

Dean's Weekly

Department of English and Philosophy

22 February 2012

Past Events

1. Professor Patrick Query presented a paper titled “The People Are the City: T.S. Eliot, Coriolanus, and the 99%” as part of an International Symposium, T.S. Eliot and the Heritage of Rome and Italy in Modernist Literature, held in Florence from 4-11 February. Professor Query, one of the Symposium’s co-organizers, also led a peer seminar for younger scholars titled “T.S. Eliot and the Politics of Place.” Professor Query’s continued work and growing expertise in the area of Modernist poetry, including the poetry of WWI, will serve the department well as it begins planning for the WWI Centennial Conference at West Point: The Arts of War, to be held in the summer of 2014.



2. On 14 and 15 February, cadets enrolled in EN102 (Literature) enjoyed a Poetry and Jazz Crossroads session in Robinson Auditorium. The presentation was developed in cooperation with SSG Mark Tonelli and the USMA Jazz Knights. This event demonstrated the relationship between rhythm and form as expressed in poetry and music, which trace a common ancestry to the ancient lyre. The Knights explored form and improvisation to highlight the ways in which a deeper understanding of structural features can enhance our understanding of music and poetry. This event intersects with an EN102 course assignment that asks cadets to analyze the relationship between form and content in a lyric poem.



3. From 14 through 16 February, faculty from EN302 (Advanced Composition), along with the USMA Library's Special Collections and Archives staff, hosted a Spanish-American War exhibit in the Haig Room of Jefferson Hall for cadets enrolled in the course. This exhibit contained archived letters, memoirs, and photographs from the Spanish-American War, including such items the wartime account *How I Carried the Message to Garcia* by Andrew Rowan (Class of 1881), personal correspondence from Theodore Roosevelt, and the journals of John "Gatling Gun" Parker (Class of 1892). This display allowed cadets to witness the ways in which West Point graduates have characterized their combat experience and to gain an appreciation for the longstanding tradition of wartime corresponding and journalizing.

