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## English Department Alumni e-Newsletter: Fall 2011

Northeastern University - Department of English

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# English Department Alumni/ae e-Newsletter

Department of English ❖ 405 Lake Hall ❖ (617) 373-4540 ❖ [www.english.neu.edu](http://www.english.neu.edu)

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## A Letter From the Chair

The English department is starting the new academic year with plenty of new faces: an entering classes of more than thirty undergraduate majors, 11 Master's and Ph.D. students, and new colleagues in a variety of fields.

We are very pleased to welcome to the faculty **PROFESSOR BERYL SCHLOSSMAN** and **ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR NEAL LERNER**. Professor Schlossman, who was a Visiting Scholar in the department last year, holds a Ph.D. in French and Comparative Literature from the Johns Hopkins University as well as advanced degrees from the Université de Paris VII. She is the author of three books, on Modernism and on James Joyce, as well as many articles and book chapters. Professor Schlossman joins us from Carnegie Mellon University, where she launched and directed an interdepartmental and interdisciplinary program in European Studies.

Professor Lerner, Associate Professor and Director of the Writing Center, comes to us most recently from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he has been since 2007 Director of Training in Communication Instruction. Professor Lerner received an Ed.D. in Literacy, Language, and Cultural Studies from Boston University in 1996. His book *The Idea of a Writing Laboratory* (Southern Illinois University Press, 2009) just won the 2011 National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) David H. Russell award for distinguished research.

We are also delighted to bring on board two new Full-Time Lecturers in the Writing Program. **JONATHAN BENDA** recently received his Ph.D. in Composition and Cultural Rhetoric from Syracuse University with a dissertation that explored the "rhetoric of cultural exchange" in the archive of a cultural exchange program between Oberlin College and Tunghai University, Taiwan. He holds certification in the Teaching of English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) and has been a Lecturer at Tunghai University since 1993. **KAT GONSO** received her MFA in Writing, Literature, and Publishing from Emerson College and also holds TEFL certification. She has taught Composition at Emerson, Bentley University, and many other area institutions, and has published creative work in the literary journals *River Styx* and *American Literary Review* and an article in the *Journal of College Writing*.

In addition to new faces, we also have some sparkling new conference/ classrooms: The renovation of the department, just getting under way in my last "Chair's Letter" of Fall 2010, is now complete. For those of you who remember seminars and meetings in the Barrs Room, our new Big and Little Fishbowls (as I affectionately think of them), with their frosted glass walls, updated projection capacities, and sleek seating might come as a surprise! We inaugurated the new look this past Spring with an art exhibition curated by the members of Professor Kimberly Juanita Brown's "Visual Postmodernities" graduate seminar, and some of the works are still on display.

We are always happy to see or hear from our alumni. I hope you enjoy this issue of the *Alumni E-Newsletter*, and please send us your own news for the next one!  
*Laura Green, Department Chair*

## English Major Wins 2011 Co-Op Award



Stephanie Crisp (BA '11)

In Spring 2011, the English department was proud to have yet another Co-op Award Winner. **STEPHANIE CRISP**, an English major with minors in Secondary Education and Spanish, was one of 16 outstanding seniors from across the university honored for their achievements during their co-op experiences. Stephanie was clearly an outstanding student, entering the final semester of her senior year with a 3.942 GPA. She took full advantage of the domestic and international opportunities that Northeastern offers, participating in two Dialogues of Civilization programs

to Spain and Argentina, and in three co-op experiences.

Stephanie plans to become a teacher. However, she approached the co-op program as an opportunity to explore various career options. Her first co-op was with Wellington Management, a "leading global institutional asset manager", working with the Wellington Foundation. Her second co-op was with the Mathworks, "the world's leading developer of technical computing software for engineers and scientists" in their Social Mission program, and her third co-op was working with the Center for STEM Education at NU which has "developed a service model for the design and delivery of exemplary K-20 Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math programs". *continued on page 4*

## Aravind Studies Language Development



Athulya Aravind (BA '11)

Recent graduate **ATHULYA ARAVIND** (BA English/Linguistics '11) is helping to create an early intervention language assessment

tool at Smith College's Language Cognition Lab. The assessment tool will test children's development of lexical and syntactic learning processes to help identify children who may have language-related disabilities. Athulya

has been Research Assistant/Lab Manager at the Lab since August.

