

Western Illinois University  
**English & Journalism**  
Fall 2009 Newsletter



## ***News From The Chair***

We are already past midterm and soon it will be Thanksgiving and then finals week. I thank all the faculty and staff in the department, especially the members of various department committees, for making my job easier. The three search committees, English education, world literature, and creative writing, are working hard to make our three searches successful. I must also thank our office support specialists, Barb, Judi, Lisa, and Clara, for their wonderful work. Let us hope that by the end of my term we will have a new department chair and three new faculty members joining our department.

I am proud of our faculty members who strive hard to excel as teachers, scholars, and service providers. The Provost has set five major goals for the university: 1) Learning enhancement; 2) Fiscal responsibility; 3) Partnership, community engagement and outreach; 4) Diversity; and 5) Internationalization of WIU. I believe our joint efforts to achieve these goals together reflect in the recognition given to our faculty, students, and staff by the larger university community. However, as educators, we must answer the question posed in a recent Newsweek article (October 20, page 30): “American higher education may still be the best in the world, but how will it cope with threats such as rising costs, unprepared students, and potential online rivals?”

Whether it is the issue of declining enrollment in our majors and in our classes or the summer school reorganization, faculty has to play a pivotal role in revamping the higher education in this country. Thomas Friedman wrote in *The New York Times* (October 20, 2009), “Those who are waiting for this recession to end so someone can again hand them work could have a long wait. Those with the imagination to make themselves untouchables – to invent smarter ways to do old jobs, energy saving ways to provide new services, new ways to attract old customers or new ways to combine existing technologies – will thrive.” We as educators have to be more creative and more productive. This requires more hard work and a sense of giving and sharing the knowledge we have with our students. Or, as Friedman says, we “have a doubly hard task now – not just improving reading, writing, and arithmetic but entrepreneurship, innovation and creativity.”

It is not a matter that concerns just this department; it is something that concerns the university as a whole. Being one of the largest departments, we have to play a leadership role in making Western a proud institution of higher learning.

—Mohammad Siddiqi, Interim Chair

# Advising News

## Registration for Spring 2010

Have you met with your advisor yet this semester? If not, time is running out. Pre-registration begins November 2nd. If you have not yet made your advising appointment with Ellen for this semester, call 298-2189 or stop by 130 Simpkins Hall to set up your appointment. Spring 2010 schedules are available on-line through STARS.

If you have already met with Ellen this semester, but have trouble getting registered due to closed classes, time conflicts, etc., please feel free to e-mail her or stop by the advising office, in 130 Simpkins Hall, for assistance with these problems anytime.

## Academic Assistance Centers

WIU Academic Services offers monitored study groups and tutoring in many subject areas. If you are having trouble in one or more of your courses, it's not too late to bring those grades up this semester! Please seek this FREE assistance if you need it. Tutoring is available in the following areas:

<b>ACCT</b>	201 & 202
<b>ANTH</b>	110 & 111
<b>ART</b>	180 & MORE
<b>BIOL</b>	100, 102, 103 & MORE
<b>CHEM</b>	100, 101, 150 & 201
<b>CS</b>	101 & MORE
<b>ECON</b>	100, 231 & 232
<b>FCS</b>	109 & 121
<b>GEOG</b>	100 & 110
<b>GEOL</b>	110, 112, 113 & 115
<b>HE</b>	120, 121, 123 & 250
<b>HIST</b>	105, 106, 125, 126 & MORE
<b>MATH</b>	099, 100, 101, 102, 123 & MORE
<b>MUS</b>	181, 190, 195, 196 & MORE
<b>PHIL</b>	105 & 120
<b>PHYS</b>	100, 101, 114, 124 & 197
<b>POLS</b>	101, 122, 228, 267, 300 & MORE
<b>PSY</b>	100, 221, 250, 251 & MORE
<b>REL</b>	101 & 201
<b>SOC</b>	100
<b>STAT</b>	171

If a course is not listed, help may still be available. For more information, contact Academic Services in Olson Hall 248 (298-1871).

## Writing Centers

Call for an appointment. Walk-ins accommodated if tutors are available. E-mail questions to: [mwcenter@wiu.edu](mailto:mwcenter@wiu.edu) or visit our website at: [www.wiu.edu/uwc](http://www.wiu.edu/uwc).

