

IDS DEPARTMENT Newsletter

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A WORD FROM THE DEPARTMENT CHAIR

DR. MARIA PRAMAGGIORE

As the mountain winter gives way to spring, I'm so appreciating your varied and important work: securing archives for future researchers, celebrating Appalachian storytelling on film, coming together for collegial research talks, and publishing reflections for the higher education community.

Your contributions are invaluable, as IDS Senior Klara Bost tells us in this issue.

Maria

IDS DEPARTMENT
NEWSLETTER

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FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

ANN KAPLAN

- Ann Kaplan been elected to the national executive board of the **Society for Photographic Education**, the higher education professional society dedicated to the study of photography.
- In **IDS 3260 - Creativity: Methods & Practice**, students participated in the exhibition *Images Do Not Represent Us, They Create Us: The Image and its Transforming Power*, for which Ann Kaplan served as a visiting curator at the University of San Jorge in Zaragoza, Spain. Students helped with the international jurying process by researching a sampling of submitted artwork. Three visiting artists joined the students for a dialogue about their work, methods, and process.
- [View the students' publication here.](#)

JOSEPH BATHANTI

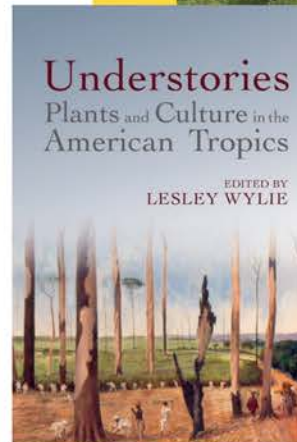


Photo by david silver

- Joseph Bathanti, the McFarlane Distinguished Professor, NC Poet Laureate (2012-14), and author or editor of more than 20 books of poetry, fiction, creative nonfiction and criticism, will be honored in October 2024 as one of five inductees into the **The North Carolina Literary Hall of Fame**. The Hall of Fame celebrates and promotes the state's rich literary heritage by commemorating its leading authors and encouraging the flourishing of great literature

JESSICA MARTELL

- Jessica Martell co-authored the essay, "**The Vine at the End of the World: Reimagining Kudzu in the US South**" as part of the new collection *Understories: Plants and Cultures in the American Tropics* (Liverpool UP, 2024). The essay provides a new cultural history of the notorious kudzu plant using insights from critical plant and Plantationocene studies.



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

KLARA BOST

"I am 26 years old and App was the third school I had transferred to, in 2020. By a stroke of fate, I stumbled on Interdisciplinary studies and self designed majors. With the help of Dr. Nunes and Dr. Davison, I began the process of creating my degree. This department is the first department at App or either of the other two schools I had attended that cared. Not only did this department care about me finishing a degree, they cared about my specific degree and my input on how and what to build. Professor Kaplan has gone above and beyond to get me to where I am today. I created my Plan of Study in IDS 2002 with an immense amount of help from Dr. Maddux. I have taken IDS 3003 with Dr. Cockerill, and created a project I will be putting in my portfolio for future employers to see. I have gone on a study abroad trip with Dr. Martell after taking her class, I learned more from her about the political climate of the world, past and present, which I use all the time, than almost anyone else. The Interdisciplinary Studies department is the only department in App I would be this excited and grateful to get my degree in. This department's process has helped earn me the degree I will receive in May and the knowledge to prepare me for careers I didn't know would be possible for me. The people here have given me the tools to confidently go out into the world and do something I am, and I hope they are, very proud of."



Senior in Art Therapy (IDS BA) with Minor in Studio Art

LLC Tea and Cookies in the LLC Lobby.