Smith's Language Cognition Lab works closely with the Department of Linguistics at UMass Amherst. Athulya hopes to also get involved with theoretical linguistics research—her main area of interest—currently underway at UMass.

While at Northeastern University, Athulya worked with Professor Guy Rotella on an honors thesis about the reception of Sappho in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. "I am not quite ready to let go of the English side of things yet," says Athulya. "Smith has a wonderful English department, and I am thinking of taking a few courses while I am here. Presently on my radar is a course on Alice Munro taught by Eric Reeves." ❖

## News of 2011 Graduates

The department this year graduated 63 English majors, three combined Linguistics/English majors, and two combined Cinema Studies/English majors. Graduates were honored at an English department reception on May 5th, 2011.

Thought- and laughter-provoking farewells were shared by **STEPHANIE CRISP**, one of the One Hundred Most Influential Seniors of 2011 and winner of the Cooperative Education and Condit Awards; **ATHULYA ARAVIND**, a combined Linguistics/English major who was also one of the One Hundred Most Influential Seniors; and **MATTHEW COVIELLO**, a Condit Award winner who graduated with the top grade-point average in the major.

Other graduates who earned special recognition include:

- ★ **LUCIA ALLEN**, a Presidential Global Scholar;
- ★ **LAURA BOSTON**, Presidential Scholar and Condit Award winner;
- ★ **KATRINA LANGER**, winner of the department's Peter Burton Hanson Creative Writing award and a Richard Cardinal Cushing Scholar;
- ★ **HELEN LAZARES**, a Golden Key Scholar; and
- ★ **FRANCESCA THERESE SALES**, one of the 2011 One Hundred Most Influential Seniors and winner of the department's Peter Burton Hanson Scholarly Writing Award.

Graduates will be going into every field from maritime law to teaching to positions in business, publishing, and marketing. For details on the activities of recent and long-time alumni, please visit the Alumni website at <http://www.english.neu.edu/alumni/>, and please remember to send us your own update! ❖ *IG*

## MPTW Alum Becomes Scholar of Technology

**CHRIS GALLAGHER**, Professor and Writing Program Director, sent us this recent interview with alum **STUART SELBER** (MPTW '90).

**PROFESSOR GALLAGHER:** *As a Master's student at NU, you studied Technical and Professional Writing with a concentration in Writing for the Computer Industry. What professional goals did you have at that time?*

**STUART SELBER:** I was hoping to become a technical writer in the computer industry. My undergraduate degree in English from Delaware included a concentration in Business and Technical Writing. The faculty at Delaware encouraged me to select a graduate program with ties to the computer industry. They recommended Northeastern. I was hoping the program would enhance both my practice and theory, but especially my theory, so I could embark on a career that would afford opportunities to develop and advance as a technical communicator. The program provided that for sure: I had courses from tenured faculty as well as adjunct faculty from the high-tech workplace. It provided just the right balance of perspectives needed for informed practice.

**CG:** *Where did you go when you graduated from NU? Do you see any lessons in your educational and professional experience for today's MA students?*

**SS:** I had good job offers waiting for me at graduation

but opted to attend the PhD program in Rhetoric and Technical Communication at Michigan Technological University. The preparation I received at Northeastern prepared me well for work in the non-academic workplace, but the teaching that I did as an English graduate student sparked my interest in an academic career. I received excellent teacher training and support. I taught composition and technical writing, and those two courses very much informed each other. I would encourage MA students to teach as many different writing courses as possible. I would also encourage them to diminish distinctions between the different types of writing courses. At the time it made sense to separate composition and technical writing; we had very different visions of each. Today these courses converge in visible and obvious ways (composition now focuses on issues long considered by technical writing courses, such as visual design and the ways texts work in the world).

