

# SPRING 2013 NEWSLETTER

THE DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

## From the Chair

It has been an honor to serve as chair for two terms and to work with so many talented faculty members, staff members, and students. We can be proud of the many things that our faculty have accomplished in the past six years, despite the awful budget--excellent scholarly and creative works; deeply informed and imaginative instruction; development of programs, such as junior-level writing in the disciplines. Faculty have also contributed to the intellectual and personal development of our students through their work as advisors and mentors. Further, we have produced an impressive array of new and revised courses to meet the needs of the University's new General Education program for undergraduates. We have continued our collaborations with the Alexander String Quartet and with other departments to mount a performance by a professional theater company of a work that students studied in class.



(And, in the coming year, Professor Bruce Avery and other colleagues will be collaborating with Theatre Arts on Shakespearean programs; look for more information on the department's website in the fall.) To get a feeling for the accomplishments of our students, one need only attend the spring conference of the Graduate Literature Association, or the spring conference of the MA program in Composition, or the spring conference of the MA program in TESOL.

Let me conclude by welcoming Sugie Goen-Salter as new chair. And by echoing *Four Quartets*: "Not fare well, / But fare forward, voyagers."

--Beverly Voloshin

## Department News

On March 12<sup>th</sup>, the **Word for Word Theatre Company** returned to SFSU for a one-night performance of the highly acclaimed *You Know When the Men Are Gone* written by Siobhan Fallon and directed by Joel Mullennix and Amy Kossow. The performance included two short wartime stories from *You Know When the Men Are Gone*: "The Last Stand" and "Gold Star," which illuminated the themes of homecoming and mourning. It was a sold-out performance with many attendees giving rave reviews. The performance was co-sponsored by the Department of English.



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On March 7<sup>th</sup>, **Sarah Manyika** organized a reading at SFSU featuring Zimbabwean fiction writer NoViolet Bulawayo. NoViolet Bulawayo is the 2011 winner of the Caine Prize for African Writing, for her story "Hitting Budapest." She is currently a Stegner Fellow in writing at Stanford University. Bulawayo's first novel, *We Need New Names*, came out in May (Little Brown in the US and Chatto and Windus in the UK) to much acclaim.

The English Tutoring Center has a new website: [etc.sfsu.edu](http://etc.sfsu.edu). After much work on the part of ETC staff, the new ETC website is live and the whole of its content has been approved by the university as ADA compliant (the website is used as a model for ADA PDF compliancy at SFSU). The new site is also an important portal for the Directed Self Placement and Early Start programs.

## M.A. Literature News

The 5th Annual Explications Conference took place on April 19<sup>th</sup> and turned out to be a wonderful day of enriching academic conversations. Special thanks to the **Tobi Harper** and the Explications Committee (**Erica Eller, Evelyn Liang, Magda Panunzio, Bethany Qualls**) for organizing the event. Explications was sponsored by the Graduate Literature Association.



(Left to right) Gina Caprari, Jason Slavin, and Ben Davis speaking during their panel on *The American Way: From Excrement to Zombies*.



(Left to right) Heather Rogers, Alex Ford, and Bethany Qualls speaking during the panel on *Women Fashioning Communities and Themselves*.

On Thursday, May 16, the Graduate Literature Association held the 25th annual publication launch party for *Interpretations*, the GLA's journal, written and edited by the Literature students. The celebration was a success, and the editors and writers are very proud of the journal they have produced, which represents some of the best work of this year's graduate students.

Copies are on sale in the English office.



*Interpretations* Launch Party

**Magda Panunzio, Bethany Qualls, and Zebulah Baldwin** (all M.A. Literature '13) attended the College English Association's 2013 national conference in Savannah, GA on April 4-6. Magda's paper was entitled "The Eloquence of Absence: Missing Bodies and Awareness in Austen's *Persuasion*." Zebulah presented his paper "An Image of Darkness: Deconstructing Race through Conrad and Achebe." Bethany presented her paper entitled "What is *Pamela* Selling? The Nature of Virtue as Commodity in the Eighteenth Century." They all enjoyed meeting faculty and other graduate students from around the country and got positive responses from various panelists. They were among a small number of M.A. students making presentations.

