

Sights and Sites: Tentative Program

Participants should review this program for accuracy and request corrections and possible changes as soon as possible.

## **Sights and Sites: Vision and Place in American Literature**

November 1-3, 2018

Drury Plaza Hotel in Santa Fe  
828 Paseo de Peralta  
Santa Fe, NM 87501

Conference Director:  
Alfred Bendixen, Princeton University

Keynote Speaker: Karen Kilcup,  
University of North Carolina, at Greensboro

**Thursday, November 1:** Informal welcoming reception on Thursday evening. Pick up Badges and Programs – probably 9 – 10:30 pm. It is possible that I will be able to set up a late afternoon badge and program pick up, too.

Audio-Visual equipment (LCD projector and Screen) will be available to those in B slots on Saturday and only in those slots.

**Friday, November 2**

**Welcome and Opening Plenary Session: 9:00 AM – 10:00**

**Opening Insights**

Chair: Alfred Bendixen, Princeton University

Olivia Carr Edenfield, Georgia Southern University

Karen Kilcup, University of North Carolina, Greensboro

José E. Limón, University of Notre Dame

Wendy Martin, Claremont Graduate University

Jeanne Reesman, University of Texas, San Antonio

## Session One: 10:10-11:30

### 1-A Reading the Landscape

Chair: TBA

1. "Eyes on the West: Emerson and Environmental Ethics," Susan Dunston, New Mexico Tech
2. "Thoreau, the Saunterer, and the Sacred," David M. Robinson, Oregon State University
3. "How Mark Twain Reads and Misreads the Land in *Roughing It*," Jeanne C. Reesman, University of Texas at San Antonio

### 1-B Florida as Site and Sight

Chair: TBA

1. "Florida as Tapestry: The Influence of Harriet Beecher Stowe's Depictions of the Sunshine State," Debbie Lelekis, Florida Institute of Technology
2. "View from Above: The Federal Government envisions *Florida* in the American Guide Series," Leslie Frost, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
3. "Key West in the Anthropocene: Ideas of Order in Stevens, Bishop, and After," Peter Balaam, Carleton College

### 3-B Contemporary Sites

Chair: Olivia Carr Edenfield, Georgia Southern University

1. "Thomas Sanchez's American Landscapes": Kirk Curnutt, Troy University
2. "Historical and Personal Place in Don DeLillo's *Falling Man* and Thomas Pynchon's *The Crying of Lot 49*," Larry Kuhar, Wilkes University
3. TBA

## **SessionTwo 11:40-1:00 pm**

### **2-A Political and Poetic Spaces**

Chair: Wendy Martin, Claremont Graduate University

1. "Earth, Spirit, and Memory: Joy Harjo's Poetic Vision for Social Justice," Jacquelyn Markham, Ashford University
2. "Claudia Rankine: Double Take on the American Landscape," Anne Shea, California College of the Arts
3. "Subjects of Desire, Sites of Violence in Contemporary American Poetry," Miriam Marty Clark, Auburn University

### **2-B Sites of Labor**

Chair: Karen Kilcup, University of North Carolina, Greensboro

1. "Realism is an Inadequate Term: Two Late Nineteenth Century Women's Novels and their Thick Descriptions of Place," Karen E. Waldron, College of the Atlantic
2. "The Sight of Labor: Lucy Larcom's Vision of the Laboring Form," Meghan M. Wadle, Southern Methodist University -- must be November 2.
3. "Visions of Smoke: Fiction of the Steel Mill," Jason Molesky, Princeton University

**Lunch 1:00-2:00 Buffet catered by Eloisha.**

## **Session Three 2:10-3:30**

### **3-A Revisioning Space and Place: Black and Brown American Imaginaries and Landscapes**

Organizer: Brittney Edmonds

Chair: TBA

1. "The Imperative is Escape: *Native Son* and the Fugitive Imaginary," Brittney Edmonds, Princeton University

2. "Horizontal Contact Zones: Re-invisioning Spaces of Coalition and Reading Practices," Maria Paula Chaves Daza, SUNY Oneonta University
3. "Old Stories Told Anew: D'Arcy McNickle's Unmaking of the Reading and Writing of American Literature," Francisco E. Robles, University of Notre Dame

