

Profiles

Faculty and Staff Professional Activities

Spring 2013

Profiles, Faculty and Staff Professional Activities is published each semester by the Office of University Communications. Send information about your professional activities to Valerie Owens at vowens@shepherd.edu.

School of Education and Professional Studies

DR. JENNIFER L. (JENNY) PENLAND, assistant professor of education, attended the National Multicultural Education Conference this past fall in Philadelphia which focused on the Power of Movements through Multicultural Education and in movements toward equity and social justice at the local, national, and global levels. She has been nominated to serve on the film screening committee for the 2013 Conference in Oakland. Dr. Penland has submitted a WVHC grant to work with an invisible populous in West Virginia—the Appalachian American Indians—in creating oral history multimedia projects.

During the fall semester, she published two solo articles, “Indian Education Act of 1992” and “Wounded Knee Massacre and Incident,” with Sage Reference’s *Multicultural America: A Multimedia Project* and has co-authored two additional ones with a NOVA Southeastern University colleague.

Dr. Penland continues to work on collaborative projects which involve her dissertation thesis, Native American resiliency in post-secondary education. She presented some of her research and recent tribal dialogues with AAIWV, including one with WVU’s Native American Studies Program coordinator at the Faculty Research Forum in February.

DR. GEORGIANN H. TOOLE, assistant professor of education, presented a session at the National Council for Social Studies conference in Seattle, Washington, November 2012. The session, titled Monumental Windows to the Past: Public Memorials, Teaching, and Learning, provided participants with skills, ideas, and resources for using monuments and other public commemorations to teach history, geography, and social sciences, as well as to integrate social studies instruction with writing and the arts. Participants also learned effective approaches to guiding students toward an understanding of the purpose and processes involved in public commemorations (particularly sculpture), how public monuments reflect and affect public understanding of significant people and events, and how they can be used as a starting point for deeper exploration of occurrences and concepts.

Dr. Toole also served as guest conductor for the high school honors chorus in Fauquier County, Virginia, public schools, which included her own arrangement of *Why Should the Red Rose Live Always*, as well as works by Aaron Copland and Randall Thompson.

More than a dozen other commissioned choral works were recorded in December 2012 by the chamber choir Winchester Musica Viva for its latest CD, *They Brought Christmas with Them: Traditional Seasonal Music of the Shenandoah Valley*.

School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

DR. JEFFREY GROFF, assistant professor of physics, presented a talk titled “Estimating the Boltzmann constant from simulations of settling Brownian particles” at the winter meeting of the American Association of Physics Teachers in New Orleans, Louisiana, on January 7. The presentation detailed results of an experiment that studies the gravitational settling of micron-sized polystyrene spheres and uses simulations to fit the data yielding an estimate of Boltzmann’s constant.

Dr. Groff and **DR. ED SNYDER**, professor of environmental studies, were awarded a West Virginia Division of Energy, State Energy Program Grant in the amount of \$15,000. The grant, titled “Alternative Energy: Real World Applications,” will be used to fund a two-day conference on renewable energy to be held at Shepherd University April 12 and 13. Approximately 15 Shepherd students will conduct workshops during the conference and help to plan the event.

DR. SHER HENDRICKSON-LAMBERT, assistant professor of biology, published a paper, O’Brien, SJ and Hendrickson, SL., “Host genomic influences on HIV/AIDS,” in the invited review *Genome Biology* 2013, 14:201 (31 January 2013).

DR. JOHN C. LANDOLT, adjunct research professor of biology, is co-author of a paper published by the international journal *Mycologia*. The work, titled “New small dictyostelids from seasonal rainforests of Central America,” describes nine new species and one sub-species using a combination of traditional morphological characters together with DNA sequence analyses.

DR. JORDAN MADER, assistant professor of chemistry, was awarded a \$20,000 WV EPSCoR grant for a thermal gravimetric analyzer used for stability determinations. The analyzer measures weight loss in relation to temperature of the material being tested and will be used by students in her organic chemistry classes.

DR. CLARISSA MATHEWS, associate professor of environmental studies, continues to serve on the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug Working (BMSB) Group investigating methods of controlling the invasive stink bug in the United States. She was awarded \$3,000 by the NASA Research Enhancement Award (REA) program to study the effects of compost-derived microbial spray on BMSB nymphal development and is serving as co-principal investigator on a \$2.67 million multi-institutional grant funded by the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Organic Research and Extension Initiative (OREI), working to develop behavior-based habitat manipulation tactics against stink bugs. Dr. Mathews provided talks at the national BMSB Working Group Meeting and the National Meeting of the Entomological Society of America in Knoxville, Tennessee.

