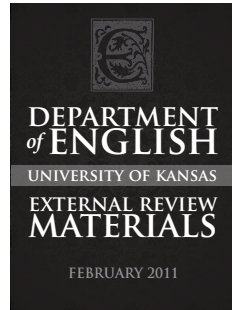




English Gravitas

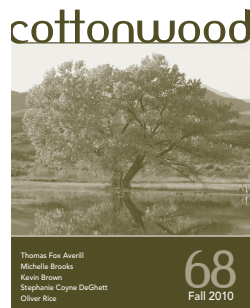
The English Department submitted a hefty valentine to the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences on Monday, February 14. Perhaps the last great print project our unit will ever produce (and print form was required), the 2011 University of Kansas English Department self-study report and external review supporting documentation stretches to some 850 pages in its original single-sided incarnation (momentarily preserved from the recycler). Unbound, the tome stands four inches tall and weighs in at 8.5 pounds.

Who knew that 100 pages weighs a pound and 200 pages stands close to an inch? But the revelations don't stop there. **More than half the document is made up of faculty CVs!** In other words, just listing the combined accomplishments of our Senior Staff and full-time lecturers in research, teaching, and service took close to 500 pages, a very impressive 5" tall, 2.5 lb doorstop of 8.5x11" standard white copying paper. Happily, for the environment's sake, we were able to print the seven College and two Department copies of the document back-to-back (note the epic numeral, 9), bringing the total project, bound in 3" binders, to a tidy 2'3" tall, approximately 3,825-page compilation, all of which weighed in at less than 40 pounds. Still, because of bulk, it took two people to deliver the seven copies to CLAS. One copy of the self-study will bend a shelf in the Chair's office. Another, however, has been placed in the lounge to inspire awe in those waiting for the microwave. On a serious note, the report itself is only 25 pages long and represents a remarkable collaborative effort by the administrators and Advisory Committee of the Department. The supporting documentation other than the faculty statements and CVs (also gathered and, believe it or not, selectively winnowed down by administrators and Advisory) also makes interesting reading – in small doses.



New Look for Cottonwood

Cottonwood 68 is hot off the press sporting a new cover design. The English Department's well-known fiction and poetry journal has eschewed its recent white-album look, even though the final story in this issue, by Stephanie Coyne DeGhett, is entitled "The Blackbird Singing." Other featured authors in 68 include Thomas Fox Averill, Michelle Brooks, Kevin Brown, and Oliver Rice. This seems a good time to recognize those who put out this publication. **Tom Lorenz** is General Editor and Prose Editor. **Phil Wedge** is Poetry Editor and Business Manager. (In the latter capacity, Phil notes that subscriptions are \$8 per issue or \$15 for two issues.) Poetry and fiction staffers include **Andy Anderegg**, **Abayomi Animashaun**, **Amy**



Ash, Matt Clothier, Adam Dworkis, Stephen Johnson, Joe Miller, and Jeff Tigchelaar.

Publications

Caminero-Santangelo, Marta

"Central Americans in the City: Goldman, Tobar, and the Question of Panethnicity," *Contemporary Literary Criticism* 298 (Jan 2011): 217-230.

Gunn, James

Gift from the Stars (novel). Shenyang, China: Lianing Children's Publishing House, 2010. (Chinese Translation)

"The Foundation Trilogy" (reference book entry). *Masterplots, Fourth Edition*. Pasadena, CA: Salem Press, 2011: 2157-2160.

"Thought Experiment: Celebrating Isaac," *Asimov's Science Fiction*, April/May, 2011. (Publication of October presentation at West Virginia University)

Hardin, Richard F.

Review of *Unbinding Medea: Interdisciplinary Approaches to a Classical Myth from Antiquity to the 21st Century*, Heike Bartel, Anne Simon, ed., *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* 2011.02.22.

Harrington, Joseph

Earth Day Suite (e-chapbook). Chicago: Beard of Bees Press, 2010. <http://beardofbees.com/harrington.html>

Accepted for Publication

Colatosti, Jennifer

"Not Even Goddesses" (fiction). *The MacGuffin*.

