



Summer Reading?



Laura Moriarty

Assistant Professor of English **Laura Moriarty's** fourth novel, *The Chaperone*, will be released on 5 June by Riverhead Hardcover. As noted in the *DNB* a few weeks ago, screen rights have already been optioned by Elizabeth McGovern and Simon Curtis. Advance press summarizes the plot in this way: "Only a few years before becoming a famous actress and an icon for her generation, a fifteen-year-old Louise Brooks leaves Wichita to make it big in New York. Much to her annoyance, she is accompanied by a thirty-six-year-old chaperone who is neither mother nor friend. Cora Carlisle is a complicated but traditional woman with her own reasons for making the trip. She has no idea what she's in for: Young Louise, already stunningly beautiful and sporting her famous blunt bangs and black bob, is known for her arrogance and her lack of respect for convention. Ultimately, the five weeks they spend together will change their lives forever." The work is set in 1922. This novel is Moriarty's first work of historical fiction. The Amazon page about *The Chaperone* currently features an interview with Moriarty that includes comments about Lawrence and the University of Kansas. **Perk alert!** Laura notes that she has received a box of advance copies of *The Chaperone* from the press. She offers a free copy to at least the first few English faculty, staff, or graduate students who have the time or inclination to read it. Just send her an e-mail and the book will soon materialize in your mailbox! Congratulations, Laura!

2012-2013 Langston Hughes Professor

David G. Holmes, Professor of English and Director of African American Studies at Pepperdine University, will be the **2012-2013 Langston Hughes Professor** at KU. He will teach two classes in the English Department at KU in the spring semester of 2013. Holmes, a Rhetoric and Composition specialist, is an elected member of the Executive Committee of the Conference on College Composition and Communication. At Pepperdine, he teaches classes in Advanced Composition, Language Theory, Civil Rights Rhetoric,



David G. Holmes

Composition Theory, and the Harlem Renaissance. He also teaches in Pepperdine's Social Action and Justice program.

Publications

Kaminski, Megan

"A letter," "This place," and "Forget the crowns" (poems). *Likestarlings*, April 2012.

Ohle, David

"Before the Beginning" (novel excerpt). *New Orleans Review* 37.2 (2012): 66-71.

Tidwell, John Edgar

Essay-Review of *Street Fam* by Jason J. Williams, *African American Review* 44.1-2 (Spring-Summer 2011): 306-10.

Presentations

Graham, Maryemma

"The Post-Gaze: New Domains for Literary and Cultural Studies," Robert Young Memorial Lecture, University of Alabama, 31 January.

Grund, Peter

"Grievously Tortured and Dreadfully Tormented: Expressions of Degree in the Witness Depositions from the Salem Witch Trials," SHEL-7 (Studies in the History of the English Language), Indiana University, Bloomington, 28 April (Also chaired a session.)

Kaminski, Megan

Poetry reading, A Common Sense Reading Series (with Judith Roitman and Jennifer Ziegler), Kansas City, MO, 29 April.

Lamb, Jonathan

"Wages, Stages, and Title Pages in Early Modern England," Early

Calendar

- N 6** **MFA Reading Series** featuring short readings by graduating MFA and PhD students **Mary Stone Dockery, Danya Goodman, DaMaris Hill, Jeremy Miller, Iris Moulton, Mark Petterson, Ben Pfeiffer, and Dan Rolf.**
- T 8** **Margaret Kramar, Ph.D. Defense**, 1:00 pm, 3001 Wescoe (*Graham, Klayder, Lorenz, Moriarty, Turnbull*)
- R 10** **Beecher's Election Meeting**, 5:00 pm, 3001A Wescoe. All past, present, and future members are encouraged to attend.
- F 11** **English Department Annual Honors and Awards Ceremony**, 6:30 pm (Program, 7:00 pm), Ballroom, Kansas Union.
- M 14** **Tamera Britton, DPR**, 1:00 pm, 3001A Wescoe (*Irby, Lorenz, Lombardo*)
- F 18** **Grades Due**, 11:59 pm.