SHEPHERD OGDEN, adjunct faculty member, Institute for Environmental and Physical Sciences, recently returned from a 12-day volunteer consulting project in the country of Belarus, sponsored by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Farmer to Farmer (FTF) program.

Ogden's trip was organized by D.C.-based CNFA, which works to strengthen agricultural value chains and helps farmers worldwide access and compete in high-value markets. Belarus is considering developing an organic agriculture and Ogden's role was to provide information about the development, certification, and regulation of organic agriculture in the United States over the past 30 years.

The tour consisted of presentations at four regional universities in Belarus as well as briefings and workshops at the Ministry of Agriculture and the Academy of Management of the President of Belarus in Minsk. The 900-mile tour took Ogden to the extreme northeast of the country (near the Russian border) to the extreme southwest, and, with the aid of an interpreter, he met national, regional, and university officials from around the country, as well as almost 400 agriculture students at the various universities.

DR. QING WANG, assistant professor of mathematics, is the first author (co-authored with Dr. Quanxin Zhu, China) of a research paper titled "Razumikhin-Type Stability Criteria for Differential Equations with Delayed Impulses" published in the *Electronic Journal of Qualitative Theory of Differential Equations*, Volume 14, 2013.

Dr. Wang gave an oral presentation titled "A Multi-Scale Model of T Cell Response to Vaccination and Subsequent Suppression of Tumor Growth" at the International Conference on the Theory, Methods, and Applications of Nonlinear Equations in Kingsville, Texas, December 17-21, 2012. She also reviewed research papers by invitation for the journals *Theory in Biosciences* (January 2013), *Journal of the Franklin Institute* (January 2013), and *PLOS ONE* (November 2012).

DR. RALPH WOJTOWICZ, assistant professor of mathematics, was awarded a \$19,069 WV EPSCoR grant for a Hadoop cluster for teaching and researching phenomena associated with the analysis of massive data sets. The new equipment consists of two large computers with lots of disk space and several workstations. The equipment will allow other departments to work with big data problems in addition to having students work with cutting-edge technology.

School of Arts and Humanities

DR. SCOTT BEARD, professor of music and dean, School of Graduate Studies, and **STEPHEN CZARKOWSKI**, adjunct music faculty member, performed at a guest artist recital at the West Virginia University College of Creative Arts, on February 5.

Dr. Beard is a nationally recognized pianist, teacher, clini-

cian, author, and recording artist. Recognized for his outstanding teaching abilities, he was named 2006 West Virginia Music Teacher of the Year and runner-up for West Virginia Professor of the Year (2009). Concerts as a soloist, chamber musician, and orchestral soloist have taken him throughout the United States and Canada, Croatia, Ecuador, France, Italy, and Spain. Recent recital appearances include Weill Recital Hall, the Tenri Cultural Institute of New York, the Polish, Danish, Belgian and Russian embassies, and numerous universities throughout the East Coast.

Czarkowski is a conductor, cellist, and educator in the Washington, D.C., area and nationally. He serves as music director and conductor of the Apollo Chamber Orchestra and has collaborated with artists from the Metropolitan Opera and the Washington National Opera. In addition, he is assistant conductor of the Opera Camerata of Washington, D.C., as well as its orchestra personnel manager and principal cellist. With Opera Camerata, Czarkowski has most recently conducted performances of *The Merry Widow* and *Rigoletto* at the Embassy of Austria and Romanian Ambassador's residence.

In August 2012, **DR. MARK CANTRELL**, assistant professor of English, received a mini-grant award from the West Virginia Humanities Council to fund the project Contemporary Poets at Shepherd. Over the course of fall 2012, this grant helped to support poetry readings and related events on Shepherd's campus, including readings by the poets Michael Collier, Andrew Hudgins, Stanley Plumly, and Ellen Bryant Voigt on October 5 and 6, offered as part of the 2012 Sotto Voce Poetry Festival, and a reading and discussion forum by Temple Cone on November 2.

