$140K NEH Grant for Migration Stories Project

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.

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 “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.

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).


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.

Publications

Bensel, Alyse

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

Carothers, James B.

Contoski, Victor
Ellis, Iain
“The Gospel According to Ricky Gervais (in 140 Characters or Less).” 

Evans, Steve

Sladek, Amanda

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 Association, Austin, TX, 7-10 January.

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

Johnson, Kij
Reading, The Twig Book Shop, San Antonio, TX, 15 January. 
Seminar (day-long), “Speculative Fiction,” Houston Science Fiction/ Fantasy Writers, Houston, TX. 9 January. 

Lamb, Jonathan
“The Shakespearean Syntagm,” Modern Language Association Convention, 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.

Bensel, Alyse

Bergeron, David

Caine, Danny

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 Representations of Nazism in the New Millennium; 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 Accessibility 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 Olivaures, 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 Programs, NEH, 9 March, Hale Library, Kansas State University, Manhattan, 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)


• 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.