU's literary and arts journal, *Lines*, earned the Literary Journal Award from Sigma Tau Delta. Dr. Cummins was also pleased to co-advise a new student organization at FHSU, the Student Feminist Organization, and to organize several events and displays for Women's History Month.

During FHSU's Second Annual Research and Creative Activity Week at the end of April, students from Dr. Cummins's class on Harriet Beecher Stowe and Mark Twain presented critical essays about *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* and *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. Students in Dr. Cummins's American-literature survey course presented their own creative writing inspired by authors such as Susan Glaspell, Robert Frost, Zora Neale Hurston, and Langston Hughes.

Cheryl Hofstetter Duffy presented "Public Writing: Possibilities and Perils" at the International Conference on Civic Education in Orlando in January, and she wrote a monograph for the *Prentice Hall Resources for Writing Series: Teaching Civic Literacy and Research*. She also spent the last year adjusting (or, perhaps, failing to adjust) to her empty nest and refocusing her urge-to-nurture on her cat, Spot, and the plants in her backyard.

Sharla Hutchison is currently at work on an essay about the poetry of Marriane Moore and modern photography. In the meantime, she looks forward to beginning a fourth year in the English department at FHSU.

Dan Kulmala is looking forward to completing his creative work (two plays) and his cultural investigation of Shakespeare festivals in America. During the summer of 2006, he plans to attend eight festivals with his traveling companions: Kristi (his wife), Jonah (his son), and Spenser (his daughter).

Eric Leuschner's scholarly projects are best described as "forthcoming." His essay "Body Damage: Dis-Figuring the Academic Body in Academic Fiction" was accepted for publication this fall in *The Review of Education, Cultural Studies, and Pedagogy*. The essay examines the representation of college professors in the popular imagination and its subsequent effect on public opinion of the university and includes analyses of John Williams's novel *Stoner*, Margaret Edson's play *W;t*, Richard Russo's *Straight Man*, and Francine Prose's *Blue Angel*. In addition, his essay "Beginning with the Ephemeral: Reading the Eighteenth-Century Preface" is included in a proposed collection, *Rethinking Ephemera 1550-1800: From Scholarship to Classroom*, which is

Faculty News

currently in search of a publisher. Next November, he will be presenting a paper on Henry James and Ellen Glasgow at the MMLA conference in Chicago, and this summer, when taking a break from trying to frugally rehabilitate his lawn, he plans to write a review-essay revolving around Elaine Showalter's study of the academic novel, *Faculty Towers*, for *the minnesota review*.

Christiane Luehrs: Spring 2006 has been Chris's last semester of full-time teaching in the department. She will be teaching Multiculturalism on campus this summer and will teach a Virtual class and a section of on-campus Composition I in Fall 2006, while continuing as a TALK scholar for the Kansas Humanities Council. With some extra time, Chris hopes to read, write, refinish antiques, work on projects at St. Michael's Episcopal Church, and spend time with friends she has not been able to see much of in recent years.

Sandwiched between these pursuits will be the co-production with her husband, Robert, of a Halloween Exhibit in Forsyth Library in October and some trips to Oklahoma to see her granddaughter, Roslin.

Michael Meade presented "The Use of History in T. S. Eliot's *Murder in the Cathedral*, Henri de Montherlant's *Port Royal*, and Rolf Hochhuth's *Der Stellvertreter*" at the Annual European Studies Conference.

In the past academic year, besides teaching classes, **Pam Shaffer** served on a variety of department and campus committees. She continues to enjoy her work as Director of the FHSU Writing Center and appreciates the fine group of students who serve as tutors. With Amy Cummins, she submitted several grant proposals to help fund the costs of the speaker for the 2006 Fall English Workshop. Only one was funded, but she found the whole process very enlightening—the kind of enlightenment she would just as soon not have!

Carl Singleton has been appointed to membership on the University of Kansas Editorial Board. He will serve two years as an alternate and then two years as a full-time member. Primary duties include reviewing book-length manuscripts, sample chapters, and proposals for works being considered for publication. In November, he attended the National Council of Teachers of English

conference in Pittsburgh, PA, where he chaired a session entitled "African-American English or Black Discourse." Publications for the year include three discipline-related entries in *The Fifties in America*, an encyclopedic volume forthcoming from Salem Press: "Lady Chatterley's Lover," "The Ugly American," and "Leon Uris." Additionally, he resurrected the class in Traditional English Grammar which had not been taught for many years; the course is now—once again—required for all students seeking teacher certification.

Linda Smith continues to teach composition, technical and report writing, literature, and ESL classes on campus, and three rotating literature classes online, with the newest course, Literature and the Environment, receiving praise from students this spring. Smith's teaching responsibilities for English for International Students have increased as the university continues to promote educational agreements with other countries, including Taiwan, China, and Turkey. Beginning this summer, she will be training on her new tablet computer and trying to "keep her head above water" in the new laptop environment, slated to begin Fall 2007. The challenges of keeping up with computer technology, Smith is discovering, are what will either keep her out of the nursing home or hasten her application.

