

THANK YOU

TO OUR ALUMNI & FRIENDS

Over the past 17 years, our generous alumni and friends have donated over \$370,000 to support our scholarships and awards as well as the English Advancement Fund, which helps to fund travel and equipment needs for faculty and students. In the last year, we have received more than \$21,000 in gifts and pledges to department scholarships and other funds, including large gifts to the Richard F. Patteson Endowed Scholarship, the Price Caldwell Memorial Endowment, and the Cecil Hunter and Ann Pittman Andrews Memorial Endowed Scholarships. Most of the donations that we receive are much smaller, however: \$250, \$100, \$50, and even \$25. They all add up, though, and help to support programs and scholarships for our students.

This year we are particularly encouraging contributions to the Wendy Jean Herd Memorial Fund, which will support an annual award for the most significant student research in linguistics. Learn more about the award, and read reflections about Wendy's contributions to Mississippi State, on this page: <https://www.english.msstate.edu/faculty/wendy-herd/>.

If you're interested in making a tax-deductible donation to help us meet our needs, please contact Sara Frederic, Director of Development for the College of Arts & Sciences at MSU. You can reach her at her office number, 662-325-3240, or by email, sfrederic@foundation.msstate.edu.



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2022



MISSISSIPPI STATE
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DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

RHYMES & REASONS NEWSLETTER

KATIE PIECE

APPOINTED MISSISSIPPI POET LAUREATE

Based on articles and reporting by Anna Ehrgott and Sarah Nicholas



Governor Tate Reeves has appointed Professor Katie Pierce Mississippi's Poet Laureate. She began her four-year term last fall.

MSU President Mark E. Keenum said, "I am so very proud of Dr. Catherine Pierce for earning this designation from Mississippi Gov. Tate Reeves and the Mississippi Arts Commission. Dr. Pierce richly deserves this honor and her selection speaks volumes to the quality of our faculty and the opportunities our students have to interact with talented, accomplished educators in our classrooms."



“Catherine Pierce has crafted an amazing body of work and has earned the impressive accolades one might expect of a Poet Laureate, but what makes her so compelling as Mississippi’s next Poet Laureate is her ideal that poetry should be accessible for everyone,” said Sarah Story, executive director of the Mississippi Arts Commission. “She will be well-suited as an ambassador for the state as well as a champion for literacy. We are thrilled about the possibilities for her in this role.”

“I am honored and genuinely thrilled to have been named the next Poet Laureate of Mississippi, and to have the opportunity to serve as an ambassador for poetry and the literary arts,” Pierce said. “I’ve long counted myself tremendously lucky to be a part of Mississippi’s dynamic community of writers and artists and citizens, and I am so looking forward to continuing to connect with people across our state, to working with our excellent arts and literary organizations and our incredible educators, and to helping amplify the voices of Mississippians.”

Katie Piece Launches Podcast to Bring Poetry to Life for the Next Generation

English Professor Catherine Pierce—named Mississippi’s Poet Laureate in 2021—now hosts a poetry podcast to help the genre come alive for Mississippi students.

“The Mississippi Poetry Podcast,” a bi-weekly 15-minute production featuring poems and conversations with Mississippi poets, is housed on Mississippi Public Broadcasting’s Mississippi Arts Hour webpage, <http://msartshour.mpbonline.org/>.

The audio series is in partnership with Mississippi Whole Schools, a Mississippi Arts Commission program and the first comprehensive, statewide arts education program.

Pierce, a two-time Pushcart Prize winner and co-director of MSU’s creative writing program, said students have told her they used to think poetry was “something archaic or dull or not relevant to their own lives.”

“One of the real joys of teaching poetry is helping people see that poetry is a living, breathing, vibrant contemporary art. I wanted to find a way to bring that same message to all Mississippians,” Pierce said. “We’re calling this ‘a podcast where poetry comes alive for listeners,’ and that’s exactly what I hope it will be.”

Pierce said the series also offers a resource for educators and community groups, with each episode paired with a one-page supplement of related links and a writing prompt based on an element of that episode’s interview.

“My hope is that teachers or library groups or any interested folks might be able to use these to spark or fuel a passion for poetry,” Pierce said. “I’m aiming for a lively, conversational tone with these, and I like the idea of listeners getting to learn something fun about each poet as a person.

