Upcoming Events

- Confluence Student Literary Magazine is now accepting submissions!
- Nov. 20: Medieval art bus trip to Cleveland Museum. Contact Dr. Fleming for details!
- Jan. 10: Spring classes begin

Inside this issue:

2011 Shakespeare Trip
Yuijia Zhang is our featured alumna
Shannon Bischoff is our featured faculty member
Andrew Stackhouse is our featured student
Interesting upcoming courses

The Chair’s Compass

We are on the cusp of the autumnal season and the resplendent colors that accompany it. IPFW’s fall semester is now well underway, and once again, there is change and constancy in the Department of English and Linguistics, a familiar pattern, a veritable Spenserian *etern in mutabiliti*. This semester we are joined by an array of new colleagues: Drs. Shannon Bischoff, Kate White, and Sinnika Grant have joined our ranks and contribute to a department that continues to show growth and vibrancy. With Dr. Bischoff’s background in linguistics, Dr. White’s in rhetoric and pop culture, and Dr. Grant’s in African American literature, our department has enhanced its already rich diversity of scholarly and pedagogical backgrounds. In addition, with the recent appointment of Mr. Mark Sidey, the writing program has been able to recognize the dedication and commitment of a veteran IPFW colleague.

Our majors now number 235 and growing—officially, though unofficially the number is probably in excess of 250—and we generate over 14,000 credit hours for the university. To put these figures in perspective, let me observe the following: we remain the fourth largest department in the College of Arts and Science in number of majors, and our department single-handedly generates 1/10 of the credit hours produced by IPFW (143,000). Thus, the department’s impact on IPFW and on the greater Fort Wayne community is significant. Moreover, with the establishment of the Three Rivers Language Center as a Center of Excellence under the direction of Dr. Chad Thompson, the department is able to make meaningful, enduring contributions to northeast Indiana. Truly, this is an impressive department, and we are thankful that you are part of it. Please share with us your own news so that we can share it with other members of our community.

— Hardin Aasand

Contact: aasandh@ipfw.edu

2011 Scholarship Opportunities

Upcoming contests and scholarships include:

- Sylvia E. Bowman Annual Writing Prize
- Steven Hollander Scholarship
- Psi Iota Xi Award for Writing
- Outstanding English Major Award

For more information regarding these opportunities, go to [http://www.ipfw.edu/engl/opportunities/contests.shtml](http://www.ipfw.edu/engl/opportunities/contests.shtml)
Shakespeare Goes To Chicago!

Are you a fan of the awesomeness that is William Shakespeare? If your answer is a definite “yes,” then you might be interested in hopping on a bus to Chicago’s Navy Pier to enjoy a day of classic Shakespeare-inspired fun. Each year, Dr. Michael Stapleton, IPFW’s Chapman Distinguished Professor of English, hosts a one-day long trip to Chicago for students interested in learning more about the classic playwright. Dr. Stapleton will also delight his fellow trip-goers with a brief introductory lecture on the bus ride to the windy city about the play they will get to see. In addition to the play, there will also be time for other fun activities to be had in the city such as shopping, sightseeing and a lunch.

Dr. Stapleton has been running these bus trips to Chicago since 2006, and in his time, he and the Shakespeare Theater at Navy Pier have fascinated students with many different Shakespearean plays ranging from *Troilus and Cressida* to everyone’s favorite *Othello*. Dr. Stapleton, as well as the department of Continuing Studies, encourages any student interested in the arts to join in on the annually-held fun.

The bus trips are generally held every year in October. The minimal fee of $99 includes the bus fare to our neighboring state, the ticket to the play itself and the presentation. Individuals are advised to bring a little more money, though, to supply their lunch. However, if you’re a currently-enrolled student at IPFW, the fee is only $89; $79 for alumni and staff members.

For additional information regarding the trip, feel free to contact Dr. Michael Stapleton, or call 260-481-6772.

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Crossword Puzzle: Famous Authors

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<td>5</td>
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<td>Sci-fi: aliens, time machines</td>
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<td>Emily, Charlotte &amp; Anne</td>
<td>16 Canterbury</td>
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<td>Beowulf translator</td>
<td>17 Harry, Hermoine</td>
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<td>Hodgepodge monster</td>
<td>19 Juliet / Hamlet</td>
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<td>Oscar ____</td>
<td>20 Man meets sea</td>
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Alumna Spotlight - Yuejiao Zhang, Scholar in Technical Writing

Yuejiao Zhang, a former IPFW student turned assistant professor in Texas, recently revealed a bit about herself in terms of her time at the university, and her life post-college. While she was at IPFW, her time was spent focusing on mainly rhetoric and composition with a minor in linguistics. She was also heavily into the English area.