In January, Dr. Cantrell traveled to Boston, Massachusetts, to attend the 2013 Annual Convention of the Modern Language Association, at which he participated in the annual meeting of the MLA Delegate Assembly. As a member of the MLA Delegate Assembly, he represents faculty from the Middle Atlantic Region in the primary representative body for MLA members. Among the business conducted at the meeting were the passing of a motion to increase support that the MLA offers adjunct and contingent faculty members and resolutions to support the role of faculty in determining university and college curricula and to support legislation that would help prevent gun violence on school campuses.

Also in January, Dr. Cantrell was invited to serve as a reader for the 2013 AP English Literature and Composition Exam Reading to be held in Louisville, Kentucky, June 8-14, where he will join other English professors and high school AP English teachers from across the country in scoring AP exams in the field of English literature and composition. This will be his fourth year as a reader at the AP English Literature and Composition Exam Reading.

DR. MARK ANDREW COOK, associate professor of music, received a Director's Choice Award in the Art Song Category from the Boston Metro Opera's 2013 composition competition for his song cycle "Waking." "Waking," set to poems of Shepherd's Appalachian Heritage Writer in Residence Ron Rash, will be queued for performance as part of Boston Metropolitan Opera's regular season. "Waking" premiered at Shepherd during the West Virginia Music Teachers Association Conference in 2012 and was performed by pianist **DR. SCOTT BEARD**, professor of music and dean of graduate studies and continuing education, and soprano and Shepherd alumna Lawren Diana Hill.

Dr. Cook, the 2012 West Virginia Music Teachers Association Commissioned Composer, is a guest lecturer in music theory and composition at the Barbara Ingram School of the Arts in Hagerstown, Maryland, and is currently writing the online textbook

Foundations of Music Theory, which will be released in July by Flat World Knowledge Publishing.

DANIELLE CORSETTO, art adjunct faculty member teaching Illustration I, is writing two graphic novels this spring. The first is an OGN for the Cartoon Network series “Adventure Time” for BOOM! Studios, being drawn by Zack Sterling. She plans to finish another OGN for Oni Press later this year. Corsetto will continue to self-publish her webcomic “Girls With Slingshots” five times a week.

DR. BETTY ELLZEY, professor of English, will be directing four medieval French farces on May 18 at the University of California Santa Barbara. Her Shepherd University early drama troupe, the Rude Mechanicals Medieval and Renaissance Players, will perform the plays. Most of these plays have never before been performed in English, and some have not been performed publicly at all since the Middle Ages.

DR. HEIDI M. HANRAHAN, assistant professor of English, had her article, ““A series of mere household events”: Poe’s ‘The Black Cat,’ Domesticity, and Pet-Keeping in Nineteenth-Century America,” published in the most recent issue of *Poe Studies*. She has been appointed the vice president of membership and finance of the Society for the Study of American Women Writers (SSAWW), an international organization that works to promote the study of American women writers through research, teaching, and publication.

DR. LOIS JARMAN, adjunct professor of French, presented “Target Language Reading: An Instructional Method” at the Maryland Foreign Language Association conference in Baltimore, Maryland, on October 13, 2012. The presentation shared instructional strategies for incorporating daily comprehensible target language reading for second language learning.

DR. MATTHEW J. KUSHIN, assistant professor of communication, recently spoke on social media and civic empowerment to the Shepherdstown Rotary Club. In April, he will be speaking on the political and civic implications of social media via videoconference to students in Slovakia and Poland as part of the U.S. State Department’s Bureau of International Information Programs.

Dr. Kushin’s Social Media for Social Change class partnered with the American Conservation Film Festival last semester. The partnership provided students the opportunity to use social media to promote the festival, which was held in Shepherdstown in November 2012. He and co-author **MONICA LARSON**, assistant professor of communication and new media, received a grant for \$5,850 from the Technology Oversight Committee to purchase iPads and Intuos touch pads for use in the classroom to enhance student learning.

MONICA LARSON, assistant professor of communication and new media, had her COMM 343 Game Design class design and produce educational board games for Shepherdstown Elementary School fourth graders. The Shepherd students, working in four teams, created board games that teach about the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. The games supplemented curriculum developed by the Potomac Valley Audubon Society that had been introduced earlier in the student’s calendar. Approximately 30 SES students worked with 16 Shepherd students doing game testing. This marks the second semester Larson has worked with the elementary school for game development. The initiative supports a growing trend of using games for education and training.

