

# Postscripts

## The Jacksonville State University English Department Alumni Newsletter

### All That Jazz!

The English Department has a new voice not only in the classroom, but also on the airwaves. Brad Hawley, a new Assistant Professor of English, hosts a weekly show on the JSU student-run radio station 92J. The weekly show, called 92Jazz, includes a representative sampling of jazz from across the century. Listeners get a chance to hear everything from Louis Armstrong's early recordings with his Hot Fives and Sevens to the big band sounds of Basie and Ellington to the smaller groups led by Miles Davis, Thelonious Monk, and John Coltrane. The show also has featured music by and interviews with Chris Culver and the JSU Jazz Ensemble.



Having started and managed a radio station while a student at Presbyterian College in Clinton, South Carolina, Brad was eager to get back on the air. "I see it as an extension of my teaching in the classroom," he explains. "Jazz music has played a crucial role in the development of Twentieth-Century American literature and art, and I want my students to hear the music so they can make the connections. On the air, I also try to give some background and history, but the emphasis is on the musicians and the music."

92J can be heard from 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m. on Wednesdays when school is in session. And if you're out of town, you can hear the show through 92J's web site.

As mentioned earlier, Brad is a new faculty member in the English Department for the year 2000-2001. He grew up in Orlando, Florida, before moving to South Carolina, where he received his B. A. from Presbyterian College in 1993. In 1995 he earned his M.A. in English literature from Clemson University, where he began teaching writing courses. For the next five years, he taught literature and composition at the University of Oregon, while working on his Ph.D. in English with a specialization in ethics and

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## JSU Writing Project Completes Another Successful Year

The JSU Writing Project, now in its fourteenth year, continues to improve the teaching of writing in Alabama schools by enhancing professional development of teachers. This past year, over 600 educators participated in 38 different programs and events sponsored by the JSU Writing Project, including a highly successful Summer Institute on the teaching of writing completed by seventeen area teachers. During this four-week intensive study of the teaching of writing, teachers shared their best teaching practices, researched current theory and practice in writing instruction, wrote and exchanged writing in response groups, and prepared to become in-service presenters. Each participant received a stipend of \$800.

Other highlights this year included continuation of the Teacher Inquiry Community, a group of teachers interested in classroom research. Led by Deborah Prickett, this group meets monthly to study teacher research and discuss progress on their projects. It held a one-day workshop, "Making New Connections: Learning about Teacher Inquiry," in the fall. The group encourages teachers interested in classroom research to join it for meetings. (Call 256-782-5479 for more information.)

A new organization, the Scribblers, directed by Gloria Horton, has been established to provide support for teachers interested in writing and publishing. To start the group, the Writing Project held a two-day retreat led by Dr. Janet Swenson of the Red Cedar Writing Project, Michigan, and Gloria Horton of JSU. During the retreat, participants wrote and learned about publication opportunities. Teachers who would like to do more writing or to get their writing published should contact Gloria Horton (256-782-5409).

The JSU Writing Project's fifteenth Summer Institute will be June 4-29, 2001. Seventeen area teachers will receive \$900 stipends for participation: Sygrid ke ,w Coestontie Elepmee-

The JSU Writing Projects, directed by Liea Wwilirams and co-directed by Grrria Horton o.

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## English Department Lecture Series

On Monday, November 13, 2001, at 7:00 p.m., ten faculty members from the JSU English Department participated in “Well Said, Old Mole’: JSU English Faculty Writing Project Fellows Reading Original Selections.” The Writing Project is a national program conducted every summer by JSU faculty focusing on teaching high school educators new strategies for teaching writing. Ms. Gena Christopher, Dr. Robert Felgar, Dr. Joanne Gates, Ms. Margaret Griffin, Ms. Gloria Horton, Ms. Stephanie Kirby, Ms. Judy McKibbin, Mr. David Myer, Ms. Janet Smart, and Ms. Lisa Williams all participated.

On Tuesday, February 27, 2001, at 7:00 p.m., Dr. Brad Hawley, assistant professor of English, presented a lecture titled “*Being There* with *Forrest Gump*: Anti-intellectualism in America.”

