

7.

WORKING GROUPS



7.1. Jackman Humanities Institute Working Groups Synopsis

The Jackman Humanities Institute sponsored 10 working groups during the 2008–2009 academic year. The goal of the program was to provide support and incentives for new small groups of scholars to work together with few restrictions. More than any specific product, the hope was to facilitate the unusual interaction within each group, reaching more broadly throughout the university. Each working group consists of graduate students and faculty who conduct research or engage in other scholarly exchange. A working group is funded for one year, but may apply for renewal in future years (with a limit of five years running). Working groups are *not* selected for relevance to the annual theme.

All working groups are expected to provide progress reports on the activities of the group and a final accounting of how the funds were spent. The funds can support visitors, refreshments, materials, or other related costs. Each group is expected to meet at least four times a term, or a minimum of eight meetings a year. Groups must be interdisciplinary, and each group must have participation from at least three different units (departments, centres, institutes or programs). Groups must have a minimum of six University of Toronto members and include balanced numbers of graduate students and faculty. All members of the group are expected to participate fully in the group's activities.

7.1.1. Jackman Humanities Institute Working Groups, 2008–2009
Media and its Publics
Megan Boler

Focus and Original Plans

Our purpose is to engage in ongoing scholarly inquiry and discussion about new theorizations and practices related to the question of publics and audiences in relation to the changing media landscape. For those of us studying formal, stylistic, and reading practices through the lens of the humanities and arts, we face new questions about reading and viewing given the digital media landscape. Theories of media face radically and rapidly changing questions about reader engagement, readers' engagement to texts, and how the fragmentation of media poses new challenges to creating publics and counter-publics around shared texts. Media here includes: audiences and producers of film, video, digital media, and television. Media convergence is a defining phenomenon that makes questions of audience and shifting publics pressing because of radical changes in media production and consumption.

The group was composed of faculty members and graduate students across disciplines such as Cinema, German, Journalism, Theatre Studies, Visual Studies, South Asian Studies, Education, Sociology & Equity Studies, and English and from five regional universities: University of Toronto, Ontario College of Art & Design (OCAD), University of Guelph, York University, and Ryerson University. **Web Site:** <http://digimed-jhi.pbworks.com/>

University of Toronto Faculty

- Megan Boler, TPS-OISE Associate Chair (Facilitator/Point person)
- Corinn Columpar, English/Cinema Studies
- Angelica Fenner, German/Cinema Studies
- Kajri Jain, CVMC (UTM)
- David J. Phillips, Information
- Nicolas Sammond, English/Cinema Studies, UofT

Other Universities Faculty

- Greg Elmer, Communications, Ryerson University
- Richard Fung, Ontario College of Art and Design
- Abby Goodrum, Ryerson University
- Jennifer Jenson, Faculty, Education, York University
- Mark Lipton, Faculty, English and Communication, University of Guelph
- Jason Nolan, Education, Ryerson University

University of Toronto Graduate Students

- Lynne Alexandrova, OISE
- Catherine Burwell, OISE/UT
- Kelly Ladd, OISE/UT
- Li Koo, OISE
- Trevor Norris, OISE
- Chantelle Oliver, OISE/UT
- James Rennie OISE/UT
- Carly Stasko, UT
- Etienne Turpin, OISE/UT

Other Universities Graduate Students

- Tanner Mirrlees, Ryerson University
- Ian Reilly, University of Guelph

Events

1. 15 October, 4:00–6:00 pm

Panel moderated by Dr. Megan Boler as part of the Centre for Studies of the United States 2008–2009 lecture series: “Media Coverage and the U.S. Election Campaigns: Race, Gender, and Identity Politics in the 2008 Presidential Race”

- Anna Everett (F. Ross Johnson-Connaught Distinguished Visitor in American Studies; Professor and Chair of Film and Media Studies, University of California, Santa Barbara)
- Todd Gitlin (Professor of Journalism and Sociology and Chair, the Journalism School, Columbia University)
- Rick Salutin (Columnist, *Globe and Mail*)

2. 16 October 2008, 2:00 - 4:00 pm

Talk by Todd Gitlin: “Demoralized Journalism and Stumbling Democracy: Notes on the American Carnival”

3. 20 October 2008, 12:30 - 2:00 pm

Talk by Brian Goldfarb

Meetings

- 25 September 2008 (attendance: 11)
- 16 October 2008 (attendance: 10)
- 20 October 2008 (attendance: 12)
- 5 December 2008 (attendance: 15)
- 30 January 2009 (attendance: 16)
- 6 March 2009 (attendance: 10)
- 2 April 2009 (attendance: 12)
- 4 June 2009 (attendance: 12)

**7.1.2. Jackman Humanities Institute Working Groups, 2008–2009
Scholarly Output in a Digital Age (SODA)
Frances Garrett and Leslie Chan**

Focus

This Working Group brought together senior and junior faculty and graduate students in the humanities and social sciences from across all three campuses, each of whom has interest in exploring the potential of the digital humanities for defining new modes of scholarship and scholarly output, and the role of open access in the humanities. The Group discussed various projects and reports on these topics to gain a more thorough understanding of how scholars in the humanities are responding to the possibilities of new technologies and where change is most advanced. We also had one session with a visitor prominent in the digital humanities, and we scheduled one public lecture.

Meetings

6 May 2008 (7 members in attendance)

Some questions raised: What is research and how the very act of research has changed as a result of changing technologies? How do we think about this across disciplines, and how do we design tools to facilitate these changes? Why is openness central to this new way of doing research? Who funds the research in this new environment? How to build networks and communities of interest and how to build evaluation? What is the tie-in with recent interests in “Digital Media”? How are funding models shaping the direction of research? Can we develop participatory pedagogy? How do one work with someone from a different culture and remains open?

9 October 2008 (7 members in attendance)

Some of this week's discussion focused on defining terms such as digital humanities, humanities computing, digital scholarship, cyberscholarship, and cyberinfrastructure. We also addressed some general questions: What is digital scholarship? What are the distinctive features of digital scholarship in the humanities? What does it take to produce digital scholarship? What are the challenges in producing digital scholarship for those in the humanities?

28 November 2008 (4 members in attendance)

Discussion of the Group's wiki and social networking tool. Discussion of one Group member's project on digital library development.

30 January 2009 (6 members in attendance)

Discussion of a SSHRC Image, Text, Sound and Technology Grant project that one Group member was recently awarded. A visit by Ian Lancashire and discussion of his involvement in the TAPOR project.

16 April 2009 (6 members in attendance)

Discussion of the development of a new project on “Teaching Across the Disciplines: Creating Immersive Worlds in the Humanities,” to investigate the feasibility of conducting an interlinked course across three campuses in the areas of Islam, Buddhism, and Media Studies (a course shared or run in parallel with Group members Shafique, Leslie and Frances). Discussion of the development of an online communication portal for digital humanities at the U of T.

