


**Speaking**

**Blazer, Alex E.** "'the dolls are real, but not that real': Chuck Palahniuk's *Haunted* and Postmodern Horror." Mid-Atlantic Popular/American Culture Assoc. Niagara Falls, ON, Can. 1 Nov. 2008.

**Daniel, Scott.** "Rayber Squared: Negotiating Self-Representation in *The Violent..."


Dillard, Scott, perf. [The Father] Eurydice. by Sarah Rule. Dir. Amy Pinney. Russell Auditorium, Georgia College & State University, Milledgeville. 1-5 Oct. 2008. [The performance was adjudicated by the National Review Board of the Performance Studies Division of the National Communication Association.]


---. Together with Drs. Charles Ubah of Government and Sociology and Funke Fontenot, Associate Dean of Arts & Sciences, he took a group of students from GCSU to the Twelfth Annual Southeast Model of the African Union Conference at Kennesaw State University, 6-8 Nov. 2008.


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**Recognizing**

*Katie Aiello, Beauty Bragg, Zach Burkhart, Tracie Burns, Amy Burt, Janet Clark, Joanna Grisham, Andrew Howard, Harmony Neal, John Sirmans, John Teschner, Elaine Whitaker,* and *Eddie Zipperer* were named by one or more first-time freshmen students in response to the following question that was asked in the fall 2008 MAP-Works Check-Up Survey: "What instructor has had the greatest impact on you this semester?"

Freshman Rhetoric major *Joshua Braswell* has been selected to participate in the Office of Academic Engagement's Leadership Certificate Program.

Spring 2008 MA graduate *Scott Daniel* was chosen Warner Robins High School Star Teacher for 2009.


*Alice Friman*’s poem "Siren Song for Late September," published in *The Southern Review*, was featured in the online publication *Verse Daily* on 28 Aug. 2008.

*Alice Friman*’s poem “Machu Picchu” won the Erika Mumford Prize for 2008 from the New England Poetry Club.

Senior Rhetoric major *Amy Gilbert* has been selected as one of six student
advisors for the Career Center's new student-led Career Peer Advisor program.

**Marshall Bruce Gentry** was awarded a Georgia Humanities Council grant of $9,910.26 for Trailfest 09, a project of the Southern Literary Trail, with Craig Amason of Andalusia Foundation.

**Karen McElmurray**'s novel, *The Motel of the Stars: A Novel*, has been selected for Novel of the Year by LitLife and nominated for the Weatherford Prize in Fiction.

**David Muschell**'s play, *Can't You See What I'm Saying?*, won the Blue Springs City Theatre Playwriting Contest (Kansas City, MO).

**David Muschell**'s play, *Brotherly Love*, is a semi-finalist for the Hidden River Playwriting Award (Philadelphia, PA).

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**Teaching and Learning**


Rhetoric major **Alex Jones** spent the summer as an intern in the governor's office where he was a speech writer for Governor Purdue.

**Karen McElmurray** was visiting faculty at Murray State University's low-residency program in January, where she did a reading and craft lecture, "When Memoir Meets Fiction: Crossing Genres."

**David Muschell** was on the faculty of the Chattahoochee Valley Writers' Conference, 26-28 Sept. 2008 in Columbus, GA, where he taught a workshop entitled "Coming to an End: The Hardest Part of Writing."

Spring 2008 MA graduate **Susan Presley** is an adjunct instructor of English at Savannah Technical College, where she is currently teaching two classes of Introduction to Humanities, one class of English 1101, and one class of English 1102.

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**Announcing**

**Dr. Amy Burt** and **Dr. Scott Dillard** will be doing a show, *Scott and Amy's Introduction to Hootenanny Studies*, at the Patti Pace Performance Festival at
Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, 7 Feb. 2009.

Karen McElmurray has events scheduled for her book, The Motel of the Stars: A Novel, at the Hollins Festival of the Book, the Southern Kentucky Book Festival, the Virginia Festival of the Book, Lynchburg College, West Georgia College, and Mercer University, among others.

The Southeastern Bridges in English Studies Conference [graduate student conference]  
25 April 2009, Valdosta State University, Valdosta, GA  
Proposals/Abstracts due 28 Feb. 2009 to Conference Coordinator, Shane Wilson, shawilson@valdosta.edu  
Complete Information: http://www.valdosta.edu/english/SBESconferenceINFO

Trailfest 09 and the Southern Literary Trail Events at GCSU in March 2009  
Author foundations and house museums in towns across Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi are coordinating efforts to promote tourism across the region. Trailfest 09 is a series of events in March 2009 designed to draw attention to the establishment of the ongoing tourism effort called the Southern Literary Trail. The Flannery O’Connor Review and the Flannery O’Connor - Andalusia Foundation, Inc., are sponsors for events on the GCSU campus, and we have received grant support from the Georgia Humanities Council, the Knight Foundation, the Arts Unlimited committee at GCSU, and the GCSU Office of Institutional Equity and Diversity.

On Sunday, 8 March, Andrea Hollander Budy, Alice Friman, Laura Newbern, and Leah Norton will read poems from a new book edited by Budy, When She Named Fire: An Anthology of Contemporary Poetry by American Women. This event will be in the dining room at Andalusia at 3 p.m.

