



SMU

D e d m a n C o l l e g e

## RESEARCH NOTES

### *Pueblo Past*

Professor of Anthropology Michael Adler will document Native American histories through discussions with Hopi, Zuni, Acoma, and Laguna tribes near Albuquerque in a study funded by the National Science Foundation. Adler plans to integrate Native American and archaeological perspectives.

### *Particle Problems*

Materials so small that their dimensions are measured in molecules are embedded in hundreds of products, including sunscreens and cosmetics. Eva Oberdorster, an aquatic toxicologist in biological sciences who studies the potential environmental and health effects of nanoparticles, hopes that her research can clarify what effects the release of nanoparticles might have on the food chain.

### *Quakes in China*

The Yanqing-Huailai Basin around Beijing is known for its high earthquake activity. Brian Stump, professor of geological sciences, has installed the first 5 of 10 computerized seismic activity monitoring stations in the area to analyze earthquake risks. "We hope this study will help us to better understand earthquake patterns, fault systems, and seismic activity," Stump says.

## Archaeologist fights arsonists, poachers, and politics

In the tropical forests of northwestern Guatemala, under mounds of dirt and thick vegetation, lie the remains of a shattered city that was home to thousands of Maya priests, warriors, merchants, and craftspeople more than 1,200 years ago. The community that Mayans called "Waká" contains stone monuments splintered by ancient enemies as well as holes dug into tombs by looters in the late 1960s.

Today Waká is covered with high rain forest and home to squawking scarlet macaws and other endangered species facing far greater dangers than enemies bearing spears and clubs, says SMU archaeologist David Freidel, co-director of fieldwork at Waká.

For the past two years Freidel and 23 American and Guatemalan archaeologists and local workers fought fires set by arsonists intent on burning forests to make room for grazing cattle. Poachers crept near their camp to steal fledgling scarlet macaws, an endangered species prized by collectors. The challenges of raising additional funds and the complex political and economic situation in Guatemala also conspire against this 1,400-acre piece of tropical forest.

"I will stand this ground," Freidel says, undeterred.

Freidel is in the second year of a three-year contract with the Guatemalan Institute of Anthropology and History to excavate Waká; however the 57-year-old scientist plans to spend the rest of his career there, and he expects the site to provide fruitful study for several generations of SMU and Guatemalan graduate students.

A member of SMU's anthropology faculty since 1975, Freidel has researched Maya archaeological sites in Belize, Mexico, and Guatemala. He is co-author of three books on the ancient Maya, and a fourth book is due out later this year.

Waká is located between the two superpowers of Maya civilization – Tikal to the east and Calakmul to the northeast. The city of 672 buildings comprises palaces, temples, and plazas on an escarpment 200 feet above the San Pedro River. Waká was a strategic point on a trade route between Mexico and northern Yucatan as well as a center for commerce along the river. Oil producers discovered the city in the late 1960s and Harvard researchers mapped it in the 1970s, but Freidel's group is the first to engage in an in-depth study.



*continued on page 2*

## A JOURNEY THROUGH TIME

A popular science course for non-majors gives students a hands-on tour of the history of life on Earth.

After a classroom demonstration of geologic faults by Louis Jacobs, paleontologist and professor of geological sciences, students visit a chalk outcrop in Southwest Dallas to see fault lines in layers of fossil-filled rock.

"I want students to understand that life on Earth has a history," Jacobs says. "You have to know about the diversity of life in the past to understand the diversity of life in the present."

At the Dallas Aquarium students learn how an African lungfish will drown if it can't breathe air. At the Dallas Zoo they study the New Zealand tuatara lizard, the only living species to feature a skull with characteristics shared by dinosaurs, crocodiles, birds, and lizards.

Sophomore political science major Sara Hofeditz was captivated by the subject. "Dr. Jacobs makes science manageable," she says. "He brings evolution home to modern life."

## Psychology research addresses domestic violence

Family violence affects three-quarters of Texans, and nearly one-third say they have experienced some sort of physical abuse, according to a Texas Council on Family Violence survey last year. This increasingly pervasive problem is a major focus of faculty research in SMU's Department of Psychology.

Professor and Chair Ernest Jouriles has conducted family violence research for nearly 20 years. With a recent grant from the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), he studies how children's adjustment is affected by living in families characterized by marital violence. In addition, Jouriles is developing and evaluating interventions that may assist children living in violent families.

