THINKING BIG
Graduate Research Making a Difference

The Second Annual
Graduate Student Research Forum
Event Program

Sponsored by the
University of Oregon
Graduate School

Friday, February 11, 2011
9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Gerlinger Lounge
EMU Fir Room
EMU River Rooms

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It is with pleasure that I welcome you to the Graduate School’s second annual Graduate Student Research Forum. We titled this year’s Research Forum, “Thinking Big: Graduate Research Making a Difference,” in order to highlight research that connects to the five “Big Ideas” themes (adopted as part of the University’s 2009 Academic Plan) and to recognize the vast reach of the collective graduate research enterprise at the UO. The Graduate School has invited over 80 graduate students to present as part of the Research Forum’s twelve faculty-moderated paper sessions and two themed poster sessions.

The first Graduate Student Research Forum was held in April 2010 as a response to requests from graduate students for more opportunities for interdisciplinary intellectual exchange and networking. The Graduate School is committed to providing ongoing opportunities for our graduate students to both share some of the incredible intellectual work going on at the University, and have the chance to engage with their peers’ research. Interdisciplinary, cross-unit forums like this are an ideal setting for learning, research collaboration, and professional development.

The Research Forum is also an excellent opportunity for faculty, undergraduate students, and community members to engage with some of the excellent graduate student research that is contributing to the process of knowledge production and discovery that is an essential part of the University’s research mission. To help facilitate the discourse this year, we’ve included session moderators from the UO faculty.

You will be able to enjoy panel and poster sessions throughout the day in three easy-to-find venues: Gerlinger Hall Alumni Lounge, the EMU Fir Room, and the EMU River Rooms. In addition to these sessions, a mid-day reception will include opening remarks from Senior Vice President and Provost Jim Bean and Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Associate Dean of the Graduate School Sandra Morgen, and see a performance by the graduate student theater troupe, “Rehearsals for Life.”

Because research from across campus will be featured, there will be something of interest to everyone. Many of our sessions relate to the five interdisciplinary themes of the University’s “Big Ideas: The Americas in a Globalized World, Global Oregon, Green Product Design, Human Health and Performance, and Sustainable Cities.

By attending one or more sessions, you are also showing your support of our graduate students and their contribution to the research mission of our university. I’m thrilled you’ve decided to join us.

Sandra Morgen
Vice Provost for Graduate Studies
Associate Dean of the Graduate School
Transnational Toxicity in David Foster Wallace’s *Infinite Jest*

Daniel Platt, English, platt@uoregon.edu

My presentation will focus on the global transmission of toxic waste in David Foster Wallace’s 1997 novel *Infinite Jest*. Set in a not too distant future, Wallace’s novel imagines a world in which the United States has annexed giant portions of Canada as a repository for the toxic byproducts of “annular fusion,” a new mode of energy production. The country has just elected President Jonny Gentle, a former Las Vegas lounge singer, who runs under the mantle of the “Clean U.S. Party.” Gentle promises to literally “clean up” the nation: to close off its borders and purge the country of the toxic residue of American consumer culture. I will argue that Wallace uses Johnny Gentle’s policies to critique the “Not in My Backyard” ethos that often informs American environmental activism. In the face of global environmental problems, Wallace suggests, we need to think beyond the borders of our local communities or our nation.

But while *Infinite Jest* presents a nightmare scenario in which toxicity has become a part of everyday life, the novel also offers a few glimmers of hope amid the horror. In particular, through his analysis of Alcoholics Anonymous in the novel, Wallace explores the possibilities for real human empathy that crosses cultural and national borders. The novel’s treatment of addiction and recovery offers a counterpoint to the suicidal policies of Johnny Gentle, and opens up avenues for dialogue about cultural and national identity, the global environmental crisis, and the possibility of a global environmental movement.