On Monday, 9 March, Evelyn C. White, the official biographer of Alice Walker, will introduce a film screening and visit two classes. During the day, White will visit Introduction to Women’s Studies (taught by Bragg and Lopez) as well as American Literature Since 1920 (taught by Gentry). Also on Monday, 9 March, White will appear at Peabody Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. to introduce a film (Visions of the Spirit: A Portrait of Alice Walker, by Elena Featherston) with remarks entitled “‘I Know What Money Is For’: Alice Walker and the Aftermath of The Color Purple.”

On Tuesday, 10 March, at 7:30 p.m., poet Andrea Hollander Budy (Lyon College) will read her poetry and give a talk on Flannery O’Connor. The reading/talk, entitled “Keeping Our Mouths Shut: A Poet Under the Influence,”
will be held in Peabody Auditorium.

On **Tuesday, 17 March**, fiction writer **Pete Dexter** (National Book Award winner for the novel *Paris Trout*) and scholar **Douglas Robillard, Jr.** (Arkansas-Pine Bluff) will introduce a screening of the film *Paris Trout* at **2:30 p.m.** in A&S Auditorium. Then, at **7 p.m.**, again in A&S Auditorium, Dexter (a Milledgeville native who is writing a book about growing up here) and Robillard will discuss connections between Dexter’s works and the fiction of Flannery O’Connor in a joint lecture entitled “Rashomon in Milledgeville: Flannery O’Connor and Pete Dexter on the Stembridge Murders.” Dexter and Robillard will also visit Gentry’s American Literature Since 1920 class.

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Info/questions: Bruce Gentry, 478-445-6928 / bruce.gentry@gcsu.edu
See the Southern Literary Trail website at [www.southernliterarytrail.org](http://www.southernliterarytrail.org)
Writing


Speaking

Blazer, Alex E. "'blinded by the book': Between Metafictional Madness and Sublime Solitude in the Work of Paul Auster." The Louisville Conf. on Literature and Culture since 1900. U of Louisville, Louisville. 21 Feb. 2009. [Chaired "Auster" panel as well.]

Cavitt, Stephen. Panel Member. "From the Ground Up: Developing a Writers In

**Clark, Jan, Paul Basham, Katy Boatman, Erika Crosby, and John Lawler.** "Infusing Civic Agency into our Communication Curricula." Georgia Communication Assoc., U of West Georgia, Carrollton. 20 Feb. 2009. [Drs. Clark, Vail, and Whitaker took students from the fall 2008 Rhetoric practicum course to the conference to present results and recommendations from civic agency projects.]


**Friman, Alice.** Poetry Reading and Classroom Presentations. Sam Houston State U, Huntsville, TX. 5 Feb. 2009.


Recognizing

Friman, Alice. Judge for Regional High School Competition "Poetry Out Loud." Perry High School, Perry, GA, 21 Feb. 2009. The other two judges were GCSU
MFA graduates Caroline Lewis and Christina Matthews.

Martin Lammon recently served as a panelist for the Georgia Council on the Arts Literary Panel and as a program review evaluator for the MFA program at the University of North Carolina-Wilmington.


Announcing

Department Book Fairs
Pearson textbook representative Michaelle Fields will host a Department Book Fair in Arts & Sciences 349 from 12:30-3:30PM on Wednesday, 4 March.

Bedford textbook representative Jillian Fouts will host a Department Book Fair in Arts & Sciences 349 from 12:30-4:30PM on Wednesday, 11 March.

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**Info/questions:** Bruce Gentry, 478-445-6928 / bruce.gentry@gcsu.edu

See the Southern Literary Trail website at [www.southernliterarytrail.org](http://www.southernliterarytrail.org)
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1.3 April 2009

Writing


Speaking


Friman, Alice. Interviewed by Jim Peterson on Randolph College radio station


**Norton, Leah.** "Parroting' vs. 'Parroting': Teaching the Prose Poem as a Received Form." Assoc. of Writers & Writing Programs. Hilton, Chicago. 13 Feb. 2009.


### Recognizing

Rhetoric majors **Kathryne Boatman, Kyle Borgognoni**, and **John Lawler** have been nominated for membership in the National Communication Association's student honor society, Lambda Pi Eta. To qualify for membership, a student must be enrolled as a Junior or Senior in good standing, possess a cumulative GPA of at least 3.25 and a GPA of at least 3.25 in communication courses, and display commitment to the field of communication.

**Beauty Bragg** received a Fulbright lecturing grant to Cyprus for the Spring of 2010. Her sons will accompany her.
Alice Friman is teaching a one-month undergraduate course, “Creative Writing Special Topics,” at Randolph College, Lynchburg, VA.

Martin Lammon conducted individual conferences with nine poetry participants who submitted manuscripts for his review, taught a poetry craft class "Free Verse Is Not Free," and served on a panel of literary editors at the Sandhills Writers Conference, Augusta State University, Augusta, GA, 19-21 Mar. 2009.


---. Fiction Judge. Hollins Literary Festival Prizes, Roanoke, VA.


