

The 49th Annual Meeting of the Society for the Study of Midwestern Literature
May 16–18, 2019

The Cultural Heritage of the Midwest A Symposium

Kellogg Conference Center, 219 S Harrison Rd, East Lansing, MI 48824

Thursday, May 16, 2019

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| Registration, plus coffee & tea | 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM | South Lobby |
| Book & Poster Display Belt Publishing, Cornerstone Press, Hastings College Press, and more | 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM | 105B |

Session A

12:30 – 2:00 PM

Roundtable

What Does It Mean to Be Midwestern?

June Howard (University of Michigan)
Sandra Zagarell (Oberlin College)
Traci Lombre (University of Michigan)
Sarah Jane Kerwin (University of Michigan)

Poetry

Moderator: Jeffrey Hotz

Cheryl Caesar (Michigan State University), “Michigan Return”
Edward Morin (College for Creative Studies), Selected poems
Deonte Osayande (Wayne County Community College), *Civilian*

Criticism

Moderator: Mary Obuchowski

Joshua Jones (University of South Alabama), “‘A Containing Perimeter’: Connecting the Modern to the Postmodern in the War Writings of Tim O’Brien, William March, Michael Herr, and Eugene Sledge”
Ellen Misloski (University of Missouri), “The Jefferson City Poets”
Brad Aaron Modlin (University of Nebraska), “Land Acknowledgement, Beyond the Wagon Train: Exploring Literature by Indigenous Writers with Midwestern Creative Writing Students”

Session B**2:15 – 3:45 PM****Creative Prose**

Moderator: Ross K. Tangedal

Kim Suhr (Red Oak Writing)

Jenifer DeBellis (Detroit Writers' Guild)

Anne-Marie Oomen (Solstice MFA at Pine Manor College)

Patrica Ann McNair (Columbia College, Chicago)

Poster Session**105A**

Document Design in Place-Based Studies

Andy Oler (Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University), "Syllabus Design for Place-Based Gen Ed Courses"

Patricia Oman (Hastings College), "The Midwest Gothic in Visual Form"

Meg Gillette (Augustana College), "Story Maps in Local Literary History Course"

Douglas Sheldon (University of Illinois, Chicago), "Multimodal Syllabi to Aid with Midwestern Theme"

Fiction

Moderator: Stephanie Amada

Matthew L.M. Fletcher (Michigan State University College of Law), "The Sons of Leopold"

Paul Stebleton (Landmark Books),

Brian Gilmore (Michigan State University College of Law),

Poetry

Moderator: Joyce Meier

Mary Catherine Harper (Defiance College), "Shades of Belonging"

D.A. Lockhart, "Kicking These Highways Open"

James Persoon (Grand Valley State University), "Iowa Poems"

Session C**4:00 – 5:30 PM****Poetry**

Moderator: Edward Morin

Kimberly Ann Priest (Michigan State University), "White Goat Black Sheep/ Everything Left Open"

Brad Aaron Modlin (University of Nebraska), "When I Lived in the Town Synonymous with a Tornado"

Marie Lannen Wilmot (Central Michigan University), Selected poems

Criticism

Moderator: Tricia Oman

Thomas X. Sarmiento (Kansas State University), "Sensing a Queer Filipinx Midwest: Loneliness, Longing, and Loss in Bienvenido Santos's Exile Literature"

Lynn Domina (Northern Michigan University), "Playthings of Wind and Storm': Robert Hayden's Collage Poetics in 'Middle Passage' and 'Runagate, Runagate'"

Jim Gorman (Otterbein University), "Tits Up in a Ditch: Where Some Women Land After Volunteering for the Post-9/11 Military"

Wesley Bishop (Marian University), "The Forever Frontier: The Zombie in Midwest Literature and Art"

Creative

Moderator: Jan Maher

Dawn Burns (Ivy Tech Community College), "Mark," from *Picking Persimmons: Encounters with Midwestern Men*

Becky Miller, "Mark," from *Picking Persimmons: Encounters with Midwestern Men*

Leah McCormack (University of South Dakota), "Dear Ajahn, Dear Teacher, Dear Me"

Dinner Break

5:45 – 7:30 PM

If you would like to join others for dinner, come to the Registration table to meet up.

