

Archive of the 2011 Regional Graduate Liberal Studies Conference  
Hosted by the Master of Liberal Arts Program at UNC Asheville  
April 8-9, 2011

## Conference Program

### Friday, April 8, 2011, 5:00pm – 7:00pm

#### Opening reception and registration

Owen Conference Center, 302 Owen Hall (OH), UNC Asheville

5:30pm Plenary Address, Dr. Bill Spellman, Director of the Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges (COPLAC), Professor of History, and former Director of the MLA Program at UNC Asheville

*Hors d'oeuvres and beverages will be served. This reception is co-sponsored by the UNC Asheville Graduate Student Association. Many thanks to the GSA officers for all of their help with this reception and the planning of the Conference!*

### Saturday, April 9, 2011, 9:00am – 4:00pm

#### Individual & Panel Presentations

All presentations will be in Owen Hall (OH)

#### 8:30 – 9:00am – Join us for coffee and scones, Owen Hall 2nd floor Lobby

##### Session 1A: 9:00-10:30am (OH 202) – Law, Government, and Politics

Moderated by Peg Downes, Ph.D., UNC Asheville MLA Program Director and Professor of Literature

- Nathan Cook, “Representational Role Orientations: Testing the Delegate Model through District Diversity” (UNC Asheville)
- Jonathan C. Ebersole, “A vote for Anarchy: Levinas and Political Resistance” (Villanova University)
- Anna Farias-Eisner, “The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA): The Experience of Law Enforcement Agencies in North Carolina” (Duke University)
- Jeffrey Palmer, “Immigration Policy: Lessons Learned from Tristan and Isolde” (Duke University)

##### Session 1B: 9:00-10:30am (OH 250) – Education and Development

Moderated by Sandra Byrd, Ph.D., Assistant Provost for Graduate & Continuing Education and Associate Professor of Education at UNC Asheville

- Cheryl Dunson, “Parental Involvement, Socio-Economic Factors, and High School Graduation: A Comparative Analysis” (Clayton State University)
- Patricia Gerard, “Cursive Writing as a Fading Literacy” (East Tennessee State University)
- Joseph Penza, “Contextualizing Access and Making Content Accessible” (East Tennessee State University)
- Elaine Porter, “What Factors Affect Student Retention in Single Adult Sunday School Classes?” (UNC Greensboro)

**BREAK: 10:30-10:45am**

**Session 2A: 10:45am-12:15pm (OH 202) – Globalization and the Environment**

Moderated by Gerard Voos, Ph.D., Associate Director of the MLA Program at UNC Asheville

- Elizabeth Becker, “West Africa, Chocolate, and the Possibilities of Fair Trade” (UNC Asheville)
- Renee Eli, “Food as Sacrament: A Plea to Reclaim Human Interdependence with the Natural World” (UNC Asheville)
- Amanda González-Moreno, “Plastic in a Bottle” (UNC Wilmington)
- Jim Stokoe, “Global Surface Freshwater Resources in a Warming World – A Climate Modeling Experiment” (UNC Asheville)

**Session 2B: 10:45am-12:15pm (OH 250) – Creative Writing**

Moderated by Tommy Hays, MFA, UNC Asheville MLA Instructor & Director, Great Smokies Writing Program

- Maryedith Burrell, “Inquisition” (UNC Asheville)
- Jordan Dolfi, “My New York” (UNC Asheville)
- Elizabeth Wunderlich, “Changing Attitudes of Womanhood” (UNC Asheville)

**12:20-12:55pm (Conference Center, 302 OH)- Plenary Panel**

Moderated by Peg Downes, Ph.D., UNC Asheville MLA Program Director and Professor of Literature

- The Process of Finding a Capstone Project: Travis Byrd, Amanda Deweese, Jordan Dolfi, Josiah Johnston, and Tina Masciarelli (UNC Asheville)

**LUNCH: 1:00-1:45pm, Conference Center (OH 302)**

**Session 3A: 2:00–3:00pm (OH 202) – Sociology and Anthropology**

Moderated by Holly Iglesias, Ph.D., UNC Asheville MLA Instructor

- James Baxley, “How Has French-Creole Culture Influenced American Jazz?” (Clayton State University)
- Valerie Bodell, “Internal and External Stereotypes in Comics” (East Tennessee State University)
- Rebecca Lamb, “A Hard Road to Travel: A Feminine Approach to American Indian Documentary Photography” (UNC Asheville)

**Session 3B: 2:00-3:00pm (OH 250) – The American South**

Moderated by Pamela Nickless, Ph.D., MLA Instructor and Professor of Economics at UNC Asheville

- Travis Byrd, “Taking Their Stand: Southern Writers on the Fringe” (UNC Asheville)
- Heather Williams, “‘Living in Borrowed Splendor’- The Rhetoric of the 1944 Polio Epidemic in Hickory, North Carolina” (Western Carolina University)
- Jonathan Williams, “‘And These Signs Shall Follow Them’: Snake-Handling in Central and Southern Appalachia” (Western Carolina University)

**BREAK 3:00-3:15pm**

**Session 4A: 3:15-4:00pm (OH 202) – World History**

Moderated by Steve Wilkerson, M.D., Ph.D., UNC Asheville MLA Instructor

- Bob Mustin, “Silvester II and European Unity in the Year 1000” (UNC Asheville)
- Theresa Jackson, “From homeland to Holy Land: Iraqi Jews and the Formation of Modern Israel, 1940-1950” (UNC Wilmington)

**Session 4B: 3:15-4:00pm (OH 250) – Philosophy and Language**

Moderated by Holly Iglesias, Ph.D., UNC Asheville MLA Instructor

- Moira Bradford, “I Love You” (UNC Asheville)
- Joan Heller, “Faustian Striving and the Work of Poetry in W.E.B. Dubois’ The Souls of Black Folk” (UNC Asheville)

**Saturday, April 9, 2011, 6:00pm: Closing dinner reception**

Thank you to the students and faculty from the following universities for participating in the 2011 North Carolina Graduate Liberal Studies Conference:

Clayton State University

Duke University

East Tennessee State University

UNC Asheville

UNC-Greensboro

UNC-Wilmington

Villanova University

Western Carolina University.