

The Quill



Volume: One
Issue: One

A newsletter for Students & Faculty of English

Dear Students and Faculty,

I'm pleased to introduce the first issue of *The Quill*, a newsletter for and about students and faculty of the English Department. According to recent calculations we now have 139 declared English majors and over 60 minors or extended minors. *The Quill* is one way to facilitate the necessary communication between English students and English faculty. I want to thank Erin Dugdale--one of our majors. With the help of Lesley Poh, our department assistant, Erin has blazed the trail. My hope is this edition is only the first of many to come.
John Carroll, Department Head



Support the Locks for Love Fundraiser

Almost everyone will be touched by cancer at least once in his or her life. The Public Health Agency of Canada Statistics estimates 166,400 new cases of cancer will occur in Canada in 2008.

On Wednesday, October 29, 2008, UFV will host the **Locks for Love** fundraiser in support of UFV English student Jessika Rowley, whose step-daughter Jessica has been diagnosed with a cancerous brain tumor.



Members of the UFV English faculty, students, and UFV sports team members will be joining together and shaving their head for the cause. Other individuals will be donating their locks to a program that makes wigs for cancer patients. All proceeds from the fundraiser go towards Jessica

and her family, as well as BC Children's Hospital Oncology Department. Jessica and her family thank you in advance for your support and hope you can make it to **Locks for Love**.

The event will take place from 6-7:00pm on the Abbotsford campus in room B101 (lecture theatre). For those who are unable to attend donations can be made at Casey's on Campus and through Student Life. For more information about Canadian Cancer Society www.cancer.ca

New courses for Winter 09 semester:

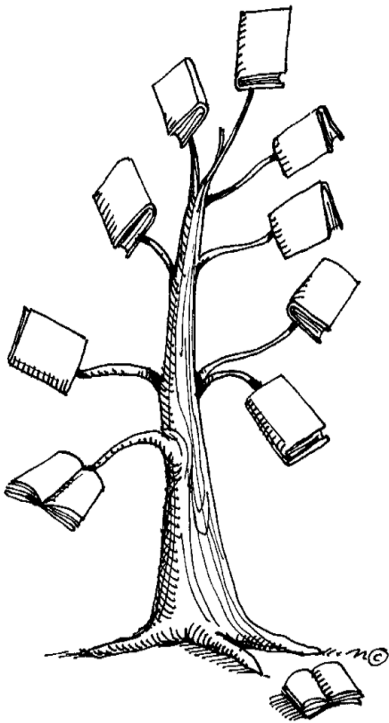
ENGL 115: Great Books
This course taught by John Carroll will introduce students to works of literature in the western literary canon. Students will read a representative selection of writing from the classical world, the Middle Ages, the renaissance, the eighteenth, and the nineteenth centuries.

**English 115 AB1 (11567)
Tues/Thurs 16:00 –17:20**

ENGL 384: Studies in South Asian Diaspora

This course taught by Summer Pervez is an intensive South Asian Diaspora literature (e.g. from Canada, the United States, & the United Kingdom), with a specific thematic focus. Course materials will primarily consist of fiction, poetry, and/or essays, but may additionally involve some critical theory and criticism on the subject under consideration.

English 384 AB1 (11678)
Tues/Thurs 18:15 – 20:20



Meet Our New Faculty!

UFV English Department is pleased to welcome Helene Littmann - Americanist, Melissa Walter - Renaissance/ Shakespearian, John Pitcher - Mediaevalist with a research interest in women's writing, and a new sessional lecturer, Ron Sweeney - poetry, composition and twentieth century literature, (and a "passing interest" in the Simpsons!).

If you have yet to meet the new faculty read on for an introduction:

Helene Littmann

- is teaching American Literature, which she became interested in while working on her MA.

Before becoming a University instructor, Helene took various other career paths. She did a stint in journalism and worked overseas as an ESL teacher. While teaching ESL, she worked in Hong Kong at a relocation camp for Vietnamese political refugees. Her students (with little or no English) were waiting to have their refugee status documents processed so that they could be relocated to their new country.

Helene is also a published author. *Peripheries*, a book of three novellas, was published in 1998. Helene has also taught English at Vancouver Community, and Capilano Colleges. She is currently working on a book about temporality and democracy in the American long epic poem, focusing on Barlow, Whitman and Pound.

Next issue will feature an introduction to:
Dr. John Pitcher, Mediaevalist

Didya Know?

The English Department Website has a link to online books. If you are searching for paperless copy of a book Check Out:
www.ufv.ca/english/English_Links.htm

The website also has links to: The Canadian Literature Archive, Online Resources for Writers, A Celebration of Women Writers, Canadian Writing Links, Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, and more...

Anagrams to puzzle your mind...

1. *New Tellers Quilt*

-----(5)
----- (10)

2. *Seek A Phrase*

----- (11)

3. *Nettle Baas Curry*

----- (10)
----- (5)



Children's Literature Reading @ UFV Bookstore

Join the following authors for an evening reading of Children's Literature Tuesday, November 4, 7:00 – 9:30 pm.

Readings by:

Barbara Nickel – Hannah Waters & the Daughters of Johann Sebastian Bach,
Marion Quednau – The Gift of Odin, and UFV's own,
Michelle Superle – Black Dog, DreamDog

Arts On Campus:

What can I do with my English Degree?

