

2011–2012 ANNUAL REPORT



CENTER FOR 21ST CENTURY STUDIES

at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee



Letter from the Director

Long-time friends of the Center for 21st Century Studies will have noticed that we have changed the medium for communicating our doings to you from a tri-quarterly newsletter to an annual report. Our reasons for doing so were threefold. First, the annual report represents the customary format used by humanities centers and institutes both nationally and internationally. Second, an annual report saves money and labor in an economic climate where both are stretched ever thinner. Finally, and most importantly, because we have increased our channels of communication through a variety of online social media, it seemed unnecessary to continue to provide print newsletters three times a year.

In addition, the Center has continued to change in other ways. Deputy Director Kate Kramer departed in August 2011 for the University of Pennsylvania. Mary Mullen joined us in January from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, bringing to C21 a renewed focus on public humanities and student engagement. With Mary's involvement, we have modified last year's question, "What Is 21st Century Studies?" to the more active and engaged question that marks this year's theme, "What Should 21st Century Studies Do?" This shift from definition to action is reflective of the heightened activist climate in the state and the nation, as well as of the Center's increasing concern to play a more active role in the intellectual, cultural, and political life of Milwaukee and Wisconsin.

To that end we have attempted over the past two years to address current developments of note as opportunities have emerged. So in February 2011 we put on a half-day symposium on the WikiLeaks controversy, and this past April we presented a symposium called Pre-Occupy, which took up the ways in which the Occupy Wall Street movement had been prepared by earlier occupations in California and in Wisconsin. This October we will be hosting an event on the role of emotions in political decision making, which will capitalize on an intensely interested concern with the presidential election in November. This spring our annual conference will explore The Dark Side of the Digital, as a way to develop strategies for what can be done about some of the dangerous and disturbing consequences of the digital revolution.

For me personally, the highlight of the past year was our spring conference on The Nonhuman Turn, the first I have organized as C21 director. For more than two decades, I have been convinced that for the humanities to thrive in the 21st century, we will have to turn our attention to the concerns of the nonhuman world of nature, media, technology, animals, and ecology, to name a few. Apparently I am not alone in this conviction; the Nonhuman Turn (in the words of Canada Research Chair Davide Panagia) "went as viral as an academic conference can." The success of this conference led us to continue the theme for the annual conference of the Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts (SLSA), which we are co-organizing in September 2012. In May 2013 we will co-sponsor a conference in Giessen, Germany on the Return of the Nonhuman with our colleagues in the Graduate Center for the Study of Culture (GCSC).

We welcome your comments, suggestions, criticisms, and support. We invite you to follow us here on campus or via the many social media networks through which we are trying to expand our community. Although C21 exists primarily for the faculty and students of UWM, the more we can extend our networks to those living in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, or throughout the world, the more the UWM community will be strengthened. Thanks for your interest and support.



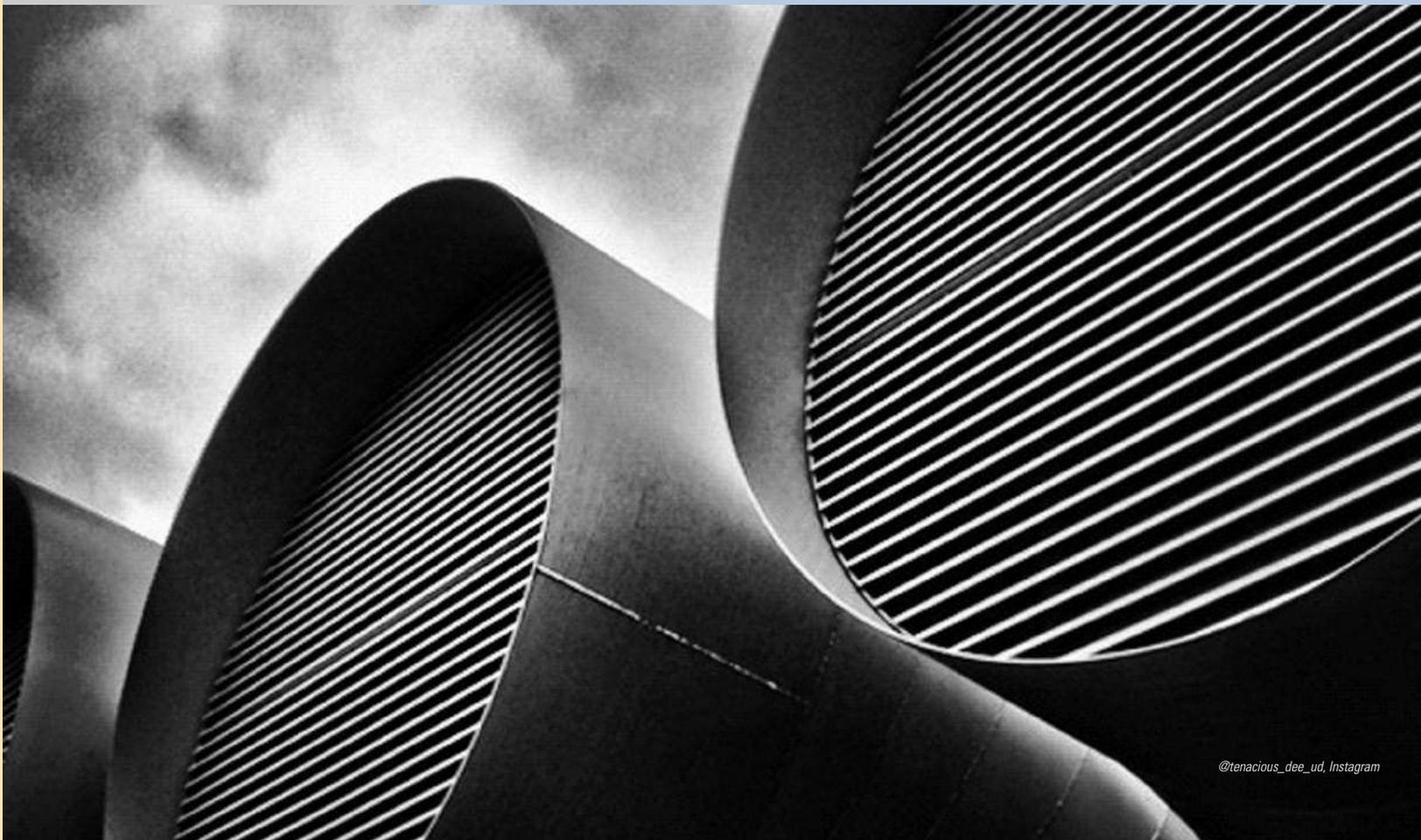
Richard Grusin



Richard Grusin, C21 director

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The Nonhuman Turn Conference

May 3–5, 2012

For this year's annual conference, C21 considered the "Nonhuman Turn" that has been emerging in the arts, humanities, and social sciences over the past few decades. The response to the conference was overwhelmingly positive and quite enthusiastic. The initial Call For Papers (CFP) generated a significant amount of buzz on social media such as Facebook and Twitter; we received over 120 paper proposals, only about forty of which we were able to accept. The Curtin Hall 175 auditorium was at capacity all weekend long, and people across the globe watched the livestreamed plenary talks, weighing in via tweets and blog posts. The conference was organized by C21 director Richard Grusin, C21 deputy director Mary Mullen, C21 associate director John Blum, and C21 provost postdoctoral scholar Rebekah Sheldon.