“We have so many incredible writers here in Mississippi, and my goal is for people across the state to see poetry as something that can come out of their own lives, their own towns. I hope this will be a place where everyone feels welcome, and where even folks who have previously been a little skeptical about poetry can feel excited about all the possibilities a poem can hold, and maybe even write some of their own,” Pierce said.

“One of my main goals for my work as Poet Laureate is to increase access to poetry for people across the state,” she added.

FACULTY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

TED ATKINSON completed two essays to be published this year, “Armistead Maupin,” for the *Encyclopedia of Contemporary American Fiction: 1980-2020*, and “Academic Origins of Southern Studies (Spotlight: *I’ll Take My Stand*” for *The Routledge Companion to Literature of the U.S. South*. He is also working to finish up his next book, *Monumental Designs: Infrastructure and the Cultural Production of TVA Modernism*.

SHALYN CLAGGETT’S book, *Equal Natures: Popular Brain Science and Victorian Women’s Writing* will be published next year by SUNY Press as part of their Studies in the Long Nineteenth Century Series.

CHRISTIE COLLINS’S collection of poems, *The Art of Coming Undone*, will be published this year.

PETER DEGABRIELE has his next book, *The Drone Enlightenment*, under contract with the University of Virginia Press.

LARA DODDS’S essay, “Happy Accidents: Critical Belatedness, Feminist Formalism, and Early Modern Women’s Writing,” co-authored with Michelle Dowd, won the essay award by the Society for the Study of Early Modern Women and Gender (SSEMWG). She published three essays in edited collections last year: “Making Milton’s Bogey” in *Making Milton*; “Form, Formalism, and Literary Studies: The Case of Margaret Cavendish” in *World-making Women*; and “Biographical Writing” in *The Palgrave Encyclopedia of Early Modern Women’s Writing*.

LOURDES CARDOZO GAIBISSO published four articles and book chapters, including “The Affective Being of Multilingual Children’s Language Use for Mathematics Learning” in *Education Studies* and “Culturally Sustaining Systemic Functional Linguistics Praxis in Science Classrooms” in *Language and Education*.

NANCY HARGROVE published “T.S. Eliot at Merton College, The University of Oxford: 1914-1915” in the *South Atlantic Review*.

BECKY HAGENSTON published a new collection of short stories, *The Age of Discovery and Other Stories*, which won the 2022 Mississippi Institute of Arts & Letters award in fiction.

HOLLY JOHNSON is wrapping up her editorial and translation work on the second volume of Robert Rypon’s sermons. She is also co-editing a collection of essays titled *Communicating the Passion: The Socio-Religious Function of an Emotional Narrative (1250-1530)*.

MICHAEL KARDOS’S story “Reality TV,” first published in *The Cincinnati Review*, appeared in *The Pushcart Prize XLVI: Best of the Small Presses*. He is wrapping up work on his next novel, *Fun City*. His last novel, *Bluff*, was translated into Chinese last year.

MATT LITTLE’S essay, “On the Edge of the Waste Land’: Pastoralism at the Margins in *The Great Gatsby*” is under review at a journal.

KELLY MARSH published “Dual Narrative Dynamics and the Critique of Privilege,” an invited essay on behalf of Professor Dan Shen of the University of Beijing, in *Style*. Her article “Jane Eyre and the Pursuit of the Mother’s Pleasure” is being reprinted in the literature criticism reference series by Gale/Cengage Learning.

LISA MCREYNOLDS won the Zacharias Distinguished Staff Award, the university’s highest award for excellence among university staff.



ELIZABETH MILLER is revising her book manuscript, *Liturgy of Change: Rhetorics of the Civil Rights Mass Meeting*, in response to peer review suggestions.

PETER B. OLSON presented papers “Ernest Hemingway and Robert Pirsig: Writing Dimensions of a Moveable Past” at the 19th Biennial Hemingway Society Conference and “The Disappearance of the Last Man: Robert Pirsig and the Retreat from Discontent” at the Rocky Mountain MLA Annual Conference.

BONNIE O’NEILL published “Authority, Affect, and Impersonality in Lydia Maria Child’s Social Criticism” in *ESQ: A Journal of Nineteenth-Century American Literature and Culture*.