24 April 2009 (5 members in attendance)

Public talk by David Germano, plus lunch

May 2009 (Cancelled due to scheduling challenges). This meeting was to have discussed a digital humanities portal to develop to showcase digital humanities initiatives across the campuses. There are a host of interesting social networking tools, including the newly developed platform DuraSpace, which show promise.

Participants

Leslie Chan Senior Lecturer & Program Supervisor for New Media Studies,
University of Toronto Scarborough & Knowledge & Media Design Institute
Frances Garrett Asst. Prof., Center for the Study of Religion

Matt King	Doctoral Student, Centre for the Study of Religion
Gale Moore	Asst. Prof., Sociology & Institute for Culture & Communications (University of Toronto Mississauga), Former Director, Knowledge & Media Design Institute
Kathleen Reilly	Doctoral Student, Department of Political Science
Shafique Virani	Asst. Prof., Dept. of Historical Studies (University of Toronto Mississauga), and Centre for the Study of Religion
Ben Wood	Doctoral Student, Centre for the Study of Religion

Special event

Lecture: “Mainstreaming Digital Innovation and Using Ontologies to Facilitate Collaboration in Area Studies” by David Germano, Friday, April 24, 10-12 am, Jackman Humanities Institute, 170 St George St., 10th Floor. Attendance: 25

This talk discussed a new initiative at the University of Virginia called SHANTI (Social Sciences, Humanities, and the Arts Network of Technological Initiatives, www.uvashanti.org). SHANTI is an experiment at mainstreaming digital innovation in research, teaching, publication, and engagement at the University after fifteen years of considerable innovation in the humanities by a select range of faculty. The talk will present its goals and initial programs, as well as outline the motivating challenges and opportunities. The second part of the talk will describe an experiment at using ontologies, or annotated hierarchical typologies, as web services to partially automate the articulation of deep levels of interconnections between data and scholarship on a given region of the world stemming from multiple projects and institutions.

David Germano teaches Tibetan and Buddhist Studies at the University of Virginia. His research focuses on 8th–14th century Tibetan religious and intellectual movements, as well as their broader historical contexts. He directs the Tibet Center (www.uvatibetcenter.org) and the “Tibetan and Himalayan Library” (www.thlib.org), a large international digital initiative aimed at stimulating and publishing innovative research on the region. Since 2008, he has been Director of the new SHANTI center (www.uvashanti.org) promoting innovation in social sciences, humanities, and the arts at the University of Virginia.

Benefits

The Working Group met regularly over the year to discuss various issues and individual members presented projects in digital humanities. We had one visiting presenter, Ian Lancashire, and we hosted one public lecture. Additional communications were facilitated by the creation of a Wiki, <http://digitalscholarship.pbworks.com/> and a social networking site, <http://digitalscholarship.crowdvine.com/>. Given our trans-disciplinary, tri-campus, faculty and graduate student membership, we generated new networks, which have already resulted in the generation of exciting ideas for several new projects in the future.

7.1.3. Jackman Humanities Institute Working Groups, 2008–2009
Operatics: A Working Group on the Workings of Opera
Sherry Lee

Context

“Operatics: a Working Group on the Workings of Opera” is a student initiative that sprang from the cross-listed interdisciplinary opera seminars taught by Profs. Caryl Clark and Linda Hutcheon. This past year, we explored our theme of “telling stories through opera” through meetings, seminars and sessions with invited specialists in the field, resulting in some valuable opportunities for the type of cross-disciplinary learning that we envisioned in our proposal. Given the interdisciplinary and collaborative nature of the operatic art, we sought to inspire our individual and collective work by fueling our scholarship with the interdisciplinary approach that this richly multi-dimensional art form demands. Our group is comprised of student and faculty members in Music, English, Medicine, Women's and Gender Studies, History, and Comparative Literature whose work deals with opera—a booming area of scholarship and performance.

Participants

Kim Canton, English, Ph.D. student
Keith Johnson, Musicology, Ph.D. student
Nina Penner, Musicology, M.A. student
Colleen Renihan, Musicology, Ph.D. student
Suddhaseel Sen, English, Ph.D. student
Misha Teramura, English and History, B.A. undergraduate student
Caryl Clark, Faculty of Music
Linda Hutcheon, Comparative Literature and English
Michael Hutcheon, Medicine
Katie Larson, Dept. of English / Women's and Gender Studies, University of Toronto Scarborough
Sherry Lee, Faculty of Music / Visual and Performing Arts, University of Toronto Scarborough

Meetings

In keeping with our plan to take advantage of the presence of opera scholars based at or visiting the University of Toronto, we organized several of our eight Operatics meetings as working seminars with these guests:

- 1) **Simon Morrison** (Musicology, Princeton U); **Caryl Emerson** (Comparative Literature/Slavic, Princeton U); and U of T's own **Donna Orwin** (Slavic), who were presenting at the Opera Exchange on *War and Peace*, supported by the JHI Program for the Arts. (A dinner with speakers and group members was hosted by Linda and Michael Hutcheon)
- 2) **Edmund Goehring** (Musicology, UWO) who was speaking to the Faculty of Music. (A dinner with Prof. Goehring and group members was hosted by Caryl Clark)
- 3) **Stephen Rumph** (Music History, University of Washington) and U of T's **Ramin Jahanbegloo** (Political Science and Massey College Scholar-at-Risk), who spoke at the JHI-sponsored Opera Exchange on *Fidelio*.

In addition, we used our Working Group funds to support a visiting lecture by **Mary Ann Smart** (Musicology, UC Berkeley) who, because of visa issues, could not attend in person, but was ‘present’ via videolink—a very successful experiment.

Aside from our visitor-focused sessions, our meetings also featured presentations by group members throughout the year:

Kim Canton: “Reading Performance as History: Four Saints in Three Acts (1934), A Case Study”
Nina Penner: “New Directions in the Study of Operatic Performance”
Misha Teramura: “‘Music such as charmeth sleep’: Britten's language of lullabies and the composition of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, op. 64”

Nina Penner: “*A Midsummer Night's Dream* and Operatic Conventions”

Colleen Renihan: “Temporality in Benjamin Britten’s *A Midsummer Night's Dream*”

Katie Larson: “‘A local habitation and a name’: Britten Adapts Shakespeare”

Special Event: Operatics: A Symposium on the Workings of Opera

At the end of the year, we organized a one-day symposium, presented on 1 May in the first-floor lecture hall in the Jackman Humanities Building. Our university-wide call for papers brought in a large number of abstracts, and a total of nine papers were selected using blind vetting (by the whole Working Group). Mary Ann Smart’s paper concluded the day’s events. The program included the following presentations by members of the Operatics Working Group:

- Keith Johnston: “Homo ludens in a North American Premiere of Orlandini’s *Il marito giocatore*”
- Nina Penner: “Layers of Intimacy in Britten’s Television Opera”
- Suddhaseel Sen: “Brünnhilde, the Aryan Sati: Wagner and German Orientalism”

We were delighted to have multimedia papers presented on opera (a multimediated art form) by both faculty and students from cinema studies, drama, English, and musicology. The attendance was approximately 50, a very engaged mix of university (student/faculty) folks and members of the general operatic public. We’ve already had requests for a repeat performance next year, including offers of assistance in organizing it.