The nonhuman is at once a philosophical, ethical, political, and technological problem.

The Nonhuman Turn conference inspired lively debates—online and in person—about how the humanities needs to think beyond the human. Over the course of the eight plenary lectures and twelve breakout sessions, it became clear that the nonhuman is at once a philosophical, ethical, political, and technological problem. The passion and energy invested in teasing out how best to understand objects, subject-object relations, networks, animals, affect, ecology, materialism, media—even death—showed that if the nonhuman turn has a long history, it is definitely gathering intensity in the 21st century.

To introduce the conference, Richard Grusin provided an extended genealogy of the nonhuman turn. He noted the diversity of thought that intensified interest in the nonhuman: pioneering work on affectivities, animals, and ecological systems by Charles Darwin, William James, and Deleuze and Guattari; more recent work in science studies, affect theory, and feminist new materialism; as well as the very recent emergence and relatively rapid growth of object-oriented ontology and speculative realism. In discussing a Facebook conversation about the CFP, he noted how new media accelerated the turn by creating networks of scholars who respond quickly and react to each other's work. He suggested that a consideration of the nonhuman has political and ethical implications by re-orienting politics towards human and nonhuman relations.





Think Make Digital Installation



Brian Massumi

Instinct is creative rather than adaptive.

The work of Alfred North Whitehead, a philosopher associated with “process philosophy” and an influence on Gilles Deleuze, was a common thread that linked many of the plenary talks. Kicking off the conference on Thursday afternoon, Brian Massumi (University of Montreal) alluded to Whitehead to argue that instinct is creative rather than adaptive—it propels plasticity and art. Erin Manning (Concordia University) took up Whitehead’s understanding of “concern” as a way of understanding how subjects and objects, humans and animals, are immersed in relations with one another. She argued that attention to these relations helps us focus on unfolding events: gendering rather than gender, becoming gorilla-like rather than gorillas.



@sauratbaugher, Instagram

On Friday, Steven Shaviro (Wayne State) considered Whitehead’s contributions to panpsychism: the idea that all matter has mind, or mentality. Shaviro concluded by claiming that sentience—the ability to feel, think, be conscious—might be a more basic category of being than vitality or life. Mark Hansen (Duke) examined Whitehead from a different perspective, suggesting that his work on data, quantification, and speculation helps develop a nonhuman understanding of 21st century media. Specifically, he argued that Whitehead’s emphasis on becoming helps us understand the ways that media make the future felt in the present.

Plenary speakers also discussed the growing popularity of object-oriented ontology, a philosophical approach that puts things at the center of our understanding of existence. In her humorously titled talk, “Systems and Things: A Materialist and an Object-Oriented Philosopher Walk into a Bar . . .,” Jane Bennett (Johns Hopkins) considered how materialists and object-oriented ontologists understand the call of objects differently. While materialists emphasize relations between objects, object-oriented ontologists tend to see the objects as “withdrawn”: they are ontologically prior to relations and never

The Nonhuman Turn Conference.

entirely present to one another. Bennett asked whether scholars have to choose between these two positions or if they could move between them instead.

In turn, Tim Morton (UC-Davis) and Ian Bogost (Georgia Tech) argued for the value of object-oriented ontology as they demonstrated its emotional effects. In an exuberant performance piece that moved from the Electric Bugaloos to object-oriented ontology, Morton showed how ecological thought brings things frighteningly close. The rapid rhythm of his talk inspired anxiety in audience members, an anxiety that Morton suggested reminds us that other beings exist, that there is an outside (or, as his title suggested, "They are Here"). Bogost associated object-oriented ontology with a different emotion: childlike wonder. Telling personal anecdotes of childhood visits to Milwaukee, Bogost argued that academics should make and do rather than read and write, using his popular Facebook game, Cow Clicker, as an example of such carpentry.

"Spam is another way to say I love you."

– Wendy Chun

Wendy Chun (Brown) approached the nonhuman through the question of Internet networks, a question which also ran through many of the breakout panels. Explaining how the very idea of a personal computer is an oxymoron because computers create networks and relationships, she argued that we should accept our vulnerability rather than create more Internet security. In her words, "Spam is another way to say I love you."

The breakout sessions featured presentations by scholars at all stages of their careers: graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, new faculty members, and tenured faculty. There



T. Hugh Crawford and Ian Bogost



@idhats, Instagram



Wendy Chun

The Nonhuman Turn Conference



Erin Manning in front of *Weather Patterns*



Nirmal Raja's *Transmit/Translate*

were two sessions on objects and mediation, as well as sessions on death, ethics, animals, [. . .] human, arts, performance, rhetoric, and queer/feminist/Gaga. C21 plans to publish many of these papers on its Nonhuman Turn website this fall.

The conference was enhanced by an interactive art installation, *Weather Patterns*, collaboratively created by Erin Manning, Nathaniel Stern, Brian Massumi, Nicole Ridgway, Brian Cera, C. Matthew Luther, and Nirmal Raja. Comprised of animated sound, air currents, fabric, and electromagnetic fields, the installation, which transformed the first floor of Curtin Hall, moved with people's movements, constantly affecting the space itself and the shape of the art. UWM students reveled in the work as it was being constructed, asking questions and commenting on its "spookiness." Inside Curtin 175, Raja's *Transmit/Translate* filled two translation booths with excised text from participants' papers, while Luther's video provided an atmospheric background to Massumi's talk.

Think Make Digital (TMD), a C21 research group, also helped extend the boundaries of the conference. Their Instagram hashtag challenge asked people to post images that visualized the nonhuman turn. They received 1,103 submissions from 118 individual contributors spread out over five continents by the time of the conference. They exhibited the images in large mosaics on the walls of Curtin 175 and an ongoing slideshow. TMD also helped promote the Twitter hashtag and visualized the connections among conference speakers and concepts through Gephi graphs.

C21 looks forward to continuing many of the conversations that were started at the Nonhuman Turn Conference at the 2012 Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts meeting in Milwaukee on the topic of the Nonhuman. C21 will also publish a book with essays from the plenary speakers and, we hope, a special journal issue that includes expanded essays selected from the breakout sessions.

Lecture Series: What Is 21st Century Studies?



Friday, September 30, 2011

Jonathan Flatley (English, Wayne State)

“Black Leninism; Or, Newspapers and Revolutionary Attunement from Lenin to the League of Revolutionary Black Workers”

Does the 1960s black Leninism of the League of Revolutionary Black Workers have any import in understanding today’s political and economic predicaments? **Jonathan Flatley** argued that the factory newspapers of black Detroit autoworkers in the 1960s, much like the party newspapers Lenin discussed in *What Is to Be Done?*, facilitated an “affective attunement” that allowed workers to share an affective state and to become aware of themselves as a collective; in so doing the League invoked a “counter mood,” one in which collective political action—especially the strike—seemed attractive, possible, and affectively rewarding.



Tuesday, October 4, 2011

Donald Pease (English, Dartmouth)

“Re-Framing the Transnational Turn in American Studies”

The “transnational turn” has effected the most significant re-imagining of the field of American Studies since its inception, transforming competing spatial and temporal orientations to the object of study, such as borderlands critique and multicultural and postcolonial American studies. In this talk, **Donald Pease** examined the geopolitical context in which Transnational American Studies became imaginable as well as the problematic sites of emergence, transformation, and reconfiguration that accompanied the transnational turn.



