New Associate Dean

Dr. Kate Drowne, associate professor of English and technical communication at Missouri University of Science and Technology, became associate dean for academic affairs in Missouri S&T’s College of Arts, Sciences, and Business, effective Jan. 1, 2015.

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Studying Mark Twain in London

This spring, Dr. Kathryn Dolan, assistant professor of English, and two English majors, Sherry Smith and Alex Womack, are participating in the Missouri London Program (MLP). Other Missouri universities have also sent students to London to participate in MLP and take Dr. Dolan’s courses: ... continued p. 6.

Turbulent Mississippi History

Dr. Trent Watts, associate professor of American Studies, has published a third book: Ed King’s Mississippi: Behind the Scenes of Freedom Summer (University Press of Mississippi, 2014). His previous two books ... continued p. 8.
Greetings from the S&T English and Tech Com Department!

You will see in the pages of this Panoply many of the accomplishments of our students and faculty this year. It was an amazing year in the department with books by Kate Drowne, Trent Watts, and KC Dolan all being published. Kathy Northcut won the prestigious 2015 CCCC Technical and Scientific Communication Award in the category of Best Original Collection of Essays in Technical or Scientific Communication. Anne Cotterill was awarded this fall both a Faculty Teaching Excellence Award and a UM Research Board Award for her current project on cold in Early Modern literature. I hope you enjoy reading about our activities over the past year as the department continues to grow in new and interesting directions.

Writing this chair’s note every year gives me the opportunity to celebrate the department’s achievements, but it also creates time for recollection. Two babies were born to department faculty members this year, but we have been deeply saddened by the death of Gene Doty, who passed away on January 16, 2015, as the result of complications from surgery. Gene taught in the department for forty-two years, coming to Rolla in 1967. He taught very popular courses in fantasy and science fiction literature, world literature, and technical writing, and particularly in his role as advisor of our literary magazine, Southwinds, was an important mentor for students interested in writing poetry. Before his retirement in 2009, Gene served seven semesters as chair of the department, shaping curriculum and overseeing the hiring of several of our current faculty. In their remembrances of Gene, members of the department noted his quirky sense of humor, his kindness, and his exuberant enthusiasm about whatever interested him. I remember that when my son was born, Gene and Rose were our first visitors at home, and Gene arrived bearing the gift of a poem.

On the back of this issue, you will find one of Gene’s last poems, “Bone-House.” He sent it to us in November for publication here, and so it appears as a poignant meditation on aging and mortality, but also on the joy of physical life.

Best wishes for a happy and healthy year.

Kristine Swenson, Department Chair
Drowne named associate dean

continued from cover

“Dr. Drowne brings a wealth of talent, knowledge and experience to this position as a faculty member, researcher and leader,” says Dr. Stephen Roberts, vice provost and dean of the College of Arts, Sciences, and Business. “With her broad connections across campus, Dr. Drowne will play an instrumental role in building our new college.”

As associate dean for academic affairs, Drowne will oversee curriculum and instruction matters; oversee the development and implementation of strategic planning related to academic programs; establish plans for program development, faculty recruitment and development; and coordinate academic program review with the department chairs in the college to review, study and develop curriculum and improve instruction.

A member of the Missouri S&T faculty since 2001, Drowne also has led the Missouri S&T Writing Center since joining campus. She served as the center’s interim director from 2001 to 2002 and then was appointed as director of the Writing Center in 2002.

Jeanine Bruening, who has served as associate director of the Writing Center since 2011, was named interim director of the center, effective January 1, 2015.

Drowne is the author or co-author of five books with a sixth book in progress. In addition, Drowne led the creation of Missouri S&T’s One Book program in 2007 and has served as coordinator for the program ever since.

She holds a Ph.D. in English from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where she specialized in 20th century American and African American literature. Her dissertation, “Spirits of Defiance: The Influence of National Prohibition on American Literature, 1920-1933,” was published as a book in 2005 by the Ohio State University Press.

Drowne also holds a Bachelor of Arts in English from Colby College and a Master of Arts in English from the University of Connecticut. Before joining the Missouri S&T faculty, she was a resident fellow at the W.E. B. Du Bois Institute at Harvard University. The recipient of numerous teaching and service awards, Drowne was named Missouri S&T Woman of the Year in 2009.

