



## The Inaugural Conference On New Literacies

Fiftieth or first? For the last fifty years, the KU English Department has held an October Conference on Composition and Literature designed to offer educators and other interested parties throughout the state access to current thinking on issues related to reading, writing, and literary analysis. This year the conference has been moved to February and given a new name. The first "Conference on New Literacies" will emphasize creative, pedagogical approaches to literature, composition, and language study. CNL2003's specific focus will be on how literature and the arts interact in collaborative processes that result in products or activities that expand and challenge traditional views such as using dance to interpret poetry. Written, oral, graphic and visual competencies will all receive attention. This is a new approach for a new era – but the tradition of bringing contemporary attitudes and ideas about English to the teachers and citizens of Kansas continues. Registration cost is \$75 (lunch extra). Students may register for \$25. For a look at the schedule of events, access the English Department website: <<http://www.ku.edu/~english/>> and look for the links on the main page above and under the "Langston Hughes Conference" link on the far right hand side (the conference is being held in conjunction with the Langston Hughes February Festival). Many past and present KU English Department members are participating on the program. Among them: **Kirk Branch, Scott Hendrix, Max Sutton, Cheryl Lester, John Edgar Tidwell, Samantha Parkes, Mary Klayder, Jill Zasadny, Crystal Gorham, Tiffany Ng, Brooke Finan, Moira Ozias, Lisa St. Ledger, Maryemma Graham, Janet Sharistianian, Carmeletta Williams, Jan Prewitt, Brian Daldorph, Anna Neill, Anjali Nerlekar, Iris Smith Fischer, and Dick Eversole.** The conference is being held at the new Lawrence Arts Center, 940 New Hampshire.

### Calendar

- M 17 Presentation**, "Shakespeare and the Phenomenology of the House," **Geraldo Sousa**, English, Xavier University, 4:00 pm, Kansas Room, Kansas Union. Q & A period to follow. Light refreshments.
- T 18 SAGE Open House** for **Geraldo Sousa**, 2:00-4:00 pm, 3132 Wescoe (first hour reserved for graduate students only)
- CTE Tuesday Tea**, "Students, Teachers, and Power Relationships," **Cheryl Lester**, English/American Studies, Dan Carey, American Studies, 3:30-4:30 pm, 135 Budig Hall
- Matt Candelaria, Ph.D. Comprehensive Exam**, 4:00 pm, 3132 Wescoe (*B. Caminero-Santangelo*, Gunn, Harrington, Myers, Neill, Sharistianian)
- Informal Reception**, for **Geraldo Sousa**, at the home of **Paul Lim**, 1132 Randall Road, 7:00-9:00 pm. All Department members are welcome.

**R 20 Hall Center Humanities Lecture Series**, "The Triangular Quest for Self and Community: Brooklyn>Barbados>Benin," **Paule Marshall**, 7:30 pm, Ballroom, Kansas Union. Also part of Langston Hughes February Festival. Free.

**F 21 Conference on New Literacies**, 8:00 am-4:30 pm, Lawrence Arts Center, 940 New Hampshire. See English website and related story for further details. Registration fee.

**Paule Marshall** will conduct two colloquia on the same subject as her Humanities Lecture Series presentation, Part I, 10:00-11:30 am, Part II, 1:00-2:30 pm, Malott Room, Kansas Union

**Staged Readings** of six Ten-Minute Plays by KU students, 7:00 pm, Lawrence Arts Center Balck Box Theater. Directed by **Paul Lim**. Part of Langston Hughes February Festival. See English website and related story for details. Free.

**S 22 Panel**, "Kansas' Poetic Landscape," **William Harris**, English, **Denise Low**, Haskell Indian Nations University, **Carmeletta Williams**, JCCC, 9:15 am, Carnegie Building, 9<sup>th</sup> & Vermont. Part of the Langston Hughes February Festival.

**Panel**, "Bridging the Gap between Literature & Science," **James Gunn, Kij Johnson, Chris McKitterick**, English, 10:40 am, Carnegie Building. Part of LHFF

**Panel**, "Kansas Stories & World Myths: Coming of Age in Kansas & Beyond," **Caryn Mirriam Goldberg**, Goddard College, **Debra Seely**, Newman University, 1:00 pm, Carnegie Building. Part of LHFF.

**SAGE Creative Reading**, 8:00 pm, Café Luna, 620 W. 12th.

**Panel**, "A 'Novel' Approach to Kansas," Roger Martin, Communications, Whitney Terrell, Author, **John Edgar Tidwell**, English, 2:30 pm, Carnegie Building. Part of LHFF. Professor Tidwell will also be part of a panel discussion of **Gordon Parks's** career as part of "An Evening Honoring Gordon Parks," 7:30 pm, Lied Center. Part of LHFF. Free.

**M 24 FSE Workshop**, "The Power of Peer: Student Response in the Writing Classroom," **Michele Eodice**, Writing Center Director, **Emily Donelli**, Assistant Director, 4:00 pm, The Writer's Roost, 4017 Wescoe

**T 25 Voting Department and Senior Staff** meetings to discuss and vote on the candidacy of **Geraldo Sousa** for a position in the University of Kansas English Department. Anyone from the Department who wishes to contribute to the discussion may attend the Voting Department meeting, which will begin at 4:00 pm in 4019 Wescoe. When the Voting Department meeting adjourns, the Senior Staff will convene.