Friday, October 7, 2011

Ursula Heise (English, Stanford)

“Terminal Species: Narrative, Database, and Biodiversity Loss”

When considering a possible mass extinction of existing species on Earth by 2100, many artists, writers, and filmmakers have created works that memorialize and celebrate these endangered and extinct species, often within the familiar genres of elegy and tragedy. At the same time, biologists have sought to create global database inventories of all known species and to classify them by their degree of endangerment. In her talk, **Ursula Heise** analyzed images, narratives, and database formats that have emerged around endangered species in order to determine whether they offer an alternative to the well-established environmentalist discourse about the decline of nature and to offer clues to a more future-oriented perspective on humans’ interactions with nonhumans.



Friday, October 21, 2011

Jane Taylor (Centre for Humanities Research, University of Western Cape, South Africa)

“PERFORM/REFORM”

Using testimonies from the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission, **Jane Taylor** explored the ways individuals tried to hold onto a stable sense of self while dissociating themselves from the apartheid regime within which they had once functioned. She paid particular attention to the rhetorical trope of (religious) conversion that allows for a sense of continuity during a crisis, and took the opportunity to look back across Western art historical and literary traditions to locate figures of conversion who managed the crises of selfhood that arose during the violent and traumatic decades of the Reformation.

Lecture Series: What Is 21st Century Studies?

Wednesday, November 2, 2011

Richard Rogers (New Media & Digital Culture, University of Amsterdam)
“The End of the Virtual: Digital Methods”

In acknowledging the ontological distinction between the natively digital and the digitized—between objects that are “born” in the new medium, as opposed to those that have “migrated” to it—**Richard Rogers** noted that this distinction also applies to current research methods. What kind of Internet research may be performed with methods that have been digitized (online surveys and directories) vis-à-vis those that are natively digital (recommendation systems and folksonomy)? Rogers was interested ultimately in how the Internet can be used to study culture as a whole, not just online culture itself, by using these new digital methods to analyze hyperlinks, tags, search engine results, archived websites, and other digital objects.

Friday, November 18, 2011

Thomas Dale (Art History, UW-Madison)
“Romanesque Sculpture, the Body, the Senses, and Religious Experience”

The re-emergence of architectural sculpture in Europe during the eleventh and twelfth centuries is often considered to be a hallmark of the period known as the Romanesque, with its ties to an ancient Roman past. In his visually lush talk, **Thomas Dale** explored, by contrast, how the intrinsically palpable and spatial medium of sculpture, as well as its form and content, appealed to the intensely somatic theology and religious practice of the time, which was marked by an interest in the relationship between the outward appearance/gestures of the body and the inner life of the soul, as well as an increasingly embodied understanding of visions and dreams.

Friday, December 2, 2011

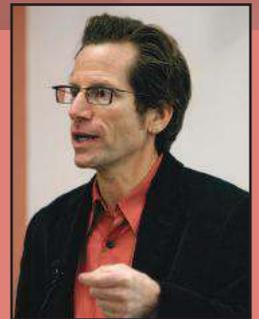
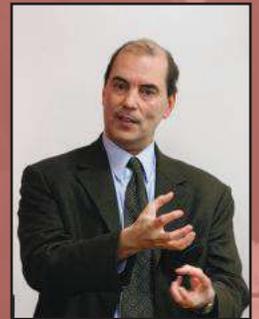
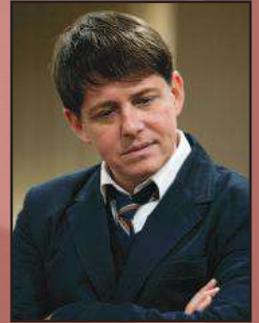
Daniel Kleinman (Community and Environmental Sociology, UW-Madison)
“Uneven Commercialization: Contradiction and Conflict in the Identity and Practices of American Universities”

How and to what extent is higher education in the United States becoming commercialized? **Daniel Kleinman** argued that widespread claims about the commercialization of higher education are overbroad. For example, although much scholarship on the topic is based on limited data, it still makes arguments about a growing, steamroller-like process of commercialization. And although the scholarship is typically synchronic, it makes assertions about change over time. Moreover, authors’ contentions often prove to be anecdotal, rather than systematic or systemic. Kleinman used a mixture of close and distant readings of academic leadership publications to paint a picture of the commercialization of U.S. higher education as a complicated, uneven, contradictory, and multifaceted process.

Friday, February 10, 2012

Frieda Knobloch (American Studies, Wyoming)
“Remaking Environmental Studies: Excavating Bedrock and Creating Formations”

The environmental discourse that has emerged as legitimate in addressing present ecological crises is primarily scientific. Yet, at the same time, there has been a tremendous intellectual backlash against thoughtless “scientism,” and, in popular and political cultures, against the premise that science is at all valid in describing our world. For this talk, **Frieda Knobloch** explored the geology of the desert to argue for remaking the field of environmental studies from the ground up, while proposing alternative, humanistic legitimacies in both environmental understanding and discourse.



Lecture Series: What Is 21st Century Studies?



The audience members at Nonhuman Turn Conference



Thursday, March 1, 2012

Eric Hayot (Comp Lit, Penn State)

“Comparative Literature in the 21st Century: Literary History After European Time”

The historical models literary scholars use to describe literary history owe a great deal to the languages of originality, novelty, progress, and invention—the core of modernity. But it’s often very hard to ever really make a good case for why someone interested in the history of modern literary aesthetics ought to read the literature of the non-Western world. **Eric Hayot’s** talk made that case, however, by rethinking from the ground up our concepts of literary history and progress, and by redescribing the history we know in a new language that requires us to be far more worldly and global in our arguments about literary change.



Friday, March 30, 2012

Timothy Lenoir (Visual Studies, Duke)

“Premediating Neurofutures: Brain-Machine Interfaces and the New New Media”

Tim Lenoir provided an overview of work in brain-machine interfaces currently used in therapeutic neuro-prosthetics, then engaged with the visionary speculations of neuro-engineers on how these brain-machine advancements might actually transform the human being in quite radical ways. He also noted recent work in the cognitive neurosciences on the role of affect in decision making and the leveraging of next-generation social media and smart devices as the “brain-machine” interfaces for measuring, data-mining, modeling, and mapping affect in strategies to empower individuals to be more efficient, productive, and satisfied members of human collectives.

Midwest Interdisciplinary Graduate Conference

February 24–25, 2012

With support from the Center for 21st Century Studies, the Midwest Interdisciplinary Graduate Conference (MIGC) is produced by graduate students at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. MIGC serves as a venue for graduate students from a diverse array of disciplines, and from around the country, to share their research in a supportive and critical environment.

This year's MIGC theme was "What Happens Now? Interdisciplinarity for the Future." Keynote speakers were Siobhan Somerville and Kathryn Stockton:

Siobhan Somerville (English, Illinois)

"Unsettling Citizenship: Queer Indigenous Studies, U.S. Empire, and the Racial State"

Responding to recent work in queer indigenous studies, **Siobhan Somerville** asked how theories of settler colonialism have shaped discourses of sexuality and race in U.S. state practices. She focused on the Dawes Act (1887), a federal law that transformed collectively held lands into private property and simultaneously converted many native people into U.S. citizens. Drawing on archival material about citizenship ceremonies performed under Dawes, Somerville demonstrated not only how discourses of race and sexuality have been central to the federal state's fantasies of national belonging and territorial expansion, but also how a queer approach to the Dawes Act significantly revises our understanding of the history of naturalization, exposing it as an integral practice of empire-building.



