



## 2006 Department of English Awards Ceremony

The annual **English Department Awards Ceremony** will be held 13 May, 6:30-8:00 pm, in the Ballroom of the Kansas Union. At the most recent Voting Department meeting, **Dorice Elliott** encouraged faculty members, especially, to attend this event and celebrate/socialize with our strongest students and, in some cases, their parents and families. Current plans also call for the recipient of the inaugural **Frances L. Stiefel Professorship in English** to be announced at this event. **Giselle Anatol** notes that the program must stay within its time frame because another event is scheduled in the ballroom later that evening. Following the awards ceremony, there will be a Department Party at the home of **Mary Klayder**, 1212 Vantuyl. See "Announcements" for directions to this address.

## Publications

### Bauer, Judy

"Before You Understand — After Diane Williams," *Coal City Review* 21 (2006).

### Johnson, Michael L.

"Woman Reading" and "Henry Cavendish" (poems). *Apostrophe*, Winter 2005/Spring 2006: 53, 54.

### Wedge, Philip

"High Island Blues: The Sport of Birding in the Novels of Ann Cleeves," *Aethlon: The Journal of Sport Literature* XXIII:1 (Fall 2005): 29-36.

## Presentations

### Conrad, Kathryn

"Secret, Rumour, Scandal: Sexual and Political Epistemologies in Northern Ireland" (with Margot Backus), Cultural Studies Conference, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS, March 2006.

"Knowing Looks: Visibility, Surveillance, and Sexual Dissidence in Northern Irish Public Space," American Conference for Irish Studies National Meeting, St. Louis, MO, 22 April.

Invited Lecture. "Widening the Frame: The Politics of Representing Northern Irish Murals," International Studies Program, Baker University, 25 April.

### Davidson, Mary Catherine

"Imagining English Language Origins in Norman England: Geoffrey of Monmouth's *Adventus Saxorum*," 41<sup>st</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies, 4-7 May, University of Western Michigan, Kalamazoo, MI. Also organized session, "Multilingualism: Linguistic, Historical, and Literary Approaches" (sponsored by the Society for the Study of the History of the English Language).

## Accepted for Publication

### Conrad, Kathryn

"Widening the Frame: The Politics of Representing Northern Irish Murals," for *Postmodern Ireland and Popular Culture*, ed. Wanda Balzano, Anne Mulhall, and Moynagh Sullivan, London, Palgrave, 2006.

### Voeller, Carey R.

"'I have not told half we suffered': Alternatives to Sentimentality and the Cult of Mourning in Overland Trail Women's Diaries and Letters," *Legacy: a Journal of American Women Writers*.

## Announcements, Notes, and News

• Though all the Undergraduate Studies Committee members deserve praise for their recent efforts to fill the gap left by **Bud Hirsch's** unexpected medical leave, the Department would like to offer special thanks to **Mary Klayder** for the work she has done handling many students' advising needs and, particularly, dealing with all the requirements for graduation and honors designations. For many years, Mary and her husband, David Brown, have also hosted (with no compensation) our "after-Awards" party. Thanks, too, for this great service. Here are Mary's directions to her home: "Take Bob Billings Parkway (15th Street) west past Kasold, past Monterey Way, past Stone Meadows, and turn right on Inverness. Go about a block and a half, past a cul-de-sac, and turn right on Vantuyl. Go another block and a half, past another cul-de-sac, past a weedy hill (not our Hill) and you are there. We live in the first house on the right that actually faces Vantuyl. There are two stone lightposts at the bottom of a very steep driveway (our steep driveway). The address, 1212, is on each post. If you need to park at the top of the hill, let me know. We will make room for your car. My home phone number is 749-3305 if you need further directions."

## Calendar

**W 10 Emily Donnelly, DPR**, 1:00 pm, 3108 Wescoe (Devitt, Farmer, Monberg).

**F 12 Stop Day**

**S 13 2006 English Department Awards Ceremony**, 6:30-8:00 pm, Ballroom, Kansas Union. Party following at the home of **Mary Klayder**, 1212 Vantuyl (see "Announcements" for directions).

**T 16 Catherine Betz, M.A. Exam**, 1:00 pm, 3108 Wescoe (Elliott, Farmer, Hartman).

**Voting Department Meeting**, 4:00 pm, 4019 Wescoe.

Agenda: 1) approve committee slates; **Senior Staff Meeting** will follow immediately. Agenda: 1) discuss and vote on full-time lecturer candidacies.

