

ACCUTE Newsletter September Edition 2009



ACCUTE's current home in the historic Jackman Building at 170 St. George St.



President : Heather Murray

Secretary -Treasurer: Craig Patterson

Office Coordinator: Pam Coles

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ACCUTE's Mandate: To promote the interests of those teaching and studying English language and literatures in Canadian colleges and universities by facilitating the dissemination and exchange of research and the exploration of professional issues, by organizing scholarly and professional meetings, by seeking to improve work conditions, by representing the interests of members before provincial and federal decision-making bodies, and by supporting the interests and aspirations of members entering the profession.

NEW ON THE ACCUTE WEB-SITE

Apart from its new look and more user-friendly organization, the ACCUTE website has some freshened features. Look for updated "links" to a number of scholarly associations in Canada, as well as to all the English departments in the country. No more time-consuming googling! The sections of the website dealing with conference session organization and submission have been rewritten and now include FAQs to better guide submitters. And, thanks to the summer labours of Pam Coles, there is an updated membership directory (with contact information for all ACCUTE members) as well as an updated searchable directory of members according to their fields and special interests.

While we've always published CFPs for conferences and publications, we now have added a separate "Events" section to the website. Please send notices for conference registration, public lectures, meetings, and other events, and we'll post them to this section.

President's Column

At the ACCUTE office – as surely it is everywhere in the academic world – the first of September is the real “new year,” even though the rush of preparing syllabi and tracking down missing course books means we don't break out the streamers and party hats. But there's always something invigorating about the feeling of novelty that pervades the start of term.

During the summer months the ACCUTE office has been a very busy place, as we undertook a (late) spring cleaning of our systems and databases, and instituted a number of changes. Thanks to the RA for 2009-10, the enterprising and computer-savvy Laurel Ryan, we have a redesigned and more user-friendly website, in response to comments from our members and from the network of campus reps. Details of the changes appear elsewhere in this *Newsletter*, and we invite you to visit the website to check it out for yourself. Please especially note that, in addition to the “CFPs” section where people customarily announce their conferences, we now have an “Events” section where you can publicize meetings, public lectures, and the like.

As for our hard-working secretary-

treasurer, Craig Patterson has been continuing to pursue the system for electronic membership renewal (and payment!) that our members have so long desired. Those of you who have followed this long saga know that ACCUTE decided that it was wisest to wait for the on-line membership management system that the Federation has been developing for its organizations. ACCUTE will be the pilot project for the new system, and Craig has been working closely with the Federation to make sure that it will do everything we need it to do. In addition, in Craig's annual report you will see the first year-end financial statement produced according to the adjusted accounting principles that have been phased-in over the last nine months, which allow us to have a more accurate “real time” sense of the association's financial picture.

Over the summer, the Executive has begun working with its new members: Jamie Paris from UBC as the Graduate Caucus President, Lisa Vargo from Saskatchewan and Jason Haslam from Dalhousie as members-at-large, and Mary O'Connor from McMaster as the new President of CACE. Nicola Nixon has moved to the President-Elect seat.

Among the tasks of the Executive over the summer was the re-establishment of the Professional Concerns Committee. Those of you who have belonged to ACCUTE for more than a few years will remember this committee and may well have served on it. Historically, the PCC dealt with issues affecting its members, developed policy suggestions where needed, and pulled together the “professional concerns” sessions for each conference. The PCC reported directly to the membership at the AGM and periodically in the *Newsletter*. But a few years ago the committee lapsed, probably (with hindsight) from a combination of factors: perhaps a waning mandate, perhaps a cumbersome structure. The events of this year – many new developments on the copyright/intellectual property front, base-budget cuts to the granting agencies, government interference in the peer review system, the hiring crunch – made it clear that there are more current issues than the Executive can comfortably handle, and also that we need some specialized expertise. We will be able to announce the membership of this committee soon. Of course, the Executive itself will also continue to be concerned with professional issues, especially through our connection to

the Federation. Noreen Golfman, a past-president of ACCUTE and also a past-president of the Federation, has returned to steer the Federation after Nathalie Des Rosiers resigned to take another position. It will be a busy year.

So, welcome back to a new cycle in the life of our association, and to this back-to-school issue of the *Newsletter*. We continue with reports from the 2009 conference at Carleton, not all of which could be accommodated in the June *Newsletter*: the Secretary-Treasurer’s Report, the Report of the Editor of *ESC*, and a report by Matt Kavanagh on the terrific session on preparing for careers in the college and university-college sector. (This is a must-read if you’re going on the job market this fall.) This issue contains In Memoriam tributes for Professors Barbara Pell and Balachandra Rajan, a number of news items, and the folklore surrounding the association’s name. As well, here are the hot-off-the-presses ACCUTE CFP and the CFPs for the member-organized sessions and the joint-association sessions for the 2010 conference at Concordia– exciting reading, and a preview of the conference to come.

- Heather Murray

SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT

The following financial statement was passed by the Annual General Meeting at Carleton University, May 25, 2009. As I explained to the Membership at that time, the form of the statement has been modified slightly from that used in previous years—the SSHRC fund has been moved to its own section—to give a more accurate picture of the association's financial worth.

- Craig Patterson

ACCUTE Financial Report: April 30, 2008-April 30, 2009

REVENUE

Membership	\$50,477.18
Mbr. Donations	380.00
CFHSS	
Rebate	4,388.78
Outreach	2,000.00
Advertising	250.00
HRSDC	1,750.00 (1)
Other (interest)	11.57
Balance forward	27,306.75

TOTAL REVENUE \$86,564.18

EXPENSES

ESC	\$31,185.00 (2)
HRSDC	1,750.00
Priestley Prize	500.00
Executive	3340.75 (3)
Conference	1033.11 (4)
Salaries/Benefits	26,275.32 (5)
Plenary	3,566.58
CHFSS	5,601.00
(Mbr Donations)	1,110.00
Office	1,244.96
Printing	2,007.94 (6)
Other (bank charges)	75.26

TOTAL EXPENSE 77,689.92

NET BALANCE \$ 8,874.36

ACCUTE SSHRC Account

REVENUE

SSHRC Grant	\$26,986.00
Interest	1.55
Balance forward	932.11

TOTAL \$27,919.66

EXPENSES

Congress 2008	\$14,285.22
Grants	

BALANCE \$13,634.44

(1) A one-time grant for a special HRSDC-sponsored panel at Congress 2008

(2) 2 payments (\$14,980.00) made by MSVU and 3 payments (\$16,205.00) made by U of T

(3) \$2,774.55 for Congress 2008 and \$566.20 for Exec. Conference call and travel to CACE and CHFSS

(4) \$91.34 for Congress 2008 and \$941.77 for Congress 2009

(5) Represents \$7,137.92 at MSVU and \$19,138.00 at U of T

(6) Congress program 2008

ESC Report

It has been a fabulous year for *ESC: English Studies in Canada*. We've met our full quota of production for the year, and while we haven't been able to catch up on the journal's production lag-time, we're in good position to do so in the coming year. The financial situation is back on track, and the journal is thriving in many respects. We've seen sizable increases in our international readership and submissions, and while our digital presence continues to grow, we're maintaining our institutional subscription numbers. Our only real concern at this point is an uneven history of submission rates, and while we have a considerable amount of material in process—which will keep us going for a while—we're hoping to generate a more consistent rate in the number of articles sent in to *ESC* for review.