On Wednesday, March 14, 2001, at 7:00 p.m., Dr. John H. Jones, assistant professor of English, presented a lecture titled “Blake’s *Book(s) of Urizen* and the Introduction of Orality into Print Culture.”

On Thursday, April 5, 2001, at 7:30 p.m., Ms. Susan Methvin, JSU instructor of English, presided over a reading of poetry, which consisted of selections from the creative writing class Ms. Methvin taught during the spring semester of 2001. Students selected and read their own poems. |

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postmodern literature.

Since coming to JSU, Brad has taught Freshman Composition, Oral Communication, Survey of American and British Literature, Twentieth-Century Poetry, and the Beat Generation. He also works with the JSU Writers’ Club and, as previously discussed, hosts the weekly jazz show on campus on 92J.

As a teacher and scholar, Brad has a strong interest in ethics. He focuses on the way competing ethical systems shape not only the relationships between students and teachers, but also the relationships between authors and readers.

Welcome to JSU and the English Department, Brad. |

### CONGRATULATIONS

**GLORIA HORTON**

College of Arts and Sciences  
Distinguished Service Award

**JULIA WOOSTER**

College of Arts and Sciences  
Dean’s Service Award

### Writers’ Club

Led by John Jones, Brad Hawley, and Tonja McCurdy, the Writers’ Club had a good year. A devoted group of students showed up regularly every Wednesday at Houston Cole Library to read poetry and fiction. The members also worked on the yearly edition of the JSU student creative writing publication, *Something Else*. Currently, the students are developing a website for posting works-in-progress. |

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## 2001 ON THE BRINK Conference

The 2001 **ON THE BRINK** Conference was held Saturday, February 3, 2001. This year's theme was "Are Y'all Hard at It or Are Ya' Just Gallavantin'?" On the Brink is a provocative and entertaining gathering of Southern writers and readers. It offers a forum to emerging writers as they explore the Southern experience through its past, present, and future.

The conference brings together writers working in a range of genres. Writers read from their work and discuss their reasons for working in their chosen genres, and they respond to questions from the audience. English Department members Ms. Gena Christopher, Ms. Judy McKibbin, and Dr. Steven Whitton organize the conference each year.

The following list includes writers and their works that were featured at this year's conference: Clyde Bolton, *Nancy Swimmer: A Story of the Cherokee Nation*; Ben Erickson, *A Parting Gift*; Wayne Greenhaw, *Beyond the Night*; Melinda Haynes, *Mother of Pearl*; Lynne Hinton, *Friendship Cake*; Robert Inman, *Coming Home: Life, Love, and all Things Southern*; Honoree Fanonne Jeffers, *The Gospel of Barbecue*; Barbara Robinette Moss, *Change Me into Zeus' Daughter*.

Previous conferences and further information can be accessed at <http://www.jsu.edu/depart/english/ontbrink.htm>.

## Fifth Annual Writers' Bowl

On November 2, 2000, the JSU English Department sponsored the Fifth Annual Writers' Bowl. Twenty teams of high school students from throughout northern Alabama came to JSU to compete in the contest. This year's group competition required teams to write a fictitious letter from a famous person to their high school newspaper's advice column (and the editor's response) as well as compose the lyrics of a country/western song. Participants were also invited to enter the individual essay competition. Over 100 students participated, with teams from Cherokee County, Southside, Gardendale, Shades Valley, Ranburne, Anniston, Walker, Ashville, Edward Bell, Donoho, Parish, and Jefferson County IBS. JSU's Dr. Steven Whitton was the chair of the Writers' Bowl Committee, assisted by Ms. Gena Christopher and Dr. Randy Davis. Submissions were judged by the following JSU English faculty: Ms. Jennifer Ferrell, Dr. Joanne Gates, Ms. Margaret Griffin, Dr. Bill Hug, Mr. Rufus Kinney, Ms. Stephanie Kirby, Ms. Tonja McCurdy, Mr. David Myer, Dr. Teresa Reed, Ms. Susan Sellers, and Ms. Julia Wooster. |

### Congratulations

Steven J. Whitton was selected by the JSU Faculty Senate Honors Committee to receive the Cleo and Carla Thomas Award for Outstanding Community Education and Service.

