

# The Drowning

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2011

## **JOB HIRES, PUBLICATIONS, PRESENTATIONS, and AWARDS**

### **Jenna Appelbaum**

Presented a paper entitled "The Vampire and the Fasting Girl: Physical Infection and Social Contagion in Bram Stoker's *Dracula*" at the Southern Atlantic Language Association in Atlanta, GA, November 4-6, 2011.

### **Luke Barnhart**

Presented a paper entitled "Green Escapism? Pastoral Utopia in Richard Brome's *A Jovial Crew*" at the Society for Utopian Studies Annual Conference at Penn State University, October 2011.

### **Melissa Kowalski**

Presenting a paper entitled "A Tale of Two Bodies: Illness and Aging in *The Wide, Wide World* and *The Scarlet Letter*" at the 43rd NeMLA Convention in Rochester, NY, March 15-18, 2012.

### **Wade Linebaugh**

Presented a paper entitled "Stasis and Utopia: Francis Godwin and 'The Politics of Utopia'" at the Society for Utopian Studies Annual Conference in State College, PA, October 20-23, 2011.

### **James Speese**

Presented a paper entitled "The Paradox of Transformation: Resistance and Ethical Action in the Novels of Kurt Vonnegut, Jr." at the International Conference of Human Rights, Literature, the Arts and Social Sciences at Central Michigan University on Saturday, November 12, 2011.

## **UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES - Fall 2011**

- Nov. 23-25 Thanksgiving break  
Dec. 9 Last day of classes  
Last day to drop a class or withdraw with WP/WF grades  
Last day for January MA candidates to submit unbound thesis copies to Registrar's office  
Last day for January Ph.D. candidates to complete all degree requirements  
Dec. 13 Final exams begin  
Dec. 22 Final exams end

### SYNOPOSIS OF RECENT PRESENTATIONS

In October I presented my paper "Merrymount as 'City on a Hill:' Morton's Textual Construction of an Alternative American Utopia" at the 36th annual Society for Utopian Studies conference at State College Pennsylvania. In my presentation I discussed Thomas Morton, who founded a colony at Merrymount Massachusetts that briefly existed alongside the more famous Puritan colonies like Boston and Salem. I argue that in his only book, "New English Canaan," Morton - like John Winthrop - engages with themes of American exceptionalism, though Morton offers us a perhaps very different vision of what his "City on a Hill" will be.

In November I presented my paper "The Bureaucratization of the Sacred in Milton and his Pop-Culture Descendants" at the South Atlantic Modern Language Association meeting in Atlanta Georgia. Using Todorov's schema for classifying the fantastic, I argue that Milton engages in a particular representational strategy whereby the transcendent is understood through particularly "bureaucratized" language. I then analyzed more contemporary examples of texts that do the same thing, like Tony Kushner's "Angels in America" and Stephen Adly Guirgis' "The Last Days of Judas Iscariot."

*Submitted by Ed Simon*



## LET'S CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAYS!

*You are cordially invited to attend the  
English Department's*



## HOLIDAY PARTY

**Date: Monday, December 12**

**Time: 12:00—2:00 p.m.**

**Place: Commons Room**

*Please bring a covered dish or finger food to share.*

*Additional goodies are also welcome.*

*Please let Carol or Joann know if you will be  
attending and what you plan to bring.*

SPRING 2012 SUBMISSION DEADLINE

February 15, 2012