**Simpkins Hall Room 341**

**Phone: (309) 298-2815**

**Hours:**

**Monday—Friday** 9:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.

**Bayliss/Henninger Hall**

**Basement floor**

**Phone: (309) 298-3477**

**Hours:**

**Monday—Thursday** 6:00 p.m. — 9:00 p.m.

**Sunday** 2:00 p.m. — 5:00 p.m.

**Thompson Hall, 2nd floor**

**Across from men's elevator**

**Phone: (309) 298-3624**

**Hours:**

**Monday—Thursday** 6:00 p.m. — 9:00 p.m.

**Sunday** 2:00 p.m. — 5:00 p.m.

**Malpass Library, 2nd floor**

**Walk-ins only**

**Hours:**

**Sunday & Monday** 6:00 p.m. — 8:00 p.m.

**Tuesday & Thursday** 6:00 p.m. — 9:00 p.m.

**Quad Cities, Room B14**

**Phone: (309) 762-9481 Ext. 321**

## Dates to Remember

<b>Advance registration for spring 2010</b>	Nov 2
<b>Last day to drop 16-week class or for a total University withdraw</b>	Nov 1
<b>Final Exam Week</b>	Dec 14-18
<b>Honors Convocation</b>	Dec 18
<b>Undergraduate/Graduate Commencement</b>	Dec 19
<b>Fall 2009 grades available on STARS</b>	Dec 22
<b>Spring 2010 session begins</b>	Jan 19
<b>Lincoln's birthday – University closed</b>	Feb 12
<b>Spring break</b>	Mar 15-19
<b>Advance registration for summer and fall 2010</b>	Apr 5
<b>Last day to drop 16-week class or for a total University withdraw</b>	Apr 4
<b>Final exam week</b>	May 10-14
<b>Honors Convocation</b>	May 14
<b>Graduate commencement-Macomb</b>	May 14
<b>Undergraduate commencement-Macomb</b>	May 15
<b>WIU-QC commencement</b>	May 16
<b>Spring 2010 grades available on STARS</b>	May 19

## Fall 2009 Commencement Schedule

### Friday, Dec 18

Honors Convocation, Western Hall 5:30 p.m.

### Saturday, Dec 19

#### Combined Graduate/Undergraduate

#### Commencement Ceremonies (Western Hall)

**Ceremony #1** 9:30 a.m.

BOT/BA

College of Business and Technology

College of Arts and Sciences

Interdisciplinary Studies

**Ceremony #2** 1:00 p.m.

College of Education and Human Services

College of Fine Arts & Communication

## Scholarships & Awards

### Scholarship Winners for 2009-2010

The Department of English and Journalism proudly recognized several academic scholarship & award winners at our awards night on April 23, 2009. Congratulations to all of our winners!

#### Scholarship

Paul Blackford

Olive Fite

Irving Garwood

Lila S. Linder

Alfred J. Lindsey

John Merrett

Beth M. Stiffler

Nai-Tung Ting

Wanninger Foundation

Scholar of the Year

#### Recipient(s)

Quinn Bilyeu & Tiffany Shoufler

Jeri Adams

Rebecca Eineke

Eric Anerino & Kathleen McGowan

Rebecca Eineke

Caitlin Barrett

Kristin Dragos

Nan Norcross

Julia Mackert

Glenna Sabo

### Journalism Awards

#### Best in-Class Writing in Journalism

1<sup>st</sup> Place

Tyler Vogler

2<sup>nd</sup> Place

Erin McCarthy

3<sup>rd</sup> Place

Harrison Jones

#### Best in-Class Graphics Work in Journalism

1<sup>st</sup> Place

Morgan Boese-Lemm

2<sup>nd</sup> Place

Cornetta Pickens

3<sup>rd</sup> Place

Lauren Perring

### Graduate Awards

#### Award

Sydney M. Conger

John Mahoney

Research Fellowship

Ron & Leslie Walker

Graduate Fellowships

#### Recipient(s)

Emily Brackman

Andrew Hoogheem

Travis Moran

Tracey Winbigler

Writing Studies: Michael Baumann

Literary Studies: Travis Moran

## Fall 2009 Departmental Scholars

We are pleased to announce our English and Journalism Departmental Scholar for fall 2009. The student selected for this award must be a December 2009 graduate with a cumulative GPA of 3.30 or higher. Campus and community involvement is also taken into account in the selection process.

