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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEW LETTERS ON THE AIR PRODUCER TRAVELS TO HER HOME STATE OF
GEORGIA FOR INTERVIEWS WITH WRITERS

Angela Elam, the host of *New Letters on the Air*, the nationally distributed public radio literary program produced by *New Letters* magazine at the University of Missouri-Kansas City, is returning to where she got her start in radio—WUGA, 91.7 FM—to interview writers, April 20-27, 2015. Elam received her Master of Fine Arts degree in dramatic writing from the University of Georgia and began her career in public radio at the NPR affiliate in Athens, Georgia.

On Tuesday evening April 21, Elam will conduct an interview with the current Georgia Poet Laureate Judson Mitcham. The recipient of many honors—including recognition in the Georgia Writers Hall of Fame—Mitcham has been Georgia's Author of the Year twice—once for poetry and again for fiction. This event will be in front of an audience at the Indigo Hotel at 7 p.m. in Athens and will be recorded by WUGA for later broadcast on *New Letters on the Air*. Three of Mitcham's books published by the University of Georgia Press will be on sale there.

The Georgia Review's Seventh Annual Earth Day Program will take place on Wednesday, April 22 at 7 p.m. and feature the award-winning environmental writer Gary Ferguson. Winner of the 2005 Montana Book of the Year Award, Ferguson will be the main speaker for the Earth Day Program at the State Botanical Garden of Georgia, sponsored by various University of Georgia departments. Elam will interview Ferguson at the WUGA studio earlier that day at 2 p.m. to discuss his 2014 memoir, *The Carry Home*, about the death of his wife while on a wilderness canoe trip for their 25th anniversary.

Another member of the Georgia Hall of Fame and author of 19 publications, Phillip Lee Williams, will be interviewed for *New Letters on the Air* on Monday morning at 10:30 a.m., when he will talk about his recent books of poetry, fiction and memoir, including his recently released *The Color of All Things: 99 Love Poems*. Williams has been named Georgia Author of the Year a record four times, in addition to being a prize-winning documentary film writer and producer.

Angela Elam also serves as 2014-15 Simons Public Humanities Fellows at the University of Kansas' Hall Center for the Humanities, in addition to her ongoing duties as producer/host of *New Letters on the Air*, an independent production of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Missouri-Kansas City, partially funded by the Missouri Arts Council, a state agency. Elam has been producer of the series since 1996.

New Letters on the Air is a weekly program is distributed through the Public Radio Satellite System's Content Depot and via the Public Radio Exchange (PRX.org), and is aired on various public radio stations throughout the country and in Germany. The radio companion to the literary magazine, *New Letters*, is also available via free podcast on i-Tunes and on the website www.newletters.org. Robert Stewart is the executive director and the assistant producer is Jamie Walsh.