



Excelllott!

Dorice Elliott's Kemper Award Ignites English Academic Year



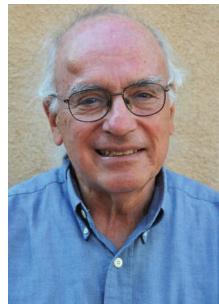
Dorice Williams Elliott hadn't seen so many people at her office door since she stepped down as Chair. But Friday afternoon the KU "surprise patrol" flooded through the aperture, interrupting a bogus discussion of "rationales" with graduate student/conspirator **Amy Hume**, to award Elliott with a 2010 Kemper Fel-

lowship for Teaching Excellence. Provost Jeffrey Vitter led the throng, congratulating Elliott for her fourteen years of meritorious teaching in the English Department. Numerous others followed with words of appreciation, including **Jim Carothers**, who popped out of his office next door long enough to thank Dorice "for bringing honor to our corridor." Elliott, who has nominated several Kemper fellowship recipients, expressed her delight at being on the receiving end. Kemper fellowships are designed to support, improve and reward outstanding teaching, advising and service at all of the campuses of the University of Kansas. Beginning this year, only 10 fellowships are being awarded at the start of the fall semester (it has been 20). Among other changes, the nomination form placed more emphasis on course materials, especially how they provide students with opportunities "to demonstrate their development of the intellectual skills typical of the field." The selection committee also looked for evidence of "critical analysis of past teaching and advising" and "development in intellectual content, teaching/advising practices, or student evaluation processes based on past teaching experiences and consideration of student performance." The fellowship cash award has been increased to \$7500.

Department Retreat

While the rest of the English Department was taking a long last breath before the start of the semester, the Senior Staff spent Wednesday afternoon, 18 August, engaged in discussions about a number of Department issues. Forty faculty members assembled at the University of Kansas Field Station (about ten miles north of Lawrence in Jefferson County) to discuss, particularly, research emphases and our graduate programs. The dialogue was facilitated by Kathleen Ames-Oliver of Human Resources.

Scholarly September



Paul Lauter



James Shapiro



David Crystal

Two of this year's three English endowed lectures will bookend a September that will also feature two Hall Center presentations by a major scholar of the English language. **Paul Lauter**, Allan K. And Gwendolyn Miles Smith Professor of Literature at Trinity College and General Editor of the *Heath Anthology of American Literature*, will deliver this year's **American and British Lecture** on 1 September, then follow up with a Hall Center presentation the following morning (see "Dates to Anticipate"). On 30 September, **James Shapiro**, Larry Miller Professor of English at Columbia University, will deliver this year's **Richard W. Gunn Memorial Lecture** (title TBA). In between, **David Crystal**, whom **Peter Grund** has described as a "superstar of English language studies," will deliver two lectures on that subject sponsored by the Hall Center and the Department of Theatre. Crystal will be in residence at KU this semester to coach the cast of University Theatre's original pronunciation production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Calendar

- M 23 Advisory Committee Meeting**, 4:00 pm, 3001A Wescoe. Agenda: 1) select external reviewers for program review; 2) review of English 800; 3) capping of class sizes and equity.
- R 26 Big Tent Reading Series** with **Clancy Martin** (*How to Sell*; stories in *Harper's* and *Esquire*), **Amanda Frost**, **Kevin Rabas** (Ph.D. 2007), and **Rachel Gray** (B.A. 2010), 7:00 pm, The Raven Bookstore.
- F 27 Hall Center New Faculty Reception**, 4:00-6:00 pm, Hall Center Conference Hall. RSVP required (4-4798, hallcenter@ku.edu).

Dates to Anticipate

Department **Deadline for Sabbatical Applications**: 30 August.

American and British Lecture, "From Mississippi Summer (1964)

to the Heath Anthology,” Paul Lauter, Trinity College, 1 September, 7:30 pm, Alderson Auditorium.

Hall Center Special Event, “Organizing the Humanities: A Case Study of the Heath Anthology,” Paul Lauter, Trinity College, 2 September, 11:00 am, Hall Center Conference Hall.

