



 University of
Kentucky
College of Arts and Sciences

 University of
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Alumni Association

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OCTOBER 15, 2021

Welcome

Christian M M Brady, Interim Dean, College of Arts & Sciences

Poetry Reading

Crystal Wilkinson, Associate Professor of English and
2021–22 Kentucky Poet Laureate

2021 Hall of Fame Inductees

Alumni:

Barbara Bailey Cowden, B.G.S. '77
Gurney Norman, English '59
William H. Turner, Ph.D., Sociology '68

Faculty:

Paul M. Eakin

Closing Remarks

Christian M M Brady, Interim Dean, College of Arts & Sciences

Thank you to all of the alumni and friends who support Arts & Sciences.
A special thank you to the UK Alumni Association.

ALUMNI INDUCTEES

Barbara Bailey Cowden

Barbara Bailey Cowden is a native of Harlan, Kentucky, and a Harlan High School Green Dragon and University of Kentucky graduate. Cowden started out as a performance piano major at UK, but a summer job changed her course, and she earned a Bachelor of General Studies degree in 1977. Her first job in journalism was as a staff reporter for her hometown newspaper, *The Harlan Daily Enterprise*. Under the guidance of then *Enterprise* editor, Ewell Balltrip, she discovered her passion for journalism. After her first byline in the newspaper, she knew that she had found her desired career path.



Cowden welcomes the opportunity to get back on campus when she can, speaking to journalism classes and meeting with students. Along the way, Cowden also taught journalism at UK and Asbury University.

She began working at WKYT in 1979, never realizing it would be a career of more than 40 years. She co-anchored the consistently No. 1 rated newscast with John Lindgren, Sam Dick and Bill Bryant. During her tenure at WKYT, Cowden worked as a reporter, anchor, producer and weather person in nearly every time slot. She worked early mornings, late nights, weekends and dayside.

Cowden has been active in the community with organizations including Big Brothers/Big Sisters of the Bluegrass and of America; the Center for Women, Children, and Families; the Junior League of Lexington; Kentucky Tomorrow; and the Lexington Chamber of Commerce. She has served on the boards of the Ronald McDonald House, the Alzheimer's Association, the Kidney Foundation of Central Kentucky, the American Heart Association, and Chi Omega. She served on parent-teacher organizations at Christ the King School and Lexington Catholic High School during the years when her children attended those schools.

She was inducted into the Kentucky Broadcasting Hall of Fame in 2019 and was honored as a distinguished alumna of the University of Kentucky School of Journalism in 2018. She was also inducted into the Kentucky Journalism Hall of Fame in the fall of 2020. Cowden is married to Roger Cowden. They have two children, Courtney Woomer and Clark Cowden, and two grandchildren, Callie and Caroline Woomer.

Gurney Norman

Gurney Norman's relationship with the College of Arts & Sciences spans 66 years, from 1955 when he enrolled at UK as a freshman to fall 2021 as he begins his 42nd year teaching creative writing in the Department of English.



Norman grew up in the southern Appalachian Mountains, raised alternately by paternal and maternal grandparents. From 9 to 18, he attended Stuart Robinson School, a Presbyterian boarding school in the coalfields of eastern Kentucky. At Stuart Robinson, he developed an interest in writing. He enrolled at the University of Kentucky with an interest in journalism. In creative writing classes, he was mentored by professors Hollis Summers and Robert Hazel and formed lifelong friendships with Kentucky writers Wendell Berry, James Baker Hall, Ed McClanahan and Bobbie Ann Mason. He also wrote for the *Kentucky Kernel*, published short stories in the English Department's literary journal *Stylus* and helped edit *The Kentuckian* yearbook. He was in ROTC and later spent two years in the U.S. Army.

In 1960, Norman received a Wallace Stegner Fellowship in Creative Writing at Stanford University, where he studied with critic Malcolm Cowley and renowned Irish short story writer Frank O'Connor. He joined a writing class with Ken Kesey, Larry McMurtry, Peter Beagle, James Baker Hall and other young writers. After military service, 1961–1963, Norman returned to eastern Kentucky and worked as a reporter for his hometown newspaper, *The Hazard Herald*. In the summers of 1966 and 1967, he was a lookout for the U.S. Forest Service in Oregon's Cascade Mountains. In 1972, his novel *Divine Right's Trip* was published by the Dial Press. In 1977, his book of short stories, *Kinfolks*, was published by Gnomon Press. He returned to Kentucky to join the English faculty at the University of Kentucky in the fall of 1979.

