



## Message from the Director

With storm clouds gathering, winds picking up, and a damn chill in the air, it's hard to imagine in late February we're on the cusp of another spring on campus. In a few short weeks, energies will turn to spring break travel plans, trips to conferences, and mind-mapping summer vacations. Before the sprint to the end of the academic year, I'd like to share a couple exciting developments since last fall.

Mitch Hobza (3rd year PhD student in Rhetoric and Composition) and Curtis Jewell (1st year MA student in Rhetoric & Composition) are representing the Writing Lab in Columbia at Universidad del Norte (or UniNorte) as part of a US State Department Grant/100,000 Strong in the Americas Innovation Fund to foster intra- and cross-institutional partnerships around creative and academic writing. Mitch and Curtis are spending the semester with our partners at Uninorte helping them link principles of writing center theory and practice, translingualism, and intercultural awareness to develop peer mentoring programs on site. Next fall, five undergraduate peer writing consultants will come to West Lafayette and participate in the life of the everyday writing lab, from shadowing sessions and auditing the tutor training course to developing their own curricula, websites, and OWL-inspired materials. Most important, we look forward to learning with and from them about how to continue to improve the Writing Lab's responsiveness to the needs of multilingual writers on campus.

*"...WE'RE ANTICIPATING  
A BIG MOVE...TO A NEWLY  
RENOVATED SPACE IN THE  
KRACH LEADERSHIP CENTER."*

Alongside tutor trips to Colombia and planning for our visitors this fall, we're anticipating a big move in late summer or early fall from the friendly confines of the second floor of Heavilon to a newly renovated space in the Krach Leadership Center. We'll have a beautiful reception space, dedicated spaces for graduate student assistant directors, and several shared collaborative spaces in the building. The floor's landing is getting new furniture to encourage writing consultations, and the Writing Lab will have access to a "great room" for greater numbers of sessions during busy times in the semester. We're also looking forward to using the building's conference rooms and performance hall for workshops and conversation groups. We're all excited about the future, while also recognizing that the tutors, staff, and clients will need to negotiate a new space.

A last note: We're excited about our on-going development of the [RESEARCH TAB ON THE OWL](#) family of sites. Michael Wakolbinger, our intrepid secretary, has been learning to integrate our Tableau dashboards with a Purdue-branded look. They're fabulous, and they're insightful. We're modeling how to share traffic, demographic, and assessment data for the larger world of writing centers. For example, users can explore who uses the Writing Lab over time, from where, and to what effect.

Director, Writing Lab  
Associate Professor, English

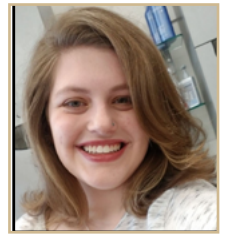
Our Alumni Annotations newsletter is published and emailed twice per year. If you are not receiving the Alumni Annotations newsletter as an email PDF file, and would like to or would like to contribute to our publication, please contact our secretary Michael Wakolbinger at [mwakolbi@purdue.edu](mailto:mwakolbi@purdue.edu).



# New Faces Around the Lab



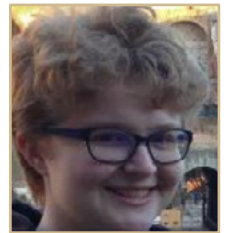
(back) Zoe Fang, Rowan Megenity, Hannah Golichowski, (front) Camille Anthony, Ryleigh Turner, Rianna Bush, Sravya Ambadipudi



Fayth Schutter



Kelly Nicholson



Milo Scheulen



Allison Wade



Olivia Buttz, Faith Cornett, Gabe Porter, Sophia Craig, Helen Zoss, Hafsa Farooq, Kelsey Batt, Lauren Mackenzie

## Awards

Kim Broughton - **Fall 2019 New Tutor of the Semester**

Natalie Ciresi - **Fall 2019 UTA Tutor of the Semester**

Heather Murton - **Fall 2019 GTA Leadership Award**

Austin Steinman - **Fall 2019 UTA Leadership Award**

Isaac Wang - **Fall 2019 GTA Tutor of the Semester**

## Presentations and Publications

### RECENT

Chen, Jianfen, Angela Agnew, and Austin Steinman. "Embracing Language Differences & Breaking Down Institutional Barriers." ECWCA, Mar. 2020, Indianapolis.

