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<td>Happyland: A History of the “Dirty Thirties” in Saskatchewan, 1914-1937</td>
<td>Curtis R. McManus</td>
<td>336</td>
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<td>Promoters, Planters, and Pioneers: The Course and Context of Belgian Settlement in Western Canada</td>
<td>Corneliuss J. Jaenen</td>
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<td>My Name Is Lola</td>
<td>Lola Rosza and Susie Sparks</td>
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The story was so unusual and repeated so vividly so many times that it braided itself into memories along both sides of the border to the point that you forgot you hadn’t actually witnessed it yourself.

Victoria Conference Centre
Level One
Welcome to Canada. Welcome to Victoria. Welcome to the Western Literature Association’s 49th meeting, Bordersongs.

We found the theme and focus for this conference early on when one of us presented the other with a novel to satisfy a wager on the Stanley Cup Finals. Jim Lynch’s Border Songs is set on the border between British Columbia and Washington State; it burlesques national stereotypes and reflects on the absence of borders in the lives of birds.

To develop dimensions of border and song, we decided to open the meeting with a festival of oral storytelling from several cultures, and to extend this introduction with a storytelling workshop later in the program. Song — George Venn writes that it enables “communities to follow their discontent to discovery and invention” — is always humming in our group. Readers’ Theatre will move us with an adaptation of Border Songs by playwright Bryan Willis. To keep the songs singing, we asked the Executive to approve our presenting the Distinguished Achievement Award, for the first time, to a singer-songwriter. Thursday evening will be full of song, with award winner Connie Kaldor at the piano, accompanied by husband Paul Campagne on guitar and bass. (P.S. Some tickets are still available at the registration desk ...)

We want to use this welcome note, especially, to offer our enthusiastic thanks to Nick Bradley (Department of English, University of Victoria; and currently William Lyon Mackenzie King Research Fellow, Harvard University). From the moment he heard about the possibility, Nick has embraced the idea of holding the conference in his home place. He has worked indefatigably, every day for three years, on every aspect of organizing our meeting. He has been disciplined and meticulous in his attention to detail. His assistance, effort, and commitment have been indispensable to the Presidents, and to the Western Literature Association. Please hug him and thank him when you see him.

Here at the Empress we are south of the 49th parallel (48.42° N), but also somehow north of it. From the hotel, we can see two nation-states and the homelands of many nations. Here the border is a squiggly invisible shifting line in the water. At the conference itself, you will experience borders in myriad ways. We hope you will embrace these opportunities to forge new connections while celebrating the spirit of collegiality and friendship that has kept the WLA strong for 49 years. Find new borders, new texts, new stories, new songs, and share them (yes, in person as well as via Facebook, Twitter, Instagram & Snapchat). Some among us, in fact, will ask you to speak or sing your stories into a recorder as we look forward to celebrating a milestone anniversary next year in Reno.

We are delighted to welcome you to the 49th on the 49th. Sing the WLA!

— Anne and Laurie
Grateful acknowledgements to the following sponsors for their generous support of the Western Literature Association Conference 2014

Charles Redd Center for Western Studies
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Department of English, University of Victoria

Our special thanks to

Sabine Barcatta, Director of Operations, WLA
William R. Handley, Executive Secretary, WLA
Nancy Cook, Treasurer, WLA
The Executive Council of the WLA
Melody Graulich, Awards Coordinator
The members of WLA awards committees
Jasmine Spencer, Assistant to the Presidents
James Rault and the staff at the Empress
Megan Sanders and the staff at the Victoria Conference Centre

Mike Taylor, Jon Johnson, Kieran Kealy, Pattie Kealy,
Sharon Baker, Bill Baker, Irene Harrison, Dick
Harrison, Cheryl Johnston, Brian Johnston, Erin
Ellerbeck, Tara Penry, Romona at Northbrook Designs,
Rick Lester, Carol Aileen, Bryan Willis, Nancy Turner,
Andrew Holman, Treva Ricou, Liane Ricou, Melanie
Hibi, Maleea Acker, Inba Kehoe, Tim Personn, Lee van
der Kamp, Kevin Tunnicliffe, Nadia Timperio, Misao
Dean, Kat Goertz, Patricia Ormond, Alex Handley,
Mary Wallace, Hayley Evans, Eric Pelkey
(WEC’KINEM), Sheryl McKay, Emily Hector

The Western Literature Association congratulates Professor MELODY GRAULICH,
winner of the Mary C. Turpie Prize from the American Studies Association

“The Mary C. Turpie Prize, established in 1993, is given to the candidate who has demonstrated outstanding abilities and achievement in American Studies teaching, advising, and program development at the local or regional level. The prize is awarded periodically at the annual meeting of the American Studies Association and includes life-time membership in the ASA for the recipient” (ASA). Melody will be with us and not at the annual meeting of the ASA, where the prize will be awarded.

Please join us in congratulating Melody for receiving this important award.
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Mascha Gemein (2016)
University of Arizona

Jaquelin Pelzer (2015)
University of Colorado Boulder. Graduate student representative

Meredith Harvey (2016)
George Williams College of Aurora University

Dana Phillips (2015)
Towson University

Megan Riley McGilchrist (2016)
American School in London
Victoria, British Columbia, on the southern tip of Vancouver Island, lies south of the 49th parallel. To the west of the island is the open Pacific. The Inside Passage between Vancouver Island and the mainland of British Columbia is the site of the Gulf Islands, an archipelago adjacent to the San Juan Islands, which are part of the state of Washington. The metropolitan area of Greater Victoria lies on the traditional territories of several Indigenous Coast Salish First Nations, including the Esquimalt, Malahat, Pauquachin, Scia’new, Songhees (Lekwungen), Tsartlip, Tsawout, Tseycum, and T’souke First Nations, as well as the Pacheedaht of the Nuu-chah-Nulth First Nations. Surrounding Victoria are several low mountains, including Mount Work and the Sooke Hills and, to the north, Mount Douglas, which in SENĆOTEN is called pqáls or PKOLS. The Empress Hotel is built on tidal mud flats and lies close to several sites significant to the Songhees First Nation, including fortifications near colonial Fort Victoria and burial grounds near what is now called Laurel Point. It is customary at the University of Victoria to acknowledge on formal occasions that the university is situated on the traditional territory of the Coast and Straits Salish people, and in that spirit we offer acknowledgement that this conference takes place on traditional lands.

— Jasmine Spencer (University of British Columbia)
2014 Western Literature Association Award Winners

Distinguished Achievement Award
Connie Kaldor

Thomas J. Lyon Book Award in Western American Literary and Cultural Studies
Christine Bold
*The Frontier Club: Popular Westerns and Cultural Power, 1880–1924*

Susan J. Rosowski Award for Outstanding Teaching
and Creative Mentoring in Western American Literary Studies
Evelyn I. Funda

Don D. Walker Prize for Best Essay in Western American Studies
Jayson Gonzales Sae-Saue
“Aztlán’s Asians: Forging and Forgetting Cross-Racial Relations in the Chicana/o Literary Imagination”

Delbert and Edith Wylder Award for Longtime Service to the WLA
William R. Handley

Frederick Manfred Award
for best creative writing submission to the WLA Conference
Lisa Knopp
“Groundwork”

Honourable mention: Raul B. Moreno, “Once More to Aurelia”

Louis Owens Award
for graduate student presenters contributing cultural diversity to the WLA
Jane Wong

Taylor-Grover Award
for the best paper presented by a graduate student at the conference
Aubrey Streit Krug
“Learning the Language of Relation: Plants, Peoples, and the Ethnobotany of Melvin R. Gilmore”

Grover Awards
for outstanding papers presented by graduate students at the conference
Brittany Henry
“The Jeremiad and the West in *Survivors: A Novel of the Coming Collapse*”
Lisa Locascio
“Swedes, Mormons, and Impossible Bodies: Scandinavian Whiteness in the American West”
Ashley Reis
“‘Up against a Mad Machine’: Environmental Degradation, Ecogovernmentality, and the ‘Psychiatric Refuge’ of Wilderness in Edward Abbey’s *The Monkey Wrench Gang*”

BORDERSONGS  Western Literature Association 2014  *Victoria*
Arts at The Fairmont Empress
The Fairmont Empress is the premier supporter of arts, culture, and entertainment in our community. We are privileged to support local organizations and artists year-round.

Linda Skalenda
Artist in Residence
The Fairmont Empress is privileged to welcome the painter Linda Skalenda, artist in residence. Linda is the ninth artist to take up residence in the hotel. “Linda captures the startling rays of light that penetrate the dense coastal rain forest; she deftly interprets the dancing red and pink waves of poppies in an overgrown field. Her eyes see colour and gradations of shadows — they create paintings in her mind’s eye that beg to be splashed across a blank canvas.”

http://www.lindaskalenda.com/

Hotel Art Gallery
A temporary art gallery of Linda’s select works is located in the Upper Lobby of the hotel. Guests may view in person with the artist, or by personal appointment.

http://www.fairmont.com/empress-victoria/promotions/artist/
Conference Schedule

Some of our cryptic session descriptors borrow titles or lines from the songs of Connie Kaldor and are marked “CK.”

