

UNIVERSITY OF PORTLAND

## Fourteenth Annual Northwest Undergraduate Conference on Literature

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Contemporary Responses,  
Critical Contexts

Saturday, March 25, 2017



The Northwest Undergraduate Conference on Literature was founded at the University of Portland in 2004 by Herman Asarnow, Professor Emeritus of English. Dr. Asarnow's school-aged daughter gave him the idea when she wondered why there were so many science fairs and not too many literature fairs in her school. NUCL has been held annually for the past 14 years, enabled by the dedication of the University of Portland English department (staff, faculty, interns, and students) and the generous support of the College of Arts and Sciences, Provost's Office, and Office of Admissions. Since 2004, more than 700 students from nearly 50 high schools and colleges from across the country have come to UP to share their literary passions and commitments with the NUCL community.

Welcome! We're glad you're part of this tradition.

"If one reads enough books, one has a fighting chance.  
Or better, one's chances of survival increase with each book one reads."

—Sherman Alexie

# NUCL 2017 PROGRAM OF EVENTS

**SIGN-IN** 8:30-9:00  
Mago Hunt Auditorium Foyer

**WELCOME** 9:00-9:15  
Mago Hunt Recital Hall

Michael Andrews, Ph.D.  
Dean, UP College of Arts and Sciences

Molly Hiro, Ph.D.  
NUCL Co-Chair

**SESSION I** 9:30-10:45

**1. Transhistorical Ecology**

Gary Snyder and the Ecological Life:  
A Philosophical Close Reading

The Hunted and the Huntress:  
Humanist Hierarchy and the Feminist  
Queen in *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*

Martha Ray's Mountaintop:  
An Ecofeminist Reading of "The Thorn"

Respondents: David Jacobs and Abby Neiryneck

**Franz 217**

Melissa Schade  
Seattle University

Tyler Tennant  
University of Portland

Tess Rohlfing  
University of Portland

**2. Bodies and the Body Politic in the  
Early Modern World**

Producing Bodies: Proto-Capitalist  
Rationale and Exploitative Maternity  
in Josuah Sylvester's *The Divine Weeks  
and Works*

Physical Bodies and the Body Politic  
in *Siege of Jerusalem*

Bad Girl Performativity in Shakespeare's  
*Antony and Cleopatra* and Cary's *Tragedy  
of Mariam*

Respondents: Alex Allen and Morgan Mann

**Franz 106**

Jacqueline Greenberg  
University of California,  
Berkeley

Sasha Foley  
University of Portland

Jessica Busek  
University of Portland

- 3. Trumping the Truth: History and Facts Now** **Franz 128**
- Never Sink: Lessons from  
*White Jacket's Man-of-War World*
- Communication's Important Algorithms  
and Re-Compilation Thresholds: Literature's  
Engagement Emulator
- Facts and Their Discontents
- Respondents: Arran Fagan and Kate Garcia
- Ayla (Deja) Johnson  
Concordia University
- Joshua Tuttle  
Whitworth University
- Timmy Straw  
Reed College
- 4. Race, Gender, and Form** **Franz 205**
- The Hopelessness and Frustration of  
Charles Chesnutt's *The House Behind the Cedars*
- "To Strengthen Whilst One Stands": Sisterhood  
as Salvation in "Goblin Market"
- Resisting Americanized Truths: An Exploration  
of Asian American Literatures and Their Authors
- Respondents: Ryan Greenberg and  
Kelley McCaffery
- David Mudd  
University of Portland
- Emily Nelson  
University of Portland
- Jane Kidder  
Seattle University
- 5. Religious Borders, Spiritual Binaries** **Franz 206**
- Beyond "Secular" and "Sacred": Pentecost and  
the Pentecostal Oath
- Difficult Balance: Analyzing Tension between  
the Physical and Ideal Worlds in Three Poems  
by Richard Wilbur
- Wide Sargasso Sea*: Problematizing Religion  
and Feminism in *Jane Eyre* and the Western World
- Respondents: Laura Misch and Julia Boharski
- Christopher Volk  
Whitworth University
- Chloe Jensen  
Jesuit High School
- Rebecca Lynn Gross  
University of Washington
- 6. A Self Exposed: Personal Essays** **Franz 214**
- The Worst of the Worst and the Bildung  
of a Recidivist
- Our Utterances Ourselves
- Jesus, Dad, Manuel, Father, Manny
- Clint Terrell  
University of California,  
Berkeley
- Jacey de la Torre  
Reed College
- Monica Salazar  
University of Portland