Congratulations to **Jessie Ataide, Zebulah Baldwin, Katie Bierbaum, Gina Caprari, Erica Eller, Megan Hansen, Tobi Harper, Magda Panunzio, and Bethany Qualls** (M.A. Literature students and graduates) who will be presenting talks at the 2013 Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association (PAMLA) Annual Conference in San Diego, CA this November. Stay tuned to the Fall Newsletter for details!

**Jess Brownstein** (M.F.A Creative Writing, T.A. in English 462 with **Professor Krasny**) wrote a play and is directing another of the plays being produced as "Short Stock Four Plays" by Theater 446.

## M.A. TESOL News

The SFSU M.A. TESOL Student Association hosted three TESOL Talks this Spring semester. The first one was held on February 22<sup>nd</sup> and was titled "Cinematic Magic in the Second Language Classroom." The featured speaker was **Bihimini L. Somananda**, a visiting scholar from University of Colombo, Sri Lanka. Professor Emeritus **Tom Scovel** gave the second TESOL Talk on March 8<sup>th</sup> titled "The Year China Changed," also the name of his newly published book. The final TESOL Talk, "Professional Equity in TESOL," was held on April 12<sup>th</sup> and featured two SFSU M.A. TESOL alumni, **Julia Schulte** and **Blanca Coma**.



M.A. TESOL Graduating Class 2013

On Friday May 10th, the twenty-two members of the SFSU M.A. TESOL graduating class presented their final projects on research and methods in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages. The conference theme was "One World, Many Languages: Uniting Cultures in Learning."

The M.A. TESOL conference has become a tradition at San Francisco State University. Every semester, the students in the graduating class organize a conference to present their capstone projects and network with teachers, students, and local professionals. Conference info at <http://matesol2013.wordpress.com/>

# M.A. Composition News

On May 17, the Composition MA program hosted its first Spring Composition Conference which featured panel presentations showcasing the work of students graduating from the program this year. In addition to four panel sessions, we were also very pleased to have a plenary talk entitled "Writing the World: Mission to Inner-Space," given by Professor Jabari Mahiri (UC Berkeley). The panels and talk were well-attended, and plans are in the works to expand next year's conference to include presentations by more students, faculty, and interested parties from other area institutions. Stay tuned.

## Student News

<b>2013-2014 DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE HONORS AND AWARDS RECIPIENTS</b>	
<b>DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH UNDERGRADUATE HONOREE</b> <i>Megan Garcia- Education</i>	<b>ASW SCHOLARSHIP</b> <i>Angela Marrujo</i>
<b>GRADUATE STUDENT AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT</b> <i>Hayley Cantor - COMPOSITION</i> <i>Naotoshi Furuta - TESOL</i> <i>Daphne Powell – TESOL</i> <i>Bethany Qualls - LITERATURE</i>	<b>DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH PROGRAM HONOREES</b> <i>Stephanie Bittlingmeier- Linguistics</i> <i>Jaclyn Carpenter - Literature</i> <i>Megan Garcia – Education</i>
<b>CUNNINGHAM SCHOLARSHIP IN ENGLISH LITERATURE</b> <i>Erica Eller</i>	<b>DEBRA PLOUSHA MOORE &amp; JOHN E. MOORE JR. SCHOLARSHIP</b> <i>Alicia Barnett, Peter Frischer, Orellana Johnson</i>
<b>ELLANORE AND MAURICE BASSAN ENGLISH DEPT. SCHOLARSHIP</b> <i>Ariana Hendrix</i>	<b>JAN GREGORY POSTSECONDARY READING AND COMPOSITION SCHOLARSHIP</b> <i>Kathryn Bliss</i>
<b>JIM BROGAN – JACK POST SCHOLARSHIP</b> <i>Alexander Lee</i>	<b>JIM KOHN SCHOLARSHIP</b> <i>Hazel Crawford, Sarah George, Adam Reid</i>
<b>R. JOEL DORIUS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP</b> <i>Daniel Guerra</i>	<b>TESOL CONVENTION SCHOLARSHIP</b> <i>Aaron Brown, Hilaire Fong, Aaron Sponseller, Christopher Washington, Emily Zastrow</i>
<b>GAIL WEINSTEIN FELLOWSHIP</b> <i>Vanessa Clark</i>	<b>SARAH RUTH PRIZE</b> <i>Hanna Nelson</i>
<b>College of Liberal &amp; Creative Arts: KAUFMANN SCHOLARSHIP</b> <i>Cristian King</i>	