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5

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<td>WLA Executive Meeting</td>
<td>1:00–4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Library</td>
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<td>Registration table opens</td>
<td>3:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Palm Court</td>
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<td>WAL Editorial Board Meeting</td>
<td>4:00–5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Library</td>
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<tr>
<td>Executive Council Dinner</td>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Le Petit Saigon</td>
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<td>Registration table closes</td>
<td>7:15 p.m.</td>
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Official Welcome and Conference Opening
7:30 p.m. Crystal Ballroom
Anne Kaufman
(WLA Co-President)

Plenary Session: *Northwest Storytellers*
8:00 p.m. Crystal Ballroom

Alton Chung (Vancouver, Washington)
Robert Lashley (Bellingham, Washington)
Amanda Nahane (Squamish Nation)
Sellemah (Joan Morris) (Songhees Nation, Chatham Islands)

Welcome Reception
9:15 p.m. Palm Court
About our plenary storytellers

Alton Takiyama-Chung performs internationally, sharing stories and spreading aloha. He has performed at the Congress of Asian Storytellers (Singapore) and the Gimme Storytelling Festival (Cayman Islands), and he has been a New Voice Teller at the National Storytelling Festival. He is also the former Chairman of the Board of Directors of the National Storytelling Network.

Robert Lashley is a performance poet raised in Tacoma and living in Bellingham. A semi-finalist for the PEN/Rosenthal Fellowship, he has had poems published in such journals as *NAILED Magazine*, *Drunk In A Midnight Choir*, *No Regrets*, and *Your Hands, Your Mouth*. His work was also featured in *Many Trails to the Summit*, an anthology of Northwest form and lyric poetry. To quote James Baldwin, he wants to be an honest man and a good writer.

Amanda Nahaneee is a prominent member of the Squamish Nation, adept in the Squamish language and with extensive knowledge of Squamish lands, history, and resources. She works as a history educator and engages in curriculum development, research, analysis, and reporting. As a performing artist she is an actor, model, storyteller, singer, and dancer.

My name is Sellemah, which was my grandmother’s First Nation name as I am Coast Salish from the Songhees First Nation community. My great-great-grandparents are from the original and traditional territory of the Songhees First Nation known now as Chatham Islands and Discovery Island (*Tl’ches*). My English name is Joan Morris and I was raised by my great-grandparents and my grandparents up until I was ten years old. The most beautiful, loving, respectful time of my life was growing up on Chatham Island, which is located directly across from Oak Bay [in Greater Victoria]. My mother, who died at the young age of 65, was a victim of the horrendous experiments and drug inducements at Nanaimo Indian Hospital for seventeen years. She was sent there from the time I was two weeks old. On the pretext that I had TB, I, too, was placed in this detestable hospital from the time I was two years old until I was four years old. I am a First Nations grandmother, mother, auntie, sister, niece, cousin, dietary consultant, diabetic-“ally,” friendly/self-employed instructor, former nurse’s aide, and elder-teachings advisor as well as a learner. When I was four years old, I was discharged from the Nanaimo Indian Hospital and placed in Kuper Island Residential School until I was five. Then, when I was ten years old, I was put back into this school until I was sixteen. At Residential School, my culture and language were forbidden in order to emphasize what non-First Nations deemed was best for us. Today, I work hard to help First Nations keep their precious cultural traditions and to promote the teachings of the old people as I experienced them.
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6

Registration table opens 7:30 a.m. (closes 6:00 p.m.)  Palm Court
Book fair opens 8:00 a.m.  Palm Court
Special Exhibition 9:00–11:00 a.m.  Palm Court
Western Materials from Special Collections, University of Victoria Libraries.
Heather Dean (Associate Director, Special Collections)
Lara Wilson (Director, Special Collections and University Archivist)

CONFERENCE SESSION 1  8:00–9:30 a.m.

1A: Violence in the West/The Violent West  Kensington
Chair: Evelyn I. Funda (Utah State University)
Stefano Rosso (University of Bergamo)
“On Violence in Recent American Westerns”
Matthew Heimburger (University of Utah)
“The Animosity and the Empathy: Tropes and Types of Travelers and Pilgrims in Paul Theroux’s Hotel Honolulu”
Joshua Damu Smith (Biola University)
“Uncle Tom’s Cabin Showdown: Stowe, Tarantino, and Southern Expansionism in the American West”

1B: 49th Parallels: Crossing That Straight Line Marching West  Crystal Ballroom
Chair: Melody Graulich (Utah State University)
Nancy Cook (University of Montana)
“Running North: Americans on the Lam and the Canadian Border”
Melody Graulich (Utah State University)
“Without a Five-Foot Shelf of Books: The Frontier Borderlands Education of Wallace Stegner”
Robert Thacker (St. Lawrence University)
“Stegner, Canada, and ‘The Provincial Consciousness’”

1C: Border Études: Readings  St. James
Chair: Maleea Acker (University of Victoria)
Rachael Biorn (Stevens-Henager College)
“Borders: Real and Imagined”
Frances W. Kaye (University of Nebraska-Lincoln)
“Drop Another Season’s Promise in the Ground”
Susan Naramore Maher (University of Minnesota Duluth)
“Border Études”
Bonnie Bastian Moore (Utah State University)
“Rural to Urban: The Path of a Farm-Girl Pianist”
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6 (continued)

1D: Nineteenth-Century Wests

Dover

Sponsored by the Program in Nineteenth Century Studies, Department of English, UVic

Chair: Patrick K. Dooley (St. Bonaventure University)

Patrick K. Dooley (St. Bonaventure University)

“Mark Twain on Travel: ‘Knowledge About’ Corrected by ‘Knowledge by Acquaintance’”

Tara Penry (Boise State University)

“Jack Hamlin’s Tenor: The Aesthetics of Amateur Music in Bret Harte’s Fiction”

Robert Y. Rabiee (University of Southern California)

“Rhine Castles in the West: Medievalism and Expansionism in Thoreau’s ‘Walking’”

Hisayuki Hikage (Reitaku University)

“Jack London, Celebrity, and Media”

1E: On Sherman Alexie

Library

Chair: Susan Bernardin (SUNY Oneonta)

Elizabeth Baker (College of Charleston)

“I was gone … But now I’m back: Navigating the Borders of Self in Sherman Alexie’s ‘Class’”

Peter L. Bayers (Fairfield University)

“Reconstructing Native Masculinity in Chris Eyre’s Smoke Signals”

Margaret Urie (University of Nevada, Reno)

“Boarding School Blues: Crossing Borders in the Narratives of Zitkala-Sa and Sherman Alexie”

Yinka Rose Reed-Nolan (Binghamton University)

“Ancestral Voices: The Crossroads of Neurobiology and Cultural Learning in Alexie’s Indian Killer”

1F: Game of Modernities

Buckingham

Coloniality, Race, and the Problem of Visibility

Sponsored by the Modernist Versions Project, Department of English, UVic

Chair: José Aranda (Rice University)

Melina Vizcaíno-Alemán (University of New Mexico)

“Regionalism Revised and Revisited: The ‘Vanished’ Indian in Américo Paredes’ George Washington Gómez”

José Aranda (Rice University)

“Coloniality and Race in the Borderlands West”

Elena Valdez (Rice University)

“I Yam What I Am in the West: Mapping Settler Colonialism and Black National Identity in Ralph Ellison’s Invisible Man”
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6 (continued)

1G: *Troubles Fall Like Rain (CK)*
Chair: **O. Alan Weltzien** (University of Montana Western)
**Eric Morel** (University of Washington)
“Weather: ‘Incident of more than passing interest’: Lewis & Clark and Narrative Coherence”
**Ned Schaumberg** (University of Washington)
“Weather, Vitality, and Environmental Experience in *Ceremony* and *River-Horse*”
**Taylor McHolm** (University of Oregon)
“Disrupting the Dominant Genre of Environmental and Disaster Literature: Warren Cariou’s *Tarhands: A Messy Manifesto’”

SESSION 2 9:45–11:15 a.m.

2A: *You Can Blame It All on an Old Time Tune (CK)*
Chair: **Jennifer Dawes Adkison** (Henderson State University)
**Daniel Platt** (University of Oregon)
“‘Black Metal, Wilderness, and the Soundscapes of Cascadia’”
**Bronwyn Malloy** (University of British Columbia)
“‘These currents pull us 'cross the border’: Navigating Unreliable Narration in Colin Meloy’s Song Lyrics”
**Rob Wallace** (Bowling Green State University)
“‘Way Out West’: Jazz, Poetry, and History in the Borderlands”
**Jaquelin Pelzer** (University of Colorado Boulder)
“Nature in California Hip Hop: Environment and the Black Community in Los Angeles”

2B: *Western Borders and Bodies*  
Chair: **Dick Harrison** (University of Alberta)
**Lisa Tatonetti** (Kansas State University)
“Female Masculinity, Affect, and Two-Spirit Traces in the Work of Thirza Cuthand”
**Sean McNabney** (Sheridan College)
“Borders of Gender, Borders of Genre: *The Ox-Bow Incident’”
**C atriona Sandilands** (York University)
“The Only Lesbian in Canada’: Jane Rule’s Queer Border Crossings”
**Lisa Locascio** (University of Southern California)
“Swedes, Mormons, and Impossible Bodies: Scandinavian Whiteness in the American West”
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6 (continued)

2C: Western Therapies
Chair: Nicolas S. Witschi (Western Michigan University)

Stephen J. Mexal (California State University, Fullerton)
“The Problem with Liberalism: Gender, Freedom, and Contingency in the Life and Poetry of Ina Coolbrith”

Daniel G. Payne (SUNY Oneonta)
“Children of the Mist: Crossing the Border between the Wild and the Civilized in Victorian and Early Twentieth-Century American and English Fiction”

Edward Watts (Michigan State University)
“The Distant Past and Industrial Future of the Far West in Cornelius Mathews’s Behemoth”

