

n September 28, 2006, Thomas A. Shippey, who holds the Walter J. Ong Chair of Humanities at Saint Louis University, will deliver a talk on C. S. Lewis and J. R.R. Tolkien entitled “Narnia and Middle-earth: Lewis, Tolkien, and Magic Art” in Traditions Hall at 7:00pm.. This talk will explore Lewis’ and Tolkien’s attitudes to magic in relation to the intellectual context of their time and their unexpected success and appeal in our time. The talk is free and open to the public.

Dr. Shippey, who received his graduate degrees from Cambridge University, has mainly pursued academic interests in medieval British literature, especially the earliest literature of Anglo-Saxon England, and in modern fantasy and science fiction. His publications in these areas are numerous. Dr. Shippey is well

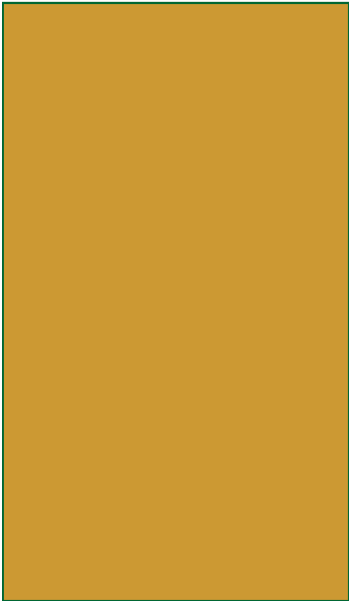
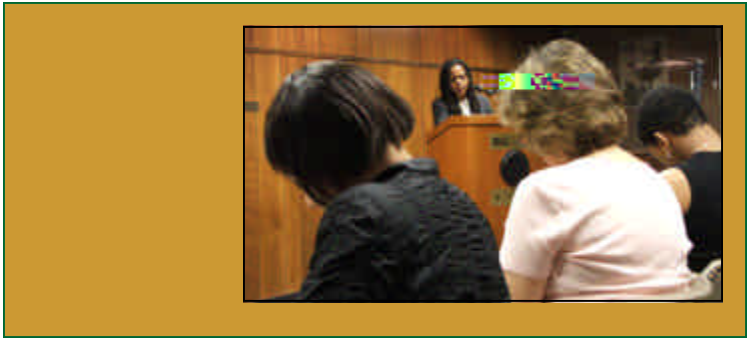
known for his studies on *Beowulf*, Old and Middle English verse and his very popular books on J.R.R. Tolkien: *The Road to Middle-earth* (1982, 4<sup>th</sup> enlarged edition 2005) and *J.R.R. Tolkien: Author of the Century* (2001). A collection of Dr. Shippey’s papers and articles on Tolkien is to be

“grammar and translation....” Spoken English was a huge, daily obstacle for me at first. Learning English from ages sixteen to eighteen while in college was a deeply traumatic and, at the same time, absorbing experience. The disappointments and rewards were immediate and not just in the practical sense. I savored English, relished English, suffered English. I was embarrassed and exhilarated by English, and this drove me to learn other languages and experience anew the same process....

The College of Basic Studies that South Florida had then, a kind of Core Curriculum like the one at Columbia and the one we tried to institute at Yale a number of years ago, was the beginning and foundation of everything that I did then—and have done since—in my work in language and literature. The centerpiece of that program was the year-long humanities course that we all had to take. What that course accomplished for many of us was nothing less than an inversion of values, a real turn around: it taught us that what is commonly thought of as an adornment to one’s education, a finishing touch of culture on top of the professional skills we acquired, was instead the very essence of a college education. The humanities are what distinguish the university from a vocational or technical school, and a college graduate from a technocrat. The humanities allow us to wonder about why and how we know, not so much about what to know, and provide us with what I would call the

good manners of learning and knowledge: in one word, wisdom....

But what is, after all, the core of that humanistic education? What is that inversion of values that I said the humanities course brought about in us? In a nutshell, I think that it amounts to learning to think “outside the box” and outside ourselves....The humanities allow us to think the impossible as being possible; it urges us to view things differently than we are accustomed to seeing them and to derive pleasure and knowledge from the intellectual and aesthetic experience. I don’t mean just practical knowledge, though that can be our 091 Tc 0.00381dt-uallbu7 Tc can teach us to view the world and ourselves differently. It is a lesson about the



# Schedule of Events

## SEPTEMBER

**September 19** **Great Books with Victor Pappard** (World Languages) Dostoevsky's *Notes From the Underground*  
Traditions Hall, Alumni Center  
6 pm Admission Fee

**September 27** **Florida Conversation**, a panel discussing 50 years of USF's growth with panelists **Sam M. Gibbons, Liana Fernandez Fox, Mark I. Greenberg,** and **State Senator Les Miller** and moderated by **William Scheuerle** as part of USF's 50th Anniversary events.  
Lifsey House  
6:30pm

**September 27** **Thomas Shippey** (St. Louis University) lecturing in Rick Wilber's Mass Communication and Society class (2:00) and John Hatcher's Tolkien's Theory of Fiction class (3:00)

**September 28** An Evening with **Thomas Shippey** (Saint Louis University) discussing "Narnia and Middle-Earth: Lewis, Tolkien, the Magic Art"  
Traditions Hall, Alumni Center  
7 pm

## OCTOBER

**October 10** **Research in the Humanities with Kevin Yelvington** (Anthropology) "From the New Negro to the New World Negro: Melville J. Heskovits and the Making of Afro-American Anthropology"  
Grace Allen Room, 4th Floor, Library  
12 pm

**October 12** **Great Books Series with Larry Broer** (English) F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*  
Traditions Hall, Alumni Center  
6 pm  
Admission Fee



**October 19** **"Main Event": with Brent Weisman** (Anthropology) discussing his book *The Lost Florida Manuscript of Frank Hamilton Cushing* and *The Florida Journals of Frank Hamilton*  
Grace Allen Room  
5 pm

**October 24** **Research in the Humanities with Martin Schönfeld** (Philosophy Department) "Confucius and Kant: Transfer from China to the West"  
Grace Allen Room, 4th Floor Library  
4 pm

## NOVEMBER

**November 6** "Borges and the Spanish Language: A Celebration," an event celebrating Jorge

**November 15**

**November 16**

**November 30**



one, was founded in 1907 and endowed

#### English

At the 27<sup>th</sup> annual conference of the Nineteenth Century Studies Association held at Salisbury University, Salisbury, Maryland on March 16-18, 2006, **Regina Hewitt** received the NCSA President's Award. This award was initiated in 2004 to provide an opportunity to recognize sustained service and excellence in scholarship in interdisciplinary nineteenth-century studies. Professor Hewitt, a scholar of the Romantic Era, has served on the Board of Directors of the Association for the past 14 years in various capacities, including conference planner, program director, board member, newsletter acting co-editor, secretary and vice president.

#### History

**David K. Johnson** recently received a Phil Zwickler Memorial Research Grant from Cornell University to conduct research in the University Library's Human Sexuality Collection for his project on gay consumer culture before Stonewall.

**William Murray** was appointed the Charles Eliot Norton Memorial Lecturer for 2006/2007 by the Archaeological Institute of America. The Norton Lectureship, the Institute's most prestigious



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