

DEPARTMENT OF english news

AN AWARD-WINNING DEPARTMENT

English Department Wins Faculty Excellence Awards for Fourth Year in a Row



2017 winner Dr. Kate Adams



Dr. Mark Yakich advising the *New Orleans Review* students

FOR the fourth year in a row, English professors have won the college's top faculty honors.

In 2017, those honors included both the Excellence in Teaching Award, which went to Dr. Kate Adams, and the Excellence in Research Award, which went to Dr. Mark Yakich. Loyola's English Department integrates scholarship and teaching in all of its classes as well as in the close collaboration of English majors and faculty in joint research projects. It comes as no surprise then that the English Department has been honored with both teaching and research awards this year.

Dr. Kate Adams, the William and Audrey Hutchinson Distinguished Professor of English, received the 2017

Excellence in Teaching Award of the College of Arts and Sciences. Having published 17 monographs, textbooks, and anthologies as well as numerous other works, Professor Adams is acknowledged as one of the university's major scholars. But to her students and to her colleagues in English, she is also regarded as one of Loyola's very finest teachers. A review of her academic honors confirms that others agree: In addition to Loyola's Dux Academicus Award, Loyola's highest honor, she has received teaching awards from the Conference on College Composition and Communication (the major national organization of composition teachers), the University of Tennessee, and Florida State University.

Similarly, she has been elected chair of the executive committee of the Division of Teaching Writing of the Modern Language Association, co-chair of the Jesuit Conference on Rhetoric and Composition Programs, president of the Coalition of Women Scholars in the History of Rhetoric and Composition, and an officer of the Association of Teachers of Advanced Composition. Establishing a national reputation as a scholar is difficult; building a national reputation as a teacher is rare. But as those of us who have had the honor to teach with her have learned firsthand, Professor Adams deserves such acclaim from her colleagues around the country and from all the students who have had the good fortune to study with her. This was the second time in four years that an

English professor was named best teacher, with Dr. Hillary Eklund winning that award in 2014.

Mark Yakich, the Gregory F. Curtin, S.J., Distinguished Professor of English, received the 2017 Excellence in Research Award of the College of Arts and Sciences. His many publications include a novel, three books of nonfiction, and five books of poetry, with a new collection of his poems due out in 2018. He has published nearly 200 poems in journals and anthologies and received numerous honors and awards, such as being selected winner of the National Poetry Series and being named a Fulbright Fellow. He has served as editor of the *New Orleans Review* since 2012 as well as

Continued on back cover

English Majors Win Numerous Awards



Outstanding English Writing Major: **Meredith Sutton**
Julian Wasserman Outstanding Literature Major: **Bret Buckel**
Peggy McCormack Outstanding Film & Digital Media Major: **Jerome Keith**
Award of Excellence in Writing: **Mackenzie Becker**
Award of Excellence in Literature: **Marley Duet**

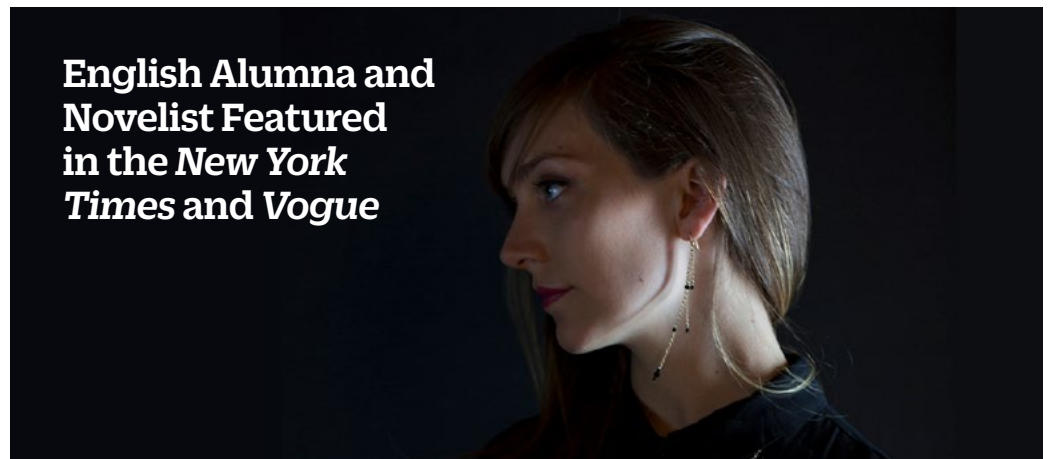
Award of Excellence in Film & Digital Media: **Connor Webre**
Dawson Gaillard Award for Poetry: **Eva Garcia & Jo Gehringer**
Dawson Gaillard Award for Fiction: **Marisa Clogher**
Dawson Gaillard Award for Scripts: **Jerome Keith**
Dawson Gaillard Award for Nonfiction: **Adam Albaari**

Additionally, the Monroe Library 2016-2017 Student Research Awards were won by English majors in all three undergraduate categories: Molly Mulroy (Senior Capstone/Thesis Research Award), Marley Duet (Junior/Senior Research), and Elizabeth Barbour (Freshman/Sophomore Research). English majors also received awards from other departments and programs, including classical studies, languages and cultures, African and African American Studies, medieval studies, women's studies, and the Women's Resource Center.

English Major Wins Top College Award

English literature major Bret Clarence Buckel has been named the winner of the Rev. Percy A. Roy, S.J., Memorial Award for 2017, the highest honor for graduating seniors in the College of Arts and Sciences. The award recognizes the candidate for graduation who has achieved the highest academic record for his or her entire four-year curriculum at Loyola. The award was established by the Loyola University Alumni Association in memory of a former Loyola president.