DR. JIM LEWIN, professor of English, had his essay “Hamlet’s Hard-Boiled Ethics” published in the *Ohio Valley Shakespeare Conference (OVSC) Selected Papers*. This peer-reviewed journal article is an expanded version of a conference paper presented at the 2011 OVSC. The article is available at <http://blogs.uakron.edu/ovsc/issues/current-issue/>.

In October 2012, he presented a paper titled “Playing With Apocalypse” at the OVSC. At the Modern Language Association (MLA) annual meeting held in Boston in January, he presented a paper titled “Sara Paretsky’s ‘Other’ Chicago.” Dr. Lewin is under contract to write a 10,000-word essay on the life-and-works of hard-boiled feminist detective writer Sara Paretsky for an upcoming edition of *Scribner’s American Writers: A Collection of Literary Biographies*.

His essay titled “Nelson Algren’s Chicago” has been accepted for an upcoming issue of *Midwest Miscellany*, a publication of the Society for the Study of Midwestern Literature.

DAVID R. MODLER, assistant professor of art and coordinator of art education, has maintained an active schedule of lectures, presentations, and workshops over the past few months. In November 2012, he presented a lecture on his research examining the authentic assessment data inherent in the visual journal to the Art Education Department at Concordia University in Montreal, Quebec, Canada. Modler gave a presentation on the importance of promoting visual literacy and visual arts integration to art educators at the Memphis College of Art in Memphis, Tennessee, in December.

He visited the Barbara Ingram School for the Arts in Hagerstown, Maryland, in January to provide a recruitment presentation about the opportunities for students in programs of the Department of Contemporary Art and Theater. This event was followed up by a visual journals workshop for more than 150 high school art students at Marriotts Ridge High School in the Howard County, Maryland, Public Schools.

Currently on display at Hypnocoffee in Shepherdstown is an installation of some of Modler’s studio work which will run through the end of March. Later in March, he will be facilitating a workshop at Texas Christian University, delivering presentations and participating in a book signing at the National Art Education Association Convention in Fort Worth, Texas.

Coming up in the spring are workshops and presentations for the Carolina Mixed Media Guild and the Guilford County Public Schools both in Greensboro, North Carolina.

After several months of reading and research, **DR. TIMOTHY NIXON**, associate professor of English, recently authored a 5,000-word entry on Chicano poet Gary Soto for the new edition of the *Dictionary of Literary Biography*. The collection’s editor has asked for some minor edits and additions, but the piece is basically complete.

RHONDA J. SMITH, professor of art and chair, Department of Contemporary Art and Theater, exhibited her work at the AHA! Fire Hall Gallery, 108 North George St., Charles Town during March. The Department of Contemporary Art and Theater is working with AHA! and the Fire Hall Gallery to generate a wider visual arts audience in the community through faculty and student visual art collaborations.

Smith has been accepted for a competitive printmaking residency in Venice, Italy, for two weeks in June to pursue large-scale printmaking. During the two-week residency, Smith will be working with other international artists/printmakers and engaging in the artworks throughout the city as part of the Venice Biennale.

The residency provides exhibition opportunities and exposure to an international audience.

Smith was featured in *Fluent* magazine, Vol. 1 No. 4, February-March 2013 issue, in an article titled "Art: is it in their genes? A conversation with area artists" (www.fluent-magazine.com/current-issue/).

For the last few months, **DR. JOHN E. STEALEY III**, Distinguished Professor Emeritus of History, has been reviewing and correcting the editorial and galley proofs of his forthcoming book at The Kent State University Press. "West Virginia's Civil War-Era Constitution: Loyal Revolution, Confederate Counter-Revolution, and the Convention of 1872," originally a 1,500-page manuscript, will be around 800 pages when it appears in July. It contains nearly 40 statistical and other tables and 49 illustrations with extensive captions.

Dr. Stealey and John Alexander Williams, professor emeritus of history, Appalachian State University, answered questions for an audience of approximately 35 people about West Virginia history before the presentation of the play, "A New Home for Liberty," at the Frank Center on October 21, 2012. The play, with the subtitle "Human Rights, Slavery, and the Creation of West Virginia," was a production of the J. R. Clifford Project. Its previous performances were in Morgantown and Charleston.

On the evening of November 29, 2012, Dr. Stealey delivered a lecture titled "Shepherdstown's History in Regional and National Context" at the auditorium of the Robert C. Byrd Center for Legislative Studies. An alternative title could have been "From Crossroads to Backwater to Georgetown West." More than 80 people were present for the presentation, the last in the Shepherdstown 250th Anniversary Speaker Series sponsored by the Jefferson County Historical Society, the Shepherdstown Community Club, and the Historic Shepherdstown Commission.