Editorial Committee Meeting

State Room

Marcia Noe, chair
Robert Beasecker
Nancy McKinney
Bob Dunne

Marilyn Atlas
Philip Greasley
Steven Trout
Jeff Swenson

Patricia Oman
Roger Bresnahan
Sara Kosiba
Scott Emmert

Mary DeJong Obuchowski
William Barillas
Andy Oler

SSML Keynote

7:30 PM

Red Cedar

Mollie Godfrey, winner of the first David D. Anderson Award, will deliver the 2019 keynote address

Convivium

8:30 PM

Red Cedar

Cash bar: Michigan craft beer, wine, and soft drinks, Cravings Popcorn Bar, plus plenty of hospitality

Friday May 17, 2019

Registration, plus coffee & tea

11:00 AM – 5:00 PM

South Lobby

Book & Poster Display

11:00 AM – 5:00 PM

105B

Belt Publishing, Cornerstone Press, Hastings College Press, and more

Session D**8:30 – 10:00 AM****Criticism: Bonnie Jo Campbell and Women's Labor**

Moderator: Andy Oler

Lisa DuRose (Inver Hills Community College), "Who Will Drown the Kittens?: Bonnie Jo Campbell's Farm Women and the Burdens of Necessity"

Michele Willman (Lake Region State College), "Making an Escape: *Once Upon a River* and *Peace Like a River*'s Cowgirl Heroines Come of Age"

Sarah Harshbarger (McNeese State University), "Bone Tired: Cycles of Guilt and Exhaustion in 'Mothers, Tell Your Daughters'"

Poetry**Heritage T**

Moderator: Mary Catherine Harper

Carla Barger (SUNY Binghamton), "Home Sick"

John Beall (Collegiate School), "A Keepsake in Alton"

Mary Minock (Madonna University), "Always in the Park"

Janet Ruth Heller (Michigan College English Association), "The Trump Dunciad"

Creative Nonfiction

Moderator: Dawn Burns

Jeff Snowbarger (University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point), "Abode of Perpetual Desolation"

Caitlin Vander Muelen (Grand Rapids Community College),

Joyce Meier (Michigan State University), "Convergences of Caregiving and Loss"

Criticism**103 T**

Moderator: James Gorman

Jeffrey Swenson (Hiram College), "Framing Disinterest: Pekar's *American Splendor* and Representations of Autism"

Rachael Price (Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College), "Beyond Beer, Bars, and Brats: Midwestern Foodways in J. Ryan Stradal's *Kitchens of the Great Midwest*"

Jennifer Holly Wells (Montclair State University), "The Rhetoric of Community in Louise Erdrich's Novels"

Session E**10:15 - 11:45 AM****Criticism: Teaching Bonnie Jo Campbell****103 T**

Moderator: Sara Kosiba

Sarah Shotland (Chatham University), "The Solutions to Brian's Problem: Teaching Bonnie Jo Campbell in Prison"

Douglas Sheldon (University of Illinois, Chicago), "Contextualizing the Midwest: Teaching Bonnie Jo Campbell with Paratext and Supplementary Text to Second Language Composition Students"

Becky Cooper (Western Michigan University), "An Invitation to Critically and Creatively Connect High School Readers with *Once Upon a River*"

Edward Watts (Michigan State University), "How Bonnie Jo Campbell Trains Her Readers"

Criticism**Heritage****T**

Moderator: Megan Cannella

Guy Szuberla (University of Toledo), “George Ade and ‘The Revolt from the Village’”

Marilyn Atlas (Ohio University), “What Gwendolyn Brooks’s *Maud Martha* and Free Will Have to Teach Us in the Age of Surveillance Capitalism”

Michael Steiner (California State University, Fullerton), “An Easterner in the Hinterland: Horace Kallen, the University of Wisconsin, and the Midwestern Sources of Cultural Pluralism, 1911–1917”

Law & LiteratureExplorations of Matthew Desmond’s *Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City*

Moderator: Marie Lannen Wilmot

Panelists and titles TBA

Roundtable**The Boundaries of the State: Publishing Charles McCarthy’s *The Wisconsin Idea***

Ross K. Tangedal (University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point), Editor, Director, & Publisher-in-Chief, Cornerstone Press

Jeff Snowbarger (University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point), Editor & Managing Director, Cornerstone Press

Marc Seals (University of Wisconsin, Platteville, Baraboo/Sauk County), Respondant