English Alumna and Novelist Featured in the *New York Times* and *Vogue*



Critically acclaimed novelist and Loyola English alumna Catherine Lacey '07 recently received a rave review in the *New York Times* for her second novel, *The Answers*, which is the "Must Read of the Summer," according to *Vogue*. Lacey, who also holds an M.F.A. from Columbia University, released her first novel, *Nobody Is Ever Missing* (Farrar,

Strauss and Giroux), in 2014 to great acclaim. Her writing has appeared in *The Believer*, *The Atlantic*, *The Paris Review Daily*, and elsewhere. Last year, she won the prestigious \$50,000 Whiting Award, which is given annually to emerging writers in fiction, nonfiction, drama and poetry.



English Professor Wins \$250,000 NEH Grant

English Professor Dr. Christopher Schaberg, co-editor of the Object Lessons book series, recently received \$250,000 from the National Endowment for the Humanities in support of his essay and book project. Object Lessons explores the hidden lives of ordinary things. With the help of the federal grant, Schaberg and his co-editor Ian Bogost at Georgia Tech will conduct four writing institutes across the country in 2018, and the funds will also support student involvement at Loyola and Georgia Tech.



English Major Wins Fulbright Scholarship

Lauren Stroh, an English-cultural studies major, has received a Fulbright Scholarship, which offers students teaching and research awards for projects outside the United States. Lauren will teach and travel

in Paraguay. Five Loyola students were offered Fulbright awards in 2017; this was the second year in a row in which multiple Loyola students were selected for this very prestigious and highly competitive honor.

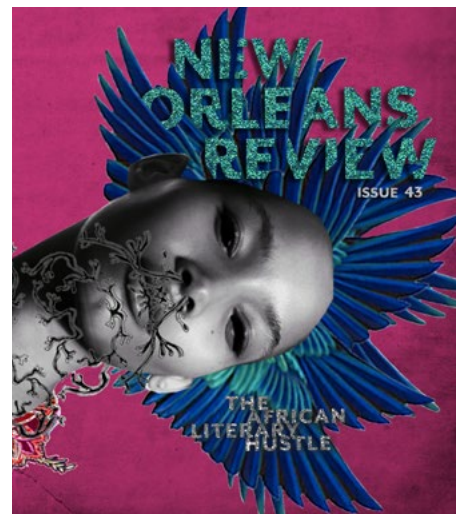
Honors Program Lauds English Majors and Faculty

The University Honors Program recognized English majors and their English faculty mentors for the outstanding theses of 2017.

- Bret Buckel was a winner of the Michelle St. Roman Award for Academic Excellence.
- Bret Buckel also won the Constance Mui and John T. Sebastian Award for Outstanding Research Thesis. Dr. Daniel Mintz directed the thesis of Ellen Egitton, the co-winner of this award.
- Mac Guillory won the Creative Thesis Award. His thesis was directed by Professor John Biguenet.
- Molly Mulroy won the JSRI Social Justice Community-Engaged Research Thesis Award. Her thesis was directed by Dr. Laura Murphy.

New Orleans Review to Celebrate New African Writing

The latest issue of the *New Orleans Review*, which will celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2018, focuses on exciting, often genre-bending contributions from African writers. Guest editors Mũkoma wa Ngũgĩ of Cornell University and Loyola Associate Professor of English Laura T. Murphy present a diverse collection of poems, fiction, and essays by contemporary African authors, some of whom are recognized figures, others of whom are publishing their very first pieces. Their writing rejects simple nostalgia to critically explore the colonial past, our complicated present, and possible Afro-futures. In the past four years, the NOR has been the recipient of a number of design awards and its content has won two Pushcart Prizes as well as an O. Henry Award for short fiction.





**MODERN
SLAVERY**
RESEARCH PROJECT

Loyola's Modern Slavery Research Project, under the direction of English Professor Dr. Laura Murphy, released in April its study, "Labor and Sex Trafficking Among Homeless Youth in the U.S. and Canada: A Ten-City Study," attracting national attention. Dr. Murphy and a research team of Loyola students interviewed over 600 homeless and runaway youth. As the *Huffington Post* reported, "The research bears out for the first time on a large scale the prevalence of trafficking among homeless youth. According to today's studies, more than two-thirds of the young people who engaged in commercial sex did so when they did not have a safe place to stay, underscoring the role that homelessness plays in exacerbating teenagers' vulnerability to human trafficking." The MSRP has won recent funding from both the Greater New Orleans Human Trafficking Task Force and from Covenant House to support its work.

For more information
about studying English:
cas.loyno.edu/english



Department of English
email: english@loyno.edu
Phone: (504) 865-2295
6363 St. Charles Avenue, Box 50
New Orleans, Louisiana 70118

English Department Wins Faculty Excellence Awards for Fourth Year in a Row

Continued from cover

co-editor of *Airplane Reading* since 2011. A talented visual artist as well as a distinguished writer, Professor Yakich has had five exhibitions of his artwork. As a colleague wrote in nominating him for the award: "Mark is a faculty member whom students look up to because of his acumen at publishing—they take keen notice of the profusion of work that he publishes. And it is no surprise that Mark's students go on to pursue their own scholarly and creative projects. While I am aware that this is fundamentally an award to recognize

research, I feel that this point should be stressed: Mark's publishing trajectory is an integral part of his presence at Loyola, as a professor who effortlessly fuses teaching and scholarship." This was the fourth year in a row that an English professor won the Faculty Excellence in Research Award, with Professor Trimiko Melancon winning the award in 2014, Professor Christopher Schaberg winning in 2015, and Professor John Biguenet winning in 2016.

One Streetcar Stop Away

In Loyola University's English Department, you'll study literature, creative writing, and film + digital media with our faculty of distinguished scholars and published authors. The skills they help you hone will allow you to succeed in fields as diverse as **publishing, screenwriting, teaching, and corporate communications.**