

College of Arts and Sciences

Department of English

Spring Recognition Ceremony

10 May 2019

2:00 PM

UNCG Auditorium

Welcome

Dr. Scott Romine, Department Head

Recognition of Faculty and Staff

Opening Remarks

English Department Undergraduate Honors

Sigma Tau Delta

Andrew Mark Ainsworth Courtney Elese Cordoza Sarah Elizabeth Cratt Taylor Marie Gentry Peyton Carver Hammed Elizabeth Lorena Moran Alexa Denise Nenno Catherine Rhyne Titus

Disciplinary Honors

Andrew Mark Ainsworth Honora Awamie Ankong Madison Marina DelRusso Kiersten Rachel Eury ◊ Nicholas Harris Smurthwaite

International Honors

Andrew Mark Ainsworth Rebecca Helen Lynch † † Nicole Jennae Merritt † †

Student Excellence Award

Elizabeth P. Robertson

Undergraduate Research and Creativity Award

Kiersten Rachel Eury ◊

Winfield Scholarship

Nicholas Harris Smurthwaite

Allan Fellowship

Kiersten Rachel Eury ◊

Elizabeth Robinson Fort Scholarship

Nicholas Harris Smurthwaite

Amy M. Charles Memorial English Scholarship

Nicole Jennae Merritt

Ruth McKaughan & W. Bryan Carter Scholarship

Honora Awamie Ankong Sarah Jo Miller Elizabeth Shalena Moran Alexa Denise Nenno Elizabeth P. Robertson Natalie Marie Tyhacz MaryKent Renee Wolff

Emmet J. and Clara C. King Scholarship

Elizabeth P. Robertson

Leonard B. Hurley Memorial Scholarship

Nicole Jennae Merritt

English Department Essay Contest

Honora Awamie Ankong

Anthony David Castano

Phi Beta Kappa

Cole Nicholas Bohnsack Caroline Elizabeth Galdi Peyton C Hammed Elizabeth P Robertson Eliza Rosebrock

MaryKent Renee Wolf

English Department Graduate Honors

College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Senior Teaching Assistant Award

Carl Paul Schlacte

English Department Outstanding Graduate Teacher Award

Carl Paul Schlacte

Emily Jean Dolive

Lane Fellowship

Jessica Denton Ward

Keith Cushman Graduate Prize for Scholarly Publications

Emily Jean Dolive

Mildred Kates Dissertation Fellowship

Carl Paul Schlacte

Fred Chappell Fellowship

James Jabar Boykin

Kathy Walker Phipps Graduate Award

Shuvam Sami Kabir

Greensboro Graduate Scholarship

Joanna Kate Lew

Wesley Dylan Sexton

Amon Liner Poetry Award

Wesley Dylan Sexton

Address to Graduates

Brian Lampkin

Brian Lampkin is the owner of Greensboro's award-winning independent bookstore, Scuppernong Books, founded in 2013. He holds a BA in English from Buffalo State College and a MA in Creative Writing from East Carolina University. He was a member of the volunteer collective at Left Bank Books in Seattle in the late 1980's and founded Rust Belt Books in Buffalo in the 1990's. His new book, The Tarboro Three: Rape, Race, and Secrecy, has just been published, and he is a writer/performer with the Greensboro band, The Difficulties.

Recognition of Graduates

Doctor of Philosophy Master of Arts Master of Fine Arts Bachelor's Degree

Interpreter: Glenna Kidd

Reception to follow in the Virginia Dare Room, Alumni House

Doctor of Philosophy

Elysia C Balavage Alicia K. Beeson Amanda Leigh Bryan Kristy Liles Crawley Emily Jean Dolive Kristine Noel Lee † Carl Paul Schlachte Jessica Denton Ward

Master of Arts

Lauren Dolce Beard † † Caitlin Brooke Coulter Victoria Rose Hundley Haley Lara Jones † Samantha Marie McDonald Ryan David Piper Taylor James Roberts

Master of Fine Arts

James Jabar Boykin Kristen Ashley Brunelli Rose Himber Howse Shuvam Sami Kabir Joanna Kate Lew Richard Collins Moriarty Emily Jane Morris Siobhan Moynihan Murray Amy Elsie Parkes Michael Pittard Wesley Dylan Sexton

