Overview: RWL Speaker Series

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Available at: https://works.bepress.com/jennfishmanphd/12/
In AY2005-6, Jenn Fishman and Mike Keene wrote a Hodges Proposal on behalf of the RWL division, requesting funds for an annual speaker series. The Hodges Trustees (e.g., Full and Emeritus English Department professorial faculty) granted the request, establishing independent series for the Department's three divisions. Starting in AY2007-8, Creative Writing, LCTS, and RWL were each given $12,000 (per year) to bring in guest speakers for public talks, small seminars and workshops, classroom visits, art installations and performances, and so on.

Consistently over the past two years, RWL has worked to invite speakers with broad appeal, hoping to build community not only within the division and the Department, but also across campus and throughout Knoxville/East Tennessee. In this spirit, RWL events have been co-sponsored by more than a dozen different programs, departments, colleges, and university initiatives as well as the Highlander Research and Education Center. RWL speakers have included graduate students, well-known scholars, and experts from a variety of professional fields. Most speakers have spent 2-4 days “in residence,” and whenever possible they have addressed multiple audiences, including FYC students, undergraduate majors, graduate students, FYC teachers, and faculty from various departments.

In Fall 2007, RWL co-sponsored the interdisciplinary Citizenship, Literacy, and Media (CLM) Film/Speaker series, and Fall 2008 guests addressed the theme of collaboration. Additionally, the division agreed to make funds available to the campus Rhetoric Society Chapter, and in Fall 2009 students brought Jason Del Gandio to campus as a scholar-in-residence. The division also supported Writing@UT, a day-long conference in writing pedagogy involving English 505 students and several guest speakers and respondents.

To date, RWL has hosted and/or co-sponsored the following people and events:

**AY2007-8:** Tamara Rosenberg, WIDE Angle documentary film producer (Fall); Vicky Colbert, founder of Escuela Nueva Foundation (Fall); Erin Krampetz, founding program director for Escuela Nueva International (Fall); Lynée Gaillet, Associate Professor of English, Georgia State U (Spring); Susan Jarratt, Professor of English, UC-Irvine (RS-sponsored, Spring)_RWL also contributed monies to the SECOL conference (Spring) and the History/Philosophy of Science & Technology Humanities Initiative (Spring).

**AY2008-9:** Andrea Lunsford, Professor of English and Director of the Program in Writing and Rhetoric at Stanford U (Fall); Lisa Ede, Professor of English and Director of the Center for Writing and Learning at Oregon State U (Fall); Stacey Pigg, doctoral candidate in Writing, Rhetoric, and American Cultures at Michigan State U (Fall). RWL also contributed monies to "Crossing the BLVD: Strangers, Neighbors, Aliens in a New America," sponsored by the School of Art (Fall) and the College of Law Symposium (Spring)

**AY2009-10:** Espen Aarseth, Associate Professor and Principal Researcher, IT University of Copenhagen (Fall); Jason Del Gandio, Assistant Professor of Communication and Theater, Temple U (Fall); James Herrick, Professor of Communication, Hope C (Spring); Bump Halbritter, Assistant Professor of Writing, Rhetoric, and American Culture and Director of the of the MSU Documentary Lab, Michigan State U (Spring); Julie Lindquist, Associate Professor of Writing, Rhetoric, and American Culture, Michigan State U (Spring). In addition, Dr. Lynée Gaillet (Georgia State U) and Dr. Letizia Guglielmo (Kennesaw State U) served as respondents for Writing@UT, the day-long English 505 Pedagogy Conference.