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## P.S. From Alumni

**Annette Cederholm**, of Albertville (AL), graduated with an M.A. in English from JSU in December 1997. She is currently a full-time faculty member at Snead State Community College in Boaz (AL). Prior to being hired full-time in 1999, she taught as an adjunct instructor at both Wallace State and Snead State. She is advisor of the Theta Iota Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa at Snead State.

**John Howle**, of Heflin (AL), graduated in the Spring of 1991 with a M.S.Ed./Language Arts degree from JSU. He currently teaches English at Haralson County High School in Tallapoosa (GA), where he established the Haralson Outdoor Writing Lab (*HOWL*) to promote writing in the classroom. This lab prompted the publication of *HOWL Magazine*, which is now in its 5<sup>th</sup> year of publication. During the publication process, every nine weeks, students are able to use skills not only in interviewing, writing, editing, photography, and marketing, but also in game management techniques and wildlife preservation practices. The readership consists of approximately 1000, with 75% being in the Georgia/Alabama region and the remaining 25% being distributed nationwide. All students who have been enrolled in the class have passed the Georgia High School Graduation Test in both writing and language arts.

**Jerusha McClendon**, of Columbus (OH), graduated from JSU with a M.A. in English in 1997.

**Ron Miller**, of Anniston (AL), earned his B. S. in Secondary Education/English from JSU in 1973. He taught English at Northside Baptist Jr. High School in Anniston from 1974 until 1976. From 1976-1994 he taught and was an administrator at Anniston High School. After his retirement in 1998, he returned to writing fiction, something he began doing as a youngster in the 1950s. He was awarded the Mayhaven Award for Fiction for 2000. His novel, *A Broken Reed*, was due to be released in May 2001.

**Melanie Bradford Nevels**, of Hollywood (AL), has just completed her 13<sup>th</sup> year of teaching. She teaches in the area of Special Education at North Jackson High School in Stevenson (AL). She earned her B.S. Ed./Language Arts degree from JSU. She also has her M.A. in Learning Disabilities, which she obtained from the University of Alabama. She is a member of Alpha Delta Kappa and has completed additional training in working with students who cannot succeed in reading with traditional methods.

**William A. Oberholtzer**, of Fort Leonard Wood (MO), earned his B.S. Ed./English and history degree from JSU in 1996. He also completed his M.S. Ed./English at JSU in 1999. He taught 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade English at Lyman Ward Military Academy in Camp Hill (AL) from 1996-1997. In 1997 he was hired by the U. S. Army Military Police School as an intern in its two-year Instructional Systems Specialist Training Program. At the end of the program, he was hired as Deputy Chief of Doctrine for the Military Police School at Fort Leonard Wood. As an intern, he had the opportunity to have an article published in a Military Police profes-

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## P. S. From Faculty at JSU

**Gene Blanton** presented a paper on March 2, 2001, on the satirist Charles Churchill at the *Southeastern American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies* in Huntsville, Alabama. He also edited (and assisted his wife Sherry with) *Lives of Quiet Affirmation: An Alabama Jewish Community*, a traveling photographic exhibit.

**Gena Christopher** served on the planning committees for the JSU Writers' Bowl and On the Brink. She edited the Fall 2000 edition of the *WIT Newsletter* and reviewed the following books for *The Anniston Star*: *Looking for Mary (Or, the Blessed Mother and Me)* by Beverly Donofrio; *The House of Gentle Men* by Kathy Hepinstall; *Road Kill: A Dido Hoare Mystery* by Marianne MacDonald; *Wild Life* by Molly Gloss; and *Girl with a Pearl Earring* by Tracy Chevalier. In addition, Gena represented JSU at the Decatur Teacher Dialogue Forum sponsored by A+ and the Alabama State Teacher Forum.

**Randall Davis** served as discussion leader for the Tenth Annual Literature and Medicine Retreat, sponsored by the Alabama Chapter of the American College of Physicians/American Society for Internal Medicine. The works discussed included Leo Tolstoy's *Anna Karenina*, Edward Albee's *A Delicate Balance*, poetry by Seamus Heaney, and short stories by Gabriel Garcia Marquez.