Thanking

Bruce Gentry thanks everyone who helped make Trailfest 09 a success. We had over 330 people in attendance at the various lectures, readings, class visits, and film screenings. The English Department and the Creative Writing Program made significant contributions to the programming.

http://gcsu.edu/english/
http://faculty.gcsu.edu/webdav/alex_blazer/Newsletter/index.htm
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1.4 May 2009

Writing


Speaking


---. Reading (with Tom Lux). West Georgia University. 1 Apr. 2009.


Vail, Mark T. "The 'Cross-disciplinary Inspirational' Text: Textual Polyvalence and the Case of the Canonical 'Letter from Birmingham Jail.'" Southern

**Zipperer, Eddie.** *Don’t Fear the Reaper*. Invermay School, Invermay, SK. 2 Apr. 2009.

---. *Don’t Fear the Reaper*. Fairmount Public School, Fairmount, ND. 3 Apr. 2009.


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**Recognizing**


**David Muschell** conducted creative writing workshops for Charles Hyatt’s classes at Baldwin County High School on April 21.

**Eustace Palmer** had dinner (hosted by the President of University of Vermont) with Nobel Literature Laureate Wole Soyinka at the 35th Annual African Literature Association Conference at the University of Vermont, in Burlington on April 16.

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**Announcing**

**Laura Newbern** will give a reading of her work in June as part of the Word for Word Reading Series at the Bryant Park Reading Room in Manhattan.
Writing


Speaking

**Callender, Craig.** "Affricates and the High German Consonant Shift." Germanic Linguistics Annual Conference. Banff, Canada. 1 May 2009.


Recognizing

Alice Friman served as the Final Judge for the 2009 Shenandoah/Glasgow Prize for Emerging Writers; she judged eight published first collections of poetry forwarded to her as finalists.

David Muschell's play And No Birds Sing was a finalist in the Arts Club of Washington's OneActOne Play Competition (Washington, DC., 15 Aug. 2009).

Eddie Zipperer's one act play "The Zeus Administration" won the McLaren Comedy Playwriting Festival.

Thanking

Bruce Gentry thanks all the members of the Department of English and Rhetoric who helped edit and proofread vol. 7 (2009) of the Flannery O'Connor Review: Michael Nifong, Leah Norton, Park Parkison, and Josh Ruffin (whose names appear on the masthead), as well as Laura Newbern, John Sirmans, and Elaine Whitaker. This year’s volume includes both an article and a review by retired faculty member Sarah Gordon, cartoons by retired faculty member Jo King, and an interview with Miller Williams conducted by Bruce Gentry and Alice Friman. Gentry also is grateful to judges of the 2010 O'Connor Collection Fellowship applications: Megan Melancon, Laura Newbern, and Michael
Nifong.

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2.2 November 2009

Writing


Speaking


**Recognizing**


**Announcing**

On Friday, Nov. 13, 7-8:30 p.m., you are invited to attend "**War Letters: Forty Years of Family Correspondence**" at the Goldstein Center for the Performing Arts Auditorium at GMC. The event features Evelyn Sweet-Hurd, author of *His Name Was Donn: My Brother's Letters from Vietnam*, and, speaking via video link, Melissa Seligman author of *The Day After He Left for Iraq: A Story of Love, Family & Reunion*. Sweet-Hurd's book describes a sister's effort to work through her grief over her brother’s death in the Vietnam War nearly forty years ago. Seligman will talk about maintaining a loving relationship with her husband, who is scheduled to deploy for the third time in five years. This event is the culmination of The Big Read in Milledgeville. Co-sponsors include the GCSU Department of English and Rhetoric, the Flannery O'Connor Review, the GCSU American Democracy Project, the GMC English Department, and the Families of the Georgia Army National Guard 48th Brigade. Both authors' books are currently available in Walden Books at Milledgeville Mall.

http://gcsu.edu/english/
http://faculty.gcsu.edu/webdav/alex_blazer/Newsletter/index.htm
Writing


Speaking

Blazer, Alex. "'the simulacrum is real': Rivka Galchen's *Atmospheric Disturbances*." *South Atlantic MLA Convention*. Renaissance Atlanta Hotel Downtown, Atlanta. 8 Nov. 2009.


**Friman, Alice.** Keynote speech and two workshops. *A Gathering of Writers and Readers, Writers' Center of Indiana*. Indianapolis. 7-8 Nov. 2009.


**Gentry, Bruce.** "Revising Southern Womanhood in *Wise Blood.*" *South Atlantic Modern Language Association*. Renaissance Atlanta Hotel Downtown, Atlanta. 7 Nov. 2009.


**McElmurray, Karen.** Featured Reader. *Appalachian Reading Series, Lincoln Memorial University*. 3 Nov. 2009.


---. "Marie Elliott worked on the Warner Brothers movie *Life As We Know It*, starring Katherine Heigl and Josh Duhamel that was shot in Atlanta and will come out in December.


**Laura Newbern**'s collection of poems, *Love and the Eye*, won the *Kore Press*'s 2010 First Book Award and will be published in the fall of 2010.
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2.4 May 2010

Writing

**Dillard, Scott.** "The Parabolic Voice of a Gay Slam Poet." *Text and Performance Quarterly* [Forthcoming]


Speaking


---. Reading and talk. Baldwin High School, Milledgeville. 16 Apr. 2010.


