Stephanie Fitzgerald Appointed Director of Indigenous Studies

Associate Professor Stephanie Fitzgerald began a five-year appointment as Director of KU’s Indigenous Studies Program (ISP) in July 2016. She retains a half-time appointment in English and will continue to teach one course each semester for the Department. She will also teach one course each year for ISP. The Indigenous Studies Program focuses on the study of indigenous issues in the US and Canada. It offers an MA degree, an MA/JD in conjunction with the Law School, a graduate certificate, and an undergraduate minor, which is growing. Fitzgerald is excited about “taking the program forward and building it up.” Her goals include developing new courses, exploring the possibility of a BA degree in the field, fundraising via grants to support graduate study, and generally raising the profile of the program across the campus. The program has 20 affiliated faculty members from a wide variety of disciplines, including English, Art, Environmental Studies, Medicine & Public Health, History, Geography, Anthropology, Law, Religion, Film & Media Studies, Education, and WGSS. Fitzgerald hopes to broaden the program’s interactions with other departments and units still further. When asked for an example, she mused about a possible teaming with the School of Business to encourage indigenous entrepreneurship. ISP will continue to maintain a strong relationship with Haskell Indian Nations University. It will also sponsor or co-sponsor campus events. Later this year, at the Commons, KU’s Professor Norman Akers will join Charlene Teters of the Institute of American Indian Arts for a discussion of cultural issues surrounding sports mascots.

Documenting the Undocumented

Professor Marta Caminero-Santangelo’s timely new book brings a literary and scholarly perspective to the current blazing debate about US immigration. Documenting the Undocumented: Latino/a Narratives and Social Justice in the Era of Operation Gatekeeper was published in June by the University of Florida Press. The names of its six chapters provide a sense of MCS’s thoughtful approach to the subject: “Narrating the Non-Nation: Literary Journalism and ‘Illegal Border Crossings’”, “The Lost Ones: Post-Gatekeeper Border Fictions and the Construction of Cultural Trauma”;

“The Caribbean Difference: Imagining Trans-Status Communities”; “Selling the Undocumented: Life Narratives of Unauthorized Immigrants”; “Unauthorized Plots: Life Writing, Transnationalism, and the Possibilities of Agency”; and “Undocumented Testimony: American DREAMers.” Press publicity notes that the book examines how writers such as Junot Díaz, Cristina García, and Julia Alvarez have engaged with this issue, but also, as the chapter titles indicate, “foregrounds the narratives of unauthorized immigrants themselves.” The result is “a mass mobilization of stories” that are “critical to understanding not only the Latino/a immigration experience but also alternative visions of nation and belonging.”

Calendar


F 9 Renee Harris, PhD Defense, 9:00 am, 3001A Wescoe (Barnard, D. Elliott, Neill, Rowland, Britton).

M 12 Adam Mills, PhD Exam, 8:30 am, 3001A Wescoe (Johnson, McKitterick, Moriarty, Rowland, Jacobson).

Alternative Academic Careers welcomes Mame Selbee Diouf (PhD, ’06), Resource Mobilization Specialist @ UN Women, 2:00 pm, 3001A Wescoe.

T 13 Humanities Lecture Series, “Good Causes, Bad Acts: Scrutinizing Ends and Means in Academic Activism,” Alice Dreger, scholar and author, 7:30 pm, The Commons, Spooner Hall; public conversation session the following morning, 10:00 am, Hall Center Conference Hall.


R 15 Justin Hampton, RDP, 10:00 am, 3025 Wescoe (Conrad, Elliott, Neill)

Reading and Book Launch, The Dream-Quest of Vellitt Boe, by Kij Johnson, English, 5:30-7:00 pm, Jayhawk Ink, Level 2, Kansas Union.


Publications

Anatol, Giselle

Harrington, Joseph

Presentations

Anatol, Giselle

Fitzgerald, Stephanie
“Native Poetics and Trans-temporal Textualities.” Native American and Indigenous Studies Association Conference. Honolulu, HI. 21 May.

Grund, Peter
“Free Indirect Speech, Slipping, or a System in Flux? Exploring Overlaps between Direct and Indirect Speech in Early Modern English” (with Terry Walker), International Conference on English Historical Linguistics (ICEHL) 19, University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany, 22 August. (Also co-organized the workshop “The Dynamics of Speech Representation in the History of English,” and chaired two sessions.)

Accepted for Publication

Anatol, Giselle
“Brown Girl Dreaming” as Ghost Story in the Postcolonial Gothic Tradition.” Children’s Literature Association Quarterly, Special Issue on Genre and Black Literature. [forthcoming]

Announcements, Notes, & News

• This past summer, Stephanie Fitzgerald participated in an NEH-funded program, dNais: Digital Native American Indigenous Studies Workshop, Yale University, New Haven, CT, 29 June-2 July.

• Laura Mielke and Stephanie Fitzgerald have been selected to be KU Senior Administrative Fellows during 2016-17.

KU and Regional Events

• Nature & Culture Seminar. “Why Do We Need Comparative Environmental History: The Case of China and the USA,” Shen Hou, History, Renmin University of China, 2 September, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

• The Urban Experience Seminar. “Modern Architecture and Urban Renewal in the 1940s-1970s: Shaping the Urban Experience in Kansas City, Kansas and Kansas City, Missouri,” Marie Alice L’Heureux, School of Architecture, Design & Planning, 8 September, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

• Center for Online & Distance Learning – Lunch & Learn. “Producing Video for Online & Flipped Learning,” Colin Roust, Musicology, 9 September, 12-1 pm, Budig 6.

• Conflict & International Change Seminar. “Ignorance or Involvement: Executive Branch Decision-Making under President Dwight D. Eisenhower During PBSUCCESS in Guatemala,” Ashley Neale, History, 9 September, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

• Early Modern Seminar. “Desenganos filosóficos: Fernando de Cevallos, Vicente Fernández, Valcárcel, and the Spanish Counter-Enlightenment, 1774-1797,” George Klaeren, History, 12 September, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

• Place, Race & Space Seminar, “Down, Out, and Under Arrest: Policing and Everyday Life among the Urban Poor,” Forrest Stuart, Sociology, University of Chicago, 12 September, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

• Gordon Parks Celebration, 3-5 November, Fort Scott Community College, Fort Scott, KS. 2016 “Choice of Weapons Award” honoree: Kevin Wilmott, Film, University of Kansas.

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

• Tenth International Conference on e-Learning & Innovative Pedagogies, 27 May 2017, University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada. Deadline: 26 October.

• Cold Mountain Review Special Issue, “Forests,” poems, fiction, creative nonfiction, essays, and visual art welcome. No deadline given.


• Diegesis, “Illness Narratives.” Deadline: 30 September.

• Collection of Essays on Pauline Elizabeth Hopkins, to be submitted to University of Georgia Press. Deadline: 16 September.


• Seventy-Seventh Annual Convention of the College Language Association, 5-8 April 2017, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO. Deadline 15 September.

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


• The College Language Association Creative Writing Contest and Margaret Walker Memorial Prizes, poetry, short fiction, drama, open to any student (undergraduate or graduate) who is sponsored by an active CLA member. Deadline: 13 January 2017.

• The College Language Association Carol Mills Young Study Abroad Scholarship. Winter or spring term deadline: 3 October. Summer or fall term deadline: 6 February 2017.