## Festival of Literature & Film

Last year's Langston Hughes Centennial Symposium was a national and international event. This year, the Langston Hughes February Festival has a more regional focus. Besides the Conference on New Literacies (see above) and the independent Conference on Writing and Literature, the Festival is sponsoring a free (except for one event) Festival of Literature & Film which will celebrate Kansas writers and artists. The Festival runs from 20-23 February. On Thursday, 20 February, in conjunction with the Hall Center Humanities Lecture Series, writer **Paul Marshall** will speak in the Kansas Union Ballroom. Her topic is "The Triangular Quest for Self and Community: Brooklyn>Barbados>Benin." Several English Department members will take part in the Festival of Literature & Film. On 21 February, 7:00 pm at The Lawrence Arts Center Black Box Theatre, **Paul Stephen Lim** will direct staged readings of six Ten-Minute Plays by KU students, including works by **Kirby Fields** and **David Huffman**. **Jim Carothers** will be one of the actors. Past and present Department participants in events on 22 February (see "Calendar") include **Billy Joe Harris**, **Denise Low**, **Carmaletha Williams**, **Jim Gunn**, **Kij Johnson**, **Chris McKitterick**, **Caryn Mirriam Goldberg**, **Debra Seely**, and **John Edgar Tidwell**.

## Geraldo Sousa Visit

Professor Geraldo Sousa of Xavier University will be on campus Monday and Tuesday, 17-18 February. He will make a presentation on 17 February and be our guest at a graduate student open house and an informal reception on 18 February (see "Calendar" for details). **During the second half of the SAGE Open House (3:00-4:00 pm), all Department members who would like to renew acquaintance with or ask questions of Professor Sousa are invited to come to 3132 Wescoe to visit with him.** Professor Sousa's file is available for review in 3108 Wescoe. Discussion and a vote on his candidacy for a position in the English Department will take place at a Voting Department meeting and a Senior Staff meeting on 25 February beginning at 4:00 pm.

## Publications

### Kofler, Silvia

"Cry Wolf;" "Farming out the Butter" (poems). *I-70 Review* 1.1: 16, 17.

### Nerlekar, Anjali

"Rebellion, Language and Adrienne Rich" in *Contemporary American Literature*, ed. Rangrao Bhongle. New Delhi, Atlantic. 2002.

### Swann, Marjorie (with William Tsutsui)

"Kansans and the Visual Arts," *Kansas History* 25.4 (Winter 2002-2003): 272-295.

## Accepted for Publication

### Nerlekar, Anjali

"Of Mothers Among Other Things: The Source of A. K. Rananjuan's Poetry," *Wasafiri* 38 (Spring 2003). *Wasafiri* is a journal of Caribbean, African, Asian, and Associated Literatures in English. This is a special issue, 'Poetry,' guest edited by Laura Chrisman and Steve Yao.

## Presentations

### Tidwell, John Edgar

"Against the Odds: Writers Growing up Black in Kansas," Maya Angelou Branch of the Wichita Public Library, 1 February. Presented as part of Black History Month.  
"To Thine Own Self Be True: The Quest for Self-Knowledge in

Gordon Parks's Autobiographical Narratives," Beach Museum of Art, Kansas State University, 6 February. Part of "The Pulitzer Prize Photographs" series.  
"Coming of Age in a Land of Uncertainty," Winfield Human Relations Commission, Winfield, KS, 10 February.

## Announcements, Notes, & News

- On February 7, the Department was informed that it has been included in a search for an Assistant Professor of the U.S. in a Global Context. According to a letter received from CLAS, this is a multi-discipline search, being led by the Department of American Studies as part of the University tuition-enhancement program, where the candidate will be appointed in American Studies, as well as in English and/or History.
- If you have students who have been called to military duty who come to you confused about what to do, have them contact Judy Gilliland in the Office of the University Registrar. If Judy is not available, they should ask for Marla Herron or Rich Morrell.
- **Chris McKitterick**, our new Technical Writing specialist in the Department, was recently honored with the Technical Communication (STC) Distinguished Technical Communication Regional Award for his contributions to the Windows XP Professional Resource Kit. For that project, he wrote new chapters, peer-reviewed almost every other chapter, created new online-Help materials for the accompanying CD\_ROM, updated some other materials, and led a team of up to six technical writers to deliver his portion of the book.

## KU and Regional Events (Posted)

- **Gender Seminar**, "Wives, Widows, and Whores: Legal and Social Categories in Later Medieval Spain," Marie Kelleher, History, 18 February, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Conference Room.
- **Nature and Culture Seminar**, "Indian in a Bottle: Patent Medicines as Nature," Bonnie Lynn-Sherow, Kansas State University, 21 February, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Conference Room.
- Kim Stafford, son and literary executor of William Stafford and author of *Early Morning: Remembering My Father William Stafford*, will be presenting a public lecture, "There's a Thread You Follow: Writing in the Spirit of William Stafford," 20 February, 3:30 pm, Washburn Room, Memorial Union, Washburn University.
- **February Sisters Forum Lecture**, "Fighting the Feminization of Poverty: A Look at Why Women are Poor, and What Can Be Done About It," Avis Jones-DeWeever, Study Director, Institute for Women's Policy Research (IWPR), 18 February, 7:00 pm, Big 12 Room, Kansas Union.
- **Preparing Future Faculty Workshop**, "Negotiating Your First Academic Job: After the Offer, Before the Deal," John Colombo, Psychology, Michele Leon, Theatre & Film, Christopher Morphew, Teaching & Leadership, 18 February, 11:30 am-1:00 pm, Jayhawk Room, Kansas Union.

Happy Valentine's Day!