CATHERINE PIERCE was selected as the Mississippi Poet Laureate. In that role she launched the Mississippi Poetry Podcast, as well as starting a “Poetry Break” series with the *Clarion-Ledger* and *Hattiesburg American* newspapers. She also won the 2021 Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters Poetry Award for her book *Danger Days*.

GINGER PIZER published “To be seen and/or heard: audience design in bimodal bilingual families” in *International Journal of Bilingual Education and Bilingualism*. She is currently developing a new project analyzing how dancers gesture when they talk about dance.

DAN PUNDAY published the book *Digital Narrative Spaces: An Interdisciplinary Examination* with Routledge.

RICH RAYMOND has an essay “Laurence Sterne’s Letters and Sermons: Glossing the Themes of *Tristram Shandy*,” forthcoming this year in *The CEA Critic*.

KAREN SCHMIDT worked with a committee at the Bess Streeter Aldrich Foundation to write “A Lantern In Her Hand: A Novel Unit Designed for Teachers by Teachers to Explore the Classic Story of a Pioneer Woman by Nebraska Author Bess Streeter Aldrich.”

ANDREA SPAIN published “Professional Life, Childhood, and Fantasy Solutions: Middle Class Alienation in the Fiction of J.D. Salinger and the Films of Wes Anderson” in the journal *Post-45*. She is also finishing revisions on her manuscript, *Postcoloniality and Event*.

DHANASHREE THORAT published “Modalities of Data Colonialism and South Asian Hashtag Publics” in *Feminist Media Studies*. Her essay “Digital Infrastructures and Technoutopian Fantasies: The Colonial Roots of Technology Aid in the Global South” was reprinted in *South Asian Digital Humanities: Postcolonialism Mediations across Technology’s Cultural Canon*. She also helped to edit the forthcoming collection *Introduction to Digital Humanities*.

ERIC VIVIER published “What Satire Does: Lessons from the English Renaissance for the Great Age of American Satire” in *Genre*.

JERVETTE WARD is the President of the College Language Association. Her book, *Black Women Vs. Everybody: An Intellectual Tradition of Great Debates* is under contract with Ohio State University Press.

ROBERT WEST published seven poems and three review essays in 2021. His essay collection, *Robert Morgan: Essays on the Life and Work*, was just published. He has been serving as the interim department head for the Department of Classical and Modern Languages this year.



JERVETTE WARD is Now Leading the College Language Association

Adapted from a story by Sarah Nicholas

Professor Jervette R. Ward is the new president of a national language association devoted to serving the academic, scholarly and professional interests of African American collegiate scholars.

The College Language Association installed Ward as its 42nd president during the recent annual meeting. The organization was founded in 1937 in her hometown of Memphis at LeMoyne College, now LeMoyne-Owen College. She previously served two years as vice president of the association and is a CLA lifetime member.

“Having a Mississippi State faculty member serving as the president of the CLA is an incredible honor,” said Dan Punday, professor and head of MSU’s Department of English. “The CLA is incredibly important to the history of Black literature and literary studies in the U.S. and around the world. In particular, Professor Ward has shown incredible leadership at a time of uncertainty and change, and her ability to guide the association through years of disruption around COVID is remarkable.”



Ward said the CLA has evolved to become the largest organization in the country of Black scholars of languages and literature.

“The CLA was initially created to improve the teaching of English at Historically Black Colleges and Universities and it has expanded to include predominately white institutions,” Ward said. “The CLA has also existed as a space or haven for Black professors of languages and literature who have often been excluded from white academic spaces. The CLA exists to support Black scholars while also welcoming scholars of all backgrounds.”

Ward said the CLA is beneficial because it offers opportunities to publish in a professional journal, network, present scholarship and receive feedback at the annual convention, and to participate in professional development events such as writing workshops.

“I remember when I joined CLA right as I finished my Ph.D., one of my biggest regrets was that I hadn’t joined sooner because I truly found a space that supported me as a scholar and as an individual,” Ward said.

CLA publishes the peer-reviewed *College Language Association Journal*, established in 1957, available at: <https://muse.jhu.edu/journal/779>. Issues prior to 2017 are available on JSTOR, <https://www.jstor.org/journal/claj>.

Ward said CLA is open to undergraduate and graduate students, in addition to faculty members. “The CLA is important for students because it provides a space to grow, to be mentored and to find a community,” she said. “One of our standing committees is focused on student experiences and is chaired by a graduate student. Mentoring is one of the hallmarks of CLA.”