Post-American Cinema

Stephen Rust, English, srust@uoregon.edu

In 1998, University of California Press published Nick Browne’s edited collection, *Refiguring American Film Genres*. With essays by Rick Altman, Linda Williams, Tom Schatz, Vivian Sochack, Leo Baudry, and many others, this influential collection has shaped current debates in genre studies. It engaged media scholars seeking “a more dynamic understanding of the function of popular culture in American society” to deconstruct the assumptions underlying genre studies, historicize film cycles and genres, and interrogate the internal relationships among genres. This paper considers the ways in which genre theory, film genres, and genre films reflect the continued yet constantly changing meanings of cinema and society as they help us make sense of current socio-historic events. In particular, globalization, climate change, and the ongoing wars in Iraq and Afghanistan suggest that a number of forces are dynamically reshaping the relationship between the United States and rest of the world. What might genre studies tell us about the future of cinema a post-American world? I contend that the depiction of globalization and climate change across in such diverse films as *Quantum of Solace* (2008), *Wall-E* (2008), and *Slumdog Millionaire* (2008) demonstrates the full blown emergence of eco-realism as the most important aesthetic mode in the post-American mediascape.

Utopia Unabridged

Marelys Valencia, Romance Languages, marelysv@uoregon.edu

The fall of the communist bloc, the Warsaw Pact nations, left Cuba with no reserves with which to confront an unpredictable period of isolation that obligated Cubans more than just to rethink things but, rather, to improvise formulas to escape an economic crisis that had brought about the end of an alternative paradigm. In a context of international pressure for socio-political change on the island and among them, and the tightening of the US embargo, the revolutionary government kept tabs on all internal circulation of information. In contrast, Cuban cultural policy experienced its most singular aperture in thirty years. Culturally oriented magazines, traditionally short in copies in conjunction with a reduced public, emerged as an opening for socio-cultural debate reflecting the island’s difficult economic situation. The phenomenon becomes apparent as a necessity that offered an alternative space for intellectual expression, as a result of the reduction of editorial production. The Cuban *La Gaceta de Cuba*, began to publish poetry, essays, and short stories projecting a discourse whose closest reference was the reality avoided by the daily press. To feel the national pulse in an ambit of transformation in ’90s Cuba, one need only to look at specialized publications like *La Gaceta de Cuba*. 
Reading Cultural Texts

4:30—5:30
EMU Alsea River Room

Session Moderator: David Li

Panelists: Meyre Da Silva, Wing Ho, Daniel Platt

Stephen Rust, Marelys Valencia

Rethinking the Past: The Middle Passage and the African Diaspora in the Americas in Two Postcolonial Works

Meyre Da Silva, Comparative Literature, mdasilva@uoregon.edu

The aim of this paper is to examine the Ethiopian Haile Gerima’s film, Sankofa, and the Ghanian Ama Ata Aidoo’s play, The Dilemma of a Ghost, as narratives which intend to rewrite history and reconnect the African diaspora with its past. Both narratives deal with the slave trade and the diaspora formation in the Americas, raising questions about the importance of this past for the diaspora’s cultural identity. “Sankofa” is an Adinkra motif, an Akan symbol which means search for a lost heritage. The symbol represents the image of a bird looking in the opposite direction, meaning that to move forward it is necessary to revolve the past. But by attempting to revise the past, the filmmaker Gerima not only challenges history, but also creates new myths, other omissions, and silences. Nevertheless, as a counterpoint to Sankofa’s ideas, I will look to Ama Ata Aidoo’s play, The Dilemma of a Ghost, which presents a different perspective. Unlike Gerima, the Ghanian writer does not romanticize the idea of reconciliation of Africa and the diaspora, but she brings to her narrative the notion that this relationship exists under a tension, and this tension is also part of cultural identity construction. As a woman and an African feminist activist, Aidoo’s perspective disturbs male centered narratives that usually have a tendency to be unilateral. Her feminist proposal is to amplify the angle of visions, combating the narrowness of colonial and patriarchal discourses.

The Unfaithful Subject: Infidelity and Globalized City in Chinese Television

Wing Ho, East Asian Languages and Literatures, who@uoregon.edu

Infidelity on television, a medium that attracts over one billion viewers in China, informs us of the changing cultural and moral values of relationship in urban contemporary China. This paper explores how sexual subjects are treated in the popular TV drama, Narrow Dwellings, and reveals the breakdown of modern life as a result of unrealistic real estate prices and the commodification of sex.

This paper argues that the emphasis on the modern project of consumption and globalization creates negative image of an unfaithful sexual subject. The character, Haizao, gradually falls for an affair in order to financially assist her older sister in buying an apartment in the city. I discuss the ways the depiction of women’s desires and patterns of consumption engages in the debates on the long-established association between women and traditional codes of conduct, virtue, and morality. I argue that the TV drama critiques current state ideology by creating and sympathizing with an image of prostitute and wastrel and by showing how modernization repeatedly twists women’s social roles so that women are repeatedly cast in the roles of both victim and agent of neo-liberal consumption.

