A Symposium in Honor of
LARRY LIPKING

FRIDAY, APRIL 27th
HARRIS HALL 108
1881 SHERIDAN ROAD, EVANSTON, IL

9:30-10 am Coffee

10:15-10:30 Welcome and Introductory Remarks
DAN LINZER, Dean
Winship College of Arts and Sciences
Northwestern University

CHRISTOPHER LANE
Northwestern University

Moderator:
BEN PAULEY
Eastern Connecticut State University

10:30 HELEN DEUTSCH
University of California, Los Angeles
“Dismantled Souls: The Verse Epistle, Embodied Subjectivity, and Poetic Animation”

11:15 PAT ROGERS
University of South Florida
“Checkers Careers: The Evolution of Johnson’s ‘Harmless Game’”

Respondent:
SEAN SHESGREEN
Northern Illinois University

12:30 pm LUNCH

SATURDAY, APRIL 28th
HAGSTRUM ROOM, UNIVERSITY HALL 201
1897 SHERIDAN ROAD, EVANSTON, IL

8:30-9 am Coffee

9:15 BRUCE REDFORD
Boston University
“The Ordering of the Orders in 18th-Century England”

10:00 RICHARD WENDORF
The Boston Athenaeum
“Burke’s Reynolds, Reynolds’s Burke”

10:45 BREAK

11:00 PETER SACKS
Harvard University
“Prisoners and Ancestors”

11:15 LARRY LIPKING
Northwestern University
“Inventing a Life: A Personal View of Literary Careers”

12:00 pm Concluding Remarks:
HELEN THOMPSON
Northwestern University

“CRITICAL MOVES”

April 27-28, 2007
NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY
Evanston, IL
Symposium Location:
Harris Hall (119) is located at 1881 Sheridan Road, just northeast of the junction of Chicago Avenue and Sheridan Road in Evanston. University Hall (120) is located at 1897 Sheridan Road, directly facing north of Harris Hall.

Parking:
Parking is free to visitors after 4:00 pm on weekdays and during all weekend hours. Ample parking is available in the two-tiered parking structure on the southeast part of campus (P). The lot is accessed from Campus Drive just north of the Sheridan Road curve.

Map and Parking Directions:

Symposium Committee:
Christopher Lane, Northwestern University
Martin Mueller, Northwestern University
Helen Thompson, Northwestern University
Wendy Wall, Northwestern University

At the end of the 2006–07 academic year, Larry Lipking—Chester D. Tripp Professor of the Humanities; member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences; winner of the Phi Beta Kappa Christian Gauss Award and the MLA William Riley Parker Prize; editor of the Norton Anthology of English Literature; and “son of a prize fighter” (a detail proudly noted in a recent anthology introduction)—will retire.

During his 28 years at Northwestern, he has inspired the admiration of his colleagues and students alike. His course evaluations use the declarative (“Lipking is God!”) and the interrogative (“Do you know everything?”) to formulate an apt response to a scholar of his stature. And yet these exclamations, and the narratives that arise from them, continue to sound strange to Lipking, who avows that he never thinks of himself as an Establishment figure except when he reads his evaluations.

When he first arrived at Northwestern, Lipking often devoted himself to professional activity, serving on the MLA executive council and the editorial board of the PMLA, delivering lectures for Phi Beta Kappa, and, he explains, “running around in all kinds of professional ways.” In the last decade of his career, though, he has become less professional, embracing the opportunity to think and write as the theoretically catholic maverick he has always felt himself to be.

Lipking’s scholarly interests are nothing if not ecumenical; he has published on everything from Sappho to Shelley, Camões to chess, the mirror stage to The Mirror and the Lamp. This breadth has often surprised audiences who expect a staid intellectual conservatism from an editor of The Norton Anthology. His 1988 book Abandoned Women and Poetic Tradition appeared in Catherine Stimpson’s Women in Culture and Society series, alongside other such foundational books as Rewriting the Renaissance, edited by Margaret Ferguson, Maureen Quilligan, and Nancy Vickers, and Playing the Other: Gender and Society in Greek Classical Literature, by Froma Zeitlin. His other books include The Ordering of the the Arts in Eighteenth-Century England, The Life of the Poet, and Samuel Johnson: The Life of an Author, as well as editions of Modern Literary Criticism 1900–1970 (with A. Walton Litz) and High Romantic Argument: Essays for M. H. Abrams.

He is currently writing about relations between the arts and sciences in the seventeenth century: What Galileo Saw: Imagining the Scientific Revolution.

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Free and open to the public

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Department of English
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Evanston, IL 60208-2240