

UNIVERSITY OF PORTLAND

Fourteenth Annual Northwest Undergraduate Conference on Literature

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 Rohlffing
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

Cancer as Metaphor: The Metaphorical Implications of Romanticized Illness

Franz 217

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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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