3:15-4:15

Cultural Meanings and New Media Technologies

Gerlinger Lounge / Session Moderator: Bish Sen

Panelists: Yoon Cho, Rosalynn Rothstein, Randall Livingstone

Thinking Big: Graduate Research in Health and Human Performance

Poster Session
EMU Fir Room

Transnational Femininities and Masculinities

EMU Owyhee Room / Session Moderator: Karen McPherson

Panelists: Brian Guy, Li Wang, Fatoumata Sow, Qing Ye

4:30-5:30

Queer Researchers/Queering Research: Making a Difference in the Academy

Gerlinger Lounge / Session Moderator: Michael Hames-Garcia

Panelists: Miriam Abelson, Jenee Wilde, Naomi Knoble, Mara Williams, Sarah Rondot

Social Change and Inquiry through the Performing Arts

EMU Owyhee Room / Session Moderator: Theresa May

Panelists: Liana Conyers, Erinn Ernst, Theresa Dudeck, Rehearsals for Life

Reading Cultural Texts

EMU Alsea River Room / Session Moderator: David Li

Panelists: Meyre Da Silva, Stephen Rust, Wing Ho, Daniel Platt, Marelys Valencia
larger world. Drawing on the work of educational pioneers such as hooks, Paulo Freire, and Dorothy Heathcote, this essay illuminates the positive effects of engaged pedagogy in Song of Extinction in order to encourage this type of engagement in our own academic classrooms.

“Merge: Bridging Dance and the Community”: A Site-Specific Dance and Music Performance for Alton Baker Park in Eugene, Oregon, which used Collaborative Processes Focused on Community Building for Participating Artists as a means for Social Change

Erinn Ernst, Dance, erinn@uoregon.edu

This research is focused on using participatory leadership theory as a democratic process congruent with interdisciplinary collaborations as a meme of social change. The embodied experience of dance as democracy increases consciousness. The collaborative nature of this project allowed for the group of artists, including dancers, composers, and musicians, to physically embody and express a tangible, lived experience of democracy. The ramifications of embodied knowledge through working democratically are significant beyond MERGE. As democracy becomes a lived experience applicable beyond politics, the meme of social equity in collaboration with others becomes relevant in any situation. Working democratically is lacking in K-12 educational situations due to federal mandates, which indicates the significant need for providing experiential circumstances in other areas of life, including academic research. The democratic process can seem out of reach for adults who lack experience, making politics an engagement only for a seemingly elite group. As groups of people experience equitable, democratic, collaborative, and community-building situations, the desire to recreate these circumstances in all aspects of life will inevitably accelerate and increase. Personally significant outcomes inspire these kinds of deliberate interactions, which could spark the potential for continued responsibility and social action. Referencing examples from MERGE, I will demonstrate how dance can specifically allow for the body and mind to gain the knowledge of working collaboratively, with equality, while understanding the development of process through time. A PowerPoint presentation will provide visual examples to help illustrate these processes through the lens of dance.

Rehearsals for Life: Exploring Power, Oppression, Intersecting Identities and Social Justice through Theater

Rehearsals for Life (Tiffany Hall, Public Administration, thall@uoregon.edu)

University of Oregon students have many intersecting identities and face many challenges: the rigor of academics, the burden of debt, and experiences of prejudice and oppression. There is a longing to be a part of a welcoming community and to identify with peers. Some end up feeling isolated, lost, forgotten, or rejected. It is challenging to create a dialogue addressing issues of equity and diversity, but it is necessary to prepare students to be competent global citizens in our diversifying society. Dialogue can empower students to open up to new perspectives about the local community and the world. The aim of Rehearsals for Life (RFL) is to use theater to dialogue and practice these complex issues through personal performance and experiential activities.

RFL is a group of interdisciplinary graduate students who work with the Center on Diversity and Community (CoDaC), the Bias Response Team, Sexual Violence Prevention and Education, and other organizations on campus. We use applied theater as a tool to explore equity and diversity challenges facing students, faculty and staff, such creating inclusive learning environments, being an ally in biased situations and conflict resolution. RFL is a project of CoDaC and the Graduate School.

