

The EGSA Digest

Frequenter Plerumque Verum

March 28, 2019

Inside this issue: Salient News, Celebratory Tidings, and Scintillating Scuttlebutt

As we approach the end of this semester, I suspect that we might all begin to feel a certain kinship in our various struggles to complete our various tasks with this adorable [hockey-playing child](#). Trying to weather the onslaught of graduate school deadlines is not unlike this young lad's desperate efforts to stay on his feet, and I suspect that many of our hearts might be stirred by his frank declaration: "I want a nap!" As he resorts from stumbling along, to walking on his knees, to finally crawling forward, I see in him inspiration for us all. His fitful fight against the "old paint can" of expectations might be toilsome, but he knows, as we do we all, that at the end of the hard journey lies the sweet Badonald's of freedom.

And as you skate or crawl or worm your way along, take a few minutes to peruse the following announcements and congratulations! They are all things you'll want to take note of!

Happy ice skating, comrades.

Sort of sincerely,

Clayton McReynolds

EGSA Secretary (a.k.a. Mister Secretary Sir, a.k.a. Minister of Misinformation)

Event Schedule

For a more conveniently condensed recounting of the events below, visit the [EGSA Website](#)! In addition to providing a clear calendar of upcoming events and important dates, the website works as a great guide for navigating your graduate school career with resources including the EGSA Handbook and the kinds of vital forms that the Department likes to cunningly conceal.

◆ **Sign Up to Volunteer at the Beall Poetry Festival!**

It looks like we're full up on volunteers for selling broadsides, but there are still slots to help [transport poets](#), so you can take a look here and consider if you would like to lend a hand with that. Who knows, if you do something interesting enough, you might even make it into a poem!

◆ **Sunday, April 7. Bull Poetry Festival (aka Bad Wine! Bad Poetry!). Sanger House (2301 Sanger Ave.). 6:30.**

After a week of high culture and elegant poesy, this is the palate cleanser (?) you need! Bring the worst of all possible poems. Bring the worst of all possible wine. And also, if convenient, bring snacks which should probably be more on the spectrum of mediocre to excellent. And you should also feel free to bring only yourself and a mind and heart open to receive a new and enlightening cultural experience.

◆ **Friday, April 12. Mod/Con Lecture with John Rumrich. CS 301. 3:30.**

Take a look at the below note from the inimitable Kelly Sauskojus (pronounced saw-OOH-skaw-JOOH) and think about putting some aside for this fun and informative talk! "Join us to hear visiting scholar John Rumrich speak about everyone's favorite cranky modernist, C.S. Lewis! The title of his lecture is "Empson and Lewis: Some Common Ground." Here is his description of his talk: "We academics tend to see William Empson and C. S. Lewis, two of the most influential literary figures of the early to mid-Twentieth century, as opposites, most distinctively so in their understanding of Christianity. My talk will examine the justice of that view, which is I think quite general, by looking into their lives, the development of their religious opinions, and two works of fiction."

◆ **Medieval Latin Fall 2019.**

And speaking of taking language courses, here is a good opportunity to consider, particularly for all ye of Medieval interests: "Dr. Nodes, from the classics department, sends the attached poster to announce that he will be teaching a medieval Latin seminar this coming Fall. Latin is surprisingly useful to a surprising breadth of disciplines, and I would imagine that medieval Latin would be, as well. Taking this course would also be good groundwork for another proposed classics course, medieval Latin poetry, which will hopefully be offered in the near future." (see flyer attached to e-mail for further illumination!)

Accomplishments and Acclaims!

- ◆ There has been a veritable explosion of successful MA Thesis defenses in the past couple of weeks! Steffi led the charge, parrying every intellectual jab directed at her thesis and pressing through to victory! Christina followed suit, defending her beloved Wendell from any and all assailants! And Austin, not to be outdone, has likewise hurtled across the academic finish line! They are all greatly to be congratulated! Be sure to send them a customary congratulatory Master's Thesis bouquet or edible arrangement. A meaningful word of commendation would also do nicely.