



The Department of English welcomes Dr. Max Haiven as Canada Research Chair in Culture, Media and Social Justice

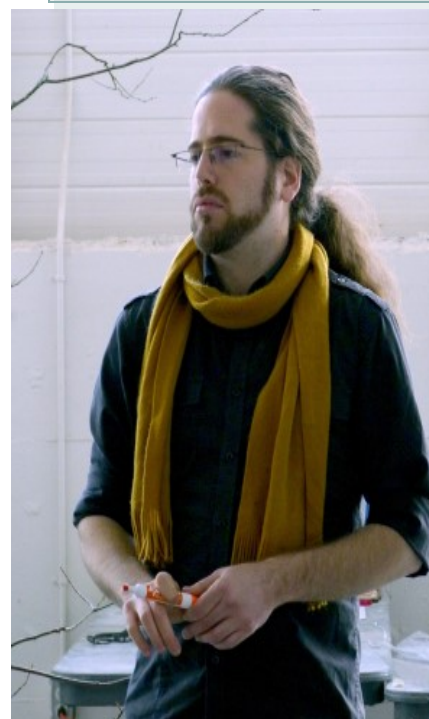
The latest addition to the faculty of Lakehead University's department of English is Dr. Max Haiven, a specialist on the political economy of culture and the radical imagination who is also the university's new Canada Research Chair in Culture, Media and Social Justice. Haiven joins Lakehead from his previous post at the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design in Halifax and has a broad range of teaching and research interests.

"My work really focuses on two key questions of how the literary, cultural and political imagination is related to today's economic structures of capitalism," Haiven explains. "On the one hand, I'm interested in how the imagination is central to the financial economy and the way money seems to appear and disappear out of nowhere, and the impacts of this on how we, the general public, imagine society and our place in it. On the other hand, I'm interested in the radical imagination that animates movements for social justice: what allows us to dream of different societies and positive transformation?"

In addition to teaching cultural and literary theory to undergraduates and a course on the radical imagination to graduate students, Haiven has been hard at work initiating the ReImagining Value Action Lab (or RiVAL) at Lakehead's downtown Thunder Bay PACI campus, which he calls a "participatory research space for the radical imagination." Thanks to a grant from the Canadian Foundation for Innovation, Haiven is striving to create a "space which blurs the

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**ENGLISH COURSE
OFFERINGS
SPRING/SUMMER
2018**

Yr 1: Academic Writing

Yr 2: Popular Fiction

Yr 2: Gender Sexuality
and the Body in Literature
and Culture

Yr 3: Special Topics:
History of English

Yr 3: Special Topics:
New Zealand Literature

Watch for “Registration
open” announcements

Register early for best
choices.

line between rigorous academic inquiry and meaningful community organizing.” RiVAL, Haiven explains, “not only facilitates my research and international collaborations but also hosts regular public events, visiting speakers and community partnerships around issues of social justice.”

More information about Haiven can be found at <http://maxhaiven.com>. More information about RiVAL, including upcoming events, can be found at <http://rival.lakeheadu.ca>.

**CRITICAL / CREATIVE English Conference
for Undergraduate and Graduate Students**

On April 10th, 2017, the Department held its first English student conference, in what we plan to hold as an annual event. Supported by the Office of the Vice-President, Research and Innovation and the Office of the Dean of Social Sciences and Humanities, the “Critical/Creative” Conference featured presentations from both undergraduate and graduate students of English in Orillia and Thunder Bay. The event was held in the telepresence rooms, allowing our department to come together to support research excellence from students on both campuses.

Papers ranged from representations of sexuality on television, to discussions of virginity in Medieval literature, to the work of contemporary indigenous art, all showcasing the wide variety of work being undertaken in our courses and in our student’s independent research. We congratulate Teana Sacchetti, Nicole Woodbeck, Aggie Job, Kate Beaulieu, Austin Burr, Tom