In this session we will incorporate aspects of Augusto Boal’s ‘Theatre of the Oppressed” as well as personal performance to empower participants to examine the roles and status they have in the world and how to use them to impact on the greater community. We hope that, through these explorations, participants will be able to put their thoughts and feelings into more concrete and powerful actions. Rather than presenting a paper, we will do a performance piece that demonstrates “Theater of the Oppressed” strategies with audience participation.
Shedding Skin in the 21st Century: The Effects of the Term and Concept of 'Black Dance' in Dance Writings on Contemporary Artists

Liana Conyers, Dance, iconyers@uoregon.edu

This paper will address the term and concept of ‘black dance’ in dance scholarship, and its psychological, social, and artistic effects on contemporary artists. The research includes an analytical review of dance writings to explore the connotations of this label, while addressing the effects on artists, including the ways in which African-American dance artists are stereotyped and pigeonholed based on their skin color. The research will include a post-positivist interview technique of African-American movement artists to obtain information from the artists’ perspectives. Interviewing contemporary artists in the field will allow for the discovery of commonalities and differences in their responses, specifically in regards to the psychological, social, and artistic effects. This process will include interviews with Bebe Miller, Jawole Willa Jo Zollar, and Gesel Mason, each scholars and contemporary artists in the field of dance. These women represent the diverse spectrum of African-American movement artists from the African Diaspora, classical movement, post modern era, and the inclusion of multi-media design. This analytical review and ethnographic research will attempt to augment the dance writings of my predecessors in the field, in order to discuss the deinstitutionalization of the negative associations for the term ‘black dance’ in dance writings. As a follow-up to Gesel Mason’s choreographic project No Boundaries: Dancing the Visions of Contemporary Black Choreographers, I will commission original solo choreographic works by the three interviewees to be set on my African-American dancing body, as a method for researching and portraying their movement aesthetic in regards to the term black dance.

E.M. Lewis’ “Song of Extinction” and Engaged Pedagogy: A Model for Eco-Theatre and Academia

Theresa Dudeck, Theatre Arts, tdudeck@uoregon.edu

Song of Extinction by E.M. Lewis was the first place recipient in “Earth Matters on Stage Festival and Playwriting Symposium” (EMOS) hosted by the University of Oregon in 2009. Since the festival, this play has been produced all over the world, has received numerous honors, and was recently published by Samuel French. I had the honor of directing a full workshop production in collaboration with the playwright as part of the EMOS festival. Set in modern-day Portland, Oregon, with flashbacks to the Cambodian fields and the Bolivian rainforest, Song of Extinction connects these distinct places through the relationships of its characters and their experiences of love and loss. This play asks us to re-envision the destruction of an inimitable eco-system and the extinction of even the tiniest of creatures as an experience as final and as devastating as losing a family member. It also asks us to see human relationships – mother to son, father to son, teacher to student – as a manifestation of our ecological relationships. In preparing to direct this play, one key question I had was, how do the characters participate or not in what bell hooks calls “engaged pedagogy”? This type of pedagogy requires self-actualization through communal give and take and ultimately facilitates a greater connection with the

Global Oregon: Translation as Craft and Metaphor

9:00—10:30
Gerlinger Lounge

Session Moderator: Lisa Freinkel

Panelists: Antonio Couso-Liañez, Monica Mcclelan, Erma Nezirevic, Jamie Richards

Translation as a Bridge Between Cultures: Transforming The Gingerbread Woman into La Mujer de Jengibre.

Antonio José Couso-Liañez, Romance Languages, antonioc@uoregon.edu

The job of a translator is different from that of a critic or an artist. Gregory Rabassa affirms that “translation is essentially the closest reading one can possibly give a text. The translator cannot ignore “lesser” words, but must consider every jot and title.” However, the translator has also another important function besides the literary or scholarly one: he creates a link between two different cultures. By analyzing a text and translating it, he is bringing the culture closer to another, making people aware of the peculiarities of that source culture, of its differences and similarities with the target culture.