Our congratulations this semester goes to Abby Curry, English Education major! Abby will be recognized at the Honors Convocation on Friday, December 18th at 5:30 p.m. in Western Hall.

## Lois Cordell Bruner Literary Nonfiction Award

All Western Illinois University undergraduates are welcome to submit one personal essay of any length to the Lois C. Bruner Literary Nonfiction contest. Essays should be about life experiences—though these may fit into any of the following categories: travelogue, memoir, biography, autobiography, nature writing, or cultural critique. The writing should strive toward literary qualities; voice and style will be weighed heavily. Several cash prizes and honorable mentions will be awarded. **The deadline for Spring 2010 is Monday, April 12.** Details regarding submission guidelines are available at <http://www.wiu.edu/english/bruner.php>.

### Spring 2009 Nonfiction Winners

1<sup>st</sup> place

Caitlin Barrett

2<sup>nd</sup> place

Kristin Sylvester

3<sup>rd</sup> place

Margarita Fields

## Cordell Larner Award in Fiction or Poetry

Fiction writers and poets alike are invited to submit stories and poems for the Cordell Larner Award. All Western Illinois University undergraduates, regardless of major, are invited to submit up to 15 poems and/or one short story to the contest. The literary merit of each entry will be weighed heavily. Most important are matters of voice and style. **The deadline for Spring 2010 is Monday, April 12.** Details regarding submission guidelines are available at <http://www.wiu.edu/english/larner.php>.

### Spring 2009 Fiction Winners

1<sup>st</sup> place

Ryan Cipkar

2<sup>nd</sup> place

Eric Terlep

3<sup>rd</sup> place

Isaac James Hunt

### Spring 2009 Poetry Winners

1<sup>st</sup> place

Kyle Furlane

2<sup>nd</sup> place

Sarah Elizabeth Zeeck

3<sup>rd</sup> place

Ruslana Kakhumanov

## Leland Essay Contest 2010

Deadline for the 2009-10 Essay Contest: Monday January 25, 2010 4:00 p.m. (129 Simpkins Hall). For more information, visit <http://www.wiu.edu/english/writing/contest/>.

## Student News

### Film Students Club at WIU

Film Students' Club at WIU! Films from international, Independent and Hollywood cinemas are going to be screened and discussed every Tuesday @ 7:00 p.m., in room 104b in Morgan Hall. It's a students' organization mentored and supervised by Dr. Roberta Di Carmine.

### Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA)

PRSSA meets every Wednesday at 5:45 p.m. in Simpkins Hall, room 020. Three PRSSA members and the faculty adviser, Dr. Siddiqi, are going to attend the PRSSA National Convention, November 7-10, in San Diego, CA.

#### PRSSA officers and advisers

<b>President</b>	Anna Halligan (am-halligan@wiu.edu)
<b>Vice President</b>	Jacqueline Zalabak
<b>Secretary</b>	Courtney Pazdra
<b>Treasurer</b>	Heather Vogel
<b>PR Director</b>	Kayla Stephens
<b>Historian</b>	Karl Schmidt
<b>Faculty Adviser</b>	Mohammad Siddiqi (m-siddiqi@wiu.edu)
<b>Professional Adviser</b>	Deb McCarver (dmccarver@ilchamber.org)

### The National Council of the Teachers of English (NCTE)

WIU's student affiliate group of National Council of Teachers of English has been busy this fall with numerous activities. In September, NCTE collected books from teachers



and students and sold them in the student lounge. Proceeds went to NCTE for future activities.

Nine English Education students attended the Illinois Association of Teachers of English (IATE) conference in Rockford, IL, October 16-18. Kristina Pedroni gave a presentation on teaching critical thinking skills, and Kristin Dragos and Gianna Valentine gave a presentation on using google applications to teach English.

Recently, Dr. Christopher Morrow spoke to NCTE members on "How to Teach Shakespeare in the Classroom." He presented ideas on how to engage students in the text.

On October 20th, NCTE will recognize the National Day of Writing by holding a writing marathon from 8:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m.

