June

At the fall Liberal Arts meeting, several members of the English Department will receive $2,000 University awards for their faculty accomplishments: John Blair and Nancy Wilson, Teaching; Paul Cohen and Octavio Pimentel, Service; and Rob Tally, Scholarship / Creative Activity.

John Blair has been named the winner of the 2011 Tampa Review Prize for Poetry, which includes a monetary award of $2,000. His collection, The Occasions of Paradise, will be issued by the University of Tampa Press in both hardback and paperback editions.

Graeme Wend-Walker’s article “The Inexplicable Moon and Postsecular Moment: The Apollo Program in Two Picturebooks” appears in the 2011 issue of Children’s Literature.

Elias Porter Noll, son of Michael and Stephanie Noll, was born on May 30th.

New faculty member Doug Dorst’s story collection, The Surf Guru, has been long-listed for the Frank O’Connor International Story Prize, the largest short story prize in the world.

Congratulations to BA English graduate David Rice, who has a new book of stories – his third – coming out this summer: Heart-Shaped Cookies and Other Stories.

Patty and Ken Margerison are grandparents. Katherine Patricia Zilko, who will be called Katya, arrived June 4. Katya’s mother, Claire Margerison-Zilko, who received her PhD in Epidemiology from the University of California-Berkeley a few days before Katya arrived, is doing well, as is Katya’s father Stephen Zilko.

July

On August 1, Dr. Michael Hennessy begins his tenure as Dean of the College of Liberal Arts. That
same day, Dr. Dan Lochman begins as Chair of the Department of English.

A number of faculty, teaching assistants and staff received letters from students this past June to recognize their support of students in four categories: New Students, Transfers, Veterans and Graduating Students: Libby Allison, Rosie Ballew-Jennings, Deb Balzhiser, Ryan Bayless, Rebecca Bell-Metereau, Sue Beebe, John Blair, Karen Bryson, Collin Bost, Allan Chavkin, Alexis Cline, Paul Cohen, John Dean, Julia Drescher, Laura Ellis-Lai, Tom Grimes, Chad Hammett, June Hankins, Susan Hanson, Dickie Heaberlin, Michael Hennessy, Ogaga Ifowodo, Rebecca Jackson, Caroline Jones, Katherine Kapurch, Kendall Kelly, Tim Kerlin, Lindy Kosmitis, JoAnn Labay, Edgar Laird, Katherine Ledbetter, Patty Margerison, Jaime Mejia, Debra Monroe, Susan Morrison, Keith Needham, Michael Noll, Stephanie Noll, Marilynn Olson, Agustin Ortega, Kathleen Peirce, Francine Pilkington, Octavio Pimentel, Dan Price, Nelly Rosario, Teya Rosenberg, Jon Marc Smith, Richard Smith, Victoria Smith, Elizabeth Skerpan-Wheeler, Martha Stallman, Jeffrey Stevens, Robert Tally, Susan Tilka, Cameron Turner, Marc Watkins, Graeme Wend-Walker, Jared Walls, Miriam Williams, Miles Wilson, Steve Wilson, Nancy Wilson and Pinfan Zhu.

Rene Perez, an MFA fiction graduate whose collection of stories will be published by the Univ. of Ariz. Press next year, has won the Alfredo Cisneros del Moral Foundation Award.

“I Wish I Was a Mole in the Ground,” a story by MFA fiction student Josh Collins, appears in the new issue of Requited.

Three of Twister Marquiss’ new Wyoming photos (summer 2011) have been accepted for publication in upcoming issues of San Pedro River Review, including the cover image for the Spring 2012 issue.

August

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board has approved the University’s doctoral program in Developmental Education. The Department of English will offer 7000-level courses for PhD / EdD students enrolled in the program (as part of the optional rhetoric/composition component). Our rhetoric/composition faculty will also be eligible to serve on dissertation committees. Becky Jackson took the lead in developing the rhetoric/composition component of the new degree.


Two poems by Roger Jones, “King of the Factory” and “Old Fashioned Radio,” have been accepted by Cortland Review.
Twister Marquiss’ third and final Wyoming photo portfolio, “Wyoming Spaces,” is now available on the Narrative Magazine website.

An article on author and former English major David Rice’s participation in this year’s Young Writer’s Camp, held on Texas State’s Round Rock campus, appeared in the July 28 Round Rock Leader.

2007 MFA Fiction graduate Carmen Edington will be teaching this fall at Morehead State University in Kentucky, where her spouse Tom Williams will serve as Chair of the Department of English. Carmen and Tom had been at the University of Houston-Victoria for the past several years.