Geib, Elizabeth, Eugie Ruiz, Sravya Ambadipudi, and Natalie Ciresi. "Meeting Students Where They Are." ECWCA, Mar. 2020, Indianapolis.

Kennell, Vicki R. "Developing Writing Center Tutor Expertise." ESL GO! Speaker Series, 7 Feb. 2020, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN.

### UPCOMING

Denny, Harry. "Action Research Session." SSWCA, Mar. 2020, Annandale, VA.

Denny, Harry. "Adopting the Peer Writing Tutor Alumni Project." SSWCA, Mar. 2020, Annandale, VA.

Denny, Harry. "Looking Up, Looking Out, Looking In." SSWCA, Mar. 2020, Annandale, VA.

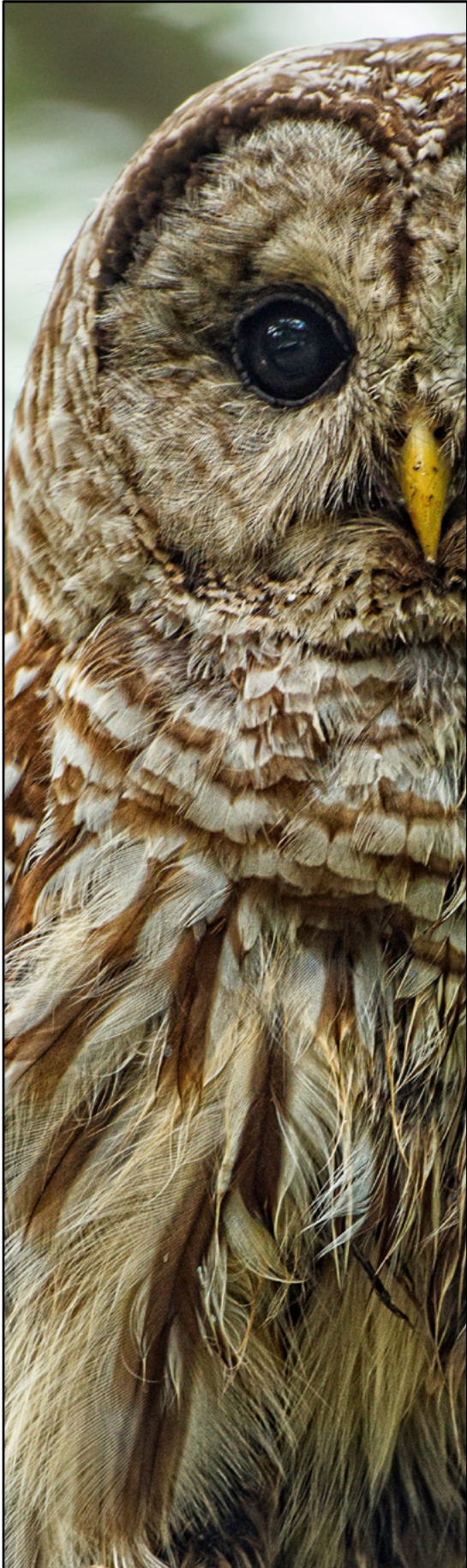
Forte, Joe, Mason Pellegrini, Kaden Milliren, Shelton Weech, Katie McMorris, and Priya Sirohi. "The Case of the Purdue OWL: Accessibility and Online Content Development." Computer & Writing, May 2020, Greenville, NC.

Wang, Isaac. "Decolonizing Metaphor: Moves Toward Decolonial Tutoring Praxis" CCCC, Mar. 2020, Milwaukee, WI.

Wang, Isaac. "Translingualism and Translanguaging in the Writing Center: Towards Practical Pedagogy." Transoceanic Alliance on Writing at the National University of Ireland Galway, Mar. 2020.

Wang, Isaac, Jasmine Tang, and Talisha Haltiwanger Morrison. "White Supremacy at the Center: Playing the Believing Game to Unmask Violence and Hostility." IWCA Collaborative, May 2020, Milwaukee, WI.





