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Welcome



The English Department has had an exciting summer and fall.

In November, Natasha Trethewey, the Poet Laureate for the Library of Congress, delivered the Charter Lecture and read from her recent book of poems, *Thrall*, in UGA's chapel. The reading was also the inaugural event of the university's

Spotlight on the Arts festival. Trethewey is currently a professor of English and Creative Writing at Emory University. The Department is particularly proud of Professor Trethewey because she graduated with a B.A. in English from UGA in 1989.

The English Department had another visitor, this one during the summer, when Dr. Lioba Simon Schuhmacher joined us as a visiting researcher from the Universidad de Oviedo in Spain to work in her area of specialization, Eighteenth-Century British Literature. The department is currently working to develop an exchange program with Oviedo, one of the top universities in Spain, so that our faculty and students can teach and study there.

We have continued our international emphasis by reconceiving our British-Irish Studies Program. This is an interdisciplinary effort to help faculty and students explore the history, art, literature, and culture of Ireland and Great Britain. Undergraduates can take a certificate in the area which helps prepare them for graduate school and for careers in international relations.

The department continues to hire new faculty members. Last year we hired specialists in British Romanticism and American literature. We are now searching for a tenure-track assistant professor of creative writing. Our Creative Writing Program is one of the best in the nation, and we hope to add more depth and breadth to it with our new hire. We are also beginning a search for a lecturer to teach in our award-winning First-Year Composition Program.

If you live in Athens or find yourself returning to the area, please take a moment to check the department's listing of upcoming events on our webpage at www.english.uga.edu. We would be pleased to see you at the lively lectures, readings, discussions, and symposia that our faculty organizes each semester.

Best,

Michael G. Moran, Head



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