ANDREA CHAPIN
Date: January 26, 2016
Time: 7:00 PM
Location: 8-102
Andrea Chapin has been an editor at art, movie, theater, and literary magazines, including The Paris Review, Conjunctions, and The Lincoln Center Theater Review, and has written for More, Redbook, Town & Country, Self, Martha Stewart Living, Marie Claire UK, and other publications. Her work as also appeared in several anthologies, and she was the co-editor of The Honeymoon’s Over: True Stories of Love, Marriage & Divorce (Warner Books). Chapin taught fiction writing workshops at NYU’s SCPS for ten years. She is also a private book editor and has edited over 200 books novels and memoirs. Her novel, The Tutor, which imagines a year in the life of William Shakespeare, was published by Riverhead Books/Penguin in February, 2015.

PHILIP F. DEAVER
Date: March 17, 2016
Time: 1:00 PM
Location: 8-101
Philip F. Deaver was born in Chicago, IL, and grew up in the Midwest. He is the author of the Flannery O’Connor Award-winning story collection Silent Retreats, and the poetry collection How Men Pray. His poems have been featured several times on The Writer’s Almanac with Garrison Keillor. His stories have appeared in The Missouri Review, The Kenyon Review, The New England Review, and elsewhere; and have been anthologized in O. Henry Prize Stories, Best American Catholic Short Stories, and the baseball anthologies Anatomy of Baseball and Bottom of the Ninth. Deaver’s long-awaited novel, Forty Martyrs will be published by Burrow Press in March of 2016. The novel follows the intertwining lives of the people of Tuscola, Illinois, a small Midwestern college town. Through shifts in tone and perspective, Deaver’s natural storytelling creates a beautiful symphonic effect, an ode to small towns and Midwestern lives. Deaver is a Professor of English at Rollins College in Winter Park, FL. He also lectures at Spalding University’s limited residency Master of Fine Arts program.

VANESSA BLAKESLEE
Date: February 4, 2016
Time: 1:00 PM
Location: 5-112
Vanessa Blakeslee is the author of the debut novel, Juventud (Curbside Splendor, 2015), hailed by Publisher’s Weekly as a “tale of self-discovery and intense first love.” The story follows Mercedes Martinez, the only daughter of a wealthy landowner in Santiago de Cali, Colombia. When she falls in love with Manuel, a fiery young activist with a passion for his faith and his country, she begins to understand the suffering of the desplazados who share her land. Vanessa Blakeslee’s Juventud explores the idealism of youth, the complexities of a ravaged country, and the stories we tell ourselves in order to survive. Her story collection, Train Shots (Burrow Press) won the 2014 IPPY Gold Medal in Short Fiction. Vanessa’s writing has appeared in The Southern Review, Green Mountains Review, The Paris Review Daily, The Globe and Mail, and Kenyon Review Online, among many others. Vanessa earned her MFA in Writing from Vermont College of Fine Arts. Born and raised in northeastern Pennsylvania, she is a longtime resident of Maitland, Florida.

PAT RUSHIN
Date: April 21, 2016
Time: 1:00 PM
Location: 8-101
Pat Rushin is the author of the story collection Puzzling Through the News. His original feature-length screenplay, The Zero Theorem, was produced in 2014 by The Zanuck Company and Voltage Pictures, and directed by Terry Gilliam. He has published essays, screenplays, poetry, but mostly stories in a variety of literary magazines, including The North American Review, Quarterly West, Sudden Fiction, Indiana Review, The Beloit Poetry Journal, The Johns Hopkins Magazine, American Literary Review, Fwriction : Review, and elsewhere. He teaches creative writing at the University of Central Florida, where he has also (twice upon a time) served as editor of The Florida Review.