A man of letters

T.S. Eliot conference here attracts scholars from around the world

Scholars from around the world will celebrate the 100th birthday of T.S. Eliot at a conference, "T.S. Eliot: A Centennial Appraisal," Sept. 30 to Oct. 2 at Washington University.

Eliot, probably the most celebrated poet of his time in the English language, was also a dramatist, literary critic and editor. He was born in St. Louis on Sept. 26, 1888, educated at Harvard, and lived and worked in England where he became a British subject in 1927. Eliot, who died in 1965, was the grandson of William Greenleaf Eliot, founder of Washington University.

In recognition of Eliot's extraordinary impact on 20th-century literature, we have assembled four panels of internationally distinguished critics and young scholars to assess his achievement, says Burton Wheeler, Ph.D., chair of the conference planning committee and professor of English and religious studies.

A leader of the modernist movement in poetry, as evidenced in "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock," "The Waste Land," and "Ash Wednesday," Eliot also authored such poetic dramas as "Murder in the Cathedral" and "The Cocktail Party." The publication of Four Quartets, four poems grouped as a single work, led to his recognition as the greatest living English poet and man of letters. In 1948 he was awarded both the Nobel Prize for literature and the Order of Merit.

According to Wheeler, the committee decided that in addition to critical discussion of Eliot's work, he should be allowed to speak for himself. Six leading American poets — Amy Clampitt, Anthony Hecht, James Merrill, Howard Nemerov, Gjertrud Schnackenberg and Richard Wilbur — will read and discuss Eliot's poetry at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 1, in Edison Theatre.

In addition, "Murder in the Cathedral" originally performed at Canterbury Cathedral, will be presented at 8:30 a.m. Friday, Sept. 30, in Graham Chapel.

Internationally known scholars participating in the conference include Frank Kermode, professor emeritus at Cambridge University, England, and editor of The Selected Prose of T.S. Eliot; Walter Ong, William E. Har denen Professor of English at St. Louis University, who writes widely on language and literature; Christopher Ricks, professor of English at Boston University and a frequent contributor to the New York Times Book Review; A. Walton Litz, Princeton University, author of Eliot in His Time; Denis Donoghue, Henry James Professor of Letters, New York University, renowned scholar of W.B. Yeats and modern literature; and Robert Langbaum, James Calwell Professor of English, University of Virginia, author of The Modern Spirit: Essays on the Continuity of 19th and 20th Century Literature.

Robert Giroux, of Farrar, Straus, and Giroux, Eliot's American publisher and friend, will open the conference with a personal memoir.

An exhibit that follows the poet through his career in letters, first editions and manuscripts is on display in Olin Library through Oct. 14 in honor of the Eliot centennial. The free exhibit, titled "T.S. Eliot Revolution and After," includes rare typescript copies of poems Eliot wrote as a student at Smith Academy in St. Louis from 1908-1905. Located in Special Collections on level five of the library, the exhibit is open from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays. For more information on the exhibit, call 889-5505.

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Eliot's 'Murder in the Cathedral' will be staged in Graham Chapel

The Performing Arts Department will present T.S. Eliot's verse drama "Murder in the Cathedral" at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Sept. 25 and 26, at 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 25, and at 8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 30. T.S. Eliot's verse play, performed in Canterbury Cathedral inKent, England, the play will be staged in Graham Chapel.

Eliot wrote "Murder in the Cathedral" in 1937. The play tells the story of Archbishop Thomas Becket, who, torn between loyalty to his king and loyalty to God, was ultimately martyred in Canterbury Cathedral in 1170 by the men of Henry II.

Benedicta Huston, Ph.D., assistant professor of performing arts at the University, will direct the play. Huston, who heads the Holy Roman Repertory Company (HRRC), has broadcast radio theatre, most recently starred in Washington's production of The Misanthrope.

"We have some risks with this production," says Huston. Eliot placed the play both in the historical action of 1170 and in the contemporary British society of 1937. In the costuming and production design, we have tried to represent 1980's power struggles to parallel the 12th-century politics in which Becket was caught.

The production features a 14-member cast of students, members of the community and professional artists. Alan Clyne will portray Becket; Clavey, who served as head of the Voice and Speech Department at Webster University and is a graduate of the University of St. Louis, will stand in for Argonne National Laboratory.