In addition to her new duties, Drowne will continue to teach as a member of the English and technical communication faculty.
Alumni of the English & Technical Communication Department

TOUCHING BASE

with

Ashley (Bedwell) Prawitz (M.S. Summer ’08) has been teaching high school science at John F. Hodge High School in St. James since 2009. AJ says that her technical communication background helps her when planning lessons for distribution on their learning management system called Canvas. AJ lives in St. James with her husband Patrick, two daughters, Acie and Maria, and son Rory.

“...a new addition to the family...”

Rebecca (Moneymaker) Jenshak (M.S. Fall ’05) has recently relocated to Tucson, Arizona, with her family. She currently works remotely as a Senior Technical Writer for Neil Hoosier & Associates based in Maryland. Rebecca also has a new addition to the family: Max, born in September.
Tessa Burnett (M.S. Spring '10) currently owns a small company located in Bozeman, Montana, called Hattie Rex. Hattie Rex specializes in personalized and custom jewelry pieces, pet ID tags, and other gifts. She has had this hobby since graduate school at S&T and has now made it her job. In 2014 alone, Tessa traveled to Thailand, Tanzania, and Alaska in connection with her work.

Garet Marling (M.S. Spring '08) currently lives in Columbia with his partner Jonathan. Garet has worked for the University of Missouri as an Instructional Designer. Garet has recently passed the comprehensive exam for a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis and has begun working on a dissertation study about online education.
“Mark Twain in Hannibal and London” and "Global Foods in Literature and Film.”

Mark Twain grew up in Hannibal, Missouri, but he wrote his last book in London. Dolan and her students are following his tracks and discovering how London influenced his writing and how the book written in London differs from his works written in the US. The class is also planning a trip to Oxford, where Twain gave a speech at Oxford University when he received his honorary degree.

The focus of the second course is global foods. Dolan and her students are visiting restaurants, markets, and other places to study the foods and cultures of London. Dolan has written about food and agriculture in American literature in her recently published book *Beyond the Fruited Plain: Food and Agriculture in U.S. Literature, 1850-1905*. Now she is studying the subject in a global context, working with professors from all over the world at the Food Studies Center in London.

Smith and Womack are senior English majors in our department, and they are living and studying in London for the first time. Although their classes are keeping them busy in the city, with frequent field trips to museums and restaurants, they are still finding time to visit other parts of England, including Stratford-upon-Avon and Stonehenge. They are also planning a trip to the main continent, perhaps Paris, over spring break.

**Alumna Accepts Position at Patel**

Shristy Bashyal Acharya (M.S. Summer ’12) recently accepted the position of Director of Career Development in the Patel College of Global Sustainability at the University of South Florida. She is helping students and alumni of Patel College to hone their job-seeking skills and find employment opportunities.

Bashyal has master’s degrees in business administration and technical communication from Missouri S&T, where she taught technical writing as a graduate teaching assistant and business courses as an adjunct lecturer. After graduation, she worked as a career advisor in Missouri S&T’s Career Opportunities & Employer Relations (COER).

She and Dr. Ed Malone recently co-authored a chapter titled “The Three Pillars of Sustainability as a Special Topic of Invention in the Marketing Communication of Plastic-Packaging Companies” for a book collection titled *Hot Topics: Common Topics of Environmental Rhetoric*. 
Professors travel to Oman and Saudi Arabia as consultants

In 2014, three professors in our department travelled to the Middle East on university business. Dr. Kathryn Northcut went to Oman in April to visit Missouri S&T’s sister school, Mazoon University College, in Muscat. Drs. Ed Malone and Eric Bryan went to Ar’ar, Saudi Arabia, in November to visit Saudi Mining Polytechnic.

Northcut was part of a team of Missouri S&T employees who visited Mazoon for a week last year. Mazoon, a privately owned college, gives Omani women the opportunity to receive a college education. Missouri S&T aids Mazoon in establishing curriculum, creating syllabi, and making textbook choices as well as providing other helpful resources. In addition to meeting with Mazoon faculty and students in Muscat, Northcut had the opportunity to explore the area and shop at some souks (marketplaces) as well as tour the ruins from a war against the Portuguese.

Bryan and Malone visited a small city in northern Saudi Arabia for three days (Nov. 17-19) to evaluate the English-language program at the Saudi Mining Polytechnic (SMP). In 2012, Missouri S&T signed a five-year agreement with SMP to provide English-language and mining-training programs to SMP students. Ma’aden, the Saudi national mining company founded in 1997, and the Technical Vocational Training Corporation (TVTC) of Saudi Arabia, a training institute founded in 1980, established the Saudi Mining Polytechnic to train mine workers and mine supervisors and improve the economy of northern Saudi Arabia.