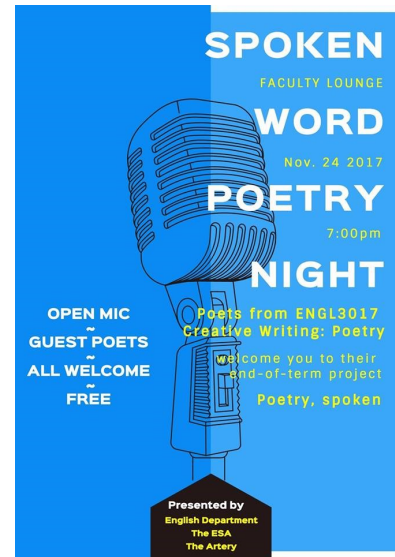
Rose, Clarissa Mahnkopf, Kelsey Raynard, Ryley Fingler, Bailie Giroux, and McKenna Boeckner for their excellent presentations. Thanks again to Dr. Andrew P. Dean, the Vice President, Research and Innovation, to Dr. Dean Jobin-Bevans, the Interim Dean of Social Sciences and Humanities, for their support, to Alumni Relations and Conference Services for providing materials for the conference, and to the members of the department who chaired panels during the conference.

This year’s conference will be held on April 11, 2018 in the telepresence rooms on both campuses. We invite students to submit proposals (due March 2nd) for papers on all subjects related to textual analysis; a poster and call for papers will be circulated at the beginning of 2018. Please contact Dr. Monica Flegel (mflegel@lakeheadu.ca) if you have any questions about writing and submitting a proposal.

UP-COMING EVENTS

Poetry Night

Prof. Taina Maki-Chahal's English 3817 (Advanced Creative Writing) students are holding a Poetry Night as part of their final project. Open to all, the Poetry Night will be held Fri., Nov. 24 at 7 pm in the Faculty Lounge. Students will be sharing original poems that they have written. We will also screen our not-an-Instagram-poem poems. They are partnering with the ESA to help produce this night of poetry and warmly welcome department members to come out that night, and for those who are poets, to share a poem for the open mic.



Master's Program Information Session

Are you interested in learning about completing a Master's degree in English at Lakehead?

On **January 18th, 2018 2:30-4pm in AT 5035 & OA2005** we will be holding an info session on our graduate program. This session will introduce you to the options available in this program, including pursuing coursework, a research or creative project, or a self-directed thesis on a topic of your choosing. We will also discuss the Women's Studies specialization option. Finally, the session will address the funding and scholarships available to students, as well as using your Master's degree to find employment and is open

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Dr. Monica Flegel and Dr. Judith Leggatt will present a talk on **Jan. 27th, 2018**, as part of Lakehead University's "In Conversation" series at the Mary J. L. Black Library. "Fans versus Rotten Tomatoes: How the Internet has Changed Reviewing Culture" will discuss how the democratization of criticism in the digital age has led to clashes between fans, professional critics, and academics over whose opinion should matter most when it comes to popular culture.

Dr. Daniel Hannah will be playing the role of Leo Bloom in Badanai Theatre's production of *The Producers* in February.

Consider Graduate School!

Applications are being accepted for English Graduate studies, contact Dr. Flegel, Graduate Coordinator.

Questions?

Email Dr. Flegel
mflegel@lakeheadu.ca
Phone: 807-343-8285

UPCOMING STUDENT AWARDS

Recommendations are currently being made for the Bill MacDonald Prize. Winner receives \$500.00 and a copy of each of three select books written by Bill MacDonald.

Entries are being accepted for the Munro Prize for Poetry and for Prose. Two winners will be selected; one for prose and one for poetry. Deadline: January 31

Careers with English Degree

Copywriter

Editor

Proposal writer

Content writer

Script writer

Content strategist

Digital copywriter

Marketing specialist

Web writer

Teacher/Professor/

Reporter

Communication Specialist

Admissions Officer

International Festival of Authors 2017

Gary Barwin gives creative writing Master Class

Canadian poet, novelist, children's writer, composer, and multimedia artist Gary Barwin gave the annual International Festival of Authors Master Class at Lakehead on October 31. Barwin, the author of the Giller and Governor-General's Award-nominated novel *Yiddish for Pirates* (2016), led Lakehead faculty and students and members of the local writing community through a series of fun and productive writing exercises. Barwin was in Thunder Bay as part of the 2017 International Festival of Authors Lit on Tour. This year's well-attended reading at the Thunder Bay Art Gallery featured Barwin and three other Canadian writers: Terry Fallis, Grace O'Connell, and Jean Pendziwol.

