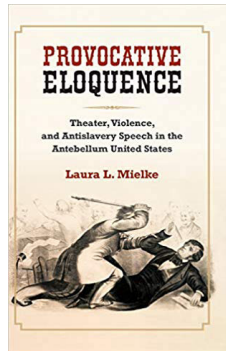




Laurels for Our Lauras

Later today, KU English's **Laura Mielke** and **Laura Moriarty** should receive word from the Chancellor that they have been **promoted to the rank of full professor** beginning in Fall 2019. Both were notified three weeks ago that the Provost had approved CLAS and University committee recommendations to this effect. The achievement of this career milestone caps a sensational spring for both faculty members. Earlier this month, Laura Mielke's second monograph, deemed "indispensable" in her field by one peer, was published by the University of Michigan Press. Earlier this week, a feature film adaptation of Laura Moriarty's 2012 novel, *The Chaperone*, opened in New York City.

Laura Mielke's *Provocative Eloquence* is subtitled "Theater, Violence, and Antislavery Speech in the Antebellum United States." According to press publicity, Mielke's work "teases out an underlying theatricality in the debate over slavery through a range of plays, speeches, essays, novels, poetry, and visual culture. . . . The book draws on work in performance studies, theater history, black performance theory, oratorical studies, and literature and law to provide a new narrative of the interaction of oratorical, theatrical, and literary histories of the nineteenth-century United States." One promotion reviewer, commenting on *Provocative Eloquence*, described it as a model of "theoretical sophistication, archival freshness, and methodological creativity. It is a powerful study that deserves a wide readership."



Laura Moriarty's *The Chaperone* was selected soon after its publication as the first feature film project of PBS's *Masterpiece*. The novel has now been adapted for the screen by Julian Fellowes of *Downton Abbey* fame and the film stars one of *Abbey's* principal actors, Elizabeth McGovern. Emerging Hollywood starlet Haley Lu Richardson plays a young Louise Brooks. The film's New York opening took place at the Museum of Modern Art on Monday, March 25 (after-party, Rainbow Room at 30 Rock), with a second screening at the New York Public Library the next evening, followed by a panel discussion with Moriarty,



Fellowes, McGovern, and director Michael Engler. *The Chaperone* will open in arts cinemas around the country later this spring, then move to public television following its feature film run. The Lawrence premiere will take place on April 18 at Liberty Hall, followed by a Q&A with Moriarty.

Congratulations to Laura Mi and Laura Mo (as they became known during their simultaneous rank advancement processes)!

Calendar

- M 1 FSE Workshop**, "Supporting Multilingual Writers: Noticing Language across the Writing Process," **Michelle Cox**, English Language Support Office, Cornell University, Session 1: 10:00 -11:30 am, Anchutz 201; Session 2: 4:00-5:30 pm, Anchutz 201.
- Richard W. Gunn Memorial Lecture**, "Dark and Stormy: Telling Stories about the Weather" **Kellie Robertson**, English and Comparative Literature, University of Maryland, 7:00 pm, Watson 3 West, Watson Library.
- T 2 Advisory Committee Meeting**, 4:00 pm, 3001A Wescoe.
- R 4 KU in Wichita**, "Researching *The Chaperone*," **Laura Moriarty**, English, 7:00 pm, Wichita Museum of Art, Wichita, KS.
- M 8 Medieval & Early Modern Seminar**, "Herd, Flock, Swarm: A Shakespearean Lexicon on Creaturely Collectivity," **Joseph Campana**, English, Rice University, 3:00-4:30 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.
- Place, Race, & Space Seminar**, "Recovering Untold Stories," Cheryl Brown Henderson, Brown Foundation; Deborah Dandridge, KU Libraries; **John Edgar Tidwell**, English; **Darren Canady**, English, 3:00-4:30 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.
- T 9 Voting Department Meeting**, 4:00 pm, 4051 Wescoe.
- R11 Humanities Lecture Series**, "An Evening with Jesmyn Ward," fiction writer **Jesmyn Ward**, English, Tulane University, 7:30 pm, Liberty Hall.
- F12 Cavalier Conference on Writing and Literature**, including presentations by **Wen Xin** and **Kali Jo Wacker**, KU English, as well as a keynote address by **Kathleen Blake Yancey**, English, Florida State University, 8:30 am-3:00 pm, JCCC, Overland Park, KS. Paid registration required by 5 April.
- Humanities Lecture Series Public Conversation Session** with **Jesmyn Ward**, 10:00 am, Hall Center Conference Hall.