---. Featured Reader. [River Styx at Duff's Reading Series](http://faculty.gcsu.edu/webdav/alex_blazer/Newsletter/2010-05.htm), St. Louis, MO. 19 April 2010.


---. Don't Fear the Reaper. The College of New Jersey (ACT), Howell, NJ. 14-17 Apr. 2010.

---. Don't Fear the Reaper. Ellison High School, Killeen, TX. 22 Apr. 2010.

Recognizing

Alice Friman's poem "The Sound" was the basis for a musical composition of the same name, composed by GCSU music professor Douglas O'Grady, which had its world premiere, with music professor Wendy Mullen, soprano, on 29 Apr. 2010 as part of "Sound Sculptures 5: The 5th Annual Sound Sculptures Electronic Music Concert" at GCSU.

On 8 March 2010, Megan Melançon was awarded a GCSU Faculty Research Grant in the amount of $3141.50 for her project "Exploding Sugar, Imploding Demographics."

David Muschell's play Birds in the Weather will be produced on 6-9 May 2010 as the winner the 6th Annual National New Play Competition sponsored by Brevard Little Theatre of Brevard, North Carolina. David will be a guest of the theatre company at a luncheon on Thursday, 6 May, where he will receive his award and, later, be in attendance for the premiere.

One of our English Literature students and soon-to-be graduate, Joshua Ware,
sponsored by Megan Melançon, was awarded $956.00 from the Student Government Association on 9 April 2010 to establish a GCSU Chess Club.

**Eddie Zipperer**'s play *Heroes of Literature & the Caveman* is a semi-finalist for Youth Education on Stage's Summer Shorts V.
Writing


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**Speaking**


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**Recognizing**

**Beauty Bragg** served on a grant review panel for the National Endowment for the Humanities that reviewed applications to a newer grant program in American Literature and Studies, aimed at faculty at HBCU's, IHHE's and Tribal Colleges. She brings back greetings to all from our former colleague, John Cox.

**Marie Elliott**'s play, *The Man Gift*, produced earlier this year at the Shelterbelt Theatre in Omaha, NE, was nominated for a *Theatre Arts Guild Award*.
Megan Melançon conducted research in the Savannah, Georgia, and Chatham county area during the month of July, 2010. This research was funded in part by a GCSU Faculty Research grant (award amount $3,141.50; award date 8 March 2010). The investigation focused on the dialects used by African-American, Hispanic, and White blue collar workers in Port Wentworth, Georgia. Data was collected via the use of surveys and tape-recorded interviews. The results will be codified and described in a series of journal articles and presented at conferences during the next two years.

David Muschell's full-length play, Birds in the Weather, won the BLT New Play Competition and was produced by the Brevard Little Theatre in 6-9 May 2010.

Announcing

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3.2 November 2010

Writing


Speaking

---. Reading and class visit. Franklin College. Franklin, IN. 8 Oct. 2010.


Recognizing

Alice Friman received two honorable mentions in the 2010 New England Poetry Club contests: for her poem "The Gift" (Firman Houghton Award competition) and her poem "Ars Poetica on Lava" (Gretchen Warren Award competition).

Laura Newbern won the 2010 Rona Jaffe Writer's Award, which includes $25,000 to work on her next book.
Karen McElmurray was Writer-in-Residence from October 11-16 at Indiana University, Bloomington. She taught a five-day class in memoir, gave a public reading on October 13, and delivered a lecture on October 14 entitled "Writing Rapture: Personal Stories and Universal Insights."

Eddie Zipperer's full length play, Nicolas the Worm, won the Charles M. Getchell New Play Award.

Announcing

Marie Elliott's play, The Homestead Players, will be performed by Saarens Productions' "Shortly Thereafter.... An Evening of One Acts and Short Plays" in Bemidji, MN this spring.

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3.3 February 2011

Writing


---. Featured writer. Appalachian Heritage (Spring 2011). Print. [Under contract and forthcoming]

Speaking


Recognizing

Alice Friman's poem "Visiting the Territories" won the Prize for Poetry from the Monadnock Writers' Group in relation to its 2010 anthology on the subject of memory.

Announcing

Mike Riley will deliver the keynote address, "Making My Own Books: Printing and Bookbinding by Hand" at The Future of the Book Symposium presented by the Library and Instructional Technology Center on Wednesday, February 2 at 7:00PM in the Museum Education Room.

http://gcsu.edu/english/
http://faculty.gcsu.edu/webdav/alex_blazer/Newsletter/index.htm
Writing


Speaking


Bragg, Beauty. "Raced Bodies in Time and Space: Concepts of Nation in Short


---. Director and Emcee. **Storytelling in Milledgeville,** Black Box Theatre, Georgia Coll. & State U, Milledgeville, GA. 8 Apr. 2011.