Steven Trout devoted most of his scholarly energy during the 2005/2006 academic year to the subject of war and memory. In October 2005 he delivered a lecture on war memorialization at the Liberty Memorial in Kansas City (now the National World War I Museum), and in May 2006 he attended the Annual Meeting of the Western Front Association in Denver, Colorado, to deliver a paper on Kansas World War I memorials (also the subject of a forthcoming article in *Kansas History*). In February 2006 he signed an advance contract with the University of Alabama Press for a book titled *After the Crusade: The First World War in American Memory, 1919-1941*. His publications for the past year include *American Prose Writers of the First World War: A Documentary Volume* (Gale/Thompson) and a review of Janis Stout's *Willa Cather and Material Culture*.

Faculty News continues next page.

Faculty News Continued

Brett Weaver: I received tenure, promotion (to associate professor), and a sabbatical for Spring 2007 over the past year. I shall be writing a screenplay, entitled *The What You Wish 4*, during my sabbatical, but I may also walk around Morocco and the highly disputed and exceedingly dangerous Western Saharan region of northwest Africa (I shall be traveling on my European Union passport and not my American one, just in case).

My screenplay, entitled *Eternity Points*, (an adapted short story from my collection, *Calling Up the Dead*) has been successfully requested ... and even more successfully rejected from some altogether very good agencies in Hollywood, New York, and Chicago. I am not bothered by this in the slightest.

In the fall semester, I attended the Screenwriters Expo 4 in Los Angeles, and heard the likes of William Goldman discussing the craft of his writing—I shall be going to Expo 5 later this year.

I continued my annual jaunt to the Southwest Popular Culture Conference in Albuquerque, where I both chaired a session and read a short story from my collection mentioned above entitled, “Regards, the Balcony”—indeed, sales of my book went up several hundred thousand places on Amazon.com ... but only for a week or so.

This summer I shall be traveling to Crete, Venice, Vienna, Florence, Switzerland, and England (to visit “the old people”). I shall, of course, miss my past and present students every step of the way.

In addition to supervising this edition of *Post Parade*, **Bradley Will** has also edited two volumes of *Fort Hays Studies* and produced another issue of *The Space Between: Literature and Culture, 1914–1945*. He also created a new internship program for the department’s writing program and supervised an intern working in the Hays Convention and Visitors’ Bureau. This fall he will teach a course on the life and work of Edgar A. Poe.

Diction V

After four years of research, Dr. Steven Trout has completed his first *Dictionary of Literary Biography (DLB)* volume. The *DLB* is a set of reference works focusing on literature and has been in production for over thirty years. There are currently more than 300 volumes, nearly half of which are held by FHSU’s Forsyth Library. Dr. Trout’s volume is number 316 in the series—*American Prose Writers of World War I*. It covers eight authors: Hervey Allen, Thomas Boyd, John Dos Passos, William Faulkner, Ernest Hemingway, William March, Elliott White Springs, and Laurence Stallings.

Everyone who knows Dr. Trout is aware of his interest in WWI, which is why he jumped at the opportunity to write this volume. Trout was introduced to the project through Patrick Quinn, a friend of his who wrote two other *DLB* volumes, including *British Poets of the Great War*.

Trout’s *DLB* Volume is a reference tool for students and teachers, covering anything and everything anyone could want to know about the eight featured authors of WWI. Typically a *DLB* volume lists novelists in alphabetical order with each entry receiving seven to ten pages of explanation, each written by a separate author. However, Trout’s *DLB* volume is much more focused than most. Instead of having the typical one- to two-dozen entries, there are only eight, and he compiled and researched all the facts, illustrations, book reviews, and publication details himself.

In the 500 pages, there are over 350 photographs and reproductions of artifacts, advertisements, first editions, and manuscripts of the featured authors’ works. Seeing these supporting illustrations immerses readers in the author’s time so they can get a better picture of the historical context in which the author wrote. The italicized parts of the text are written by Trout to further explain the importance of each of the details.

In addition to collecting documents, doing research, and editing, Trout also had to get permission to reprint articles and advertisements. This was particularly

Trout Compiles Dictionary of Literary Biography Volume on Authors of WWI

by Lisa Schlegel

time consuming, and for entries on authors such as Hemingway, the cost of reprinting was expensive. His budget for the entire project was \$10,000, which he is proud to say he stayed well under.

Trout was paid for his work on the volume. However,

as he says, "It's not charity work, but it's close." His enjoyment writing this volume came primarily from being able to advance scholarly work and enhance both students' and teachers' knowledge and understanding of American writers of WWI.