2D: Editing Scholarly Journals: A Roundtable
Library
Chair: Nicholas Bradley (Harvard University and University of Victoria)
Participants: Gary Totten (North Dakota State University), Thomas Lynch (University of Nebraska-Lincoln), Steven B. Shively (Utah State University), Margery Fee (University of British Columbia)

2E: Lines and Flows: Bioregional Poetics of Cascadia
St. James
Chairs: Andy Meyer (The Northwest School) and Nadine Maestas (Academy of Art University, San Francisco)

Andy Meyer (The Northwest School)
“Open Watermarks: Before and After Vancouver 1963”

Nadine Maestas (Academy of Art University, San Francisco)
“The Gays of Cascadia and the Lesbians Nobody Talks About”

Paul Nelson (Seattle Poetry Lab)
“Animating Cascadia”

Drucilla Wall (University of Missouri–St. Louis)
“Living on the Edge of Things: The Pull of Multiple Wests in the Poetry of Tess Gallagher”

2F: Writers and Their Environments
Crystal Ballroom
Chair: Richard Pickard (University of Victoria)

Megan De Roover (Arizona State University)
“‘Deal with This Fact’: Constructing Identity and Place through Human-Environmental Relationships in Charles Bowden’s Selected Works”

Cory Robinson (University of Utah)
“Trickster Ways of Crossing the Matter/Meaning Boundary: Ellen Meloy’s Material Matters”
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6 (continued)

2G: The Tri-Cultural Borders of Southwestern Literature

Chair: Melina Vizcaíno-Alemán (University of New Mexico)
Margaux Brown (University of New Mexico)
“Violence as a Modernist Aesthetic: Willa Cather’s Regional Plains and Southwestern Fiction”

Diana Noreen Rivera (University of Texas at Brownsville)
“Taking on a Literary Titan of the Southwest: Fray Angélico Chávez’s Guitars and Adobes and the Reorientation of Northern New Mexico from Willa Cather”

Catherine A. Hubka (University of New Mexico)

2H: Critical Regionalism, Survivalism, Delinking

Chair: Krista Comer (Rice University)
Krista Comer (Rice University)
“Survivance, Critical Regionalism, and Feminist Storytelling in the Present”

Brittany Henry (Rice University)
“The American Jeremiad, the West, and Survivors: A Novel of the Coming Collapse”

Priscilla Solis Ybarra (University of North Texas)
“Delinking and the Land: Telling Identities in Early Twentieth Century Mexican American Goodlife Writing”

Paul Wickelson (University of Utah)
“We Won’t Bow Down: Mardi Gras Indians, Critical Regionalism, and the African West in New Orleans and Beyond”

SESSION 3 PAST PRESIDENT’S ADDRESS AND LUNCHEON
11:30 a.m.–12:45 p.m. Ivy Ballroom

Introduction William R. Handley (University of Southern California)

Address Richard Hutson (University of California, Berkeley)
“Tom Sawyer and the Struggle for Recognition”

Richard Hutson is professor emeritus of English at the University of California, Berkeley. His research interests include American literature from the nineteenth century to the twenty-first, African American literature, and critical theory including narrative and the novel.

William R. Handley is an associate professor of English at the University of Southern California. His research interests include the literature, film, historiography, and culture of the American West, past and present, as well as British and American modernism and narrative theory.

Delegates may attend the address without taking part in the luncheon.
Richard Hutson’s address will begin at 12:00.
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6 (continued)

SESSION 4     1:00–2:30 p.m.

4A: Coastal Writers, North and South  
Crystal Ballroom

Sponsored by the program in Literatures of the West Coast, Department of English, UVic
Chair: Nicholas Bradley (Harvard University and University of Victoria)
Katharine Bubel (University of Victoria)
“Roethke’s Shape of Pacific Desire: The Nootka Rose in ‘North American Sequence’”
Kirsten Alm (University of Victoria)
“Strangers in a Strange Land: The Foreigner in Robert Bringhurst’s Poetry”
Kathleen Boardman (University of Nevada, Reno)
“Writing Emily Carr: The Biographical Novel and the ‘Serial Autobiographer’”
George Venn (Eastern Oregon University)
“One Hundred Years of Crossing: A Reading”

Poet, essayist, and literary historian George Venn has crisscrossed the international border for sixty years — sometimes at rural and unknown Nighthawk, sometimes at urban and famous Blaine, sometimes at frozen Roosville. This reading extends Venn’s essay “Singing the Silver Valley Cannonball,” from his recent collection of essays Keeping the Swarm (Wordcraft 2012).

4B: Western Noir and Border Crossings  
Buckingham

Chair: Lee Mitchell (Princeton University)
Fareed Ben-Youssef (University of California, Berkeley)
Maria DiBattista (Princeton University)
“It’s a Bright Guilty World: The Evil Beauties of Noir”
Brian Gingrich (Princeton University)
“A Man in a Lonely Space: Between Western and Noir”
Lee Mitchell (Princeton University)
“Delay and Diversion, Furniture and Slang: The Signature Noir Styles of Hammett, Chandler, and Macdonald”

4C: Case Studies in Western American Biography:  
Balmoral

Challenges and Methods
Chair: Victoria Lamont (University of Waterloo)
Michael K. Johnson (University of Maine at Farmington)
“A Montana Voice in Harlem: Taylor Gordon and Musical Performance”
Victoria Lamont (University of Waterloo)
“Family Breakdown and Women’s Fiction of the American West in the Early Twentieth Century: The Case for a Biographical Criticism”
Gioia Woods (Northern Arizona University)
“Locus-ography? Writing the Life of (an Iconic) Place”
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6 (continued)

4D: *Wild Music*  
Chair: **David Fenimore** (University of Nevada, Reno)  
**Carolyn Kuchera** (University of New Mexico-Gallup)  
“American Rhythms: Composing Local and National Identity through Music Criticism in the WPA Guides”  
**O. Alan Weltzien** (University of Montana Western)  
“Volcano Songs: Two Composers Sing Three Snowpeaks”  
**ShaunAnne Tangney** (Minot State University)  
“Tough Company: Oakies, Beats, and Tom Russell Wrestle with the Outsider Paradox”

4E: *Love That Dog (CK)*  
Chair: **Lisa Szabo-Jones** (University of Alberta)  
**Jenny Kerber** (Wilfrid Laurier University)  
“Fencing the Western Arctic: Gwich’in, Caribou, and the Boundaries That Matter”  
**Michael Lukas** (University of Victoria)  
“Wolves as Poachers: Wolf Tactics as Resistance to Biopolitical Management of Space”  
**Sylvan Goldberg** (Stanford University)  
“‘These after qualms of conscience’: Nineteenth-Century Bison Hunting and the Politics of Grief”  
**Thomas Bristow** (University of Melbourne)  
“‘Desire is no light thing’: Creaturely Emotions in Anne Carson’s *Red Doc>*”

4F: *Outlaw, Desperado (CK)*  
Chair: **Krista Comer** (Rice University)  
**Susan Kollin** (Montana State University)  
“Once upon a Time in the Middle East: On Arab Cowgirls and the Global Post-Western”  
**Misao Dean** (University of Victoria)  
“‘Friends Don’t Let Friends Wear Fringe’: Motorcyclists and Cowboys”  
**Kristin Hanson** (University of California, Berkeley)  
“Represented Consciousness in Lyrics of the Flatlanders”  
**Mark Busby** (Texas State University, San Marcos)  
“Back in the Saddle: Larry McMurtry’s Return in *The Last Kind Words Saloon*”
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6 (continued)

4G: Exploring Western Fictions

Chair: David Oswald (University of Victoria)

Linda Lizut Helstern (North Dakota State University)
“Reading the Soundscape in the Novels of Louis Owens”

Conrad Shumaker (University of Central Arkansas)
“Borders as a Structuring Element in the Life and Works of Alberto Ríos”

Randi Eldevik (Oklahoma State University)
“Black, Brown, and White Drifters in the Depression-Era West: Poverty, Color, and Point of View in Attaway’s Let Me Breathe Thunder and Manfred’s The Golden Bowl”

Matthias Schubnell (University of the Incarnate Word)
“The Painter and His Model in Louise Erdrich’s Shadow Tag”

4H: Bird on a Wing (CK)

Chair: Christie Smith (Colorado Mountain College)

Nicholas Henson (Windward School)
“The Voices of All the Lost: Fiction vs. History in Stegner’s Wolf Willow”

Nicolas S. Witschi (Western Michigan University)
“‘So completely has my vogue passed away’: Mary Hallock Foote, Houghton Mifflin, and the Fate of Western Women’s Autobiography”

Megan Riley McGilchrist (American School in London)
“Rapture and Reticence: Some Thoughts on Representation of Western Landscape in the Letters of Mary Hallock Foote”

Clinton Mohs (University of Nevada, Reno)
“Mary Austin’s ‘Southwest Cure’”

SESSION 5

2:45–4:15 p.m.