**Gentry, Marshall Bruce.** "The Ongoing Influence on Flannery O'Connor of Carson McCullers's First Two Novels." [Carson McCullers: An Interdisciplinary Conf. and 94th Birthday Celebration](http://faculty.gcsu.edu/webdav/alex_blazer/Newsletter/2011-05.htm), Columbus State U, Columbus, GA. 19


**Recognizing**

Alex Blazer, Brittany McClearen, Sal Talluto, and JT Torres were inducted into Phi Kappa Phi on 29 Apr. 2011.

Alice Friman served as the final judge for the Lena-Miles Wever Todd Poetry Book Prize 2010-2011 sponsored by Pleiades: A Journal of New Writing at the University of Central Missouri.

Eustace Palmer received the Distinguished Professor Award for 2010-2011 from Georgia College & State University at the Faculty Awards Ceremony on 22 Apr. 2011. In the words of the Provost, "This is the most prestigious award Georgia College offers for faculty achievement. . . ."

**Announcing**

Marie Elliott has accepted the position of Assistant Professor of Mass Media at Valdosta State University in Valdosta, GA, effective Aug. 2011.

Bruce Gentry, Katie Simon, and Michael Nifong, the Organizing Committee for "Startling Figures: A Celebration of the Legacy of Flannery O'Connor," wish to thank Melinda Martin and a very large number of Department of English and Rhetoric students and faculty who helped with throwing parties, running the special conference bookstore, providing transportation, helping with room reservations, chairing sessions and presenting introductions, assisting with paper presentations, entertaining guests, cleaning up Andalusia Farm, etc.: Tori Lee Averett, Alex Blazer, Beauty Bragg, Amy Burt, Emily Chamison, Jan Clark, Melissa Cossey-Borries, Susan Cumings, Janet Dale, Ashley Emmert, Alice Friman, Allen Gee, Rebecca Hazelwood, Abby Hogelin, Angie Hunt, Matt Jurak, Martin Lammon, Esther Lopez, Mary Magoullick, Karen Salyer McElmurray, Rachel Marsom-Richmond, Judson Mitcham, David Muschell, Laura Newbern, Alexander Olivier, Michelle Richards, Josh Ruffin, John Sirmans, Roger Sollenberger, Philip Walker, Valerie Wayson, Elaine Whitaker. We are also pleased to have had
several departmental graduates and former faculty (Scott Daniel, Ashleigh Eisinger, David R. Evans, Sarah Gordon, Jo King, Susan Presley) back to participate in the program. And thanks to everyone who attended the conference and encouraged our students to attend.

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Recognizing

**Alice Friman** won a 2012 Pushcart Prize for "Tracing Back," a poem originally published in *The Gettysburg Review*.


**Karen McElmurray** served as guest faculty (Andrew Hudgins, Holly Goddard Jones, and Chris Bachelard) at the Sewanee School of Letters Summer MFA Program from June 12 to July 22.

**David Muschell**'s play *Heroes* won an Honorable Mention in the Inaugural Ohio State Newark New Play Contest in August.

Announcing

**Katie Simon, Bruce Gentry, and Ashley Emmert** want everyone to know that excellent t-shirts and bookbags from the April O'Connor conference are still available, both in the reading room of Special Collections in the Georgia College library and online at [http://www2.gcsu.edu/forms/flannery/payonline.php](http://www2.gcsu.edu/forms/flannery/payonline.php).

http://gcsu.edu/english/
http://faculty.gcsu.edu/webdav/alex_blazer/Newsletter/index.htm


**Lopez, Esther.** "Essay-Review: Three Feminist Interventions." *Studies in the


Speaking


Recognizing

Scott Dillard received the Randy Majors Award at the National Communication Association Convention in New Orleans, LA on November 18, 2011. This award is specifically for recognizing individuals who have made outstanding contributions to lesbian, gay, bisexual, and/or transgender scholarship in communication studies. Each year the Caucus presents the award to one individual at the National Communication Association annual convention.

**Alice Friman** won the 2011 Gretchen Warren Award, from the New England Poetry Club, for the best poem published in the previous year by a Club member. The winning poem is "The Night I Saw Saturn" from *The Southern Review*.

**Karen McElmurray** was the Creative Nonfiction judge for the *Still: The Journal* 2011 Literary Contest.

**Rachel Marsom-Richmond**'s poem "Waiting Room" was nominated for a Pushcart Prize by *The Camel Saloon*.
Georgia College

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The Department of English & Rhetoric Newsletter

4.3 May 2012

Writing


Gentry, Marshall Bruce. Co-editor, with Craig Amason. At Home with Flannery


Speaking


Conference Presentation.


---. Reading. Poetry @ Tech Series. Georgia Tech, Atlanta, GA. 8 Mar. 2012.


---. "From Angst to Agency: The Presentation of the Madonna/Madame/Prostitute by Male Writers in the African Novel." Faculty Research and Teaching Colloquium Series. Georgia College & State University, Milledgeville, GA. 15 Feb. 2012. Address.


Recognizing

Janet Dale's "Lineage of Secrets." was the Fiction Finalist for The Masters Review in February.

Alice Friman's poem "Diary of the Queen of Russia" is the basis for a song that is part of John Berman's "Cabaret Songs" performed 5 Mar. 2012 at the University of Indianapolis.