In the 1980s, Norman wrote and narrated three documentaries on Kentucky and the Appalachian region for Kentucky Educational Television. Three stories from *Kinfolks* were made into short films by Andrew Garrison at Appalshop. He co-edited *Confronting Appalachian Stereotypes* (University of Kentucky Press, 1999) and *An American Vein* (Ohio University Press, 2005). In 2011, he published a novella, *Ancient Creek: A Folktale* (Old Cove Press). In 2020, his book of autobiographical stories, *Allegiance*, was published by Old Cove Press and distributed by Ohio University Press. Norman served as Kentucky Poet Laureate in 2009–2010. In 2011, he received an honorary doctorate from Berea College. In 2019, he was inducted into the Kentucky Writers Hall of Fame.

ALUMNI INDUCTEES

William H. Turner

William H. Turner, Ph.D., the fifth of 10 children, was born in 1946 in the coal town of Lynch, Kentucky, in Harlan County. His grandfathers, father, four uncles and older brother were coal miners. He earned a bachelor's degree in sociology from UK and a doctorate in sociology from the University of Notre Dame. In addition, he attended the Foreign Affairs Scholars Program at Howard University and did postdoctoral work at the University of Pennsylvania and Duke University.



During his academic career, Turner served as chair of the Department of Social Sciences at Winston-Salem State University; dean of Arts and Sciences and interim president at Kentucky State University; vice president for multicultural affairs at UK; and distinguished professor of Appalachian Studies and regional ambassador at Berea College. When he retired in late 2017, Turner was research scientist leader at the Prairie View A&M University College of Agriculture and Human Sciences, where he led the collection and analysis of data on underserved Texans.

Turner has spent his professional career studying and working on behalf of marginalized communities, helping them create opportunities in the larger world while not abandoning their important cultural ties. He is best-known for his ground-breaking research on African American communities in Appalachia. As an academic and a consultant, he has studied economic systems and social structures in the urban South and burgeoning Latino communities in the Southwest. He co-edited the textbook *Blacks in Appalachia* and thematic essays on Black Appalachians in the *Encyclopedia of Southern Culture* and the *Encyclopedia of Appalachia*, and he worked as a research associate (1979–1991) to *Roots* author Alex Haley.

He received an honorary doctorate from the University of North Carolina Asheville in 2020. In addition, the Appalachian Studies Association honored Turner for a lifetime of service to the Appalachian region, and he was inducted into the Kentucky Civil Rights Hall of Fame in 2007.

FACULTY INDUCTEE

Paul M. Eakin

Paul Eakin was born in New Orleans in 1942 and grew up in central Louisiana. He attended Louisiana State University, where he earned a B.S. in 1964 and a Ph.D. in 1968, both in mathematics. Following a postdoctoral year at the University of Rochester, he joined the UK Math Department in 1969 and spent the 1970s on teaching, research and working with graduate students in mathematics.



He became chair in 1980; in that role, he saw that the UK Math Department had a statewide responsibility to support Kentucky mathematics teachers. Since Kentucky had hundreds of math teachers (spread all over the state) and, at that time only 55 UK math faculty (all in Lexington with all their other duties), he decided to form partnerships with other institutions. To those institutions, UK could bring new materials, new technology, project coordination and the capacity to raise and manage the financial resources required to apply them. As a result, Eakin helped to form numerous regional, statewide and multi-state K–12/college partnerships that support STEM education. The largest, the Appalachian Math Science Partnership (AMSP), involved four states and was funded by UK's largest external grant at that time.

Two decades later, the instructional research laboratory established to develop mathematics instructional technology continues as the UK Math Department's "Mathskeller" instructional lab. The technology component of the AMSP lives on in the Kentucky KYOTE (Kentucky Online Testing) program. The latter is operated daily by more than a thousand Kentucky math and English teachers. Schools use it for college and dual credit placement, and it affords Kentucky seniors the opportunity to avoid college remedial work by establishing college readiness in mathematics, reading and composition.

