Dr. Anna Gutttman joined the department in 2005 and became a full professor in 2016. She is the outgoing Chair and will be embarking on a sabbatical for the 2019–2020 academic year as a visiting professor at the Australian Centre for Jewish Civilisation at Monash University in Melbourne, Australia. She has taught a wide range of courses at Lakehead on topics as varied as South Asian, African, and Caribbean literatures, travel writing, and Jewishness in multicultural literature.

Anna majored in English Literature at McGill University and went on to complete an MA at the University of Toronto and a PhD at Leeds University in the United Kingdom. She attributes her enthusiasm for postcolonial literature to her early years at university. “Throughout my entire career in education—from my high school days to the present—we’ve lived in a society that is pretty obsessed with issues around race, immigration and cultural difference. Is Canada a mosaic? A tossed salad? Would it be better, or worse, to be a melting pot, as the US imagines itself to be? What does being those things even mean? As I listened to those debates in my own under-graduate years, I became curious about how other countries thought about these questions.”

Anna was particularly drawn to the resonance of these questions in the literary and political climate of India. “India was particularly interesting to me because like Canada, it has official policies on diversity and more than one official language.” And indeed her interest in South Asia and in diversity structured her two published monographs: The Nation of India in Contemporary Indian Literature (Palgrave, 2007) and Writing Indians and Jews: Metaphorics of Jewishness in South Asian Literature (Palgrave, 2013). Those interests continue to surface in her current diverse research projects on fictional representations of the call centre and on constructions of the “Last Jew” in India.
SPRING COURSE OFFERINGS
These courses are delivered online via myCourseLink. Registration is open.
ENGL 1015 SDE
Introduction to Academic Writing—Cindy Soldan
ENGL 1116SDE
Native & Newcomer Literatures in Canada—Linda Rodenburg
ENGL 2818SDE
Writing Across Genres: Creative Writing—Bree Crowder
ENGL 3050SDE
Special Topics: Arthurian Legends—Kathryn Walton

SUMMER COURSE OFFERINGS
ENGL 1015 ADE
Introduction to Academic Writing—Cindy Soldan
ENGL 1117 ADE
Introduction to Popular Culture—Taina Maki Chahal
English 2950 ADE
Science Fiction—Megan Arnott
English 3052 ADE
ST: Arab Literature of the Diaspora—Taina Maki Chahal

ALUMNI INTERVIEW
In 2016, Lakehead University hired Dr. PhebeAnn Wolframe-Smith to the position of Research and Knowledge Mobilization Facilitator in the Office of Research Services. PhebeAnn is a familiar face for many at Lakehead having completed her HBA in English and Women’s Studies at Lakehead back in 2007 and having also gone on to work as a sessional instructor in the Women’s Studies department while completing her PhD at McMaster University. We recently caught up with PhebeAnn by email to discuss how her undergraduate and graduate training in English prepared her for her return to Lakehead.

Can you describe your role in the Office of Research Services? My work can be divided into two main roles that have some overlap: research administration and community engagement. As a research administrator, I review research grants from Lakehead faculty members in the humanities, arts, social sciences, and health disciplines, providing substantive feedback prior to their submission to external granting agencies such as the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC). I organize and facilitate regular grant-writing and other professional development workshops for faculty throughout the year. In my community engagement role, I organize public knowledge mobilization events, including several events as part of our annual Research & Innovation Week at Lakehead. When researchers or not-for-profit organizations are looking for a research partner or a funding source, I try to find them one. I also write success stories highlighting the community impact of Lakehead research for the Chronicle Journal and other publications.

What do you enjoy about your work? I work with wonderful people, both our hard-working staff in the Office of Research Services, as well as faculty members and staff in other departments. Even though I am not doing research myself, I feel like I am still making a contribution (albeit a more behind-the-scenes one) to knowledge.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3
creation and dissemination. But perhaps my favourite thing of all is that I am learning something new all the time. I've always been a bit of a polymath at heart. Most researchers focus in on one discipline and one or two specific topic areas in great detail for a long time. In this job, I'm learning about epidemiology one day and economics the next. It has only increased my ever-present love of and desire for exploring new corners of knowledge.

