



\$140K NEH Grant for Migration Stories Project



Byron Caminero-Santangelo

Byron Caminero-Santangelo, English, and Liz MacGonagle, History, have landed a \$140,000 NEH Humanities in the Public Square Grant for a Kansas African Studies Center (KASC) project entitled “Engaging Communities for the Common Good: Stories about Migration in the Public Square.” KASC will be launching public discussions, community programming, and the creation of educational resources in local communities in order to facilitate the sharing of stories about African migration within Midwestern communities. Humanities in the Public Square is a new NEH initiative intended to put humanities scholars in direct dialogue with the public about some of the most pressing issues of today. While social science research on migration has documented the ebbs and flows of movement, KASC’s project emphasizes the widespread significance of the humanities to current national conversations about immigrants and migration. On 5 May, KASC will hold a public forum in Kansas City on migration stories in the Midwest. Among the speakers will be **Chris Abani**, a well known Nigerian novelist and poet, and **Marta Caminero-Santangelo**. Other community programming will include humanities workshops in storytelling, poetry, theatre, and visual art. The Center will work with two community partners, the Kansas Humanities Council and the Kansas City public radio station KCUR, to sponsor radio shows, film and book discussions, and webinar research talks.

public Square is a new NEH initiative intended to put humanities scholars in direct dialogue with the public about some of the most pressing issues of today. While social science research on migration has documented the ebbs and flows of movement, KASC’s project emphasizes the widespread significance of the humanities to current national conversations about immigrants and migration. On 5 May, KASC will hold a public forum in Kansas City on migration stories in the Midwest. Among the speakers will be **Chris Abani**, a well known Nigerian novelist and poet, and **Marta Caminero-Santangelo**. Other community programming will include humanities workshops in storytelling, poetry, theatre, and visual art. The Center will work with two community partners, the Kansas Humanities Council and the Kansas City public radio station KCUR, to sponsor radio shows, film and book discussions, and webinar research talks.

Calendar

- N 24 Taproom Poetry Series** features **Barbara Duffey**, English, Dakota Wesleyan University; **Crag Hill**, English Education, University of Oklahoma; **Megan Youngdahl**, English, KU, 5:00 pm, Eighth Street Taproom (downtown Lawrence).
- M 25 Digital Humanities Seminar**, “Head-and-Shoulder Hunting in the Americas: Walter Freeman and the Visual Culture of Lobotomy,” **Miriam Posner**, Digital Humanities, UCLA, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.
- F 29 Red Hot Research**, “Kansas and the Region,” **Darren Coady**, English, and scholars from Visual Art; Civil, Environmental, and Architectural Engineering; Ecology & Environmental Biology; and Community Health and Development, 4:00 pm, The Commons, Spooner Hall.
- N 31 Creative Writing Graduate Student Reading Series** features **Danny Caine**, poetry; **Kris Coffey**, fiction; and **Candice Wuehle**, poetry, 7:00 pm, Decade, 920 Delaware.

Spring 2015 Department Meeting Schedule

Spring 2015 Senior Staff and Voting Department meetings have been scheduled. The **Senior Staff** will meet on **9 February**. Other Senior Staff meetings will be announced as needed. The **Voting Department** will meet on **16 February**; **1 March** (meet new CLAS Dean); **22 March**; and **19 April**. All meetings will be held on Tuesday afternoons at 4:00 pm in 4051 Wescoe. Please keep other Tuesday afternoons at 4 pm open for other possible meetings of departmental governance.

Dates to Anticipate

Department of English Graduate Reading Series, all held at 7 pm at Decade, 31 January; 28 February; 9 April; and 8 May.

Humanities Lecture Series presents “The Great Barrier Reef: How Human Stories Matter,” **Iain McCalman**, 10 February, 7:30 pm, The Commons, Spooner Hall.

Humanities Lecture Series presents “Human Trafficking in the Heartland,” **Hannah Britton**, 22 March, 7:30 pm, The Commons, Spooner Hall.

Department of English Visiting Writers Series welcomes **Adam Clay**, **Ada Limón**, and **Michael Robins**, poets, 6 April, 7:00 pm, The Commons, Spooner Hall.

Humanities Lecture Series, “Mike Brown’s Body: A Meditation on War, Race and Democracy,” **Robin D. G. Kelley**, 14 April, 7:30 pm, Lied Center Pavilion.

The John F. Eberhardt Memorial Lecture with **May Joseph**, theorist/critic/theatre director, 18 April, time and location TBA.

English Department Milestones Celebration, 28 April (tentative), time and location TBA.

Publications

Bensel, Alyse

“Esteemed Art-Loving Reader” (poem). *Spiral Orb* 11 (January 2016) <http://www.spiralorb.net/eleven/bensel>.

Caine, Danny

“Bono Rings My Doorbell,” *Minnesota Review* 85, Fall 2015.

Carothers, James B.

“Our Greatest American Modernists — Teaching Hemingway and Faulkner Together,” *Teaching Hemingway and Modernism*, Joseph Fruscione, ed. Kent State UP, Kent, OH, 2015: 42-50, 272-76.

