

# The Drowning

## FALL 2012

**WELCOME!** The summer 2012 and fall 2012 semesters began with the arrival of 12 new graduate students into the English Department. If you have not had the opportunity yet, please extend a warm welcome to the following students:

<b>Laura Brzyski</b>	<b>Robert Fillman</b>	<b>Ashley Pfeiffer</b>
<b>Renee Buesking</b>	<b>Sarita Mizin</b>	<b>Katherine Prosswimmer</b>
<b>Alicia Clark-Barnes</b>	<b>George Mote</b>	<b>Emily Rau</b>
<b>Cynthia Estremera</b>	<b>Taara Ness-Cochinwala</b>	<b>Evan Reibsome</b>

## UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES FALL 2012



October 8-9	Pacing Break
October 16	Mid Term Grades Due
November 1	Deadline to apply for January degree
November 5-16	Registration for Spring 2013
November 13	Last day for January doctoral candidates to deliver advisor approved dissertation drafts to Dean
November 13	Last day to drop with a "W"
November 21-23	Thanksgiving Break
December 7	Last Day of Classes
December 7	Last day to drop a class or withdraw with WP/WF grades
December 7	Last day for January masters candidates to electronically upload thesis and deliver final paperwork to the Registrar's Office
December 7	Last day for January doctoral candidates to complete all degree requirements
December 11	Final Exams Begin
December 19	Final Exams End
December 26	Grades Due

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***Alumni News . . .******Featured alum:*** Erangee Kumarge

1) Indicate when you attended Lehigh, areas of interest (is this different than what you are teaching?), degrees you received.

I attended Lehigh from 1997-2004 and earned an M.A. and a Ph.D. My areas of interest were postcolonial literature and theory, Victorian literature and feminist theory. I now teach British literature surveys, short fiction, a foreign cultures course, and composition.

2) Where are you currently teaching, how long you've been there, title, and where you previously taught? Indicate the genre you are currently teaching, undergraduate/graduate courses you are teaching, average number of students in your class(es), etc.

I teach at Bucks County Community College. It will be my seventh year at BCCC this fall. I will be an associate professor with tenure as of August 15<sup>th</sup>. Before that, I was an adjunct professor at Cedar Crest College for two years. I teach undergraduate courses. The British surveys are capped at thirty and the composition courses have between 15-25 students.

3) Your experience at Lehigh (people who influenced you including faculty and other grad students, etc.), and what you acquired from Lehigh that was most beneficial when job searching as well as what you acquired from Lehigh that has made a difference in your teaching and association with other students.

I worked with Amardeep Singh, Betsy Fifer, Rosemary Mundhenk, and Alex Doty on my master's theses and dissertation. I took at least one class with most of the professors in the department. My dissertation focused on Sri Lankan film and fiction, so the solid generalist background came in handy in the tough job market.

4) What is the most rewarding part of your job?

Being in the classroom and discussing literature, movies and ideas is the most rewarding part of my job. I also have great colleagues, which makes work enjoyable.

5) Any advice you can give our grad students, i.e. what to learn and take with them, what to expect when searching for a job, and what to expect when you start a new job, etc.

I was on the job market for two years. It was tough when interviews and campus visits did not lead to a job. I just kept applying to a variety of places and tried to stay as optimistic and positive as I could be. I recommend learning as much as possible about the school where you hope to teach and then highlighting how you could contribute as a faculty member and a colleague.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Drown Writers Series (DWS) is back [exclamation point]. We're excited to welcome the new members of the English department, and we can't think of a better way to do so than by serving them a homemade lunch and reading them some original fiction and poetry. (It's just for you, we swear). So whether you're brand new or old news, come on down to The Humanities Center at 224 W. Packer Ave from noon to one on Friday Oct. 5, Oct. 26 (Spooky DWS), Nov. 16, and Dec. 7 and add some more informal creativity to your Lehigh experience. If you or someone you know is interested in reading some of their original work at a future DWS, please contact Devin at [djd208@lehigh.edu](mailto:djd208@lehigh.edu).

Leo Daniel Crowe was born on June 9, 2012, weighing 6 lbs. 9 oz. and 20 inches long. Congratulations to Brian and his wife, Mary Ellen!



I'd like to invite everyone to join the Pre-Modern Studies Colloquium, please email me ([ens310@lehigh.edu](mailto:ens310@lehigh.edu)) with any questions that you may have.

Thanks!  
-Ed S.

## SPRING SUBMISSION DEADLINE

February 15, 2013

### **Drowners Softball Recap**

The Drowners, Lehigh University English Department's premier softball team, enjoyed their most successful season in the modern softball era. Fueled by big hits and a defense that wasn't afraid to flash the leather, the Drowners finished the 2012 regular season in first place with a record of 7-3.

"This is the Drowners ball club we used to dream about in the early years" said grizzled veteran Brad 'The Beard' Rogers, "Our week-long trust retreat during spring training really paid off, I guess." The Drowners beat every team in the league at least once, and in one case stomped a team so badly that the normally reserved English nerds felt free to take their popsicles into the field during play. "It was super hot that day" said Andy 'Pete Nagy' Dipell, in between licks of a fresh, unrelated popsicle, "I had two popsicles out there at one point and we still beat them 27-1. My glove was on the ground in center field."

But their regular season prowess turned out to be a mixed blessing for the Drowners. They took a bye through the first round of the playoffs and came back to the diamond looking more than a bit rusty. "We're a young team when it comes to the playoffs" rookie sensation Cary Runowski said, "and the week and a half off before our first playoff game got into our heads." Runowski, a youngster himself at just seventeen, was a midseason acquisition for the team and added some much needed speed on the base paths for the aging grammarians. "He is the fastest f#@%ing thing that ever happened to a lopsided softball field," said Colleen 'The Radar' Martell, "He had cleats." The Drowners fell to perennial powerhouse the Psi Stars, a team that plays so unlike Kevin Costner in Tin Cup that it's doubtful they'll ever have a movie made about them. "Single after single down the third base line," said Jenny 'Benny the Jet' Hyst, "Nothin' you can do except wait for them in the parking lot and blindside them with bag after bag of rock salt."

Though battling regular season absences due to expected issues like vacations, heat, popsicle overdoses, etc., the Drowners managed to stay relatively injury free in 2012. "I was on the five minute DL a couple times with a sprained ankle or two" said disabled list regular Liz "Wiggins" Wiggins, "but I'm as shocked as anyone that I didn't seriously burn or break myself as much as usual." It was a different kind of season all around. "It suuuure was," the team said in chorus somehow. Softball. Summer. Lightening Bugs.

*-submitted by Devin Donovan*