Collaboration: The JHI Program for the Arts and “Telling Stories through Opera”

In addition, a number of our Working Group members participated in the JHI-sponsored Opera Exchange on Benjamin Britten’s *A Midsummer Night's Dream* on May 9, 2009: Katie Larson gave a plenary talk together with tenor Lawrence Wilford on Britten’s reframing of the setting of Shakespeare’s romantic comedy, and Sherry Lee co-ordinated a student panel presentation featuring interpretive approaches to the opera offered by Nina Penner, Colleen Renihan, and Misha Teramura. This symbiotic relationship between the Opera Exchange and the Operatics group worked well, given their shared focus on the theme of the JHI this year: Telling Stories. The opportunity to present our work as a part of such events and to come together on a regular basis to meet with specialists in adjacent fields with whom whom we might not otherwise collaborate has been very helpful, particularly for the student members in the group. (So too has been the experience of organizing a symposium!) Without the forum of the Operatics group, there would have been fewer opportunities to share ideas about our work and to collaborate on innovative projects in this multi-disciplinary field. Perhaps the most valuable element of the working group was the opportunity to discuss some of the larger issues concerning the workings of opera in a somewhat informal atmosphere, as group members became more familiar with each others’ research interests and all were genuinely open to the kind of collaborative work that the operatic art form inspires.

In light of a panel on “Mediated Operatics” at our year-end Symposium, as well as materials that we have been perusing on this topic throughout the year, we hope to continue our collaborative work on opera with a focus on Operatic Mediation in 2009–2010. Since a few of our student members will graduate this year, we hope to invite new student participants to the group, ideally from the fields of film and media studies. One of the most exciting outcomes of our activities this year is a potential for future international collaboration that has arisen from our invitation of Dr. Mary Ann Smart as the plenary speaker at our symposium: inspired by Operatics, Prof. Smart has proposed to setting up a “sister” interdisciplinary faculty/student opera group at UC Berkeley, with whom we will explore opportunities for collaboration, including at least one joint meeting via videoconference.

As our enthusiasm here shows, we are most grateful for the exciting opportunity for a this year of scholarly collaboration afforded us by the JHI Working Groups program, and we would like to thank the JHI most sincerely for its generous support.

**7.1.4. Jackman Humanities Institute Working Groups, 2008–2009
The Fiftieth Anniversary of the Cuban Revolution
Michael Lima and Candace Sobers**



Focus

January 2009 marked the 50th anniversary of the Cuban Revolution, making the 2008–2009 academic year a fitting time to seriously consider Cuba’s recent history. The Cuba Working Group (CWG) was created to encourage multidisciplinary analysis and critical thought on Cuban history from a wide range of Cuban and international perspectives.

The Cuban Revolution stands as one of the most significant events of the twentieth century. The Revolution transformed individual lives, shaped Cuba’s socio-political environment and became a model for “Third World” revolutions. The Cuban experience of revolution and resistance has impacted individuals from all segments of the political spectrum, in Cuba and abroad, demonstrating a reach and resonance far out of proportion to the island’s relatively tiny size.

The idea for the CWG emerged from a conference on “Cuba in the World” at the University of Florence in November 2007, where both Michael Lima and Candace Sobers presented papers. The coordinators thought that a year-long group dedicated to research in Cuban studies would be a positive step for the University of Toronto community. The initial CWG proposal was submitted to reflect the aforementioned focus on the Cuban Revolution. However, driven as much by the participants as by the organizers, the CWG’s focus has expanded chronologically and thematically to reflect the wider interests and areas of expertise of its members. The CWG addressed issues as diverse as commemoration and memory, early independence movements, film, the role of children in the post-1959 period, possible future directions for Cuban-US relations, romanticism in Cuban studies, and of course, the impact of the Cuban Revolution.

The CWG remains one of the only informal, yet academic spaces in the city for interested scholars and community members to meet and share their research, collaborate on new projects and make valuable connections.

Sessions and Special Events

The informal atmosphere has meant that unlike a traditional lecture series, presenters and participants were in a constant discussion about the nature of their work and its relationship to wider questions of Cuban history, politics, and culture. Meetings were two hours long, with a 45-minute to one hour-long presentation by the invited speaker, and at least one hour for commentary and discussion. Works-in-progress are encouraged.

The CWG is pleased to have organized and held seven successful meetings throughout this academic year and one field trip to the Cuba Conference, “The Measure of a Revolution” at Queen’s University, which gathered scholars from around the world to talk on their latest scholarship on the Cuban revolution.

1. 7 October 2008: Alessandra Lorini (History University of Florence) spoke about her latest book, *The Empire of Freedom and the Strategic Island: The United States and Cuba in the Late 19th Century and Early 20th Century*. Her talk focused on the way Cuban independence was seen through the lenses of the exiles working for *Cuba libre* in the United States, the Evangelina Cisneros’ case and the erasure of the Cuban struggle from the United States’ sense of humanitarianism. The talk helped open an avenue for discussion of memory, historical representation, gender, race and international relations between Cuba and the United States. It was also an opportunity to explore the early origins of the Cuban revolution and an avenue for the participants to learn about the conference on *Cuba and the World* in Florence. (Attendance 20)
2. 7 November 2008: Karen Dubinsky (History, Queen’s University) gave a talk titled: “Saving Cuban Children: From Operation Peter Pan to Elián Gonzáles” based on her

recent book titled: *Babies Without Borders: Adoption and the Symbolic Child in a Globalizing Era*. In particular she discussed the so-called ‘Operation Peter Pan,’ where over 14,000 children were sent to the United States by their parents in the first years following the triumph of the revolution, highlighting the cultural, political and global ramifications of this event, and showing how international conflicts that are fought through the bodies of children acquire tremendous symbolic power that ensure such conflicts have a very long life. Moving from the early revolutionary period to the Cuba of the 1990s, Prof. Dubinsky explored how the discourse of the Peter Pan returned decades later in the conflict over the custody of Elián González which served as a metaphor for a fractured nation. Her talk engaged in discussions about historical memory, cold war discourses and narratives of the revolution and served as an avenue to explore broader issues in the history of children, youth and the revolution. (Attendance 15)