During the 2008-09 year, *ESC* published Volume 33. That included 30 peer reviewed articles, Readers' Forums on "Why do I have to read like that?" (edited by *ESC*'s own Cecily Devereux) and "Culture, the Government, and the Public Good" (edited by Imre Szeman, recently arrived at the University of Alberta). We also published 3 review articles and 25 book reviews. The volume was

capped off by a special issue titled "On Discreteness: Event and Sound in Poetry," guest edited by Louis Cabri and Peter Quartermain. Meanwhile, the first issue of Volume 34 is at the printer as I write this and should be in hand as you read this. That's our special issue on "Skin," guest edited by Julia Emberley, University of Western Ontario. It's fabulous!

ESC received 38 article submissions this year, including the 16 articles submitted for the special poetry issue. Submissions are down slightly from last year's healthier rate of 44 manuscripts, and we're still short of the 2004-05 peak of 60 submissions. *ESC* will be taking a proactive stance regarding this situation by beginning a submission solicitation campaign through ACCUTE, Canadian departments of English, and through electronic listservs where *ESC*'s work is, and might not yet be, well known. On a positive front, the number of international submissions to *ESC* continues to increase at a promising rate. 10 of our total 38 submissions for the year were from scholars outside of Canada, which exceeds the historical rate of 20% over the previous two years. Along with the print and digital readership figures detailed below, *ESC* considers this a valuable marker

of the international standing of journal, as do various funding and ranking bodies.

Our current acceptance rate is 28.5%, a figure which refers to final acceptances only, and is calculated based on the total number of articles accepted, articles rejected, and articles accepted with specified revisions during the past year. The average response rate (from submission to decision) is approximately six months. We have cleared a backlog of submissions due to the heroic efforts of our Submissions Editors, Cecily Devereux and Mark Simpson. Indeed, it is worth noting that *ESC* processed the astounding number of 73 articles during the past year. Our expectation is that the reduced backlog and efficient OJS document system will produce a dramatic decline in the average response time in the coming year.

The growth of our digital readership is another major success story. Accessing *ESC* through one of its four digital aggregators, readers around the world viewed or downloaded articles from the journal almost 20,000 times during the last year. That means that the journal is viewed online over 1600 times per month or 54 times per day around the world. And we mean *around the world*. About half of those online readers hail

from outside of North America and, according to data provided by the aggregators, from at least thirty different countries. The impact of this on *ESC* is important: we not only doubled our digital royalties over last year, but such regular and easy access to the journal guarantees our contributors a wide and varied international readership. Furthermore, that kind of exposure has also prompted contributions from a global community of authors, and this year we've seen submissions from China, Egypt, the United Kingdom, Spain, the United States, and elsewhere.

As mentioned above, *ESC* has made these digital inroads without, so far, endangering our print subscription base. Institutional subscriptions remain steady at 189 (down three from last year), and our official ACCUTE mailing list stands at 769 recipients. Members of roughly 80 departments of English in Canada, from teaching colleges to research universities, receive the journal, while almost all of the country's major libraries (74 of them, to be precise) still receive print copies of *ESC*. Another 115 foreign libraries, or 61 per cent of our institutional subscriptions, also house *ESC* in print.

Thinking about submitting your work to

ESC? Consider this: when research is published in *ESC* it is read by members of the discipline right across Canada and around the world; indeed, *ESC*, and the scholarly research it makes available, is everywhere. If you want your work read, send it to us, and we'll get it out there.

And, finally, the journal met with some real success in SSHRC's Aid to Scholarly Journals competition, scoring an impressive 88/100 in the adjudication process, and earning an award of more than \$25,000 per year over the next three years. That figure triples our previous SSHRC allotment, and at a time when revised SSHRC policies created a larger pool of tough competitors. Thanks go to the members of *ESC*'s editorial team, who worked very hard to put together the application, and special thanks to former Editor Jo-Ann Wallace, whose efforts on behalf of the journal put us in such a competitive position. In addition to ACCUTE's increased subvention to the journal (for which we are extremely grateful to the membership), we're also seeing a rise in revenue from our online aggregators. All of this financial success has the journal back on a sound financial footing, and at the same time we've made every effort to restrain our costs (note a substantial

decrease in printing fees and the cost of mailing issues) and keep our revenue flow on track (Managing Editor Julie Rak has streamlined our accounting and invoicing systems).

The cost per volume is \$48.27 for each copy, and so the ratified ACCUTE subvention of \$35.00 per member covers 72.5% of that total operating cost; that subvention, then, is roughly equivalent to the cost of printing and mailing hardcopies of the journal (69.5% of our total costs). ACCUTE's actual 2008-09 contribution of \$21,820.00 (or \$35.00 X 623 Members) accounts for 41.1% of the journal's total expenses.

The journal saw a surplus of \$21,547.08 in its budget this year, and those funds will be directed in three ways: 1) to begin rebuilding *ESC*'s contingency fund, which was depleted over the past several years; 2) to underwrite the cost (approx. \$13,000.00) of producing an additional issue in 2009-10 in an effort to get the journal's publication year back in line with the calendar year; 3) to begin the process of digitizing back issues for distribution through Open Journals Systems and digital aggregators.

So, there you go: we're thriving indeed. The *ESC* Editorial Team would like to thank everyone involved in the success of the journal:

the ACCUTE Membership and Executive, our guest editors, contributors, reviewers, and readers—we depend on you, and we're grateful for the support the journal receives from all quarters.

- Michael O'Driscoll

ACCUTE Fun Fact

ACCUTE has members in:
55 Canadian universities
32 Canadian colleges
9 Canadian university-colleges
and in
China
England
Japan
New Zealand
Taiwan
and in 10 U.S. states.

Report on the Professional Concerns Panel on Careers in the College and University-College Sector

What's involved in teaching at a Canadian college? It's not a question that gets considered at many graduate professionalization seminars and yet the reality is that colleges are an increasingly important part of our system of higher education—particularly during a period of economic retrenchment. Colleges put people to work, after all. But they also do a great deal more.

Coming out of a doctoral program at a research-intensive institution, I didn't quite know what to expect from my first job at a British Columbia college. I had no prior experience in the college system either as a professor or as a student, and didn't know much about associate degrees or the university transfer system. I soon learned that BC features a host of two-year colleges that serve as a feeder system for four-year and post-graduate institutions—it's a pretty good way to ensure that access to higher education is regionally balanced in a province of farflung and sometimes isolated communities. Every province, though, is different.

Recognizing that today's graduate student may have no first-hand experience of a Canadian college and only a hazy idea of what happens there, and that the somewhat patchwork nature of the college sector from one province to the next makes it difficult to generalize about Canadian colleges as a whole, the ACCUTE executive organized a professionalization panel on this topic with speakers from across the country. Along with myself, David Kent of Centennial College (Ontario) and Neil Querengesser of Concordia University College (Alberta) discussed college life. Our conversation ranged from comparing working condi-

tions to sharing strategies for maintaining an active research profile at a teaching-focused institution. We also had some practical advice for job seekers—more on that below.

One thing we discussed was how the rhetoric of effective teaching can be put into practice. College professors are expected to engage their students—all of them, not just the ones you can count on to be interested. The secret is to figure out how you yourself learn and then attempt to render this process transparent to your students. It's harder than it sounds because sometimes one's process consists of doing things a certain way for reasons you may not entirely understand but aren't in the habit of questioning because, well, they work. And yet, that's the task; to open up the black box, revealing a set of skills the students themselves are in a position to put into practice. So while dynamic, captivating lecturers are always in demand, professors who blow their students away with charismatic performance but leave them unable to reproduce what they learned in the classroom are treated with some skepticism. In the college community, the prevailing ethic—in line with the applied nature of the institution—is to learn by doing.

