Claridge Lecture Series

Roxane Gay

On February 20th, fiction writer and essayist Roxane Gay read from a recent work.

Gay is the award-winning author of AYITI, a collection of short fiction exploring tales of the Haitian diaspora.

Her collection of essays Bad Feminist is forthcoming this year from Harper-Collins, as is her first novel, An Untamed State, from Grove Atlantic.

Gay is also a prominent cultural critic: her commentary can be found on Salon, Slate, The Nation, and The Rumpus, among other publications.

Adichie Reading

In early March, Professors Betsy Hall and Lisa Udel took a group of students to hear Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie speak as part of the St. Louis Public Library writers series.

Adichie, whose novels include Purple Hibiscus (2003) and Half of a Yellow Sun (2006), recently won the National Book Critics Circle Award for her last novel Americanah (2013).

Adichie has also given several TED talks on feminism, the writer’s voice, and identity, and she has most recently voiced her criticism of Nigeria’s anti-gay legislation.

Congratulations Professor Milks

Professor Milks’ short story collection Kill Marguerite and Other Stories has been released by Emergency Press. The collection includes thirteen risk-taking stories that cross formal and corporeal boundaries to explore gender, power, violence, and the politics of relationships.

Her co-edited scholarly volume, Asexualities: Feminist and Queer Perspectives, has been published by Routledge Press and collects eighteen essays that, together, challenge the ways in which we imagine gender and sexuality in relation to desire and sexual practice.

“Lock up your libraries if you like; but there is no gate, no lock, no bolt that you can set upon the freedom of my mind.”

~Virginia Woolf, A Room of One’s Own
The third annual Celebration of Excellence will be held Friday, April 25th, starting at 10 a.m. This event was created as an opportunity to share and appreciate academic work and research with the IC Community. There will be presentations and poster shows located in various locations around campus. Don’t forget to come out and support your friends and fellow students! Convo credit is available!

If you missed submissions this year, keep a look out for next year and submit your work to be recognized.

If you have any questions, contact Andrew Jones at andrew.jones@ic.edu or x3574, or visit http://www.ic.edu/Celebration_of_Excellence for more information.

Dr. Michael Hurley
On March 26th, Dr. Michael Hurley of Cambridge University spoke on the process of re-reading poetry and how it changes your opinions about the work. He focused primarily on a poem by Gerard Manley Hopkins entitled “Spring and Fall: to a Young Child.” While here, he also visited some English classes as a guest lecturer and joined English majors, Sigma Tau Delta members, and faculty for good conversation at a semi-formal dinner.

Dr. Hurley teaches English Literature at Cambridge, and is a Fellow of St. Catharine’s College. He is interested in the relationship between “form” and “meaning” in literature. His recent publications include a study of G.K. Chesterton’s thought and style, a new edition of The Complete Father Brown Stories, and a co-authored work on Poetic Form.

Women’s History Month Reading
This semester, Sigma Tau Delta co-sponsored a reading for women’s history month (March) with IC Feminists. Readers were Keely McCormick, Katia Swane-Barzowski, Hillary Harrison, Taylor Brien, Brittany Spaulding, Amibeth Thompson, Ciara Sweatman, and Katie Stark.

Spring inductions were held on Sunday, March 23rd. New inductees are: Sara Klebe Crystal Beckman Patrick Winters Kenzie Jones

Sigma Tau Delta held its annual book sale from April 7th through the 11th. This event occurs annually, so watch for next year’s announcements!

Also, if you have any unwanted books, donations are welcome.

For more information about Sigma Tau Delta or any of its activities, contact Lisa Udel, Ciara Sweatman, or Amy Ross.

‘Like’ us on Facebook!
Check out the Illinois College English Department Facebook page for updates about Department events, student activities, and professor activities.
**Fall 2014 Course Offerings**