3. 28 November 2008: Susan Lord (Film & Media/Art/Women’s Studies, Queen’s University) presented a talk titled: “Sara Gomez: Cinema, Citizenship and the 1960s.” Through presentation of clips from two of Gomez’ most infamous documentaries, *In a Certain Way* and *The Isle of Youth*, Lord discussed the challenges and accomplishments of a female Afro-Cuban filmmaker in the midst of a revolution. In particular, Prof. Lord discussed how Sara Gomez used the discourse of belonging and engagement available to women in the 1960s in Cuba and other parts of the world against the national and patriarchal traditions that formed their context and terrain. The connection with Susan Lord permitted the Cuba Working Group to invite Cuban filmmaker and director Gloria Rolando, at the time a Scholar-in-Residence at Queen’s University, and she also opened the way for connections with other potential Cuban scholars based at Queen’s for the Cuba Conference in May. (Attendance 23)
4. 15 January 2009: Damian Fernández, (Political Science, Purchase College SUNY) presented a critical analysis of Cuban studies from an epistemological perspective. In his talk Fernandez showed how nationalism and biased interpretations have affected the writing on Cuba from an interdisciplinary perspective and pointed to the need to address this issue in the historiography on Cuba. (Attendance 15)
5. 29 January 2009: Herbert Perez-Concepción (History, University of Oriente, Cuba) gave a presentation on the Cuban Revolution in its fiftieth anniversary. The talk was a collaboration with Latin American Studies, Caribbean Studies-New College, and the Centre for the Study of the United States. This event opened the possibility of future collaboration between the Caribbean Centre at the University of Oriente and the University of Toronto, which will allow U of T undergraduate and graduate students to attend courses and participate in an academic exchange. (Attendance 47)
6. 27 February 2009: Luis René Fernández-Tabío (Deputy Director, Centre for Hemispheric and US Studies (CEHSEU), University of Havana) discussed the Cuban perspective on the recent changes in the Obama administration’s Cuban policy in a talk titled ‘*From George W. Bush to Obama: Continuity and Change in U.S. Foreign Policy Toward Cuba*’. (Attendance 32)
7. 27 March 2009: Gloria Rolando (Cuban filmmaker) presented a screening of her documentary *Roots of My Heart* in a talk titled “Images of the Caribbean: Histories and Memories of Our People.” Her documentary was about a historical event in Cuban history that has not received enough scholarly attention in the island—the 1912 Race War in which thousands of Afro-Cubans of the Independent Party of Colour were massacred by the government of José Miguel Gomez. Her talk opened a space for a

discussion on the issue of race in Cuban history and the neglect of scholars to investigate this event. It was also an opportunity to discuss racial tensions in present day Cuban society in an informal setting with eighteen members of the group. (Attendance 18)

8. 7–9 May 2009: Members of the Cuba Working Group attended a conference on the Cuban Revolution at Queen’s University titled: ‘Cuba: The Measure of a Revolution: 1959-2009.’ The event brought scholars from Cuba, Canada, the United States and other parts of the world to engage in a three day discussion on all aspects related to the revolution from an interdisciplinary perspective. Three members of the Cuba Working Group, Cynthia Wright, Karen Dubinsky and Michael Lima, presented in a panel on youth culture. Cynthia Wright was the chair of the panel, while Karen Dubinsky presented a paper on the Peter Pan exodus and Michael Lima presented a chapter of his dissertation on the Cuban Youth Movement during the early years of the revolution. Our faculty advisor, Ronald Pruessen, presented a paper as part of a book he is writing on the role of Cuba in the global vision of the Eisenhower administration during the 1950s. Other members of the CWG such as Alejandro Campos-Garcia presented a paper on public policy and racism in socialist Cuba. Another panel was comprised of Antonio Torres-Ruiz, Kaushalya Bannerji, Arlo Kempf, and Nicholas Balais. Our attendance at Queen’s was an opportunity for an informal meeting of the CWG with 9 participants who talked about the significance of the group and its achievements and the goal to continue with the group. A highlight was the group’s growing reputation in other universities. For example, Rainer Schultz, a doctoral candidate from Harvard University, expressed his wish to be a member of the group and possibly present a paper in the next meeting of the Graduate Workshop scheduled for the end of September 2009.

Members

One of the major achievements of the CWG had been to form a group and a multidisciplinary network of people that includes several universities as well as the Toronto community. A total of 54 members now compose the Cuba Working Group, of whom 34 are students, 16 are faculty members, and 4 are independent scholars. The average attendance at events was around 25 people; not all members participate in every session, as some travel from Kingston, York, Mississauga, and other locations. However, their participation has been active through emails, comments, and constant feedback to the coordinators or other members of the group.

Benefits

The Cuba Working Group has been an important and inclusive forum that has brought together all students and faculty from different disciplines working on Cuba who otherwise would not have met each other, as no other group of this kind exists at the University of Toronto or for that matter in any other university in Canada. The group has allowed those working in different departments and even in the same university to know each other, exchange ideas and cooperate on their respective areas of research. For example Alejandro Campos-Garcia and Kaushalya Bannerji, both graduate students at York, one in Sociology the other in Law, were in the same university and did not know each other until they met in CWG and established an important academic partnership that helped them in their respective areas of research.

Our group took a proactive approach in reaching out to other centres within the University of Toronto such as Latin American Studies, Caribbean Studies, and the Centre for the Study of the United States in working jointly to invite scholars from Cuba to foster academic exchanges with Cuban institutions. Through networking and the active collaboration of members of the CWG such as Karen Dubinsky, Joanne Elvy and Susan Lord, our group took advantage of the visit of Cuban scholars at Queen’s and Algoma University and invited them to present at the University of Toronto. It is important to point out that prestigious Cuban scholars are very difficult to invite due to a

lengthy bureaucratic process in Cuba which requires official permission and a visa, errands which could take several months plus the costs of travel and accommodation. Attracting three well-known Cuban scholars has been a major achievement of the CWG since participation of scholars from within the island has enriched our group. The visit of Dr. Luis René Fernández-Tabío was of great benefit to all participants as it brought an avenue to discuss current issues related to the foreign policy of the Obama administration towards Cuba, at a crucial historical moment when the United States is reformulating its relations.

The positive responses to the CWG include a doctoral candidate from Harvard University, Reiner Schultz, who wishes to present in an upcoming workshop. Graduate students from York have expressed interest in establishing a similar initiative there. The broad reception, interests and acceptance among students, faculty and members of the University of Toronto and other universities and centres in Canada, the United States, and Cuba have convinced us that the CWG should continue as a University of Toronto initiative. The CWG is now planning a Graduate Workshop for September 2009.

MEMORIES OF THE CUBA WORKING GROUP



Meeting with Prof. Luis René Fernández-Tabío on February 27th, 2009



Members of CWG in Queen's University Conference.