Also featured are Sundeer Aaron, an economics senior at Washington; Tom Jaeger, a junior majoring in drama; Rainer Steinhoff, general manager of KWMU radio and Melanie Therrien, editor of the Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, Theatre Projects Group and The Theatre Factory, and has appeared in some 380 television commercials and industrial films.

Several boards, advisory committees and councils, including the Governor's (Illinois) Commission on Science and Technology, the National Science Board and the board of directors of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

A past director of the United Way of Chicago, Massey received the Distinguished Service Citation of the American Association of Physics Teachers and was named by Change magazine as one of the 100 most influential young people in the United States.

The Fall Honors Lecture, an annual event since 1952, pays tribute to individuals who have displayed superior scholarship, leadership and service to the University during the preceding year.

For information, call 889-5285.

German song recital features Henderson

Washington University will present its annual Ledebour (komponist-recital) at 4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 25, in Steinberg Auditorium.

Mezzo-soprano Mary Henderson, artist-in-residence at the University, and pianist Karen Lake, an assistant professor of music at Jackson State University in Mississippi, will perform "Songs of Schumann" at the free concert.

The program will include a song cycle based on the poetry of Joseph Eichendorff (1788-1857), and selected songs on the texts of Friedrich Rückert (1788-1866). Egon Schwarz, Ph.D., Rosa May Distinguished University Professor of the Humanities in the German department and author of the book No Time for Eichendorff, will comment on the two poets and their literature.

Henderson joined the University faculty in 1981, spending three years as a soloist at the Hagen City Opera in Hagen, West Germany. She has appeared with the Royal Opera in Gdansk, Belgium, the City Opera in Berlin, Switzerland, and the Royal Opera in Bonn, Germany, among others.

Henderson has performed as a soloist and in chamber ensembles at the American Academy of the Arts in Verona, Italy, L'ecole Hindemith in Vevey, Switzerland, and at the Interna-
Modern sculptor's work on exhibit

A retrospective of sculpture by contemporary artist Louise Bourgeois will open in September at the Gallery of Art. Twenty-four of Bourgeois' recent works will be included in the exhibition of her sculpture's recent works.

Ait. Twenty-four of Bourgeois' recent works will be exhibited in the upper gallery Sept. 17 through Oct. 30. Bourgeois, born in Paris in 1911, was formerly a professor of sculpture at New York. Bourgeois sculptors in such diverse media as bronze, marble, wood, metal and rubber, with human sexuality a frequent theme in her work. Her most recent major exhibition was at New York's Museum of Modern Art.

While the Washington University faculty and the Zoo have long had an active relationship, the appointment of Johnson to head The Living World is expected to build a closer bridge between the two institutions. This year, more than 452,000 Washington University students have already applied for admission to Washington University's graduate program in biology. Few universities are in such close proximity to a world class zoo, so the link is the realization of an opportunity both to greatly enrich the teaching of biology at Washington University and to foster increased scientific exchange between the two institutions. The Living World stresses the interrelated nature of animal diversity and the fragility of ecosystems. The facility will feature two species educational exhibit halls that will feature 30 computer stations, 2 large video screens, 20 smaller video systems, 10 interactive video players, 85 2-minute films and more than 150 species of live animals.

The International Office is seeking 70 students for the Host Family Program for the 1988-1989 academic year. The International Office is seeking 70 students for the Host Family Program for the 1988-1989 academic year. The Host Family Program is designed to promote cultural exchange between the University's international students and American families. The host families do not provide living accommodations for the students, but do give them a taste of American life through monthly gatherings such as family dinners, trips to the theater and sports events. The families also help students become oriented to the local community.

In past years, the hosts have ranged from single parents to three-generation families. Students and families participate in the program for a minimum of one academic year and are paired according to common interests.

During the 1987-1988 academic year, approximately 700 foreign students from 72 countries attended Washington University. Of the 700 students, more than 500 were enrolled in graduate programs and the majority were males. The University's largest number of international students were from China and Taiwan.

For more information, call Suzanne Steinman at 889-4523.

Small-scale EPCOT Center

Johnson named Zoo's director of Living World — 'a teacher's dream'

George B. Johnson, Ph.D., professor of biology at Washington University, has been named director of the St. Louis Zoo's The Living World, a $16 million educational center that will open this spring.