Kathryn Stockton (English, Utah)

"Kid Orientalism: How a Global Future for Child Sexuality is Now Surfacing"

Kathryn Stockton speculated on a strange dynamic just now emerging in Anglo-American public culture: a future that the public fears is coming—child sexuality—is causing the exportation of "the innocent child" to foreign lands, where it can be rediscovered soothingly. At the center of Stockton's speculations was the HIV child who presents two paradoxes. First, the HIV child in the United States becomes the face of the threatening child more than the threatened child, disturbing the preferred narrative of childhood innocence. Second, in an almost opposite dynamic, world documentaries on the child-in-peril-in-the-third-world (popular on the art-film circuit) are working to restore the "Western"-style innocent child through, of all things, the sexualized, racialized, HIV child.



Graduate students at MIGC



Pre-Occupy Symposium

April 13, 2012



Dan S. Wang, George Ciccariello-Maher, Joshua Clover

George Ciccariello-Maher (History, Politics, Drexel)
“From Oscar Grant to Occupy: The Long Arc of Rebellion in Oakland”

Joshua Clover (English, UC-Davis)
“The Coming Occupation”

Dan S. Wang (Fine Art, Columbia College)
“Zuccotti Sans Rotunda, or The Uneven Spaces of Occupation”

The Pre-Occupy symposium addressed how earlier occupations and protests in California and in Wisconsin set the stage for current occupations in New York City and across the globe. Such pre-occupations acted as forms of pre-acceleration or incipient movement without which Occupy Wall Street may never have happened. **George Ciccariello-Maher** spoke on the Oakland, California protests surrounding the murder of Oscar Grant, **Joshua Clover** spoke to the 2009-10 occupations on University of California campuses, and **Dan S. Wang** addressed the embodiedness of the occupation of Wisconsin’s state capitol building after Governor Walker diminished collective bargaining rights for public employees.

C21 Fellows' Works-in-Progress Series

2011-12

The C21 Fellows' Works-in-Progress (WIP) Series provides the public an opportunity to hear about the engaging work being undertaken by C21 fellows. Presentations, which take place in the C21 seminar room, are informal; attendees are encouraged to bring their lunches.

Richard Grusin (C21 director)

October 10, 2011

To kick off the WIP series, Richard Grusin talked about one of his current research projects, "Mediashock," a look at the way our media create a mood or atmosphere of shock in which we find ourselves in almost constant anticipation of potential crises or disasters.

Rebecca Dunham

October 24, 2011

Rebecca Dunham (English) provided background about her book-length poetic sequence, "Black Horizon: A Documentary in Verse," in which she explores the intersection of global environmental events, specifically the BP oil spill, and poetry as a documentary form.

Charlotte Frost

November 7, 2011

Charlotte Frost (Provost Fellow, Art History) presented on the ways the production of art historical knowledge is shifting from the printed book to digital formats. She also introduced her efforts in the founding of an experimental art history book series that utilizes a hybrid print/digital format.

Nathaniel Stern

November 21, 2011

Nathaniel Stern (Art and Design), an experimental installation and video artist, printmaker, and writer, introduced the core ideas behind his upcoming book on interactive art aesthetics. In addition, he updated the audience on his ongoing collaborative project *Distill Life* (with Jessica Meuninck-Ganger), which expands our conception of printmaking and digital image making.

Rachel Ida Buff

December 5, 2011

Rachel Ida Buff (History) talked about her research into the historical context of immigrant rights, investigating the emerging multiethnic discourse beginning with the Depression, as well as the emergence of administrative power within the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS).



Rachel Ida Buff



Rebekah Sheldon



Rebecca Dunham (left)

C21 Fellows' Works-in-Progress Series



Michael Newman (right)

Rebekah Sheldon

February 6, 2012

Rebekah Sheldon (Provost Fellow, English) presented "Affective Futurities: Non-Representational Criticism and the Physics of Reading," work from her current book project, which examines the formal qualities of fiction that capture and transmit feeling. The project investigates, through a lens of recent feminist scholarship on ontology, the formal strategies at play in specific works of Chuck Palahniuk, William Burroughs, Mark Z. Danielewski, and Samuel Delany.

Michael Newman

February 20, 2012

Michael Newman (Journalism) presented work from his current book project, "Play TV: Early Video Game History." Newman's project considers gaming in the home in the 1970s and early 80s as the convergence of TV and computer. Video games in this context functioned to masculinize television and the feminized domestic spaces of its use. The new electronic medium was understood to be active, purposeful, and future-oriented, but also potentially threatening to young gamers and their intellectual and social development.



Heather Warren-Crow

Heather Warren-Crow

March 5, 2012

Heather Warren-Crow (Art and Design) presented work from "Girlhood and the Plastic Image," her current book project. The book intervenes equally in the fields of girl studies and digital culture studies, arguing that reproduction, dissemination, and consumption of plastic images are understood in connection to feminine adolescence. This project also considers the role of youth in the discursive formation of both presentness and futurity.

Kristin Sziarto

April 2, 2012

Kristin Sziarto (Geography) talked about her research into the intersection of sexuality education and the construction of the human body. Her project, "The Production of Bodies, Spaces and Affects in Sexuality Education," aims to challenge the notion of adolescents as dangerous to themselves and others, advancing instead the notion that such representations are crafted to hold together urban coalitions. The project is a case study that includes interviews with key actors in the greater Milwaukee community involved with sexuality education efforts.



Nathaniel Stern and Charlotte Frost

María del Pilar Melgarejo

April 16, 2012

María del Pilar Melgarejo (Spanish & Portuguese) presented her work on two writers who have used the aesthetic space of poetry to challenge oppression. Candelario Obeso, a nineteenth-century Colombian poet, initiated "Poesía negra" (black poetry), a poetic vernacular which he used to give voice to the voiceless. Linton Kwesi Johnson, a contemporary Jamaican poet, is recognized as the progenitor of dub poetry—a performance poetry rooted in oral tradition—that emerged in Jamaica and England in the 1970s.

Transdisciplinary Challenge Award

With ongoing funding from Chancellor Michael Lovell, and an initial two-year contribution from the Graduate School, the Center for 21st Century Studies' Transdisciplinary Challenge Award encourages collaborative research projects that bring together UWM researchers from our traditional constituencies in the humanities, arts, and humanistic social sciences with researchers from natural, physical, and quantitative social sciences.

This initiative is designed to prompt researchers from any disciplinary background to think in unexpected and untried ways about working with researchers in disciplines whose methodology, content, and institutional practices are unfamiliar to them. Although this is not the kind of research with which most academics have experience, we are convinced that this kind of research will become increasingly prevalent and necessary in the 21st century. The aim of this award is not only to generate new research approaches to the complex problems of the 21st century but also to provide models for how researchers from disciplines that do not have a history of collaboration can work together to meet the complex, heterogeneous challenges of the 21st century.