On Sept. 30th, 2008 UFV hosted the second annual *What Can I Do With My English Degree?* event.

All writers will be speaking at the UFV Abby Bookstore.

Former U(C)FV English studies Graduates Crystal Auffray, Cecilia Bush, Ranbir Banwait, Laird Munro, and Jane Price returned to their alma mater to field questions from students about how they might use their English studies in the world of work.

All of the panelists had interesting, and often humorous stories to tell about how their English degrees helped them on their respective career paths. While the event was geared to UFV students, most of the attendees were advanced placement English students from high schools in the local area.

One of the goals of this event was to disabuse all participants of a commonly held notion that the only career option open to English graduates is that of teaching. It is important that students, know that the skills they acquire during the course of their education are transferable to many career areas.

Sarah Nermo, a prospective panelist for next year's event as well as an employee in the UFV International Education Department, says, "My best advise to students would be to consider their English Degree as providing them with the basic needs to communicate with others in a professional and eloquent manner. Being open-minded and being able to articulate your thoughts is extremely valued in any profession."

The department hopes that in years to come this event will continue to flourish, allowing students an

opportunity to gain a fresh perspective on their education and career journeys and to connect with like-minded individuals on a similar path.



Canadian Writer's Series

The Canadian Writer's Series, sponsored in part by the Canada Council for the Arts, is once again exposing students and faculty to an entertaining new panel of writers. Earlier this semester George McWhirter, poet laureate, read from his work. Authors still to come this fall are:

Gail Anderson-Dargatz & Molly Peacock on Friday, October 24 from 7:00-9:00 pm.

Sonnet L'Abbe on Friday, November 27 from 2:00-3:00 pm.

Authors scheduled to appear in the winter series are Sandy Shreve (January 15, 2009), and Marilyn Bowering (March 26, 2009).

All writers will be speaking at the UFV Abby Bookstore.

Meditation Event

On Wednesday, October 12 ***Meditation in Everyday Life*** was held at U house.

Kate McCandless and Michael Newton, both Zen priests, led this event with the aim to introduce meditation and the principle of dharma to anyone interested. This event was open to faculty as well as students. If you missed it but are still interested, let us know and we will pass along the request.

FACULTY RESEARCH

I recently spoke with Rhonda Schuller, who specializes in rhetoric teaching, about her research. The focus is on the English language as used in everyday life. Schuller is meeting with bilingual Indo-Canadian families and is being assisted by Satwinder Bains, Indo-Canadian Studies department, as well as members of the community through Abbotsford's Dasmesh Punjabi School.

The aim of her research is to better understand how household products such as toothpaste, shampoo, and other items with written labels help to define people's identities. She's decided to focus her research on Indo-Canadian families to help her better connect with this community. She hopes it will give her a better understanding of different types of home environments, as well as benefiting her teaching of first year composition. Since not everyone has been exposed to the same

amount of written English, she feels her research will help her understand and identify with student situations. She has been working on a three-year research project, which she plans to publish as a dissertation for her PhD through SFU.

Announcements:

CBC Literary Awards

For those of you interested in Short Fiction, Creative Nonfiction, and Poetry you might consider entering the CBC Literary Awards. There is a \$6,000 first prize, and a \$4,000 second prize in any of the three categories. Winning entries will be published in Air Canada's *enRoute Magazine*.

Deadline for submissions
Nov. 1, 2008.

For details go to

www.cbc.ca/literaryawards



Japan Exchange & Teaching Program (JET) Information Session

Have the adventure of a lifetime as an Assistant Language Teacher or Coordinator for International Relations, beginning in August 2009.

The JET Program will be holding an information session on Thursday, October 30 on the Abbotsford Campus from 12:30 - 2:00 pm in room B136. Those interested in more information about the JET Program are encouraged to attend the session. More information as well as application forms can be found online at:

www.vancouver.ca.emb-japan.go.jp

What is the Loudon Singletree?

Well actually it's a farm implement, but don't let that name turn you off...

The Loudon Singletree is actually a UFV student run literary magazine. It was started to showcase the best creative writing created by the UFV community. They are open to submissions from staff, faculty, and alumni as well as students. The first issue is due for publication soon.

Their website lists them as "a not-for-profit journal in hopes of allowing for the widest possible readership, and because of some vague notions that literature ought to be available to anyone in any financial condition. While we do have lofty aims for the distant future (primarily submitting the journal to other universities and literary magazines for peer review), our goal at this point is to reach out to the Fraser Valley, have people begin to talk about it, and appreciate that talent does exist right here, at home."

Check out their website:
www.ucfv.ca/english/Louden_Singletree.htm

Congratulations

to the following English students who recently received awards & scholarships:

Adrea Johnson - the English Department Book Prize as the Outstanding English Major in the 2007/2008 graduating class.

Ray de Kroon - the Wilson Heaviside Memorial Scholarship for American Literature.

Kim Morden - the Richard and Edna Malloway Memorial Scholarship for Shakespeare or Renaissance Literature.

Jessika Rowley - the Dr. Virginia Cooke Scholarship.

Comments and Questions?

If you have a comment, a question, an event, or you have an idea for a story, or an article submission, please contact the editor, Erin Dugdale at quillnewsletter@ufv.ca

For any further questions about the English Department or program check out our website at <http://www.ufv.ca/english.htm>

Answers:

1. Quill Newsletter
2. Shakespeare
3. Canterbury Tales