



Millersville University

COLLEGE OF ARTS, HUMANITIES
& SOCIAL SCIENCES

Department of English & World Languages

SPRING 2023 NEWSLETTER

NEWSLETTER STAFF

Becca Betty (they/them) : Graduate Assistant, current student MA English

Heather Verani: Graduate Assistant, current student MA English, MU '22 BA English

Contributing Faculty Editors:

Dr. Nicole Pfannenstiel, Graduate Coordinator

Dr. Justin Mando, Department Assistant Chair

A WELCOME FROM OUR INCOMING CHAIR



Dr. Justin Mando, Department Assistant Chair

Welcome to the English & World Languages Newsletter for the Academic Year 2022-2023! We have many points of pride to celebrate, and primary among them are our wonderful students. Despite what you may have heard about students' slow return from our online-only world, our English & World Languages majors and minors are showing up in amazing ways (both in person and virtually). In these pages, you will find the accomplishments of our bright ENWL students who undoubtedly will be the thinkers, writers, and leaders who keep us moving ever onward. We have immense pride for our faculty, as well, as they achieve scholarly accolades that put them on the vanguard of knowledge. Such work helps us continue to innovate our teaching while remaining ever mindful of the valuable lessons of the past. We also offer our sincere appreciation to our staff who make this whole thing possible. Together we are shaping our world with engaging, insightful, affective, effective, intriguing, and powerful words.

As a department, we have many opportunities to embrace in the year ahead. We have challenges to face, as well. I encourage readers of this newsletter to reach out to me at jmando@millersville.edu with your ideas, suggestions, and comments that are aimed at growing and strengthening our English & World Languages community. Thank you for being a part of it.

LETTERS FROM OUR EDITORS

Greetings Readers!

Though I've only been at Millersville for a short time –I've already formed some great memories and friendships. The scholarship and mentorship of faculty and fellow students is fantastic! Working as a GA has also given me insight into the behind the scenes organized chaos of event and program planning as well as unique opportunities like attending the 2023 Lancaster Learns Conference. It has been my pleasure to serve as a GA and I look forward to continuing my education both inside and outside the classroom in this wonderful program. Please enjoy this edition of the English and World Languages Newsletter and stay connected with us –we have lots of exciting ideas for events and connections next year!

All my best,

Becca

Hello Everyone!

This past school year has truly been one to remember. I recently graduated from Millersville in the Spring of 2022 with my B.A. In English. Continuing my journey in higher education at Millersville to obtain my Master's in English is one of the best decisions I have ever made. Getting to be a Graduate Assistant for the Department of English and World Languages under Dr. Pfannenstiel has been such a wonderful experience. Over the last year, I have learned so much both in and out of the classroom. The new skills and information I have obtained from my first year of graduate school are ones that I can easily see myself applying to my possible future career paths. I am so thankful for all the new and exciting events that I have experienced this year and can't wait to see what is yet to come!

All the Best,

Heather

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STAY CONNECTED

English & World Languages Department Homepage

<https://www.millersville.edu/enwl/english/index.php>

English & World Languages Department blog

<https://blogs.millersville.edu/englishnewsletter/> English

English Graduate Studies blog

<https://blogs.millersville.edu/englishgrad/>

Facebook: Millersville University, Department of English

Instagram @ville.englishworldlanguage

ENWL STUDENT ORGS

Check out these clubs and more on
Millersville's Get Involved page
(<https://getinvolved.millersville.edu/>)

English Club (reforming)
Creative Writer's Guild
George Street Press -
Writing Center
Sigma Tau Delta (reforming)
Film Club
Made in Millersville Journal
Engage for Change Journal

ENGLISH & WORLD LANGUAGES

2023 GRADUATES

Graduate Studies

William Artz, MED
John Biles, MA
Wendy Gensimore, MA
blue Guckert, MA
Eugene Kobielnik, MA
Luis Nieves-Figueroa, MA
Winnona Piazza, MA
Tanya Sepela, MA
Kara Travis, MA
Rachel Wisnom, MA

Undergraduate Studies

Spanish; BA, Teacher Education - French
Kaitlyn Fischer BA, Culture Studies - French
Mandy, Flickinger BA, English
Natalie Flory BSE, English; Minor ESL/Linguistics
Jackson Fogel BA, English
Savannah Frankovitch BA, Writing Studies
Hannah Frymoyer BA, Language Studies Spanish;
Minor English - ESL/Linguistics
Hunter Davis BA, Teacher Education – French and
Spanish;
Lauren Fuchs BA, Teacher Education Spanish; Minor,
English - ESL/Linguistics
Valeria Garcia BA, Journalism; Minor, Language
Studies German

