

# EDEN

## Announcements

### STUDENT CASH SCHOLARSHIP



**PROMOTING GETTING  
A  
COLLEGE EDUCATION**

There is no application fee to apply. The “Degreedup.org Cash Scholarship” announced up to four \$1,250 awards for 2012. Any student (future or current) that has been accepted or attends a community college, technical/trade college, or university may apply. Apply at [www.degreedup.org/cashscholarship.html](http://www.degreedup.org/cashscholarship.html). You may download the application there as well. The remaining postmarked deadlines are: **May 27**, **June 27**, and **July 27**.

### STUDY ABROAD IN ISTANBUL & TURKEY!

Great study abroad opportunity for two weeks in Istanbul and Turkey! See one of the world's most exciting cities, the only one spanning Europe and Asia, ancient Troy and Ephesus, the Virgin Mary's house, and much more! Fall semester 2-4 credit course, with travel dates August 8-24, 2012. Flat rate tuition applies, and financial aid is available. Application deadline is Friday, June 1. For more information, contact Peter Goodrich [pgoodric@nmu.edu](mailto:pgoodric@nmu.edu).



#### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Announcements.....	1
Awards .....	2
Awards .....	3
Awards .....	4
New Faculty/ <i>Lightkeeper</i> .....	5
Accomplishments .....	6

#### *Congrats Graduates!*

You have brains in your head.  
You have feet in your shoes.  
You can steer yourself in any  
direction you choose.  
You're on your own.  
And you know what you know.  
You are the guy who'll decide  
where to go.  
~Dr. Seuss



## Awards

### RECOGNITION LUNCHEON

The English faculty who were honored for their years of service at the NMU faculty and Staff Recognition Luncheon on April 17th were:

**Retiree**— *Thomas Hyslop*

**25 Years of Service** — *Laura Soldner*

**10 Years of Service** — *Zhuang-Zhuong Lehmborg, Russell Prather, and Robert Whalen*



*Thomas Hyslop*



*Laura Soldner*



*Zhuang-Zhuong Lehmborg*



*Russell Prather*



*Robert Whalen*

## WINNING ESSAYS

### BARNARD AWARD



Taylor Smith, Tevra Boris, and NMU Instructor Melody McNeill)

**Winner** - Taylor Smith for "[Radiance](#)"

**Finalists** - Benjamin Greenwald for "The Hunter Becomes the Hunted" and Tevra Boris for "To Cross or not to Cross"

(Picture from left to right: Benjamin Greenwald,

### HOUSTON AWARD

**Winner**— Thomas Ian Beddows for "[Formal Report: Summary of Scientific Research Concerning \*Trientalis borealis\*](#)"

**Finalists**— Alesha Bartlett for "The Tale of Two Daldards" and Dorothy Anderson for "Groudhog Day"

(Picture from left to right: Dorothy Anderson, Thomas Ian Beddows, and NMU Instructor Melody McNeill)



### COHODAS LITERARY PRIZE

**1st Prize, Grace Renwand, "[The Experience of the Deaf During the Holocaust](#)"**

**2nd Prize, John Schimek, "[Tolerance and Hospitality: the Key to Religious Plurality](#)"**

**3rd Prize, Irene McCauley, "[White Noise](#)"**

### LEGLER MEMORIAL POETRY PRIZE

Winner - Josh Starbuck for "[An American Dream](#)"



(Picture from left to right: Willow Grosz, Grace Makley, Professor Beverly Matherne, Katelyn Durst, and Abigail Hoyer)

**1st Runner-up** - Willow Grosz for "Up It Went"

**2nd Runner-up** - Grace Makley for "To a Place I've Been"

**3rd Runner-up** - Katelyn Durst for "The Lament of the Ex-Mennonite Farms in Lancaster & Franklin Counties"

**4th Runner-up** - Abigail Hoyer for "The little things I can't keep here."

### VANDEZANDE FICTON PRIZE



Josey Bonini-Aalto, Hannah Schug, Reannon Dykehouse)

**Winner** - Bradley Aleman for "[The Santa Truth](#)"

**Finalists** - Reannon Dykehouse for "Halls for a King," Josey Bonini-Aalto for "Love, Pills, & Wintertime, Hannah Schug for "Daughter, or: If My Parents Had Never Gotten It On, and Russell Pierce for "How to get spent"

(Picture from left to right: Professor Paul Lehmborg, Bradley Aleman,

## OUTSTANDING STUDENT AWARDS

The Outstanding English Student Award winners were recognized at the annual Honors Reception on April 2.