## Message from the OWL

**JOSEPH FORTE, OWL CONTENT COORDINATOR AND ANTHONY BUSHNER, OWL TECHNICAL COORDINATOR**

With the start of the Spring 2020 semester, we begin not only a new decade of our shared history, but also a new chapter in the life of our beloved Purdue OWL. Our 25th Anniversary, which offered an opportunity to celebrate, reminisce, and reflect on our mission, is now behind us. Speaking personally, this anniversary helped me realize what a tremendous honor it is to play a role in an institution that began before I could ride a bike and that will, with luck, outlast my tenure at Purdue by many years. I cannot express how overwhelming it is to realize that the things I and others do here at Purdue have ramifications for countless students and educators around the globe.

It's also overwhelming—albeit in a very different way—to realize how small any single person's contributions are when viewed against the backdrop of the OWL's history.

In that spirit, here's a quick run-down of what we've been up to recently. While these achievements may represent only small

steps in the OWL's storied history, it is my hope that they help us maintain the sort of forward momentum that will keep us an integral part of the educational community for decades to come.

***“OUR MOST IMPORTANT ACHIEVEMENT THIS YEAR HAS BEEN THE PUBLICATION OF THE NEW APA RESOURCES”***

- Our most important achievement this year has been the the PUBLICATION OF NEW APA RESOURCES that reflect the new 7th edition of the APA Publication Manual. This required a dedicated team of content developers to put in work over the 2019-2020 holiday break, for which I am eternally grateful. We hope that these updated resources help students and teachers avoid citation headaches for years to come.
- We've got some Spanish-language content in the pipeline that should complement the Writing Lab's recent collaboration with Colombia's Universidad del Norte quite nicely. ¡No podemos esperar hasta que lo veas! (I'm sorry—I haven't taken Spanish since high school).
- Though we don't want to spoil too much, we want to acknowledge that we have big plans for video content due out this summer. In short, we're looking to publish a series that will have special relevance in an election year like 2020. Don't worry—there won't be anything too hot-button.

- Our first-ever OWL user survey is currently awaiting IRB approval. Once we get the go-ahead, we'll be able to learn more about what kinds of students and educators visit our site, and we'll be able to compare this information to the robust data we already have about who visits our brick-and-mortar locations on campus.
- Finally, it's never too late to check out the [25TH ANNIVERSARY VIDEO RETROSPECTIVE](#) we put out in November. My sincerest thanks to everyone who contributed to the video. What a wonderful opportunity it was to make it.

Until we meet again,  
JFF



Joseph Forte



## Alumni Spotlight

### ALEX KAUFMAN, GTA, 2003-2004

Working in the Writing Lab was one of many highlights of my years at Purdue University, where I earned an MA in English Language and Literature in 2001 and a PhD in English in 2006 with a primary area in Middle English Language and Literature. In the Writing Lab, I was fortunate to be mentored by Jess Clark, who taught me so much about working with non-native English speakers and second language acquisition. Jess brought her coursework, knowledge, and expertise into our mentoring sessions, which provided me with some practical strategies when working alongside the clients and their writing.



Alex Kaufman

The space of the Writing Lab and those within who oversaw its day-to-day operations were just as important, I believe, to its success and its mission as the tutors and what we did. Writing can be scary. Having someone – especially someone whom you don't know – read and assess your work can be terrifying. But the Writing Lab was always a welcoming space, and it gave off the vibe of a friendly, inviting living room or parlor. It was not sterile and clinical. It did not look or feel like a dentist's office or an annex inside a paper supply company. The comfy chairs and couches, the candy, the happy people all put students at ease. I've tried my very best to replicate that environment in my office and, when possible, my classroom.

***"THE COMFY CHAIRS AND COUCHES, THE CANDY, THE HAPPY PEOPLE ALL PUT STUDENTS AT EASE."***

The message from Linda Bergman and Tammy Conard-Salvo was that we're all here to help and to locate and celebrate success. It is a judgement-free zone. This is the philosophy that has stayed with me as a teacher and mentor to my students. Each writer has a unique voice and



something to contribute to their discipline, profession, or (local or global) community. When I meet with my students to talk about their writing, I try to ask more questions rather than give too much advice—I don't want my voice to become the student's in their written work. I'm there as a guide and a sounding board, and to offer some advice where and when it is necessary.

