Digital Writing Lab offers teaching, learning options

After much collaboration and multiple rounds of grant writing, the English, Speech, and Foreign Languages Department will have its own dedicated Digital Writing Lab opening this fall, thanks to a $130,000 TWU Higher Education Funds allocation from Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Jennifer Martin.

From an initial idea by Dr. Dundee Lackey and Dr. Gretchen Busl, the lab will offer maker equipment that allow students to create projects in multiple modalities.

“The lab will be set up as a multimodal space, enabling students to work with alphabetic, aural, visual, and multimodal texts of many types,” Lackey said.

The lab will be housed in CFO 104 and should be put to use this fall. It will have three areas, an adaptable desk area that can be reconfigured, a center area with computers including software such as Adobe Creative Suite, and a space that offers equipment to make non-alphabetic texts, such as a mini-video studio, sound capturing equipment, color and black and white printers, a scanner, and a binder to make books. Throughout the room there will be large touch screen computer monitors and projectors that can be accessed wirelessly, as well as a moveable teaching station.

“This isn’t a traditional computer lab, nor is it a traditional lecture room,” Dr. Ashley Bender, who helped write the project

Please see LAB on Page 12
BA students
Alexis Sikorski had poetry and short stories published in Enclave, Bombus Press, The Regal Fox, and Queen Mobs Teahouse. She also will be published in Sigma Tau Delta’s creative journal The Rectangle. She will be an IMPACT facilitator in the fall.

MA students
Rachel Green has a novella out on Amazon (both paperback and e-book) called “Dark Roast: Poetry and Prose with a Shot of Pessimism.” She also was inducted into Phi Kappa Phi. Cody Jackson had book reviews published: “Haters: Harassment, Abuse, and Violence Online by Bailey Poland (2016)” in Computers and Composition and “Gender and Memory in the Globital Age by Anna Reading (2016),” in volume 7 of technoculture. He also has a forthcoming publication “Toward a Pedagogy of Resistance: Joddy Murray’s Non-discursive Rhetoric” in the Journal of Multimodal Rhetorics. He will also present “On Queerness, Networked Memory, and the Quotidian Archivist” at the Digital Frontiers Conference in September.

Elizabeth Jendrzey presented her paper “Fan Fiction as a Digital Descendant of Transformative Literature” at the 5th Annual Fandom and Neomedia Studies (FANS) Association Conference. It and other conference proceedings are set to be published in The Phoenix Papers.

Kimberly Merenda, MA in English student and doctoral candidate in MWGS, had a poem “Iconoclasm” published in 3Elements Review and was nominated for the Pushcart Prize.

PhD students
Justin Cook, doctoral student, presented “The hope of every creeping thing: The Posthuman Female Monster, Ectopic Entomology, and Maternal Necro-Rhetorics in Aftershock’s Insexts Comic” at the Monstrous Women in Comics Conference at UNT. He has been accepted to present “Necroheterotopia of the Digital Age: Notes on Network Theory, Re-identification, and Online Memorialization Practices of the 21st Century” at the Digital Frontiers Conference. He was also elected President of ERGO-RSA.

Kathleen Irwin, doctoral student, presented a paper, “Final Colonial Fantasies: Expansionist Rhetoric in the Digital Era,” at the 2017 Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCCs) in Portland, Oregon. She also had her book review of Ashley M.L. Brown’s Sexuality in Role-Playing Games published in the inaugural issue of the Journal of Multimodal Rhetorics.

Maureen Johnson, doctoral candidate, is scheduled to present “‘The Rhetoric of Public Bodies: Resisting the Norm/Other Binary through Interstitial Space’” at the 2017 Feminism and Rhetorics Conference. She also presented “Delivery and Embodiment: Interrogating Culture in the Multimodal Classroom” at the 2017 CCCC Annual Convention and “Celebrating not Shaming: Reclaiming the Language of Bodies” at the 2016 Cultural Rhetorics Conference. She served as a reviewer for Peitho, the journal of the Coalition of Women Scholars in the History of Rhetoric and Composition. Additionally, she served as the doctoral representative on the TWU Graduate Council, where she also served on the Academic Programs Subcommittee. She participated in the PILOT program. She also served as president of the English Rhetoric Graduate Organization-Rhetoric Society of America and helped write a grant that generated $900 for a speaker series, Raise Your Voice: Women, Rhetoric, and Action.

Amanda Oswalt, doctoral candidate, passed her comprehensive exams. She also received the Allsup-Lane Scholarship and was appointed to the Graduate School’s Curriculum Committee.

Ted Royston, doctoral candidate, passed his comprehensive exams. He will also present a paper, “Restoring the Covenant with Alien Fans,” at Reception Study Society in September in Minneapolis/St. Paul.
The First Year Composition program honored two graduate assistants and an adjunct faculty member with teaching awards.

Dr. Erika Johnson and Ted Royston received the J. Dean Bishop Award for Excellence in Teaching. Dr. Chera Cole received the 2nd annual First-Year Composition Program Adjunct Award.

Both awards are selected by the First-Year Composition Committee based on criteria including innovation in teaching, professional development, scholarly activity, and contributions to the FYC program outside of the classroom, according to Dr. Gretchen Busl, director of FYC. The First-Year Composition Committee for the 2015-2016 award year was comprised of Dr. Busl, Dr. Ashley Bender, and Dr. Gray Scott, the former director of FYC.

Busl praised Johnson for her scholarly work and her innovations in teaching, as well as for her leadership roles in FYC, ESFL, and across campus.

“Erika Johnson is a dedicated writing teacher who integrates a deep theoretical knowledge of composition studies with a genuine passion for students,” Busl said. “She incorporates innovative digital pedagogical methods that keep her students engaged in assignments that are well-known in the FYC program for their difficulty. Her ability to combine theory and practice of basic writing and digital literacy makes her an exceptional educator.”

Johnson is passionate about her focus on basic writing (BW).

“I want to be a force for changing the narrow and erroneous assumptions about BW because I know first-hand what students who are placed into BW can do,” Johnson said.

Johnson became interested in teaching while working in her MA program at The University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP).

“I was a Residence Life Assistant and a writing tutor at UTEP and a writing tutor at El Paso Community College (EPCC),” Johnson said. “As a writing tutor, I became more interested in teaching because I wanted to have more impact on honing academic writing skill.”

Johnson cites “Donald Murray’s process theory, bell hooks’ engaged pedagogy, and Paulo Freire’s disdain for the banking model of education” as inspiration for her pedagogy.

“I also believe that I am more of a facilitator of writing rather than a teacher who attempts to drop writing knowledge into students,” Johnson said. “Students already have a vast amount of writing knowledge, so I assist in learning pathways to access that knowledge. My pedagogy focuses on a critical consciousness for comprehending that while academic writing is oppressive, it can be a liberating process of self-discovery.”

In addition to receiving her doctorate in rhetoric this summer, Johnson has a BA in English & American Literature and Criminal Justice (double major), an MA in Interdisciplinary Studies from UTEP and a Graduate Certificate in Multicultural Women’s and Gender Studies from Texas Woman’s University.

The other Bishop award recipient, Royston, said even in his undergraduate days, he considered working on a college campus.

“Throughout my undergraduate career, I always thought being a professor would be a lot of fun,” Royston said. “So far, I still believe that.”

Royston began teaching in 2005 when he spent a year teaching English to high school students in Tongxiang, China.

“When I moved back to the U.S., I started working as an adjunct at local career and community colleges,” Royston said.

Scott remarked that the experience of teaching at local community colleges has enhanced Royston’s teaching abilities.

“He has gleaned the benefits of experience without losing his enthusiasm for the craft of teaching,” said Scott.

Busl stated: “As a teacher, Ted is approachable and knowledge-
Recipients of awards at the 2017 ESFL Annual Honors and Awards Program pose for a photo after the ceremony.

Award ceremony celebrates students with scholarships

Students were awarded more than $46,000 in scholarships at the ESFL Annual Honors and Awards Assembly.

The April 19 ceremony also featured a keynote address, “Collaborate to Graduate... And Publish!” by TWU alumnae Dr. Michel Lockhart and Dr. Kathleen Mollick. The two also hosted a workshop for graduate students the evening before the ceremony.

Both Lockhart and Mollick said they enjoyed returning to their alma mater to talk with students.

“It is always a pleasure to visit TWU—I have such fond memories of my time there,” Lockhart said. “The graduate workshop and awards ceremony were filled with conversation, camaraderie, and community.”

Mollick agreed, saying she also enjoyed catching up with faculty. “It’s always encouraging to meet people who are excited to learn about the same areas of research I engage in!” she said. “I also enjoyed talking with the faculty, some of whom I’ve known for a long time, and others who I just met.”

In their keynote address and in their workshop, both Lockhart and Mollick discussed the process and importance of getting published. Mollick points out that an important lesson is understanding rejection.

“Rejection is part of the publishing experience, and while it is never enjoyable, don’t let the sadness of a rejection stop you from sending out your proposals to conferences, journals, and publishers,” she said.

Lockhart suggested breaking down big projects into smaller pieces.

“There are many steps along the way, and working through each step one at a time is helpful, I’ve found,” Lockhart said. “It can be a long process, so short-term goals along the way help you see that progress is being made.”

They also had similar advice for students.

“Schedule time in your calendar to...”