**CG:** *You are currently associate professor of English and Science, Technology, and Society and an affiliate associate professor of Information Sciences and Technology at Penn State. You also direct a composition program while serving as a faculty fellow in Education Technology Services. Can you describe how you see your work spanning or combining these fields and programs?*

**SS:** I still see myself as a technical writer, but I've shifted my focus to the academic workplace. At bottom, I'm still interested in the same basic questions: How can we productively integrate technology into the lives of users, whether those users are teachers, stu-

dents, or administrators? What types of support systems and infrastructures are required, especially if we hope to encourage hu-



Stuart Selber (MPTW '90)

manists to involve themselves in technology development and use on campus? From the standpoint of the humanities, what do productive technologies look like in terms of their designs? How are people currently working with technologies of production and reception? What, then, does it now mean to read and write? Teach and learn? These types of questions span writing programs, academic computing services, department of English, the Information Science, and more. Technology is not so much a disciplinary category but an area that permeates all disciplines. For me the connections are obvious and endless.

**CG:** *What is the relationship between your research, teaching, and administrative work? How do you manage to remain so productive as a scholar--you've published an award-winning book (Multiliteracies for a Digital Age), several edited collections, and numerous articles--while juggling the demands of teaching and program administration?*

**continued on page 8**



We look forward to hearing from you! Submit your update at:

[http://www.english.neu.edu/alumni/drop\\_us\\_a\\_line/](http://www.english.neu.edu/alumni/drop_us_a_line/)

## 2011 Co-Op Award *continued from page 2*

*"I can unequivocally say that Stephanie performed well beyond the scope of my expectations for this co-op role. I have had a co-op student for the past 10 years, and her work ethic, quality of work, and professional approach have been unmatched in that time period."*



Stephanie Crisp (at right) accepts her award from Pam Goodale.

The above quote, from Stephanie Crisp's manager at the Mathworks, succinctly communicates Stephanie's qualifications for a Co-op Award.

In addition, Stephanie has volunteered for Sociedad Latina and St. Benedict's Parish English program, working with Spanish speaking students, and is currently student teaching at the Edward M. Kennedy Academy for Health Careers. She is very proud of the fact that one of the high school seniors she worked with at Sociedad Latina is now a freshman at Northeastern.

As Stephanie pursues her career as a teacher, she brings a wealth of diverse work experience and skills to the field, as well as her academic background both on campus and abroad. Her future students can only benefit from the depth and breadth of her education here at Northeastern, and we have been lucky to have her.

❖ *Pam Goodale*

## Alumna Participates in Career Panel

**NICOLE FRANKEL** (BA '10) recently participated in a panel in a *5 Under 25* event for the College of Social Sciences and Humanities. The *5 Under 25* series gives current students the opportunity to hear recent alumni talk about their experiences after graduation and how their time at NU helped prepare them for their careers.

"I am just one example of an English major that has found stable employment after graduation, thanks in no small part to the skills I acquired while on co-op and the challenges I overcame while studying abroad. I wanted to spread the message that it is possible to survive the transition from student to citizen at large and that there are many sources of support available as well as ways to prepare yourself for the future.

"Participating in [5 Under 25] made me realize how often I took advantage of the opportunities that a Northeastern education affords. Hopefully, the students in attendance were able to recognize my main point that they should get involved as much as possible in everything that Northeastern has to offer and cultivate the confidence necessary to get what you want in life." You can read Nicole's Co-Op-to-career story on page 4 of the Spring 2010 Alumni e-

Newsletter, available online at <http://www.english.neu.edu/newsletter/>. ❖

## Pam Goodale Moves to CAMD

Sadly, **PAM GOODALE**, our longtime co-op coordinator, has left the English department. Pam was the co-op coordinator for Communications Studies and English. Communications Studies is now in a different college (Arts, Media, & Design), so Pam has moved to AMD. She has been replaced in English by another experienced co-op coordinator, **LISA DOHERTY (MA '92)**, who also works with Political Science Majors.

I know that anyone who has worked with Pam will be sorry that the department has lost her. She was an unfailing resource for the more than 70% of our majors who took at least one co-op and a valued citizen of the department. However, we are delighted to welcome Lisa who has a Masters degree from this department and has also taught in the College of Professional Studies.

