Fifteenth Annual
Northwest Undergraduate
Conference on Literature

Contemporary Responses,
Critical Contexts

Saturday, March 24, 2018
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 but no literature fairs at her school. NUCL has been held annually for the past 15 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 more than 60 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.

“It was Dostoevsky and Dickens who taught me that the things that tormented me most were the very things that connected me with all the people who were alive, or who ever had been alive.”

–James Baldwin
NUCL 2018 PROGRAM OF EVENTS

SIGN-IN  
8:45 – 9:00  
Mago Hunt Auditorium Foyer

WELCOME  
9:00 – 9:15  
Mago Hunt Recital Hall

Molly Hiro, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor, Department of English  
NUCL Co-Chair

SESSION I  
9:30 – 10:45

1. Breaking Down Barriers: Culture, Communication, and Form  
Franz 217

“What a wall!”: Culture and Social Rigidity in Jude the Obscure  
Caroline Holyoak  
University of Portland

The Power of the Graphic Novel and the Young Japanese-Canadian Lesbian in Love  
Melissa Teo  
University of British Columbia

Gregor’s Cognitive Isolation: Philosophical Idealism in Kafka’s The Metamorphosis  
Peter Liu  
Lake Oswego High School

Communication and Community in John Berger’s King  
Haley Grant  
University of Portland

Respondents: Brigid Lowney and Rylee Warner

2. Literary Time Capsules: Unbearing and Retelling  
Franz 106

Hey Mister, She’s My Sister: A Brief Study of Diction in “The Stepsister’s Story” and the Effects of Updated Fairy Tales  
Kynna Lovin  
Marylhurst University

The Romantic Picturesque in Caribbean Postcolonial Poetry: A Mimetic Movement  
Rebecca Gross  
University of Washington

Reclaiming a Literary Tradition  

Vision and Revision of Feminine Agency: Cassandra in Classical Tragedy, Postmodern Novel  
Marissa Lewis  
Seattle Pacific University

Respondents: Janie Grosvenor and Julian Benavente
| 3. | **Get Well Soon: Recovering from War** | Franz 128 |
|    | Inarticulate Cries: Civil War Trauma Embodiment in Bierce’s *Chickamauga* | Alexis McDonald  
                     Southern Oregon University |
|    | The Role of Fiction in *Atonement’s* Reality | Carrie Gao  
                     University of California, Berkeley |
|    | Werewolves in Full Metal Jackets: De-Romanticizing War in the Media Age | Anthony Boucher  
                     Southern New Hampshire University |
|    | Respondents: Amanda Zazueta and Rosa Rackham |

| 4. | **Down With the Patriarchy! Feminist Visions** | Franz 205 |
|    | Revelations of “The Undiscovered Country”: Ophelia and Elizabethan Patriarchy | Deanna McNeely  
                     Washington State University, Vancouver |
|    | Consumption and Consummation: Edible Sexuality in Female Victorian Poetry | Elsa Kienberger  
                     Pacific Lutheran University |
|    | Sexuality Shaping Morality in *Jude the Obscure* | Kayla Garchar  
                     University of Portland |
|    | Respondent: Keaton Gaughan |

| 5. | **Poetic Matters of the Heart** | Franz 206 |
|    | Plath, Poetry, and a Pulitzer Prize: An Overview of Beauty Standards in the 1950s and 1960s | Nikita Lalwani  
                     Jesuit High School |
|    | The Journey vs. Destination in Love | Lauren Paglinawan  
                     Jesuit High School |
|    | Man Versus Nature: A Romantic Conflict | Megan Schenk  
                     University of Oregon |
|    | Dying to Fall in Love: A Proposal Examining the Similarities between Love and Death in Two Songs by Hozier | Paul Danowski  
                     Jesuit High School |
|    | Respondents: Kate Fennimore and Claire Noring |

| 6. | **Dressed For My Sex: Performing Gender** | Franz 214 |
|    | Gender Performativity as Power: Queer Resistance in “Tale of Iphis” | Jordan Ayers  
                     Seattle University |
|    | Beauty, Time, and the Exquisite Self in *Oke of Okehurst* | Eva Cilman  
                     Reed College |
More Than a Woman in a Hat: Deconstructing the American Heterosexual Matrix through The Female Marine
Quincy Kitson
Reed College
Respondent: Tayler Bradley

7. Accessing Injustice: Fictions and Poetics of Oppression
Franz 223
The Unknown World: Examining Attempts to Claim the Past as Our Own in Edward P. Jones’s The Known World
Eva Gellman
Lewis & Clark College
Gandhian Gender Politics in Waiting for the Mahatma
Amanda Fawcett
Seattle University
An Indictment of Oppressive, Structured Reality: Magical Realism in The Known World
Brian Dang
University of Washington
Respondents: Harrison Pyros and Emma Finney