5A: Asian North American Writing 1

Chair: Michael Gorman (Hiroshima City University)

Florence Amamoto (Gustavus Adolphus College)
“Obasan and Beyond: Landscape, Displacement, and Healing in Japanese Canadian Literature”

Michael Gorman (Hiroshima City University)
“Zen and the Art of Fiction: Ontological Explorations in Ruth Ozeki’s A Tale for the Time Being”
5B: Indigenous Performance: Embodied Histories and Living Genealogies

Buckingham

Chair: Susan Bernardin (SUNY Oneonta)

Christine Bold (University of Guelph)
“‘Vaudeville Indians’ and Visual Sovereignty”

Kirby Brown (University of Oregon)
“Surrogate Families, Surrogate Nations: Race, Nation, Family, and Kinship in Lynn Riggs’s The Cherokee Night”

Chadwick Allen (Ohio State University)
“Earthworks as Dramaturgy”

Susan Bernardin (SUNY Oneonta)
“Super Indian Lives: Arigon Starr’s Collaborative Comic Performances”

5C: Plain Songs with a Beat:

Dover

Music and Walking as Spiritual and Social Journey in the West

Chair: Matthew Evertson (Chadron State College)

Matthew Evertson (Chadron State College)
“Escape Artists: Songs and Settlement in Three Nebraska Writers”

Steven Coughlin (Chadron State College)
“Finding a Voice: Thea Kronberg’s Rejection of Gendered Social Conventions in Willa Cather’s The Song of the Lark”

Thomas Deane Tucker (Chadron State College) and Kathleen Woods (Chadron State College)
“Rucksack Revolution: Images of Walking in the West in Kerouac”

5D: Mysteries and Memories: Readings

St. James

Chair: Megan Riley McGilchrist (American School in London)

Scott Elliott (Whitman College)
From Temple Grove

Meredith Harvey (George Williams College of Aurora University)
“337 Victor and Other Haunted Spaces”

Margaret Lundberg (University of Washington, Tacoma)
From A Continuous Present

Connie T. Braun
“An Inheritance of Words: Poetry at the Crossing of Borders”

5E: Graduate Student Professionalization Session 1:

Craigdarroch

Thoughts on Current Critical Dialogues

Chair: William V. Lombardi (University of Nevada, Reno)
Panelists: Michael K. Johnson (University of Maine at Farmington), Krista Comer (Rice University), William R. Handley (University of Southern California)
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6 (continued)

5F: Reading Northwest Coasts  
Balmoral

Chair: Dana Phillips (Towson University)

J. Gerard Dollar (Siena College)
“Where the Frontier Meets the Sea: The Island West in Muir, London, and Nelson”

Christina Roberts (Seattle University)
“Moving across the Borders of the Tangible and Intangible Worlds: Sovereignty of Thought and Expression in Eden Robinson’s Monkey Beach”

Peter Donahue (Wenatchee Valley College at Omak)
“Sojourn and Struggle: The Northwest Writings of Edward Dorn”

5G: Memory and Memorials  
Kensington

Chair: Charles L. Crow (Bowling Green State University)

Jennifer Ladino (University of Idaho)
“Environmental Affects, Spatial Ironies, and Emotional Boundaries at Manzanar”

Jennifer Dawes Adkison (Henderson State University)
“Public Spectacle versus Private Tragedy: Understanding the Donner Party through Correspondence of the Survivors”

Christine Shell (University of New Mexico)
“Adoption: A Story of Threatened Place and Heritage”

Catherine Holmes (College of Charleston)
“The Great War 100 Years After: Willa Cather’s One of Ours and the Literature of Commemoration and Mourning”

5H: Cormac McCarthy  
Crystal Ballroom

Chair: Christopher Douglas (University of Victoria)

David Buchanan (University of Denver)
“What We Talk about When We Talk about Reformed Scalp Hunters”

Dario Sulzman (University of Cincinnati)
“The Judge’s Smile: Reading Past Exteriority in Blood Meridian”

Catherine Alber (University of Denver)
“Monster Bodies, Monster Space: Cormac McCarthy’s Blood Meridian and the Demythologization of the American Frontier”

Stephen Tatum (University of Utah)
Cryptonymy and Cormac McCarthy’s All the Pretty Horses”

Graduate students’ social event  5:30–7:00 p.m.  Canoe Brewpub (450 Swift St.)
Please contact Will Lombardi (wlombardi@unr.edu) or Jaquelin Pelzer (Jaquelin.Pelzer@colorado.edu) for details. All graduate students are welcome.
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6 (continued)

SESSION 6 4:30–5:30 p.m. Crystal Ballroom  DEMI-PLENARY ADDRESS

Robert Thacker (St. Lawrence University): “Alice Munro in Victoria”

Chair: Margery Fee (University of British Columbia)

Robert Thacker is the Dana Professor of English and Canadian Studies at St. Lawrence University. His research interests include the literary Wests of both Canada and the United States with a special focus on the works of Alice Munro and Willa Cather. Among his many publications are an edited volume titled Willa Cather: A Writer’s Worlds (2010), a biography of Alice Munro, Alice Munro: Writing Her Lives (2005, 2011), and an edition of Cather’s April Twilights and Other Poems (2013).

DEMI-PLENARY STORYTELLERS’ WORKSHOP

4:30–5:30 p.m.  Library

Alton Chung
(Vancouver, Washington)  
Robert Lashley
(Bellingham, Washington)

Three of our guest storytellers will join in a discussion of what makes a good story, tactics and techniques for powerful telling, and how to use storytelling in the classroom.

Moderator: Stephen Graham Jones teaches creative writing and monster fiction at the University of Colorado-Boulder and the low-residency program for the University of California, Riverside-Palm Desert. He is the author of sixteen novels, six collections, and over 200 stories.

Connie Kaldor

Concert and WLA Distinguished Achievement Award

Pre-concert reception  7:00 p.m.  Conference Centre

Concert  8:00 p.m.  Conference Centre  MC: Nancy Cook (University of Montana)

In harmony with the Bordersongs theme of its 2014 meeting, the Western Literature Association will present its Distinguished Achievement Award, for the first time, to a singer-songwriter. Connie Kaldor is a folk singer currently living in Montreal but whose literal and imaginative home is the western prairie. She is a prolific songwriter in a wide range of forms: ballads, histories, children’s songs, blues laments, love songs, work songs, burlesques, and lullabies. Connie is also a talented actor who brings a community of characters to life on the concert stage. Her hymns to the land are deeply moving and hauntingly evocative — and then in the next number she is irreverently hilarious. Western themes, locations, archetypes are everywhere. Her cowgirl manifesto, “Outlaw,” knows that “even an outlaw must lose his heart sometime.” “Give me a canoe,” she pleads, “and let me go.” Connie Kaldor has recorded fourteen CDs; the fifteenth, a tribute to her home province, titled Love Sask, launches this month. In 2007 Connie was invested into the Order of Canada, the country’s highest civilian honour. She will leave us with songs worth remembering and repeating, and send us home connected.
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7

Past Presidents’ Breakfast 7:00–8:30 a.m.  Empress Harbourside
Registration table opens 7:30 a.m. (closes 6:00 p.m.) Palm Court
Book fair opens 8:00 a.m. Palm Court

SESSION 7 8:00–9:30 a.m.

7A: The West in Motion  Balmoral
Chair: Matt Burkhart (Colby College)
Matt Burkhart (Colby College)
“Encounters with the New Global Sublime: Landscapes of Transformation in Barry Lopez’s ‘Flight’ and Edward Burtynsky’s Photography”
Paul Formisano (University of South Dakota)
“Sons of Ditches: Changing Water Regimes in Frank Norris’s The Octopus”
Elizabeth Wright (Pennsylvania State University, Hazleton)
“‘Bumpkin, freak, old maid, cowgirl’: Sustainability and Social Justice in Mary Clearman Blew’s Jackalope Dreams”

7B: Load Up on Guns, Bring Your Friends  Craigdarroch
Chair: Robert Bennett (Montana State University)
Robert Bennett (Montana State University)
“NXNW: Nirvana’s Sonic Madness”
Harry Thompson (Augustana College)
“Punk, Rock, and Nonfiction in the Plains: Crossing the Border with Song”
Nat Lewis (St. Michael’s College)
“Meet John Doe”

THURSDAY NIGHT AFTER THE CONCERT

Members’ jam session  10:00 p.m.  Buckingham
with cash bar
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7 (continued)

7C: Perspectives on Willa Cather
Chair: Mark Madigan (Nazareth College)
Amanda J. Zink (Idaho State University)
“The Archbishop Goes to Market: Willa Cather’s ‘Masterpiece’ and the Serialization of Domesticity”
Christie Smith (Colorado Mountain College)
“These forgotten, deep-down-in-my-mind memories’: Teaching Cather’s ‘The Enchanted Bluff’ in Composition II in a Two-Year College”
Caroline Holland (University of Toronto)
“Intoning My Ántonia: Frontier Ecology and the Chorus”

7D: Western Women and Epistolary Markets
Chair: Audrey Goodman (Georgia State University)
Audrey Goodman (Georgia State University)
Cathryn Halverson (University of Copenhagen)
“When I think of the good things I can get to eat for what the stamp cost I just stick these letters in my case’: Calculating Correspondence”
Linda Karell (Montana State University)
“A bit of sully in your sweet’: Cheryl Strayed’s Tiny Beautiful Things and the Epistolary Memoir”

7E: Reading Regions and Reading Regionally
Chair: Kirsten Alm (University of Victoria)
Kerry Fine (Texas Tech University)
“Twilight in the Borderlands”
Joseph Morton (University of Manchester)
“At the Discursive Border: Critical Approaches to Texts on California”
Arthus Mehanna (Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina)
“Dismembered Borders/Bodies: The Influence of Women’s Surrealism in the Poetry of Beatriz Hausner”
Charles L. Crow (Bowling Green State University)
“Lydia Millet’s New Frontier Gothic”
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7 (continued)

7F: Translated and Transatlantic Wests

Chair: Alex Hunt (West Texas A&M University)

Bonnie Roos (West Texas A&M University)
“James Joyce’s Ireland and the American West: Stories of Cannibalism, Scalping, and Infanticide”

Alex Hunt (West Texas A&M University)
“Cattle Empire/British Empire: The Case of Samuel Nugent Townshend’s *Our Indian Summer in the Far West*”

Kristin Ladd (Utah State University)
“Go to Wyoming, Young Man!”