The two faculty members reviewed the English-language program in seven areas: students, courses and course materials, instructors, instructional facilities, program outcomes, the SMP administrative support system, and program challenges. Malone said, “We were happy to be involved in this interesting collaboration between Missouri S&T and Saudi Mining Polytechnic.”
Ed King, a white minister in Mississippi during the civil rights movement in the 1960s, is both Watts’ subject and co-author of the new book. During the summer of 1964, when volunteers from around the country traveled to Mississippi to assist with voter registration and advance the cause of civil rights in other ways, King took photographs of civil rights leaders such as Martin Luther King, Jr., and Andrew Young, as well as the army of volunteers who came to his state.

This book presents those previously unpublished photographs along with the writings of Ed King and others. For the volume, Watts wrote a 30-page introduction, which is based on archival research and interviews with King.

Watts made the following statements about the book in an interview with a reporter for the Gannet News Service:

“Ed King’s Mississippi gives an insider’s perspective on the civil rights movement in Mississippi during one of its critical periods — the summer of 1964. Ed King’s photographs and writings are the work of a person uniquely positioned to assess Mississippi’s complicated responses to the voter registration campaign and other grassroots work that year.

“I’d long been convinced that Ed King’s career deserved scholarly attention as well as popular recognition. I asked Rev. King if he’d assist me in writing the book. He and I spent about four years on the project. Craig Gill and other people at the University Press of Mississippi were wonderful to work with. We are all pleased that the book has appeared during the 50th anniversary of the events that it covers.

"Ed King is the most important native white Mississippian involved in the struggle for black civil rights. From his college days through his time as Tougaloo College’s chaplain and beyond, he spent years living as a witness to his values. I hope that this book will remind Mississippians of the complexities, contradictions and passions of those years."

For the complete interview, see Jana Hoops’ “Q&A with Authors Ed King and Trent Watts” (http://www.clarionledger.com/story/life/2014/10/18/qa-authors-ed-king-trent-watts/17514673/).
A book about food and agriculture in American literature

Dr. Kathryn Dolan, assistant professor of English, is the author of a recently published book: *Beyond the Fruited Plain: Food and Agriculture in U.S. Literature, 1850-1905*. The title alludes to the phrase "above the fruited plain" in the patriotic song "America the Beautiful." The publisher offers the following description of the book:

"Agriculture in the United States has changed dramatically in the last two hundred years. Economic transformation marked by the expansion of the industrial economy and big business has contributed to an increase in industrial food production. Amid this change, policymakers and cultural critics have debated the best way to produce food and wealth for an expanding population with imperialistic tendencies.

"In a sweeping overview, *Beyond the Fruited Plain* traces the connections between nineteenth-century literature, agriculture, and U.S. territorial and economic expansion. Bringing together theories of globalization and ecocriticism, Kathryn Cornell Dolan offers new readings on the texts of such literary figures as Herman Melville, Frank Norris, Mark Twain, Henry David Thoreau, and Harriet Beecher Stowe as they examine conflicts of food, labor, class, race, gender, and time—issues still influencing U.S. food politics today.

"*Beyond the Fruited Plain* shows how these authors use their literature to imagine agricultural alternatives to national practices and in so doing prefigure twenty-first-century concerns about globalization, resource depletion, food security, and the relation of industrial agriculture to pollution, disease, and climate change."

A book about novelist Richard Russo

In *Understanding Richard Russo*, Dr. Kate Drowne, associate professor of English, writes about the man behind the 2002 Pulitzer-Prize winning novel, *Empire Falls*, and his larger body of work. Having known Russo since her time as an undergraduate at Colby College, Drowne has a unique perspective as a student and a longtime fan of Russo’s work.

Drowne begins the book with a short biography of Russo, followed by general comments about his literary influences (John Cheever, Richard Yates, and especially Charles Dickens) and his major themes (including socioeconomic class and familial relationships). Each of the next seven chapters focuses on a different novel: *Mohawk*, *The Risk Pool*, *Nobody’s Fool*, *Straight Man*, *Empire Falls*, *Bridge of Sighs*, and *That Old Cape Magic*. The last chapter, titled "Other Works," contains descriptions of and brief commentary on Russo’s collections of short stories and essays, a novella, a memoir, and miscellaneous writings.