Undergraduate Studies Continued

Nora Garrison BSE, English
Rachel Gordon BA, Writing Studies
Hailey Grant BSE, English
Avery Hartman BA, ESL/Linguistics
TJ Henry BSE, English
Garrett Thomas Howell BA, English
Jordan Michael Huebschman BSE, Teacher Education -
French
Kirstin Landsmann BSE, English
Nehnielle A Logan BA, Culture Studies Spanish
Kara Ryan Love BSE, English
Jalene Maldonado-torres BA, Teacher Education - Spanish
Stephin McCloskey BA, English; minor, Journalism
Megan M Paulk BSE, English
Katherine Danielle Pheysey BA, Language Studies German
Evan Michael Podralski BA, Language Studies Spanish
Gabriella Maria Rodriguez Izquierdo BA, Language Studies
Spanish
Yamiles Sanchez BA, Language Studies Spanish
Stephanie Rose Sauder BSE, English
Luke Schwanger BA, Writing Studies
Simren R Shah BSE, English
Sara L Smith BSE, English
Sydney Tomac BA, Writing Studies
Tania L Turner BSE, English - ESL/Linguistics
David Vitti BA, English
Naima Winder BSE, English

APPLAUSE AND CONGRATULATIONS

Julia Fallows: *Dorothy J. Patterson
English Scholarship*
Jenna Dumbrosky: *William S. Trout
Memorial Award for English Education*
Tania Turner: *Dilworth-McCollough English Award*
Julissa Rodriguez: *Eileen Carew Promising
Writers Scholarship*
Luke Schwanger: *Class of 1910*
Hunter Davis: *Ralph J Hyson Memorial Award and
MU Foreign Language Xenophile Theodore H.
Rupp Award*
Kaitlyn Fischer: *Michael Kovach Scholarship*

Nora Garrison: *The Alice R Fox Memorial Award*
Katlyn Dougherty: *Frank R. Heavner Memorial Award*
Cameron Reid: *Class of 1917 Endowment*
Mandy Flickinger: *Class of 1922 Endowment*
Kara Love: *Deisley English Educator Award*
Shane O'Shea: *Lina Ruiz y Ruiz Memorial Award*
Blake Bohlen: *MU Foreign Language Irene Seadle
German Award*
Katherine Pheysey: *The Prof Charles Richard Beam
Memorial German Scholarship*

MADE IN MILLERSVILLE HIGHLIGHT

Senior Jackson Fogel presented at the Made in Millersville conference this past April. His presentation, titled "Magical Realism and Revolution in Postcolonial Literature: A Study of Salman Rushdie's *Midnight's Children*," is based off his thesis of the same name. In our interview with Jackson, he tells us this project "examines Salman Rushdie's first published novel, *Midnight's Children*, through a postcolonial lens and explores the connection between the magical elements in the text and the political ones." To those considering presenting at Made in Millersville next year, Fogel shares his positive experience with the conference. "I can't recommend it enough" he states. "Made in Millersville is a welcoming, passionate environment and I count myself lucky that I got to do it twice."

Heather Verani

STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Luis Nieves's ('23 MA) article "Oh, the horror!" was published in *Divergent Terror: At the Crossroads of Queerness and Horror!* forming comparative analysis between the mother from the film *Poltergeist* (1982) and his own mother addressing the experience of protectiveness from the outside world when coming out to family.

Amelia Cusanno ('23 BSE) was selected as a winner of the Academy of American Poets 2023 poetry contest.

UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

This past March, Sophomores Julia Fallows and Allison Mengel attended the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women. In our interview with Allison and Julia, they describe their experience at the UN "humbling." They state "to be surrounded by intelligence every day for three days straight was thrilling...we listened eagerly for every word and took every note." They shoutout their academic advisors, Dr. Jill Craven and Dr. Kaitlyn Mondello, for their support of exploration and curiosity throughout this experience. "Their encouragement to be brave in this new setting cultivated a positive learning experience that will never be forgotten...to have role models like them is something we are eternally grateful for."

