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I started as department chair in July 2017, and had I known a pandemic was headed our way, I might’ve reconsidered! At the halfway point of my term, I had to suddenly redirect my energies from nurturing community and pursuing new initiatives to sponsoring faculty development of online education strategies and managing department work exclusively remotely. In recent months, we’ve returned to the classroom, established an important new scholarship, and renewed our study abroad programs to Italy and England, and I hope our Alumni Advisory Group will now be able to reach its full potential. We’ve weathered the COVID storm, as the student achievements and faculty publications detailed on the following pages demonstrate. I look forward to seeing what the department will get up to this coming academic year, under the leadership of Interim Chair Scott Peeples!

Having served as department chair from 2012 to 2017, I look forward to returning as interim chair for the 2022–23 academic year. I’d like to thank Myra Seaman for guiding the department through some difficult times and moving us forward on many fronts: race and inclusivity training and awareness, student engagement, and faculty support, to name a few. I’ll do my best to keep that momentum going. In the coming months, I’m particularly excited about the English Department’s expanded role in November’s Charleston Literary Festival, which now includes many on-campus events with acclaimed authors, and in our launching a new scholarship in honor of Professor Conseula Francis. And as always, I look forward to working with our outstanding group of English majors and our dedicated, award-winning faculty.

We hope you’ll enjoy what you read in the pages that follow, and that you’ll continue to stay engaged with the Department of English. The success of our program depends upon the involvement of our alums, so please contact department chair Scott Peeples at peepless@cofc.edu or 843-953-1014 to give us an update, share your ideas, or let us know how you might be of service to the department and our students.
What an English Day! After two years of digital celebrations, we were back in person in the Stern Center Ballroom on April 1st. 14 graduating seniors shared their insights with visitors who strolled among the posters, and 6 creative writers read their award-winning poems and fiction. (See above for a glimpse of the conversations the posters, hung on the windows and seeming a bit like stained glass, sparked.) Prof. Russell honored our 2 HSS Scholars, 8 Outstanding Students, and other award winners (listed on following pages). It was such fun to talk with so many students about their work in classes, about plans for the summer, and all the rest. We are so proud of our graduating seniors!

Sarah Margaret Goad Memorial Undergraduate Prizes in Fiction and Poetry

Poetry
1st Prize: Cora Schipa, “Heirlooms”
2nd Prize: Katie Chea, “The day I heard that my uncle killed himself”
Honorable Mention: Kaitlyn Walker, “Childhood Bedroom”

Fiction
1st Prize: Mary Elizabeth Ray, “Farm”
2nd Prize: Natalie Martusciello, “Still Some Pink”
Honorable Mention: Bailey Ford, “End of the Line”

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Kiara Bohannon “The Criticism Games”
Mollie Bowman “Uncovering the Queerness of Stephen King’s It”
Meg Carroll “I Accept Chaos: The Perils of Existence According to Bob Dylan and Kurt Vonnegut”
Deeanna Cohen “Unfair Gender Roles Placed on Medieval Women”
Katie Fleischman “She-Devils on Film: Women and Cultural Anxiety in Exploitation Cinema”
Katie Hopewell “Merricat’s Silver Coins: Gendered Economics and the Female Gothic Heroine in We Have Always Lived in the Castle by Shirley Jackson”
Sam Lamourie “Storytelling in Video Games: A Literary Analysis of Tropes and Mechanics of the First-Person Shooter Genre”
Gabi Loue “The Comparative Medieval Arthurian Tradition”
Holly Malnati “English Courses that Helped with Women’s Health Writing”
Alice Ohlandt “What is Existence?”—A female gothic short story
Rachel Greene Phillips “The Bent Will: A Distorted Good”
Evan Scheinberg “Satan and Politics in Milton’s Paradise Lost”
Cora Schipa “The Ocean is Far From Here”—A female gothic short story
Dahlia Watson “Wanted: Appreciation and Recognition”
Patrick Wohlscheid “Day’s Deep Midnight”: John Donne and the Aesthetics of Obscurity”
Educational Highlights: My time as an English major has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life. I have had many opportunities to develop and foster my literary interests. During my junior year, I developed an independent study in which I examined the queer coding of Stephen King's *It*. I ultimately claimed that *It* is an inherently queer work, in spite of King's recent statement that it's queer coding was unintentional. At the same time, I was developing my interest in early modern literature through courses like Renaissance Intertextuality and Milton. John Milton has since become my favorite author and *Paradise Lost* my favorite literary work. Since my sophomore year, I have worked as a consultant in the Writing Lab at CofC. I was recently awarded Student Employee of the Year, as well as one of the top nineteen student employees in the nation for my work as a consultant. I am incredibly grateful for my professors who have continually pushed me to become a better student and scholar.

Research Focus or Project: During the final semester of my undergraduate studies, I have undertaken an independent research project surveying imitations and adaptations of Milton's *Paradise Lost* from the late seventeenth-century to the present and examining how his work has been read and received since its publication. I have been mapping out the way that Milton's status has shifted in the time since his death, looking at works ranging from John Dryden's *A State of Innocence* (1677) to the optioned screenplay adaptation of *Paradise Lost* (2011).

Future Plans: This fall, I will be continuing my studies as a graduate student in the English program at Penn State University. While there, I will pursue my Master's and Ph.D. in English with a focus in early modern literature. Ultimately, I wish to be a teacher and scholar of early modern literature and culture, though I look forward to whatever path my graduate studies will lead me down.

Educational Highlights: My journey at the College of Charleston began in Fall 2019 after I transferred from my local community college. I entered the College as a dual Spanish and Secondary Education major and completed a variety of courses within these fields of study. Difficulties arising from the COVID-19 pandemic encouraged me to embrace my life long interest in literature and writing. My decision to shift my study focus and pursue an English degree was the best choice of my life so far. From my first semester as an English major, the professors I had the pleasure of learning from provided me with so much confidence and support, I immediately knew I had found my niche. Without the optimism and reassurance of the professors within the English department, I would have most likely abandoned my intense passion for literature and written expression that were irreplaceable remedies to mental illness complications I endured during my adolescence. Overall, nothing will diminish the gratitude I hold for the opportunity of studying at College of Charleston and being selected to represent the English department as a 2022 School of Humanities of Social Sciences Scholar.

Research Focus or Project: This past Spring semester I was offered an exceptional opportunity to cultivate an original close-reading thematic essay on Lorraine's Hansberry's *A Raisin in the Sun* for the purpose of having my piece published in Norton's Seagull Book of Plays. Centered on the relationship between gender roles and the American Dream, this project challenged me to identify ways in which women's obligations as mothers limit their ability to actively participate in the American Dream. My findings, connected with Hansberry's emotional and timeless piece, resulted in a complex, thought-provoking essay that other students will be able to use as inspiration for their own essays.

Future Plans: I am enrolled in the online Oxford TEFL certification course, and after its completion this summer, I plan to gain experience teaching to students learning English as a second language. In the next three years, I plan to further my education with graduate studies, perhaps shifting my focus to the field of psychology.
### Outstanding Students

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<th>Name</th>
<th>Major</th>
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<tr>
<td>Corey Chamberlain</td>
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<td>Katherine Dennis</td>
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<td>Kathleen Hopewell</td>
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<td>Gabrielle Loue</td>
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<td>Jessica Palombo</td>
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<td>Kelsey Pratt</td>
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<td>Cora Schipa</td>
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<td>Patrick Wohlscheid</td>
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### Anna B. Katona Award in American Literature
- Kelsey Pratt

### Macy Ezell Cooke Scholarship
- Patrick Wohlscheid

### English Alumni Awards
- Isabella Galloway
- Mary McCall

### Marilyn Shiey Coste Memorial Scholarship
- Adam Dorsheimer

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Check out The College Today’s write up on English major Patrick Wohlscheid (LF/’22). Read about Patrick's interests, current research, accomplishments, and future pursuits.

