

## IN THIS ISSUE



**CHAIR NOTES — 1**

**NEW FACULTY — 2**

NEW FACULTY:

DR. BRITTANY HIRTH

DR. CHERI ROBINSON

**EVENTS — 3**

THE LATIN AMERICAN AND SPANISH

FILM FESTIVAL

DSU'S CELEBRATION OF SCHOLARS

WOMEN'S VOICES 2019 RECAP

TASTE OF NATIONS

AN ITALIAN ADVENTURE

**REVIEWS — 10**

PODCAST REVIEW

POETRY MAGAZINE

US REVIEW

TIMES ARE CHANGING:

THE SUMMER DRAGON

BY TODD LOCKWOOD

**INTERVIEWS — 14**

FORMER FACULTY FOLLOW-UP:

DR. PETER GRIMES

INTERVIEW WITH PROFESSOR MCGOEY,  
FACULTY ADVISORY FOR IMPRESSIONS

**DEPARTMENT NEWS — 16**

# Wordwrights

DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE AT DICKINSON STATE UNIVERSITY  
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## CHAIR NOTES BY DR. HOLLY MCBEE

2018-19 was an exciting and busy year for the Department of Language and Literature. We were fortunate to hire two new faculty members, Dr. Brittany Hirth, who specializes in American literature, and Dr. Cheri Robinson, our new Spanish professor. They have already made important contributions to the department and have been active with their research. We are very glad they have joined the department.

We have made some curriculum changes this year and plan to make more. We've added a class that will introduce students to different aspects of English studies as well as career

options. English majors have many career choices beyond teaching and graduate school, though those are worthwhile. By adding curriculum, this will help students with their future careers, regardless of if they are in the literature or creative writing track, and without taking away from the foundational aspects of the major. We plan to create courses that focus on the digital humanities, social media, and journalism. While it will take time to implement and track these changes, we are excited about this new direction.

During this past year we also offered our usual special programming, including the Heart River Writers' Circle, Women's Voices, and the Albers Humanities Festival. Through these groups, we collaborate with faculty from other departments, staff, students, and community members to put on events that feature writers and speakers, often centered on a specific theme. Our last major events are our annual Language and Literature Conference, which is followed by the Impressions awards.

We have three students graduating this spring: Matthew Buettner, BA, literature track; Ashlee Holcomb, BSED; and Salena Loveland, BA, creative writing track. It has been a pleasure working with these students, and we wish them the best in their future studies and careers.



# NEW FACULTY



NEW FACULTY:  
DR. BRITTANY HIRTH  
BY HANNAH REBSOM

Dr. Brittany Hirth recently made the big move from Rhode Island to North Dakota to teach at DSU. While the trip to North Dakota was a bit hellacious, she has settled in and is enjoying Dickinson. Hirth was born and raised in Connecticut but later moved to Rhode Island where she taught for ten years. Hirth obtained a PhD in Contemporary American Literature from University of Rhode Island in 2016. Hirth has previously taught at University of Rhode Island and Central Connecticut University. Currently she teaches Composition I and II, upper level writing courses, a survey in American Literature,

upper level American Literature courses, and Native American Literature. She seems to be adjusting to North Dakota well commenting, "I have never seen so many cows in my life."



NEW FACULTY:  
DR. CHERI ROBINSON  
BY HAILEY ENTZE



Dr. Cheri Robinson joined the Department of Language and Literature as the new Spanish professor this fall and has enjoyed her new position so far.

"I like [the Language and Literature] department. It's nice to work with people who are team

players and who get along so well."

Robinson attended grad school at UCLA in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese where she earned a degree in Hispanic Languages and Literatures. She stayed at UCLA for a year after she graduated and taught language, literature, film, and cultural studies classes.

Currently she teaches Spanish I and II, and Intercultural Communications at DSU. She is even responsible for bringing the Spanish Film Festival, which is something her department at UCLA did, to campus this semester.

"I felt like it was a great opportunity for students to experience the different cultures in the Spanish speaking world," she said.

Originally, she was drawn to the French language, but grew more interested in Spanish after hearing how much it was being spoken. "I felt like it was becoming more and more important," she said, "I'm glad I chose to continue with Spanish, because it's now the second most spoken language in the U.S."

So far, the move to North Dakota has treated her well. After growing up in western Montana, the cold isn't so much of a shock, and she can always find a parking spot here. However, one thing North Dakota doesn't have that Robinson enjoys is salsa dancing. "I love salsa dancing, if anyone wants to dance salsa come see me, I'll give lessons." Robinson said.