### **3-B Heartland Gothic: Re-Visioning Mythic Conceptions of the Midwest and Great Plains Regions**

Organizer: Aaron LaDuke,  
Chair: Cindy Murillo, Colorado State University

1. "Necrotic Bodies and the Midwestern Gothic in Sam Shepard's *Buried Child*," Julia Madsen, University of Denver
2. "There's never been much use for reality out here": Annie Proulx's Wyoming Stories and a Great Plains Gothic," Aaron LaDuke, Northwestern University-Qatar
3. "In the River Bottoms with the Weird Things": The Midwestern Gothic in Contemporary American Poetry," Brandi Holman, Johnson and Wales University

### **Session Four 3:40-5:10**

#### **4-A *Figures and Figurations of Place and Displacement in Northern New Mexico and Southern Texas: José de la Luz Sáenz, Américo Paredes, Felipe Maximiliano Chacón, and George I. Sánchez***

Co-chairs: José E. Limón, University of Notre Dame, and Gabriel Meléndez, University of New Mexico

1. "South Texas Planeterity: The War Diary of José de la Luz Sáenz and Post-National Affiliation," Javier Rodríguez, University of North Texas
2. "Cold War Along the Rio Grande: Recovering Américo Paredes's Far East Notebooks and His Conflicted Expressions of South Texas Homeland," Dána Noreen Rivera, University of Texas – Rio Grande Valley.
3. "When the Language is Political: Poetic Negotiations in the Early 20<sup>th</sup>-Century Writing of 'el feliz ingenio neomexicano,' Felipe M. Chacón," Anna M. Nogar, University of New Mexico
4. "I, Mexican American: George I. Sánchez's Forgotten People(s) and the Politics of a Nuevomexicano Intellectual in Texas," Michael Trujillo, University of New Mexico

#### **4-B Poetic Landscapes**

Chair: TBA

1. "The American Landscape as a Site of Trauma in Civil War Poetry," Monica Pelaez, St. Cloud State University
2. "*Duende* on the Prairie: James Wright's Rust Belt Poetics," Brandon Menke, Yale University, Department of English
3. "Word-Riddled Remnants': Liminal Landscapes in the Poems of Li-Young Lee, Christian Wiman, and Richard Blanco," J.D. Isip, Collin College
4. "'To See/The Universe': the Self and 'I' in Edward Dorn's *Gunslinger*," Sarah Worland, University of New Mexico

#### **Keynote Address and Reception**

**5:20-7:00**

### **"Animating Landscapes"**

Karen Kilcup,

University of North Carolina, Greensboro

**Saturday, November 3:**

**Session Five 9:00- 10:20**

#### **5-A "Visions of the Sacred Female in American Literature: A Round-Table"**

Moderator: Ariel Clark Silver

1. "From the Sacred to the Profane: Susan Magoffin and Abortion in the West," Vicki Van Brocklin, University of New Mexico
2. "The Sacred Feminine in H.D.'s *The Flowering of the Rod*," Rachel Heffner-Burns, Lehigh University
3. "The Revolt of the Righteous: Preaching Gospel Blues and Black Feminist Consciousness in James Baldwin's 'The Amen Corner' and 'Just Above My Head,'" Melanie Hill, University of Pennsylvania
4. "Shapeshifting and Aleatory Matter in Octavia Butler's *Wild Seed*," Bernabe Mendoza, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
5. "Saints and Soldiers: Divinity and Paramilitarism in Feminist Speculative Fiction," Charity Fox, Pennsylvania State University, Harrisburg

## **5-B Mapping Native American Spaces**

Chair: Alfred Bendixen, Princeton University

1. "Deep Mapping and Spatial Narrative in Stephen Graham Jones's *Mapping the Interior*," Bernadette V. Russo, Texas Tech University
2. "Where Are We? Homeland and Nation in Sarah Winnemucca's *Life among the Piutes: Their Wrongs and Claims* (1883)" John Carlos Rowe, University of Southern California
3. "Formal Innovations in Contemporary Indigenous American Poetry," Dean Rader, University of San Francisco