Please see AWARDS on Page 5

Scholarship recipients

Sharon Loretta Brocker Endowed Scholarship: Giribala Joshi
English and Speech Endowed Scholarship: Maria Cano
Dr. Leslie R. Kreps Endowed Scholarship: Timothy Barber
Henry H. and Evelyn M. Blagg Endowed Scholarship: Liz Cozby
Edith and Edgar Deen Literary Scholarship: Abigail Boots
Ada Cade McCurry and Martha Faye McCurry Savage Endowed Scholarship: Amber Gaudet
Helen Bass Dailey Endowed Scholarship: Betty Widener
Lavon B. Fulwiler Endowed Scholarship: Liz Cozby
Clarice Mixon Turner Endowed Scholarship: Tieman Shaw
JoAn Rutledge McDaniel Endowed Scholarship: Edgar Martinez
Dr. John L. Dawson, Sr. Endowed Scholarship: Natalie Malin, Maureen Johnson
Autrey Nell Wiley Award: Megan Schuth, Jason Parker
Lavene Harrell Clark Endowed Prize: Angela Johnson
Helen Benjamin Award: Angela Johnson
Joyce Thompson Endowed Memorial Scholarship: Elena D. Walker
Bruce Family Memorial Endowment Scholarship: Christopher Coan, Kellie Matherly, Anna Genneken
Sigma Tau Delta Scholarship: Liz Cozby for the essay “Sitting in the Hot Seat: Implications of Colin Kaepernick’s Rhetorical Moves within NFL Constraints”
Writing awards recognize six FYC students

The First-Year Composition Program honored six students with the annual TWU Alumni English Charter Chapter Writing Awards. The award recognizes students who write exceptional essays in their first-year writing classes. The awards were handed out at the ESFL’s annual Award Ceremony in April.

Students who won received a financial gift and they will have their essay featured in the First-Year Composition Essay Reader, an ebook for students taking FYC classes.

For this year’s contest, teachers submitted 19 essays. Categories for the contest are based on the essays from the FYC program three courses: Introduction to Writing (Literacy Narrative and Remembered Event); Composition I (Writing a Profile, Explaining a Concept, and Finding Common Ground) and Composition II (Arguing a Position, Proposing a Solution, Speculating About Causes, Justifying an Evaluation). Here are the winners with the titles of their essays and the instructors:

**Literacy Narrative:** Shalisha Harris for an essay titled “Roller Coaster of My Writing” for a class taught by Amanda Oswalt.

**Remembered Event:** Laura Hickman for an essay titled “Must be the Morphine” for a class taught by Oswalt.

**Profile** (two winners): Brandy Okere for an essay titled “Nigerian Traditional Wedding” for a class taught by Dr. Esther Houghtaling and Alana Endres for an essay titled “J ust Keep Pedaling” for a class taught by Liz Cozby.

**Concept** Haley Vines for an essay titled “Addiction: The Worst of All Diseases” for a class taught by Houghtaling.

**Justifying an Evaluation:** Brittany Pint for an essay titled “The Most Thrilling Ride in the Park” for a class taught by Houghtaling.

The essays were chosen by a committee of FYC instructors, led by Chair Anna Genneken. Other committee members are Dr. Sarah DeCapua, Liz Cozby, and Holli Downs.

Awards
Continued from Page 4

work on each project every day, just as you would for taking a class or teaching a class,” Mollick said. “Even though it won’t seem like you’re making much progress at first, you’ll find that you eventually complete your projects.”

Lockhart also stressed setting short- and long-term goals, but also not to forget to have fun.

“Also, enjoy your time in school—enjoy the moment,” she said. “Work through the tough research, readings and writings, exams, and publishing ups-and-downs, knowing that it’s all part of it! Your hard work will pay off.”

The ceremony was organized by the ESFL Honors and Awards Committee members, including Chair Dr. Lou Thompson, Dr. Dundee Lackey, and Dr. William Benner. Administrative Assistant Lisa Grimaldo and former Senior Secretary Jen Peace organized the reception. Former Senior Secretary and current Academic Adviser Wylijanna Cole helped with the essay blinding process.

Dr. Brian Fehler, left, Dr. Kathleen Mollick, Dr. Michele Lockhart, and Dr. William Benner pose for a photo after the 2017 ESFL Annual Honors and Awards Program. Fehler and Benner handed out awards at the ceremony and Mollick and Lockhart were the keynote speakers.

Dr. Fehler and Dr. Benner handed out the scholarship awards. The Sigma Tau Delta Scholarship and TWU Alumni Association English Charter Chapter Writing Awards were handed out at the ceremony. For a list of scholarship winners, go to page 4. For writing award winners, see above.

The ceremony also recognized the following undergraduate honors students, who earned a GPA of 3.5 or higher: Rachel Amquist, Lezlie Bames, Tatiana Black, Abigail Boots, Chelsea Burton, Maria Cano, Laura Casey, Kyndal Colon, Hannah Diaz, Graham Downey, Angel Ellinghaus, Mary Freeman, Ashley Hackett, Madison Hurd, Megan Hughes, Jordan Kiefer, Jacey Kilbum, Jaclyn Kliman, Emily Nickles, Samantha Quade, Victoria Radford, Karli Ragsdale, Sydney Santschi, Tieman Shaw, Alexis Sikorski, Kelsey Smith, Makayla Smith, Nadyah Suleiman, Madeline Vanzant, Kaitlin Weber, Emily White, and Michelle White.
Dr. Ashley Bender: Capstone proves helpful

The BA Program in English has wrapped up our second year on the new degree plan to much success. We ran a new course for English Majors: ENG 4893, the Capstone in English Studies, geared especially toward students on the Literature and Writing & Rhetoric tracks (but open to students on the Teaching track in search of additional professional development). This course has three main foci: honing skills learned throughout the program through a deep revision exercise; applying these skills through an experiential education service project; and marketing these skills through professional development activities. Students commented that the latter was especially helpful as they prepared for graduation.

Off-campus activities this year included a panel of students, chaired by Dr. Busl, sharing their work at the Collin College Interdisciplinary Undergraduate Research Conference. Dr. Busl and Dr. Bender also took students to the day-long Texas IGNITE conference, which focuses on training women for public service.

Our students continue to wow us with their successes. Nadiyah Suleiman was awarded a $5,000 fellowship from Phi Kappa Phi. Emily Nickles’s Honors Capstone, The Lasso: A Brief History, 1914-2017—the first extensive history of TWU’s student-run newspaper—won the Honors Program McIntire Award for Outstanding Capstone. This academic year, we saw twenty students graduate from our program. We’re fortunate to receive updates from many of these students on their post-baccalaureate plans, and here are some highlights:

Nadiyah Suleiman has matriculated at Duke University’s Master of Arts in Liberal Studies.

Jaclyn Kliman will begin an online Masters of English program at East Carolina University. We’re happy to say she’ll be joining ESFL in a new capacity as the temporary Write Site Senior Secretary.

Alaina Poethke will be starting the graduate program in Library Science here at TWU.

Victoria Radford has landed her dream job helping students explore the world as a Study Abroad Program Coordinator in Pennsylvania.

Morgan Staskus found out during commencement that she was hired at Haltom Middle School.

Regardless of whether you’re graduating this year or you’ve just declared as an English major, we want you to stay in touch with us and keep us up on your successes. Have good news to share? Email Dr. Bender at abender@twu.edu.
Suleiman named TWU Outstanding Senior

Recent graduate Nadiyah Suleiman was one of five students named Outstanding Seniors at the TWU Accolades Luncheon in April. Suleiman, who graduated in May with a BA in English, was honored because she was a Touchstone Honors Scholar; served as the editor for the Daedalian, TWU’s literary journal; and directed the Little Pioneer Book Drive for The Clubhouse, a program for TWU students with children, all while maintaining a 4.0 GPA, according to a university press release.

Suleiman was surprised and grateful about the nomination.

“I am incredibly honored to have been selected and grateful to Dr. Busl for taking the time to nominate me,” she said.

Dr. Gretchen Busl nominated Suleiman for the award and praised Suleiman’s hard work and exceptional scholarship.

“Nadiyah is the kind of student teachers hope for—she is mature, organized, responsible, and focused on her own learning,” Busl said. “As a senior, her critical inquiry and both written and oral expression already exceeded that of many graduate students.”

Suleiman says the faculty at TWU is one of the reasons she was so successful.

“I owe most of my success to the amazing faculty at TWU,” she said. “Without their support and encouragement, I would never have given myself a chance. I will always be indebted to my professors and mentor.”

When asked about her biggest success at TWU, Suleiman said it was gaining confidence to share her thoughts and learning from her mistakes.

“It may seem odd, but TWU has really helped me come out of my shell,” she said. “With the help of my professors and peers I slowly started to gain the confidence and the courage to pursue a career in the nonprofit sector.”

One of Suleiman’s favorite TWU memories is presenting at the Collin College Interdisciplinary Undergraduate Research Symposium and receiving support from her professors and peers.

“Everyone was so enthusiastic to be presenting and supportive to those who were nervous,” she said. “We were divided into two separate presentations, and each group attended the other group’s presentation to provide moral support. I think this experience really sums up why I love TWU. The environment and people on campus are so incredibly warm and supportive. The memory of this trip always brings a smile to my face, and I can’t thank that group of amazing women enough.”

Suleiman’s work at the conference and her volunteer work are some of the reasons Busl nominated her for the award.

“Nadiyah was not just successful on paper and in the classroom; she was an outstanding presenter in venues like the Collin College Interdisciplinary Undergraduate Research Symposium and a superb editor of the Daedalian literary magazine,” Busl said. “At TWU, she took every opportunity available to learn by doing, like taking on an internship with the outreach team at the Denton County Friends of the Family domestic abuse shelter and attending the IGNITE Texas Young Women’s Political Leadership conference.”