Also specializing in family violence is Renee McDonald, associate professor of psychology. McDonald recently completed a study documenting the national prevalence of children's exposure to marital violence in dual-parent families. She studies factors that protect children from the adverse effects of exposure to family violence and researches how parents might best talk with their children about marital

conflict, violence, and other family problems. Together with Jouriles, McDonald is a principal investigator on the NIMH grant.

Chris Eckhardt, associate professor of psychology, studies the psychological factors that may distinguish violent men from their non-violent counterparts. Eckhardt analyzes the role of anger arousal, cognitive processing, attitudes and values, and alcohol intoxication in domestic violence. In addition, he is launching a study funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on the use of actual or threatened physical or sexual violence, psychological abuse, or stalking by a current or former spouse or intimate partner.

"I believe we have an excellent core of family researchers on our faculty and have the ability to attract some of the top family researchers in the country to our department," Jouriles says.

"The establishment of the SMU Family Research Center will assist us in achieving national prominence, providing the necessary space for large-scale investigations and an infrastructure to promote collaborative research activities."

### Archaeologist *continued from page 1*

Shattered giant stone stelae – carved portraits of kings and queens – throughout the site suggest a violent attack by unknown enemies around 800 A.D. Researchers are trying to determine who destroyed this strategic city and the fate of its inhabitants. Last spring they excavated parts of a multi-tiered palace, a pyramid complex, and an elite residential area, and discovered another smaller community between Waká and the San Pedro River.

By summer Freidel's team discovered evidence that after the city was sacked the residents returned and continued to thrive for several generations. As Waká faces new attacks from contemporary enemies, Freidel hopes to help it repeat history.

Biologists, conservationists, and environmentalists in the area share Freidel's passion. Waká is located in the Laguna del Nigre National Park, one of five national parks in the Maya Biosphere Reserve, established in 1990 through an agreement among Mexico, Guatemala, and Belize. The Bronx Zoo's Wildlife Conservation Society describes the 1,200-square-mile area in northern Guatemala as the

largest remaining tropical forest in Central America.

Roan McNab, a Wildlife Conservation Society biologist, closely monitors the area's scarlet macaw nests. The Laguna del Nigre National Park is home to a rare subspecies of the endangered bird. "We're talking about 40 nests perched on the edge of extinction," McNab said in an August 2003 article in *The Washington Post*.

Freidel's team works among jaguars, tapirs, storks, and harpy eagles. The workers wear knee-high boots to protect them from snakebites. Freidel sleeps with earplugs to drown out the nighttime sounds of howler monkeys.

"If the world will not care to save this region, it will lose one more precious chapter in the story of humanity," he says. "And if we collectively continue to think of our legacy as infinitely expandable, we will eventually have no legacy, no memory of the deep past to guide us in the face of an increasingly dangerous and violent future."

*Archaeologist David Freidel will be featured in a National Geographic special about the Maya on PBS May 12. Check your local listings. For more information visit [smu.edu/Waka](http://smu.edu/Waka).*



## The neglected “R”: Teaching the art of writing

The nation’s students are falling short as writers according to a 2003 study by the National Commission on Writing in America’s Schools and Colleges.

- Most elementary students spend fewer than three hours a week on writing assignments.
- 75 percent of high school seniors never produce a major paper.
- At grades 4, 8, and 12 only one student in five can be called a proficient writer.
- The average SAT verbal score has increased by only one point since 1983.

The College Board expects these statistics to change. In 2005 it will add a writing section to the SAT.

Instructors in SMU’s first-year writing program say it is too soon to predict how the SAT writing segment will affect incoming students, but they welcome the new emphasis on writing skills.

“More and more we find students have completed only short, timed writing assignments,” says Jo Goyne, director of the first-year-writing program and a 16-year veteran of teaching writing at the college level. “I hope this will encourage the kind of writing that is the product of thoughtful evaluation.”

As budgets have decreased and teacher class loads have increased, high school teachers no longer have time to grade long essays, the study says. Writing commission leaders plan a three-year campaign asking political leaders to double the time and money spent on teaching students to write.

First-year college students’ greatest challenge is learning to develop an argument, then synthesizing information to support their argument, Goyne says. “We’re asking them to do something completely different from what they’ve done in high school. They read theoretical nonfiction and fiction texts, generate their own opinions, and write papers that use the texts to support their arguments.”

In addition, students must learn to be discerning readers, Goyne says. “They need to learn that just because they see something on television or on the Internet does not mean it’s true.”

