



Shakespeare Oxford Society

Dedicated to Researching and Honoring the True Bard

For Immediate Release

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Shakespeare Oxford Society Appoints Professor Michael Egan, Award-Winning Shakespeare Scholar, as Editor of the *The Oxfordian*

New editor of the Society's flagship scholarly journal believes the Shakespeare authorship issue is a "legitimate and important area for investigation" and that "there are enough doubts to continue serious academic research"

Professor Egan (Ph.D Cambridge University) is Scholar In Residence at Brigham Young University-Hawaii, and winner of the Adele Mellen Prize for Distinguished Contribution to Scholarship for his 2006 book, *The First Part of the Tragedy of King Richard the Second*, which he claims is a newly discovered Shakespeare play

YORKTOWN HEIGHTS, NY – February 28, 2008 -- The Shakespeare Oxford Society announced today the appointment of Professor Michael Egan, Ph.D, a renowned, award-winning Shakespeare scholar, as the new editor of *The Oxfordian*, the Society's flagship scholarly publication.

Commenting on his appointment, Professor Egan stated: "I believe the Shakespeare authorship mystery is a legitimate and important area for investigation and that there are enough doubts or unexplored areas to continue serious academic research."

Matthew Cossolotto, President of the Shakespeare Oxford Society, said: "We're delighted that a scholar of Professor Egan's international stature has agreed to join us as the editor of our flagship annual publication. He replaces the founding editor, Stephanie Hughes, who has decided to retire after finishing work this month on her tenth edition of *The Oxfordian*. We thank Stephanie for her hard work and dedication even as we welcome Professor Egan to *The Oxfordian* team."

Cossolotto continued: "Let me be clear that Professor Egan is open-minded as to the identity of the true author behind the Shakespeare works. Some may ask: Why would our Society appoint a non-Oxfordian to this important position? First of all I would reply that Professor Egan has an outstanding reputation as a renowned Shakespeare scholar and editor. So his credentials for the position are beyond question. Secondly, I believe his appointment shows that the Society is non-dogmatic, that we're willing to follow the

evidence. That's why we have also called for the creation of an impartial blue-ribbon commission of multi-disciplinary experts to explore the authorship question in detail."

Professor Egan added: "If the traditional 'Shakespeare' did not write the plays ascribed to him, who did? On this matter I am not settled. I have a lot of sympathy for the Oxfordian response, but frankly my mind remains open. I believe all scholars worthy of the name should allow the research to take us wherever it leads, and that's exactly how I intend to operate as editor of *The Oxfordian*."

More About Professor Michael Egan, Ph.D

Michael Egan is an internationally known writer, consultant and educator, with experience working in England, South Africa, the USA mainland and Hawaii. Currently Scholar in Residence, Brigham Young University-Hawaii, and Executive Editor at Trade Publishing Company, Honolulu, Egan earned his M.A. and Ph.D degrees from Cambridge University, England. He has served as Professor of English and Management at Bryant University, RI; Professor of English, University of Massachusetts, Amherst; Visiting Professor, University of Hawaii, Hawaii Pacific University, Thames Polytechnic, London, and Lancaster University, U.K. He is a prize-winning author of ten books in literature and an impressive list of well over 80 professional articles.

More About The Shakespeare Oxford Society

Founded in 1957, New York-based Shakespeare Oxford Society is a nonprofit, educational organization dedicated to exploring the Shakespeare authorship question and researching the evidence that Edward de Vere, the 17th Earl of Oxford (1550 – 1604) is the true author of the poems and plays of "William Shakespeare. Visit www.shakespeare-oxford.com for more information. Other useful sites include: www.shakespearefellowship.org, www.doubtaboutwill.org, www.shakespearebyanothername.com, www.deveresociety.co.uk, and www.oxford-shakespeare.com.

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