Other events include a possible bake-sale and a holiday party at the end of the semester. NCTE has created t-shirts as an additional fundraiser. If you would like to order an NCTE T-shirt, contact Kristin Dragos at KM-Felkins@wiu.edu. NCTE has also been planning the second annual spring conference. It will take place sometime next April. If you would be interested in helping plan the event or presenting, contact Gianna Valentine at GM-Valentine@wiu.edu.

### Western Society of Professional Journalists (WSPJ)

Pulitzer Prize-winning photojournalist John H. White of Chicago gave a campus presentation of his work and life to about 100 students and others on September 17, co-sponsored by the Visiting Lectures Committee and the Western Society of Professional Journalists.

### Sigma Tau Delta

Timothy Helwig is the new faculty advisor for our Phi Delta chapter of Sigma Tau Delta honor society. Currently, Sigma Tau Delta, led by student president Bethany Whitacre, is in the midst of its fall membership drive and is planning fundraising events. Applications from eligible prospective members are due on October 30, 2009, and a special induction ceremony is being planned for early December.

### Micah Heatwole

Micah Heatwole has been awarded a full fellowship to the MA program in creative writing at Texas Tech. He's graduating this coming May and is quite thrilled by this because it is going to give him a chance to do more reading and writing before deciding upon pursuing the PhD or the MFA.

## Alumni Notes

### Kent Corbin

Kent Corbin, a creative writing minor who graduated in 2007, has been offered a full fellowship to the MFA program at Arizona State. He was one of five fiction writers selected from a pool of 250 applicants.

### Madalyn Miller

Madalyn Miller, English Education major who graduated in May 2009, has been accepted at the University of Central Missouri to pursue her Masters in teaching English as a second language.

## Special Events

### The National Gallery of Writing

Writers of various types and in diverse genres in the Department of English & Journalism at WIU soon will begin displaying their work to a national audience through a local online gallery in the National Gallery of Writing.

The National Gallery of Writing is a project of the National Council of Teachers of English. Its goal is to showcase writing created by individuals from all across the United States, in a broad range of styles and types for a variety of purposes. Local galleries feature the work of local writing communities.

Writers in the Department of English & Journalism at Western Illinois University will be able to submit their work from now through June 1, 2010, in the local gallery, which has been set up under the curatorship of Dr. Peggy Otto.

Any English & Journalism student, faculty, or staff member can submit one piece of writing between now and June 1, 2010, to be displayed in the gallery, which will be open for public viewing from October 20, 2009, until June 30, 2010.

### Fall 2009 Fred Ewing Case & Lola Austin Case Writer-in-Residence

Poet Timothy Liu is the fall 2009 Fred Ewing Case and Lola Austin Case Writer-in-Residence. Events include a poetry reading on Thursday, October 29<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 p.m. in the WIU Art Gallery, with a reception to follow. There will also be a question and answer session on Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 p.m. in the University Writing Center, Simpkins 341. Both events are free and open to the public. Liu will also meet with the advanced creative writing students to provide them with personal critiques. For more information, please contact Merrill Cole at [M-Cole@wiu.edu](mailto:M-Cole@wiu.edu).

### Maurine Magliocco Lecture

The department is proud to present the 4th annual Maurine Magliocco Lecture on Tuesday, November 3rd at 7:00 p.m. Dr. Tim Dean will deliver a talk entitled, "What is Psychoanalytic Thinking," putting us in touch with the most recent trends in the humanities and psychoanalysis. Dr. Dean's research and teaching interests include Anglophone modernism, poetry and poetics, queer theory, gender theory, aesthetic theory, and psychoanalytic theory. At Buffalo he is affiliated with the Center for the Study of Psychoanalysis and Culture and the Department of Comparative Literature. He is currently director of the Buffalo Humanities Institute.

His books include the forthcoming *Unlimited Intimacy: Reflections on the Subculture of Barebacking* from University of Chicago Press; *Homosexuality and Psychoanalysis* (coedited with Christopher Lane, 2001); *Beyond Sexuality* (2000); and *Gary Snyder and the American Unconscious: Inhabiting the Ground* (1991).

### Emmett Till lynching author visit

Award-winning journalist Christopher Benson, co-author of *Death of Innocence: The Story of the Hate Crime That Changed America*, will speak on campus Nov. 17-18, brought by the

English and Journalism department and other campus and local co-sponsors.

