DeSales Hosts Annual Writers Conference
Award-winning Native American writer Joe Bruchac featured as key speaker

Are you thinking about getting your writing published, but don’t know where to begin? The fifth annual Craft and Story Writers Conference gives you the opportunity to hear published writers’ perspectives on the business, learn tips on how to get your work published, and meet other aspiring writers. The Conference will be held in the White Pavilion Conference Center on Saturday, October 27, and is open to current students and recent alumni.

Native American writer and storyteller Joseph Bruchac will be this year’s distinguished keynote speaker. Bruchac has written more than 70 books for adults and children and was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Native Writers Circle of Americans. A renowned storyteller, Bruchac has performed at festivals throughout the United States and Europe. His novels have received raving reviews from critics. Most recently, GERONIMO won a Spur Award from the Western Writers of America for Best Western Juvenile Fiction, and Bearwalker received a star review from School Library Journal. His latest book, The Way, about martial arts and school violence, was released in August 2007.

Past keynote speakers have included Irish poet Justin Quinn; Jack Whyte, author of King Arthur; and Angela’s Ashes author Frank McCourt.

Conference attendees and guest presenters will gather at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday for coffee and danishes. In the morning, aspiring writers can attend two sessions from a total of eight workshops. Everyone will then gather for a question-and-answer panel with all of the workshop presenters before lunch with Bruchac.

The first morning session, from 9:00 to 9:45 a.m., will include “Writing from Professional Expertise” with DeSales’ Katherine Ramsland, an expert on topics relating to forensic psychology; author

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Writers Conference, continued from front page

Eileen Charbonneau on writing historical novels with Native American elements; DeSales’ Ann E. Michael on writing and publishing the personal essay; and a session with Natalia Aponte, literary agent and editor.

Natalia Aponte will also be speaking for the second session, which lasts from 10:00 to 10:45 a.m. Attendees attending Aponte’s sessions may also bring manuscripts for her to review.

Other second-session workshops include “Writers Who Want to Eat: Careers in Communications and Writing” with DeSales’ Angie Corbo; Charbonneau and DeSales’ Juilene Osborne-McKnight, co-authors of Sisters in Story, on writing parallel Celtic and Native American tales; and Humanities Department chair Stephen Myers on writing and publishing poetry.

In Myers’ workshop, he will explain the process of trying to get poetry published in journals and online.

“You can never guarantee that it’s going to be published,” says Myers, who has been writing poetry for publication for more than 10 years.

Although rejection is a part of the experience in trying to get published, Myers emphasizes that there are several specialty journals at various levels of sophistication and interest areas. “Most people starting out do not have a sense of how many [journals] are out there. They vary greatly in size, quality, format; and these are some of the things you can let a person in on if they are a first timer just looking for ways on how to get published.”

Myers also suggests The International Directory of Little Magazines and Small Presses if one is interested in finding journals that publish on different categories and areas of interest.

During his workshop, Myers will share different specialty journals where poets can send their work and provide contact information for the attendees. Also, he will highlight how to assemble poems to send out and examples of how the final product should appear.

“Journals get thousands of submissions. Anything you can do to make your submission easier to deal with gives you a leg up,” he says.

Myers mentioned that in any of the workshops, it is important to learn more not only about the session topics, but also about the presenters, including what type of writing is their specialization and what their process of getting published involved.

Writers of all fields and interests, whether it is creative writing, professional writing or poetry, will benefit from the variety of in-depth sessions at the conference. To sign-up, please contact Gloria Lewis, ext. 1317. The cost for the full conference is $65; for lunch with keynote speaker Joe Bruchac only, the cost is $35.

Online Library Resources

Humanities students are all too familiar with the endless amounts of essays, articles, and other writing assignments required each semester. Fortunately, the Trexler Library offers resources that can make research a breeze, without having to leave your dorm room. Access the following databases and journals, especially pertinent for topics relating to the Humanities, for your next project by visiting www.desales.edu/library:

• America: History & Life: covers historical reference materials dating from ancient times to present

• Gale Group’s Contemporary Authors: features the biographies of over 100,000 book authors, playwrights, journalists, and other writers

• In The First Person: indexes more than 2,500 letters, diaries, personal narratives, and oral histories

• Naxos Music Library: catalogs more than 140,000 tracks of classical music with the ability to listen to pieces and full albums online

• The New York Times: includes articles dating from 1891 to present

• NoveList: contains abstracts and reviews of current fiction titles, with discussion guides and links to author sites
Getting to Know You:
Welcome Freshmen & Transfer Students!

With the start of each semester comes a whole host of new—new goals to be achieved, new dreams to be reached and new people to meet. The Humanities Department is full of fresh new faces ready to tackle whatever comes their way. From the challenging coursework to the engaging teachers, freshman and transfer students are taking on their first year at DeSales at full speed.