Phở Isn't Far from Poetry

Charlene Quach  
Pacific Lutheran University

Respondents: Stephen Kellar and Catherine Warner

**7. Critique on Criticism: Moralizing and Misunderstood Authors**

**Franz 223**

The Stain on a Nation

Jake Woods  
Southern Oregon University

Wilde's Controversial Aestheticism:  
How *Dorian Gray* Killed the Aesthetic Movement

Harrison Pyros  
University of Portland

The Griswold Anatomists: Victorian  
Moral Reception

George Leickly  
University of Washington

Respondents: Jacqueline Ott and Kirby Graff

**SESSION II**

**11:00-12:15**

**1. Swords 'n Stuff: Thing Theory in Early British Literature**

**Franz 231**

The Voice of the Sword: Applying  
Object-Oriented Ontology to *Beowulf*

Tess Rohlfling  
University of Portland

Humans, Objects, and Agency in  
*Siege of Jerusalem*

Rebekah Kolb  
University of Portland

From Figs to Asps: The Relationship  
Between Gendered Objects and Performance  
in Shakespeare's *Antony and Cleopatra*

Hannah Vogel  
University of Portland

Respondents: Keaton Gaughan and Tinglei Huang

**2. Being Human: The EmBODYment of Social Justice**

**Franz 217**

Dehumanization of the Common Man:  
Kafka's Morality Tale for 21st-Century America

Brennan Cupp  
Southern New  
Hampshire University

The Road to Starvation: Nourishment  
and Body Politics in *The Hunger Games*  
and *The Road*

Anthony Boucher  
Southern New  
Hampshire University

Altruism and Agape: Sacrificing the  
Self in Post-America

Jemiscoe Chambers-Black  
Southern New  
Hampshire University

Respondents: Jennifer Hill and Will Young

- 3. Grand Dames of British Literature: Austen, Eliot, Woolf Franz 106**
- Truths Universally Acknowledged: Exploring the Layers of Mr. Darcy's Relationship to Pride, Society, and the Byronic Hero Lydia Pierson  
Whitworth University
- The Dead Hand: Agency and Allegory in *Middlemarch* Kristen Wilson  
University of California, Berkeley
- People and Things: A Phenomenological Reading of Virginia Woolf's *Mrs. Dalloway* Alyssa Brooks  
Whitworth University
- Respondents: Megan Macker and Emily Nelson
- 4. Gendered Adaptations Franz 128**
- Reclaiming Leda: Michael Field's Interpretation Caroline Cabral  
Southern Oregon University
- Constructing A Feminist Framework: Barrett Browning's *Aurora Leigh* Hannah Mlsna  
University of Washington
- The Evolution of the Directional Purpose of Parody Morgan Mann  
University of Portland
- Respondents: Elizabeth Barker and Emily Kline
- 5. Stories that Tell: Narrations and Their Readers Franz 214**
- The Physical Fictional: Materiality and Reader Response in *S.* and *Building Stories* Joseph Ciurlino  
Rutgers University-Camden
- "Palabras casi vacias de ruido"; Faulkner, Rulfo, and the Politics of Narration Jason Bircea  
University of California, Berkeley
- The Literary and Philosophical Culture of Autobiographical Narratives Erica Heim  
University of Oregon
- Multiple Narratives in Coleridge's "The Rime of the Ancient Mariner" and Shelley's "Alastor" Danielle Tellvik  
Oregon State University
- Respondents: Sam Leicht and Emily Fitzgerald
- 6. Race, Gender, and Exchange in the City Franz 205**
- Culture as a Cage in Amy Levy's *Reuben Sachs* Lena Mejdrich  
Southern Oregon University
- The Exploitation of the Male Gaze in Dreiser's *Sister Carrie* Chanelle Parris  
Portland State University
- Economic and Emotional Strain: Identity in the City Makaveli Gresham  
Portland State University

The City that Glowed Before Him: Segregation and the Effects of the City in *Go Tell It on the Mountain*

Dante Fumagalli  
Southern Oregon University

Respondents: Catherine Adam and Brigid Lowney

## 7. Homelands: Negotiating Place & Identity

The Displaced Subject: Hybridity and Third Spaces through an Economic Lens in *Everyday is for the Thief*

Sara Gómez-Horta  
Linfield University

Exploration of Western Imposition on Native Land and Identity in *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*

Sasha Foley  
University of Portland

Settlers vs. Savages: The Construction of the White Frontier American in Laura Ingalls Wilder's *Little House on the Prairie*

