The English Department is sponsoring or co-sponsoring several scholarly events during the week of 19-26 September. In addition, there are two other significant lectures or meetings scheduled during this time that are sponsored by an interdisciplinary group with Department affiliation and the College (see “Calendar”). The schedule is not nearly so densely packed the rest of this semester. Therefore, the Department encourages full- and part-time faculty and graduate students to support as many of these events as possible.

The Central Renaissance Conference

Free to KU students and faculty, the Central Renaissance Conference will get underway Friday, 19 September, at 1:00 pm and continue all day Saturday, 20 September, at the Lawrence Holiday Inn Holidome, 200 McDonald Drive, Lawrence. The plenary speaker will be David Cressy of Ohio State University (see below). Over 70 scholars will address Renaissance Studies subjects. Among the speakers will be incoming KU professor Geraldo Sousa, who will speak on King Lear at the first session, and English Ph.D. student Kristin Bovaird-Abbo, who will speak on Spenser. Other former KU graduate students and faculty members Mo Godman, Patrick Enright, and Dan Kulmala will also present papers. Conference Director Dick Hardin notes that the scope of the conference is not limited to England. Papers on the Faust legend and on Homer’s reception in 16th-Century France may be especially interesting. The full conference schedule is posted on the “Events This Week” bulletin board to the right of the mailroom doorway.

Lecturers and Readers

The only two scheduled English Department Lecturers and Readers presentations this semester are both taking place this week. David Cressy, Ohio State historian, will be the plenary speaker at the Central Renaissance Conference, 19 September, 6:30 pm, Spencer Museum of Art Auditorium. His topic will be “Print, Censorship, and Satire on the Eve of Areopagitica.”

Professor Cressy is a social and cultural historian of early modern England, concerned with the intersections of elite and popular culture, central and local government, and official and unofficial religion. His books include Literacy and the Social Order: Reading and Writing in Tudor and Stuart England (Cambridge UP, 1980) and, most recently, Travesties and Transgressions in Tudor and Stuart England: Tales of Discord and Dissension (Oxford UP, 2000). Professor Cressy will also address The British Seminar at 11:00 am the same day in the Hall Center Conference Room. His topic there will be “Babylon is Fallen: The Beginnings of the English Revolution.”

Professor Dale Bauer, English and Women’s Studies, University of Kentucky, will address “Sexual Illiteracy” Thursday, 25 September, at 4:00 pm in 4019 Wescoe. Professor Bauer’s areas of specialty are 19th and 20th-Century American literature and gender studies. She is the author of Edith Wharton’s Brave New Politics (University of Wisconsin Press, 1994) and recently co-edited The Cambridge Companion to Nineteenth-Century American Women’s Writing (Cambridge UP, 2001). She is currently at work on a project entitled “Sex Expression and American Women,” which traces the advent of American women’s “sex expression” in literature from the 1860s to the 1940s.

Calendar

F 19 The Central Renaissance Conference, sponsored by the Department, free to KU students and faculty, sessions 1:00-5:00 pm, 19 September, with special plenary lecture on campus at 6:30 pm (see above). The conference will be held at the Lawrence Holidome, 200 McDonald Drive. See posted schedule of sessions on “Events This Week” bulletin board.

Lecturers & Readers, “Print, Censorship, and Satire on the Eve of Areopagitica,” David Cressy, History, Ohio State University, 6:30 pm, Spencer Museum of Art Auditorium. Part of The Central Renaissance Conference. Professor Cressy will also address The British Seminar the same day, “Babylon is Fallen: The Beginnings of the English Revolution,” 11:00 am, Hall Center Conference Room.

S 20 Central Renaissance Conference, 8:30 am-5:15 pm (see above).

University of Kansas Open House.

W 24 Open Meeting for all College faculty and staff, to discuss the state of the College and opportunities for the new year, called by Dean Kim Wilcox, 3:30-5:00 pm, Alderson Auditorium, Kansas Union.