**N 21 Commencement**, 2:30 pm, Memorial Stadium.

**F 26 Grades Due**, midnight.

• **Marta Caminero-Santangelo** has been selected by the Department's undergraduates as the English faculty member to be honored at the annual Celebration of Teaching reception on 10 May in the Ballroom of the Kansas Union. The event is hosted by the Center for Teaching Excellence. Congratulations, Marta!

• KU English Ph.D. **Matt Hollrah** reports that he has accepted a tenure-track position as assistant professor of English and director of Freshman Composition at the University of Pittsburgh–Bradford, a four-year branch campus with an enrollment of about 1800 students. He adds that he is “certainly excited to have a job next fall. I should also say how much I’ll miss everyone here at KU. My graduate education has been an extremely positive experience.”

• To celebrate the publication of *Every Goodbye Ain't Gone: An Anthology of Innovative Poetry by African Americans*, edited by Aldon Nielson, **William J. Harris**, Ishmael Reed, Giovanni Singleton and others will read their own poetry at the American Literature Association's meeting in San Francisco on 25 May 2006.

• Three playwrights from **Paul Stephen Lim's** beginning playwriting class last fall have won various Ten-Minute Play competitions. “Painting the Town” by Emily Laut is one of eight plays being featured in the New Play Development Workshop at the Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE) conference in Chicago, August 2-6. English Alternative Theatre (EAT) is sponsoring her trip to the conference. “The Department of Indecent Proposals” by Stephen Moles, and “The Black Eye” by Matt Sevcik, were the second and third place winners in the first SUA playwriting competition. Their plays were given staged readings at the Spencer Museum of Art auditorium on April 23.

• **Beverly Boyd, Max Sutton, and Phil Wedge** were among the poetry

readers at the Trinity Episcopal Church Art Fair, Saturday, 29 April.

## ***KU and Regional Events***

• Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro* continues 6 May, 7:30 pm, Crafton-Preyer Theatre, Murphy Hall.

• **Nature & Culture Seminar**, “NASA's Final Frontier: How the Race to the Moon Transformed Nature on Earth,” Neal Maher, Federated Department of History, New Jersey Institute of Technology & Rutgers University, 5 May, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

• **TGIF**, last chance for schmoozing, 5 May, 4:00-5:30 pm, Adams Alumni Center.

• As part of the Riverfront Readers Series, innovative novelists Lance Olsen and Steve Tomasula will read at The Writers' Place, 3607 Pennsylvania, 12 May, 8:00 pm. **Silvia Kofler** will be the host for the evening.

• **Lunch Presentation**, “Everything You Ever Wanted to Know about Academic Publishing . . . But Were Afraid to Ask,” Susan Ferber, Oxford University Press–USA, 22 June, 12:00-1:30 pm, Hall Center. For lunch, RSVP by Monday, 19 June to Jeanie Wulfkuhle (4-7826).

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

• **HGDO Alerts: Feminist Review Trust: Research and Other Scholarly Activity**, <<http://www.feminist-review-trust.com/guidelines.htm>>, Deadlines: 31 May, 30 September, 28 February; **Alexander von Humboldt Foundation Research Fellowships**, <<http://www.humboldt-foundation.de/en/programme/index.htm>>, Deadline: Open.

## **Spotlight on Research**



Lecturer David Ohle's first novel, *Motorman*, written as a KU master's thesis, was published by Alfred A. Knopf in 1972 after an excerpt appeared in *Esquire*. Taken out of print in 1973, the novel continued to be circulated in photocopy form among fans until it achieved sufficient “cult” status after 32 years to be republished in 2004 by 3rd Bed Press in Providence, RI. Ben Marcus, in his introduction, wrote: “Ohle's readers behaved as if they ... had read the sort of book that finally satisfied the thirst, a final book that could behave as a sort of source bible for anything that might come afterward - the creation text for new fiction.”

*Motorman's* sequel, *The Age of Sinatra*, was also published in 2004 by Soft Skull Press, Brooklyn, NY. and named one of the *Village Voice's* favorite books of the year. Until then it had never been

published in full, though excerpts had appeared in *Harper's*, *The Paris Review*, *TriQuarterly*, and other places. A third novel, *The Pisstown Chaos*, is scheduled for publication by Soft Skull in the spring of 2007. *Motorman* and *The Age of Sinatra* have been contracted for publication by Saggiatore/ISBN, Milan, Italy. Ohle's non-fiction memoir, *Cursed From Birth: The Short, Unhappy Life of William S. Burroughs, Jr.*, will be released by Soft Skull in August, 2006 and his 1991 oral history, *Cows Are Freaky When They Look at You: An Oral History of the Kaw Valley Hemp Pickers* (Watermark Press, Wichita, KS, edited with Roger Martin and Susan Brosseau) is now in its 6th printing.

