

# DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

# NEWSLETTER

**SPRING 2025**



**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH • SPRING 2025 • VOLUME 3 • ISSUE 2**



Department of English



# MEMPHIS WELCOME BACK!

Welcome back to all of our faculty and staff! There are a lot of exciting events happening this spring, so first and foremost make sure you're following us on Facebook and Instagram ([@uofmenglish](#)) to stay up to date.

This semester, we'll welcome speakers and authors to our campus, including a craft interview with Eric Barnes hosted by *[The Pinch Presents](#)*.

We'll also welcome candidates for the Writing, Rhetoric, & Technical Communication job search early this semester. Be on the lookout for schedules for each of the candidates, and please be sure to attend job talks, teaching demos, and meals!

UMEGO is also hard at work on the [2025 Graduate Student Conference](#) and Talbot Roundtable. The Roundtable will be on April 25th and the conference will be on April 26th; proposals are due February 21st so be sure to encourage your students to submit their work.

This year we're hoping for even more involvement with the marketing and promotion of all of our amazing programs, courses, and events here in the English department. As always, if you have project suggestions or inquiries, don't hesitate to get in touch with [Dr. Tucker](#) or [Ms. Gillo](#).



# MELLON FOUNDATION & ENGLISH INTERNSHIPS

## THE MELLON FOUNDATION

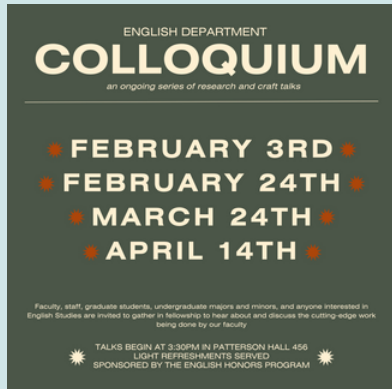
The University of Memphis has received \$4.9 million in funding from the Mellon Foundation, which is expected to help upwards of 145 students per year receive payment for their internship work. The Daily Memphian's recent coverage of this also features current English major Cate VanNostrand and her experience with an internship with Literacy Mid-South. [Click here to read the full article!](#)

## ENGLISH INTERNSHIPS

You can find and direct students to our Internships page ([memphis.edu/english/internships](http://memphis.edu/english/internships)), which lists all of the current partnerships and internships that are available to our majors.



# SPRING 2025 EVENTS



## ENGLISH HONORS COLLOQUIUM

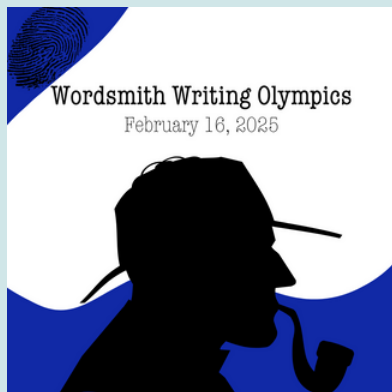
February 3rd - Dr. Joshua Phillips

February 24th - Dr. Terrence Tucker

March 24th - Dr. Sage Graham

April 14th - Dr. Jeff Scraba

Patterson Hall 456 | 4:00pm



## WORDSMITH WRITING OLYMPICS

February 16th

UC Ballroom

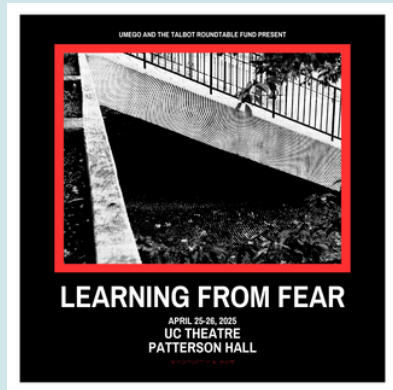


## THE PINCH PRESENTS... ERIC BARNES

March 18th and 19th

Location: TBD

# SPRING 2025 EVENTS



## UMEGO CONFERENCE & TALBOT ROUNDTABLE

**“Learning from Fear”**

April 25th & 26th

Keynote: UC Theatre | April 25th | 5:30pm

Conference: Patterson Hall | April 26th

Proposals due February 21st



## ENGLISH DEPARTMENT AWARDS CEREMONY & LUNCHEON

May 1st

Ceremony: 11:00-12:00pm | PT 456

Luncheon: 12:00-1:00pm | PT 403



# FACULTY RECOGNITION

## **DR. DONAL HARRIS**

Communities of Research Scholars (CoRS) Grant

“Digital Tools and Local History: Creating a Web-Based Research Platform for the Oldest Cemetery in Memphis”

