This spring, Dr. Ings published three articles in the London-based *Selvedge Magazine*. She wrote a feature on the designer Valentino’s use of pattern (bookending the article with E. M. Forster’s *A Room with a View*), a feature on how Chloe, Kenzo, Roberto Cavalli, and Bora Aksu interpret lace in their spring collections, and a design-file piece on Micol Fontana, the 101-year-old Italian designer who dressed Ava Gardner in *The Barefoot Contessa* and undressed Anita Ekberg (remember the iconic black strapless gown?) for the fountain scene in *La Dolce Vita*. She was also featured on *Selvedge*’s contributors’ page, and swooned when she saw she was pictured beside the celebrated textile designer Kaffe Fassett. Dr. Ings also copyedited a new edition of *The Norton Reader* as well as Norton’s *Introduction to Sociology* and is now working on the NCE of *12 Years a Slave*. During her Fall-Jan sabbatical, she plans to read, think, and write about interracial relationships in literary, visual, and pop culture.

Professor Erickson has spent her January/Spring 2015 sabbatical leading discussions and performances of Shakespeare at various prisons in Michigan, Indiana, and Illinois. She works twice a week with the “Shakespeare-at-Pendleton” men, and she has recently started a Shakespeare discussion group in Fort Wayne’s Allen County Juvenile Center (a short-term detention facility for youth). She can’t wait to share her experiences with her future classes (including the Fall FYS “Orange is Not the New Black” about Pop Culture representations of prison).

Dr. Gilliar presented part of her research at MU’s Faculty Forum on Feb. 24, "Flying a flag freely: A semiotic inquiry towards an understanding," examining the political discourse that has shaped the varied interpretations of the German flag’s open display in public, a new phenomenon that began with the World Cup in 2006. At the national conference of CEA (Colleges of English Association) in Indianapolis on March 28, Dr. Gilliar presented “Berthoff, Kahl, Graham and Einstein: Constellations in Embedded Mindfulness.” Her work demonstrated how innovative practices in humanistic knowledge production – informed by quantum mechanics, the double helix, dance, visual arts and poetry – allow mindful principles to advance education.

Professor Watson struck new ground this semester with his course offering in Irish literature (ENG 250: Literary Passport”). To have evenings of reading James Joyce and days of teaching Elizabeth Bowen (*The Last September*) has been inspiring, to say the least, and he’s now trying to carve out some summer time for an Irish excursion. Of great and renewed interest to Watson is the Irish Theatre (Abbey Theatre, etc.), the plays of J.M. Synge, Sean O’Casey, Brian Friel, etc. Other summer plans include a library lecture in Auburn, Indiana, on the role of the hero (and superhero?) in literature. Watson may try to yoke the worlds of *Beowulf* and *The Avengers*!

Indiana Poet Laureate George Kalamaras, professor of English and linguistics at IPFW, visited Manchester on March 5 to present a VIA on the role of poetry. He discussed his relationship with poetry, read some of his—and others’—work, and offered a writing workshop, bringing students on stage to read their completed poems. That evening, he gave a reading of his own work at Wine Recital Hall. Kalamaras has published eight books of poetry and composed some 800 poems.

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**Dr. Katharine Ings**

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**Dr. Stacy Erickson**

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**Dr. Beate Gilliar**

As a member of ICEA’s executive board, Dr. Gilliar has helped prepare the association’s representation at the national conference; the next ICEA conference will take place in October 2016, an event she is happy to help realize. Dr. Gilliar looks forward to teaching three summer courses at the Albert-Ludwigs Universität in Freiburg and spending time with family in Karlsruhe.

**Dr. Jonathan Watson**

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In the fall, Professor Watson will be serving as interim chair while Prof. Ings enjoys her well-earned sabbatical.

**Indiana Poet Laureate Visits MU**

Indiana Poet Laureate George Kalamaras, professor of English and linguistics at IPFW, visited Manchester on March 5 to present a VIA on the role of poetry. He discussed his relationship with poetry, read some of his—and others’—work, and offered a writing workshop, bringing students on stage to read their completed poems. That evening, he gave a reading of his own work at Wine Recital Hall. Kalamaras has published eight books of poetry and composed some 800 poems.
On May 17, eight English majors will graduate from Manchester University. Here we present Kari Cottingim, Heather Elson, Erica Graphman, Kaitie Kemper, Emily Krabach, Hannah Schutter, Allison O'Neil, and Jennifer Pilgrim.

