UNC CHARLOTTE'S EGSA PRESENTS

traversing new spaces
in English Studies
Greek mythology blames Pandora, the first woman, for the burdens like poverty, sickness, and hatred bestowed upon mankind. After her marriage to Epimetheus (brother of the rebellious Prometheus), the clay-molded woman, out of curiosity, opens up the jar that was given to her by the gods as dowry. Out pours the worst of evils to plague humanity ever since. However, Pandora was able to capture one spirit and keep it safe in the box: hope. And it is the hope that Pandora managed to save that inspires this year’s EGSA conference. Scholars of English studies can attest to the fact that revisiting and uncovering new truths can be upsetting and unnerving; but with hope, we take our new findings to push academia and society to be better, kinder, and smarter.
Ashley M. Jones is Poet Laureate of the state of Alabama (2022-2026). She received an MFA in Poetry from Florida International University (FIU), where she was a John S. and James L. Knight Foundation Fellow. She served as Official Poet for the City of Sunrise, Florida’s Little Free Libraries Initiative from 2013-2015, and her work was recognized in the 2014 Poets and Writers Maureen Egen Writer’s Exchange Contest and the 2015 Academy of American Poets Contest at FIU. She was also a finalist in the 2015 Hub City Press New Southern Voices Contest, the Crab Orchard Series in Poetry First Book Award Contest, and the National Poetry Series. Her poems and essays appear or are forthcoming in many journals and anthologies, including CNN, the Academy of American Poets, POETRY, Tupelo Quarterly, Prelude, Steel Toe Review, Fjords Review, Quiet Lunch, Poets Respond to Race Anthology, Night Owl, The Harvard Journal of African American Public Policy, pluck!, Valley Voices: New York School Edition, Fjords Review: Black American Edition, PMS Poem Memoir Story (where her work was nominated for a Pushcart Prize in 2016), Kinfolks Quarterly, Tough Times in America Anthology, and Lucid Moose Press’ Like a Girl: Perspectives on Femininity Anthology.
Conference Schedule

8:15 AM: Registration and Check-In
8:30 AM: Opening Remarks by Dr. Paula Eckard
9:00 AM-10:45AM: Session One
11:00 AM-12:45 PM: Session Two
12:45 PM - 1:00 PM: Lunch
1:00PM-1:55 PM Keynote Address from Alabama Poet Laureate, Ashley M. Jones*
2:00 PM-3:45 PM: Session Three
3:50 PM: Closing Remarks Dr. Lara Vetter
4:05 PM: Graduate Professor of the Year Award

9:45-10:00 The Poetess Reemerges: Life and Works of Phillis Wheatley (1916 edition
-Rhian Parker, UNC Charlotte
Session One

Panel One: Rereading McElroy, Mao, and Wheatley Through the Lens of Book History

9:05-9:20 Between Author and Publisher: The Influence of the Illustrator on Andersonville: A Story of Rebel Military Prisons (1879)
   -Daniel Parker, UNC Charlotte

9:25-9:40 The Little Red Book: Mao’s Quotations and their Legacy in the Contemporary World
   -Jay Ku, UNC Charlotte

9:45-10:00 The Poetess Reemerges: Life and Works of Phillis Wheatley (1916 edition)
   -Rhian Parker, UNC Charlotte

Panel Two: Discomfort, Trauma, and Identity Formation in Children’s Literature

9:05-9:20 Why Children’s and Adolescent Literature Needs to Be Uncomfortable
   -Eliana Nunez-Dominguez, UNC Charlotte

9:25-9:40 I am both worse and better than you thought: Implications and Significance of Trauma Representation in Fantasy Literature
   -Abby Army, UNC Greensboro

9:45-10:00 “Of course it is happening inside your head, Harry”: Confronting Childhood Trauma Through Magical Spaces in Young Adult Fiction Series
   -Ashley Wilson, UNC Charlotte

10:05-10:20 Postmodern Families and Identity in Daniel Handler’s The Bad Beginning
   -Hayley Lawson, UNC Charlotte
Session One (continued)

Panel Three: Eco-Critical Approaches to Literature

9:05-9:20 A 'Troubled Earth': Tempestuous Seascapes in Charlotte Smith’s Elegiac Sonnets
-Johannah Bailie, University of Georgia

9:25-9:40 Romantic Imperialism and Mobilized Natures: An Ecocritical Translation of Felicia Hemans’s “The Palm Tree”
-Nicole Gantz, UNC Charlotte

9:45-10:00 Irony is Not Lost on the Trees: An Examination of Irony and the Ecological Thought in Margaret Atwood’s Oryx and Crake
-Summer Cozzens, Old Dominion University

Panel Four: Revisiting the Body of Shakespeare’s Work

9:05-9:20 Body Language: A Transcorporeal Reading of Titus Andronicus
-Abigail Cotton, UNC Charlotte

9:25-9:40 The Raven Doth Not Hatch a Lark: Interactive Reproduction in Shakespeare’s Titus Andronius
-Anna Beeman McNerney, UNC Charlotte

9:45-10:00 The Illusion of the Gender Binary in Shakespeare’s All’s Well That Ends Well
-Kathryn Mair, UNC Charlotte

10:05-10:20 King Lear the Musical: Empowerment and Dehumanization in “King Lear of Britain” and “Now gods, stand up”
-Cristtiah Baltazar, UNC Charlotte
Session Two