In Memoriam

Barbara Helen Pell

In March 2009, a month before her 64th birthday, Barbara Pell was finally defeated by the cancer that she had battled for many years. She approached her illness with the same optimism that characterized her professional life, beating the odds by continuing to attend the Congress and to present papers to ACCUTE and other associations for several years after doctors had given her only months to live. Barbara's enthusiasm for Canadian literature was matched by her commitment as a teacher, recognized when Trinity Western University awarded her the Davis Distinguished Teaching Award for 2005-06. Famous for her skill at detecting plagiarism, she was known as "Pell from hell," a cognomen of which she was proud as she worked overtime to help students improve their essays. Barbara was also an avid supporter of live theatre and served on the board of Vancouver's Pacific Theatre Company, which she chaired from 2006 to 2008.

After she received her Ph.D. from the University of Toronto, Barbara taught at Redeemer College in Hamilton before moving to Trinity Western University in Langley, BC

(an hour east of Vancouver), where she taught for more than 20 years and chaired the English Department from 1999 to 2004. She eagerly kept up with new publications by authoring dozens of book reviews for Canadian Literature and other journals, while devoting her own research to intersections between literary practice and religious thought. This focus began with her dissertation on Hugh MacLennan, Morley Callaghan and Hugh Hood, and culminated in her recent book, co-edited with Mary Ann Beavis and Elaine Guillemin, *Feminist Theology with a Canadian Accent: Canadian Perspectives on Contextual Feminist Theology* (Novalis, 2009). Members of ACCUTE who are not Canadianists may best know Barbara as the founder and long-time chair of the Christianity and Literature Study Group, a flourishing allied association that has met with ACCUTE for more than 20 years. In 2008, Barbara was honoured with a Leading Women Award, in the category of Education, Training and Development, from the National Christian Leadership Conference for Women. The 2008 Congress in Vancouver was Barbara's last; without her, Congress 2009 was not the same.

- Carole Gerson

Balachandra Rajan

With the death of Balachandra Rajan in the spring, ACCUTE has lost a member whose extraordinary scholarly work enriched our community and conference programs for many years. He was a member of long-standing (although inactive in the association in later years), a tradition continued by his scholar-daughter Tillotama Rajan.

Coming to Canada from Trinity College Cambridge and then from the University of Delhi after the war (he worked as well for a number of international and United Nations organizations), Balachandra Rajan joined the English department at the University of Western Ontario, where he would remain until his retirement. A subtle and polymathic scholar, Professor Rajan was a Miltonist and a novelist, a scholar of modernism and of imperialism, and a religious and literary comparativist. One of his early books, *Paradise Lost and the Seventeenth Century Reader*, remains foundational to the field of Milton studies some sixty years after its initial publication. His final book, *Milton and the Climate of Reading*, published in 2006 when he was in his mid-80s, was awarded the Irene Samuels Memorial Award of the Milton Soci-

ety of America. These two monograph are only two among many books and essays produced over a career spanning some six decades.

Readers of this *Newsletter* are invited to now turn to the moving memorial address for Professor Rajan, written by David Clark (McMaster), who has kindly given us permission to provide the link.

<http://www.humanities.mcmaster.ca/~dclark/clarkBalachandra.htm>

An expanded version of this address will appear in *South Asia Review* 30, 2 (2009).

ACCUTE NEWS

A book by ACCUTE member Amar Acheraiou is forthcoming this fall from Palgrave. *Joseph Conrad and the Reader: Questioning Modern Theories of Narrative and Readership* is the first monograph fully devoted to Conrad's relation to the reader, visual theory, and authorship. It examines Conrad's ethics of readership and visuality in the light of other experimental writers of the modern period (including Fielding, Sterne, Diderot, and Flaubert) and in relation to classical theories of narrative formulated by Aristotle, Plato, Horace, Quintilian, Cicero, and Plutarch.

Queen's University Undergraduate "Capstone" Program

The "capstone" program was largely the initiative of Chris Bongie, who suggested that the Department of English hand out the Giller Prize-winning novel to all graduating students, and that the prize-winning author visit the campus for a reading and a discussion. In January of 2008 Elizabeth Hay read from *Late Nights on Air* (a book with a Queen's connection, as it makes extensive use of the late George Whalley's *The Legend of John Hornby*). In 2009 Joseph Boyden was the visitor, and he gave lively readings on and off-campus. The Department has involved both students and faculty in the interviews and dinners associated with the visits, and hopes to continue this successful program.

-Submitted by Tracy Ware

Trent University's English Literature M.A. Program in Public Texts

The English Literature M.A. program in Public Texts explores what it means to "go public" – to "publish" – and how that act resonates in the political, economic, and aesthetic spheres. Students develop new ways of looking at the production of texts, their

circulation, and the relationship between texts and their publics, exploring issues which are emerging as central to literary research in the twenty-first century.

In January 2009 Trent University and the Humber College Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning announced an exciting new collaboration that will provide students with an opportunity to graduate with both a master's degree in English (Public Texts) and a post-graduate certificate in Creative Book Publishing.

Visit the program's website at:
www.trentu.ca/englishma/

- Submitted by Margaret Steffler

Northrop Frye Online:

Joe Adamson (McMaster University) and Michael Happy (Mohawk College) are happy to announce the launch of a Northrop Frye web log, *The Educated Imagination*, which can be found at this link:

<http://www.theeducatedimagination.com/>.

They are also launching an online journal, *Myth and Metaphor*, which welcomes articles on any matters related to Frye's work and ideas, theoretical or applied.

Please send papers to: fryeblog@gmail.com

FROM THE ACCUTE ARCHIVES:

What's in a Name?

In her association history *ACUTE: The First Twenty-Five Years 1957-1982* Marjorie Garson gives the following account of the naming of the organization at the founding meeting in 1957:

"The group [the eighty-two members present] went on to discuss the formation of a permanent association. It was a motion by F.M. Salter, seconded by C.T. Bissell and passed by a unanimous vote, which brought into being the Association of Canadian University Teachers of English. (The name was altered at the last moment – whether from CAUTE or CUTE is not entirely clear – and it seems to have been Professor Frye who suggested the rearrangement of the initials into their present memorable acronym)" (4).

This is a satisfying account from a readerly perspective: it somehow seems suitable that Northrop Frye should christen the organization. But is this narrative entirely correct?

Professor Ronald Baker, one of those founding members, communicating with the ACCUTE office earlier this year, presents a somewhat different story. Moving some books from his office to the Simon Fraser archives, he had come across a note in his

own hand in copy of the ACUTE history, noting one correction: that the nomenclatural honour should go to UBC's Roy Daniells. Professor Baker added that some other early association members had also believed this to be so, and recalled that Sandra Djwa's biography of Daniells, *Professing English*, supports this version, on the authority of the late Hugo Macpherson.

