2011 Milestones Celebration to Honor Hartman, Johnson, and Lim

The English Department’s 2011 Milestones Celebration and Reception will be held on Monday, 9 May, from 3:30-5:00 pm, in the North Gallery of the Spencer Research Library. This event will give individual faculty, staff, and graduate students an opportunity to join the Department as a unit in honoring three long-time professors whose retirement becomes official at the end of this month. James Hartman, Michael L. Johnson, and Paul Stephen Lim combined for almost 120 years of service with KU English. All three have been major contributors to the mission of the Department and the University. We will also recognize Philip Barnard, who will be promoted to the rank of full professor in Fall 2011. Light refreshments and beverages will be served and there will be a brief program beginning about 4:15 pm. Please come wish all these colleagues well.

Burrows Earns Graduate Research Award

English Ph.D. student and FSE Intern Cedric Burrows was the recipient of a Graduate Student Research Competition Award at a ceremony held on 25 April. Provost Jeffrey Vitter presented the award to Burrows for his entry in the Humanities and Fine Arts Division entitled “The Construction of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., in Composition Textbooks.”

Presentations

Graham, Maryemma
“The Dream of the Deal: Arts and the Humanities in the Global South,” Humanities Lecture Series, University of Georgia, Athens, GA, 9 May.

Harrington, Joseph

Calendar

M 9 Nate Barbarick, MFA Defense, 1:00 pm, 3025 Wescoe (Cohen, Lorenz, Moriarty)

Milestones Reception, to honor English Department retirees James Hartman, Michael L. Johnson, and Paul Stephen Lim, 3:30 pm, North Gallery, Spencer Research Library. Program about 4:15 pm. All English Department faculty, staff, and graduate students invited.

W 11 Kendra Fullwood, DPR, 12:00 pm, 3025 Wescoe (Devitt, Farmer, Pennington).

Lauren Kiehna, Ph.D. Comprehensive Exam, 1:00 pm, 3001A Wescoe (Barnard, Elliott, Neill, Rowland, Booker).

R 12 Book Release, If I Were On Fire, by Mickey Cesar, English, 7:00-9:00 pm, Mirth, 745 New Hampshire.

F 13 Dustin Crowley, DPR, 2:00 pm, 3025 Wescoe (Barnard, B. Caminero-Santangelo, Brown, Myers).

Nature & Culture Seminar, “Do You Know What It Means to Miss New Orleans’: Environmental Memory and Hurricane Katrina,” Ali Brox, English, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

S 14 Department of English Honors and Awards Ceremony, 6:30 pm, Ballroom of the Kansas Unioni. All members of the English Department invited.

N 15 Final MFA Reading, featuring graduating creative writing students, 6:00 pm, Genovese.

T 17 Making the (Richard) Wright Connection Virtual Seminar, “Autobiographical Elements of Richard Wright's Haiku,” led by Toru Kiuchi, English, Nihon University (Japan), 6:00 pm (see details in “Announcements”).

F 27 Grades Due by midnight.

Publications

Cesar, Mickey
If I Were On Fire. Kansas City: Spartan Press. 2011

Gunn, James E.
“Science Fiction Imagines the Digital Future,” Analog, July/August 2011: 98-103
Established by •

• I sent the editors a Xerox of them—and they published them as the open cards on which I had typed some notes about what I planned to say. So I all I had (and was fortunate to have saved and have found) were the three a book of the Williamson lectures. When they asked me for my remarks, ENMU and the publisher of the Williamson volumes decided to compile Caldwell and Stephen Haffner. Royal Oak, Michigan: Haffner Press, Thirty-Five Years of the Jack Williamson Lectureship •

• is hosting the first America: Now and Here installation American experience. The project is a traveling exhibit and Kansas City •

• conference with the two KU playwrights, whose plays will also be published Chicago, August 11-14. Lim and •

• Ten-Minute Plays from the last playwriting class (spring 2010) taught •

• G. Douglas Atkins’s latest book, T.S. Eliot and the Essay: From The Sacred Wood to Four Quartets was named by Faith and Theology (Australia) as one of the two best books of literary criticism for 2010 (the other was Robert Alter’s Pen of Iron: American Prose and the King James Bible. •

• Ann Rowland has received a Houghton Library Fellowship – the Joan Nordell Fellowship – to do four weeks of research on her “Keats in America” project. •

• On April 17, Jim Carothers, Darren Canady, and Laura Morari, along with Boone Hopkins, Theatre, led a “Talk Back” following the Theatre Lawrence production of To Kill a Mockingbird, as part of the “Read Across Lawrence” Program, which centered upon Harper Lee’s novel this year. •