Big Monday



Michelle Cox



Kellie Robertson

For once, the foregoing headline refers to a significant day in KU English studies, not an evening featuring KU basketball on ESPN. On Monday, 1 April, First and Second Year English welcomes Cornell University's **Michelle Cox**, who will lead identical morning and afternoon sessions of FSE's Spring Professional Development Workshop, "Supporting Multilingual Writers: Noticing Language across the Writing Process" (see "Calendar" for times). Cox directs the Cornell Knight Institute's English Language Support Office. She is currently leading a communication support program for international graduate and professional students. That evening, medievalist **Kellie Robertson** will deliver the **2019 Richard W. Gunn Lecture**, "Dark and Stormy: Telling Stories about the Weather" (see "Calendar" for place and time). Robertson is Professor of English at the University of Maryland. Her most recent book, *Nature Speaks: Medieval Literature and Aristotelian Philosophy* (Penn, 2017) examines late medieval poetry in the context of its physics. Her current book project, from which this lecture is drawn, is entitled *Yesterday's Weather: Narrative*

and Premodern Climate Change. Robertson asserts that "looking back at how premoderns wrote about the weather helps us to understand better the stories that we tell ourselves about climate change today." **Jonathan Lamb** notes that this lecture "forges links between three major areas of English studies: rhetoric, creative writing, and my own literary studies. With an ecocritical kick!"

Publications

Kaminski, Megan

"The Lost Girls: Trauma and Embodied Memory" (photos and essay). *Opon*, 6 (2019). <https://opon.org/issue6/megan-kaminski/>

Wedge, Philip

Rev. of *Pinstripe Nation: The New York Yankees in American Culture*, Will Bishop. *Arete* (moderated e-mail discussion list) Sport Literature Association, 25 March.

Presentations

Baltazar, Jason

"Homebound" and "Fashion Week: Central Occupied Territory" (stories read), International Conference for the Fantastic in the Arts, Orlando, FL, 14 March.

Jaskowski, Mark

"Weird Finance, Bio-resistance: the Southern Reach Trilogy and Neoliberalism," International Conference for the Fantastic in the Arts, Orlando, FL, 13 March.

Lamb, Jonathan

"Can language tell us how premodern books felt?" Renaissance Society of America Conference, Toronto, Ontario, 18 March.

Kaminski, Megan

"Plant Poetics: Healing Modalities" (talk and reading). Ecosphere Studies Arts Symposium, The Land Institute. March 23-24. Lawrence, KS.

Announcements, Notes & News

- Please send **Giselle Anatol** any nominations for this year's **Argersinger Dissertation Award** by Tuesday, 2 April.
- **Kenton Ramsby** (PhD '15) is co-editor of a new volume of essays entitled *Lost in the City: An Exploration of Edward P. Jones's Short Fiction*. Ramsby is an assistant professor of African American literature and digital humanities at University of Texas at Arlington.
- **Danny Caine** (MFA '17) has published a new poetry collection, *Continental Breakfast*. A book release party took place at the Eighth Street Taproom in Lawrence on March 19.
- **Philip Drake** reports that senior English major **Kayleigh Anderson** has won a Fulbright scholarship to pursue an M.A. in Finland. Along with Phil, **Mary Klayder** and **Misty Schieberle**, among others, advised Anderson during the application process.

KU and Regional Events

- **Digital Humanities Seminar**, "Building DH Scholarship in Northern Mexico: The Case of the Tecnológico de Monterrey's Master in Digital Humanities," Paloma Vargas Montes, School of Humanities and Education, Tecnológico de Monterrey, 2 April, 3:00-4:30 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.
- **Colonialism Seminar**, "Cosmogony and Culture of the Aztecs of XVI Century," Paloma Vargas Montes, School of Humanities and Education, Tecnológico de Monterrey, 3 April, 3:00-4:30 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.
- **Emerging Scholars Mentor Info Session**, 4 April, 2:00-3:00 pm, English Room, Kansas Union. Sponsored by Center for Undergraduate Research. Faculty member job description submission deadline: 15 April.
- **Nature & Culture Seminar**, "Ticks of the Trade," Jim Sherow, History, Kansas State University, 5 April, 3:00-4:30 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.
- **Panel & Public Talk**, "Finding Women's Histories," 5 April, 6:00-7:30 pm, Watkins Museum of History, Corner of Mass & 11th, Lawrence.
- **IDRH Event**, "Indigeneity and the Digital," Tiffany Midge, Simons Public Humanities Fellow and Paloma Vargas Montes, School of Humanities and Education, Tecnológico de Monterrey, 8 April, 3:00-4:30 pm, Tommaney Hall, Haskell Indian Nations University.
- **Resident Humanities Fellows**: Mechele Lyon, Theatre, will present on a book-length history of French theatre artists working in the U.S. in the twentieth century. 10 April, 12:00 pm, Hall Center Conference Hall.
- **The Urban Experience Seminar**, "E-governance, or how cities use the internet to deliver info and services," Barney Warf, Geography, 10 April, 3:00-4:30 pm.
- **Humanities Funding at the Federal Level**, with John Peede, NEH Chairman, 11 April, 9:30-11:00 am, Lawrence Public Library.