Allen Duggar (CW ’23/Religious Studies double major, music minor) participated in the EXPO 2022 that Provost Austin hosted in May. Allen's poster for his Religious Studies project, "Let Ev'ry Land their Tongues Employ: Ritual Democracy among Shape Note Singers," was chosen as one of 3 to receive the “Outstanding Poster in Humanities Award.”

Izzy Adler ‘24 spent a month this summer in New York City taking part in NYU's Writers in New York. Izzy was in the fiction writing course and was taught by published authors Hala Alyan and Charles Bock. They met every day and had nightly events which introduced her to other published writers, poets, and authors. In addition to meeting other creatives; Izzy also met agents and people in the publishing industry. The entire experience was invaluable to Izzy's learning and offered her the opportunity to workshop part of her finished novel.
From 2002 to 2016, Conseula Francis Ph.D., professor of English and associate provost for curriculum and institutional resources, profoundly impacted the College of Charleston. Her charismatic teaching, insightful scholarship and pathbreaking leadership in the fields of English literature and African American studies transformed our community. Francis' passionate expertise ranged from Octavia Butler sci-fi novels, Beverly Jenkins romance novels and James Baldwin’s *The Fire Next Time*, to Aaron McGruder’s *The Boondocks*, superhero comics, *Star Wars*, Harry Potter and the Broadway show *Hamilton*. Her joy and enthusiasm brightened the lives of hundreds of students, faculty and administrative colleagues. Her early death was a terrible tragedy for all who knew her.

The English Department, the African American Studies Program, and the Avery Research Center have honored our beloved former colleague’s achievements by establishing the Conseula Francis Scholarship Fund, which will award $2,500 annually to an African American student at the College of Charleston. We invite you to sustain her mission, cut short much too soon, by joining others in contributing to this fund to support student achievement at the College of Charleston.
CLICK ON EACH PROFESSOR TO SEE WHAT THEY WERE TEACHING
Tim Carens "Strange Gods": Love and Idolatry in the Victorian Novel (Routledge, 2022)

Gary Jackson origin story (University of New Mexico Press, 2021)

Myra Seaman Objects of Affection: The Book and the Household in Late Medieval England (Manchester University Press, 2021)

Scott Peeples The Man of the Crowd: Edgar Allan Poe and the City (Princeton University Press, 2020)

William Russell Inventing the Critic in Renaissance England (Univ. of Delaware Press, 2020)

Kathleen Béres Rogers “Scorpions in the Mind”: The Romantic Construction of Obsession (Palgrave, 2019)

Anthony Varallo The Lines (University of Iowa Press, 2019)
William V. Moore Distinguished Teacher-Scholar Award, Timothy L. Carens
"Tim has dedicated himself, across more than 2 decades at CofC, to the development of students’ scholarship through his study-abroad direction and, especially, his individualized development of student-scholars. In addition to promoting undergraduate research across campus, Tim has directed 7 SURF (Summer Undergraduate Research with Faculty) projects, half of those involving students’ archival work in the UK at the British Library. Tim exemplifies the teacher-scholar model through his active and generous enrichment of many students’ intellectual lives."
(from nomination letter)

Distinguished Advising Award, Jacob W. Craig
"Prof. Craig’s dedication serves his individual advisees within the major as well as those additional students he advises as director of the Writing, Rhetoric & Publication concentration and minor; beyond that, and uniquely, Prof. Craig’s advising extends to all English majors through his leadership in preparing students for post-graduation professional opportunities—that is, through sharing his expertise with department faculty and developing professionalization programs for all students."
(from nomination letter)

Distinguished Adjunct Faculty Teaching Award, Emily C. Lee
"Emily Lee has been teaching 3 sections of First-Year Writing each semester since 2013. What distinguishes her as an educator is her ability to use current research on writing to inform her pedagogy and her pedagogical leadership. She’s deeply curious about students, writing, and teaching—and she constantly seeks out opportunities to learn new ideas to implement in her classes. She also generously shares that knowledge with faculty throughout the department; her expertise as an asynchronous online educator significantly improved the instruction of FYW across our department during the pandemic."
(from nomination letter)

Distinguished Research Award, Anthony E. Varallo
"An author particularly renowned for his skill with short fiction, Tony published a novel, The Lines, to great acclaim in 2019. Tony is an exceptionally productive creative writer: his 4 short story collections appeared over the course of just 12 years, at a rate of a book every 3 years. Tony consistently publishes in top literary magazines—many of which have acceptance rates of 1% or lower. He is also committed and discerning in his work as Fiction Editor for the literary journal Crazyhorse, housed here at the College."
(from nomination letter)
Congratulations to Prof. Jesslyn Collins-Frohlich, who was awarded the Alexander M. Sanders, Jr. Presidential Legacy for Outstanding Public Service Award at the ExCEL Awards program!

These past two years, Dr. Devet was also lucky to have several articles published, focusing on major issues in the writing center world, namely transfer of learning, relationships of consultants with faculty, and decolonizing centers: “A Systematic Method for Engaging WC Consultants in Far Transfer” WLN: A Journal of Writing Center Scholarship (vol. 45, no. 3-4, Nov./Dec. 2020, pp. 17-24); “When Faculty Know You Are a Writing Center Consultant.” Praxis: A Writing Center Journal, vol. 18, no. 2 (2021), pp. 1-3; “Decolonizing a Writing Lab: Training Consultants Through Analogies” Praxis: A Writing Center Journal (March 2022) https://www.praxisuw.com/axis-si-2-devet. Finally, because the Writing Lab emphasizes developing the consultants, Mollie Bowman and Alex Tate-Moffo co-presented with Dr. Devet at the International Writing Center Association Conference (Oct. 2021). Their presentation focused on their experiences with conducting online Writing Lab consultations: “Returning to Normal: Mitigating the Psychological Disadvantages of Conducting Online Synchronous Consultations.”

In July 2021, Dr. Duvall presented his research at a webinar sponsored by the New England Chinese American Alliance. Over 200 participants attended, and the panel included American descendants of Li. Dr. Duvall also joined a panel of experts in March ’22 commemorating students of the Chinese Educational Mission to the US (1872-1881) who stayed in the US to live out their personal and professional lives amid rampant Sinophobia, legal discrimination, and disenfranchisement. This panel, sponsored by the Chinese Historical Society of New England, kicked off a year of celebrations surrounding the 150th anniversary of the CEM. In March ’22, he also presented some of his research on Li’s children magazine writing at the annual meeting of the Society for the Study of Multiethnic Literature of the US (MELUS) in New Orleans. Dr. Duvall taught a new course this past spring on 19th century African American novels and will teach a new first-year seminar entitled “What American Literature can Teach Us about Race, Equity, and Inclusion” this fall. He is also looking forward to teaching a graduate seminar this fall on American Regionalism and will round out the year by teaching the American Literature survey course and an upper-division course on American Realism in the spring.

In July ‘21, Prof. Duvall started a 2-year term as Associate Chair for the Department of English. He assists students with transfer credit evaluation and supports the department’s student advising and program assessment.

Prof. Mike Duvall continues his research and writing on Yan Phou Lee (Li Enfu), author of the first book published in the US by a Chinese-American, When I was a Boy in China (1887) and has a journal article currently under consideration for publication.
Congratulations to **Prof. Gary Jackson** on the publication of his new poetry collection, *origin story*, which was published by University of New Mexico Press on August 15!

An interrogation of cultural and personal myths, these poems take us from Kansas to Korea and back again in an attempt to reconnect with estranged family and familial ghosts divided by years of diaspora.