English Professor Fundraises to Create Bursary

Prof. Taina Maki-Chahal successfully fundraised for a Lakehead bursary with her partner, Prof. Walid Chahal (Sociology Department), and the Thunder Bay Muslim Association, raising \$12,000 for a bursary fund for Indigenous students who are mothers. The seed to create a bursary specifically for Indigenous mothers at Lakehead came from a poem that a Native Nurses Entry Program student wrote during an English Writing for NNEP class.

Thunder Bay Literacy Group

The Thunder Bay Literacy Group (TBLG) was formed in 1983, at which time volunteer tutors worked on-to-one with adults who wished to gain or improve basic literacy skills. Over the years, the services expanded to include numeracy and computer skills, and the teaching moved from one-to-one to small group classes, and eventually to the establishment of the Adult Learning Centre where TBLG now offers full- and part-time classes to over 200 students per year. It now has a substantial budget and receives funding from Employment Ontario and the United Way, as well as its own annual fund-raising Scrabble tournament. The organization is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors, of which Dr. Michael Richardson of the Department of English is currently the Vice-Chair. The Board is charged with ensuring that TBLG meets the needs of the community, and to that end has prepared documents on such subjects as parent and child literacy, health and literacy issues, and literacy and the legal system. The group is currently working on a project dealing with digital literacy.

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS AND LECTURES AND TALKS

Faculty members and students have been busy over the spring and summer months, attending and organizing national and international conferences, publishing both critical and creative work, and planning activities for students. The following is just a sample of the work currently being done in the department:

Creative Work

Evan Sills, a recently-graduated Master's student and an instructor in the department, recently published *Starless*, a fantasy novella, with Austin Macauley press. The department will be celebrating with a book launch later this year.

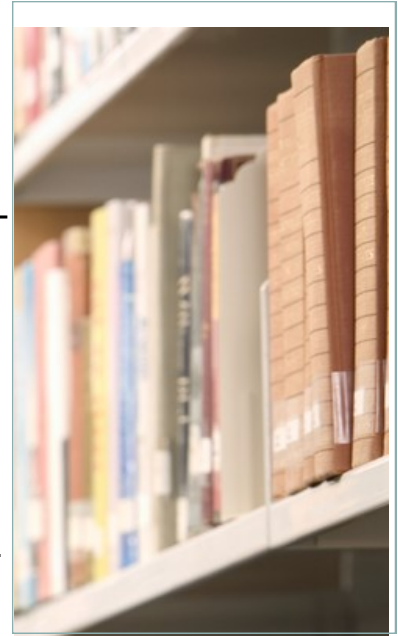
Scholarly Publications

A recent graduate from our Master's program, **Katharine Beaulieu**, just published an article in *Magistra*, a peer-reviewed journal, entitled "Her Body is the Temple of the Holy Ghost: Why Margery Kempe is a Better 'Virgin.'"

Dr. Anna Guttman published "Home, Factory, World: Domestic and Global Fictions in the work of Lavanya Sankaran in *Transnational Literature*.

This fall, **Dr. Max Haiven's** co-edited collection, *What Moves Us: The Lives and Times of the Radical Imagination*, was published jointly between the Radical Imagination Project (which Haiven co-directs), the journal *Upping the Anti*, and Fernwood Publishing. Haiven has also recently published several journal articles and book chapters including "Participatory art within, against and beyond financialization: Benign pessimism, tactical parasitics and the encrypted common" in *Cultural Studies* and "The uses of financial literacy: Financialization, the radical imagination, and the unpayable debts of settler-colonialism" in *Cultural Politics*.

Dr. Daniel Hannah published "Beasts in the Jungle: Henry James, William James, and the Animal Turn" in *Modernism/Modernity*, and contributed chapters to two books: "(Un)settling desires: Erotics and Ecologies in Nathaniel Hawthorne's Transatlantic Romances" in *Transatlantic Literary Ecologies* (edited by John Miller and Kevin Hutchings), published by Routledge; and "Queer Atlantic Modernism and Masculinity in Claude McKay's *Banjo* and F. Scott Fitzgerald's *Tender is the Night*" in the *Edinburgh Companion to Atlantic Literary Studies* (edited by Lesley Eckel and Clare Elliott), published by Edinburgh University Press.



EXCEPTIONAL. UNCONVENTIONAL.

