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Editor's Notebook

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LISA SZABO-JONES
and
PAUL HUEBENER

Editor's Notebook



Photo: L. Szabo-Jones

With the publication of this issue, we are delighted to announce that *The Goose: A Journal of Arts, Environment, and Culture in Canada* has completed its migration to a new home. Wilfrid Laurier University Press now serves as the institutional host for the journal, and the bepress Digital Commons publishing system is now our repository platform. With these changes, *The Goose* becomes a member of a well-established online scholarly publishing database, benefits from the support of a major scholarly press, and will achieve much greater visibility in both

public and scholarly search engines. Best of all, *The Goose* still remains a fully open access publication even while benefiting from these improvements.

We are deeply indebted to several colleagues for their initiative and dedication in allowing this transition to come about. We would especially like to thank Cheryl Lousley (Environmental Humanities Series Editor), Lisa Quinn (Acquisitions Editor), and Jasmine Der (Digital Projects Coordinator) at Wilfrid Laurier University Press, whose generous and sustained efforts made this migration possible. We also thank Omar Rodriguez and the bepress design team for their technical and visual work in helping us realize the current site, and the Executive Council of ALECC (Association for Literature, Environment, and Culture in Canada/Association pour la littérature, l'environnement et la culture au Canada) for supporting this new direction of the publication. *The Goose* will continue to evolve in content and design as we learn more about its potential and extend our collective creativity.

With this new format, we have moved to an incremental publishing process. This means that each submission can be published immediately once it has completed the necessary stages of revision, formatting, and copyediting. As a result, book reviews and other content will appear in a timelier manner, without the need to wait for the completion of a full issue. Each issue of *The Goose* will still have a dedicated table of contents, accessible through the journal home page, but instead of downloading a single PDF document for a full issue, readers will access individual submissions through separate PDFs published on an ongoing basis. The publication of the "Editor's Notebook" on the closing dates of our biannual issues (August 31st and February 28th) will mark the completion of each issue. Our submission process now operates through an automated system which requires contributors to create a log-in account. In addition, we are now able to invite multimedia submissions such as video and podcast material. Please send us your articles, creative works, visual art, and interviews using the "Submit Article" link on our home page.

Now that *The Goose* benefits from a more standardized publishing process, we have begun the exciting process of significantly expanding our editorial team. We are delighted to welcome several new editors from different parts of Canada and the globe, and we would also like to take this opportunity to thank our existing editors Amanda and Tempest for their ongoing efforts, especially during the transition to the new format.

Please join us in welcoming and offering our continuing thanks to our dynamic team:

Book Reviews Editor: AMANDA DI BATTISTA is a PhD candidate in Environmental Studies at York University in Toronto. Her project is titled *Creative Expressions of Ecocriticism, Canadian Literature, and the Possibilities for Environmental Education*. She is the co-creator of the podcast series *CoHearence*. With *The Goose* since the summer of 2013, she is also the Creative Reviews Editor for *UnderCurrents: Journal of Critical Environmental Studies*.

Poetry Editor: CAMILLA NELSON is an artist, poet, and recent PhD graduate from Falmouth University, whose doctoral project, *Reading and Writing with a Tree: Practising 'Nature Writing' as Enquiry*, was a practice-based enquiry into what it means to write nature. She is based in Somerset, England. Her work has appeared in exhibits and magazines as well as journals and anthologies.

Directrice du contenu francophone (French Editor): MARIÈVE ISABEL is a PhD candidate in the Département de langue et littérature françaises (Department of French Language and Literature) at McGill University. Her research focuses on ecocriticism and Québec literature. She teaches at the McGill School of Environment.

Copyeditor: TEMPEST EMERY is an MA student in English at the University of Calgary. With *The Goose* since the summer of 2012, she also served on the ALECC 2014 conference organizing committee.

Copyeditor: JENNA GERSIE recently completed an MSc in Environmental Studies with a concentration in Writing and Communications at Green Mountain College in Vermont. She is a contributing writer for *Dirt* magazine and *The Ecotone Exchange*, has worked as an educator in raptor conservation and rehabilitation, and is currently moving from New Jersey to Vermont to start a position as a Program Associate for SIT Study Abroad.