Timothy Ehlinger, Manu Sobti and Ryan Holifield



Transdisciplinary Challenge Award

2011

Escaping Flatland: (Re-)Writing the Histories, Geographies, and Borderland Ecologies of Water

Manu P. Sobti (Architecture and Urban Planning)

Timothy J. Ehlinger (Biological Sciences)

Ryan B. Holifield (Geography)

\$300,000 in total funding, over two years

In the management of freshwater ecosystems, international borders and subnational boundaries present peculiar problems. Throughout the 20th century it was felt that addressing complex issues such as water sharing, contamination, invasive species, habitat degradation, and natural hazards could be handled simply by the sciences. As we are discovering in the 21st century though, these scientific concerns are further complicated by the very distinctive histories, cultural traditions, economic valuations, and institutional structures for decision making on either side of the border—subject areas that typically fall under the purview of the humanities and social sciences.

Drawing upon research from multiple case study sites, Sobti, Ehlinger, and Holifield are proposing a unique framework for the comparative analysis of international borders/subnational boundaries and their relationships to freshwater ecosystems, especially highlighting the scenarios of conflict created through such interactions. Their case studies include the Amu Darya (Oxus) River that runs along the borders of Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, and Turkmenistan; the Lower Danube River as it empties into the Black Sea; and the Milwaukee River as it flows into Lake Michigan.

The Amu Darya, coincident with a portion of the ancient Silk Road trade route, has a long history as a contentious borderland. As the river stretches 4,000 miles to the Aral Sea, its crossing points became places where people settled, property was traded, and wealth generated, all fueling the fires of conflict. Even today the river is a site of contention: over the last forty years an extensive network of dams was built on the river for irrigation and flood control, yet the damming has caused the Aral Sea to shrink quite dramatically, threatening its entire ecosystem.

Given the propitious timing of the award, the team will be able to analyze the current implementation of European Union (EU) policy concerning protection of biodiversity in the Lower Danube, particularly through the restoration of the sturgeon. In the EU, management of the river among multiple political entities involves much more of a mutual sharing of information rather than the establishing of compulsory legal processes. The team will be especially interested in how science-based evidence about the sturgeon population will be incorporated into the discussions.

In the case of the Milwaukee River, the team will be able to analyze recent enforcements of the Clean Water Act and the implementation of a Total Maximum Daily Load in the watershed by the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewer District.

Although different kinds of boundaries—national, state or provincial, municipal, jurisdictional—influence the different ways stakeholders participate in governance issues, the research team plans to propose a common set of features that can serve as a model for understanding other types of conflicts along borderlands. By uniting the disciplinary tools of the humanities and social sciences with the perspectives of watershed ecology, they hope to develop new paradigms for developing knowledge-based decision support for environmental governance.

In June 2012, the research team presented some of their hypotheses and preliminary findings at the Borderscapes III conference in Trieste, Italy, as well as some of their other research on the Savannah River, dividing Georgia and South Carolina, and the St. Marys River, linking Lake Superior and Lake Huron and forming an international boundary between the United States and Canada. The team will also be presenting their research to the UWM community in Spring 2013.

Transdisciplinary Challenge Award

2012

21st Century Voices: Synthesized Speech in the Third Millennium
Yi Hu (Electrical Engineering and Computer Design)
Shelley Lund (Communication Sciences and Disorders)
Patricia Mayes (English)
Heather Warren-Crow (Art and Design)
\$200,000 in total funding, over two years

Over the last decade there has been an explosion of voice synthesis technology delivered through smartphones, tablets, websites, video games, ATMs, and many other products. This technology also plays a prominent role in the development of Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) technologies for people with communication disorders, such as those caused by autism, stroke, or Huntington's disease. Synthesized voice products, however, are still quite lacking in meeting the needs of people with or without communication disorders in that they still adopt a "one size fits all" strategy, and do not acknowledge how voices reflect a wide variety of racial and cultural identifications and social affiliations, and how those assist in meaning.

For the Transdisciplinary Challenge, the research team will first compile ethnographic information on the use of AAC devices with the attempt to understand better how users understand the relationship between these synthetic voices and their identities. In this process, the team will also determine how the devices can be improved to better meet the needs of people with communication disabilities. Next, with this ethnographic data the team will design and fabricate an iPhone/iPad touchscreen application for synthesized voice, and will use this app as the basis for a live public sound art performance involving participants with and without communication disorders. To be performed as part of UWM's 2012–2013 Year of the Arts, this experimental choir of synthesized voices will allow the team to identify the limitations of the technology through beta testing, to explore its functionality through creative (mis)use, and to make meaningful connections between sound, subjectivity, and sociality. Information from the performers and audience who interact with the app will provide input to the team in revising the app before releasing it to the public. Finally, the team anticipates that their research can be published in a wide range of scholarly journals, and that their project can provide a useful model for future collaborations between scholars in the humanities, arts, and STEM fields.



Clockwise from left: Shelley Lund, Heather Warren-Crow, Patricia Mayes, and Yi Hu

Transdisciplinary Challenge Award

2012

Intention and Attention: Transmodernism and Integration in Human Movement Studies

Wendy Huddleston (Kinesiology)

Luc Vanier (Dance)

\$50,000 in total funding, over two years, to further develop the proposal, find additional scholars to contribute to the project (especially in neuroscience), and to begin pursuing the research

The disparate fields of dance and physical therapy, although both concerned with movement of the human body, have tended to narrow their focus to function only: a dancer learns a series of steps, someone undergoing physical therapy repeats a set of exercises to strengthen a specific part of the body. Both fields, however, need to transform themselves by reconsidering the human body in a more integrated, holistic light.

Toward this end, the project team will look to apply a therapeutic movement technique known as the Alexander Technique to both professional dance and physical therapy disciplines. A 100-year old method, the Alexander Technique focuses one's intention and attention during movement. The project, interesting enough, will start with language—finding new words and concepts so physical therapists and dancers can exchange knowledge. It will then use this new language to develop dance and treatment practices that focus on movement. Eventually, the project will measure the neurological underpinnings of these techniques through functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI).



Pictured: Luc Vanier and Sarah Bromann. Photo: Natalie Fiol. From Rebecca Netti-Fiol and Luc Vanier, *Dance and the Alexander Technique* (University of Illinois Press, 2011).

In 2012 the Consortium of Humanities Centers and Institutes (CHCI) held its annual conference in Canberra, Australia, from June 13–16. Hosted by the Humanities Research Centre (HRC) of Australian National University (ANU), the conference focused on the “Anthropocene Humanities,” exploring ways in which the humanities writ large could respond to the contention, first made in 2000 by Nobel Prize-winning geochemist Paul Crutzen, that we live in a new geological age in which humans have become the predominant agents in geological change. Nearly 150 attendees from over a dozen countries participated in wide-ranging interdisciplinary discussions both in formal lectures and workshops and in informal discussions at breaks and meals. Center director Richard Grusin represented C21 both at the annual meeting and at the June 11–12 meeting of CHCI’s International Advisory Board in Sydney, his first as a newly elected member of the Board.

After a series of pre-conference meetings on June 13, the conference proper began on June 14 with opening remarks by Ian Young, Vice Chancellor of ANU, and outgoing CHCI President Srinivas Aravamudan (Duke). Elizabeth Povinelli (Columbia) delivered the first plenary lecture, “Geontologies: The Promise of Indigenous Worlds in Augmented Reality.” Povinelli described an augmented reality application she had been developing with Indigenous people to preserve memories of their former homes across from Darwin harbor, from which they had been displaced involuntarily. Designed to be used on mobile phones, these augmented reality applications were aimed at succeeding generations, whose interest in their ancestral homes might be heightened by the use of mobile technologies. The morning session continued with a stimulating panel on “Indigenous Habitations/Marine Ecologies,” followed after lunch with a workshop on public humanities. The day ended with a breathtaking exhibition of paintings and photographs on Antarctica at the ANU Drill Gallery of Art.

