China Miéville to Deliver Gunn Lecture

British author China Miéville will be the KU English Department’s Richard W. Gunn Memorial Lecturer September 24 at 7:30 pm in Alderson Auditorium of the Kansas Union. His topic will be “Cognition as Ideology: A Dialectic of Science Fiction Theory.” Miéville’s novel Perdido Street Station launched a genre that combines urban fantasy with the rigorous background and treatment customarily associated with science fiction. Besides publishing two other novels in the Perdido Street Station universe, The Scar and Iron Council, Miéville is also the author of King Rat, Un Dun Lun, and the recent The City & the City. Miéville holds a B.A. from Cambridge and an M.A. and Ph.D. from the London School of Economics. He has been a candidate for the British House of Commons and has published a book on Marxism and international law. He also co-edited (with Mark Bould) Red Planets: Marxism and Science Fiction. His fiction has been nominated for numerous awards and twice earned the prestigious Arthur C. Clarke Award. Miéville edited a special issue on Marxism and fantasy for Historical Materialism; and a forthcoming special issue on Marxism and science fiction. The Gunn Lecture was endowed by the late Dr. Richard W. Gunn, brother of James Gunn, emeritus professor of English and Director of the J. Wayne and Elsie M. Gunn Center for the Study of Science Fiction.

The Byron Caldwell Smith Lecture

Assistant Professor of English Laura Mielke, co-winner of the Byron Caldwell Smith Book Award, will join Distinguished Professor Don Worster, History, in delivering the bi-annual Byron Caldwell Smith Lecture on Thursday, 24 September, 7:30-9:00 pm, in the Hall Center Conference Hall. Mielke shares the 2009 award for her first book, Moving Encounters: Sympathy and the Indian Question in Antebellum Literature. Of Mielke’s book, the award committee wrote: “Laura Mielke has written a superb literary history of Native American-White relations produced in text and spectacle during the American ante-bellum period. . . . Neither naive nor judgmental, Mielke’s analysis uncovers the history, politics, and opinions behind countless ‘sympathetic’ representations of the American Indians plight, most of which reflected sincere endeavors to resolve the ‘Indian Question.’”

[Note: The English Lecturers & Readers Committee cleared September 24 as an open date with the Hall Center before scheduling this year’s Gunn Lecture. The Smith Award Lecture was then scheduled by the Hall Center without checking the Department’s schedule. All parties regret the date and time conflict between these two events.]
Publications

Hardin, Richard F.  

Harrington, Joseph  

Johnson, Michael L.  
“Widower” and “Personals” (poems). The Cape Rock 38.2 (Fall 2008): 41, 42.

Ohle, David  


Accepted for Publication

Krug, Louise  

Ohle, David  

KU and Regional Events

• CTE Events: Lunch and Conversation, “Options for Civility Issues,” 21 September, 12-1pm; Making the Most of Your Time for Teaching, “Teaching Efficiently,” 23 September, 3-4pm. Both events in 135 Budig Hall.

• The Big Tent Reading Series at The Raven Bookstore will feature three creative writers this week (see “Calendar”). Cyrus Console is a KU creative-writing doctoral student and the author of Brief Under Water ( Burning Deck). Mark Cunningham, a nationally-known writer of short prose, and Nancy Hubble, long-time Lawrence poet and artist, will also read from their work. For further information, see: <http://www.ravenbookstore.com/bloghome/?page_id=170>.

• Latin American Seminar, “Sexiles: (Post)Colonialism and the Machine of Desire,” Yolanda Martinez San Miguel, 25 September, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

• The Writers Place, Poets Robin Behn, Michelle Boisseau, Andrea Hollander Budy, and Jo McDougall read from When She Named Fire: An Anthology of Contemporary Poetry by American Women, 25 September, 3607 Pennsylvania, Kansas City, MO.

Announcements, Notes, and News

• PLEASE READ: At the start of the school year, Lori Whitten sent out a memo announcing that the Department now has its own scanner in 3001 P. Not many full- or part-time faculty have used this new tool. For years, the Department has requested that faculty members keep photocopying to a minimum. The situation is now even more urgent. Further budget cuts in the upcoming legislative session could affect our operating funds for the rest of THIS year as well as next. If too much money has already been spent on paper, we will have to look elsewhere for immediate cuts. Scanned documents can easily be posted to Blackboard or distributed to class lists. The office staff is ready to help with this process, or you are welcome to do it yourself. 3001P is across from the desk at the front of the office suite. It is often open during the day when Ann and Kim, our student assistants, are here. Otherwise, a staff member will gladly unlock the door for you.

Calls for Papers, Conferences, Symposia, Etc. (Posted)

• Pinyon, a national journal of poetry, prose, and art published at Mesa State College, solicits submissions. Deadline: 1 December.

Fellowships, Contests, Awards, Scholarships, Etc. (Posted)


DNB Quiz: Who’s That Girl?

Can you identify the young woman who is the object of furtive glances in this advertisement for the KU Bookstores? Since the editor of the DNB is being bombarded with e-mails related to the still-unresolved Wallgate Crisis (see 18 September issue), please direct any electronic guesses to Lori Whitten at <lwhitten@ku.edu>. Correct answers delivered in person to Lori will earn a piece of candy from Lori’s wire basket.