THE LATIN AMERICAN AND SPANISH  
FILM FESTIVAL  
BY MATTHEW BUETTNER

EVENTS

The Latin American and Spanish Film Festival  
by Matthew Buettner

This year the Dickinson State University Language and Literature Department hosted the Latin American and Spanish Film Festival, which proved to be a great success. Thanks to a grant from the Spanish Film Club by Pragda and the financial support of the Language and Literature Department, the film festival was brought to DSU, in part, by Dr. Cheri Robinson who is responsible for organizing the event. Dr. Robinson expressed that she wanted to select films that would be appealing to both the students and the surrounding community. In addition, she desired for the content of the films to have a dual focus. Thus, the selected films had both educational and universal/cross-cultural qualities. The festival featured five contemporary films from various Latin American countries and Spain.

**Spider Thieves/Niñas Araña,**  
Directed by Guillermo Helo  
Released in 2016.

The story unfolds in Toma Modelo de Pañalolen, a large shantytown in Chile. Coming from this



impoverished community and desiring a lavish life, three teenage girls make a plan to burgle buildings by scaling the balcony of expensive apartment complexes. Word of their exploits begins to spread and they soon become known as the notorious “spider thieves.”

**On the Roof/El Techo**  
Directed by Patricia Ramos  
Released in 2017.

This film embodies the culture of Cuba, as three young friends from Havana dream of their futures. The search for success leads them to decide to establish their own business. The friends bond and mature together as they struggle with the life in the deteriorating neighborhood.

**Birdboy: The Forgotten Children/  
Psiconautas: Los niños olvidados**  
Directed by Alberto Vázquez & Pedro Rivero  
Released in 2016

This film was the winner of the 2016 Goya award for best animated film. The Goya awards are Spain’s major national annual film awards. The story takes place on an island, home to Birdboy, a complicated character who takes drugs to control his inner demons. A factory explosion has left the island in a post-apocalyptic state. The world becomes an abstract reflection of life, as the children of the story venture out into the wasteland society to experience the new world. The work is filled with metaphor and symbolism that illustrates a complex balance of the dark and light themes of life.

**The Queen of Spain/La Reina de España**  
Directed by Fernando Trueba  
Released in 2017.

This comedy-drama, starring Penélope Cruz, is a sequel to Trueba’s *The Girl of Your Dreams*. Following the events that take place in *The Girl of Your Dreams*, Macarena Granada (played by Penélope Cruz), has become a Hollywood star. She



returns to Spain to work on a film, in which she will be portraying Queen Isabell I of Castile. Tensions arise when the former lover of Granada is arrested by members of the fascist government.

### **The Future Perfect/El Future Perfecto**

Directed by Nele Wohlatz

Released in 2016.

In the setting of Buenos Aires, a young Chinese immigrant by the name of Xiaobin struggles to adapt to life as she learns the Spanish language. The work demonstrates the difficulty of adjusting to a new culture as Xiaobin attempts to better herself.

This year's festival took place throughout February, with the first film screening taking place on the 6th and concluding with the last on the 21st. The Latin American and Spanish Film Festival has been a great addition to the Dickinson State University events and has given the community a unique opportunity to explore various cultures through their films. Dr. Robinson was satisfied with the turnout for this year's event and hopes to organize another festival in the future. So, keep an eye on the DSU event page and join us for some great films.

The Spanish Film Club series was made possible with the support of Pragda, SPAIN arts & culture, and the Secretary of State for Culture of Spain.

## DSU'S CELEBRATION OF SCHOLARS BY NATHAN ZENT

The Celebration of Scholars is an annual conference where Dickinson State University students can showcase their research. At the Celebration of Scholars, students have an option to choose to debut either a poster presentation or a ten-minute oral presentation. The 2019 Celebration of Scholars had students from several departments: Agriculture, Communication, Fine and Performing Arts, Psychology, and Nursing. Two projects that stood out were "Inclusion and Beyond," a poster presentation by Madison Schobinger and Hannah Lindley, and "All the World is a Stage," an oral presentation by Salena Loveland. "Inclusion and Beyond" was on how special education students were treated by their non-disabled peers when the non-disabled did and did not know that they had a disabled peer in their class. From the research that Schobinger and Lindley looked at, they came to the conclusion that special education children are more likely to get bullied when their disability is known to the other kids. They also determined that special education children are more motivated when they are included in the classroom. "All the World is a Stage," by Salena Loveland, discussed how people can view little portions of their life as being on a stage and how interpersonal

communication can be difficult and/or unsettling to talk to someone who has a stigma like PTSD or a disability. Loveland says that she was engaged by Dr. Grabowsky to turn one of her research papers into an oral presentation which will be a good skill for her to have as she plans to venture forth to graduate school. In the process of preparing her oral presentation, Loveland had to cut her research paper in approximately half in order to make sure that the remaining part was coherent, and she also stated that she had to change her parenthetical citations into verbal citations.

