Scholarly and Creative Achievements in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences 2009
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Scholarly and Creative Achievements in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Scholarship is an essential component of the university’s mission as an institution of higher learning and community service. Excellence in teaching at the university level depends upon active scholarship by faculty members. Through basic and applied research, artistic expression and performance, and other forms of scholarship, faculty members contribute to the development and application of knowledge, and create a dynamic environment for learning. Active scholarship may include collaboration of faculty and staff with students, business and labor, government, and community organizations. In this way, the benefits of a liberal education can extend beyond classroom walls to lifelong learning and partnerships between the university and its diverse communities.

Faculty Handbook

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The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) is a student-centered and diverse learning community that engages in critical inquiry, extending knowledge to enrich and enliven individual and public life. Created in July 2004, CLAS is the largest of GVSU’s colleges and offers almost 50 bachelors degrees (and a growing number of advanced degrees) in the natural and mathematical sciences, humanities, the fine and performing arts, and the social sciences. GVSU undergraduates in all fields build the foundation for their major studies in general education courses offered by our college.

Mission

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences is a student-centered and diverse learning community that engages in critical inquiry extending knowledge to enrich and enliven individual and public life.

Vision

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences will set a standard of excellence in liberal education. We will prepare our students to be responsible citizens, productive professionals, and lifelong learners with global perspective. We will foster a diverse community of inquiry, discourse, discovery, expression, and reflection.
DEAN’S MESSAGE

The faculty, staff, students, alumni, and friends of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences share a vision of fostering a diverse community of inquiry, discourse, discovery, expression, and reflection. Through investment of intellectual sweat equity, and with many forms of support, this community has produced the recent scholarly and creative achievements celebrated here and last year in the Quadrennial Report of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, 2004-2008.

These achievements help to produce a student-centered and diverse learning community that engages in critical inquiry, extending knowledge to enrich and enliven individual and public life. They also demonstrate the increasingly vibrant environment for scholarly and creative activity, which enriches the teaching of the faculty and learning of students in CLAS, as well as their ability to provide service to the larger community.

While it would be impossible to narrate every achievement of the hundreds of faculty and thousands of students in the college, this report is intended to feature and suggest the breadth and depth of the recent scholarly and creative work within our departments and programs as well as collaboratively with partners within and beyond the college.

Frederick J. Antczak, Ph.D. - Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
4 Grand Valley State University Scholarly and Creative Achievements in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

**Student Scholars**

2008 Cohort of McNair Scholars and their Mentors

**Kim Anthony, History & Middle Eastern Studies**  
Research Project: Palestinian and Iraqi Women Refugees: An Examination of the Past Sixty Years  
Mentors: Danielle DeMuth, Sebastian Maisel

**Tiffany Cross, Anthropology**  
Research Project: Exploring Permanent Property: An Exploration of the Tattoo Acquisition in the Midwest  
Mentor: Ann Kroll Lerner

**Chris Denison, Geology**  
Research Project: Apatite Fission Track Thermochronology, Northern Range, Trinidad (and Paria Peninsula, Venezuela)  
Mentor: John Weber

**Stefanie Manee, History**  
Research Project: White Slavery in Early 20th Century Chicago: Progressive Reformers and Their Subjects  
Mentor: Steve Tripp

**David Martin, Sociology — Critical Theory**  
Research Project: Mini-Kingdoms and Ivory Towers: A Critical Analysis of Higher Education in Modern Civil Society  
Mentor: Michael Ott

**Anthony Rodriguez, Geology**  
Research Project: Global Positioning System (GPS) Determination of Motions, Neotectonics, and Seismic Hazard in Trinidad and Tobago  
Mentor: John Weber

**Ryan Rosso, French Linguistics**  
Research Project: Considering Language Convergence in Ontario: An Examination of Variation in Hearst French  
Mentors: Dan Golembeski, Janel Pettes Guikema

