After 19 years of teaching Literature in the English Department, Professor David L. Moore is retiring. Professor Moore earned his B.A. and M.A. in English at the University of South Dakota and his Ph.D. in English at the University of Washington. His dissertation title was “Native Knowing: The Politics of Epistemology in American and Native American Literatures.” He had a post-doctoral fellowship in the Society for the Humanities at Cornell University. He was hired as an Assistant Professor in 1999, became an Associate Professor in 2001, and was promoted to Professor in 2008.

A highly respected scholar with numerous articles, chapters, and book reviews, Professor Moore is the author of the monograph That Dream Shall Have a Name: Native Americans Rewriting America; he is also the editor of two collections of essays: Leslie Marmon Silko: Ceremony, Almanac of the Dead, Gardens in the Dunes; and Cultural Property in American Indian Literatures: Representation and Interpretation.

Continued on page 3

Andrew Sean Greer’s (MFA 1996) novel Less wins the 2018 Pulitzer Prize for fiction.

Continued on page 9
This year, the English Department faculty, staff, students, and alumni have engaged in many important events on campus and beyond. As you read this newsletter, you will see we are a vibrant community of teachers, scholars, writers, and leaders who contribute positively to our world. We are committed to promoting the essential role of the humanities and liberal arts at the University of Montana and in our society.

As we end this academic year, we celebrate the career of Professor David Moore, who is retiring after 19 years of dedicated teaching and service in our department. We invite you to his retirement party on Friday, May 4, at 4 pm to 6 pm on the second floor of the Liberal Arts Building. There we will also recognize the Mortar Board Outstanding Seniors in English and other scholarship award winners.

On Saturday, May 12, the College of Humanities and Sciences will hold its Commencement Ceremony at the Adams Center at 2:30 pm. Immediately following this ceremony, you are welcome to attend the department’s reception for graduates and their families in Liberal Arts 103 (4 pm to 6 pm).

As a teacher, Professor Moore greatly enjoyed working with undergraduates and graduates. Students praised his expertise and his genuine commitment to helping them read critically and write carefully. He supervised many theses for students in the M.A. in English (Literature option) and in the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. and Master’s programs; he also served as a reader for students in the M.A. in English (Teaching option), in the M.F.A. in Creative Writing, and in the M.A. in Environmental Studies (Environmental Writing option). At the university level, Professor Moore served on the General Education Committee, the Native American Building Committee, the Academic Standards & Review Committee, and Faculty Senate. Through his teaching and service, Professor Moore has made our department and university a more humane learning environment.

We applaud Professor Moore for his many accomplishments and wish him well as he transitions to retirement. A retirement celebration will be held for Professor Moore on Friday, May 4, from 4 pm to 6 pm in the second floor open area of the Liberal Arts Building. All are welcome to attend.
ALECIA WEIS (CRWR)
As a Creative Writing student, Alecia excels in poetry, fiction, non-fiction, and storytelling. She values the community of classmates and faculty who share the same love of writing. Alecia uses her voice as a means to both create art and to comment on the pressing issues of our day. She credits her growth as a writer to the incredible creative writing and literature faculty who have encouraged her to discover and develop her voice. Alecia gets her inspiration from growing up on a farm in Laurel, Montana. She has already published two pieces in The Oval, the UM literary magazine. After graduation, Alecia hopes to travel and experience life beyond Montana.

ANTONIO TORRES (FILM)
As an exceptionally talented student in both Film Studies and Creative Writing, Antonio Torres has already produced a documentary on the Salish Language School in Arlee, Montana. He has also produced a promotional video for UM in which Native American students share what they value about our university. Antonio loves stories as vehicles for shedding light on various aspects of our humanity and our world. Several of his writings were published in The Oval. Since his graduation in December, Antonio has been working on several stories which he hopes to pitch to Netflix. As a free lance writer Antonio continues to produce promotional videos for UM and is learning the business-side of media production.

CHASE GREENFIELD (LIT)
Chase is an exemplary citizen of our university community. His earnest, engaged participation in classroom discussion makes him a powerful classroom presence among his peers. Beyond the classroom, he has served as the Business Manager of the Associated Students of UM and as a Board Member for the Montana Public Interest Group. Most notably, Chase serves as the voice for the 40,000 students in his role as a Regent for the Montana University System. By studying literature and the humanities, Chase has developed a deep understanding of the liberal arts and their value in our society. After graduation, he plans to attend graduate school and pursue a Ph.D.