Yuejiao graduated from IPFW in 2005, and from there went on to get her Ph. D from the University of Central Florida (UCF) where she majored in Texts and Technology, with a concentration in Technical Communications. During her time spent at UCF, Yuejiao also worked as an instructional writer for Walt Disney World there in Florida.

These days, Yuejiao is now an assistant professor of English at the University of Texas at Arlington (UTA). She currently teaches courses in technical writing as a throwback to her UCF years, and her research interests include information fluency as well as workplace studies in technical communication.

Hey, Alumni! We Want to Hear from You!

We’d love to hear from our alumni about where your lives have taken you. You may clip this portion of the newsletter and mail it with your responses, or you may email us at newsletter-engl@ipfw.edu. Here are a few things we’d like to know:

- Is there something you’d like to see in this newsletter?
- What direction did your English degree from IPFW take you?
- Have you continued to write creatively? Would you be interested in having your work in our newsletter?
- Are there updates to your career or life you’d like us to know about?
- What is your fondest memory of your time in the English Department here at IPFW?
- What advice would you give current students?
Confluence

Confluence Accepting Submissions

Confluence student literary magazine offers opportunities for creative expression in photography, poetry, fiction, essay, drama, memoir, creative non-fiction, and artwork.

We are now accepting submissions for the spring 2011 publication! All text-based submissions can be done online at www.ipfw.edu/confluence or in person. Graphic submissions must be taken to either the English Department in LA 145 or the Writing Center in KT G19.

For more information, see Melissa Hirsch, this year’s editor or Dr. Stevens Amidon, the magazine’s faculty advisor.
Faculty Spotlight - Welcoming Dr. Shannon Bischoff

This year, we have seen the arrival of several new professors within the English department. One of which is Shannon Bischoff who let us in on his past dealings with the study of English, as well as his current position here at IPFW.

Dr. Bischoff recently joined the IPFW faculty. He is currently teaching courses in syntax, English grammar, Second Language Acquisition Theories, Introduction to Language, as well as others. He stated that students can expect to leave with more questions rather than answers in his courses. In his college upbringing, Bischoff received his Ph. D in Linguistics from the University of Arizona with a major in Formal and Anthropological Studies and a minor in Computational Linguistics. He also received his BA in English Literature from the University of Alaska Anchorage. Bischoff also noted that he taught for three years at the University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez before he made his debut here at IPFW.

As far as his PhD research goes, Bischoff specializes in syntax and morphology from formal, anthropological and computational perspectives. His formal work was focused on lesser studied languages in order to better understand the argument structures. He noted that he needed a good deal of anthropological knowledge to fully grasp and make sense of the data he collected and used in his formal inquiries. He has mostly focused on endangered languages of the Americas, so his focus has been set on revitalization and maintenance. In order to do this properly, Bischoff has developed online resources including archives and searchable dictionaries to help with his efforts. On that note, his computational work has been focused on testing formal theories, creating tools for other linguists and resources for community members on the web.

Some fun facts about Bischoff are that he has two children – a son (10) and a daughter (8). His favorite comedian is the late George Carlin, whom Bischoff holds high as a great linguist himself. Bischoff also enjoys poetry, and some of his favorites include La Terre est bleue comme une orange by Paul Eulard, Prologue by Yevgeny Yevtushenko, Tú me quieres blanca by Alfonsina Storni, and Lying in a Hammock at William Duffy’s Farm in Pine Island, Minnesota by James Wright.

Now that Bischoff has finished his Ph. D, he plans on receiving promotion after promotion, as well as tenure. But his main focus is to keep having a great time with his teaching here at the university, and to continue working with the many clever and interesting people he comes into contact with within the English department.

Student Spotlight - Andrew Stackhouse

Andrew Stackhouse is a current IPFW English major who is working toward his Bachelors Degree. As an English major, he is focusing on a core concentration in writing, but he is also very much into his minor, which is Business Studies. Andrew is currently in his sixth (“and hopefully last!”) year at IPFW, at least as an undergrad.

