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Lynchburg College

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Special points of interest:

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- An Interview with Dr. Cheryl Coleman
- Financial Aid News
- LC Employment Search Engines
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First Graduate English Conference

On May 2, 2009 the School of Humanities and Social Sciences hosted the first Graduate English Conference.

Four panels featuring different topics.

Panel I: Heroes, Slaves, and Places.

- Michael Mitchell Jr., "The Archetypal Hero in *Coal Black Horse*"
- Rebecca McGowen, "This Ole Genre: Plantation Literature of Virginia"
- Jeremy Bryant, "Place in Contemporary Creative Nonfiction"
- Dr. Casey Clabough, "Excerpt from 'The Skelton Woman'"

Panel II: Renaissance Revisited

- Maria Masci, "A Young Maid in the Early

Renaissance: A Reconstruction of Jane from 'Phillip Sparrow'"

- Stacy Cook and Taranee Tabaian, "Editing John Skelton's *Magnificence*"
- Dr. Robin Bates, "Brewing Rebellion: Shakespeare's Use of the Alehouse and Religious Dissent in *Twelfth Night*."

Panel III: Women Eating, Laughing, Lusting

- Marni Fogelson-Teel, "Recipes for Changed: Rethinking Women's Roles and Rules in the Kitchen, in *Like Water for Chocolate* and *Chocolat*"
- Laura Clements, "We Thought You Would Be Funnier (and Other Atrocious Lies): Laurie Notaro's Humorous Approach for Coping with Life"

- Jess Quinlan, "Out of Hyacinth and Apple Boughs: Sappho's

Aphrodite Myth and Bisexual Anima"

- Dr. Beth Savage, "Female Appetites, Foreign Mothers, and Fantasy Women in William's Congreve's *The Way of the World*"

Panel IV: Muses of the Burg

Bruce Bays, "Venom"

Maggie Beyer, "Poems"

Graham Warwick, "Human Resources"

Dr. Laura Long, "Selected Poems from *Imagine a Door*"

Great work, everyone!



Dr. Casey Clabough and Michael Mitchell Jr. at the M.A. Graduate English Conference. May 2, 2009

Preparing an M.A. Thesis

Graduate students who are preparing to write their thesis must sign up for English 699 the semester they plan on writing.

It is crucial that students contact their thesis director as soon as possible within the first week of classes.

Please submit a one-to-two page proposal to the thesis director **and** the program director as soon as possible within the first two weeks of the semester.

The prospectus should include the focus of the thesis, the methodology that will be used, any

questions that it intends to answer, its relevance to literature and language studies, its organization, and bibliography.

An Interview with Dr. Beth Savage

What are your academic areas of expertise and interest? Briefly describe your work in this area (or areas).

My primary field is restoration and eighteenth-century literature; I focus on the drama, specifically the comedy, written and staged in that period. My theoretical interests are gender studies and performance theory.

My book-length project analyzes the complex legal, social, and cultural authority afforded eighteenth-century mothers and midwives and contends that major comedies which stage the disturbing spectacle of these women's power ultimately fail to quell their threat, thereby inadvertently leaving open a source of female influence over emerging defini-

tions of proper English masculinity. I am also currently working on an article that explores cross-dressing and male same-sex desire in eighteenth-century erotica.

Which class(es) are you teaching this year?

The seminar in drama

What were you doing prior to joining the faculty here?

Before joining the LC faculty, I was at the University of Illinois, completing my Ph.D. and teaching composition, literature, and business writing.

Where are you originally from?

Augusta, Georgia

What are your impressions of life at LC and in the

Lynchburg area?

I love LC; the small campus has allowed me to form close relationships with both my students and my colleagues here. Everyone has been very welcoming so far. I haven't seen enough of Lynchburg yet to comment on it, but my family and I hope to spend a lot of time outdoors this summer exploring the area.

Tell us about some of your other interests and what you like to do in your free time.

I try to read for pleasure, when I get a chance, and am also getting interested in gardening. I spend most of my time with my two year-old son, Charlie, and our dog, Otis, looking for ways to make lots of messes and loud noises.

**" I love LC; the small campus has allowed me to form close relationships with both my students and my colleagues."
- Beth Savage**

LC Employment Search Engines

Lynchburg College offers current students and alumni different job search databases to help assist finding a job or an internship.

The data bases range from general sites to put your resume in or ones for specific majors.