Madison Schobinger said that “We (Madison Schobinger and Hannah Lindley) are both extremely passionate about Special Education and creating inclusive environments in our future classrooms. Having the opportunity to do extensive research on the topic was extremely beneficial and rewarding.” When they were compiling their project, Lindley and Schobinger learned a great deal about teamwork and collaboration as well. Schobinger said that “This was a great opportunity to incorporate everything we’ve learned throughout our years at DSU”.

The 2019 Celebration of Scholars featured forty-five projects with twenty-five poster presentations and twenty oral presentations. Some students were required to participate in Celebration of Scholars for a class, and others did it voluntarily. Students could do both an oral presentation and a poster board if they wanted to. The Celebration of Scholars concluded with an award ceremony in which the best oral and poster presentation were awarded in multiple categories.



month. Professor Carlson McGoey said there were four events this year; in the past, they have done up to eight, but that was too hectic for just one month. The events take place in different areas from on-campus to the community library. Professor Carlson McGoey spoke on the goal of the event which is to recognize the role women have in Dickinson and our society with a focus on an overall theme. For this year, the theme was “The American Dream.” The events this year consisted of a visit from author Maya Rao, who read from her book *Great American Outpost*, a community poetry reading, a “Think and Drink” talk by Dr. Debora Dragseth at The Rock in Dickinson, which was co-sponsored by Humanities North Dakota, and a screening of the film *Hidden Figures* at Dickinson Area Public Library. The committee hopes to continue to grow the events and increase student involvement in the planning process. If one would like to get involved, they can contact Professor Carlson McGoey via her DSU email address. The planning process for Women’s Voices begins in August; from there, the committee decides meeting times. This is a great community organization, and it should continue to grow.



WOMEN’S VOICES 2019 RECAP  
 BY ETHAN GOSS-DICKIE  
 WITH LARA CARLSON MCGOY

This March, Dickinson State University hosted “Women’s Voices.” I had the opportunity to sit down with the committee director, Professor Lara Carlson McGoey, who provided a rundown of this year’s events. “Women’s Voices” consists of several events that take place in March, which is Women’s History



TASTE OF NATIONS  
 BY MATTHEW BUETTNER

The Center for Multicultural Affairs instituted the Taste of Nations in 2005. After a 3-year hiatus, the event was reinstated in 2016 by the Office of International Programs, in cooperation with the International Club and Sodexo. Currently, Taste of Nations serves as a fundraiser for the International Club. The proceeds from the event go towards



planning subsidized recreational and educational trips for students.

This year's Taste of Nations event was a great success. With very few seats left unfilled, the cafeteria was bustling with a populace, eager to partake in the cuisine. A wide variety of cultures were represented in dishes from Turkey, Ghana, Nigeria, Spain, Honduras, Japan, Russia, Ukraine, Pakistan, and Nepal. Some of the dishes featured were güveç, baklava, jollof, tortilla de patatas, solyanka, and pyrizhky.

There were a few dishes that were particularly pleasing to my palate. One of those dishes was ceviche, a marinade fish and vegetable salad that was served on saltine crackers. The ceviche had a unique and satisfying combination of flavors. The ingredients were appropriately blended to complement one another without any single flavor becoming overpowering. In its entirety, the dish took on a crisp and clean flavor with just a hint of cilantro to tie it all together. Another dish that captured my interests was the shami kebab. This dish stimulated my senses with its contrast of hot and cool flavors. Being a fan of spicy foods, these traditional Pakistani chicken patties were excellently seasoned with a little kick of heat. The spicy chicken patties were served with a cool sauce and flat bread, which provided a satisfying cool contrast to the heat of the chicken.

Another item of intrigue was the chirashi-sushi. Most of the dishes are prepared by student participants,

but this dish and the Nikujaga can be credited to Dr. Katsu Ogawa. This was his first year preparing cuisine and serving in an event organizing role as cooking supervisor. Dr. Ogawa points out a popular misconception surrounding "sushi." He explains that, "many people think 'sushi' is raw fish. Totally wrong. The definition of sushi is vinegar/sugar seasoned rice. It has nothing to do with raw fish." Dr. Ogawa went on to explain that he selected this particular type of sushi because it can be served as a vegan option, being that "the base consists of

seasoned rice (sushi), carrots, lotus roots, shiitake mushroom, and gourd. For vegans, you can top it with pickled ginger and/or seaweed." Other non-vegan toppings included egg strips and shrimp. Being a lover of the "sushi-rolls" many of us are accustomed to, I felt this dish tasted familiar while also becoming a unique experience, due to its preparation. When the flavors are combined together, the taste is reminiscent of a typical "sushi-roll" with which many of us are familiar.

Those in attendance were not only given the opportunity to enjoy a wide variety of culturally diverse cuisine, but were also granted the opportunity to experience an assortment of cultural performances, including music, rope tricks performed by a Minnesota bull-fighter, performances by a local Rwandan dance group, and a cultural fashion show. So, if you are interested in trying some tasty new cuisine and are in the mood for some great cultural entertainment, be on the lookout for next year's Taste of Nations.



