OUR MISSION
Predicated on our passion for academic excellence and the building of a community of scholars, The Vibrant Voice sets out to showcase the achievements of our faculty, staff, and students, and to disseminate our programs, events, and announcements to the university community and beyond. The newsletter creates sturdy bonds between the department and the alumni and facilitates ongoing mutually productive professional relationships. Published once a semester, in both print and digital form, The Vibrant Voice is apolitical and congruent with the mission of the English Department.

STATEMENT OF EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY AND AFFIRMATIVE ACTION POLICY
Clayton State University is an equal employment, equal access, and equal educational opportunity and affirmative action institution. It is the policy of the University to recruit, hire, train, promote and educate persons without regard to race, color, national or ethnical origin, age, disability, gender, religion, sexual orientation or veteran status as required by applicable state and federal laws (including Title VI, Title VII, Title IX, Section 503, and 504, AREA ADA, E.O. 11246, and Rev. Proc. (75-50). Clayton State University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Institution. For questions or more detailed information regarding this policy, please contact the Clayton State University Office of Human Resources at (678) 466-4230. Individuals requiring disability related accommodations for participation in any event or to obtain print materials in an alternative format, please contact the Disability Resource Center at: (678) 466-5445
Clayton State students Denisea Patton, Eric Girault, Sochea Ung, and Paradise Ngezem participated in a USG program in China in May 2015. The program was 28 days long, and faculty and students from across the university system participated. Students chose from a variety of courses in several disciplines that were offered. Dr. Goodman, chair of the Department of English, represented Clayton State, and she taught two classes: World Literature I (focusing on Chinese literature) and Cross-Cultural Perspectives. The group visited Beijing, Xi’an, Shanghai, and Zhengzhou.

The publication of the Department of English’s newsletter, The Vibrant Voice, is always an occasion to celebrate our department’s activities.

We have worked to make the English degree accessible for all. Besides completing your degree in seated classes, you can now complete the English major 100% online. This delivery system allows students who require flexibility to obtain their English degree in a timely fashion.

Additionally, study abroad opportunities are expanding. In spring 2014, Dr. Crafton took English majors to Italy.

In Spring 2015, I took students to China as part of a study abroad program. In Spring 2016, we are reviving the Literary London course, which can be taken to fulfill a core requirement, as an upper division undergraduate course, or as a Master’s courses.

Finally, please contact us about your activities and successes; we would welcome the opportunity to spotlight events around the community and highlight your accomplishments. You can email me at BarbaraGoodman@clayton.edu. It would be wonderful to hear from you.
“Lock up your libraries if you like; but there is no gate, no lock, no bolt that you can set upon the freedom of my mind.”

Virginia Woolf
NEW FACES IN THE DEPARTMENT

**Ms. Stephanie Hassan Richardson** joined the Department of English as a Lecturer of English in the fall of 2015. She received her B.A. of Arts in English from State University of New York at Buffalo and is currently completing a Ph.D. in Rhetoric and Composition from the University at Albany, NY, where much of her research emphasizes strategies of empowering at-risk populations and motivating all students to develop and strengthen their voices as writers.

Ms. Richardson began teaching in 2000 as a graduate student. She has taught courses in Creative Writing, Literature, Speech Communication, and College Success, but her primarily focus is English Composition and Developmental Writing. She has taught at a variety of colleges including Union College in Schenectady, NY, Daemen College in Amherst, NY, and Georgia Perimeter College in Clarkston, GA.

**Dr. Michael Lindsay** joined the English department as an Assistant Professor of English and African-American Studies in the fall of 2015. He graduated with a B.A. in English and an M.A. in English and African-American Literature from North Carolina Agricultural &Technical State University, and he holds a Ph.D. in English from Morgan State University. His research interests include African American Literature, religion, theology, liberation theology, and race. He has published articles, presented at various conferences, and is looking forward to working on his manuscript on religion and the Black experience in America.

Dr. Lindsay brings a wealth of teaching experience, including three years as a sixth grade reading teacher in North Carolina, and ten years as an English and Humanities lecturer in Maryland.

**Dr. Khalilah Ali** joined the English department as an Assistant Professor of English and English Education in the fall of 2015. She received her Ph.D. in Educational Studies with a focus on Literacy, Pedagogy, and Culture from Emory University. Dr. Ali earned both her M.Ed. in Middle and Secondary Instruction and her B.A. in Literature and African Studies from Georgia State University. Realizing that education can come from inside and outside the classroom, she is dedicated to ensuring that her students’ education comes in a multitude of forms.