There are two new sites that are only for Lynchburg College students and alumni.

EmployOn: Brought to you by the Lynchburg College School of Business and Economics. The site contains a comprehensive job listing and internships for all majors. It is specifically for Lynchburg students and alumni.

CAREER15: This site is only accessible for students and alumni of the fifteen Virginia Foundation of Independent Colleges (VFIC), which LC is a member.

This private college network has job and internship listings at the companies who are in the partnership with the VFIC.

There are more resources listed on the career development website:

<http://www.lynchburg.edu/x511.xml> or contact Bev Reid in Career Development at 434/544-8692 or reid.bc@lynchburg.edu.

An Interview with Dr. Cheryl Coleman

What are your academic areas of expertise and interest? Briefly describe your work in this area (or areas).

My three areas of concentration in my doctoral program were women's literature, the novel, and the Victorian period. I'm most interested in the modern novel, particularly those written by women; in fact, my dissertation and published articles have all been about female authors. In the past several years, I've also started researching the topic of portrayals of faith in fiction and have an article coming out this spring in "Literature and Belief" on *Abide With Me*, a novel by the newest recipient of the Pulitzer Prize for fiction, Elizabeth Strout.

What were you doing prior to joining the faculty here?

I was a visiting assistant professor at Sweet Briar College for the past six years.

Where are you originally from?

Lynchburg, which I love. I wouldn't want to live anywhere else, especially now that we have Barnes & Noble, Target, and Starbucks. It helps that Charlottesville is just down the road.

What are your impressions of life at LC and in the Lynchburg area?

I've taught at four local colleges, and I believe that Lynchburg College has the friendliest and most supportive environment of any of them. I'm enjoying my new colleagues and students, and though the Lynchburg College campus is very familiar to me from my days as a graduate student, I've been reminded all over again of how beautiful the campus is.

Tell us about some of your other interests and what you like to do in your free time.

When I read for fun, I usu-

ally choose food writing (M.F.K. Fisher, Ruth Reichl, Anthony Bourdain, John Thorne, Jane and Michael Stern, etc.), which is ironic since I don't cook. I'll confess to being addicted to the Internet and spending much more time browsing the web than I should. That counts as reading, right?

My LC colleagues have also lured me into the world of Facebook, and I can't decide if that's a good thing or not because it's another temptation to avoid whatever I **should** be doing.

I also enjoy watching movies, working in my yard, walking on the trails at Blackwater, throwing some paint or pastels on a canvas and seeing what comes of it, riding motorcycles, which is now rare since I sold mine, and completely wasting time lying by a pool or on a beach. My guilty little pleasures are trying to beat my partner's scores in Wii and slipping over to La Carreta for cheese dip and margaritas.

"I'm most interested in the modern novel, particularly those written by women."

-Dr. Cheryl Coleman

A Night of Ray Bradbury-fix

English M.A. student Jim Cox presented his research on Ray Bradbury and led a discussion on his work, in a presentation called "A night of Ray Bradbury" on November 18, 2008 in the Hopwood auditorium.

The event was held in conjunction with Amazement Square and the Lynchburg Library's program to help individuals read and discuss books.

Following discussion, *Fahrenheit 415* was shown.

The movie is set in a future

world, where books are burned and critical thought is not allowed.

Cox is the author of the thesis "Mr. Electro, Martians, and Peter Pan: The Arrested Development of Ray Bradbury."

Vhan Zeely and the Time Prevaricators

Vhan Zeely and the Time Prevaricators is a young adult book written by local author Mary R. Bailey. However, it is enjoyed by both young adults and older adults. It involves action, adventure, and time travel back to the Revolutionary War and to the 1500s.

The main character, Vhan

Zeely is eleven, almost twelve, and is enjoying her summer until her new next-door neighbors move in. Then trouble starts. Her parents start acting odd.

On the eve of her twelfth birthday, after a strange discovery in her attic, Vhan is told about mysterious time pieces, lost family members, the Time Nudg-

ers and the Time Prevaricators, who want to control time.

Now it is up to her to go back in time and find help to stop the Time Prevaricators from changing the past.

Ms. Bailey teaches at Rustburg High School. This is her first published novel.

Financial Aid

Scholarships are available for graduate English students who are taking two courses (six credit hours) per semester.

Please contact the Graduate Studies office for more details. (gradstudies@lynchburg.edu) or 434/544-8383.

