

Welcome New Faculty!

(Howdy, y'all!)



Prof. Brinton Tench Coxe



Brinton Tench Coxe holds a Ph.D. in Slavic Studies from Columbia University, New York. His research projects include exploring images of Moscow in Russian and Soviet film and literature, as well as cities and urban space on film. He has taught courses on Russian and Soviet film, culture, and literature at Columbia University and New York University, as well as an introductory film course and cities on film course at Drew University, and a great books course at New York University. In addition to teaching film courses, he also makes short films, one of which received an honorable mention at the Aerokrat'as Festival in Prague, 2005.



Lucy Schultz received her Ph.D. in Philosophy from the University of Oregon in June 2014 and her MA in philosophy and the arts from SUNY Stony Brook in 2007. A native Iowan, she began her studies in philosophy and art as an undergraduate at Luther College where she developed interests in the history of philosophy, world religions, and various artistic practices. In 2010 Schultz spent two months as a resident researcher at the Nanzan Institute for Religion and Culture in Nagoya, Japan, working on a manuscript comparing the dialectical methods of G. W. F. Hegel and Kitaro Nishida, which was the topic of her master's thesis. Her current research interests revolve around questions pertaining to aesthetics and the philosophy of nature as they are developed within the traditions of German idealism, phenomenology, and modern Japanese philosophy. Her dissertation *Creative Climate: East-West Perspectives on Art, Nature, and the Expressive Body* examines conceptions of genius and artistic expression in order to illuminate the significance art has for understanding the human's relationship to nature. By exploring how the relationship between art and nature has been conceived by 19th and 20th century European and Japanese philosophers, Schultz offers a way of thinking about artistic expression that recognizes the active, expressive character of artistic media and, more broadly, nature itself. Her work has appeared in journals such as *Philosophy East and West* and *Environmental Philosophy*.



Prof. Lucy Schultz

Prothro-Yeager

COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES
at Midwestern State University

Compiled and Edited by Prof. Todd Giles

Learning Communities

This fall, Prof. Kristen Garrison and Prof. Dave Rankin will be teaching sections of ENGL 1123 that will be part of Midwestern's new Learning Communities program. Learning Communities group two courses from different disciplines so that the assignments in one course complement the assignments in the other. And because the same "group" of students must be enrolled in both courses, students have the chance to work together and to learn from one another.

For the fall 2014 semester, Profs. Steve and Kristen Garrison have created a learning community for their respective POLS 1333 and ENGL 1123 courses. The two courses will provide students an opportunity to explore common themes of technology, education, and sustainability; POLS 1333 will address these themes from a policy-making perspective, while students in ENGL 1123 will consider the themes rhetorically, considering others' perspectives and formulating their own.

Prof. Rankin's 1123 course will have twenty students from Prof. Michael Mills' Foundations of Business class. One "textbook" for the English course will be *The Wall Street Journal*, which students will read daily. Readings, essays, and research papers will deal with current issues in business, the economy, the stock markets, government budgeting, debt, financial planning, and investing. But the primary focus will be on improving students' writing, critical thinking, and research skills.



English, Humanities, and Philosophy MSU Honors Recognition Banquet, Friday April 11th, 2014.

From top left: Prof. Todd Giles, GINGER BARTUSH (finalist, **Outstanding Senior Woman**), RACHAEL KRYGSMAN (**Vinson Creative Writing Award**), CODY PARISH (**Man of the Year & Outstanding English Major Award**).

From middle left: Prof. David Rankin, EMILY BAUDOT (**Alumni Association Award**), ANNA LEREW-PHILLIPS (**Prothro-Yeager Outstanding Graduate Student Award & Outstanding Graduate Woman**), DANIELLE SCHWERTNER (**Outstanding Junior Woman**).

From bottom left: Prof. Peter Fields, JONATHAN HENDERSON (**Outstanding Junior Man**), ALICIA WARD (**Outstanding Sophomore Woman**). Not pictured: SIAN MAPUVIRE (**Outstanding Humanities Student**).



English, Humanities, and Philosophy is now on Facebook. Be sure to check us out!

(Thanks to **Melissa Taitano** for creating, updating, and promoting the department with an artistic and intelligent touch!)