## AN ITALIAN ADVENTURE BY: HAILEY ENTZE

### Top Five Things I Learned in Italy Over Spring Break:

1. If the pistachio gelato isn't as brown as the dirt under your feet, it's trash, and you need to find a different gelato shop.
2. Italians are the most fashionable and beautiful people I've ever seen; I felt like a peasant next to them.
3. If you buy a "real" Italian leather bag from someone who's not even Italian and then see the same one a few stores down, chances are you got scammed.
4. The best/only Italian pizza worth eating comes out of a brick oven; no brick oven equals no good.
5. You have to pay for literally everything, even water

at restaurants and public bathrooms.

So, how exactly did I learn all of these fun facts? Well, over spring break, I went with eleven other DSU students and faculty to explore Italy. The trip was put together by Professor Greg Walter, and most of what we saw was either art or history based.

Over the course of ten days, we traipsed from Venice to Rome and made some stops in smaller Italian towns along the way. I could go on for pages and pages about everything we saw and did, but for the sake of your time (and mine), I'll try to keep it brief.

Our first city, in Italy, was Venice. As soon as we touched down—being massively jet lagged and could barely keep my eyes open—I couldn't help but start singing Dean Martin's "That's Amore" in my head. It felt like it was the perfect theme song for dragging my suitcase through the cobbled streets of Venice at sunset. Not to mention that they had just held their Carnival celebration, so the streets were still full of



confetti, and almost every store was selling masks, which made the whole experience even more magical. The great thing about Venice is that vehicles aren't allowed in the city, so we could walk wherever we wanted and didn't have to worry about getting run over by a rogue Vespa or an abnormally tiny Fiat like we did the rest of the trip.

We saw some of Venice's biggest historical sites, like Doge's Palace and San Marco's Basilica, but what really stole the show was our trip to the islands of Murano and Burano. We took a water taxi to Murano first and made it just in time to see the last glass blowing demonstration at the Murano Glass Factory. Another taxi swept us off to Burano, a little fisherman's village known for its brightly colored houses. Our time in Venice ended by watching the sunset over the lagoon in Burano. As the water sparkled in front of me, and the home owners swung the shutters shut on their pink, blue, purple, green, and yellow houses behind me, I couldn't think of a better way to say goodbye to Venice.

Our next big city was Florence. For some reason, going in, I had high expectations of Florence, and it met every one of them. The majority of our time in Florence was spent at art museums (the Accademia and the Uffizi), and plazas with statues made by some

of the best renaissance artists. Of course, we had to see its basilica and cathedral, or the Duomo as it's more commonly called. We walked up what felt like a thousand stairs in the Duomo (it was actually around 400) to get a bird's eye view of the city. Looking out over the Arno River and the Tuscan countryside beyond literally took my breath away, and it's not a sight that I will ever forget.

Also, when you go to Italy you obviously have to get some Italian leather, and Florence is one of the best places for that. We visited Infinity Leather Atelier, where they make their own bags, backpacks, belts, etc. right there. The shopaholic side of me was in heaven, and if any of you ever see me waltzing around with an extremely cute brown leather bag... yes it's as soft as it looks and also, probably, as expensive, but its real and was totally worth it.

Florence also gave us the opportunity to see the Statue of David by Michelangelo in person. I will admit, I almost cried, but it's so impressive and beautifully crafted that I have no shame; I'd cry buckets full of tears for the Statue of David. We also got to take a mini road trip through the Tuscan countryside. With the way they drive in Italy, it felt more like a high-speed chase through the Tuscan countryside, but either way,



we got to where we needed to be which was the Leaning Tower of Pisa. Though we didn't make it there before sunset, or before it started raining, we still managed to get some amazing pictures, and no, they weren't of us trying to push it back up, sorry to disappoint.

Sadly, we had to say goodbye to Florence, in order to say hello to the last city of our adventure: Rome. We arrived in Rome, only to promptly leave it the next morning for Vatican City, the world's smallest country. Vatican City, while home to the Pope, also houses the Sistine Chapel (gorgeous, and selfie-stick free, which can't be said for the rest of the city), St. Peter's Basilica, and the Pietá (the statue of Mary holding Jesus in her lap by Michelangelo).



Rome is constantly teeming with things to do. We packed so much into just two days that it's honestly a blur. We climbed to the top of a castle and walked down Rome's version of Rodeo Drive. We tried and failed to eat gelato on the Spanish Steps, like Audrey Hepburn and Gregory Peck in Roman Holiday (we only failed because we simply couldn't find any gelato nearby). We wound our way around the Colosseum, and we also saw where Julius Caesar was cremated in the Roman Forum.



We basked in the glory of the Pantheon and shoved our way to the front of the crowd to throw coins in Trevi Fountain. Those two days were full, but they were the perfect end to our Italian Adventure.