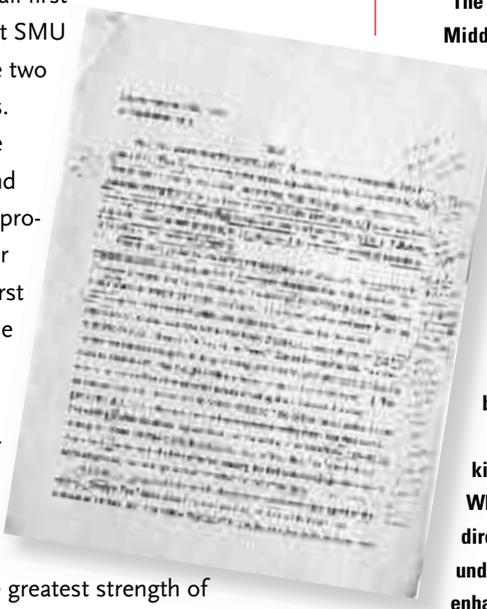
To prepare students for the writing demands of a university, all first-year students at SMU must complete two writing courses. Class sizes are limited to 15 and students must produce four major papers in the first semester, Goyne says. Writing classes are taught as workshops with discussion and peer review of papers. But the greatest strength of the program is the one-on-one editing time between teacher and student.

Just before finals last fall, first-year writing instructor Vicki Tongate reviewed a student’s paper in her office. “I think your summary and analysis are out of balance,” she said. “You need to work on your transition statements. . . I think a quotation here would strengthen your point.”

The student took careful notes of Tongate’s suggestions, and left encouraged by Tongate’s gift of a Hershey’s chocolate.

Students make steady progress during the semester as they learn to move beyond a conversational style of writing and the five-paragraph essay of their precollege days, Tongate says.

“The grade on their first paper is often a rude awakening,” she says. “But I tell them not to be discouraged. Learning to write is a process.”



## NEW CLASS HOBBIT-FORMING

A new course taught last fall elicited unusual responses from students – most read the required texts as many as five times before class began. In addition, students insisted upon an additional class session after the final exam to discuss the material further.

The course, “Tolkien: Middle Earth, Middle Ages,” featured the work of author J.R.R. Tolkien, whose books *The Hobbit*, *The Lord of the Rings*, and *The Silmarillion* were among class assignments. Students also discussed *The Lord of the Rings* film trilogy and met for an extra session to discuss the third movie, “The Return of the King,” after it was released in December 2003.

Most students had read Tolkien’s work for fun, says Bonnie Wheeler, professor of English and director of Medieval Studies, but an understanding of Tolkien as a scholar enhances the richness of his writings.

Tolkien, a medieval scholar and professor at Oxford University, studied the history of languages, particularly Old English and its relation to linguistically similar languages such as Old Norse, Old German, and Gothic, Wheeler says. In the class students analyzed Tolkien’s translation of *Beowulf*, written in Old English in 1000 A.D. and the oldest surviving epic in British literature.

“The class helped students see that Tolkien’s fiction is deeply embedded in his medieval scholarship,” she says. “Instead of thinking of the Middle Ages as a dark, barbarian time, it helped them see that the Middle Ages reflects the same torments and possibilities as their own lives.”

The class was the first team-taught Dallas Medieval Consortium course, in which faculty and students from SMU, University of Dallas, and the University of Texas at Dallas all participated.

## A POET FOR THE PEOPLE

English Professor Jack Myers is the first Texas Poet Laureate to speak with a Boston accent. In fact, the former New Englander is the first state poet laureate who is not a native Texan.

A professor at SMU since 1975, Myers takes his honor in stride. When his hometown of Mesquite, Texas, proclaimed June 2 “Jack Myers Day,” he and his family celebrated at the local Starbucks.

Myers has been invited to present poetry readings in Houston, at Thanksgiving Square in Dallas, and at the Texas Book Festival in Austin.

Myers would like to see the state enhance the honor by offering a travel stipend to enable the poet laureate to promote poetry statewide. Creative writing is rarely taught in middle school or high school, he says. “Most of my students, even those who have written poetry, have never studied poetry writing in school.”

In addition to teaching poetry, creative writing, and literature, Myers is the author of seven books of poetry and seven books about poetry. More than 250 of his poems have been published in journals such as the *American Poetry Review*.

As for his honor, he says, “I hope it brings glory back to the study of English.”