### English/MFA: Richard Hackler

Richard specializes in creative nonfiction. He has already published work in *Passages North*, *Fourth Genre* and *Fifth Wednesday*, a well-known magazine in Illinois, so he is off to a good start with his career as a professional writer. When he was nominated for this award at an English Department faculty meeting, a half dozen other faculty members also sang him high praises. He is especially known for his discriminating diction, details, pacing and for the overall rhetoric of his personal essays. His works always stands out and touch his audience.



### English/MA: Virginia Schminke Yaussy



Virginia earned her Bachelor's degree from Hiram College in Ohio, where she was a writing center tutor, teaching assistant, and library processing assistant. Since coming to NMU in 2011 to work on her Master's in English, Ginny has been an outstanding teacher, scholar, and service advocate. Her thesis is focused on a study of multimodality, which when paired with universal design, creates an accessible pedagogy for a diverse student-

base and creates student-awareness of self, others, and their writing. She earned a competitive Excellence in Education Grant to do research on this topic, and later was accepted to present a session at the Michigan Council of Teachers of English convention in October 2011. A week later, Ginny was a graduate co-chair for development and on-site management for the second annual Writing Across the Peninsula convention. Ginny will be presenting another session at the conference of the College English Association this April. In addition to demonstrating leadership and scholarship, Ginny also shows great empathy for her students in second-semester composition courses and shares her ideas with fellow graduate students.

### English Graduating Senior: Shauna Neshek

Shauna enrolled at NMU in fall 2009 and graduated near the top of her class in December 2011. She was an active member of Sigma Tau Delta, a tutor for the Writing Center and ESL students, and an editorial intern for *Passages North* and *The Lightkeeper*. Shauna was also a community service intern through the Student Leader Fellowship Program where she ran an after-school Creative Writing Club at Bothwell Middle School. Her list of awards includes the 2011 Cohodas Literary Prize, Honorable Mention for the 2011 Creative Writers' Club's Creative Writing Contest, a finalist for the 2010 Houston Award, and winner of the 2011 James C. Bowman Scholarship. Shauna will be continuing her education at the University of Wisconsin-Madison as an MA candidate in the applied English linguistics program.



## EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

The following English graduate students received Excellence in Education Awards:

*Ashley Brooke Boulton*  
*Cameron Contois*  
*Rachel DeRosie*  
*Emily Engelhard*  
*Lynn Kimball Fay*  
*Alex Gubbins*  
*Richard Hackler*  
*Erkki Mackey*  
*Chanomi Maxwell-Parish*  
*Melody McNeill*  
*Jordan Meyers*  
*Zarah Moeggenberg*  
*Brandon Peters*  
*Linda Sirois*  
*Cameron Witbeck*

The Excellence in Education Program is a \$1500 award established to support graduate student research in the summer. The awards are intended to assist graduate students in the conduct of scholarly research and creative works that will enhance their academic experience and professional growth. Congratulations to the recipients for 2012!



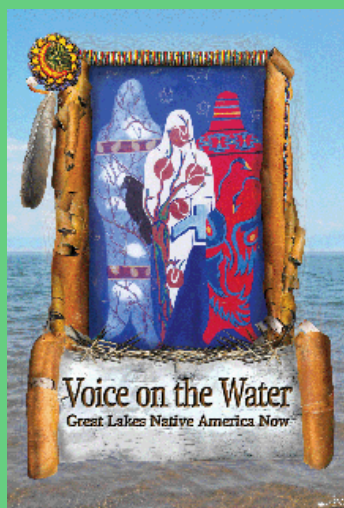
## TEAM AWARDS

Four English faculty were members of committees selected to receive the University's Distinguished Teach Award for 2012. This award recognizes those teams that demonstrated exemplary performance and/or innovation while working together in an open and collaborative manner to achieve a task or charge that furthers the University's mission and goals.

Congratulations to:

Carol Anderson, Laura Soldner and their colleagues of the Development Education Advisory Committee.

Amy Hamilton, Jaspal Singh and their colleagues of the Scholar's Committee for Anthology, "Voices on the Water: Great Lakes Native American Now."



## CELEBRATION OF STUDENT RESEARCH

The following students represented at the 17th Annual Celebration of Student Research, Creative Works and Academic Service Learning Program at NMU on April 12.

Cameron Witbeck - Wild in Isolation: Poetry, Graduate Student, Faculty Advisor: Austin Hummell.

Genean A. Granger - Beyond Bellocq's: Original Poetry, Graduate Student, Faculty Advisor: Lesley Larkin.

Emily Engelhard - Our Acrylic Blood, Graduate Student, Faculty Advisor: Paul Lehmborg.

Darrin Moir - Gravity Tender: Fiction, Nonfiction and Illustrations, Graduate Student, Faculty Advisor: Jen Howard.

