University of Kansas
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
AWARDS CEREMONY

Saturday, May 14, 2011
6:30 – 8:30 pm
Kansas Union Ballroom

UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS

FIRST- and SECOND-YEAR ENGLISH AWARDS

ENGL 101-102 Winners
Janelle Savage, “An Ad’s Appeal to Empowering Emotions”
Ruaa Hassaballa, “Does the Darker Berry Make Sweeter Juice”
Jessica Aranda, “Stripping Down to Society’s Truth”

ENGL 200-level Winners
Joseph Siess, “N. Scott Momaday, Identity, and the Tribal Mind”
Jennifer DiDonato, “A Poem Analysis”

HELEN RHODA HOOPES AWARD  for best essay by an undergraduate woman

Elise Broaddus
“‘Fremedly he rydez’: Gawain’s Journey to the Green Chapel and God”

Bethany Christiansen
“An Exercise in Translation Theory: A Comparative Study of Selected Beowulf Translations”

Charlotte Davis
“The Tipping Point: How the Hag Shifts the Balance of Power in Terms of Both Gender and Class When She Meets the Knight in ‘The Wife of Bath’s Tale’”

Deanna Hogan
“Orphans, Each and All: Society and Isolation in Toni Morrison’s A Mercy”

Hollie Journey
“Hideous Progeny in Long Day’s Journey into Night”

Gretchen Meyer
“Social Status and Omniscient Narration in Middlemarch”

Hannah JoBeth Roark
“Rediscovering Plath: Image-Schema Metaphors, Embodiment, and ‘Fever 103°”
Barb Simpson  
“Horror with a Twist”

HENRY MATTHEW WIEDNER AWARD  for best essay by an undergraduate man

Andrew Jamison  
“(Un)reality”

Alex Nichols  
“‘Have I understood you?: The Emergence of a New Liberal in Coetzee’s Life & Times of Michael K’”

Jose Ignacio Carvajal Regidor  
“We want more: a Marxist analysis of Fitzgerald’s presentation and critique of capitalist ideology in The Great Gatsby”

Abraham Schneider  
“All Roads Lead to Yoknapatawpha: the Haunted Dialectic of the Jim Crow South and the Triumph of William Faulkner”

Lou Schumaker  
“‘[W]e’ll Met By Moonlight’: The Gynocentric Worlds of Batman Returns and A Midsummer Night’s Dream”

ILUS W. DAVIS AWARD  for best essay by an undergraduate man

Sam Wilen Anderson –  
“Undertaking The Great Learning: Processes and Outcomes for The Cantos”

KENNETH ROCKWELL AWARD  for excellence in the study of literature  
2 winners selected out of 40 entries

Bethany Christiansen  
for her comparative study of Beowulf translations

Charlotte Davis  
for her essay on Chaucer’s “The Wife of Bath’s Tale”
EDWIN M. HOPKINS SCHOLARSHIP for returning students, for excellence in the study of literature [2 awards]

Anna ALEXANDROVITCH
Double majoring in English and History, she’s a multicultural, bilingual student with Russian and American citizenship. She won an Edgar Wolfe award last year, and has worked on her Undergraduate Research award at Canterbury. Her paper, from the Modernism course, considers “The Possibility of Truth through Complexity of Communication” in “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock.”

Becky MANDELBAUM
A graduate of the Independent School in Wichita, Becky has participated in the British Summer Institute and the Costa Rica program, supported by Klayder scholarships. A member of the Comma Splice staff, her paper was on “the Physicality of Choice in Jane Eyre.”

JAMES B. KENNEDY SCHOLARSHIP for returning students, for excellence in the study of literature [5 awards]

Brendan ALLEN
A graduate of Phillipsburg High School and a transfer from Colby Community College, Allen has compiled a very strong record in her Creative Writing Major. She’s a Summerfield Scholar, a University Scholar, and a participant in the British Summer Institute in 2010. His paper treated “Dedalus’ Path of Solitude in Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man.”

Elise BROADDUS
Broaddus is a double major with an outstanding academic record in both English and Classical Languages. She has combined the two disciplines in examining “the reception of Classical works into English literature, particularly Medieval English literature.” One instance of this work appears in her paper, “‘Fremdly he rydez’: Gawain’s Journey to the Green Chapel and God”

Anna CREADEN
A dual degree candidate with a Creative Writing Major and an English Education Program, Creaden has a virtually perfect academic record. A Watkins-Berger Scholar, she is a volunteer for America Reads and for the Humane Society. Her paper was on self-destruction in Shakespeare’s Hamlet and Timon of Athens.”