**Carmine Di Biase** was a visiting lecturer for a day last fall at Anderson College, where he gave a lecture on *The Taming of the Shrew*. His critical edition of Robert Greene's *Gwydonius, or The Card of Fancy* was published by Dovehouse Editions (Ottawa, Canada).

**Robert Felgar** had a previously published essay excerpted in the collection *Readings on Native Son*. In addition, his article, "Putting Bigger Thomas on the Map," was published in the Spring/Summer 2000 issue of *The Richard Wright Newsletter*. He read a paper based on the worst sin that can be committed in literary studies for the English Department Lecture Series last November. Along with Deborah Prickett, he edited *Alabama English*, which is now housed at JSU. He read *Imperial Leather: Race, Gender and Sexuality in the Colonial Contest*, *Historical Criticism and the Challenge of Theory*, and *What's Left of Theory: New Work on the Politics of Literary Theory*.

**Joanne Gates** delivered a paper on *Ahab's Wife* at Monroeville's Alabama Writers Symposium. She had book reviews published in *Choice* and *Alabama English*. She has participated in JSU's Teaching Inquiry Community and web-published student responses to Women's Literature exercises. Her May 2000 class, Writing Professionally in the Humanities, contributed material to the Elizabeth Robins Web, including parts of *Come and Find Me*, Robins's semi-autobiographical novel of adventures in Nome, Alaska, during its gold rush summer of 1900. She spoke to a community group on Robins's diary of Alaska travel and was chair of the board of Friends of the Houston Cole Library.

**Margaret Griffin** will be presenting "Horses and Zebras Are Alike and Different—Helping Composition Students Write Comparison/Contrast Essays" in a JSU In-Service June 20, 2001. She served on several committees: Speech, Basic English, and English 101-102. She was

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selected to serve on the SACS Institutional Advancement (Section VI) Committee.

**Brad Hawley** presented “*Being There with Forrest Gump: Anti-Intellectualism in America*” at the February English Department Lecture Series. He is also contributing editor to the third edition of John Gage’s composition textbook *The Shape of Reason* (2001). He designed and taught a new course on Jack Kerouac and the Beat Generation during May Term. Brad continues his research on ethics and postmodern literature.

**Gloria Horton** served as president of the Alabama Council of Teachers of English for the past year. She also was local arrangements chair for the National Council of Teachers of English Spring Conference, held at the Birmingham/Jefferson Civic Center on March 29-31, 2001. She will be Faculty Senate president for JSU in the coming year, having served as vice-president/president elect this year. She wrote a book review that was published in *Alabama English* and has served on numerous University committees during the past year. She also presented at a number of conferences during the past year. At the National Writing Project meeting in Milwaukee, she presented a session for new Writing Project sites, “Professional Development as a Continuum—Beyond the Summer Institute.” At the ACTE fall conference in Gulf Shores, she and Lisa Williams presented “Writing for Publication Reasons, Resources, and Opportunities.” She and Lisa also presented a keynote address at the Rural Sites Network Retreat, held in Orange Beach, Alabama, in March. The topic was “Solos and Choruses: Sustaining the Professional Voices of Writing Project Teachers after the Summer Institute.”

**William Hug** served as Area Chair in Ethnicity for the American Culture Association’s annual conference and evaluated proposals for presentations. He continues working on the Danish-American photojournalist Jacob Riis. In November, he will present a paper, “*Blazing Saddles* as Postmodern Ethnic Antiwestern,” at the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference in Literature, the Visual Arts, and Cinemas.

**John Jones** published a review of Alan Bewell’s *Romanticism and Colonial Disease* in the Fall 2000 issue of *South Atlantic Review*. On August 25, 2000, he presented a paper entitled “Locke, Blake, and the Limits of Communication” at the Friendly Enemies: Blake and the Enlightenment Conference at the University of Essex, Colchester, England. On September 2000, he also presented a paper entitled “Satan’s ‘Incomparable Mildness’: The Duplicitious Speech Plan and Coerced Listeners in the Bard’s Song of Blake’s Milton” at the North American Society for the Study of Romanticism Conference in Tempe, Arizona. He presented a paper for the English Department Lecture Series entitled “Blake’s Book(s) of Urizen and the Introduction of Orality into Print Culture.” He will continue to work as a member of the SACS Committee for Policies and Philosophies, the Faculty Senate, the Faculty Senate’s Policies Committee, and the Phi Kappa Phi Committee.