The 55,000-square-foot, pavilion-like building will be the first facility in the world for live high technology, and living biology — a precedent-setting concept for the zoo of the future, says Johnson, who is also professor of genetics at the School of Medicine. He has been granted a one-year leave of absence from the University to supervise the undertaking, although he continues to teach "Biol 100," a very popular freshman course.

"You might think of The Living World as a sort of EPCOT Center on a smaller scale, except that The Living World is far more focused in theme and its technology is much newer," says Johnson, a biology department member since 1972. "We intend to replace at least 10 percent of the exhibits each year to keep The Living World scientifically current. In terms of entertainment and education, it's something to take the kids to year-round for free. And as an educational tool, it's a teacher's dream." The Living World stresses the interrelated nature of animal diversity and the fragility of ecosystems. The facility will feature two species educational exhibit halls that will feature 30 computer stations, 2 large video screens, 20 smaller video systems, 10 interactive video players, 85 2-minute films and more than 150 species of live animals.

In the Hall of Animals, visitors will be able to trace the evolution of the animal kingdom from one-celled creatures through worms and insects to fish, birds and mammals. Large video screens will show a multiple collection of color movies. A life-like robot of Charles Darwin will greet visitors to the hall and introduce Darwin's theory of evolution, which explains the diversity of the animal kingdom.

The Ecology Hall will show the relationship of animals to their environment. Visitors can view the world as seen by a low-flying satellite, showing views of deserts, mountains and forests. A 50-foot-long, eye-level "living model" of a Missouri Ozarks stream will contain live fish, amphibians and reptiles. Above the stream, visitors can see larger, predatory or nocturnal animals on video. Along the water's edge, they can view the stream's smallest creatures through microscopes. Computers will show how changes — a chemical spill, for instance — affect the entire stream.

Answers to thousands of biological questions will be available at the touch of a computer screen on a rail. The computers will also allow participation in interactive video games. A participant, for instance, may try to catch a flying insect like a bat does — with radar.

The Living World will include four modern classrooms, a large lecture hall and other teaching facilities; more than 120,000 students are expected to take one or more classes at the Zoo, beginning in 1989.

Our intent is to build strong bridges to Washington University, other colleges and universities in the area and the entire surrounding school systems," Johnson says. "The community has requested the Zoo strengthen for so many years. In a sense, the Living World is a gesture of giving back."

The Living World, when completed this spring, will "greatly enrich the teaching of biology at Washington University," says George R. Johnson, Ph.D., professor of biology and recently named director of the educational center at the St. Louis Zoo.
Jules Gerard, J.D., professor of law, spoke on a Civil Rights Public Interest Lawyering panel at the Annual Judicial Conference of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 8th Circuit. He appeared on behalf of 10th Street Legal Advisors, U.S. Department of State, and Thomas Jefferson School of Law as an associate professor of Public Affairs. They discussed the constitutional adequacy of the panel's executive and legislative branches in regard to the war-making power.

C. David Gutsche, Ph.D., professor of chemistry, has been selected to receive the Midwest Award sponsored by the St. Louis Section of the American Chemical Society. The award consists of a medal and an honorarium of $2,000. The award will be presented at the Midwest Regional Meeting to be held Nov. 16-19 at Iowa City.

Cori E. Hartje, manager of the Graduate School's Seven Days a Week Office, will be invited to speak at the Apple Computer National Resellers Conference in Denver, Colo. Her presentation was titled "Maximizing Resources Through Organizational Structure.

Craig Humphries, a doctoral candidate in political science, has had his paper titled "Exploring the relationship between Broken Arrow and Strike Activity," accepted for publication by the journal Comparative Politics.

Jack A. Kirkland, associate professor of social work at the George Warren Brown School of Social Work, has been named a member of the senate of the Edgewood Children’s Center, which has served troubled children for more than 150 years. The board also elected as a director Mary L. Parker, M.D., director of Student Health Services at Washington University.

Stephen Legomsky, J.D., professor of law, was selected as an associate member of the Commission on Financing Higher Education. NAICU, a nonprofit association of Independent Colleges and Universities (NAICU). The commission reports on equality, women (even those with disabilities), and immigration and the Bill of Rights." He also gave a faculty seminar at the conference. The second paper is "Quality of Their Gaits."

