

To: Nancy Van Wagoner

From: Nick Pawliuk

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Sabbatical Report for Nick Pawliuk Fall 09

During my half-year Sabbatical in 2009, I researched and wrote an article entitled "Samuel Beckett's Other Worlds: Verne and Auster". This is the centerpiece of my contribution to the co-edited anthology with Dr. Peter Murphy, called *Images of Beckett in Popular Culture*, and thus was my primary focus.

I also travelled to Las Vegas and interviewed the creator and artistic director of Test Market Theatre, Mr. Ernest Hemmings, who has staged the annual Samuel Beckett Festival for the past seven years. Mr. Hemmings has a unique perspective on Beckett and Popular Culture, and his information and archives will be invaluable to our project. I will be writing up a short piece on Beckett in Vegas based on this information.

I continued to research items for the extensive archive that Dr. Murphy and I are compiling. This archive is available for all involved in the project and will be the basis for the online portion of our project. In particular, I compiled many items for our co-written piece on Images of Beckett in prime-time TV, tracking down and obtaining, for example, shows difficult to access from the BBC (*The Fast Show*), to more current Hollywood productions (*Bandslam*) and elsewhere. Finally, Dr. Murphy and I planned extensively our co-written introduction, and I worked with him on commissioning contributors to our project, including Cameron Reid and Dr. Mark Wallin.

Nick Pawliuk