Currently, I am the Reed D. Voran Distinguished Professor of Honors Humanities and Professor of English at Ball State University, where I teach in the Honors College. My teaching and research interests include outlaws, Robin Hood, historical literature, Chaucer, Arthuriana, medievalism, and neomedievalism.

***“SADIE AND I ARE ON A QUEST  
TO HELP BUILD LINES OF  
COMMUNICATION, COLLABORATION,  
AND CARE BETWEEN TUTORS...”***

## Tutor Spotlights

### HEATHER MURTON, GTA

**M**y name is Heather, and I have been a graduate tutor at the Writing Lab since 2017. In addition to working at our main location in Heavilon Hall, I have had a lot of fun holding sessions in our satellite locations. As of this semester, I have been able to work at every single one of our satellite locations, including our newest addition at the Brees Academic Performance Center.

Learning the ins and outs of each location across campus has been an exciting journey, and in the fall, I was inspired to write a guide for fellow tutors who are diving into these sites for the first time. The guide has now found its new home in the Lab's Tutor Manual, and I hope it continues to grow as more folks experience working at the HSSC Library, the Asian and Asian American Cultural Resource Center, Mechanical Engineering, Hicks Undergraduate Library, and BREES.

In addition to producing resources for satellite tutors, I have been collaborating with Sadie to talk about two of my favorite things: community building and morale boosting! Sadie and I are on a quest to help build lines of communication, collaboration, and care between tutors, and I'm excited to see where this project goes.

As for my current solo project, I am working on

collecting and creating resources to help make the Lab more inclusive for queer clients and tutors.

I hope your adventures after leaving the Lab have been magical and kind to you, and I am wishing each of you the very best.

### CAITLIN LEE HUI LYN, UTA

Before I started working at the Writing Lab, I imagined it would be akin to being an English teacher, but tutoring over the past two years has showed me otherwise. Interacting with people from all backgrounds while getting to be a part of their journey to become better writers has been incredibly rewarding. It's important to keep in mind and recognise the individualised ways in which clients learn and write, so that they get the most out of each session. Similarly, by explaining different concepts about grammar or sentence structure to others, I also get to refine my own skills and understanding in those areas.

As a graduating senior, one of the things I will miss about the Writing Lab is being involved with the conversation groups, and I'm glad I've had the opportunity to help other second-language speakers who struggle with the same things I did. I understand the worry and anxiety that comes with trying to communicate in a second language, and how nerve-racking it can be.

No matter where they come from, I want to ensure that the people who attend conversation groups have a safe space to improve their English language skills and learn while having fun without feeling judged.

***"I UNDERSTAND THE WORRY AND ANXIETY THAT COMES WITH TRYING TO COMMUNICATE IN A SECOND LANGUAGE..."***



Rodrigo Rodriguez, Mitch Hobza and Curtis Jewell. Rodrigo is a Purdue Graduate (PhD Second Language Studies) and faculty member at Universidad del Norte.

## Translanguaging

### MITCH HOBZA, GTA AND CURTIS JEWELL, GTA

Mitch Hobza (third year PhD, Rhetoric and Composition) and Curtis Jewell (first year MA, Rhetoric and Composition) are two graduate teaching assistants at the Purdue Writing Lab who are currently working at the Universidad del Norte in Baranquilla, Colombia as part of the 100K America research grant for the Spring 2020 semester.

They are part of a research project entitled: "Translanguaging: A Writing Laboratories Academic Exchange." Hobza and Jewell are working with Rodrigo Rodriguez (PhD, Second Language Studies from Purdue) and other faculty on curriculum development for both the university's writing center and classes in writing studies and intercultural communication.

In the fall, five undergraduate students who work at Universidad del Norte's writing center (El Centro de Escritura) will arrive at Purdue and be mentored in the Writing Lab.

