

To: LITT/LANG Program (N. Grasso, A. Santiago, I. Drufovka; J-A. Nelson, J. Marthan; K. Tompkins, T. Kinsella, M. Jablon, P. Hannon; S. Dunn; GT Lenard; C. McGeever, D. D'Alessio)

From: Fred Mench

1/11/94

Re: 94-96 Bulletin, inter alia

Welcome back. Two items of interest and one of business:

Joseph Marthan and Tom Kinsella have received funding for an external speaker and have contacted Gerald Prince of Penn, whom they had been going to bring in last spring but couldn't get the money. They are asking him to speak, if it meets with your approval, on "Narratology, Narrative Criticism and Gender" and a date yet to be set. I will let Joseph or Tom get back in touch with you once they have confirmation from Prince to set up a mutually agreeable time for the lecture.

One of Stephen Dunn's benefactors (who wishes to remain anonymous) is offering the program the sum of \$150 for prize essays this spring. One condition is that one prize must be called the Virginia Woolf Prize, but we could have more than one prize and more than one competition (as I understand it) for essays with the money. This makes a nice counterpart to the creative writing prizes that Stephen has managed to get funded. Thanks to him and to the generous donor (who, I believe, intends to make this an annual affair). N.B. Stephen says the donor stipulates \$100 for VA W; \$50 any way we choose.

Attached to this memo are 2 items for your consideration.

The most pressing one is the Bulletin copy (narrative portion) for 94-96. Since no one supplied narrative, I wrote it all, based on the old narrative and the discussions we had. Please read and correct my mistakes, especially in your areas/tracks. I will recirculate the revised copy in a short time. Look particularly at the way I rewrote tracks since we no longer have a core.

The other, a remembrance of things past, is a copy of the old Reading List which we used to require of our majors. Look it over and see if you want to ignore it, revise it or readopt it. If we want to make some current use of it, we need to decide whether we are going to require it (& if so how) or whether we simply want to distribute it to our majors so they have an idea of what they should be familiar with if they take the GREs or go on Jeopardy. I suggest one modification: whatever form the core and ancillary lists might take, I think we might also want an ephemeral list, one that includes writers who are currently important, even though they may not show staying power after 10 years or so. We might look at the core/track lists every 5 or 10 years but update the ephemeral list(s) every couple of years. We needn't decide on this immediately, but I'd welcome input now and we can talk about it at the next L/L meeting.