PAST INDUCTEES

Our inductees join a distinguished group of A&S Hall of Fame members.

Alumni

2020	Ouita Papka Michel, '87 Honorable Winn Fleming Williams, '71 Dr. George C. Wright, '72, '74, '04 Dr. Bing Zhang, '91, '93, '94	2007	Dr. John E. Keller, '40, '42 Dr. G. Samuel Hurst, '48 Benny G. Johnson, '89, '90 Vivian Carol Shipley, '64, '67
2019	Anne C. Deaton, '67 Dr. Gerald L. Smith, '81, '83, '88 Stephen B. Sullivan, '79, '83 Robert N. Trunzo, '78	2006	Art B. Still, '80 Dr. C. W. "Deno" Curris, '62, '67 Governor Beverly Eaves Perdue, '69 Stephen B. Bright, '71, '75
2018	Jennifer L. Garr, '86 W. Bruce Lunsford, '69 Rodney F. Page, '68 LaVon V. Williams, '80	2005	Dr. Joseph I. Kramer, '49, '50 Congresswoman Louise M. Slaughter, '51, '53, '06 Dr. Wendell E. Berry, '56, '57, '86
2017	Charles L. Grizzle, '73 Dr. Martha Ann Rolingson, '60 Thomas D. Spalding, '80, '82	2004	Larry Conley, '66 Dr. Glenn A. Price, '46 Dr. Michael H. Grasley, '61
2016	Kip Cornett, '77 Dr. Sally Mason, '72, '12	2002	Dr. William E. "Brit" Kirwan II, '60, '09
2015	Roger Di Silvestro, '72 Linda Challis Gill, '62, '01 Dr. David H. Johnson, '70, '72 Bobbie Ann Mason, '62, '94	2001	G. Ann Stallard, '68 Dr. Thomas D. Clark, '29, '69
2014	Jill M. Rappis, '80 Dr. George H. Scherr, '49, '51 Ethelee Davidson Baxter, '61 Robert S. Lipman, '74	2000	Dr. T. Marshall Hahn II, '45, '90
2013	Albert B. Chandler III, '83, '86 Robert E. Rich, '66	1999	Dr. William Nunn Lipscomb, '41, '63 Elizabeth Hardwick, '38, '39, '74
2012	Matt Cutts, '95 James C. Duff, '75		
2011	Ambassador Amy L. Bondurant, '73 Dr. Laura I. Rankin, '70		
2010	Dr. John D. Baxter, '62 Dr. Presley O. Reed, '69		
2009	Sandra L. Helton, '71 Dr. Olson Huff, '57 Dr. William H. Jansen II, '71 Ernest C. Steele, '48, '50		
2008	Dr. William M. Bass III, '56 Dr. Lucy Salmon Crain, '62, '65 R. Milton Huffaker, '57 Susan R. Tomasky, '74		

PAST INDUCTEES

Our inductees join a distinguished group of A&S Hall of Fame members.

Faculty

2020	Dr. Patricia A. Cooper Dr. Ronald D Eller
2019	Dr. Bradley C. Canon Dr. Penny Miller, '64, '86
2018	Dr. David M. Allen, '61, '64 Dr. Sheldon M. Steiner, '64, '67
2017	Dr. Karl B. Raitz Dr. Daniel R. Reedy
2016	Dr. Robert M. Ireland Dr. Judith A. Lesnaw
2015	Dr. Kevin Kiernan
2014	Dr. George C. Herring Dr. Keith B. MacAdam
2013	Dr. Marcus T. McEllistrem Dr. Paul G. Sears '50, '53 Dr. Jane Vance
2012	Dr. Susan Abbott-Jamieson Dr. Louis Swift
2011	Dr. Margaret E.W. Jones Dr. Joseph R. Jones
2010	Dr. Joan C. Callahan Dr. William D. Ehmann
2009	Dr. William Y. Adams Dr. Wimberly C. Royster '48, '52, '02