Left Michael Lima (Toronto), right Cynthia Wright (York). May 8, 2009

7.1.5. Jackman Humanities Institute Working Groups, 2008–2009
Synaesthetes
Jun Luo

Focus

The goal of the group was to forge new collaborations and dialogues across the cognitive science disciplines at the University of Toronto and beyond. The thematic focus for 2008-2009 has been “How are we to say what we see?” This theme was chosen to accommodate broad perspectives, including the underlying mechanisms for, the norms on, and the technological transformation of the ways we perceive the world and the ways we talk about what we perceive. The meetings were paired, with a discussant presenting a piece of work in progress at the first, and a group discussion in seminar format at the second.

Meetings

1/2: Geoff Hinton - Restricted Boltzmann machines for recognition (attendance 13)

3/4: Jun Luo - How to talk about what infants see (attendance 8)

5/6: Ruth Leys - Emotions in Turmoil: Genealogy and Critique (attendance 12)

7/8: Matt Fulkerson - Touch and Multisensory Experience (attendance 6)

9/10: Susan Lederman - Manual Exploration and Haptic Object Recognition (attendance 20)

Meetings were paired. For Ruth Leys’s visit, the group attended her three Priestley Lectures at University College and then met with her as a group for discussion over a dinner. Two meetings planned for June 2009 on Mohan Matthen’s work did not take place due to schedule conflicts.

Group members (all from University of Toronto)

Elan Dresher, Linguistics (Faculty)

Matt Fulkerson, Philosophy (Graduate Student)

Michela Ippolito, Linguistics (Faculty)

Jun Luo, Cognitive Science (Faculty)

Mohan Matthen, Philosophy (Faculty)

Sacha Sokoloski, Cognitive Science (Undergraduate Student)

Ian Spence, Psychology (Faculty)

Josh Susskind, Psychology (Graduate Student)

Denis Walsh, IHPST (Faculty)

John Vervaeke, Cognitive Science (Faculty)

Gregory Szilagy, Cognitive Science (Undergraduate Student)

Occasional attendants included Prof. Ronnie de Sousa (Philosophy), Prof. Marlene Goldman (English), Prof. Steve Hockema (Information), Prof. Marc Lewis (OISE), and Prof. Brian Cantwell Smith (Information).

Visitors

The group had two visitors, Professor Ruth Leys, Director of the Humanities Center at Johns Hopkins University, and Professor Susan Lederman of Psychology at Queens University. Leys was the 2009 Priestley Lecturer of University College in the week of March 9; Synaesthetes members attended her three lectures and then honored her with a dinner on March 12, which brought together Prof. Leys, the working group, and several University of Toronto cognitive scientists from outside the group. The lively discussion over the dinner was concerned with Leys’ lectures, which intersected with the interests of a lot of attendants, as well as with trends in the humanities and the future of interdisciplinarity.

On 14 May, Susan Lederman gave a talk to the group and then a seminar with the group on 15 May. Her talk, which was on a comparatively rare topic that is highly relevant to the group’s focus, was very well received by attendants. The dinner on the evening of May 14 proved to be great for the young attendants to hear the story of Prof. Lederman’s successful interdisciplinary career as well as

her efforts in integrating teaching and research. The seminar on May 15 was devoted to in-depth conversation about Prof. Lederman's research, the state of the art of that field, and its relevance to philosophy, human computer interaction, robotics, and child development. Significantly, one member of the group (Matt Fulkerson) was invited to visit her lab.

Administration

The group was coordinated by Jun Luo and the group's two research assistants, Matt Fulkerson and Sacha Sokoloski, who proved to be competent and reliable and contributed substantially to planning and execution. Mohan Matthen remained constantly available for advice and guidance throughout the year. Professors Ian Spence, Denis Walsh, and Dr. John Vervaeke also offered their advice on the group's operation.

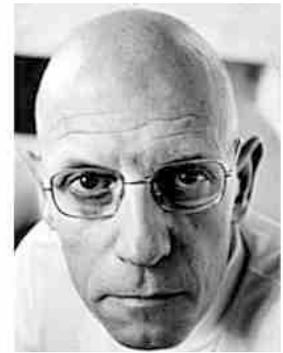
Benefits

The chief benefits include the stimulating exchanges across different perspectives (especially computational, psychological, philosophical, and historical), the initiation of possible future collaboration (e.g. between Prof. Lederman and Matt Fulkerson; between Prof. Marlene Goldman and the Cognitive Science Program), and the training it provided to the two RAs and the group's coordinator (Jun Luo). The benefits to the graduate and undergraduate students whom the group selectively invited to the meetings are also very high in terms of exposure to live, in-depth, formal, and informal intellectual exchanges on research in progress. The group's activities have also significantly strengthened the recognition of the Cognitive Science Program among the faculty members and students at the University of Toronto.

Future

The group did not seek renewal for 2009–2010, because the key coordinator's contract with the Cognitive Science Program ends on June 30 and the program itself is undergoing transition, to be moved out of University College and reconstituted under Arts and Science directly through the collaboration of Computer Science, Linguistics, Philosophy and Psychology. Given this context, we hope that after the 2009–2010 academic year, the reconstituted Cognitive Science Program will be able to resume the group.

**7.1.6. Jackman Humanities Institute Working Groups, 2008–2009
The Foucault Project
Amira Mittermaier and Yiftach Fehige**



Focus

Twenty-five years after his death, Michel Foucault's influence continues to permeate an impressive number of disciplines. Assessing his legacy and influence remains a daunting task. The goal of our working group has been and continues to be to assess the Foucauldian legacy from a transdisciplinary perspective. We have created a necessary space at the University of Toronto that allows for an in-depth reading and discussion of Foucault's writings across and beyond disciplinary boundaries. Thanks to generous funding from the Jackman Humanities Institute, the Center for the Study of Religion, the IHPST, and St. Michael's College, our first year of meetings was a great success in every respect.

Meetings and Special Events

In the academic year of 2008-2009, our group met eight times. Our meetings were two hours each and were held on September 29, October 20, November 10, December 1, January 12, February 2, February 28, and March 30.

The texts that we discussed this year included Foucault's "Dream, Imagination, Existence" (1954), *Mental Illness and Psychology* (1954), Kant's *Anthropology from a Pragmatic Point of View* (1961), *Madness and Civilization* (1961), *The Birth of the Clinic* (1963), "Preface to Transgression" (1963), "Fantasia of the Library" (1964), "Nietzsche, Freud, Marx" (1964), and the first chapter of *The Order of Things* (1966). In our approach we proceeded chronologically, and we have, as planned, covered about one third of Foucault's writings so far.

