

Dean's Weekly
Department of English and Philosophy

10 October 2012

Past Events

1. On 28 September, Dr. Steve Svoboda, orthopedist and director of the sports medicine fellowship at Keller Army Hospital, visited DEP's EP433 Senior Seminar and provided APL majors studying literature that explores the interrelationships of humankind and machines a fascinating presentation on current orthopedic efforts to repair what might be called broken human parts. Dr Svoboda provided cadets with an appreciation of current surgical trends regarding mechanical implants, the limitations of tissue replacement material, and the current efforts to discover a replacement material superior to the healthy human bone interface. He also helped students understand the degree to which human-machine fusion has been remarkably successful and radically unsuccessful in the last fifty years. LTC Svoboda is the second of a series of interdisciplinary speakers to visit EP433 this fall; COL Kevin Huggins visited class on 14 September 2012 and spoke to students about technological innovation and computer science currently employed in--and in development for--the battlefield. Later this semester, as students finish reading Huxley's "Brave New World," LTC Carl Ohlson, Director of CEP will meet with cadets to discuss contemporary conditioning methodologies that make humans more efficient in their use of machines in both sports and in the Army.



LTC Steven Svoboda, Director of the Sports Medicine Fellowship at Keller Army Hospital spoke with cadets enrolled in EP433 (Senior Seminar) about human-machine fusion and the repairing and replacing of human body parts.

2. On 2 October, five members of the EN101 Composition and EN302 Advanced Composition faculty traveled to Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, New York to attend the annual William Starr Lecture on freshman writing. This year's lecture featured veteran journalist, author and editor, Roy Peter Clark. Mr. Clark's most recent work is *Writing Tools: 50 Essential Strategies for Every Writer* (2006), a compendium of tips and techniques for good writing. He is also vice president and senior scholar at the Poynter Institute, a prestigious non-profit school for journalists located in St. Petersburg, FL. As part of the visit, our faculty conferred with colleagues at Vassar, to include Dr. Matt Schultz, the Head of Vassar's freshman writing seminar.