Bachelor's Degree

Andrew Mark Ainsworth ◊ * Lucas Stephen Allen † † Honora Awamie Ankong * Jasmine Tamara Benson † † Victoria Bird † † Angel Bonaparte William Caleb Brown † † Samuel Cullen Capehart Anthony David Castano Bennie Leon Corbett Jr. Courtney Elese Cordoza † Sarah Colleen Courtney † † Sarah Elizabeth Cratt ** Seth Phillip Craver

Abigail Jessica Davenport Madison Marina DelRusso *** Destiny Lashae Edwards Olivia Je' Val Ervin Lauren Eve Estes Kiersten Rachel Eury ◊ ** Niyah Jenae Evans Laurel Geneva Flom Chelsea Lynn Frye Madelyn Jeanne Furman Taylor Marie Gentry * Meredith Claire Glass Mayra Alejandra Gonzalez ◊* Peyton Carver Hammed*** Ian Alexander Hammock **Emily Anne Harris** Mandy Renee Hiatt Bethany Catherine Holmes † † Micaela Alexis Hunt Andrew Bennett James Alexander Dade Jenkins Aaleya S King Johnathan Kurt Kreger † Barbara Jean Largent † † Amanda Leigh Leimer ◊ * Aaron Joseph Lewis † † Rebecca Helen Lynch † * Kyra Lynne Majewski Adreonna Mylee McNeil † †

Nicole Jennae Merritt † **** Samantha Grace Miller ** Sarah Jo Miller Alexis Lyndon Moore ◊ * Elizabeth Shalena Moran Alexa Denise Nenno ** Shuo Niu t t Rebecca Anne Pearce Barbara Alyssa Pettigrew † † Harrison James Phipps ** Shayna Allyson Prace † Jonathan David Rich ◊ Elizabeth P. Robertson Rachel Elizabeth Rodriguez Yakari Jacqueline Rosales-Gonzalez Nicholas Harris Smurthwaite Abigail Agusta Sullivan † Lauren Christine Summers † † Courtney Elizabeth Swartz Jose A Tejeda Catherine Rhyne Titus Natalie Marie Tyhacz Nicholas John Tyler ◊ Savannah Grace Ward † † Kassandra Lea Williams * MaryKent Renee Wolff Meghan Renee Wrenn

*** Summa cum laude

** Magna cum laude

* Cum laude

† August

†† December

♦ English Education

English Department Faculty & Staff

Heather Adams	Rhetoric & Composition
Risa Applegarth	Rhetoric & Composition
Denise Baker	Medieval Literature
Aaron Beveridge	Digital Rhetoric
Ben Clarke	20 th -Century British Literature
Anthony Cuda	20 th -Century American Literature
Stuart Dischell	Creative Writing-Poetry
Jennifer Feather	Renaissance Literature
Christopher Hodgkins	Renaissance Literature
Holly Goddard Jones	Creative Writing-Fiction
Jennifer Keith	British Literature 1660-1830
Karen Kilcup	19 th -Century American Literature
Christian Moraru	Literary Theory/20 th -Century American
Noelle Morrissette	African-American Literature
Nancy Myers	Rhetoric & Composition/Linguistics
Craig Nova	Creative Writing-Fiction
Jennifer Park	Renaissance Literature
Michael Parker	Creative Writing-Fiction
Emilia Phillips	Creative Writing-Poetry
Mark Rifkin	U.S. Ethnic Literature
Scott Romine	U.S. Southern literature
Maria Sanchez	Early & 19 th -Century American Literature
Amy N. Vines	Medieval Literature
Anne Wallace	19th -Century British literature
Karen Weyler	Early & 19 th -Century American Literature

Stephen Yarbrough

Rhetoric & Composition

Matt Carter	Renaissance Literature
Terry Kennedy	Creative Writing-Poetry
Gary Lim	Medieval Literature
Jeanie Reynolds	English Education
Vaughn Stewart	Digital Act Studio
Jessica Van Rheenan	Creative Writing-Fiction
Jennifer Whitaker	Creative Writing-Poetry

