



# Miscellany

Department of English  
Texas State University

Summer 2012

## June

Rob Tally's essay "Nobody's Home," on the "spectral existentialism" of Gaiman's **The Graveyard Book**, appears in **Neil Gaiman and Philosophy**, volume 66 of Open Court's "Popular Culture and Philosophy" series. Faculty advisor Keith Needham reported that Sigma Tau Delta completed its spring service project, collecting and shipping over 1,200 books to Invisible Children, the organization that removes children from war-ravaged areas and places them in schools. With last year's contribution of nearly 3,000 books, the Texas State chapter is now one of the leading contributors in the nation. 2011 MA Literature graduate and former teaching assistant Brandy Alba has been appointed a full-time Assistant Professor of English and Coordinator of the Undergraduate Writing Program at Concordia University. Brandy also has been accepted into the PhD program in Developmental Education (with a developmental literacy focus) at Texas State and will be commencing coursework in Fall 2012. This May, MFA fiction graduate Erin Pringle-Toungate was awarded a fellowship from Artist Trust, which is a Washington not-for-profit arts foundation. The Artist Trust awards fellowships of \$7,500 to practicing professional artists of exceptional talent and demonstrated ability. The Fellowship is a merit-based, not a project-based award. Over 400 people applied for a fellowship, and Erin was one of only sixteen to be awarded the honor. Part of the award includes a "Meet the Artist" event in which the artist presents his or her work to a Washington community that would otherwise not have access to him or her.

This spring a number of faculty and staff were recognized by students as part of the University's Retention Programs. In the *New Student Appreciation Program*, students cited Suparno Banerjee, John Blair, Andi Boyd, John Dean, Julia Drescher, Chad Hammett, Susan Hanson, Cathleen Hickey, William Jensen, Daniel Keltner, Timothy Kerlin, Christopher Margrave, Caitlin McCrory, Tomas Morin, Agustin Ortega, Francine Pilkington, Edward Schaefer, Laura Sims, Jon Marc Smith, Robert Tally, Susan Tilka, Jared Walls, Nancy Wilson and Anne Winchell. In the Student Veteran Appreciation Program, students cited Deb Balzhiser, Laura Ellis-Lai, Chad Hammett, Ogaga Ifowodo, Rebecca Jackson, Caroline Jones, Jaime Mejia, Tomas Morin, Michael Noll, Octavio Pimentel, Dan Price, and Jon Marc Smith. *Spring 2012 graduating students* cited Libby Allison, Deb Balzhiser, Sue Beebe, Rebecca Bell-Metereau, John Blair, Cyrus Cassells, Allan Chavkin, Alexis Cline, Paul Cohen, Robin Cohen, Melody Edwards, Joseph Falocco, Nancy Grayson, Chad

Hammett, Susan Hanson, Dickie Heaberlin, Rebecca Jackson, Caroline Jones, Lindy Kosmitis, JoAnn Labay, Edgar Laird, Kathryn Ledbetter, Dan Lochman, Jaime Mejia, Tomas Morin, Susan Morrison, Keith Needham, Stephanie Noll, Marilyn Olson, Kathleen Peirce, Francine Pilkington, Octavio Pimentel, Patsy Pohl, Ashley Ragland, Nelly Rosario, Elizabeth Skerpan-Wheeler, Jon Marc Smith, Victoria Smith, Graeme Wend-Walker, Miles Wilson, Nancy Wilson and Steve Wilson.