For her next step, Suleiman is heading to the Master of Liberal Arts program at Duke University this fall. She also recently received the Phi Kappa Phi Fellowship, which is a $5,000 scholarship for students entering graduate or professional school.

“I am humbled and moved by the people who encouraged me to apply and grateful to Phi Kappa Phi for providing this opportunity.”

Please see SENIOR on Page 8
Hello! I’m Dundee Lackey. I’m an Assistant Professor in ESFL (and affiliate faculty in Multicultural Women’s and Gender Studies), and I am pleased to serve as the MA Program Coordinator for ESFL.

As always, we’ve had a year full of engaging learning experiences! We were very pleased to host a Federation of North Texas Area Universities sponsored workshop (“Pen to Paper to Publish: The Five Year Project”) facilitated by TWU graduates Dr. Michele Lockhart (2010) and Dr. Kathleen Mollick (2007), who also delivered the keynote address at our annual Scholarship and Awards Day. Students also participated in off-campus learning experiences (including, for example, a Digital Rhetoric class trip to the National Video Game Museum in Frisco, Texas).

We had a number of excellent students complete the MA program. Congratulations to the following Pioneers, whom we know will represent the TWU spirit wherever they go. Keep blazing trails!

**Meredith Pasahow** completed her MA by defending a thesis entitled “Hope is not a Mistake: The Importance of Community in Dystopian Media,” and then joined us for the PhD. We’re thrilled she’s continuing as part of our program.

**Shannon Robinson** satisfied MA requirements with a professional paper, “Pedagogy of the Oppressed: TESOL, Freire, and Marginalized Populations Abroad” and then headed out for a (well-deserved) adventure with her family. Congratulations, Shannon!

**Haley Mowdy** is spending the summer teaching kindergarten through 7th grade at Manjushree Buddhist Monastery and Learning Center in Pharping, Nepal. This fall, she will begin a degree at Baylor Law School, where we are certain she will blaze trails and take names. Her thesis is titled “Dystopia Across Cultures: Gender and Sexuality in Contemporary Dystopian Fiction.”

**Renee Underwood** made use of TWU’s amazing cookbook collection to complete her thesis, “Eighteenth-Century Women’s Cookbooks: Authors and Copyrights.” She has moved to Nebraska to begin her next big adventure (which may yet include a PhD.) We miss you Renee, and look forward to seeing what you do next!

These graduates are wonderful representatives of the diversity of our faculty and student interests. If you’d like to be part of it, you’ll find more information on our MA program on our departmental webpage at [http://www.twu.edu/english-speech-foreignlanguages/ma-english.asp](http://www.twu.edu/english-speech-foreignlanguages/ma-english.asp) and in the TWU Graduate Catalogue at [http://catalog.twu.edu/graduate/arts-sciences/english-speech-foreign-languages/#admissionstext](http://catalog.twu.edu/graduate/arts-sciences/english-speech-foreign-languages/#admissionstext). For additional information on the application process and graduate assistantships, please contact me at dlackey@twu.edu.

**Senior**

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Bus said one of Suleiman’s strengths is her ability “to put her desires into action.”

“Her desire to make an impact in the world is not naïve — it is grounded in a deep commitment to draw upon her own strengths to make communities stronger, to work towards more just and equitable treatment of human beings,” Bus said.

Suleiman also encourages future students to become involved. “Find something that you are interested in and don’t hesitate to jump right in,” she said. “The professors at TWU want to help you succeed — you just have to show them that you are willing.”
Mowdy receives Pioneering Spirit Award

Recent MA in English graduate Haley Mowdy received the Graduate Student Council’s Outstanding Master’s Student Award at the Pioneering Spirit Awards in April.

The award recognizes a “student for their scholastic aptitude, creative contributions beyond the degree or departmental requirements, and commitment to igniting potential, purpose and a pioneering spirit. This award bestows honor upon a scholar who intentionally develops the learning community at TWU in such areas as cohort leadership and community citizenship,” according to the Graduate Student Council website.

Mowdy says she was surprised and pleased to receive the award. “The other nominees were so spectacular,” she said. “To even be among them was an honor, but to be selected was incredible. It really validated those times during my program when I was exhausted, overwhelmed and stressed.”

Dr. Gretchen Busl, who nominated Mowdy for the award, praised her work as a leader in The Write Site and as president of the National Society of Leadership and Success, and for receiving honors like a scholarship to attend the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders from the American Association for University Women, and an Albert Schweitzer Fellowship.

“From the very beginning, Haley distinguished herself as a student of the highest caliber, as well as an outstanding leader of her peers,” Busl said. “She is one of the most motivated, accomplished students I’ve ever had the pleasure to work with.”

Spring MA graduate Haley Mowdy poses for a picture with Dr. Gretchen Busl at the Graduate Student Council Pioneering Spirit Awards. Photo courtesy of Graduate Student Council.

Mowdy received the Schweitzer Fellowship after an extensive interview process. She created a program called “Write Now” for students at the Koan school in Denton. Mowdy trained and mentored volunteers to tutor students.

“The goals for the program were to increase academic self-confidence and skill acquisition in those students, as well as give them the tools necessary to be successful both academically and professionally,” Mowdy said. “Although our data suggested that we were very successful in accomplish-

Please see SPIRIT on Page 29

Faculty, students get nominations

In addition to Mowdy, several faculty and students were nominated for the Graduate Student Council’s 3rd Annual Pioneering Spirit Awards, including:

**Outstanding Faculty member:**
- Dr. Phyllis Bridges
- Dr. Gretchen Busl
- Dr. Dundee Lackey

**Outstanding Graduate Assistant:**
- Rachael Reynolds

**Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant:**
- Erika Johnson

**Outstanding Doctoral Student:**
- Ivan Dole and Tawny Lebouef-Tullia

Please see SPIRIT on Page 29
The circle of life continues to turn, as we welcomed new doctoral students and bid farewell to three. Justin Cook, joined us from Arkansas State, Kathleen Irwin from Northwest Missouri State, and three familiar faces, Liz Cozby, Aida Mehanovic, and Jacqui Haynes, all having completed the MA with us.

Leaving the Savannah are Simone De Vore Andrade (“Visual Legacy: A Burkean Analysis of Spanish Civil War Imagery”), who will continue teaching at Lone Star College; Erika Johnson, (“Constructing Identity/Creating Consensus: How Community College Basic Writing Syllabi Communicate ‘We,’” the first born digital dissertation at TWU), who will be a faculty member at California State University, Dominguez Hills, this fall; Tawny LeBouef Tulilia, (“Capitalizing on Orthodox Masculinity: The NFL, Capitalism, and the Pedagogy of Becoming ‘Controlled Fury’”), who will be a faculty member at Christian Brothers University in Memphis, Tennessee, this fall; and Darby Dyer (“The Application of Aristotelian Rhetorical Appeals in Kate Chopin’s The Awakening and “Athenaise”), who will continue teaching at Denton High School. They all have found their “place on the path unwinding.”

The doctoral program continues to adapt to changing demands of the profession, and significant changes were initiated by the faculty after much consideration, including the addition of new courses, broadening options for the elective portion of the comprehensive exam, and making that part of the exam a twelve-hour take-home essay.

Your funds can assist with ESFL programs

The English, Speech & Foreign Languages Department has been successful throughout the years thanks to support from alumni and friends.

The department has grown over the years thanks to that support, which helps fund scholarships and other efforts by the department. We welcome contributions in the form of gifts for scholarships in the name of the donor, etc.

We work with the TWU’s Office of University Advancement to arrange and process donations. Visit https://portalmisc.twu.edu/OnlineGivingWeb/fmWelcome.aspx to make donations.

If you have questions about how to arrange for your gift, please contact department Chair Dr. Genevieve West by phone at 940.898.2341, by email at GWest@twu.edu, or by mail at P.O. Box 425829, Denton, TX 76204.
LeBouef Tullia honored for university service

Dr. Tawny LeBouef Tullia, a summer PhD in rhetoric graduate, was one of six graduate students recognized with the 2016-2017 Outstanding Graduate Students awards at the annual Accolades Awards Luncheon in April. LeBouef Tullia was honored for her work “to increase opportunities and strengthen the voice of graduate students on committees and in shared campus governance,” according to a university release.

LeBouef Tullia was recognized for her work in the creation of the university’s Graduate Student Council and her service as its first president. She says the council has “grown by leaps and bound” since its creation.

“More graduate students are being supported,” LeBouef Tullia said. “Reading all of the recent research regarding the mental health struggles experienced by graduate students, especially doctoral students, the growth of GSC beyond my being involved and the support and celebrations of graduate student work they are offering reflects a success I hold in high esteem.”

Nominations from faculty members and other university staff were factors in the award. Among the nominators were ESFL Department Chair Dr. Genevieve West.

“Tawny’s level of service to the University while taking courses, developing her research agenda, and parenting really makes her a standout,” West said. “The work she did to found and develop the Graduate Student Council and her service on University-wide committees has been truly exceptional. I’ve nominated her for other awards without success, so I was particularly thrilled when she won this award in recognition of her important, lasting contributions to TWU.”

Dr. Gretchen Busl also nominated LeBouef Tullia, stressing her extraordinary gifts as a graduate student, scholar, and colleague. Busl stressed that one of LeBouef Tullia’s greatest accomplishments was the Graduate Student Council work.