Interdisciplinary Jazz Studies
Group Lecture

Professor Robert O’Meally, Zora Neale Hurston Professor of English and Director of the Center for Jazz Studies at Columbia University, will speak on “Louis Armstrong’s Comic Masks,” Thursday 25 September, at 7:30 pm in Alderson Auditorium. A jazz concert by KU Jazz Combo I will precede his talk at 6:30 pm in the same place. Professor O’Meally’s major interests are African American literature, music, and painting. He has written extensively on Ralph Ellison, including The Craft of Ralph Ellison (Harvard, 1980). He is co-editor of the Norton Anthology of African American Literature. He has also written a biography of Billie Holiday, Lady Day: The Many Faces of Billie Holiday and a documentary of the same name that was broadcast on public television. Recent work includes an edition of essays, The Jazz Cadence of American Culture (Columbia, 1998)

Announcements, Notes, & News

- Media-Enhanced Classroom Requests for Fall 2004 should be placed in Tom Lorenz’s mailbox no later than 4:00 pm, 25 September.

- Be at “The Center of Everything!” KU Ph.D. Laura Moriarty has recently published her debut novel, The Center of Everything. After a 2:00 pm reading at Borders Books on Saturday, 27 September, there will be a celebratory reception for Laura at the home of Alice Lieberman and Tom McDonald, 754 Sunset Drive, 7:30 pm. Department members are invited.

- University Theatre opens two Inge Theatre productions in repertory this week: Kenneth Lonergan’s This Is Our Youth will play 26 September and 1 and 3 October at 7:30 pm, 27 September at 5:00 and 9:00 pm. Maria Irene Fornes’s Fefi and Her Friends will play 29-30 September and 2 October at 7:30 pm, 4 October at 5:00 and 9:00 pm. Murphy Hall. Shakespeare’s As You Like It opens in the Crafton-Preyer Theatre on 10 October.

KU and Regional Events

- Early Modern Seminar, “The State of Publishing in Renaissance Studies: A Roundtable Discussion,” Johnson Room, Spencer Research Library, Friday, September 19, 9:00-10:30 am. Guest panelists Professor Eve Levin, History, who edits the scholarly journal The Russian Review; Professor Robert Bjork, Director of the University of Arizona’s Medieval and Renaissance Texts and Studies series; and Paula Presley, Director of Truman State University Press. The timely subject of the roundtable will make this event valuable to all graduate students and faculty members who would like to gain an inside look at publishing decisions. For more information, please contact Marjorie Swann (mswann@ku.edu).


- Before 1500 Seminar, “The Medieval Reception of Ovid’s Fasti: Appropriation and Resistance in the Eleventh and Twelfth Centuries,” Carole Newlands, Classics, University of Wisconsin, 23 September, 4:00-5:30 pm, Hall Center Conference Room.


- Nature & Culture Seminar, “Strength and Weakness: Indian Health and Sickness in Early America,” Martha Robinson, History, University of Southern California, 26 September, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Conference Room.

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

- 20th Annual Jack and Ruth Gribben English Lecture Series. Labette Community College, Parsons, KS. Guest speaker: David Jolligge, English, DePaul University. 10 October. Registration information forthcoming.

- 2003 KATE (Kansas Association of Teachers of English) Conference, 23-24 October, Wichita, KS. Conference registrations requested by 1 October.


- The State of Medieval Studies, a conference sponsored by the Program in Medieval Studies, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 2-4 October.


- To the Diaspora: Black Writers Speak to Black Life, 13th Annual Gwendolyn Brooks Writers’ Conference on Black Literature and Creative Writing, 29 October-1 November, Chicago State University, Chicago, IL. Deadline for submissions: 5 October.

- 8th Annual Writers Conference in Honor of Elmer Kelton, poetry, fiction, non-fiction essays, critical or biographical essays or panels, 26-28 February 2004, Angelo State University, San Angelo, TX. Deadline: 3 November.

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


- Stanford Humanities Center External Faculty Fellowships, senior and junior fellowships available. For further information, access <http://shc.stanford.edu/shc/external.html>. Deadline: 15 October.

- Fellowships for Young Scholars in Literature, National Humanities Center. Also numerous unrestricted fellowships for projects in the humanities. For further information, access <http://www.nhc.rtp.nc.us/>. The Hall Center’s Grant Development Office will help in preparing an application for this (or any other) fellowship opportunity. Deadline: 15 October.

- Big XII Faculty Fellowships, six fellowships available. For further information and application materials, access <www.ku.edu/~provost/forms>.

- Mellon Post-Dissertation Fellowship at the American Antiquarian Society, for scholars no more than three years beyond the receipt of the doctorate whose research would be aided by the society’s holdings. Deadline: 15 October.

- Spencer Foundation Dissertation Fellowships, for research related to education (in an academic discipline). Deadline: 27 October.