



The baseball season is coming to a close and many players have already started their vacations, but here in Writing Arts, we're just starting the second inning!

Sandy

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Thursday, Oct 17 at 5:30 pm**  
Rowan University Art Gallery – Opening *Extended Realities*
- **Saturday, October 19 at ~ 1:00**  
Homecoming Tent
- **Sunday, October 20-22**  
WPA Self-Study Evaluators' Site Visit
- **October TBA**  
Art Skeff Geissbuhler lecture
- **Wednesday, November 6 at 3:15**  
Dept. Meeting, 2097 James Hall
- **Wednesday, December 4 at 3:15**  
Dept. Meeting, 2097 James Hall
- **Friday, March 7 at 7:00 p.m.**  
Lecture by Neil Gaiman, writer, graphic novelist, and filmmaker. Has won He has won Hugo, Nebula, Bram Stoker awards, as well as Newberry and Carnegie medals.

## TWO INITIATIVES MOVING FORWARD

### **Write Rowan, Right Now! Literary Writing Contest**

In cooperation with Jeff Hand, VP for Strategic Enrollment Management, we will be offering scholarships to the literary contest winners in the sum of 20K for the winner, 10K for second and 5K for third. This is a major initiative to bring more freshmen into the WA major. We plan to bring in the first contest winners in Fall 2014.

### **Creative Writing in the Glassboro Fine & Performing Arts Academy**

We are hoping to see Creative Writing added to art, music and dance in the Glassboro Fine & Performing Arts Academy beginning in 2015-16. The academy attracts high school students from all over Gloucester county and even outside it. By making creative writing part of the academy, students will have the opportunity to take Creative Writing courses at Rowan for credit.

Special thanks to Julia Chang for moving these forward!

## **FERPA: WHAT YOU CAN AND CANNOT REVEAL ABOUT A STUDENT'S RECORD**

It is important that we are all aware of the ramifications of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). It tells you who you can and cannot talk to about a student's educational record, and under what circumstances you may do so. Basically, in most non-emergency cases, the student needs to have signed a FERPA waiver for you to discuss anything about the student with anyone, including spouses, parents, etc.

You can find *FERPA Information for Faculty and Staff* and the *Training PowerPoint* on the FERPA section of the Registrar's website: <http://www.rowan.edu/provost/registrar/ferpa.html>

Any questions regarding requests for protected student information should be referred to the Registrar's office; to Richard Jones, Dean of Students (856-256-4283 or [jonesri@rowan.edu](mailto:jonesri@rowan.edu)); or to Melissa Wheatcroft in the General Counsel's office (256-5107 or [wheatcroft@rowan.edu](mailto:wheatcroft@rowan.edu))

You can see whether a student has a FERPA waiver on file, and for whom, at the *FERPA - Student Disclosure Authorization* link here: <http://www.rowan.edu/provost/registrar/faculty.html>.

You can also find suggested *Note Taking Guidelines* for advisors and *Recommended Advisor Protocol* for the Rowan Success Network:

[http://www.rowan.edu/provost/academic\\_affairs/atp/faculty/success.php](http://www.rowan.edu/provost/academic_affairs/atp/faculty/success.php).

## WPA REPORT IN A NUTSHELL

Perhaps you found the WPA Self-Study was probably a bit lengthy. I did want to highlight a few points about our department just so you are aware of all that is going on, especially those of you who are new:

First, we offer multiple programs out of our department, including:

1. **First-year Writing Program.** This fall we served some 2095 students, including 76 in **Honors** courses, 199 in **Sophomore Clinic** and 119 in **Select Start**.
2. An **Intensive English Language program** that has expanded to the Glassboro campus and doubled in size this year.
3. An **undergraduate major** with 244 majors, almost half of whom are dual majors with **Early Childhood** or **Elementary Education**
4. Another 118 **Liberal Studies: Humanities/Social Science** Sequence B in Writing Arts students. These students complete 22 credits in Writing Arts
5. Similarly, we have 13 **minors** who also complete 22 credits in WA.
6. An **Accelerated BA/MA (4+1 program)** currently with 4 students.
7. A **creative writing concentration** with 21 students.
8. Our **M.A. in Writing**, which currently has 22 matriculated students.
9. The **Writing Center** in the Campbell Library held over 2,750 hours of tutoring appointments.