To illustrate how Russo is "both the same and different from the people who filled his childhood and populate his novels," Drowne divides Russo’s life into two contrasting parts: his early life in a small New York town and his later life as a professor and scholar at universities. His experiences in Gloversville, New York, in the 1950s and 1960s inform his fictional portrayals of working-class life in the rural towns of the Northeast, while his experiences as a professor at the University of Southern Illinois - Carbondale and Colby College, Maine, and later as full-time author enable him to maintain a critical distance from those creations.

*Understanding Richard Russo* is the first book-length study of the work of this major American author. It is part of the University of South Carolina Press’s Understanding Contemporary American Literature series, which consists of "guides or companions for students as well as good nonacademic readers."
Writing Center receives grant for new iPads

Missouri S&T’s Innovation Grant Program awarded the first grant of the 2015 fiscal year (i.e., the 2014-2015 academic year) to Dr. Kate Drowne, former director of the Missouri S&T Writing Center. The grant has enabled the Writing Center to purchase five iPads to improve the tutoring experience for both the students and the tutors.

“S&T students continue to receive the countless benefits of a personal, face-to-face conversation with their peer writing tutors, and at the same time have the ability to make full use of the advantages offered by the digital environments,” says Drowne. During their tutoring sessions, students have access to the iPad toolkit, which includes electronic editing tools, audio and visual tools, recording tools, and online resources.

The iPads have been integrated into tutoring sessions since October 2014. They have proven successful and popular with the students, in part because they enable tutors to provide instant feedback on an electronic document. The iPads also enable the students to edit documents quickly and easily during the tutoring sessions.

Ketterer wins scholarship

Last semester, Amy Ketterer, a senior in technical communication, was selected from a pool of 30 national applicants to be the undergraduate recipient of the 2014 Diane Feldman Technical Editing Special Interest Group Scholarship from the Society for Technical Communication (STC).

Each year, STC’s Technical Editing SIG awards two Feldman scholarships: one to an undergraduate student and the other to a graduate student. The scholarship recognizes “the academic accomplishments of exceptional Technical Communication students” who “demonstrate their focus on topics related to technical editing.”

Ketterer graduated in December with a Bachelor of Science in Technical Communication. She is now pursuing a Master of Science in Technical Communication at S&T.
New Graduate Teaching Assistants

There are two new GTAs in technical communication this semester: Snehal Shirke (from India) and Emily Seals (of the U.S). Shirke and Seals were GAs last semester while they were training under Dr. Kathryn Northcut's supervision.

Starting their training this semester as GAs are Shanthipriya Dontula (from India) and Saba Nikrahi (from Iran). If all goes as planned, they will become GTAs in the fall.

The continuing GTAs are Ellie Biswell (of the U.S.) and Neha Koolwal (from India). In addition to teaching last semester, Neha worked as the department's web master.

OURE Projects

The Office of Undergraduate Studies offers research grants to undergraduates at Missouri S&T as part of a program called Opportunities for Undergraduate Research Experience (OURE). Students must have a sponsoring faculty member to pursue an OURE project. Successful applicants receive a $1,000 stipend and up to $500 in funding for supplies, equipment, travel, etc.

Four English majors are working on OURE projects this year:

Laura Riggins is working with Dr. Kristine Swenson on a project titled “Early 20th Century English Romances.”

Natalie Light and Sherry Smith are working with Dr. Kathryn Dolan on “Bookmarking Thoreau’s Digital Manuscripts.”

Rebekah Harrah is working with Dr. Dan Reardon on “Developing Reading Comprehension Assessment Strategies in Chemistry 1310.”
Southwinds Missouri S&T’s Magazine of the Creative Arts

Southwinds, Missouri S&T’s only literary and arts magazine, annually publishes creative writing, along with photography and other visual art submitted by students, faculty, staff, and alumni. Contributions include poetry, short fiction, creative nonfiction, photographs, and drawings about everything from dragons to love, loss, and the beauty of nature. The Southwinds staff and contributors represent the full range of academic interests across campus, including from all areas of engineering and the sciences, as well as the humanities.

