

Fall 2018

# Rhetoric & Writing Notes

December 2018

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## Welcome

Welcome to the fall 2018 Rhetoric & Writing program newsletter. Another semester is behind us, and the northwest Ohio weather still hasn't made up its mind about whether or not we're going to have winter.

Fall semester brought a lot of changes. We welcomed a new cohort and a new faculty member. Members of the program made their way through courses, preliminary exams, grad lectures, and a dissertation defense. We also bid a sudden and unexpected goodbye to Ashley Doonan, whose presence will be greatly missed.

This newsletter serves as a record of some program changes and the accomplishments of various members of our community, and as a way for us to remember where we have been while we continue to look ahead for the next stages of our journeys.

May the break bring rest and peace to us all.

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## In Memory of Ashley Doonan



The program mourns the loss of Ashley Doonan, who passed on Friday, November 30, 2018. Ashley was from Dover, New Hampshire, and this was her third year in the Rhetoric & Writing program.

Members of the program gathered on Monday, December 3 to share memories and grieve together. Let us remember Ashley's life, continue to hold her in our hearts, and hope for peace for her as well as her family. Condolences can be sent to [sympathy@bgsu.edu](mailto:sympathy@bgsu.edu). There is also a [memorial fund](#) to help cover funeral costs.

Campus and local resources exist for those of us who may want the opportunity to make use of them:

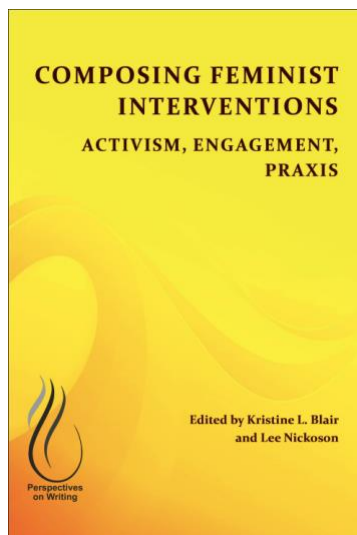
- BGSU Counseling Center: Walk-in hours Monday-Friday from 1:30-4 p.m.
  - 104 College Park Office Building, (419) 372-2081
- Wood County Crisis Line: (419) 502-4673
- National Suicide Prevention Hotline: (800) 273-8255
- Police: 911 for city; (419) 372-2346 for Campus

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## Publications

Members of the Rhetoric & Writing PhD program had publication success in scholarly and creative venues this fall. A few of those publications include:

- **Kelly Moreland**'s review of A. Goldthwaite's *Food, Feminisms, Rhetorics* was published in *Peitho*
- **Kristin LaFollette**'s review of Stacey Waite's *Teaching Queer: Radical Possibilities for Writing and Knowing* was published in *Peitho*
- **Sara Austin**'s chapter "Understanding Rhetoric, Understanding Genre: Rhetorical Genre Studies Approached Writing Course" was published in [\*Teaching Graphic Novels in the English Classroom: Pedagogical Possibilities of Multimodal Literacy Engagement\*](#)
- **Lauren Salisbury**'s article "'Just a Tool: Instructors' Attitudes and Use of Course Management Systems for Online Writing Instruction" was published in *Computers and Composition*
- **Kristin LaFollette** and **Jonathan Brownlee** participated in an art showcase at the West Oak Walk Fall Festival
- **Lena Ziegler** was a finalist in the *GoldLine Press* Nonfiction Chapbook Contest, and published "[Apostrophe](#)" in *The Seventh Wave*, along with numerous other creative works
- **Lee Nickoson** and **Kristine Blair**'s *Composing Feminist Interventions: Activism, Engagement, Praxis* is now available through the [WAC Clearinghouse](#). Numerous program alumni authored chapters!



## RSBS Updates

The 6th annual 21st Century Englishes conference was on November 10, 2018. The conference theme was “Culture, Community, and Change,” and the event was co-chaired by Renee Ann Drouin and Bailey Poland.



Dr. Sue Carter Wood offered opening remarks to kick the event off, and Dr. Neil Baird provided closing remarks after a day of engaging presentations and discussion.

*Dr. Christine Denecker, BGSU alumna and English Professor at The University of Findlay, delivered the conference keynote.*



## Interview with Dr. Neil Baird

Dr. Neil Baird arrived in Bowling Green in fall 2018 to take on the role of associate professor in the Rhetoric and Writing PhD program. He generously agreed to an interview about his experience at BGSU so far, his hopes for the future, and his advice to graduate students.