Please join me in wishing Pam the best in her transition to AMD—and in assuring her that we will always be happy to see her again in English! ❖ *Laura Green*



## Graduate Program News

In June 2011, **EMILY ARTIANO** and **DANIELLE SKEEHAN** attended the Futures of American Studies Institute's one week seminar, "State(s) of American Studies," at Dartmouth College, where they were able to attend over twenty-five plenary lectures given by leading scholars in the field of American studies. Artiano participated in a seminar group led by Colleen Glenney Boggs, an Associate Professor of English at Dartmouth College and the author of *Transnationalism and American Literature: Literary Translation 1773-1892*. Professor Boggs' work focuses on how language affects understandings of subjects and nations in American literature, and her knowledge and expertise helped Artiano with her research concerning transatlantic subjectivities in eighteenth- and nineteenth-century literature, with a particular focus on language. Artiano presented a paper to the seminar group entitled, "Modeling Language: Linguistic Diversity in Eighteenth-Century Caribbean Texts," discussing the way language difference and linguistic colonization are inextricably linked to gendered and racialized bodies in early transatlantic texts. In her dissertation, Artiano plans to relate this work to current conversations about "English Only" and "Students' Right to Their Own Language" policies in contemporary composition classrooms. Skeehan attended a seminar led by Hamilton Carroll (University of Leeds) and presented a draft of her dissertation chapter titled "Texts and Textiles: Richardson's *Pamela* and the Business of Bourgeois Domesticity."



Danielle Skeehan also received a Program in Early American Economy and Society Dissertation Fellowship from the Library Company of Philadelphia where she completed research on the materiality of Atlantic economies this summer. Looking at account books, journals, letter books, and examples of paper money, she explored the nature of paper itself and how, as a medium, paper narrates unexpected commercial and social ties between the less visible participants in Atlantic markets and its major players. While in Philadelphia, Skeehan also participated in the Andrew Mellon Early American Literature and Material Texts Workshop held at the McNeil Center for Early American Studies and at the Library Company. The workshop offered Skeehan, along with other MCEAS and LCP dissertation fellows, a chance to present their chapters in workshop-style sessions, read and discuss classic and new work in the

**continued on page 8**

EGSA

## Processing "Raw Material"

On the weekend of March 19, 2011 the English Graduate Student Association (EGSA) hosted its 5<sup>th</sup> annual Graduate Student Conference. This year's conference, "Raw Material," focused on materials that could be understood as the productive elements of texts, subjects and selves, bodies, empires, and nations.

Participants represented disciplines in English, History, Anthropology, Sociology, Philosophy, and Women's Studies, making this year's conference a true interdisciplinary event. The conference also featured an art exhibit that showcased the works of local artists.



On Saturday, the conference keynote speaker, Professor Ann Laura Stoler, the Willy Brandt Distinguished University Professor of Anthropology and Historical Studies at The New School for Social Research in New York, shared her talk, "The Rot that Remains: Durabilities of Colonial Duress." On Sunday, Northeastern's own faculty speaker, Professor Elizabeth Britt, presented a talk entitled, "Identification in *Defending our Lives: A Material Rhetoric Explanation of Domestic Abuse Advocacy*." Both talks sparked conversations and will surely inspire graduate students' future intellectual work.

The EGSA counts the conference as our greatest accomplishment this year. A special thank you to all the students, faculty, and alumni who made "Raw Material" a great success.



Full details on this event are available through the "Raw Material" Conference Facebook page, and all alumni are welcome to join.

❖ *Emily Artiano, 2010-2011 EGSA President*

## Faculty News

### *National Fellowships*

**PROFESSOR KIMBERLY JUANITA BROWN**, currently on leave as a Woodrow Wilson Fellow and visiting at Brown University's Pembroke Center for Teaching and Research on Women, has received a research grant from The Ruth Landes Memorial Research Fund, a program of The Reed Foundation, in support of her book project "The Repeating Body: Slavery's Resonance in the Contemporary." The Fund was established in 1991 in honor of anthropologist Ruth Landes, who conducted fieldwork among Afro-Brazilians, African-Americans in the United States of America, and American Indians, including the Ojibwa, Potawatomi, and Sioux.

