

## **AU faculty poets to be guests on NPR radio show**

4/22/10

Dr. Juliana Gray, assistant professor of English at Alfred University, and Dr. Ben Howard, professor of English emeritus at AU, will be guests on the WSKG-FM (Binghamton) National Public Radio show "Off the Page," Tuesday, April 27, at 1 p.m. The program, which can be heard in Alfred and the surrounding area at 88.7 on the FM dial, will be rebroadcast at 7 p.m. April is National Poetry Month and it is an "Off the Page" tradition to invite both published poets and the listening audience to bring their poems to the program, said host Bill Jaker. In addition to Gray and Howard, Jaker will welcome Charles James of Elmira, whose latest collection is "Life Lines," to the studio. Now in her fourth year on the Alfred University faculty, Gray earned her bachelor of arts degree in English from the University of Alabama, where she was a member of Phi Beta Kappa. She earned a master's degree in English and creative writing from the University of Tennessee, and a Ph.D. degree in English and creative writing from the University of Cincinnati. Gray has written a book, "The Man Under My Skin," which was published in 2005 by River City Publications, Montgomery, AL, and a chapbook, "History in Bones," which won the Kent State University Wick Poetry Chapbook Competition in 2001. Her work has appeared in numerous poetry journals, including "Sou'wester," "Poetry East," "Southern Humanities Review," "The Formalist," "Blackbird," "Alabama Literary Review," and "River City." She is the recipient of numerous awards and fellowships, and has presented at several conferences, including several times at the Sewanee Writers Conference at the University of the South. Howard earned a Ph.D. in English literature and a master of arts degree in English and creative writing, both from Syracuse University. He earned a bachelor of arts degree in English from Drake University, Des Moines, IA. He has published several works including, "Leaf, Sunlight, Asphalt," June 2009; "Dark Pool," 2004; "Midcentury," 1997; and "Lentel Anniversaries: Poems 1982-1989," 1990. He received the Phi Beta Kappa Award and the Excellence in Teaching Award while at AU. He held the Fred H. Gertz Chair in Writing at the University from 1996-99, as well as the Hagar Chair in Humanities.