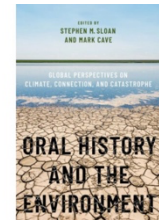
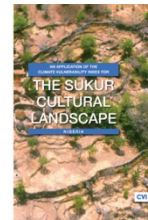
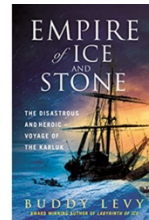
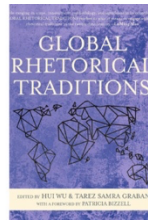
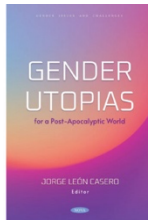
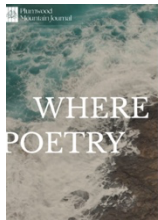


# THE CURRENT

Our newsletter, published online during the school year, celebrates the latest publications, acceptances, projects, presentations, awards, accolades, teaching highlights, activities, and more of English faculty, graduate students, and undergraduates.

APRIL 2023

## Publications, Exhibits, & Acceptances



**Leeann Hunter's** article "The Family Artist: Women's Narratives of Self-Help and Self-Sacrifice in Victorian England" will be published this spring in *Nineteenth-Century Gender Studies*.

**Leeann Hunter** also published a book review of *Material Ambitions: Self-Help in Victorian Literature* in *Nineteenth-Century Contexts*.

**Kirk McAuley's** new book, *The Ecology of British and American Empire Writing, 1704 – 1894*, is forthcoming from Edinburgh University Press, "one of the leading university presses in the UK." It will appear as part of the Edinburgh Critical Studies in Atlantic Literatures and Cultures series (October 2023).

**DJ Lee** signed an advanced contract for her ninth book, a collection of lyric essays titled *The Edge Is What We Have: Awe and Wonder in a Dimming World* with Oregon State University Press, a premier venue for books on environmental and Indigenous studies in the American West, featuring authors such as Robin Wall Kimmerer, Gretel Ehrlich, William Stafford, and Molly Gloss.

**DJ Lee's** poem "Bitterroot" was accepted for publication in the anthology *Migrations and Home* to be published by NatureCulture summer 2023.

**Grant Maierhofer's** new book *Ebb* was released from Kernpunkt Press, April 5, 2023.

**Roger Whitson**, with Alison Dushane, is co-editing a journal issue of Essays in Romanticism on "Bruno Latour and Romanticism," celebrating the scholar's recent passing.

**Roger Whitson's** co-written chapter with Jason Whittaker "Composite Materialities and Decomposite Communities: William Blake and the Digital Humanities, 10 Years Later" was accepted for Kathryn Freeman's collection *A Companion to William Blake* to be published by Routledge.

**Roger Whitson's** "Review of Darren Wershler, Lori Emerson, and Jussi Parikka's *The Lab Book: Situated Practices in Media Studies*" was accepted for publication by the journal *Theory, Culture, and Society*.

**Roger Whitson's** chapter "William Blake and the Time-Criticality of the 1800s: A Media Archaeology of Milton: A Poem" was accepted for Andrew Stauffer's collection *Nineteenth-Century Literature in Transition: The 1800s* to be published by Cambridge University Press.

## Conferences, Readings, Workshops, Performances, & Presentations

**Blood Orange Review** tabled at the AWP Bookfair and offered special submission opportunities and limited-edition anniversary broadsides created in partnership with the WSU Fine Arts Department. The table staff included faculty editors **Colin Criss**, **Grant Maierhofer**, and **Lauren Westerfield**, graduate student assistant editor **Melanie Bell**, and undergraduate scholarship recipients **Mark Parsons** and **Lain Bundalian**.

The David G. Pollart Center for Arts and Humanities invites you to their third Public Lecture by **Donna Campbell**, **Sara Brock**, **Sezin Zorlu**, and **Nazua Idris** at the Neill Library on Tuesday, May 2, from 7:00-8:00 p.m.

**DJ Lee** collaborated with Common Area Maintenance, Black Earth Institute, and *Cutthroat: A Journal of the Arts* to organize a multi-disciplinary Off-Site Reading, Reading Room, Book Signing, and Gallery Exhibit during the annual AWP conference in Seattle on March 9. Lee read poetry and her mixed-media art piece "Slime Redemption" was on display in the gallery. She also did a book signing of *Remote: Finding Home in the Bitterroots* at the Oregon State University Press table at the AWP Bookfair.

**DJ Lee** will present her work on social justice, environmental activism, and spirituality at ASLE (Association for the Study of Literature and Environment) + AESS (Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences) Conference, "Reclaiming the Commons," in Portland, Oregon, July 9 – 12, 2023.

On March 31, **Buddy Levy** appeared on an episode of a HISTORY series hosted by William Shatner called The Unexplained. The episode I'm featured in is LOST CITIES, and Levy was an expert guest, talking about the historical search for El Dorado, based on his book *River of Darkness: Francisco Orellana and the Deadly First Voyage Through the Amazon* (Diversion Books, 2022).