The recipients of the 2012-2013 Honors and Awards were celebrated for their accomplishments at the annual Scholarship Awards Reception on May 16<sup>th</sup>. It was a great turnout of both faculty and students. Congratulations to all!



Scholarship Awards Reception

## Acceptances to Graduate Programs

**Ivaan Fernandez** (B.A. in English Literature and Urban Studies and Planning '13) will be attending the Master's in English Education program at UC Santa Cruz this Fall.

**Ruth Osorio** (M.A. Literature '10) will begin a PhD program in English at University of Maryland, College Park in Fall 2013.

**Carlyn Ferrari** (M.A. Literature '09) will begin a PhD program in Afro-American Studies at University of Massachusetts, Amherst in Fall 2013

**Clayton Plake** (M.A. Literature '13) was accepted to and will be attending the PhD program in English Literature at Claremont Graduate University this fall.

**Rebecca Dinkel** (M.A. Linguistics '13) has been accepted to the doctoral program in Linguistics, specializing in Mayan hieroglyphs, at SUNY Albany, with funding. Rebecca will start the program in Fall 2013.

**David Cosca** (M.A. Literature '13) will begin a PhD program in English at Cornell in Fall 2013.

**Raina Celnik** (M.A. Literature '13) was accepted to a doctorate program (and as a T.A.) to Miami University in Ohio.

## Faculty News

In honor of twenty years in public radio service as the host of KQED-FM's "Forum," Mayor Ed Lee declared February 15<sup>th</sup> as "**Michael Krasny Day**" in San Francisco. In his two decades on the air with KQED, Dr. Krasny has interviewed hundreds of cultural icons-- from President Barack Obama to Salman Rushdie. As if hosting a radio show were not keeping him busy enough, Professor Krasny has also been teaching literature courses in the English Department since 1970. Congratulations on your work in the community and on campus, Professor Krasny!

**Maricel Santos** gave two presentations at the TESOL Convention in March in Dallas, Texas: "The Story-Telling Classroom: A Workshop for Beginning-Level ESL Teachers" with her colleague, **Laurel Pollard** and "Locating L2 Teacher Education in the Community," with two current MA TESOL students, **Tenley Harrison** and **Corrie McCluskey**. The latter presentation drew on the Certificate in Immigrant Literacies Program.

**Gitanjali Shahani** participated in a seminar on "Nomadic Subjects and Objects" at the 41st Annual Meeting of the Shakespeare Association of America held in Toronto in March. Professor Shahani was also the recipient of two grants from the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs. She was awarded an Individual Investigator

Grant to work on her monograph, "The Spiced Indian Air in Early Modern England" for Spring 2013. She also received a Small Grant to work on a co-authored book project, "The Bard in Bollywood" for Spring 2014.

**Lynn Wardley** gave a talk in April on "ecofeminisms" to the SFSU campus Sustainable Initiatives group, and encourages everyone to check out their website and blog!

