The English Graduate Colloquium presents:

“ANONYMOUS JOHNSON”
a talk by
Dr. Robert Folkenflik
Professor Emeritus of English,
University of California, Irvine

In this case study of eighteenth-century anonymity, situated within the cultural expectations of the period, Professor Folkenflik deals with the implications of the paradox that Johnson, whom we know collectively better than any other C18 author, was nearly anonymous until "The Vanity of Human Wishes" (1749), and continued to be in some important ways. Dr. Folkenflik will be arguing that the same name does not appear in different cases for different reasons, and will also be speaking of its infrequent appearances over a forty-year period and reasons for its continued absence from title pages—even after it more commonly appeared. The talk will consider how much people knew about Johnson's authorship, how they knew, and issues of authorial cross-dressing. Bit players include literary figures from Pope and Swift to Scott and Austen.

Friday, April 2, 10:30am-12pm
Humanities Gateway 1030
Light refreshments will be served.

The English Graduate Colloquium series seeks to develop intellectual community and professional solidarity by providing a forum for faculty to share recent work with graduate students and respond to current questions about professionalization.