For the past two years, the printing of Southwinds has been funded by a grant from the Student Council’s Student Activity Finance Board, allowing the magazine to be distributed free of charge over campus. Southwinds is currently accepting submissions for the Spring 2015 issue. Southwinds also welcomes new staff members interested in editing or working with layout and design. To submit material for the new issue or to express interest in joining the staff, please write to swinds@mst.edu or to the faculty advisor, Dr. Anne Cotterill, at cotterill@mst.edu.

https://www.facebook.com/pages/Southwinds/131386570248555

Sigma Tau Delta

Members of the S&T chapter of Sigma Tau Delta, the English honorary society, held a Halloween-themed bake sale in late October 2014. They also organized a mug-making night and painted mugs to sell at the bake sale.

In addition to these fund-raising activities, STD members mixed education and pleasure by sponsoring a movie night in conjunction with a contemporary novel class.

The officers of Sigma Tau Delta for AY 2014-2015 are as follows:

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https://www.facebook.com/pages/Southwinds/131386570248555
Department shares courses with UMSL

Starting this semester, our department is participating in a course-sharing experiment with the English department at the University of Missouri – St. Louis (UMSL). More than a dozen courses in technical communication will be shared over the next two or more years. Six of those courses have been or will be redesigned as eight-week courses for delivery during regular 16-week semesters.

UMSL students will enroll in UMSL sections of online S&T courses, while S&T students will enroll in S&T sections of online UMSL courses. Missouri S&T’s strategic plan calls on the campus to explore new ways to use technology to expand access to and promote collaboration with other UM system campuses.

“We view this initiative as an opportunity to use resources more efficiently and to enrich our degree programs with more course offerings and additional faculty expertise,” said Dr. Ed Malone, co-director of technical communication programs at S&T.

Joining Malone in this experiment are Drs. Kathryn Northcut and David Wright at S&T and Drs. Bill Klein and Jeanie Allison at UMSL. The five faculty members received a $32,500 grant from the University of Missouri System to implement the course-sharing project. $16,500 went to S&T.

Eight-week versions of Proposal Writing, Usability Studies, and International Dimensions of Technical Communication will be developed at S&T, while eight-week versions of Editing, Advanced Business and Technical Writing, and Technical Presentations will be developed at UMSL.

The student chapter of STC sponsored an alumni panel on October 7, 2014. Misty Adams (M.S. 2013) and Elizabeth “Libby” Richardson (M.S. 2007) returned to campus to talk about their work experiences.

Adams is a contract technical writer for Wells Fargo Home Mortgage. She works from home and occasionally travels to the corporate headquarters in Des Moines for meetings. Previously she was a technical writing intern at Brewer Science in Rolla.

Richardson is the technical writing supervisor at Schneider Electric in O’Fallon, Missouri. Previously she worked as a technical writer at Samsung Electronics in Suwon, South Korea; a contract technical writer for Aerotek; and a technical writer at Schneider Electric.
Members of Dr. Cotterill's Shakespeare class performing scenes from *The Winter's Tale* and *Hamlet*

The students in the above photos were performing scenes from Shakespeare's *The Winter's Tale* in Dr. Cotterill's Fall 2013 Shakespeare class. English major Sherry Smith (right) stands ready to perform one of the most famous stage directions in all of literature: "Exit, pursued by a bear."

Students in the Fall 2014 class performed scenes from *Hamlet*. Left to right: Natarajan Madhusudhana (Madhu) as Ophelia, Bret Robertson as Queen Gertrude, and Tim Zigrye as Horatio.
Dr. Eric Bryan

Dr. Eric Bryan is on paternity leave for the Spring 2015 semester. On September 1, he was officially tenured and promoted to associate professor. Last November, at the request of the Department of Mining and Nuclear Engineering, he and Dr. Ed Malone traveled to Arar, Saudi Arabia, to evaluate the English program at Saudi Mining Polytechnic. Bryan is a passionate and experienced global traveler. In recent years, his research and teaching have taken him to England, the Netherlands, and Iceland, among other places. He is working with Dr. Anne Cotterill, who used to live and work in Iceland, to create a study-abroad program so that S&T students can spend several weeks during the summer in Iceland, reading medieval Icelandic sagas and other Icelandic literature. Dr. Bryan is an internationally recognized scholar of medieval Scandinavian and Germanic conversion narratives, especially those related to the conversion and Christianization of Iceland.