“Tawny created a venue for graduate student voices to be heard, proving to the graduate students at a predominantly female-serving institution that their voices have impact,” Busl said. “Because of her investment in graduate education, her opinions have been sought out by our highest administrators: she has been a valued member of the Chancellor’s Strategic Planning Committee, Scholarly Communications Committee, Campus Carry Task Force, and Graduate Dean search committee.”

Busl also pointed out the many recognitions LeBouef Tullia has received, including the Bishop award for teaching in FYC, the Virginia Dykes Chandler scholarship, the Allsup-Lane Scholarship, and an American Association of University Women Denton Branch Scholarship.

“Tawny is a problem solver, a fighter, a trailblazer; she has been an incredible role model for her own students and the entire graduate community at TWU,” Busl said.

Community was one of the lasting lessons that LeBouef Tullia takes away from her time at TWU. “I am not alone,” she said. “I learned (and still am learning) the importance of community. Reaching out for help and support is necessary. It ought not be treated as a
Continued from Page 1

grant, said. “The lecture/collaborative space has moveable desks, so students can configure them to their needs, and students will also be able to collaborate more easily at the stationary computer stations.”

Bender also sees the sound capturing equipment as a way to get students’ work out to the public. “I’m hoping to get some student work on local radio station KUZU 92.9,” she said.

The lab will be used for both graduate and undergraduate courses, according to Busl. “Writing and rhetoric courses like digital rhetoric and professional writing are natural fits for the lab,” she said. “We also, however, will be pioneering new ways of studying literature in the Digital Writing Lab, with the ability to analyze and create digital texts. Our graduate pedagogy classes will also be taught in the lab, allowing us to train our MA and PhD students to teach digital composition methods. GTAs will also have the opportunity to teach First-Year Composition in the lab.”

The lab allows the program to expand the capabilities of the existing courses, according to Lackey. “It builds on things we are already doing, but makes it easier on students by providing access to necessary equipment, rather than asking them to find workarounds using their phones and free (but less robust) editing software,” she said.

Dr. Genevieve West, department chair, also stressed the flexibility of the lab. “Faculty teaching a wide range of courses, from FYC to doctoral courses, will be able to teach in the space,” she said. “The flexibility of the furniture will support a range of pedagogies, but those teachers who want to foster collaboration will have a space that supports—rather than impedes—those efforts.”

In addition to the lab helping students in the future, students were integral in the funding and development of the lab. “Dr. Lackey’s professional writing class did research on collaborative learning spaces and mediated classrooms, interviewed faculty and Dr. West about the needs that could be met by such a classroom, and put together a report, including an equipment list and budget,” Busl said. “My grant writing course turned that report into a grant narrative and budget justification. Two years later, that proposal was the seed that became an application for university-wide TARGET funds, put together by Dr. Lackey, Dr. Bender, Dr. (Gray) Scott, and myself.”

The TARGET grant was not funded, but the lab got support from College of Arts and Sciences Dean Abigail Tilton. “The proposal was not funded through the Target program, but Dr. Tilton then put forward a request for the lab through the HEF (Higher Education Funding) program,” West said.

All of the faculty members stressed the collaborative effort in getting this lab off the ground, including support from Dr. Brian Fehler, Dr. Sarah DeCapua, and Dr. Russell Greer, Lisa Grimaldo, as well as other departments, including Joe Kondras and his team in the TWU Office of Technology.

As for the future, faculty members plan on applying for grants to support the maintenance and upgrades to the lab. “We will continue to apply for external funding to further build the lab; future purchases will include a full free-standing sound booth, a 3D printer, and a dedicated videoconferencing system to allow us to collaborate with other universities,” Busl said.
FYE
Continued from Page 3

able, making it easy to gain the respect of his students. He runs a highly active and focused (yet relaxed) classroom, provoking laughter with impromptu humor and effectively teaching some of the toughest topics in our field. He is a reflective teacher who seamlessly weaves an understanding of rhetoric, writing studies, and the realities of the classroom in ways that cannot help but benefit his students.”

Royston says he likes to help students tap into their own potential. “I feel my obligation is to support students in finding their own voices and discovering their inherent analytic and rhetorical talents by having them focus on topics that they are passionate about,” Royston said. “Basically, I want to make their classroom experience relevant and reasonably fun.”

Busl also praised Royston for his leadership roles within ESFL and FYC, including his role as secretary for the FYC assessment committee and current role as FYC program assistant.

In addition to being a doctoral candidate in rhetoric, Royston has a BA in English with a minor in history and an MA in Humanities from University of Texas at Dallas and an MA in English from University of Dallas.

Before coming to TWU in 2014, Cole, the adjunct award recipient, was a teaching assistant for a medieval and Renaissance literature course for second-year undergraduates at St. Andrews in Scotland.

“Most of my experience has come from learning on the job, discussing methods and assignments with colleagues, and scouring the Internet for ideas,” Cole said.

She says she often relies on the Socratic method of teaching, focusing on questions to help students develop their own answers. “My goal in any class is to teach students how to be independent learners,” Cole said. “I don’t give lectures on topics so much as provide guided exercises and moderate class discussions.”

She also embraces a process of scaffolding assignments and focuses feedback on areas of future improvement.

“I encourage students to ‘own’ their learning by asking them to name personal goals for the course and periodically reflect on their progress towards meeting those goals; writing journal entries in which they brainstorm what they need to do for their next essay; and writing ‘revision memos’ after each major essay, in which students respond to my feedback and discuss how they can improve that essay,” Cole said.

Scott describes Cole as “that rare breed of faculty who inspires and brings out the best in students while also maintaining tough and professional expectations of them. She refers the wayward to student conduct officials — but she also comes with groups of her students to our awards ceremonies to watch them pick up awards that she has nominated them for.”

Busl says at least six of Cole’s students have been awarded the TWU FSA English Charter Chapter Writing Award, representing five different genres that span both the 1013 and 1023 courses. She also praised Cole as a colleague who has served as Vice Chair of the FYC Assessment committee and presented at Focus Fridays.

Cole completed an undergraduate double major degree in English and History at Oklahoma Baptist University and Master of Letters in Medieval English (MLitt) and a PhD in English with a concentration in Middle English romances from University of St. Andrews. Also, she is currently working on a MS in Library and Information Science at the University of North Texas.

When asked what advice they had for new teachers, each recipient stressed trusting yourself as a teacher. “Try not to do everything,” Johnson said. “Teaching is exhausting; take care of yourself.”

Royston encouraged teachers to be themselves. “You’re smart and dedicated,” he said. “You wouldn’t be here if you weren’t.”

Cole encouraged instructors to be partners in learning and to be honest. “If you don’t know the answer to a question, say so and that you will get back to them with the answer,” Cole said. “Then keep your word; Email the answer to them later or tell them at the next class meeting.”

FYCaesar honors faculty for outstanding effort

This year, the First Year Composition Program started a new award to honor FYC faculty. The FYCaesar is a monthly recognition of faculty who excel in supporting students and peers. “At an FYC leadership meeting, we brainstormed various ideas, and given my fondness for both Rome and awful puns, I hit upon the idea of the ‘FYCaesar,’” Dr. Gretchen Busl, FYC director, said. “Each month the leadership team chooses an instructor who stands out for their teamwork and/or teaching: for regularly volunteering to substitute for other instructors, or for handling difficult student meetings with remarkable patience.”

This year’s FYCaesars include graduate teaching assistant Jason Parker and adjunct faculty Nathan King and Jamie Jones. The awards are “declaimed” at Focus Friday meetings and recipients receive a sash and a crown of laurels to display for the month.
ERGO-RSA gets grant, hosts speaker series

The English Rhetoric Graduate Organization-Rhetoric Society of America expanded its university community work this year with the addition of a speaker series sponsored in part by a grant from the Rhetoric Society of America.

"Raise Your Voice: Women, Rhetoric, and Action" featured three speakers in the spring who focused on women’s leadership in areas of community action, politics, and business.

“We chose three areas because of the under-representation of women in those fields,” President Maureen Johnson said. “We wanted to encourage women at TWU to become involved and recognize leadership opportunities.”

The program featured Whitney Thomas of IGNI-Texas for the community action session, Dr. Michele Lockhart, a TWU alumna, for the politics discussion, and Nancy Hong of the TWU Center for Women in Business to discuss business.

“I’m thrilled that ERGO-RSA has been working to expand their presence on campus and in the community over the past few years,” ERGO-RSA adviser Dr. Gretchen Busl said. “This year in particular we felt it was important to highlight women’s voices and the role of rhetoric in the public sphere.”

The event was funded through a grant from the Rhetoric Society of America Special Event Competitive Award. Members of the Executive Committee applied for the grant in the fall and received notice of the $900 award in early spring.

“We were fortunate to receive competitive external funding from the national Rhetoric Society of America to put together a three-part speaker series, open to the university and the Denton community,” Busl said. “We not only highlighted three areas in which women often need encouragement to raise their voices — social action, business, and politics — but also some of TWU’s women leaders.”

With the grant, plus funding from the TWU Student Organizations Council, the event brought in an average of around 60 students for each presentation with Lockhart’s presentation drawing around 100 students.

“To see the reactions and interest of the students who attended these sessions was so delightful,” Johnson said. “The events were even better than the vision we had for them.”

Dr. Michele Lockhart discussed politics in her March session.

Whitney Thomas discussed getting involved in community work in her February session.

Nancy Hong discussed business in her April session.

Busl said support from university programs helped with the success of the events.