Jessica Higginbotham - "The Seafarer": A Tale of Two Exiles, Undergraduate Student, Faculty Advisor: Ray Ventre.

Brooke Boulton, Elizabeth Kepsel, Chonomi Maxwell-Parish and John Minser - Eyes

Toward Heaven: An Interdisciplinary Project in Poetry and Physics, Graduate Students, Faculty Advisor: Beverly Matherne.

Caitlin Morski - "Paris" (fiction), Graduate Students, Faculty Advisor: John Smolens.

Kaitlin Krengel - The Dream of a Woman, Undergraduate Student, Faculty Advisor: Ray Ventre.

Katherine Buel - Across the Glittering Heath: A Short Story, Graduate Student, Faculty Advisor: Paul Lehmborg.

Teresa Sherman-Jones - Early Adversary Culture in J. D. Salinger's The Catcher in the Rye, Graduate Student.

Ren VanderLind - Adversary Culture and the "Myth" of Eroding Master Narratives, Graduate Student, Faculty Advisor: Gabriel Brahm.

Alex Vartan Gubbins - War Poetry: The War in Iraq, Graduate Student, Faculty Advisor: Beverly Matherne.

Olivia M. Olson - Cotton Hill: King of the Hill's Disabled Other, Graduate Student, Faculty Advisor: David Wood.

Luke Thominet - Hightech/Lowtech: Accessible Technology Redundancies in Rural Locations, Graduate Student, Faculty Advisor: Elizabeth Monske.

Linda Sirois - In Full View: Looking at the Impact of the Visual on Studying Racial Trauma in the College Literature Classroom, Graduate Student, Faculty Advisor: Lesley Larkin.

Leah Kulikowski - Historical Fiction, Undergraduate Student, Departments of History and English, Faculty Advisor: Keith Kendall.

Jack Van Treese and Laura Mead - Exploring Boundaries: Thinking Creatively About Voice in Composition, Graduate Students, Faculty Advisor: Elizabeth Monske.

Grace Makley - Absolut: A 400-Word Story, Undergraduate Student, Faculty Advisor: Ray Ventre.

Olivia Ernst: Fierce Motherhood - Tamora's Strength in Titus Andronicus, Undergraduate Student, Faculty Advisor: David Wood.

Tracy Pickering - 6.24.08: Creative Non-Fiction, Undergraduate Student, Faculty Advisor: Ray Ventre.

John Minser - LOLcats, 4chan, and Digital Discourse in the Analog Classroom, Graduate Student, Faculty Advisor: Elizabeth Monske.

Cameron Contois - Tweeting Through Classroom Borders, Graduate Student, Faculty Advisor: Elizabeth Monske.

Virginia Schminke-Yaussy - Lolcats, Twitter, Spoken Word Poetry, E-Portfolios and Student Identity, Graduate Student, Faculty Advisor: Elizabeth Monske.

Zarah Moeggenberg - Spoken-Word Poetry, YouTube Videos and Student Identity, Graduate Student, Faculty Advisor: Elizabeth Monske.

## NEW FACULTY

The English department is pleased to announce two new faculty members joining the department this fall:

**Matthew Bell** - Assistant Professor, Creative Writing: Fiction Matt is the author of *How They Were Found* (a collection of stories), published by Keyhole Press, *Cataclysm Baby* (a novella), newly out from Mud Luscious Press, *The Last Garrison*, a fantasy novel co-written under the pen name Matthew Beard, and three chapbooks. He serves as the senior editor of *Dzanc Books*, a position which includes running the journal *The Collagist* and *Dzanc's Best of the Web Series*. His work has appeared in many respected venues, including *Unsaid*, *PANK*, *Ninth Letter*, *Willow Springs*, *Gulf Coast*, *American Short Fiction*, *Caketrain*, *Barrelhouse*, *Juked*, and elsewhere. His story "Dredge" was included in the *2010 Best American Mystery Stories*, and "His Last Great Gift" was named a *Best American Short Stories* notable story. Matt earned his MFA in creative writing from Bowling Green University, and he currently teaches at the University of Michigan.

**Lisa Eckert** - Assistant Professor, Secondary Education: English Lisa, currently an Associate Professor and the Director of Graduate Studies in English at Montana State University, has 10 years of college teaching experience. She earned her Ph.D. in English Education from Western Michigan University in 2002. Prior to her appointment at Montana State, she was an Assistant Professor in the English Department at Purdue University. From 1998-2000 she taught high school English in Richland, MI. She earned her Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts in English degrees at Western Michigan University as well.