### *Picturing Happiness*

*I am cultivating happiness  
the way I nurtured grief.*

*Same full-page color spread  
of a tropical flower,  
only in black because*

*I only remember negatives,  
spreading out like a prayer*

*against the same sky of constant care*

*I lavished on my grief.*

*It'll have to have the same suffocating  
atmosphere imported from*

*where I've been, but*

*it'll open slowly, almost sexually,*

*in full color,*

*surrendering to what's rising through  
its cut green stem.*

— Jack Myers

2003 Texas Poet Laureate

## Academic publishing experiencing hard times

SMU Kahn Chair in the Humanities and Professor of English Ezra Greenspan, an expert on the history of publishing, says that it is “the best of times and the worst of times” in the publishing business. The mega-success of authors like Tom Clancy comes at the expense of a large number of aspiring writers and semi-established mid-list authors. And nowhere is that impact felt more than in academic publishing.

“Academic publishing is in a crisis,” Greenspan says. “University presses typically are subsidized by their home institutions. But with universities, particularly those in the public sector, under enormous financial pressure, press subsidies are one of the first things cut. This can mean fewer titles or academic monographs, an increase in commercial titles, or fewer works published in fields that are the least profitable, particularly in the humanities. Series such as Russian literature, foreign languages, and art history are vulnerable to cuts.”

Academic presses have cut costs by forming consortia. Greenspan says that they have also started to nibble at what were once commercial projects that are now unattractive to trade publishers. Today, titles on regional cuisine, landscapes, and local flora are more likely to appear in academic catalogs.

Greenspan notes that commercial alternatives often come at the expense of a serious commitment to the mission of academic publishing, which is to publish original scholarship that may or may not be of interest to the general public but does have an audience of faculty teachers.

“The price is very steep. Increasingly, academic presses are making those kinds of

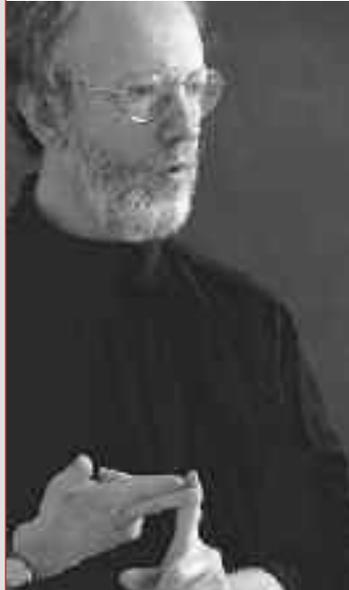
trade-offs, with enormous ramifications for faculty.”

Stephen Greenblatt of Harvard University sounded the alarm at the 2002 meeting of the Modern Language Association, when he implored colleagues to reconsider the criteria of tenure and promotion because of the academic publishing crisis. In a special letter, he wrote:

“... Some junior faculty members who will be reviewed for tenure in this academic year are anx-

iously waiting to hear from various university presses. These faculty members find themselves in a maddening double bind. They face a challenge – under inflexible time constraints and with very high stakes – that many of them may be unable to meet successfully, no matter how strong or serious their scholarly achievement, because academic presses simply cannot afford to publish their books. The situation is difficult for those in English and even more difficult for those in foreign languages.”

Although the publishing squeeze has not affected his department yet, SMU English Chair Dennis Foster foresees universities taking a stronger role in evaluating manuscripts and accepting electronically published works. Online presses like Project Muse, the electronic publishing arm of The Johns Hopkins University Press, the oldest university press in the United States, may be the salvation for obscure fields at risk to go the way of the classics, an area that has almost disappeared from the academic landscape.



Ezra Greenspan, Kahn Chair in the Humanities and professor of English

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# Professor's research ensures racial incidents are not forgotten



In March 1964 Steven Weisenburger was outraged watching the black and white television image of law officers attacking African American marchers in Selma, Alabama.

The incident sparked a heated argument between the California teen-ager and his grandfather, watching with him that day. Decades later his grandfather's justification for the violence – "That's just the way it is" – fuels Weisenburger's research on the cultural history of race.

Weisenburger, Jacob and Frances Mossiker Chair in Humanities and professor of English, asks "Why is it the way it is?" "How do Americans acquire racist beliefs?" and "What is the relationship between such beliefs and actions?" His previous two books and a forthcoming third examine these issues in the context of the cultural history of race.

Not long after reading Toni Morrison's *Beloved*, Weisenburger heard a radio interview with the Pulitzer Prize-winning author.

"I knew I was going to teach the novel," he says. But during the interview Morrison disclosed that her book was based on the life of Margaret Garner, an escaped slave who killed her daughter in 1856 rather than allow her to return to slavery. He soon learned that only one scholarly article existed about Garner's compelling life.