- Tuesday, **March 5th** at 5:30 PM-6:30 PM
- Tuesday, **March 19th** at 5:00 PM-6:30 PM
- Tuesday, **April 2nd** at 5:00 PM-6:30 PM
- Tuesday, **April 16th** at 5:00 PM-6:30 PM
- Tuesday, **April 30th** at 5:00 PM-6:30 PM



APPALACHIAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

Congrats * *

The 47th Annual Appalachian Studies Association (ASA) Conference will be held at WCU March 7 - 9, 2024. AS and IDS will be well represented by a contingent of faculty and graduate students, including Sandra Ballard, Joseph Bathanti, Tom Hansell, Katherine Ledford, Trevor McKenzie, and Julie Shepherd-Powell. AS graduate students presenting work include Jesse Barber, Caleb Brown and Sammy Osmond, Elise Johnson, Kennedy Sloop, Mae Turney, Yndiana Montes Fogelquist and alumna Maako Shiratori.

Congratulations AS team, you do us proud!



UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOMING THE NEW WRC GA

The Watuaga Residential College has a new Graduate Assistant:

Tristan Williamson

Welcome Tristan!



THOUGHTS FROM YOUR GA

Hi everyone! I hope you all had a great winter break and that your semester is going well so far. I know it is already flying by so fast- Spring Break is so soon! I wish you all a good next few weeks and a relaxing Spring break!

-Lakota

Email me at :

Grindstafflf@appstate.edu

UPCOMING EVENTS

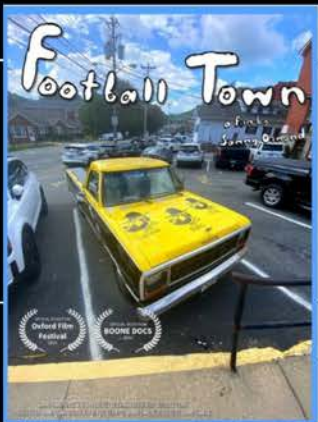
- **GWS New Faculty Welcome** Wednesday February 28 2024 5-6.30 pm Belk Library 421.
- **Women of Color in Academia Panel Discussion** Thursday, March 21 5.30-7.30 pm at 420 Parkway Ballroom PSU
- **Film Screening: *Orlando: My Political Biography* (Preciado, 2023)** Tuesday, April 2 6 pm. Greenbriar Theater, PSU
- **Celebration of GWS Student and Faculty Accomplishments** Friday May 3, 4-5.30 pm The Great Hall (205 LLA)

APPALACHIALOOZA

This past week the IDS program had many awesome events including: the Dedication of Black Mountain College Archives to the WL Eury Appalachian Collection, Screening of *King Coal*, Workshop with Elaine McMillion Sheldon, and Boone Docs documentary festival. Thank you to all that made this happen and those who showed up to support the program!



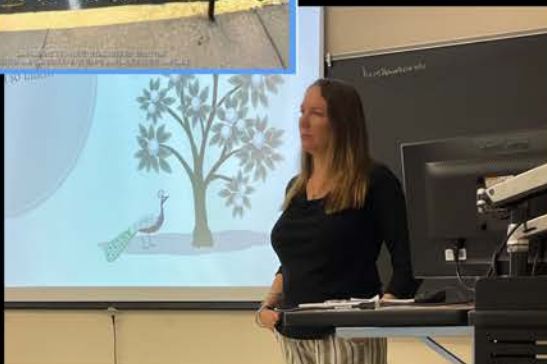
Q&A with filmmakers at Boone Docs



Congratulations to App Studies MA student Sammy Osmond's film, *FOOTBALL TOWN* (2023) which won the Boone Docs Inaugural Student Film Award, sponsored by IDS!

Find more information about the films shown at Boone Docs below:

<https://www.apptheatre.org/events-and-tickets/2024-boone-docs>



Dr. Kelly Renwick presenting her research at the IDS Department Brown Bag on 23 Feb 21



Q&A with filmmaker Elaine McMillion Sheldon and Curren Sheldon at Boone Docs



Mary Emma Harris (Chair and Director of the Black Mountain College Project) at the Black Mountain College donation to the WL Eury archive