**PROFESSOR ELIZABETH MADDOCK DILLON**, recipient of a 2010-2011 National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship, spent the year at the American Antiquarian Society in Worcester, working on her book project, "Gender, Sex, and Modernity: Geographies of Reproduction in the Eighteenth-Century Atlantic World."

Shakespearean **PROFESSOR ERIKA BOECKELER** received a 2010-2011 fellowship from the Huntington Library in California to work on her book, "Playful Letters: The Dramatization of the Alphabet in the Renaissance."

### NU Humanities Center Faculty Works-in-Progress Colloquium Series:

Professor Nicole Aljoe

*"Do You Remember the Days of Slav'ry?': Creolizing the Neo-Slave Narrative in Contemporary Caribbean Cultural Production"*

Monday, December 5

12:00-1:00 PM

162 Meserve Hall

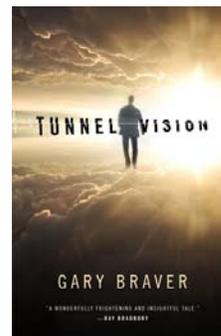
### *Other Honors*

**PROFESSOR LORI LEFKOVITZ**, Ruderman Professor of Jewish Studies, will receive an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree in June 2012 from her former institution, the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College. According to their letter of nomination, the honorary degree "is awarded to one individual each year who has produced scholarship of rare distinction, contributed in an outstanding way to Jewish communal and religious life in North America or Israel, and has acted in keeping with Reconstructionist ideals."



**PROFESSOR FRANCIS BLESSINGTON'S** translation of Euripedes' tragedy *The Trojan Women* has won the 2011 Der-Hovanessian Translation Award of the New England Poetry Club. *The Trojan Women* will play in Boston at the Factory Theater from May 18 – June 2, 2012.

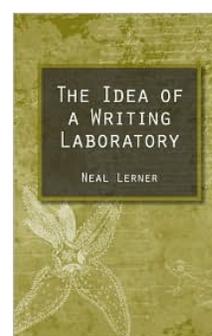
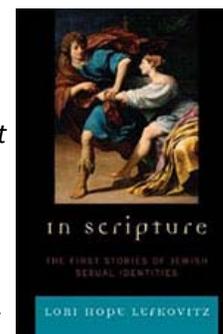
## Faculty Books



Braver, was chosen as a "Best Book of the Summer" on the Emily Rooney Show in 2011.

**PROFESSOR LORI LEFKOVITZ'S** recent book, *In Scripture: The First Stories of Jewish Sexual Identities* (Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2010), was a finalist for the Women's Studies Barbara Dobkin Award of the 2010 National Jewish Book Awards.

The awards, given by the Jewish Book Council, have been presented for over fifty years to "honor some of the best and most exciting authors in the field of Jewish literature."



**PROFESSOR NEAL LERNER'S** recent book, *The Idea of a Writing Laboratory* (Southern Illinois UP, 2009), won the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) 2011 David H. Russell Award for Distinguished Research in the Teaching of English.



## Paul Krueger Symposium for Teachers of International/Second Language Writers

The English Department Writing Program launched the new academic year with an exciting three-day visit from Paul Kei Matsuda as part of the inaugural Paul Krueger Symposium for Teachers of International/Second Language Writers. Professor Matsuda is a leader in the field of Second Language Writing, winning many awards for his numerous books and articles, editing a series of books on second language writers, and serving as webmaster for the *Journal of Second Language Writing*. His recent books include *Defining Composition Studies* (forthcoming), *Cross-Language Relations in Composition* (2010), and *Practicing Theory in Second Language Writing* (2010).

Professor Matsuda delivered three talks, focusing on ways to tutor multi-lingual writers, how to teach multilingual writers in the classroom, and what it means to teach multilingual writers at a global university. His talks gave instructors tutoring and teaching strategies, affirmed their goals, and provided a perspective that sees language difference as a resource for teaching.

The Paul Krueger Symposium reaffirmed the Writing Program's commitment to teaching multilingual students and bolstered our connections with **826 Boston**, a local non-profit organization dedicated to improving elementary and secondary school student writing. The third lecture, "Teaching Multilingual Writers at a Global University," drew teachers from other programs and universities together to share questions, concerns, and resources for addressing the unique challenges and opportunities presented by classrooms increasingly filled with multilingual writers.