Prof. Eichelberger virtually presented a paper at the Yoknapatawpha Conference in Oxford, MS, comparing the cultural landscapes of Mississippi writers William Faulkner, Richard Wright, Eudora Welty and Jesmyn Ward.

She served on the Healthcare Steering Committee for the Charleston Area Justice Ministry, which began a campaign to fund mobile health units to provide better access to primary care in the Lowcountry.

Congratulations to **Prof. Simon Lewis** on receiving the Governor’s Award in the Humanities. A well-deserved recognition! Check out the article in *The College Today*!

Simon has been keeping up reviewing both in the *Post and Courier*, and in scholarly journals and has a review essay on South African-born but Scottish-based author Zoe Wicomb coming up in *Studies in Scottish Literature*.

July 1st Simon began as Faculty Director for the College’s Race, Equity and Inclusion (REI) initiative.

She also completed a Correspondence Calendar summarizing 600-plus letters between Eudora Welty and Frank Lyell, to be published in the 2021 Eudora Welty Review. (This work continues research Eichelberger conducted with 4 SURF students over Summer 2018 and 2019 and two MAYS students during her last sabbatical, as well as several graduate assistants. All will be acknowledged in the Correspondence Calendar.)


She did a lot of public history work: served as co-chair on the President’s Historical Review Task Force and participated in two C of C Critical Conversations webinars—“Race and the Legacies of Slavery at the College of Charleston: How the Past Informs the Present,” October 2020, and “Telling Truer Stories at C of C” on the roots of systemic racism and how C of C is now responding, April 2021. She was editorial reviewer and advisor for a new set of 5 online tours on Discovering Our Past, written by History grad students, on sites relevant to African American life in and around C of C’s campus, including this essay, written by a C of C history grad student, on *74 George Street*. In response to President Hsu’s decision to change the names of a donor society and a scholarship, Eichelberger co-authored, with Bernard Powers and Harlan Greene, “College of Charleston Made the Right Decision on Bishop Smith.” *Post and Courier* Nov. 13, 2020.

While on sabbatical in 2020, **Prof. Julia Eichelberger** drafted a book manuscript on the correspondence of Eudora Welty and Frank Lyell, a friend from Jackson, MS who became an English professor.
Alongside that, she has been teaching classes on Medieval Feminism and King Arthur & the Arthurverse, as well as Intro to English Studies. In 2019, she taught in the department’s study-abroad program in Spoleto, Italy, a career highlight during the final pre-pandemic summer of study abroad. In 2020, she started learning Spanish with Duolingo and after 600 consecutive days, shifted over to reading actual books. She completed her 5-year term as chair in June 2022, which was particularly challenging with the arrival of the pandemic and the dramatic shift to hybrid and online instruction and the array of negative impacts on higher ed. At the same time, the Black Lives Matter protests in 2020 encouraged important departmental work to develop antiracist pedagogies across our classes. July 1 marked the beginning of a year-long sabbatical, which she’ll devote to a new project on the culture of anonymity in the literature production of medieval England. She’s also taking her first multi-day bike trip, in the Taos/Santa Fe area, in July.

Together with Jesslyn Collins-Frohlich and faculty members from other departments, Kathy (IRC conference chair) coordinated and hosted the International Conference on Romanticism last October in Charleston. The International Conference on Romanticism (ICR), aims to further the study of Romanticism across linguistic, national and political disciplines. The theme of the conference, of which the College of Charleston is a sponsor, is “bonds,” with discussions on bonds occasioned by race, social or familial bonds, creative bonds, globalization and imperialism, political bonds, bonds between literary periods, current-day bonds to the Romantic era and more.

She also ran her first ultramarathon!
The 1967 Legacy Program was instituted in 2021 to improve the recruitment, retention, graduation and workplace success of Black students through scholarships, enhanced and extended education support, and professional preparation, with the attendant goal of contributing research on the experiences of the Black trailblazers who contributed to the College.

Each Legacy Scholar receives $5,000 each year plus support for study abroad and internship opportunities. They participate in a prestigious, four-year platform of academic, personal, and career-ready enrichment to become the next generation of Black leaders.

The scholars are involved in historical research projects promoting awareness about the Black experience and the people who came before them.

The image above is of the very first cohort of 1967 Legacy Scholars (2021-22).
Senior English major Tony Jackson ('22) researched, produced, and recorded the podcast "The Black Experience: Dr. Eugene Hunt" in Spring 2021, as part of a newly-launched multi-media series focused on neglected English department history. The podcast shares the story of Prof. Eugene Hunt, the first Black professor in the English department. Prof. Hunt (1916-1994), who joined the college in 1972, was the second Black faculty member at the College and was also the second Black professor at CofC to achieve tenure.

As Jackson's podcast explains, Prof. Hunt began his career teaching for many years at Burke High School (1941-72), and he retired from the College in 1992. The 24-minute podcast shares material from interviews Tony conducted with Dr. Larry Carlson (CofC English professor 1979-2009), Dr. Caroline Hunt (CofC English professor 1976-2008, current Emerita Adjunct Instructor), and Dr. Millicent Brown (who played a direct role in desegregating SC state schools, in part through “Millicent Brown, et al v. School District 20” [Charleston, SC, 1963]). Please take a listen! Thanks go to Prof. Valerie Frazier and Prof. Joe Kelly for inviting Tony to do this work—and most especially to Tony Jackson. The department honors Prof. Eugene Hunt's ground-breaking service to the College (including his role in the development of the African American Studies Program) and to the Department of English.
Congratulations, Kangkang Kovacs!

KANGKANG KOVACS, MFA GRADUATE STUDENT, WAS AWARDED
2ND PLACE IN FICTION
IN THE 2022 PORTER FLEMING LITERARY COMPETITION!

Jammie Huynh (she/her), first year MFA graduate student, is the first winner of the Free Verse Press Poetry Prize. Jammie is a queer Vietnamese-Ecuadorian poet from Hartsville/Florence, SC. Her poetry centers around her family and identity. She writes through the traumas of childhood and uses poetry to navigate and understand what she has been through. Poetry is where she can make sense of who she is and where she can confront her father on a stage of her choosing. Jammie’s poetry is about being honest and telling the story of family that so many people decide to ignore.
In the Spring 2022 semester, Professors Celeste Lacroix (Communications), Cara Delay (History), and Colleen Glenn (English) led a study abroad trip to Florence, Italy. The 26 students took a range of courses in topics such as Italian History, Slow Cinema, and Communication Practices. With sustainability as their theme, the group also learned about the Slow Food movement, which was born in Italy, by visiting Slow Food producers in and around Tuscany, sampling artisanal chocolate, gelato, truffles, cheese, wine, and other products. The program offered a unique study abroad opportunity in the birth places of the Renaissance and the Slow Food movement. It was good to be back abroad!
Professors Bret Lott and Scott Peeples led a group of 15 students to Spoleto, Italy, for a four-week program in May and June. This was the return of the program after the pandemic disrupted it for two years. Students studied travel writing with Prof. Lott, with Prof. Peeples they read novels and short stories by American authors set in Italy, and they wrote extensively about their own experiences as travelers. Based in Charleston’s sister city of Spoleto, the program included excursions to Florence, Rome, Assisi, and Orvieto, and students traveled on their own to Venice and Cinque Terra on their free weekends. Other highlights included a cooking class at a small country inn and a truffle-hunting expedition in the mountains of Umbria. The department is thrilled about the successful return of the Spoleto program!
In June 2022, Professor Carens and 13 students traveled to London to study British Gothic literature. The class focused on classic and lesser-known Gothic narratives: Austen’s *Northanger Abbey*, Brontë’s *Wuthering Heights*, Stevenson’s *Jekyll and Hyde*, Conan Doyle’s “Lot No. 249,” Machen’s *The Great God Pan*, Stoker’s *Dracula*, and Wilde’s *Picture of Dorian Gray*. To better understand these works, we sought out urban and rural sites associated with Gothic monstrosity: ruined cathedrals, overgrown graveyards, and crooked alleys. In addition to London, the class visited Bath, Oxford, and some quaint country villages. We made good use of the theater as well, seeing *King Lear* (at the Globe no less), *Phantom of the Opera*, *My Fair Lady*, and *The Woman in Black*. Also, the odd pub was visited.
Welcome new professors
Dr. Yunah Kae & Dr. Kenny Johnson!

