



The Power of the Word - ENFL Newsletter

"If you don't like something, change it. If you can't change it, change your attitude."—Maya Angelou

Faculty Highlights

Dr. Michele Rozga has been offered a book contract with Finishing Line Press, a nationally recognized small poetry press in Kentucky, for her full length poetry manuscript, *My Adversary Came onto the Windowsill of Another Dream, as a Bluebird*. Pre-order is slated to begin in December 2019, with a publication date in spring 2020. Dr. Rozga is also a collaborator on a book called *Migration in Europe and the Americas* with several NSU professors, professors at the University of Siegen in Germany, and others. The project grew out of a series of presentations given on an overseas trip taken by an NSU delegation in the summer of 2018.

Ayevi Price, English Major



Ayevi Price is a senior and recently represented the ENFL department at the 1619 Making of America Conference (pictured left, with Michael Gomez). We had the opportunity to catch up with Ayevi and gain some insight into her experience studying English at NSU.

1. Why do you enjoy studying English?

I enjoy studying English because I have a passion for stories. I love reading and writing fiction stories of all genres. I have also developed an appreciation for discussing cultural trends and issues through research papers.

2. What has been your favorite class so far and why?

So far, my favorite class has been English 215, "Writing Short Stories." I was able to workshop my writing with my classmates. Through my instruction, I also created new characters, worlds, and plots to develop in the future.

3. What do you enjoy most about being at NSU?

NSU has given me multiple opportunities to improve my research and presentation skills. I have also gotten to experience culture and history from the art gallery, the theatre company, and all the events hosted on campus.

4. What are your future career plans?

My chief goal for the future is to publish my fiction work. I also want to teach English as a foreign language and at the high school level.

Faculty Highlights Continued

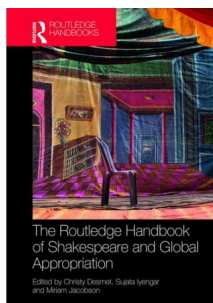
Dr. Gary Wilkens' short story "The Man Who Saw Himself from Outside" was recently published by Lotus-eater Literary Magazine, appearing in their Issue #10, out now. <https://lotus-eatermagazine.com/issues/>.



Dr. Jason Demeter (left) recently had an essay published in the *The Routledge Handbook of Shakespeare and Global Appropriation* (see picture below) which was released last week. His chapter is titled "To Appropriate these White Centuries": James Baldwin's

Race Conscious Shakespeare."

Mr. Synnika Lofton was recently featured on an interview with the nationally syndicated radio show "With Good Reason," which is based in Charlottesville. He also hosted the Black Ink Book Festival in Chesapeake. His latest books and albums are available at www.blacklionmuzik.com/synnika-lofton.



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Meet Professor Drew



Professor Damani Drew, English lab instructor, works hard to keep the ENFL Department running smoothly.

1. Where are you from and where did you earn your education?

I am a native of Norfolk, Virginia, and I completed my undergraduate B.A. in English (Liberal Arts sequence) program here at Norfolk

State University. I also earned a Master's degree in English from Virginia State University, and I completed graduate work at Old Dominion University. After obtaining OEL Online Certification, I obtained national recognition as a LERN certified online instructor. In addition, I earned two Certificates on College Teaching from the Virginia Tidewater Consortium for Higher Education, and I am a life-long fellow of the Southside Virginia Writing Project (SVWP). Numerous awards and certificates for technology and community service I have received as well.

2. How do you support the ENFL Department?

My title is English Lab instructor. I coordinate, primarily, the Instructional Comprehensive Languages Lab (Mad 240). In addition to maintaining the Computer Resources Instructional Lab (Mad 109) and the Resource—Media Center (Mad 242) in Madison Hall, I teach freshman English both online and face-to-face. Courses I have taught include ENG 101, 102,

Drew Continued

203, 207, 285, and 383. For the last several years, I've served in these capacities: ENFL Department Technology Liaison and Liaison for the College of Liberal Arts, departmental committees such as Elevate and Curriculum, as well as faculty advisor of the NSU chapter of Sigma Tau Delta International English Honor Society.