<http://www.sfsustudentcenter.com/programs/sustainability.php>

**Tara Lockhart** and **Mary Soliday** were awarded a prestigious Conference on College Composition and Communication Research Initiative grant in the amount of \$10,000 for their research project entitled "From Perception to Performance: A Study of Transfer in Student Writing." They co-presented results of the study gained from interviewing approximately 70 students at SFSU, as well as studying writing samples from both ENG 214 and GWAR courses across majors, at CCCC in Las Vegas this past March. **Tara Lockhart** will present additional components of their findings this June at a conference devoted to the study of the transfer of learning at Elon University in North Carolina.

**Bill Christmas** served as a volume advisor for the "Mary Collier" entry in *Literature Criticism from 1400-1800*, vol. 214 (Gale-Cengage, 2013), and contributed two essays ("Labouring-Class Poetry" and "Mary Collier") for the forthcoming Wiley-Blackwell *Encyclopedia of British Literature 1660-1800*. His article, "Lyric Modes: The Soliloquy Poems of Mary Leapor and Ann Yearsley," will appear in a special issue of *Tulsa Studies in Women's Literature* (Fall 2013).

**Mary Ann Koory** is enjoying her work as the dramaturge for Marin Shakespeare Company's production of the rarely performed but highly influential Tudor revenge play *The Spanish Tragedy*, by Thomas Kyd. She invites everyone to come, picnic and watch the ritual mayhem in the Forest Hills Amphitheatre in San Rafael this summer, July - August. For more information, please visit the following link:

<http://www.marinshakespeare.org>

Congratulations to **Larry Hanley**, **Maricel Santos**, **Nelson Graff**, and **Sara Hackenberg** who will be representing the College of Liberal and Creative Arts. Larry was re-elected as the Academic Senate Chair. Maricel was elected to the University Academic Assessment Advisory Committee; Nelson, to the University's Teacher Credential Committee; and Sara, to the Academic Senate as a Senator at-large.

**Bev Voloshin** gave a talk on Melville's "Benito Cereno" and Chesnut's "The Dumb Witness" at the Ninth International Melville Conference in Washington, D.C. in June.

The Newberry Library of Chicago has awarded the Susan Kelly Power and Helen Hornbeck Tanner Fellowship for 2013-14 to **Laura Lehua Yim** for work in residence on her book project *Fluid Propriety: Water and Authority in Spenser and Shakespeare*. Highly competitive, this fellowship will fund one month's research for Yim in the Newberry Library's famous map collection as well as in their rare books and manuscripts collection. While in residence, she will investigate marginalia and annotations on several copies of famous late sixteenth- and early seventeenth-century English atlases, choreographies, and, and she will search through sixteenth century English family papers and legal documents for references to transfers of proprietary rights in rivers, streams, ponds, and springs.

**Elise Wormuth** will be showing her photographs at the Santa Cruz County Government Center from June-August, and at the Department of Parks and Recreation at Simpkins Swim Center in Santa Cruz from August-October. Her work is now on permanent display at the Scotts Valley Artisans Gallery, a collective of over 140 artists.



Photograph by  
Elise Wormuth

**Elizabeth Whalley** presented a paper, "Improv Activities to Benefit all Language Skills," at the Catesol Regional Conference on May 4 in Concord. In addition, she co-lead a themed networking session on

Instruction Through the Arts at the same conference. In August she will present a paper, "Classroom Management Tips for Optimal Student Learning," at the Hawaii University International Conference on Education in Honolulu. She continues to perform with her improv troupe, Spontaneous Combustion, and is planning on directing an improvised Shakespeare play for their winter 2013 show. In service to the community, she teaches improv to seniors. Her oldest student is 94 and in a wheelchair. A younger student, 84, performed in vaudeville as a child.

**Bruce Avery** will be performing in *Hamlet* as Polonius at the Francis Ford Coppola winery in Sonoma on during the last two weekends of July, Friday-Sunday. Show starts at 7 p.m.



