

ICS Faculty Writing Group report, AY 2008-2009

General

The ICS Faculty Writing Group was co-facilitated by Radhika Gajjala (Communications) and Vicki Patraha (ACS/English). Members of the ICS Faculty Writing Group for AY 2008-09 include: Radhika Gajjala (Interpersonal Communications), Emily Lutenski (Ethnic Studies), Mike Butterworth (Communication Studies), Clayton Rosati (Telecommunications), and Vicki Patraha (English/ACS). These members of the ICS Faculty Writing Group continue to express strong appreciation for ICS's support of faculty research excellence.

How this report was generated: Radhika Gajjala and Vicki Patraha, co-facilitators of the ICS Faculty Writing Group, asked each member to provide them with information regarding publication accomplishments and scholarly accomplishments during AY 2008-09 and with general feedback regarding the effectiveness of the ICS Faculty Writing Group and its influence on members' scholarly lives. The individual reports have been synthesized in this document.

Works reviewed by the ICS writing group

This year, the Faculty Writing Group met six times to read work-in-progress shared by the members. All works read by the group this AY are under consideration or already accepted for publication.

Butterworth, "Making the World Safe for Baseball: American Mission and the World Baseball Classic," taken from the book manuscript *Baseball and Rhetorics of Purity: The National Pastime and American Identity During the War on Terror*, currently under consideration at the University of Alabama Press.

Gajjala, "Placing South Asian Digital Diasporas in Secondlife," currently under review at the *Journal of Communication Inquiry*.

Lutenski, "Locating the Modern Mexican in Josephina Niggli's *Step Down, Elder Brother*," currently under review at *Western American Literature*.

Lutenski, "Tribes of Men: John Joseph Mathews' Indian Internationalism," presented as part of the Post-War American Masculinities panel, Louisville Conference on Literature and Culture Since 1900 (Louisville, KY).

Rosati, "Necromancing: Dead Labor, Media, and the Cultural Politics of Realization."

Publications submitted or completed during AY 2008-2009

Publication accomplishments by the members of the Faculty Writing Group are impressive: one book manuscript is under review; one textbook is under contract; and seven academic articles and book chapters were accepted or published this year.

Butterworth

Revised manuscript under consideration: Michael L. Butterworth, *Baseball and Rhetorics of Purity: The National Pastime and American Identity during the War on Terror* (Tuscaloosa, AL: University of Alabama Press).

Textbook under contract: Andrew C. Billings, Michael L. Butterworth, and Paul D. Turman, *Communication and Sport: Perspectives and Approaches* (under contract with Sage; expected publication 2011).

Michael L. Butterworth, "Major League Baseball, Welcome Back Veterans, and the Rhetoric of 'Support the Troops,'" Ron Briley, ed., *Baseball and Politics* (McFarland, forthcoming).

Michael L. Butterworth, "Do You Believe in Nationalism? American Patriotism in Miracle," in Heather Hundley and Andrew C. Billings, eds., *Examining Identity in Sports Media* (Sage, in press).

Michael L. Butterworth and Stormi Moskal, "American Football, Flags, and 'Fun': The Bell Helicopter Armed Forces Bowl and the Rhetorical Production of Militarism," *Communication, Culture & Critique* (forthcoming).

Michael L. Butterworth, "'Baseball as America': Nostalgia and Public Memory through the National Pastime," *Journal of Communication Studies* (forthcoming, special issue on Communication and Sport).

Michael L. Butterworth, "'Katie Was Not Only a Girl, She was Terrible': Katie Hnida, Body Rhetoric, and College Football at the University of Colorado," *Communication Studies* 59 (July-September 2008): 259-273.

Lutenski

"Locating the Modern Mexican in Josephina Niggli's *Step Down, Elder Brother*." (Currently under review at *Western American Literature*.)

Patraka

"The Holocaust Performative," *Performance Studies: The Key Concepts*, edited by Gabrielle Cody for Routledge (2010)

Academic conference presentations

Members of the ICS FWG continue to be professionally active at academic conferences. As a group, the members presented seven conference papers this AY.

Butterworth

Michael L. Butterworth, Gordon R. Mitchell, and Roger Stahl, “And Now, to Honor America . . .”: Commercial Sport and the Wartime Citizen,” National Communication Association, San Diego, November, 2008.

Gordon R. Mitchell, Michael L. Butterworth, and Roger Stahl, “Patriotism at 500 Feet and 450 MPH: Whoosh and Awe in Military Flyovers at Sporting Events,” National Communication Association, San Diego, November, 2008.

Roger Stahl, Gordon R. Mitchell, and Michael L. Butterworth, “First Person War: Google Earth and the Gaze,” National Communication Association, San Diego, November, 2008.

Ellen W. Gorsevski and Michael L. Butterworth, “Muhammad Ali’s Fighting Words: The Rhetoric of Radical Nonviolent Resistance,” National Communication Association, San Diego, November, 2008.

Michael L. Butterworth, “ESPN in the Desert: Sports Media and the Normalization of War,” Media, War and Conflict Resolution Conference, Bowling Green, OH, September, 2008.

Lutenski

“Tribes of Men,” February 2009 - Presentation for Post-War American Masculinities panel, Louisville Conference on Literature and Culture Since 1900 (Louisville, KY)

“Traveling the International Reservation,” October 2008 - Presentation for Resistance and Revision in Native American Literature panel, Western Literature Association (Boulder, CO)

Other professional service

In addition to the impressive list of publications and presentations included above, Writing Group co-facilitator Vicki Patraaka also served as a reviewer for Faculty Fellowship applications for the American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) in the 2008-09 academic year.

General comments about the importance of the ICS Faculty Writing Group to members' continued scholarly success and professional development

FWG members note that participation in the group is beneficial for their scholarship and professional development, even beyond the feedback and suggestions for revision that are generated at the meetings. One participant noted that the group has helped him conceptualize a book manuscript, with one of the chapters being reviewed by the group during the year. Several others note the importance of the ICS FWG for their intellectual stimulation and sense of scholarly community. One called the group “the most prominent outlet for me to engage with cultural and social theory on campus.” Another suggested that “the connections forged through the writing group and ICS--connections both across BGSU and beyond our campus--will continue to help me develop my research program and professional agenda through fostering rigorous interdisciplinary inquiry.”

The FWG also provided an opportunity for group members to strike a balance between their own research and their teaching responsibilities, enabling them to better serve both aspects of their professional lives. One member observed that “as an instructor with a heavy teaching load, it can be very easy to let one’s research fall by the wayside,” identifying the FWG as a means of preventing that fate. Another member highlighted the usefulness of the group in motivating research productivity, asserting that “the Writing Group provides not only deadlines, but also a site of scholarly support and intellectual engagement that isn’t necessarily foregrounded in my teaching life.” With the assistance of the FWG, members were able to bring a new intellectual energy to their own research and their teaching, incorporating materials and structural aspects derived from the group to their own benefit and that of their students.

Overall, all five members of the ICF Faculty Writing Group stated their on-going appreciation for the group and for ICS’s continued support for its activities.