"The Garner case was hugely significant at its time," Weisenburger says. "I felt an ethical and professional responsibility to tell her story." The resulting *Modern Medea: A Family Story of Slavery and Child-Murder from the Old South* (Hill & Wang, 1998) was a 1998-99 selection of the History Book Club, a national organization that reviews and recommends books to its members. In addition, the book was named a *Publisher's Weekly* best nonfiction book of the year.

Weisenburger's forthcoming book *A Southern Horror: Race, Sex, and the 1898 Wilmington Massacre* (Farrar Straus & Giroux, 2005) examines another largely forgotten event in history, the white supremacy campaign in Wilmington, North Carolina, which led to the murder of dozens of African American men. His next book will study white supremacist ideology as an enduring theme in American culture by examining incidents ranging from post-World War II neo-Nazi racial violence in Atlanta to the 1998 dragging death of James Byrd Jr. in Jasper, Texas.

"We have a short historical memory," he says. "That's why too many people are willing to say, 'That's just the way it is.'"

Weisenburger, who earned his Ph.D. in 1978 from the University of Washington, came to SMU from the University of Kentucky where he was professor of English and director of the American Culture Program. He received numerous honors and awards at the University of Kentucky including receiving a \$35,000 competitive fellowship as a University of Kentucky Research Professor. He also received the William S. Ward prize as a distinguished professor of English and a distinguished teaching award from the College of Arts and Sciences.



Steven Weisenburger

## THE ENGLISH EDGE

English chair Dennis Foster encouraged English graduates at Commencement last May to keep in touch.

"We try to keep track of students to see what they are doing with their degrees. They are account executives in high tech companies, lawyers and teachers. One is a special event coordinator for the Chicago Symphony, another coordinates sponsors for a global yacht race. Several have rock bands, many end up in Web communication and a regular stream go on to attend Ph.D. programs."

These three English graduates have found success in a variety of places.

### Allison Brown ('96), VH1 Producer

Brown is an Emmy-nominated television producer for VH1's "Behind the Music" series. She has been involved with more than 40 episodes working with artists such as Keith Richards, Cat Stevens, Britney Spears, and Mariah Carey. Currently she is producing a VH1 special on country music artist Toby Keith.

### Joe Coomer ('81), Novelist

Coomer's latest novel, *One Vacant Chair* (Graywolf Press, 2003) was the basis of a recent exhibition at a Fort Worth gallery. Matthew McConaughey will star in the upcoming film version of his 1992 novel, *The Loop*, a *New York Times* Book of the Year. Actor and producer Bill Murray holds the film option to *A Flatland Fable* (1986). *Beachcombing for a Shipwrecked God* (1995) has been optioned for feature film production by Jodie Foster's production company. His tenth novel, *Pocketful of Names*, is due out in 2005.

### Karen Hughes ('77), Presidential Adviser

Hughes served as director of communications for President George W. Bush during his gubernatorial campaign in 1994 and played a major role in his presidential campaign. In the White House, her role shifted to behind-the-scenes adviser, analyzing issues, crafting messages and planning communications strategy. Her book, *Ten Minutes from Normal* (Viking Press, 2004) describes life in the president's inner circle.

## LIFE IN THE FAST LANE

Imagine earning academic credit for spending months immersed in the worlds of high fashion and network television. Three SMU English students did exactly that last year when they traveled to Manhattan for summer internships.



**LINDSAY KIERNAN**, senior, English major, advertising minor

**Internship:** NBC, Bravo and Telemundo marketing and sales, New York

**Responsibilities:** Completed a major advertising research project to help Bravo market new motion pictures.

**Lessons learned:** "I fell in love with NBC and everyone there. I really hope to begin work there after I graduate."

**CATHERINE LITTLEFIELD**, junior, English major

**Internship:** Chanel Corporation's Fragrance and Beauty Division, New York

**Internship responsibilities:** Worked on the company's 2004 budget, organized charitable donation materials, scanned *Women's Wear Daily* for Chanel-related media coverage.

**Lessons learned:** "The finance department was not necessarily the best fit for my career track, but several aspects of the work were very interesting, especially dealing with Chanel's many philanthropies. I'm interested in women's and children's rights, especially from the charitable angle. I may become a lobbyist and pursue that full time."

**LAUREN DANIEL**, senior, art history major, English minor

**Internship:** Escada USA's marketing/special events department, New York

**Responsibilities:** Wrote event overviews, end-of-year reports, and letters to vendors and clients, planned a charity event with *Town & Country* magazine to benefit the John Mark Dance Group of Harlem, which provides after-school dance programs for inner-city children.