The morning of the 15th opened with a panel called “Anthropocene, Biopolitics and Climate Ethics,” which prompted an intense and quite lengthy discussion among participants and audience. This panel was followed by a policy-oriented plenary lecture by Ross Garnaut, of the University of Melbourne and ANU, entitled “Can Humans Manage the Anthropocene: Australian Carbon Pricing in Context.” The highlight of the conference was that afternoon’s plenary lecture, “Climate Change, Climate Justice, and the Anthropos of the Anthropocene,” by Dipesh Chakrabarty (University of Chicago). What made this plenary so eventful was not only the extraordinary quality of Professor Chakrabarty’s lecture, which argued persuasively that the concept of the Anthropocene challenged us to move beyond the more limited temporal and geopolitical frameworks of Marxism and post-colonialism, but also the setting of the plenary in the Old Parliament House, a setting that required us to begin by thanking the continent’s Indigenous people, whose land the Parliament House, and indeed all of the nation of Australia, was built upon.

The conference ended on the 16th with presentations by co-convenors of four CHCI Program Planning Projects, funded by a planning grant from the Mellon Foundation. C21 Director Richard Grusin was co-convenor for one of those projects, which proposes to develop an “Integrative Graduate Humanities Education and Research Training” (IGHERT) program. The project will be forwarded along with three others by the CHCI leadership to the Mellon Foundation. If funded, UWM and C21 will work collaboratively with University of California Santa Cruz’s Institute for Humanities Research and the University of Giessen’s Graduate Centre for the Study of Culture to pilot a two-year CHCI program for training doctoral students to research and write their dissertations in a transnational, transdisciplinary, and transinstitutional context. The benefits of the IGHERT will include two years of dissertation-writing funding for two UWM graduate students as well as three international conferences for these students and their faculty advisors, who will be directing the program.



2012–13 Calendar of Events

Please check our website for the most up-to-date information: www.c21.uwm.edu

FALL 2012

THURSDAY, SEPT. 13

Hans-Joachim Backe (Department of Comparative Literature, Ruhr-University Bochum)

“‘Becoming Batman.’ Computer Games, Comics, and Concepts of Intermediality”

4:00 pm, Curtin Hall 108

Co-sponsored with the English department. Hans-Joachim Backe researches computer games, transmedial narratology, and popular culture. He co-edited *From Ritual to Romance and Beyond: Comparative Literature and Comparative Religious Studies*.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 14

Graduate Student Welcome Meeting

3:30 pm, Curtin Hall 939

FRIDAY, SEPT. 21

C21 Open House

3:30 pm, Curtin Hall 118

SUNDAY, SEPT. 30

J. Hoberman (film critic)

“State of 21st Century Cinema: Film After Film”

1:00 pm, Downer Theater

Co-sponsored with Milwaukee Film Festival. J. Hoberman, longtime film critic of the *Village Voice* (until his position was eliminated in January 2012), is the author of several books on film and American culture, most recently, *Film After Film (Or, What Became of 21st Century Cinema?)*. He has taught Film Studies at NYU, among other places.

FRIDAY, OCT. 12

David Redlawsk (Political Science/Director of the Eagleton Center for Public Interest Polling, Rutgers)

“Feeling Before We Think: Voters, Emotions, and Political Campaigns”

3:30 pm, Curtin Hall 175

David Redlawsk researches information, emotions, and voter decision-making in elections. He is the author of *Why Iowa?: How Caucuses and Sequential Elections Improve the Presidential Nominating Process* (with Caroline Tolbert and Todd Donovan) and *How Voters Decide: Information Processing in an Election Campaign* (with Richard Lau). He runs the Eagleton Poll, one of the oldest university-based polls in the country.

FRIDAY, OCT. 26

Jodi Dean (Political Science, Hobart and William Smith Colleges)

“The Communist Horizon”

3:30 pm, Curtin Hall 175

Jodi Dean studies political theory, with a special emphasis on contemporary space and the politics of possibility. Her work considers capitalism, neoliberalism, technology, media, and the politics of the left. She is the author of many books, including *Blog Theory: Feedback and Capture in the Circuits of Drive* and *Democracy and Other Neoliberal Fantasies: Communicative Capitalism and Left Politics*.

FRIDAY, NOV. 30

Eva Hayward (Centre for Gender Research, Uppsala University)

“Sensuous Seas”

3:30 pm, Curtin Hall 175

Eva Hayward’s research occurs at the intersections of gender studies and animal studies; art and science. Her recent academic essays, “Lessons From A Starfish: Prefixial Flesh and Transspeciated Selves” and “Spider City Self,” explore intimacy, transsexuality, and animality.

2012–13 Calendar of Events

SPRING 2013

FEB. 15–16

Midwest Interdisciplinary Graduate Conference

2013 theme: Failure

Keynote: **Judith “Jack” Halberstam**, (English/Director of the Center for Feminist Research, USC)

Judith “Jack” Halberstam is a leading voice in gender and queer theory, reaching academic and activist audiences alike. Halberstam is the author of *The Queer Art of Failure*; *In a Queer Time and Place: Transgender Bodies, Subcultural Lives*; and *Female Masculinity*.

FRIDAY, MARCH 1

Donna Jones (English, UC Berkeley)

3:30 pm, Curtin Hall 175

Donna Jones studies African, Caribbean, and British literature and culture, and critical theory. She is the author of *The Racial Discourses of Life Philosophy: Négritude, Vitalism, and Modernity*, which won the Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Prize for Comparative Literary Studies.

FRIDAY, APRIL 5

Transdisciplinary Challenge Symposium

Tim Ehlinger (Biological Sciences), **Ryan Holifield** (Geography), and **Manu P. Sobti** (Architecture) will share results from their transdisciplinary research project: “Escaping Flatland: (Re)Writing the Histories, Geographies and Borderland Ecologies of Water.”

FRIDAY, APRIL 12

Ato Quayson (English/Director of the Centre for Diaspora and Transnational Studies, University of Toronto)

“Spatial Practices and Performative Streetscapes: On Oxford St., Accra”

3:30 pm, Curtin Hall 175

Ato Quayson has published widely on African Literature, postcolonial studies and literary theory. He is the author of *Aesthetic Nervousness: Disability and the Crisis of Representation*; *Calibrations: Reading for the Social*; and *Postcolonialism: Theory, Practice or Process*.

MAY 2–4

C21 Conference: The Dark Side of the Digital

Audience members at the Nonhuman Turn Conference



C21 Books

As part of our support for cutting-edge, interdisciplinary research, we have a book series, 21st Century Studies (formerly Theories of Contemporary Culture), with Indiana University Press. Most books in the series emerge from our annual conferences. Over the last year, we were excited to have two outstanding volumes published:

The Question of Gender: Joan W. Scott's Critical Feminism

Edited by Judith Butler and Elizabeth Weed
Published June 2011

A generation after the publication of Joan W. Scott's influential essay, "Gender: A Useful Category of Historical Analysis," this volume explores the current uses of the term—and the ongoing influence of Scott's agenda-setting work in history and other disciplines.