Dr. Kenneth Johnson specializes in African American Literature—most especially, narrative considerations of contemporary Black masculinities. His dissertation, *Boy Man: Multiple Literacies and Narrating Black Southern Boyhood in the Works of Kiese Laymon*, grounds a broader set of interests in 20th and 21st Century African American Narrative, Black Masculinity Studies, Black Men's Literacy, Black Queer Theory, Hip-Hop Studies, and Cultural Studies. Dr. Johnson earned his PhD at Florida State University in 2021, and he has experience teaching at FSU and at Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University, his alma mater. He will be teaching courses in African American Literature, the American Literature survey, and First Year Writing.

Dr. Yunah Kae's expertise lies in early modern drama of Shakespeare’s day, with a special focus on critical race studies and aesthetics. In her dissertation, *Racial Poetics: Early Modern Race and the Form of Comedy*, Dr. Kae "considers how experiments in comedy encode an early modern racial epistemology [and] demonstrat[es] the racial stakes of aesthetic forms, in the past as well as our present." Her article "'Light in darkness lies': Poesy, Love, and Whiteness in *Love's Labour's Lost*" will be published in *Shakespeare Studies*. Dr. Kae completed her PhD at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, this summer. She will be teaching classes on Early Modern Drama including Shakespeare, British Literature to 1800, and First-Year Writing.
ENGL 300 Race in the Renaissance - Prof. Yunah Kae
Can we trace the historical roots of our ideas about race? How do early modern ideas of race coincide with, or differ from, modern perceptions? And how is art and literature implicated in the making of such ideas? In this course, we will attempt to answer these questions through the examination of drama during a period where questions about race were still very much fluid and unfixed. Early modern drama can provide us with a lens into the past to see how literature reflects ideas, fears, and desires of racial Others in the English Renaissance, but it can also help us to see how the past can shape future conceptions of race. In other words, early modern drama can help us re-see our cultural and political present. In this course, we will examine early modern plays within their historical contexts. We will learn to grapple with a wide range of early modern racial discourses, such as Blackness, Whiteness, religion, imperialism and colonialism, history and nationhood, and medicine and physiology. At the same time, we will read contemporary theories on race, as well as modern film and performance adaptations. Some questions we will ask in this course include, how did early moderns, in their increasing contact with different peoples and cultures, produce ideas of race? How is race understood in early modern drama? Do the plays interrogate contemporary power structures or reinforce the status quo? And how can our readings help open up new ways to understand and re-make our present?

ENGL 364 (Re)Constructions: Contemporary Black Men’s Memoirs - Prof. Kenneth Johnson
Black men’s entire existence in America has been what Randall Horton describes as “deliberate scaffolding.” He defines this concept as the process by which Black men become educated on how their bodies navigate and transform the spaces they inhabit. They often fall prey to monolithic, static, and reductive images and “constructions.” These constructions are generalized and stereotypical ideas about Black men, what they can do, and who they can be(come). These ideas permeate society, affecting how education, law, social spaces, the workforce, and every facet of American society view Black men. How do these constructions of Black men impede and derail the natural maturation from boy to man? In what ways are innocence, boyhood, and autonomy made largely inaccessible to Black boys? What tensions arise when Black men envision a life contradictory to “the livery the white man has fabricated for him?” This course will contend with Black men’s memoirs as a genre of reinscribing and humanizing Black men. Through the exercise of penning their own stories, Black men deconstruct these violent images and reimagine themselves, the spaces they inhabit, and how they show up (and choose to show up) therein. Readings include but are not limited to Horton’s Hook, Kiese Laymon’s Heavy, MK Asante’s Buck, and Darnell Moore’s No Ashes in the Fire. We will discuss their conversations on Black masculinity, Black boyhood, and Black men’s bodies among other relevant topics uncovered through our reading.

Find descriptions of all Fall 2022 classes on our department website here!
Harlan Greene '74 has been on faculty since 2005 at CoFC. He is writing a book on the history of over 350 years of LGBTQ life in Charleston and would love to hear from College alumni on their experiences in Charleston and at the College (greeneh@cofc.edu). He is working on another book, a biography of Dorothy Heyward and her contribution to Porgy and Bess, The last book, To Make Their Own Way in the World, The Enduring Legacy of the Zealy Daguerreotypes which he contributed an essay just won a national award.

As CoFC alumni, you can join the new LGBTQ affinity group being established by the CoFC Alumni Association.

Eleanor McPhail ‘62 got her masters from Boston University while she lived in Frankfurt Germany. McPhail is a retired social worker for the elderly, and lives in Burke, Va. She moved around a lot with her husband, who used to be a federal worker. Bill and Eleanor have two children: Katharine and Will. McPhail has also lived in New Orleans and Germany – but Summerville is still considered home.

Eleanor wrote a book, Summerville, in 2015. When she retired, McPhail decided she wanted to write a fictionalized story about her experiences growing up. McPhail includes a note at the beginning of her story: “This book is a work of fiction though based on a real town. The events did not happen. People will enjoy trying to see if they are in the book, but most characters are a composite of many and the ‘bad guys’ are totally fictitious. So don’t sue me.” The book is self-published.

McPhail states, “we have had a wonderful life. Bill and I are retired and doing nothing we don’t want to do.”

Lucas Carpenter’s (‘68) stories have appeared in Berkeley Fiction Review, Short Story, The Crescent Review, Nassau Review, The Chattahoochee Review, and South Carolina Review. He is also the author of three collections of poetry, one book of literary criticism, and many poems, essays, and reviews published in more than twenty-five periodicals, including Prairie Schooner, The Minnesota Review, College Literature, Beloit Poetry Journal, Kansas Quarterly, Carolina Quarterly, Concerning Poetry, Poetry (Australia), Southern Humanities Review, College English, Art Papers, San Francisco Review of Books, Callaloo, Southern History Journal, and New York Newsday. He was a Fulbright Distinguished Scholar at Belgium’s University of Leuven in 1999 and was selected as Emory University’s Scholar-Teacher of the Year in 2003. He is Charles Howard Candler Professor of Humanities Emeritus at Emory University.

Debbie Blalock ‘81 graduated from the Citadel with M.Ed in clinical counseling in 2003. She began working with the SCDMH as a practicum student in 2003 and has been with the agency ever since. Blalock was appointed Deputy Director, Community Mental Health Services in December 2017. She married Mark Blalock in 2008, and has 5 children and 2 grandchildren.

Natalie Bluestein ‘87 received her MPA from USC in 1990, and JD from USC School of Law in 1993. She has been a partner at Bluestein & Douglas, a Family Law firm, since 1999, and continues to practice in Mt. Pleasant, SC.

She volunteers for a number of legal and non-profit organizations, has been the regional Chair of the SC Bar Resolution of Fee Disputes Board for more than 10 years, and the past President of both the SC Women Lawyers Association and the Charleston County Bar Association.