Benson co-wrote the 2003 Random House book with Mamie Till-Mobley about the life and death of her son, Emmett Till, and the history-making changes that followed his 1955 lynching in Mississippi.

His public appearance at 5:00 p.m. November 18th in the Union Sandburg Theater will be preceded by a nonfiction writing workshop for students at 5:30 p.m. November 17th in Simpkins 027.

Benson has worked in radio and TV, and for *Ebony* magazine. His journalism has appeared in *Chicago* magazine, the *Washington Post*, the *Chicago Tribune*, the *Chicago Sun-Times* and *Reader's Digest*. He now teaches at the University of Illinois in Urbana.

### English Graduate Organization Conference

Western Illinois University's 6th Annual English Graduate Organization Conference will be November 14th and 15th in the WIU student union. The theme of the conference is "Questioning Identity: Representations of Class and Working Class Identity." The featured keynote speaker is Dr. Janet Zandy. Dr. Zandy's presentation, "Seeing Beyond Dirt: The Language of Working-Class Photography," will be Friday, November 13<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. in Morgan Hall, room 101B.

## Journalism News

### Rovics and Feeney Event

Dr. Lisa Barr presented David Rovics and Anne Feeney to campus on October 6 and 7.

Rovics and Anne Feeney are among the best labor singers, activists, and cultural workers. They performed on October 6, 7:30 p.m., at a concert in the COFAC recital hall and auditorium. Rovics and Feeney also made several class room appearances including on Tuesday, Oct. 6<sup>th</sup>, 5 - 5:30 p.m., in the Women's Center Lounge, Multicultural Center; on Wednesday, October 7th, 10:00 -10:50 a.m. in Sandburg Theatre where Green Party Candidate for Governor Richard Whitney 2010 joined them for a panel on "Activism After Pittsburgh"; also in the Sandburg Theatre at 11-11:50, in which they spoke to Dr. Barr's mass media law students and others about "Copyright in a Deconstructed Recording Age"; Wednesday Oct. 7th, 12:00 - 12:50 p.m., in the Multicultural Center Activity Room on "WOMEN AND CHILDREN FIRST: Why and how are women and children peculiarly disadvantaged by corporate globalization? What are they doing about it?"; and Wednesday, Oct. 7th 1 - 2:50 p.m., in Morgan 310 on "Contemporary Peace Workers: A Spark of Hope in Today's Society" for students of AAS/WS 336, "Womanist/Feminist Theory: Global Perspectives," and AAS281 "Literature of the Black World."

The events were sponsored by the University Theme Committee, English & Journalism Department, Women's Studies Department, Feminist Action Alliance, Institute for Rural Affairs, Women's Center, Visiting Lectures Committee, African American Studies Department, University Professionals of Illinois Local 4100 WIU, and the Social Concerns Committee of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Macomb.

## Journalism Day

About 100 high school and WIU students attended political journalist Bernard Schoenburg's keynote speech on Journalism Day on Oct. 19 at the University Union.

Every fall, the Department of English and Journalism organizes Journalism Day, which is both a recruiting tool for high school students and an opportunity for WIU students to learn about journalism.

Schoenburg's talk was titled, "Politics: Keeping Them Honest." He is a newspaper political columnist and reporter with The State Journal-Register of Springfield, Ill. Schoenburg has made a career of holding elective officials accountable and exposing patronage in the state capital.

Fifty-one students and teachers from five high schools attended Journalism Day this fall. In addition to Schoenburg's speech, the program offered breakout-sessions led by WIU journalism professors Lisa Barr, Lisa Kernek, Bill Knight, Richard Moreno, Mohammad Siddiqi, Teresa Simmons and Pearlie Strother-Adams.

The students also had their choice of tours of either the Western Courier newsroom in the Heating Plant Annex or the campus television and radio stations in Sallee Hall.

Journalism Day was sponsored by the Visiting Lectures Committee and the Department of English and Journalism.

## New web pages and e-newsletter

The Journalism program has produced new pages for the department web site, <http://www.wiu.edu/english/journalism>, including short profiles of figures honored in the Western Illinois Journalism Hall of Fame in Simpkins Hall and has launched *The J*, a weekly e-newsletter for Journalism majors and minors.