Amanda HEMMINGSEN
Hemmingsen is an English major with a concentration in Language, Rhetoric, and Composition, and a very fine academic record. A transfer from Johnson County Community College and
Truman State University, she submitted a paper called “Attraction to Even and Sin in *Paradise Lost*.”

**Hannah VICK**

Vick is pursuing a dual degree program with a major in English and a Social Welfare program as well, and has succeeded at the highest level in both. As Weekend Break Director, she has planned 13 volunteer projects for 115 students. She’s a Watkins-Berger Scholar, a Consultant at the Writing Center, and has won an award for her service at the Roger Hill Volunteer Center. Her paper was “Constructing Identities in New South Africa.”

**ZAREL & RUTH SPEARS SCHOLARSHIP** for returning students, for excellence in the study of literature [6 awards]

**Kellen BOLT**

Bolt won a Kennedy Scholarship in 2010 and was a University Scholar that year. He’s Co-Director for Community Outreach. He has a double major in English and American Studies, with a nearly perfect grade-point average.

**Sameera MANGENA**

A graduate of Blue Valley Northwest High School, Mangena participated in the Honors research Development Program in the Summer of 2009 and won a CORO Fellowship for the Sumer of 2010. A member of the Student Health Advisory Board, she’s done a great deal of volunteering in hospitals, and has been in the Jaydoc program.

**Kelsey MURRELL**

In addition to her English major, Murrell is completing a major in Spanish and a degree in the News and Information sequence in the School of Journalism. She has a perfect record in English, and finds her primary interest in “subaltern, multi-ethnic, transnational, and immigration literatures.” Her paper, written for Misty Schieberle, describes the fight for liberation and autonomy in “The Duchess.”

**Bernadette MYERS**

Myers is majoring in English and European Studies and has a perfect academic record at KU. She participated in the Summer Institute in Great Britain and the Costa Rica program in 210, and was a University Scholar. She earned an Undergraduate Research Award for her project, “Interpretations of Ineffability in Shakespeare’s Plays.” A member of the New Student Orientation Staff, she’ll be studying at the University of Bologna next year.
Lauren SCHIMMING
Hailing from Wichita, Schimming is pursuing both the literature and Creative Writing English majors and a degree in Graphic Design. She has been an R. A. and a member of the Honors Program Student Council. A Watkins-Berger Scholar and a winner of a Helen Rhoda Hoopes award last year, her paper was called, “Scattered Households in The Winter’s Tale.”

Ryan THORNTON
Thornton began as a remedial student in elementary school working in a trailer with a tutor, but he’s compiled an outstanding record at KU, including a perfect record in English. A transfer student form Johnson County Community College, he’s been a Dean’s scholar, a Nelson Scholarship winner, and he’s the host of WORD, the weekly poetry program on KJHK radio.

PEEDEE BROWN SCHOLARSHIP for outstanding work by a non-traditional student

Don ALLMON
This year’s prize winner has returned to college study after 16 years away from the classroom. He received his bachelor’s degree in Psychology from MU, and at the time of his application, was applying to master’s programs in English. His recommender for the Peedee Brown Award noted that he stood out among the well-prepared and sharp students of his English 308 class; she especially praised his “energetic curiosity” and unprompted pursuit of knowledge. She plans to use his final paper—a Lacanian reading of The Great Gatsby—as a sample for future sections of the theory class.

OUTSTANDING GRADUATING SENIOR AWARDS
Josh Anderson
Katie Blankenau
Bethany Christiansen
Loren Cressler
Elliott Krause
Alex Nichols
Alexis Smith
Michael Wade Smith
Ariel Tazkargy
Emylisa Warrick
GRADUATE STUDENT AWARDS:

OUTSTANDING INSTRUCTOR AWARD

All of our graduate students do a tremendous service to the department by bringing their energy, innovative ideas, and intellectual rigor to the classes they teach in the First- and Second-Year English Program. The following three students were judged to be exceptional teachers:

Amy ASH, a Pushcart Prize nominee who teaches Introduction to Poetry
Sandra COX, who teaches in both English and Women’s Studies
Eric HOOD, who also teaches Introduction to Poetry as well as English 315, the British Literature Survey.

SELDEN LINCOLN WHITCOMB FELLOWSHIP for research & promise in teaching

Dustin CROWLEY

Crowley takes a rich interdisciplinary approach to literary criticism and teaching, one deeply rooted in his study of the colonial legacies of environmental degradation. While working on his Ph.D. in Literature and Literary Theory, he has strengthened his working knowledge of ecocriticism, African literature, and rhetorical theory by teaching English 203: Environmental Approaches to Literature and reaching beyond the English Department to take relevant courses in environmental history and geography and Kiswahili.