### **What are your biggest goals as an instructor and member of the program?**

My biggest goal as an instructor and member of the program is to call attention to the complexities of writing transfer in composition, general education, and WAC, and beyond the university. Given the ways writing is shaped by communities to do particular kinds of work, writing differs across contexts, so writing transfer is often a difficult process of adaptation, involving the transformation of not just writing knowledge, but identities and ways of knowing.

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## What has surprised you about the position so far? What about the move to NW Ohio?

What has surprised me about the position so far has been how revitalizing the work has been. When I began writing center work at Western, a previous director told me she had moved on from the position because she found it "boring." Someone almost had to pick me up off the floor! How could anyone find writing center work boring? After directing the writing center for ten years, I now understand what she meant. Writing center work never became "boring" for me, but we all need to become invested in new problems and challenges at some point. That's what the move to BGSU has been to me.

What has surprised me about the move to Northwest Ohio has been how flat it is here! I'm a cyclist. While Western Illinois didn't have many hills, it wasn't flat! This just means I'll have to wear the green jersey of a sprinter rather than the red polka-dot jersey of a climber. Northwest Ohio, however, does have a number of beautiful rails-to-trails, [including] Slippery Elm and Wabash Cannonball to name a couple, and I look forward to training on them as I prepare to ride with former BGSU graduate student Bill Hart-Davidson and others to East Lansing for the [2019 Computers and Writing Conference!](#)

## What lessons would you share with graduate students who are interested in WPA work as part of their career trajectory?

- **Lesson #1:** You will be a WPA at some point.

[Read the whole interview](#)

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## Dissertation Defense

**Lauren Salisbury** successfully defended her dissertation on November 16, 2018. She spoke on, "The Role of Space and Place: A Case Study of Students' Experiences in Online First-Year Writing Courses (OFYWCs)." Congratulations to **Dr. Salisbury!**



*Lauren Salisbury presents her dissertation work to a full room in East Hall. Photo credit: **Dr. Heather Jordan***

## Prospectus Defenses

**Triauna Carey** presented her dissertation prospectus, "Thought Contagion: A Rhetorical Analysis of Music as a Mode of Resistance" on November 1, 2018.

**Darlene Johnston** presented her dissertation prospectus, "Making Their Voices Heard: How Women in Kosovo Used Amplification to Ensure Representation in a Newly Created Democracy" on November 15, 2018.

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## Alumni Updates

**Dr. Christine Tulley**, Professor of English and Director of the Master of Arts in Rhetoric and Writing program at The University of Findlay, published *How Writing Faculty Write* earlier in 2018. She chatted with us about the book, how she approaches her own writing, and what projects are next. [Read the whole interview with Dr. Tulley.](#)

**Dr. Chris Denecker**, Professor of English at The University of Findlay, was the keynote speaker for this year's 21st Century Englishes conference. [Read more about the Ohio Farm Stories project](#) and how it aligned with the conference theme of "Culture, Community, and Change."

### New Positions

Congratulations to these BGSU alumni on their new positions!

- Soha Youssef, Assistant Professor, Thomas Jefferson U, Philadelphia, PA
- Joseph Robertshaw, Instructor, U of Alabama, Huntsville
- Danielle Donelson, Visiting Assistant Professor, Pfeiffer University, Misenheimer, NC
- Nicholas Novosel, Teaching Faculty, Youngstown State U, Ohio
- Aimee Taylor, Writing Specialist, Clarke University, Dubuque, IA
- Adam Sprague, Student Success Coordinator and Assistant Professor of English, Bellin College, Bellevue, WI
- Caleb James, Director, University Writing Center, University of Arkansas at Little Rock, Little Rock, AR
- Brianna Mauk, Assistant Teaching Professor of English, Ball State University, Muncie, IN
- Christine Garbett, Humanities Division Chair, Western Wyoming Community College, Rock Springs, WY
- Stephanie Quinn, Associate Prof, McKendree University, Lebanon, IL
- Jeremy Schneider, Assistant Director of Preparing Future Faculty, Claremont Graduate University, Claremont, CA
- Yvonne Schultz, Associate Vice President for Academic Administration, Mount Vernon Nazarene University, Mount Vernon, OH
- Erin Laverick, Chair, Professor, Concordia University, Ann Arbor, MI
- Paul Cesarini, Professor and Vice Provost, Online and Summer Programs, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH
- Jeff Kirchoff, Assistant Professor, Texas A&M University, Killeen, TX
- Allison Witte, Lead Faculty, English, Urbana University, Dayton, OH