Kari Cottingim

Kari Cottingim is from Eaton, OH, but her studies have taken her to Chicago, California, and Canada. As a result, she has developed a taste for travel and relishes the opportunity to learn from new environments. One of her fondest memories is of exploring California with Emily Pleadwell during the Christmas season. On campus, Kari founded the Write Night Club and serves as president of the Ballroom and Latin Dance Club. Kari's senior seminar paper investigated the pursuit of beauty in literature and the destruction it causes. She may pursue a job in technical writing, but first she is planning to marry her fiancé Corey Arnett and move to North Carolina until he completes his service in the Marine Corps.

Heather Elson

Heather Elson left Indianapolis to pursue a degree in English in North Manchester, where she has long appreciated the friendliness and familiarity among MU students. She has participated in many on-campus activities, including Spectrum, the literary and art magazine; Aurora, the yearbook; the Garver Hall Dormitory E-Board; and the Kiwanis-sponsored club Circle K. Heather developed a passion for journalism while interning for Manchester's Media Relations office. Her senior seminar paper found similarities between the modern "bromance" (first identified by the New York Times) and Eve Sedgwick's concept of “homosocial bonding.” Heather will graduate with a concentration in writing, a minor in both business and journalism, and a certificate in libraries and literacies. She hopes to be a public relations specialist in Indianapolis.

Erica Graphman

Born in Pittsboro, IN, Erica Graphman grew up just a short drive from Manchester University, where she’s made the most of her time here. Erica knew right away she wanted to be an English major and an editor. And so she has served as both a staff member and co-editor of Spectrum, the literary and art magazine, for three years; helped found the Manchester Minecraft Club; and, during an internship, composed and managed a local novelist’s online presence, in addition to writing for the Oak Leaves. Her senior seminar paper described gendered relations in literature using theories of homosocial desire and sorophobia. With the addition of her business minor, she is expanded her job search to include social media and marketing as well.

Katie Kemper

Katie Kemper lives in Claypool, IN, and entered Manchester as a transfer student. She knew Manchester because her grandmother was a cook here in the 1980s and 1990s, and soon found her own academic home at the university in books; Kaitie changed her major from Exercise Science to English in her first semester after finding the faculty to be extremely passionate and concerned with each student. Her senior seminar paper examined the relationship between the author Ian McEwan and his own character, Briony Tallis. With a perspective shaped by Roland Barthes’s “Death of the Author,” she concluded that Briony conquered her author as the authority over her novel. Katie will graduate with an English writing major and is considering graduate school.
Jennifer Pilgrim

Born in Visalia, CA, Jennifer Pilgrim was raised in LaGrange, IN. Throughout her Manchester career, she has enjoyed music and played instruments: she has attended Manchester Symphonic Band performances and has participated in Jazz Ensemble and Pep Band. While engaging with clubs like United Sexualities and writing for the Oak Leaves, Jennifer managed to hold many demanding jobs on and off campus, including ITS Administrative Assistant. She will graduate with a double major in English Writing and Business Management and will possibly pursue law school or an MBA degree.

Emily Krabach

Emily Krabach is a traveler. She visits her homes in Bluffton, OH, and in Fort Wayne, IN; she studied abroad during her first year when she took Professor Thelma Rohrer's Art in Context course in Spain; and spent her spring semester as a junior in Cheltenham, England (which was the most enriching experience she has ever had). Her senior seminar paper analyzed authenticity in several of the artworks and readings in the course. Emily also completed an Honors Thesis exploring feminist theory in the context of contemporary fairytales. She has accepted a position as hall director at McKendree University in Lebanon, IL, where she will also pursue an MA in higher education.

Hannah Schutter

Hannah Schutter hails from Crown Point, IN. She was originally a psychology major, but switched to English after studying World Literature during her first January Session. Hannah graduated in December with a double major in English and communication studies. Her senior seminar paper engaged her interest in fashion, as she analyzed how Jay Gatsby used clothing to fabricate his new identity in The Great Gatsby. Her work at Manchester as a PR intern and as an Orientation Assistant gave her valuable skills that she put to use immediately as the director of Marketing for the Wagon Wheel Center for the Arts in Warsaw. Hannah plans to move to Chicago this summer. Her to-do list includes graduate school, writing a memoir, and hosting a talk show.