**Lessons learned:** "I enjoy event planning and may pursue it as a career. I don't think I want to work in fashion or live in New York City – which I always wanted to do before. That's the point of an internship, to find out what you do and don't want to do with your life."

## Creative writing: A novel approach

David Haynes begins each fiction-writing class by reading a poem to his class. "I like to get some language out into the room," says the assistant professor of English and director of the creative writing program at SMU.

The room soon fills with language as 15 students arrange their chairs in a circle for the workshop-style class. "We have discussions about craft, characterization, and plot," Haynes says. He exposes students to excellent models

literature from the inside out."

Creative writing students at SMU learn from professors who are also published writers. Marshall Terry is the author of seven novels, a short story collection, and a history of SMU. Novelist and professor C.W. Smith has written seven novels, a collection of short stories, and a memoir. Professor and poet Jack Myers is the author of seven books of poetry and seven poetry texts and anthologies. Assistant professor David Haynes will spend the summer on book tour for his sixth novel, *The Full Matilda*, (Doubleday, 2004). He also has written three children's books and edited an anthology.

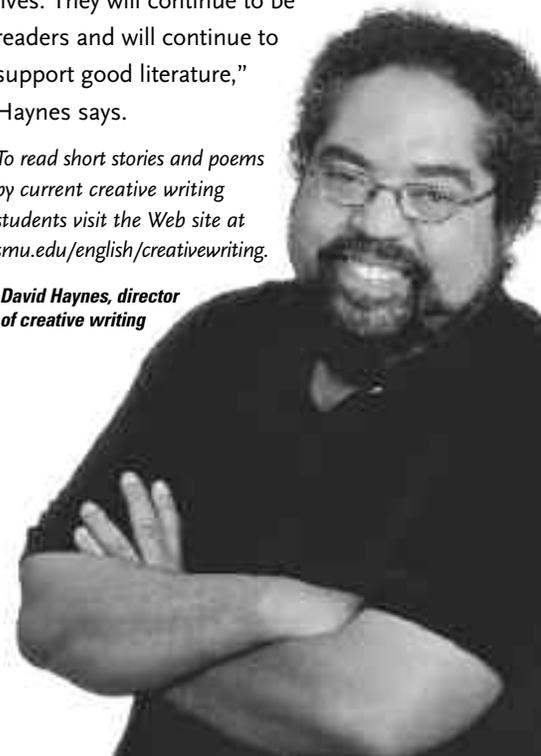
"It's very important to learn about writing under a writer," Weber says. "It's helped me get rid of the preconceived notions that writers should sound a certain way. I've realized that telling a story is more important than trying to 'sound' like a writer."

The creative writing program has produced published novelists and poets, including Joe Coomer, Tracy Daugherty, and Lewis Shiner. But the program also is attractive to students who are not aspiring writers and poets.

Theatre and film majors study creative writing to learn how to tell a story, Haynes says. Business majors study writing and poetry to add a creative element to their degrees. "Many of our students are pursuing nonwriting careers, but they want to keep writing as part of their lives. They will continue to be readers and will continue to support good literature," Haynes says.

To read short stories and poems by current creative writing students visit the Web site at [smu.edu/english/creativewriting](http://smu.edu/english/creativewriting).

**David Haynes**, director of creative writing



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*SMU was one of the first universities in the United States to offer English majors a creative writing specialization when the program began in 1970.*

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of fiction and poetry, especially from contemporary writers. Students also share their own work with classmates.

Discussing one's writing is as important as the process of writing, says Joshua Weber ('03), who received a Bachelor's degree in English with a creative writing specialization in December. "We are writing for readers, so class feedback is part of the process."

SMU was one of the first universities in the United States to offer English majors a creative writing specialization when the program began in 1970. Marshall Terry, Lilly Professor of English, designed the 12-hour program with fiction and poetry tracks and became its first director. Today more than 330 universities offer creative writing programs according to David Fenza, executive director of the Association of Writers and Writing Programs.

"Some of the old guard in the department didn't think creative writing should be a specialization," Terry says. "But teaching creative writing is a very legitimate way of teaching

# Welcome to Dedman College Faculty

Dedman College welcomes 25 new tenure track faculty who bring expertise ranging from monetary theory to gene regulation.

**DAVID ALDSTADT**, assistant professor of French; Ph.D., Ohio State University. COURSES: French language, literature, and film. RESEARCH: French cinema, literature, and culture; the use of technology in teaching French.