In the public history area, Dr. Stealey collected, selected, and described the historical photographs and one watercolor sketch from various archives and an individual and assembled the 2013 wall calendar for the Jefferson Security Bank. The work incorporated historical scenes of Berkeley and Jefferson counties, West Virginia, and the Sharpsburg, Washington County, Maryland, area.

While on a fall sabbatical, **DR. KEVIN WILLIAMS**, professor of mass communications, developed a multimedia ebook titled *The Depths of Perception: A Communicology of SCUBA Diving*. The book features interactive widgets (e.g., 3-D interactive models, several forms of presenting text and pictures, hundreds of pictures, interactive maps, access to web cams, and more). Each chapter contains at least one movie or animated feature. Moreover, besides offering feature music, the entire book is scored much like a movie is scored. The soundtrack is available online and can be listened to while reading. The book also has ample web support, with each chapter co-produced as a podcast and tied to a blog that publishes related materials which are either new or held under copyright that prevents them from being published within the book itself. Also, as the text and its web support reaches out, ethnographic interviews, discussions, and news can be posted to the blog. The blog also features a series of pages on communication theory so theory and practice appear next to each other, interrelated via hypertext.

This book, produced for tablet computers, uses as much new technology as possible. No paper version is possible as the text is as much temporal and social media based as it is a literary work. The main text is drawn from conference papers that were vetted at national and international communication conferences. The ebook is currently being reviewed by the National Communicator Awards in the category of interactive educational materials. A

pre-press sample of the roughly 400-page ebook is available at the iTunes iBooks store.

Dr. Williams's documentary film on the centennial anniversary of the Shepherdstown Train Station was shown in the Byrd Center for Legislative Studies in conjunction with the Shepherdstown 250th anniversary celebration.

His book, *The Wisdom of the Sand: Philosophy and Frank Herbert's Dune*, accepted for publication many years ago, was finally published in January. The Dune Italia Cultural Association, a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting Frank Herbert's ideas in Italy (which has translated at least one of Dr. Williams's conference papers on *Dune*) will translate the entire text.

Finally, classes are taking advantage of the new television studio; programming featuring Shepherd University sports and local music are now in production.

School of Business and Social Sciences

DR. MAX GUIRGUIS, associate professor of political science, will present a paper titled "The Meaning and Justification of Personal Privacy: A Sociolegal Analysis" at the annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Political Science Association, which will be held this year at Temple University, Harrisburg campus, in April.

DR. DAVID R. HIXSON, Maya archaeologist, Department of Sociology and Geography, has published a chapter titled "The use of multispectral imagery and airborne synthetic aperture radar for the detection of archaeological sites and features in the western Maya wetlands of Chunchucmil, Yucatan, Mexico" in the edited volume *Mapping Archaeological Landscapes from Space* (Comer and Harrower, eds.), Springer Press, http://www.amazon.com/Archaeological-Landscapes-SpringerBriefs-Archaeology-Management/dp/1461460735/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1359394617.

Dr. Hixson also authored three GIS/remote sensing illustrations for the latest Princeton University Art Museum catalogue *Dancing into Dreams: Maya Vase Painting of the Ik' Kingdom*, <http://www.amazon.com/Dancing-into-Dreams-Princeton-University/dp/0300174381/>.

DR. AART HOLTSLAG, assistant professor of political science, presented a paper titled "Indigenous Contestation at the Organization of American States" at the International Studies Association's Southern Region Annual Meeting Contestation and Change in International Affairs held in October 2012. At the same meeting he served as chair for the panel titled Civil Society: Agents of Change in a Globalizing World. In January, the membership of the Southern Region of the International Studies Association elected Dr. Holtslag as a member of the executive council. In April, he will be presenting a paper titled "Diffusion of Conventional Arms Norms: NGOs, Landmines, Small Arms, and Cluster Bombs" at the annual conference The Politics of Diffusion: Regional and Global Dimensions.

DR. ANN MARIE LEGREID, professor of geography and dean, School of Business and Social Sciences, delivered a paper at the annual meeting of the National Conference on Geographic Education, October 4-7, 2012, San Marcos, Texas. The presentation was titled "Geocaching in Geographic Education: A Student-Centered Collaboration Between Shepherd University and a Public School Honors Program." The project was funded by the Cyrus Vance Grant from the West Virginia Department of Education. **DR. DOT HIVELEY**, associate professor of education, and Dr. Legreid were co-investigators on the grant.

