

THE ENGLISH HERALD



SFSU English Department Newsletter

October 2016

Dear English Students, Faculty, Staff, Alumnae and Emeritus Faculty,

Greetings and welcome to the new incarnation of the English Department Newsletter. In an effort to provide more ease of information sharing, timely posting of bulletins, events and programs within and among our entire community, we are launching a pilot program: a monthly department newsletter. We hope this more frequent publication will encourage you to submit updates, profiles, and articles on a wider range of topics than ever before.

Highlights can include:

- Profiles of current students, alumnae, emeritus staff and faculty — in short, all past and present department members (see the profile of Marisa Jimison.)
- News and events taking place locally, on campus, and within the College (see George Lakoff's talk).
- Department news (see the article on our new undergraduate student organization...and articles on Michael Krasny's new book).
- In-classroom events and happenings (guest lecturers, new projects of interest to the greater community).

We would also love to have more submissions from emeritus faculty and alumnae. What is life like after SFSU English?

What would you like to see in the departmental publication? Send us your ideas, your photographs and, most of all, send us your writing and reports having to do with literacy, literature, writing, and education. After all, we are the Department of English Language and Literature. What does that mean to you?

This e-newsletter will be sent mid-month, every month except during winter and summer breaks. **Deadline for publication will be the 5th to engnews@sfsu.edu (any submissions received after the 5th will roll over to the following issue).**

We wish you a wonderful year, and look forward to hearing from you.



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Recent News



George Lakoff

George Lakoff is a cognitive linguist and professor of linguistics at UC Berkeley, where he has taught since 1972. His current research covers many areas of Conceptual Analysis within Cognitive Linguistics. To learn more about George Lakoff [click here](#) to visit his website.

Framing the Debate: A Conversation About Election Discourse with George Lakoff

Why does Trump's "word salad" fail with liberals and work with conservatives? Is Clinton effectively communicating to liberals? Join George Lakoff, renowned author and linguist, in conversation with linguistics Assistant Professor Jenny Lederer for a real-time analysis of Trumpisms and Clinton-speak.

Lakoff is professor of the Graduate School and Richard and Rhoda Goldman Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Cognitive Science and Linguistics at University of California, Berkeley, where he has taught since 1972. His books include *Moral Politics: How Liberal and Conservatives Think* and *The Little Blue Book: The Essential Guide to Thinking and Talking Democratic*.



Discussion panel analyzing the 2016 U.S. Presidential Election monitored by San Francisco State University professor Michael Krasny (left).

Professor of English Michael Krasny Participates in Panel Discussion About the Presidential Election

At Oracle OpenWorld, which concluded Sept. 22, a session titled, "2016 U.S. Presidential Election Analysis," and discussing the impact of new-gen tech on the campaign attracted a large turnout here at Moscone West. It featured Stephanie Cutter, Democratic political strategist and founding partner of Precision Strategies; Republican political strategist and "Meet the Press" regular Mike Murphy; and emcee Dr. Michael Krasny, professor at San Francisco State University and a longtime talk show host at San Francisco PBS affiliate KQED-FM.

Professor of English Michael Krasny is the author of the new book "What's So Funny?" KQED Radio 9/24/16 and aired on multiple NPR affiliates. For more information please [click here](#).

Aspiring teacher among the top students honored by CSU Trustees

By Mary Kenny ([full article found on SFSU Website](#))

San Francisco State University senior Marisa Jimison has been named the Trustee Emerita Claudia Hampton Scholar by the California State University (CSU) Board of Trustees. Awarded this year for the first time, the \$9,000 scholarship recognizes a student who is pursuing a career in teaching and comes from a traditionally underserved population or educationally disadvantaged community.

The honor is conferred as part of the CSU Trustees' Award, given annually to one student from each of the system's 23 campuses. A first-generation college student, Jimison is pursuing a rigorous double major in Spanish and English with a concentration in education, with a minor in comparative literature — all while maintaining an excellent GPA.

This semester, Jimison was also selected to participate in the Willie L. Brown Jr. Fellowship Program, which provides SF State students who have faced barriers pursuing a college education the opportunity to gain professional experience in the public sector while developing a lifelong commitment to public service. As a fellow, she works 16 hours each week with the Our Children, Our Families Council, an advisory body co-led by San Francisco Mayor Ed Lee and San Francisco Unified School District Interim Superintendent Myong Leigh that aims to align city, school district and community efforts to improve outcomes for children, youth and families.