Nina Björnsson (Eastern New Mexico University)
“From Fire and Ice to Sand and Saguarnos”

7G: Oral Traditions and Traditional Knowledge, Past and Future

Chair: Jasmine Spencer (University of British Columbia)

Kathleen Danker (South Dakota State University)
“Crossing Borders with the Trickster’s Tales and Songs: From Oral to Written, Ho-Chunk to English, and Songs to Lyrics”

Karen Ramirez (University of Colorado Boulder)
“Contemporary Native American Women’s Memoirs and the Practice of Dialogue”

Aubrey Streit Krug (University of Nebraska-Lincoln)
“Learning the Language of Relation: Plants, Peoples, and the Ethnobotany of Melvin R. Gilmore”

SESSION 8 9:45–11:00 a.m. Crystal Ballroom

PLENARY CONVERSATION: ROAMING DELEGATES

What’s been happening at the conference so far? What issues and ideas are circulating? This event will involve roaming the borders of the meeting, acting as a troubador, interpreting the community. Selected WLA “roamers” will report back in this plenary and ask for your thoughts.

Chair: Stephen Tatum (University of Utah)

Roamers:

José Aranda (Rice University)     Frances W. Kaye (University of Nebraska-Lincoln)

Jenny Kerber (Wilfrid Laurier University)     Jennifer Ladino (University of Idaho)

Ashley E. Reis (University of North Texas)     Catriona Sandilands (York University)
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7 (continued)

SESSION 9  11:15 a.m.–12:15 p.m.  Crystal Ballroom

READERS’ THEATRE  Border Songs

Adapted and directed by David Fenimore
(University of Nevada, Reno).

Bryan Willis adapted Jim Lynch’s Border Songs for the stage. Our own David Fenimore has edited the Willis script for this year’s Readers’ Theatre extravaganza.

Jim Lynch grew up in the Seattle area and lives in Olympia. Border Songs, his shrewd and rollicking novel published in 2009, provided the title theme for this meeting — singing borders and bordering on song. Our Association has a long interest in the intersections of the arts and environmental studies: we especially like that in Lynch’s Border Songs the U.S.-Canada border in the Pacific Northwest is patrolled by a dyslexic birder who sees the border backwards and sings it the way birds sing it. He worked as a journalist and columnist in Alaska, Virginia, and Washington, D.C., as well as for the Spokane Spokesman-Review, the Portland Oregonian, and the Seattle Times. Jim Lynch has published three novels: The Highest Tide (2005), Border Songs (2009), and Truth Like the Sun (2012), and, for his writing, has received the George Polk Award, the H. L. Mencken Award, and the Livingston Young Journalist Award for National Reporting.

Bryan Willis serves as playwright-in-residence and Board Chair for the Northwest Playwrights Alliance at Seattle Repertory Theatre. His plays have appeared throughout the U.K., Israel, Japan, U.S., and Canada, including A Contemporary Theater (two commissions), New York Theater Workshop, Seattle Rep, Milwaukee Rep, Unseam’d Shakespeare Co., and Riverside Studios in London. He adapted Jim Lynch’s novel Border Songs (a 2010 Washington State Book Award winner) for the stage. The play, directed by David Quicksall, was a co-production by Saint Martin’s University Theatre Department and Book-It Repertory Theatre. His work has also been featured on NPR and BBC Radio. Honors and awards include a Theater Fellowship from the Artist Trust and the Kennedy Center Gold Medallion.
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7 (continued)

GRADUATE STUDENT LUNCHEON
12:15–1:15 p.m.  Balmoral

WLA ORAL HISTORY PROJECT
12:15–1:15 p.m.  Palm Court

SESSION 10  1:30–3:00 p.m.

10A: Asian North American Writing 2
Kensington
Chair: Florence Amamoto (Gustavus Adolphus College)
Kyoko Matsunaga (Kobe City University of Foreign Studies)
“From Tohoku to Desolation Sound: Ruth L. Ozeki’s Transpacific Eco-Narrative”
Jane Wong (University of Washington)
“Throwing the Word Brick: Crossing Borders of Language in the Work of Barbara Jane Reyes and Truong Tran”
Kirsten Mollegaard (University of Hawai’i at Hilo)
“Drawn and Quartered: Gender, Race, and Identity in Two Asian American Graphic Novels”

10B: Before the West Was West: A Roundtable
Library
Chair: Tom J. Hillard (Boise State University)
Participants: George English Brooks (Snow College), Amy T. Hamilton (Northern Michigan University), Marta Kvande (Texas Tech University), Rebecca Lush (California State University, San Marcos), Tara Penry (Boise State University), David J. Peterson (University of Nebraska, Omaha), Sara Spurgeon (Texas Tech University)

10C: Singing Border Songs
Crystal Ballroom
Chair: Adam Kneeland (University of Victoria)
Katherine Ann Roberts (Wilfrid Laurier University)
“Birds, Bud, and Border Romance in Jim Lynch’s Border Songs”
Evelyn P. Mayer (University of Applied Sciences Landshut)
“Facing the Music: Fictional ‘Line Dancing’ in the Changing Canada-U.S. Borderlands”

and Jim Lynch will read from work in progress.

10D: Out in the Pasture, That’s Where I Like to Go (CK)
St. James
Chair: Randi Lynn Tanglen (Austin College)
Daniel Clausen (University of Nebraska-Lincoln)
“Heirloom Gardens: Buffalo Bird Woman’s Garden and Old Roots for New Agrarianism”
Dollie Lookingbill (West Texas A&M University)
“Illuminating Place in Community”
Susan Nance (University of Guelph)
“Burden of Living the Myth: The Calgary Stampede, Regionalism, and the Western Genre”
10E: **Pedagogy Roundtable**

Chair: **Evelyn I. Funda** (Utah State University)

**Kerri-Ann Kealohapou'ole Hewett Fraser** (Kamehameha Schools),
and **Liam C. Nesson** (University of Hawai'i, Hilo):
“**The Kupa ‘Aina Summer Bridge Program: Stories of an Indigenous and Environmental Pedagogy**”

**Keri Holt** (Utah State University)
“**Inside to Outside: Crossing the Classroom Border with John Wesley Powell**”

**Peter Reim** (University of Wisconsin-Stout)
“**Train Traffic: Little Princes, Iron Road, ‘Canadian Railroad Trilogy,’ and Composition Pedagogy**”

10F: **A Battle Was Won and a People Were Lost (CK)**

Chair: **Linda Karell** (Montana State University)

**Margery Fee** (University of British Columbia)
“**George Clutesi’s Potlatch and Genre as a Form of Social Action**”

**Michael Taylor** (University of British Columbia)
“**From BYU to Broadway, from Bones to Brass: Gertrude Bonnin, William F. Hanson, and the Americanization of The Sun Dance Opera**”

**April Anson** (University of Oregon)
“**Silence Roars: John Joseph Mathews’s Sundown and Questions of Form**”

**Jasmine Spencer** (University of British Columbia)
“**The Buffalo and the Chickadee: Trans- Species Polyphony in the Autobiography of Plenty Coups**”

10G: **The West in Popular Forms**

Chair: **Jaquelin Pelzer** (University of Colorado Boulder)

**Jessica Wojtysiak** (California State University, Bakersfield)
“The **Colonization of Quincey Morris: The American Other in Bram Stoker’s Dracula**”

**Michael Tavizon** (Claremont Graduate University)
“The **Land of Lolita: Dolores Haze and the American West in Kubrick’s Film Adaption, Lolita**”

**Scott Pett** (Rice University)
“**‘Far away in the West’: Globalizing the Local in Mormon Hymnody**”

10H: **Teaching Climate Change: Workshop**

**SueEllen Campbell** (Colorado State University)

**SueEllen Campbell** teaches courses in nature and environmental literature, twentieth-century fiction and nonfiction, literary theory, and research methods. Her books include *The Face of the Earth: Natural Landscapes, Science, and Culture* (2011); *Even Mountains Vanish: Searching for Solace in an Age of Extinction* (2003); and *Bringing the Mountain Home* (1996). She has also published numerous articles about American environmental literature and ecocriticism. She is codirector of Changing Climates @ Colorado State University, a multidisciplinary climate-change education and outreach initiative, whose Web address is http://changingclimates.colostate.edu.
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7 (continued)

SESSION 11  3:15–4:45 p.m.