The members of the group agree unanimously that it was extremely important and productive to read Foucault's earlier writings as they are read much less frequently. There is a strong consensus that the group should continue to meet for two more years so that we can achieve our ambitious goal of reading Foucault's entire corpus of writings. To summarize the overall impact that the working group had on its members:

- Many members of the group have noted that it is highly productive and stimulating—while challenging at times—to discuss texts from multiple disciplinary angles.
- Our group has offered graduate students an exceptional forum in that they have been learning how to articulate their own perspectives in conversations with scholars from other fields, while familiarizing themselves with divergent disciplinary perspectives on Foucault.
- Through meeting on a regular basis and being able to refer back to earlier conversations, a sense of community developed, and we all look forward to continuing our conversations next year.
- The working group attracted graduate students and faculty members from different disciplines, even from different universities (McMaster, Ryerson, University of Toronto).
- The meetings were very well attended throughout the year, which is unusual as it is very difficult today to attract such a commitment to extracurricular academic events.
- The working group has established lasting connections between scholars and graduate students from different fields.
- A number of the graduate students note that this group has been the most positive experience in their Ph.D. program so far. It is considered a unique space of graduate learning and exchange at the University of Toronto.

A highlight of this year was the visit of Prof. Martin Saar, a Foucault scholar and Assistant Professor of Political Philosophy in the Institute of Political Science at the University of Frankfurt, Germany, who gave a very well attended public talk on 27 February 2009, on "Knowledge, Power and Historicity after Foucault." This event was sponsored by our Jackman Working Group grant and by the Institute for the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology. On 28 February, our

group spent the entire day with Saar to discuss Foucault and clarify questions that had emerged in our discussions during the working-group sessions; our morning seminar covered the relationship between Nietzsche and Foucault, and the afternoon included a presentation on Foucault's influence on Axel Honneth and Judith Butler, as well as an open discussion around the various ways in which Foucault has influenced different disciplines. The weekend seminar consolidated the group's sense of community even further and left a lasting impression on all participating faculty members and graduate students.

Group Membership

The group consists of highly motivated and deeply involved graduate students and faculty members from the following disciplines: Anthropology, Comparative Literature, Criminology, East Asian Studies, English, Geography, IHPST, History, Nursing, OISE, Political Theory, Public Health, Religion, and Theology. Each meeting was facilitated by a faculty member or graduate student from a different discipline. The group had 24 regular members from 15 units at the University of Toronto; of these, 14 were University of Toronto graduate students, eight were faculty members, one was an undergraduate student, and two were faculty members from other universities. The meetings averaged an attendance of 14.

Benefits

The Foucault working group has been the most positive and exciting experience that I have had in my doctoral education thus far. – Marnie Kramer-Kile, Ph.D. candidate, Nursing

The interdisciplinary nature of the reading group... has provided a forum for an 'undisciplined' association of ideas from different domains... that I consider essential to stimulate intellectual imagination and develop original thinking. – Andrea Cassatella, Ph.D. candidate, Political Science

The reading group provides an area for me to challenge my own (and my discipline's) presumptions about Foucault's work... Overall, the interdisciplinary discussion and close reading of Foucault have been invaluable for my doctoral research and intellectual curiosity. – Lisa Freeman, Ph.D. candidate and Trudeau Scholar, Geography

This group has provided me with the opportunity to think about Foucault's larger project, including the specific questions that his work raised for other disciplines... this work makes me think—slightly differently at the very least, but more often, in radically new ways. – Sheena Sommers, Ph.D. candidate, History

Interdisciplinarity is the most important strength of the Foucault working group. – Alejandra Gonzalez Jimenez, Ph.D. candidate, Anthropology

It is extremely rare in modern university life to have the opportunity to devote to serious texts and thinkers the time and attention, the reflection and above all discussion, that they deserve. I am grateful to the organizers of the Foucault working group for creating an ideal space to enable this... They have made possible a singular intellectual experience that I'm sure will have a lasting impact on my work and on that of many of those involved. – James Ingram, Assistant Professor, Political Science, McMaster University

7.1.7. Jackman Humanities Institute Working Groups, 2008–2009
Linguistic Prescriptivism & Patriotism: Working towards an Interdisciplinary and Canadian Perspective
Carol Percy

Focus

From 17–19 August 2009, an interdisciplinary bilingual conference on the theme of “Linguistic Prescriptivism and Patriotism from Nationalism to Globalization” will be held at the University of Toronto. Our working group had two main objectives for the 2008–2009 academic year. The first was to organize and to secure further funds for this conference. The second was to hold public events with invited guests that publicized the conference and produced data for a paper for this conference to be co-authored by members of our working group. We initially proposed “collaborative research [in order to] write a paper that explores and explains relationships between political attitudes (in the broadest sense) and prescriptive-linguistic attitudes to English, French, and indigenous languages in Canada.” We were able to attract local participant-organizers for the conference and to put together a conference program that attracted substantial further funding from SSHRC: our application was ranked *first* federally out of 120 applications in the fall 2008 competition. We have spent the 2008-2009 year refining our second objective. Instead of producing one co-authored paper for the August conference, we will present a panel of co-authored papers on Prescriptivism and Patriotism in Canada. Three public events planned for June 2009 will provide data for the papers and publicize the conference.

Meetings

The working group met eight times in 2008–2009: 18 September, 29 October, 28 November, 21 January, 26 February, 27 March, 22 April, 20 May. In summer 2008, the core group also met twice to plan for the academic year. One further meeting in June 2009 will fine-tune the public events planned for the end of that month. Attendance at the meetings has ranged between 7 and 15. In the first two meetings, we decided that a multi-paper panel rather than a single paper would be more appropriate for our contribution to the conference. We brainstormed to identify topics that might produce interesting and important papers, and eventually settled on language norms and dictionaries, education, citizenship, and popular culture. In later meetings, we have identified research questions and likely guests to interview at public events that would also publicize the conference. At one meeting, some of us informally presented our own work: Jack Chambers will be reprising his at one of our public events. The minutes of all of our meetings are available online on our group’s website <http://www.chass.utoronto.ca/prescrip>.

Participants

Our members were drawn not only from the University of Toronto, but also from York University and even Leiden in the Netherlands (a visiting student). The core members represent Anthropology, English, French, Linguistics, Medieval Studies, and OISE (Sociology and Equity Studies in Education).