Modern Symposium, University of Kansas, 21 April.

Tidwell, John Edgar

“Against the Odds: Writers Growing up Black in Kansas,” Independence (KS) Public Library, 23 February.

Chair, “Colleagues and Comrades: Friendships of the Chicago Black Renaissance,” College Language Association, Atlanta, GA, 29 March.

“(Re-)Writing the Past and Future: Sterling A. Brown and the Sankofa Spirit,” College Language Association, Atlanta, GA, 31 March.

Discussion Leader, *Race Matters* by Cornel West, Talk About Literature in Kansas (TALK) series on “African American Perspectives,” at Manhattan (KS) Public Library, 25 April.

Accepted for Publication

Graham, Maryemma

Margaret Walker’s South (multi-media text – sound/images – and narrative). University Press of Mississippi, 2013.

Garland, Philip

“Hurry Trauma” (fiction). *Red Lightbulbs*, 2012.

Announcements, Notes, & News

• On 26 April, **Geraldo Sousa** was elected to the Friends Council of the Hall Center of the Humanities for a three-year term. He is also a member of the KU Libraries’ Board of Advocates, which works to provide human and financial resources necessary to promote and achieve the mission and vision of KU Libraries.

• **Doreen Fowler** has been elected to a three-year term on the Executive Board of the Faulkner Society.

• **Frank Farmer** has been invited to deliver the keynote address for the 5th Biennial Rhetoric Society of America Summer Institute, 3-9 June 2013, to be held on the KU campus.

• **Laura Mielke** and **Mary Klayder** were among several instructors recognized at the 15th Annual Celebration of Teaching sponsored by the KU Center for Teaching Excellence on Monday, 30 April. This year’s focus was on undergraduate teaching and those honored were selected by undergraduate students from many departments.

• **Kristen Lillvis** has accepted a tenure-track position at Marshall University in Huntington, WV, where she’ll be teaching contemporary American literature and African American literature courses.

• **Summer Big Tents:** A 31 May Big Tent Series reading will feature Judd Nielsen and Joshua Falleaf. The 26 July Big Tent reading will feature **Philip Garland**, among others. 7 pm, The Raven Bookstore.

• From **Stuart Levine**: “A memo from Marianne Reed of KU ScholarWorks tells me that when she’s done putting online my pieces

in peer-refereed scholarly journals that ‘have excellent open access policies, you will have more content in KU ScholarWorks than almost any other author at KU. Out of 6,725 authors having items in KU ScholarWorks, you will be #6. Congratulations!’ Number 6? I wondered about numbers 1 through 5. I didn’t want to know their names – but what departments were they in? I asked Marianne Reed. Answer: they’re all in Physics and Astronomy. So Marianne says I’m the head honcho numero uno king of the hill in the humanities and social sciences. . . . It’s a little ironic that in the digital age this happens to an Extinguished Professor with sore digits.”

• **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.

KU, Regional, and Pan-Pacific Events

• **Peace, War & Global Change Seminar**, “Planning the Destruction of Cities: Urban Environmental History and Interwar Bombing Theory,” Thomas Arnold, History/Environmental Studies, 4 May, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

• **University Scholarly Achievement Awards**, recognition program, 8 May, 4:30 pm, The Commons, Spooner Hall.

• **English Department Staff Seminar**, “Developing Nonsense in the *Alice Tales*,” **Anna Neill**, English, 9 May, 3:15 pm, Arts 1, Room 201, University of Auckland, New Zealand. Refreshments to follow as an inducement for the KU English community to attend.

• **Latin American Seminar**, “Performing Mayannes in Contemporary Guatemala – Reflexions on Postmodern Indigenous Identity and Globalization,” 11 May, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

Other Opportunities

• The **FSE Program** seeks four graduate students for six weeks of summer work (20 hours/week, \$15/hour) related to assessment. Send short letter of application and summary of qualifications to **Sonya Lancaster** by Friday, 4 May. For more details, see FSE bulletin board.