Awards Luncheon**NOON – 1:30 PM****Red Cedar**

2019 Mark Twain Award presented to . . . Bonnie Jo Campbell

2019 Mid-America Award presented to . . . Christian Knoeller

2018 Writing Prizes

Session F**1:45 – 3:15 PM****Poetry: Completing the Circle**

Moderator: Christian Knoeller

Christian Knoeller (Purdue University), “Circling Back”
 David Radavich (Eastern Illinois University), “The Lyrical Midwest”
 Mary Catherine Harper (Defiance College), “The Circle’s Increase”
 William Barillas (University of Wisconsin, La Crosse), “Since Watershed”

Criticism: The Fictions Chmookmon Tells

Moderator: Rachael Price

Monica Williamson (Michigan State University College of Law), “Sarah Vowell’s *Unfamiliar Faces*”
 Matthew Fletcher (Michigan State University College of Law), “*On Indian Hating*”
 Noeshia Roemer (Michigan State University College of Law), “Writing Race Out of Violence Against Women in Literature”
 Gordon Henry, Jr. (Michigan State University), “Chief Joseph’s Wife”

Creative Prose**Heritage T**

Moderator: Janet Heller

Mary Minock (Madonna University), “For the Love of a City Park”
 Edward McClelland (Belt Publishing), “Folktales and Legends of the Middle West”
 Kim Suhr (Red Oak Writing), “*Nothing to Lose: Stories*”

Roundtable: Winesberg, Ohio: The First 100 Years

Robert Dunne (Central Connecticut State University),
 Donald Daiker (Miami University)
 Cornelia Matthes (University Mainz)
 Rodney Rice (South Dakota School of Mines and Technology)
 Jennifer J. Smith (Franklin College)

Session G**3:30 – 5:00 PM****Criticism: Bonnie Jo Campbell and Midwestern Darkness**

Moderator: Ross K. Tangedal

Marc Seals (University of Wisconsin, Platteville), “‘You Thought that Love Could Mend All Broken Things’: Bonnie Jo Campbell’s Rust Belt Noir”
 Ellen Lansky (Inver Hills Community College), “Power Tool Mishaps: The Influence of Alcohol in Bonnie Jo Campbell’s ‘Playhouse’”
 Andrew Mozina (Kalamazoo College), “‘To Live Outside the Law You Must Be Honest’: Clan Culture and Liberalism in the Fiction of Bonnie Jo Campbell”
 Charles Cunningham (Eastern Michigan University), “Visions of Working-Class Solidarity in *American Salvage*”

In Winesburg's Shadow: Anderson's *The Triumph of the Egg*

103 T

Tricia Oman (Hastings College), Respondent

Aaron C. Babcock (Ohio University), "Words Like Stones, Like Building Stones': Crafting Contrasting Fictions of Race in *The Triumph of the Egg*"

Kristin M. Distel (Ohio University), "There Is a Road She Must Travel Alone': Gendered Ambition and Loneliness in *The Triumph of the Egg*"

Fiction

Moderator: Curtis VanDonkelaar

Jan Maher (SUNY at Plattsburgh), "Quicksand"

Michele Willman (Lake Region State College), "Delayed" and "Being Sylvia"

Jane Holwerda (Dodge City Community College), "Lana Leigh"

Criticism & Workshop

Ted Kooser: Fifty Years of Poetry that Matters

Moderator: Jeffrey Hotz

Philip Greasley, "Repopulating the Rural Midwest: Ted Kooser's Vision and Poetic Strategy"

Jeffrey Hotz, "Ted Kooser's Own Career Retrospective: A Study of *Kindest Regards: New and Selected Poems (2018)*"

Dinner break **5:00 – 7:15 PM**

Mentoring Café **5:15 PM** **105A**

An informal discussion: How to launch a successful academic career

Facilitators: Andy Oler, Michelle Campbell, and Jennifer Holly-Wells

Executive Advisory Council **5:30 PM**

Centennial

Jeff Hotz, president
Mary Minock, vice-president/president-elect
Mary Catherine Harper, past president
Roger Bresnahan, secretary-treasurer
Philip Greasley, recording secretary
Robert Beasecker, bibliographer
Marcia Noe, editorial committee chair
Marilyn Atlas, awards coordinator
Laura Julier, conference chair & web manager
Mary DeJong Obuchowski, corporate board
Sara Kosiba, corporate board
Scott Emmert, corporate board

Douglas Sheldon, 2016–2019
Patricia Oman, 2016–2019
Jane Holwerda, 2017–2020
Edward Morin, 2017–2020
Ross K. Tangedal, 2018–2021
Rachael Price, 2018–2021
Joyce Meier, 2019–2022
Donald Daiker, 2019–2022

Reading **7:30 PM** **Auditorium**

Interview & Reading: Bonnie Jo Campbell, 2019 Mark Twain Award winner

Interviewer and hosts: Lisa DuRose, Andy Oler, Ross Tangedal

Saturday, May 18, 2019

| | | |
|---|--------------------|-------------|
| Registration, plus coffee & tea | 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM | South Lobby |
| Book & Poster Display Belt Publishing, Cornerstone Press, Hastings College Press, and more | 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM | 105B |

Annual Business Meeting 8:00 – 9:00 AM 105A

All are invited. A continental breakfast will be served.

