



## Four New Conger-Gabel Professors Named



**Darren Canady, Dorice Elliott, Cheryl Lester, and Mary Jo Reiff** learned that they had been appointed **2016-2019 Conger-Gabel Teaching Professors in English** at the annual Department of English Honors and Awards Ceremony on 13 May. The professorships were established in 2001 by former KU students Wren and Esther Conger Gabel (the latter an English major) to recognize excellence in teaching by tenured/tenure

track professors in the English Department. They are awarded every three years based on the deliberations of an ad hoc committee of former recipients and current students. There is no application process. Conger-Gabel Professors receive a \$5000 stipend each year of their three-year terms. Esther Conger Gabel died in 2014 at the age of 103 (her husband, Wren, passed away in 2007). There had been no further contact with the Conger-Gabel family. However, a daughter, Katherine Gabel, wrote the English Department in June to express the interest of three Conger Gabel siblings in the progress of the program and their pride in supporting its goals. The four new Conger-Gabel Professors have communicated their appreciation to the family. **Darren Canady**, who also received the **Mabel Fry Award** from KU English's graduate students on that fortunate Friday the 13<sup>th</sup>, is an associate professor of dramatic literature and playwriting as well as Director of Undergraduate Studies in English. Former Chair of English **Dorice Elliott** is associate professor of nineteenth-century British literature. Former Chair of American Studies **Cheryl Lester** is associate professor of twentieth-century American literature. **Mary Jo Reiff** is full professor of rhetoric and composition. She has just begun a three-year term as Director of First- and Second-Year English.

### Annual SAGE Picnic

On Saturday, 8/20, KU English's graduate student organization, SAGE, will host its annual start-of-the-year picnic to welcome new grads to the Department. The SAGE Picnic will take place from 6:30-8:30 pm at a DIFFERENT LOCATION, **Broken Arrow Park**, 2800 Louisiana Street (near the baseball fields and playground). Faculty and graduate students, spouses, partners, children, friends, and pets are welcome. SAGE will provide grilled burgers, hot dogs, veggie burgers, sodas, water, and some side dishes. Returning grad students and faculty are asked to bring a side, a dessert, or a beverage to share. New graduate students: Just show up!

### Campbell Conference/WorldCon



The KU Department of English's **Gunn Center for the Study of Science Fiction (CSSF)** is holding its annual **Campbell Conference** in

conjunction with **WorldCon** this year, as the storied convention brings its thousands of attendees to Kansas City this week for the first time in decades. The conference will serve as the academic wing of the gathering. Sessions will be held throughout the five-day event (8/17-8/21), with the highlight coming on Thursday, 18 August, when the Campbell Award for Best Science Fiction Novel and Sturgeon Award for Best Short Science Fiction for 2016 will be presented in 2501D of the Kansas City Convention Center. **Chris McKitterick**, Director of CSSF, invites English Department members to attend the awards ceremony, which will also feature free food and a cash bar, or to register for the full gathering. Presenters at the Campbell Conference, besides numerous luminaries in science fiction writing and scholarship, include **Kij Johnson**, as well as recent KU MA recipients **Isaac Bell** and **Amanda Hemmingsen**. Current graduate student **Ayah Wakkad** will also present and Professor Emeritus **James Gunn** will headline a panel

### Calendar

- W 17-N 21 CSSF Campbell Conference/WorldCon**, "Tomorrow is Now," Kansas City Convention Center
- R 18 KU Teaching Summit**, 8:30 am-1 pm, Budig and Wescoe Halls.
- CSSF Campbell and Sturgeon Awards Ceremony**, 7:00 pm, 2501D, Kansas City Convention Center.
- S 20 SAGE Picnic**, 6:30-8:30 pm, Broken Arrow Park, 2800 Louisiana (see feature for details).
- T 23 Open Forum** to discuss teaching this year's common book, Ta-Nehisi Coates's *Between the World and Me*, 4:00 pm, 4051 Wescoe. Facilitators: **Marta Caminero-Santangelo, Darren Canady, Mary Jo Reiff, Charlesia McKinney, and Stefanie Torres.**
- M 29 Colonialism Seminar**, roundtable discussion on colonialism, postcolonialism, and neocolonialism in Latin America and the Caribbean, moderated by **Stephanie Fitzgerald**, with panelists Santa Arias, Spanish & Portuguese/CLACS); Robert Schwaller, History; and Cecile Accilien, AAAS, 3:30 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

## *Publications*

### **Caminero-Santangelo, Marta**

*Documenting the Undocumented: Latino/a Narratives and Social Justice in the Era of Operation Gatekeeper*. University of Florida Press, 2016. (Story upcoming)

### **Graham, Maryemma**

Editor (with Wilfried Rausser), *Mobile and Entangled America(s)*. Routledge, 2016. (Story upcoming)

### **Johnson, Kij**

*The Dream-Quest of Vellitt Boe*. New York: Tor Books, 2016. Print and Web. (Story and news of book launch upcoming)

## *Presentations*

### **Lamb, Jonathan**

"Why First? Why a Folio? Why It Matters," Kansas City Public Library, 12 May.

### **Wedge, Phil**

"Questioning the Value of Athletics: Anne Lamott's Rosie Ferguson Novels," Sport Literature Association Conference, University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada. 23 June.

Poetry Reading, with Mark Anthony Jarman, Don Johnson, Bruce Pratt, and Jamie Dopp, New Brunswick Sports Hall of Fame, Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada. 23 June.

## *Accepted for Publication*

### **Lamb, Jonathan**

*Shakespeare in the Marketplace of Words*. Cambridge University Press.

## *Announcements, Notes, & News*

• **New Faculty:** Welcome to **Robert Warrior**, the new **Hall Professor of American Literature and Culture**, who begins a split appointment between English and American Studies this fall. Chair **Anna Neill** will host a **New Faculty Reception** at her home to welcome Professor Warrior as well as new graduate students and part-time faculty on 28 September (see future issues for details).

• **New Students:** Welcome to 27 new KU English graduate students, many of whom received GTA orientation throughout this week. Next week's issue will provide information about who they are and where they're from, but please extend (or lend) a hand to anyone you don't recognize this week and throughout the semester.

## *About the DNB*

**Frequency:** The *DNB* is sent out digitally every Friday during the academic year, except for holiday and semester breaks. Each weekly issue can also be found online at <<http://www.english.ku.edu>>.

**Deadline:** The Calendar lists important events (e.g. exams, meetings, presentations by Department members) for the upcoming week: other happenings of interest for that period usually are noted under KU and Regional Events. Information on any events to be publicized must be received by noon Thursday for inclusion in that Friday's issue.

**Publications/Presentations:** Publication information for the *DNB* should be submitted to Bob Elliott (e-mail: [relliott@ku.edu](mailto:relliott@ku.edu) or hard copy welcome). Please provide a complete written-out citation (including pagination and genre—e.g. "article," "poem," "short story," "essay.") For inclusion under "Presentations," please provide the date, place, title of conference, and title of paper. **The *DNB* encourages submissions of publication and presentation information from both full-time and part-time faculty and graduate students.**

**Dates:** Unless given otherwise, assume that the year of publications, events, deadlines, and so forth is the present one.

Bob Elliott, Editor