Bruce Avery performing in last year's production of *Romeo and Juliet*



Outdoor Theatre at the Francis Ford Coppola Winery

**Jennifer Arin's** poem "Precipitation" is forthcoming in the literary journal *Construction*. She also has been giving readings throughout California from her recent book of poetry, *Ways We Hold*. In addition, she has been asked to translate, from English and Spanish into French, photograph titles and poems for an exhibit organized by Professor Alejandro Murguía, of SFSU's Latina/Latino Studies Department. This exhibit, which features photos from the Mexican Revolution, will be on display at a gallery in Paris this summer.

Congratulations to our colleague **Georgia Gero** on her election as Lecturer Vice President of the SF State chapter of CFA. Good luck to Georgia in this important post.

## New Faculty

**Dr. Summer Star** will be starting this fall as Assistant Professor in Literature. Her area of expertise is Victorian Literature. Summer earned her Bachelor's degree from the University of Iowa, and her Master's and PhD degrees from the University of California at Santa Barbara. Her dissertation was entitled "Reflexive Minds, Phenomenal Bodies: The Birth of Aesthetic Experience in Mid Victorian Literature." She published two articles this spring, "Feeling Real in Middlemarch" in *English Literary History* and a contribution to the "Gerald Manley Hopkins Forum" of *Religion and Literature*. Summer has taught at UC Riverside and UC Santa Barbara.

## Promotions

**Mark Roberge** was promoted to Professor. **Priyanvada Abeywickrama, Jennifer Mylander, and Gitanjali Shahani** are now all Associate Professors with tenure. Congratulations Mark, Priya, Jennifer, and Gitanjali!

## Staff Updates

The English Office was sad to say good-bye to **Harpreet Hayer**, but happy to have **Irina Simon** back from maternity leave in February.

If you have visited the English department office during the semester, you might have noticed the new student assistant, **Katie Bierbaum**. Katie is a graduate student in the Master's Literature program here at SFSU; she is interested in representations of childhood in 19th-century English literature. She will be writing her thesis on the Romantic child and Lewis Carroll's *Sylvie and Bruno*.

**Rachel Lewis**, also a student assistant in the English department office was accepted this semester to the highly impacted B.A. in Child Development program. Congrats to Rachel!

## Alumni

**Jennifer Bendery** (M.A. Literature '05) was quoted on the Lawrence O'Donnell TV show for her interview with Sen. Inhofe on gun control. She now writes for the *Huffington Post*.

**James Egan** (M.A. Literature, SFSU; PhD, U.C. Santa Barbara) is Professor of English at Brown University and a specialist in colonial American Literature. He is the author of *Oriental Shadows: The Presence of the East in Early American Literature* (Ohio State, 2011) and of *Authorizing Experience: Refiguring of the Body Politic in Seventeenth Century New England Writing* (Princeton, 1999)

**Ernest J. Gaines** (B.A., English, '57) received the National Medal of Arts from President Obama at the White House on July 10, 2013. More info and video:

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2013/07/10/presenting-2012-national-medals-arts-and-humanities>

**Gerald Haslam** (B.A. '63; M.A. '65) was a Spring 2013 Friends of the Library Invitational Lecturer at California State University Sacramento. His topic was "The Enigmatic Life of S.I. Hayakawa."

Professor **Sean Ticummah Teuton** (M.A., Literature, SFSU; PhD., Cornell) will be moving from the University of Wisconsin to the University of Arkansas to help initiate an indigenous studies program. He is a specialist in Native American literature and in modern American literature, and is at work on a monograph entitled *Cities of Refuge: Indigenous Cosmopolitan Writers and the International Imagery*.

**Andy Varbel** (M.A. Literature, '02) was recently hired as a tenure-track Assistant Professor in the English Department at Mission College in Santa Clara.