Natalie is currently on the Boards of the Footlight Players, Hallie Hill Animal Sanctuary, College of Charleston’s Natural History Museum, Ladies Benevolent Society, and Charleston Cooperative Family Law Association. She is a member and volunteer for the British Car Club of Charleston and the Junior League of Charleston.
Lu Parker ‘90

is an Emmy and Genesis Award winning journalist, Lu has worked in the television news business as an anchor and reporter for more than two decades. She is also an inspirational speaker, author, former Miss USA, animal advocate, and founder of Be Kind & Co., a lifestyle media brand. You can find her anchoring the news in Los Angeles at KTLA 5. Lu currently anchors the 11 a.m., 12 p.m., 1 p.m., and 3 p.m. newscasts.

Prior to her career in broadcasting, Lu was a ninth-grade English Literature teacher. While teaching, in 1994, she captured both the Miss South Carolina USA, and Miss USA titles. In addition, as Miss USA, she placed 4th in the Miss Universe Pageant. You can read more about her pageant experiences and find valuable competition tips in her book titled “Catching the Crown: The Source for Pageant Competition.”

Lu is an avid traveler and has visited nearly 20 countries where she has had the opportunity to meet with dignitaries such as Prince William and Kate Middleton and Presidents Barack Obama and Bill Clinton. While on a trip to South Africa, Lu also had the opportunity to discuss human and animal rights during visits with Nelson Mandela and Jane Goodall.

Lu has an English degree from the College of Charleston where she was named Alumnus of the Year. She also holds a Master of Arts degree in Education from The Citadel. Lu has been presented with the Palmetto Award, the highest civilian honor given in the state of South Carolina, and has been recognized in the South Carolina Congressional Record twice as an outstanding South Carolinian.

In her free time, Lu is an advocate for homeless animals. In 2010, she created Lu Parker Project, a non-profit organization dedicated to helping homeless animals through community projects and education. She has also been a vegetarian for over 30 years and became vegan in 2014. She lives in Los Angeles with her 100 lb. rescue dog, Moose.

Besides continuing to work as a news anchor in Los Angeles, Parker also started a company called Be Kind & Co.

The lifestyle media company focuses on all things kind through written content, digital media and merchandise.

She has also been speaking professionally on “How Kindness Creates Success” at conferences and events.

Melissa Johnson 89’ graduated from C of C in December 1989 with a B.A. in English. She went on to earn an MFA in creative writing (1996) and a Ph.D. in 20th century British Literature and Women’s Studies from the University of South Carolina (2002).

Melissa served as the Chair of the Department of Focused Inquiry in the University College at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond VA from 2014-2021 and was promoted to full professor in August of 2020. In September of 2021, she began a new position as Associate Vice President and Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education at The Pennsylvania State University.

Amy Bain ‘93 attended MUSC in fall of 1993 and received her B.S in Health Information Management in May 1995. Bain has been working in the HIM field since then - in many roles over the years from Medical Coder, Coding Manager, and Coding Educator/Auditor.

Bain has been married for almost 30 years to her high school sweetheart, Chris Bain (C of C alumni (’92) and have two daughters, Haley (‘23) and Hannah (‘21). Hannah is a recent alumni of C of C - she graduated magna cum laude in May 2021 with a degree in Communications.

They recently relocated from Mount Pleasant, SC to central Kentucky and built a farmhouse on 22 acres. Bain loves to travel with her husband, spend time with family, take walks around their farm, read, and play LOTS of tennis!

Bain said, "I could not be more proud of my English education and all that I learned from the wonderful professors I crossed paths with during my time at the College".

Bain at ’93 graduation

Bain with her daughter Hannah at her CoFC graduation in May 21.
Dr. Michelle Asha Cooper ’95 has been appointed Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Postsecondary Education by the Biden Administration, and will serve as acting Assistant Secretary. Prior to being appointed to this position, Dr. Cooper was the President of the Institute for Higher Education Policy (IHEP) and had been leading IHEP since 2008. Dr. Cooper has more than 20 years of experience in postsecondary education including key roles and leadership positions at the Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance (U.S. Department of Education), Council for Independent Colleges, Association of American Colleges & Universities, and King’s College (Wilkes-Barre, PA). While at the College, she majored in English and was in the Honors College. Dr. Cooper joined Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. She earned her MPS from Cornell University in 1997 and her PhD from the University of Maryland in 2006. Dr. Cooper served on the CofC Alumni Association Board from 2011-2015, and in May 2019, she was elected to the CofC Foundation Board. Dr. Cooper resides in Washington, D.C. In July 2020, she participated in an Inside Higher Education podcast, The Key, where she discussed how the pandemic has exposed and worsened equity gaps in higher education, particularly with Black, Latino, and lower-income students.

Rev. Kylon Middleton ’95 In recent years, Middleton has found himself reengaged with the College, particularly after President Andrew T. Hsu took the helm in 2019. Middleton serves on the African American Studies Advisory Board, the Student Affairs Advisory Board and as an advisor for the Lambda Psi Chapter of the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity.

Much as he has done as a pastor and councilman, Middleton hopes to help the College become a leader in the sphere of equity, justice and inclusion.

“That’s not just for Black people, that’s justice across the board: for women, for equity and fairness as it relates to LGBTQ+ persons and every other group,” he says. “We have to make certain that we’re never in a position where there’s an ‘other’ at the College of Charleston.”

Check out The College Today feature.

Tracy Scott ’95 In 2005, Tracy, the Founder of Tracy’s Gourmet®, discovered that she weighed 257 pounds after her father’s passing from a sudden heart attack. With this experience and a family history of heart disease, she realized that no one was going to change her situation for her, so she had to do it for herself. This led to her journey of finding a better way to eat, changing her lifestyle and losing 115 pounds.

Incorporating more salads into her diet was the first step. However, she found that the salad dressings she enjoyed contained ingredients that were negating her new, healthy food eating behaviors. After reading tons of books on health, nutrition and wellness, she discovered that she had to eliminate certain foods from her diet. Eight years later, much healthier, and with years of study in healthy food preparation and eating habits, Tracy is now helping others transition to healthier lifestyles with her company that was founded in 2013.

Tracy’s Gourmet salad dressings and marinades are carried in Whole Foods Market in North Carolina, Amazon.com, at www.tracysgourmet.com and in 20 gourmet and specialty stores.

Beth Guerard Maglione ’98 is Executive Vice President of NASFAA. She has worked for the association since 2008, and in the higher education space for more than two decades. She oversees multiple key functional areas at NASFAA, including Communications, Web, Meetings, Membership Services and Operations/Accounting; she is also the Secretary to the Board of Directors. In prior positions she has served as a reporter, editor, public relations and media relations strategist and spokesperson, and corporate communications manager.

She earned her undergraduate degree at the College of Charleston and a certificate in nonprofit leadership from Georgetown University. Beth lives in Washington, DC with her family.
**Derrick Williams '99** After graduating, pursuing a law career, and starting a family, Derrick Williams received a call from fellow alumni in 2013 and was offered a position on the Alumni Association Board. He reentered the College of Charleston community and has been an active member ever since, even joining the Advisory Board to the Honors College and becoming a charter member of the English department’s new Alumni Advisory Board. “Seeing all the progress the College has made, especially infrastructurally and in the different departments and programs, is amazing,” says Williams. His dedication to CofC and work ethic led to his newest role as the President of the Alumni Association.

Being the leader of any organization can be a daunting task, but Derrick Williams has held numerous leadership positions in the past ranging from captain of the cross country and track team to President of the Riverbanks Zoo Society. Williams has had hands-on experience dealing with conflict and people with differing ideas. His ability to unite groups and create compromises shows his success in leadership, where he has learned his own strengths and weaknesses through humility. Williams realizes that "no one person has all the answers, but we can each have a part of the answer.”