**Samantha Schenk, Psychology & Women and Gender Studies**  
Research Project: Cyber-Sexual Harassment: The Development of the Cyber-Sexual Experiences Questionnaire  
Mentors: Donna Henderson-King, Ellen Shupe

**Megan Taliaferro, Sociology**  
Research Project: School of Choice and Diversity  
Mentors: Lisa Hickman, Jennifer Stewart

**Ben Winegard, Sociology — Evolutionary Psychology**  
Research Project: What we have here is a failure to communicate: Social science textbooks and evolutionary theory  
Mentor: Rob Deaner

Many other Student Scholars

Many undergraduates engage directly in research with the guidance of CLAS faculty members. These research opportunities often result in presentations on Student Scholarship Day (SSD). Descriptions of these projects are published in the extensive SSD Abstract Book (available in print and online formats).
Some Highlights of Recent Scholarly and Creative Achievements of the Units in CLAS

Annis Water Resources Institute
Johengen, T. H., B. A. Biddanda, and J. B. Cotner. 2008. Stimulation of Lake Michigan plankton metabolism by sediment resuspension and river runoff. *J. Great Lakes Res.* 34:213-227. This paper was judged to be the most notable paper published in the *Journal of Great Lakes Research* and received the 2008 Chandler-Misener Award from the International Association of Great Lakes Research (IAGLR).


In addition to an impressive array of research publications, the scientists of the Annis Water Resource Institute are involved in ongoing research of great community relevance such as Rick Rediske’s work on toxic cyanobacteria and waterborne pathogens, Al Steinman’s work on stormwater management in the Village of Spring Lake and Spring Lake Township (working with the community to figure out how best to tackle this problem and improve water quality in Spring Lake and the Grand River), and Janet Vail and Rick Rediske’s grant from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality to look at chemical management in schools, providing training for educators to properly manage chemicals.

Anthropology


ANTHROPOLOGY
MARK SCHWARTZ

Since coming to GVSU five years ago, Mark Schwartz has taken 14 GVSU students to a Turkey excavation site and has worked with several of these students on further analyses and interpretations of data. Student research has resulted in one student co-authored publication in a peer-reviewed journal, various Student Scholarship Day presentations, and presentations at academic venues. In March 2009, the History Channel eight episode documentary, *Battles BC*, featured Mark as one of the interviewed experts.
Art & Design
Over the last year Brett Colley’s drawing and printmaking work was displayed in four different juried exhibitions, three invitational, and three other exhibitions. In addition, his work graced the covers of a magazine and a journal in the last year.

Tim Fisher completed a painting commission for GVSU based on the food pyramid and Fibonacci sequences, as well as two paintings (Kingfisher and Bird and Fig) created for charities: the UICA’s live coverage auction and a fundraiser for an individual’s surgery.

Grand Valley State University Ceramics Program was featured in an article in an international ceramics magazine: Ceramic Art Monthly, Korea, Dec. 2008. The title of the article is “World Ceramic Art: 50 Days at Grand Valley State University” by Eunmee Lee, one of the Korean ceramic artists who came to GVSU for the GVSU Ceramics International Workshop & Exhibition and participated in the 2008 Fall Arts Celebration. The article features the GVSU Ceramics program, Hoon Lee’s recent solo show “Function & Submarine” at the GVSU Art Gallery and the GVSU Ceramics International Workshop & Exhibition.

Sculptor Norwood Viviano had work in three solo exhibitions, twice in two-person exhibitions, and three group exhibitions. He also gave four gallery talks and lectures.

Paul Wittenbraker was selected for a Michigan Campus Compact Award for creating connections between the academic community and the larger community. His work with the Civic Studio was included in the “Other Options” exhibit produced by INCUBATE. The exhibit travels and has shown in Grand Rapids, Chicago, Pittsburgh, and at Eyebeam in New York City.

Of the 5,600 nationwide submissions to this year’s Society of Illustrators Student Scholarship Competition, only 144 were selected. Three of those were students from Grand Valley State University’s Department of Art and Design: Ian Vanderhill, Kaylee Cornfield, and Corey Miller. The Museum of American Illustration in New York City displayed the selected students’ original artwork, which will also be printed in a full-color catalog.