“Attendance at these events exceeded our expectations, thanks very much to the support of instructors in the First Year Composition and Multicultural Women’s and Gender Studies’ programs,” Busl said. “ERGO-RSA is extremely excited to continue collaborating with Whitney Thomas to bring the Texas state Young Women’s Leadership conference to TWU next February.”

You can see more about the

Please see ERGO-RSA on Page 23
Sessions offer students professional advice

In addition to coursework, ESFL offers professional development sessions for undergraduate and graduate students, providing tools to help students get jobs or continue their education after graduation.

Professional development sessions have been ongoing for a few years, with graduate-focused sessions starting first and then adding sessions geared toward BA students. The sessions are currently organized by Dr. Gretchen Busl and Dr. Ashley Bender.

Bender says the BA/MA sessions focus on both jobs and on applying for graduate schools.

“The program has a standing fall rotation with a session on grad school applications, internships, and Career Connections/applying for jobs,” Bender says. “In the spring, we have offered a variety of programming, from sessions led by former English majors discussing how they’ve applied their degrees to sessions on networking.”

Recent BA graduate Nadiyah Suleiman, who is going to a master’s program at Duke in the fall, attended some of the sessions and said they were helpful in managing the complicated tasks of applying for graduate school.

“In the ‘apply for graduate school’ session, the application process was explained in a way that allowed me to make a checklist with immediate goals,” she said. “Creating a list of schools you are interested in applying for is very daunting, but the session helped me understand what to look for and how to pick a school.”

The graduate level professional development sessions focus on application for academic and non-academic jobs.

“We have covered topics like managing your online presence, writing teaching statements, applying for external funding, when and what to publish, and interviewing at all levels,” Busl said.

Dr. Jamie Jones appreciated the feedback offered at the sessions.

“Ultimately the most helpful aspect of the sessions for me was applying what I learned in the sessions to my documents and my job search,” she said. “Workshopping my documents and having the opportunity to ask questions and get several different perspectives was of great value.”

Bender says the program allows students to be more prepared for the future.

Please see PROFESSIONAL on Page 32
Graduation picture time

Dr. Darby Dyer, PhD in Rhetoric, May 2017

Shannon Robinson, MA in English, Dr. Busl, and Haley Mowdy, MA in English, May 2017

Jaclyn Kliman, left, Madeline Vanzant, Nadiyah Suleiman, all BA in English, with Dr. Gretchen Busl, May 2017
The following students graduated from English, Speech, and Foreign Languages programs in the 2016-2017 academic year, according to graduation ceremony programs.

**May graduates**
- **BA in English:** Laura Casey, Charisse Fagan, Mary Freeman, Kimberly Johnson, Jordan Kiefer, Jaclyn Kliman, Morgan McGregor, Emily Nickles, Victoria Radford, Brandt Richey, Nadiyah Suleiman, Madeline Vanzant.
- **MA in English:** Angela Johnson, Haley Mowdy, Shannon Robinson, Ranae Underwood
- **PhD in Rhetoric:** Darby Dyer: “The Application of Aristotelian Rhetorical Appeals in Kate Chopin’s The Awakening and “Athenaise”

**December graduates**
- **BA in English:** Morgan Black, Eddwenna Bruner, Laura Callahan, Karla Diaz, Nicole Duncan, Tyianna Lewis, Pashong Plata, Alaina Rose Poethke, Morgan Staskus

May BA in English grad Emily Nickles missed the Denton ceremony while on an Honors trip to the Mediterranean. Dr. Joshua Adams, Interim Associate Provost, Undergraduate Studies & Academic Partnerships and Executive Director, Pioneer Center for Student Excellence, presented her Honors Medalion at the Newark airport on a layover during the return flight from the trip.
Faculty Successes

Dr. Ashley Bender, Assistant Professor of English; B.A. in English Program Coordinator, received the Outstanding Faculty Academic Advisor Award.

Dr. Will Benner, Assistant Professor of Spanish; Spanish Minor Adviser, has an article, “Blogging Disappearance in Diario de una princesa montonera by Marilana Eva Perez,” to be published in Chasqui: Revista de Literatura Latinoamericana in November. Benner also will present on activism and memory entrepreneurship in Spanish at the conference “Cuerpo y Violencia en la Literatura y las Artes Visuales” in Buenos Aires in early August as well as at the SCMLA in Tulsa, Oklahoma, in November.

Dr. Phyllis Bridges, Comaro Professor of English, gave a presentation on Katherine Anne Porter at the South Central Modern Language Association in Dallas in October. Bridges was also an invited speaker for the Distinguished Lecturers series sponsored by the University of Texas at Arlington and the Arlington Public Library, gave an address on Texas writer Jane Roberts Wood in November, and was the invited speaker for the Sanger Study Club in February where she discussed her research on Electra Waggoner Biggs. Bridges also gave a presentation on the history of TWU in September at the Kimbell Museum in Fort Worth for the Tarrant County alumnae of TWU.

Dr. Matthew Brown, Assistant Professor of English, has an article, “‘The ‘Three Kings of Cologne’ and Plantagenet Political Theology’ that has been accepted by the journal Mediaevistik and should appear in print in 2018. Brown also wrote a book review of a volume entitled Truth and Tales: Cultural Mobility and Medieval Media, which will appear in an upcoming issue of The Journal of English and Germanic Philology. Brown presented a paper, “Sacral Kingship and Resistance to Authority in the Middle English Life of St. Edward” at the Leeds International Medieval Congress, in Leeds, England, in July.

Dr. Gretchen Busl, Assistant Professor of English and Director of First Year Composition, received the Senior Faculty Favorite Award. Busl also presented “Negotiating Ellipses: Cultural Engagement in the Global Classroom” at the 2016 Cultural Rhetorics Conference; presented a paper, “Bordering the Diegetic: Paratext and Liminality in Transnational Novels,” at the International Society for the Study of Narrative in Lexington, Ky.; and gave a paper “Frame Narratives as an Appeal to the Ethics of Empathy,” at the Rhetoric Society of Europe in Norwich, England. Busl’s article “Drag’s Double Inversion: Insufficient Language and Gender Performativity in The Well of Loneliness and Nightwood” was published in English Studies. Busl also is editing a special issue, “Fictions of Circulation,” for Papers on Language and Literature and served as a reviewer for the national AAUW Career Development Grant competition.

Dr. Vivian Casper, Associate Professor of English, published a performance review of Long Day’s Journey Into Night by Eugene O’Neill at the Undermain Theatre, Dallas in the Eugene O’Neill Review.

Dr. Sarah DeCapua, Visiting Assistant Professor of English; Assistant Director of First-Year Composition, presented a workshop on responding to the writing of Non-Native English Speaking (NNES) writers at the Conference on Critical Reading, Writing, and Thinking in NYC in October. She is working as a co-editor of a book on teacher response to student writing. She also did a workshop for The Write Site consultants on tutoring NNES writers in February and met with participants a Write Site Writing Camp kids in July and talked with them about writing.

Dr. Brian Fehler, Associate Professor of English, had an article, “Emigration Propagation in the Nineteenth Century: The Letters of Elise Tvede Waerenskold,” accepted for the spring 2018 issue of Rhetoric Review and published a book review “Review of Abram Van Engen’s Sympathetic Puritans: Calvinist Fellow-Feeling in Early New England” in the Journal of Communication and Religion. Fehler also joined the Regional Study Group of the Society for the Study of American Women Writers. Fehler is planning a Study Abroad trip to India in May 2018. Fehler is scheduled to present “Patriographical Portraits: Elizabeth Stuart Phelps’s Epideictic Encomium of Austin Phelps” at Feminisms and Rhetorics fall 2017 and presented “On the Map: Geographic Information Systems and Circumference Criticism” at CCCC 2017. Fehler was elected to the Planning Committee of the CCCC History of Rhetoric SIG and on the TWU Faculty Senate for the next three years. Fehler also organized a panel of TWU graduate students at SCMLA 2016, featuring Elizabeth Cozby, Renae Bruce, and Melanie Haas, and chaired by TWU alumnus Dr. Ben Sword.

Dr. Dundee Lackey, Assistant Professor of English; M.A. in English Program Coordinator, presented a paper, “Putting on our Listening Ears: Decolonial Pedagogy and Impolite Rhetorics,” at the Cultural Rhetorics Conference at Michigan State University (her alma mater) in East Lansing, Michigan.

Dr. Graham (Gray) Scott, Associate Professor of English and Assistant Director of Academic Assessment, received tenure and was
Professor’s Corner focuses on poet laureates

There was a bit of a twist for this year’s Professor’s Corner sessions. All of the community outreach events focused on a different Texas poet laureate. Held at the Denton South Branch Library, the sessions were led by Dr. Stephen Souris, who also organizes the events every year.

Souris has been working on a long-term Texas poet laureate project, including podcasts focused on the poets. More on the podcast can be found at https://texaspoetspodcast.com/.

The poetry discussions focused on Karla K. Morton in November, Larry D. Thomas in December, James Hoggard in January, Paul Ruffin in February, Alen Birkelbach in March, David M. Parsons in April, Walt McDonald in May, and Jan Seale in June. Morton and Souris produced the events and works with Fred Kamman at the Denton South Branch Library.

“We get great support from the staff at the South Branch Library and the Denton Public Library administration,” Souris said.

The events are also supported by Humanities Texas.

“Look for several ESFL faculty members to be on the schedule!” Souris said.

Faculty
Continued from Page 18

promoted to associate professor in June. Scott also published a short story, “Cold Comforts,” in Nature in April.

Dr. Stephen Souris, Professor of English, made eight presentations on Texas Poets Laureate during the 2016-2017 season of Professor’s Corner: A Literary Discussion Group at the Denton South Branch Library.