This whole reasoning poses the dilemma that shows up in all translations about bringing the original text closer to the target culture, creating a text that requires less effort for the reader; or keeping a certain distance between both cultures, thus requiring a more active reading from a reader that is willing to notice and accept the differences. In my translation of the Irish novel, The Gingerbread Woman, into Spanish, as I will analyze in different examples, I try to have a balance between both tendencies, but always with the idea in mind that the target culture can and must be enriched through translation. This text will raise in the reader an awareness of, and maybe an interest in, the source Irish culture. That way, the translator builds a bridge between the two cultures, whereby the source culture becomes more familiar for the target audience, enriching its culture, and thus helping overcome the limits of cultural differences.

Hidden in Plain Sight: The Boise Basques

Gretchen Hill, Geography, ghill3@uoregon.edu

In the late 19th century, Spanish and French Basque populations migrated over from the Basque country to the United States in search of economic opportunities. While some Basques began their new lives in the Great Basin and others returned to the Basque country, many stayed to form permanent communities creating centers of Basque culture. This research seeks to explore the significance of the “Basque Block” located in Boise, Idaho’s urban center, and to determine if this “community” is a re-creation of the Spanish Basque country created in an otherwise white homogeneous region. The objectives are three-fold: to identify the motivation for officially recognizing a specific network of streets as the “Basque Block;” secondly, to identify the significance of the Basque Block in the maintenance of Basque ethnic identity; and lastly, to examine the political implications of the Basque Block in a U.S. state dominated by a homogeneous white and conservative population. Through preliminary findings derived from interviews and archival research, I will discuss this notion that the Basque identity is being influenced by a globalizing community, thus creating a sense of placelessness and the need for a “new Basque country.”

*CoDaC Research Award Recipient
Hinduism in Translation: Guyanese Hinduism in New York City
Rupa Pillai, Anthropology, rpillai@uoregon.edu

Hinduism is often understood as a single, homogenized religion but, to the contrary, there is not a single Hinduism but many Hinduisms. Furthermore, the South Asian diaspora in which Hinduism is practiced is highly varied in its religion. The South Asians who migrated to Guyana as indentured laborers from the 1800s when slavery in the British Empire was abolished, developed their own unique versions of Hinduism. Secondary migration from Guyana to New York began in the 1960s, as Indo-Guyanese sought employment and to escape the ethnic violence and political unrest that characterized Guyana’s transition from a former British colony to an independent nation. In carving out their own space in Queens, New York, these immigrants brought their cultural and religious traditions, such as Hinduism, with them, helping them to maintain a sense of community and connection with the Caribbean. Drawing on the ethnographic research conducted in two Guyanese Hindu organizations in Queens, this paper will consider how Indo-Guyanese are worshiping and living in translation.

Translating Across Time and Culture: Rewriting Jane Austen into Spanish
Erma Nezirevic, Romance Languages, erman@uoregon.edu

Bringing Jane Austen into Spanish means crossing not only cultural but also historical borders. Critics and theorists disagree about the job of the translator; whether it is to reflect the meaning of the work or to follow the style, possibly at the expense of meaning. When translating Jane Austen’s Pride and Prejudice into Spanish, my goal is to balance style and meaning without sacrificing either. I will discuss several obstacles in bringing the novel to a Spanish-speaking audience while retaining Austen’s ironic, sometimes sarcastic, tone and her early 19th century syntax.

This analysis draws on the early modern commentator Etienne Dolet’s five rules for the translator and Walter Benjamin’s opposing view of the task of the translator. Dolet states the translator has to have a profound knowledge of the original text he is working with and its intention, have an extensive knowledge of both languages, and should avoid word-for-word translation, as it does not transmit the full meaning. Benjamin, on the other hand, suggests focusing on the literalness so as to not sacrifice the language with which the work was meant to express itself.

Producing a translation is not merely copying a text into the other language, but rather rewriting it into a new text. Translating Jane Austen into Spanish is to bring two cultures and eras closer, allowing Pride and Prejudice to have a life of its own in Spanish.

