THE NEIL MACINTYRE MEMORIAL PRIZE

The Neil MacIntyre Memorial Prize, an annual award, recognizes the best scholarly paper written by an English Department graduate student. The prize stipulates that eligible entries must be written by an English Department graduate student currently enrolled in a graduate degree program of the CWRU English Department and as part of their graduate work at CWRU. Papers originally submitted for courses, dissertation chapters, and papers written for scholarly conferences are all eligible. Revised papers are entirely acceptable as long as they originally were written as part of the student's graduate study in English at CWRU.

The Prize Committee reads the submissions as complete, independent scholarly essays, comparable to journal articles (i.e., they must stand alone without the context of a larger project or information about the author's intention, etc.) All submissions should be polished and carefully edited. The prize criteria is simply "the best scholarly paper," and the Committee is open to submissions on any topic and from any sub-field within English Studies. The most successful papers will clearly describe and argue for the stakes of the project and contain a coherent and fully-developed controlling argument that is backed by careful analysis of the evidence provided.

The winner will be designated as the Neil MacIntyre Memorial Prize winner and awarded a cash prize. The annual prize winner is expected to present a version of the essay at the final Departmental Colloquium meeting in early December. The Graduate School invites the winner to an awards ceremony in the spring.

Rules and Information:

1. Each entrant may submit only one essay. The essay should not have been submitted to this contest before, and it should be a self-contained scholarly work, including appropriate notes and bibliographic materials in an accepted scholarly documentation style (e.g., MLA, APA, Chicago). The model in format and scope is the type of article appearing in a scholarly journal. A section or chapter of a thesis or dissertation is acceptable, provided that it is internally complete.

2. Entries should not exceed 25 pages, double spaced, including notes and bibliography.

3. Entrants should submit their materials electronically to Susan Grimm (sxd290@case.edu) in early October. The submission should be in the form of a PDF document, from which all identifying information has been removed. The author should not be identifiable in the document or in the file name. In the body of the email, entrants should include their names and the titles of their essays.

4. Judging will be done by a committee of faculty from the department, and the winner will be announced in November. The prize winner is expected to present a version of the essay at the final Departmental Colloquium meeting in early December.

Please direct any questions about the award, eligibility, or submission procedures directly to the Director of Graduate Studies.
Neil William Macintyre was a graduate student in the English Department between 1970 and 1978. He earned the MA from CWRU in 1972, passed his doctoral qualifying exams in 1974, and with a prospectus accepted in 1977, began work on a dissertation on the plays of Lady Gregory under the direction of the late Professor William McCollum. In 1976, financial needs forced him into full-time work as a programmer for the Department of the Navy. The demands of this employment – and subsequent work for the Time-Share Corporation of Mountain View California, where he rose to a vice presidency in marketing – compelled him to withdraw from the university in 1978. He died in 1986. The fund that endows the prize was begun in 1988 by a number of his graduate classmates, including Tom and Gail Hemmeter, Allan and Linda Benn, and Leonard and Joanne Podis; Departmental faculty augmented the fund.

Macintyre Memorial Prize Winners

2014 Eric Earnhardt “the sentient plume”: Avian Minds and the Pathetic Fallacy in Arnold, Darwin, and Ruskin
2013 Ray Horton “Rituals of the Ordinary”: Marilyne Robinson’s Aesthetics of Belief and Finitude
2012 Matthew Trammell The Moonstone’s Moonstone: A Multifaceted Thing
2011 Drew Banghart Dark Pools, Desperate Women, and the Body in Adam Bede
2010 Tasia Hane-Devore A Difficult Entanglement: Discourses of Disease in Eric Michaels’ Unbecoming
2009 Jamie McDaniel Orlando’s ‘house was no longer hers entirely’: Classification, Biographical Narratives, and the Law of Intestacy in Virginia Woolf’s Orlando
2008 Danielle Nielsen Traumatic Evolution: Samuel Butler’s Life and Habit and The Way of All Flesh
2007 R. Wells Addington Jonathan Swift and Commodity Culture: Indeterminacy in A Tale of a Tub
2005 Rachel Goldberg Novissima’s Daughter Speaks: Women’s Voice from Story of an African Farm to Mrs. Dalloway
2004 Elizabeth Hayes Alexander Bain’s Long Shadow: The Current-Traditional Paragraph in the Classroom
2003 Anne Ryan God’s Sublime Aloneness in Paradise Lost
2001 Katie Kickel Imagining Illness in Defoe’s Journal of the Plague Year
2000 Dian Killian
1999 Heather Kichner Who’s Lying Here? Grave Equivocations in Gothic Narrative
1997 Mike Rectenwald The Construction and Deconstruction of Science in Middlemarch
1996 John Kuijper Henry James, Authorial Theatrics, and American Technology
1994 Mary Griffin
1993 Lisa Maruca Disappearing, Disembodied and Disposable Women: The Emergence of the New Feminine Man in Richardson’s Clarissa
1992 Sarah Turner
1991 Virginia Chestek Kathy Kerestman
1990 Dave Roskos