These talks were made possible by a generous donation from the Krueger family. Paul Krueger was the Director of what was then the English Language Center at Northeastern before his death in 1995.

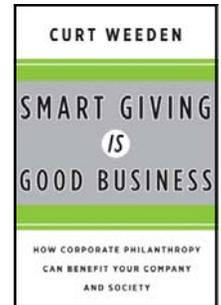
❖ *James Stanfill, 2011-2012 EGSA President*

### You Can Help Support the Department of English

For information about gifts and giving, please contact Brian Denning, College of Social Sciences and Humanities, at [b.denning@neu.edu](mailto:b.denning@neu.edu) or (617) 373-5081.

## Curt Weeden (LA '65) on the Business of Giving

Last year, companies in the private sector made more than \$2 trillion in profit, but spent less than 1 percent of their earnings on charitable giving, said Curt Weeden, LA'65, one of the nation's leading experts in corporate social responsibility.



"Corporations are hoarding an enormous amount of money that is just sitting there," Weeden told more than 100 students in the Raytheon Amphitheater on September 30 for the inaugural address in the Northeastern Students4Giving (NS4G) Lecture Series. In 2010, for example, corporations awarded only 5 percent of the \$290.89 billion raised by non-profit organizations. As Weeden put it, "When it comes to giving away money, they keep it small or not at all."

Weeden—the former vice president for Johnson & Johnson, where he managed the corporation's \$300 million contributions program—is on a nationwide book tour in support of *Smart Giving Is Good Business*.

His presentation, which was sponsored by a gift from Johnson & Johnson, addressed the humanitarian contribution of dozens of young philanthropists in NS4G. The student-led initiative is designed to foster leadership and innovation in the nonprofit sector and promote a campus-wide culture of giving through service-learning courses, a student club and partnerships with nonprofit organizations in the Boston neighborhoods of Mission Hill, the Fenway, Roxbury and the South End.

Weeden extolled the virtues of corporate philanthropy, noting that the humanitarian practice "enhances customer satisfaction, which in turn boosts revenue." But he also explained that many corporate CEOs downplay the notion that charitable giving can solve the country's job or debt crisis, which he called "the overriding cloud that hangs over business."

Weeden challenged the young philanthropists-in-training to act with power, purpose and passion. "Don't be intimidated by what you're doing," he said. "You are as important or more important than people in the private sector." ❖ *Brian Denning, CSSH*

## Graduate Program News

*continued from page 5*

history of the book, and attend presentations and roundtable sessions lead by some of the field's leading scholars.

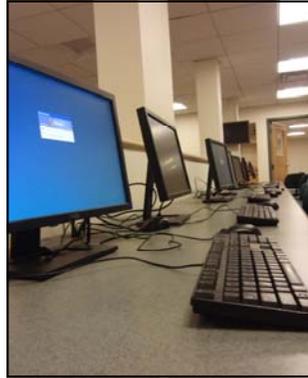
**MAX WHITE** participated in the American Antiquarian Society's 2011 Seminar in the History of the Book, "Encountering Revolution: Print Culture, Politics, and the British American Loyalists." The seminar focused on Loyalist printers, writers and publishers in Revolutionary America and utilized the AAS archive to offer participants first-hand experience reading and handling exemplary eighteenth century texts. Seminar discussions considered how the technological, commercial, and financial conditions of eighteenth century printing and publishing encouraged and guided the reading publics that came to be labeled "Loyalist" and "Patriot." Specifically, the seminar concerned itself with Loyalist responses to Thomas Paine's "Common Sense" and the resulting notions of authorship that prevailed in Revolutionary America. Max was awarded the Isaiah Thomas Scholarship to help pay his seminar tuition.