Contoski, Victor

Spiritual Awakenings: Finding Clarity and Hope in Our Lives. Denver, CO and Lawrence, KS, Outskirts Press. 2016.

Ellis, Iain

“The Gospel According to Ricky Gervais (in 140 Characters or Less).”
 Essay. *Popmatters* (located at popmatters.com). 7 January.

Evans, Steve

Review-essay of *Queer Renaissance Historiography: Backward Gaze*,
 edited by Vin Narduzzi, Stephen Guy-Bray, and Will Stockton.
 Farnham, Surrey, UK: Ashgate, 2009. *Studies in Medieval and
 Renaissance Teaching* 22.2 (Fall 2015): 145-51. Invited.

Sladek, Amanda

“The New Literacies Narrative,” *Writing on the Edge* 26.1 (2015): 63-72.

Presentations

Echterling, Clare

Organizer and Chair (with Nicole Seymour), “Transgender Studies,
 Ecology, and the Environmental Humanities, Association for the
 Study of Literature and Environment Panel, Modern Language As-
 sociation, Austin, TX, 7-10 January.

Harrington, Joseph

“‘We’? ‘The People’?: The Vexed Origins of North American Documen-
 tary Poetry,” Modern Language Association Convention, Austin,
 TX, 9 January.

Johnson, Kij

Reading, “Jackalopes & Other Tricksters: A Winter’s Night Reading with
 Denise Low and Kij Johnson, Raven Bookstore, Lawrence, KS.
 December 2015.

Reading, The Twig Book Shop, San Antonio, TX, 15 January.

Seminar (day-long), “Speculative Fiction,” Houston Science Fiction/
 Fantasy Writers, Houston, TX. 9 January.

Workshop (day-long), “Intensive Novel,” Houston Science Fiction/Fan-
 tasy Writers, Houston, TX. 10 January.

Workshop/Seminar, “Novel,” San Antonio Writers’ Guild, San Antonio,
 TX. 16 January.

Lamb, Jonathan

“The Shakespearean Syntagm,” Modern Language Association Conven-
 tion, Austin, TX. 14 January. Also organized and chaired a special
 session “Early Modern Books in Place.”

“Shakespeare and Parts,” Humanities class, Lawrence High School,
 Lawrence, KS, 14 January.

Mielke, Laura L.

Chair, “Performance and (Counter)publics,” American Theatre and
 Drama Society Session, Modern Language Association Convention,
 Austin, TX. 8 January.

Accepted for Publication

Bensel, Alyse

“Illustration as Memento Mori” (poem). *Sugared Water*, forthcoming
 Spring 2016.

“Fever [pain]” (poem). *Bone Bouquet* 6.2.

Bergeron, David

“The Stuart Brothers and English Theater,” *Renaissance Papers* 2015.
 2016.

Caine, Danny

“The Middle West” (poem). *Midwestern Gothic* 21.

Lamb, Jonathan

“Ben Jonson’s Dead Body,” *Huntington Library Quarterly*.

Mielke, Laura L.

“Transforming Captivity Narratives in Kevin Willmott’s *The Only Good
 Indian* (2009).” *American Studies*.

KU and Regional Events

• **Latin America & Its Diasporas Seminar**, “Argentine Literary Repre-
 sentations of Nazism in the New Millenium; Public Safety, Racism and
 Xenophobia,” Javier Barroso, Spanish & Portuguese, 25 January, 3:30-
 5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

• **Disability Studies Seminar**, “eQuality: The Future of Web Accessibil-
 ity for People with Disabilities,” Peter Blanck, Syracuse University, 28
 January, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

• “Why Are They Angry with Us?” Larry Davis, School of Social Work,
 University of Pittsburgh, 29 January, 12:00-1:30 pm, Ballroom, Kansas
 Union.

• **Early Modern Seminar**, “King as Mother in Early Modern Spain,”
 Irene Olivares, History, 1 February, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar
 Room.

• **Gender Seminar**, “Gay Beans, Terminator Seeds and Alex Jones:
 Gendered Food Fear Mongering,” Rachel Vaughn, WGSS, 4 February,
 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

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

• **National Endowment for the Humanities Regional Application-
 Writing Workshop**, Russell Wyland, Deputy Director of Research Pro-
 grams, NEH, 9 March, Hale Library, Kansas State University, Manhat-
 tan, KS. Deadline: 19 February.

• **International Conference on New Directions in the Humanities**,
 8-10 June, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL. Deadline: 8
 March.

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

• **Summer 2016 NEH Programs for College and University Fac-
 ulty**: www.neh.gov/divisions/education/summer-programs. Deadline: 1
 March.

• **2016 Eudora Welty Research Fellowship**, Mississippi Department of
 Archives and History, two-week residency. Deadline: 26 February.

• **George and Eleanor Woodyard International Educator Award**, for
 full-time tenured KU faculty members who have provided outstanding
 leadership in international education. Nomination deadline: 1 February.

• **Steven F. Warren KU Research Achievement Award**, for a KU full
 time unclassified academic staff researcher. Nomination deadline: 29
 January.