

THE WILD BLUE YONDER 2018

The English MA/PhD Alumni Newsletter



ALUMNI SPEAKER PANELS OFFERED FALL 2017- FALL 2018

AMAZING ALUMNI SUPPORT GIVEN TO CURRENT MA AND PHD STUDENTS IN ENGLISH OVER PAST YEAR

Since Fall 2017, graduate English alumni have served on four speaker panels, providing valuable advice to our current graduate students.

As part of the Introduction to Graduate Studies course (now required for incoming M.A. students), the following alumni participated in a panel on careers in secondary education: **Karly Eaton, Aaron Nugent, Sara Putman, John Stout, Alicia Troby, and Ryan Stripling.** For the same course, alum **Amanda White** participated in a panel on graduate internships, and the following alumni participated in a panel on careers in university administration: **Will Allred, Jeremy Burns, and Jessi Schnebelen.**

In addition, as part of the new Portfolio Workshop course (required of M.A. students completing a portfolio instead of a thesis), the following alumni (pictured above) participated in a panel on alt-ac careers: **Morgan Scholz, Ian Whitlow, Rachael Schaffner, Jackie Lawrence, and Ashley Robinson.**

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MA/PHD ALUMNI PROFILE BLOG WEBSITE ENTERS THIRD YEAR

ALUMNI EXPERIENCES CONTINUE TO BE SHARED

As 2019 begins, THE WILD BLUE YONDER's English MA/PhD Alumni Profile Blog website (<https://englishalumni.uark.edu/>) enters its third year!

The site is dedicated to sharing information about the diverse jobs our alumni have pursued, as well as their unique experiences in securing such positions.

The site is intended to acknowledge alumni achievements and offer that information to current students in the English graduate program to help them learn more about their career options.

Since the site was launched in Spring 2017, ten profiles have been published:

Jeremy Burns (Ph.D. '14)
Eddie Ardeneaux (Ph.D. '16) and Rebecca Quoss-Moore (Ph.D. '16)
Jessi Schnebelen (M.A. '16)
Jenn Mallette (Ph.D. '15)
Elizabeth Stainton Walker (M.A. '13)
Participants in the Alumni Speaker Panel on Careers in Secondary Education
Amy Hodges (Ph.D. '12)
Amy Schmidt (Ph.D. '11)
Rene H. Treviño (M.A. '11)
Ashley Robinson (Ph.D. '16)

The most recent profile of **Ashley Robinson** also appeared in THE FULBRIGHT REVIEW(<https://fulbrightreview.uark.edu/>), the official blog for Fulbright College.

In the future, we hope to expand the scope of alumni blog topics to include information about alumni publications, awards, promotions, and community service work; links to relevant articles about the job prospects for graduate students in English; a list of employers who have hired our graduates; and our percentages of annual alumni job placement.

Watch for the next alumni profile, featuring **Joshua Jackson (M.A. '15)** and **Megan Vallowe (Ph.D. '17)**, to appear in January 2019!

Interested in being interviewed for the profile blog? Send an e-mail to [lxp04@uark.edu!](mailto:lxp04@uark.edu)



Alum Ashley Robinson (Photo by John Robinson)

ALUMNI NEWS

JOB PLACEMENTS AND PROMOTIONS

Alex Abrams (M.A. '15) – hired as Communications Coordinator for the Office of the Dean of the College at Wake Forest University (NC)

Eddie Ardeneaux (Ph.D. '16) – promoted to Assistant Professor of English at University of the Ozarks (AR)

Angela Cox (Ph.D. '16) – hired as Assistant Teaching Professor of English at Ball State University (IN)

Uyen Dang (Ph.D. '18) – hired as Instructor of English at Hung Vuong Specialized High School in Binh Duong province (Vietnam)

Christy Davis (Ph.D. '17) – hired as English Professor at San Jacinto College (TX)

Karly Eaton (M.A. '17) – hired as English Teacher at Haas Hall Academy (AR)