8. Exposing Hegemonies in Modern Literature
Franz 231
La Petite Mort: Jonathan Safran Foer’s Psychoanalysis of Human Fear in Everything Is Illuminated
Hana Kirchoff
Seattle University
What Happens When the Others Show Up?
Matt Spencer
Portland Community College
O Jamesy Let Me Up Out of This: Narrative and Feminism in “Penelope”
Daniel Lloyd
University of Puget Sound
Respondents: Elizabeth Barker and Kai Krajeck

SESSION II 11:00 – 12:45

1. Selves in Context: Creative Non-Fiction
Jacey de la Torre
Reed College
Avalon Styles-Ashley
Seattle University
Elena Pendleton
Seattle University
Hallie Chavez
Hiram College
Respondents: Christina Beningfield and Kyle Sparrman
2. Mobs, Melancholy, and Madness

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<tr>
<th>Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>The Sacrifice of the Poet in <em>The Tragedy of Julius Caesar</em></td>
<td>Sienna Ballou</td>
<td>Pacific University</td>
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<td>Degrees of Disorder: Melancholy and Villainy in <em>The Duchess of Malfi</em></td>
<td>Rachel Fromherz</td>
<td>Seattle University</td>
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Respondents: Ella Lamm and Kira Champelli

3. The Artist and the Reader: Deconstructing Theory

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<td>The Death and Resurrection of Actuality</td>
<td>Erika Rasmussen</td>
<td>Santa Clara University</td>
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<td>To Dream of the Dead In Order to Kill the Living: Rhetorics of Tragedy and Difference in the Paul de Man Scandal</td>
<td>Vincent Benlloch</td>
<td>Grinnell College</td>
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<td>The Episodic Journey of &quot;Bartleby the Scrivener&quot; through the Literary Canon</td>
<td>Camille Piazza</td>
<td>Reed College</td>
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Respondent: Monica Salazar

4. Weird English: Linguistic and Cultural Insights

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<td>Syntactical Disorder, Storm Detritus: A Stylistic Analysis of Hart Crane’s &quot;The Air Plant&quot;</td>
<td>Claire Lloyd</td>
<td>University of British Columbia</td>
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<td>The Future is Nao: Weird English in Ruth Ozeki’s <em>A Tale for the Time Being</em></td>
<td>Stuart Myers</td>
<td>Catlin Gabel High School</td>
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<td>Apathetic Marginalization: Unmasking the Silenced Perspectives in Junot Díaz’s <em>Drown</em></td>
<td>Andrew Look</td>
<td>Catlin Gabel High School</td>
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Respondent: Emily Nelson

5. The Collective and the Individual in Memory and Desire

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<td>&quot;Light of My Life&quot;: Projections from the Magic Lantern of Desire in <em>Lolita</em></td>
<td>Caroline McCulloch</td>
<td>Reed College</td>
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<td>Affective Memory</td>
<td>Aditi Kumar</td>
<td>Reed College</td>
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<td>&quot;I Came to Explore the Wreck&quot;: Three Feminist Waves and the Androgynous Poet in Adrienne Rich</td>
<td>Olivia Veazey</td>
<td>Reed College</td>
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Respondent: Sasha Foley
6. **We Remember, We Forget: Reading Collective Memory**

   Survived by the Living and the Ghosts: Elegy in Sherman Alexie’s *You Don’t Have to Say You Love Me*
   
   Rhetorical Analysis of the Hidden Narratives of Black Individuals: Displacement in Portland, Oregon
   
   Cultural Memory, Microhistory, and the use of Historical Fiction

   Respondents: Kelley McCaffery and Hannah Tribolet

7. **Awakening Political Consciousness**

   Remedying Double Consciousness in Césaire’s *Une Tempête*
   
   Philosophy, Politics, and Paranoia: Pynchon and the Construction of the Postmodern Subject
   
   Critiques from Within: The Depiction of Regimes in the Works of Alaa Al Aswany, Sinan Antoon and Mohamed Choukri

   Respondents: Claire Breiholz and Christian Chase

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**LUNCH AND AWARDS**

12:30 – 1:30 Bauccio Commons Board Room

Dean’s Welcome: Gary Malecha, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences

Awards Presentation: Joshua Swidzinski, Assistant Professor, Department of English, NUCL Co-Chair

**KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

1:45-2:45 Bauccio Commons

“Does Literature Change Anything?: Lessons from African American Writing”

Dr. Kenneth Warren, University of Chicago

**SESSION III**

3:00 – 4:15 Franz 205

1. **A Monstrous Identity: How *Frankenstein* Shapes Us**

   Unstitched: Archival Presentism in *Frankenstein*

   Abject Bodies and the Power of a Label

   Respondents: Claire Breiholz and Christian Chase
The Monstrosity of Othering: Questioning What It Means to Be Human in Shelley’s *Frankenstein*