# Current Tutoring Staff

## GRADUATE TUTORS

Alyssa Fernandez (English)  
 Anisha Dutta (Human Resource Management)  
 Brandon Rdzak (Philosophy)  
 Brian Czyzyk (Creative Writing)  
 Caroline Jennings (Rhetoric & Composition)  
 Gentry Lee (Educational Psychology)  
 Heather Murton (Literature, Theory, and Culture)  
 Isaac Wang (Rhetoric & Composition)  
 Jason Abad (Literature, Theory, and Culture)  
 Javan Dehaven (Creative Writing)  
 Johnay Hall (Creative Writing)  
 Kaden Milliren (Rhetoric & Composition)  
 Kimberly Broughton (Rhetoric & Composition)  
 Lydia Cyrus (Creative Writing)  
 Maggie Myers (Literature, Theory, and Culture)  
 Steven Dawson (Creative Writing)  
 Sungae Kim (Literacy and Language Education)  
 Tamara Rutledge (Creative Writing)  
 Tzu-Yu Liu (English)

## UNDERGRADUATE TUTORS

Abigail Spihlman (English Literature)  
 Alison Wade (Human Services)  
 Angela Agnew (Biochemistry)  
 Anne Franke (English Education)  
 Austin Steinman (Mechanical Engineering)  
 Caitlin Lee Hui Lyn (Psychology)  
 Camille Anthony (Creative Writing)  
 Chuqing Ni (Mechanical Engineering)  
 Elenil Deypalubos (Kinesiology)  
 Emily Jones (Professional Writing)  
 Faith Cornett (Brain & Behavioral Science)  
 Fayth Schutter (Professional Writing)  
 Gabe Porter (Virtual Effects Compositing)  
 Gazal Singh (Neurobiology)  
 Hafsa Farooq (English, Communication)  
 Hannah Golichowski (Public Relations)  
 Hannah Van (English)  
 Helen Zoss (English Education, French)  
 Kelly Nicholson (Marketing, German)

Kelsey Batt (Creative Writing, Professional Writing)  
 Kelsey Martin (Early Childhood Education)  
 Lauren MacKenzie (Creative Writing)  
 Megan Sommerfeld (English, Political Science)  
 Milo Scheulen (Nuclear Engineering)  
 Natalie Ciresi (English Literature, Professional Writing)  
 Olivia Buttz (English Literature)  
 Rianna Bush (Aerospace Engineering)  
 Rowan Megenity (Creative Writing)  
 Ryleigh Turner (Environmental Law)  
 Shangjing Tang (Industrial Engineering)  
 Shuting Yang (Aeron. & Astron. Engineering)  
 Sophia Craig (English Literature, Creative Writing)  
 Sravya Ambadipudi (Pharmaceutical Science)  
 Zoe Fang (Mechanical Engineering)

## FIRST YEAR FELLOWS

Ally Atkinson (English)  
 Amina Khan (Fiction)  
 Carly Rae Zent (Fiction)  
 Curtis Jewel (Rhetoric & Composition)  
 Daschielle Louis (Fiction)  
 Emily Pearson (English)  
 Jianfen Chen (Rhetoric & Composition)  
 Paul Riker (Fiction)  
 Tom Daniel (Literature, Theory, and Culture)

## ADMIN/TUTORING COMBO

Elizabeth Geib (English)  
 Assistant Director of Undergraduate Tutor Education

Eugie Ruiz (English)  
 WAC and Workshop Assistant Director

Mitch Hobza (Rhetoric & Composition)  
 Assistant Director for Multilingual and Graduate Education

Parva Panahi (English)  
 Assistant Mentor for ENGL 502



## Support the Writing Lab

In 1976, the Writing Lab was founded as a one-room space with only three consultants. Since then, we've expanded our space and our services and now serve as a model for an international community of writing centers and composition scholars. Your tax-deductible donation will help us better serve Purdue students on campus and beyond, as well as serve our global friends online who use the OWL (Online Writing Lab).

To make your donation online, [PLEASE CLICK HERE](#).

To make your donation by check, please make payable to Purdue Foundation and insert Writing Lab/OWL in the memo line.

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West Lafayette, IN 47907-2007



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