Copyeditor: HAYLEY EVANS recently completed an MA in English at the University of Victoria, with an emphasis on British Columbia literature and political and cultural studies. She has worked as a copyeditor for the *Routledge Encyclopedia of Modernism* and as an editorial assistant at the University of Victoria.

With Camilla joining the team we will now benefit from the expertise of a dedicated Poetry Editor, and with Mariève on board we are excited to begin soliciting and developing francophone content in earnest for the first time. The experience that Jenna and Hayley bring to *The Goose* will help improve our copyediting workloads and will help us sustain a timely and high quality publishing process. Amanda and Tempest, meanwhile, have been doing exceptional work in their respective roles.

It is with regret, a big thank you, and best wishes that we see Naomi Smedbol's departure from *The Goose* team. Naomi worked with the journal from 2010 through to the summer of 2014, and helped shape the quality of the publication. In addition to working on the journal, Naomi has also been active on the ALECC Executive.

This issue of *The Goose* features poetry selected by our guest Poetry Editor, Sonnet L'Abbé. Sonnet has curated a wonderful diversity of poets who challenge or push interpretations of nature poetry: Jordan Abel, Kathleen Brown, Julie Joosten, Cecily Nicholson, Linda Russo, and Souvankham Thammavongsa. Sonnet also brings to us three collaboration-based poems from "The Elder Project" developed by members of Vernon School District #22 in British Columbia. The poems emerge from reflections on questions posed by secondary students to their

partnered elders. We are fortunate to feature the work of Brian Antoine, Lenaya Sampson, Vicky Raphael, Lindsay Oppenheimer, Yetko Brooke Bearshirt-Robins, and John (Wilke) Louis.

Minty Donald's photo essay, "Guddling About: Experiments in Vital Materialism with Particular Regard to Water," documents and provides an overview of her artistic performance-based collaboration with Nick Millar and the Bow River in Calgary. They create a set of interactive instructions for cultivating relations between humans and water, particularly where human settlement encroaches on rivers.

Allison K. Athens, in her creative essay "Moose: Recollections from a Northern Childhood," reflects through a series of vignettes on the elusiveness of "capturing" (and in our peculiar ways, consuming) nature in its entirety. Yet, through her imaginative interplay between various moose encounters, her memory of growing up in the interior of Alaska, and an evocative, plain meditative prose, she evokes a graspable understanding of the complexity of nature. Her writing is accompanied by stunning photos from John Athens and John Wright.

Of course, we have a wonderful collection of twenty-five book reviews, a major staple of *The Goose*. We express our ongoing gratitude to our many book reviewers, whose work provides a valuable service to the ecocultural community in Canada and beyond. We expect that book reviews in particular will benefit from our new incremental publishing system, creating a more "live" ongoing presence to the journal and generating more interest and traffic.

Thank you for reading *The Goose*. We hope you enjoy the new format!

~

In Memory of Alanna F. Bondar

It seems inevitable that when writing about the environment grief is an ever-present. But, in this instance, the grief is a very human-felt loss for Alanna F. Bondar, one of the founding members of ALECC and of the field of ecofeminism in Canada, and a highly-regarded author and scholar of ecopoetry. My encounters with Alanna over the years, in person or by email, had always been warm, engaging, enthused, and never dull. In one of my first times spent with her at the ASLE conference in Eugene, Oregon, she told me she had slept with a dead sparrow under her mattress. Fair enough, we had had a couple of glasses of wine. Ever polite and wanting to seem open-minded, I tried to pretend this was a normal occurrence. But I must not have been good at hiding the horror, as she paused, began to laugh, and then assured me that it was a manuscript about a dead sparrow. It was her habit, she told me, to put a new draft under her mattress so she could "sleep on it."

Many in our community will have their own stories of Alanna, and these are what will keep her present. We hope, following suggestions among the ALECC community, that we will also keep her name alive with the creation of a writing award that acknowledges, in the spirit of her own work, both creative and scholarly endeavours. In this instance, we call upon those in the Environmental Humanities to support this effort.

She will be missed.

~Lisa Szabo-Jones



Photo: L. Szabo-Jones

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