• Ten-Minute Plays from the last playwriting class (spring 2010) taught by Paul Stephen Lim continue to win recognition nationally. “Fortune 500” by Saira Khan, and “Eggs and Issues” by Kelsey Murrell, will be featured in the New Plays Development Workshop at the 25th annual conference of the Association of Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE) in Chicago, August 11-14. Lim and Darren Canady will attend the conference with the two KU playwrights, whose plays will also be published by ATHE. •

• Gabriela N. Lemmons was one of thirty Kansas City area poets selected to participate in America: Now and Here. America: Now and Here presents a cross-disciplinary experience in visual art, poetry, music, theater, and film as the foundation for engaging audiences in a unique American experience. The project is a traveling exhibit and Kansas City is hosting the first America: Now and Here installation •

• Jim Gunn recently published “Williamson Lectureship Note Cards,” Thirty-Five Years of the Jack Williamson Lectureship, edited by Patrice Caldwell and Stephen Haffner. Royal Oak, Michigan: Haffner Press, 2011. Pp. 23-24. He adds, “Thirty-four years after Fred Pohl and I gave the first Williamson lectures at Eastern New Mexico University in 1977, ENMU and the publisher of the Williamson volumes decided to compile a book of the Williamson lectures. When they asked me for my remarks, all I had (and was fortunate to have saved and have found) were the three cards on which I had typed some notes about what I planned to say. So I sent the editors a Xerox of them—and they published them as the opening entry.” •

• Center for Study of Science Fiction Summer Program: This summer, the professional Speculative Fiction Writers Workshop, established by James Gunn in 1985 and run every summer since, will be available for graduate credit for the first time. Most attendees are professional authors or near-published writers from around the country and world, so this is a great opportunity to work with new colleagues. This year, Chris McKitterick runs the workshop, and award-winning author (and KU alum) Bradley Denton joins us during the second week as guest instructor. Attendees can take the workshop for KU graduate credit under ENGL 757, or as usual (for professionalism, not credit) for $500. Simultaneous with this workshop, former KU English lecturer Kij Johnson runs a Speculative Fiction Novel Writers Workshop (currently full - contact us early next year to enroll). These events run from June 26 - July 8. The workshops conclude with the annual Campbell Conference, where we honor the winners of the John W. Campbell Award for best SF novel and Theodore Sturgeon Award for best short SF, host author readings and signings, and discuss speculative fiction. The event runs July 8 - 10. Most years, the award winners and other attending authors join the Workshops for a day or two and share their writing wisdom. The Conference also serves as the kickoff for the Intensive Institute on the Teaching of Science Fiction, where we’ll discuss the science fiction short story. This literature course is available as ENGL 506 or 790 and runs from July 11 - 22. Complete information on the CSSF website.

• Making the (Richard) Wright Connection, a federally-funded program administered through the Project on the History of Black Writing, invites department members to participate in a virtual seminar (see “Calendar,” 15 May). An abstract of the seminar can be found on the Wright Connection website: wrightconnection@ku.edu. To attend the virtual seminar, go to https://desktopconnect.ku.edu/kiuchi, select “enter as a guest,” type your name in the box, and click on “enter room.” The virtual seminar “room” will open at the time of the seminar. All participants will need a Flash-based web browser and an Internet connection to access the seminar. E-mail Keah Cunningham (keah@ku.edu) with any technical questions or issues. Questions for Professor Kiuchi may be e-mailed to the Wright Connection website (above). •

• Professor Emeritus Jack Oruch and Elaine report that they continue in retirement in Ohio. They send greetings to friends and former colleagues, and would be glad to hear from people here (see English website, “Emeritus Faculty,” for e-mail address). •

• Correction: Joe Harrington’s “Genre and Power,” noted last week for its appearance in Portal del Sol, is an essay, not a poem.

KU and Regional Events

• Peace, War & Global Change Seminar, “Requiring Loyalty in Thought and Deed: The U.S. Army and Domestic Surveillance in World War I,” Lon Strauss, History, 6 May, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room. •

• Gender Seminar, “The Potential for Critical Qualitative Methods to Improve the Study of Sexuality,” Sonya Satinsky, Health, Sport, and Exercise Sciences, 9 May, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Conference Hall. •

• The Latino Writers Collective will be celebrating their 5th Anniversary Saturday, May 21, 7:00 p.m. The reading will celebrate founding members: Gabriela N. Lemmons, Jose Faus, Maria Vasquez Boyd, Gloria Martinez Adams, Angela Cervantes and Jenni Prado.

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