



## Karen Joy Fowler Will Deliver Annual Gunn Lecture

Acclaimed author **Karen Joy Fowler**, master of many genres of fiction, will concentrate on just one of them in her **Richard W. Gunn Lecture** on Tuesday, 14 March, at 7:00 pm in the Jayhawk Room of the Kansas Union. In 1991, Fowler co-founded the James Tiptree Jr. Literary Award at WisCon, the world's only feminist-oriented science fiction convention. The prize, saluting Alice Sheldon, a female science fiction writer who employed "James Tiptree, Jr." as a pen name, is given annually to a work of science fiction or fantasy that "expands or explores our understanding of gender." Fowler's Gunn Lecture, "The Tiptree Award at 25: Exploring and Expanding Gender in Speculative Fiction," will do some exploring of its own as she reflects on the works inspired and issues raised by the award. Fowler is the author of six novels and three short story collections. She is perhaps best known for her wildly popular *The Jane Austen Book Club* (2004), which was subsequently made into a film. However, she began her career writing speculative fiction and has frequently returned to that genre, winning both the Nebula and World Fantasy Awards for short fiction. *We Are All Beside Ourselves*, her most recent novel, was nominated for a Nebula, won a PEN/Faulkner Award and the California Book Award, and was shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize. The Gunn Lecture, sponsored annually by the KU English Department, is made possible by an endowed gift from the late Richard W. Gunn, brother of Professor Emeritus of English **James Gunn**, and a great supporter of the Gunn Center for the Study of Science Fiction.



Karen Joy Fowler

## Senior Lecturers



Iain Ellis

Multi-term Lecturers **Iain Ellis** and **Stephen Johnson** received word this week that they have been appointed Senior Lecturers in the University of Kansas English Department, effective Fall 2017. Both began teaching in KU English as part-time lecturers in August of 2000. In 2006, both were appointed as full-time lecturers, a title that eventually morphed into the current MTL designation. On the strength of numerous positive evaluations and reappointments over the past decade, including a review this winter, Ellis and Johnson have earned this presti-



Stephen Johnson

gious advanced rank. A native of the UK, Ellis holds a PhD in American Culture Studies from Bowling Green University. He teaches several courses in the First- and Second-Year English program and is perhaps best known for his signature ENGL 203 course, "Expressions of Youth Rebellion." Although MTL (and Senior Lecturer) appointments are for teaching only, Ellis has contributed bi-monthly essays on critical humor and other subjects to the online popular culture website *PopMatters* for the last ten years. He has also published two monographs, most recently *Brit Wits*:

*A History of British Rock Humor* (2012) and is now at work on a collection of essays on the rhetoric of humor. He has won the Department's Outstanding Instructor Award numerous times. Stephen Johnson holds an MFA degree in English Literature and Creative Writing from Wichita State University. A poetry specialist, he is currently one of the rocks of FSE's ENGL 210 "Introduction to Poetry" offering, having taught eleven sections in the last three years, along with thirteen ENGL 102s (MTLs teach 4/4). Johnson is also an active poet with a collection scheduled for release in November from Prospero's Books and a second collection in progress. Congratulations, Iain and Stephen!

## Calendar

- N 12 Creative Writing Grad Student Reading Series**, featuring poetry and fiction by **Divya Rakhika Bhalla**, **Mark Jaskowski**, **Robert Knapp**, **David James Miller**, and **Adam Mills**, 7:00 pm, The Gaslight Gardens, 317 N. 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- M 13 English Awards Application Deadline**, 4:00 pm, 3001 Wescoe.  
  
**Ars Rhetorica**, "Decolonization and the Marianas Movement for Environmental Justice," Tiara R. Na'puti, Communication, University of Colorado, Boulder, 5:00 pm, Divine 9 Room, Kansas Union.
- T 14 The Richard W. Gunn Lecture**, "Exploring and Expanding Gender in Speculative Fiction: The Tiptree Award at 25," **Karen Joy Fowler**, fiction writer, 7:00 pm, Jayhawk Room, Kansas Union.
- W 15 The 2017 Black Literary Suite**, "Mississippi Renaissance," Finale + Panel Discussion on Jesmyn Ward, Spencer Museum of Art, 12:00-2:00 pm.

## *Publications*

### **Brown, Creighton**

“Educational Archipelago: Alternative Knowledges and the Production of Docile Bodies in Jamaica Kincaid’s *A Small Place* and Marjane Satrapi’s *Persepolis*,” *Assay* (Spring 2017).

## *Accepted for Publication*

### **Rogers, Reece** (undergraduate)

“Backpack” (creative nonfiction). *Obra/Artifact*.

## *Announcements, Notes, & News*

● **Ann Martinez** (PhD ’14) has published an article, “Bertiliak’s Green Vision: Land Stewardship in *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*,” in *Arthuriana*.

## *KU and Regional Events*

● **University Theatre** continues *Company*, by Sondheim and Furth, 10-11 March, 7:30 pm, 12 March, 2:30 pm, Crafton-Preyer Theatre, Murphy Hall.

● **2017 Faculty Coffee Talk Series**, sponsored by CLAS and OMA, 14 March, 9:30-11:00 am, Sabatini Multicultural Resource Center, Room 116.

● **Place, Race & Space Seminar**, “Policing the Planet,” Jordan T. Camp, International & Public Affairs and Race & Ethnicity, Brown University, 13 March, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

● **The Public Intellectual & The Future University**, public event, “The Ivory Tower Meets the Public Marketplace of Ideas,” Sacha Kopp, Dean of CLAS, Stony Brook University, 14 March, 7:00 pm, The Commons, Spooner Hall.

● **The Public Intellectual & The Future University**, graduate student workshop, “Preparing for a Career as a Researcher & Public Intellectual,” with Sacha Kopp (see above), 15 March, 9:30 am – 12:00 pm, The Commons, Spooner Hall. Registration required.

● **Digital Humanities Seminar**, “De-centering the Digital Humanities,” Brian Rosenblum, KU Libraries; Phil Stinson, Classics, 15 March, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

● **The Langston Hughes Visiting Professor Lecture**, “Earle Hyman: Pioneer of the Norwegian Stage,” Baron Kelly, University of Louisville, 15 March, 3:30 pm, The Commons, Spooner Hall.

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

● **CTE Best Practices Institute 2017**, faculty and instructional staff seminar on teaching. Deadline: 30 March.

● **Migration/Representation/Stereotypes**, an international and interdisciplinary conference, 28-30 April, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.