Session H 9:00 – 10:30 AM

Criticism: Midwestern Women's Fiction

Moderator: Jane Holwerda

Michelle Campbell (Duke University), "Reviving Anarchist Lizzie Swank Holmes' *Hagar Lyndon* (1893)"

Alejandra Ortega (Purdue University), "The Cultural Critique of American Patriarchal Capitalism in Bonnie Jo Campbell's *American Salvage*"

Megan E. Cannella (University of Nevada, Reno), "Intersectional Traumas of Motherhood: A Study of Louise Erdrich's *The Round House* (2012) and *Future Home of the Living God* (2017)"

Creative Nonfiction: The Gaze and the Other in the Urban Midwest

Moderator: Benjamin Goluboff

Benjamin Goluboff (Lake Forest College), "Biking Englewood: An Essay on the White Gaze"

Daniel Lockhart (Urban Farmhouse Press), "From River's Edge: Detroit as Other, Detroit as Center"

Mark Luebbers (Stoneleigh-Burnham School), "How Atticus Finch Met His End in Cincinnati"

Poetry

Moderator: Jennifer Holly-Wells

Chana Kraus-Friedberg (Michigan State University), "Mythical Geographies"

Lynn Domina (Northern Michigan University), "The Great Lakes and Their Shorelines"

Olivia Kingery (Northern Michigan University), "The Languages of a Midwestern Heart"

Margaret Rozga (University of Wisconsin Milwaukee at Waukesha), "Where I Want to Live"

Fiction

Moderator: Michele Willman

Dietrik Vanderhll, "A Little More Planning"

Jeff Snowbarger (University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point), "I Touched a Leviathan"

Curtis VanDonkelaar (Michigan State University), "The Dogmen"

Edward Morin (College for Creative Studies), "Battery Mates"

Criticism: Sense and Memory in Bonnie Jo Campbell

Moderator: Douglas Sheldon

Monica Friedman (Lineweaver Elementary School), “Six Boxes: Deconstructing and Illuminating Bonnie Jo Campbell”

Andy Oler (Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University), “Writing Silence: Bonnie Jo Campbell’s *Women and Other Animals*”

Garth Sabo (Michigan State University), “Retrospective Futurity: Bonnie Jo Campbell’s Millennial Fiction”

Ross K. Tangedal (University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point), “Fertile and Quiescent: Midwestern Memory in Bonnie Jo Campbell’s ‘Winter Life’”

Poetry: Poets of Urban Farmhouse Press

Moderator: Margaret Rozga

Benjamin Goluboff (Lake Forest College), Poems from *Ho Chi Minh: A Speculative Life in Verse*

D.A. Lockhart (Urban Farmhouse Press), Poems from *The Gravel Lot that Was Montana*

Mark Luebbers (Stoneleigh Burnham School), Selected poems

Deonte Osayande (Wayne County Community College), Selected poems

Creative**The Bottomless Bog and the Mistress of Murder Hill: How Folklore Informs the Fictions and Histories of Midwestern Writers**

Moderator: Stephanie Amada

Dawn Burns (Ivy Tech Community College, Warsaw)

Jan Maher (SUNY at Plattsburgh)

Stephanie Amada (Michigan State University)

Curtis VanDonkelaar (Michigan State University)

Roundtable: Is Hemingway a Misogynist?

Donald A. Daiker (Miami University), “Is Lady Brett Ashley a Bitch?”

Katherine Palmer (North Central Michigan College), “Marjorie and Margot: Castrating Bitches or Grace Under Pressure?”

Sam Kelly (Independent Scholar), “Hemingway: The Reluctant Misogynist”

John Beall (Collegiate School), “Helen in ‘The Snows of Kilimanjaro’”

Michael Kim Roos (University of Cincinnati), “Catherine Barkley: Much More than a Sex Kitten”

Sue Mize (Independent Scholar), “*To Have and Have Not*: Hemingway’s Case Against Misogyny”