11A: *Entangled Ecologies: Readings*  Craigdarroch
Chair: Angela Waldie (Mount Royal University)
Angela Waldie (Mount Royal University)
“A Single Syllable of Wild”
Nicholas Bradley (Harvard University and University of Victoria)
“Metamorphoses”
Basma Kavanagh
“Engaged and Embodied Listening”
Lisa Szabo-Jones (University of Alberta)
“Approaches”
Maleea Acker (University of Victoria)
“On Not Traveling up Tod Inlet (SNITĆEŁ)”

11B: *The Heart Is Bigger Than Trouble (CK)*  Buckingham
Chair: Cordelia Barrera (Texas Tech University)
Cordelia Barrera (Texas Tech University)
“‘Negro y Azul’: The Narcocorrido Goes Gothic”
Jeffrey Chisum (University of Southern California)
Maria O’Connell (Wayland Baptist University)
“Breaking Borders and *Breaking Bad*: Using Unconventional Choruses to Build a Narcotragedy”

11C: *Stephen Graham Jones’ Soundtrack for the End of the World*  Library
Chair: Billy J. Stratton (University of Denver)
Billy J. Stratton (University of Denver)
“A Serenade from the End of the Trail: Stephen Graham Jones’ *The Fast Red Road*”
Rebecca Lush (California State University, San Marcos)
Christopher LaLonde (SUNY Oswego)
“Slippery When Wet: Stephen Graham Jones’ *Demon Theory*”
Theo Van Alst (Yale University)
“Lapin Noir: To Del Rio It Went”

Commentator: Stephen Graham Jones
Among his many honors, Stephen Graham Jones has been the recipient of the Texas Institute of Letters Award for Fiction and the Independent Publishers Award for Multicultural Fiction, as well as a Shirley Jackson Award finalist three times, a Bram Stoker finalist, a Black Quill Award finalist, and a Colorado Book Award finalist. When not writing he may be found along the Backbone of the World in search of moose and elk.
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7 (continued)

11D: Writing Places and Writing Selves  
Chair: Gioia Woods (Northern Arizona University)

Mary Clearman Blew (University of Idaho)  
"Westering in the Twenty-first Century: Contemporary Women Write of Travel and Transplanting in the American West"

Adam Kneeland (University of Victoria)  
"‘Still and Always Mine’: Ecological Self-building in Patrick Lane’s There Is a Season"

Shane Frankiewicz (Albert-Ludwigs-Universität)  
"Native Americans and Diasporic Living: Borderlands within Our Borders in Louise Erdrich’s The Round House"

Jennifer Schell (University of Alaska Fairbanks)  
"‘Their dexterity in killing the whale is not easily described’: Colonial-Era Representations of the Indigenous Whalemen of the Pacific Northwest"

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A windy day on Dungeness Spit, on the Olympic Peninsula in Washington. Victoria, across the Strait of Juan de Fuca, is just beyond spitting distance.
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7 (continued)

11E: Mapping and Measuring the Field
Kensington

Chair: Brady Harrison (University of Montana)

Brady Harrison (University of Montana)
“How do you grow a poet?,” or, Notes toward a Unified Field Theory of Western Studies

David M. Mittelman (Brown University)
“A Peopled Desert: Law and Authority in the Brazilian Sertão and the American West

Cheryl Glotfelty (University of Nevada, Reno)
“Picturing the U.S.-Mexico Border: Photographer Peter Goin’s Tracing the Line as Art and Visual Research

Gary Reger (Trinity College)
“What’s a Border Good For? Endowing a Line with Meaning

11F: Gender, Race, and Family
Dover

Chair: Ashley E. Reis (University of North Texas)

Mercedes Albert-Llacer (University of the Basque Country/Universidad del País Vasco/Euskal Herriko Unibertsitatea)
“Embodying Nowhere: Making Girls Matter in the New West in Tupelo Hassman’s Girlchild

William V. Lombardi (University of Nevada, Reno)
“Pioneering Families: Postrace, Postwest, Making Do in Bharati Mukherjee’s Jasmine

Jayson Gonzales Sae-Saue (Southern Methodist University)
“Chinese Immigration, Mixed-Race Families, and China-cana Feminisms in Virginia Grise’s Rasgos Asiáticos

11G: Bordering Regionalities: Old and New
Balmoral

Chair: Anthony G. Cohen (University of Texas at El Paso)

Anthony G. Cohen (University of Texas at El Paso)
“(Post)Apocalypse: The Epistemology of the Horde

Evan Stapleton (University of Texas at El Paso)
“The Never Arcadian American Wilds’: Narrating the American Myth in Lolita

Robert Gunn (University of Texas at El Paso)
“The ‘Humor of the Old Southwest’ and National Regionality

Yeojin Kim (University of Nebraska-Lincoln)
“Cormac McCarthy’s The Crossing: Demystifying American West through Nomadic Border-Crossing and Bioregionally Imagined Cartography

Respondent: Neil Campbell (University of Derby)
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7 (continued)

11H: “Can You Hear Me?”: Readings (CK)  
Blanshard
Chair: Katharine Bubel (University of Victoria)

Jenny Thornburg (Montana State University)  
“Of Ladybugs and Love: An Exploration of Liminal Space from Nursery Rhyme to Memoir”

Janna Urschel (Montana State University)  
“From ‘Down Comes Baby’ to ‘Go the Fuck to Sleep’: Ambivalence, Umbilicus, and the Threat Lullaby”

Nancy Cook (Clatsop Community College)  
“Performance Poetry from an Astoria Fisher-poet”

RECEPTION AND PREVIEW OF WLA 2015  
5:45–7:00 p.m. Palm Court

and WLA ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

CONFERENCE BANQUET  
7:00–9:00 p.m. Crystal Ballroom
MC: William R. Handley

DANCE  
9:00 p.m. Crystal Ballroom
with music by McComb & Watson
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8

Registration table opens 7:30 a.m. (closes 1:00 p.m.) Palm Court
Book fair opens 8:00 a.m. Palm Court

SESSION 12 8:00–9:30 a.m.

12A: Families and Floodwaters: Readings Kensington
Chair: Mary Clearman Blew (University of Idaho)
Raul B. Moreno (University of South Dakota)
“Once More to Aurelia,” from The Land of Infinite Variety
Cara Stoddard (Big Bend Community College)
“Podcasting as Composition: Ethnography of the Columbia Basin and Impacts of the Grand Coulee Dam as Told by First-Year Composition Students”
David Mogen (Colorado State University)
“Return to Weather Mountain Meadow”

12B: Digital Humanities and Western American Literature: Buckingham
The Tony Hillerman Portal as a Research and Teaching Tool
Roundtable participants: Kevin Comerford (University of New Mexico), Emily Cammack (University of New Mexico), Lillian J. Kelly (University of New Mexico), Daniel Worden (University of New Mexico)

12C: Genre on the Border: Balmoral
A Roundtable Discussion on Teaching Young Adult Literature of the West
Chair: Steven B. Shively (Utah State University)
Participants: Steven B. Shively (Utah State University), Max Despain (United States Air Force Academy), Paula Johanson (University of Victoria), Alice MillerMacPhee (West Texas A&M University), Gretchen Koenig (Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Southern New Hampshire University)

12D: Littoral Songs: Readings Dover
Chair: James Linde (University of Victoria)
Candace Black (Minnesota State University, Mankato)
“A Country That Parallels Our Own”
Janna Knittel (University of Minnesota)
“Echoes of Falling Water: An Ecopoetic Exploration of Celilo Falls”
Richard Robbins (Minnesota State University, Mankato)
“Poems at the Edge of Water”
James Linde (University of Victoria)
“From This West to Westness: Avian Otherworlders, Abundance, and Going On”
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8 (continued)

SESSION 13

9:45–10:45 a.m.  
Crystal Ballroom

WLA BUSINESS MEETING

SESSION 14

11:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m.  
Buckingham

14A: Takes on the West and the Western
Chair: Nicolas S. Witschi (Western Michigan University)
Johannes Fehrle (Mannheim University)
“Adapting The Virginian/Inventing the Western”
William Jensen (Texas State University)
“Borders and Duality in Louis L’Amour’s Catlow”
Andrew Patrick Nelson (Montana State University)
“Alien Thunder and the Cinematic Canadian West”

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A reference marker at Beechy Head in East Sooke Park, west of Victoria, indicates the location of the nautical boundary between Canada and the United States. From this Canadian vantage the Olympic Peninsula in Washington is clearly visible — unless the fog hides one neighbour from the other.
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8 (continued)

14B: Crossing Borders of Identity
Chair: Suzanne James (University of British Columbia)

Suzanne James (University of British Columbia)
“‘[S]traddling the gender fence’: Trans-Border Crossings in Rae Spoon and Ivan Coyote’s Gender Failure”

Julian Gunn (University of Victoria)
“Transmissions from Beyond: The Geography of Story in the Work of Ivan Coyote and Rae Spoon”

Ryan Shoemaker (University of Southern California)
“The Competing Pastorals of Raymond Carver’s Husbands and Wives”

Randi Lynn Tangle (Austin College)
“Intercultural Border Crossings in Rachel Plummer’s and Olive Oatman’s Captivity Narratives”

14C: Contemporary Fictions
Chair: Misao Dean (University of Victoria)

Elisa Warford (University of Southern California)
“Post-Oil Imaginings: Margaret Atwood’s Oryx and Crake Trilogy and Edan Lepucki’s California”

Christopher Douglas (University of Victoria)
“What Thomas Pynchon Knew about Southern Californians”

Renata Gonçalves Gomes (Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina)
“Invisible Border: Salinger’s Seymour Glass”

14D: Ecocriticism and Western Environments
Chair: Michael Lukas (University of Victoria)

Richard Pickard (University of Victoria)

Dana Phillips (Towson University)
“The Environmental Novel of the American West”

Landon Lutrick (University of Nevada, Reno)
“The Man-Who-Knows: Environmental Restoration and the Myth of the Frontier”

Ashley E. Reis (University of North Texas)
“‘Up against a Mad Machine’: Eco-Governmentality, Environmental Degradation, and the ‘Psychiatric Refuge’ of Wilderness in Edward Abbey’s The Monkey Wrench Gang”
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8 (continued)

14E: *Southwestern Encounters: Readings*  
Chair: **Kerry Fine** (Texas Tech University)  
**Rafael Zepeda** (California State University, Long Beach)  
From *Desperados*  
**Don Scheese** (Gustavus Adolphus College)  
“Cycling the Southwest, Part II”  
**Lisa Knopp** (University of Nebraska-Omaha): “Groundwork”

14F: *Graduate Student Professionalization Session 2:*  
*Managing and Maintaining a Writing Schedule*  
Chair: **Jaquelin Pelzer** (University of Colorado Boulder)  
Panelists: **Evelyn I. Funda** (Utah State University), **Cheryll Glotfelty** (University of Nevada, Reno), **Chadwick Allen** (Ohio State University)

FIELD TRIP DEPARTS: 1:00 p.m.  
FIELD TRIP RETURNS: 4:00 p.m.