## **DR. MARK MAYER**

George Garrett Fiction Prize

*About, Above, Around: 50 Prepositions*

[Read the press release here!](#)

## **DR. ERIC SCHLICH**

American Library Association's Stonewall Honor Book Award

*Eli Harpo's Adventure to the Afterlife*

[Read more about this award here!](#)

## **25 YEARS OF SERVICE**

Verner Mitchell

## **20 YEARS OF SERVICE**

Lorinda Cohoon

Sage Graham

Joseph Jones

Tammy Jones

## **15 YEARS OF SERVICE**

Stacy Smith

## **10 YEARS OF SERVICE**

Ana-Gratiela Gal



# ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

## SHILOH GUSTAFSON, MATC

Shiloh Gustafson earned her **Bachelors degree in English with a concentration in Professional Writing at UofM** in 2017, and went on to work as a Senior E-Commerce Copywriter before accepting a position as a **Senior Technical Writer for Google**. In 2022, Shiloh returned to the English Department, this time pursuing her **Masters degree in Technical Communication**. Shortly after completing the MA program (and earning a graduate certificate in Instructional Design and Development from the College of Education along the way), Shiloh joined **Stifel Financial Corp. as a Technical Writer** where she is leading efforts to modernize and transform the company's knowledge management practices through a strategic blend of technical writing, training initiatives, AI integration, and contemporary content management strategies.

*My time in the WRTC program was truly enriched by the incredible people I had the privilege to meet. The connections I made with my peers and colleagues continue to inspire me in my career and beyond, and the passion they exhibited renewed both my appreciation for academia and the desire to help others achieve.*

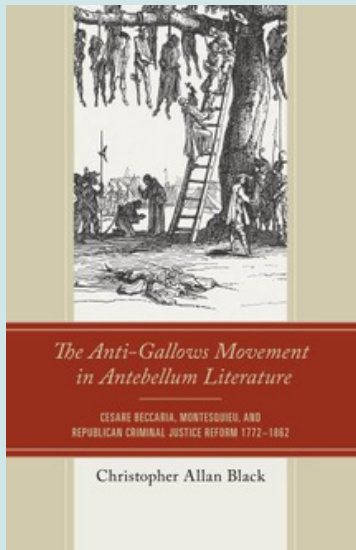
— Shiloh Gustafson



# FACULTY PUBLICATION SPOTLIGHT

## DR. CHRISTOPHER ALLAN BLACK

*The Anti-Gallows Movement in Antebellum Literature: Cesare Beccaria, Montesquieu, and Republican Criminal Justice Reform 1772-1862*



*The Anti-Gallows Movement: Cesare Beccaria, Montesquieu, and Republican Criminal Justice Reform in Antebellum Literature 1772-1862* examines the development of anti capital punishment sentiment in antebellum American Literature. Legal and philosophical debates over the effectiveness of capital punishment and penal reform have played a significant role in American civic and political life since the republican rejection of the Monarchy and oppression during the Revolution. In the late eighteenth and early nineteenth-century United

States, criminal narratives, and literature in the form of the execution sermon, the gothic novel, the historical romance, autobiographical testimony, and the African American slave narrative informed the citizenry about the public abuse of convicted criminals on the gallows stressing the need for enlightenment legal reforms, such as the creation of penitentiaries, solitary confinement, and private execution behind prison walls.

**[READ MORE AND PRE-ORDER HERE!](#)**



# TEACHERS, CREATORS, INNOVATORS



If you are interested in becoming a donor, please contact us at [tttucker@memphis.edu](mailto:tttucker@memphis.edu)

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