During her tenure as president, Ward said she would like to create a strategic plan in addition to bringing greater attention to the organization’s archives.

“The strategic plan will allow us to address fundraising and membership among other things, and the archives provide a way to not only celebrate the history of CLA, but also to engage scholars in new writing and publishing opportunities,” she said.

Undergraduate English Majors Share Their Experiences at the **SIGMA TAU DELTA CONFERENCE**

In the spring of 2022 the Department of English sent several of our majors to the annual conference for Sigma Tau Delta, the national English honors society, where they gave research presentations developed in their classes. Below they reflect on their experiences at the conference.



My experience at the 2022 Sigma Tau Delta International Convention was unlike any other! At the convention, I was able to represent Mississippi State University by serving as a host for the newly-implemented Research in the Round activity for students. In this event, participants would enter, take their seats at a designated table, and engage in brief discussion with the host about a pre-prepared topic. Then, after ten or so minutes, the timers would sound and the participants would switch tables. My topic was one that I truly care a lot about because I think that it is so prevalent within media and literature today. From the participants, I wanted to hear their thoughts on the male gaze and the ways in which they had recently seen this idea used in harmful ways throughout modern media. I was able to have some really great discussions with the participants, and they even allowed me to see things from viewpoints I had not thought of before. For instance, we were able to discuss female sexuality and the ways that female authors have more recently been able to reclaim their bodily autonomy that was crowded with the hypersexualized opinions of male writers. In addition to my participation in Research in the Round, I also got to hear some great presentations from English majors all over the country! I think my favorite would have to be the panel on Jane Austen and female liberation. The convention was truly an eye-opening experience where I was able to make connections with other passionate English majors and hear some really great discussions!

By **Kaleigh Allen**

Attending the Sigma Tau Delta Conference was an extremely rewarding and exciting experience. Not only was I able to meet other English majors, but I was also able to hear presentations about topics that specifically interested me. The three days were filled with opportunities to learn and broaden our knowledge about literary and film topics. I specifically enjoyed presentations about Jane Austen, “Gender Norms in Early British Literature,” “The Feminine Identity in Video Games and Film,” original poetry, and “Manipulation in the Modern Media.” Presenting my paper was both nerve-racking and exciting, but I was glad to show my work to people who seemed very interested and had lots of questions. The hotel was very nice, and everyone was extremely friendly and helpful. The presenters answered questions well and seemed to be very eloquent in their presentations. This was a very engaging and interesting opportunity and if I had the chance to do something similar in the future, I would pursue it.

