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March 2008

"**Zeno** used to say that he had two sorts of disciples: one that he called *philologous*, curious to learn things, and these were his favourites; the other, *logophilous*, that cared for nothing but words": **Michel Eyquem de Montaigne** (1533-92), "Of the Education of Children" (1580).

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1. HRI PROFILING SCHOLARSHIP TALK/BOOK LAUNCH: Cindy MacKenzie (19 March)

Cindy MacKenzie (Dept. of English)

"Wider than the Sky: The Healing Power of Emily Dickinson"

Date: **Wednesday 19 March 2008**

Time: **3:30 pm**

Place: **Centre for Kinesiology, CK 185**

All are welcome

Refreshments will be provided

For further information please call **Kara Vincent** (HRI) at **585-4226** or click [here](#).

This event celebrates the launch of ***Wider than the Sky: Essays and Meditations on the Healing Power of Emily Dickinson***, a critical anthology edited by **Cindy MacKenzie** and **Barbara Dana**. **Cindy MacKenzie** will talk about the process of editing the book to publication, and signed copies will be available for purchase (by cheque or cash) at a special discount.

Emily Dickinson is known as a poet who presses at the limits of perception and expresses in brilliantly compact, memorable language extremes of both anguish and ecstasy. Her frequent attention to pain and death, like her reclusive tendencies, has led many to dismiss her as "morbid." Biographers and critics, however, have shown how she used her writing and her own acquaintance with pain to reach out consolingly to sufferers. In a widely varied collection of personal reminiscences, tributes, and scholarly essays, editors **Cindy MacKenzie** and **Barbara Dana** offer richly revealing perspectives on how the exquisite language in the poems and letters of **Emily Dickinson** helps readers cope with suffering.

The essays featured in ***Wider than the Sky*** range from fresh scholarly analyses to highly personal essays and meditations, each offering thoughts on the emotional, spiritual, and physical healing power gained from reading Dickinson. **MacKenzie** and **Dana** invite readers to reflect on how we respond to poems, how they enter into the core of our consciousness, and how we draw strength from what **Dickinson** called "the Art of Peace."

Cindy MacKenzie teaches English at the University of Regina. She is best known for her compilation *A Concordance to the Letters of Emily Dickinson* (2000). She has also published articles on Dickinson in the *Emily Dickinson Bulletin* and *Emily Dickinson Journal*. Her passionate interest in Dickinson has taken her to conferences in the United States, Europe, and Japan as an active participant and, presently, as a board member of the Emily Dickinson International Society and of the American Literature Association.

2. (Rescheduled) HRI/CAMPION HUMANITIES PANEL: Daniel Coleman (25 March)

"The Culture of Research: 'Retooling' the Humanities": A Panel Discussion

Daniel Coleman (Father Peter Nash, S.J. Chair in Religion, Campion College, and Canada Research Chair in Critical Ethnicity and Race Studies, McMaster University) and respondents

Date: **Tuesday 25 March 2008**

Time: **4:00 pm**

Place: **Riffel Auditorium, Campion College**

All are welcome

Refreshments will be provided

For further information contact **Kara Vincent** (HRI) at **585-4226** or **Joanne Kozlowski** (Campion) at **359-1244**, or click [here](#).

The Humanities are under considerable pressure in the current culture of research at Canadian universities. Since the 1970s, universities have grown exponentially in size and complexity, and as public funding has fallen far behind their fiscal needs, universities have turned increasingly to research funding to bolster their finances. This has meant a general shift in emphasis away from the undergraduate classroom and towards research endeavours (centres; institutes; research chairs; interdisciplinary, interuniversity collaborations) as the university's primary emphasis. The instrumental nature of this shift, however, has also meant an instrumental approach to the nature of research, whereby the knowledge produced through research is valued for the external funding

it brings in to the university, the potential investments it may produce, and the direct relevance it may have for public policy or technological innovation.

Professor **Coleman**'s presentation will focus on the challenges this "culture of research" poses for humanities researchers whose methodologies, foci, or goals often assume very different parameters from those sketched above. He will address questions such as: How can humanities researchers "retool" their practices -- to use the language of the recent SSHRC Transformation document -- to make the most of the current culture of research, and how can they better express and explain the values of humanities methods and practices that are endangered by it? How does the current paradigm of research help to clarify the unique goals, methods, and contributions of humanities research? His paper will be followed by two responses and a panel discussion.