Looking to the future, Williams has plans to improve the Alumni Association and continue to make the CofC experience better for all. Plans are in place to implement “Affinity Groups” within the Alumni Association, where alumni may choose to form or join an Affinity Group that they identify with. The goal is to reach a wider base audience and help alumni connect. Already, the LGBTQ+ and Hispanic Alumni Affinity Groups are being created, and the Black Alumni Council is now housed within the Alumni Association.

**Elizabeth (Betsy) Andrews 2000’** Betsy went on to complete her PhD in Victorian literature and gender theory (Speaking in Silence: Female Agency in Sensation Fiction 1850-1880) at the University of St Andrews in Scotland and now works for the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) for whom she manages an online learning platform with community-based curriculum as well as research projects concerning human rights and diversity. She is based in north Georgia but especially enjoys the international travel that comes with her job.

**Kristin Hackler ’03** The same year Hackler graduated, she met a music major who was graduating that same year. Three years later they married and six years after that had their first son. They now have two boys, ages 8 and 4, and both have a healthy appreciation of the arts. Not long after graduating, she started working for a small newspaper on Sullivan’s island - the Island Eye News - and over the years we expanded it to three newspapers covering five of the sea islands. The flagship paper was even featured in The Return to Sullivan’s Island by Dorothea Benton Frank, with the lead character working as a reporter while she lives in the island.

Hackler started working for Advantage Media Group in 2015 - now Advantage|ForbesBooks - and currently serve as their Senior Ghostwriter and Ghostwriting Manager. She works with her team of roughly 200 ghostwriters as well as ghostwrite, and currently have about 32 books under her belt, with one in progress.

**Elizabeth Hills (Carr) ’03** is the Corporate Affairs Manager for the Charleston Branch Pilots Association, who has served the State of South Carolina since 1890 to prevent marine incidents that would result in harm to the environment, the public, and mariners, and help to maintain a smooth and efficient flow of maritime commerce. I have been with the Pilots since early 2017.

Prior to that Hills worked in Italian tourism and previously, outside sales for the largest stone and countertop company in the world, Cosentino.

She resided in Charleston since 1998, graduated from the College of Charleston in 2003 with a bachelor’s degree in English, and enjoys being involved in the community. She currently serves as Vice-Chair and Communications Chair on the Board for CWIT (Charleston Women in International Trade), Scholarships Chair for the South Carolina International Trade Conference, and am a current board member for Lowcountry Maritime School.

Hills is also class of 2018 South Carolina State Ports Authority Port Ambassador.
Alyson Sinclair ‘03 Since graduating with a B.A. in English and minor in Creative Writing, Sinclair received her MFA in Creative Writing from the University of Minnesota. Afterwards, she went on to work in the book publishing industry as a book publicist at Farrar, Straus and Giroux in NYC and then City Lights and McSweeney’s in San Francisco. Since 2013, she’s run her own literary publicity company, Nectar Literary, where she continues to work with literary authors and nonprofits that support the writing community.

Nicoleta Marinescu ‘04 After graduating from the College in 2004 as an Outstanding student in English, with an additional major in French, Nicoleta pursued a Ph.D. in comparative literature at Harvard University, on a Douglas Dillon fellowship (2005-2009), focusing on Russian, film studies, and French.

Upon her return to the E.U. and Romania, Nicoleta consolidated her comparative literature studies at the Babeș-Bolyai University, in Cluj-Napoca, graduating with an M.A. in Comparative literature in 2014, with a thesis on Andrei Codrescu and the Southern American Gothic Literary Tradition, soon after expanded into a Ph.D. thesis on Southern American Gothic and Soviet Gothic.

Support for Nicoleta’s E.U. based research came from two Erasmus exchanges: at the University Paris IV, Sorbonne, France (2013-2014), and at the University of Kent, Canterbury, UK (2016).

Nicoleta also received an E.U. grant for doctoral research (2015), and a government scholarship to the Pushkin State Russian Language Institute, Moscow, the Russian Federation (2016-2017). Nicoleta’s published research, as well as additional (scientific and creative) writing can be accessed on Academic.edu and ResearchGate.

Dana Nunley Laycook ’05 is Sales Director at CARFAX (been there 5+ years) and Living in Ashburn, VA. Laycook recently purchased a second/vacation home in Kill Devil Hills (OBX), NC.

Daughter, Claire, is entering 4th grade and loves to sing, dance, read, play soccer, and swim. Laycook’s current passion is golf! She also frequently visits Charleston, and still has many friends there and the city has a special spot in her heart.

Jon Sealy ’05 majored in English with a minor in creative writing and earned an MFA at Purdue University. He is the author of 3 novels. His first 2 are The Whiskey Baron (2014) and The Edge of America (2019), the latter of which he published with his new small press, Haywire Books. Sealy’s recent novel, The Merciful, is now available. This novel is a trial story and morality drama about a hit and run killing of a bicyclist in the lowcountry of South Carolina—calling on Sealy’s time living in Charleston.

Megan Koon M.A. 05’ published her first novel Sweet Divinity in December 2019; currently work as an independent change management consultant assisting institutions of higher education with software implementations.
Thomas Bullington '05 completed his doctorate at the University of Mississippi in 2016, and is now teaching (full time, but non-tenure-track) in the Great Books and Integrative Studies programs at Mercer University in Macon, Georgia, where he lives with his husband Jeff and their cat Sappho. Bullington is reworking certain chapters of his dissertation as articles, and also working on a pair of articles about social justice and pedagogy, as well as a service learning project involving little free libraries.

Adam Johnson BA '07, MA '11 has served in several professional roles, including as a web content writer for Granite State College (NH), and as a Writing Center Supervisor for Savannah College of Art and Design (GA) and Hillsborough Community College (FL). He earned his Master of Library and Information Science from Valdosta State University (GA) in 2018, and is now a tenure-track faculty Emerging Technology Librarian at Valencia College in Orlando, FL. He lives in Winter Park, FL with his husband Jonathan Coker (CofC Classics '07, MAT '11) and his two cats.

Jude Morris M.A. 06' has since retired from teaching and is living in Petaluma, CA. She is currently using all her graduate-acquired skills researching and writing a historical novel set in 18th century Pennsylvania. Judy has always been fascinated by US history, and is particularly drawn to her home state where life was a tentative balance of cultures -- Native Americans, English, Scots and Scotch-Irish, and Palantine Germans.

Gale Thompson '08 Her second book of poetry, Helen or My Hunger, was published in the fall of 2020 with YesYes Books. Over the last few years she has led workshops and craft talks with The Writer’s Center in Washington, DC., The David R Collins Writers’ Conference, O, Miami Foundation, and the Georgia Writer’s Association. After receiving her Ph.D. at the University of Georgia, Thompson taught for two years at Grand Valley State University in Grand Rapids, MI. Since Fall 2019 Thompson has been living in the North Georgia mountains where she directs the Creative Writing program at Young Harris College.

—An exciting update that will be interesting to CofC folks is that Jen Julian (fellow '08 alum) also started teaching at Young Harris College with Thompson in 2019! It happened by total chance. Together they run the creative writing department and new major— Thompson specializes in poetry, and Jen specializes in prose. "We work so well together in part because we were taught by such excellent professors at CofC!" Below is a picture of Jen and Gale on Convocation Day in August 2019, our first semester.

Genevieve Hudson '10 is the author of the novel Boys of Alabama, which was a finalist for the Oregon Book Award. Their other books include the critical memoir A Little in Love with Everyone and Pretend We Live Here: Stories, which was a LAMBDA Literary Award finalist. Their work has appeared in ELLE, Oprah Daily, LA Review of Books, Electric Literature, Bomb, Bookforum, No Tokens, Bitch, Tin House, McSweeney’s, Catapult, and other places. They have received fellowships from the Fulbright Program, MacDowell, Caldera Arts, and the Vermont Studio Center. They live in Portland, Oregon.
Jamie Carr ’12 is a literary agent at The Book Group where she represents novelists, journalists, activists, and food and culture writers. She joined The Book Group in January 2020 after almost six years working in the literary department of William Morris Endeavor.