One of the panels that impacted them the most was the UN CSW: Road Map to Gender Equality Through Science, Technology, and Innovation. In this panel, they learned about "the global digital compact the United Nations is developing and reflecting on current policies working for women and girls as much as men and boys." Julia and Allison state that courses offered for their majors (Secondary Education English and English) were greatly beneficial in helping them prepare for this conference. "We are both curious and passionate in our respective fields, so going to the UN, we worked to bring that passion and curiosity. In the same way, we soak up every word from scholarly articles and literature to write excellent papers; we soak up. We took notes at each panel, and over a late-night coffee, we'd talk about applying the new information to Millersville."

NOTES FROM OUR GRADUATES

What advice would you give to students who are considering majoring in English?

"DO. It is a great foundation on which to build ANY career."--William Artz '23 MEd

"Do it!! You won't regret! Our English department is fantastic and very supportive of all students involved. It had offered me many opportunities, and I am excited to use all the skills I've learned in my future career!" -- Natalie Flory '23 BSE, English; Minor ESL/Linguistics

"Be prepared to read and open your mind to new ways of looking at a text."--John Biles'23 MA English

"If you're not sure, try out some intro classes!

The beginner linguistics, literature, and writing courses are all very accessible to people in and out of the discipline." -- Jackson Fogel '23 BA in English with minors in History and Government

LANCASTER LEARNS - 2023

This past February I was granted the opportunity to attend the Lancaster Learns 2023 Conference with Dr. Pfannenstiel and my fellow GA Becca. My role as a graduate assistant encompasses many different areas, such as writing weekly blogs, running the English and World Languages Department Instagram, working with Canva to create promotional flyers for the department, and helping professors with their classroom activities. However, getting to assist and observe Dr. Pfannenstiel throughout the organizational process of helping to create this event was a new experience in my graduate assistantship. I was first introduced to this particular conference in the Fall semester, when Dr. Pfannenstiel who was on the committee that planned and organized the event asked if I would assist her with this project.

I was very excited for this opportunity as I had never attended or presented at an academic conference before since half of my undergraduate years were changed to online, isolated learning due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The different aspects of this planning process, such as finding the keynote speaker, organizing the subcommittees for the event, reviewing and approving the speakers that would be presenting at the event, along with so much more was truly an insightful experience. Getting this behind-the-scenes perspective of all the work that goes into creating and running an academic conference was one of my favorite experiences as GA.



Dr. Pfannenstiel, Heather, and Becca at the 2023 Lancaster Learns Conference

Having the ability to see both sides of an academic conference and getting to participate by attending the presentations was one of my favorite moments from this semester, and I am excited to attend again next year!

Heather Verani

WELLNESS FAIR 2023



Becca and Heather pose with Skully, Millersville's beloved mascot, at the 2023 Wellness Fair

Heather and I had the opportunity to host a booth at the "Spring into Wellness Fair 2023" sponsored by CHEP. It was a beautiful spring day and an awesome chance to connect with over 100 students to talk with them about the benefits of mindful journaling – and even snap a quick photo with Skully!

Students were excited to talk about journaling and shared all the ways that they write, sketch, and reflect on everyday life. We shared our experiences with journaling as well and encouraged students to reframe their perception of journaling from traditional forms to recognize all the different ways we can write about our lives. Journaling is any introspective writing, drawing, or recording that captures routines, emotions, and life stories typically carried out on a daily or weekly basis. While there are many ways we can process events and emotions we experience, writing down our thoughts, feelings, and experiences offers a unique opportunity for reflection and even problem solving. Evoking mindful thinking while journaling can lead to insights about ourselves, our relationships, and the way we function and belong in the world.

Keeping a journal regularly can help alleviate stress and mediate conflict as a way to work through interpersonal relationships. Forming a habit around journaling can even improve our communication skills as we put complex ideas into word. Journals can also act as time capsules – recording ourselves in the current moment so that we can visit our past selves from the future. Types of journaling include: diaries with daily entries, bullet journals, agendas, journaling apps, and even sketchbooks!

Finding creative ways to fit journaling into your life can help you set and maintain progress towards your goals as students and individuals. If you missed us at this event, keep a look out on our blogs and Instagram for new events and more chances to get a free journal.