**Stephanie Kirby** became editor of the *WIT Newsletter* and began coordinating the play reading for the Southern Playwrights Competition (JSU’s national playwrights’ contest). She served as Faculty Mentor for JSU’s 2000 Orientation team and has been selected to serve

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again in 2001. She also presented a reading of her poem for the English Department Lecture Series presentation, "Well Said, Old Mole': An Evening of Reading by JSU English Department Alumni of the JSU Writing Project."

**Susan Methvin** taught a class on November 12 at the Arts-Based Educational Research Conference (a special interest group of the American Educational Research Association). The conference took place in Austin Texas, and her topic was "Chester Borland's Diary of World I: A Collection of Found Poems." In September 2000, she helped organize and was named Faculty Advisor of The Canterbury Club, an on-campus ministry. Susan received many awards and honors for her poetry during the last year. Her poem "Lake Erie: 1950" appeared in *The Sampler*, Vol. 32, Fall 2000 issue, a short collection of poems published by the Alabama State Poetry Society. Susan was awarded 1<sup>st</sup> Place in the William T. McKay Contest offered by the Alabama State Poetry Society for her poem "The Rialto Features *The Song of Bernadette*." Her poem "Healing" received 2<sup>nd</sup> Honorable Mention in the Indelible Portraits Award, also sponsored by ASPS. In addition, her poem "Eagle" appeared in *We'Moon '01 Gaia Rhythms For Womyn: Magic*. Lastly, her poem "Breast Imaging" continues to be a part of the traveling exhibits and volume **Art.Rage.Us.**, which traveled to the Hong Kong Arts Center in October.

**David Myer** chaired the English Competency Committee and served as Director of the English Competency Exam. He also served on the English Majors and Minors Committee and the Literature Survey Committee. He presented "Documents in the Workplace: Writing, Editing, and Proofreading" at the annual conference of the Alabama Association of School Office Personnel in Montgomery and at Jacksonville City Schools' fall Institute. He presented "Pop Songs and Poets" for the JSU Council of Teachers of English. He read his essay "Close Encounters" as part of the English Department Lecture Series.

**Susan Sellers** worked as editor of *Postscripts*, the English Department alumni newsletter. She also served as the Middle School Contest Coordinator for the statewide "Imagining the Holocaust Writing Contest." Her article "Between a Rock and a Hard Place: Teaching the Essay" was published in the Fall 2000 issue of *Alabama English*. She was a member of the Speech Committee, Hiring Committee, English 101-102 Committee, Advanced Writing Committee, and Phi Kappa Phi Committee. For three years, she has been Faculty Advisor to Phi Mu Sorority and Academic Advisor to Alpha Omnicron Pi Sorority on the JSU campus.

**Janet Smart** was selected to serve on the SACS Library Committee and began assessment in the fall. She wrote various book reviews for *The Anniston Star* and pronounced at the Calhoun County Spelling Bee for the 7<sup>th</sup> year. She evaluated a number of plays competing in the Southern Playwrights Competition. Janet chaired the EH141 Committee, which provides liaison with textbook decisions and orientation for adjunct instructors. She read an original piece of her work for the English Department Lecture Series.

**Steven Whitton** was recently appointed by Gov. Don Siegelman to the Board of Directors of the Alabama Holocaust Commission. He wrote many book reviews and delivered a

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paper on Musical Theatre in the 1950s for the Alabama Shakespeare Festival in November. Steve worked as coordinator for various conferences and contests: JSU Writers' Bowl; On The Brink, JSU's conference on emerging Southern writers; the Southern Playwrights Competition, JSU's national play contest; and *Imagining the Holocaust*, the Department of English's Holocaust Education program. He performed in productions of Neil Simon's *The Sunshine Boys* and Lanford Wilson's *Talley's Folly*. He is presently adapting Robert Nye's novel *The Late Mr. Shakespeare* for the stage.