While Daniells may have clinched the deal, was the name entirely new? Correspondence in the Daniells archives (provided by Sandra Djwa) suggests that this was the name being used, if only on an ad hoc basis, for the short-lived precursor organization, founded in 1952, of which Daniells was the president and William Robbins (also at UBC) the secretary. (See the June 2009 ACCUTE Newsletter for an account of this early association.) The draft letter concerns the allocation of fellowship funding, a scarcity in the post-war world. Writing in September of 1952 to the Right Honourable Louis St. Laurent, then the Prime Minister of Canada, Daniells and Robbins comment on a proposal by the Canadian government to use "blocked" funds available in France and the Netherlands to award fellowships of \$2000 and \$4000 for study in those countries, half for candidates in the

sciences and half in the humanities. "We know we speak for the whole membership of the newly-formed Association of Canadian University Teachers of English, which held its first conference in May of this year, when we extend our warm appreciation of so warm and generous a plan." After this diplomatic beginning, they expressed concern about the restriction on the countries of study:

"Students of English literature and language, of English history, and of Commonwealth relations" would be better served by a program that also allowed study in the United Kingdom or the United States. In making his suggestion in 1957, then, Daniells seems to have been arguing for the name that had been earlier in circulation.

Whether the suggestion was made by Frye or, as seems better-substantiated, Daniells, ACCUTE members of today can feel a small frisson at the possibility that things could have turned out otherwise, and we'd now be calling ourselves CUTE (or would it be CCUTE?) members?

Call for Papers for ACCUTE Conference 2010

- 1. General Call for Papers**
- 2. Member-Organized Session CFPs**
- 3. Joint-Organized Session CFPs**
- 4. Christianity and Literature Study Group CFPs**

1. General Call for Papers

ACCUTE invites submissions on a wide variety of themes, topics, and theoretical inclinations for its “general” sessions at the 2010 conference. The only restrictions are that submissions should fall within the mandate of the organization and be of potential interest to our conference audience. In addition to consulting the ACCUTE website for specific information on how to submit a paper to the general CFP, you might also find it helpful to consult the 2009 conference program for examples of past papers.

While all manner of topics pertaining to the study of English literatures are welcome, we especially solicit papers and proposals that deal with under-represented areas and earlier time periods.

Following the instructions on the ACCUTE website (under Conference), send your 700 word proposal (or 8-10 page double-spaced paper), a 100 word abstract, a 50 word biographical statement, and the submitter information form to accute@accute.ca by November 15th.

2. Member Organized Sessions

Writing Work, Writing Koot

Organizers: Gregory Betts (Brock) and Robert Stacey (Ottawa)

For over 25 years the Kootenay School of Writing has explored the intersections between avant-garde aesthetics and radical politics in Canada. A central preoccupation of the group has been the changing nature of work and value in the age of global capitalism and the search for an appropriate and politically effective literary response to these transformations. This panel will explore the various ways in which the subject of work and/or labour has been taken up by KSW writers. We are particularly interested in papers seeking to connect the KSW's exploration of work as subject or theme with its innovations and experiments in poetic form and language. The broadest range of approaches to this topic will be considered.

Following the instructions on the ACCUTE website (under Conference), send your 700 word proposal (or 8-10 page double-spaced paper), a 100 word abstract, a 50 word biographical statement, and the submitter information form, to gbetts@brocku.ca or rstacey@uottawa.ca by November 15th.

Note: You must be a current ACCUTE member to submit to this session.

Writers at Work

Organizer: Sarah Brouillette (Carleton)

Proposals are invited for a session on writers' labour. How have writers' working conditions shaped their texts? How have writers' other jobs (including writing jobs) intersected with and informed their literary work? How, when and why have images of writers at work circulated within popular culture? How has the history of writers' work shaped divisions between manual and mental labour? When and how have writers been treated in labour studies? What theoretical approaches to labour might help us to understand writers' work? Research in any period of literary history will be welcome.

Following the instructions on the ACCUTE website (under Conference), send your 700 word proposal (or 8-10 page double-spaced paper), a 100 word abstract, a 50 word biographical statement, and the submitter information form, to sarah_brouillette@carleton.ca by November 15th.

Note: You must be a current ACCUTE member to submit to this session.

Sedgwick's Futures

Organizer: Steven Bruhm (Western Ontario)

The death of Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick on 12 April 2009 invited many of us to return to her work with renewed sense of urgency regarding questions of temporality, affect, and reading practice. This member-organized session will speculate not on Sedgwick's influence on queer studies in the last twenty years but on how her work inflects ideas of the *future*—and the futurity of reading queerly. Some topics that might be considered:

- Reparative reading and questions of the temporal. What futures might we imagine for the reading subject, and what futures might we discard? What futures—if any—are there for the queer subject, or for the subject of queerness?

- The role of affect in queer studies. The role of *queer* affect in situating queer theory within or apart from other kinds of affective inquiry.

- Engagements with the *textual* as a precise site for theorizing. How might the rhetorics of temporality in readings of textual (as opposed to more broadly cultural) works create points of engagement we might call queer? What might Sedgwick's work on modernism create for a queerly *post*-postmodernism?

As in Sedgwick's corpus itself, I invite close readings of particular texts that might illuminate these or other problems in the field of queer theory and futurity. However, I am particularly interested in fully developed *theoretical* stances that will appeal to a broad range of people in the audience, and that engage with questions beyond those of a particular text.

Following the instructions on the ACCUTE website (under Conference), send your 700 word proposal (or 8-10 page double-spaced paper), a 100 word abstract, a 50 word biographical statement, and the submitter information form, to sbruhm2@uwo.ca by November 15th.

Note: You must be a current ACCUTE member to submit to this session.

The Queer Child

Organizer: Steven Bruhm (Western Ontario)

What is it? What isn't it? What might it be? What can't it be? Where might we find it? Who is the "we" who is doing the looking and how do we (pre) determine the field of inquiry? Does geography and nation matter, or do queer children transgress such notions of border?

When was the queer child? When might it be? What definitions of queerness might apply and how have these definitions shifted historically? How might they be shifting at the present moment? How do questions of futurity matter? Who will have been, or might be, a queer child?

In what fields of vision might we detect the queer child? How might the textual or verbal queer child resonate with or differ from the specular or visual queer child? In a world of prime-time or commodity queerness, can there be a queer child? Who cares? And how?

Following the instructions on the ACCUTE website (under Conference), send your 700 word proposal (or 8-10 page double-spaced paper), a 100 word abstract, a 50 word biographical statement, and the submitter information form, to sbruhm2@uwo.ca by November 15th.

Note: You must be a current ACCUTE member to submit to this session.

The Legacy of Steve McCaffery

Organizer: Clint Burnham (Simon Fraser)

Arguably one of the most influential avant-garde poets in Canadian writing, Steve McCaffery's work spans many schools, practices, media, and theoretic impulses. His visual and concrete poetry of the 1960s and 1970s (such as *Carnival* [1967-75]) and sound poetry with the Four Horsemen on the Toronto scene; theoretical work with bpNichol as the Toronto Research Group; a string of groundbreaking volumes from *Dr. Sadhu's Muffins* (1974) to *The Black Debt* (1989) and the more recent compilation *Seven Pages Missing* (2000); and his key role in the North American L=A=N=G=U=A=G=E movement have all left an indelible mark on Canadian and international literary practice. How do we evaluate and critique and continue McCaffery's legacy in our digital, neoliberal, post-literary epoch, when poetic manifestos are constrained by the 140 character limit of twitter and mainstream literary culture is mired in prize-giving and headline-ready advances? Proposals are welcome for papers exploring Steve McCaffery's work and its contexts, his peers, influences and epigones, from a variety of critical approaches.

Following the instructions on the ACCUTE website (under Conference), send your 700 word proposal (or 8-10 page double-spaced paper), a 100 word abstract, a 50 word biographical statement, and the submitter information form, to clint_burnham@sfu.ca by November 15.

Note: You must be a current ACCUTE member to submit to this session.