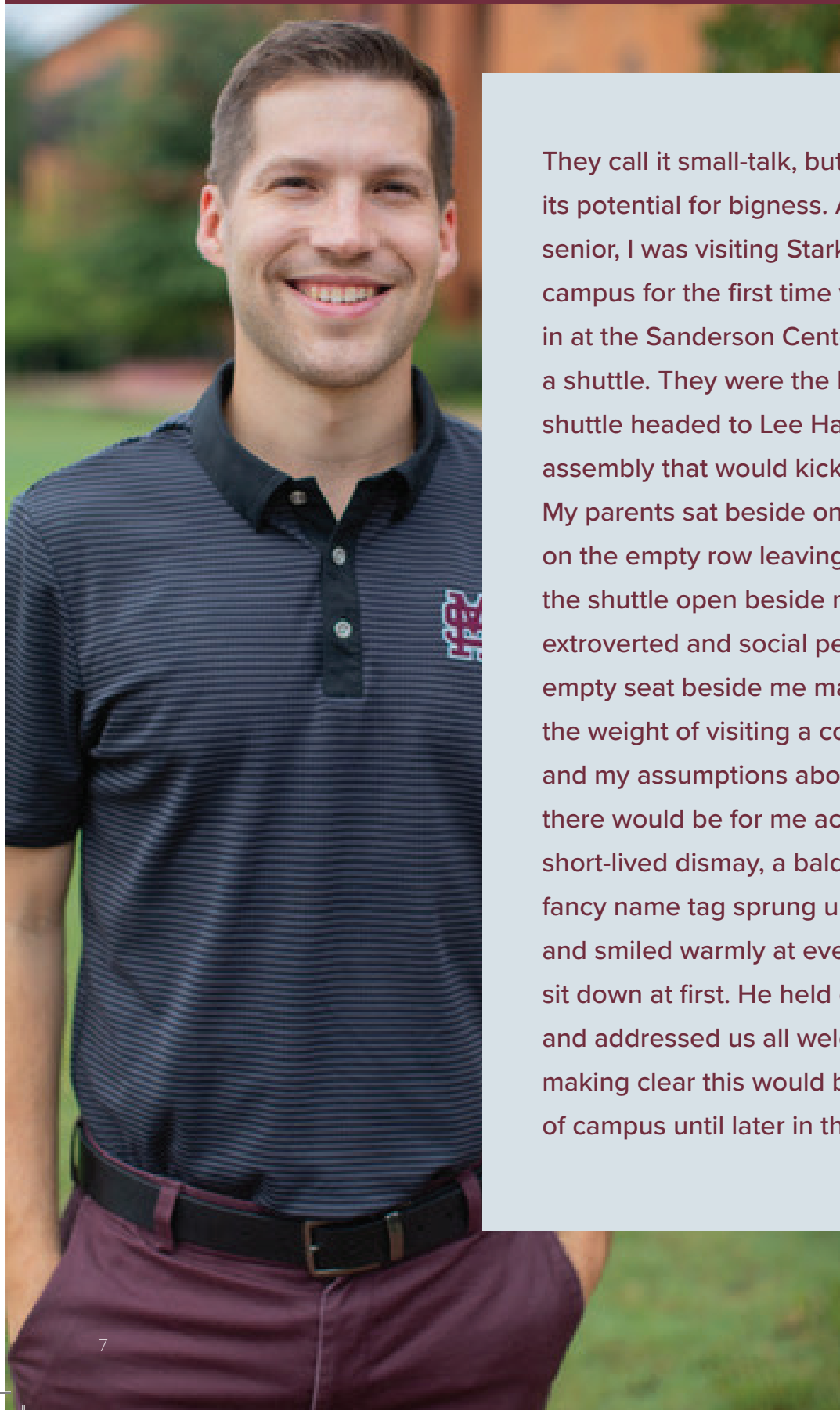
By **Lilly Grado**

I thoroughly enjoyed my time at the annual Sigma Tau Delta convention! It was my first time attending this event, and it was my first academic conference I had attended at all. With that in mind, I did not know quite what to expect from an “English conference,” and I was pleasantly surprised at how much I learned and how much fun I had. Attending the tables and talks given by other STD members, mostly students, was incredibly insightful. I was blown away by how many members traveled thousands of miles to attend this conference, and it was a pleasure to meet fellow English majors from all over the country. I had the honor of presenting a creative work, a small poetry collection, which was a little nerve-racking as it was my first time publicly sharing creative work outside of the classroom. However, the environment created by the staff and other attendees was incredibly warm and receptive, and I really enjoyed being able to share and answer questions about my work, as well as the work of others.

By **Jackson Keel**

IN THEIR OWN WORDS

JUDD WILLIAMS



They call it small-talk, but I think that often understates its potential for bigness. As an 18 year old high school senior, I was visiting Starkville and Mississippi State's campus for the first time with my parents. We checked in at the Sanderson Center and hopped onboard a shuttle. They were the last four seats on the last shuttle headed to Lee Hall for the general informational assembly that would kick off the events for the day. My parents sat beside one another and left me to sit on the empty row leaving the last available seat on the shuttle open beside me. I've always been a rather extroverted and social person, but for some reason that empty seat beside me made me nervous. Maybe it was the weight of visiting a college campus for the first time and my assumptions about what kind of expectations there would be for me academically and socially. To my short-lived dismay, a bald-headed man in a suit with a fancy name tag sprung up the steps onto the shuttle and smiled warmly at everyone on the bus. He didn't sit down at first. He held onto one of the handles above and addressed us all welcoming us to campus and making clear this would be the last shuttle to the heart of campus until later in the day.



Then that fateful moment occurred and he sat down next to me. He extended his hand to me and introduced himself as Dr. Phil Bonfanti, Director of Enrollment Services at MSU. I shook his hand and introduced myself and my parents. Naturally, he asked me what major I planned to pursue. I'd only ever enjoyed English as far as high school "subjects" were concerned, so I'd recently declared to everyone I knew that I would major in English hoping that the questions would abate. To my chagrin, they did not. "What will you do with that?" became the very next question to which I did not have a definitive answer at eighteen.

