Sara Van Ness, a student in the MA program in English at Monmouth University, has a book coming out next spring. She wrote a paper on *Watchmen* for an independent study as an undergraduate at Monmouth University. “It just kept growing – the project didn’t want to quit,” Sara said. *Watchmen as Literature* will be out in bookstores on May 15, 2010.

*Watchmen* was published as a series of twelve free-standing comic books beginning in 1986, and then compiled into a single graphic novel. It was written as a single contained narrative rather than as a serial, and was, along with Art Spiegelman’s *Maus*, one of a handful of graphic novels written in the late 1980s that fostered a wave of work in the genre in the next decade.

Sara came to Monmouth University as a freshman in 2004. After she wrote the initial paper for Dr. Stanley Blair, she continued working to develop it into an honors thesis, and graduated with her BA in English and Secondary Education in 2008.

She credits Dr. Blair with encouraging her to submit a query letter to McFarland Publishing; the editors were interested and asked for a proposal. They liked the proposal – but they wanted a book twice as long as what she had in mind.

After a new proposal, a contract was signed. By that (Continued on page 3)
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In your Junior or Senior year as an English major at Monmouth University, you will be required to complete your Experiential Education requirement. “ExEd” allows you to use the skills you’ve acquired (writing, research, literacy, communication) in a non-academic setting as a bridge from the ivory tower to the real world. English majors have fulfilled ExEd in a variety of ways. Recently, our students have studied abroad through an approved program; written sports articles for a local paper; worked as a Disney intern in Florida for a semester; served as a teacher’s aide; acted as an editorial assistant for a local author; and produced brochures and flyers for a local company. EN/ED majors fulfill their ExEd requirement through student teaching.

We recommend that you plan your ExEd at least two months in advance of beginning, and that you arrange it prior your final semester (in order to ensure timely graduation). The number of credits you receive for ExEd depends on the type of experience you sign up for and on the number of hours you spend off campus. If you are doing an internship, cooperative-learning or service-learning project, for example, you must spend 40 hours on site per semester to receive one credit. If you are taking a class, student teaching, or studying abroad in order to fulfill your ExEd, you may not receive additional credit beyond your class itself, but your study will fulfill the Ex Ed requirement.

To get started, contact the department ExEd advisor, Dr. Oty Agbajoh-Laoye, and consult the database of ExEd opportunities available on the Monmouth University website (www.monmouth.edu/academics/CSS/EXED/default.asp). You will also need to ask a full-time faculty member to be your sponsor. Dr. Laoye can assist you with filling out the EdEx paperwork and setting up your placement. Good luck!
Kristin Bluemel's new book entitled *Intermodernism: Literary Culture in Mid-Twentieth-Century Britain* just came in from the publishers, Edinburgh University Press. A description from the book's jacket copy follows.

"This collection of original critical essays challenges readers to accept a new term, new critical category, and new literary history for twentieth-century British literature. It takes as its primary subject the fascinating and typically neglected writing of the years of the Depression and World War II—the fiction, memoirs, criticism, and journalism of writers such as Elizabeth Bowen, Strom Jameson, William Empson, George Orwell, J. B. Priestley, Harold Heslop, T. H. White, Rebecca West, John Grierson, Margery Allingham, and Stella Gibbons. Divided into four sections—Work, Community, War, and Documents—the volume focuses on qualities that distinguish these writers' literary efforts from those of the modernists or postmodernists, elucidating the web of historical, institutional, and personal relationships that together define intermodernism."


Elizabeth Gilmartin hosted the American Conference for Irish Studies Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference on September 18 and 19, 2009. The American Conference for Irish Studies is the professional organization for scholars who research or teach in the field. This conference moves around to different universities in the Mid-Atlantic region each year. In previous years, it has been hosted by Princeton University, LeMoyne College, the University of Maryland-College Park and LaGuardia Community College. This year’s theme was "Ireland by Sea" and participants included deans, professors and graduate students from all over the US. The theme was chosen based on Monmouth’s proximity to the ocean and recent scholarly interest in Ireland as an island culture. The conference featured papers on literature, history, anthropology, music, tourism and art, among other fields. Three Monmouth University English department graduate students, Jack Kelnhofer, Anthony Valentino, and Kimberly Rogers presented the papers they had written while taking Dr. Gilmartin’s graduate course in Irish Literary Studies last spring. Another of our MA students, Julia Sandra Rand, did a dramatic readings of sections of John Millington Synge's "Riders to the Sea." The conference also included two keynote speakers: Maria McGarrity, associate professor of English at Long Island University, who spoke about Joseph O'Neill's novel "Netherland" and Barbara Suess, associate professor of English at William Paterson University, who spoke on Olive Shreiner's "Story of an African Farm." One of the highlights of the conference was a concert of Irish folk music performed by singers Len Graham and Brian O’hAirt. Overall, the conference received very favorable reviews from participants and next year's conference will be hosted by Manhattan College in October, 2010.