Nikhil Murthy  
Catlin Gabel High School

Respondents: Sarah Mernaugh and Monica Salazar

## LUNCH AND AWARDS

12:30-1:30

The Bauccio Board Room

Awards Presented by Joshua Swidzinski, Ph.D.  
NUCL Co-Chair

## KEYNOTE ADDRESS

1:45-2:45

Bauccio Commons

“Critical Thought for Critical Times”

Dr. Erica Edwards, University of California, Riverside

## SESSION III

3:00-4:15

### 1. Illness, Affliction, Art

Franz 217

Cancer as Metaphor: The Metaphorical Implications of Romanticized Illness

Bridget Bey  
Trinity University

“Killing Time Won’t Stop This Crime”:  
Violence and its Permanence in Early Elliott Smith

Kruthi Annigeri  
Jesuit High School

“How easy it once seemed to grow older”:  
An Analysis of Disease and Disillusionment  
in Three Poems by William Matthews

Abby O’Connor  
Jesuit High School

Respondent: Caitlyn Shaffer and Christopher Lee

- 2. Bodies, Beasts, and Violence**
- Heathcliff, Hareton, and the Hounds
- Death Possessed: Georges Bataille and the Erotic Poetry of John Wilmot, Earl of Rochester
- For the Love of Open Mouths: Kissing and Music in “Penelope”
- Respondents: Tyler Tennant and Rebekah Kolb
- Franz 106**
- Victoria Webb  
Western Oregon University
- Joshua Gabert-Doyon  
University of British Columbia
- Jasmine Williams  
Reed College
- 3. Challenging Time: Cultures of Temporality**
- Technology & Time: Understanding Simultaneity & Mechanized Temporality in *Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.’s “4,722 Hours”*
- Knowledge is Not for Knowing: Criticisms of Empiricism in Tom Stoppard’s *Arcadia*
- Yoko Ogawa, Borges’s Ts’ui Pen, and the Importance of Magical Realism
- Respondents: Brooke Zimmerle and Theresa Foley
- Fanz 128**
- Natalie Jaech  
Seattle University
- Riley Elder  
Pacific University
- Sara Shearer  
Hiram College
- 4. Baldwin, Beyoncé, Butler: African American Form(at)ions**
- “The Past and the Future Merge to Meet Us Here”: Afrofuturism in *Lemonade*
- James Baldwin and the Development of Identity: A Lacanian Approach
- Wildfire Fear: Examining Threat Construction in *Fledgling*
- Respondent: Johnny Boddy and Jessica Busek
- Franz 205**
- Lauren Jackson  
Western Washington University
- Alexis McDonald  
Southern Oregon University
- Madeleine Karydes  
University of California, Berkeley
- 5. NUCL in Verse: Original Poetry**
- Airplanes, Horizons, and Baggage
- Portrait of a Child’s Memory
- To Water, Everything is a Swimmer
- Franz 206**
- Sarah Hovet  
University of Oregon
- Tor Strand  
Linfield College
- Timmy Straw  
Reed College



Somewhere In That Cinema

Bengamin Bartu  
Linfield College

We Need You Here

Stephen Kellar  
University of Portland

Respondents: Tayler Bradley and Kate Fennimore

**6. PoCoLo: Post-Colonial Locations**

**Franz 214**

A Landless Limbo: The Roles of Home, Unhomeliness, and Nomadism in *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*

Kate Garcia  
University of Portland

A Postcolonial Look at the Landscape of Martinique

Rachel Conway  
Linfield College

A Rejection of Colonial Control: Rebellion in *Annie John*

Sarah Murphy  
The Evergreen State College

Respondents: Rylee Warner and Coito

**7. This Woman's Work: Trauma, Loss, & Caretaking**

Mother, Speak to Me: Trauma, Racism, and *This Bridge Called My Back*

Jacqueline Ott  
University of Portland

"The Life of Perished Things": Loss Without a "Lost" Identity

Laura Misch  
University of Portland

Scrambled Egg or Ice Cream?: When Sandwiches Influence Caretaking in *The Free*

Emily Kline  
University of Portland

Respondents: Harrison Pyros and Christina Beningfield

**CLOSING RECEPTION**

**4:15-4:45**

**Franz Hall Lobby**

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The University of Portland and NUCL honor the dedication  
of these teachers of literature and writing:

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Diana Maltz, Southern Oregon University

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And last but far from least! The Stupendous NUCL Interns:  
Jessica Busek, Sasha Foley, Jacqueline Ott



Ornament from *An Essay on Criticism*, from *Works* (1717), Alexander Pope

