

## **STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES**

A variety of opportunities for student development and support are available throughout the department. Contact the Graduate Director or the person named below or check out the websites listed for further information, or watch the hu-grad departmental listserv for notices of meetings of groups.

### **DEPARTMENT COMMITTEES—STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES**

Graduate students serve on a variety of Department committees, including the RTC Steering Committee and others. Committee positions are filled either by an election process or by invitation and appointment. Students who are interested in serving on committees should talk to the Director of Graduate Programs in RTC, or their HU-Grad and GSC representatives.

### **GRADUATE STUDENT COUNCIL (GSC)**

The Graduate Student Council (GSC) represents the professional, intellectual, and academic concerns of graduate students to the various governing bodies of the university and acts as advocate for graduate students. Representation on the Graduate Student Council is proportionate to the size of the program; the RTC Program currently is allotted three representatives on the council elected by the RTC students.

### **HU-GRAD**

Graduate Students in the RTC Program are automatically members of HU-Grad, the RTC graduate organization (separate from the hugrad-I listserv). Students meet each term to discuss current issues of policy relevant to the RTC program, university, and beyond, and elect representatives to various student and departmental organizations.

### **JOINT AUTHORSHIP**

Graduate students may work closely with faculty on articles, books, and other research projects. Graduate students who contribute substantially to research projects leading to publication should be listed as joint authors.

### **JOURNALS**

The Department of Humanities provides editing support for one international and two national academic journals, as well as a biannual volume of literary nonfiction, which is primarily written by graduate students in the RTC Program. Various types of editing experience, either through internship credit or paid administrative assistantships, are available to RTC graduate students with *Community Literacy Journal*, *Pank*, or *Blue Ice*. (Some administrative assistantships may require internships before paid positions are available.)

***Blue Ice Anthology***

**Contact: Matt Seigel, [mbseigel@mtu.edu](mailto:mbseigel@mtu.edu)**

Blue Ice Anthology, *published once every other year, publishes literary nonfiction essays written by students in HU5090, Writing Literary Nonfiction.*

***Community Literacy Journal***

**Michael Moore, Editor ([mmoore@mtu.edu](mailto:mmoore@mtu.edu))**

<<http://communityliteracy.org>>

***Pank: New Writing & Art***

**Matt Siegel, Editor ([mbseigel@mtu.edu](mailto:mbseigel@mtu.edu))**

<<http://www.pankmagazine.com/>>

## **MOOT**

MOOT provides a lunch-time forum for the discussion of student research, graduate policies, or other issues of importance to RTC students. Its goals include “encouraging the development of the 'life of the mind' in this inter-/multi-disciplinary department, providing a forum that is a conducive space for sharing our experiences as graduate students, and a productive means for discussing the issues and questions” which concern RTC students. Students may use this setting to rehearse talks prior to job searches or appearances at conferences. The MOOT coordinator emails weekly session information to [hugrad-l](mailto:hugrad-l@mtu.edu).

## **STUDYING ABROAD**

Michigan Tech participates in foreign exchange programs at the graduate level, with financing available through scholarships or employment arrangements. Students are required to have two years experience in modern language for internships and more than three years for graduate study abroad.

## **STUDENT EXCHANGES AND INTERNSHIPS**

Student exchanges may be possible with other universities with similar or related programs. We are also developing internships with corporations. If you are interested in teaching or studying with faculty at another institution, or in internships, consult with the Director of Graduate Programs in RTC.

## **TEACHING WITH INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY (TWIT)**

Students and faculty meet to discuss current innovations in technologies useful in both traditional and distributed education classrooms, including webpages, MOOs, and video-streaming. There are frequent demonstrations as well as discussions of theoretical interest. See the HDMC Director if interested.

## **STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES**

### **HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT PROGRAMS OFFICE**

#### **338 Walker Arts and Humanities**

The Programs Office manages records and paperwork for the RTC, STC, and Liberal Arts Programs and its students, and for the Revisions Program. The Programs Office also manages records and paperwork for the HDMC, Modern Language Lab, Video Lab, *Community Literacy Journal*, *Pank*, or *Blue Ice*. The Programs Office is a source for information regarding the university, the local community and area, and housing. Questions about MS and PhD registration, forms, contracts, financial support, grades, student records, committees, and offices should be addressed to the Programs Office.

### **HUMANITIES DIGITAL MEDIA ZONE (HDMZ)**

#### **113 Walker Arts and Humanities, <http://www.hu.mtu.edu/HDMZ>**

The HDMC provides word-processing, desktop/Internet publishing, Internet access, and new media development systems for graduate and undergraduate students and instructors teaching computer-intensive (CI) HU courses. In the HDMC, students and teachers complete their daily course work assignments, study mechanisms of electronic document design, test the theory and practice of computerized communication systems, exchange and critique papers, and design publications.

The HDMC facilities contain up-to-date PCs and Macintoshes, networked together, with a variety of powerful multimedia software. The HDMC also supports a host of other equipment, including flatbed and slide scanners, a projection device, a CD press, digital audio & video capture technologies, large-format laser printers, and ink-jet color printers.

A dedicated crew of volunteer consultants provides lab maintenance and user support. The HDMC encourages all HU students, graduate and undergraduate, to consider volunteering to help run this facility. Consultants almost unanimously contend that their work in the HDMC is a critical component of their Michigan Tech education.

In the future, the HDMC intends to develop student/faculty distance educational programs, as well as expand the range and type of media development we support. Both efforts require new electronic environments and increased support personnel. We are interested in developing separate instructional classrooms and walk-in labs. We also plan to increase our degree of interaction with other disciplines within the Department (i.e., modern languages, graphic arts, English as a Second Language, and the Writing Center), as well as our interaction with other departments such as Fine Arts, Geology, Civil Engineering, and Mechanical Engineering.