David Tietge published his book *Rational Rhetoric: The Role of Science in Public Discourse* (West Lafayette, IN: Parlor Press, 2008). He also published the article “Editor’s Column” in and was guest editor of the Special Issue on Kenneth Burke’s Scene in *The Space Between*. 15.1 (Fall 2009). His book review of *Rhetoric and Democracy: Pedagogical and Political Practices* (East Lansing: Michigan State UP, 2008), was published in *Rhetoric Review* [Forthcoming in Fall 2009, not sure of the publication info yet].


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The Monmouth Review

Advisor: Dr. Stanley Blair
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sblair@monmouth.edu

The Monmouth Review is the University’s official magazine for creativity in writing, art, and graphic design. Edited and produced by students since 1957, the Monmouth Review publishes poetry, short fiction, art, and photography created by Monmouth University students, staff, administration, and alumni. In addition to publishing the magazine, the Monmouth Review sponsors on and off campus speakers, and promotes literary and artistic expression. All students are invited to contribute their works and talents.
Sigma Tau Delta is the International English Honor Society. The name comes from the first (Greek) letters that begin our official motto, "Sincerity, Truth, Design." The Monmouth University chapter, known officially as the Delta Sigma chapter, was founded in 1983 under the direction of Dr. Prescott Evarts. Its main objectives:

- To confer distinction
- To promote interest in literature and the English language
- To foster the discipline of literary studies
- To promote good citizenship
- To exhibit high standards of academic excellence

Through its activities on and off campus, the Delta Sigma chapter of Sigma Tau Delta encourages camaraderie and professional development among its members, as well as service to the University and local communities.

The national organization was founded in 1924 by Dr. Judson Q. Owen. The society was created to "confer distinction upon outstanding students of the English language and literature in undergraduate, graduate, and professional studies."

The official flower of the organization is the red rose. The colors are red and black.

Although membership in Sigma Tau Delta is offered biannually to English majors who have demonstrated superior achievement both in general academics and in literary studies, the society's activities are open to all University students, faculty, and staff. Interested students should contact a faculty advisor in the English Department.
Sigma Tau Delta Induction
November 11, 2009
Fall Inductees

Yuri Passos Albertão        Gabrielle Antonello        Jamie Conlon
Danielle Febbraro          Michelle Giles              Juliann Giumarra
Tina Marie Heneghan        Lois Levine                 Jessica Limatola
Carolyn McGrory            Leann Moczydloowski        Sharon Murphy
Julia Sandra Rand          Kelly Ring                  Amy Sloan
Laura Strauss               Anthony Valentino          Jarrett Van Ollefen
Student Awards

The English Department is proud to announce the award recipients for the 2008-2009 academic year.

The Academic Writing Prize
Sian L. Flinders

Caryl Sills Teaching Award
Susan M. Berrios

Creative Writing Prize
Lauren Coleman
Janna Frommer

English Alumni Scholarship
Amy C. Sloan

English Merit Award
Kelly A. Smith

Distinguished Thesis Award
Toni Magyar
Jennifer Morrisy

First-Year Composition Academic Essay Contest Winners Announced

Anam Khan and Brian Sudol were named as the winners of the 2008 - 2009 First-Year Composition academic essay contest for EN 101 and EN 102 students. The First-Year Composition Committee of the English Department and the Monmouth Review, Monmouth University’s literary and art magazine, co-sponsor this annual competition. Winning essays will be published in the Monmouth Review. Professor Virginia Samaras chairs the essay contest committee.

