

## Words Portrait

THE POET GEORGE SEFERIS once wrote, “As pines keep the shape of the wind even when the wind has fled and is no longer there, so words guard the shape of man even when man has fled and is no longer there.” What, then, is the shape of humanity today? Consider the following entries in *New Words* from Oxford University Press:

Anthropocene	arctophile
basket-weaving	Foreman grill
full-figured	ichthus
kleptocrat	McMansion
wardriving	zorbing

What do they mean? What do they say about the shape of us (other than our full figures)? For answers to the first question only, see “New Words” on page 128 of this issue. There is also an entry for “boy band” in *New Words* but no entry for “girl band.” The more things change ...

One more sign of the times. The Northwestern University School of Law does not have a “Placement Office” to help its students and alumni find jobs; instead it has a “Center for Career Strategy and Advancement.” Perhaps Northwestern’s commitment to the development of such centers will soon extend to include a “Center for the Reification and Transmission of Legal Excellence” where its students can advance their strategies for word-processing, photocopying, collating, and mailing their resumés and cover letters.



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George Seferis, *On Stage*, in *THREE SECRET POEMS* (Harvard 1969) (Walter Kaiser trans.); Orin Hargraves ed., *NEW WORDS* (Oxford 2004); Northwestern University School of Law, *New Lawyers for a Changing World: 10 Reasons to Look at Northwestern* (Northwestern University 2004).