Allison O’Neil

Allison O’Neill is graduating with a major in English and minors in gender studies and cognitive neuroscience. She has mastered the art of seeing connections between topics in disparate ways, engaging both literary and psychological approaches for her senior seminar project that explores the literature of autism. Ally not only knows how to prepare exquisite chai as a barista, how to engage children of any age in learning, or how to coach running at the secondary level, but also demonstrates great compassion for the wellbeing of animals.

Jennifer Pilgrim
The Oak Leaves Wins

9 Statewide Awards

The Oak Leaves took home nine awards at the 2015 Indiana Collegiate Press Association (ICPA) Conference and Awards Ceremony on April 11. Manchester’s campus newspaper, led by faculty advisor Dr. Katharine Ings, competes in the Newspaper III category, which is open to non-daily newspapers at colleges that have an enrollment of under 3000.

Scooping up three first-place awards, two second-place awards, and four third-place awards, the Oak Leaves won for its comprehensive coverage, including news stories, feature stories, complete issues, and photographs. The entries were judged by professional journalists from out of state.

Co-editors of the prize-winning Oak Leaves are Andrew Ellam, David Lloyd, and Emily Barrand. Lloyd, an English major, graduated in 2014 and is currently pursuing an MA in English at Butler University. Ellam, who has co-edited the Oak Leaves for three and a half years, is a communication studies major and English minor. He will graduate this spring. Barrand, a sophomore, will begin her second year of editing the Oak Leaves in the fall, along with incoming co-editor Kalie Ammons, also a sophomore.

Following is a list of the winners, with contextual information and the judges’ comments.

David Lloyd received first place for his feature story, “Shively’s Bookshelves Find, Create Homes,” which chronicled the handmade wooden bookshelves that made their way from the Administration Building to professors’ offices in the Academic Center.

Lloyd interviewed the carpenter, Roger Shively, who built the shelves decades ago for the Admin Building offices and includes the administrative and physical challenges that professors faced when they wanted to bring their bookshelves to their new offices across campus.

The judge wrote: “This story shines a light on an often-overlooked part of building development and reminds readers that a university is more than a school—it’s a home. I like the way you wove in Shively’s background.”

Rachel Laing received second place for her non-deadline story, “MU Adds All-Gendered Bathroom.” The judge wrote: “Great lede and interesting issue, but needed a bit more about why gender-neutral bathrooms are important at the beginning of the story.”

Emily Barrand, Alexah Parnin-Choisne and Tyler Roebuck earned third place in the News or Feature Series category with their series “MU January Session Trips.” The judge wrote: “These three stories take the reader all around the glove. Interesting look at academic trips that offer students experiences far outside Indiana.”

Kalie Ammons, Lucas Kauffman and Alexah Parnin-Choisne received third place in the Continuous Coverage of a Single Story category for their stories on how MU reacted to HJR-6. The judge wrote: “A comprehensive look at a controversial state bill, although it needed a final update on the bill’s passage.”

Derek Self won first place for his sports feature story, “Steve Alford Returns,” composed after Alford’s fall VIA. The judge wrote: “Great profile of a Hoosier legend. This could have fallen flat, but Self’s use of anecdote and sourcing makes me feel like I heard the story from Alford himself.”

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The Joak Leaves 2014 was awarded third prize in the Themed Issue category. “Ahh,” wrote the judge, “the theme every college newspaper must do: the April Fools edition. This one was clever and well thought out, though—a real pleasure to read.”

Photographer Savannah Riley received three awards. She earned first place for her sports photo “Watch Your Step,” which was also included in the ICPA awards booklet available online (URL at end of story). The judge wrote: “Great shot—I feel the soccer player’s pain in the hit.” Riley placed second for her feature photo “Treading the Boards,” which was taken during the spring play The Mikado. The judge wrote: “A sharp image framed very nicely. Well done.” And she received third place for her sports photo “Fighting for Possession.” The judge wrote: “A great shot that’s more than a little funny. I’m not sure the players are fighting for possession as much as they’re trying to figure out where the ball is.”