Becca Betty

DR. JAKUBIAK ATTENDS POLAND CONFERENCE



Dr. Jakubiak presents at the 2022 literary festival "Transport Literacki"

On September 22nd, 2022, Dr. Jakubiak traveled to Kolobrzeg, Poland for the literary festival Transport Literacki (Literary Transport). Her book, *Alien States* is entirely written in Polish and is known as *Obce Stany* in Poland. Dr. Jakubiak describes the literary festival as "like being in a different world experiencing poetry, prose, and conversation." One of the main events at the festival was a live reading that she participated in along with six other artists. "It was arranged like a spectacle" she states "very meticulously planned." While reading her literary works, Dr. Jakubiak explains that well known Polish musician Hubert Zemler simultaneously played live. This musical element, along with the lighting and stage design enhanced the literary works and drew the audience in, engaging them in a variety of ways. Along with this reading, Dr. Jakubiak also hosted a creative writing workshop and a meeting with the south Korean poet Kim Yideum.

The creative journey for *Alien States* started in 2016 for Dr. Jakubiak, with a publisher that had previously published her collection of short stories *Nieostre widzenia* (Out-of-focus Visions) in 2012. This publisher had an online magazine which became an outlet for ideas and subsequent drafts of the essays. These online forums became apart of Dr. Jakubiak's writing process, as before it was difficult for her to form a writing routine. "When I had an idea and was inspired to write and publish, I would use any spare time to write and work on the essays" she states, "The online forum was a place to publish instantly." Dr. Jakubiak recounts how the immediate publications on the forum along with the deadlines from the magazines motivated her to finish her work. The entire process to write her book took five years, concluding in the Fall of 2021 when she took her sabbatical. By this time, she already had a number of these essays completed. The sabbatical was a great help in finishing her book, as this time allowed her to edit and publish these essays.

Although the novel is written entirely in Polish, Dr. Jakubiak has plans to translate some of the pieces to English. Not all pieces are able to be translated, as they were written for a Polish audience. However, one of the pieces that she hopes to translate is the essay about the underground railroad, as it is a universal topic with audiences. -
Heather Verani

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

Congratulations to our faculty who have published or forthcoming works this year!

Dr. Marco Antolin

Dr. Marco Antolin's article "The International Brigades in the Poetry of The Spanish Civil War: Populist Rhetorical Strategies" was published in the March 2023 edition of the online journal *Literary Matters* (Issue 15.2) that can be accessed here:

<http://www.literarymatters.org/15-2-the-international-brigades-in-the-poetry-of-the-spanish-civil-war-populist-rhetorical-strategies/>

"In this article, I explore the impact that the Spanish Civil War had on American and British poetry. I analyze how some of the most recognized poets of the time (the 1930s) contributed to create, with their poems, one the most popular myths of the Spanish War, the international soldier as a "savior of freedom." I also look at certain rhetorical devices commonly used in the political spectrum, which poets such as W.H. Auden, Edwin Rolfe, or Langston Hughes employed to create and idealized image of the international volunteers of the Lincoln Brigade."

Dr. Emily Baldys

Dr. Baldys's article "Imagining the 'Survival of the Unfit' in the Novels of Olive Schreiner and Mona Caird" was published this spring in *Nineteenth-Century Gender Studies* available here:

<http://ncgsjournal.com/issue191/baldys.html>

"Caird and Scheiner were British feminist writers of the late nineteenth century, and I argue that disability informs their feminism as both a convenient metaphor *and*, more importantly, as a deliberation on the lived experience of embodied difference. The article explores the potential for Caird and Schreiner's lived experiences with disability to influence their feminism; it also analyzes the depiction of disability in several of their novels, ultimately concluding that their engagement with disability fed an anti-eugenic agenda that informed both writers' critique of the social Darwinist doctrine of survival of fittest."

Dr. A. Nicole Pfannenstiel

Dr. Pfannenstiel has a forthcoming book *Web Writing* that will be published as a peer-reviewed Open Education Resource (OER) on paadopt.org. *Web Writing* explores a rhetorical approach to web writing, content management, and meaning making in contemporary social media. This book works alongside her WRIT 318 curriculum focused on building an understanding of the rhetoric and content strategy of writing online. This book is part of an ongoing grant to remove financial barriers to studies by creating OER textbooks to alleviate one of the hidden costs of education.



Dr. A. Nicole Pfannenstiel

2023 MILLERSVILLE PERSON OF THE YEAR AWARD

Reflecting on your time at Millersville, are there any key moments that have shaped how you see yourself as an educator or changed your approach to teaching/mentorship?