**Lisa Williams** was appointed Associate Dean for the College of Arts and Sciences at JSU. As Director of the JSU Writing Project, she also served as State Director for the Alabama Writing Project Network. She continues to serve in this position. This year, she co-presented with Gloria Horton "Writing for Publication" at the Alabama Council of Teachers of English Conference, "Solos and Choruses: Sustaining the Professional Voices of Teachers" at the NWP Rural Sites Conference, and "Professional Development as a Continuum" at the NWP Annual Meeting. In addition, she presented "The National Writing Project: A University-School Partnership That Works" at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Association of Schools and Colleges. State Coordinator for the NCTE Achievement Awards in Writing, she is a member of the NWP State Networks Leadership Team and New Site Mentors Team. She received from NWP a \$28,000 grant for the JSU Writing Project. |

## A Special Thank You

The faculty and students of the JSU Department of English thank the following people for gifts to the English Department Fund of the JSU Foundation:

Angela Leigh Adcock	Sudealia H. Douthard	Patricia Gibbons Koors	Kelly Mechelle Smith
Robert Gerald Angles	Estel Emerson Elkins, Jr.	Marzell Pope Lasseter	Martha Davis Spraggins
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Joy Maddox Barnard	Adrian C. Evans	Cecilia Canfield Matthews	Patsy Mayfield Thweatt
Rose Marie Maynor Bishop	Marsha Moore Fisher	Willodean Morris McMurry	Cecelia Gunn Tinney
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Karen Chambers Dalton	Remona Sharp Hopper	Donna Alverson Shivers	Betty Traylor Williamson
Roger W. Dennis	Henry Paul Johnson	Emi Takahashi Shoga	Barbara Beck Wills
Carmine K. Di Biase	Mary Susan Kallus	Charlotte Mock Sieber	Katie Hornsby Woodward
Nancy Harris Dobbs	Alison Andrews Knappenberger	Donald Lee Sills	Patricia Brooke Worrall

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## Seventh Annual Student Symposium

The Seventh Annual Student Symposium was held on April 9, 2001. Dr. Earl Wade, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, founded the symposium in order to provide a forum for students to present the best works done each year in the College of Arts and Sciences. This year there were 30 presentations. A copy of the presentations is printed each year and placed in the Houston Cole Library. |

### 2001 Summer Graduate Courses

#### Summer I (June 4-29)

EH 420G Women's Literature 1230-1430 M-F

EH 555 Literature of the South 1000-1200 M-F

#### Summer II (July 3-31)

EH 442G Black Writers in America 1000-1200 M-F

## Sigma Tau Delta Events

Pi Epsilon chapter of Sigma Tau Delta, the international English honorary society, had another busy year. Among the events sponsored by the group was the Faculty Scholars' Bowl, at which the Sharks—Dr. Steven Whitton, Dr. Bill Hug, and Mr. David Meyer—defeated the Jets—Dr. Teresa Reed, Dr. Carmine Di Biase, and Ms. Gloria Horton—in a lively contest. The annual Faculty Scholar Lecture was presented by Dr. Hug, who spoke on “Jacob Riis and Ethnic Rhetoric.” Sigma Tau Delta also sponsored its annual student writing contest. This year's winners in essay competition were Reuben Bullock (first prize) and Pam Hopper (second prize). In poetry, the winner of both first and second prize was Carey Paige. Sigma Tau Delta's sponsor, Ms. Horton, served on the Sigma Tau Delta National Convention Committee this year. |

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sional journal and has also authored two Army Field Manuals that are being used to train Military Policemen and civilian police officers.

**Victoria Wallace Pettis**, of Athens (GA), earned her B.S. Ed/English from JSU in 1988. While at JSU, she was editor of *The Chanticleer* and a member of the Southerners. Since then, she received her M.S. Ed./Middle School from the University of Georgia in 1991 and later added a gifted education endorsement to her teaching certificate. She taught middle school for 10 years before transferring 2 years ago to her current position as an English teacher at Clarke Central High School in Athens, GA. Recent awards include Who's Who Among Teachers in 2000 and a Target Teachers' Scholarship. She is currently working on a doctorate in English education at the University of Georgia. She lives in Athens with her husband Royce and two children, Jasmine and Mariah.