BRIANNE JAMI KIMBALL (IRSH)
As an outstanding student in the Irish Studies Program, Brianne is the President of the UM Irish Club and works with the Friends of Irish Studies, a non-profit organization that supports events, such as the Irish Christmas concert and the St Patrick’s Day festivities. Twice, she has traveled to Kerry, Ireland, where she took courses that deepened her understanding and appreciation of Irish language and culture. After graduation, Brianne plans to continue her engagement with the Irish community in Missoula. She also wants to continue in her study of the Irish language and return to Kerry, which she considers her second home.

ZACHARIAH TIMM (ENT)
Growing up in a small town in Montana, Zachariah Timm values the role of educators in our communities. An excellent English teaching student, Zach is dedicated to teaching literacy to future generations of young people. One of his most fulfilling experiences in his college years was volunteering with Flagship, an after-school program, where he worked with students on service learning projects. Zach also enjoys being an actor and director for community theatre productions in the Flathead Valley. Upon completing his student teaching at Big Sky High School in Missoula, Zach will seek an English teaching position and continue to inspire his students to be compassionate, respectful, and responsible members of their communities.
Congratulations
MFA & MA Class of 2018

MFA in Creative Writing

Pia Baur – Fiction
Michael Byrne – Fiction
Eric Hollen – Fiction
Liana Jahan Imam – Fiction
Connor McElwee – Fiction
Hamish William Rickett – Fiction

Jordan Nicole Chesnut – Poetry
Georgia Dale Dennison – Poetry
Rebecca A. Durham – Poetry, Fall 2017
Zackariah Rybak – Poetry
Skylar Salvatore – Poetry
Aya Satoh – Poetry
Anna Elisabeth Zumbahlen – Poetry

MA in English (Teaching)

Emily G. Holst – English Teaching
Claire Mikeson – English Teaching
Caroline Reel – English Teaching
Sarah Marie Stubbs – English Teaching
Michael Webster – English Teaching

MA in English (Literature)

Corina Sacajawea Ambrose – Literature
John Lawrence Cowden – Literature, Fall 2017
Taylor Hastings – Literature

Scholarships

Undergraduate

The Welch Scholarship
– Shannon Comes At Night
The Opus Scholarship
– Madison Haynes and Michael Merlo
James Crumley Memorial Scholarship
– Mielle Hubbard
Margaret Beebe Memorial Scholarship
– Georg Sperl
Fishtrap Scholarship
–Kate Rasmussen
Maureen Mansfield Scholarship
– TBA
Rose Southworth Megee Scholarship in Literature
– TBA
Helen J. Olson Scholarship
– TBA
Walter N. King Memorial Scholarship
– TBA
Jean Kountz and Hal G. Sterns Scholarship
Freeman Award
– TBA

Graduate

Bertha Morton Scholarship
– Barry Maxwell, Jenny Montgomery, Jenny Sheets & Robin Walter
Merriam-Frontier Award
– Barry Maxwell
Greta Wrolstad Travel Award
– Georgia Dennison
Nettie Weber Scholarships
–Melissa Phelan
Goedicke/Robinson Scholarship
– Emma Neslund & Emma Spencer
Alice Passano Hancock Davidson
– Callie Atkinson
The Husted-Jones Scholarship for Creative Writing
– Barry Maxwell
A.B. Guthrie Memorial Award
– Amanda Wilgus
Academy of American Poets University Prize
– Maren Schiffer
Honorable Mention - Molly Gray
Truman Capote Fellowships
– David Queen & Abigail Seethoff
Richard Hugo Memorial Scholarship
– Danielle Cooney
CutBank Editor-in-Chief 2018-19
– Joseph Kirk
Second Wind Coordinators 2018-19
– Barry Maxwell, Amelia Morand, Maren Schiffer & Kylie Westerlind
In the fall, William Finnegan (MFA 1978) was honored with a UM Distinguished Alumni Award. Finnegan, a staff writer for The New Yorker since 1987, has spent the majority of his career writing in-depth features on conflicts at home and abroad, reporting on everything from apartheid in South Africa to the politics of immigration reform in the U.S. In 2016, Finnegan’s memoir, Barbarian Days: A Surfing Life, won a Pulitzer Prize (2016). The New York Times best-seller chronicles his “youthful obsession” during his formative years as he traveled the world looking for the next big wave along with his buddies (mainly Bryan Di Salvatore – MFA 1976). He has earned numerous accolades for his reporting as well, and his research and reporting have resulted in several nonfiction publications, including Cold New World: Growing Up in a Harder Country.