Elliott White Springs

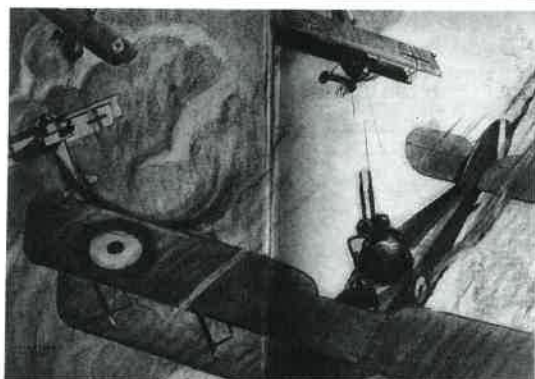


Illustration by Knight on the front cover of the first trade edition of *War Birds* (Collection of Steven Trout)



Knight illustrations from *War Birds* (Collection of Steven Trout)

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DLB 316

Elliott White Springs



Dust jacket for the 1926 Grosset & Dunlap reprint of Springs's first book (Collection of Steven Trout)

thirty-one were killed, thirty were wounded, fourteen were prisoners of war, and twenty became mentally unfit for flying before they finished their training. When the Armistice was signed, the survivors found themselves scattered over the British and American fronts. They wandered home by various channels—a sort of lost battalion—disillusioned and discouraged. They were without rank or medals, and they suffered by comparison with the much decorated pilots from the American front who returned with rank and headlines. It was for these survivors that the publication of *WAR BIRDS* was intended. Later I wrote the stories of how they dispersed and gathered again to refight the war in *Nocturne Militaire*, *Leave Me with a Smile*, *Contact*, *Above the Bright Blue Sky*, *In the Cool of the Evening*, and *War Birds and Lady Birds*.

WAR BIRDS is not an attempt to prove any contention. It does not make heroes of any group of men. It is the actual story of one man and his

friends, first as guests of an ally in a strange land and then at the front under the stress of battle.

Two literary authorities read it. One told me that it was too sensational to be published. The other told me that it was not sensational enough. Many suggestions for revising it were made to me, but I rejected them all. Both Captain Patterson and Mr. George H. Doran agreed to publish it without any changes.

The ten men whose names appear in it most prominently read it and compared it with their own diaries and records. They gave their endorsement to it without asking for a single deletion or change. Their only stipulation was that, if I was responsible for the publication of their private histories, I must not take out my own name.

It was originally titled, *THE DIARY OF THE UNKNOWN AVIATOR*, but the survivors soon coupled John MacGavock Crider's name to it and, except for the storm of criticism which greeted the publication, it might as well have borne his name.

His body lies at Houplines, near Armentieres, but his spirit still lives in the pages of his diary.

—*War Birds* (Fort Mill, S.C.: Privately printed, 1951)

Story Collections, 1927–1928

In a burst of creative energy Springs completed nearly two dozen short stories in 1926 and 1927, and he managed to place his short fiction with a variety of well-paying magazines, including *Cosmopolitan*, Harper's, *Redbook*, *College Humor*, and *McClure's Magazine*. At the same time, he was quick to take advantage of the market for aviation books that *War Birds* had revealed. In 1927 Doran published *Nocturne Militaire*, a collection of some of Springs's best short stories, most of them recycled from magazines. Another story collection, *Above the Bright Blue Sky*: More about the *War Birds*, and *Leave Me with a Smile*, Springs's first true novel, were both published by Doubleday, Doran in 1928. None of these works generated the excitement—or scandal—that surrounded *War Birds*. Nonetheless, they received favorable reviews and, with the exception of *Leave Me with a Smile*, sold reasonably well—both in the United States and in England, where Springs's books were brought out by the aviation publisher John Hamilton.

As the Soldier Sees It

James Boyd

In the *Saturday Review of Literature* novelist James Boyd evaluated *Nocturne Militaire* alongside two other significant works of World War I literature, John W. Thomaston's

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Alumni News

Maurine Faulkner Bergland/Sayler is retired and living in Colorado Springs, Colorado. She graduated in 1934 with a bachelor's degree in Physical Education and English from Fort Hays Kansas State University. She obtained her master's in English in 1943, also from Fort Hays.

Elizabeth Eppstein Gunn is a retired teacher of English living in Great Bend, Kansas. She obtained an artium bachelor in 1935 from Fort Hays Kansas State University. She went on to complete her bachelor's of science in English Education a year later. In 1967 she completed her master's in English, also at Fort Hays.

Jean Robinson-Randall is retired but occasionally tutors in her spare time. She graduated from Fort Hays State University in 1941 with an artium bachelor in Language. Jean also holds a master's from Fort Hays. She currently resides in Fullerton, California.

David Webster resides in Oregon and is finishing his sixth novel. He is retired after serving forty years as an experimental and clinical psychologist. David graduated in 1963 with a bachelor's in English and also holds a master's in Psychology from Fort Hays State University. He obtained his PhD in 1972 from Southern Illinois University.