WILLIAM ALBRECHT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

for a significant research project

Meghan Kuckelman, a scholar of 20th-C U.S. autobiographical poetry for travel to Yale’s Beinecke Library in New Haven, CT to access and study Gertrude Stein’s manuscript of Stanzas in Meditation

ZAREL & RUTH SPEARS SCHOLARSHIP for a significant research project

Honorable Mention:

Ali Brox – for work on environmental justice literature
Dustin Crowley – for work on ecocriticism in African literature
Adam Long – for work on William Faulkner and post-bellum Southern writers
2nd Place (tie):

Martha Baldwin, for research travel to the Massachusetts Historical Society in Boston to examine the diaries of several members of the Lowell family—prominent in the 19th century—and the unpublished papers of one of their servants, Lorenza Stevens Berbineau

Jana Tigchelaar, for her project on oratory and public writing in 19th-C U.S. literature, specifically work on Frederick Douglass’s writings on abolition

1st Place (tie)

Amy Ash, creative writer, for revisions to her poetry collection, Another Hunger

Ann Martinez, for research on medieval and Early Modern environmental laws and regulations regarding the non-human natural world

JAMES A. GOWEN MEMORIAL AWARD for excellence in the study of rhetoric, composition, and/or the study of the English language

Cedric BURROWS

The recipient of this year’s James A. Gowen Award has presented at a number of national meetings and scholarly conferences, including the Conference on College Composition and Communication (or “4Cs”), the Rhetoric Society of America Conference, and the College Language Association. He is a past recipient of a Scholars for the Dream Award given by 4Cs to foster “scholarship by historically underrepresented groups.” In his present capacity as FSE Administrative Intern, he has promoted culturally informed approaches to the teaching of writing. This interest is likewise reflected in his (soon to be complete) dissertation, “The Construction of Martin Luther King and Malcolm X in Composition Textbooks: Rereading Readers.”

DR. ANNE MARIE TURNER AWARD for outstanding research American literature

Jana TIGCHELAAR

Tigchelaar's submission is entitled “Empathy or Expectation of Return: Relationships, Gifts, and Economy in Edith Wharton's Summer.” Readers praised Jana’s “critical intelligence” in “uncover[ing] a new layer of complexity in Wharton’s novel,” and called the essay “original, groundbreaking, and [compellingly] written.”
EDWIN M. HOPKINS SCHOLARSHIP for a returning student, for excellence in the study of literature

Ann MARTINEZ

Martinez is a doctoral student specializing in medieval and early modern English literature. Her dissertation explores the environmental consciousness and concern expressed in works such as *Beowulf*, *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, and Spenser’s *Faerie Queene*. The essay for which she wins the Hopkins Award extends her dissertation work to the writings of J.R.R. Tolkien, arguing that his fiction reveals a strong engagement with and concern for the environment.

KENNETH ROCKWELL AWARD for excellence in the study of literature

Meghan KUCKELMAN

Kuckelman is a graduate of the University of Dallas, from which she holds a BA in English Literature and an MA in Humanities. She has special interests in Modernism, Postmodernism, and avant-garde poetry. Her winning project is a paper entitled “Genre as an Epistemological Space: A Study of Gertrude Stein’s Geographies.”

JAMES B. KENNEDY SCHOLARSHIP for a returning student, for excellence in the study of literature

Eric HOOD

Hood is a doctoral candidate in English, holding a BA in Psychology and an MA in English, both from Eastern Michigan University. He taught high school in Michigan from 1998 to 2006, serving from 2003-2006 as Department Chair. His winning essay, “The Functions of ‘Fourier’: Depictions of Socialism in *Aurora Leigh*,” explores the political implications of Elizabeth Barrett Browning’s verse novel by means of study of the author’s personal psychology and the anti-socialist discourse of the day.

WRITING COMPETITIONS
(Both undergraduate and graduate students)

WILLIAM H. CARRUTH MEMORIAL POETRY CONTEST

There were three winners selected for the Carruth Prize for Poetry. The Carruth Prize is open to undergraduate writers, with all entrants submitting their entries under self-selected pseudonyms. The winners are, in alphabetical order:
“Angela Blue” (Katie Longofono) – Katie Longofono is a junior majoring in Creative Writing. She is founder and editor of the Blue Island Literary Group and Blue Island Review, a poetry project that consists of a workshop group and anthology focused on the the poets of Northeast Kansas.