Second, we are undertaking several initiatives that will alter our enrollments. These include:

1. **Revising our major** to place creative writing in the required offerings and to offer 3 specializations within the major: Creative Writing, Technical and Professional Writing, and New Media Writing and Publishing.
2. **Major revisions to and marketing of the M.A in Writing** to attract more full-time students.
3. We offer four required courses in the recently launched **Liberal Studies: Literacy Studies** major.
4. The **Write Rowan, Right Now! Literary Writing Contest**. In cooperation with Strategic Enrollment Management, we will be offering scholarships to the literary contest winners in the sum of 20K for the winner, 10K for second and 5K for third. This is a major initiative to bring more freshmen into the WA major.
5. We also have received curricular approval to **start bringing freshmen into the 4+1 program** beginning next year.
6. We are planning to see Creative Writing added to art, music and dance in the **Glassboro Fine & Performing Arts Academy** beginning in 2015-16, offering high school students from all over the area the opportunity to take Creative Writing courses at Rowan for credit.

I again want to thank everyone who contributed to the report, but especially Laura Mangini, who put the whole report together; Manda Frederick, who scheduled and organized the visit; Cydney Alexis and Jeff Maxson, for editing the document; and all of who you wrote and worked on parts of it.

## PHONE IDEA DISCONNECTED; DREW KOPP RECONNECTED

Since Drew was already operating happily without a phone and, according to the phone bills, few people are using theirs, I decided to try to implement an idea we had discussed before: Let people get rid of their phones if they chose. The incentive would be that the money spent on the phone—some \$200 per phone per year—could then be used for professional development. Of course, some of us—me, coordinators, secretaries—would have to keep our phones, but the rest of you could have some money to spend.

Then I checked on whether we could do this. Not only does the university insist that we can't get rid of our phones, everyone has to have one. Thus, we had to get Drew reconnected—at, of course, a cost of some \$200/year. Not only did the idea not work out, we lost money. So much for money-saving ideas.

## DONATION OF THE MONTH

Joe Giampalmi kindly donated this Royal typewriter “with touch control” to the department. It's so old, I could only take a photo of it in black and white! Actually, I think it's from somewhere in the late 1940's, but still works. Currently, it resides atop my microwave in a technological incongruous pairing. Stop by and see how spoiled your fingers have become by computer keyboards.



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SOME TOSS-OFF HAIKUS

(wait, that was a haiku, no? Toss it!

## NOTEWORTHY

In quite the group effort, **Roberta Zehner, Deb Martin, Cindy Kopp, Kim Peters, Jackie McCafferty**, and others have had their work accepted for the International TESOL Conference to be held in March in Portland, OR.

**Janice Hatfield** published "A teacher's tips for success this semester" in the commentary section of *The Courier Post*. You can find it here:  
<http://www.courierpostonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2013309030001>

**Joe Samuel "Sam" Starnes** was part of the author discussion [Regional Rites: Three Southern Writers Living Up North Talk about Their Work](#) on October 12, in Philadelphia. It also featured fiction writer Stephanie Powell Watts and poet Bob Watts, both creative writing faculty members at Lehigh University.

Sam also participated on a panel at [BoucherCon](#)—the world's leading convention for crime fiction writers and readers—in Albany, New York from September 19-22. His group presented on the topic "Nobody Knows but Me" about the all the unseen things that authors enjoy or suffer through in writing a novel.

## MORE NOTEWORTHY ITEMS

Graduate student **Jorie Rao** published her essay Ariel in *Flames* in the most recent issue of *Philadelphia Stories*. You can find it here:  
<http://www.philadelphiastories.org/ariel-flames>

## PERSONNEL NEWS

On a sad note, **Kristine Gross** is still not well enough to return to work. She will be out until at least November.

On another sad note, temporary secretary **Jan Lockhart** decided her health is not good enough to let her continue to work here, so she left this week.

On a happy note, **Charla Newland** will replace Jan starting Monday, October 14. Charla retired as a secretary from the university several years ago and is now temping when the urge strikes. Charla has a thorough knowledge of the Rowan systems and so will be a great asset to the department, especially as Theresa is taking a two-week European river cruise starting at the end of the month. Stop by and welcome Charla in the office at the end of the hall, and have fun, Theresa!