Dr. Lou Thompson, Professor of English and Ph.D. in Rhetoric Program Coordinator, presented “‘When you’re in a position like Secretary of Defense, do you feel that you actually are in control of history?: Errol Morris’s War with Donald Rumsfeld,” at the Film & History Conference in October 2016.

Dr. Genevieve West, Professor of English and Chair, was awarded Faculty Development Leave for Spring 2017 to conduct research on Harlem Renaissance playwright, essayist, and short story writer Marita Bonner. She produced three scholarly essays, which are out for review at journals, and began a fourth biographical essay on Bonner that draws from archival research conducted at the Arthur and Elizabeth Schlesinger Library on the History of Women in America (Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard).

Q&A with Dr. William Benner

Dr. William Benner started in fall 2016 as a Visiting Assistant Professor of Spanish and will continue in the fall 2017 as an Assistant Professor of Spanish. Doctoral candidate Maureen Johnson asked Dr. Benner some questions about his research, teaching, and personal experiences.

**Question:** What do you find appealing about Texas Woman’s University?

**Answer:** TWU is a very welcoming place. I felt at home the first week I arrived.

**Q:** What did you get your degrees in and where did you get them?

**A:** My last degree was a Ph.D. in Spanish and Portuguese from Tulane University (May 2016).

**Q:** What is your area of research and how did you get interested in it?

**A:** My research combines the fields of memory studies, genocide studies, and human rights activism of the Southern Cone (Chile, Argentina, and Uruguay). My object of study is the children of the disappeared in post-dictatorship Argentina. During graduate school, I came across the novel Los Topos or *The Moles* (2008) by Felix Brzuzeigen I was fascinated by the protagonist’s decision to disappear from society just as his father did. It is a powerful allegory of the immaterial consequences of genocide.

**Q:** What other areas of research interest you?

**A:** I am currently organizing a

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**Spanish program offers nursing focused course**

With the changing pace of education, Dr. William Benner sees opportunities to alter the department’s Spanish Minor program to suit these changes, including adding courses geared toward nursing students and eventually developing a Spanish major.

Benner, a newly appointed Assistant Professor of Spanish, wants to make the Spanish useful to career choices while still maintaining the traditional expectations of a liberal arts college degree.

“Spanish minor is a wonderful side kick to whatever your career aspirations are,” Benner said. “For example, the vast majority of our Spanish minors are nursing majors” Those with the minors have a “very sought-after skill,” Benner says.

The minor includes basic language courses, SPAN 1013-SPAN 1043, and more advanced courses, such as grammar, composition, and literature, at the 3000 level. New to the minor program this year will be a medical terminology course in Spanish, which is an advanced level course geared towards Spanish minors with a major in a wide range of health-related majors.

“The Medical Terminology in Spanish course is an example of where a major and minor work together,” Benner says.

Benner states courses like the Medical Terminology in Spanish course will prepare students to become certified Medical Interpreters in Spanish.

The emphasis of this course is to connect nursing majors to potential careers. However, Benner does not see this as taking away from a liberal arts education. He actually sees a pragmatic approach to language learning as staying true to the spirit of a liberal arts education.

Please see **SPANISH** on Page 27
Dr. Sarah DeCapua came to TWU in fall 2016 as a Visiting Assistant Professor of English and Assistant Director of First-Year Composition. Doctoral candidate Maureen Johnson asked Dr. DeCapua some questions about her research, teaching, and personal experiences.

**Question:** What do you find appealing about Texas Woman’s University?

**Answer:** The students. They’re among the hardest-working students I’ve ever encountered. They juggle so many responsibilities in their personal lives, too. Also, they’re just really nice people!

Q: What did you get your degrees in and where did you get them?
A: My undergrad degree is in English and Secondary Education from Springfield College in Massachusetts. My MAT came from Sacred Heart University in Connecticut, and my PhD is in Composition & TESOL from Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

Q: What is your area of research and how did you get interested in it?
A: My dissertation focused on student response to written teacher feedback in First-Year Composition (FYC), but I changed my topic roughly six times before I landed on the one that was right for me. I also love corpus analysis, which is weird because I’m not normally a numbers person. I became interested in student response after I misinterpreted a teacher’s comment on one of my papers during my PhD course work. I asked her about her comment and during our conversation, I was reminded of a FYC student I had several years ago who was incensed by a comment I wrote on one of her papers. Her anger stemmed from misinterpreting my comment, but talking with her about it was a valuable learning experience for me as a teacher. When the shoe was on the other foot and I was the student receiving the feedback—which I, too, had misinterpreted, although I wasn’t angry about it—I realized, “This is my dissertation project.” Once I landed on that, I found a way to incorporate corpus analysis in my study design, which thrilled me. I continue to be interested in student response in FYC, as well as TESOL and corpus analysis.

Q: What other areas of research interest you?
A: Working with grad students here at TWU has led me to be interested in the experiences and challenges of grad students, especially GTAs teaching in the FYC program, as well as best practices for preparing writers to be teachers of writing.

Q: What made you want to become a teacher?
A: I wish I had a moving story about a teacher who changed my life. I had lots of great teachers, all of whom influenced my life in positive ways. I also had plenty of not-so-great teachers who influenced my life in not-so-positive ways. Even though my undergrad degree is in Secondary Education, once I got some experience in what teaching high school would really be like, I knew it wasn’t the right direction for me. I went on to a great career as an editor and author of nonfiction books for the school and library market. After a while, I was working as a freelancer and having trouble making ends meet, so I applied for a job teaching writing part-time at a community college. Tums out, I loved it! The rest, as they say, is history. Sometimes we fall into the career that’s the best fit for us.

Q: What has been your most rewarding teaching experience?
A: Just one? I don’t have one by which I benchmark all the others. Practically every day of class, something rewarding happens. Fascinating conversation that grows organically from an issue we’re reading about in class? Check. Seeing the light go on in students’ eyes when they understand a difficult idea or concept? Check. Unscripted moments when we connect with each other through spontaneous laughter? Check. Students disagreeing with each other
The Write Site spring staff included top row from left, Cody Jackson, Normandy Rindahl, Jacyln Kliman, Haley Mowdy, Dr. Jennifer Phillips-Denny, Christopher Coan, Shannon Robinson, Meredith Pasahow, Dylan King, bottom row from left, Lucy Russell, Giribala Joshi, Jen Peace, Chantasnia Brown, Elizabeth Jendrzey.

The Write Site will get a new home this fall when the writing center moves to the second floor of the Blagg-Huey Library.

Write Site Tutor Coordinator Jennifer Phillips-Denny says the new center will be next to the Pioneer Center.

“In addition to an extra 350 square feet and updated furniture, the new location will be more visible to and convenient for students,” she said.

The new location is under construction and expected to be open in mid-fall.

“Logistically it requires rewiring the HVAC system on the second floor of the library, installing the DIRT walls (like the Pioneer Center), purchasing new furniture, and installing new technology,” Phillips-Denny said. “As soon as all plans are finalized we will start marketing, so students will know where we are!”

In addition to the move, the Write Site added its first summer writing camp this year for students in grades 6-12. Go to [http://writesitecamp2017.weebly.com/](http://writesitecamp2017.weebly.com/) to see examples of the students’ work. For photos from the camp, go to page 23 in this newsletter.

The Write Site continues to host thousands of appointments each year. In the fall 2016 and spring 2017, the Write Site served 1,449 unique clients who had 4,400 appointments, Phillips-Denny said. Students also have been taking advantage of the walk-in tutor program.

“Last year, we only had 89 walk-in appointments,” she said. “This year we had 408!”

This drawing shows the layout of the new Write Site, which will be housed in the library starting in mid-fall 2017.
The Write Site offered its first summer writing camp for grades 6-12. In July, eight students spent eight days exploring the writing process through fiction, drama, poetry, and creative nonfiction. You can view the digital archive of the camp by going to http://writestecamp2017.weebly.com/. Above, participants and teachers of the camp pose for a photo on the last day. Left, Dr. Phillips-Denny, Write Site tutor coordinator, teaches during the first week of the camp.

ERGO-RSA
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events by visiting the ERGO-RSA social media sites on Facebook (https://www.facebook.com/twu.ergo) and Twitter (@twuergorsa https://twitter.com/twuergorsa).

In addition to the speaker series, ERGO-RSA continued to host events for members, including commuter coffee and bowling, and members sponsored two children in the annual TWU Adopt-A-Family project. ERGO-RSA officers for 2016-2017 were Johnson, Vice President Amanda Oswalt, Secretary Treasurer Ranae Underwood, and Workshops Coordinator Shannon Robinson.

Incoming officers for the 2017-2018 year are President Justin Cook, Vice President Liz Cozby, Secretary Treasurer Kathleen Irwin, and Workshops Coordinator Cody Jackson.

Johnson encourages graduate students to join the organization.

“As graduate students we are so busy, but the time spent with our colleagues offers a great reminder that we are not in this process alone,” she said. “We really can offer support for each other.”

Those interested in joining can contact Cook at jcook9@twu.edu.
Grads on the Go

Dr. Alyssan Barnes published a new high school rhetoric textbook, Rhetoric Alive! Principles of Persuasion. She also has two recent publications “Teaching Rhetoric in the Classical Classroom” in The Institute for Catholic Liberal Education and “Today’s Trivium: The Comeback of Classical Education” in Arts of Liberty.

Laura Casey, BA graduate, recently accepted a position at Ryan High School teaching English 2 for 2017-2018 school year.