Voting Department Meeting, 7 September, 4:00 pm, 4019 Wescoe

Hall Center Special Event, “Internet Linguistics,” David Crystal, Honorary Professor, University of Wales, Bangor, 17 September, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Conference Hall.

Hall Center Special Event, “Language Play,” David Crystal, 21 September, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Conference Hall.

Richard W. Gunn Memorial Lecture: James S. Shapiro, Columbia University, 30 September, 7:30 pm, Alderson Auditorium

University Theatre presents Shakespeare’s *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* (original pronunciation, coached by David Crystal), 11-14, 18-21 November, Stage Too!, Murphy Hall.

Humanities Lecture Series: Joseph O’Neill, novelist, “An Evening with Joseph O’Neill” 16 November, 7:30 pm, Woodruff Auditorium, Kansas Union.

Presentations by individual Department members will be announced the week before they occur.

Publications

Giles, Todd

“Summer Sidewalk” (poem). *Glimpse* 19 (July 2010). 3.

Johnson, Michael L.

“From the Big Bang to Baku: A Primer on the Beginnings of the Petroleum End Times” (essay). *Southwest Review* 95.3 (2010): 426-43.

Lillis, Kristen

“Essentialism and Constructionism in Octavia E. Butler’s *Fledgling*.” *Practicing Science Fiction: Critical Essays on Writing, Reading and Teaching the Genre*. Ed. Karen Hellekson, Craig B. Jacobsen, Patrick B. Sharp, and Lisa Yaszek. Jefferson, NC: McFarland, 2010.

Presentations

Anatol, Giselle

“Race and Racism in Harry Potter’s London,” Literary London 2010 Conference, University of London, 7-9 July.

Grund, Peter

“Editing Alchemical Texts in Middle English: The Final Frontier?” Editing Medieval Texts from Britain in the Twenty-First Century, University of Oxford, UK, 20-22 May.

“I verily believe that she is a witch”: Evidence, Evidentiality, and the Witness Depositions from the Salem Witch Trials,” Language, Culture, and History, University of Wyoming, Laramie, 1-3 July.

Accepted for Publication

Caminero-Santangelo, Marta

“Narrating the Non-Nation: Literary Journalism and ‘Illegal’ Border Crossings.” *Arizona Quarterly*.

Grund, Peter

“The Science of Pronominal Usage: *He* and *It* in Co-Reference to Inanimate Entities in Late Middle English Texts on Alchemy” (article). *Journal of English Linguistics*.

Announcements, Notes, and News

• **New Students**: Welcome to the 22 new KU English graduate students who arrived and received orientation over the last two weeks. Next week’s issue will provide information about who they are and where they’re from, but please extend (or lend) a hand to anyone you don’t recognize this week and throughout the semester.

• **Calendar Responsibilities**: **Lydia Ash** handles reservations for the Department’s two conference rooms. Please contact her to schedule events in either 3025 Wescoe (small conference room) or 3001A (large conference room). **Bob Elliott** is the Department’s University Calendar representative. To place an item on the University or Department electronic calendar, please contact Bob.

KU and Regional Events

• **University Theatre** will restage its Summer Theatre in Greece production of *The Trojan Women*, by Euripides, 27-28 August, 7:30 pm, 29 August, 2:30 pm, Inge Theatre, Murphy Hall.

About the DNB

Frequency: The *DNB* is distributed to Department mailboxes every Friday during the academic year, except for holiday and semester breaks. Each weekly issue is also available online at <<http://www.english.ku.edu>>.

Deadline: The Calendar lists important events (e.g. exams, meetings, presentations by Department members) for the upcoming week: other happenings of interest for that period usually are noted under KU and Regional Events. Information on any events to be publicized must be received by noon Thursday for inclusion in that Friday’s issue.

Publications/Presentations: Publication information for the *DNB* should be submitted to Bob Elliott (e-mail [relliott@ku.edu] or hard copy welcome). Please provide a complete written-out citation (including pagination and genre-e.g. “article,” “poem,” “short story,” “personal essay.”) For inclusion under “Presentations,” please provide the date, place, title of conference, and title of paper. **The *DNB* encourages submissions of publication and presentation information from both full-time and part-time faculty and graduate students.**

Dates: Unless given otherwise, assume that the year of publications, events, deadlines, and so forth is the present one.