Pat Gross Fellers graduated from Fort Hays State University in 1971 with a master's in English. She teaches English at El Dorado High School, Kansas, and also serves as Senior class sponsor and Scholar's Bowl sponsor. Pat is an adjunct professor of English at Butler County Community College. She was named Educator of the Year in 2004–2005 by Teen Ink and National Writing Magazine. She also serves as the Kansas Chair for the National Council of Teachers of English Program to Recognize Excellence in Literary Magazines. Pat is a life member of the FHSU Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa and is a fifteen-year member of North Central Association and Quality Performance Accreditation Communications Team.

Howard Nutt graduated from Great Lakes Christian College with a bachelor's degree in Ministerial Science in 1969. In 1972, he went on to obtain a master's in English Language and Literature and a minor in Philosophy at Fort Hays State University. Howard also holds a 1980 candidate in arts certificate in Rhetoric from the University of Michigan. He is currently the Chairman of the Board and Executive Director of the Business Development Institute International in Phoenix, Arizona.

Ann Maddox Daves currently serves as director of promotional activities and assistant director of public relations for Lenoir-Rhyne College in Hickory, North Carolina. She received her master's in English in 1986 from Fort Hays State University.

Erik Schmeller is an Associate Professor of English at Tennessee State University. His book, *Perceptions of Race and Nation in English and American Travel Writers, 1833-1914*, was recently published. He graduated in 1991 with a bachelor of arts in English and History from Fort Hays State University, earned his master's in English in 1993 from Southern Illinois University. He also completed his doctorate in History in 1999 at Southern Illinois.

Dr. Sandra Petree, an Associate Professor of English at Northwestern Oklahoma State University, had her book *Recollections of Past Days: The Autobiography of Patience Loader Rozsa Archer* published in March 2006 by Utah State University Press. She received her master's in English in 1992 from Fort Hays State University.

Wendi Rogers, English minor, graduated from North Dakota State University with her master's in Animal and Range Science in 2002. She is now a Research Associate at the Food and Agricultural Policy Research Institute at Columbia. Wendi is also working on her doctoral degree in Agronomy at the University of Missouri.

What Have You Been Up To?

Let us know about your activities and achievements so that we can include you in the 2007 *Post Parade Alumni News*. Don't wait. Return this form today to the Department of English, Fort Hays State University, 370 Rarick Hall, 600 Park St., Hays, KS 67601-4099.

Name: _____
 First Middle (Maiden) Last

Degrees (earliest to most recent):

Degree	Year	Major	School
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____

Current position, description of your responsibilities, other noteworthy items:

Please Contribute to the English Scholarship Fund

No amount is too great or too small. All is helpful and put to worthy use. Students are awarded these scholarships on the basis of merit and achievement.

Make your check payable to **FHSU Endowment Association**. Please earmark it for the English Scholarship Fund.

Lines, the student literature and art journal sponsored by the Department of English, earned a National Literary Journal Award for its 2005 edition. The honor—conferred in April 2006 by Sigma Tau Delta, the international English Honor Society—demonstrates the talent and motivation of Fort Hays State students and indicates the quality of education provided by the Department of English.

An annual publication in its sixteenth year, *Lines* prints poetry, stories, and artwork, primarily by FHSU students, although submissions from alumni and faculty are also accepted. The funding to print the journal comes from Student Government Association (SGA) allocations and from donations. All submissions are read in an anonymous process by an Editorial Board of FHSU students who may be in any major or grade classification.

Winning the award was a collaborative effort by many people involved with producing *Lines*. The application process was led by Susan (Oborny) Deges, from Rush Center, Kansas, the editor of the 2005 edition; Amy Morris, from Overland Park, the assistant editor for 2005 and editor of the 2006 edition; Melissa Mikesell, from Salina, the assistant editor for 2006; and Dr. Amy Cummins, Assistant Professor of English and advisor for *Lines*. Graphic designer Jonathan Russell,

who received his master of Fine Arts in graphic design from FHSU in July 2005, created the layout.

Deges explained that having a literary and arts journal on campus is “important because it provides budding writers and artists a chance to be published, and it gives all students, faculty, and alumni a chance to participate in a product of the university.” She emphasized her appreciation to SGA for funding printing costs and thanked everyone who submitted

to *Lines*: “Your willingness to share your literature and artwork makes this journal a success.”

Morris said, “I am thrilled that *Lines* won this award because it reflects the superior quality of student work at FHSU. Only two literary magazines in the nation

were chosen to receive this national honor. We will use the \$350 prize to help with future printing costs of the journal.” Morris added her enthusiasm that “*Lines* offers students the opportunity to produce and receive recognition for their creative pursuits.”

The award application described the quality and selection process for the journal, the purposes *Lines* serves on its campus, and the strength of the local chapter of Sigma Tau Delta. FHSU has had an active chapter of the English Honor Society since 1989. The current faculty co-advisors are Dr. Cummins and Dr. Sharla Hutchison, Assistant Professor of English.

