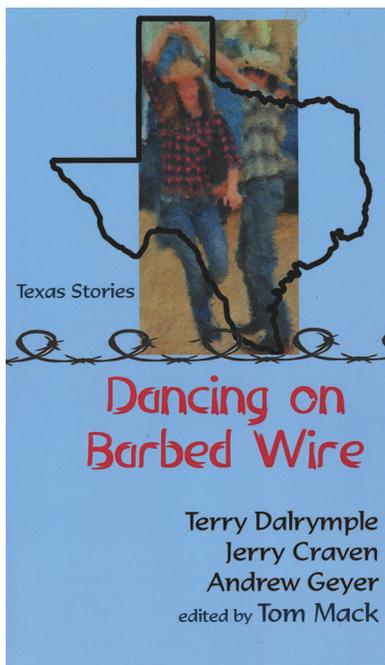


# 2019-2020 JAMES AND MARY OSWALD Distinguished Writers Series

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH – USC AIKEN

Tuesday, October 29th, at 7:30 p.m. on the Etherredge Center Main Stage



Please join us as Jerry Craven, Terry Dalrymple, and Drew Geyer read from their acclaimed new story cycle *Dancing on Barbed Wire* (edited by Tom Mack), a book that Jeanetta Calhoun Mish, Oklahoma State Poet Laureate, calls, “Remarkable... Like nothing you’ve ever seen before in print. The closest analogies are in film—the works of Terence Malick—and in television—*True Detective* and *The Wire*. Nonlinear, threaded, thematically related, and revisiting characters and/or the descendants of characters, the three authors and the editor of the collection have created a world much more like the real world than most fiction.”

*“Only narrative wizardry could alchemically transform dead dogs, decaying feral cats, shifting patronymics, and generations of genetic and self-made bastards into gorgeous literature. Yet this is precisely what these three masters of the short story have done in *Dancing on Barbed Wire*. The stories are so exquisitely crafted and ingeniously interconnected that they appear to be unrehearsed, spontaneous.”*

—Harold Raley, author of *Louisiana Rogue*



The author of twenty-seven books to date, and a member of the Texas Institute of Letters, Jerry Craven is equally adept at writing novels, short stories, and poetry. His most recent novels include *The Big Thicket*, *Searching for Rama’s Spear*, *The Wild Part*, *Women of Thunder*, and *The Jungle’s Edge*. He serves as press director for Lamar University Literary Press and Ink Brush Press.



A member of the Texas Institute of Letters, Terry Dalrymple holds the John S. Cargile Professorship in English at Angelo State University. Dalrymple is the founding editor of the literary journal *Concho River Review* and the author of the novel *Fishing for Trouble* and the story collections *Love Stories (Sort Of)* and *Salvation and Other Stories*.



Andrew Geyer has published nine book-length works of fiction, the latest of which is the short-story cycle *Lesser Mountains*. A member of the Texas Institute of Letters, and recently selected for induction into the South Carolina Academy of Authors, Geyer currently serves as English Department Chair at the University of South Carolina Aiken and as fiction editor for *Concho River Review*.



Tom Mack has published six books, including *Hidden History of Aiken County*, *Circling the Savannah*, and *Hidden History of Augusta*. A recipient of the Governor’s Award in the Humanities, Mack began his long career as a member of the English Department at the University of South Carolina Aiken in 1976; he currently holds the rank of Distinguished Professor Emeritus.

For more information on the series, please call the USC Aiken English Department at 803-641-3498.



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English

In 1985, thanks to the support of Dr. Robert Alexander, Chancellor Emeritus, the Department of English established an annual visiting writers’ series. In 1995, this series was renamed the James and Mary Oswald Distinguished Writers Series in honor of two longtime Aiken residents who created an endowment to enhance departmental initiatives to promote general interest in the English language and its literatures.