Daniel Coleman teaches and carries out research in Canadian Literature, the literary and cultural production of categories of privilege such as whiteness, masculinity, and Britishness, and, most recently, the spiritual and cultural politics of reading. He has published *Masculine Migrations: Reading the Postcolonial Male in "New Canadian" Narratives* (U of Toronto P, 1998), *The Scent of Eucalyptus: A Missionary Childhood in Ethiopia* (Goose Lane Editions, 2003), and has co-edited seven scholarly volumes. His most recent book, *White Civility: The Literary Project of English Canada* (U of Toronto P, 2006), won the Raymond Klibansky prize for the best English-language book in the Humanities in Canada for 2006-07. With **Smaro Kamboureli**, he is co-editing a volume entitled *The Culture of Research: Retooling the Humanities*. He is the Nash Visiting Chair in Religion at Campion College for the Winter 2008 semester.

Respondents

Lynn Wells is Associate Dean (Research and Graduate) in the Faculty of Arts at the University of Regina, as well as an Associate Professor of English. She specializes in contemporary British fiction, postmodernism and popular culture, with secondary interests in urban literary theory, the Gothic, technology and literature, narrative theory and modernist poetry. She has published widely in the area of contemporary British fiction, including the book *Allegories of Telling: Self-Referential Narrative in Contemporary British Fiction* (Rodopi, 2003). She is currently writing a book on the fiction of **Ian McEwan** for Palgrave Macmillan, UK.

Nicholas Ruddick is Director of the Humanities Research Institute and Professor of English at the University of Regina. He has recently completed a book entitled *The Fire in the Stone: Prehistoric Fiction from Charles Darwin to Jean M. Auel*, and is currently editing a new edition of

Jack London's *The Call of the Wild* in the Broadview Editions series.

This event is cosponsored by the HRI and Campion College and was originally due to have taken place on 29 January 2008.

3. HRI 2007-08 BARBARA POWELL LECTURE: Biruté Galdikas (4 April)

Biruté Galdikas (Simon Fraser University)

"Pongo in Peril"

Dr. **Biruté Galdikas**, OC, is a primatologist, conservationist, and ethologist recognized as the world's leading authority on the endangered orangutans of SE Asia. She will be speaking on what orangutans can teach us about ourselves and why it is so urgent to protect them.

Date: **Friday 4 April 2008**

Time: **7:30 pm**

Location: **Classroom Bldg., CL 110**

All are welcome

To be followed by a reception

Dr. **Galdikas** has offered to present a seminar on her work to a small group of interested students and faculty while she is at the University of Regina. For further information about the Powell Lecture and the seminar, please call **585-4304** or click [here](#).

4. HRI PROFILING SCHOLARSHIP TALK/BOOK LAUNCH: Ruth Chambers (9 April)

Ruth Chambers (Associate Dean of the Faculty of Fine Arts and Associate Professor in the Department of Visual Arts)

"Utopic Impulses: Contemporary Ceramics Practice"

Date: **9 April 2008**

Time: **3:30 pm**

Place: **TBA**

All are welcome

Refreshments will be provided

For further information please call **Kara Vincent** (HRI) at **585-4226** or click [here](#).

This event is co-sponsored by the Department of Visual Arts.

By framing particular contemporary ceramics as "utopic" this talk will explore a range of ways the discipline contributes to the development, support and diffusion of speculative models and creative endeavours that envision a better world.

Drawing from a full spectrum of examples, we will view artist's projects that include functional wares, design for industry, conceptual works, community-based projects and installation and we will consider the work of theorists and artists who "make a case" for the importance and value of studio ceramics in the public sphere.

Ruth Chambers is Associate Dean of the Faculty of Fine Arts and Associate Professor in the Department of Visual Arts. She is a visual artist and has exhibited her work throughout Canada and in the US. Her work incorporates a range of media, usually in an installation format, and usually including ceramics. She is a contributing co-editor with **Amy Gogarty** and **Mireille Perron** of the anthology *Utopic Impulses: Contemporary Ceramics Practice* (Vancouver: Ronsdale Press 2007).