Critical Literary Regionalisms

Organizer: Susie DeCoste (Waterloo)

Frank Davey has argued that regionalist ideology tends toward environmental determinism, resulting in certain assumptions about what effects place should have on a person. Within this set of assumptions, any identification with "other possible grounds of identity," such as race or gender, is less important. More recently, in *Critical Regionalism: Connecting Politics and Culture in the American Landscape* (2007) Douglas Powell contends that "region" is rhetorical: it is just as much a persuasion as a description. In light of these observations, it may appear that regionalist literatures are as limited as the geographical space they intend to depict. On the other hand, regional literatures perhaps require sustained critical exploration of the relationships between region and race, and region and gender. This panel can gesture toward a criticism of regionalist literatures which explores the construction of region and its effects on subjectivity. This panel welcomes papers on any aspect of the relationship between criticism and regional literature from any disciplinary perspective and any time period. Papers may focus on a specific text(s), or may address theoretical concerns for the study of regional literatures.

Following the instructions on the ACCUTE website (under Conference), send your 700 word proposal (or 8-10 page double-spaced paper), a 100 word abstract, a 50 word biographical statement, and the submitter information form, to susiedecoste@gmail.com by November 15th.

Note: You must be a current ACCUTE member to submit to this session.

Reconciliation and the Humanities

Organizer: Dave Gaertner (Simon Fraser)

Since South Africa's highly publicized Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC), reconciliation has played an integral role in the constitution of a nation's law. In the last three years we have witnessed reconciliation events in Australia (National Sorry Day), Canada (Indian Residential Schools Agreement) and Chile (Valech Report); and with the arrival of the Obama administration, there have been heightened talks about the possibility of an American

TRC that would deal with U.S. sponsored torture in Iraq and elsewhere. Of course, the increase of reconciliation in political and social spheres has been met with an increase in research from the academy. However, the majority of this work has thus far come from social scientists and lawyers, which, as Robert Skloot suggests, sometimes “result in trends and statistics replacing the human image” (*Theatre of Genocide*; 9). This panel will critically examine the role the humanities and the arts can play in the burgeoning field of reconciliation studies. We are interested in papers that ask what literature, film, theatre and art contribute to reconciliation. Creative approaches / analytic material are encouraged.

Following the instructions on the ACCUTE website (under Conference), send your 700 word proposal (or 8-10 page double-spaced paper), a 100 word abstract, a 50 word biographical statement, and the submitter information form, to drg3@sfu.ca by November 15th.

Note: You must be a current ACCUTE member to submit to this session.

Beyond *Emily Montague*: Encountering Canada in the Eighteenth Century
Organizer: Susan Paterson Glover (Laurentian)

Canadian fiction such as Lawrence Hill’s *The Book of Negroes*, Afua Cooper’s *The Hanging of Angélique*, and John Steffler’s *The Afterlife of George Cartwright*, has imagined “Canada’s” eighteenth century. Restoration and eighteenth-century writers also imagined, and experienced, the space we now identify as Canada. The digitization of early texts and historical documents from the period has transformed access to archival material for research and teaching. This panel invites papers that search out and explore a broad range of those texts—imaginative works, non-fiction prose, documentary sources—that offer representations of northern North America prior to the Treaty of Paris in 1763 up to the early nineteenth century.

Possibilities might include, in addition to English literary works of the period: English encounters with New France; captivity narratives; the great Cascadia earthquake of 1700; the experience of war; spiritual life and memoir; logs, letters and diaries; mission reports, including *les Relations des Jésuites*; First Nations histories, oral and recorded; documents related to slavery and abolition; the *Royal Proclamation* of 1763; treaty documents; immigration/migration; early reading practices

Following the instructions on the ACCUTE website (under Conference), send your 700 word proposal (or 8-10 page double-spaced paper), a 100 word abstract, a 50 word biographical statement, and the submitter information form, to sglover@laurentian.ca by November 15th.

Note: You must be a current ACCUTE member to submit to this session.

The E-Book Wars
Organizer: Brian Greenspan (Carleton)

Owners of Amazon’s Kindle reader were recently shocked to learn that their purchased copies of Orwell’s *1984* had, ironically enough, been remotely erased following a copyright dispute. Meanwhile, Google and the Authors Guild reached a settlement allowing the Internet giant to scan entire university libraries, with more and more publishers choosing to launch new titles in Second Life. Electronic books have aroused critical fascination and anxiety for decades; with the recent explosion of e-book formats and devices, however, scholars find themselves competing with media conglomerates and sophisticated reading publics to define and, in some cases, contain these innovative technologies.

This panel will explore the utopian promises and dystopian fears generated by new literary media. Papers are invited that address the notion and nature of literature in the era of electronic books. How are authors, publishers and critics responding to the challenges of new literary objects and networks? Do e-books enable new reading and writing practices, or merely remediate conventional notions of the book?

Topics might include: e-book controversies; representations of digital books in other media; critical readings of native digital texts; digital rights management and copyright reform; transmedial, procedural or machinistic writing; new analytical tools and methods.

Following the instructions on the ACCUTE website (under Conference), send your 700 word proposal (or 8-10 page double-spaced paper), a 100 word abstract, a 50 word biographical statement, and the submitter information form, to brian_greenSPAN@carleton.ca by November 15th.

Note: You must be a current ACCUTE member to submit to this session.

Canadian Ecocriticisms: Diverse Directions and Untold Stories
Organizers: Paul Huebener (McMaster) and Lisa Szabo (Alberta)

While ecocritical analyses of Canadian literature have often focused on canonical writings about nature or broad concepts such as survival and wilderness, many stories remain to be told as the field continues to take shape. We invite submissions that address topics and questions including, but not limited to:

ecocritical approaches to experimental or conceptual poets, natural history, borders and bioregions, minor environmental literatures, texts that are not normally considered environmental, visual art and other cultural forms; heoretical approaches involving postmodern ecology, deterritorialization, cosmopolitanism, globalization, and canonicity; which Canadian works lend themselves well to ecocritical readings but have been largely overlooked?; how do bioregional boundaries disrupt national or provincial boundaries, and vice versa?; is contemporary Canadian literature permeated with what Simon C. Estok calls ecophobia?; does it make more sense to speak of Canadian ecocriticism, or Canadian ecocriticisms?

Following the instructions on the ACCUTE website (under Conference), send your 700 word proposal (or 8-10 page double-spaced paper), a 100 word abstract, a 50 word biographical statement, and the submitter information form, to huebenph@mcmaster.ca or lszabo@ualberta.ca by November 15th.

Note: You must be a current ACCUTE member to submit to this session.

The Writer as Radical Economist in Anglo-American Modernism and After
Organizers: Matt Kavanagh (Okanagan) and David N. Wright (Douglas)

During the Depression, one response to financial crisis was to put ‘nonproductive’ sectors of the economy to work. Even literature was pressed into service. Through programs like the WPA, the American writer was caught up in new institutional circuits where patronage was tied to recovery, broadly conceived. As well, expatriate American writers were often compelled to comment on the policies of the New Deal as they intersected--and clashed--with established modernist political and creative philosophies.

This panel examines the imbrication of modernist literary practice and economic theory. We are particularly interested in Anglo-American writers who self-consciously positioned themselves at the intersection of the two. How do their dialogues with the policies of the New Deal reflect--or disengage from--the tenets of modernist literary practice? And how might ‘recovery’ be figured in literary as well as economic terms?

Beyond Anglo-American modernism, we also welcome proposals that forge connections between the above and contemporary literary responses to, and representations of, the current financial crisis. If the former led to, as Michael Szalay suggests, “New Deal Modernism”, then what might constitute the poetics of the great neoliberal bailout of 2008?