# REVIEWS



## PODCAST REVIEW BY ETHAN GOSS-DICKIE

Podcasts have become a large part of our culture and entertainment. There are thousands of podcasts out there, but to give you some suggestions, I'd like to share my thoughts on some of the popular ones in the categories of health and fitness, sports, education, current events, and comedy.

### Health and Fitness

For this category, I turn to the "Aubrey Marcus Podcast". An informative and motivational podcast, Marcus and his guests dive into a very wide range of health topics. Marcus is the founder of Onnit, which in his words is a "total human optimization company." Onnit sells a variety of health products, ranging from protein powder to brain supplements, and the podcast reflects that. Marcus explains different weight loss techniques or ways to improve cardiovascular health, but he also has episodes dedicated to improving one's mindset and mental health.

### Sports

For Sports, my favorite podcast is "The Herd with Colin Cowherd." which covers all things sports. Cowherd's stances are often controversial and thought provoking. This podcast first aired on ESPN

radio, but following Cowherd's departure from the network, it now airs through Fox Sports. Cowherd rarely has guests, instead covering news within the sporting world with his opinion on it. I find Cowherd's opinions to be well-educated, and the podcast is entertaining.

### Education

Educational podcasts have recently been exploding on to the scene, but my personal favorite is "The Jordan B. Peterson Podcast." While Jordan Peterson is an extremely controversial figure, I will say that he's very well spoken and educated. Peterson is a Canadian clinical psychologist and a professor of psychology at the University of Toronto. He dives into various political, cultural, and societal issues. Though not all listeners will agree with him, I think it is important to at least hear opposing arguments to issues.

### Current Events

There are many current event podcasts out there, but the one I find myself listening to the most is "The Ben Shapiro Show." This podcast covers current events, mainly in the political world, without the spin that many news organizations include to further an agenda. I find Shapiro to be very blunt and to the point, which is why I enjoy his podcast.

### Comedy

One comedy podcast that has me rolling with laughter is "Schnitt Talk," hosted by Elle Schnitt and her producer Alanna. They commonly discuss dating and relationships as a 20-something and are absolutely hilarious. Described as a podcast "for chicks by a chick who gets it," even as a man I enjoy the podcast. I would highly recommend "Schnitt Talk" to any young person.



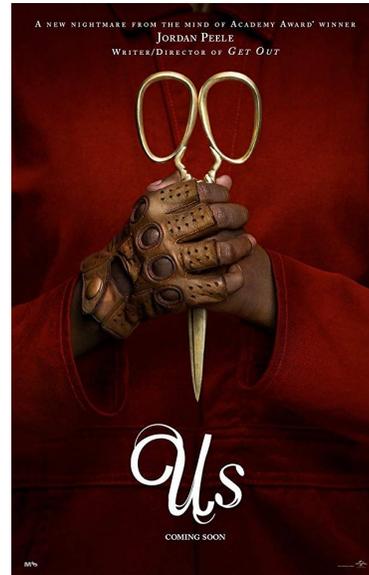


POETRY MAGAZINE  
BY AMANDA D'ANIELLO

Poetry magazine is a Chicago based publication founded in 1912 by Harriet Munroe. They characterize their submissions process approach as “open door” which describes their willingness to publish innovative as well as traditional poetry. The magazine made its name publishing T.S Elliot, Ezra Pound, William Carlos Williams, and other well-known poets. Today, the magazine continues to seek the highest quality work. Each volume runs about a hundred pages in length with most poems taking only a single page. Some poems take additional pages, some feature innovative layout, and yet other pages are dedicated to commentary. This commentary can be in the form of poetry but more commonly is in essay format. Eleven volumes are released each year. In addition to the poems which comprise the majority of the publication, the commentary adds another venue through which to connect to the poetry community. Facilitating this connection was Harriet Munroe’s original founding goal.

Subscription to Poetry magazine is affordable, as each volume costs only \$3.00. A discount is offered for seniors and students. A subscription also grants one access to web browsing and the digital archive of all volumes. This archive is accessible on a mobile app, which makes reading poetry more convenient than ever. I’ve subscribed to the magazine for nearly five years, and I am still excited

when each monthly edition arrives in the mail. I would recommend this publication to anyone interested in reading, writing, or engaging with poetry. It’s a foundational publication for anyone looking to explore the craft. You can learn more at [www.poetryfoundation.org/poetrymagazine/subscribe](http://www.poetryfoundation.org/poetrymagazine/subscribe).