How did your training in English equip you for your current position? The close reading, critical thinking, and writing skills I learned at Lakehead gave me a strong foundation to build on in my graduate studies, and they are something I use every day in my current job. As a research administrator, I have to be able to read carefully and scan for details; research funding is highly competitive, and so everything counts, from typos to making sure you've followed instructions precisely. I do the nit-picking that researchers don't always have time to do. I know how to recognize and develop a strong argument. The writing skills I gained as an English student have helped me to write well across genres, whether it's in a grant application, a letter of support, a press release or newspaper article.

PUBLIC TALKS

Dr. Max Haiven has been busy this winter and spring giving presentations and organizing conferences internationally. In February, he was in Mexico City as keynote at a conference on the political imagination. In early April he is helping to convene a two-day symposium titled "Finance Capital and the Ghosts of Empire" at the University of Sussex in the UK. He and his colleagues at Simon Fraser University received a SSHRC Connections grant to bring together an international array of scholars, artists and activists to discuss "Debt's Digital Empire" in Vancouver in late April.

Drs. Judith Leggatt and Monica Flegel delivered a public talk on March 2, 2019 "Is Superman an Immigrant?: Race, Ethnicity and the Superhero" A discussion of the ethnic and racial backgrounds of superhero comic creators, and the development of characters such as T'Challa (Black Panther), Kamala Khan (Ms. Marvel) and Miles Morales (Ultimate Spider-Man). This presentation discussed the roles that superhero comics play in supporting and challenging ethnic and racial stereotypes.

Dr. Anna Guttmann delivered a public talk "Call Center Karma, or How popular culture learned to stop worrying and love outsourcing" on March 26, at the University of Minnesota Duluth.

Lecturer Cindy Soldan will be presenting a paper entitled "I'm Batman" Yeats's 'The Second Coming' Decoded" at the Popular Culture Association of America Conference in Washington DC on April 19, 2019.

Dr. Daniel Hannah will be presenting a paper entitled "Hearing Henry James's Poetry" at the International Henry James Society triennial conference in Trieste, Italy in July, 2019.
FUN AND GAMES IN ORILLIA
22 Students and Orillia English Faculty enjoyed fun and games and refreshments at their gathering on March 5th.

SELECTED RECENT SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS


Roth, J., and Sanders, C. “‘Incorrigible slag,’ the Case of Jennifer Murphy’s HIV Non-disclosure: Gender norm policing and the production of gender-class-race categories in Canadian news coverage.” Women’s Studies International Forum 68 (2018): 113-120.


STUDENT EVENTS AND NEWS
Faculty and Staff of the department would like to extend our gratitude to all English program students, on both campuses, who volunteered their time at events such as recruitment, high school preview days, the book sale, focus groups, as well as department committees. Your input and the generosity of your time is greatly appreciated. We could not do as much as we do without your help, thank YOU!

Adam Bayes  Matthew Beaucage  Lindsay Benner
Austin Campbell  Samantha Dewaele  Samantha (Zoe) Dhillon
Clint Fleury  Sarah Gibson  Leandra Howald
Ashley Little  Jessie Moreau  Erica Veldman
Brandon Walker

EVENTS AND NEWS
Arjun Basu, gave a masterclass on writing at the Thunder Bay campus on October 30th. Basu is the author of Squishy, a collection of short stories that was shortlisted for the ReLit Prize and Waiting for the Man, which was longlisted for the Scotiabank Giller Prize.

The English Department hosted a roundtable discussion on “The Rise of the Machines” for Research and Innovation Week on Sunday, Feb. 24 at the Brodie Resource Library. Kevin Brooks, Jenny Roth, Maeghan Verardo, and Doug Ivson gave presentations on topics including technofeminism, the tech geek girl, technology in science-fiction films, androids, and the ethics of technology. Thanks to the presenters, and Thunder Bay Public Library for hosting the event.