Finally, the physical setting of the HDMC influences teacher instruction. The pod set-up encourages interaction among students and collaborative activities of all sorts. A number of CI courses are taught in the HDMC: sophomore-level Revisions (UN 2001), scientific & technical communication (HU 3120), publication management, graphic design, new media development, digital photography, as well as basic applications courses.

If you have a pedagogical or research interest in teaching with technology, please contact the HDMC Director, Erin Smith.

## **MTU WRITING CENTER**

**107 Walker Arts and Humanities, <http://www.hu.mtu.edu/wc/>**

Students (undergraduate and graduate), faculty, and staff/administrators can make use of the Writing Center through weekly appointments or posted walk-in hours. RTC graduate students who are interested in the intersections of literacy theory and composition practices will find the Writing Center a good place to work and to develop professionally.

The philosophy of the MTU Writing Center is based on the understanding that expectations of writing quality are contextually defined. The staff work with writers at all levels and in all disciplines to articulate those expectations and to write in ways that acknowledge them.

The staff of the Center, which includes professional writing coaches, RTC graduate students, and undergraduate students from all disciplines, is engaged in an on-going study of discursive practices at the university. In addition to working with faculty, graduate students, and undergraduate students, the staff is prepared to address the needs of students who speak English as a Second Language and students who have learning disabilities.

## **GRADUATE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (GPD) SEMINARS**

The RTC program provides especially strong professional mentoring assistance to new and advanced graduate students by hosting a series of seminars aimed at Graduate Professional Development. Such seminars have included a wide range of professional development advice and discussions, including such topics as surviving and thriving in graduate school, the formatting and content of vitae and résumés, practice sessions for job interviews, the working conditions at a variety of academic institutions, on-campus and off-campus extra-curricular professional development opportunities, job searching on the web, web-portfolios, etc. If you have a particular topic you would like addressed, contact the Graduate Director.

## **PREPARING FUTURE FACULTY INITIATIVE (PFF)**

The Graduate Program in RTC has been a participant in the national Preparing Future Faculty Program sponsored by the Council of Graduate Schools (CGS) and the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) with support from the National Science Foundation, The Pew Charitable Trusts, and a private donor. The Humanities Department is a recipient of a grant aimed at transforming the way aspiring faculty members are prepared for their careers, moving toward an education that is informed by the kinds of responsibilities faculty members actually have in a variety of institutional types. Michigan Tech has acted as the anchor school in this grant and has fostered partnerships with the following institutions:

Northern Michigan University (Marquette)

Wayne State University (Detroit)

Bay De Noc Community College (Escanaba)

Finlandia University (Hancock)

Keweenaw Bay Community College (Baraga)

For more information about the program or how to get involved, contact Robert Johnson [rrjohnso@mtu.edu](mailto:rrjohnso@mtu.edu).

## **MODERN LANGUAGES LABORATORY**

**114 Walker Arts and Humanities, [http://www.hu.mtu.edu/hu\\_dept/facilities/langlab.html](http://www.hu.mtu.edu/hu_dept/facilities/langlab.html)**

The Modern Languages Laboratory contains audio and video equipment and computers, including stations equipped with audio-cassette machines, a number of PCs and Macs, and video stations with monitors and headphones designed for individual video screening. The lab also has tri-standard VCR's (pal-secam-ntsc), one of which can "translate." Modern language newspapers and periodicals, records, computer software, and videotapes, including contemporary and classic foreign films, are available.

## **MEDIA CLASSROOM**

### **134 Walker Arts and Humanities**

The media classroom is equipped for multi-media presentations and instruction. The room contains a video projection system, movie projectors, compact disk and DVD players, cassette deck, and turntable. It also has a Macintosh and PC with network connections to the Center for Computer-Aided Language Instruction (HDMC), with capacities for large screen projection.

## **PHOTOGRAPHY LABORATORY**

The first floor of Walker contains a small laboratory for photography; it includes a fully equipped darkroom and enlarging and printing facilities.

## **J. R. VAN PELT LIBRARY**

The Van Pelt Library is the Michigan Tech Library, and contains holdings in communication periodicals and a small collection of books. Faculty and graduate students make frequent use of the excellent inter-library loan services available. The Archives on the third floor contain important historical collections of the local Copper Country area and its industries.

### ***Inter-Library Loan***

Books can be conveniently borrowed through interlibrary loan free-of-charge and without limit. Loans usually arrive within a week, and can often be renewed. Xeroxed copies of articles from periodicals can also be obtained at a small charge, but there is a limit on the number of articles that can be obtained from a single periodical.

### ***Online Searches***

The library's Computer Search Service (CSS) provides major commercial data bases to search for bibliographic references to journal articles, conference papers, patent information, news stories, statistics, and more in virtually all subject areas including, but not limited to, the following:

BRS (Bibliographic Retrieval Services)

SDC (Systems Development Corporation)

NLM (National Library of Medicine)

Infoline

DIALOG

Computer search costs vary widely from system to system. Please ask about the cost before you search. FIRST SEARCH, a free search service, is available and may provide an inexpensive alternative for preliminary research purposes.

### **READING GROUPS, DISSERTATION SUPPORT GROUPS**

Students frequently form reading groups, with or without faculty, around special interests of topics. Particularly useful are dissertation support groups, in which students in the final stages of the PhD. program join together to read drafts and offer each other support. If you are interested in forming a group around a certain topic, send an e-mail to hugrad-I soliciting participation.

### **JOB PLACEMENT ASSISTANCE**

The Department of Humanities assists students in assembling and mailing confidential dossiers to prospective employers. Please see the Director of Graduate Programs in RTC for current policies.