Calendar

R 17 Toni Morrison's 80th Birthday – 24-Hour Reading, 12:00 pm (begins), Anschutz Library.

F 18 Toni Morrison's 80th Birthday – 24-Hour Reading, 12:00 pm (ends), Anschutz Library.

T 22 Voting Department Meeting, 4:00 pm, 4019 Wescoe. Agenda: 1) revisions to MA requirements; 2) proposed science fiction course; 3) language requirement. This meeting will adjourn into a **Senior Staff Meeting**. Agenda: 1) bylaws addition; 2) amendment to faculty evaluation plan.

F 25 Shared Professional Development, "Cultural Diversity in the Writing Classroom," facilitated by **Sonya Lancaster** and **Cedric Burrows**, English, First- and Second-year English Program, 12-1 pm, Lippincott 203.

Reading and Q&A by Visiting Writer **Joshua Cohen**, 7:00 pm, Jayhawk Room, Kansas Union.

Announcements, Notes, and News

- There will be a **Rhodes, Marshall, and Mitchell Scholarships Information Session** on Monday, 21 February, 5:00 pm, Nunemaker Center. Please alert any students that might find this program useful.

KU and Regional Events

- **Latin American Seminar**, “Illegal Art’: Visual Expression and Immigration Politics in Los Angeles,” Yajaira Padilla, Spanish & Portuguese, 18 February, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.
- **Montana Repertory Theatre** presents William Inge’s *Bus Stop*, 19 February, 7:30 pm, Lied Center.
- **CTE Events: Teaching Essentials Workshop**, “Introduction to Classroom Assessment: Making Valid and Reliable Tests,” Bruce Frey, PRE, 21 February, 3-4 pm, 135 Budig. **RSVP; Lunch and Conversation**, “Engaging Students Through the Learning Studio at Anschutz Library,” panel, 24 February, 12-1 pm, 135 Budig.
- **Graduate Student Workshop: Introduction to Grant Proposal Development**, 22 February, 6:00-9:00 pm, Hall Center Conference Hall (repeats 2/23 at same time and place). **RSVP required.**
- **Social Implications of Digital Media Workshop**, “Youth and Media,” Jeannie Klein, Theatre, 23 February, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hal Center Seminar Room.
- **Leading the CLAS: A Faculty Workshop Series**, “Taking Charge: Selecting Your Leadership Role,” 23 February, 3:30-5:00 pm, Big 12 Room, Kansas Union.
- **The Commons**, “Mind, Body, Machine: The Human Design Space 2,” Braden Allenby, Engineering (of various kinds) and Law, Arizona State University, 23 February, 7:00 pm, The Commons, Spooner Hall; “Question and Answer with Braden Allenby,” 24 February, 10:00-11:30 am, The Commons, Spooner Hall.

- **Modernities Seminar**, “Acts of Love: Popular Performance and Fellowship in the Favela,” Paul Sneed, Spanish & Portuguese, 24 February, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

- **Langston Hughes Visiting Professor Lecture**, “At the Margins of Black Freedom Studies: Working-Class Representation and the Blues Idiom,” Clarence Lang, African American Studies and History, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, 24 February, 3:30 pm, Alderson Auditorium, Kansas Union.

- **University Theatre** presents *The Beaux’ Stratagem*, by George Farquhar, adapted by Thornton Wilder and Ken Ludwig, 24-26 February, 4-5 March, 7:30 pm, 6 March, 2:30 pm, Crafton-Preyer Theatre, Murphy Hall.

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

- **The American Dialect Society, Midwest Region** (meets with Midwest MLA), welcomes papers dealing with varieties of English and other languages spoken in the United States, 3-6 November, St. Louis, MO. **Deadline: 27 March.**

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

- **Kansas Voices: 22nd Annual Contest for Writers Living in Kansas**, for prose and poetry. **Deadline: 15 March.**