In Fall 2019 I had the opportunity to work with English majors in UNIV 103 - a first year experience course. I invited these students to present their work at a conference (Boundless 2019) at the Ware center. Most of the class presented. These were first time freshmen who developed learning-research based presentations to connect learning theories, games, and their skills as college students. While this wasn't my first time working with student researchers at a conference, this group helped me see how much of an impact I can have on students developing their self-identity as scholars, as students, as lifelong learners.

"There is no greater honor at a teaching-focused institution than to be honored by the students."

This group asked me to take pictures so they could send them to family and excitedly explained how well they thought their scholarly presentations went. This presentation session was attended by the AHSS Dean, who asked questions.

My students then excitedly explained how they held a scholarly conversation, with a Dean, about games and videogames, during their first year of college. This group helped me see where my support of scholarly self-identity matters. It started my research into sense of belonging! I have focused so much more on connecting students, mentees, classes with spaces for developing their self-identity, their sense of belonging. I learned so much from this group about supporting students as they develop as learners. I have such a vested interest in my composition theory scholarly work because I want to continue supporting students learning and connecting with writing and research at high levels I know they are capable of. I routinely work with students who attend and present at conferences beyond Millersville to help them see the scholarship they are capable of producing!

Any advice for students and scholars on what it takes to be a successful educator?

I go into every semester trusting and believing my students. I think that is a really important approach to connecting with them, but also with supporting their growth as students. I recommend this to everyone - trust your students.

Becca Betty

Our very own Dr. Pfannenstiel was recognized for her outstanding commitment to students on this campus with the 2023 Sarah Lindsley Person of the Year Award, presented by Millersville's Student Government Association.

What does this award mean for you? How does it make you feel to be acknowledged as an educator and leader on campus?

It is still surreal to me that a plaque with my name and picture will hang in the SMC forever. Person of the Year, as an award decided upon by Student Government Association (SGA), means so much. I regularly read the campus communications and share with my students the pieces I think will benefit them: scholarship opportunities, research opportunities. I share when they can nominate each other and faculty/staff, but never expected that to become a student nomination for me. I am beyond honored that a student took the time and effort to put together an essay on how I've helped her as a student. I am beyond honored that a committee of students were impressed by my support as an educator, an advisor, and a mentor. There is no greater honor at a teaching-focused institution than to be honored by the students. This award really showcases the efforts of our students at Millersville, and the many reasons why I am so excited to be an educator here.

WHY MU GRAD STUDIES?

"Millersville University's English Graduate program is awesome! I made the decision to come to MU to earn my Master's degree so that I could work directly with Dr. Emily Baldys and Dr Nicole Pfannenstiel on Disability Studies and Rhetoric respectively as they are experts in their fields and incredible educators and human beings. The humanities are under attack and we need to fight for them and lift them up with everything that we have. When the rest of this collapses we need stories and critical thinking. -- blue Guckert '23 MA English

DR. GAUDRY RETIREMENT

Dr. Christine Gaudry



Heather Verani

The Department of English and World Languages bids a heartfelt farewell to Dr. Christine Gaudry. Dr. Gaudry, a native citizen of France, received her Maîtrise from the Université de Paris X Nanterre in June 1979 with a specialization in British Literature and minors in French Literature and Italian Language and Civilization. She then traveled to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where she first received her Master's degree in Twentieth Century French Literature with a minor in English Literature in 1982. Then, in 1986 Dr. Gaudry also completed her Ph.D. at the same University with a specialization in Eighteenth Century French Literature with minors in Comparative Literature and Italian Literature.

Dr. Gaudry started her teaching journey in the Fall of 1978, where she taught French to high school students in Cornwall, England. Then, in the Fall of 1979, she became a French teacher to American students in North Carolina, where she first started as a teaching assistant and later became a high school French teacher in the Fall of 1981. During this time, she was also a graduate teaching assistant for the Department of Romance Languages at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Within this position, she taught all levels of honors French, along with Introduction to Analysis of French Literature and Advanced Composition for French Majors. Along with this position, while continuing her education at UNC Chapel Hill, she also created and took on various roles such as Coordinator of French IIX, Coordinator of French IV, and Conversation Instructor. In the Spring of 1985 Dr. Gaudry officially transferred to higher academic learning by becoming an Assistant Professor of French at Wichita State University, where she taught all levels of French. Then, in 1988, she started a new role as an Assistant Professor in French and the Assistant Director of the Collegiate Honors Program at Randolph-Macon College in Virginia. In the Fall of 1992, Dr. Gaudry started at Millersville University as an Assistant Professor of French, a role which became the starting point for so much growth within her time here. She is retiring as a full professor of French, and during her time she has taught many courses, some of her favorites include French Fairytales, Banned Books, and Cultural (MIS) Understandings.