## Emeriti



**Peter Weltner's** book *Where Everything Is Water As Far As He Can See*, a collaboration with the artist Galen Garwood, was published by Marrowstone Press last Fall. Peter's next book, *To the Final Cinder*, a new collection of poems, will be published by BrickHouse later this year.



## Retiring Faculty



Dr. James Kohn



M.A. TESOL Current and Emeriti Faculty Celebrating Dr. Kohn

With both joy and sadness, we have to say good-bye to Professor James Kohn who will be retiring this month, after 38 years at SF State, including three as department chair. Dr. Kohn has been a dedicated professor, mentor, and instructional leader in our TESOL program. He has taught in the English department at SF State since 1975, serving as Chair for three years.

Dr. Kohn is an alumnus of SF State, having received his MA in English – TESOL in 1968. As a graduate student he taught ESL for the American Language Institute and the English Department. He worked in the Peace Corps Liberia training project on campus from 1966 - 1968, and developed an intensive pre-university program for international students at Stanford. He earned his Ph.D. in Applied Linguistics from Columbia University. While studying at Columbia, he taught full-time at the American Language Institute at New York University.

In keeping with his commitment to combine teacher-training with practical classroom experience, Dr. Kohn has taught English to adult learners, both in the U.S. and abroad. From 1968-1975 he taught adult learners at New York University. From 1971-1972 he taught English to adults and to corporate clients in Switzerland. In 1984-85 he taught English majors and English teachers in Jinan, Shandong China, as part of a faculty exchange with Shandong Normal University. He has also taught English to speakers of other languages at the United Nations, the Bank of New York, City College of New York, and Fordham University.

Dr. Kohn has played an instrumental role in the development of graduate courses at SF State, including a seminar in sociolinguistics, and has taught regularly in the undergraduate program in applied linguistics. He helped develop a certificate program in bilingual education in cooperation with colleagues from the College of Education.

At New York University he was coordinator of an evening ESL program serving 700 students. He directed many summer programs for visiting students and teachers from Japan and from other countries. Together with his wife Elaine, he served as director of the TESOL Summer Institute on the campus of SF State in 1989, attracting 800 registrants for an eight-week program.

Dr. Kohn has published numerous articles and reviews in professional journals, and has contributed to several anthologies in TESOL. He has presented talks and chaired panels at national and state-wide professional conferences. He published an ESL textbook, *Interactivities*. He was active in the Academic Senate, serving as Chair of the Senate and as Senator from the College of Humanities.

Although his own professional record is decorated with many successes, Dr. Kohn will insist that he is most proud of the many accomplishments of his students, many of whom have gone on to distinguished careers in TESOL. Dr. Kohn frequently encourages graduate students to bring their academic papers to a wider audience, via websites, conference presentations, and journal publications. In this regard, Dr. Kohn is a true champion of our TESOL program, ensuring that our students and their accomplishments receive due recognition. We thank Dr. Kohn for his service to our TESOL program, department, and university, and we wish him well as he prepares for the next stage.



## In Memoriam

### **Bill Robinson**

Bill Robinson, a founder and decades-long coordinator of the Composition Program at San Francisco State, died at his home on March 15, 2013 at the age of 80.

His passion was teaching and training teachers of writing. Many will remember his insights and his irascibility, others his devilish sense of humor and his Cold War work ethic; a few may remember his disgust when the Giants failed to score with a runner on third and less than two outs; but no one who knew him will ever forget him.

For the encouragement he offered his students at all levels, for the hours spent on campus causes of all kinds, for the recommendation letters he wrote and the job leads he graciously passed on, for the careers he helped launch and fostered . . . we are grateful.

**-Jerome (Larry) Schwab**

## For Bev:

As Bev Voloshin completes two terms as English Department Chair, faculty offer

words of gratitude...