Jimison said many of her professors at SF State, including Jim Gilligan, assistant professor of English, have been inspirational. And Gilligan credits Jimison with a number of qualities, including humility and industriousness. "She is humble enough to acknowledge the limits of her knowledge and skill, and — once she has identified those limits — she is industrious enough to exceed them by seeking out new knowledge and learning new skills," said Gilligan. "She is one of the hardest working students I've taught at SF State, and she has an impressive career ahead of her as an educator."

In addition to her coursework, Jimison has volunteered tirelessly as a literacy and writing tutor for middle school and high school students. "It's important to be there for all youth, but especially for kids who are going through difficult transitions. It can make a huge difference in their lives," she said.

After she graduates in May, Jimison plans to pursue a teaching credential or master's degree, or both, and teach at the high school or community college level. "The most exciting thing about teaching is working with a student on a task or project that is overwhelming or daunting to them, and then watching as they practice, gain understanding and then eventually no longer need your help," she said. "When they discover their own independence you can see how satisfied and accomplished they feel. That's so important."



"One of the main reasons I wanted to become a teacher was because growing up, I came from a really unstable home," Jimison said. "We were low income and there were a lot of issues in my home around disability." Those issues included the stress of mental illness in the family and a disability her mother suffered as the result of a car accident.



"I remember my mom telling me all the time, 'Go to school and give it your all,'" Jimison said. "So even though there was not a lot of stability at home, it was guaranteed at school. That helped me so much."

HERA Conference Call for Papers

The 2017 HERA conference, 1-4 March 2017 in San Diego, will be held at the historic Westgate Hotel in San Diego, steps from the Gaslamp District, Little Italy, the waterfront, and the blue and green trolley lines. The special HERA rate for the conference (including the days before and after the conference) is \$153.



Call for Papers for 2017 Conference!

The Humanities Education and Research Association [HERA] conference is a refereed, peer-reviewed conference. The 2017 general theme is "*Local Voices to Global Visions: Exploring Identity in the Humanities*." Disciplinary and interdisciplinary approaches are welcome.

Formed in 2007, HERA is an educational, non-profit organization, devoted to facilitating inclusive and non-hierarchical conversations and exchanges in the Humanities (in the broadest definition of the Humanities). Click [here](#) to visit the HERA website.

HERA

Call for Papers

Humanities Education and Research Association

Annual Conference, 1-4 March 2017

San Diego, CA

Local Voices to Global Visions: Exploring Identity in the Humanities

In keeping with HERA's mission of promoting the study of the humanities across a wide range of disciplines and interdisciplines, we invite presentations for the 2017 conference. The wide range of disciplines and areas of study for the conference include but are not limited to Aesthetics, Anthropology, Architecture, Art, Classics, Communication Studies, Composition, Cultural Studies, Dance, Design, Digital Technology, Education, Environmental Issues, Ethics, Ethnic Studies, Family, Film Studies, Gender Studies, Geography, Geology, Globalization, History, Languages, Literature, Media, Museum Studies, Music, Performance Studies, Philosophy, Political Science, Psychology, Religious Studies, Sexuality, Sociology, Theater and all sciences relevant to the topic.

Creative presentations, readings, and exhibitions are also welcomed. Submissions are encouraged from educators at all levels (including advanced graduate students) as well as all those with an interest in the arts and humanities.

Proposals for papers, panels, or workshops (150-200 words) must be submitted through the conference web portal on the HERA website at:

www.h-e-r-a.org.

Questions may be directed to the conference organizer, Marcia Green (mgreen@sfsu.edu)

Presentation time for individual papers is limited to 15-20 minutes.