WORKS IN PROGRESS
Three works-in-progress talks were presented during the winter term of 2019:

February 11, 2019 — Samantha Dawaele, MA English Student  “Comics, Closure, and Climate Change”
March 11th, 2019— Dr. Monica Flegel and Dr. Judith Leggatt  ““Get Woke, Go Broke’: Diversity Debates, Fan Backlashes and Corporate Capitulation”
March 25, 2019— Dr. Douglas Hayes  Editing Richard Holland’s Buke of the Howlat (1448) for the Modern Classroom: Problems and Possibilities in an Early Scots Bird Fable.
THIRD ANNUAL ENGLISH STUDENT CONFERENCE

The department will host its third annual student conference on April 8th, 2019, 8:30–4:30pm in ATAC 5041 and OA 2020. Twelve students, including undergraduate and graduate students from Thunder Bay and Orillia, will present papers. The annual conference is a great opportunity for students to share their research with faculty and for the department to come together and celebrate the amazing work that our students do. We are looking forward to another successful event and encourage faculty, current students, and alumni to drop in throughout the day. Refreshments will be served and the day will end with a function in The Study (Thunder Bay campus) and the Alumni lounge (Orillia campus).

GUEST SPEAKERS

We had the opportunity of hosting Sam Kean as he discussed the mixing of science with writing in his recent book *The Disappearing Spoon*.

RiVAL along with the departments of English, Aboriginal Initiatives and Women’s Studies hosted Erica Violet Lee’s talk “Never Was Yr Good Little NDN: On Toxic Pleasures, Painful Kinship, and the Indigenous Sacred”. Erica Violet Lee is a Nêhiyaw philosopher and poet from west side Saskatoon. She blogs at moontimewarrior.com.

David Chariandy gave a reading from his novel *Brother* and discussed his writing process on the afternoon of March 18, 2019 at the Thunder Bay campus. Chariandy’s debut novel, *Soucouyant*, received stunning reviews and recognition from eleven literary awards juries. Brother, his second novel, received rave reviews, was named a Best Book of 2017 on no fewer than eight lists, and won the Rogers Writers’ Trust Fiction Prize.

The Department enjoyed classroom talks from visitors throughout both terms. Special in-class guests included: Brian Charles; Cassie Thornton, Kathy Labrador; and Jean Penziwol

FACULTY NEWS

Cheryl Lousley has been awarded a two-year Lakehead University Research Chair to work on her research project, "Environmental Narrative and Memory in Contemporary Canadian and Indigenous Writing."

Cheryl Lousley is the President of the Association for Literature, Environment and Culture in Canada (ALECC), the national organization of scholars, writers, artists and activists in the environmental humanities.

Dr. Douglas Ivison selected as Chair for the Department July 2019-2022

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It’s finally here. The English Student Association is proud to announce the completion of the 2019 Edition of *The Artery* Literary Magazine.

“Weekly Self-Portrait” by Shayla Hickerson

The ESA is a place where people can share their ideas and find constructive criticism from a community of writers who are looking for advice and validation. This new edition of *The Artery* could not be possible without the dedication of all our club members. The ideas from every one of you during our time together has helped to improve so much of the ESA. Thank you all for your hard work and dedication, but most importantly, thank you for your passion.

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“Imagination is the beginning of creation. You imagine what you desire, you will what you imagine, and at last, you create what you will” – George Bernard Shaw

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THE ESA STORE
Something different we’ll be trying out this semester is providing an ESA store inside the Agora or outside of the Outpost. The store will be open on for an hour on weekly basis to help advertise and fundraise.

Starting the week the first week of March, the ESA Store will be selling The Artery 2019 edition at our store front location in the Agora, as well as, the English Department Office (RB3029) on the third floor of the Ryan Building, and the Bookstore in both Thunder Bay and Orillia.

Prices:
2019 Edition - $7
2018 Edition - $5
Bundle deals - $10
Individual copies - $1

If you are interested in helping out by volunteering an hour of your time, please email us at luartery@lakeheadu.ca.

ESA Events
February 26th – General Meeting
March 4th – The ESA Used Book Sale
   Fundraising Event.
March 8th – VAN + ESA Performance Night
   Paint/Drawing Studio (MV2006)
March 12th - The ESA Writer’s Workshop
   Drop-in and let’s get writing
March 15th – The Social Science Formal
   Dinner Starts at 7:30
March 19th – Launch Day
   10:30 am till 3:30 pm – Launch Tabling Event
   6 pm till 8 pm – Launch Party – ATAC AT5036

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