## Facebook page

The Journalism program has a Facebook page now, created at the start of fall semester. Many journalism alums and local professional journalists have become fans already, but not many current students have. The "J faculty" encourages current majors and minors to become "fans" of the page to receive updates and announcements of upcoming events on campus that might be of interest to them. Of course, we welcome all English faculty and students to get on board, too. Assistant Professor Mark Butzow says the site eventually will include much of the same information about the Journalism program found on the department website, which will help with disseminating information about the program and recruiting. Anyone with a Facebook profile can become a fan by visiting "WIU Journalism Program" (type that in the search box at upper right of your profile page) and clicking the "become a fan" button at the top of our page.

## New Faculty

### Barbara Harroun

Barbara Harroun holds a B.S.W. from Western Illinois University and an M.F.A. in Fiction from Purdue University.



While at Purdue, she served as the Fiction Editor of the Sycamore Review. Her own fiction most recently appeared in Buffalo Carp and Another Chicago Magazine. She worked and taught at Heartland Community College in Normal, IL, for six years before relocating to Macomb with her husband and two children, Annaleigh and Jack.

### Magdelyn Helwig

Magdelyn Hammond Helwig holds an MFA in poetry from the University of Maryland, College Park, where she is also completing her doctorate in twentieth-century poetry. Her research interests include multimedia textual studies, verbal-visual collaboration, ekphrasis, and avant-garde poetry.



### Charles McLeod

Charles McLeod earned his MFA from the University of Virginia in 2005. His fiction has appeared in publications including Alaska Quarterly Review, Conjunctions, CutBank, DOSSIER, The Gettysburg Review, The Iowa Review, The Pushcart Prize: Best of the Small Presses, Third Coast, and ZZZZYVA. A Hoynes Fellow at the University of Virginia, he has received additional fellowships from the Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown and San Jose State University, where he was a Steinbeck Fellow. His debut collection, *National Treasures*, and debut novel, *American Weather*, will be published simultaneously by Random House UK/Harvill Secker in 2011.



## Faculty News

### Neil Baird

Neil Baird's article "Virtual Vietnam Veterans Memorials as Image Events: Exorcising the Specter of Vietnam" was published in two places: 1) *Enculturation: A Journal of Rhetoric, Writing, and Culture* and 2) *Thirty Years After: New Essays on Vietnam War, Literature and Film*. Baird also presented "The Somatic Literacies of Collegiate Football Players: Some Thoughts Toward an Embodied Writing Center" at the 2009 Conference on College Composition and Communication in San Francisco.

### Mark Butzow

Mark Butzow has begun a second year of service on the Journalism Education Committee of the Society of Professional Journalists. During his first year as a member, he served as secretary for the quarterly "meetings" (conference calls) of committee members and helped plan student-oriented sessions for the 2009 convention held in August and for the 2010 convention to be held next August in Las Vegas. That committee also is largely responsible for the contents of SPJ's annual education issue of Quill magazine, so Mark took on one

of those story assignments. Research, interviews and writing occurred in May and June, and Quill published his article, "Small Fry: Large J-schools may have the dollars, but smaller programs are also preparing students for digital convergence," in its August 2009 issue (Quill, Vol. 97, No. 6). Butzow also is preparing to present one workshop and one paper at the National College Media Convention in late October in Austin, Texas. The workshop is an "updated repeat" of a session he ran last October on training newspaper writers to adjust stories for maximum effectiveness on news web sites. The paper will provide practical steps, best-practices and pedagogy for instructors (newspaper faculty advisers, in this case) wanting to prepare for teaching a media ethics class.

## Roberta Di Carmine

Roberta Di Carmine has published a book review on South African cinema, *Southwest Journal of Cultures*, <http://southwestjournalofcultures.blogspot.com/>.

On October 7-10, she presented her latest work on Italian Cinema at the Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association in Utah. The title of her paper is: "Deadly Love in Matteo Garrone's "Primo Amore" ("First Love," 2002) and "L'imbalsamatore" ("The embalmer," 2004). She chaired this special topic session on Contemporary Italian cinema.

Roberta is also chairing a film panel, "Migrancy in European Cinema" at the Midwest Modern Language Association in St. Louis, MO (November 12-14). She has been responsible for organizing this film panel.

## Bradley Dilger

Associate Professor of English Bradley Dilger was awarded a WIU Foundation Summer Research Stipend for his research into open standards for web-based publications in English studies. The stipend will fund a month's research including travel to a conference.