The UM Creative Writing Program recognized Professor Emeritus William Kittredge with a Lifetime Achievement Award at the Montana Book Festival. Kittredge taught at the University of Montana’s Creative Writing program from 1969 to 1997, and returned in 2012, when he served as the Distinguished Kittredge Visiting Writer. Through his teaching post at UM, he helped shape generations of writers. As an editor, he and Annick Smith created The Last Best Place: A Montana Anthology, a definitive collection of Western literature.

Some of Kittredge’s most notable work includes his 1987 collection of stories, Owning it All, and his 1992 memoir Hole in the Sky.

Kittredge also co-produced Robert Redford’s A River Runs Through It, and has been published in over 50 magazines, including the Atlantic, Harper’s, Esquire, Time, Newsweek, The Washington Post and The New York Times.

Andrew Sean Greer (MFA 1996) has won the 2018 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction. Greer’s novel, Less, is “a generous book, musical in its prose and expansive in its structure and range, about growing older and the essential nature of love,” according to Monday’s announcement on the Pulitzer website.

Greer, a native of Washington, D.C., graduated from the University of Montana in 1996 with a Master of Fine Arts degree in creative writing.

One of his professors at UM, Dee McNamer, said Greer “from the get-go was one of the brightest, quickest young writers I’ve ever worked with.” She praised his range and said the prize is a credit to Greer and the program.
Kevin Canty’s “God’s Work” was selected for *The Best American Short Stories 2017*, edited by Meg Wolitzer. The story was originally published in *The New Yorker.*

Debra Earlings’ feature was featured on the front page of the Missoulian in an article about the casting call for *Perma Red.*

David Gates’ story, “Texas,” was published in *The New Yorker.*

Joanna Klink is spending the year in Rome as the 2017-2018 recipient of the Amy Lowell Poetry Traveling Fellowship. She is currently a Visiting Artist at the American Academy in Rome and will be in residency at the Bogliasco Foundation in Genoa in May. She will be a featured reader at John Cabot University in Rome, Days of Poetry and Wine in Lubljana, Slovenia, and the Unamuno Series in Madrid. Her fifth book of poems is forthcoming from Penguin in 2020. Irma Boom, the Dutch bookmaker and designer, is also working on a book based on Joanna’s Roden Crater poems, called *Night Sky.*

Prageeta Sharma’s poem “Hermetic” is in the latest edition of *Ploughshares.* She read new work on the panel “Asian/American/Experiment” at The New Orleans Poetry Festival and Small Press Fair with poets Vidhu, Sawako Nakayasu, and Mg Roberts. She recently came back from teaching an intensive day-long poetry workshop on the Katha Upanashad at Naropa University where she also gave a reading from her recent poetry workshop on the Katha Upanashad at Naropa University. She is also organizing a poetry festival and small press fair with poets Vidhu and Jenny Montgomery.

David Gates’ story, “Texas,” was published in *The New Yorker.*

Prageeta Sharma’s poem “Hermetic” is in the latest edition of *Ploughshares.* She read new work on the panel “Asian/American/Experiment” at The New Orleans Poetry Festival and Small Press Fair with poets Vidhu, Sawako Nakayasu, and Mg Roberts. She recently came back from teaching an intensive day-long poetry workshop on the Katha Upanashad at Naropa University where she also gave a reading from her recent poetry workshop on the Katha Upanashad at Naropa University. She is also organizing a poetry festival and small press fair with poets Vidhu and Jenny Montgomery.