I told Dr. Phil as much, however, and to my surprise a joy that you could *feel* was added to his already friendly demeanor. He looked at me and said, "You know... English majors will take over the world one day."

That moment has stuck with me for twelve years, and I anticipate it being a memory I will not soon forget. I have used that line time and time again in nearly the exact same circumstances now finding myself working in higher education as an Admissions Counselor in the Office of Admissions and Scholarships at Mississippi State – the very same office Dr. Phil served in when he met me.

In my role today, I travel to high schools across the state of Mississippi and encourage students to consider Mississippi State as their choice in continuing their education. Practically, I am a recruiter. I track reports and read numbers for trends. I engage in marketing campaigns to increase interest in applications to MSU. I wear maroon daily and give the same presentations and "sales" pitches multiple times a day. But what I am actually doing is building relationships – and that is the best part.

The reality is that my degree prepared and developed me for all of it – the administrative and the interpersonal. When you

leave college with an English degree, you've developed the skills necessary to pursue occupations in any field you want. Communication, critical thinking, and problem solving are all skills that we've learned as we've engaged with some of the most brilliant minds in history and grappled with some of the most troubling characters or scenes one could imagine. The literature, theory, linguistics, papers, criticism, analyses, and yes, even the existential crises we all encountered as English majors prepared us for exactly what Dr. Phil said: to take over the world. We can do and be anything we want.

Apply for a job in public relations at an engineering firm. They'll lean on your mastery of the English language and your ability to communicate effectively. Go out for the marketing role with that major brand. They'll thank you for strategically selecting the right message for the audience they didn't know they wanted. Put in the work to get licensure to teach. Your students will remember your classroom and the way they *felt* something from reading a great work for the first time. We really do have the power to change the world and impact it *through* our studies as English majors. There's not a soul in America, if not the world, that has not been impacted by someone like one of us – one of us who loves and tells stories, who can parse language for clarity, who can create something of beauty, who can communicate across barriers, who can.....

As far as anyone else is concerned, I'm on the bottom of the totem pole when it comes to my salaried staff position at Mississippi State. But that's not my concern. Mine is with high school students in the most critical moment of their 18-year-old lives as they prepare to make a decision that will affect them for the next 18, 36, or 72 years. That thought alone, whether they ever darken the doors of Mississippi State University for an education or not, leads me to say, "Hail dear ol' State."

KUDOS FOR OUR STUDENTS, ALUMNI, AND SUPPORTERS

We inducted 6 majors into our Xi Chapter of the English Honorary Society, **Sigma Tau Delta**: Kaleigh Allen, Lily Grado, Abigayle Green, Jackson Keel, Joseph Newell, and Layla Stevens.

Howell and Elizabeth Gwin Scholarship Winners:

Eric Cain, Toria Folsom, Ashley Glirbas, Lily Grado, Parker Haley, Jessica Maxwell, Joseph Newell, Carly Pippin, and JaKara Singleton

Eugene Butler Creative Writing Award: Anthony Coffman, Isaac Huckaby, Kurdarius Keyes, and Meghan Reed

Dr. Richard F. Patteson Endowed Scholarship:

Ashley Glirbas

Mildred Freeman Shurlds English Annual Scholarship:

Joseph Newell

Roger LeMoyné Dabbs Memorial Scholarship:

Kaleigh Allen and Jackson Keel

Helen W. Skelton Endowed Scholarship: Alexis Crawford

and Deshalia Murray

Walter and Ann Pittman Andrews Memorial Endowed Scholarship: JaKara Singleton

Peyton Ward Williams, Jr. Distinguished Writing

Award: Lindsey Downs for “Marriage, the Pocahontas Myth, and the Perpetuation of Colonial Discourse in *The Female American*.” The honorable mention goes to Dylan Bufkin for his “The Thesis of Lol Stein: Loss of Self and Transcendence in Duras.”