“Katerina Ivanovna” (Alexis Smith) – Alexis Smith is a senior majoring in Creative Writing. She has recently completed a poetry honors thesis entitled, *we accidentally lived easily*. Her poetry has been published in *Kiosk* and *Comma Splice*. Smith is poetry editor of *Kiosk: the Literary Magazine*

“Ada Logomachy” (Lauren Schimming) – Lauren Schimming is a junior with a double major in graphic design and creative writing. She has won numerous awards for her achievements in English and graphic design, including the Sarah Paretsky Creativity Award for her writing. Her poetry has appeared in *Comma Splice*.

ANA DAMJANOV POETRY PRIZE, presented in association with the Academy of American Poets, is open to both graduate and undergraduate students.

Honorable Mention:
- Alexis Smith

1st Place:
- Becky Mandelbaum. Becky is a sophomore majoring in creative writing. She is on the staff for *Comma Splice*.

VIC CONTOSKI CREATIVE WRITING AWARD – POETRY for the best portfolio of work by a graduate student

There are four winners for this year's prize, listed in alphabetical order.

Crystal Boson – Crystal is a PhD student in American Studies. Her poetry has been published in Pank, Callaloo, and Kitchens Press.

Amanda Frost – Amanda is a PhD student in Creative Writing. Her work has been published in the Coal City Review and the New Delta Review.

Iris Moulton – Iris is an MFA student in creative writing. Her work has been published in Fugue, elimae, the Pebble Lake Review, and the Cider Press Review.
Andrew West – Andrew is a PhD student on English Literature. His scholarly work has appeared in the William Carlos Williams Review, the South Central Review, and the Forum for Modern Language Studies.

VIC CONTOSKI CREATIVE WRITING AWARD – FICTION for the best portfolio of work by a graduate student

Honorable Mention:
Jennifer Colatosti is a doctoral candidate in fiction writing.
Mary Stone Dockery, MFA student in creative writing
Lance Turner, MFA student in creative writing

2nd Place:
Iris Moulton, MFA student in creative writing.

1st Place:
Mark Petterson, MFA student in creative writing.

EDGAR WOLFE AWARD IN FICTION for best short story by an undergraduate

3rd Place (tie):
Amanda Bigler, “Tightrope,” which was praised for its depth of character development
Lauren Schimming, “Soiled,” a collection of interestingly “strange and good” vignettes

2nd Place (tie):
Mick Cottin, “Summer Strand.” The judge commented: “Girls often write about sisters well, but I don't read that many [solid], mean, and funny stories about boys.”

Evan Mielke, “Amungus,” which was commended for the way it rendered “the pain and desperation of the main character […] palpable, and moving.”

1st Place:
Blaise Marcoux, “Left in Transition”
“This is an awesome story. It's sweet, strange, [… taking place in an] ambiguous world but [with] very, very specific characters and […] excellent dialogue. Even the political references come across as humorous rather than annoying. […] I don't always go for more meta stories like this, but I think it's really advanced writing.”
NANCY STOCKWELL SCHOLARSHIP for a returning student, for excellence in creative prose or drama by a woman of color

Honorable Mention (listed in alphabetical order):

Crystal Boson, for the piece entitled “The bible for serpents”
Cheraé Clarke, for the short story “Debutant”
Stefanie Torres, for her creative nonfiction excerpt, South King Road

1st Place:
DaMaris Hill, for the excerpt from her novel in progress, The Devil and the Doctor

THOMAS J. O’DONNELL AWARD IN CREATIVE NONFICTION for best essay
(listed in alphabetical order)

Mary Stone Dockery, “No Results Were Found”
Louise Krug, “One Way is the Only Way”
Jeremy Miller, “Ouidah”
Joe Miller, “Born Again and Again”

MAXWELL NATURE WRITING CONTEST for best essay

3rd Place:
“Where to Dance,” by Becky Mandelbaum

2nd Place:
“The Snake is not a Metaphor,” by Crystal Boson

1st Place:
“Dead but Breathing, the Dumpster is Out of Time: an Object Inquiry,”
by Nate Barbarick

AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING TECHNICAL WRITING [2 awards]

“Graduate School in Philosophy: The Application Process”
- Trevor Hedberg

“Center for the Study of Science Fiction Website” proposal and website revisions
- Brent Burton

JAMES E. GUNN AWARD FOR SCIENCE FICTION WRITING for best story

“Proxies, Maps and Animals,” by graduate student Benjamin Cartwright