PUBLICATIONS


PRESENTATIONS


• “Student Engagement and Active Learning,” Vietnam National University - University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. 28 Nov. 2007

• Vietnamese American Literature,” Vietnam National University - International University, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. 29 Nov. 2007.


AWARDS

• Elizabeth Dodd is winner of the Kansas Arts Commission Master Fellowship in the Literary Arts/Poetry category. She will receive $5,000. A reception for the winners will be held in Topeka on Monday, March 10.

She is also winner of the McGinnis Ritchie Award for her essay, “Cañonicity,” which appeared in the *Southwest Review* 92.3 (2007): 383-406. The McGinnis-Ritchie Award is given annually to the best works of fiction and nonfiction published in the journal.

• Susan Rodgers is winner of the Kansas Arts Commission Master Fellowship in the Literary Arts/Fiction category. She will receive $5,000. A reception for the winners will be held in Topeka on Monday, March 10.

• Han Yu received a University Small Research Grant to fund her project *Understanding Technical Communication in China: Demands, Current Practices, and Future Development*. She will undertake research in China this summer.

NEWS FROM ALUMNI

• Dennis Etzel, Jr. (MA 2006) and Kevin Rabas (MA 1998) have organized the Top City Poetry Reading Series at Lola’s Cafe, 10th and Gage. The first event of 2008 is a joint reading
by the founders, Dennis and Kevin. The reading starts at 7:03 pm, February 9. For more information, visit their blog at http://topcitypoetry.blogspot.com/.

• Julie Hensley (MA 1998) and Bob Johnson (MA 1997) are the proud parents of Boyd Pádraig Hensley-Johnson (born August 5, 2007, 6:29 pm). Photos are on the “Boyd” section of Bob’s website: <http://www.copywriterbob.com/boyd>.

• On Christmas Eve, Colleen Mather (MA 2007) gave birth to Colton David Mather. Mother, father (David Mather), and son are all “healthy and very happy.”

• John Merritt (MA 1995, MS 2003) recently opened a private practice in Marriage and Family Therapy in downtown Manhattan, KS. The practice is devoted to serving local residents in need of help with personal, marital or family problems. Merritt takes a narrative approach with many clients and uses his creative writing skills every time a court report is called for. He can be reached at <jsmbx@hotmail.com>.


• Mary Jo (Marcellus) Wyse (MA 2000) graduated with an MFA in Fiction Writing from Vermont College in January 2006. For 2007, she and her husband lived and worked in Fairbanks, Alaska, where she taught English at North Pole High School. Their son, Aidan John, was born at Fairbanks Memorial Hospital on July 3, 2007. He weighed 8 lbs. 4 oz. and was 21 inches long. They are now living in Medford, Massachusetts.

• Crystal L. Stamps-Etheredge (MA 1989) was the Director of Libraries at Belhaven College in Jackson, MS until July 2007, when she accepted the position Eastern Sales Representative for Blackwell Book Services.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Thursday, January 31, 7:00 p.m. Manhattan Public Library. Naomi Wood and Han Yu will speak on Jane Austen and cultural contexts.

Wednesday, February 20, 4:00 p.m. Union 213. English Dept. Colloquium: Dave Smit, “‘Here’s Looking at You, Kid’: Acting, Stardom, and Ingrid Bergman.”

Friday, February 29, 4:00 p.m. Union 212. Bryan Penberthy, poet, selected as an Associated Writing Programs Intro Journals Project award winner for the poem, “Utah Before Stars.”

Thursday, March 6 – Saturday March 8. 17th Annual Cultural Studies Conference: Extremism and the Excluded Middle.

Wednesday, March 12, 4:00 p.m. Union 212. English Dept. Colloquium: Donna Potts, “The Wearin’ o’ the Deep Green: Contemporary Irish Poetry and the Environmental Movement.”


Friday, April 4, 3:30 p.m. Union Little Theater. Allison Wallace, creative non-fiction, author of A Keeper of Bees: Notes on Hive and Home.

Friday, April 25, 4:00 p.m. Union Little Theater. Anthony Doerr, fiction writer, author of The Shell Collector, About Grace, and Four Seasons in Rome.

Friday, May 9, 3:30 p.m. Union 212. Master’s of the Universe, graduate students read excerpts from their final M.A. projects.

Reading Matters is a monthly publication of the Department of English, ECS Building, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS 66506-6501. Editors: Philip Nel, Lisa Killer, and Kelsi Hinz. The deadline for the next issue of Reading Matters is February 23, 2008 at 5 p.m. Central time. Please send your news to Philip Nel, care of the above address or via email at <philnel@ksu.edu>. Thank you.