Following the instructions on the ACCUTE website (under Conference), send your 700 word proposal (or 8-10 page double-spaced paper), a 100 word abstract, a 50 word biographical statement, and the submitter information form, to mkavanagh@okanagan.bc.ca or wrightd@douglas.bc.ca by November 15th.

Note: You must be a current ACCUTE member to submit to this session.

Nature vs. Nurture: Cultural Inheritance in Canadian Literature
Organizer: Dr. Benjamin Lefebvre (Worcester/Prince Edward Island)

I invite proposals for papers that focus on questions of cultural inheritance in Canadian texts, particularly as they come up against the binary nature/nurture. To what extent are cultural traditions (including ancestry, ritual, festival, language, religion, food, clothing, etc.) expressed or experienced as either “natural” components of the body or as acts and behaviours nurtured by cultural citizens? In the process of inheriting culture, are nature and nurture complementary or contradictory processes? How do texts published in or about Canada negotiate this binary, and what visions of the nation do these tensions produce?

Proposals about texts from all regions, communities, and periods are welcome, as are all critical/theoretical approaches and methods. Possible topics include: the performance of cultural inheritance; racialized, gendered, classed, regionalized, and politicized bodies, families, and communities; trans-, hybridized, queer, questioning, two-spirited and/vs. heteronormative identities and inheritances; adulthood and/vs. childhood; the production, reproduction, and counterproduction of cultural memory.

Following the instructions on the ACCUTE website (under Conference), send your 700 word proposal (or 8-10 page double-spaced paper), a 100 word abstract, a 50 word biographical statement, and the submitter information form, to ben@roomofbensown.net by November 15th.

Note: You must be a current ACCUTE member to submit to this session.

What is a Canadian Literary Urbanism?

Organizer: Brandon McFarlane (Toronto)

Since the mid 1990s writers and scholars have been calling for a Canadian literary urbanism. Authors like Zsuzsi Gartner, Hal Niedzviecki, Andrew Pyper, and Russell Smith contextualized their urban writing as a challenge to ‘obsolete’ notions of Canadian identity: ‘the Great White North’, the small town, and survival.

“Justin D. Edwards’s and Douglas Ivison’s *Downtown Canada* begins with a polemic asserting the centrality of the city and the urban within the Canadian spatial and cultural imaginaries” (4). Having recognized the city’s importance within Canadian culture, it now seems necessary to ask: What is a Canadian literary urbanism? This panel invites papers investigating what an urban consciousness allows one to do with Canadian literature. Potential approaches may investigate how urbanism affects on-going debates (trans-nationalism; native vs. cosmopolitanism; multiculturalism; ethnic studies; thematic criticism; environmental literature; diaspora studies; etc). Others may re-visit previous justifications of an urban approach (the need for national-referential writing; the rise of spatial theory; the arrival of ‘Generation-X’; nationalism; etc). Others may wish to theorize how relevant existing interdisciplinary urban models or theories are to a Canadian context.

Following the instructions on the ACCUTE website (under Conference), send your 700 word proposal (or 8-10 page double-spaced paper), a 100 word abstract, a 50 word biographical statement, and the submitter information form, to brandon.mcfarlane@utoronto.ca by November 15th.

Note: You must be a current ACCUTE member to submit to this session.

Canadian (dis)Content

Organizer: Karen Macfarlane (Mount Saint Vincent)

Not so long ago I was asked why we can’t seem to discuss a Canadian writer or work without focusing on his/her/its Canadian-ness. I’m throwing the question out to you by inviting proposals that consider Canadian literature outside of/beyond/and ideally without reference to Canadian content. Contributors are invited to consider ways in which we can discuss works by Canadian writers without explicit reference to Canadian national identity and related topics. Papers that focus on authors or works that are usually left out of discussions of canonical Canadian literature and those that address possible theoretical approaches to this topic are especially welcome.

Following the instructions on the ACCUTE website (under Conference), send your 700 word proposal (or 8-10 page double-spaced paper), a 100 word abstract, a 50 word biographical statement, and the submitter information form, to karen.macfarlane@msvu.ca by November 15th.

Note: You must be a current ACCUTE member to submit to this session.

The Materiality of Texts

Organizer: Eli MacLaren (Queen's)

There is more to a text than meets the casual reader's eye. The specific forms in which it is received govern its significance, which we cannot fully grasp without enumerating and explaining these forms. An eighteenth-century novel reflects the class for whose consumption it was created; a twentieth-century novel foresees its own adaptation to film; a twenty-first century novel enshrines the ideology of the granting council that funded it. The "materiality of texts" is one label for the shaping impact of social and economic factors on language and literature, and it has emerged as a major point of convergence in literary studies, bibliography, and post-Marxist theory.

Papers are invited on any aspect of the materiality of texts, such as; the monied text and the players: incentive, rewards, careers, publication, performance, exchange—what are the human motivations behind textual production?; the mirror and the private reader: far from critical hierarchies, individuals turn to texts of all sorts and discover themselves. What and how can we learn about the value of texts to specific readers other than ourselves?; the fluid text and the scholarly editor: How do variants affect the significance of a work? How should one represent and organize the different incarnations of a text?; intersections in method: bibliography and cultural studies both take the "materiality of texts" as a starting point but trace noticeably different trajectories. How might these different fields of contemporary scholarship fruitfully learn from one another?

Following the instructions on the ACCUTE website (under Conference), send your 700 word proposal (or 8-10 page double-spaced paper), a 100 word abstract, a 50 word biographical statement, and the submitter information form, to eli.maclaren@gmail.com before November 15th.

Note: You must be a current ACCUTE member to submit to this session.

New Approaches to Creative Writing Pedagogy

Organizer: Robert McGill (Toronto)

As university creative writing courses have proliferated, the development of pedagogy has not kept pace. This session will address the imbalance by reconsidering such courses' goals and methods. For instance, although workshops remain the default mode for teaching creative writing, there are many ways to run them. There are also entirely different modes of teaching. Papers in this session will address such questions as: to what extent might creative writing classes draw on pedagogy established for literary studies? What skill-sets and bodies of knowledge should instructors seek to teach? What place should there be for directed reading, literary theory, and writing exercises? How should students be assessed? What attention should there be to professional matters such as publishing and working with agents? What role should peer criticism play in providing feedback on students' work, and how can the skills involved in peer criticism best be developed? What different strategies are demanded by the teaching of different literary forms (e.g., poetry, non-fiction, fiction, playwriting, screenwriting)—not least when more than one form is being taught in a course? And what ethical questions might arise in creative writing classes? Papers that draw on classroom experience are welcome.

Following the instructions on the ACCUTE website (under Conference), send your 700 word proposal (or 8-10 page double-spaced paper), a 100 word abstract, a 50 word biographical statement, and the submitter information form, to robert.mcgill@utoronto.ca by November 15th.

Note: You must be a current ACCUTE member to submit to this session.

Genocide and Testimony: The Dilemma of Memory

Organizers: Mark Olyan (McGill) and Fred Ribkoff (Kwantlen)

Of his seminal work, *Shoah*, the French filmmaker, Claude Lanzmann, has said that far more than history, his film serves as an “incarnation” or “resurrection.” The witness testimonies that make up the bulk of Lanzmann’s documentary have an astonishing power not generally found in history texts. The witnesses are permitted to tell their own stories—to show where the individual account intersects with history.