Andrew says that his favorite classes are English classes, especially those that center around poetry and British literature, as well as classical literature. He says that he also enjoys classes that discuss different cultures, such as Masterpieces of Asia (one of his favorite projects was in this class – taught by our own Rachel Cochran!). Andrew states that he is most passionate about writing poetry, but he also dabbles in the market of short fiction writing.

Outside of his schoolwork, Andrew is also a very busy guy; he is very active in several student groups on campus. He is currently the president of United Sexualities, and he even has ties with groups such as the SPSA and the University Democrats. But that’s not all! Andrew has even served on the Student Senate, and has acted as President Pro Tempore during the 2008 – 2009 school year.

Some interesting facts about Andrew include that he is from Ohio, which is where his family (consisting of his parents and an older brother) currently resides. Andrew’s favorite foods are sushi and cheesecake (separately, of course!). He loves coffee with a passion, enjoys the colors blue and purple (again, separately) and likes to read manga and contemporary poetry. He also has a bajillion different favorite movies (“too many to list,” he says) and loves the music of Lady Gaga and Owl City. Andrew also finds it strange that many students don’t realize that IPFW has a lot of amazing student organizations, and urges everyone to get out there to check them out. He’s also quite shocked to find out that a lot of people don’t realize that we have a Higher Grounds on campus, or that there is constantly free food and other freebie opportunities around every corner.

Andrew’s plans for his post-college life are yet to be determined. He hopes to take a year off of his schooling to study for the GREs to get into grad school. At this point in time, he is currently undecided on what grad school he wants to attend. However, he does have career-oriented plans. Andrew says that he’d like to eventually become a professor or a published author. He would also love to own his own bookshop or a café and to also travel around the world.
Some Upcoming Courses to Make You Think

**Rhetoric of Pop Culture** is being taught by Dr. Kate White. The course is an introduction to the theory and practice of rhetorical analysis and communications. Students will study popular culture in order to understand how rhetorical communication works. Pop culture can be anything from movies, television, radio, cyberspace, photography, etc. From television shows like "Jersey Shore" to video games like "Halo," the course will teach students rhetorical criticism through texts in order to bring about understanding. Assignments include Blackboard postings, in-class group presentations, a midterm and a final paper.

**Teaching on the Margins** will be taught by Dr. Sara Webb-Sunderhaus. This graduate seminar will explore what it means to teach writing to students on the margins of the academy: basic writers, students of color, working-class students, returning adults and first-generation college students. Some questions that will be answered in the course include: How can we as writing instructors reach students who have all too often been ignored? What are the needs of these students, and how can we best address them in our classrooms? This class was designed as a way to allow graduate students to learn new ways of teaching their students in order to prepare them, as well as themselves.

**Representations of the Dead** will be taught by Dr. Lidan Lin. This course will be a theme-based graduate seminar in which students will explore the impact of the dead on the living in 20th century British long and short fictions. Questions that will be analyzed include: "Are dead people really dead?" "Are the living really living?" "In what sense are things lifeless?" Authors that will be covered include Joyce, Woolf, Bowen, Mansfield and Beckett, and students will get to trace the presence of the dead and illuminate how the everlasting relationship between the living and dead manifests in poetic, tragic, metaphysical, mystic and spiritual ways.

**Film, Food and Literature** is being taught by Dr. Michael Kaufmann. The course will bring light on the social and cultural aspects of food within film and literature, since fiction using food as its central subject or metaphor is now a staple in popular literature and movies. Some of the works that will be focused on during the course of the class include *Julie and Julia* (novel and film), *Babette’s Feast* (short story and film), and *Joy Luck Club*. The course will also take aim at nonfiction works such as *Omnivore’s Dilemma*, and *Fast Food Nation* in order to analyze the issues surrounding the production, distribution and consumption of what we eat.

**British Women Writers: Performing Femininity** will be taught by Dr. Rachel Hile. The course will explore the ways that British women writers from the medieval period to the present have negotiated the tensions between writing, which was long understood as a masculine prerogative, and the importance of performing proper femininity. The course will analyze the meanings of British and/or British-colonial womanhood in *The Book of Margery Kempe*, *The Tragedy of Mariam*, *Oroonoko*, *Pride and Prejudice*, *Jane Eyre*, *A Room of One’s Own*, *Wide Sargasso Sea*, and *Brick Lane*.