**PEDRO AMARAL**, assistant professor of economics, Ph.D., University of Minnesota. COURSES: Macroeconomics, monetary theory and policy. RESEARCH: Macroeconomics.

**BRUCE PIROOZ AYATI**, assistant professor of mathematics, Ph.D., University of Chicago. COURSES: Calculus I and II. RESEARCH: Numerical analysis and mathematical biology.

**ROBERTA BALLARIN**, assistant professor of philosophy, Ph.D., University of California, Los Angeles. COURSES: Logic, philosophy. RESEARCH: Metaphysics, philosophy of logic, philosophy of language.

**SUZANNE BOST**, assistant professor of English, Ph.D., Vanderbilt. COURSES: Literature of the Southwest, Chicana/o literature, critical theory, women's studies. RESEARCH: Chicana feminist theory and multi-ethnic American literature.

**YI DENG**, assistant professor of economics, Ph.D., Yale. COURSES: Price theory, industrial organization. RESEARCH: Industrial organization, applied microeconomics, applied econometrics.

**RICHARD GORDON**, assistant professor of Spanish, Ph.D., Brown. COURSES: Latin American literature and culture. RESEARCH: Mexican and Brazilian historical films, colonial Latin American literature.

**EZRA GREENSPAN**, Kahn Chair in Humanities and professor of English, Ph.D., Brown. COURSES: History of the book in the United States, 19th-century American and African American literature, modern Jewish literature. RESEARCH: history of the book, African American literary culture, modern Jewish literature.

**ROBERT L. HARROD**, assistant professor of biological sciences, Ph.D., University of Maryland. COURSES: Virology, cancer biology, graduate seminar and research. RESEARCH: Molecular retrovirology (HIV-1 and HTLV-1) and transcriptional gene regulation.

**MICHAEL HOUSEHOLDER**, assistant professor of English, Ph.D., University of California, Irvine. COURSES: Honors rhetoric, early American literature, travel literature, literary theory. RESEARCH: Early American literature with an emphasis on trans-Atlantic literature of exploration and discovery from the 16th and 17th centuries.

**VALERIE HUNT**, assistant professor of political science; Ph.D., University of Washington. COURSES: American government and politics, media and politics, women and politics. RESEARCH: American national institutions, U.S. immigration policy, media and politics.

**CHRISTIAN JENSEN**, assistant professor of economics, Ph.D., Carnegie Mellon. COURSES: Money and banking, macroeconomics. RESEARCH: Macro and monetary economics.

**BENJAMIN JOHNSON**, assistant professor of history, Ph.D., Yale. COURSES: Environmental history, Texas history, the automobile and the making of modern America. RESEARCH: Modern U.S. history, borderlands, environmental history.

**LUIS MALDONADO-PENÑA**, assistant professor of Spanish, Ph.D., Georgetown. COURSES: Latin American novel and short story, Hispanic literature, Latin American culture. RESEARCH: 20th-century Latin American literature.

**FRANCISCO MORAN**, assistant professor of Spanish, Ph.D., Georgetown. COURSES: Spanish American literature and Latin American culture and civilization. RESEARCH: Spanish-American modernism.

**TAKASHI NISHIKAWA**, assistant professor of mathematics, Ph.D., Maryland. COURSES: Calculus I and II. RESEARCH: Application and theory of dynamic systems.

**DAYNA OSCHERWITZ**, assistant professor of French; Ph.D., University of Texas. COURSES: French language, contemporary French and Francophone cultures, African and French cinema. RESEARCH: Culture and history of French-speaking world.

**TIMOTHY ROSENDALE**, assistant professor of English, Ph.D., Northwestern. COURSES: Honors rhetoric, early British literature, Renaissance drama and literature, and Reformation theology. RESEARCH: History, theology and literature of 16th and 17th centuries; English Reformation, nationalism and literature.

**SANTANU ROY**, associate professor of economics, Ph.D., Cornell. COURSES: Industrial organization. RESEARCH: Microeconomic theory and applications, industrial organization, economics of natural resources and the environment.

**ELIZABETH RUSS**, assistant professor of Spanish, Ph.D., Columbia. COURSES: Spanish language, 20th-century Latin American literature. RESEARCH: 20th-century Latin American and Caribbean literature, inter-American comparative literature, and women's studies.

**CAROLYN SMITH-MORRIS**, assistant professor of anthropology, Ph.D., University of Arizona. COURSES: Health and healing systems, political economy of health, Native Americans of the Southwest, sociocultural anthropology. RESEARCH: Native American and Australian issues of health, culture change and identity and biomedical ethics.