Heinemann Publishing, the foremost publisher of books in the field of literary education, published her book *How Does It Mean? Engaging Reluctant Readers Through Literary Theory* in 2006. Since 1996 Lisa has published more than 10 book chapters, invited essays and articles, several of which appeared in publications of the National Council of Teachers of English. She has taught a wide variety of courses, both at the undergraduate and graduate level, for future and current teachers, many of which are equivalent to NMU courses. For three years she has been the Director of the Yellowstone Writing Project based at Montana State and has been awarded more than 20 grants. She has won more than 10 awards for her professional work including the President's Excellence in Teaching Award at Montana State. In recent years she has worked closely with the Montana State Departments of Native American Studies and Curriculum and Instruction.

## THE LIGHTKEEPER ANTHOLOGY AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

*The Lightkeeper Anthology* is now for sale. Brighten your day with the first volume of *The Lightkeeper*. Go [here](#) to purchase it for \$12!

*The Lightkeeper* will also be posting weekly editorials this summer for reader's enjoyment. They are not accepting summer submissions, but get writing to submit in the fall! Stories about your study abroad experience or your summer fun would be a welcome edition to the first issue of the new semester! Remember the URL to *The Lightkeeper* is <http://www.nmulightkeeper.com/>



## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### MICHIGAN YOUTH ARTS FESTIVAL

**Dr. Kia Jane Richmond**, Associate Professor of English - Secondary Education, and Katelyn Durst (English writing major) attended the Michigan Youth Arts Festival at WMU in Kalamazoo on June 10-12, 2012. Dr. Richmond and Katelyn served as chaperones for the high school youth who were selected for the Creative Writing workshops at the festival. Featured leaders included Tracy K. Smith (Pulitzer Prize winner and Assistant Professor, Princeton) and Stephanie Glazier (Assistant Director, RCAH Center for Poetry at MSU). Dr. Richmond serves on the board of directors of the MYAF.



**This year's College English Association Conference** held in Richmond, VA proved to be a successful conference for many of our current and former graduate students as well as two faculty. Linda Sirois and Katherine Buel were each placed on panels that coordinated with their literature foci. Jack Van Treeese, Gillian Podkomorka, Laura Mead, Erica Mead (current Bay College faculty member), and Colin Clancy presented on voice. Cameron Contois, John Minser, and Zarah Moggenberg discussed student engagement with the use of technology. Luke Thominet, Laura Soldner, and Liz Monske presented on three ways that NMU is working to aid student success in the classroom. Overall, the panels were well-received. One former CEA President who attended a graduate student panel commented that he was very impressed with the quality and passion for teaching exhibited by the students. We should be very pleased that English Educators outside our institution are seeing what we see!

**Casey Thayer**, who earned an MFA from NMU in 2009, had his poem "The Hurt Sonnet" accepted for publication in *Poetry*. He has had other poems appear recently in *American Poetry Review*, *Court Green*, *The Normal School*, and elsewhere.

**James McCommons** wrote an op-ed piece after taking a train between Seattle and Chicago in March. It was published on-line by *Alternet* and is entitled "[How Train Travel Could Make a Comeback.](#)"

**Lesley Larkin's** essay, "Reading and Being Read: Jamaica Kincaid's *A Small Place* as Literary Agent," appeared in the Winter 2012 issue of *Callaloo: A Journal of African Diaspora Arts and Letters*.

**Lynn Kimball Fay's** second novel (and thesis) will be one of linked stories, most of the stories set in the U.P. This is the fifth story to be published from it (others were published in *Alaska Quarterly Review*, New York University's *Washington Square*, *Orchid*, A Literary Magazine). The latest piece from it is called "The Love-Charr," and came out in the March/April issue of *Gray's Sporting Journal*, a journal with a big circulation published by Morris Communications. Her website is [lekimball.com](http://lekimball.com)

**Jaspal K. Singh**, Professor, Department of English, received a Fulbright Research and Teaching Award to India for the 2012-2013 academic year. Singh will be affiliated with Jawaharlal Nehru University in New Delhi where she will teach one graduate course and devote the rest of the time for research and writing. Her research project, a monograph, is entitled *Imagining Nations and Homelands in Indian Literature: Gender and Sikh Identity in India and the Diaspora*.

**Associate Professor Cate Terwilliger** recently completed her professional development sabbatical with a multimedia package on a miniature therapy horse that makes regular visits to a hospital in Colorado Springs, Colo. The package on Sprout – one of only a handful of miniature horses doing pet therapy in the nation's hospitals – included video, audio, still images and text. It was published by *The Denver Post* and picked up in syndication by *The Christian Science Monitor*, *The Miami Herald*, *The Seattle Times*, *The Seattle Post-Intelligencer* and other media outlets. It can be viewed [here](#).