Deadline for submission: no later than January 10, 2017

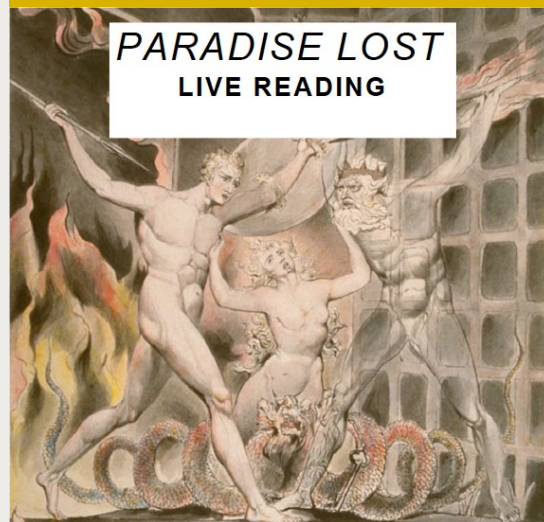
Recent Events

- ◆ ***Paradise Lost* Reading with Dr. Jennifer Mylander**
Saturday, October 8 & Tuesday, October 17
Look for forthcoming recap from Dr. Jennifer Mylander in our November issue.
- ◆ **October TESOL Talks: Teaching Language in Context with Dr. Noriko Ishihara**
Thursday, October 6 @ 3:30-5:00 pm in HUM 485
The SFSU MA TESOL Student Association welcomes you to the second TESOL Talk event of the 2016-2017 school year, featuring Dr. Noriko Ishihara, co-author of *Teaching and Learning Pragmatics: Where language and culture meet*. This talk invites you to join a larger discussion around contextualized language use through class room instruction. Pragmatics-focused instruction can not only help learners make meaning as they wish, but also promote intercultural understanding that goes beyond cultural stereotypes in alignment with efforts toward peace linguistics. For questions or comments, contact the TESOL Talks coordinators, Cheryl Eccles and Sin Yee Chau at tesol_talks@gmail.com.
- ◆ **"Halloween-glish" Student Mixer presented by the English Undergraduate Student Association (EUSA)**
Wednesday, October 19 @ 3:00-5:00 pm in HUM 485
Join your new student association for an afternoon of free food, games, and meeting your English peers! For more information, follow us on Facebook at English Undergraduate Student Association at SFSU.

Upcoming Events

- ◆ ***Paradise Lost* Reading with Dr. Jennifer Mylander**
Saturday, October 29 @ 2:00-5:00 pm in HUM 485
Reading Books 7-9
For more information go to english.sfsu.edu/events
- ◆ **MA TESOL Alumni Guest Speaker: Blythe Musteric on "Preparing for the Job Market: Beyond Teaching"**
Wednesday, November 9 @ 4:00 pm in HUM 111
- ◆ **November TESOL Talks: Agency and Empowerment towards the Pursuit of Sociocultural Autonomy in Language Learning**
Thursday, November 10 @ 3:30 pm in HUM 485

Cover of *Paradise Lost*



Dr. Noriko Ishihara



Enjoy a spooky

HOCUS

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MIXER

Presented by **EUSA**



CMS Conversation Tables



Ruiyi Situ is a second-year student who majored in Japanese. She was born in Kaiping, China and migrated San Francisco when she was 15 years old. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, photography and gardening. The poem was her final project about her first-year experience in college at the end of her first year.

CMS Program Newsletter Merger

In our efforts to produce a comprehensive newsletter that highlights all of our programs, we will be merging the Composition for Multilingual Students (CMS) Program Newsletter with the new English Herald. To promote this sense of collaboration and inclusiveness, we encourage and invite all students and faculty in both the CMS and Composition programs to share news, events, student work, and stories from inside the classroom with us so that we can display the great work you do with the larger community.

We invite any and all other existing program newsletters and publications to likewise consolidate.

College Experience

Too good to be true
 Be a Social Butterfly, so I can fly around a New World
 Be a Rose, so I can be the Most Strong Fragrance
 Be a Bee, to work, to get Honey
 Be an Ant, to work, to save Food
 Be the Lamp to light my Path

Too good to be true
 What's wrong with the School
 Fun or Not fun? But challenging
 What's wrong with the Classes
 So many Colorful Eyes, Too Big to fit in
 What's wrong with the People
 Nothing wrong with them, but Too Cool to talk
 What's wrong with YOU
 A Mouse sees A Cat
 But the Mouse runs for Cheese

Too good to be true
 College is not only All kinds of Subject, but also Life Experiences
 Teachers are not only teaching, but the Map that leads your Path
 A Tree with Knowledge and Passion that you can lean on
 However, mixed with Half Heartedness
 Advisors are not only talking, but Directing the road you can choose
 A Perfect Plan for the Only and Special you
 Students are not only studying, but your Buddy who Cares
 You Fall, They Laugh, then help you with Wholeheartedness
 While SOME with indifference
 What a Competitive World, with those Awesome People
 But You, an Unbloomed Flower with Heavy Rain

Too good to be true
 A Bright Unknown world
 But don't leave your Wise Man behind
 Don't forget to bring Pleasure to your family
 Don't stop to Learn, to Teach, and to Have Fun
 As Ivy, Climb to a higher place, to Carry on and reach your own sunlight.

CMS TA Spotlight

What are one or two things you have enjoyed about being a TA in CMS classes?

