



## Anna Neill and Mary Jo Reiff Earn Stiefel Professorships



Anna Neill



Mary Jo Reiff

Professors **Anna Neill** and **Mary Jo Reiff** were named **2018-2021 Frances L. Stiefel Professors in English** at the annual English Honors and Awards Ceremony on 11 May 2018. Their appointments began this summer. The Stiefel Professorships are awarded every three years to one or two tenured full professors who have “generated a distinguished record of research, teaching, and service” in the English Department. Stiefel Professors receive a \$20,000 per year salary supplement over the course of their three-year appointments. Neill’s most recent monograph is *Primitive Minds: Evolution and Spiritual Experience in the Victorian Novel* (2013). She has won a Kemper Teaching Fellowship at KU and has held a Conger-Gabel Teaching Professorship in the English Department. She served as Chair of English from 2012-2017. Reiff’s most recent book (co-edited with **Anis Bawarshi**) is *Genre and the Performance of Publics* (2016). She currently holds a Conger-Gabel Teaching Professorship in English and serves as Director of First- and Second-Year English. The Stiefel Professorships were endowed in 2005 by businessman Milton I. Stiefel as a memorial to his wife, Frances, who earned her B.A. at KU in 1926.

## New Academic Year

The 2018-2019 academic year gets off to a fast start this week with a number of events. The annual **KU Teaching Summit** will take place on Thursday, 16 August, from 8:30 am-12:30 pm (see “Calendar”). On Friday, 17 August, KU English full-time faculty members will gather for an **English Department Faculty Retreat and Reception** at the Eldridge Extended in downtown Lawrence from 9 am-5pm (see “Calendar” for details). On Saturday, 18 August, SAGE, KU English’s graduate student organization, will host the **Annual SAGE Picnic**. Again this year, the picnic will be held at a shelter in Burcham Park along the Kansas River from 6:30-8:30 pm (see “Calendar”). Other events upcoming during the first two weeks of the semester are noted on the calendar as well. No **Senior Staff** or **Voting Department** meetings have been scheduled yet, but please keep Tuesdays at 4:00 pm available. Next week’s edition of

## Calendar

**R 16 KU Teaching Summit**, 8:30 am-12:30 pm, followed by lunch. Registration closed on 9 August, but late registrations will be considered. Budig and Wescoe Halls. See <http://cte.ku.edu/> for more information.

**KU Center for Online & Distance Learning Ice Cream Social Meet & Mingle**, 1:00 pm, Budig 6.

**Center for Faculty Development Event**, “Communicating Research through Narrative,” **Randy Olson**, Story Circles. Part I: “Introduction,” 3:30 pm, The Commons at Spooner Hall.

**F 17 Department of English Faculty Retreat**, 9:00 am-4:00 pm, **Open Bar/Reception**, 4:00-5:00 pm. Lunch provided. See e-mailed schedule for times. Eldridge Extended, 201 W. 8<sup>th</sup> St, Lawrence. Free parking around the corner from EE on Kentucky (if you can find spaces) or for \$1 on the upper levels of the Lawrence Public Library parking structure.

**Center for Faculty Development Event**, “Communicating Research through Narrative,” **Randy Olson**, Story Circles. Part II: “Story Circles Demo,” **EITHER** 9:00 am or 1:00 pm, The Commons at Spooner Hall.

**S 18 Annual SAGE Picnic**, 6:30-8:30 pm, Burcham Park, 2<sup>nd</sup> and Indiana. Partners, spouses, significant others, children, and pets welcome. Grilled vegetarian and non-vegetarian items provided, along with water and soda. Faculty and returning graduate students, please bring side dishes, desserts, or beverages.

**R 23 Disability Studies Seminar**, “The Women Coming Through It Project: Capturing Women’s Experiences with Mental and Physical Disability in Selfies and Their Own Words,” **Louise Krug** (PhD ’13), English, Washburn University, 3:00-4:30 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

**F 24 Colonialism Seminar**, “Diasporic Born: Black New Orleans, Black Migrations, and Me,” **Randall Jelks**, American Studies, 3:00-4:30 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

**F 31 Red Hot Research**, “Human, Next,” featuring **Paul Outka**, English, and scholars from Molecular Bioscience, EEE/C/Bioengineering, Design, and Communication Studies, 4:00 pm, The Commons at Spooner Hall.

**R 6 KU Common Book Lecture** by **Edwidge Danticat**, author of *Create Dangerously: The Immigrant Artist at Work*, 7:00-8:30 pm, Lied Center.

**F 7 Nature & Culture Seminar**, “Animal Value and the Failure of Advocacy in Peter Mathiessen’s *Far Tortuga* and Richard Powers’ *The Echo Maker*,” **Arnab Chakraborty**, English, 3:00-4:30 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

the *DNB* will introduce our 25 new graduate students, many of whom are engaged in GTA orientation this week. Please come meet them at the SAGE picnic. I will begin announcing publication and presentation information next week also. A list of “Dates to Anticipate” throughout the semester will appear then too. If you have information on Fall 2018 department-level events that I have not yet received – or further information on ones you’ve already sent – please contact me by next Thursday. Welcome back and have a great 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. Presentation information should be submitted after the presentation has taken place. Publication information may be submitted at the time of acceptance and at the time of publication. **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