Dr. Ali’s primary interest is multicultural education, but she has a particular interest in mentoring youth. As a child of the hip-hop generation and a conscious lyricist, Dr. Ali works with poets, musicians and emcees in projects designed to expose positive hip-hop to a wider audience. Her interest in postcolonial and feminist studies allows her to envision a world that deals with the effects of hegemony and how dealing with that inequity can help devise steps to afford the world’s children an equal playing field.
FACULTY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Dr. Brigitte Byrd
Publications:
“Line Shackle 9” was published in Stone, River, Sky, An Anthology of Georgia Poems.
“Think like a Blue Rider” was published in The Laurel Review (Prose Poetry, 48.1).
“Deer in the Forest II” was accepted for publication in the North American Review.
Events:
September 6th 2015 Decatur Book Festival College Day: Clayton State University’s coordinator.
2016 Southern Literary Festival: She also plans on taking a group of undergraduate students to enter some of their work in the writing contest. http://www.southernliteraryfestival.org/

Dr. Shannon Cochran
Publications

Dr. Cantice Greene
Awards
C.A.S.E. Award. The award provides her a course release to continue editing a collection of essays the Routledge Research in Gender Society called Teaching Women’s Studies in Conservative Environments: Considering Perspectives for an Inclusive Dialogue.
Events
2015 Georgia TESOL Conference: Dr. Greene and students Felix Bake, Rina German, and Darina Drozdova will make the presentation “Learning Students’ Lived Experiences by Teaching Writing Portfolios”.

Dr. Gwendolyn Harold
Publications
Presentations
American Literature Association Symposium in New Orleans, LA.
“Southern Women Writers: City Life and Pastoral Visions”: organized the panel and presented a paper in the panel.
“Pastoral and Anti-Pastoral Visions in Ellen Glasgow and Mary Johnston.” She also chaired another session entitled “Chopin’s The Awakening and Global New Orleans.”
American literature content expert: created a new course for eCore: ENGL 2131, American Literature I.

Dr. Jennifer Parrott
Publications
“The Process of Discovery: The CLIR Postdoctoral Fellowship Program and the Future of the Academy”.
“The CLIR Postdoctoral Fellowship 10th Anniversary Survey.”
“Collaboration in the Evolving Academy: Experiences from the CLIR Postdoctoral Fellowship Program.”
Presentations

Dr. Robert Pfeiffer
Publications
“After My Mother’s Surgery” published in Mudfish
“Blackbird” and “At Thirty-Three” published in Iodine Poetry Journal.
He also once again participated in the 2015 Decatur Books Festival College Day event.
The Writers’ Studio is located in Room 224 of the Arts and Sciences Building, where writing consultants are available to assist undergraduate and graduate students with their writing. Under the direction of the Dr. Sipai Klein from the Department of English, the Studio has expanded its outreach to meet the needs of students who are taking classes on campus, online, and those enrolled at Fayette Center. So far this semester, The Writers’ Studio has had more than a combined 1600 face-to-face and online consultations. Students attending writing consultations consistently provide positive feedback and suggest that they will both use the Writers Studio in the future and recommend it to other students. In the Fall of 2015, the Board of Regents recognized the quality service provided by the Studio with a Team Service Honorable Mention Award.

Who are the writing consultants? The consultants are students, but what sets them apart is the training they’ve received from university faculty and their unwavering commitment to helping fellow students become better writers and communicators. Many consultants have a current or future endeavors of working in the field of teaching English, so working in The Writers’ Studio gives them an opportunity to hone their teaching skills through tutoring. Visit The Writers’ Studio at www.writerstudio224.com for more information and up-coming workshops. Sign up for a writing consultation while you’re there or at clayton.mywconline.com. Hope to see you there!

Faculty Spotlight

**Dr. Tricia Smith** is in her sixth year of teaching in the CSU English department and serves as the undergraduate Secondary English Education Coordinator as well as Coordinator of MAT English Education. She holds a B.A. from Marymount University in Virginia in Liberal Studies: Philosophy and Literature (graduating Magna Cum Laude); an M.A. in English Literature from George Mason University in Virginia; and an Ed.D. degree in Curriculum and Teaching: K-12 English Language Arts from Boston University.

Dr. Smith’s focus is in English Education. She has written over 25 articles on teaching methodology and presented over 11 times on similar topics at state, regional, and national conferences in the past few years.

Dr. Smith also serves nationally as an SPA reviewer for the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) as well as on the Board of Examiners for CAEP (previously NCATE). Additionally, she has been honored multiple times with the Excellence in Teaching Award, the Professional Achievement Award, and the Richard A. Britt Humanitarian Award at previous institutions.