Emily Hope Price of the band Pearl and the Beard, based in Brooklyn, wrote and performed a song based on Alice Friman's poem "The Squirrel" in February: http://emilyhopeprice.wordpress.com/2010/05/14/131-the-squirrel-poet-alice-friman/.


Karen McElmurray served as judge for the Lamar York Prize for Creative Nonfiction sponsored by The Chattahoochee Review at Georgia Perimeter College.

Karen McElmurray won the 2012 Distinguished Alumni Award from Berea College, which will be presented in June.

Eustace Palmer received the African Literature Association's "Distinguished Member Award" at the 38th Annual Conference of the ALA for "Outstanding Service to the ALA and Exemplary Commitment to Teaching and Scholarship in African Literature."

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http://faculty.gcsu.edu/webdav/alex_blazer/Newsletter/index.htm
Writing


Speaking


**Simon, Katie** (with Larry Bacnick, Stephanie McClure, Rebecca McMullen, and Rosalie Richards). "By Faculty for Faculty: Promoting, Nurturing, and Sustaining Undergraduate Research through Faculty Networks at Georgia College." Undergraduate Research Best Practice Session. Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges Annual Meeting. The University of Virginia's College at Wise, Wise, VA. 22 June 2012. Conference Panel.

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**Recognizing**

**Rachael Burke** (MA '07) accepted a job at Northern Virginia Community College.

**Alice Friman** won the Georgia Author of the Year Award for Poetry, 2012, for *Vinculum*. The award is sponsored by the Georgia Writers Association.

Horvath, Brooke. Rev. of *Vinculum* by **Alice Friman**. *Prairie Schooner* 86.2 (2012): 173-76. Print.


**Marshall Bruce Gentry** consulted with Layman Poupard Publishing for a reprint of criticism about Flannery O'Connor's "Good Country People" in a section of vol. 168 in the Gale *Short Story Criticism* series.
Writing


**Speaking**


---. Reading and panel discussion. Georgia Literary Festival, Jekyll Island, GA. 10 Nov. 2012. Reading.


**Recognizing**

Alice Friman won the 2012 Ekphrasis Prize for Poetry, sponsored by *Ekphrasis,* for her poem "Re-reading Emerson."

**Announcing**

Roger Sollenberger would like to announce that, *Trop,* the online literary magazine that he co-founded earlier this year, has just opened its daily column, "The Weather," which he edits, for short piece submissions of fiction or non-fiction; comedic, sentimental, absurdist, informative, literary, pop. All will be considered. Send 500-2,000 word submissions as attachments (.doc, .docx) to weather.submissions@tropmag.com. *Trop* is an online national writers' collective, publishing fiction, essays, reviews, interviews, and pop culture. Regular contributers from GCSU include Evan Allgood MFA '11, John Teschner MFA '10, and Will Torrey MFA '10.

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Speaking

Blazer, Alex E. "People Show You Who They Really Are": A Lacanian Reading of


---. Reading for *The Southern Poetry Anthology, 5: Georgia.* Callanwolde Fine Art Center.
Arts Center, Atlanta, GA. 10 Apr. 2013.


Recognizing

Brett Chatham (BA '07) was admitted to the Strode Program in Renaissance
Studies in the English Department at the University of Alabama.

**Cohen Edenfield** (BA '11) was admitted to the Graduate English program at Texas A&M University.

**Alice Friman** was named "Artist of the Month" for April 2013 by *Image*.

**Alice Friman** served as the final judge for Northern States Poetry Contest sponsored by *Persimmon Tree*.


**Marshall Bruce Gentry** received the Georgia College Excellence in Scholarship Award.

**T. J. Sandella**'s poem "My Mother Prepares Me for Her Death" was a finalist for the Elinor Benedict Prize for Poetry from Northern Michigan University (*Passages North*) and was selected as an Honorable Mention by Aimee Nezhukumatathil.

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Writing


Speaking

Averett, Tori Lee (MFA 2013), David Muschell (Former Faculty), and Elaine E. Whitaker. "World Premieres: The Collaborative Synergy of Creative Arts at Georgia College." COPLAC 25th Annual Meeting, Shepherd University. 22 June 2013. Conference Presentation.


## Recognizing

**Janet Dale,** MFA 2013, is a Visiting Assistant Professor at Georgia Southern University.


**Alice Friman**'s poem "Getting Serious" was selected by Mary Kollar of Seattle, Washington, as the August poem for Kollar's "poetry box" project, in which Kollar distributes hundreds of free copies of a poem each month from a box outside her house.

**Marshall Bruce Gentry** and Georgia College received a grant ($193,448) from the National Endowment for the Humanities to sponsor "Reconsidering Flannery O'Connor," a Summer Institute for College and University Teachers, 2-29 July 2014. Twenty-two full-time college teachers and three graduate students will spend four weeks in Milledgeville. Co-Director for the Institute is Robert Donahoo of Sam Houston State University. The grant will provide funding to hire five Georgia College graduate students to help with Institute activities. The website, which should be completed in October, will be at gcsu.edu/nehoconnor.

