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**Commemorating 450th Anniversary of Shakespeare’s Birth**
Final 2013-14 ECU Voyages Lecturer to Discuss Shakespeare in America

GREENVILLE, N.C. (March 10, 2014) — East Carolina University soon will welcome to campus Dr. James S. Shapiro, the Larry Miller Professor of English and Comparative Literature at Columbia University, who will deliver the final lecture in the 2013-14 Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences’ Voyages of Discovery Lecture Series.

Shapiro, who is also the Shakespeare Scholar in Residence at the Public Theater in New York City, will discuss “Shakespeare in America,” at 7 p.m., March 27, in ECU’s Wright Auditorium. This free, public lecture is part of a series of events celebrating the 450th anniversary of Shakespeare’s birth, and is co-sponsored by the Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences Department of English and the David Julian and Virginia Suther Whichard Distinguished Professorship in the Humanities. A question and answer session will follow the presentation.

After completing his doctoral degree at the University of Chicago in 1982, Shapiro joined the faculty at Columbia University in 1985, teaching and publishing widely on Shakespeare and Elizabethan culture. Shapiro also has served as a Fulbright Lecturer at Bar Ilan and Tel Aviv Universities and as the Wanamaker Fellow at the Globe Theatre in London.


Among his many professional honors, Shapiro has received fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Cullman Center for Scholars and Writers, and the Huntington Library. He is a Governor of the Folger Shakespeare Library, sits on the Board of Directors of the Royal Shakespeare Company, and in 2011 was inducted into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

This event is free and open to the public. Complimentary tickets for Shapiro’s lecture are available by calling the ECU Central Ticket Office at 252-328-4788 or 1-800-ECU-ARTS. Individuals requesting accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) should call 252-737-1016 (voice/TTY) at least 48 hours prior to the event.
Financial underwriting for the Voyages of Discovery Lecture series is made possible by Harriot College’s Dean’s Advancement Council, various university organizations, and many friends and supporters. To make a contribution to the series, or for additional information, contact Dr. John A. Tucker, director of the lecture series, at 252-328-1028, or via email at tuckerjo@ecu.edu. You may also visit the series’ web site at http://www.ecu.edu/voyages.

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