Dr. Anne Cotterill

As part of her current research project, Absolute Zero: Cold, Ice, and the Demonic North in Early Modern England, Dr. Anne Cotterill presented a paper, “Science and the Strange: Robert Boyle, Thomas James, and the Emotional Experience of Cold,” on the intersection of science and travel writing in the seventeenth century, at the annual conference of the Southeastern American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, 29 February 2014, in Knoxville, TN. She finished revising an article, “Armed Winter and Inverted Day: The Politics of Cold in Dryden and Purcell’s King Arthur,” which is under review at The Huntington Library Quarterly, and gave a paper, “The Conflict of James Thomson’s ‘Winter’” at the 2015 Conference of SEASECS, February 26-28, in Gainesville, FL. In spring 2014, Cotterill reintroduced World Literature I (English 1231) as a regular course offering, which explores texts from non-English-speaking cultures from ancient times to the sixteenth century. She led a group of 16 students and faculty on October 25, 2014, to see a production of Shakespeare’s Much Ado About Nothing by the St. Louis Shakespeare Company, and she continues to advise the student creative writing and arts magazine, Southwinds. (see p. 12)
Dr. Kate Drowne

Dr. Kate Drowne is the new associate dean for academic affairs in the College of Arts, Sciences, and Business at Missouri S&T. She was selected from a field of highly qualified candidates from several departments on campus. She relinquished her position as director of the Writing Center to assume this half-time administrative position on January 1, 2015; however, she will continue to teach at least one English course each semester. Drowne is the author of a new book, *Understanding Richard Russo*, published by the University of South Carolina Press. She studied under Russo at Colby College in Maine and has had a long-standing interest in his novels such as *The Risk Pool* and *Empire Falls*. Drowne also wrote a successful grant proposal to fund the purchase of iPads for writing center tutors. In addition to these recent accomplishments, she continues to serve on multiple campus committees and to direct the One Book Program at Missouri S&T.

Dr. Kathryn Dolan

Dr. Kathryn (“KC”) Dolan is the author of a recently published book, *Beyond the Fruited Plain* (Fall 2014). She is also the author of an article, “Her Daily Bread: Food and Labor in Louisa May Alcott,” which has been accepted by *American Literary Realism* for publication in the Fall 2015 issue. In November 2014, she attended the SMLA conference in Atlanta, “Sustainability and the Humanities,” and presented a paper on Kate Chopin and moderated a panel on Mark Twain. She has another article under submission: “Hunting and Fishing with Thoreau: Developing a National Cuisine through Wildness.” This semester, Dolan is teaching two courses in London as part of the Missouri London Program: “From Hannibal to London with Mark Twain” and “Global Foods: London.” While there, she is participating in programs of the SOAS Food Studies Centre at the University of London. Finally, she continues to work with the Global Studies and Sustainability Minor committees, organize the Femfac meetings, and advise the Missouri S&T chapter of Sigma Tau Delta, the national English honorary society.

Dr. Liz Cummins

Cummins remains very active in retirement. In addition to spending time with her grandchildren, doing research, and attending campus events, she served as the first female President of the Miner Retirees Association (2012-2014) and represented the organization at the UM Retirees Leadership Association, which met three times a year in Columbia.
Dr. Ed Malone published an article about Missouri S&T’s technical communication programs in the March 2014 issue of *Programmatic Perspectives*. His co-authors were Dr. David Wright and Elizabeth Roberson (MS, 2011), a technical editor in S&T’s Office of Graduate Studies. In June, Malone, Wright, and Dr. Kathryn Northcut received $16,500 in University of Missouri System funding to implement a course-sharing project with the University of Missouri - St. Louis (UMSL). The first shared courses in this project are being offered this semester. Malone continues to serve as co-director of technical communication programs at Missouri S&T and faculty advisor of the Missouri S&T student chapter of the Society for Technical Communication (STC).

Prof. Fred Ekstam continues to teach composition courses and serve as faculty advisor of the campus newspaper, the *Missouri Miner*. Ekstam has two master’s degrees: one in English composition and the other in journalism. He is one of the three teaching professors in our department. A teaching professor is a faculty member who devotes the majority of his/her time to teaching rather than research. The department is currently interviewing applicants for a fourth teaching professor to replace Dr. Olivia Burgess, who left S&T in May 2014 for a teaching position at a university in Colorado.