**“Your willingness to
share your literature
and artwork makes this
journal a success.”**

—Susan Deges

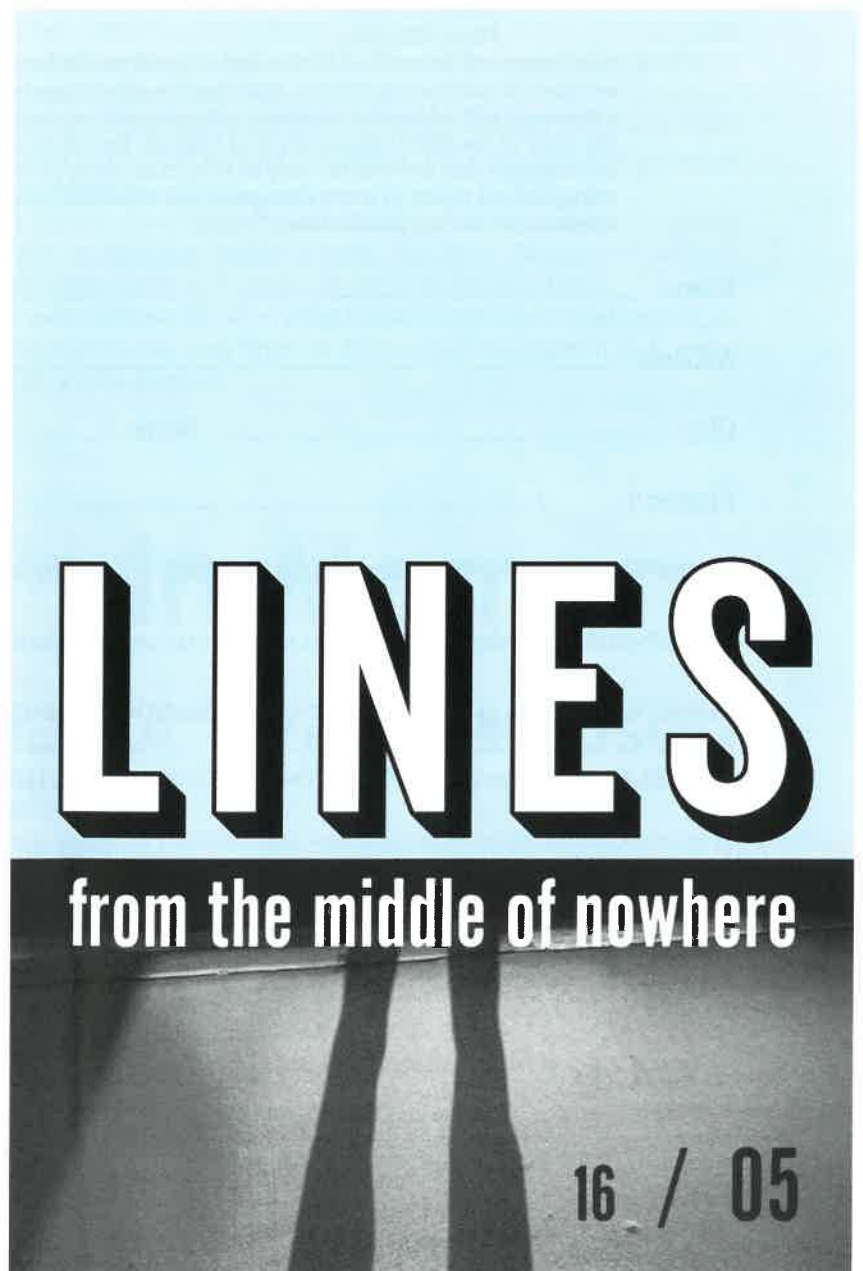
Lines Earns National Literary Journal Award

by Dr. Amy Cummins, Assistant Professor of English and Advisor for *Lines*

Departmental and alumni support of *Lines*, English Club, and Sigma Tau Delta enable the continuance of these student opportunities.

The selection process for the journal is consistent. Editorial Board members make decisions on what to include; artistic considerations affect the organization; and financial factors determine the number of pages and copies printed. Deges explained that the 2005 Editorial Board members first perused the selections and eliminated some submissions, and "next, we discussed pieces individually and argued for why we did or did not want the piece to appear in the journal, reaching a consensus. The most exciting thing was watching it all come together."

Six students served on the 2005 Editorial Board: Kelly Chrisman (Winfield), Kayci Strickland (Hoisington), Michelle Swayne (Hays), Autumn Thomas (Osborne), Elizabeth Ulrich (Hays), and Amy [Poduska] Walker (Lenexa). Fourteen students had literature or artwork published in the award-winning 2005 edition of *Lines*: Morgan Chalfant (Hill City), Jessica Cheshire (Bushton), Sharon Craig (Hays), Laurie Copeland (LaCrosse), Dominic Flask (Halstead), Crystal Hammerschmidt (Smolan), Jennifer R. Meyer (Garden Plain), Tammy Miller (Great Bend), Anthony Palacios (Hutchinson), Matthew Reed (Salina), Merlou Robinson (Oberlin), Alyssa Rogers (Rose Hill), Katie Stucky (Cimarron), and Brandi Withington (Norton).



