



Department of English Honors and Awards Ceremony

Expect wizard sightings at the Kansas Union Ballroom on Friday the 13th of May. At 6:00 pm, prospective English undergraduate degree recipients and their families, as well as English graduate students, faculty, and staff will assemble for the **2016 Department of English Honors and Awards Ceremony**, now held annually on Commencement Weekend. Honors graduates in the major will receive the trademark wizard hat that substituted for honors cords one year and now supplements them. Other students and faculty will also be recognized in various ways for a diverse range of accomplishments and all graduating students in attendance will walk the small walk in the ballroom in advance of the big walk on the hill and in the stadium. The Department encourages everyone to come enjoy this festive occasion.



Amanda Sladek Earns Bernstein Award



Amanda Sladek

English PhD student **Amanda Sladek** is one of two recipients of this year's **Bernstein Award for Future Faculty**, administered by KU's Center for Teaching Excellence. The award, which includes a \$500 cash prize, goes to a KU graduate student/instructor "nearing the end of a doctoral degree who will pursue a career in academia." Specifically, applicants must demonstrate that they have "approached teaching as inquiry into learning." The application portfolio had to focus on the development of a single course. Besides being asked to provide

quantitative information, applicants were required to include a description of a major learning goal; approaches and assignments designed to accomplish that goal; reflections on the success of these materials; and plans for modification in the future. Congratulations, Amanda!

Publications

Ellis, Iain, "Kurt Vonnegut: Our Reluctant, Agnostic, Hippy Guru" (essay). *PopMatters* (located at popmatters.com). 20 April.

Fowler, Doreen

"Morrison's Return to Faulkner: *A Mercy* and *Absalom, Absalom*,"

Faulkner and the Black Literatures of the Americas. Ed. Jay Watson and James G. Thomas, Jr., Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2016. 233-44.

Kaminski, Megan

"Light before dawn. Firefly in winter. Catcall to bluebird," "Bones on the sill. Snow on the ground. Bodies below," "Refracted light. Web in the corner. Arms above," "Basement room. Buzz blurs. Descent,"

Calendar

N 1 Taproom Poetry Series features **Serena Chopra**, University of Denver; **Sueyuen Juliette Lee**, Denver; **Joshua Ware**, University of Colorado, Boulder, 5:00 pm, Eighth Street Taproom.

M 2 Cam Lay, MFA Thesis Defense, 2:30 pm, 3025 Wescoe (*Johnson, Lorenz, Moriarty*).

T 3 Melissa Gilstrap, MA Defense, 10:00 am, 3025 Wescoe (*Elliott, Mielke, Outka*).

Early Modern Seminar, "Shakespeare's Green Prostitution," **Donald Hedrick**, English, Kansas State University, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

Voting Department Meeting, 4:00 pm, 4051 Wescoe.

W 4 Alyse Bense, Doctoral Exam, 12:30 pm, 3001A Wescoe (*Fowler, Kaminski, Moriarty, Rowland, Ceccagnoli*).

Jordan Burr, RDP, 12:30 pm, 3025 Wescoe (*Conrad, Drake, McKitterick, Outka*).

F 6 Stop Day

Chelsea Murdock, RDP, 9:00 am, 3001A Wescoe (*Farmer, Fitzgerald, Reiff*).

Aron Muci, MA Defense, 10:00 am, 3025 Wescoe (*M. Caminero-Santangelo, Fowler, Outka*).

M 9 Tyler Sherman, MFA Defense, 1:00 pm, 3025 Wescoe (*Drake, Harrington, McKitterick*).

Migration Stories: Africans in Midwestern Communities, including presentations by **Chris Abani**, novelist and poet, Northwestern University; **Marta Caminero-Santangelo**, English; Garth Myers, Geography, Trinity College, CT, 7:00 pm, Unity Temple on the Plaza, 707 W 47th St., Kansas City, MO (see "Announcements").

T 10 Kate Nygren, RDP, 10:00 am, 3025 Wescoe (*Anatol, Canady, Fischer*).

W 11 Meeyoung Kang, Doctoral Exam, 9:00 am, 3001A Wescoe (*Anatol, Fitzgerald, Fowler, Mielke, Tucker*).

F 13 Department of English Honors and Awards Ceremony, 6:00 pm (program begins at 6:30 pm), Ballroom, Kansas Union.