Students have various reasons for choosing to come to DeSales and majoring in the Humanities, but many say that DeSales’ reputation was a key factor when it came to their choice of school. Amy Mirandoli, a junior transfer student who came from Temple University, says that a friend who graduated from DeSales sparked her interest to look into going here. “I researched the Communications program at DeSales and it sounded fantastic,” says Mirandoli.

Freshman Justin Ernest Carbonari had a similar experience. “I chose DeSales because I heard of the great Communications program through a friend of mine who worked with NBC after graduating from DeSales.”

The smaller school environment here at DeSales and within the Humanities Department creates a close community, which is encouraging for freshmen and transfers who are just starting out.

“With the small class size and the closeness between the students on campus, I knew I wouldn’t have a problem here,” Mirandoli says, adding that the atmosphere here was just the change she needed from the large school environment at Temple. “At DeSales, I’m no longer known as a number. A professor of mine even stopped me in the hall to ask me how my test went in a class I had after hers. The fact that she even remembered I had a test and took the time to ask me how it went really went a long way.”

So far, these students are also seeing how their professors are continually challenging them to strive for better performance, as is the case for Nick Lanza, a freshman English major enrolled in the teacher certification program. “The coursework is challenging — though that is not a bad thing. I like the challenge,” he says.

Carbonari agreed, “The teachers and classes are interesting and force me to stay on my toes.”

Some students, like Brooke Schloffer, a sophomore Spanish major who recently transferred from West Chester University, are ready and waiting to surpass mandatory pre-requisite courses for the major to move on to even more engaging and demanding coursework.

Students are already considering opportunities that may result from their time in spent as Humanities majors. Freshman History education and Pre-Law major Jaimie Osborn notes that the department “seems like it will provide some great opportunities in the future, such as a semester aboard.”

Others reflecting on potential careers already have an array of plans. Lanza intends to be a high school English teacher, “because I would love to work with kids. I enjoyed my high school career, so why not give back?”

Carbonari also has a few options lined up. “My dream job would be to be a news anchor... preferably something with NBC. I’d someday love to be a late-night talk show host.”

Others are still uncertain about their post-college plans. Mirandoli is trying to find a way to combine her Spanish bilingual background with her new Communications major here at DeSales, while Schloffer is debating whether teaching the language is the right path for her.

One thing is certain: for all these students, the future is already looking bright.
The Humanities Department welcomed five new faculty members last spring and this fall. Here, learn more about these new faces in the department.

**TERRI AMLONG**  
*English*  
**Courses this semester:** Communication and Thought I, Intro to Fiction, and Topics in American Literature: Women Writers before 1900  
**Regarding the rewards of teaching:** “I treasure those moments when I see the lightbulb go off in a student’s brain and I know that he or she ‘gets it.’ For me, teaching is a way to give back to our society and to help the next generation succeed. If at the end of the day, I can see just one student advance in a journey of learning and come one step closer to his or her potential in life, then that has been a good day.”  
**Research interests:** “My dissertation covered women editors of reform periodicals in the nineteenth century; for example, women like Margaret Fuller and Lydia Maria Child, who were both instrumental in reform movements, such as anti-slavery and women’s rights. My project is interesting because it focuses on the periodicals of the nineteenth century that these women edited for a general population.”  
**Interests outside the classroom:** “I like outdoor activities such as hiking and camping. I am also an amateur runner. Of course, one of my favorite hobbies is browsing used bookstores, because you never know what treasures you’ll find there.”

**LARRY BELT**  
*Spanish*  
**Courses this semester:** Elementary Spanish, Intermediate Spanish, Hispanic Culture  
**Favorite aspect of teaching:** “Learning. Learning better how to teach. Learning about myself through encounters with students and the classroom environment.”  
**Research interests:** “My favorite research project was focused on the Isleno community in St. Bernard’s Parish, Louisiana. This is a community of Spanish speakers that remained very isolated and a true repository of their native dialect from the Canary Islands. The study focused on the linguistic influences on the community and the eventual death of the language in that community.”  
**Interests outside the classroom:** “The beach, cooking, reading, listening to jazz.”

**JUILENE OSBORNE-MCKNIGHT**  
*English*  
**Courses this semester:** Contemporary Fiction, Creative Non-Fiction, Native American Nations, Communication and Thought  
**Favorite aspect of teaching:** “The exchange of ideas. When a student says something about a piece of literature or writing that I had not thought of before, I am delighted.”  
**Experience prior to DeSales:** “I’ve taught college, high school and middle school, and have been the Director of Faculty Training for Distance Learning for CAPE. I’m also a writer with four published [Irish historical] novels and a couple hundred published articles, book reviews, etc.”