ART & DESIGN

Maybe If I Follow Her by Kaylee Cornfield
Party Masks by Corey Miller
Sound the Alarm by Ian Vanderhill
Biology


Hollister, R.D., P.J. Webber, GVSU student R.T. Slider, F.E. Nelson, C.E. Tweedie. 2008. Soil temperature and thaw response to manipulated air temperature and plant cover at Barrow and Atqasuk, Alaska. In Ninth International Conference on Permafrost. Institute of Northern Engineering. University of Alaska Fairbanks. 729-734. In addition to field work on this project with six students in the last two years, Bob Hollister has participated in over 20 activities aimed at informing the community about the impacts of climate change with emphasis on tundra regions. These include talks, interviews, and newspaper articles.


Biomedical Science


Fatema Husaini, a research student in Dan Bergman’s lab, received a Best Student Poster Award (2nd Place) at the Mid East Honors Association Conference. The Mid East Honors Association is a regional member of the National Collegiate Honors Council and includes schools from Indiana, Ohio, West Virginia, and parts of Illinois, Kentucky, and Michigan. Her poster was entitled “Orientation Strategies of Crayfish when Incurring Damage to their Olfactory Chemoreceptors.”

Cell & Molecular Biology


Chemistry


Shannon Biros took her undergraduate degrees at Grand Valley in chemistry and biomedical science in 2001 and has returned as a member of the faculty. In addition to her productive scholarly work, Biros serves on the CLAS Alumni Board.


Shannon Biros took her undergraduate degrees at Grand Valley in chemistry and biomedical science in 2001 and has returned as a member of the faculty. In addition to her productive scholarly work, Biros serves on the CLAS Alumni Board.


Deborah Herrington was invited to Cape Town, South Africa as an International Scholar in Chemical Education.


Peter Anderson was named 2009 Margo Tytus Visiting Fellow at the University of Cincinnati for work on a commentary on Seneca's *De Constantia sapientis*. He also supervised Kate Allen's Honors Senior Thesis (winner of 2009 Outstanding Honors Senior Thesis Award) on a Renaissance edition and commentary on Martial, which in addition generated a peer-reviewed conference paper.

Melissa Morison’s recent sabbatical project focused upon the interpretation of ceramic artifacts in connection with the ongoing excavations at Kenchreai in Greece, for which she serves as the ceramics expert. Morison was invited in Fall 2008 to undertake the systematic reexamination and publication of ceramics excavated on the site of ancient Corinth, one of the key centers of the ancient world.


Diane Rayor is finishing work on a new translation of Sophocles’ *Antigone* under contract to Cambridge University Press. Her international reputation as a translator of Greek poetry was recognized when in the summer of 2008 she was an invited participant—and the only classicist—in the fifth annual Paros Symposium of Conversation and Translation, a forum intended to foster translation and exchange between Greek and Anglophone poets, translators, and scholars.

In April 2009, the Antigone project, through her collaboration with Karen Libman [Theatre, School of Communications] and with the twenty-two students enrolled in the CLA/CTH 479 Classical Theatre Workshop, resulted in the staging of the world premiere of Rayor’s translation.


Deanna Morse produced the film *Forced Perspective: Odessa*, 5:30 minutes, 2007. *Forced Perspective: Odessa* considers how our media experiences affect our real life experiences. The film has already garnered three awards and ten festival screenings.

Alex Nesterenko, as an advisor/consultant to the Lower Grand River Organization of Watersheds, helped LGROW, through its Public Awareness and Marketing Committee (PAM), and in connection with Grand Valley Metropolitan Council (GVMC), to develop a research instrument and research strategy to evaluate public understanding of the lower Grand River watershed and water usage.