“Diurnal flight. Promise of wheat. Stone,” and “Back turned. Morning light. Quiet passing” (poems). *Elderly*, 15 (2016): 28-33. from “Dusting” (poems). *Yellow Field*, 11 (2016): 9-12.

Presentations

Brown, Creighton

“(Un)Disciplined Subjects: Postcolonial Life Writing and Contemporary Imperial Discourses,” Archives Interrupted Conference, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS, 23 April.

Grund, Peter

“‘answering her in noe vndecent manner’: Describing and Evaluating Speech Events in Early Modern English Witness Depositions.” Symposium Celebrating the 10th Anniversary of A Corpus of English Dialogues 1560-1760: Research on Historical Corpora of Speech-related Texts, Mid-Sweden University, Sundsvall, Sweden, 22 April.

Herrmann, Jacob

“Monstrous Bodies and Transformation in Marie de France’s ‘Bisclavret’ and Chaucer’s ‘The Wife of Bath’s Tale.’” Northern Plains Conference on Early British Literature, Brookings, SD, 16 April.

Kleinschmidt, Melissa

“The Wild, the Savage, and the Untamed: Embodied Environments in Milton’s *Paradise Lost*,” Northern Plains Conference on Early British Literature, South Dakota State University, Brookings, SD, 15 April.

Schieberle, Misty

“Manuscript History and Recuperating the ‘Flawed Translation’ of Christine de Pizan’s *Epistre Othea*,” Archives Interrupted Conference, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS, 23 April.

Accepted for Publication

Echterling, Clare

“How to Save the World and Other Lessons from Children’s Environmental Literature,” *Children’s Literature in Education*. Forthcoming. [Winner of the journal’s 2015 Emerging Scholar Award]

Announcements, Notes, & News

• **Important!** As the end of the semester approaches, the Office Staff reminds full- and part-time faculty that **it is inappropriate – and unwise – to have students turn in final exams or papers to the English office.** In the past, papers and examinations have been lost because they have been misplaced by students, turned in without names or names of teachers, etc, to the great inconvenience of students, faculty, and staff. During faculty, lecturer, and GTA orientation, this rule is emphasized, but it is difficult to enforce, particularly when instructions to students have already been given. This semester, please collect papers or take-home exams in class or during office hours. The staff understands that some

students will turn papers in late because of illness or procrastination, and is prepared to accommodate them. Problems arise when the mailboxes are used as the depository for entire classes.

• **HBW News:** Former HBW staffer and KU English MA, **Alysha Griffin**, is returning to KU for the PhD as a Chancellor’s Graduate Fellow. Alysha took two years off to work at the Lucy Laney Museum in Augusta, GA, and to teach at Paine College, an HBCU. She will rejoin HBW as a volunteer this fall.

• On 9 May, The **Kansas African Studies Center** will host a public forum “highlighting the possibilities for meaningful conversation about immigration through the sharing of stories” (see “Calendar” for specifics of time and place). Speakers include Nigerian novelist and poet **Chris Abani** and KU English professor **Marta Caminero-Santangelo**. Teleconferencing technology will connect an audience in Garden City with the forum in Kansas City and enable dialogue between the two communities, both of which are hubs of recent resettlement for Africans in the Midwest. This KASC initiative is funded by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

KU and Regional Events

• **University Theatre** presents *Welcome to Arroyo’s*, by Krstoffler Diaz, 29-30 April, 3-5 May, 7:30 pm, 1 May, 2:30 pm, Inge Theatre, Murphy Hall.

• **Place, Race, & Space Seminar**, “Legality, Racialization, and Immigrants’ Experience of Ethnoracial Othering in Russia,” Victor Agadjanian, Sociology and Cecilia Menjivar, Sociology, 2 May, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

• **Conflict & International Change Seminar**, “Brothers of the Pacific,” Christopher Capozzola, History, MIT, 6 May, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

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

• **The Constructed Environment Conference**, 25-26 May 2017, Cracow University of Technology, Crakow, Poland. Advanced proposal deadline: 25 July.

• **Free States**, 2016 Midwest American Conference for Irish Studies, 22-23 September. Deadline: 15 May. “Set in historic Lawrence, KS, itself a Free State and the site of a different Civil War conflict, this conference takes the theme of ‘free states’ to encourage critical inquiry into freedom, identity, conflict, and place in the literature, culture, and politics of Ireland and the diaspora during the ‘decade of commemoration.’”