See you next year in Reno!

**Literatures of the West Coast**  
Department of English

New directions in interdisciplinary regional studies  

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WLA Annual Conference Sites and Presidents

1966 Salt Lake City, Utah  C. L. Sonnichsen  1992 Reno, Nevada  Joseph Flora
1967 Albuquerque, New Mexico  Delbert E. Wylder  1993 Wichita, Kansas  Diane Quantic
1970 Sun Valley, Idaho  Don D. Walker  1996 Lincoln, Nebraska  Susanne K. George
1971 Red Cloud, Nebraska  John R. Milton  1997 Albuquerque, New Mexico  Gary Scharnhorst
1973 Austin, Texas  Max Westbrook  1999 Sacramento, California  Michael Kowalewski
1974 Sonoma, California  John S. Bullen  2000 Norman, Oklahoma  Robert Murray
1975 Durango, Colorado  Maynard Fox  2001 Omaha, Nebraska  Davis
1978 Park City, Utah  Mary Washington  2004 Big Sky, Montana  Susan Kollin
1979 Albuquerque, New Mexico  Richard Erulain  2005 Los Angeles, California  William R. Handley
1980 St. Louis, Missouri  Bernice Slote & Helen Stauffer  2006 Boise, Idaho  Tara Penry
1983 St. Paul, Minnesota  George Day  2009 Spearfish, South Dakota  David Cremaen
1985 Fort Worth, Texas  Gerald Haslam  2011 Missoula, Montana  Nancy Cook & Bonney MacDonald
1986 Durango, Colorado  Tom Pilkinson  2012 Lubbock, Texas  Sara Spurgeon
1987 Lincoln, Nebraska  Susan J. Rosowski  2013 Berkeley, California  Richard Hutson
1988 Eugene, Oregon  Glen Love  2014 Victoria, British Columbia  Anne Kaufman & Laurie Ricou
1989 Coeur D'Alene, Idaho  Barbara Meldrum  2015 Salt Lake City, Utah  Joseph Flora
1990 Denton, Texas  Lawrence Clayton  2016 Las Vegas, Nevada  Susan Naramore
1991 Estes Park, Colorado  James C. Work

WLA Annual Conference Sites and Presidents

WLA Award Winners

Distinguished Achievement Award

1966 Vardis Fisher  1987 Larry McMurtry & Thomas J. Lyon
1967 Frederick Manfred  1988 Ken Kesey & Max Westbrook
1968 Frank Waters  1989 Ivan Doig & Mildred R. Bennett
1969 Walter Van Tilburg Clark  1990 Elmer Kelton
1971 Harvey Fergusson & John G. Neihardt  1992 Louise Erdrich
1972 A. B. Guthrie Jr.  1993 Tony Hillerman
1973 Paul Horgan  1994 James Welch, Wayne Chatterton, & James Maguire
1974 Wallace Stegner & J. Golden Taylor  1995 Robert Kroetsch
1975 Jack Schaefer  1996 Tillie Olsen
1976 William Stafford  1997 Rudolfó Anaya
1977 Thomas McGrath  1998 Rudy Wiebe
1978 Edward Abbey  1999 James D. Houston & Gerald Haslam
1979 Wright Morris  2000 Joy Harjo
1980 Sophus Keith Winther & Bernice Slote  2001 Patricia Hampl & Roderick Nash
1981 Dorothy Johnson  2002 Annette Kolodny & Albert R. Rios
1982 Thomas Hornsby Ferril  2003 Sandra Cisneros & Saldivar Family (José David, Ramón, & Sonia)
1983 N. Scott Momaday  2004 Mary Clearman Blew & Thomas King
1984 Gary Snyder  2005 Gerald Vizenor & Jean Didion
1985 Américo Paredes & William Eastlake  2006 Terry Tempest Williams
1986 Benjamin Capps & Don D. Walker  2007 Sherman Alexie
## WLA Award Winners, continued

### Distinguished Achievement Award, continued
- **2008**  William Kittredge & Patty Limerick
- **2009**  Cormac McCarthy
- **2010**  Luis Valdez
- **2011**  Thomas McGuane
- **2012**  Richard Slotkin & Joss Whedon
- **2013**  Louis Owens & Robert Hass
- **2014**  Connie Kaldor

### Delbert & Edith Wylder Award for Longtime Service to the WLA
- **1993**  Helen Stauffer
- **1994**  George F. Day
- **1995**  Glen A. Love
- **1996**  Thomas J. Lyon
- **1997**  Jim Maguire
- **1998**  Barbara Meldrum
- **1999**  Ann Ronald
- **2000**  James C. Work
- **2001**  Susan J. Rosowski
- **2002**  Stephen Tatum
- **2003**  Robert Thacker
- **2004**  Melody Graulich
- **2005**  Gerald Haslam
- **2006**  Phyllis Doughman
- **2007**  Laurie Ricou
- **2008**  Martin Bucco
- **2009**  Charles Crow
- **2010**  Judy Nolte Temple
- **2011**  Ann Putnam
- **2012**  Susanne George Bloomfield
- **2013**  Melody Graulich
- **2014**  William R. Handley

### J. Golden Taylor Award: Best Essay Submitted to the WLA Conference by a Graduate Student
- **1984**  Anne K. Phillips
- **1986**  Linda A. Hughson-Ross
- **1987**  Cheryll Burgess Glotfelty
- **1988**  Nancy Cook
- **1989**  Nat Lewis
- **1993**  Evelyn I. Funda
- **1994**  David Mazel
- **1995**  Phil Coleman-Hull
- **1996**  Wes Mantooth
- **1997**  Jonathan Pitts
- **1998**  Anne L. Kaufman
- **1999**  Jenny Emery Davidson
- **2000**  Jenny Emery Davidson
- **2001**  Virginia Kennedy
- **2002**  Laurie Clements Lambeth
- **2003**  Matthew R. Burkhart
- **2004**  Ianina Arnold
- **2005**  John Gamber
- **2006**  Angela Waldie
- **2007**  Patrick Gleason
- **2008**  Matthew Lavin
- **2009**  Joshua O’Brien
- **2010**  Alex Young
- **2011**  Christopher Muniz
- **2012**  Sylvan Goldberg
- **2013**  Heather Dundas
- **2014**  Aubrey Streit Krug

### Grover Awards: Outstanding Papers Presented by Graduate Students at the Conference
- **2014**  Brittany Henry
- **2014**  Lisa Locascio
- **2014**  Ashley Reis
WLA Award Winners, continued

Thomas J. Lyon Book Award: Outstanding Book in Western American Literary and Cultural Studies
1998 Andrew Elkins, for The Great Poem of the Earth: A Study of the Poetry of Thomas Hornsby Ferril
1999 Tom Pilkington, for State of Mind: Texas Literature and Culture
2000 Susan J. Rosowski, for Birthing a Nation: Gender, Creativity, and the West in American Literature
2001 Gary Scharnhorst, for Bret Harte: Opening the American Western Literature
2002 James M. Cahalan, for Edward Abbey: A Life
2003 Audrey Goodman, for Translating Southwestern Landscapes: The Making of an Anglo Literary Region
2004 Nathaniel Lewis, for Unsettling the Literary West: Authenticity and Authorship
2005 Stephanie LeMenager, for Manifest and Other Destinies: Territorial Fictions of the Nineteenth-Century United States
2007 John-Michael Rivera, for The Emergence of Mexican America: Recovering Stories of Mexican Peoplehood in US Culture
2008 Robert McKee Irwin, for Bandits, Captives, Heroines, and Saints: Cultural Icons of Mexico’s Northwest Borderlands
2009 Tom Lynch, for Xerophilia: Ecocritical Explorations in Southwestern Literature
2010 John Beck, for Dirty Wars: Landscape, Power, and Waste in Western American Literature
2011 Krista Comer, for Surfer Girls in the New World Order
2012 Daniel Worden, for Masculine Style: The American West and Literary Modernism
2013 Anette Kolodny, for In Search of First Contact: The Vikings of Vinland, the Peoples of the Dawnland, and the Anglo-American Anxiety of Discovery
2014 Christine Bold, for The Frontier Club: Popular Westerns and Cultural Power, 1880–1924

Frederick Manfred Award: Best creative writing submission to the WLA Conference
2001 Lee Ann Roripaugh
2002 Michael L. Johnson
2003 Laurie Clements Lambeth
2004 Terre Ryan
2006 Russ Beck
2007 Joshua Dolezal
2008 J. J. Clark
2009 Denise Turner
2010 Liz Stephens
2011 Doreen Pfost
2012 David Thacker
2014 Lisa Knopp

Susan J. Rosowski Award: Outstanding Teacher and Creative Mentor in Western Literary Studies
2006 James H. Maguire
2008 Susan Naramore Maher
2010 Cheryll Glotfelty
2012 Melody Graulich & Annette Kolodny
2014 Evelyn I. Funda