Lines: A Literary and Arts Journal

Lines Submission Form, 2007

All work must be submitted under the following guidelines:

1. All written submissions must be typed (double spaced, if prose). Please proofread your work for typographical errors. Indicate intentional misspellings or the stylistic use of words.
WHAT WE RECEIVE IS WHAT WILL BE PRINTED.
2. Preferably, all artwork should be submitted in a digital format (digital pictures of work).
3. All work will be judged anonymously. Therefore, on the top right-hand corner of each separate work (and each separate page of written work), type an (S) for student (currently enrolled), (F) for faculty (current or retired), or (A) for alumni. Also, state the last four digits of your social security number. DO NOT put your name directly on any of the work submitted. Be sure each piece is titled exactly as listed on this application.
4. All author/artist submissions should be listed on one application. Complete all parts of the application.
5. DEADLINE: All submissions must be received by 4:30 PM on February 15, 2007. We welcome early submissions. If you have any questions, please call (785)628-4285, or e-mail editor Melissa Mikesell at mamikesell@scatcat.fhsu.edu. Please deliver your submission to Rarick Hall 370, or mail it to:
Lines Journal
English Department
Fort Hays State University
600 Park Street
Hays, KS 67601
6. Applicants will be notified by the end of April on the board's decision regarding whether or not their work has been selected for publication. Written submissions, photos, and electronic media will be returned only if the applicant supplies a stamped, self-addressed envelope with adequate postage at the time of submission or makes arrangements to pick up the work in the FHSU Department of English, Rarick 370.
7. Submissions that are selected may be subject to errors or flaws in reproduction during the publishing process; applicants relinquish all rights to make changes to submissions once they are selected for the anthology or to change or dispute errors made during publication.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: () _____

Please Specify: []Faculty []Alumni []Student (classification & major): _____

For artwork submissions: Do you want your work considered for the cover design? []yes []no

After reading the guidelines above, list the titles of your submissions:

TITLE	GENRE (story/poem/art)	MEDIUM (if artwork)
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____

Sigma Tau Delta Visits Portland

by Krystal Baugher

This year Sigma Tau Delta faculty and students traveled to Portland, Oregon, for the annual international conference. Three out of four of the students gave presentations. Theresa Kraisinger discussed the "Identity of Newland Archer in Edith Warton's *The Age of Innocence*." Krystal Baugher compared Kate Chopin's *The Awakening* and "Story of an Hour" in her paper, "Freedom through Death." Amy Morris gave an alternative perspective on Charlotte Perkins Gilman's "The Yellow Wallpaper" in her paper "The Women in the Wall in 'The Yellow Wallpaper.'" All papers were very well received and discussed intently in each session. Others in attendance were: student, Chris Scheideman; Dr. Carl Singleton; Dr. Amy Cummins; and the department secretary, Linda Leiker. The group heard many different speakers and presentations during the conference, increasing their literary knowledge.

The trip wasn't just full of literary events, although that was a significant part of the adventure. There was much shopping around downtown Portland as well as a long visit to the Portland Art Museum. The crew also took a chance by discovering new cuisine and beverages like sushi and Malaysian foods.

Two sightseeing trips were taken. The first was a cruise down and around the River Valley, where the group discovered picture-perfect scenery filled with waterfalls, mountains, and of course, the river. The second journey was a trip to the coast. A few brave souls even kicked off their shoes and waded in the cold Pacific Ocean.

The final evening of the conference was spent at the awards banquet, where the FHSU chapter achieved greatness. *Lines: A Journal of the Arts* received a \$350 award for excellence, and Theresa Kraisinger was elected to become next year's Associate Student Representative of the High Plains Region.

In Memory

Eleanor Jean Davidson

Eleanor Jean Davidson, 87, died Thursday, December 1, 2005, at her home in Hays. She was born June 12, 1918, in Chicago to Harry Haskins and Gertrude Maude (Hesselgren) Ingalls.

She married Gordon W. Davidson on November 20, 1948, in Detroit. She was a social worker and professor at Fort Hays State University in the English department. She attended college at Mexico City College, Wayne State University, and New York School of Social Work and received her master's degree from Fort Hays State University in 1965.

She was involved with many charitable organizations including the Pilamaya Indian Reservation, Amnesty International, and World Wildlife Fund.

Survivors include a daughter, Debby Paskal and husband Mark, Wamberal, New South Wales, Australia; two grandchildren, Martin Paskal and Hannah Paskal; a niece, Susan Hoffman Poppard; and a cousin, Oliver Hesselgren.

She was preceded in death by a son, Philip Davidson, December 8, 2000.

