



## Twain in Love

In commemoration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Mark Twain's death, on 2 March, Twain scholar **Susan K. Harris** will give a lecture entitled "Mark Twain's Love Letters" at the Hall Center for the Humanities. In the late 1860s, Mark Twain, then a relative unknown, courted affluent Olivia Langdon by letter while he was on the lecture circuit. Harris will discuss Twain's love letters, showing how the young Twain brought his considerable rhetorical skills to the courtship arena. Harris points out that Twain had two obstacles to his suit: he had to convince Olivia that she was in love with him, and he had to convince her parents that he was a viable suitor. Susan K. Harris is the current **Hall Distinguished Professor of American Literature and Culture** in the University of Kansas English Department. She has published widely on both Mark Twain and on 19<sup>th</sup>-century American women writers. Her works include *The Courtship of Olivia Langdon and Mark Twain*. She is currently completing a book on the intersections of religion, American identity, and the debates over the annexation of the Philippines, all topics on which Twain held passionate opinions.



Susan K. Harris

## Sachi Nakachi Visit

A visiting Fulbright scholar from Japan specializing in ethnic American literatures will speak on "Surviving Hiroshima: A Daughter's Story" at the University of Kansas. **Sachi Nakachi**, who teaches English at Tsuru University in Yamanashi, Japan, will speak at 4 p.m. Monday, March 1, at the Kansas Room in the Kansas Union. Her lecture at KU is jointly presented by the Center for East Asian Studies and the Department of English. Nakachi plans to be in Lawrence from Feb. 26 to March 5, visiting classes at KU and Haskell Indian Nations University. As a visiting Fulbright scholar, Nakachi is working this spring at the Department of African American Studies at the University of California-Berkeley. Last fall, she was with the English department at New York University. From April through August 2009, she was a visiting fellow at Clare Hall at Britain's University of Cambridge. Nakachi is visiting KU through **Maryemma Graham**, professor of English and director and founder of the **Project**



Sachi Nakachi

**on the History of Black Writing** at KU. Both participated in Japan's International Richard Wright Centennial Conference, sponsored by the American Studies Foundation in June 2008. "While Dr. Nakachi is here, she will participate in our first virtual seminar, as part of our Richard Wright grant," Graham said, referring to the National Endowment for the Humanities-funded program "Making the Wright Connection: Reading *Native Son*, *Black Boy* and *Uncle Tom's Children*." The program includes a two-week summer institute for educators. Institute participants will create a Web-based sourcebook on Wright for other educators. The virtual seminar with Nakachi will become part of the sourcebook. (Excerpted from KU press release)

## Announcements, Notes, & News

• **Brian Daldorph's** work at the Douglas County Jail was featured recently at <http://www.lawrence.com/news/2010/feb/07/writers-block-county-inmates-work-through-emotions/>.

## Calendar

- F 26** **Open Meeting** followed by **Senior Staff Meeting**, 4:00 pm, 4019 Wescoe. Agenda: 1) discuss possible offer of appointment to Adam J. Banks.
  - M 1** **Fulbright Scholar Lecture**, "Surviving Hiroshima: A Daughter's Story," **Sachi Nakachi**, English, Tsuru University, 4:00-5:30 pm, Kansas Room, Kansas Union. Reception to follow.
  - T 2** **Hall Center Special Event**, "Mark Twain's Love Letters," **Susan K. Harris**, English, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Conference Hall.
  - R 4** **Celebration of Books Published by Humanities, Social Science and Fine Arts Faculty in 2009**, 4:00-6:00 pm, Hall Center Conference Hall, featuring numerous works by English Department faculty. Speakers: **Peter Grund**, English; Michelle Hayes, Dance; Stanley Lombardo, Classics.
  - M 8** **British Seminar**, "Defining the Amazon in *10 Things I Hate About You* and *She's The Man*," **Alicia Sutliff-Bennett**, English; "Family Reform(ation) in Drama: Stuart Exhumations of Henry VIII's Queens," **Gaywyn Moore**, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.
- Advisory Committee Meeting**, 4:00 pm, 3001A Wescoe. Agenda: 1) hiring priorities.

## *KU and Regional Events*

- **Latin American/Nature and Culture Seminars: Symposium on Climate and Human History in the Southern Hemisphere: From Antarctica to the Andes to Easter Island**, 26 February, 2:00-5:00 pm, Commons, Spooner Hall.
- **Peer Review: Helping Writers (un)Learn Peer Response**, facilitated by Zanice Bond de Pérez and Moira Ozias, KU Writing Center, 26 February, 12-1 pm, 203 Lippincott Hall. Part of Shared Professional Development, GWSP/AEC/FSE/KU Writing Center.
- **An Actual Kansas Reading Series**, readings by **Rod Smith**, Iowa Writers' Workshop, and **Mel Nichols**, George Mason University, 26 February, 7:00 pm, Wonder Fair, 803 Massachusetts Street.
- **University Theatre** presents *Arms and the Man*, by George Bernard Shaw, directed by John Gronbeck-Tedesco, 26-27 February and 4-6 March, 7:30 pm, 28 February, 2:30 pm, Crafton-Preyer Theatre, Murphy Hall.
- **Hall Center Resident Fellows Seminar**, "Grammatical Gender and Biological Sex in Ancient Roman Literature and Religion," Anthony Corbeill, Classics, 1 March, 12:00-1:30 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.
- **CTE Event: Teaching Research Methods Courses – Humanities**, J. Megan Greene, History; Marni Kessler, History of Art, 1 March, 3:00-4:00 pm, 135 Budig Hall.
- **Early Modern Seminar**, "Reversing the Tapestry: Translation in Text and Textile of *Carcel de amor*," Emily Francomano, Spanish and Portuguese, Georgetown University, 1 March, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.
- **Before 1500 Seminar**, "Perceval in a Dark Mirror," Rupert Pickens, Modern and Classical Languages, Literatures, and Cultures, University of Kentucky, Lexington, 2 March, 3:30-5:00 pm.
- **Interdisciplinary Graduate Research Workshop**, "Mediating Bodies: Developing Critical Readings of Historical Texts and Images in *Fin de Siecle* Popular Performance," Jocelyn Buckner, Theatre, 2 March, 12:30-2:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room. RSVP required.

- **Peace, War, and Global Change Seminar**, "Westmoreland and U.S. Strategy in Vietnam," Paul Miles. History, Princeton University, 5 March, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

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

- **Caribbean Mothering**, an edited collection from Demeter Press, seeks submissions. Deadline: 1 August.
- **Sport Literature Association Conference**, 23-26 June, Pennsylvania College of Technology, Williamsport, Pennsylvania. Deadline: 30 March.
- **First Biennial John Updike Society Conference**, 1-3 October, Alvernia University, Reading, PA. Deadline: 15 March.

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

- **2010 Prairie Schooner Book Prize Series** welcomes manuscripts in poetry and fiction from all living writers, including non-US citizens, writing in English. Published and unpublished submissions accepted. Deadline: 15 March.
- **2010 Harold U. Ribalow Book Prize** for fiction with a Jewish theme published in 2009. Deadline: 1 April.
- **Poetry International Poetry Contest 2010**. Deadline: 23 April.
- **Snyder Book Collecting Contest**, sponsored by KU Libraries. Deadline: 22 March.
- **Second Annual Sacramento Poetry Center Press Poetry Book Contest**. Deadline: 31 March.