Arts & Literature Society

The Arts and Literature Society had the pleasure of meeting with contemporary Mexican-American artist Rigoberto Gonzalez in April to discuss his exhibition in the Juanita Harvey Art Gallery at MSU, followed by an intimate dinner with Mr. Gonzalez. They also made their second annual trip to the Red Earth Festival in Oklahoma City in June. Their first trip this fall will be to the Oklahoma Museum of Art to see *Gods and Heroes: Masterpieces from the École des Beaux-Arts, Paris*.



Publications

Chase Eddington (MA Spring 2014). Rev. of *The Baseball Trust: A History of Baseball's Antitrust Exemption* by Stuart Banner. **Journal of the American Studies Association of Texas** 45 (Fall 2014).

Prof. Giles. "Entering the 'Gate of Nondualism': Gary Snyder's 'On Vulture Peak' and Mahāyāna Shūnyatā." **Journal of Beat Studies** 3 (2014): 47-68.

Prof. Giles. Rev. of *Pilgrims to Elsewhere* by Gregory Stephenson. **Journal of Beat Studies** 3 (2014): 119-125.

Prof. Henschel and **Lisa Meloncon**. "Of Horsemen and Layered Literacies: Assessment Instruments for Aligning Technical and Professional Communication Undergraduate Curricula with Professional Expectations." **Programmatic Perspectives: The Journal of the Council for Programs in Technical and Scientific Communication** 6.1 (Spring 2014): 3-26.

Prof. Jun. Rev. of *Globalization and International Development*. Eds. H.E. Baber and D. Dimon. **Teaching Philosophy** 37.2 (Spring 2014): 268-9.

Presentations

Ashley Campana and **Prof. Garrison** presented "Collaboration in Online Tutoring" at the **South Central Writing Centers Association** conference in Stillwater, OK in March. Joining them were MA students **Megan Baird**, **Allison Douglass**, **Josh Ibarra**, and **Clint Wagoner**, who presented "We Just Wanna Have Fun: Fun Theory in the Writing Center." **Cody Parish** (BA Spring 2014), **Ginger Bartush** (BA Spring 2014), and **Amber Hunsaker** (MA candidate) also presented their paper titled "Colorful Personalities and Collaboration in the Writing Center: Using The People Color Code."

Prof. Garrison presented "Teaching our Students How to 'Think Together' With, Through, and Beyond Borders" at the **Rhetoric Society of America** conference in San Antonio in March.

Amber Hunsaker, **Mary Okonkwo** (MA candidate), and **Danielle Schwertener** (junior in English), all students in **Prof. Garrison's "Unruly Women" class**, took their immense girl power to the **Women's Studies on the Edge** conference hosted by Texas Tech in April to present "Amazons Among Us: Exploring the Contributions of Women in the Fields of Global Feminism, Neurofeminism, and Feminist Pop-Culture."

Congrats to our 2014 Master's graduates!

(December graduates):

Sara Fuller, "Selections in Horror: Six Short Stories and a One Act Play"

Rosalie Saenz, "Liars and Storytellers: Narratological Experimentation, Oral Tradition, and the Power of Storytelling"

Jessica Vold, "Bridging the Gap: Chopin's Fiction as Seen through *The Feminine Mystique*"

(May graduates):

Lindsey Applegarth, "Rangnam"

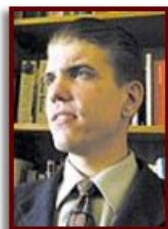
Megan Baird, "Vexed: The Top Three" (young adult novel)

Dawn Bond, "Alice, Revisited (novel)"

Chase Eddington, "Swimming in the Scrumptightening Sea: Joyce, Home, and the Archetypes of Homosexuality"

Marla Havins, "Some Stories I Wrote" (short story collection)

Presentations continued



Prof. Jun presented "Towards an Anarchist Film Theory" at the **Radical Philosophy Association** session of the **American Philosophical Association Central Division Conference** in Chicago in February. At the same conference he also had the honor of acting as the Session Chair on the Colloquium on "Un-Naturalizing Phenomenology: Making a Case for Transcendental Phenomenology in the 21st Century."