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Alabama

Ralph Voss & Glenda Weathers-Voss,
Birmingham

Arkansas

Lynn & Marvella Davis, Garfield

Arizona

Ray & Patricia Newton, Prescott
Lisa Swift, Tucson

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Dan & Carolyn McGovern, Walnut Creek
William Elliott & Janice Schmidtberger
Elliott, Oakland
Elden & Wilma Vanover, San Diego
Grant & Diane Wunsch, Nevada City

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Kathy Slusher, Augusta

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Indiana

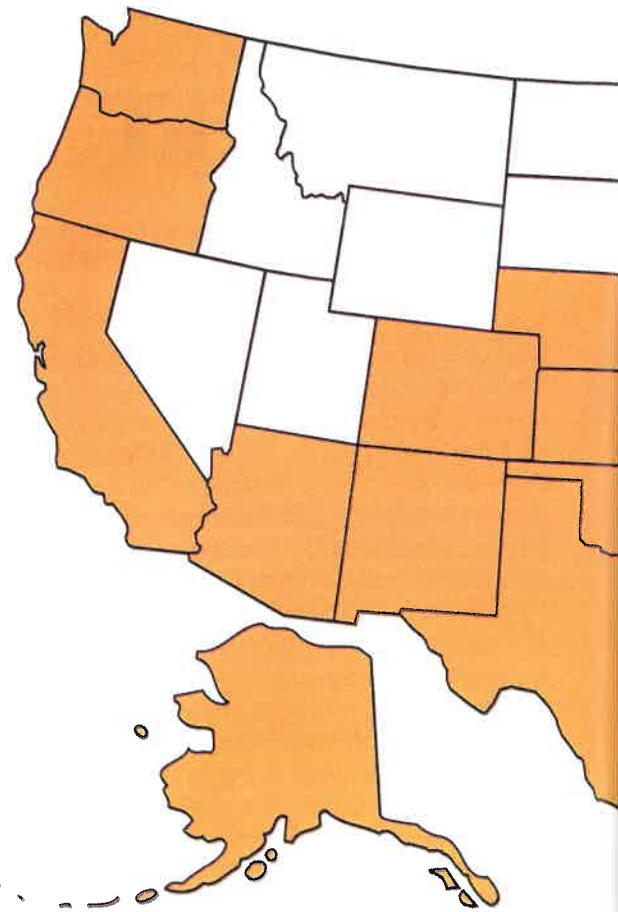
Bruce & Gail Spitzer, South Bend

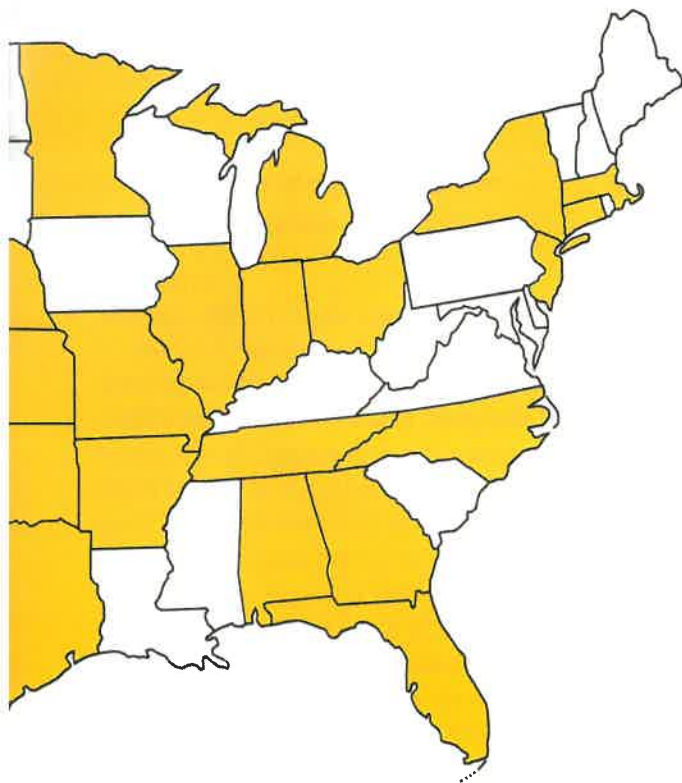
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Dennis & Patti Caruthers, San Antonio
 Doris Chipman, Denton
 Holly Hope, Dallas

Washington

Benjamin Johnson, Seattle

Thank You For Your Generosity

English Department Takes On Service-Learning

by Shelby Jacobs

In 2001 Dr. Cheryl Duffy and Dr. Pamela Shaffer attended Kansas State University's Service-Learning Summer Institute. The following fall, Dr. Duffy incorporated service-learning in her English Composition class. Her initiative led to service-learning projects in the English classrooms of Dr. Lexey Bartlett, Brenda Craven, Dr. Shaffer, Linda Smith, and Sharon Wilson, putting the English department in the vanguard of Fort Hays State University's ever-expanding engagement of service-learning.