Kim Roberts produced two videos in 2008. *Restorative Justice Video* involved working with ex-offender David Moore to tape and edit his personal story of incarceration and the debilitating effects it has on inmates. Film & Video student, Kevin Parson, was involved in the production. Also produced was the *10th Anniversary Video for Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ*. This video celebrates the designation of Plymouth Church as an open and affirming church. It included interviews with those whose lives were touched by its designation, including lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and straight allies.

Roos, B. “Censorship of the Media” and “Censorship of Children’s Television in Canada and United States.” *The Nineties in America*, Milton Berman, ed. (Salem Press, 2009).

Summer Film 2008, *Walter’s Wife* co-executive producers Jim Schaub and Tony Thompson. This short film was written by Joshua Kinne and directed by Andy Fortenbacher, both recent graduates of GVSU.

The documentary *Up From the Bottoms: The Search for the American Dream* was narrated by Cicely Tyson. Produced by Clear Vision Films (Jim Schaub), the film explores the migration of African Americans to Muskegon during the war years and preserves this important part of Michigan history.

Alfred Sheffield provided scenic design for Theater at Grand Valley’s productions of *Vinegar Tom* (Fall 2008), *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* (Fall 2008), and *Nickel and Dimed* (Winter 2008) as well as lighting design for GVSU dance program’s *Dance Stars Across America* (Fall 2008) and the 2008 *Spring Dance Concert* (Winter 2008). He created the lighting design for the 2009 *Spring Dance Concert* and both the lighting and scenic design for *The Lady from the Sea* (2009).

Tony Thompson’s photography was featured in a two person show “Slow Fire” at the Irene Carlson Gallery of Photography, The University of La Verne, in La Verne, California.

Victoria Veenstra won two awards for her photography in juried exhibitions in 2008.

English

In 2008, Rachel Anderson was the dramaturg for the Bard-to-Go program on its cultural exchange program in Shanghai, China. In 2009, she was also dramaturg for the production of “Bard to Go: Kissing and Courting,” which an international audience at the Sapperlot International Festival of Youth Theatre in Brixen, Italy, voted the Best Performance Award.


Kate Remlinger, “Everyone Up Here: Enregisterment and Identity in Michigan’s Keweenaw Peninsula,” American Speech (Summer 2009).

Kate Remlinger, “Revised Perceptions: Changing Dialect Perceptions in Wisconsin and Michigan’s Upper Peninsula,” American Speech. (forthcoming)


Helen Westra, “‘As I can remember’: Jean McCord Lowry’s French and Indian War Captivity Narrative.” Extended biographical essay accompanying 2008 commemorative facsimile reprint of A Journal of the Captivity of Jean Lowry and Her Children, Giving an Account of her being taken by the Indians, the 1st of April 1756 from William McCord’s in Rocky-Spring Settlement in Pennsylvania. (Conochocheague Institute, 2008).


Geography & Planning


ENGLISH

ROB FRANCIOSI

Rob Franciosi is a frequent lecturer on the Holocaust. Recent talks include “Aesthetics and Ethics: The Physical Design of John Hersey’s Holocaust Novel, The Wall,” Grand Rapids Public Library, January 23, 2008; “My Holocaust Journey,” Phillip A. Sigal Memorial Lecture, Congregation Ahavas Israel, Grand Rapids, May 3, 2008; “To Record Truth Against Power: Spiritual Resistance in the Warsaw Ghetto,” Grand Rapids Torch Club, November 11, 2008; and “The Story of a Dancer: Nonfiction and Fiction in a Holocaust Literature Course,” Modern Language Association Convention, San Francisco, CA, December 29, 2008. He considers his most significant professional achievements last year to have happened in archives. First, he discovered an audio tape of a 1943 performance of We Will Never Die, a pageant written by Ben Hecht and Kurt Weil and performed in the U.S. to foster public concern for the fate of Europe’s Jews. This version, unlike the New York Public Library’s single typescript, includes a long section dedicated to the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising of April 1943. Second, Franciosi gained access to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum’s institutional archives, a massive collection of documents that will allow him to detail how the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising was treated in the museum’s permanent exhibition.