**SHAWN MIKLAUCIC**  
*Communication*  
**Courses this semester:** Communication and Thought  
**Research interests:** “I’m delivering a paper this November at the National Communication Association annual conference. The paper is on the role that games play in reality television, in particular, as a way to provide narrative structure. Shows like ‘Survivor’ and ‘Big Brother’ have really contributed to mixing gaming culture with...”
Meet the New Faculty

popular television culture, and I’m exploring some of the connections between games and more traditional narrative modes of storytelling.

Regarding his students: “I love getting students to think differently about things they encounter every day. My research is in media studies and popular culture, so I spend a lot of time teaching students about film, television, the Internet, etc. They are immersed in these media, but they often don’t think critically about them. I hope I provide some of the skills to do that in my teaching.”

Interests outside the classroom: “[My wife and I] have triplet first-graders— Claire, Nicholas and Jack. They keep me pretty busy every moment I’m not teaching or doing research. Because my research involves television, however, I try to set aside time after they go to bed for doing “research”... watching shows like ‘Survivor’ and ‘Top Chef.’

ANGELICA SILVA
Spanish

Courses this semester: Elementary Spanish and Spanish Conversation

Research interests: “I am very interested in analyzing the portrayal and role of Mexican women teachers in rural communities from the ’30s to ’40s, in Mexican novels and other cultural expressions.”

Interests outside the classroom: “I love traveling and watching movies.”

Favorite aspect of teaching: “I love teaching because I interact with students, and I have the opportunity to discuss and put into practice the topics I enjoy, such as foreign languages, Latin American Culture and Literature. Also, this interaction allows me to know about students’ interests.”

New faculty share their first impressions of DeSales

“I enjoy the sense of community among colleagues but also among students. My students support each other constantly in class and outside the classroom setting.”

—Angelica Silva

“I can’t thank my colleagues in the Humanities Department enough for the warm welcome they have given me. I really enjoy being part of a department where everyone is so friendly, open, and caring, both of students and of colleagues. I’m happy to be here.”

—Shawn Miklaucic

“I love DeSales. Our campus is beautiful, our students are intelligent, hard-working, and fun, and my colleagues are wonderful.”

—Juilene Osborne-McKnight

 “[My impression of DeSales so far is] that the students and faculty are very committed to success.”

—Larry Belt

“DeSales is a wonderful place to work. I am very impressed with the quality of the student body here and their willingness to pursue knowledge. My colleagues are exceptional; they have made my transition here a very smooth one. And, now that the leaves are finally beginning to turn, I am in awe of the beauty of this campus. Many schools in this country struggle to find green space for their campus environments, but here at DeSales, the entire campus is one huge ‘green space.’

It’s absolutely wonderful.”

—Terri Amlong
New Course Offerings for Spring

Study abroad hybrid courses among new opportunities

It’s hard to believe, but spring course registration is right around the corner. In addition to the standard requirements for your major, there are a variety of new courses and study abroad opportunities that will be introduced this spring. Knowing about these new course offerings in the department can help you make decisions in the scheduling process.

There are three new courses in the Communication program alone. The Topics in Communication: Popular Culture course and the Media Ethics course will be taught by Dr. Shawn Miklaucic. Dr. Angie Corbo will be teaching Gender Communications, under the Topics of Communication listing, along with Research in Communication. This is the first time two sections of Topics in Communication will be available during the same semester.

The Gender Communication class will discuss the ways in which men and women differ in behavioral patterns and how they conduct conversations based on their gender. “We will look at socially designed roles for men and women, and how our culture influences our expectations of gender,” said Corbo.

The Research in Communications course will teach students about well-known research methods in the field of Communications. Students will work on a self-designed research project during the course. Those interested in advanced study of communications or investigative journalism, or those who plan to attend graduate school will benefit from this course.

In Popular Culture, Miklaucic plans to focus primarily on different genres in television, including a study of reality television programs, crime dramas, soap operas, and music videos. The course will challenge students to think about the meanings television produces and how it creates these meanings. Miklaucic said the class will discuss questions such as “What does popular culture tell us about our society?” and “How does reality television alter the usual role of audiences?”

Media Ethics is also being taught by Miklaucic and will cover a variety of ethical topics relating to mass media. Some of the subjects studied will be ethics in advertising, public relations, and entertainment, along with journalism and First Amendment issues.

There will be more hybrid study abroad opportunities than ever before for Humanities students this spring. Dr. Brennan Purcell, who has conducted a variety of travel courses in the past, will offer a World at War course that includes a travel component after the end of the semester. This class will have an emphasis on World Wars I and II, the Cold War, and the Nazi Holocaust, and then visit places associated with the topics studied in class, including Munich, Dresden, Prague and other regions north of the Alps.

Literary Studies in Ireland is a new English study abroad course that will be taught by Prof. Julie Osbourne-McKnight this spring. Students will read traditional Irish literature during the spring semester, then embark on a 12-day trip to Ireland. There, students will stay at an Irish college, visit various sites, and meet with Irish authors.