Dr. Cheryl Lousley co-edited, with Dr. Susie O'Brien from McMaster University, a special issue on "Environmental Futurity" for *Resilience: Journal of Environmental Humanities* 4.2-3 (Spring-Fall 2017) and published the article "Global Futures Past: Our Common Future, Postcolonial Times, and Worldly Ecologies" in *Resilience: Journal of Environmental Humanities*. Dr. Lousley also edited and arranged for the posthumous publication of a creative nonfiction essay ("Sitting in the Bush") by the late Canadian ecocritic Sylvia Bowerbank, along with a series of tributes to her scholarship and pedagogy, including her own piece, "The Writing Life," in "On Sylvia Bowerbank, Green Literary Scholar" in *The Goose: A Journal of Arts, Environment and Culture in Canada*.

Dr. Judith Leggatt published "Material Connections in Skawennati's Digital Worlds" in *Canadian Literature*. She also contributed a chapter on the work of a local graphic novelist from Thunder Bay, entitled "Nowadays and the Free Will Zombie Apocalypse," to the upcoming collection *The Canadian Alternative: Cartoonists, Comics and Graphic Novels From the North* (edited by Dominick Grace and Eric Hoffman) from the University Press of Mississippi.

Dr. Batia Stolar published two recent book chapters. "I Am an Immigrant," was published in *Coming Here, Being Here: A Canadian Migration Anthology* (edited by Don Mulcahy), and "Girl Power and the Monstrous Feminine in the *Ginger Snaps* Trilogy" appears in *Werewolves, Wolves, and the Gothic* (edited by Robert McKay and John Miller), published by the University of Wales Press.

Presentations

Dr. Anna Guttman gave two invited research talks over the summer, bringing her work to both local and international audiences: the first, "The Other End of the Line: Stories from inside India's Call Centres," was presented at the Thunder Bay Public Library on April 1 and the second, "History in Indian Jewish Fiction," was given at Presidency University in Kolkata, India on July 19.

Dr. Douglas Ivison presented a paper on "A. E. van Vogt and Modernism" at the Academic Conference on Canadian Science Fiction and Fantasy in Toronto in June.

Dr. Judith Leggatt and **Dr. Christopher Parkes** both presented papers at the 2017 Children's Literature Association Annual Conference in Tampa. Dr. Parkes presented on "Hacking the Curriculum: Cory Doctorow's *Little Brother*, Silicon Valley's Charter Schools, and the Threat to Public Education in America," and Dr. Leggatt spoke on "*Wolfblood*'s Shannon: The Geek Girl as Problematic Academic Ally."

Dr. Cheryl Lousley presented at three conferences, both nationally and internationally: "Biopolitics at the World Commission on Environment and Development" at Wayne State University; "Michael Winter and Alistair MacLeod," at Ryerson Univer-

sity; and “Environmental Forgetting and Collective Mourning” at the Mikinaakominis / TransCanadas Conference at the University of Toronto.

Conferences

This fall, **Dr. Max Haiven** helped organize a two-day workshop at Goldsmiths University (London) titled “Colonial debts, extractive nostalgias, imperial insolvencies: Reimagining financialization.”

Awards

Dr. Cheryl Lousley was awarded the Lakehead University Contribution to Research Award. She was also awarded a Environmental Humanities Visiting Fellowship with the Edinburgh Environmental Humanities Network at the University of Edinburgh to be undertaken from March 1 - June 30, 2018.

Dr. Monica Flegel and Dr. Judith Leggatt received the Summer Research Internship Award, awarded by the Dean of Social Sciences and Humanities. This award supported an undergraduate research project, which was undertaken with **McKenna Boeckner**.

Events

Faculty and students of the Department of English at our Orillia campus were guests of the Chippewas of Rama First Nation at Giiwenh, “so the story goes,” a First Nations literary festival featuring David Bouchard, Cherie Dimaline, Joseph Boyden, Lee Maracle, Tracey Lindberg, David Wolfman and others. This event attracted more than 300 attendees.

Students in **Dr. Linda Rodenburg’s** English 1116 (Native and Newcomer Literatures in Canada: Contact Zones) and English 2717 (Indigenous Literature in Canada) have embraced several recent opportunities to hear indigenous stories, meet authors, and actively participate in community events on and off campus which were tied into lecture material. On September 20th, students joined elders and other members of the Georgian Bay Metis Council for a tree planting and teachings in the Four Directions gardens. On September 27th, they attended a presentation by Mike Downie on “The Secret Path: The Story of Chanie Wenjack,” joining Mike at a reception prior to the event to discuss his work.