She has also held many important roles, such as the Language and Culture Studies Coordinator (2021-2023), Chair of the Department of Foreign Languages (2004-2013), Director of the French Summer Graduate Institute (1997-2012), and Chair of the Department of Language and Culture Studies (2020-2021). Her many impressive collegiate accomplishments demonstrate her passion and advocacy for the Language Studies programs here at Millersville and are just one of the many reasons we will miss Dr. Gaudry.

After retirement, Dr. Gaudry plans to continue her teaching journey in a new way by using her recently obtained Master's degree from Slippery Rock University to teach English to speakers of other languages. She also plans to hike the French Way of the Camino de Santiago de Compostelle, a long-distance walking trail that is 491 miles in length and will take 40 days to complete. While she will be missed, the faculty and the students of the department wish Dr. Gaudry the best as she prepares for a well-deserved retirement.

DR. RINEER RETIREMENT



Dr. Carla Rineer

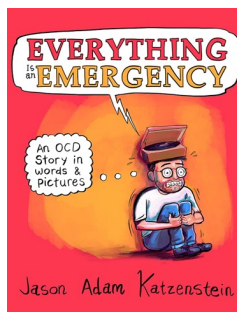
Heather Verani

The Department of English and World Languages bids a heartfelt farewell to Dr. Carla Rineer. Dr. Rineer received her B.A. in English from Mansfield University and continued her academic journey by obtaining her M.A. in English from Millersville University and her Pd.D. from Temple University. Although she specialized in American Literature and British and American Modernism, Dr. Rineer was incredibly knowledgeable in a variety of subjects. This includes topics such as Women's Studies, Composition, and Critical Theory. Her favorite class to teach is American Gothic Fiction, a unique course that shows a different perspective of American Literature studies. We wish Dr. Rineer the best, and a safe and relaxing retirement.

BOOK-TALK FALL 2023 – JASON KATZENSTEIN

This Fall, our department held a book-talk event centered around the graphic novel *Everything is an Emergency* by Jason Adam Katzenstein. These book-talk events are a series that occur each semester and are based upon the concepts of bibliotherapy, which is an expressive arts modality that draws from the book and incorporates messages and themes in discussions centered around personal, professional, and developmental growth. Although it is not therapy, it is also not a typical book club because it is led by knowledge experts in writing, rhetoric, and literature to guide the reader's experience.

Katzenstein's book *Everything is an Emergency* is centered around his journey with OCD, as he recounts different events and moments in his life that have both positively and negatively impacted his mental health. Both the book's content and the presence of the



author allowed for some interesting questions and discussions, such as "what was it like to write about your mental health" and "how much control did you have over the editing a publishing process." The most unique and unexpected aspect of the book-talk was the sense of community and understanding that was built within the two-hour zoom call. Everyone who was in attendance, including professors, graduate students, and undergrad students all seemed to connect through the discussions which made for a lively event.

Stay connected with the Department Blog and Instagram for more information about our upcoming book-talks for this Summer and Fall.

Becca Betty

INSPIRATION FROM OUR GRADS

"Don't be afraid to engage and risk having bad ideas, the good ones will come." -- blue Guckert '23 MA English

"It's so important to expand your knowledge especially in such a diverse world. Taking a language could change your life for the better and open up more opportunities for your future." --Gabriella Rodriguez Izquierdo '23 BA Sociology and Spanish Language Studies

ALUMNI HIGHLIGHT: TYLER BARTON



Above: Tyler Barton (headshot credit - Lina Seijo) Right: Tyler at our Fiction Reading Event



Millersville alumni Tyler Barton visited our campus this spring to share his writings in a Fiction Reading Event and creative writing workshop. At the event, Tyler read from his debut short-story collection *Eternal Night at the Nature Museum* as well as from other collections he has written and curated. It was great to have Tyler on campus to celebrate his accomplishments and share his knowledge directly with students, many of whom are part of the Millersville Creative Writers Guild that Tyler helped create.

Barton started his writing career when he was a freshman in response to his feelings of disconnection and uncertainty of his community at Millersville. His practice of writing allowed him to connect with other students, like his now best friend Elliot White,

whom he would trade stories with to get feedback. With his involvement in with creating creative writing clubs on campus, along with being a part of the creative writer's guild, Barton left Millersville with an excitement for writing. After he graduated, Barton says he got the "bug" for writing and started publishing stories online ultimately leading him to pursue his MFA at Minnesota State University, Mankato where he wrote all the stories that became the *Eternal Night at the Nature Museum*, published in 2021.