**Geology**


**Figen Mekik**

Figen Mekik’s National Science Foundation grant funds a project meant to unlock one of the big mysteries in how human activities affect climate change. “To understand and mitigate climate change, we need to look at the Earth’s history,” said Mekik. “We need to go back 20,000 years, to the time since the last Ice Age. This was a time of dramatic natural global warming but it was nothing compared to the human-caused global warming we have been experiencing since the Industrial Revolution.” Oceans are becoming more acidic as they absorb more and more carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. Mekik and a group of Grand Valley undergraduates plan to measure how quickly oceans can absorb extra CO2 by studying the shells of foraminifers, or single-celled organisms with shells. The National Science Foundation said it funded the project because of the importance of the scientific problem, but also because of Mekik’s record of outreach work as well as research with undergraduates and publishing with student co-authors in peer-reviewed scientific journals (such as Mekik, A. F. and GVSU student L. Raterink, 2008. Effects of surface ocean conditions on the quantification of deep sea calcite dissolution in the tropical Pacific, *Paleoceanography*, 23. PAI216, doi:10.1029/2007PA001433). In preparation with her collaborators are papers on “deglacial sea surface and deep chlorophyll maximum temperature variations in the eastern equatorial Pacific: implications for regional paleoceanography” and “A multi-proxy approach to tracing dissolution in the subtropical South Atlantic: foraminifer fragmentation, shell weight and Mg/Ca”. In addition to several other outreach activities, Mekik provides Turkish podcasts for various climate-related issues. (http://h2opodcast.com/Turkce.html)
GEOLOGY
PETER WAMPLER

Peter Wampler seemed destined to be a geologist. “My name literally means ‘rock’ (Peter) ‘between the rocks’ (Wampler or Wampfler),” Geology Chair, Stephen Mattox, says of his colleague. “Peter Wampler embodies what you would expect from GVSU faculty. He generously shares his knowledge and skills across the university and department, but most importantly with students. He has established research to benefit third-world communities with clean water. He has developed new courses that fuse geology and GIS, opening new doors for our graduates.”

To illustrate his intense level of collaboration with students, colleagues, and the community, a few examples will serve well. In March to June 2008, Wampler worked collaboratively with the Idaho Geologic Survey on the Salmon River accompanied by GVSU students Paul Bourdon and James Barr. In April 2008, he was interviewed on the radio twice about the earthquake in Illinois. In June, he spent 15 days in rural Haiti collecting field data with GVSU Summer Scholar student Andrew Sisson. He also worked with the Sand Creek Watershed Council.

History


Stark, G. Banned in Berlin: Literary Censorship in Imperial Germany, 1871-1918 (Berghahn Books, 2009).


Mathematics


Math has a lot to say about packing things together. The abstract problem of cramming, for example, equalsized circles into a larger square has applications as far-flung as error-correcting codes for digital communications and the physics of granular materials such as sand. But what if the square has no edges? A quartet of researchers has shown how packing works in such a borderless space.

The space in question is a torus, a shape like the surface of an inner tube. To topologists, a torus is equivalent to a parallelogram with its opposite edges glued together. On the unfurled, flattened-out torus map, anything leaving on one side immediately reenters from the other, as in many video games. William Dickinson of Grand Valley State University in Allendale, Michigan, and undergraduates Daniel Guillot of Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Anna Castelaz of the University of North Carolina, Asheville, and Sandi Xhumari of Grand Valley have spent the past two summers studying circle packings in tori.

Because a torus has no boundary, the circles are constrained only by one another—just as they would be on a patch of regularly repeating patterned wallpaper. Dickinson and students classified the graphs that can result when lines are drawn connecting centers of tangent circles (red lines in the figure, below), then set to work analyzing which ones lead to the densest packings (i.e., packings with circles of the largest possible radius).

For five circles—the first truly challenging case— they found 20 different ways the circles could be arranged on the torus. They applied the theory to two particular tori: the “square” torus formed by connecting opposite edges of a square, and the “triangular” torus, which starts from a rhombus with a 60-degree angle. Guillot and Castelaz found the best five-circle packing for the triangular torus last summer (2007), and Xhumari did the same for six circles this summer.