Sara Smith ’12 was a high school English teacher for several years. She is currently an assistant principal of a middle school in the Myrtle Beach area. Smith said, “CofC is the place where I met friends I still have to this day in my English classes, and opened my eyes to so many diverse types of literature in the classes to be a more well-rounded teacher, and person in general. I owe so much of the good parts of my life to my time in this program, and I am forever grateful!”

Whitney Jordan Adams ’12 MA completed her PhD in Rhetorics, Communication, and Information Design from Clemson University in May 2020. She is a current Visiting Assistant Professor of English, Rhetoric, and Writing at Berry College in Mt. Berry, Georgia working on her MBA from Berry College.

Raena Shirali ’12 won the 2021 Hudson Prize from Black Lawrence Press for her second poetry collection summonings. Shirali is the author of GILT (YesYes Books, 2017), which won the 2018 Milt Kessler Poetry Book Award. Winner of a Pushcart Prize & a former Philip Roth Resident at Bucknell University, Shirali is also the recipient of prizes and honors from VIDA, Gulf Coast, Boston Review, & Cosmonauts Avenue. Her work has appeared in American Poetry Review, Academy of American Poets’ Poem-A Day, The Nation, The Rumpus, & elsewhere. Shirali holds an MFA in Poetry from The Ohio State University and is an Assistant Professor of English at Holy Family University in Philadelphia. She is also Co-Editor-in-Chief of Muzzle Magazine. (Author photo: Hannah Yoon)

Flannery Winchester ’13 is now the Communications Director of a national nonprofit called Citizens’ Climate Lobby, where they are working to pass climate change legislation through Congress. This spring Winchester married her husband, Thibault Minet, and just bought a house in Atlanta, Georgia, where we’ll be moving soon with our two dogs.

Chris Cimorelli ’13 works as a copywriter for a $100 million financial publishing company. They publish investing ideas from "gurus" with Wall Street or other institutional investment experience.

Cimorelli was just promoted to an Associate Publisher position, which is the highest rank within the company below CEO.

Cimorelli stated "I am very fortunate, and would love to share my story if you think people will listen. I want our people to know it’s okay to dream big, believe in yourself and go out and achieve great things."

Ian Moore ’13 is currently back in Charleston working remotely as the Correspondence Specialist for the US Department of Energy’s Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Response (CESER), where he tracks and coordinates responses to all of the incoming and outgoing paperwork for audits, projects, assignments, etc, that come into the Office via the White House, the Senate, the US House of Representatives, the Government Accountability Office (GAO), and the Office of the Inspector General (OIG). "If you’ve seen Office Space, I’m essentially the guy from the scene during the company audit who states: "I talk to the customers so the engineers don’t have to".

At the outset of COVID Moore led a freelance research team for the Southwest Business Improvement District of Washington, DC (SWBID) that kept local business owners and community leaders apprised of all the new information coming out about COVID and what measures to take to mitigate the impact of the virus. Moore said “That was probably the most fulfilling project I’ve worked out - before that I worked for a private equity consulting firm in Bethesda, MD”. He also worked for his mother right out of college as an alternative to grad school - Moore’s mother is currently organizing USAID’s AIDS and malarial medical supply chains in Africa, and through her he got his feet wet working for companies like DHL, “which was really pretty invaluable as career experience goes”.

Colleen Etman ’13 is a PhD candidate at the University of South Carolina, in the English Language and Literature program. Her focus is on popular fiction and culture, where she studies the intersections between popular culture and cultural values. Colleen recently published her first academic article, in the open-access Popular Culture Studies Journal. The article, "The Droids You’re Looking For: On Servitude and Sentience in Star Wars," interrogates the way the Star Wars franchise rests on droid labor as a slave class without addressing the ethical implications of this labor. Colleen is also developing new classes on unique topics for USC, including a recent class on fanfiction as literature.

Lauren Krouse ’13 recently wrote about the Petito case and domestic abuse for USA Today.

Krouse is a freelance journalist and creative nonfiction writer based in the southeastern United States. She covers women’s health, domestic violence, self-advocacy, and our inextricably connected personal and political lives. As a survivor of abuse, She is passionate about shedding a light on how power, inequity, and coercive control can shape our lives in ways that are often largely invisible to others.

Krouse’s work has appeared in print and online in Women’s Health, Men’s Health, AARP, Prevention, Self, HuffPost, Shenandoah, and elsewhere.
**Jacob Raymond ’14** is the Executive Director of Community Sailing New Orleans (CSNO), a non-profit organization whose mission is to positively impact lives by providing accessible educational and recreational opportunities on Lake Pontchartrain for people of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities.

CSNO provides a variety of programs with a focus on positive youth development and adaptive sailing for people with disabilities. Jacob is working to eliminate the economic and physical barriers to provide sailing for all in the Greater New Orleans area.

He has been working in community sailing programs for the past 12 years beginning his career as a dock attendant at the College of Charleston Sailing Program. In 2017, US Sailing (the sports National Governing Body) recognized Jacob’s endeavors with the Martin A. Luray award which is the highest honor they give in the Community Sailing Awards.

Jacob married Sarah Wolcott in June of 2020. They met while volunteering at a Special Olympic Regatta in Lake Norman North Carolina.

**Kelly Doyle ’15** is the Open Knowledge Coordinator for the Smithsonian American Women's History Initiative. She works to increase the representation of American women from Smithsonian collections on open access sites like Wikipedia.

Kelly and her husband, Augee Kim, (also a graduate of the MA program) welcomed their daughter Sibyl in October 2020.

**Nikki Palazzo ’13** After getting her bachelor’s in English with a concentration in fiction writing at CofC, she worked for a few years and then moved to Chicago to get her Master’s in Library and Information Science. The summer she finished my degree, Nikki moved to Freiburg, Germany. She been there 5 years, and now manages a department of the Stadtbibliothek Freiburg/Freiburg City Library that is part-reference desk, part-public computer lab, part-future technologies. Nikki also started a passion project that she monetized: She is the creator and host of the podcast The Expat Cast, where she interviews people who live in countries other than the one they’re from. The podcast is a space to talk about the less picturesque parts of life abroad, while still celebrating all the beautiful parts.

In Nikki’s own life abroad origin story, she credits her first trip to Europe with the Spoleto study abroad program with Professor Lott in 2012 as the spark that laid the groundwork for her move to Europe. Starting early 2023, she will be relocating temporarily to Asuncion, Paraguay.

**Kaleb Eisele ’16** started a small, independent music and arts blog for a few years, and used that experience to secure an internship with the Charleston City Paper for about a semester and a half. In that time he worked on around 100 (mostly very short) pieces of writing covering events, notable figures, and news around Charleston. After graduation, however, he did not find a job that met his financial needs and returned to working in the service industry until the end of 2018. While working that job, he started a new project called “Humans of Adventism” - part of a larger “Humans of” project initiated by Brandon Stanton’s “Humans of New York.” As a Seventh-day Adventist, he felt like their life stories and experiences were rarely shared, and that most of their media centered on more theological and evangelistic content than real journalistic coverage of individual life experiences. Without any funding, Eisele started interviewing and sharing life stories on Facebook and Instagram twice every week for the next 2.5 years - releasing hundreds of stories from his phone while still working his service industry job.