## Timothy Helwig

Timothy Helwig's article "Black and White Print: Cross-Racial Strategies of Class Solidarity in Mechanics' Free Press and Freedom's Journal" will appear in the fall 2009 issue of *American Periodicals: A Journal of History, Criticism, and Bibliography*.

## Bill Knight

Bill Knight (Journalism) in August gave a presentation at the convention of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communications (AEJMC) in Boston (where he was part of a panel discussing "Nonprofit Models for News"), and in September conducted a mock press conference in a recruiting visit to the College of DuPage (Glen Ellyn, Ill.) and also a workshop on interviewing at the Fall Conference of the Illinois Community College Journalism Association in Charleston.

Knight, who regularly writes for newspapers in Galesburg, Kewanee, Macomb, Monmouth, Pekin and Peoria, had one of his columns – about his son and his puppy leaving for law school – picked up by Peoria's Catholic Post in August and the Woodford County Journal (Eureka, Ill.) in September.

This fall and winter, Knight is analyzing his survey of North American community newspapers, assisted by Journalism Office

Support Associate Clara Carrigan and Tere North of WIU's University Technology office.

## Bill Knight and Rich Moreno

Western Courier adviser Rich Moreno and interim Journalism director Bill Knight together will advise students' independent production of one issue of a magazine and one issue of a tabloid newspaper published later this semester. Proceeds will benefit Journalism scholarships.

## Dan Malachuk

Dan Malachuk will be co-editing with the political theorist Alan M. Levine "A Political Companion to Emerson," the first collection of essays ever published on Ralph Waldo Emerson's politics. The book will be part of a new University Press of Kentucky series, *Political Companions to Great American Authors*. With the help of a stipend from Western, this summer Dan continued work on his book project on the historical and contemporary relevance of American Transcendentalism's abolitionist "higher law" theory. In July he led a discussion on Emerson's politics at the Thoreau Gathering in Concord, Massachusetts, where he also joined a panel discussion on the philosophy and politics of Transcendentalism. Also in July, in Springfield, he presented a paper at the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic on Frederick Douglass' and Herman Melville's stories about slave rebellions at sea. In September, in Toronto, he served as a discussant on a panel on Emerson's politics at the American Political Science Association's annual meeting. In October he travels to Harpers Ferry, West Virginia, for a conference marking the 150th anniversary of John Brown's raid there; he will be presenting a paper entitled "The Role of Emerson, Thoreau, and John Brown in America's Long Revolution, 1776-1870."

## Rich Moreno

Rich Moreno's ninth book, *Mysteries and Legends of Nevada, True Stories of the Unsolved and Unexplained*, will be published by Globe-Pequot Books in December.

## Mark Mossman

Mark Mossman's book, *Disability, Representation and the Body in Irish Writing: 1800-1922*, was published by Palgrave Macmillan on September 29, 2009. The book claims that the notion of disability is central in the development of modern Ireland.

## Peggy Otto

Peggy Otto received the University of Louisville Department of English Award for the 2009 Outstanding Ph.D. Graduate. She received her Ph.D. in Rhetoric and Composition in May 2009 with a dissertation on working-class women's literacies of the mid-twentieth century.

## Shazia Rahman

Shazia Rahman received the Provost's Award for Excellence in Internationalizing the Campus. This award was based on her record in teaching, service and research covering a period of the last three years, summers included. The recognition reception took place on October 14th.



## Alice Robertson

The second edition of Alice Robertson's textbook for English 180, *Writing from Private Places to Public Spaces*, came out in August just before school started and in time for this semester's writing classes. The book, which is geared toward the six sequential assignments of the freshman writing course, is truly an "in-house" production. It features contributions from teaching assistants and instructors as well as a very professional cover designed by the department's own Barb Arvin. The student featured on the cover was one of our spring 2009 student workers, Angela Zaba.

## *Staff News*

### 2009 - 2010 English and Journalism Student Assistants

Paige Podbelsek, Monique Campbell, and Nicole R Raddatz.

## Welcome Pam Hines

Pam Hines will begin working in the department on January 4, 2010. Pam is retired from WIU and has graciously agreed to fill in as the department's staff clerk during Barb Arvin's educational leave of absence. Thank you Pam and welcome!