Eternal Night at the Nature Museum received its interesting title based off of one of Barton's previous works which is featured in this short-story collection. "It's a short little one-page story" he describes, "that could also be considered as a prose poem because it's very lyrical and shifting in a lot of different directions in a single page." This almost-poetic short story is about a person being in a nature museum when a nuclear disaster strikes, and explores what it would be like to survive if that became your home for such an event. Although the collection of short stories doesn't have a direct connection through a shared place or time, they do all share a common theme of home. Barton further explains this by stating all the stories deal with home by "either losing it, deciding to leave it, or finding it in a place you didn't expect." These stories differ in content, as they follow the lives of a variety of characters in disparate circumstances, such as having their house explode, or being evicted and accidentally joining a cult, but come together as each character seeks to define what home is to them.

Becca Betty

WRITING CENTER HIGHLIGHT

Located on the first floor of McNairy Library, the Writing Center is one of the first things students see when they walk into the building. However, many may not know the wonderful assistance and support the tutors of the writing center are able to provide to help students improve their writing. I had the pleasure of speaking with one of the co-student managers Rebecca to learn more about the services the writing center provides to students.

What are some ways the tutors are able to help improve student's writing?

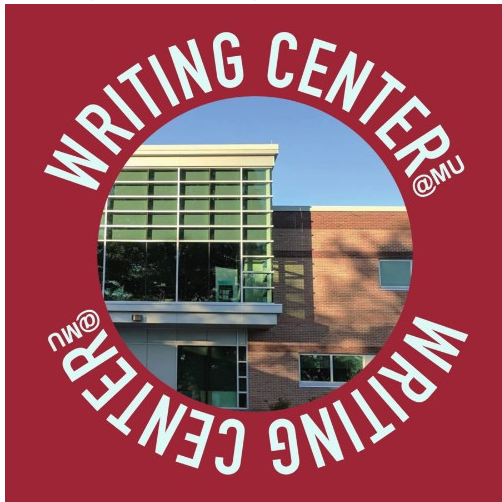
"The way we are able to help students is through their individualized appointments. The tutors sit with the students one on one for thirty minutes to an hour and focus on their concerns. While we sit with them and read through their paper, we also make sure to check their citations all while asking them questions as they go."

This process described by Rebecca shows that the tutors do not just provide markups of a student's paper. Rather, they provide suggestions and explanations on how students can better their writing. This helps students to build better skills and practices that strengthen their writing for the future.

How do you see students improve and become more successful writers by coming into the writing center?

"Over time we see how they start to pick up on things that they have worked on in the past. Returning students start to catch onto things before you even say it, which shows they understand it for themselves."

It is evident that the tutors of the writing center greatly enjoy what they do and have a passion for writing studies through the personal accounts they have written as to why they enjoy working at the writing center.



Daniel Moser

"What I enjoy most about working at the Writing Center is having the experience to work with students and feel like I am giving them opportunities to grow into more confident writers. As a future English educator, I value my appointments with students, as I see each appointment as both practice for my upcoming life and a chance to experience early something I am very much excited for and think is important. My favorite appointments are the reserved students, who are perhaps unconfident in their writing abilities, intimidated by the Writing Center experience, stuck on a problem, or some combination of these things. To see them laugh at one of my stupid jokes, regain comfort in their work, and leave with a new appreciation or perspective for their writing is so fulfilling to me. Beyond working with students, our staff and director, Dr. Farkas, are all great people both in their character and in their work. The Writing Center is a job that I look forward to going to, a rare opportunity for most, and I am grateful for that."

Paul

"We see a lot of students dramatically increasing in their own confidence and capability as writers. By providing an encouraging and engaged audience, the Writing Center helps students to realize that they have something to say and that they can get it across to readers."

Rebecca

"What I enjoy most about being a tutor for the writing center is getting to sit with a student and work with them to see how they progress. The moment when they start to get it is a great experience and I love having the opportunity to get to work with peers."

Heather Verani

QUOTE

"It's okay to not know what you don't know. That is what learning is for." -- blue Guckert '23 MA English



Millersville University

COLLEGE OF ARTS, HUMANITIES
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Department of English & World Languages