



## SPRING ROUNDUP! FOUR DAYS, TWO OPEN FORUMS!



The last of the KU English strays are back in the Wescoe Corral after Winter Break and the Spring 2017 semester is underway. Before we get too far along, though, there will be an unusual confluence of two open forums in a period of four days where faculty, staff, and graduate students can become reacquainted and unitedly address some important issues. Head ‘em up!

Chair Search Organizers **Iris Fischer** and **Megan Kaminski** have scheduled an open forum on Tuesday, 24 January, at 4:00 pm, where Associate Professor **Kathryn Conrad**, who is standing for a three-year term as Chair of English, will present her ideas about the status and future of the Department and participate in a question-and-answer session. Conrad will then leave the assembly and discussion will follow. The forum will then adjourn into a Senior Staff meeting where members will vote on whether to forward Conrad’s name to CLAS as English’s choice to serve as Chair from 1 July 2017-30 June 2020. The timetable for considering Chair appointments demands this early gathering. Similarly, current Chair **Anna Neill** has scheduled an open forum on Friday, 27 January, to address a pressing University issue. The University Senate and Faculty Senate have released parallel strongly-worded resolutions objecting to Kansas State legislation and policies that would allow concealed carry of weapons on all state campuses in just a few months. The forum will provide English Department members an opportunity to express their views on this controversial move and vote on whether or not to endorse the resolutions. Both documents have been distributed electronically to KUENGLISH-L for advance review.

### *Publications*

**Bensel, Alyse**

“Three days into your marriage” (poem). *Quarterly West*, Issue 89.

“On Poisonous Snakes In Puerto Rico” (poem). *The Adroit Journal*, Issue 19 (January 2017).

“Your Eye Is A Red Dwarf Planet” (poem). *Glass: A Journal of Poetry*, January 2017.

“Illustration as *Memento Mori*” (poem). *Sugared Water*, Issue 5, Winter 2016. 21.

“Dear Distance,” “Do Not Consume Raw” (poems). *The Boiler*, Winter 2017.

### *Presentations*

**McKitterick, Chris**

“Building Suspense and Tension in Fiction.” Guest lecture for ENGL 551 class, University of Kansas, 27 October 2016.

“Science Fiction.” Guest lecture for FREN 177 Honors Seminar (on French Science Fiction and Fantasy), University of Kansas, 27 September 2016

### *Accepted for Publication*

**Bensel, Alyse**

Review of Kimberly Grey’s *The Opposite of Light*. *Colorado Review*, forthcoming.

### *Calendar*

**T 24 Open Forum** to hear remarks by English Chair nominee **Kathryn Conrad**, ask questions, and discuss whether to forward Conrad’s candidacy to CLAS, followed by a **Senior Staff Meeting** to further discuss and vote on that step, 4:00 pm, 4051 Wescoe (see above).

**F 27 Open Forum** to discuss and vote on whether to endorse the resolutions recently issued by the **University Senate** and the **Faculty Senate** on the issue of concealed carry of weapons on KU campuses, 3:30 pm, 3140 Wescoe (Wescoe Auditorium) (see above).

**Film Screening**, “Langston’s Lawrence,” 6:00 pm, Watkins Museum, 1047 Massachusetts. Co-developed and co-sponsored by Dream Documentary Collective, whose contributors include **Edgar Tidwell** and **Darren Canady**.

**W 1 Film Screening**, “Langston’s Lawrence,” 7:00 pm, Lawrence Arts Center, 940 New Hampshire (see F 27 for further details).

**R 2 Job Presentation**, first candidate for **The Herman Melville Distinguished Professorship in American Literature**, 4:00 pm, Big 12 Room, Kansas Union. Reception follows. (See separate publicity for further details.)

## *Announcements, Notes, & News*

- **Frank Farmer** has accepted an invitation to serve on the **Editorial Board of *College Composition and Communication (CCC)*** for a three-year term.
- **Laura Mielke** has been elected to a three-year term on the **American Literature Society Executive Board**, effective 17 January.
- **Chris McKitterick** and **Kij Johnson** now serve on the Council of Investigators and as Writers-in-Residence for the **KU Information and Telecommunication Technology Center**. McKitterick is also serving as a research mentor for an undergraduate student in the **Emerging Scholars Program**. Jenessa Pasimio-Field is doing research on under-represented groups and authors in science fiction for the Gunn Center's AboutSF educational-outreach program.

## *KU and Regional Events*

- **Latin American Colonialism Seminar**, "The Anthropocene and Latin America: The Geological Consequences of Colonialism," Greg Cushman, Latin American & Caribbean Studies, 23 January, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.
- **Hall Center Special Event**, "Documenting a World Behind Wire: The USHMM Encyclopedia of Camps," Geoffrey Megargee, historian, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, 25 January, 7:30 pm, Malott Room, Kansas Union.
- **Resident Fellows Seminar**, "Encountering the Enlightenment: Science, Religion, and Catholic Epistemologies across the Iberian Atlantic, 1680-1815," George Klaeren, History, 1 February, 12:00 pm, Hall Center Conference Hall. RSVP required one week in advance.

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

- **Faulkner and Money**, Faulkner & Yoknapatawpha Conference 2017, 23-27 July, University of Mississippi (share fond memories with **Chancellor Jeffrey Vitter**). Deadline: 31 January.
- **Engaging Networks and Ecologies**, Conference on Community Writing, October 2017, University of Colorado Boulder. Deadline: 2 February.

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

- **Wisconsin Institute for Creative Writing Fellowships, 2017-2018**, poetry and fiction fellowships, University of Wisconsin, Madison. Deadline: 1 February.
- **27<sup>th</sup> Annual Kansas Voices Contest for Writers Living in Kansas**, prose and poetry. Deadline: Postmarked by 10 March.
- **Eudora Welty Research Fellowship**, for a graduate student, preferably a doctoral student. Deadline: 27 February.
- **The Keeler Family Intra-University Professorships**, a faculty development program for tenured faculty at mid-career. Allows one semester free of departmental responsibilities to engage in substantive exchange and interaction with faculty members in another discipline. Deadline: 10 February.