Her greatest love is working with teacher candidates, supporting them in their quest to become strong teachers who will impact their students in years to come. She also supports the Department of Teacher Education in her role as edTPA Coordinator.
Student Spotlight

Kimberly Gordon began her studies at Clayton State University in the fall of 2011 after earning an A.A. in English from Gordon State College. During her first year at Clayton State, Kim discovered she had a passion for writing and wanted to use her talent for a good cause. She chose to major in English with a concentration in writing after being inspired by her Clayton State English professors. Kim graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in English in fall 2015. After graduation she plans to pursue a career in Journalism.

Ardie Godbee began her studies at Clayton State University in the spring of 2014. A non-traditional student, Ardie retired from her career in the military and decided to return to school to pursue her next career. She has always loved the art of writing and chose to major in English with a Concentration in Writing. Ardie has not set a definite graduation date, but she plans to pursue a new career as an author and start her own nonprofit organization in the future.

Follow the English Department on Social Media, or to add your voice to these vibrant voices, contact Dr. Goodman at barbaragoodman@clayton.edu

Vibrant Voice Committee:
Dr. Amy Sanford, Co-Chair
Dr. Robert Pfeiffer, Co-Chair
Dr. Margaret Fletcher
Dr. Jennifer Parrott
Ms. Tiffany Crumm, Student Assistant

Department of English at Clayton State University
@CSU_English
claytonstateenglish
After graduating magna cum laude, Conan O’Brien began his career writing for several short-lived comedy shows in Los Angeles. In 1987 he was hired as a writer on “Saturday Night Live,” which led to a position as a writer/producer on “The Simpsons.” In 1993, O’Brien started his 6 year run as the host of “Late Night with Conan O’Brien.” In 2010, after being courted by multiple networks such as HBO, TNT, and FOX; he struck a deal with TBS to host his own late night talk show, “Conan.”

After graduating from college Barbara Walters began her career as an assistant to a publicity director of a small television station. From there she began taking writing jobs for the “Today” show and worked her way up to become a correspondent for ABC News’ “20/02.” In 1997 she co-produced and co-hosted the popular morning talk show “The View.” Over the course of her career, Barbara Walters has become one of the most recognizable and highest paid journalists in the news industry.

The Bachelor of Arts in English has three concentrations: literature, writing, and secondary education. Students can focus on the field of English that they find most exciting and rewarding. Classes are scheduled in a manner that helps students succeed. Classes can be taken online and/or seated. Our professors work with students on research projects that pursue their passions in the field of English Studies, and guide students in internships that allow students to obtain both career experience and knowledge beyond the classroom.
## CAREERS FOR ENGLISH MAJORS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Account Executive</th>
<th>Financial Services Representative</th>
<th>Newspaper Professional</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Actor/Actress</td>
<td>Film Editor</td>
<td>Online Marketing Content Writer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative Assistant</td>
<td>Financial Analyst</td>
<td>Paralegal/Legal Assistant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative Service Manager</td>
<td>Fundraiser</td>
<td>Playwright</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advertising Copywriter</td>
<td>Government Chief Executive</td>
<td>Program Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analyst</td>
<td>Greeting Card Writer</td>
<td>Property Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attorney</td>
<td>Human Resources Specialist</td>
<td>Publication Editor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Author</td>
<td>Insurance Agent</td>
<td>Public Relations Specialist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book Critic</td>
<td>Interpreter and Translator</td>
<td>Publicity Assistant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Manager</td>
<td>Investment Counselor</td>
<td>Publisher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circulation Assistant</td>
<td>Law Enforcement Officer</td>
<td>Radio Production Assistant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Manager</td>
<td>Legislator</td>
<td>Reporter or Correspondent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Information Specialist</td>
<td>Librarian</td>
<td>Sales Representative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications Specialist</td>
<td>Literary Agent</td>
<td>Speech-Language Pathologist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congressional Aide</td>
<td>Loan Officer</td>
<td>Speech Writer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Copy Editor</td>
<td>Management Analyst/ Consultant</td>
<td>Social Scientist Teacher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Customer Service Representative</td>
<td>Manuscript reader</td>
<td>Television Announcer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desktop Publisher</td>
<td>Marketing Specialist</td>
<td>Underwriter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director</td>
<td>Marketing Writer</td>
<td>Urban and Regional Planner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Documentation Specialist Editor</td>
<td>Medical Records Manager</td>
<td>Volunteer Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Editor</td>
<td>Narrator</td>
<td>Writer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive Recruiter</td>
<td>Newscaster</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“If there's a book that you want to read, but it hasn't been written yet, then you must write it.”

Toni Morrison