In early 2019 Eisele was offered a major contract for the Oregon Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, allowing him to continue his independent work while doing a very similar paid project for them covering life stories of Seventh-day Adventists in Oregon and southern Washington on a yearly contract basis.

**Viraj Naik ’16** is a Storyteller for 4C Recruiting based in Oklahoma City, OK. Prior to joining 4C Recruiting, Naik was a General Assignment Reporter for My Horry News/Waccamaw Publishers. He recently won first place for business beat reporting in the all-weekly division from the South Carolina Press Association. While at the College, Naik majored in English and was a member of the CoC Film Club. During his senior year, he was a staff writer for CisternYard Media. Naik resides in Clinton, SC.

**Kelly and her husband, Augee Kim, (also a graduate of the MA program) welcomed their daughter Sibyl in October 2020.**
In April 2021 Eisele signed on for his third year. Eisele and his wife relocated to Portland, Oregon and he now manages and hosts half a dozen fully funded, story-driven projects including podcasts, video projects, and text-based social media story projects with various creative teams.

Eisele is now a regular public speaker at Seventh-day Adventist colleges, high schools, and churches across the United States.

Eisele stated "I am grateful every day for the critical thinking skills that I learned through CofC’s English program and I feel that the money I spent on college was well worth that training".

Franco Porras, '17 has had several jobs since graduation, but found home as a Bookkeeper with Palmetto Community Action Partnership. They appreciate Porras English and liberal arts training as well as some of the time they spent with the business school. Porras also got married recently to Ms. Bonnie Dye of the Class of '18 (Psych/Early Childhood Edu Majors) and they are building their lives together brick by brick in downtown Charleston! They took a trip down to Cancun, Mexico for their honeymoon at the El Dorado Resort and hope to make it to Galaxy's Edge by next February. "I still have a love of writing and medievalism and remember all I have been taught by the masters of the English department".

Kat Noviello '17 has been working in digital marketing for the past 5 years, mainly in the tourism, education and non-profit fields. In April of 2021 she accepted a position as Director of Digital Marketing at a non-profit based in Washington D.C. The organization, Common Sense Society, is an international network that educates 21st-century generations and informs public discourse. Noviello's role is to direct all digital aspects of the organization: digital ads, video content, website, social media and email communications.

Though she work for an org based in DC, her position is remote, so she resides in Wilmington, NC. Noviello lived in Richmond since graduation in 2017 and finally had the opportunity to move to NC earlier this year. She spends her free time by their pool, at the beach, or working on her hustle – LLC Kat Taylor Designs.

Noviello started her side business, Kat Taylor Designs, in 2020. She creates handmade jewelry from unique materials like clay, stone and metal. Most Saturdays you can find her at a local Wilmington farmers market selling her jewelry! She also has a website – kattaylordesigns.com.

Lastly, it wouldn't be an update without mentioning her dog that she loves more than anything. His name is Lennon and she got him right at the start of the pandemic in March 2020. He’s a sweet, sleepy hound dog who loves to sit in the sun on the porch while she works from home.

Tynishia Brown ‘18 Aside from her 9-5 in telecommunications she is a pop singer/songwriter, she’s currently about to release a single called ‘Havin a ball' under her artist name (Saevi) produced by Peter Monk. It will be released through the independent label Emusic Entertainment that she’s partnered with for at least a year now. She is working on being signed to a major label but for now artist, fans and friends can support her by streaming her music on Apple, tidal etc. or they can purchase it on Amazon.

‘Havin a ball’ was released July 15th and it is her second studio song with her team and she can’t wait to share the third one! Tynishia's first song was titled ‘insatiable’ and that was released last year. You can follow her @Saevimusic on Instagram and ‘Saevi' page on Facebook to keep up with her journey to the majors.

Jalen Brooks-Knepfle ‘18 Jalen graduated magna cum laude from the University of South Carolina School of Law. Jalen has developed her energy and environmental law skills through internships with the South Carolina Environmental Law Project and Coastal Conservation League, and as a research assistant on RTOs. Jalen now works in clean energy at Conservation Voters of South Carolina. In 2021 Jalen got married to Emily Coleman, who also went to CofC for Computer Science.
Katie Pinner ‘19 works as an adult education instructor with Trident Literacy Association. She is very excited about this new opportunity. (Please check out tridentlit.org to see the variety of programs that they offer.) For the first two years after graduation in May 2019, Pinner taught English in a middle school and a high school. She will now be teaching adult learners, ages 17+, at Trident Literacy.

Pinner restarted her M.A. in English course study in August 2021. (I had begun the English 511 course in August 2020, but quickly realized I was not capable of completing a grad-level class while teaching full-time at a large high school.) She is taking two courses this fall.

In February 2021, Pinner finally got her own apartment again! No more share-rentals! It had been 13 years since she was able to have her own place, so it is a welcome and deserved turn of events. She lives in North Charleston in the area of University Blvd. Pinner said she likes living in North Charleston because there is a lot more diversity here in comparison to the downtown peninsula area where she lived for the 13 years prior.

Meg Dunavant ‘19 After graduating from the College Dunavant was awarded a fellowship to pursue a Master’s degree in English Literature, Criticism, and Textual Studies at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Alongside her studies at UTK, she served as a Graduate Teaching Associate in teaching English 101 courses to first-year students at the university. Dunavant graduated with her MA Spring 2021 and accepted a position as Upper School Faculty member at Currey Ingram Academy in Nashville, TN where she is teaching both English and Spanish at the secondary level.

"Some of my fondest memories as an English student include Dr. Duvall’s Senior Seminar on Mark Twain, reading Jane Eyre with Dr. Carens in his Female Heroines in Lit and Film course, struggling through the pronunciations of The Táin with Dr. Seaman, and presenting my project on W.B. Yeats with Dr. Kelly at English Day. I am forever grateful to CofC’s English department and faculty for their support and mentorship throughout the years, without which I would not be where I am today."

Emily Anderson ‘19 now a rising third-year (!) PhD student at Rutgers University specializing in 19th-century British Literature. My research centers on children’s literature & print culture and spatial theory, especially as they intersect with psychology and medicine. I taught writing last year, and I am excited to begin teaching introductory literature courses this fall!

On campus, Emily co-directs the Nineteenth-Century Research Group, which hosts speakers and workshops and plans an annual roundtable and graduate-student conference. Their fall roundtable invited scholars from the U.S., Germany, and the UK to speak on literature and public health, and their spring conference hosted graduate students across disciplines to explore the theme "Print Ecologies." With a friend from the History Department, she also co-founded and co-direct the British Studies Working Group, which meets monthly to read and discuss articles under a chosen semester theme. Last semester’s theme "Materials of Empire" brought together students and faculty from universities across the Northeast to interrogate the legacy of imperial collecting practices.

This summer, she is reading for her oral exams, set to take place next May, and working on an article project entitled “Intimate Experiments: Water and the Development of John Ruskin’s Critical Authority” that explores the descriptive challenge that water poses to Ruskin’s pedagogy in The Stones of Venice. She'll be presenting pieces of this paper at NAVSA in the fall. At the end of July, you’ll find Emily in NYC taking a class at Rare Book School on 19th & 20th-century publishing technologies.

Besides those summer commitments, she has been traveling, visiting friends and family, playing Dungeons & Dragons, and hanging out with her cat Peggy (pictured), who she adopted during lockdown!

Kyra Ganezer (Swartz) ’20 will finish her masters in Education Leadership, Management, and Policy from Seton Hall University in December of 2022. She will also be starting her third year as a third grade teacher at Marshall Road Elementary School in Fairfax County, VA.

- She and her husband are expecting their first child (a baby girl) in October!
This money is used to assist the department in a variety of ways: supporting visiting speakers, faculty/student research, student activities, and student travel to conferences.