That same month, **Prof. Jun** presented "The Nature and Function of Political Theory in the Mexican Anarchist Press" at the **Illustrating Anarchy and Revolution Conference** in Austin.

Prof. Jun also took part in a panel discussion with Drs. Jeff Stambaugh and Kathleen Roberts on the Affordable Care Act at the **8th Annual MSU Honors Program Symposium** in March.



Prof. Lodge presented "The Failure of Justice in Camus's *The Stranger* and Gabriel García Márquez's *Chronicle of a Death Foretold*" at the **Association for Core Texts and Courses** in Los Angeles in April.

Also in April, **Prof. Lodge** gave a public lecture for the **MSU Philosophy Club** titled "Encounters with the Divine Sophia," which drew the largest crowd of any Philosophy Club lecture to date.

And finally, **Prof. Lodge** treated faculty and students alike to selections from her soon-to-be published book in a presentation titled "A New Translation of *Notes from the Underground*: A Reading" at MSU's **5th Annual Scholarship Colloquium** on April 24th.



Prof. Nivens presented "Domestic Literacy: Open Reflections from the Home Management House" at the **Conference on College Composition and Communication** in Indianapolis in March 2014. The panel was entitled "The Persistence of Memory: Remapping the Future of Composition Studies by Charting Writing Histories at One Rural University."

Accolades

Lindsey Applegarth (MA Spring 2014) was invited to lecturer on Sartre's *Existentialism and Humanism* in two sections of Dr. Lodge's Mid-Nineteenth Century to the Present Humanities course in the spring. She has also had her article "Bending Bars into Bridges: Composition Communities Within and Without Punitive and Academic Walls" accepted for publication in the forthcoming book titled ***Out of the Ruins: The Emergence of Radical Informal Learning Spaces***. Awesome work, Lindsey!

Ginger Bartush (English BA 2014) won the university-wide **Library Research Contest** in the fall for her paper from Dr. Leimer's Modern and Contemporary Art class titled "Barbara Kruger's Conceptual Power: 'Signed, sealed, and delivered.'" Way to go, Ginger!

Allison Douglass (MA candidate) won this spring's **Harry Brown Award** for the best submitted graduate essay in our program.

Prof. Garrison was invited to join the peer review board for ***Southern Discourse in the Center: A Journal of Multiliteracy and Innovation***. She was also invited to be a proposal reviewer for the **International Writing Centers Association** 2014 conference.

Heidi Hakimi-Hood (MA 2013) won "Outstanding English Studies Student" for First- and Second-Year students in her new PhD program at TCU. Heidi's doctoral studies focus on Charles Dickens and other Victorians.

The Spring 2014 issue of ***Sunwatcher*** features an article by Kathy Floyd on **Prof. Tom Hoffman** titled "Using the past to recruit for the future" about prof. Hoffman's efforts in the region to inform and interest students in MSU's English Department.

Prof. Jun's 2013 book, ***Revolutionary Hope: Essays in Honor of William L. McBride***, was reviewed in *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*, one of the leading literature reviews in his discipline. Prof. Jun also received a supplemental research grant from PYCHSS to conduct archival research at the Hatcher Graduate Library at the University of Michigan in May.

Anna Lerew-Phillips (MA candidate) won **Best of Show** for the poster presentation of her research titled "Comparing Safety Information on Class II Medical Devices and Adult Novelty Toys" at the **Society for Technical Communication Summit** in Phoenix in May.

Prof. Nivens, Dr. Shannon Carter, and Geoffrey Clegg of Texas A&M University-Commerce, have been invited to include a chapter titled "Memorable (Local) Women: Graduate Students Remaking the Local Through the Archives" in a collection called *Producing Public Memory: Museums, Memorials, and Archives as Sites for Teaching "Writing."*

Prof. Olson's 2011 book ***Voices of Oman: A Different Mid-East Story (An Oral History of the Omani Renaissance)*** was reviewed by Prof. Jeffrey Vordermark in *International Affairs* (XVI.3), the journal of the Foreign Area Officer Association. Vordermark, a retired colonel in the U.S. army, teaches in the Department of Joint Multinational Operations at the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas.

