



# Departmental News Bulletin

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## Uncommon Productivity

When, in early March, Palgrave Macmillan accepted the manuscript of *A Layman's Faith: Literature and Religion, Dryden to T. S. Eliot and E. B. White*, it capped a winter of content for **Doug Atkins**. Two other monographs were also accepted for publication in the last four months. Palgrave Macmillan will also publish *On the Familiar Essay: Challenging Academic Orthodoxies* later this year. Baylor University Press will print *The Impure Art: T. S. Eliot and the Essay* as part of its Studies in Christianity and Literature Series in 2010. Congratulations, Doug!



G. Douglas Atkins

## Keri Behre Named 2009-2010 Sias Fellow

Earlier this week, the Hall Center for the Humanities informed English Ph.D. candidate and SAGE co-president **Keri Behre** that she has been selected as the **Richard and Jeannette Sias Graduate Fellow in the Humanities** for the 2009-2010 academic year. This singular and very prestigious fellowship provides a stipend of \$13,000, a six-credit tuition waiver, release from teaching, and an office at the Hall Center. Behre will use the office as her primary workspace and participate in the monthly Hall Center Resident Fellows Seminar, including one session where she will present her own work. Behre's dissertation is entitled *Appetite and Authority on the Early Modern English Stage*. Congratulations, Keri!



Keri Behre

## Publications

### Daldorph, Brian

*Jail Time*. Original Plus P (Cumbria, UK)  
Editor (with **Mary Wharff**), *Coal City Review* 26.

### Kaminski, Megan

"A blue method of somesuch" (poem). *With + Stand* 3 (Spring 2009): 8.

## Accepted for Publication

### Unferth, Deb Olin

"Wait Till You See Me Dance" (story). *Harper's*, forthcoming 2009.

### Williams, Nathaniel

"Relics of Interesting Times" (story). *Footprints* (science fiction anthology). Eds. Jay Lake and Eric T. Reynolds. Hadley Rille Books. Summer 2009.

## Announcements, Notes, & News

- **Careers for English Majors**, 9 April, 7:00 pm, English Room, Kansas Room.
- English graduate students **Susan Thomas** and **Andrew Kuhn** have been selected as finalists for the **Snyder Book Collecting Contest** this year. Final judging will take place on 10 April, with winners announced at 5:30 pm in Watson Library, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor West. All finalists' collections will be on display there that afternoon.
- Ph.D candidate **Karla Knutson** communicated with **Dick Hardin** this week from Fargo, ND. She writes, "Where I live in West Fargo is above water. But Concordia is in the part of Moorhead that has evacuated. . . . It's all very strange. I just got word that Concordia is telling students that classes [will] resume on April 6, unless something changes in the meantime. I drove by the river today, and the water is right at the top of the bridge. It looks like an infinite pool."

## KU and Regional Events

- **University Theatre** presents *Anna in the Tropics*, by Nilo Cruz, 2-3, 8-10 April, 7:30 pm, 4, 11 April, 5:00 pm, 5 April, 2:30 pm, Inge Theatre, Murphy Hall.
- **Peace, War & Global Change Seminar**, "The Global War on Poverty," Sheyda Hahanbani, History, 3 April, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.
- **Early Modern Seminar**, "Galileo's Lesson to Don Quijote," Crystal Hall, French & Italian, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

## Calendar

- N 4** **Top City Poetry Reading** by **Megan Kaminski**, English; Amy Unsworth; Serina Allison Hearn. Lola's Café Espresso, 7:07 pm.
- M 6** **Poetry Reading** by **Charles Stein**, 5:00 pm, Nunemaker Center
- R 9** **2Cs**, 5:30 pm, dinner meeting at the home of **Jim Hartman** and **Amy Devitt**. RSVP to **Justin Sevenker**.
- F 10** **New Faculty Workshop**, "Promotion and Tenure," **Marta Caminero-Santangelo**, English and Tara Welch, Classics, 12:00-1:30 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.
- Louise Stauffer, MFA Defense**, 1:00 pm, 3001A Wescoe (Johnson, Lorenz, *Unferth*)
- Judy Lofflin, Ph.D. Defense**, 4:00 pm, 1016 Wescoe (*Butler*, Carothers, Sullivan, Valk, McCluskey-Fawcett)

• **The Kenneth A. Spencer Memorial Lecture**, “Massive Change: The Future of Design and Life on Earth,” Bruce Mau, Designer, 8 April, 7:30 pm, Woodruff Auditorium; “Conversation with Bruce Mau,” 9 April, 9:30-11:00 am, The Commons at Spooner Hall.