On March 14, **Buddy Levy** appeared on the popular podcast Most Notorious to talk about his new book *Empire of Ice and Stone* (St. Martin's Press, 2022).

**Grant Maierhofer** read at the Heavy Feather+Alternating Current+Kernpunkt Off-site event at AWP, Wednesday, March 8, from 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Underbelly, 119 1st Avenue South, Seattle, in Pioneer Square. He also read at the Reading Roulette Off-site event (Nightboat Books, Sublunary Editions) at AWP Friday, March 10, 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Arundel Books, 322 1st Avenue, Seattle.

**Kirk McAuley** is scheduled to present new work on forest ecology and Gothic literature at the ASLE (Association for the Study of Literature and Environment) + AESS (Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences) Conference, "Reclaiming the Commons," in Portland, Oregon, July 9 – 12, 2023.

**Cameron McGill** did a book signing at on Saturday, March 11, at the Western Colorado University at the AWP Bookfair.

**Nishant Shahani's** essay "Global in Spirit: Deep Reading Transgenre" was published in *QED: A Journal of GLBTQ Worldmaking* Vol 9: 2, pages 29-50.

A review of **Nishant Shahani's** book *Pink Revolutions: Globalization, Hindutva, and Queer Triangles in Contemporary India* (2021) appears in the latest issue of *EPW (Economic and Political Weekly)*:

**Roger Whitson** presented "Mary Somerville and the Living Force of Electromagnetism" at the 2023 conference of the North America Society for the Study of Romanticism (NASSR) in Huntsville, TX.

## Teaching Highlights, Activities, & Innovations

Visiting Scholar: Professor Melissa J. Homestead, University of Nebraska, will present *Editing Willa Cather's Letters for Digital Publication* on Monday, October 16 from 6:00-7:00 PM in the Bundy Reading Room, Avery Hall 111. Professor of English and Program Faculty in Women's & Gender Studies at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and author of *The Only Wonderful Things: The Creative Partnership of Willa Cather and Edith Lewis* (Oxford University Press 2021).

**WSU Visiting Writers Series**, organized by **Cameron McGill** and **Julian Ankney** welcomed the following writers in March and April: Washington State poet laureate Rena Priest on March 9; and multi-media fiber artist, playwright, and poet Sarah Hennessey on March 28, and poet CMarie Fuhrman on April 5. See the VWS Website for more information.

## Awards, Honors, Prizes, Fellowships, & Grants

**Julian Ankney** won the 2023 Common Reading Excellence Award for her outstanding contributions to the Common Reading Program's use of Robin Wall Kimmerer's book *Braiding Sweetgrass* as the 2022-2023 WSU Common Reading book.

**Ashley Boyd** received a 2023 Fellowship from the David G. Pollart Center for Arts and Humanities for her project Palouse Reads. Along with her colleagues in English Education (**Kate Watts**, **Jeff Jones**, and **Rachael Wolney**), she also won a Samuel H. and Patricia W. Smith Teaching and Learning grant.

**Donna Campbell** is the recipient of 2023 College of Arts and Sciences Distinguished Faculty Award.

**Elizabeth Forsythe** received the Schleiner Award. Established in memory of Professor Louise Schleiner, the Schleiner Award (\$100) goes to doctoral students who pass their Qualifying and Preliminary Examinations with distinction.

This spring *The Blue Mountain Review* will feature **Bryan Fry**'s work as an editor. The publication has also invited him to participate regularly in their adjacent NPR podcast.

**Tomie Gowdy-Burke** was awarded a LIFT Faculty Fellowship this Spring from the Office of the Vice Provost.

**Thabiti Lewis** and **Joel Kemegue** won the MLK Spirit Distinguished Service Advancement and Community Service Awards. **Julian Ankney** was also selected as one of the 2023 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Distinguished Service: Inclusive & Equitable Practices Award Honorees.

**Lauren Westerfield** is the recipient of the 2023 College of Arts and Sciences Early Career Achievement Award for Career Track Faculty.

The annual **English Department Awards Ceremony** was held on Friday, March 31. Awards included:

Emmett & Mary Avery Scholarship: **Nazua Idria**

Kris A. Conde "For the Love of Literature" Scholarship: **Victoria Packwood**

John W. Ehrstine Scholarship: **Emerald Henthorne**

Bill and Alice Fitch Scholarship: **Brandon Osegueda, Kylie Welcome, Yesli Pena-Rodriguez, Levi Policarpio, Jose Altamirano, Fenn MacDonald**  
Basil and Ella A. Jereard Endowment: **Tannaz Moghaddas, Corita Fernando, Jacqueline Schroeder, Ande Farmer, Norah Dacy, Victoria Packwood, Stephen Short, Shana Huang, Emerald Henthorne**  
J. B Lord Memorial Scholarship: **Stephen Short**  
Anita and Richard McDonald Endowment: **Estella Sheldon, Tavia Morgan, Gemma Delgado, Kylie Welcome, Bellana Bogar, Shaeleigh Leasure, Noah Bakker**  
April Seehafer Scholarship: **Shana Huang**  
Murray W. Bundy Scholarship: **Jaxon Burns and Jacob Garrett**  
Clarence-Clyda-Claryda Smith: **Dunny Dudarov**  
Stanley P. Williams Scholarship: **Victoria Packwood**  
Jennie Brown Rawlins CW Scholarship: **Diane Geske**  
Sarah Weems: **Hannah Annonen and Hannah Te**  
Ruth Slonim Scholarship: **Danny Dudarov**  
Outstanding Senior, Pullman Campus: **Puneet Bsanti**  
Outstanding Senior, Tri-Cities Campus: **Brigette Hinnant**  
Outstanding Senior, Vancouver Campus: **Andrea Manske**

