

Participants in the McAndless Professorship Program

Ali Mazrui, Winter 2009, African American Studies

Dr. Ali Mazrui, visited Eastern Michigan University from March 13 to 23, 2009 as EMU's 2008-2009 M. Thelma McAndless Distinguished scholar. He was hosted by the Department of African American Studies with the support of the College of Arts & Sciences.

During his 10-day visit, Professor Mazrui gave a keynote lecture: "Africa in a Global Racial Context: from Othello to Obama." The keynote event, which took place on March 16, 2009, also featured a student poetry reading led by English Department Lecturer Mona Diane Benton and a splendid African dance performance by EMU's Diversion Dance Troop.

Professor Mazrui also addressed a well-attended 4-day seminar (March 17 to 20, 2009) on "Religion and Africa's Triple Heritage," "Race and Africa's Triple Heritage," "Law and Politics in Africa's Triple Heritage," and "Gender Values and Africa's Triple Heritage." The seminars were attended by a total of 166 EMU students from a cross-section of departments. In addition, he engaged in one-on-one intellectual dialogues with students on issues pertaining to Africa during a student mixer on March 19, 2009. During the last day of his visit, March 23 2009, Dr. Mazrui guest-lectured in AAS 102/312 African Civilization.

Professor Ali Mazrui is a widely published scholar and the recipient of several prestigious awards and honors, including a Medal of Grand Companion of Oliver Tambo, bestowed upon him by President Thabo Mbeki of South Africa in 2007, and a Living Legend Award conferred on him by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the Pan African Communication Agency (2007). He serves currently as Director of the Institute of Global Cultural Studies at Binghamton University, SUNY.

Marshall Poe, Winter 2008, Department of History and Philosophy

Marshall Poe, a respected scholar in Russian history and social commentator regarding the Web, is came to EMU to argue that Wikipedia – in fact, the overall “interactive Web” – is something to be embraced by academe. Through a series of lectures titled “Wikipedia: The Democratization of Knowledge or the Triumph of Amateurs,” he tackled the issue head-on.

Poe appeared on campus over the Winter 2008 for his role as the College of Arts and Sciences' McAndless Professor for 2007-08. Professor Poe's research and writing on Wikipedia – not to mention his upcoming book, “Everyone Knows Everything: The Rise of Wikiworld and the Democratization of Knowledge” from Random House – played a significant role in his selection.

Marshall Poe is the founder of Memory Archive: The Encyclopedia of Memories and the author of a forthcoming book from Random House entitled WikiWorld: The Globalization of Knowledge in the 21st Century.

Scott McCloud, Winter 2006, Department of English Language and Literature and Department of Art

Scott McCloud's work reflects his interest in relationships between words and images; he

brings together ideas about graphics, writing and communication. An innovator, he is one of the first to use digital and other experimental means to create and distribute comics. In his groundbreaking books *Understanding Comics*-now published in 15 languages-and *Reinventing Comics*, he explains the inner workings of the medium and examines many aspects of visual communication by considering the history, methods and vocabulary of the form. Most recently he finished the third in this series, a novel entitled *Making Comics*, as well as the earlier *24 Hour Comics*. Mr. McCloud is also the author of such graphic novels as "The New Adventures of Abraham Lincoln," his first attempt at computer-generated artwork, "Superman: Adventures of the Man of Steel," and "Zot."

While on campus from March 10 through the end of April, Mr. McCloud taught an online class called Comics: Theory and Practice, as well as participated in workshops and classes for student of art, literature, journalism, creative writing, French, geography, and art education.

Ben Vereen, Winter 2005, Communication & Theatre Arts

Ben Vereen is a Tony award-winning performer who has established himself on stage and screen with his near-limitless talent. He is renown internationally for his performances but also his humanitarian work.

Mr. Vereen shared his personal and theatrical experiences with students co-writing and co-directing (with Professor Bridges) an original play as well as choreographed the production and performed the narration for the show. He collaborated this semester with Professors Wallace Bridges and Ken Stevens on this original play to honor the male and female African American aviators of World War II (the Tuskegee Airmen) entitled "Soaring on Black Wings". These aviators helped to end racial segregation in the military and were a pivotal cornerstone of the emerging civil rights movement. The idea for the play began with Professor Bridges interest in this history and then Professor Stevens had the idea to write to Mr. Vereen asking him to consider the McAndless Professorship.