• **Nature & Culture Seminar**, “The Long Walk of the Northern Cheyennes in History and Memory,” History, JCCC, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

• **TGIF**, 10 April, 4:00-5:30 pm, Adams Alumni Center.

• **Riverfront Reading**, Michelle Boisseau, UMKC, and Wayne Miller, Central Missouri, 10 April, 8:00 pm, The Writer’s Place, 3607 Pennsylvania, Kansas City, MO.

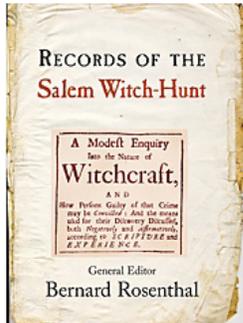
## ***Fellowships, Scholarships, Awards, Contests, Etc. (Posted)***

• **Summer Research Fellowships** for graduate students, preference given to doctoral students who have completed their comprehensive exams by the last day of class of the Spring 2009 semester. Graduate students may nominate themselves or be nominated by a faculty member. Submit required materials to Lydia Ash by Wednesday, April 8. Faculty members will then review the files and rank them.

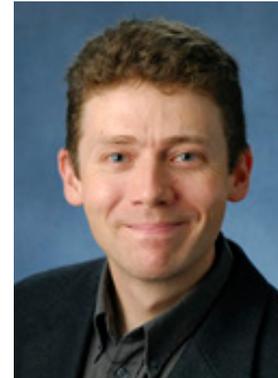
## ***Other Opportunities***

• **Joy Bancroft**, a senior English major, has expressed interest in working as a pet, plant or housesitter over the summer. For further information, contact Bob Elliott.

## **Spotlight on Research**



Rosenthal, Bernard, Gretchen A. Adams, Margo Burns, **Peter Grund**, Risto Hiltunen, Leena Kahlas-Tarkka, Merja Kytö, Matti Peikola, Benjamin Ray, Matti Rissanen, Marilynne K. Roach, and Richard Trask (eds.). *Records of the Salem Witch-Hunt*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. 2009.



I and my colleagues have spent the last 10 years transcribing documents, collecting notes, and researching and writing introductions. But now it is all finally done, and the end product is out! The 995-page *Records of the Salem Witch-Hunt* contains transcriptions of the ca. 1,000 known records from the (in)famous witch trials in Salem in 1692-1693. We have arranged the documents (including examination records, witness depositions, arrest warrants, summonses, petitions, letters of restitution, etc.) in chronological order, which has never been done before, so that they can be read as an unfolding narrative of the events at Salem. We have also worked on contextualizing the events and the documents, adding introductions on social history, legal procedures, and language.

The idea of a new edition came from the recognition that the previous, standard edition of the documents from 1977 (based on transcriptions made during the Works Progress Administration in the 1930s) contained numerous errors on all levels. Since the 1977 edition has been used by most contemporary scholars who attempt to explain what took place in Salem, there have been major misinterpretations both of the language of and the events described in the documents. To put things right, the general editor, Bernard Rosenthal, assembled a cross-disciplinary team of social and legal historians, historical linguists (me included), and computer experts. During our exploration of the documents, we have spent hours on the deciphering and discussion even of single words (which is put in perspective by knowing that the whole corpus covers about 300,000 words). I have personally had my hand in one way or another in most of the transcriptions, in some as the main transcriber and in others as the second reader. (Every document went through a rigorous process of checking in at least four steps, usually involving four different editors.)

During the course of the editing, we have made numerous new discoveries. My favorite is that people who were deeply invested in the trials going in a certain direction were intimately involved in the process as court recorders of documents. Thomas Putnam, whose daughter, Ann Putnam Jr., was one of the fiercest accusers, actually wrote down most of the witness depositions for the core group of accusers consisting of young women and girls. Whether Thomas Putnam in some way or other manipulated testimony when he recorded it will undoubtedly receive a great deal of attention in the future. This edition will lead to many more discoveries like this. Some findings will probably change even some of our most basic assumptions about what actually happened in the social, religious, and political turmoil that was late 17th-century Salem.

—Peter Grund