Have you done something noteworthy? Have you presented a paper? Won an award? Have you done something noteworthy?

Washington University's public relations department has won seven awards in the 1988 "Kaleidoscope" recognition competition sponsored by the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE). The annual program cites outstanding efforts in the areas of alumni, public, and student relations among more than 3,000 public and private colleges and universities and independent schools in the United States and Canada that are members of CASE.

Washington University's public relations department, which includes staff on the Medical School campus, won awards in the following categories: photographer of the decade, tabloid publishing, public relations projects, excellence in news writing, periodicals for special audiences; individual and group topography.

Herb Weitman, director of photographic services, captured the Grand Gold Medal Award and was named a "grand winner" in the individual photographs category for his photo of a student working in the high-speed computer lab. A total of 784 award winners were selected from among 5,900 entries in 60 categories. There were also 18 "grand winners" in special categories. Entries were judged by 60 panels consisting of more than 300 professionals and experts from CASE-member institutions.

Aging is topic of psychology series

Aging and how it relates to various aspects of psychology is the theme of this fall's colloquium series sponsored by the Department of Psychology.

Washington University's faculty and staff make news around the globe. Following is a digest of media coverage they have received in the past month for their scholarly activities, research and general expertise.

To speak or not to speak is a question that the deaf have debated for many years. Washington University's public relations department has won seven awards in the 1988 "Kaleidoscope" recognition competition sponsored by the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE). The annual program cites outstanding efforts in the areas of alumni, public, and student relations among more than 3,000 public and private colleges and universities and independent schools in the United States and Canada that are members of CASE.

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Music Concert with Carnatic Flute Music:

Department of Music Presents:

Friday, Sept. 16
3 p.m. Exhibition: “Louise Bourgeois, sculptor.” Mallinckrodt Center. A miniature Grand Prix race will be set up for students and faculty to participate.

Friday, Sept. 22
11 a.m.-1 p.m. “T.S. Eliot conference schedule of events”

Friday, Sept. 29
10 a.m.-4 p.m. “T.S. Eliot conference schedule of events”

Saturday, Oct. 1
8 p.m. “T.S. Eliot conference schedule of events”

T.S. Eliot conference

The weekend prior to the conference, the T.S. Eliot Society, an international organization devoted to the literary works of T.S. Eliot, will sponsor its 20th annual T.S. Eliot centenary celebration in St. Louis. A.D. Moody of the University of York, England, will deliver the society’s Eliot Memorial lecture. Michael and Graeme Grin, son and daughter-in-law of poet William B. Yeats, will speak; and Eliot’s last play, “The Elder Statesman,” 1959, will be presented.

In addition to the conference performance “Murder in the Cathedral,” that will also be staged at 8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 23, and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 24, the conference will also feature:

Monday, Sept. 19
4-6 p.m. Lecture: “The Poets Read and Discuss Eliot” in Edison Theatre

Monday, Sept. 19
7:30 p.m. Exhibition: “Louise Bourgeois, sculptor.” Mallinckrodt Center. A miniature Grand Prix race will be set up for students and faculty to participate.

Tuesday, Sept. 20

Wednesday, Sept. 21
11 a.m.-1 p.m. Grand Prix Mallinckrodt at 2 p.m. Graham Becket in “Murder in the Cathedral” at 2 p.m. Sept. 25, Graham Chapel. (Also Sat., Sept. 17, at 8 p.m.)

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Saturday, Oct. 1
10 a.m. TSE: Poet Raven’s “The Language of the Tribe,” Ruby Colle. “Anyone for Cocktails?” and David L. Jones. “Critics to Choose”

Sunday, Oct. 2
1 p.m. Reception

SUMMARY

TSE: Poet

Walter Ong: “T.S. Eliot and Today’s Ecumenism”


Lucy McDiarmid: “A Wicked Pack of Cards”

The Poets Read and Discuss Eliot

Frank Kermode at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 28, in Cuiras 111. The works presented will be selected by a member of the Eliot conference committee.

Program and planning committee chair Frank Kermode will host a farewell cocktail party at Terri’s, 11 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 28, in Cuiras 111. Members of the Eliot committee will be present.

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