

## NARRATIVE EDITORIAL LEADERSHIP CHANGE

After serving as editor of *Narrative* since its inception in 1993, James Phelan, Distinguished University Professor of English at Ohio State University, is stepping down later this year. Under Phelan's illustrious leadership, *Narrative*, the journal of the International Society for the Study of Narrative, has been consistently ranked by Google Scholar among the top journals in the category of "literature and writing," and, indeed, has often occupied the #1 position. Under Phelan's guidance, *Narrative* established a recognizable subgenre of the scholarly essay, one that combines significant inquiries into narrative theory and the interpretation of individual narratives in mutually illuminating ways. The hundreds of contributions to this subgenre over the last thirty-plus years have cumulatively enriched and helped transform the field of narrative studies, as it has moved from a minor branch of literary criticism to a vibrant enterprise exploring narratives in multiple disciplines and across diverse media. We are truly grateful for Phelan's effective execution of his vision for the journal. Phelan remarks, "Working on the journal has been an honor and a labor of love. I'm extremely grateful for the opportunity and for all the support I have received from The Ohio State University Press, from a long line of editorial assistants, and from the International Society for the Study of Narrative. I have learned so much from the journal's contributors and reviewers and am gratified to think that collectively we have helped advance our understanding of the amazing human phenomenon called narrative. I am also delighted to be passing the editorial torch to such distinguished scholars and good people as Marta Figlerowicz and Kent Puckett. Onward!"

The new editors will be Marta Figlerowicz, Associate Professor of Comparative Literature at Yale University, and Kent Puckett, English Professor at UC Berkeley. Dr. Figlerowicz's research explores how aesthetic objects portray and facilitate interpersonal and cross-cultural communication. She has published two books thus far, *Flat Protagonists: A Theory of Novel Character* (2016) and *Spaces of Feeling: Affect and Awareness in Modernist Literature* (2017), as well as numerous articles and chapters. Professor Puckett has written about the novel, narrative theory, cinema, and politics. He has published several books including *Narrative Theory: A Critical Introduction* (2016), which won the International Society for the Study of Narrative's Perkins Prize in 2017, and—most recently—*The Electoral Imagination: Literature, Legitimacy, and Other Rigged Systems* (2022). The new editors jointly state, "We have long looked up to James Phelan and having the chance to edit the journal he's led for so long is a tremendous honor. These are enormous shoes to fill, but we are eager to take what he's built forward."

In addition to publishing *Narrative* since 1993, The Ohio State University Press has been the home of the book series on The Theory and Interpretation of Narrative since 1994. Phelan will continue in his role as co-editor of that series.

To recognize the uniquely international character of work in the field of narrative theory, *Narrative* will have a new regular section: "Narrative Theory in Translation," and will also be accepting translations of previously published work. More information can be found on the Narrative website, <https://ohiostatepress.org/Narrative.html>.