**Judson Mitcham,** Georgia's poet laureate, and Toni Cade Bambara will be honored as the newest inductees of the Georgia Writers Hall of Fame at its 2013 ceremony on November 11th.
**Katie Simon** received a Faculty Research Grant for her book project entitled "Something Akin to Freedom: Race, Space, and the Body in Antebellum U.S. Literature." The grant supported a summer trip to the Massachusetts Historical Society in Boston, MA, where she conducted archival research related to three writers in her project: Harriet Wilson, Henry David Thoreau, and Sophia Peabody Hawthorne.

**Sal Talluto**, MA 2012, was accepted into the English doctoral program at Georgia State University.

**JT Torres**, MFA 2011, is a Visiting Assistant Professor at the University of Alaska.
FACULTY:

ALEX BLAZER:

SCOTT DILLARD:


ALICE FRIMAN:


MARTIN LAMMON:

LAURA NEWBERN:

EUSTACE PALMER:


--- Reading from A Hanging Is Announced. Georgia Fest, 9 Nov. 2013. Reading.

Eustace Palmer was also one of the judges for the final entries at the Margaret Harvin Wilson Award.

PETER SELGIN


KATIE SIMON:


CLAUDIA YAGHOOBI:

---. “Iranian Women’s Activism and the Significance of Hijab.” Guest Lecture for Culture and Youth of the Middle East course, Georgia College and State University. 1 Oct. 2013. Lecture.


---. “Same-Sex Relations in Medieval Persian Literature.” Guest Lecture for South Asian Sexualities course, Georgia College and State University. 18 Nov. 2013. Lecture.

---. “Sexual Ideology in Modern Iran.” Women’s and Gender Studies Lecture Series, Georgia College & State University. 11 Nov. 2013. Talk.


Claudia Yaghoobi also received a mini grant from the Office of Institutional Equity and Diversity to organize a Skype talk with Amir Soltani, author of Zahra’s Paradise.

STUDENTS & ALUMNI:

JANET DALE (MFA ’13):
DERICK VARN:
Derick Varn is Poetry and Art Editor at *Fomer People: A Journal of Bangs and Whimpers*.

MONIC DUCTAN:


DUSTIN JUNKERT:


SARAH K. LENZ:

JUDE MARR:


BRITANNY RAMPY (BA ’13):
Brittany Rampy was accepted into the prestigious Teach for America program and will teach in Oklahoma for the next two years.
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Lenz, Sarah K. [MFA Student] "Dad's Kitchen Table." South Dakota Review. 51.2. 64-73. Print.


Speaking


---. Reading. Penn State Erie, Erie, PA. 18 Sept. 2014.

---. Reading and meeting with students. West Chester University, West Chester, PA. 9 Apr. 2014.


---. Panelist for discussion of writing grants in the liberal arts. Armstrong State University, Savannah, GA. 15 Oct. 2014.

---. "Flannery O'Connor and Criminal Neglect in Middle Georgia." Lecture for Arts Fest. Middle Georgia State College, Macon, GA. 26 Mar. 2014.


**Shumake, Jessica L.** "Breaking through Time in Images and Language: Ekphrastic Leaps in the Here and Now." Rhetoric Society of America. San


Rachael Burke (MA Graduate) has been admitted, with an assistantship, to the PhD program in Composition Studies at George Mason University.

Alice Friman served as the Final Judge for the John Ciardi Prize for Poetry, BkMk Press, U of Missouri-Kansas City, 2014.

Her poem, "Two Pink Shells / Pink Shell" was nominated for the Pushcart Prize by *Ekphrasis*.


Melissa Hardman (MA Graduate) has accepted a teaching position in the English Department at Central Georgia Technical College. She also works for the Macon Convention and Visitors Bureau.

For the second year in a row, Eustace Palmer was Georgia College's Case Professor of the year nominee for the Case Professor of the year award

Sarah Lenz's essay "Lightning Flowers" (*Colorado Review*, Fall/Winter 2013) was named a notable essay in *Best American Essays 2014*.

Jessica L. Shumake received a Community-Based Engaged Learning Apprentice Grant and a Faculty-Student Interaction Grant to support high school/college curriculum integration.

Eileen Totter (MA Graduate) has accepted a teaching position in the English Department at Athens Technical College.

Darbyshire Witek (BA Literature Graduate) was accepted into the prestigious Teach for America program and assigned to teach elementary school in Arkansas for the next two years.

Claudia Yaghoobi was the recipient of The 2014 Hammed Shahidian Critical Feminist Award for her paper "Temporary Marriage and Female Sexuality in Ebrahim Golestan's 'Esmat's Journey'" at The Iranian Women's Studies Foundation in July 2014.
She received a mini grant from the Office of Institutional Equity and Diversity to organize a talk by Persis Karim in Fall 2014.

She has also been chosen to teach for European Council Study Abroad Program in Paris in Summer 2015.