**Respondent:** Hannah Vogel

**University of Portland**

2. **The Eyes Have It: Literature and Looking**

*Veil of Words: Communication and Intimacy in To the Lighthouse*

**Franz 106**

*Ocular Proof and Deception in Young Goodman Brown: Navigating the Ambiguous Through the Definite*

**Franz 128**

"Taming a Sea-Horse": The Duke of Ferrara’s Lacanian *Méconnaissance*

**Respondent:** Laura Misch

**George Fox University**

**Reed College**

3. **The Roles We Fail, The Roles We Fill: Perspectives on Caretaking**

*Queerness, Power, and Motherhood*

**Franz 231**

*Birthing a Nation: Pioneer Women of American Regionalism*

**Emily Nelson**

*Serviceship: Exploring Animal/Human Dynamics in Disability*

**Ella Lamm**

**University of Portland**

**Respondents:** Arran Fagan and Tayte Pollmann

4. **Original Poetry: NUCL in Verse**

*A Letter to My Skeleton*

**Jessie Box**

**University of Oregon**

*Poems of the Band and the Summer*

**Christine Claringbold**

*Stone Ground*

**Kate Fennimore**

*One Small Piece*

**Benjamin Bartu**

*Reflect + Refract*

**Kelley McCaffery**

**Respondents:** Kirby Graff and Megan Kite

**Linfield College**

**University of Portland**
5. Narratives of Seduction and Repression

Monsters and Madness: The Self as a Monster in the Gothic Novel
Edith’s Ethan

On Fertile Soil: O.E. Rölvaag’s Nature as a Seductive Threat

Respondents: Wes Cruse and Olivia Mitchell

6. Ecology and Me: Metaphorizing the Natural

White Mulberries and Retributive Justice in Willa Cather’s O Pioneers!

Oliver’s Trudge to Transcendence

Emily Dickinson’s Queer Ecology

Respondents: Caroline Holyoak and Sarah Mernaugh

7. Not Just About Vampires: Theoretical Explorations of Young Adult Literature

Violence as Communication: Comparing the Depiction of Domestic Abuse in Wuthering Heights and the Twilight Series

Surveillance, Terrorism, and Race in Cory Doctorow’s Little Brother

The Evolution in Dystopian Fiction: Overcoming The Human Condition in The Road and The Hunger Games

Respondents: Parker Wiltrout and Madeline Erickson

CLOSING RECEPTION 4:15-4:45 Franz Hall Lobby
FACULTY SPONSORS OF NUCL PARTICIPANTS

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

Alma Alvarez, Southern Oregon University
Steve Andrews, Grinnell College
Gisele Baxter, University of British Columbia
Keri Behre, Marylhurst University
Mike Benveniste, University of Puget Sound
Ina Biermann, University of British Columbia
Geneviève Brassard, University of Portland
Phyllis Brown, Santa Clara University
Maria Bullon-Fernandez, Seattle University
Molly Clark Hillard, Seattle University
Rachel Cole, Lewis & Clark College
Jay Dickson, Reed College
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Kathy Heininge, George Fox University
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Cara Hubbell, Marylhurst University
Nalini Iyer, Seattle University
Donna Jones, University of California, Berkeley
William Kupinse, University of Puget Sound
Lars Larson, University of Portland
Laura Leibman, Reed College
Raymond Malewitz, Oregon State University
Megan Mathes, Jesuit High School
John McDonald, University of Portland
Joseph McQueen, Northwest University
Mary Metzger, Western Washington University

Allison Meyer, Seattle University
Susan Meyers, Seattle University
Jan Mieszkowski, Reed College
Lisa Mitchell, Lake Oswego High School
Raimonda Modiano, University of Washington
Brendan O’Kelly, University of Oregon
Erin Perry, Portland State University
Paul Plank, Seattle University
Forest Pyle, University of Oregon
Mary Quade, Hiram College
Jason Rizos, Portland Community College
Christina Roberts, Seattle University
Solveig Robinson, Pacific Lutheran University
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Margaret Ronda, University of California, Davis
Kirsten Saxton, Mills College
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Gail Sherman, Reed College
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Lisa Steinman, Reed College
Elizabeth Tavares, Pacific University
Doug Thorpe, Seattle Pacific University
Corbett Upton, University of Oregon
Claire van den Broek, Southern New Hampshire University
Sarah Weiger, University of Portland
Krystal Wu, Catlin Gabel High School
Irene Yoon-Miller, University of California, Berkeley
NUCL gratefully thanks...

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Bradley Kerr, Information Services
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Sean Ducey, Office of University Events
Student Panel Respondents
University of Portland Student Readers: Monica Salazar, Sasha Foley, Coito
And last but far from least! The Stupendous NUCL Interns:
Kelley McCaffery, Caroline Holyoak, Kyle Sparrman