Emeritus Faculty

Murray Arndt	19 th -Century American Literature
Walter Beale	Rhetoric & Composition
Fred Chappell	Creative Writing- Fiction
Elizabeth Chiseri-Strater	Rhetoric & Composition
Keith Cushman	20 th -Century British/Drama
Donald Darnell	19 th -Century American Literature
Charles E. Davis	20 th -Century American Literature
James Evans	18 th -Century British Literature
SallyAnn Ferguson	African-American Literature
Mary Ellis Gibson	19 th -Century British Literature
Kelley Griffith	19 th -Century American Literature
Robert Kelly	Medieval Literature
Tom Kirby-Smith	Creative Writing- Poetry
Robert Langenfeld	British Literature 1880-1920/Publishing

Steven Lautermilch Hephzibah Roskelly Christopher Spencer Charles Tisdale William Tucker Lee Zacharias Creative Writing- Poetry Rhetoric & Composition Renaissance Literature Medieval Literature 18th -Century British Literature Creative Writing- Fiction

Department Administration

Department Head	Scott Romine
Associate Department Head	Anthony Cuda
Director of College Writing	Risa Applegarth
Director of Undergraduate Studies	Jennifer Keith
Director of Graduate Studies	Jennifer Feather
Director of MFA Program	Terry Kennedy
Associate Director of MFA Program	Jessica Van Rheenen
Director of English Education	Jeanie Reynolds
Director of the Writing Center	Jennifer Whitaker
Assistant Director of Writing Center	Matt Carter
Business Services Coordinator	Paul Cloninger
Assistant to Graduate Studies	Alyson Everhart
Department Business Officer	Lydia Howard
Department Office Manager	Emily Morris
Office Graduate Assistants	Morgan Carter
	Noel Cox
	Matthew Johnson
	Janie Raghunandan

Bon Voyage, Michael F. Parker

A Tríbute Commemorating his Retirement After 27 years of Service

We do not always remember our teachers as lovely people or describe them with reverence. It's a relationship that requires attentiveness and trust from both parties, and a teacher's comments on our work can terrorize our imagination as often as nurture it. But I am willing to bet that Michael Parker would rather be remembered as a teacher as opposed to a writer; and this is fitting because whenever asked for lists of his accomplishments, Michael quite often responds with the names of his students, their books, their accolades.

One thing that makes Michael such a stellar teacher is the fact that he's still a devoted student. He continues to read deeply and widely, and yet conversations with him are always accommodating and generous and honest. And honesty is one of Michael's traits worth noting. Mark May-Beaver, author of the memoir Suburban Gospel, recalls discussing a passage of William Gass's "The Pederson Kid" in Michael's Structure of Fiction Class. "I suggested it was a bit too dense for its own good," he says. And Michael replied, "Maybe the problem is more with the reader than the story." Now, I can't speak for my colleagues, but doubt I could have been as honest in a similar moment, even if it would have been to the benefit of the entire class. I would have deflected, moved around. But for Michael, it would be dishonest, and, perhaps more importantly, a disservice, to sacrifice what is true just to ease up on the feelings of a single student.

The other large part of Michael Parker's greatness as a teacher comes from the way he observes, the way he pays attention. Michael, to my knowledge, has never been one to flinch from the hard realities of life, and he has shown this in both his prose and his teaching over the decades. To quote Keith Morris, novelist and Professor of English at Clemson University, "To this day, I have a little Michael Parker figure who runs around in my brain while I'm writing drafts--'is that the exact word you want?' it says. 'Does that move make sense in terms of the structure?' Sometimes I HATE that little Michael Parker figure who runs around in my brain, but I need him." We all do, Michael. And on behalf of all of your now former students and colleagues, I thank you.

-Terry Kennedy

Michael Parker is the author of seven novels--Hello Down There, Towns Without Rivers, Virginia Lovers, If You Want Me To Stay, The Watery Part of the World, All I Have In This World, and Prairie Fever--and three collections of stories, The Geographical Cure, Don't Make Me Stop Now and Everything, Then and Since. His short fiction and nonfiction have appeared in various journals including Five Points, the Georgia Review, The Southwest Review, Epoch, the Washington Post, the New York Times, Oxford American, New England Review, Southwest Review, Trail Runner, Runner's World and Men's Journal. He has received fellowships in fiction from the North Carolina Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts, as well as the Hobson Award for Arts and Letters and the North Carolina Award for Literature. His work has been anthologized in the Pushcart and New Stories from the South anthologies, and he is a three-time winner of the O.Henry Award for short fiction. A graduate of UNC Chapel Hill and The University of Virginia, he taught for nearly thirty years in the MFA Writing Program at The University of North Carolina at Greensboro.



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