**KATE SIMPKINS** travelled to Croix-des-Bouquets, Haiti this summer to facilitate a professional development workshop for local Haitian teachers. As many as thirty local teachers travelled long distances to attend morning workshops with Kate and share food for three days. Topics and activities in the daily workshops included opportunities for teachers to outline replicable methods for planning lessons that engage individual styles of learning via Howard Gardner's theories on multiple intelligences and brainstorming ways to create interactive classrooms using few materials. Kate's academic work focuses on the relationship between politics and living practices in the 19th and 20th centuries, and she is bringing her experience in Haiti back to the classroom at Northeastern this semester, where she is completing a graduate teaching practicum with Professor Elizabeth Maddock Dillon's undergraduate class, "Engaging Haiti." Kate will be shipping a package to the faculty of Ecole L'Amour de Jesu Christ who serve 380 local children and have requested classroom maps, a globe, and some other teaching materials: she welcomes contributions and can be contacted at [katesimpkins@gmail.com](mailto:katesimpkins@gmail.com).



The Department now showcases a selection of alumni/ae and faculty books. Has your book recently been published? Let us know via [http://www.english.neu.edu/alumni/drop\\_us\\_a\\_line/](http://www.english.neu.edu/alumni/drop_us_a_line/).

## MPTW Alum Stuart Selber



*continued from page 3*

**SS:** I'm lucky in that my research, teaching, and administrative work dovetail in natural ways. They overlap and inform each other at every turn. As I prep for class, design a policy, or work to learn something about our technology infrastructure, I'm simultaneously working in territory that needs to be conceptualized and understood from a theoretical perspective. I also then

have numerous opportunities to see how my theories play out in practice. By treating technologies as texts I have built-in strategies for situating and contextualizing technology across my full range of activities.

I don't see many distinctions between research and teaching. Too often research about computing is done at arm's length, while teaching with technology isn't informed by enough research. Neither leads to a very good result. Research needs to be informed by practice and teaching needs to be informed by research.

**CG:** *What was your most memorable experience at NU?*

**SS:** Academic: Teaching my first class at Northeastern, which was held in the YMCA! Nonacademic: Graduating on the parquet floor of the old Boston Garden!

❖ *Chris Gallagher, Director of the Writing Program*

can be contacted at [katesimpkins@gmail.com](mailto:katesimpkins@gmail.com).

❖ *Elizabeth Maddock Dillon, Graduate Coordinator*

## More Alumni/ae Updates

**George Blitch** (BA '01) runs a publishing company with Harvey Arden, a National Geographic staff writer for 23 years. He co-owns Blitch Associates and Son of a Blitch Productions.

**Lorraine Serravillo Connelly** (MA '80) is Manager of Marketing Communications and Media Relations and Editor of the *Choate Rosemary Hall Bulletin*. Since 1989 she has been a member of the communications team at Choate Rosemary Hall. A panelist for CASE District 1 Conferences in 2004 and 2005, she is serving a second three-year term on the CAIS Commission on School Advancement.

**Mary Little** ('09) will study Rhetoric and Composition at the University of Washington beginning in September 2011.

**Tiffany Ann Conroy Morse** (PhD '10) is teaching at Great Bay Community College this Fall.

**Mary Beth Nevulis** (BA '08) received her Master's degree from Northwestern's Medill School of Journalism.

**Joshua Olejarz** (BA '10) will begin an MA program in Film Studies at the University of California, Los Angeles in September 2011.

**Tim Personn**, who was a special student in the graduate program in 2007-08, has accepted a PhD fellowship to study at the University of Victoria in Vancouver where he'll do a concentration in Cultural, Social, and Political Thought.

**Tony Trigilio's** (PhD '97) new book, *Historic Diary*, is now available from BlazeVOX Books.

**Curt Weeden** (BA '65) is President of Business & Nonprofit Strategies, Inc. He is also the author, with Richard Marek, of a novel, *Book of Nathan* (Oceanview, 2010), which *Booklist* calls "lighthearted and snappy," and of *Smart Giving Is Good Business* (Jossey-Bass/Wiley, 2011). ❖

## Join Us! Department Events

### Barrs Lecture Series

Mary Loeffelholz  
"American Martian  
Poetry"



Tuesday, October 25th

12:00-1:15

Barrs Room/  
472 Holmes Hall

For more information, contact the  
Department of English,  
617-373-4540.

For more  
alumni/ae news or to  
share your update,  
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