



June

Paul Cohen's article "A greater writer than in fact he ever became..." – about the French writer Remy de Gourmont – has just appeared in *The Fortnightly Review*.

Poems by Steve Wilson appear in the most recent issue of **Borderlands: Texas Poetry Review**. He will participate in the June 8 poetry reading at Malvern Books (Austin) to celebrate the launch of the issue.

Krystal Kurtz has been awarded the Marburger Scholarship (\$400 per semester, 2014-15), which is given to students seeking teacher certification in a Liberal Arts department. Krystal has a double major in Spanish and English.

Congratulations to Tomás Morín, who has accepted a one-year visiting appointment as an assistant professor in creative writing at St. Edward's University in Austin. Tomás will be on leave from Texas State for the 2014-2015 academic year.

Courtney Parker, an English graduate who pursued an emphasis in creative writing and who now works as a dean's assistant at the University of Texas at Dallas, has just published her second young adult novel, **The Runaway House**.

Laura Sims recently completed the 8-day "Creating and Teaching an Online Course May 2014 Workshop." Workshop participants developed one module during the workshop and will need to invest a significant amount of additional time to complete the remaining modules in their courses.

July

Becky Jackson's article (with Jackie Grutsch McKinney and Nikki Caswell), "A Glimpse into the Working Lives of New Writing Center Directors," will appear in the fall issue of **Forum: Issues**

about Part-Time and Contingent Faculty. Forum is published twice annually and is sponsored by the Conference on College Composition and Communication.

MFA student Daniel Barton had a poem, “December in Nsaru,” published in the Summer 2014 issue of **East Coast Literary Review**.

In 2013-14, more faculty from the English Department served on Faculty Senate committees than from any other department: Suparno Banerjee: University Council; Rebecca Bell-Metereau: Faculty Senate (Secretary), University Council; Paul Cohen: Piper Selection Committee; Laura Ellis-Lai: Adjunct Faculty Liaison; Roger Jones: Faculty Handbook Committee; Miriam Williams: Library Committee; Steve Wilson: University Arts Committee, Suspension Appeals Committee; and Sarah Youree: Budget Committee.

Octavio Pimentel has been named the faculty recipient of Texas State’s Excellence in Diversity Award. Octavio also has been asked to serve on the 2015 Conference on College Composition and Communication’s Scholars for the Dream Selection Committee. NCTE Project Manager Kristen Suchor explains that “this committee’s award is given annually to encourage scholarship by historically underrepresented groups. These groups include African Americans, Asian Americans, Mexican Americans, Puerto Ricans and other Latino and Latina Americans, and American Indians – persons whose presence and contributions are central to the full realization of CCCC’s professional goals.”

Eric Blankenburg’s paper “Experiencing the Sublime in Nature: Incongruous Styles in Rick Bass’ ‘The Hermit’s Story’” has been accepted for the American Literature session at the South Atlantic MLA 2014 Conference.

Diann McCabe, Academic Director of the Honors College and a graduate of the MFA program in poetry, has received the 2014 Mariel M. Muir Excellence in Mentoring Award for faculty.

August

Through the May 2014 Graduating Student Recognition of Campus Support Program, sponsored by the Texas State Office of Student Retention, the following faculty, staff and graduate assistants were identified by students as having had a significant impact on them during the students’ time at the university: Libby Allison, Deb Balzhiser, Suparno Banerjee, Sue Beebe, John Blair, Mark Busby, Jose Cano, Allan Chavkin, Jason Coates, Robin Cohen, Joe Falocco, Sylvia Garcia Palauro, Tom Grimes, Jane Hawley, Theresa Holden, Elvin Holt, Becky Jackson, Caroline Jones, Katie Kapurch, JoAnn Labay, Kitty Ledbetter, Dan Lochman, Caitlin McCrory, Kamron Mehrinfar, Jaime Mejia, Scott Mogull, Susan Morrison, Stephanie Motz, Stephanie Noll, Amanda North, Maryann Perna, Octavio Pimentel, Teya Rosenberg, Benjamin Seanor, Jon Marc Smith, Victoria Smith, Dana Sprayberry-Thompson, Abby Taylor, Susie Tilka, Miriam Williams, Nancy Wilson, Steve Wilson,

Micah Wright, Sarah Youree and Pinfan Zhu.

Rob Tally's latest book, **Fredric Jameson: The Project of Dialectical Criticism**, is out from Pluto Press.

In June Susan Hanson read the essay "River Time," accompanied by slides of her underwater photos, at "Sharp Eyes: The Practice of Natural History in Science, Literature, and Art." This event, the eighth in the John Burroughs Nature Writing Conference & Seminar series, was held at the State University of New York-Oneonta.

Michael Rosenbaum recently completed the 8-day "Creating and Teaching an Online Course July 2014 Workshop." Workshop participants developed one module during the workshop and will need to invest a significant amount of additional time to complete the remaining modules in their courses.

Round Rock Director Edna Rehbein, who also teaches courses for the English Department, was recently featured in the **Austin-American Statesman**.

Anne Winchell's short memoir "Not Pregnant at Mercy Hospital" was a Finalist in the 2014 Pacific Northwest Writers Association literary contest.

Sara Olivares has poems in recent issues of **Wicked Alice** and **Fourteen Hills**.

At ceremonies marking the start of the fall semester, a number of English Department faculty were recognized by the University and College of Liberal Arts: Mark Busby and Doug Dorst received Presidential Distinction Awards for Scholarly / Creative Activity, Nancy Wilson received a Presidential Distinction Award for Service, Steve Wilson received the Everette Swinney Faculty Senate Teaching Award, Octavio Pimentel received the Excellence in Diversity Award, Victoria Smith and Suparno Banerjee received Liberal Arts College Achievement Awards for Teaching, Kitty Ledbetter received the Liberal Arts Dean's Award for Service, and Susan Hanson received the Faculty Senate's Excellence in Part-Time Teaching Award.

Kitty Ledbetter's article, "The 'Ungallant Silence of the Historian': Elizabeth Stone, Esther Owen and the Art of Needlework," will appear in the fall issue of the **Journal of Victorian Culture**. Her co-author, Renn Edward Wortley, is a direct descendant of Esther Owen.

Dr. Rebecca Jackson will present "Text Affiliations, Programs Strengths, and the (Re)Making of MA Writing Studies Identity" at the 2015 CCCC in Tampa, Fl. She will speak as part of a panel on MA Writing Studies programs titled "Masters of Risk: MA Writing Studies Programs as Sites of Innovation."

Eric Leake's chapter "Humanizing the Inhumane: The Value of Difficult Empathy" has been published in the collection **Rethinking Empathy through Literature** (Routledge).

Doug Dorst wrote a foreword for Mulholland Books' new edition of Jim Thompson's novel **The Alcoholics**, one of twenty-five or so Thompson titles they've reissued this year. **The Alcoholics** was released earlier this month.

MARC graduate Bree Henderson has been hired as a lead teacher at Premier High School in Austin, TX.

MARC graduate Lexi McGee was awarded the "Early Career Educator of Color Leadership Award" by the National Council of Teachers of English. Lexi was one of only six recipients from across the country to receive this award designed to "provide early career teachers of color a national forum for professional collaboration and development by attending the NCTE convention (year one) and by presenting an NCTE convention session (year two)."