The performances were held in Sponberg Theatre Friday, April 29 at 8:00 p.m., and Saturday, April 30 at 2 and 8 p.m. with a reception on Friday night in the Quirk Lobby.

While here at EMU working on the play, Mr. Vereen had an opportunity to fly with a representative of the Tuskegee Airmen, Dr. Brian Smith (April 11) in Smith's Bellanca Super Viking aircraft and was given a tour of the Coleman A. Young International Airport (City Airport) which will be the new home of the Tuskegee Airmen Museum.

Jayne Cortez, Fall 2003, African American Studies

Jayne Cortez is an internationally celebrated poet and is equally well known as a stylish performer of her works. She has published ten volumes of poetry since 1969, notably *Coagulations: New and Selected Poems* (1984), *Poetic Magnetic* (1991), and *Jazz Fan Looks Back* (2002).

While here at EMU, Ms. Cortez taught AAS 279 Literature of Black Liberation and conducted bi-weekly poetry writing and performance workshops. In honor of having Ms. Cortez visit EMU, special events were planned that included a film screening, poetry readings and performances by Ms. Cortez.

Cheryl Dileo, Fall 2002, Music

Cheryl Dileo is professor of music therapy and coordinator of the master's program in music therapy at Temple University in Philadelphia.

In addition to teaching a Methods in Music Therapy class, Dr. Dileo brought her music therapy instruction to EMU through a series of 23 lectures, 2 community outreach events, and 2 intensive weekend courses. She also gave 450 web caucus messages and counseled students through an additional 100 emails. To promote and introduce Dr. Dileo to EMU and the community, 12 hours were set aside for interviews.

Gillian Eaton, Winter 2002, Communication & Theatre Arts

Gillian Eaton is an award winning actress, director, and producer who studied with the Royal Shakespeare Company in London, England. Her distinguished career in theatre and film spans both sides of the Atlantic. Currently, she works with the Flint Youth Theatre, the Hillberry Theatre and Wayne State University, is the founder of “Shakespeareance”, and is the managing director of “Storyliving” at the Detroit Historical Museum.

Ms. Eaton directed “Midsummer-Night’s Dream” in CTA’s mainstage series and conducted theatre classes that had a focus in Process Drama, something for which the D/TFY area of theatre at EMU also teaches. In addition, Ms. Eaton was performing in the Performance Network’s production of “Elizabeth Rex”. An event was planned to attend a performance and host a reception in honor of her work.

Bouthaina Shaaban, Fall 2000, History & Philosophy

Dr. Shaaban is professor of English at the University of Damascus. She has written extensively on Arab women and has received many prestigious international awards for her work, such as a Rockefeller award to Rice University and a Fulbright Research Fellowship to Duke University.

At EMU, Dr. Shaaban taught a course on “Women, Family, and the Middle East” where she brought her unique perspective. She also conducted several lectures on human rights, Islam, and Middle Eastern culture, and hosted a special evening event devoted to Middle Eastern art, foods, poetry, and music.

Susan Tattershall, Fall 1999, Music

Ms. Tattershall is a world-renowned pipe organ builder and restorer. Her area of expertise is Spanish and Mexican pipe organs and this includes a profound knowledge of Mexican culture and religion.

While at EMU, Ms. Tattershall brought her knowledge and passion for Mexican culture to areas on campus and also hosted Ms. Catalina Aquino who is a faith healer from Mexico. By having both women work together, a larger community was reached during this McAndless Professor’s stay, rather than only the Music students. They were able to conduct multi-cultural lectures and presentations to a diverse array of classes including History, Political Science, Nursing, Occupational Therapy, Anthropology, and Social Work, as well as to the community

with the Latino/Latina club, Ypsilanti Fire Department, University of Michigan, and area churches. A special presentation was made in conjunction with the Day of the Dead.

Roger Wilkins, Fall 1998, African American Studies

As a lawyer, professor, philanthropist, media commentator, and journalist Roger Wilkins has made many significant contributions to the African American culture and the history of the United States. From 1962-1969, he worked in the U. S. Justice Department and was the Assistant U. S. Attorney General for three years. In the 1970's and 1980's, he received a Pulitzer Prize in journalism for his coverage on Watergate, and he was the first African American to write a signed column and editorials at the New York Times.