## **Session Six 10:30- Noon**

### **6-A Western sites**

Chair: TBA

1. "‘Every spot of holy ground...shall be known, revered and loved’: Robert Montgomery Bird's Monumental Frontier Violence," Brian Elliott, University of Montana Western
2. "Mapping Referential and Ideological Spaces in Charles F. Lummis' *A Tramp Across the Continent*," Mike Lemon, Texas Tech University
3. "Helen Hunt Jackson's Place in the American West," Lesley Ginsberg, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs, CO 80918
4. "The Road Scholar: New Mexico National Parks and the Literary Imagination of Cormac McCarthy," Patrick Bonds, Troy University

### **6-B New York Sites**

Chair: TBA

1. "‘The Pleasantest Localities in New York’: Natural and Social Sites in 19<sup>th</sup>-Century Gothic Fiction," Melissa Walker Heidari, Columbia College
2. "Life by Landscape: The Gothic Sublime and the Spectacle of Transcendence in the Ghost Fiction of Edith Wharton," Cindy Murillo, Colorado State University
3. "*The Great Gatsby*'s Salon and the Novel's Romantic Whodunit Structure," Liam O. Purdon, Doane University

**Lunch -- Noon to 1 pm. Catered.**

**Session Seven 1:10-2:30**

**7-A African-American Sites**

Chair: TBA

1. "Places Real, Unreal, and Surreal in the Novels of Sutton E. Griggs," John Gruesser, Sam Houston State University
2. "Toni Morrison's *Beloved* Site of Memory: Recollection as the Duplex of Sight and Site," Kevin Foskin, Colorado State University
3. "Perception and Light Imagery in Richard Wright's 'Big Boy Leaves Home'" Hunter Walsh, Georgia Southern University

**7-B Poetic Spaces**

Organizer: Matthew Hofer

Chair: Charles Altieri, University of California, Berkeley

1. "Jay Wright and the Myth of Place," Robert von Hallberg, Claremont McKenna College
2. "*Poesis* from Place to Space: Cosmogenic Rapture in the Poetry of Christopher Dewdney and Cody-Rose Clevidence," John Wilkinson, University of Chicago
3. "Isolation, Correspondence, and the Place of Poetics: The *LEGEND* Collaboration," Matthew Hofer, University of New Mexico
4. "Visual-Sonic Spacing: Augusto de Campos's 'Moby Dick' Poem," Marjorie Perloff, Stanford University

**Session Eight 2:40-4:00**

**8-A Place and Vision in Poetry**

Chair: Matthew Hofer, University of New Mexico

1. "The refusal of gender considerations in Moore's Landscapes"? Charles Altieri, UC Berkeley
2. "A Border Crosser's Liminality: Juan Felipe Herrera and Reimagining Border Spaces," Alan Soldofsky, San Jose State University,
3. Elizabeth Bishop: A Visionary Poet? George Lensing, University of North Carolina

## **8-B Visualizing Places**

Chair: TBA

1. "Midwest Dreams and Landscapes: Jim Harrison and Bachelard's *The Poetics of Space*." Chris "CW" Johnson, University of Minnesota Duluth,
2. "The Ozark's (a) Place in Contemporary Literature" Dina Smith, Drake University
3. "*The Mine With the Iron Door*: Tracing the Landscape from Text to Screen," Jennifer L. Jenkins, University of Arizona

## **Session Nine 4:00-5:30**

### **9-A Expansive Visions**

Chair: TBA

1. "Solace for [their] very soul": Trees as a Catalyst for Self-fulfillment in Freeman's *Six Trees*," Breanna Harris, Georgia Southern University
2. "[T]hat is happiness': Vision and Place in Willa Cather's *My Antonia*," Shannon Forbes, University of St. Thomas
3. "Willa Cather's Expansive Historical Vision in *Death Comes for the Archbishop*," Molly Metherd, Saint Mary's College of California

### **9-B New Sites and Insights**

Chair: TBA

1. "Food as an Icon of Place and Time in the Culinary Writings of M F K Fischer and Jim Harrison," Rick Wallach, University of Miami
2. "Mixed up like Jesus in the Wilderness: Woody Guthrie and John Steinbeck's *Outlaw Preachers*," Edward Shannon, Ramapo College of NJ,
3. "Readerly Sites . . . and Sights: Topographies of Punctuation," Lee Clark Mitchell, Princeton University

**5:30 – 6:30 Closing reception.**