

Arcadia University English Professor Named Finalist for 2009 PEN Award

Arcadia University Adjunct Professor of English Randall Couch was named one of two finalists for the 2009 PEN Award for Outstanding Book of Poetry in Translation for his translation of Gabriela Mistral's *Madwomen*.

The awards citation says: "Randall Couch has performed a remarkable task of editorial spadework, gathering a coherent set of Gabriela Mistral's last poems from various sources and creating an informed context that enables an appreciative reading. He has thus renewed the afterlife of a modern Chilean poet who, despite her status as a Nobel Laureate, remains on the fringes of the canon of Spanish poetries in English. It is Couch's sensitive translations, however, that play the most decisive role in this renewal: he has transformed the challenging Spanish texts into English poems characterized by resonant diction and forceful rhythms, effectively recreating Mistral's impassioned imagery and complex metrics."

