Writing Week - Schedule of Public Lectures & Events

To locate event venues, you may access an interactive campus map (printable versions are available on the same page). For parking information, please consult the University's Parking Lot Map.

Friday, April 12, 2013

English Department Work-in-Progress Colloquium
4:00-6:00 p.m., Guilford Parlor (First Floor)
Varsha Balachandaran, Title TBA
Catherine Forsa, Title TBA

Monday, April 15, 2013

The Edward S. & Melinda Melton Sadar Lecture in Writing in the Disciplines
Reception begins at 4:00 p.m.; Lecture at 4:30 p.m.
1914 Lounge, Thwing University Center
"AT&T's Cold War Modernism: Narrating the Liberal Arts in Times of Crisis"
Mark Wollaeger, Ph.D.
Professor of English, Vanderbilt University

About the Talk: This talk assesses the place of the liberal arts in American society today by returning to a 1950s executive training program in the humanities run jointly by AT&T and the U of Pennsylvania. From 1953 to 1960, the Institute for Humanistic Studies for Executives offered a ten-month program in the liberal arts for Bell System middle management. The Institute’s intensive program aimed to produce more flexible, less conformist, and more creative executives for an increasingly international and politically divided world. Faced with the rise of Soviet technical expertise, U.S. Cold Warriors turned to art and literature (including, for instance, the close study of James Joyce’s Ulysses). How might this experiment in corporate and University collaboration speak to North American universities and corporations today, faced as we are not by an implacable imperial foe located behind a curtain but by rampant financialization and a pervasive ethos of the instrumental?

About the Speaker: Mark Wollaeger is Professor of English at Vanderbilt University, where he trained graduate teachers of writing for ten years as Director of the College Writing Program. He is author of Joseph Conrad and the Fictions of Skepticism (Stanford UP) and Modernism, Media, and Propaganda (Princeton UP), and editor of James Joyce’s Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man: A Casebook (Oxford UP) and the Oxford Handbook of Global Modernisms. A past President of the Modernist Studies Association, he co-edits the Modernist Literature & Culture book series for Oxford University Press.
Tuesday, April 16, 2013

Doctoral Showcase Lectures in the Arts and Sciences

Refreshments begin at 4:00 p.m.; Lecture at 4:30 p.m.
Clark 206


Maia Noeder
Department of Psychology

Play is the most prominent, and arguably the most pleasurable, waking activity of the young child. It is also an occasion for the development of fantasy, creativity, and linguistic, affective, social, and problem-solving skills. When children play with a parent, the parent has a unique opportunity to support and encourage their child’s development while building their relationship. In the case of children struggling with developmental disabilities such as Autism Spectrum Disorder, Speech/Language Impairment, and ADHD, observations of a parent and child at play provide a window into a child’s specific developmental strengths and weaknesses as well as the parent-child relationship. This lecture will present information from a study of parent-child play addressing: 1) ways that parents can encourage child development through play with their child; 2) the importance of parent-child play as an assessment measure when diagnosing developmental disabilities and identifying a child’s strengths and weaknesses; and 3) the usefulness of parent-child play as an intervention tool when working with children with developmental disabilities.

Maia Noeder is a doctoral candidate on the Child/Family Track of the CWRU Department of Clinical Psychology. She holds a Bachelor’s degree in Psychological/Brain Sciences from Johns Hopkins University and a Master’s degree in Child Developmental Psychology from Tufts University. In her dissertation she is investigating the characteristics and diagnostic utility of parent-child play among young children with developmental disabilities. In the fall, she will be joining the Nemours/Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children as a psychology resident.

Wednesday, April 17, 2013

Doctoral Showcase Lectures in the Arts and Sciences

Refreshments begin at 4:00 p.m.; Lecture at 4:30 p.m.
Clark 206

"Empathizing, Sharing, and Coping with Life: an Investigation of Postpartum Depression in a South African Township"

Sarah Rubin
Department of Anthropology

Postpartum depression has been called a global problem affecting mothers across cultures and continents, but it has also been described as a culturally-constructed medical diagnosis of doubtful applicability outside the industrialized West. In a way, both views are true. Ethnographic research with a poor community of Xhosa mothers in a Township near Cape Town, South Africa, shows how difficult social and material circumstances interact with Xhosa values of communality and interdependence to produce unique ways of coping with maternal distress. By exploring the emotional contours of Xhosa mothering, she will argue, we can better understand how culture and poverty shape the postpartum experience.

Sarah Rubin is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Medical Anthropology and Global Health at CWRU, with research interests in the emotional and psychological health of women. In her dissertation she is investigating the varieties of emotional distress experienced by Xhosa mothers living in a South African Township near Cape Town.

Thursday, April 18, 2013

Department of English Poetry Reading

6:00-7:00 p.m., Guilford Parlor (First Floor)
Sarah Gridley
Assistant Professor of English
Baker-Nord Center for the Humanities Lecture
6:00-7:00 p.m., Clark 206
"Gaming for a Classroom (R)evolution: Transforming Learning through Play"

Anastasia Salter
Assistant Professor of Science, Information ARts & Technologies, University of Baltimore

Please see the Baker-Nord website for details.

Friday, April 19, 2013

Celebration of Student Writing
Noon - 2:45 p.m., Adelbert Gym

The Celebration of Student Writing is a university-wide showcase of student writing projects. It encourages students to re-present and display their research and writing in formats other than word-processed letters and lines on the printed page.

The Adrian-Salomon Event
Doctoral Showcase Lectures in the Arts and Sciences

Refreshments begin at 4:00 p.m.; Lecture at 4:30 p.m.
Clark 206

"The Shadow of Modernism of Weird Tales: Experimental Aesthetics and Pulp Fiction in the 1920s and 30s"

Jason Carney
Department of English

At the beginning of the 20th century publishers pioneered a new print medium, the all-fiction magazine printed on pulpwood paper, or "pulp fiction magazine." The majority of these "blood and thunder" thrill magazines prospered by offering readers formula fiction; however, one magazine, Weird Tales, deviated from the commercially successful formulas of the day by promising to publish "unique" stories of the bizarre and outré. In his lecture, Jason Carney considers the extent to which Weird Tales may be considered a form of "modernism," a trend across the arts of this period that has traditionally been defined in terms of its commitment to novelty and formal experimentation.

Jason Carney is a doctoral candidate in English at CWRU, with research interests in 20th century Anglo-American literature, especially modernism, science fiction, the literature of the fantastic and the supernatural, and the many interstitial sites where these not-so-discrete categories overlap and interact. In his dissertation, supported by a prestigious Adrian-Salomon fellowship, he is investigating the periodical culture of Anglo-American modernism.