JULY 1-30, 2014
“RECONSIDERING FLANNERY O’CONNOR”: AN NEH SUMMER INSTITUTE

Apply to be one of 25 scholars who will spend a month in Georgia, studying the work and life of Flannery O’Connor through seminars, field trips to key O’Connor sites, visiting lecturers and creative readings, and work with O’Connor’s manuscripts and other materials in the O’Connor Collection of Georgia College.

Seminar Faculty

BRAD GOOCH
William Paterson U & Author of Flannery: A Life

DOREEN FOWLER
U of Kansas

ROBERT BRINKMEYER
U of South Carolina

CHRISTINA BIEBER LAKE
Wheaton College

GARY CIUBA
Kent State U—Trumbull

VIRGINIA WRAY
Lyon College

For Additional Information, Contact Institute Co-Directors Marshall Bruce Gentry & Robert Donahoo:
nehocconnor@gmail.com
Visit our web site (after 11/10/13):
gcsu.edu/nehocconnor

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“RECONSIDERING FLANNERY O’CONNOR”: AN NEH SUMMER INSTITUTE FOR 2014

For over 50 years, general readers, students, and scholars encountering the fiction of Flannery O’Connor have found thrill and shock, inspiration and mystification, and laughter and horror within her unforgettable short stories and novels, and they have all contributed to the lively debate about her powerful art.

Now, thanks to funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities, July of 2014 will offer the opportunity for 22 college-level teachers and three graduate students to dive into the culture and environment that inspired O’Connor as part of an NEH Summer Institute, “Reconsidering Flannery O’Connor.”

The institute, running from July 1 to 30, 2014, will lead these 25 selected NEH Summer Scholars to reconsider thorny (and teachable) issues of religion, race, violence and human consciousness, and cultural conflicts, with the help of distinguished scholars including Robert H. Brinkmeyer, Jr. (University of South Carolina), Gary M. Ciuba (Kent State University-Trumbull), Doreen Fowler (University of Kansas), O’Connor biographer Brad Gooch (William Paterson University), Christina Bieber Lake (Wheaton College), and Virginia Wray (Lyon College). In addition, these NEH Summer Scholars will also have the opportunity to enrich the discussion of published works by examining O’Connor’s manuscripts and other sources housed in Special Collections of the Georgia College Library and Instructional Technology Center. And this will be supplemented by special lectures from such scholars as O’Connor’s friend and biographer W. A. Sessions, long-time editor of The Flannery O’Connor Bulletin Sarah Gordon, president of the Flannery O’Connor Society Avis Hewitt, African-American studies scholar Nagueyalti Warren, and Georgia historian Robert Wilson.

Each NEH Summer Scholar will spend two weeks in seminars (working closely with 2 of the 6 seminar leaders each week) and will spend another week in the O’Connor Collection. In addition, each Summer Scholar will work with seminar leaders matched to that Summer Scholar’s interests as well as have time for reading, research, and writing. Nights will include opportunities to attend readings by creative writers, and housed as a group in Georgia College’s Sanford Hall, Summer Scholars will have time to exchange ideas and discoveries with their fellow Summer Scholars. To financially aid each Summer Scholar, the NEH provides a stipend of $3,300.00.

Under the co-direction of Marshall Bruce Gentry (Professor of English and Editor of the Flannery O’Connor Review) and Robert Donahoo (Professor of English and past-president of the Flannery O’Connor Society), this institute builds on a highly successful one in 2007—an institute that has resulted to date in 3 books, 24 peer-reviewed articles, and 63 conference presentations.

Anyone with questions about the Institute should send them to Gentry and Donahoo at nehoconnor@gmail.com. A webpage with application information is currently under construction and should be available by November 2013 at gcsu.edu/nehoconnor. Applications for attending the institute will be due March 4, 2014.