3. What do you enjoy most about working at NSU?

I enjoy the value of teamwork, working with faculty, teaching students in various environments, and implementing, as well as maintaining technology in the workplace. Teaching monthly technology workshops to faculty and advising students gives me great pleasure. I like to take advantage of opportunities to collaborate with other Units outside of the ENFL Department.

4. What do you hope to accomplish in the ENFL Department?

As an English instructor, I do my best to give students more knowledge about writing and research. As technology instructor, I intend to give faculty more insight on technology best practices. As an advisor, I seek to be as a role model as I guide students for activities and future success beyond college.

More ENFL Faculty Accomplishments

Dr. Jennifer Malia presented five creative nonfiction workshops at the 11th Annual Hampton Roads Writers Conference, September 19-21, in Virginia Beach. The workshops included: "Finding the Story of Your Memoir," "How to Pitch to Editors," "Discovering Your Memoir Voice," "Writing Personal Essays for Women's Magazines," and "How to Write a Book Proposal for Your Memoir."



Dr. Bonaventure Balla wrote a new book entitled, *Aimé Césaire et les Porteurs de Lumière*, and also published an article on science education in Africa. The article was published in an international magazine called *The Catalyst International*.

Dr. Uzzie Cannon recently completed the Adobe Captivate 2019 Specialist certification. Adobe Captivate is Adobe's authoring tool for creating eLearning material like software demonstration or online assessments. After earning her certification, Dr. Cannon was able to speak directly with Adobe and eLearning Industry experts about how to incorporate Adobe Captivate in her pedagogy.

ENFL Department Essay Competition

This month's essay competition topic is fall (autumn), and the committee welcomes any personal creative writing up to 2,000 words. Prepare your short stories, creative non-fiction narratives, poems, or song lyrics of at least 20 lines. To submit, follow these guidelines:



Use Times New Roman font, 12-point type, and double-space throughout the work. Attach a cover page that includes a centered title, your name, student identification number, email address, and submission date. First place will receive \$50 and second place will receive \$25.

Submit your entry in MAD 264 before 4:00 p.m. on November 4, 2019.

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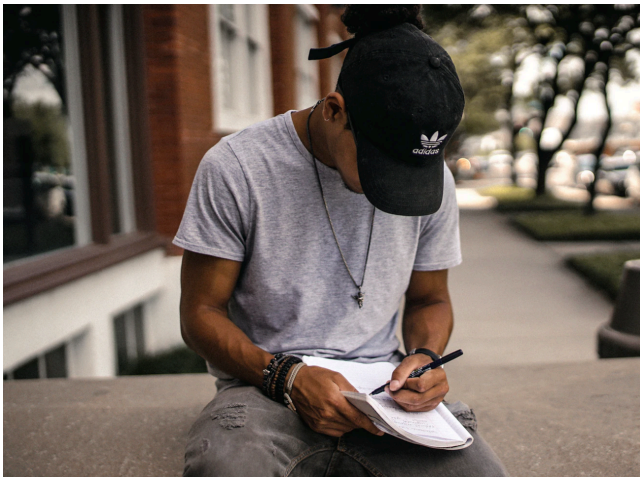
As a colleague, I work closely with my fellow colleagues to serve the NSU campus and its community well.

In the Norfolk community, I serve as a three-tier member of the Boy Scouts of America and Sunday school teacher.

Behold the GREEN and GOLD!!!

"The writer cannot expect to be excused from the task of reeducation and regeneration that must be done. In fact, he should march right in front."

-Chinua Achebe



More Notable News



Dr. Christina Pinkston greets movie actor and director, Nate Parker, at the opening event for NSU's "1619 Summit: The Making of America," which occurred September 25-27, in Brown Hall. A native of Norfolk, Virginia, and star in movies such as "The Great Debaters," "Red Tails, and "Nat Turner," Mr. Parker was a keynote speaker for the "1619 Summit."

He was impressive, and NSU received him warmly.

Dr. Cynthia S. Nicholson, English adjunct instructor, begins the 2019-20 academic year with an appointment in the School of Education. A lifetime educator, Dr. Nicholson joins the Department of Secondary Education and School Leadership as an Assistant Professor of Education. She is excited about the opportunity to teach at NSU.



"Oppressive language does more than represent violence; it is violence; does more than represent the limits of knowledge; it limits knowledge." -Toni Morrison (Nobel Peace Prize lecture, 1993)