Professor Wilkins schedule at EMU was unique in that he was on campus two days a week, every week each month, for the Fall semester. He team-taught the course "Law in the African American Experience" with Ron Woods; in doing so, the course was offered on the Tuesday/Thursday schedule, with Dr. Woods teaching on Thursdays only. Additionally, Professor Wilkins also gave a lecture series related to the course, but was open to the student community. Public lectures were also scheduled as well as a public reception.

Thalia Gouma-Peterson, Fall 1997, Art

Unable to attend

Tom Regan, Fall 1996, History & Philosophy

Dr. Regan is a professor of philosophy and religion at North Carolina State University. During his career he's earned several awards for his contributions to these areas such as: Outstanding Teaching and Distinguished Professor awards at universities, and The Gandhi Award and medals from the Humane Society for animal rights. As a celebrated scholar he has been invited to present papers at hundreds of universities in the United States, Korea, Italy, France, England, and Canada.

During his stay at EMU, Professor Regan worked with students in various classes that cover areas of ethics, religion, and animal rights. He co-taught a philosophy course with Sid Gendin and met with students to discuss current philosophical arguments for and against animal rights. Additionally, he attended an honors convention and he gave four public lectures where audience members could meet with him during post-presentation receptions.

Sarah Daniels (aka, Janet Allvey), Winter 1996, Communication & Theatre Arts, English, Language & Literature, & Women's Studies

British playwright Sarah Daniels has received many awards and recognition for her work including the London Theatre Critics Award and she's the first woman since Lillian Hellman to have her work produced at the Royal National Theatre in London. Her plays have been produced internationally (Denmark, Germany, Japan, New Zealand, and Australia) including in the United States at the Lincoln Center.

Ms. Daniels assisted Annette Martin in the teaching of cross-listed courses in the humanities that encompassed performance studies, theatre, women's studies, creative writing, and English. She was also instrumental in the staging of four of her plays that Dr. Martin directed for several campus performances. The plays were performed on stage in Sponberg as well as in several classrooms over two months where students were able to have the plays incorporated into the class materials and the playwright available for talkback sessions. Ms. Daniels also met with playwriting students outside of class for one-on-one writing assessment.

(Michael) Gwynne Dyer, Winter 1995, History & Philosophy

Dr. Dyer received his Ph.D. in Military and Middle Eastern History at King's College at the University of London and later became an Associate Fellow in Middle Eastern Studies at Anthony's College, Oxford. Born in St. John's, Newfoundland, Canada, Dr. Dyer has worked in Canada for much of his career in journalism, film, radio, and served his own military career in Canada, the U. S., and England. He is also the author of military books and historical articles.

While at EMU, Dr. Dyer served as a consultant to students and faculty on a varied array of military subjects including war history. He conducted several lectures open to EMU's campus community and the public, participated in many interviews, and worked with the History department in presenting panel discussions. In addition to this full schedule, Dr. Dyer visited many history classes for class presentations and open discussions.

Bei Dao (Zhen Kai Zhao), Fall 1993, English, Language & Literature

Bei Dao discovered poetry under insurmountable odds. Born in Beijing in 1949, he first received a privileged education and then, during the turbulence under Mao's rule, the schools were closed. He became a member of the Red Guards and worked in the provincial factories and road projects called "educational camps". He is considered by many to be a candidate for a Nobel Prize and a leading voice for his generation. His exile from China and the threat of imprisonment upon return, reflect his commitment to freedom of expression.

While at EMU, Bei Dao co-taught undergraduate and graduate writing workshops with Clayton Eshleman and Janet Janet Kauffman. He also gave public lectures, performed readings of his work for the EMU community and the public, and visited classes around campus to communicate the social messages he works so diligently to foster, as well as interact with students and faculty from multi-cultural backgrounds.

Nicholas Pennell, Winter 1993, Communication & Theatre Arts

Sondra Freckelton, Fall 1991, Art

Kenneth Burke, Fall 1990, English, Language & Literature

Nancy Ford, Winter 1990, Communication & Theatre Arts

Peter Strevens, Fall 1988, Foreign Languages & Bilingual Studies

Richard Hunt, Winter 1988, Art

Maxine Hong Kingston, Fall 1986, English, Language & Literature