Brasher-Dazey Paper Award: Olivia Massey

Stacey Goff Endowed Scholarship: Sarah Johnson

Lauren Adams, Emma Anders, Lindsey Downs, Dorothy Higgs, Reagan Poston, Hannah Richardson, and Reagan Sumrall were inducted into Mississippi State’s Phi Beta Kappa chapter in 2021. For 2022, our inductees were **Michael Bourgeois, Rheagan Case, Virginia Daughdrill, Jennings Duncan, Lily Grado, Emily Hurst, Joseph Newell, Hailey Reeder, Mitzi Roukoski, Baylee Seeman, Ruby Titus, and Cheryl Zant.**

Kameron Keel was accepted into New York Law School.

Sarah Morgan Johnson (BA 2022) will enter the graduate program in Southern Studies at the University of Mississippi. She has accepted a GA position as mentor to the students in the Ole Miss First scholarship program.

Joseph Newell won first place in the spring Arts and Humanities category at MSU’s undergraduate research symposium for his essay “Dickinson, Displacement, and her use of Defense Mechanisms to Cope with Psychological Trauma.” **Lindsey Downs** took second place for her essay “Loss, Reckless Behavior, and Jane Austen’s Realism in *Sense and Sensibility* and *Persuasion*.” In the summer symposium, **Joseph Newell** also won first place for his essay “Shakespeare’s Expansion of Heteropatriarchy through Dreams: A Mockery of Women’s Triumph in *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*.”

Baylee Seeman won 3rd place in the MSU Library’s poetry contest.



Riley Byars won first place in the Gender Studies competition in the undergraduate category for her essay “From Darkness to Light: Gendered Norms, Puritanism, and *The Scarlet Letter*.”

JaKara Singleton and **Cheryl Zant** were chosen as Humanities, Arts, Science, and Technology Alliance and Collaboratory (HASTAC) scholars to work on digital projects.

Tarah Burrows won the MSU Undergraduate Writing Contest. Her work, a poem “A Student’s AP English Midterm 2020” and the short story “One Body,” represented MSU at the Southern Literary Festival in the spring. Sam Nieman’s poem “Gazing at Stars” was selected as runner-up in the poetry category. Tarah will be starting her MFA next year at the University of Alabama.

Emily Hurst won and accepted a full scholarship to Mississippi College’s School of Law.

Madison Brown, who received her MA last year, is currently finishing the first year of her MFA at the University of Central Florida and just published her first short story.

Rebecca Poynor is working toward her MFA at Virginia Commonwealth University, where she’s also serving as the managing editor for the journal *Blackbird*.

Reagan Poston is working toward her MFA at the University of Nevada, Reno.

Former MA students **Shun Pounds** and **Katie Starliper** are shining in the classroom as lecturers here at Mississippi State.

Ciera Higginbotham, who received her MFA from Virginia Commonwealth, and **Christie Collins**, who received her PhD from Cardiff University in Wales, are both teaching sections of EN 3303 and getting students excited about the creative writing program and the English department.

Anthony Coffman successfully defended his creative thesis “Department of Longing.” He also served as the first graduate liaison for the English department and will be moving to Nashville, TN where he plans to look for high school teaching positions as well as adjunct/support staff positions at colleges.

Isaac Huckaby successfully defended his creative thesis “Workers of Iniquity: Stories” and will be joining the English department as a lecturer this fall.

Avery Ferguson has been hired as a Journal Production Coordinator at *The American Journal of Public Health* in Washington, D.C. She will also continue her passion project of food writing and content creation on the side.

Mazie Pizzolato has accepted an adjunct teaching position at Lincoln Land Community College in Illinois and will be teaching composition in Fall 2022.

Meg Reed successfully defended her creative thesis “Where the Animals Sleep at Night,” and served as the Associate Editor of the *Jabberwock Review*. She is currently applying for jobs and submitting stories to literary magazines. The title story of her thesis will appear in the Fall 2022 issue of *The Oxford American*.

Kelsey Norris (BA 2012) has two books—a story collection titled *House Gone Quiet*, and a novel—forthcoming from Scribner.

Cameron Temple has accepted a teaching position at Brookhaven Academy in Brookhaven, MS, where she will be teaching 11th and 12th grade English along with dual enrollment College English courses.

Kristopher Witcher is currently applying for jobs and internships and plans to pursue a career in teaching at the college level.

Maggie Worthy will be joining the faculty at Calera High School in Calera, AL where she will teach high school English and coach cheerleading. She is excited to teach the value of literature and writing while making connections with her new community. After a few years of teaching, she hopes to become National Board Certified.