5. HRI SPRING 2007 FUNDING COMPETITION (11 April deadline)

There will be a competition in Spring 2008 for the following HRI award programs:

Teaching Fellowships

Research Awards

Visiting Research Fellowships

Assistance Awards for Visiting Speakers

Travel Awards for Board Members

Subvention Awards for Publication
HRI 2008 Student Essay Prize

The deadline for applications to all these competitions is **Friday 11 April 2008**.
For updated information, please visit the HRI website.

6. HRI FUNDING COMPETITION FAQs

Q. Who is eligible to apply for HRI Award programs?

A. Each of the eight award programs has its own eligibility criteria. Please visit the pages devoted to each award on the HRI website to learn more details.

Q. How many competitions are there and when are they held?

A. There are normally two competitions yearly: a Spring competition with an April deadline and a Fall competition with a September deadline. The competitions for costlier programs such as Teaching Fellowships and Research Awards are normally held only in the Spring. The competition for Student Travel Awards is normally held only in the Fall.

Q. How do I apply?

A. Two of the funding programs, Teaching Fellowships and Research Awards, require special application forms that must be countersigned by the applicant's head of department and dean. These forms are downloadable from the HRI website. Other programs require differing kinds of documentation. All applications should be submitted to the HRI Director in four copies by the specified deadline, and applicants should be sure to keep a copy of their applications for themselves.

Q. Who decides the winners?

A. Applications to the HRI funding competitions are judged by the HRI Adjudication Committee, a three-person committee of senior humanities scholars representing the HRI's main constituencies. This committee reports to the HRI Director, who notifies the applicants.

Q. If I win an award, how do I claim the money?

A. Most HRI Awards are normally claimed as reimbursements for funds already spent by the award winner. HRI Awards are dated from the paper letter that serves as official notification to

the winner. Upon receipt of this letter, winners should contact the HRI and arrange for the award money to be transferred into a new or existing university research account. From this account the funds will be claimed by filling out a standard U of R Reimbursement Claim form that must be countersigned by the claimant's department head and/or dean.

Q. How soon must I spend the award money?

A. For most awards, funds transferred into a research account should be spent within two years of the award date. Funds unspent by this time will be claimed back by the HRI unless the winner makes a successful appeal to the HRI Director for an extension. An HRI Teaching Fellowship, however, must be claimed within the same financial year in which the Fellowship is awarded, and cannot be deferred.

Q. What happens if I win but don't claim an award?

A. Sometimes HRI Award Winners subsequently win other, larger awards, making the HRI funds unnecessary. Unclaimed HRI award funds will automatically revert to the HRI at the end of the same financial year in which they were awarded. However, the title of HRI Award Winner may be retained even if no funds are claimed.

7. HARRY POTTER CONFERENCE (10 May 2008)

Harry Potter and the Meeting of the Queen City Muggles

The Faculties of Arts and Education at the University of Regina, in association with the Humanities Research Institute, the Centre for Continuing Education, and Regina Public Libraries, invite participation in a one-day community conversation and celebration of **J.K. Rowling's** seven-book saga of "The Boy Who Lived," to be held on **10 May 2008** at the College Avenue Campus of the University of Regina.

Everyone interested in Harry Potter books, films and commentary is invited to attend. Registration is free, but pre-registration is required to reserve your place.

For further information click [here](#).

8. HRI CONTACT INFORMATION

The HRI e-mail Newsletter appears once a month from September to May, and occasionally during the rest of the year. Issues are archived on the HRI website.

The HRI Newsletter reaches about 600 subscribers at the University of Regina, at its affiliated institutions, and in the surrounding community. Please forward a copy to friends and colleagues with an interest in the humanities.

To subscribe (free of charge) or unsubscribe to this Newsletter, please contact the HRI Director (address below).

For further details about upcoming HRI events or to submit material to future newsletters, please contact:

Nicholas Ruddick, Director
Humanities Research Institute
University of Regina
AH 369
3737 Wascana Parkway
Regina, SK
Canada S4S 0A2

Phone: 306-585-4304

Fax: 306-585-5429

E-mail: nicholas.ruddick@uregina.ca

HRI website: <http://www.uregina.ca/hri/>