Head of the Class

English MA student **Heather E. Alexander** talks about **Prof. Hoffman's** Spring 2014 Contemporary American Drama graduate seminar

The Contemporary American Drama seminar, taught by Dr. Hoffman, is not quite what I expected. With very little introduction to film or theater, I walked into the classroom feeling nervous and unprepared. Dr. Hoffman's sincere love of the topic and the diversity of this energetic class quickly changed my outlook.

Typically, we are assigned a drama to read, and we follow it with a small classroom discussion. Dr. Hoffman will then introduce the next drama. The real fun happens as we discuss the essay papers that we complete approximately every two weeks. Dr. Hoffman's questions are pointed and often elicit wildly different responses from our very different points of view.

I never thought that I would be interested in writing a one act play but, as the final project approaches, I find myself excited to use the devices we have studied. I am excited to see what discussions my play will spark, and what creativity the other students bring to their projects. This MSU Grad student gives English 6613, Contemporary American Drama Seminar, two thumbs up!

New Courses, Fall 2014.

Prof. Coxe's new Humanities course, **Introduction to World Film**, will examine late 20th and early 21st century films from a number of perspectives. Students will look closely at the development of new film techniques and aesthetics and relate the films' style to their narrative approach in their historical and cultural context. They will also examine the films' mode of production, projection, and distribution—especially in new digital platforms.

Prof. Giles is teaching MSU's first ecocriticism graduate seminar titled **The American Environmental Imagination**. Along with reading some of the touchstones of environmental writing such as *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek* and *Refuge*, students will examine theoretical essays, poetry, and multi-genre Native American texts *Ceremony* and *The Way to Rainy Mountain*. Students will also discuss American landscape paintings, postmodern Earthworks, and classical music such as *The Dharma at Big Sur*, *The Grand Canyon Suite*, and *Mount Saint Helens*.

Prof. Hoffman new undergraduate course titled **Detective Film and Fiction: Old and New** will trace the history and themes of American and English detective fiction from the 19th century to present day. Beginning with selections by Edgar Allan Poe and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, students will read and view such works as Doyle's *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, Dashell Hammit's *Maltese Falcon*, James Patterson's *Kiss the Girls*, and Lee Child's *One Shot/Reacher*.

Prof. Lodge's new Humanities course titled **Russian Culture** will take an interdisciplinary approach to Russia, focusing on the 19th-21st century. In the first half of the course students will read the great writers of the 19th century (Dostoevsky, Tolstoy, Chekhov, and others) and relate their works to the historical and cultural context. In the second half, students will discuss both literature and film of the 20th and 21st centuries.

Prof. Fields is offering a Rhetoric & Composition II with a special focus on two Young Adult Fantasy titles: ***The Hunger Games*** by Suzanne Collins and ***Ender's Games*** by Orson Scott Card. Students will examine a particular motif that stands out to them in one or both of these novels. Secondary sources will also concern these and related fantasy titles. Students may also bring in subsequent titles in *The Hunger Games* or *Ender's Game* series of books.

The Dude abides . . . and so do his creators, Joel and Ethan Coen. The brothers Coen, in a career dating from 1984, have often managed with wit and insight to bridge what many see as the unbridgeable gap between entertainment and art. **Prof. Olson's Film Narration** course will, through film screenings, research, and discussion address the factors that have contributed to the Coens' success, and we will attempt to tentatively answer the intriguing question: Who are those guys anyway?



Faculty Spotlight

Professor Sally Henschel



Professor Sally Henschel with colleague Lisa Meloncon receiving the Frank R. Smith Award for Outstanding Journal Article in Technical Communication

Prof. Henschel had a very impressive year. Not only did she continue to foster the professionalization and critical thinking of her many undergraduate and graduate students, she also was recognized on a national level as an award-winning scholar.

To begin with, Prof. Henschel won the **Frank R. Smith 2013 Outstanding Article award** in one of her field's top scholarly journals, ***Technical Communication***, for her co-authored work with Lisa Meloncon titled "Current State of U.S. Undergraduate Degree Programs in Technical and Professional Communication."