Now in his sixth year at Missouri S&T, Professor Mathew Goldberg teaches composition, creative writing, and literature. He created and curates the department’s minor in creative writing. Last year Goldberg began teaching online courses and has “conferenced in” celebrated fiction writers such as Ron Rash and Nic Pizzolatto through Skype to his classrooms. Goldberg earned a B.A. in Biomedical and Electrical Engineering at Duke University and an MFA in Creative Writing at the University of Arkansas. His fiction has appeared in *The Atlantic*, *Shenandoah*, *American Short Fiction*, and many other publications. At S&T, he serves on the department’s composition committee and the campus’s pre-med advisory committee. He was also the department’s representative to the faculty senate for two years.
Dr. Kathryn Northcut

As co-director of technical communication programs, Dr. Kathryn Northcut continues to train and supervise the department’s graduate teaching assistants. The GTAs are all graduate students in technical communication. After a semester of training, each GTA teaches a section of either English 3560 Technical Writing (formerly ENGL 160) or English/Technical Communication 1600 Introduction to Technical Communication (formerly ENGL/TCH COM 65 Technical Writing in Business and Industry). Northcut is co-editor of the book Designing Texts: Teaching Visual Communication (Baywood, 2013), which won the 2015 CCCC award for best original collection of essays in technical and scientific communication.

Prof. Kelly Tate

Professor Kelly Tate returned to the classroom for the Spring 2015 semester after being away for a semester on maternity leave. She and her husband, Professor Mathew Goldberg, are the proud parents of a baby boy: Abel Samuel Goldberg. Tate’s short story, “Tiny Tiles,” was published in the Fall 2014 issue of Cave Region Review.

Dr. Daniel Reardon

Dr. Daniel Reardon is the department’s director of composition and a productive scholar. He presented papers at the 2014 Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC) in Indianapolis, and the 2014 Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association (PCA/ACA) conference in Chicago. His CCCC paper, “Dialogic, Ludonarrative, and Identity: Detached Self in the Rhetoric of Gaming Violence,” was part of a larger panel on the rhetoric of violence. At PCA/ACA, in his paper “Heteroglossia and Intertextuality: Redefining the Boundaries of Narrative in Games,” he explored the new frontiers of procedural rhetoric in the study of digital games as narrative devices. His article, “Assessment as Living Documents of Program Identity and Institutional Goals: A Profile of Missouri University of Science and Technology’s Composition Program,” has been accepted for publication in Composition Forum. On a personal note, Dan and his family spent the winter break in London.
Dr. Kris Swenson

Dr. Kris Swenson continues to enjoy teaching Science Fiction in the fall semesters. In Fall 2014, she included several of her favorite 19th-century British works such as Dracula and The War of the Worlds on the syllabus, and asked students to create collaborative Wikis on topics such as “Aliens,” “Empire,” and “Language” in science fiction books and films. This semester, she has been enjoying teaching British Novel II, taking a Victorian/Neo-Victorian focus by pairing classic works such as Jane Eyre and Oliver Twist with contemporary responses such as The Wide Sargasso Sea and Fingersmith. Swenson’s interest in the Neo-Victorian led to her participation in November in the international literary conference, “Victorians Like Us,” held annually in Lisbon, Portugal. A revised and longer version of Swenson’s essay for that conference, “Hothouse Victorians: Art and Agency in Freshwater,” will be published later this year in Victorians Like Us: Dialogues, Practices, Trends (Palgrave Macmillan).

Dr. Trent Watts

Dr. Trent Watts published Ed King’s Mississippi: Behind the Scenes of Freedom Summer (University Press of Mississippi), co-authored with civil rights activist Rev. Ed King. He has recently completed a book manuscript examining sex and sexualities in the recent South. Watts is now writing a history of the civil rights movement in Mississippi. At S&T, he teaches the American literature survey as well as courses on American film.

Dr. David Wright

Dr. Wright continues to work on an edited volume about technical communication and food safety for IEEE/Wiley (scheduled for publication in 2015) — to which both Dr. Kathryn Dolan and Dr. Ed Malone have contributed chapters — and a monograph about technology diffusion in agriculture that will be part of Ashgate Publishing’s series on technical communication. This past spring, he did research in Ireland while participating in the Missouri London Program.

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BONE-HOUSE
Gene Doty

say that we reside
in these bone-houses
some are shanties
some are mansions
some recreational vehicles

say that a lotus-ghost illuminates this crumbling house