Writing Awards

Consider saving and polishing your best work for our annual student writing awards for Academic Writing (open to best paper written by an EN major for an English course) and Creative Writing (open to any Monmouth student whose project was submitted to Monmouth faculty either for a course, a workshop, or for Monmouth Review). Papers and projects from Spring 2009 on are eligible. The winners will receive a cash prize at the annual Monmouth University Student Awards Ceremony in April. More information about submissions and deadlines will be forthcoming in February.
Congratulations and Best Wishes to our Graduates!

The Bachelor of Arts Degree

Courtney Ball
Monica Beaumont
Christina Berg
Susan Berrios
Jeremy Block
Aileen Bosmans
Tara Boswell
Jessica Busacca
Laura Butler
Brittany Cansian
Lara Cartal
Margaret Cavallaro
Jaclyn Cianci
Nicole Ciavattoni
Lauren Coleman
Richard Corpron
Michelle Covino
Elizabeth Cowan
Candice Cryan
Desarae D’Amadeo
Christina Darold
Kathryn Denney
Stefanie DiMatteo
Danielle Divincent
Jacqueline Donovan
Alicia Driber
Caitlin Dwyer
Aimee Edson
Sian Flinders
Laura Frankfurt
Christina Frati
Erin Gallagher
Andrea Garcia
Ashley Gargiulo
Maria Geiger
Desiree Giacini
Nicole Giannopoulos
Veronica Guevara
Melissa Hall
Maili Haus
Shannon Higgins
Marisa Jimenez
Nina Jones
Maura Kenny
Kyle Lamey
Nicole Laregna
Sharon Lasko
Blair Lee
Lisa MacDonald
Sarah Maddalena
Heather McClelland
Emily Merchant
Katelyn Mirabelli
Briana Mulcahy
Katie Muller
Marygrace Murphy
Laura Myers
Alana Nachmani
Amanda Nelson
Jennifer O’Hare
Kristan Perez
Jessica Picciuto
Elizabeth Pike
Melissa Pinheiro
Selvija Radonic
Connianne Rapuano
Nicole Reynolds
Ashley Ricciardi
Elizabeth Ricciardi
Janine Ricciardi
Jeff Rubano
Stacie Savittieri
Erin Schiavo
Lisa Schwartz
Brittany Scott
Kelly Smith
Alyssa Steples
Amanda Tiedeken
Alexander Truncale
Amanda Vitale
Sara Werner
Erica Wisniewski
Elizabeth Wixted
Kaitlin Wolkom
Meghan Yetka
Jessica Zipko

The Master of Arts Degree

Sheri Anderson
Kathryn Angelo
Richard Angelo
Carlo Durland
Dara Evans
Toni Magyar
Karen Mintz
Jennifer Morrisey
Michael Pagel
Jana Phelps
Lauren Sokol
Erinn Stevenson

Susan Stever
William Wend
Calendar of Events

Visiting Writers Series

Matthew Dickman
Michael Dickman
Wednesday, December 9, 2009
4:30 PM

Matthew Dickman won the APR/Honnickman First Book Prize for *All-American Poem* (2008), chosen by Tony Hoagland and published by Copper Canyon Press. His poems have appeared in a wide range of publications, including *The New Yorker* and *Tin House*. He has received fellowships for his work from the Michener Center for Writers, the Vermont Studio Centers, and the Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown.

Michael Dickman began writing poems "after accidentally reading a Neruda ode." His first collection is *The End of the West* (2009). He has received fellowships from the Michener Center for Writers in Austin, Texas, the Fine Arts Work Center, and the Vermont Studio Center, and he won the 2008 Narrative Prize. His poems have appeared in *The New Yorker, The American Poetry Review, Field, Tin House, Narrative Magazine*, and others. Over the past year, he has been teaching at Princeton University.

Twin brothers, both authors have been profiled in *Poets & Writers* and *The New Yorker*. 

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Fall 2009

**December**

Graduate Student Symposium
Friday, December 18
12:00–5:00 PM
Club Lounge

Spring 2010

**February**

Graduate Social
Wednesday, February 24
4:00-6:00 PM
W 106

**April**

Sigma Tau Delta Initiation
Sunday, April 25
2 PM

**May**

Graduate Symposium
Tuesday, May 4
W 106

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Department of English
Wilson Annex, Room 502
732-571-3439

MA Program

Playwriting

NJ Studies

Literary Study

Composition Studies

Language & Linguistics

Rhetoric & Writing

Critical Theory

MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY
where leaders look forward