Louis Owens Award: For graduate student presenters contributing the most cultural diversity in the WLA
2004 Joshua Smith
2005 Jessica Bremmer & Andrea Dominguez
2006 Elixabete Ansa-Goicoechea & Jennifer Clark
2007 Naveed Rehan
2008 Jessica Bremmer
2009 Carole Juge & James E. Murray
2010 Elisa Bordin & Stephen Siperstein
2011 Johannes Ferhle
2012 Christopher Muniz & Aubrey Streit Krug
2013 Jasmine Johnston & Renata Gonçalves Gomes
2014 Jane Wong

Willa Pilla Award
Awarded for the first time in Boise in 1981 for the best paper on “literary offenses.” At this point, we are not sure how long the tradition lasted. After a hiatus, the Willa Pilla was again awarded in 2003.
1981 James Work
1982 Coralie Beyers
?? Melody Graulich
?? Martin Bucco
?? Diane Quantic
?? Arthur Huseboe
2003 Nancy Cook
2004 David Mogen
2005 Drucilla Wall
2006 John Price
2007 Beth Kalikoff
2008 Marc Dziak
2009 Robert Thacker
2010 Al Kammerer
2011 Brady Harrison
2012 Hal Crimmel
2013 David Fenimore
## Index of Participants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Code(s)</th>
<th>Location(s)</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acker, Maleea</td>
<td>1C, 11A</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Adkison, Jennifer Dawes</td>
<td>2A, 5G</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alber, Catherine</td>
<td>5H</td>
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<td>Albert-Llacer, Mercedes</td>
<td>11F</td>
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<td>Allen, Chadwick</td>
<td>5B, 14F</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Alm, Kirsten</td>
<td>4A, 7E</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amamoto, Florence</td>
<td>5A, 10A</td>
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<td>Anson, April</td>
<td>10F</td>
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<td>Aranda, José</td>
<td>1F, 8</td>
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<td>Baker, Elizabeth</td>
<td>1E</td>
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<td>Barrera, Cordelia</td>
<td>11B</td>
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<td>Bayers, Peter L.</td>
<td>1E</td>
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<td>Bennett, Robert</td>
<td>7B</td>
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<td>4B</td>
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<td>1E, 5B</td>
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<td>7F</td>
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<td>Black, Candace</td>
<td>12D</td>
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<td>Blew, Mary Clearman</td>
<td>11D, 12A</td>
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<td>Boardman, Kathleen</td>
<td>4A</td>
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<td>Bold, Christine</td>
<td>5B</td>
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<td>2D, 4A, 11A</td>
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<td>Braun, Connie T.</td>
<td>5D</td>
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<td>Bristow, Thomas</td>
<td>4E</td>
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<td>Brooks, George English</td>
<td>10B</td>
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<td>Brown, Kirby</td>
<td>5B</td>
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<td>Brown, Margaux</td>
<td>2F</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bubel, Katharine</td>
<td>4A, 11H</td>
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<td>Buchanan, David</td>
<td>5H</td>
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<td>Burkhart, Matt</td>
<td>7A</td>
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<td>Busby, Mark</td>
<td>4F</td>
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<td>Cammack, Emily</td>
<td>12B</td>
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<td>Campbell, SueEllen</td>
<td>10H</td>
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<td>11B</td>
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<td>Chung, Alton</td>
<td>Plenary</td>
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<td>10D</td>
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<td>11G</td>
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<td>Comer, Krista</td>
<td>2G, 4F, 5E</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**
- Comerford, Kevin: 12B
- Cook, Nancy A.: 11H
- Cook, Nancy: 1B, 11A, Plenary (Th.)
- Coughlin, Steven: 5C
- Crow, Charles L.: 5G, 7E
- Daner, Kathleen: 7G
- Dean, Heather: Spec. Ex. (Th.)
- Dean, Misao: 4E, 14C
- De Roover, Megan: 2F
- Dollar, J. Gerard: 5F
- Donahue, Peter: 5F
- Dooley, Patrick K.: 1D
- Douglas, Christopher: 5H, 14C
- Eliot, Randi: 4G
- Elliott, Scott: 5D
- Evertson, Matthew: 5C
- Fee, Margery: 2D, 10F
- Fehrle, Johannes: 4A
- Fenimore, David: 4D, 9
- Fine, Kerry: 7E, 14E
- Formisano, Paul: 7A
- Frankiewicz, Shane: 11D
- Fraser, Kerri-Kenneth: 10E
- Funda, Evelyn: 1A, 7H, 10E, 14F
- Gingrich, Brian: 4B
- Glotfelty, Cheryl: 11E, 14F
- Goldberg, Sylvan: 4E
- Gomes, Renata Gonçalves: 14C
- Goodman, Audrey: 7D
- Gorman, Michael: 5A
- Graulich, Melody: 1B
- Gun, Julian: 14B
- Gunn, Robert: 11G
- Halverson, Cathryn: 7D
- Hamilton, Amy T.: 10B
- Handley, William R.: 3, 5E
- Hanson, Kristin: 4F
- Harrison, Brady: 11E
- Harrison, Dick: 2B
- Harvey, Meredith: 5D
- Heimbürger, Matthew: 1A
- Helstern, Linda Lizut: 4G
- Henry, Brittany: 2G
- Henson, Nicholas: 4H
- Hikage, Hisayuki: 1D
- Hillard, Tom J.: 10B
- Holt, Keri: 10E
- Hunt, Alex: 7F
- James, Suzanne: 14B
- Jensen, William: 14A
- Johanson, Paula: 12C
- Johnson, Michael K.: 4C, 5E
- Jones, Stephen Graham: 6, 11C
- Kaldor, Connie: Concert (Th.)
- Karem, Linda: 7D, 10F
- Kaufman, Anne: Plenary (Wed.)
- Kavanagh, Basma: 11A
- Kaye, Frances W.: 1C, 8
- Kelly, Lillian J.: 12B
- Kim, Yeojin: 11G
- Knittel, Janna: 12D
- Knopp, Lisa: 14E
- Kollin, Susan: 4F
- Krug, Aubrey Streit: 7G
- Kuchera, Carolyn: 4D
- Kvande, Marta: 10B
- Ladd, Kristin: 7F
- Ladino, Jennifer: 5G, 8
- LaLonde, Christopher: 11C
- Lampert, Victoria: 4C
- Lashley, Robert: Plenary (Wed.), 6
- Lewis, Nat: 1A, 7B
- Lin, James: 12D
- Locascio, Lisa: 2B
- Lombardo, William V.: 5E, 11F
- Lookingbill, Dollie: 10D
- Lukas, Michael: 4E, 14D
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Page(s)</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Page(s)</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Page(s)</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Page(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lundberg, Margaret</td>
<td>5D</td>
<td>Rabiee, Robert Y.</td>
<td>1D</td>
<td>Urie, Margaret</td>
<td>1E</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lush, Rebecca</td>
<td>10B, 11C</td>
<td>Ramirez, Karen</td>
<td>7G</td>
<td>Urschel, Janna</td>
<td>11H</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lutrick, Landon</td>
<td>14D</td>
<td>Reed-Nolan, Yinka Rose</td>
<td>1E</td>
<td>Valdez, Elena</td>
<td>1F</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lynch, Jim</td>
<td>9, 10C</td>
<td>Reger, Gary</td>
<td>11E</td>
<td>Van Alst, Theo</td>
<td>11C</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lynch, Thomas</td>
<td>2D</td>
<td>Reim, Peter</td>
<td>10E</td>
<td>Venn, George</td>
<td>4A</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madigan, Mark</td>
<td>7C</td>
<td>Reis, Ashley E.</td>
<td>8, 11F, 14D</td>
<td>Vizcaino-Alemán, Melina</td>
<td>1F, 2G</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maestas, Nadine</td>
<td>2E</td>
<td>Rivera, Diana Noreen</td>
<td>2F</td>
<td>Waldie, Angela</td>
<td>11A</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maher, Susan Naramore</td>
<td>1C</td>
<td>Robbins, Richard</td>
<td>12D</td>
<td>Wall, Drucilla</td>
<td>2E</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malloy, Bronwyn</td>
<td>2A</td>
<td>Roberts, Christina</td>
<td>5F</td>
<td>Wallace, Rob</td>
<td>2A</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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The 50th annual conference of the Western Literature Association, hosted by David Fenimore and Susan Bernardin, will take place October 14–17, 2015, at Harrah's Reno. We will be meeting 35 road miles from beautiful Lake Tahoe, on the northwestern edge of the Great Basin, at the intersection of Washoe and Paiute homelands, where the transcontinental emigrant trail and railroad line meet the mighty Sierra Nevada.

Riding the edge of old and new, of indigeneity and transience, Reno corrals Native, Hispanic, Basque, cowboy, and casino cultures even as it looks forward to the new high-tech economies and recreational lifestyles of the information age. It is an apt location for our 50th anniversary, an occasion to consider our histories, but more so, the next 50 years of western American literary and cultural studies. In that spirit, our planning committee has invited a diverse group of featured presenters, including Rebecca Solnit, Willy Vlautin, William Fox, Arigon Starr, Native filmmakers, and Basque writers and performers.

In addition to proposals on any aspects of literature about the North American West, we especially encourage innovative proposals on the following:

- Visual culture, film, performance
- Environmental art, politics, justice, literatures
- Indigenous Wests, writers, filmmakers
- Twain and Tahoe
- Basque-American writers, including Robert Laxalt
- Latino/a Studies in Western Places
- Emigrant and mining narratives
- Tourism, mountaineering, river-running

Proposals for panels and roundtable discussions should include an abstract for each paper or presentation. **Deadline: June 15, 2015.**

Please direct your questions to **WLAConference2015@westernlit.org.**