The Importance of Internships

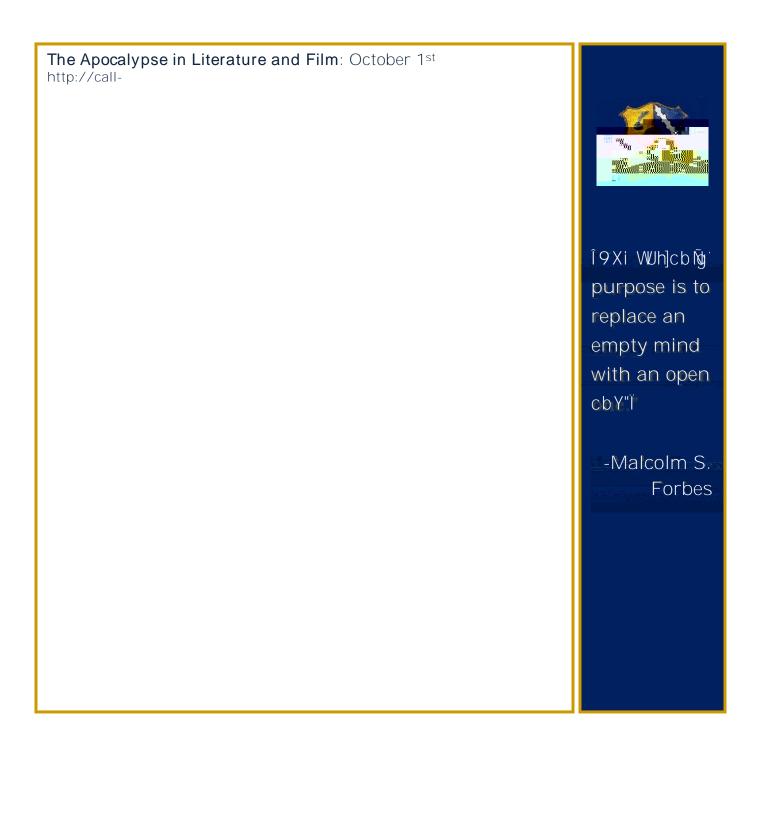
By Kevin Kelsey

This summer I had the privilege of working as a marketing/public relations intern for the Akron-Summit Convention and Visitors Bureau at the John S. Knight Center in downtown Akron. Along with my everyday projects (such as working on their biannual newsletter and creating travel itineraries), I attended meetings and events in the Northeast Ohio area that gave me valuable experience and allowed me to make connections that will carry over after I graduate.

For those of you who have not yet had the internship experience the time is now. Graduate students have good chances of being accepted to different companies because of the extra experience they bring with them, so there is no reason not to apply. An internship, even unpaid (as mine was), provides invaluable career experience that not only looks good on a resumé but also allows you to use that extra knowledge to get ahead in your chosen career. The Arts & Sciences Careers Program in Olin Hall provides all the information you need to get started and they even walk you step-by-step through the application and internship process, helping you build a portfolio to use in future career endeavors.

The real world is a competitive place more and more students are entering grad school every year. Getting an internship under your belt will set you apart from everyone else as someone who cares about their future and provide beneficial knowledge and experience that will help you no matter what you do after you graduate.

The Importance of Internships	1
October Deadlines	1
Spotlight	2
Chicago Trip 2011	4
Events	5
September Highlights	5
Volume 1, Issue	



A student organization that focuses on helping graduate students of all tracks (Composition, Fine Arts, and Literature) in the English field develop professionally during their time at The University of Akron, by providing members with resources to help them publish, present, and prepare. SAGES also strives to promote unity among graduate students of the three tracks by creating events and providing resources that will benefit scholars regardless of their field.

Honestly, I never even gave a thought to trying to find a place to present a paper until Dr. Nunn brought it to my attention that there was a specific conference for Renaissance Studies. I took her Renaissance Drama Lit course in the fall of 2009, which as it happened gave me an entirely appropriate paper to submit to the conference. I thought, "Oh, cool, Chicago. I love going there," and sent my paper proposal in on a whim.

That's a good question. I don't really know why. Maybe it was because my paper wasn't just another analysis of a Shakespeare, Jonson, or Marlowe play. My topic was directly applicable to social issues of the time during which the play took place, rather than just being about the play within itself. Also, it might have been some cosmic joke that the MFA student went to the Newberry instead of a Lit student.

I vaguely remember why as it has been almost two years since. I do remember struggling to find something interesting enough for me to care to investigate and write about. Ultimately I may have chosen the play because it was short lived, relatively unpopular in its time, and made penis jokes.

The most consuming thing is writing a good abstract. This is what is ultimately chosen in the process, not the paper itself. I drafted quite a few times and worked with Dr. Nunn to get it all set right. Then after I was accepted, there were forms and correspondence with the event coordinators, but most of the work was involved in cutting my 15 page essay down to about 7. It was a pain trying to decide what was important enough to appear in the paper and yet still interesting enough that someone might pay attention while I read aloud. I guess that's important to note: YOU WILL READ ALOUD and should style the writing for that purpose.

Ask an officer

I don't know that any future goals will include the Newberry, seeing as how I am hopped up on poetry all the time. But yeah, I would like to participate in conferences in the future that deal more with poetry and/or creative writing in general. It would be one more way for me to force myself to focus on writing about something that I might easily study, put down, and move away from without the kind of structuring that paper writing forces you to do in such a specific way.

By Marlia Fontaine-Weisse

During winter break, SAGES is hosting an inexpensive excursion to the Newberry Library in Chicago. Though this trip is designed for those interested in ways to extend their academic research beyond the tools offered here at The University of Akron, attendance is open to all graduate students especially those looking to have fun!

In addition to providing graduate students and faculty with opportunities for advanced study in a variety of literary periods, The Newberry Library provides a home to a world-class collection of books, manuscripts, and maps, and also to a growing community of readers. Its collections, spanning many centuries, feature a wide range of materials, from illuminated medieval manuscripts to rich genealogical resources, and from early pr