Together, the ideas they developed enabled Dickinson to nail down the densest packing for five circles on the square torus. It occupies \( \pi/4 \) or 78.5% of the square torus, as compared with 71.1% on the triangular torus (see figure).

“In general, it is very difficult to prove that a particular packing is optimal,” says Ronald Graham, a circle-packing expert at the University of California, San Diego. Working without boundaries may make proofs easier to come by, he thinks, “but that is just an impression.”

Modern Languages & Literatures


Movement Science


Music

Student Hunter Eberly won first prize at the 2009 National Trumpet Competition College Solo Division. Hunter is the first Grand Valley student to win the top prize. He was also a member of Grand Valley’s trumpet ensemble in 2008, when it took first prize at this competition.


Danny Phipps (bassoon) and Marlen Vavrikova (oboe) were featured performers on a recital including Arthur Campbell (clarinet) and Helen Marlais (piano) at the 2009 International Double Reed Society’s annual Conference held at Birmingham Conservatoire in Birmingham, England. Members of the GVSU New Music Ensemble (directed by Bill Ryan) performed at Carnegie Hall at the invitation of the Kronos Quartet for the 45th anniversary of the premiere of Terry Riley’s “In C.” Kronos and the GVSU students were among this one-time-only gathering of musicians including Terry Riley and original “In C” performers Stuart Dempster, Jon Gibson, and Pauline Oliveros.

Kevin Tutt was the guest conductor for the MSBOA District 6 All-Star Band (November 2008), which was composed of the finest high school band musicians from Benton Harbor to northern Allegan County.

MingHuan Xu’s latest recital and chamber music performances have brought her to Carnegie Weill Recital Hall, Merkin Hall, Symphony Space and the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, DC.

Philosophy


Vessey, D., “Elucidating Philosophical Hermeneutics’ a review essay of Nicholas Davey’s Unquiet Understanding in Research in Phenomenology 38/2 (2008), 293-302.

**Physics**

Brad Ambrose served as the co-chair, along with Prof. Wolfgang Christian of Davidson College, of the 2008 Gordon Research Conference on Physics Research and Education. The conference took place at Bryant University in Smithfield, RI, in June, 2008. The co-chairs also served as editors for a theme double-issue in the *American Journal of Physics* (AJP) and co-wrote its introduction ("Introduction to the theme double-issue"). *Am. J. Phys.* 76, 293 - 295 (2008).


McDonald, R.C., Gidley, D.W., Sanderson, T., Vallery, R.S. "Evidence for depth-dependent structural changes in freeze/thaw-cycled dry Nafion (R) using positron annihilation lifetime spectroscopy (PALS)," *Journal of Membrane Science* 332, 89 (2009).

**Political Science**


**Psychology**


Amy Matthews is the Principal Investigator for the Statewide Autism Resources and Training (START) Project. The intent of this project is to give professionals and parents the knowledge and skills to support individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder in reaching their greatest potential.


Regional Math & Science Center

**Psychology (continued)**


**Tom Herzog**

Tom Herzog was awarded the 2008 Distinguished Contribution to a Discipline Award. Noted were his fifty peer-reviewed articles and the 600 citations of his work, painting a picture of sustained activity that is now part of the fabric of his field over many years. But if you ask Tom Herzog, he will tell you he is surprised to be recognized in this way and immediately shares the accolade with the university for valuing a continued pattern of scholarly output and his department colleagues for their support. He feels that they balance quite well, their support of scholarship with GVSU’s teaching mission.


Sociology


stillerman, j. (2008). tradition, adventure, and pleasure in santiago, chile’s informal markets. in d.t. cook ed., lived experiences of public consumption: studies of culture and value in international market places, 31-49. houndmills, uk: palgrave macmillan. stillerman was the recipient of a fulbright hayes faculty research abroad award.