Wylijanna Cole, BA in English graduate and Academic Advisor for the TWU College of Nursing, received the Outstanding New Academic Advisor award for 2016-2017.

Nicole Duncan, BA graduate, is attending Missouri State University’s Master’s in English program.

Dr. Rochelle Gregory received a Fulbright to travel to Germany in October for International Educator Administrators. She also was named department chair of the English, Speech, and Foreign Languages Department at North Central Texas College. She co-authored a chapter “Surviving Sexism to Inspire Change: Stories and Reflections from Mothers on the Tenure Track” in Surviving Sexism in Academia: Strategies for Feminist Leadership.

Alec Head, English minor, is joining the TWU Master's in Library Information Science program.

Jaclyn Kliman, BA graduate is joining the East Carolina University Master’s in English program.

Dr. Tanwya LeBouef Tullia attended the 2016 Cultural Rhetorics Conference and the 2017 RSA Institute

Dr. Jolé Madore, was promoted from Associate Professor to Professor of English and earned tenure at Tarrant County College. She also was elected President of the Texas College English Association.

Dr. Deb Martin received promotion to full professor at Rowan University in Glassboro, N.J. She is also returning to a position in the Department of Writing Arts after several years in administration.

Haley Mowdy, MA graduate, will be attending law school at Baylor University on a full tuition scholarship.

Victoria Radford, BA graduate, accepted a job as a Study Abroad Advisor for BCA Study Abroad in Pennsylvania.

Erin Russell and Matt Gibson, both BA graduates, started their own freelancing company, Russell Gibson Content.

Morgan Staskus, BA graduate, accepted a teaching position at Halton Middle School.

Nadiyah Suleiman, BA graduate, is joining the Duke University Master’s in Liberal Arts program.

Madeline Vanzant, BA graduate, accepted a teaching position at Byron Nelson High School.

Tory Whitaker, MA graduate, started work in April as a technical writer for National Technical Systems (NTS), an engineering consultant company in Plano.

Karen Wiley, a General Studies in English and Music graduate, was named an “inspiring student” and mentioned by TWU Chancellor and President Carine Feyten at May commencement, including this statement: “Karen discovered TWU while researching alternative therapies for her oldest child, who was born with Down syndrome. She was so intrigued by the university’s music therapy program that she auditioned and was admitted into the program in 2014. Through determination and perseverance, Karen has managed to juggle single motherhood, scholarship, leadership and active membership in many on-campus organizations and honor societies. Karen even found a way to study abroad in Germany and Austria, where she someday hopes to travel with her children and teach English as a foreign language. Karen has persisted through extremely difficult circumstances, including the death of her oldest child, who passed away in January 2016. Although Karen faced many challenges on her educational journey and ultimately changed majors, she never gave up.”

Christopher Works, BA graduate, graduated from SMU law in May. He is scheduled to take the BAR exam this summer.

Grad
Continued from Page 11

weakness, but instead a strength.”

LeBouef Tullia also says she forged lasting friendships “that have been integral to my development as a scholar and teacher, professional relationships that have a ready extended beyond TWU. And TWU isn’t just a part of my story; it’s a part of my son’s story as well. That’s pretty special to me.”

Since finishing her dissertation this summer, LeBouef Tullia will be heading to a full-time faculty position at Christian Brothers University, a private university in Memphis, Tennessee. Service work is a key component to the university’s mission.

“I will be teaching rhetoric and American literature at CBU,” she said. “I am super excited about this new part of my journey.”

As for advice for other graduate students, LeBouef Tullia stressed the importance of the personal relationships you forge while in school.

“This world is smaller than I imagined it to be,” she said. “Your peers are your community. And some people value and participate in community in different ways, which is okay. Graduate school is tough. We have the power to make it easier for ourselves and others.”

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The English Chapter of the National Alumni Association continues to serve as a model for other academic chapters and as a coordinating force in assisting current students and recognizing former students. The chapter is led by a 12-member council of graduates of programs in English and Rhetoric. This leadership group organizes events each year.

During 2016-17, the English chapter held an informal luncheon in the fall and attended the TWU Drama Department production of Antigone. Members came from as far away as Florida and Washington to participate.

The chapter donated $500 and sponsored ten dependent children of current TWU students for the holiday gift program. Among the gifts provided for children of TWU students were clothing, coats, shoes, toys, books, and games.

In the spring, the chapter sponsored a table at the 2017 Homecoming activities. Council members were present for the conferring of the Distinguished Alumna award on Dr. Helen Benjamin, a PhD graduate of TWU. The Distinguished Alumna Award is the highest honor that TWU bestows. Dr. Benjamin served as Chancellor for approximately 50,000 students in California before her return to Texas last December. Colleagues of Dr. Benjamin and friends from her school days gathered with the English Chapter to honor this outstanding graduate, the first in over two decades from ESFL to receive TWU’s highest honor. Dr. Benjamin was nominated by Dr. Phyllis Bridges, faculty advisor for the chapter, with support letters from alumni Dr. Phyllis Elmore of North Lake College and Dr. Meta Carstarphen of the University of Oklahoma. Approximately 400 persons joined in giving Dr. Benjamin a standing ovation. A scholarship named for Dr. Benjamin is awarded by the department. The recipient for spring 2017 was Angela Johnson.

The chapter secured donations to provide for scholarships for current TWU students. In July, the chapter awarded two scholarships. Lisette Blanco-Cerda and Elizabeth Cozby, doctoral students at TWU, were selected for the scholarships. The scholarship committee is composed of five graduates of the programs in English and Rhetoric. Each award given in 2017 has a value of $750.

The English academic chapter is in the process of planning for the 2017-18 year. Any current student or graduate in English or Rhetoric is invited to affiliate with the chapter. Persons interested may contact Georgia Headley (gheadley@twu.edu), Helen McCourt (helen.mccourt1@gmail.com), or Phyllis Bridges (pbridges@twu.edu). All current students and alums are also invited to visit the chapter Facebook page for updates. Information for the Facebook page may be sent to Diana Williams (dianawilliams0151@gmail.com).

Dr. Helen Benjamin and Dr. Phyllis Bridges pose for a picture at the Accolades Luncheon in April. Benjamin received the Distinguished Alumna Award at the event. Photo courtesy of TWU Marketing & Communication.
Dr. Helen Benjamin, a two-time TWU graduate, says she was “humbled and honored” to receive the Distinguished Alumni Award. “Their acknowledgement of me was the acknowledgement of all of the people in my life,” Benjamin said. “I certainly did not do that by myself. I just happened to be in a group of people who were dedicated to helping others.”

The award is given by the university and the TWU Alumni Association to alumni “who have brought honor to themselves and to their alma mater by outstanding achievements in their chosen profession or who have made notable contributions to society in other areas of endeavor,” according to a university release.

After 44 years in secondary and higher education, Benjamin retired as Chancellor of the Contra Costa Community College District in California, according to a university release. She held that position for 11 years and was the first African-American and first woman to serve in a permanent role as chancellor for the district which serves more than 50,000 students and maintains a $200 million operating budget, the press release said. Benjamin was one of two alumna recognized at the Accolades Awards Luncheon, which occurs during Homecoming in April. The other award recipient was Donna Alexandra Israel, Ph.D., founder of Fitness Formula, Inc. and Professional Nutrition Therapists, LLC. Benjamin received her Master of Education in Supervision and Reading in 1977 and a Ph. D. in English with a concentration in Rhetoric in 1989, both from TWU. She also has a Bachelor of Science in English, from Bishop College, a now-closed historically black college in Dallas. Benjamin credits her education with her success.

“I felt I had been in my education in intuitions that supported me” she said about her time at TWU and at Bishop College. “And that has probably made a huge difference in my life.” At the Accolades Luncheon, Benjamin was pleased to receive support from friends, including Dr. Elsie Burnett, who she described as her “inspiration or going to TWU.” Dr. Phyllis Bridges and Dr. Genevieve West nominated Benjamin for the award, which Bridges described as TWU’s biggest honor. The award has rarely been given to English, Speech, and Foreign Language alumni, Bridges said.

At the Accolades lunch, Benjamin gave an extemporary speech, which Bridges described as “very touching.” “It was a nice occasion and I was honored to be involved in it,” Bridges said. Benjamin described the ceremony as a “rewarding experience” and enjoyed being back on campus. “It was always a lovely campus and now even more so,” she said. Now that she is retired and returned to the Dallas area, Benjamin plans on being more involved with the Alumni Association. Benjamin also started an English, Speech, and Foreign Languages scholarship in 2016. The first scholarship went to recent graduate Dr. Erika Johnson. The 2017-2018 award was given to Angela Johnson. Benjamin also has started a consulting business to help colleges and is working with the leadership in the American Association of Community Colleges.
Sigma Tau Delta plans to increase activities

Sigma Tau Delta inducted new members, including one who is also the organization’s president for the 2017-2018 school year.

New members of the Beta Epsilon chapter of the national English honor society include incoming president Madyson Plummer, as well as Laura Casey, Sofia Corbojal, Wendy Silvers-Hochstetler, Angela Johnson, Megan Schuth, and Lezlie Barnes.

Plummer, Vice President Natalie Malin and advisor Dr. Ashley Bender hope to increase the activities for the honor society in the coming year.

“We’d like to start the fall semester off with a general meeting to start planning some fun activities,” Plummer said.

Some of the activities they are considering include a social event with the English faculty members and possible guest speakers. Plummer would also like to continue the community service work, such as the spring school supply collection that Sigma Tau Delta conducted with the English Rhetoric Graduate Organization-Rhetoric Society of America.