*"I appreciated Bev's availability and positive attitude. Whether I was navigating the tenure and promotion process or facing the steep learning curve that comes with chairing a departmental committee for the first time, I could always count on Bev's encouraging, supportive, and lightning-quick response." --**Sarita Cannon***

*"Many thanks, Bev, for your tenaciousness in securing hiring lines during difficult budgetary times, for your unflinching support of faculty and students across the department's many programs, and for tea-time during EAB meetings."--**Bill Christmas***

*"The English Department owes Bev a tremendous debt of gratitude for her careful stewardship of our department, especially during such trying budgetary times. Her meticulous devotion to all of the programs that make up our department speaks volumes about her dedication and fierce advocacy. With tremendous respect and appreciation, I wish her the very best as she exits the chair's office. She leaves me with tremendous shoes to fill."--**Sugie Goen-Salter***

*"Bev has worked tirelessly to acknowledge and support the work of those of us in the department coordinating programs in addition to our other duties."--**Nelson Graff***

*"From her early championing of our three course load, through her steady and consistent management during challenging times of the department's affairs, Bev Voloshin has been a tireless advocate for the English Department faculty and our students. All of us are most appreciative of her devoted efforts on our behalf. We are all the richer for her service." --**Geoffrey Green***

For Bev from **Larry Hanley** (with apologies to Raymond Chandler and his "The Simple Art of Murder"):

*"... down these mean corridors a Chair must go who is not herself mean, who is neither tarnished nor afraid. She must be, to use a rather weathered phrase, a person of honor, by instinct, by inevitability, without thought of it, and certainly without saying it. She has a sense of character, or she would not know her job. She talks with a lively wit, a disgust for sham, and a contempt for pettiness. The story is the Chair's adventure in search of a hidden truth, and it would be no adventure if it did not happen to a Chair fit for adventure. If there were enough like her, I think the world would be a very safe place to live in, and yet not too dull to be worth living in."*

*"I give high marks to Bev (and I am a hard grader) both for her leadership and her general accessibility. She served the department and all of us in it well and with distinction." --**Michael Krasny***

*"Thank you for your deep commitment, in words and action, to the Department, to scholarship, and most of all, to your students and colleagues."-- **Wai-Leung Kwok***

*"Bev has always shown an amazing understanding of (and incredible support for) the Composition program, the Composition faculty, and composition students in general. She always "had our backs" and supported us in every way possible. It has been wonderful working with Bev and we'll miss her as Chair."--**Mark Roberge***

*"I appreciate the ways that Bev has taken the time to appreciate faculty for their hard work and dedication, even when times were stressful. She helped us to feel that our efforts as advisors, coordinators, committee members, etc. (all that work that often goes unrecognized) are valued and significant." -- **Maricel Santos***

*"Bev's administrative style includes thinking about faculty in all their roles----as teachers, scholars, administrators, family members, and parents. She has supported me in each one of these work and life roles. There are many words I could use to describe Bev Voloshin but, rather than offer a list, I choose just the one my former colleagues at the City University of New York used to use when they wanted to encapsulate a singular career: Bev Voloshin is a mensch, a real human being, and I thank her, deeply, for her service as Chair of the Department of English at San Francisco State University."--**Mary Soliday***

*"Thank you so much, Bev, for your tireless advocacy for our Department and your compassionate leadership!"--**Loretta Stec***

*"One of the great pleasures of being in this Department is having a student enroll in one of my classes (like 526 or a seminar) who is already completely excited about 19th-century American literature, thanks to having studied with Bev. It happens a lot. They want "more Melville."(Sometimes, they even want "more Emerson.") So I have to admit that while I will miss her outstanding guidance as Chair, I'm happy to have her back as an "Americanist" full time. Still, I'm very mindful of and thankful for the great gift of her chairmanship, as well as that of her scholarship, especially through such challenging times."--**Lynn Wardley***

*"Thanks, Bev, for all you have done on behalf of the English Department. Your organizational skills, good humor and willingness to listen are so appreciated."-- **Elizabeth Whalley***

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