David Gates’ story, “Texas,” was published in *The New Yorker.*

Prageeta Sharma’s poem “Hermetic” is in the latest edition of *Ploughshares.* She read new work on the panel “Asian/American/Experiment” at The New Orleans Poetry Festival and Small Press Fair with poets Vidhu, Sawako Nakayasu, and Mg Roberts. She recently came back from teaching an intensive day-long poetry workshop on the Katha Upanashad at Naropa University where she also gave a reading from her recent poetry workshop on the Katha Upanashad at Naropa University. She is also organizing a poetry festival and small press fair with poets Vidhu and Jenny Montgomery.

David Gates’ story, “Texas,” was published in *The New Yorker.*

Prageeta Sharma’s poem “Hermetic” is in the latest edition of *Ploughshares.* She read new work on the panel “Asian/American/Experiment” at The New Orleans Poetry Festival and Small Press Fair with poets Vidhu, Sawako Nakayasu, and Mg Roberts. She recently came back from teaching an intensive day-long poetry workshop on the Katha Upanashad at Naropa University where she also gave a reading from her recent poetry workshop on the Katha Upanashad at Naropa University. She is also organizing a poetry festival and small press fair with poets Vidhu and Jenny Montgomery.

David Gates’ story, “Texas,” was published in *The New Yorker.*

Prageeta Sharma’s poem “Hermetic” is in the latest edition of *Ploughshares.* She read new work on the panel “Asian/American/Experiment” at The New Orleans Poetry Festival and Small Press Fair with poets Vidhu, Sawako Nakayasu, and Mg Roberts. She recently came back from teaching an intensive day-long poetry workshop on the Katha Upanashad at Naropa University where she also gave a reading from her recent poetry workshop on the Katha Upanashad at Naropa University. She is also organizing a poetry festival and small press fair with poets Vidhu and Jenny Montgomery.
A Special Thank You

George Venn (MFA 1971) has a new poetry collection, *Lichen Song: New and Selected Poems*, that was nominated for the Oregon Book Award and Pulitzer Prize.


Word Works will be publishing Miles Waggener’s (MFA 2001) *Superstition Freeway*. His chapbook, *Arterial Roads*, came out with Open Country Press. Miles directs the MFA program at the University of Nebraska-Omaha where he teaches both nonfiction and poetry.

Thomas Mitchell (MFA 1978) has a new poetry collection with Lost Horse Press, *Canbou*.


Ian Basingthwaite’s (BA 2004) *Live From Cairo* is a finalist for the 2018 PEN/Hemingway Award for Debut Fiction.

Cécile Berberat (MFA 2014) won the fiction contest for the *Baltimore Review* with her short story “Lemon Drop.”

Sterling Holywritemountain (BA 2005) of the Blackfeet Community College received a Tribal College Humanities Initiatives grant from the NEH for $100,000. His project is called “Enhancing Curriculum with Blackfeet Language and Culture.”

Robby Nadler (MFA 2011) has been tapped to run the graduate writing program at UC Santa Barbara.


We say good bye to our colleague and friend, Karin Schalm, after her nine years of service as the Creative Writing Program Coordinator. Dedicated to the MFA and undergraduate creative writing students, alumni, visiting writers and faculty, Karin greatly enriched the University of Montana writing community. She spent her days, and many evenings, promoting the program by welcoming community members to join in multiple events, lectures, readings and workshops.

Karin is the one who coined the phrase, “When you throw a rock in Missoula, you hit a writer.”

The English Department is grateful for her service and wishes her the best in her new career as the Office Manager at Submittable.

A celebration will be held for Karin on Friday, May 4, from 4 pm to 6 pm in the second floor open area of the Liberal Arts Building. All are welcome to attend.

Thank you, Karin, for everything!

Faculty News

Robert Stubblefield and Amy Ratto-Parks have both been recognized with Outstanding Performance Awards for Non-tenure Track Faculty.

The University of Montana selected only six recipients for this award in 2017.