“We collected school supplies for ESFL grad Carolyn Swen, who is teaching in Ethiopia with the Peace Corps,” Bender said.

Incoming President Madyson Plummer, left, outgoing President Alexis Sikorski, and Dr. Brian Fehler pose for a photo after the spring Sigma Tau Delta induction ceremony.

At the February induction ceremony, Dr. Brian Fehler gave a speech titled “Adventures on the Amazon (Website)” at the ceremony, according to outgoing President Alexis Sikorski.

Bender said the organization hopes to grow in the coming year by recruiting new members and becoming more active. For more information, contact Bender at abender@twu.edu.

Benner
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panel for the upcoming Latin American Studies Association’s International Congress in Barcelona on the topic of memory entrepreneurship and recent developments in human rights activism in Latin America.

Q: What made you want to become a teacher?
A: I would say my parents are the main reason why. Both are educators. I love the notion of dedicating one’s self to the pursuit of knowledge and sharing it with others.

Q: What has been your most rewarding teaching experience?
A: Teaching a language is very rewarding because you get to really know your students. We all share information about family, routines, likes, dislikes, etc. By the end of the semester we all know each other really well...in Spanish!

Q: What is your favorite book?
A: El beso de la mujer araña or The Kiss of the Spider Woman (1976) by Argentine author Manuel Puig. It was made into a movie starring William Hurt. Yes, the book is better.

Q: What do you like to do outside of academia?
A: I love to exercise outside.

Q: Share something that people may not know about you.
A: I am a descendant of Joaquin Suarez who was the third president of Uruguay. He helped liberate Uruguay from Spain and then later from Argentina and Brazil. He abolished slavery and designed Uruguay’s flag from the USA flag.

Spanish
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“TWU’s liberal arts approach to higher education provides students with the critical thinking skills needed to confidently connect what they learn in class to a constantly changing job market,” Benner says.

In addition to the medical terminology class, Benner is working with bilingual education on campus, and was recently selected as Pioneer Teaching and Learning Academy (PTLA) for the upcoming year. In the PTLA program, Benner will receive mentoring for the Medical Terminology in Spanish class from Dr. Gwen Weatherford from the Department of Kinesiology and receive $2,000 for travel, conferences, or other continuing education options.

All of these are steps toward Benner’s longer term goal of adding a Spanish major at TWU. This is a process that takes some time, but Benner sees it as a good possibility in the next three years.
TWU’s only alumna to serve as president, Dr. Evelyn Blagg Huey, died June 27 at age 95, according to a release from the university.

President Emerita Blagg Huey received her bachelor of arts degree in English and Music in 1942 and a master of arts in English in 1943 from TWU when it was called Texas State College for Women, the release said. She was the university’s seventh president, serving from 1976-1986.

During her tenure, Blagg Huey oversaw the construction of and upgrades to several buildings, including the Undergraduate Science Laboratory Building, the Administration and Conference Tower and the Presbyterian campus in Dallas, according to the release.

She also oversaw the building of the Denton campus library, which is now named for her.

“The library will be a lasting memorial to her,” Phyllis Bridges, TWU Comaro Professor of English, said in the release.

Blagg Huey also restored TWU’s Founder’s Day and received authorization to create the Collection of the History of Texas Women.

Chancellor and President Carine Feyten shared fond memories of meeting with Blagg Huey early in her time at TWU.

“She graciously imparted her wisdom, an ever-loyal and longstanding champion for the university and its mission,” Feyten said in a statement.

The TWU Blagg-Huey Library created an exhibit honoring Dr. Evelyn Blagg Huey shortly after her death.

Blagg Huey served as dean of the TWU Graduate School. She also had a master’s degree in public administration from University of Kentucky and a Ph.D. in political science from Duke University. She was inducted into the Texas Women’s Hall of Fame in 1984.

Services were conducted July 1 at First Presbyterian Church in Denton. To support the Mary Evelyn Blagg Huey Endowment, which supports the library, go to https://pof.twu.edu/evelyn-blagg-huey-endowment.

DeCAPUA
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while maintaining respect and dignity? Check. Students who keep in touch after the course is over? That’s heartwarming.

Q: What is your favorite book?
A: Assuming I have time for pleasure reading, my go-to is fiction, and my go-to fiction author is Kate Morton. She weaves together historical fiction, family intrigue, and generational secrets in ways that are utterly riveting. Also, I got hooked on Agatha Christie novels as a kid; I’m trying to read through them all again as an adult to re-appreciate them from a grown-up perspective.

Q: What do you like to do outside of academia?
A: Walk on the beach. I live a bit far from the beach now, though. I also like to experiment with gluten-free recipes. And read, of course (see above).

Q: Share something that people may not know about you.
A: One of the first things I wanted to be was an astronaut. My cousin actually is one, so I live vicariously through his adventures in space.
Several ESFL faculty and students attended the Graduate Student Council’s Pioneering Spirit Awards, including, from left, Dr. Dundee Lackey, Maureen Johnson, Dr. Erika Johnson, Dr. Tawny LeBouef Tullia, Rachael Reynolds, and Dr. Gretchen Busl. Photo courtesy of Graduate Student Council.

**Spirit**

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ing those goals, I think I probably learned more from my students than they did from me! I had to really think on my feet; middle schoolers ask the toughest questions!"

The Schweitzer Fellowship was a MA program milestone for Mowdy.

“I think creating the ‘Write Now’ program for the Schweitzer fellowship was my biggest success,” she said. “It was created as a result of my time as the Lead GA for the Write Site and was driven in large part by the lessons taught to me by my Write Site family. The data we collected demonstrated a marked improvement in our students’ academic performance, self-confidence, writing enjoyment, and professional goals. Plus we had a blast doing it!”

Busl also praised Mowdy for her academic accomplishments.

“In her very first semester, she wrote an exceptional final paper which she presented at the African Literature Association Conference, and then later revised for publication in my Writing in the Discipline course,” she said. “Her MA thesis was meticulously researched and offers an original and much needed examination of global dystopian novels using a feminist theoretical lens.”

One of Mowdy’s fondest memories at TWU involves that Writing in the Discipline class.

“It was an incredibly work-intensive course, and I think we all died a little doing it (and created some amazing writing along the way!), and we all celebrated by having Mexican food together after the final class,” she said. “It was the perfect example of what TWU stands for in my mind—academic excellence fueled by community-building. To have a night of celebration with my classmates and professor, getting to know one another as people (not just as professor/students) was incredibly meaningful.”

As for lessons she has taken away from TWU, Mowdy focuses on advocacy.

“That desire for advocacy has pushed me toward a career in law (and probably politics afterward) because I’ve learned how important it is to use my unique skills and talents to serve others,” she said. “I don’t think I would have had that as a focus of my education at any other institution to which I applied.”

Mowdy will attend Baylor Law School in the fall on the Dean’s Academic Excellence scholarship. She wants to focus on social justice and trial advocacy.

As for her advice for other graduate students, it is all about self-care.

“Graduate school (and school in general, or work in general) can really, really wear you down, and the only person who can really build you back up...is you,” Mowdy said. “It’s not a luxury to read a book for pleasure, go to the gym, visit with family and friends, etc.; it’s an absolute necessity for success.”
A group of Honors English students led by Dr. William Benner, Assistant Professor of Spanish, and Beth Yelverton, Assistant Director of the Office of Honors Programs, visited the Mediterranean Coast in May.

The trip was part of a spring course that ended with students traveling to Milan and the Cinque Terre in Italy; Nice, France; Monaco; and Barcelona, Spain.

Benner said the trip was short, but beneficial, to the students.

“I think the beauty of study abroad, even if it is for a short period of time, is that the first time makes you want to go travel abroad again,” Benner said. “You get a curiosity that makes you want to do it again.”

He also enjoyed seeing students’ reactions while on the trip, including one student who teared up when seeing the Mediterranean ocean for the first time.

“Seeing the trip through their eyes was really special,” he said.

“What surprised me about this trip was how much we were able to see in a short period of time.”
Study Abroad: Honors students visit Ireland

Students and faculty pose for a photo outside the Trinity College Library in Dublin during their January trip.

Above: Students and faculty at an ancient Irish ring fort in Kerry. Left, Cheyenne Knight sees snow for the first time in her life.

Dr. Hugh Bums and Kallie Weaver inside Trinity College Library with an ancient harp.
TWU at CCCCs


Professional
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“For many students, professional development programs also help them figure out what they want to do,” she said.

Busl says the sessions pay off with jobs.

“This past year, our PhD students have had great success on the job market, even in the ABD stage where job offers are becoming more and more rare,” she said.

Future sessions will focus on creating resumes and the interviewing process, including some mock interviews.

Students offered some suggestions for future sessions as well.

Suleiman encouraged a focus on interviews and networking.

“The internships and graduate school sessions were wonderful and should definitely be repeated!” she said.

Johnson suggested sessions on preparing for your defense for theses and dissertations as well as support for people of color at predominately white institutions.

“How about teaching students that do not look like you?” she said.

“How about learning how to be more inviting to topics that because of privilege you know nothing about?”

For LeBouef Tullia, her suggestions focused on networking.

“The mixers at conferences are always such awkward and artificial spaces,” she said.

Jones considers some more focus on non-academic programming.

“This will become increasingly important as academic careers continue to evolve and tenure track positions become more scarce,” she said. “Not only would alt-ac support benefit current grad students, but could become a strong point for recruiting future grad students.”