Announcing

**Marshall Bruce Gentry** wants to thank the Department for its cooperation during "Reconsidering Flannery O'Connor," the NEH Summer Institute we hosted throughout July. Graduate students Laura Martin, Jim Owens, Claire Helakoski, Chelsie Buckley, Ben Mitchell, Christine Amezquita, and Eileen Totter were excellent employees who helped our 24 Summer Scholars, visiting faculty from throughout the US. Martin Lammon and Alice Friman gave beautiful poetry readings. Melinda Martin graciously assisted with bureaucratic necessities at a moment's notice. Graduate student Sarah Lenz provided catering services, especially for the 4th of July. Some of you recruited and entertained for the Institute, and many of you joined us for lectures and social events, especially the opening reception hosted by Elaine Whitaker. The Institute was a great success. I hope many of the Summer Scholars will be back in town for our next O'Connor conference, "Flannery O'Connor and Other Southern Women Writers," 17-19 Sept. 2015.

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http://shenandoahliterary.org/651/2015/07/21/otma-rood/
---. "The Poet on the Poem." Interview by Diane Lockward about Friman's poem


**Yaghoobi, Claudia.** Rev. of *Gender and Entrepreneurship in Iran: Microentreprise and Informal Sectors,* by Roksana Bahramitash. *Review of Middle East*
Speaking


---. Reading and class visit. U of Indianapolis. 1 Apr. 2015.


---. Chair and reading. LSU Press Poets Reading. AWP. Minneapolis. 10 Apr. 2015.

---. Substitute panelist. Persimmon Tree Reading. AWP. Minneapolis. 11 Apr. 2015.

---. Reading. Women Write Resistance Reading. AWP offsite. Minneapolis. 11 Apr.

---. "Flannery O'Connor as Cartoonist." South Atlantic MLA. Durham, NC. 14 Nov. 2015. Also served as organizing chair for the Flannery O'Connor session and as a CV reviewer.


**Sirmans, John.** "Conjuring Tradition: West African Folklore in *Their Eyes Were Watching God.*" Flannery O'Connor and Other Southern Women Writers.

Georgia College & State University, Milledgeville, GA. 19 Sept. 2015. Conference Presentation.


## Recognizing

**David Darnell** [BA English graduate] teaches 9th grade English coaches baseball at Mount Pisgah Christian School in Johns Creek.

**Alice Friman** (with Martha Vertreace and Anne-Marie Cusac) served as a member of the judging panel for the Society of Midland Authors Award for Poetry 2015.


Alice Friman's poetry collection, *The View from Saturn* was reviewed by Elizabeth Kim in *American Book Review* 36.2 (Jan./Feb. 2015): 29-30 ("Insatiable Want").

**Abby Hogelin** [MFA graduate] has an adjunct position in English at Samford University.

**Marshall Bruce Gentry** served as a panel member to evaluate grant proposals for National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institutes and Seminars. National Endowment for the Humanities in Washington, DC on 20 Apr. 2015.

**Natialie M. (Khoury) Ridgewell** [BA English graduate] is an instructor, as well as a student in the PhD program in Curriculum and Instruction, at the University of Florida.

**Shannon Skelton** [MFA student] received the Sarah Gordon Award 2015 for the best article by a graduate student. Her article is scheduled to appear in the 2016 *Flannery O'Connor Review.*
**Claudia Yaghoobi** received a Faculty Research Grant from Georgia College and State University for Fall 2015.

**Thanking**

**Bruce Gentry** wants to thank the past and present GC faculty and students who helped with the recent O'Connor conference, "Flannery O'Connor and Other Southern Women Writers." 17-19 Sept. 2015. Craig R. Amason, Catherine Bowlin, Jan Clark, Alice Friman, Sarah Gordon, Jude Marr, Laura Martin, Laura Newbern, Jim Owens, Jane A. Rose, Steven Savage, John Sirmans, Shannon Skelton, Iona Sun, Elaine Whitaker, Daniel Wilkinson, and Sandra Worsham gave conference presentations. Isabel Acevedo, Beauty Bragg, Alice Friman, Jude Marr, Laura Martin, Mike McClelland, Tara Mettler, Laura Newbern, Katie Simon, John Sirmans, and Jennifer Watkins chaired sessions and introduced speakers. Alex Blazer supervised and regularly updated the conference website. Sarah Lenz provided the O'Connor and fashion exhibit at Andalusia. Martin Lammon agreed to have the MFA Program co-sponsor the conference, and Mary Magoulick agreed to have the Women's Studies Program co-sponsor the conference. Melinda Martin, of course, helped with all sorts of everything. Elaine Whitaker oversaw the reception on the first evening of the conference. Isabel Acevedo, Noah Devros, Georgia Knapp, Ryan McLaughlin, and Jennifer Watkins provided transportation services for conference visitors. Mike McClelland served as our liaison with the Bookstore. And more of you offered your help, attended sessions, provided lodging to visitors, helped get Andalusia ready for the weekend, made meeting space available, and gave me much-needed advice. Finally, I want to thank my co-workers in the *Flannery O'Connor Review* office for their persistence, for their imagination, and for their patience with me: Mike McClelland, Jennifer Watkins, and esp. my conference co-organizer, Laura Martin. We estimate that approx. 400 people attended some of the conference, including 9 participants from our 2007 NEH Summer Institute and 15 Summer Scholars from our 2014 NEH Summer Institute.

http://www.gcsu.edu/artsandsciences/english/newsletter