Robert Ellis (M.A. '18) – hired as Employer Relations Coordinator at University of Arkansas Career Development Center

Kaine Ezell (Ph.D. '12) – awarded Tenure and promoted to Associate Professor at Oklahoma Baptist University

Allison Carter Fanney (M.A. '15) – hired as Tax Communications Manager at AICPA (NC)

Logan Hilliard Glendenning (M.A. '17) – hired as Director of First Year Programs and Career Services at Rockford University (IL)

Jonathan Green (Ph.D. '18) – hired as Lecturer of English at Texas Christian University

Marisa Grippo (M.A. '15) – hired as Registrar's Assistant/Software Support Technician at Southern Arkansas University

Christine Hoffman (Ph.D. '11) – hired as Assistant Professor of English at West Virginia University

Garrett Jeter (Ph.D. '18) – hired as Assistant Professor of English at East Georgia State College

Michel LaCrue (M.A. '18) – hired as Adjunct Instructor of English at University of Arkansas at Fort Smith

Jackie Lawrence (M.A. '14) - promoted to HR Business Partner for DCS, PDA, and Finance at J.B. Hunt (AR)

Kimberly Marquez (M.A. '18) – hired as Advertorial/Content Writer at Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette

Myles Melancon (M.A. '17) – hired as Middle School English teacher at St. Mark's Episcopal School (TX)

Kristi Pierse (M.A. '16) – hired as Office Manager for New Student & Family Programs at University of Arkansas

Sara Bruns Putman (M.A. '14) – (with Jennifer Batchelor Battles) opened Bookish, an independent bookstore (AR)

Rebecca Quoss-Moore (Ph.D. '16) – hired as Assistant Professor of English at University of Central Oklahoma

Rachael Schaffner (M.A. '14) – hired as Implementation & Innovation Coordinator at The Sustainability Consortium (AR)

Amy Schmidt (Ph.D. '11) – hired as Tenure-Track Professor at Williams Baptist College (AR)

Morgan Scholz (M.A. '17) – hired as Communications Director at B-Unlimited (AR)

Leslie Seawright (Ph.D. '12) – hired as Assistant Professor in the Technical and Professional Writing Program at Missouri State University

Linda Shaffer (Ph.D. '17) – hired as Part-Time English Faculty with Department of Languages and Literature at Northeastern State (OK)

John Stout (M.A. '18) - hired as Lecturer of English at the University of Arkansas

Justin Tinsley (Ph.D. '16) – hired as 11th-grade English Teacher at Arkansas High School

Mindy Trenary (Ph.D. '15) – hired as Assistant Professor at Butler Community College (KS)

Megan Vallowe (Ph.D. '17) – hired as Assistant Professor in Multicultural Literature at Dalton State College (GA)

Katie Voss (M.A. '18) - hired as Communications Associate at The Episcopal School of Dallas (TX)

Sara West (Ph.D. '18) – hired as Assistant Professor of Professional and Technical Writing at San Jose State University (CA)

Amanda White (M.A. '18) – hired as Content Marketing Specialist at J.B. Hunt (AR)

Afrin Zeenat (Ph.D. '15) – hired as an English Faculty Member with World Languages, Cultures and Communications Department at Richland College (TX)

PUBLICATIONS

Christine Hoffman (Ph.D. '11) – Christine's book STUPID HUMANISM: FOLLY AS COMPETENCE IN EARLY MODERN AND TWENTY-FIRST-CENTURY CULTURE was published by Palgrave Macmillan (<https://www.palgrave.com/us/book/9783319637501>).

Leslie Seawright (Ph.D. '12) – Leslie's book GENRE OF POWER: POLICE REPORT WRITERS AND READERS IN THE JUSTICE SYSTEM was published by Studies in Writing and Rhetoric (an arm of NCTE) (<https://secure.ncte.org/store/genre-of-power>).

DOCTORAL PROGRAM ADMISSION FOR M.A. ALUMNI

Rebecca Chatham (M.A. '15) - Rebecca was accepted into the Ph.D. program in English Education at Arizona State University.