The Center for Civic Leadership defines service-learning as a method of teaching and learning that integrates community service activities into academic curricula. For example, this past spring, Bartlett's World Literature class organized a public discussion of Chinua Achebe's novel *Things Fall Apart* at the Hays Public Library. Students also produced a web site that offers the presented material online. The goal of Bartlett's service-learning project is to connect students and community members who are interested in studying literature from around the world. Bartlett stated, "I believe that learning about other people in the world through literature supports the common feeling that makes us good citizens of our own country and of the world."

Craven's fall 2005 English Composition class transcribed formal interviews with four FHSU alumni from the 1940s to 1950s for Forsyth Library's Special Collections/Archives Department. After completion of the service-learning project, students reflected in their writing a better understanding of

the socioeconomic pressures that FHSU alumni experienced during the 1940s and 1950s.

Smith's English for International Students class researched and designed a handbook, "What FHSU International Students Need to Know," in the fall of 2005. Smith remarked, "Students are typically more engaged in learning, and the best benefit is that they conclude these classes with a core knowledge that is informed by their experiences in the service-learning project." In the fall of 2003, Wilson incorporated service-learning in her Technical and Report Writing class. Students chose a local agency and developed a project to meet a need of that agency. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Hays benefited from the students' sponsorship of Bowl for Kids' Sake, a recruiting session targeted at men on campus and in the community, a Halloween-themed Big for a Day event, and a Christmas-themed Little and Big for a Day event.

Students in Dr. Duffy's Advanced Composition classes have volunteered for agencies such as the American Red Cross, the Humane Society, and public libraries. Bev Rucker of the Hoxie Public Library said, "The newsletter was wonderful! Robynn [Wessel] was a great asset this year! I like the idea of having students volunteer." In the fall of 2005, Smith and Wilson collaborated on a service-learning project between Smith's English for International Students class and Wilson's Techniques of Teaching English class. Seven students in Wilson's class tutored seven students in Smith's class on a weekly basis. Echoing many students who have participated in classroom service-learning, each of Wilson's students said they would welcome another service-learning opportunity.

"Students are typically more engaged in learning, and the best benefit is that they conclude these classes with a core knowledge that is informed by their experiences in the service-learning project."—Linda Smith

The Fort Hays State University Department of English presents

FALL ENGLISH WORKSHOP 2006

featuring

Laurie Halse Anderson

Supervised activities for students include the following:

- Registration and continental breakfast.
 - Ice breakers and small-group discussions.
 - Sessions with Laurie Halse Anderson.
 - Tours of campus.
 - Lunch and keynote address by Laurie Halse Anderson.
- Please Note:
Students who wish to participate in the small-group discussions before Laurie's presentation should read her book *Speak*.

Concurrent teacher/librarian sessions include the following:

- Scaffolding to Prepare for Testing and Beyond.
- A Picture's Worth: Using Visualization to Create Thousands of Words.
- You Don't Have to Be a Guru: Utilizing Technology in the English Classroom.
- Electronic Instruction and English Instruction (Oh man!): Integrating Technology and English Instruction for Today's Multimedia Students.
- Write What?? Writing that Involves Students at the High-School and College Levels.
- They Choose Their Own Jeans, Don't They? Offering Students Choices Through Differentiated Instruction.

- Also:
- Continental breakfast.
 - Session with Laurie Halse Anderson.
 - Lunch and keynote address by Laurie Halse Anderson.



Critically acclaimed author Laurie Halse Anderson will be the guest speaker at the Fall English Workshop on Friday, September 15, 2006, at the Memorial Union, Fort Hays State University.

Anderson is most noted for her 1999 award-winning novel *Speak*, named as

American Library Association's Top Ten Best Books for Young Adults
Michael Printz Honor Book
National Book Award Finalist
School Library Journal, Best Book of the Year

Photo courtesy of <http://www.writerlady.com>.

Teacher/Librarian Registration:

Pre-registration for teachers/librarians is \$50 and includes a continental breakfast and lunch. **The pre-registration form must be received by Sept. 12, 2006.**

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

E-MAIL: _____

SCHOOL: _____

Student Registration:

Student pre-registration is \$18 and includes a continental breakfast, snacks, lunch, and writing materials. **The pre-registration form must be received by Sept. 12, 2006. Registration for students will be on a first-come, first-served basis—with a limit of 100 students.** Students must pre-register. **NO STUDENT REGISTRATION AT THE DOOR.**

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

E-MAIL: _____

SCHOOL: _____

Please note:
Pre-registration (by Sept. 12, 2006) includes breakfast, all workshop activities, and the luncheon. Fees are non-refundable. Registration (after Sept. 12 and at the door) includes all workshop activities except the luncheon, but the cafeteria will be open. Registration begins at 8:00 with the first session beginning at 8:20. (Please photocopy forms for multiple attendees.)

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: FALL ENGLISH WORKSHOP.

Return forms to:
Sharon K. Wilson, Chair
Fall English Workshop
English Department
600 Park St.
Fort Hays State University
Hays, KS 67601-4099

Questions?
E-mail Sharon Wilson
swilson@fhsu.edu.

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For details, write or call
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