How has the study of gender, independently or in conjunction with other axes of difference—such as race, class, and sexuality—inflected existing fields of study and created new ones? To what extent has this concept modified or been modified by related paradigms such as women's and queer studies? With what discursive politics does the term engage, and with what effects? In what settings, and through what kinds of operations and transformations, can gender remain a useful category in the 21st century?

The volume developed from our Spring 2007 conference, "In Terms of Gender: Crosscultural and Interdisciplinary Perspectives," organized by Joan W. Scott, Mary Louise Roberts, and Daniel J. Sherman.

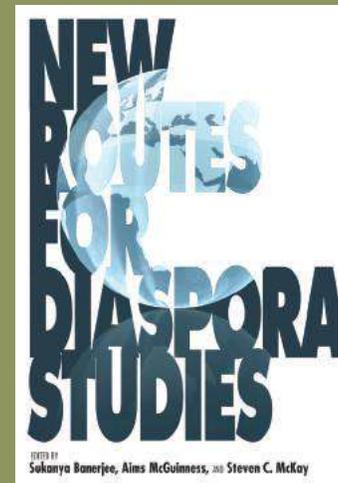
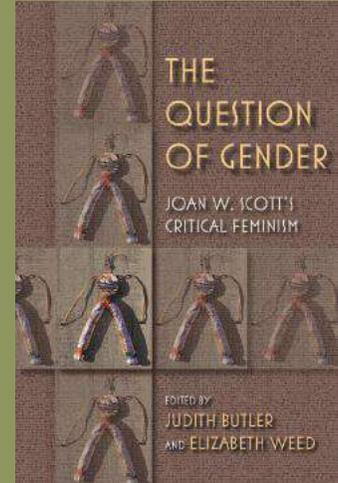
New Routes for Diaspora Studies

Edited by Sukanya Banerjee, Aims McGuinness, and Steven C. McKay
Published June 2012

In the 21st century, the study of diasporas continues to provide a useful frame for reimagining locations, movements, identities, and social formations. This volume explores diaspora as historical experience and as a category of analysis.

Using case studies drawn from African and Asian diasporas and immigration in the United States, the contributors interrogate ideas of displacement, return, and place of origin as they relate to diasporic identity. They also consider how a range of diasporic practices becomes grounds for examining identity and difference and how narrative and aesthetic forms emerge through the context of diaspora.

The volume developed from our Spring 2005 conference, "Routing Diasporas: Labor, Citizenship, Empire," organized by the volume editors.



Forthcoming, Spring 2013

Indiana University Press will be publishing two new C21 titles in Spring 2013: *The Long 1968: Revisions and New Perspectives*, edited by Daniel J. Sherman, Ruud van Dijk, Jasmine Alinder, and A. Aneesh; and *Debt: Ethics, the Environment, and the Economy* (tentative), edited by Peter Y. Paik and Merry Wiesner-Hanks. *The Long 1968* originates from our 2008 conference, Since 1968, while *Debt* emerges from our 2010 conference of the same name.



Christine Evans (History) is working on two book projects. The first asks what television, the most important and emblematic medium of the Soviet Union's Brezhnev era (1964–1982), can tell us about the nature of late Soviet politics, ideology, and everyday life. The second project traces late Soviet origins of a contemporary phenomenon: the active international network created by the Soviet television game show entitled *What? Where? When?* This show, which has aired continuously since 1975, has a quite fervid online fan community. In 2011, ABC began airing an American adaptation of the show called *Million Dollar Mind Game*.



Caitjan Gainty (PhD, History of Science, University of Chicago), this year's Provost Fellow, is examining the failure of "edutainment" (educational entertainment)—particularly depictions of medical practices in film and television—to actually educate viewers. If edutainment cannot educate us, she argues, then perhaps its significance might lie in its performative aspects—in its role of forming our identities as individuals, at least in terms of health, and as Americans.



Shelleen Greene's (Art and Design) project focuses on visual representations of racial and ethnic identities in our "post-racial" era, examining the dynamic relationship among race, economics, and popular culture. She will examine the global dissemination of President Barack Obama's image; Michael Jackson as a representation of the scientific and technological innovations that have transformed understandings of race; and the development of Bina48, an artificial intelligence (modeled on an African-American woman, Bina Rothblatt) that is inflected by racial ideologies that have historically posited the "non-humanness" of black Africans. During her fellowship year, she will teach a course related to her research, "Representing Race in a Post-Racial Era," in the Masters in Liberal Studies program.



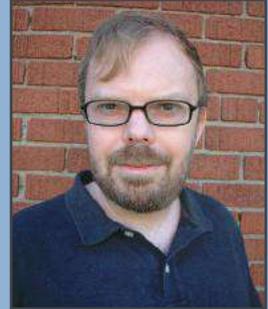
In his book project, "Contemporary Drift: Genre, Periodization, and the Present," **Theodore Martin** (English) reconsiders the role of genre in contemporary culture in order to reflect on the possibilities, and the limitations, of periodizing our own present. In examining contemporary examples of classic genres—realist and historical fiction, detective novels, westerns, and film noir—the project hopes to show how these ostensibly outdated genres reveal the shifting contours of contemporary life.

2012–13 Fellows

Anna Mansson McGinty (Geography, Women’s Studies) is conducting an ethnography of Muslim American youth (ages 18–25) in Milwaukee. The study explores Muslim youth’s self-representations and narratives of what it means to be “Muslim,” both personally and publicly. How is a Muslim sense of belonging embodied in the lives of youth? What does Muslim mean in relation to gender, race, ethnicity, and citizenship? The study will also track several contemporary trends among Muslim youth: Islamic revivalism, Islamic feminism, Muslim hip-hop and *taqwacore* (Islam-punk subculture), and “American Islam.”



Blain Neufeld (Philosophy) engages the conceptions of a politically liberal education for democratic citizenship, as promulgated by the political philosopher John Rawls, and then considers how these should address the changing cultural, political, economic, and technological circumstances of the 21st century. So, for example, although political liberalism’s accommodation of pluralism ensures its compatibility with increasing social diversity, it also takes for granted that nation-states constitute the primary units of governance in the world, ignoring that forms of trans-national political and economic relations and institutions are becoming more prevalent.



In her book project, “Gender Conflict and Law in Democratic Transitions: Courts, Narratives, and the Vernacularization of Human Rights in Malawi,” **Anika Wilson** (Africology) examines contemporary struggles of Malawians to engage with recent government implementation of gender equality laws through her analysis of hundreds of narrative testimonies recorded in court transcripts and interviews. These narratives are not merely a record of how enacted laws are enforced, they also express ways that people catch hold of changing national rhetoric around gender and human rights to shape it to their own ends.



Anne Frances Wysocki (English) is working on an interactive digital piece that juxtaposes a history of the rhetorical concept of memory with current technologies and architectures for memory. The piece will require readers/viewers to maneuver among and create different word-pairs (such as interior-exterior, forgetting-remembering) that enable them to compare the old rhetorical memory systems with current personal-memory and body-memory technologies. By asking readers/viewers to engage in such a manner, the piece will generate questions such as, How am I obligated to have memory in the 21st century? What am I obligated to remember in a century of external memory, of information overload?