US REVIEW  
BY HANNAH REBSOM

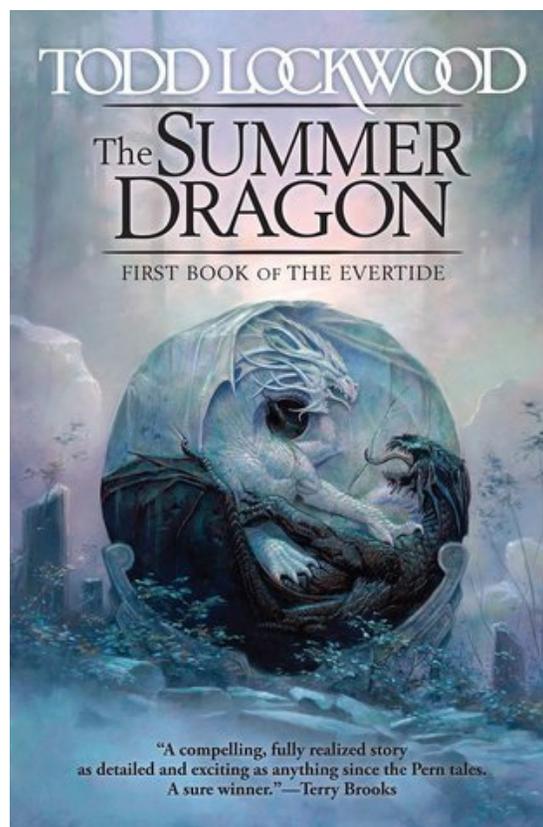
Us, directed by Jordan Peele, kept me on the edge of my seat the entire time. The movie made my stomach spin like a washing machine as I wondered what was about to happen next. The minute I saw the trailer, I texted my best friend to say that we needed to see it. Us follows the story of a family’s fight with their evil doppelgangers. The film starts out seeming like the stereotypical family vacation, but when a mysterious group of four break in, things go south. Peele’s first movie, Get Out, was a box office hit, and afterward, he found his writing and directing skills in high demand. Both Us and Get Out subtly point out inequalities in the United States, and Peele does a great job of making the audience uncomfortable and forcing them out of their comfort zones to think with both films.

Throughout the whole movie, worried glances and muffled predictions were exchanged about what was coming next. While all of our predictions were wrong, the film is littered with clues that subtly

indicate the upcoming destruction and demise. Peele did a great job of keeping suspense with the musical score and used some classic '90s hip hop songs, such as "I got 5 on it" by Luniz and "F\*\*\* tha police" by NWA to bring humor to dark situations. My favorite was the use of "I got 5 on it." The repetitive melody created fear and gave me goosebumps.

The contrast between good and evil was conveyed with the color red, which symbolized the murderous rage and chaos all over the United States. The Bible verse Jeremiah 11:11 also stands out and is shown multiple times in the movie. Once you learn the meaning of the verse, the pieces of the movie fall into place. If you love conspiracies, like I do, this movie is for you. *Us* touches on many topics from government cloning to underground tunnels littered around the United States. Also, after finishing the movie, I was left with many questions. When looking for the answers, I found that the Internet had come up with its own conspiracies on the film. One of the main reasons I loved this film is due to the constant suspense and questions. Unlike many modern horror movies that are predictable and lay everything out for you, *Us* leaves the audience with their own speculations and is open for interpretation.

In conclusion, I enjoyed this movie tremendously, and it was one of the best movies I have seen in years. I recommend going in with an open mind and letting the suspense take you for a ride.



## TIMES ARE CHANGING: THE SUMMER DRAGON BY TODD LOCKWOOD

REVIEW BY KAYLA HECKAMAN

The sighting of the Summer Dragon brings change, for better or for worse – or that is what is believed. Normally, change is expected in life and it could be for better or for worse, but no one knows which will happen. The only difference is we don't have a gigantic mythical creature signaling that change is coming to our lives.

Todd Lockwood is no rookie to the fantasy industry. Since 1996, he has worked as an artist for Tactical Studies Rules (TSR) which was bought up by Wizards of the Coast in 1997. He has done cover art for fantasy authors such as R.A. Salvatore and Steven Erikson to name a couple. Along with cover art, he has done art for Wizards of the Coast, with their products of Dungeons and Dragons and the Magic: The Gathering collectable card game (my personal favorite card being Kalitas, Bloodchief of Ghet due to the detail on the card). His artwork adorns the cover of *The Summer Dragon* and within

its pages.

Being a fan of the fantasy genre, of Todd Lockwood's art, and a player of *Magic: The Gathering*, I had to check out his debut novel. This is the first and currently only book in the *Evertide* series. I thoroughly enjoyed reading this book since Lockwood keeps the reader engaged and wondering what will happen to the protagonist. His use of imagery makes the reader feel like they are flying alongside the protagonist on the back of a dragon or trying to escape reanimated corpses in a pitch-black cave.