Profs. Henschel and Meloncon also published an article in ***Programmatic Perspectives*** titled "Of Horsemen and Layered Literacies: Assessment Instruments for Aligning Technical and Professional Communication Undergraduate Curricula with Professional Expectations." (See "Publications" for full citation)

While presenting "Technical and Professional Communications and the General Education Core Curriculum" at the **Society for Technical Communication Summit** in Phoenix in May, she also [was](#) honored with the **Society for Technical Communication President's Award**, which "honors those who have made distinguished contributions to the profession of technical communication or the Society."

Prof. Henschel's interest in curriculum matters is also seen below in the **EURECA** project she co-mentored with **Prof. Mitzi Lewis** in Mass Comm last semester.

Raising the bar for the rest of us . . . congrats, Sally!

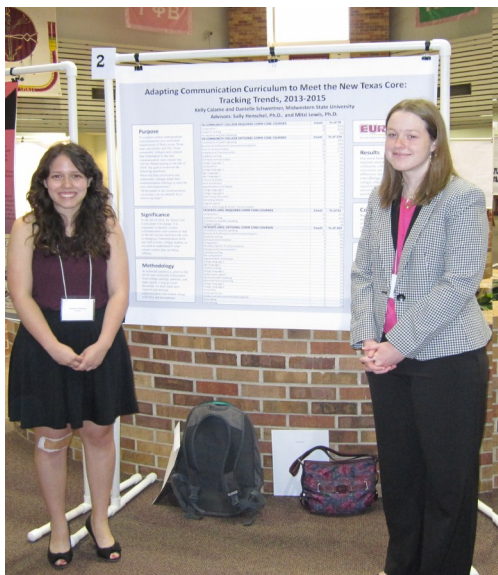


EURECA

enhancing undergraduate research endeavors & creative activities

Prof. Jun directed a EURECA project with **Jonathan Henderson** (Humanities and Philosophy) titled "The Legacy of Hippolyte Havel." Havel was a Czech-American anarchist, lifelong comrade of Emma Goldman, and an important member of the early 20th century American anarchist movement as well as the Greenwich Village "bohemian republic." As part of the project, Prof. Jun and Mr. Henderson completed critical editing and annotation of Havel's collected works, which will be published by AK Press in 2015.

Profs. Henschel and **Lewis** (Mass Com) worked with **Danielle Schwertner** (junior in English) and **Kelly Calame** (junior in Mass Com) on a EURECA project examining how Texas state universities and community colleges are adapting their communication curricula to meet the new core requirements under the Foundational Component Area (FCA) and the Component Area Option (CAO). There is no one location housing current communication core courses required and/or offered at Texas state higher education institutions. Therefore, in the spring semester, while information on the fall 2013 core remained available online, the research team collected and compiled this information. When the new core is published in the fall of 2014, they plan to repeat this process and begin tracking trends. Students presented the findings from the first stage of our project at the Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity Forum, April 25th.



Where are they now?

Philosophy Minors:

Jason Fisher (2012) has been admitted to the MA program in Philosophy at University College Cork in Ireland.

Marcos Liriano (2011) is pursuing his MA in Buddhist Studies through the University of South Wales.

Katie McDaniel (2012) is pursuing her MA in Museum Studies at Colorado State University. Katie hopes to complete an internship at the National Museum of Ireland in Dublin this summer.

Chris Stolarzyk (2011) earned his MA in Political Management from George Washington University in 2013. He is running for State Representative in Minnesota.

Sam Underwood and **Elizabeth Hill** (2013) have both been accepted into the graduate program in philosophy at Gonzaga University in Spokane, WA. They will begin their graduate studies this fall.

Congratulations also to spring 2014 philosophy graduates **John Edgar Shockley** and **Joel Smith**. John plans to enroll in graduate school in history, while Joel will be traveling to the UK in August.

English Majors:

Lindsey Applegarth (MA English 2014) is now a distance MFA candidate in Creative Writing at Pine Manor College in Massachusetts.

Ginger Bartush (BA 2014) will be taking the year off from school before pursuing her MA in Library Sciences.

Chase Eddington (MA 2014) is working on his JD at the University of Kentucky.

Cody Parish (BA 2014) is an MA candidate and teaching assistant at Illinois State University.

Sarah Muschoil (BA 2014) has returned to Germany to reunite with family before choosing a graduate program to further her studies in literature.