Former Fellows

David Allen (02–03, 09–10) published “Spatial Frameworks and the Management of Dissent: From Parks to Free Speech Zones,” in *Communication Law and Policy* 16, no. 4 (Autumn 2011): 383–424. Research for this article was undertaken during his 09–10 fellowship at the Center.

Sukanya Banerjee (03–04) won the Sonya Rudikoff Prize for the best first book in Victorian studies for her book, *Becoming Imperial Citizens: Indians in the Late Victorian Empire* (Duke, 2010). The award was given by the Northeast Victorian Studies Association at their annual conference at Columbia University in April.

Rebecca Dunham (11–12) spearheaded efforts to establish UWM’s inaugural First-Year Common Reading Experience. New students for 2012-13 received copies of Marjane Satrapi’s graphic novel, *The Complete Persepolis*, during student orientation, and then discussed in small group sessions during Welcome Week.

Charlotte Frost (Provost Fellow, 11–12) gave her first-ever keynote address at Critical Ink, Thomson Writing Program’s Annual Writing Conference at Duke.

The Beinecke Library at Yale University has purchased the poetry archive of emeritus professor of philosophy **John Koethe** (79–80, 93–94).

At the time of this writing, **Nathaniel Stern** (11–12) (and Scott Kildall) are still planning to beam Twitter posts—using the #tweetsinspace hashtag—from participants worldwide toward GJ667Cc, an exoplanet 22 light years away that might support earth-like biological life. The broadcast is intended to take place on September 21, 2012, 9:30–10:00 pm CDT. Tweets are also to be streamed to a live public website (where they’ll be permanently archived), and are to be viewed at the 2012 International Symposium on Electronic Art (ISEA) in New Mexico.

Heather Warren-Crow (11–12) exhibited *Chatter Marks*, a live performance and video juxtaposing the voice training scenes from the film *My Fair Lady* with YouTube clips of talking birds. The piece was performed at Grace Exhibition Space in Brooklyn. She also presented, with Kelly Rafferty, the installation and performance *The Wendy House* at Arizona State University’s ArtSpace West.

Former Staff

Former Center director **Daniel Sherman’s** (02–06, 07–08) most recent book, *French Primitivism and the Ends of Empire, 1945–1975* (Chicago, 2011), received the 2011 David H. Pinkney Prize from the Society for French Historical Studies as the best book published by a citizen of the United States or Canada on any aspect of French history.

Books by Former Fellows and Staff

Erica Bornstein (09-10), *Disquieting Gifts: Humanitarianism in New Delhi* (Stanford, 2012).

Derek Counts (04-05), co-editor, *Crossroads and Boundaries: The Archaeology of Past and Present in the Molloura Valley* (American Schools of Oriental Research, 2012).

Jennifer Johung (09-10), *Replacing Home: From Primordial Hut to Digital Network in Contemporary Art* (Minnesota, 2012).

Barrett Kalter (07-08) *Modern Antiques: The Material Past in England, 1660-1780* (Bucknell, 2011).

Michael Newman (11-12), co-author, *Legitimizing Television: Media Convergence and Cultural Status* (Routledge, 2011).

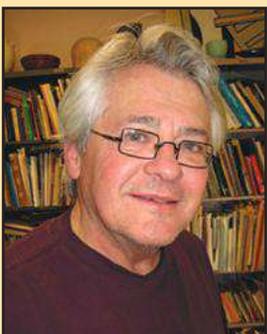
Tasha Oren (01-02), co-editor, *Global Television Formats: Understanding Television across Borders* (Routledge, 2012).

Bernard C. Perley (07-08), *Defying Maliseet Language Death* (Nebraska, 2012).

Jason Puskar (09-10), *Accident Society: Fiction, Collectivity, and the Production of Chance* (Stanford, 2012).

Lisa Silverman (08-09), *Becoming Austrians: Jews and Culture between the World Wars* (Oxford, 2012).

Merry Wiesner-Hanks (interim director, 06–07, 08–10), *The Renaissance and Reformation: A History in Documents* (Oxford, 2012).



In Memoriam: Jeffrey Hayes

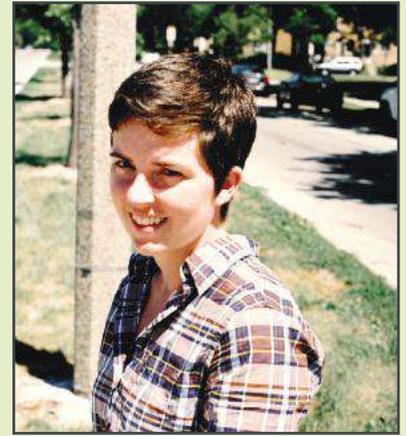
Our friend and colleague, **Jeffrey Hayes**, Professor of Art History and Director of the Master’s in Liberal Studies (MLS) program, died on June 18, 2012 of esophageal cancer. A champion of self-taught folk artists, he served the UWM community for thirty years. Notable works of Professor Hayes include publications on Blackmon, a Milwaukee self-styled preacher and painter; Oscar Bluemner; and former demolition expert turned sculptor Dr. Evermor. He founded the MLS program, the only degree of its kind in the state of Wisconsin, which, in the tradition of the liberal arts, emphasizes breadth of learning across disciplines, critical thinking, clear communication, and integration of knowledge. His absence is quite palpable here on the ninth floor of Curtin Hall, and he is missed deeply. Our thoughts go out to his family.

C21 Information

New C21 Deputy Director: Mary Mullen

C21 is very pleased to have Mary Mullen on board as our deputy director. Mary's responsibilities include planning and implementing the Center's public events, coordinating C21 communications and outreach, and generally managing the day-to-day operations of the Center. Her special areas of responsibilities include developing the public humanities, which promotes interdisciplinary humanities research across the community, and increasing the involvement of undergraduate and graduate students in C21 events. Arriving on campus in January 2012, Mary immediately faced her trial by fire, pulling together our very successful Nonhuman Turn conference in May.

Mary received her PhD in English literature from UW-Madison, where she also worked as the Events and Outreach Assistant at the Center for the Humanities. With a background in researching anachronism in nineteenth-century English and Irish novels, Mary is particularly excited about C21's interest in a layered, heterogeneous understanding of the present moment. She has taught literature and composition at UW-Madison and the College of Wooster, and is teaching a freshman seminar during the fall 2012 semester.



@saturatedlaughter, Instagram

Faculty Advisory Committee

Aneesh Aneesh (Sociology)
Margaret Atherton (Philosophy)
Tim Ehlinger (Biology)
Jane Gallop (English)
Peter Paik (FICL, Religious Studies)
Arijit Sen (Architecture)
Lisa Silverman (History)
Anne Frances Wysocki (English)
Michael Zimmer (SOIS)

Ex officio:

Richard Grusin (English, C21)
Kristie Hamilton (English, MLS)
Mary Mullen (C21)
Jenny Watson (FLL, L&S)

C21 Staff

Richard Grusin, director
Mary Mullen, deputy director
John C. Blum, associate director for publications
Matthew Boman, project assistant
Rachael Sullivan, project assistant

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Unless indicated otherwise, photos are credited to UWM UITS Photo Services. Caitjan Gainty, Shelleen Greene, Theodore Martin, Blain Neufeld, and Mary Mullen provided their own photos. The Instagram photos are from Think Make Digital's Instagram Challenge, described on page 5.



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