Dr. Steve Myers developed and will be teaching a World Cultures course, Modern South Africa. After the course is completed, Dr. Myers will take students on a 10-day excursion to South Africa in the summer of 2008. Rev. Christopher Hudgin and Jaime Gerhart of the University’s Student Affairs office will also be accompanying the group. Service learning will be an significant component of this trip.

Students who are interested in finding out more information about any of the mentioned courses should contact the respective professors.

Registration Reminders

- Review your major’s Graduation Requirements and browse the course catalog, both available on the DeSales website, to select courses.
- Schedule a meeting with your advisor during the week of October 22-26 to review your spring schedule and academic plan and ask any questions you have regarding course offerings or registration.
- Check your online registration time on WebAdvisor (desales.edu/WebAdvisor).
- Pre-register for the spring semester using WebAdvisor. Your registration date could be Monday, October 29, Wednesday, October 31, Friday, November 2 or Monday, November 5.
- Contact the Registrar’s Office for information regarding overloading, auditing, cross-registration or other specific scheduling issues.
Internships provide students with first-hand experience in a particular area of interest and within a specific organization. Many Humanities students have pursued internships here in the Lehigh Valley, in New York, Philadelphia, or in their hometowns.

Senior Communication major and Criminal Justice minor Christina Hall had a busy summer working two internships near her hometown of Middlesex, N.J. She interned in the Human Resources Department of the Somerset County Courthouse, where she was responsible for a variety of office tasks and coordinating the intern orientation. One of the highlights of her internship resulted from an unexpected surprise—when she was asked to cover the desk of a criminal judge’s secretary. “At the end of the day I had learned so much,” she said. “Criminal law has always interested me, so to have the chance to sit in on a trial was a great opportunity.”

Her other internship was working in the Promotions and Sales Departments for Magic 98.3 and WCTC radio stations. There, her duties included sending out prizes, researching contests, and working events. “It was always fun to meet people who were already listeners and try to persuade others to listen to our stations,” she said.

Both internships were highly beneficial for Hall. She recommends that other students work a variety of internships while in college to discover more about careers they are considering.

Along with Hall, several other Humanities students completed internships recently. Here are a list of businesses and organizations where Humanities students interned last spring, over the summer, or are currently interning this fall:

**Media**
- The Daily Record Newspaper
- Greater Philadelphia House & Home Magazine
- Lehigh Valley Magazine
- Magic 98.3 and WCTC Radio Stations
- The Morning Call Newspaper
- MTV Corporate Responsibility/Public Affairs Dept.
- The News Herald Newspaper
- Nickelodeon Talent/Casting Dept.
- Philadelphia STYLE Magazine

**Companies & Organizations**
- Abington Memorial Hospital
- Catholic Charities
- DeSales University Publications Dept.
- Historic Bethlehem Partnership
- Penn State Cooperative Extension
- Schoeneman Corporation
- Syracuse University Athletics
- Tauck World Discovery
- Wegmans Food Market

**Political/Legal**
- Bethlehem Police Dept.
- Office of Senator Rob Wonderling
- Somerset County Courthouse

If you are a junior or senior and interested in applying for an internship this spring, please contact Dr. Lois Gadek, Humanities Department internship coordinator, ext. 1262. The University’s Career Services Office is another resource for students interested in internships. Contact Kate Hunter, director of career services and internships, ext. 1367, or visit www.desales.edu/careerservices for more information.
Communications Association
The Communications Association is visiting New York City on Saturday, November 3 for a tour of NBC Studios and the Paley Center for Media (formerly the Museum of Television and Radio). Also, the club is planning to sell Humanities Department T-shirts. Be sure to pick one up when they go on sale! Stephanie Halinski, President; Marianne Mpakarakes, Vice President; Christina Hall, Secretary; Amanda Decker, Treasurer.

Creative Writing Club
This new club is designed for student writers who would like to see their work published in the University’s literary magazine.

English Honors Society
Sigma Tau Delta is the DeSales chapter of the national English Honors Society. The club plans to attend a play or film this semester. Gretchen Dietz, President; Maggie Parlapiano, Vice President; Margaret Willson, Secretary.

History Honors Society
Phi Alpha Theta is the DeSales chapter of the national History Honors Society. Theresa Peppe, President; Jeremy Kittek, Vice President.

Spanish Alliance
The Spanish Alliance plans to visit at least one restaurant featuring cuisine from six different countries that speak Spanish, to provide students the opportunity to learn about Spanish-speaking countries culture and traditions. The club went on their first trip to Fiesta Olé, a Mexican restaurant in Emmaus. Next on the list are Colombian, Dominican, Peruvian, Puerto Rican and Spanish restaurants. President, Johanna Cespedes.

Members of the Spanish Alliance pose with a Mariachi Band at Fiesta Olé restaurant.