The *Summer Dragon* is the story of Maia – a story as told through her eyes– the story of a broodmaster's daughter, a dragon handler "with her head in the clouds." Her story starts out on the day before *Brood Day*, the day when the empire comes to acquire qits (young dragons) for the *Dragonry* – the empire's army of dragons. Maia is certain that she and her brother, Darian, will be receiving qits of their own to bond with and raise. When the *Summer Dragon*, *Getig*, is spotted by Maia and her brother, others take their story and twist it to fit their agenda.

Throughout this novel, you know as much as Maia. Lockwood leaves you unknowing of who Maia should fear or who she should even trust. He keeps you guessing what will happen to her and how she will respond to any obstacle that is put against her. The way that he paces out the action of each scene will keep you from putting down the book. How he describes what happens to Maia when a wildling dragon sire attacks her shows Lockwood's attention to detail:

"Malik rounded some large trees into the open space, closing fast. He roared again, trampled a sapling, then tucked his wings close, ready to pounce.

I sprinted across the gap, leapt between two trees and onto the nearest boulder. A crash resounded at my heels and splinters of wood flew past me." Lockwood's debut novel is a joy and a wondrous adventure to read. For a debut novel, he has knocked this one out of the park. The world that he has imagined within the pages of this book is fully

realized. Every character has their own agenda and is fully fleshed out, and even those that appear for a short time are not flat and carry their own agenda with them. Even if you don't like or usually don't read fantasy, maybe a change will bring some good. The *Summer Dragon* from DAW Books spans 498 pages and can be purchased in hardcover, paperback, and audiobook formats. Fans of series like *The Lord of the Rings* and *The Dragonriders of Pern* may enjoy reading this book.

If you are also interested in checking out Todd Lockwood's artwork, please visit his site at [www.toddlockwood.com](http://www.toddlockwood.com).



# INTERVIEWS

## FORMER FACULTY FOLLOW-UP: DR. PETER GRIMES

INTERVIEW BY NATHAN ZENT

Dr. Grimes was an instructor at Dickinson State University in the Language and Literature Department from 2015 through 2017. He is currently the editor of the *Pembroke Magazine* and an assistant professor of English at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke. He is also the instructor for creative nonfiction writing and fiction writing. Although the courses are structured differently at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke compared to how they are structured at Dickinson State University, Dr. Grimes indicated that his time teaching at Dickinson State University gave him the opportunity to experiment with assignments, activities, and textbooks to determine which ones work best for intro and advanced students.

Aside from teaching at Pembroke, Dr. Grimes is also on the committee that determines the award recipients in his department. Dr. Grimes's sense of humor is still going strong, and it is his belief that his most important duty on that committee is "Picking out the napkin color for the reception." He is also excited to revive the creative writing club at Pembroke. The students' desired name for the club is *Writers' Bloc*, which Dr. Grimes thinks is pretty clever. Dr. Grimes indicated that he has not taken any continuing education courses, that is, unless as Dr. Grimes points out, "you consider watching The University of North Carolina Tar Heels Basketball Team a form of continuing education."

Dr. Grimes is currently putting together a collection of stories he has published. For a list of these stories, you can visit his website: [www.peterjgrimes.com](http://www.peterjgrimes.com). He is also working on a novel where a guy thinks he is dead but then discovers he is not. In giving advice for aspiring writers, Dr. Grimes has suggested the

following:

"Seek out feedback from experienced editors and writers and listen to that feedback; find peers who write at your level and exchange work, encourage each other to meet deadlines; read, read, read; study the technique of what you read; believe that there is no substitute for revision because none of us are as smart and articulate in one sitting as we are in five; and try to have fun with what you write while not giving yourself a hard time."

Dr. Grimes plans to visit North Dakota this summer to attend his wife's family reunion in Bottineau. He also plans to pass through Dickinson at some point in August.



## INTERVIEW WITH PROFESSOR MCGOEY, FACULTY ADVISORY FOR IMPRESSIONS

INTERVIEW BY AMANDA D'ANIELLO

**Q: How many years have you been a Professor at DSU?**

A: I started here in Fall 2016 as an adjunct instructor, then I went full time in Fall 2017 after Dr. Grimes left.

**Q: What compelled you to take up the advising role of Impressions?**

A: I took on the role after Dr. Grimes left. He had done quite a bit of work on getting the publication up to a level of professionalism and recognition, and I wanted to keep that momentum going, not only out of respect to his work, but also as an institution of DSU.

**Q: How was your first year overseeing the production of Impressions?**

A: A bit chaotic as it wasn't done as a regular class, but needed to be done as independent studies and

sophomore/senior projects. Everyone had busy schedules, and it was hard to get us all together for meetings, but thankfully they were all great members to work with and I learned so much from the entire production process.

**Q: How do you anticipate this year to be different?**

A: Different student editors will mean different selections with submissions, design decisions and opinions. As there are twice as many students working on the magazine this year, I also anticipate a better delegation of duties than last year.