### **Graduate Awards**

Distinguished Teaching Award, M.A: **Christina Gerard and Rashini Daluwatte**  
Distinguished Teaching Award, PhD: **RJ Murphy**  
Outstanding Seminar Paper or Project PhD Level: **Chelsea Kopp** “Building Student Power & Global Solidarity in the Settler Institution: Teaching Helon Habila’s Oil on Water”  
Outstanding Seminar Paper or Project M.A Level: **Christina Gerard** “Antoinette’s Many Deaths: Trauma and Mental Health in Wide Sargasso Sea”  
Avon Murphy Scholarship: **Justine Trinh**  
Fitch Summer Dissertation Fellowship: **Elizabeth Salazar**  
Alexander Hammond Professional Achievement Award: **Nazua Idris**

### **EGO Awards**

Most Creative Graduate Student: **Christina Gerard**  
Most Collaborative Graduate Student: **Nazua Idris**  
Ego Service Award: **Nazua Idris**  
Community Builder Award: **Christel Woods**  
Best Peer Mentor: **Nazua Idris**  
Best Graduate Seminar: Anti-Oppressive Pedagogies Dr. **Ashley Boyd**  
Most Supportive Faculty Members: **Kate Watts and Wendy Olson**

### **Faculty Awards**

Distinguished Service Award: **Laura Kuhlman**  
Distinguished Teaching Award: **Jamie Flathers**

**2023 Evening of Excellence and GPSA Awards hosted by the WSU Graduate School** was held on April 10. **Corita Fernando** received the Graduate Teaching Assistant GPSA Excellence Award. **Nouf Alqahtani** received the Community Engagement GPSA Excellence

Award. **Nazua Idris** received the Richard R. and Constance M. Albrecht Scholarship from the Graduate School. **Christel Woods** was recognized for receiving a Research Assistantship for Diverse Scholars Award.

## Retirements

**Leisa McCormick**, Advisor for the English Department and Women's Gender and Sexuality Studies

Leisa McCormick and her husband Craig came to Pullman in 1987. Craig was pursuing a graduate degree in American Studies and they had just gotten married. Leisa completed her BA in English Literature at University of Idaho, worked as a Writing Center tutor, and then pursued her MA in Rhetoric there as well. She completed her Teaching Certification from WSU while working at Eclipse, the Pullman alternative school.

Leisa began working at WSU in 2008 at the Registrar's Office and accepted the advising position in the English department in 2010.

Initially she advised for both English and DTC programs and she is currently advising for English and WGSS programs. She has around 300+ students advisees.

In retirement, Leisa is hoping to ride her bike around the Palouse and elsewhere, travel a bit, putz around her flowers and garden, visit children, grandchildren, and friends, and read a lot.

**Carol Siegel**, Professor, Vancouver

A Lawrentian, Victorianist, Culturalist, and Feminist scholar with formidable knowledge in gender and sexuality studies, Carol Siegel started her distinguished career at WSU Vancouver in Fall 1990, a year after the Vancouver campus was formally established. She was awarded early tenure and promoted to Associate Professor in 1994. Six years later, she was promoted to full professor. Carol's outstanding research record includes six monographs, eleven edited books or journal issues, thirty-five journal articles or book chapters, and her work as the co-founder and co-editor of *Rhizomes*, an interdisciplinary journal featuring experimental approaches to cultural studies. Her many contributions to WSU range from developing the Humanities and English programs and introducing Women's, Cultural, and Asian American Studies courses at Vancouver, to helping build the American Studies program in Pullman. Honors awarded to Carol include Distinguished Professor, Woman of Distinction, Mentor of the Year, Buchanan Distinguished Professorship, and Outstanding Support for Graduate Students as well as Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Students.

## From the Chair's Desk



April has been an extraordinary month, with faculty and students receiving a range of awards for excellent work. After the department hosted its Scholarships and Awards Ceremony, DJ Lee and Roger Whitson organized a Faculty Recognition gathering at the Elson Floyd Center. This event gave us a well-deserved opportunity to talk about all that we do as a department, and make plans for collaborations in the coming year. Meanwhile, we'll enjoy breakfast in Bundy on the morning of Commencement, May 6 from 8:30 to 10:30, when we'll also present certificates to members of our revived chapter of the English Honor Society, Sigma Tau Delta. Many of us look forward to participating in conferences this summer. The Association for the Study of

Literature and the Environment will be held in Portland, Oregon, July 9-12, and we look forward to presenting papers and introducing our graduate students to the conference.