Panel One: Language, Genre, and Identity Formation

11:05-11:20 Identity Formation and Spanish Language Retention Through Genre Analysis
-Anthony Mungo, UNC Charlotte

-Joshua Cody Ward, UNC Charlotte

11:45-12:00 Language-Planning Policies in Morocco: Standardization of Tamazight
-Sarah Willey, UNC Charlotte

12:05-12:20 Tracing Gothic Themes in Joyce Carol Oates’ “Where Are You Going Where Have You Been?”
-Tanner Linkous, East Tennessee State University

Panel Two: Big Tech Looming Large: Communicative Influence and the Langugae of Meta

11:05-11:20 The Metaphysical Turf of Facebook
-Emma Hamilton, Western Carolina University

-Mouli Chattaraj, UNC Charlotte
**Session Two (continued)**

**Panel Three: The Applied Classroom: Language and Writing in Translingual and First-Year Classrooms**

11:05-11:20 Traversing the Uncharted First-year Frontier  
-Skyler King, Virginia Tech

11:25-11:40 Using Recorded Conversation and Transcripts in the Classroom: What ESL Teachers Need to Know  
-Susan Ballard Shostak, UNC Greensboro

**Panel Four: Shattering Gendered Concepts from Past, Present, and Future**

-Molly Holdway, East Tennessee State University

11:25-11:40 Out of the “Gloom,” A Rainbow Emerges: Examining the Privileges and Detriments of Being “Fish”  
-Julianna Peres, UNC Charlotte

11:45-12:00 ‘Absolute Rebellion’: Emilie Autumn and the Radical Feminist Tradition  
-Virginia Weaver, UNC Greensboro

**Panel Five: Class, Gender, and Sexuality in Film and Literary Criticism**

11:05-11:20 From Personal to Collective: The Loneliness of Running as a Means to Coming of Age in The Loneliness of the Long Distance Runner  
-Rebecca Curry, Middle Tennessee State University

11:25-11:40 Bells to Rest, Lambs to Slaughter: The Queer, Rural Mythology of Machado’s The Low Low Woods  
-Nicholas Welch, UNC Wilmington

11:45- 12:00 The Negative Representation of Women in Kurt Vonnegut’s Slaughterhouse Five  
-Samantha Hyatt, Winthrop University
Session Three

Panel One: Uncharted, Ignored, and Forgotten Spaces in Literature

2:05-2:20 Hierotopy and Hermeneutics: Sacred Space in Aphra Behn’s Oroonoko
   -Jason W. Moore, UNC Greensboro

2:25-2:40 Hauntings and Identity Creation within Signs Preceding the End of the World
   -Madison Bradburn, UNC Charlotte

2:45-3:00 Forgotten Critiques: Heterotopias Obscuring Reality’s Remains in Yoko Tawada’s The Emissary
   -Justina Vasquez, UNC Charlotte

3:05-3:20 The Enemy’s Gate is Down: Orientation in Ender’s Game and the Relationship Between the Oceanic and the Spaced
   -Ian McLaughlin, UNC Greensboro

Panel Two: Rethinking Fundamentals: Mortality and Guilt in Literature

2:05-2:20 No Losers; Murder on the Orient Express and Deconstructing the Guilty Innocent Binary
   -Clara Tracey, UNC Charlotte

2:25-2:40 Speaking with the Ghosts of History in Hahn’s All the Lovely Bad Ones
   -Mckinley Campbell, UNC Charlotte

2:45-3:00 A Posthuman Condition to Defining ‘Living’ in the Context of Philip K. Dick’s Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?
   -Gabriel Davis, East Tennessee State University
Session Three (continued)

Panel Three: Narratives of Color and the Colonized

2:05-2:20 A Hot Plate of Empathy: Food and Community in Sydney Taylor’s All of a Kind Family Series
-Katie Baker, UNC Charlotte

2:25-2:40 Andoumboulou Song: The Making of the Black Radical Epic
-Jacob Walhout, University of South Carolina

2:45-3:00 Zora Neale Hurston’s ‘White Background;’ A Literary Lens for Double Consciousness
-Kathlyn Marston, Austin Peay State University

3:05-3:20 ‘What exactly is an African?’: Narrativizing Precarity and (Im)mobility in We Need New Names
-James McDonnell, UNC Charlotte

Panel Four: Exhuming the Archives: Exploring Narrative and Modernism in Archival Spaces

2:05-2:20 Re-Presenting the Archive’s Representations of Obeah Women in the Neo-Slave Narrative
-Rebecca Paulisch, James Madison University

2:25-2:40 Modernism’s Marketplace and My Ántonia: Painting an Archival Portrait of Willa Cather and Ferris Greenslet’s Correspondence from 1918-1930
-Troy Taylor, UNC Wilmington
We recognize that the land we would normally gather on today is the occupied territory of the Catawba Nation, and we pay our respects to elders both past and present. The Catawba Nation has lived on these lands for more than 6,000 years, and we acknowledge them as the original stewards of this area. Please visit the tribe’s website at CatawbaIndian.net for more information or to volunteer your time.
This conference was organized and hosted by the English Graduate Student Organization (EGSA) members and officers. EGSA is made up of graduate students within the English M.A. program at UNC Charlotte who sponsor activities with faculty and fellow students, provide volunteer opportunities, and network with both UNC Charlotte faculty as well as partners within the community.

If you are a current or prospective UNC Charlotte English graduate student and have an interest in serving as an EGSA officer next year, please email egsa@uncc.edu
Special thanks to:

EGSA Officers
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