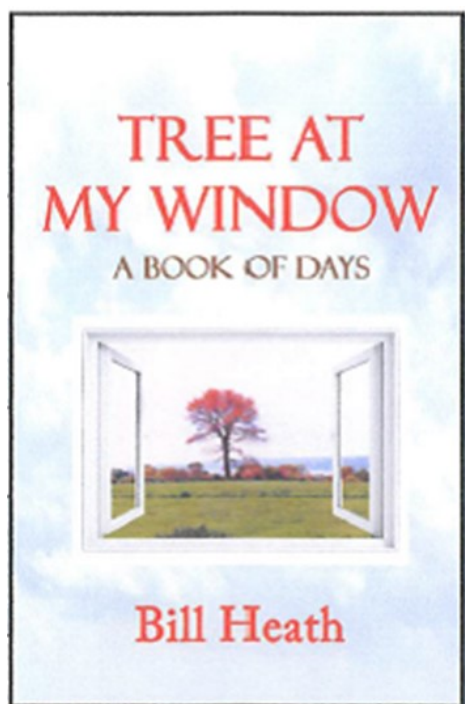
Students in **Prof. Taina Maki-Chahal’s** English 3017 (Advanced Creative Writing) had the unique opportunity of hearing poets from the Poetry Against Racism street action, in which primarily Anishnaabek poets shared poems about the McIntyre River and the effects of racism on Indigenous youth. Prof. Maki-Chahal also organized Poetry Against Racism this past August through Northern Feminisms.

ENGLISH ALUMNUS WINS NORTHERN LIT AWARD

Doug Diaczuk, a graduate of our Honours and Master's programs, received the 2017 Northern Lit Award for English Adult Fiction for his 2016 novel *Chalk*. The winner of the 2015 3-day novel competition, *Chalk* is a road novel exploring the difficulty of communication and connection in contemporary society. A Thunder Bay-based journalist for TBnewswatch.com, Doug is working on short fiction and his next novel. The Northern Lit Awards are given out by the Ontario Library Service – North to recognize and celebrate literary excellence by Northern Ontario authors and are selected by Northern Ontario public and First Nations librarians. *Chalk* is published by Anvil Press.



RETIRED ENGLISH PROFESSOR PUBLISHES MEMOIR



Bill Heath moved to Thunder Bay from the US in 1973 to become a professor of American literature at Lakehead University. In 1992 he received the university's Distinguished Instructor Award and in 1996 he became a Canadian citizen. *Tree at My Window: A Book of Days* is based on a journal that he kept from 1968 until his retirement in 2005.

EXCEPTIONAL. UNCONVENTIONAL.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

ENGLISH STUDENT ASSOCIATION (ESA)

AND THE ARTERY

Since its first publication in 2008, *The Artery* has been the heart of creativity on campus. The English Students' Association (ESA), publishers of the magazine, encourage students (of any major), staff, and alumni to share their creativity in the form of visual art and/or creative writing.

We are excited to announce that we have two poetry nights coming up this semester. The first will be on November 20th from 7:00 pm-9:00 pm at the PACI building in honour of Transgender Day of Remembrance. The theme for this poetry night will be "Survivance and Survival." The second poetry night will be November 24th from 7:00 pm-9:00 pm in Lakehead's Faculty Lounge in partnership with Taina Maki Chahal's poetry class. The students of the class will showcase their poems before an open mic. For more information on events and on submissions to Lakehead University's literary magazine, check out our Facebook page at Facebook.com/TheArteryLU or email us at luartery@lakeheadu.ca.

THE POST

English students can also get involved with *The Post: Lakehead University's Undergraduate Research Journal* an interdisciplinary, open access, research journal that is both for and by the students of Lakehead. There are two primary goals of this publication: first, to give students an opportunity to submit their research to a peer-reviewed panel for potential publication; second, to encourage cross-disciplinary discussion.

For more information on *The Post* see: <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/research-and-innovation/undergraduate-research-at-lakehead/the-post-review-process>.

Students can submit their papers to: thepost@lakeheadu.ca

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