A list of general scholarships can be found online at this site:

<http://www.lynchburg.edu/x757.xml>.

Graduate assistantships are also available to graduate students.

More information about what the a graduate

assistant ship is, as well as a list of positions available, and how to apply are listed on this site:

<http://www.lynchburg.edu/gradassistantships.xml>.

“Scholarships are available for English graduate students.”

Recently Published

Bruce Bays' interview with Robert Olmstead, Fall semester 2008 Thornton writer-in-residence, was published in the most recent issue of *Shenandoah* Volume 59, Number 2 (Fall 2009).

In the interview with Bays, Olmstead speaks candidly

about writing and the writing process. He also talks about his childhood and the people who inspired him to write.

Olmstead talks about the editing and publishing of his book *Coal Black Horse*. An excerpt of *Coal Black Horse* follows Bays'

interview.

Shenandoah is a journal published by Washington and Lee University that features poems, short stories, and book reviews. It is published three times a year.

Professional Literary Journal Coming to LC

The *James Dickey Review*, formally the *James Dickey Newsletter*, will be moving its headquarters from the University of South Carolina to Lynchburg College in the 2009-10 year.

This journal is published twice yearly, is assigned the International Standard Series Number (ISSN) 0749-0291, is indexed in *The Modern Language Association International Bibliography* and *The Humanities Index* and is catalogued in the Library of Congress.

The first issues of *James Dickey Newsletter* appeared in fall 1984 under the supervision of its founding editor, Joyce M.

Pair. Its original editorial board included Matthew J. Bruccoli, Louis D. Rubin, Jr., Dave Smith, and Monroe K. Spears.

Based in Atlanta for two decades, the journal relocated its editorial and publication offices to the University of South Carolina during the first decade of the twenty-first century before coming to Lynchburg.

Though attempting to maintain an artistic and intellectual connection to the work of James Dickey, the journal accepts all manner of poetry, nonfiction, scholarly articles, and book reviews.

"It's a good thing for LC,"

said the journal's co-editor, Dr. Casey Clabough.

"Having a professional literary journal here raises the school's research profile, provides an outlet for the English faculty's extensive writing and editorial skills, and provides internship opportunities and potential resume material for students interested in jobs in editing and publishing."

Clabough co-edits the journal with Professor Allison Seay, the former poetry editor of the *Greensboro Review*.

An interview with Seay is available at: <http://www.lunaparkreview.com/2009Sep27.html>

**"It's a good thing for LC to have a professional journal. It raises the school's research profile."
-Dr. Casey Clabough**

Students Publish in *Encyclopedia Virginia*

Encyclopedia Virginia is the ultimate online reference work about the Commonwealth. It aggregates in a single resource information on Virginia history, business, politics, and geography, as well as the state's proud heritage in the arts, religion, culture, and folk life. It will be used extensively in Virginia public schools in the near future.

Learn more about *Encyclopedia Virginia* at:

<http://www.virginia.edu/uvatoday/newsRelease.php?id=9308>

The following entries were written by Lynchburg College students:

http://www.encyclopediavirginia.org/Pharr_Robert_Deane_1916-1992

http://www.encyclopediavirginia.org/Bond_Nelson_Slade_1908

-2006

http://www.encyclopediavirginia.org/Jones_Suzanne_Witmore_1950-

http://www.encyclopediavirginia.org/land_Margret_Ward_1923-

Lynchburg College

Lynchburg College
1501 Lakeside Dr., Carnegie 224
Lynchburg, Va 24501

Phone: 434/544 8732
E-mail: c.clabough@lynchburg.edu

January 18 First day of classes
25 End of add period
February 5 End of 3 week withdrawal period
12 Pass/Fail deadline
March 5 Mid-semester
6-14 Spring Break
April 2 End of 10 week withdrawal period
16 Academic Banquet
23-25 Westover Alumni Weekend
May 4 Last day of classes
5-11 Exams
15 Commencement

We're on the web!

<http://www.lynchburg.edu/englishma.xml>

Upcoming Events

**Geraldine Lyon Owens Lec-
ture Series**

February 15, 2010

Poet, Carrie Brown Alumni
House Lounge at 6 p.m.

March 15, 2010

Panel of Lynchburg College
Poets, Alumni House
Lounge at 6 p.m.

April 15, 2010

Catherine Waitinas, profes-
sor of poetry at California
Polytechnic State University.
Alumni House Lounge at 6
p.m.