**Susan Kelly Warren**, of Annapolis (MD), graduated from JSU in December 1977 with a B.A. in English/Military Science. She is a charter member of Delta Zeta Chapter at JSU. In 1992 she received her M.S. from Central Michigan University. She manages the Strategic Plan for the U. S. Naval Academy and volunteers as Athletic Director for the St. Andrews Methodist Day School. She lives in Annapolis with her husband of 22 years, LTC Robert Warren, and son Robert, Jr. |

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## Imagining the Holocaust

In 1997 the Department of English founded **Imagining the Holocaust**, a Holocaust education program for middle school and high school students. An annual part of **Imagining the Holocaust** is its writing competition. Prizes are awarded to middle school students in short story and poetry. High school students compete in the areas of essay, short story, and poetry. First, second, and third place winners are awarded U. S. Savings Bonds. This year, each first place winner became a finalist for the Governor's Award of the Alabama Holocaust Commission. This winner was announced at the state Days of Remembrance on April 19.

Interested teachers may contact one of the following to obtain information on materials or speakers for the classroom: Ms. Susan Sellers (Middle School), 256-782-5512 or [ssellers@jsucc.jsu.edu](mailto:ssellers@jsucc.jsu.edu); Dr. Teresa Reed (High School), 256-782-5456 or [treed@jsucc.jsu.edu](mailto:treed@jsucc.jsu.edu); or Dr. Steven Whitton, 256-782-5414 or [swhitton@jsucc.jsu.edu](mailto:swhitton@jsucc.jsu.edu). |

## 2001 WIT Conference Canceled

The 2001 Writing Instruction Technology Conference, scheduled for March 9, 2001, unfortunately had to be canceled since it came during the proration crisis when teachers were not being allowed to leave their schools for professional development. The conference had a terrific line-up of concurrent sessions and an excellent keynote speaker, Ms. Bonnie Tensen, whose topic was "Using Virtual Library in Writing and Research." The WIT Committee plans to recreate as closely as possible the 2001 program for 2002, hoping that by then proration problems in Alabama education will be resolved. |

# Grammar Hotline

## 256-782-5409

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## Alumni News Sought

The Department of English is eager to hear news of former students. Whatever English degree you earned at Jacksonville State University, please take a moment to fill out the form below, and return it to Ms. Susan Sellers, Department of English, Jacksonville State University, 700 Pelham Road North, Jacksonville, AL 36265, or by e-mail to [ssellers@jsucc.jsu.edu](mailto:ssellers@jsucc.jsu.edu).

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Recent News (attach a note or include in e-mail) \_\_\_\_\_

Degree earned at JSU \_\_\_\_\_

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## Southern Playwrights Competition

The Southern Playwrights Competition, in its twelfth year at JSU, seeks to identify and encourage the best of Southern playwrighting. Each year's winner receives \$1,000, as well as a production of the winning manuscript by the JSU Department of Drama. The 2000 winner, *The Bayou Merchant* by Daniel Du Plantis, was presented May 24-27 at Stone Center Theater. The 2001 winner is *Blood of the Bear*, a drama about William Faulkner, aged 17, who embarks on a hunt with his downtrodden father and overbearing grandfather. The playwright is Maureen McGranaghan. JSU theater patrons can look forward to seeing this play in May 2002.

Entries for the 2002 Southern Playwrights Competition will be accepted beginning September 1, 2001, and must be received no later than February 15, 2002. Playwrights must be native to or resident of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, or West Virginia. Entries must be original full-length plays that deal with the Southern experience. To obtain an entry form and complete competition guidelines, contact Ms. Stephanie Kirby, Department of English, Jacksonville State University, 700 Pelham Road North, Jacksonville, AL 36265, or go to [www.jsu.edu/depart/english/index.htm](http://www.jsu.edu/depart/english/index.htm). |

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## Postscripts

BULKRATE  
USPOSTAGE  
PAID  
JACKSONVILLE,AL  
Permit No.2