Statistics


curtiss, p. and anderson, k. teaching a history of statistics discussion course. proceedings of the joint statistical meetings, 2007. this paper won the award for the outstanding contribution to statistics education in 2007.

otieno, s. and anderson-cook, c.m. a hodges-lehmann estimator of preferred direction for circular data. journal of statistics and applications, vol. 1, 2006.


richardson, m., stephenson, p., gabrosek, j., and reischman, d. how lo can you go? using the dice-based golf game golo to illustrate inferences on proportions and discrete probability distributions. journal of statistics education, 2009.

writing austin bunn

Austin Bunn’s short story “Everything, All At Once,” published in the June 2008 issue of The Sun, has won a Pushcart Prize and will be included in the 2010 Pushcart Anthology (W.W. Norton). This prestigious accolade places Austin Bunn’s work in the most honored literary project in America and in the august company of writers such as Raymond Carver, Tim O’Brien, Jayne Anne Phillips, Charles Baxter, Andre Dubus, Susan Minot, Mona Simpson, John Irving, and Rick Moody.
Writing


WRITING

CAITLIN HORROCKS

Caitlin Horrocks is one of twenty authors featured in the 2009 PEN / O. Henry Prize Stories. Her story, “This Is Not Your City,” was selected by the jury panel of A.S. Byatt, Anthony Doerr, and Tim O’Brien. Other authors featured in the 2009 edition include Paul Theroux, Nadine Gordimer, and Junot Diaz.

WRITING

WILLIAM NOTTER

William Notter received the Literature Fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts. For 2009, Notter is one of 41 poets to receive fellowships, which include $25,000 to encourage focusing on creativity and the production of new work.

Grants Celebrated at 2009 Grants on the Grand and Examples of Other Recent Funding

Annis Water Research Institute


Ryan Thum — Eurasian Water Milfoil Survey and Mapping Project — Noxon Rapids and Cabinet George Reservoirs (Mississippi State University/Eurasian Milfoil Task Force — $1,800).

Janet Vail — Making Lake Michigan Great: Education and Outreach (US Environmental Protection Agency — $25,000).

Anthropology

Mark Schwartz — Mesopotamia’s Frontier: Reconstructing an Emerging Complex Society in Anatolia during the Middle Bronze Age (The Curtiss T. & Mary G. Brennan Foundation — $4,000).


David Leonard has been awarded a substantial grant from the National Institute of Health (NIH). Leonard explains, “The grant is awarded from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (part of NIH), and will support our biochemical research on enzymes involved in the development of bacterial resistance to penicillin-type antibiotics.” The award total of $195,000 over three years will support full-time summer research positions for six undergraduates, research supplies, extended research time for the principle investigator (Leonard) and indirect support for the University.
English

Geography & Planning


Geology
Figen Mekik — NSF Collaboration Multi-Proxy Search for Deglacial Deep Sea Carbonate (National Science Foundation — $84,029).

History
James Smither and James Schaub [School of Communications] — Up from the Bottoms (Michigan Humanities Council — $15,000; Community Foundation of Muskegon County — $5,000; Alcoa Howmet Foundation — $5,000).

Mathematics
Edward Aboufadel — Grand Valley Summer Undergraduate Research Program in Mathematics (National Science Foundation — $292,780).

Political Science

Psychology
Amy Matthews — Statewide Autism Resources and Training (START) (Michigan Department of Education — Average $1.3 million per year for 8 years).

Regional Math & Science Center
Margo Dill — STEPS Program (SME Foundation/Alcoa/Michigan Space Grant — $48,500).


Sociology
Joel Stillerman — Middle Class Consumption and Social Inequality in Santiago, Chile: Fulbright Hayes Faculty Research Abroad (US Department of Education — $80,023).
Special Thanks

This publication is the result of a large team effort on the part of the deans, office staff, department chairs, and faculty of CLAS as well as our colleagues in News & Information Services, the McNair Scholars Program, the Office of Grants Administration, and Institutional Marketing.

Editor, Monica Johnstone, Director of CLAS Communications and Advancement
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