From the time of Thucydides, witness testimony has been employed to enhance our appreciation of events at the limits of our understanding. The words of someone who was “actually there” cannot be undervalued. First-hand testimony to genocide, in either written, oral or visual form, permits survivors to communicate their own stories while subject to the limits of language, narrative, memory, and context.

What does such testimony communicate and how? How has it been used or abused? Is it history? Is it doomed by the flawed and fragile nature of human memory? Is it unverifiable and untestable? Or does it represent a larger and more important truth? Is it our last and best method for describing the indescribable?

Following the instructions on the ACCUTE website (under Conference), send your 700 word proposal (or 8-10 page double-spaced paper), a 100 word abstract, a 50 word biographical statement, and the submitter information form, to olyan@sympatico.ca and/or Fred.Ribkoff@kwantlen.ca by November 15th.

Note: You must be a current ACCUTE member to submit to this session.

Radical Modernist Pedagogy in Canada

Organizers: Karin Shearer (McGill) and Dean Irvine (Dalhousie)

Canada boasts a great number of teachers and professors amongst its writers. For many, teaching presents an opportunity to shape the values of both readers *and* writers of literature. Modernist writers such as A.J.M. Smith worked to legitimize Canadian literature as an academic field within Canadian universities, while Earle Birney helped to institute Canada’s first creative writing MFA in 1963. But pedagogy is not, of course, limited to the university classroom: Ezra Pound’s famous “Ez-university” was akin to a correspondence course in which writers exchanged letters with the American poet, receiving in return a literary education that included enclosed pamphlets and recommended-reading lists. Contemporary scholars and teachers continue individually and collectively to push the boundaries of pedagogy: the Editing Modernism in Canada (EMiC) project (www.editingmodernism.ca), for example, includes within its mandate experiential-learning pedagogies to train students and new scholars, as well as web-based pedagogies to “appeal to communities of readers beyond postsecondary institutions.” Might experimental modernist pedagogical strategies offer new ways of thinking about our contemporary practice as teachers of modernist literature?

Papers on radical modernist pedagogy in Canada might explore but are not limited to the following questions: In what locations, venues, or media did radical modernist pedagogy take place? (i.e. living rooms, public parks, CBC radio, etc.)

What form(s) did women’s radical pedagogy take?

What is the relationship between teaching and writing?

Did technological advances offer new pedagogical possibilities?

How has radical modernist pedagogy been documented?

Following the instructions on the ACCUTE website (under Conference), send your 700 word proposal (or 8-10 page double-spaced paper), a 100 word abstract, a 50 word biographical statement, and the submitter information form, to karis.shearer@mcgill.ca or dean.irvine@dal.ca by November 15th.

Note: You must be a current ACCUTE member to submit to this session.

The Lacanian Neighbour in Space

Organizers: Jason Starnes and Dave Gaertner (Simon Fraser), with the Vancouver Lacan Salon

In *Civilization and its Discontents* (1929), Sigmund Freud began to develop what was to be a significant element of psychoanalytic criticism: the neighbour. Freud's speculations arose from his objection to the biblical commandment to "love thy neighbour as thyself," an imperative he saw as distasteful, if not horrifying. In *Seminar VII* (1959), Jacques Lacan would go on to develop Freud's ideas on the neighbour, linking it to the idea of *jouissance* and the death of God (see chapters XIV and XV). The most contemporary text, Slavoj Žižek, Eric L. Santner and Kenneth Reinhard's *The Neighbour* (2006), uses political, philosophical and theological approaches to further develop the idea of the Other amidst current trends in critical theory. However, while Žižek *et al* provide nuanced criticism on the biblical trope of the neighbour, they seem to ignore what Lacan calls the "neighbour's space as such" (197): the very literal borders that delineate self and other. This panel will critically explore these spaces from a variety of perspectives, examining for instance the ways physical space creates the other as such, and the consequences of real, imaginary, or porous borders between self and other.

Following the instructions on the ACCUTE website (under Conference), send your 700 word proposal (or 8-10 page double-spaced paper), a 100 word abstract, a 50 word biographical statement, and the submitter information form, to jstarnes@sfu.ca and/or drg3@sfu.ca by November 15th.

Note: You must be a current ACCUTE member to submit to this session.

Shakespeare and the Creation of Community

Organizer: Paul Stevens (Toronto)

In her classic study, *Shakespeare's Comic Commonwealths*, the late Camille Wells Slight's draws attention to Shakespeare's preoccupation with community, to his interest in its construction, maintenance, and dissolution. The purpose of this panel session is to continue her seminal work on Shakespeare and community. By community we mean what Slight's calls "social association" in its most inclusive sense, anything from the imagined communities articulated in the plays and poems to the local, business, and theatrical communities within which Shakespeare actually lived to the large scale social, cultural, and national communities he influenced both in his own day and in ours. We propose to build our discussion around questions of language, performance, social interaction, and history – for example, (1) how exactly are communities invented in language? how are their continuities maintained and their ruptures repaired? (2) What is the role of play, performance or the aesthetic? (3) What room do community imperatives and boundaries allow for individual agency, privacy, or difference? (4) To what extent are the mechanisms of community evident in Shakespeare specific to his time and to what extent transhistorical? How does his representation of community evolve or become co-opted?

Following the instructions on the ACCUTE website (under Conference), send your 700 word proposal (or 8-10 page double-spaced paper), a 100 word abstract, a 50 word biographical statement, and the submitter information form, to paul.stevens@utoronto.ca by November 15th.

Note: You must be a current ACCUTE member to submit to this session.

3. Joint Organized Sessions

Association for Research in Cultures of Young People (ARCYP)

The Child and the City

Organizer: Mavis Reimer (Winnipeg)

Close to 80% of citizens live in urban spaces in Canada, just one of many nations and regions where urbanization is a primary fact of young people's lives and where many young people's identities are defined by their experience of living in cities. With its complex social networks and its ethnic and cultural diversity, the city invites multiple

possibilities for self-invention or refashioning. The urban environment shapes how young people, from infants to adolescents, are able to express particular identities, participate in peer culture, and engage with their families. This session aims to address questions of how young people negotiate and create urban spaces and, conversely, how urban spaces accommodate young people.

Possible topics may include (but are not limited to): representations of the urban child; the criminalization of youth cultures; the surveillance of young people; media literacies of the urban child; social identities and youth; children's play and public space; childhood, youth, and urban lifestyles; urban schools; postcolonial cities and urban youth; cities, globalization and young people; young people's engagement with new technologies in the urban environments; GBLT as urban identities; homeless youth.

Following the instructions on the ACCUTE website (under Conference) for joint association sessions, send your 700 word proposal (or 8-10 page double-spaced paper), a 100 word abstract, a 50 word biographical statement, and the submitter information form, to arcyp-admin@uwinnipeg.ca by November 15th.

Note: You must be a current ACCUTE member or a member of ARCYP to submit to this session.

Association for Research in Cultures of Young People (ARCYP)

Hope and Change?: Young People's Cultures and Social Justice Organizer: Mavis Reimer (Winnipeg)

It is often claimed that young people are our future. "Hope and change" have long been associated with young people, but they have also become shimmering catchphrases in political discourses promising some brighter future. To what extent do current ideas, representations, and/or realities concerning youth and youth cultures offer possibilities for re-imagining current local and global struggles for equality, inclusion, alterity, and progress?

Some possible topics may include: rhetorics of reconciliation, multiculturalism, hybridity, and/or recognition; children's rights; alternative literacies and/or critical pedagogies ; discourses of nationhood, progress, security, war and/or terrorism; struggles for human/civil rights (disability, gender, race, class, sexuality, etc.); transnationalism and families; mobility, space, displacement, and/or homelessness; environmental issues; DIY, culture jamming, youth culture and subcultures.