- Kori Allan (Department of Anthropology, University of Toronto) – graduate student
- Jack Chambers (Department of Linguistics, University of Toronto) – faculty member
- David Clandfield (Department of French, University of Toronto) – faculty member
- Mary Catherine Davidson (Department of English, Glendon College, York University) – faculty member
- Emanuel da Silva (Department of French, University of Toronto) – graduate student
- Lyda Fens de Zeuw (Department of English, Leiden University) – graduate student
- George Lamont (Centre for Medieval Studies, University of Toronto) – graduate student
- Mireille McLaughlin (Sociology and Equity Studies in Education, OISE, University of Toronto) – Graduate Student
- Carol Percy (Department of English, University of Toronto) – faculty member

Special Events

Three special events were held at the Jackman Humanities Building in June 2009, both to generate data for our panel and to publicize the conference in August. These events are:

- June 22: “Canadian English: beyond *eb* to *zed*” (*guests to include media personalities Katherine Barber and Warren Clements as well as academics Stefan Dollinger (UBC) and Jack Chambers*) Attendance 60.
- June 23: “Accent on Arrival: Immigrants and Canadian English” (*organized by Allan and de Zeuw, and inviting a number of administrators of language-testing programs as well as academics and immigrants*) Attendance 125, many from the general public; filmed by Omni Television.
- June 24: “Canadian English in popular culture: from The Great White North to South Park” (*presented by two working group members, Davidson and McLaughlin*) Attendance 40.

The JHI’s networks publicized these events widely, and as a result, they were extremely well attended. Revised versions of the papers will be presented by a JHI panel at the August conference.

Benefits

The August 2009 conference and our June public events have been motivating goals for us through the 2008-2009 year. The shifting group membership and dynamics made decision-making slower than we expected. However, the (prescribed!) frequency of our interdisciplinary and inter-institutional discussions has been fruitful as well as collegial. Solicited for comments on the year’s activities, Emanuel da Silva, the organizer, noted the importance of the JHB seminar room, “both welcoming and well-equipped,” for encouraging “free and frank discussion.” Lyda Fens-de Zeuw (English, Leiden) “learned much these past few months about your academic community, even though the topics that came up were a bit beyond the scope of my research.” Professor Jack Chambers (Linguistics, Toronto) noted “opportunities for mixing with scholars across departmental divides... from the humanities fringes of linguistic disciplines and the language fringes of literature departments... do not happen often enough.” Demonstrating the fruitfulness of regular interdisciplinary contact, Professor Mary Catherine Davidson (English, Glendon) commented, “the JHI Seminar in Prescriptivism and Patriotism was instrumental in helping me develop new perspectives and approaches for my next book project, *English on Screen*. While I have a book in press which examines the monolingual biases in studies in history of the English language, the JHI seminar has helped me to apply methodologies developed in that book to studies of present day assumptions about the status of American and Canadian English in film production and marketing.”

The graduate students in the group have been grateful for the opportunities it has provided not only for interdisciplinary contact but also with leadership opportunities. Mireille McLaughlin (SESE, OISE) identified that the group “put me in contact with researchers who work, like me, on issues pertaining to language ideologies and the new media.” Kori Allan (Anthropology, Toronto) relishes “the opportunity to help organize a panel that directly relates to my research on language and citizenship. Without the intellectual support of the group I would not have been able to engage with many of the panelists or benefit from the working groups’ discussions on language and citizenship!” Like Kori, George Lamont (Medieval Studies, Toronto), a member of the conference organizing committee as well as of the working group, identifies the “rare opportunity” of his involvement with the conference as “the most important and rewarding activity in my professional development this year: ... Working with faculty members, staff members, and graduate students from a number of different departments and organizations has compelled me to refine and evolve my own leadership and organizational skills in anticipation of my career in academia.” We are all grateful for the intellectual and organizational opportunities arising from the support of the Jackman Humanities Institute.

Our group will be working together at least until we present the papers in the Jackman Panel at the August conference. The conference will also lead to at least two publications, with which some group members will be involved, either as contributors or as editors; the group’s findings will appear in some public form on the web.

7.1.8. Jackman Humanities Institute Working Groups, 2008–2009
Nancy, Agamben, Rancière: Aesthetic, Ethical, and Political Regimes
John Ricco and Louis Kaplan

Focus

We set out to pursue a set of critical and theoretical questions focusing on the ethical, aesthetic, and political dimensions of the thought of three major European philosophers: Jean-Luc Nancy, Giorgio Agamben, and Jacques Rancière. We originally planned on meeting once a month during the 2008-2009 academic term in order to discuss texts, meet with visiting scholars, and facilitate discussion of work by members of the group.

Meetings

Our Working Group held three meetings, one for organizing purposes in May 2008, and the other two in the fall 2008 term. At the first of these, we discussed Agamben's seminal book, *Homo Sacer*. For the second, we hosted Professor Davide Panagia, Canada Research Chair in Cultural Studies, University of Trent. We discussed a chapter of his forthcoming book (since released), *The Politics of Sensation* (Duke, 2009). The majority of members attended all three of these meetings, and all members attended at least two. Both of the academic sessions were held at the Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design, University of Toronto.

Our meetings were spirited, lively, and rigorous intellectual discussions, and our members unanimously agreed that much had been gained from them. No further meetings were held due to irresolvable scheduling problems. Prof. Panagia was deeply appreciative of our engagement with his work and overall hospitality during his visit. We are pleased to have made a significant connection with a colleague in the region, with whom we hope to pursue other forms of collaboration and exchange in the years to come.

Participants

Rebecca Comay, Department of Philosophy

Heather Diack, Graduate Student, Department of Art

Irmgard Emmelhainz, Graduate Student, Department of Art

Louis Kaplan, Institute of Communication and Culture (UTM) and Department of Art

Victor Li, Department of English

Phillip Loosemoore, Graduate Student, Department of English

Andy Payne, Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design

John Paul Ricco, Institute of Communication and Culture (UTM) and Department of Art

Etienne Turpin, Graduate Student, Ontario Institute of Studies in Education (OISE)

Benefits

The working group helped the co-conveners to further their project on "Jean-Luc Nancy and the Sense of the Visual," which is a special issue that is forthcoming from the *Journal of Visual Culture* in the spring of 2010.

7.1.9. Jackman Humanities Institute Working Groups, 2008–2009

Science and Culture

Cannon Schmitt

Focus

This working group draws together faculty and graduate students from several units (History and Philosophy of Science and Technology, Political Science, Humanities, German, Women’s Studies, and English) and three universities (the University of Toronto, York University, and the University of King’s College) currently conducting research at the intersection of science and culture. The overarching purpose of the group is to address the question of current and future theorizations of that intersection. Additional purposes include fostering collaboration between the University of Toronto and York University, establishing an institutional context in which sustained interdisciplinary exchange is possible, and providing an occasion for the intellectual and professional development of graduate students.