Be sure to keep up with the new classes being offered next spring!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>141 Gods &amp; Heroes</td>
<td>MWF</td>
<td>12:20-2:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>207 Creative Writing I</td>
<td>TR</td>
<td>12:00-1:40</td>
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<tr>
<td>225 Concepts of Comedy</td>
<td>MWF</td>
<td>12:20-2:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>238 Classical Literature</td>
<td>MTRF</td>
<td>9:00-9:50</td>
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<tr>
<td>309 Creative Non-fiction</td>
<td>MWF</td>
<td>12:20-2:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>311 Chaucer</td>
<td>MWF</td>
<td>12:20-2:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>321 Shakespeare I</td>
<td>MWF</td>
<td>2:40-3:50</td>
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<tr>
<td>351 Romantic Movement</td>
<td>MTRF</td>
<td>10:00-10:50</td>
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<tr>
<td>373 African-American Literature</td>
<td>TR</td>
<td>2:10-3:50</td>
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*Classes subject to change.*

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**Faculty News**

Betsy Hall ’s article “Food for Thought: Crossing Disciplinary and Campus Borders with Integrated Pedagogy” was recently published in CEA Forum’s Winter/Spring 2013 edition.

You can find her article by going to http://journals.tdl.org/ceaforum

Last fall, Lisa Udel represented the GWS Program and attended the annual conference of the National Women’s Studies Association. The theme was "Negotiating Points of Encounter." Her interests included transnational and transcultural exchange. The keynote speaker for the conference was poet and African American Studies scholar Elizabeth Alexander.

Cynthia Cochran has been appointed to be the Education Department Chair for the next two years. She will be attending the Annual Statewide Licensure Meeting with ISBE representatives on March 19.

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**Alumni Updates**

Kevan Rich ’09 is finishing up his 3rd year of teaching English in Korea. He plans to seek a place abroad in a graduate program in middle-eastern history.

Jacob Pinkston ’08 recently was hired as the Director of the Writing Center at Beacon College. He completed a master’s degree in English at the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

Kathleen Fox ‘12 has been accepted into a master’s degree program in education at Loyola-Chicago.

Megan Beresford ’10 has left the continental United States for an extended stay in New Zealand. She found a job in retail sales after arriving in the country.

Kimberly Peek ’08 returned from her Peace Corps tour in Ecuador and started a new job as a Learning and Development Associate at InnerWorks in Chicago.

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Campus Writing Center

**Hours**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>3:00-5:00 p.m.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6:30-10:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday—Thursday</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1:15-5:00 p.m.*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Closed 2:30-2:45 p.m. everyday & 4:30-6:30 p.m. Appt. Only

**Any day by appointment**

Kirby 104
245-3385
writingcenter@ic.edu

"Like" the Campus Writing Center on Facebook at Campus Writing Center and follow it on Twitter at ICWriting
**STUDENT ACTIVITIES**

**Congratulations Graduates!**
Be sure to congratulate the graduating seniors. Graduating English majors are:

Emma Arthur  
Ira Dawson  
Allie Little  
Kelly McCormick  
Amy Ross  
Caleb Sawyer  
Helene Sieminski  
Katherine Stark

Ciara Sweatman  
Katherine VonDeBur

Two English majors have recently had creative work accepted for publication in national literary magazines. **Ira Dawson**, a senior, published the flash story "Family Tree" in the journal *Word Riot* in 2013; and **Patrick Winters**, a sophomore, published his short story "Before the Ash" in *Sanitarium Magazine* this month. Dawson's piece focuses on a young man's relationship with his family and with death. Winters' piece, a horror story, imagines a man returning from a lunch break to find a mysterious urn on his desk with a haunting message beside it. **Congratulations, Ira and Patrick!**

**CALL FOR PAPERS!**
The Campus Writing Center is about to launch their new online journal, *ICWrites*, and is looking for academic and creative writing to publish.

The tentative deadline for papers will be the 15th of every month, but for now, please send any questions or submissions to ic-writes@mail.ic.edu.

**ICUCOW**
The Illinois College Undergraduate Conference of Writers will be held on April 14th at 6:30 pm in Lincoln 120.

Come and support those reading.

For more information about the writing center, please contact Cynthia Cochran at cc cochran@mail.ic.edu.

**On a Need-to-Know Basis**

Just in case some of you first-year students and undeclared upperclassmen were wondering, here’s what the Illinois College English Department has to offer you:

A) Major, with a literature concentration  
B) Minor, with a literature concentration  
C) Major with writing concentration in Expository writing  
D) Major with writing concentration in Creative writing  
E) Minor with writing concentration

For more information about the English Department, its course offerings or events, please contact Professor Nick Capo, Department Chair, at (217) 245-3346 or via e-mail at ncapo@mail.ic.edu.