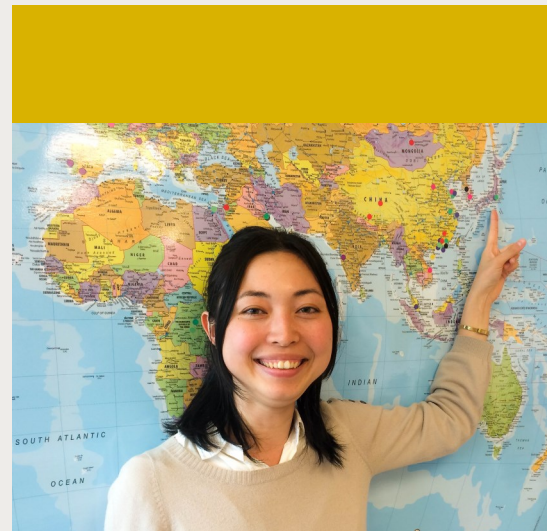
I enjoyed reading and responding to students' writing as well as working with them outside the class. I learned more about individual students' personal and educational background as well as what different strengths and struggles they had. They indeed had such colorful lives and interesting view points that I learned a lot FROM them!

What is something new you learned about the multilingual students in this program?

I learned that some students had negative attitudes toward reading and writing while others enjoyed writing, but still many of them struggled to compose academic writing. However, I saw so many students, including those did not like reading/writing very much, engage with the reading materials and writing activities. That made me realize that CMS students DO have motivation to invest in class work when they have intriguing materials and a supportive classroom community.

Do you have any plans after you graduate?

I am currently teaching at the American Language Institute (ALI) and will teach there for as long as I can!



Ayaka Ihara is a current MA TESOL student in her fourth and final semester at San Francisco State University. She has been a TA in ENG 210 (Oral Communication- Multilingual), ENG 208 (Grammar Level I), and ENG 209 (First Year Composition- Multilingual).

CMS Student Spotlight

What do you enjoy most about being in the CMS program?

I never thought English was difficult, but being in the CMS Program changed my mind about that—in a good way. I have learned and improved a lot, and my teachers are kind and supportive. They spend a lot of time working with us students, which I really appreciate. I also like to learn languages, especially English, so I enjoy the grammar classes a lot because I am learning how to build better sentences in English.

Being in this program has certainly helped me become a better student and a better English communicator. With the oral communication class, my fluency and ability to give speeches improved, and together with the writing classes, the skills I learned will help me find a better job in my career.

What do you find most challenging about the program?

Even though I enjoy the grammar, I find that the most challenging because it's hard to always figure out the difference between spoken and academic written English. I notice the difference, but don't always know what's the right way to say something, depending on if I am speaking or writing.



Saman Porhemmat is a senior studying Computer Science from Mashhad, Iran. After Saman graduates, he plans on applying to graduate school here at SFSU to continue studying computer science. Outside of class, he likes to do computer programming.

**Contribute to your SFSU English
community!**

We want to hear from you. Send in submissions to let people know what you're doing: Any kind of exciting news, events, publications, workshops, in-class activities or guests, student work, and profiles. What would you like to read about? This is your forum, your opportunity to prompt dialogue and interest, generate audiences for your work and colleagues' work—and make your voice heard.

Send your submissions to:

engnews@sfsu.edu

Deadline is the 5th of the month.

***We look forward to hearing
from you!***

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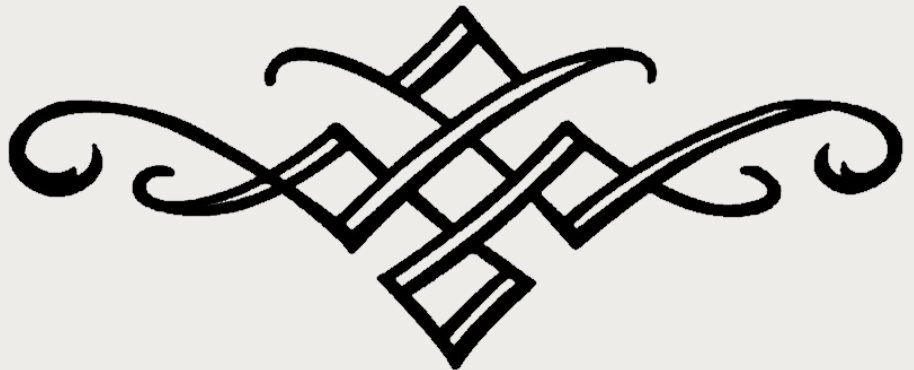
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