Meetings

1. 26 September: 11 members in attendance; discussion of group member Bernard Lightman’s essay “Victorian Science and Culture”
2. 31 October: 9 members in attendance; discussion of Karl Pearson, *The Grammar of Science*, Wilhelm Dilthey, *Introduction to the Human Sciences*, and James Secord, “Knowledge in Transit”
3. 28 November: 9 members in attendance; discussion of Robert J. Richards, *The Tragic Sense of Life: Ernst Haeckel and the Struggle over Evolutionary Thought* (Chicago, 2008)
4. 30 January: 8 members in attendance; discussion of group member Marga Vicedo’s essay “Mothers, Machines, and Morals: Harry Harlow’s Work on Primate Love from Lab to Legend” and group member Daniel Newman’s essay “Probability and the Rhetoric and Structures of Darwin’s Evolutionary Thought”
5. 27 February: 8 members in attendance; discussion of group member Andrea Charise’s essay on William Godwin and the science of aging and group member Erich Weidenhammer’s essay on 18th-century scientific biographies
6. 26 March: 7 members in attendance; attended lecture by David Amigoni (see #4, below) and participated in discussion afterwards
7. 27 March: 9 members in attendance; participated in a seminar conducted by David Amigoni
8. 24 April: 10 members in attendance; assessed the year’s work and set a schedule for next year’s activities

Participants

Alan Bewell, Professor and Chair, Department of English, University of Toronto
Andrea Charise, graduate student, Department of English, University of Toronto
Fiona Coll, graduate student, Department of English, University of Toronto
Christine Lehleiter, Assistant Professor, Department of Germanic Studies, University of Toronto
Bernard Lightman, Professor, Humanities, York University
Jill Matus, Professor, Department of English, and Vice-Provost for Students, University of Toronto
Daniel Newman, graduate student, Department of English, University of Toronto
Gordon McOuat, Associate Professor, History & Philosophy of Science, the University of King’s College, and Director of the SSHRC-funded strategic knowledge cluster “Situating Science”
Cannon Schmitt, Associate Professor, Department of English, University of Toronto
Ann B. (Rusty) Shteir, Professor, Humanities and Women’s Studies, York University
Marga Vicedo, Assistant Professor, Institute for the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology (IHPSI), University of Toronto
Erich Weidenhammer, graduate student, IHPSI, University of Toronto

Special Events

At the end of March, we hosted a visit by David Amigoni, Professor of Victorian Literature at Keele University (UK), co-editor *Charles Darwin's Origin of Species: New Interdisciplinary Essays* (1995), editor of *Life Writing and Victorian Culture*, and author of a monograph titled *Colonies, Cults and Evolution: Literature, Science and Culture in Nineteenth-Century Writing*, which appeared in 2007 in the Cambridge "Studies in Nineteenth-Century Literature and Culture" series edited by Gillian Beer. Professor Amigoni had a lunch with graduate student members of the group, dinner with faculty members, and conducted a seminar with all of us on *Colonies, Cults and Evolution* (the group's 27 March meeting). In addition, with the support of additional funding secured from the English Department and the Institute for the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology, he gave a public lecture in the IHPST's colloquium series on 26 March attended by members of the group as well as many other faculty, graduate students, and undergraduate students (27 total in attendance). The title of the lecture was "Charles Darwin at 100: Inheritance, Parenting, and the Legacy of Samuel Butler."

Benefits

Roughly half the meetings were devoted to discussion of work in progress by group members; the remaining half were spent working on published work in the field of science and culture, such as Richards's *The Tragic Sense of Life*, and Karl Pearson's *The Grammar of Science*. Of the five essays by group members discussed, at least three are to be published. In addition, because of intense interest in the group by faculty at York and by graduate students at IHPST, we will continue to meet next year with a much-expanded membership.

The graduate students in the group benefited immensely. Three of the four students shared work with the group; the fourth is scheduled to do so early next academic year. In addition, at a graduate student lunch with David Amigoni they received encouragement and attention from an eminent member of the field. All have been invited to keep in contact with Professor Amigoni as they continue their research.

7.1.10. Jackman Humanities Institute Working Groups, 2008–2009
Arts, Arts Education, and Leadership: An Investigation
Lynn Tucker and Sherri Helwig

Focus

This working group brought arts educators and students from various departments and the professional visual and performing arts community together with the primary goal of engaging in discussion and exploration of our collective understandings of leadership in the visual and performing arts and arts education. A second goal was the investigation of meanings of leadership in areas in which this is not often a conscious consideration. Finally, the group was designed to make connections between various artistic disciplines, reflecting on leadership needs, which may include opportunities for self-reflection, evaluation, and assessment of leadership practices, mentorship opportunities, and challenges such as board/staff/ administration relations, access to training/professional development, and loss/dearth of middle management support and succession.

Participants

Ann Armstrong – Faculty, Rotman School of Management; Director, Social Enterprise Initiative
Sherri Helwig – Faculty, Visual & Performing Arts (Arts Management), UTSC; Program Supervisor, Arts Management and Humanities Co-op programs [and, until June 30 2009, Acting Program Supervisor for Journalism]
Roger Mantie – Graduate Student (Ph.D.), Faculty of Music [now graduated]
Barbara Soren – Faculty, Faculty of Information (Museum Studies) and Coordinator, Knowledge Media Design
Lynn Tucker – Faculty, Visual & Performing Arts (Music), UTSC; Graduate Student (Ph.D.), Faculty of Music [now the Director of Arts & Events Programming, Department of Humanities]
Julie Witt – Graduate Student (M.A.), Ontario Institute for Studies in Education [now graduated, and hired as the Events Coordinator in Arts & Events Programming, Department of Humanities]

Meetings

28 October 2008: We began with an outstanding public lecture by Robert Sirman (Director of the Canada Council for the Arts) and private discussion with Mr. Sirman. The UTSC-based members were able to meet informally on a regular basis, but no further formal meetings were held due to scheduling challenges.

Activities

1. Multiple guest lectures and public discussions before students of VPAB15 (Arts Education and Outreach led by Sherri Helwig) including Lynn Tucker (Lecturer – Music) and Lenard Whiting (Lecturer – Music), Julie Witt (Events Coordinator, Arts & Events Programming), Patty Jarvis (arts community member)
2. Regular informal discussions between Lynn Tucker, Julie Witt and Sherri Helwig and between Sherri Helwig and arts / arts education community members (including Annalee Adair, Linda Albright, Madeha Khalid, Andrew Lamb and Patty Jarvis)
3. Discussions between Sherri Helwig and Constance DeVereaux, American scholar and editor of *the Journal of Arts Management, Law and Society* (JAMLS) about cultural mediation.

Benefits

Research and reading done to date has and will continue to inform the scholarly work of Lynn Tucker, who is now completing her dissertation on leadership-related topics, and Sherri Helwig, who has been asked to assist the editor of JAMLS in sourcing Canadian contributors and to write a book review for the Cultural Mediation issue, and who will be speaking about leadership pedagogy in upcoming conferences – STP&A [Social Theory, Politics and the Arts] in London and ENCATC [the European Network of Cultural Administration Training Centres] in Barcelona.