Erin Wecker was invited by the American Conference of Irish Studies to deliver a plenary talk titled, “The Trouble with Invisible Labor: Irish Women’s Work beyond the Emotional, Communal, and Spiritual.” A version of her plenary is under consideration for publication by Cambridge Scholars Publishing. Wecker was accepted to present her work at the American Conference for Irish Studies in Cork, Ireland, the Feminisms and Rhetorics Conference in Dayton, Ohio, and the Conference on College Composition and Communication in Kansas City, MO. Wecker collaborated with Barbara Koostroza from the Montana Museum of Art and Culture (MMAC) and Professor Rafael Chacón to design and implement a cross-disciplinary curriculum between WRIT 101 and ARTH 491. Wecker was named a Student Wellness Advocate by the Curry Health Wellness Program.

Amy Ratto-Parks’ verse novel *Radial Bloom* will be published with Folded Word Press in June.

In the 2017-2018 academic year, three peer-reviewed articles that Associate Professor Quan Manh Ha co-authored with his former and current undergraduate students have been published both in the US and in Europe.

Robert Baker’s three essays are forthcoming this summer or later in the year: “Versions of Ascesis in Louise Glück’s Poetry” (*The Cambridge Quarterly*); “Anne Carson’s Art of Masks” (*Chicago Review*); “What Do We Mean When We Talk About Transcendence? Plato and Virginia Woolf” (*Philosophy and Literature*).

Casey Charles has two new books: *The Monkey Cages* (a novel), and *Zicatela* (a poetry collection forthcoming from Foothills Press).

Quan Manh Ha is also the recipient of a $2,000 research grant for his translation project of Vietnamese short stories about the American War in Vietnam, awarded by the Humanities Institute.

Henrietta Goodman, Adjunct Assistant Professor at UM and Texas Tech, published her third collection of poetry, *All That Held Us*, with BkMk Press. Winner of the John Ciardi Prize, this memoir-based collection of linked sonnets explores the myths and truths of family, sexuality and love that shape adult identity.
Beverly Ann Chin presented 5 lectures at the Southwest University of Political Science and Law in Chongqing, China, in May 2017. In July, she presented 2 seminars and served on a panel at the International Scholarly Exchange Curriculum, a summer institute for 20 Chinese university professors and administrators at the UM College of Education. During 2017-2018, Chin spoke at several conferences, including the Montana Association of Teachers of English Language Arts, the Writing Projects Under the Big Sky, and the National Council of Teachers of English. Chin serves as a National Consultant for College Board’s AP English Literature and Composition.

In 2017, Dana Haring (ENT Adjunct) presented sessions at conferences including the Northwest Reading Council’s Back-to-School Literacy Conference, the MEA/MFT Educators’ Conference, and the National Council of Teachers of English Annual Convention. She created an online course for the OPI Teacher Learning Hub on schoolwide literacy protocols that is being used by school districts across Montana. She serves as treasurer for the Montana Association of Teachers of English and Language Arts. Dana was recently accepted as a scholar at a National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Seminar which will take place in New York City in July of 2018.

In 2017-18, Leanne Deschamps (ENT Adjunct) was active with her work in promoting writing efforts across Montana. Leanne worked with the Montana Writing Projects Leadership Team and served as the MEA-MFT conference chair for Writing Projects Under the Big Sky. Leanne continues to collaborate with Montana Associate of Teachers of English Language Arts (MATELA) and National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) members to develop students’ literacy skills in addition to mentoring K-12 teachers in her local school district.

Mandi Klimpel (ENT Adjunct) believes that continuing to grow as a writer herself is the best way to promote writing in both high school and college students. With that in mind, Mandi attended the Montana Writing Project (MWP) Summer Institute, where she gained valuable resources to integrate into her teaching of English at Frenchtown High School.

Montana Writing Project

The Montana Writing Project sponsored the 2017 Invitational Leadership Institute with 34 educators (elementary through college) from diverse subject areas. During this 2-week institute, educators learned the current research and engaged in best practices that integrated Indian Education for All, dual enrollment for composition, teaching for social justice, and literacy across the content areas. Educators also created Teacher Inquiry Projects and Educator Action Research Plans that empowered them as classroom teachers and as professional development leaders in their schools, districts, and beyond. The MWP leadership team included Beverly Ann Chin (Director), Dana Haring, Leanne Deschamps, Rebecca Chatham, and Mary Dea. Nick Schulz was the 2017 MWP Coordinator; Sarah Stubbs was the 2018 MWP Coordinator.