



HOWARD UNIVERSITY

College of ARTS AND SCIENCES
Department of English
PRESENTS
the 58th annual

Charles Eaton BURCH Memorial Lecture

Charles Eaton Burch (1891 - 1948)

Charles Eaton Burch was born in Bermuda in 1891. Joining the Department of English at Howard in the 1920s as Associate Professor, he created and entered into the curriculum (in 1923) a course called English 44, described as an intensive study of American literature dealing with Negro life and character. That course would evolve as the study of the oral cultural forms of the Negro Folk and a study of Negro literature under the guidance of the late distinguished Howard University Professor Sterling Allen Brown.

During the 1930s, as professor of English, Dr. Burch became (what was then called) Head of the Department. With his leadership, the Department of English began the great gathering that formed its historical senior faculty, among it: Jason Clifton Grant, Shakespearean; Ivan Earle Taylor, Seventeenth Century scholar; Charlotte Watkins, specialist in Victorian literature; Gertrude Beatrice Rivers, Romantic literature; Sterling A. Brown, folklorist and Professor of American literature; and Arthur Paul Davis, who in 1964 offered the first graduate course in the Study of African American literature.

Professor Burch died as he was returning from Yale University, where he had gone to review materials to use in his definitive work on Daniel Defoe. In 1949 the members of the Department of English established the Charles Eaton Burch Memorial Lectures to honor the work of their colleague and friend.

Turning South Again
Re-Thinking Modernism
Re-Reading Booker T
I Don't Hate the South, Reflected
on Faulkner, Family, and the
South Black Studies



HOUSTON A.
BAKER Jr.
distinguished
University Professor
VANDERBILT
UNIVERSITY
keynote
speaker

March 25, 2010

3.30PM

Andrew Rankin Memorial Chapel
Howard University
6th and Howard Place, NW
WASHINGTON DC