Following the instructions on the ACCUTE website (under Conference) for joint association sessions, send your 700 word proposal (or 8-10 page double-spaced paper), a 100 word abstract, a 50 word biographical statement, and the submitter information form, to arcyp-admin@uwinnipeg.ca by November 15th.

Note: You must be a current ACCUTE member or a member of ARCYP to submit to this session.

Association for Research in Cultures of Young People (ARCYP)

Eco-Childhood: The Child, Ecology, and Eco-criticism Organizer: Mavis Reimer (Winnipeg)

In the new environmental movement there is a great deal of discourse around saving the environment for children. Al Gore's An Inconvenient Truth is now a picture book intended to teach young readers about the dangers of global warming. Many environmental groups have created educational programs designed to warn children of our destructive lifestyles. This is not the first time or place in history that the child has been taught about preserving nature, nor is it the first time that a social cause has been justified in terms of an adult duty of care towards children. This panel invites papers that deal with the relationships between the concepts of "the child" and "ecology," or papers that analyze children's texts and culture from an eco-critical perspective. Potential topics include: the role of the study of children's texts and culture for eco-critics ; "the child" as an important critical term for ecological criticism; the role that assumptions about "the child" play in justifying an adult

duty of care towards the environment; the ethical implications of the teachings of eco-friendly attitudes to children and youth; environmentalism as imagined in youth culture; young people as eco-activists.

Following the instructions on the ACCUTE website (under Conference) for joint association sessions, send your 700 word proposal (or 8-10 page double-spaced paper), a 100 word abstract, a 50 word biographical statement, and the submitter information form, to arcyp-admin@uwinnipeg.ca by November 15th.

Note: You must be a current ACCUTE member or a member of ARCYP to submit to this session.

Canadian Association for American Studies (CAAS)

Healing America: Representing Health in American Culture

Organizers: Jason Haslam (Dalhousie) and Dana Medoro (Manitoba)

With the town halls surrounding Health Care reform becoming ever more vexed affairs, the cultural representation of health, healing, and health care takes on new resonance in U.S. political life and cultural self-image. This panel welcomes papers on literary, artistic, cinematic, online, or other cultural representations of these topics, whether fictional or non-fictional, and from any period. Possible topics could include: representing the (un)healthy body; health care and the disciplined subject; mental health; the “health” of the body politic; disability and health; the environment and health; illness and labour; pandemics and fear; and any other related topic.

Following the instructions on the ACCUTE website (under Conference) for joint association sessions, send your 700 word proposal (or 8-10 page double-spaced paper), a 100 word abstract, a 50 word biographical statement, and the submitter information form, to Jason.Haslam@dal.ca by November 15th.

Note: You must be a current ACCUTE member or a member of CAAS to submit to this session.

North American Victorian Studies Association (NAVSA)

Victorian Literature and/of Education

Organizer: Jason Camlot (Concordia)

The Victorian period saw the development of a wide range of new curricula, new modes of pedagogy, and the establishment of new educational institutions. The 1836 royal charter that granted the University of London the right to confer university degrees, the founding of the first Women’s colleges in the late 1840s, the 1870 Education Act, are just a few historical results of the intense thought, effort and innovation of numerous individual educators, politicians, writers and thinkers. With such development and reform came a rich expository, philosophical and creative literature that engaged with important questions about the scope and function of education, and the role of educational methods and institutions for the development of the individual. This call invites proposals for individual or collaborative papers on the theme of “Victorian Literature and/of Education.” Possible topics include, but are by no means limited to: Art Education, Autodidacticism, Classical Humanism, Educational Reform, Education and the Victorian bildungsroman, Education of the Laboring Classes, Examinations, Literature curricula, Physical Education, Public Schools, Religious and Secular Education, University Poetry Prizes, Utilitarianism and Education, Victorian Pedagogy, Women and Education.

Victorian Studies Association of Ontario (VSAO)

Victorian Systems and Standardization

Organizers: Fiona Coll (Toronto) & Connie Crompton (York/Ryerson)

From the factory to the railway, the telegraph to the postal service, the growth of empire to the establishment of national educational curricula, the nineteenth century was marked by large-scale impositions of system, and by a

concurrent emphasis on the standardization of objects, concepts, and people. This panel seeks to explore the imbrications of system and standardization throughout the Victorian era, and to examine how the concept of rationalized organization was imagined and understood by Victorians. How did the generalized abstraction inherent in the process of standardization shape the lived experience of individuals? What supra-individual needs were anticipated in the construction of various kinds of system? To what extent did the Victorians envisage a connection between systematization and knowledge production?

Papers may focus on any occurrence of system or standardization during the Victorian period, such as: genre as artistic standardization; disciplines (scientific and otherwise); domestic conventions; bodies in systems; heterodox and orthodox belief systems; formal and informal economies; the aesthetics of system.

We are also interested in events and ideas that were explicitly figured as resistances to system, such as: Works of genius or inspiration; Free love; Anarchy; Mutiny.

Following the instructions on the ACCUTE website (under Conference) for joint association sessions, send your 700 word proposal (or 8-10 page double-spaced paper), a 100 word abstract, a 50 word biographical statement, and the submitter information form, to VSAOatACCUTE@gmail.com by November 15th.

Note: You must be a current ACCUTE member or a member of VSAO to submit to this session.

Victorian Studies Association of Western Canada

Victorians on the Web

Organizers: Kristen Guest (Northern British Columbia)

In recent years, nineteenth-century scholarship has become increasingly invested in using new technologies for scholarship, teaching, publishing and networking. Today, large scale, diverse projects such as NINES, Orlando, British Women Writers, the Victorian Web and the Rossetti Archive, among many others, have significantly reshaped the field of Victorian studies. This session aims to explore and assess recent developments in online scholarship of the Victorian era.

Possible topics might include: innovations in teaching made possible by web-based materials; possibilities raised by the availability of rare texts and resources; changes or shifts in the discipline as a result of web-based resources; the scholarship of open access projects; networking and "Victoria"; theoretical, practical, or technical implications of web-based scholarship.

Following the instructions on the ACCUTE website (under Conference) for joint association sessions, send your 700 word proposal (or 8-10 page double-spaced paper), a 100 word abstract, a 50 word biographical statement, and the submitter information form, to kguest@unbc.ca by November 15th

Note: You must be a current ACCUTE member or a member of VSAWC to submit to this session.

4. The Christianity and Literature Study Group

The Christianity and Literature Study Group

Organizers: David Kent (Centennial) and Margot Swiss (York)

The Christianity and Literature Study Group (an Allied Association now in its 23rd year) invites proposals or papers on any aspect of religion and literature, including pedagogy and critical theory, for its annual Conference at the 2010 Congress at Concordia University. We also welcome suggestions for member-organized sessions.

Note: While the Christianity and Literature Group has an annual CFP, please be aware that (because this is a "study group," and because the submissions are not sent for external assessment) presenters at these sessions are not eligible for the ACCUTE conference travel funds provided by SSHRC.

Following the instructions on the ACCUTE website (under Conference) for joint association sessions, send your 700 word proposal (or 8-10 page double-spaced paper), a 100 word abstract, a 50 word biographical statement, and the submitter information form, to david.kent@centennial.ca and/or msswiss@yorku.ca by November 15th.

Note: You must be a current ACCUTE member to submit to this session.