**HAROLD W. STANLEY**, Geurin-Pettus Distinguished Chair in American Politics and Political Economy. Ph.D., Yale. COURSES: American Politics, Presidential Elections, Southern Politics, Political Parties. RESEARCH: voting behavior and rights, partisan change, and presidential nominations.

**BRAD J. THOMPSON**, assistant professor of philosophy, Ph.D., Arizona. COURSES: Contemporary moral problems. RESEARCH: Philosophy of mind and philosophy of cognitive science.

**PIA VOGEL**, assistant professor of biochemistry, Ph.D., University of Kaiserslautern, Germany. COURSES: Biochemistry. RESEARCH: Structure-function relationships in proteins and enzymes such as ATP synthase, drug-resistance proteins, and calcium channels using biochemical, biophysical, and molecular biological approaches.

**STEVEN WEISENBURGER**, Mossiker Chair in Humanities and professor of English, Ph.D., University of Washington. COURSES: American literature, U.S. cultural history, race and ethnicity in the Americas. RESEARCH: 19th and 20th-century American fiction; contemporary literature; the cultural history of race.

## CALENDAR

APRIL  
22

### Gilbert Lectures

Tom Arp, associate professor of English, will present a lecture on William Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, "'To be, or not to be,' a Soliloquy?" The brown bag lecture will take place at 12:30 p.m., Room 8, Dallas Hall. The Gilbert Lectures are presented to faculty, students, and the community as a showcase of faculty members' scholarship and an opportunity to learn from guest speakers from other universities. For more information visit [smu.edu/english](http://smu.edu/english) or call 214-768-2946.

APRIL  
22-23

### Tower Center Symposium

A two-day symposium, "Japan's Political Economy: Accidental Overachiever or Temporary Underachiever," will feature lectures and panel discussions regarding Japan's economic performance, policies, and prospects for reform. Lectures are free and open to the public, however, there is a fee for meals. For more information visit [www.smu.edu/tower](http://www.smu.edu/tower), e-mail [tower@smu.edu](mailto:tower@smu.edu) or call 214-768-1900.

SPRING

### Godbey Lecture Series



Godbey Lecture Series topics range from queens and mistresses of Renaissance France to case studies of problems in contemporary bioethics. Back by popular demand is a tour of the Canadian Rockies led by Louis Jacobs, paleontologist and professor of Geological Sciences. For more information visit the Godbey Lecture Series Web site at [smu.edu/godbey](http://smu.edu/godbey) or call 214-768-2532.

For more information about Dedman College news and events visit [smu.edu/dedman](http://smu.edu/dedman).

# New Rotunda Society supports liberal arts

**D**edman College has created the first giving organization designated solely to support the school. The Rotunda Society supports programs in Dedman College, which provide the liberal arts foundation of SMU students.

"The Rotunda Society was formed not only for financial support, but for support of the importance of the liberal arts," says Tricia Barnett, Dedman College development director.

Rotunda Society members can designate their gifts to departments or programs ranging from anthropology to women's studies. "We want to give donors the opportunity to support the areas most important to them," Barnett says.

The stained glass oculus in the dome of Dallas Hall's Rotunda is the symbol of the Rotunda Society. The multicolored round window reflects the mosaic of thought and scholarship found in the humanities,

sciences, and social sciences in Dedman College, Barnett says.

Membership in the Rotunda Society is reserved for donors who annually contribute \$1,000 or more to support any area in Dedman College. Members will receive an umbrella imprinted with a rendering of the Dallas Hall stained glass oculus, a CD of lectures by award-winning faculty members, and the opportunity to choose and attend a lecture presented by one of the College's eight lecture series.

For more information, contact Tricia Barnett at 214-768-2691, [tbarnett@smu.edu](mailto:tbarnett@smu.edu) or visit [rotundasociety.smu.edu](http://rotundasociety.smu.edu).



**Tricia Barnett**

Dedman College newsletter is published for alumni, friends, students, faculty, and staff of Dedman College.

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To support Dedman College visit [dedmancollegegift.smu.edu](http://dedmancollegegift.smu.edu) or contact Tricia Barnett, director of development for Dedman College, at 214-768-2691, [tbarnett@smu.edu](mailto:tbarnett@smu.edu).

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- *English professor named Poet Laureate*
  - *Teaching the art of writing*
  - *Archaeologist fights to preserve Maya ruins*
- Inside**

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