**Q: Do you plan to/ Did you make significant changes? If so, what?**

A: I like to leave most of the design and submission decisions up to the students so that they can get a sense of what working on a literary publication is like. I wouldn't mind seeing Impressions as a blended genre-style over a segmented one, though I know this requires more work to do.

**Q: How have past editors/editions of Impressions influenced the forthcoming edition?**

A: A great deal of the process is based on Dr. Grimes's 2016 and 2017 issues as well as some of the decisions we made last year in the 2018 edition.

**Q: What are the special challenges you face in producing Impressions?**

A: Making sure that everyone is putting in their fair share of the work, knowing what duties I specifically have to do and which I can delegate to students, learning features of Adobe InDesign, which we use for the layout.

**Q: How is the magazine layout designed?**

A: This is kind of up to the students, though we do use past issues as a starting point, as well as looking at how other magazines, both student-based and professional, design their work.

**Q: What kind of writing and art are you looking to include in Impressions? From whom?**

A: Anything and everything that shows a certain level of quality, whether that be from DSU students, staff, faculty, alumni or area high school students. While we always get quite a few submissions every year, we don't publish everything that is sent in. Like any serious literary magazine, there is a selection process, involving myself and students, looking for quality pieces.

**Q: How would you describe the theme or tone of Impressions?**

A: It varies from year to year, though I would say that there always seems to be a basis around DSU, North Dakota, or the Midwest.

**Q: How does Impressions encourage submissions?**

A: We send out calls for submissions to DSU students, faculty, staff, and alumni over email. We also put up posters around campus. Current DSU students are eligible for a cash prize if their work stands out among the rest. We email and send flyers to area high schools as well, most in North Dakota with a few from South Dakota. High school students are eligible for cash prizes as well.

**Q: How do people off-campus obtain a copy of Impressions?**

A: You may contact the Department of Language and Literature at DSU or send me an email at martin.mcgoey@ndus.edu.



## DEPARTMENT NEWS



MARGARET BARNHART was a featured speaker in two Veterans' Day services, one in Richardton, ND, and one in Scranton, ND. She also conducted a workshop presentation at the Communication, Speech, and Theatre Association of North Dakota conference in September, 2018. Barnhart also received a Creative Artist of the Year award from C STAND in 2018, and a Communicator of the Year award from the National Speech and Debate Association-North Dakota District in 2017.



LARA CARLSON MCGOEY presented at the South Central Modern Language Association (SCMLA) conference in October 2018 in a panel with Dr. Holly McBee.

DR. BRITTANY HIRTH will be publishing a piece entitled "Bombs and Black Humor: The Absurdity within Veteran Accounts of Aerial Warfare," included in the collection *New Cultures of Remote Warfare*, edited by Rebecca Adelman and David Kieran, U of Minnesota P. The collection has a projected 2020 publication date. Dr. Hirth also presented at the Jewish American and Holocaust Literature Symposium in Miami Beach, Florida in November 2018 and at the Roth Remembered Conference in New York in April.



DR. HOLLY MCBEE presented a paper at SCMLA in October in San Antonio. She also attended the National Collegiate Honors Conference in November in Boston. In February, Dr. McBee attended a workshop conference for new department chairs, sponsored by Academic Impressions in Denver.





MARTIN MCGOEY presented a creative nonfiction piece at the North American Review Writing Conference in Cedar Falls, Iowa, in April.



KEVIN MOBERG co-authored a chapter of the book: *Preparing effective teachers: Multiple approaches to ensure teaching quality and impact*, published by NExT Teacher Effectiveness Work Group in 2018. He also attended the annual conference of the Association for the Teaching of English Grammar in Glassboro, NJ, from July 27-28, 2018; the annual conference of the ND Council of Teachers of English in Mandan, ND, from August 1-2, 2018; the annual conference of the National Council of Teachers of English [NCTE] in Houston from November 15-18; and the annual workshop of the Assembly on Literature for Adolescents of the NCTE in Houston from November 18-20.

DR. CHERI ROBINSON presented at Cine Lit 9 in March of 2019. Cine Lit 9 is an international conference on Hispanic Film and Fiction held every 2-3 years in Portland, OR. She also moderated a panel on “Ethnicity and Ethnography” at the conference



In December 2018, United Voices published MICHELLE STEVIER-JOHANSON's article about Dr. Debora Dragseth's Business Ethics class, “With One Red Paperclip: Dickinson State University Professor Uses Special Project to Teach Ethics in Business Writing.” In March 2019, she delivered a paper at the Conference on College Composition and Communication in Pittsburgh, PA. In her role as ND's higher education representative for the National Council of Teachers of English, Ms. Stevier-Johanson attended NCTE's Advocacy Summit on April 8-9 in Washington, D.C., and she is a regular contributor to the NCTE policy blog. In November 2018 and January 2019, she published several interviews and articles in DSU's new writing across the curriculum-based newsletter, The Writing Well.