Dr. Legreid's career in geography was highlighted in the February newsletter of the National Council for Geographic Education.

DR. JOSEPH W. ROBBINS, assistant professor of political science, recently had an article accepted for publication in the *Journal of Peace Research*. This study received research funding from Shepherd University's Professional Development Award (2011). This time-series cross-sectional project finds that terrorist attacks impact voter turnout in meaningful ways. Dr. Robbins also had three papers published in *Party Politics*, *Journal of East European and Asian Studies*, and *Taiwan Journal of Democracy*.

Dr. Robbins has prepared papers for the upcoming Midwest Political Science Association's Annual Conference in Chicago. In one paper, Dr. Robbins and a co-author find lower voter turnout levels in the presence of candidates from Russia's hegemonic party (United Russia). In the second study, Robbins and his co-author find that conflict initiation is increasingly likely for states that utilize personalistic electoral systems. Dr. Robbins will serve as a discussant for a separate panel that focuses on the dynamics of post-Communist politics.

Dr. Robbins also has served as a peer-reviewer for the *British Journal of Political Science and Political Research Quarterly* since the fall semester. In addition, he was nominated for the Foundation for Defense of Democracies (FDD) Academic Fellows Program in 2013.

DR. STEPHANIE SLOCUM-SCHAFFER, associate professor of political science, will present a paper titled "Where it Counts: How Institutional Context Influences the Impact of Women's Representation on Policy" and will serve as a discussant at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, April 11-14.

DR. MARK STERN, professor of political science and University Professor, has been invited to participate in the 43rd Annual Scholars' Conference on the Holocaust and the Churches at the American Jewish University, Los Angeles, California, March 16-18. The central conference topic will be "Unfinished Agendas..." He will present in the section on Human Rights in the Age of Genocide.

Dr. Stern has been invited to give a lecture titled "Lyndon Johnson and Civil Rights," at Marietta College, Marietta, Ohio, on March 11.

CINDY VANCE, assistant professor of accounting, began studies at Northcentral University in November 2012 to obtain a doctor of philosophy in business administration with a specialization in advanced accounting. In fall 2012, she attended the West Virginia Council of Accounting Educators Conference in Charleston, which focused on the topic Ethics-Specialized Knowledge. At the conference, she participated in a panel on Ethics in Academics.

She presented a session titled "Money Talk; Managing Funds" for student organizations at the Shepherd University Leadership Conference in September 2012. Additionally, as an advisor of the Shepherd University Accounting Club, she helped organize the first Meet the Firms event in September. She maintains her CPA license and serves as a finance consultant for a non-profit agency in Virginia.

Administration

SCOTT ANDERSON, Dining Services, had his recipe, Smoky Grilled Caesar Salad with California Avocado, published on the website of the California Avocado Commission.

JOSHUA R. BELICE, area director of residence life, serves as the Student Affairs Sustainability Taskforce chair and was named chair of the ACUHO-I Sustainability Committee in July 2012. Working on his second master's degree in the college student development and

administration, Belice was featured on the cover of the most recent issue of the *MACUHO Magazine*, a publication to which he often contributes. As the strategic planner for MACUHO, Belice focuses on the assessment of recruitment and retention efforts as well as trends that affect housing professionals in the mid-Atlantic region.

PATT WELSH, administrative secretary in Information Technology Services, was selected to read one of her original poems "The Lonesome Whistle" during the Appalachian Master's Writers Class held in the Robert C. Byrd Center for Legislative Studies auditorium on September 27, 2012. On stage to review the readers presentations were Gretchen Moran Laskas, Shepherd's 2012 Writer-in-Residence and winner of the Appalachian Heritage Writer's Award; Dr. Sylvia Shurbutt, ASW managing editor; and Natalie Sypolt, past winner of the West Virginia Fiction Competition. Welsh was asked to submit the poem for the next edition of *Anthology of Appalachian Writers*. She also was a reader in last year's Appalachian Writer in Residence Ron Rash's class and invited to read several of her original poems at the Blue Moon Café Poetry Read sponsored by the Common Reading Program and Sigma Tau Delta. Welsh continues to submit her poems which have been published in the Martinsburg Journal's Poetry Corner and the *International Poets Edition*.