Translating the Afterlives of Qu Yuan, China’s First Poet
Monica McLellan, Comparative Literature, mmclell1@uoregon.edu

How is it that the text of the ancient lyric poem, “Li Sao,” traditionally understood to be an allegorical autobiography of its poet, Qu Yuan, once gave voice to a disgruntled yet spiritually transcendent aristocrat (the 2nd century B.C. Qu Yuan of the Prince of Huaiian) and later—after a thousand transformations—spoke for a populist social revolutionary (the 20th century A.D. Qu Yuan of Chairman Mao)? How could this history of indeterminacy and politicized significance be translated into English? My dissertation will investigate the contingent interpretability of “Li Sao” and the possibility of its translation through an historical analysis of its commentaries, both orthodox and eccentric, and will represent my findings in a new interlinear translation/commentary. The project is not a conventional translation of “Li Sao,” but a representation of its multiform tradition. The original text will be interspersed with multiple English versions, selected commentary, poetry, and creative adaptation of later readers, photographs of the flowers and personal ornaments to which the poem continually refers, audio files of recitation and music, and links to dictionaries and other poetry and history resources. My goal is to turn the translation into an aesthetically innovative website in order to help undergraduate students experience the difference of the poem’s ancient origins and its continuing life through history and into contemporary culture. This project will help bring the concerns of contemporary translation theorists to American students.

Jenée Wilde, English/Folklore, jenee@uoregon.edu

My areas of study are folklore, queer theory, and contemporary American literature and culture. In addition, I began the Center for the Study of Women in Society (CSWS) Queering Academic Studies research interest group to foster more queer interdisciplinary discussions, out of which grew the idea for this panel. My current research centers on representations of bisexuality in polyamory subcultures and in science fiction texts (books, graphic novels, television, etc). In particular, I’m interested in how to move sexual representations past binary configurations (i.e., hetero/homo, even straight/queer) since these (normative) structures marginalize sexualities that may not fit the duality paradigm (e.g., bisexuality, transgender, polymamry). I also have a concern that queer theory’s critique of the binary has reached an impasse since queer theorists often reject sexual representation itself as “restrictive” and “exclusive” without offering any productive alternatives for non-normative sexualities already falling outside of queer visibility and representation. So my concerns for the panel, in addition to those voiced by the other panelists, are about the limits of “queerer” and queer theory to deal theoretically and practically with sexualities and identities that are not adequately represented by the all-inclusive and fast-normalizing “queer.”

Mara Williams, Communication and Society, maraw@uoregon.edu

My research centers on the potential of online user-created media to open up new ways of thinking about sexual and gender minorities. What I want to talk about during the session is my experience researching people (and websites) I love (see paper abstract below). In my field, I feel like I am supposed to have a critical distance from my research subjects (sic). The trouble is that I’m choosing to study people and communities in which I am intimately involved. In one paper, this includes a former lover. I’m also struggling with my public identity as an out queer scholar and how and when to include references to my affective relationships with the people I study. Bonus question: How do I do this without cannibalizing or objectifying my friends and relationships?

The Hazards of Research: Love and Accountability in Online Inquiry

This paper reckons with some of the legacies of positivism in communication research. While qualitative methods such as ethnography, interviewing, and discourse analysis are central components to current work in the field, researchers are often still expected to maintain a critical distance from the communities they study. In conducting research on the potential of online user-created media to open up new ways of speaking for sexual and gender minorities, I have encountered difficulty navigating between professionalism, political advocacy, and personal involvement. This paper will explore methodologies and theories that might resolve the constructed binary between intimacy and critical research. I will argue that emotional involvement does not detract from critical engagement; rather, it fuels affective investment in the political and material consequences of our research and ultimately makes scholars more accountable to the communities they study.
Miriam Abelson, Sociology, abelson@uoregon.edu
My main areas of interest are gender, sexualities, and intersections of race, class, gender, and other structures of power. My current research focuses on the experiences of female to male transgender people and masculinity. Primarily, I am interested in adding the experiences of transmen to research on men and masculinities and in investigating how the experience of living socially as a woman affects how individuals perform masculinity as a man. I am also looking at how the experiences of being a transman and performing masculinity vary in different US regional contexts.

Naomi Knoble, Counseling Psychology, naomik@uoregon.edu
My master’s research was a qualitative project with same-gender couples. I investigated the impact that different levels of being out (about sexual orientation and gender identity) had on relationship satisfaction. This presentation will be on reflections on the process of conducting the research behind my recent publication, "Outness and Relationship Satisfaction in Same-Gender Couples." I will discuss the challenges of working as a minority within a minority population and will explore broader implications for other minority communities nationally and internationally. My work was recently published in the Journal of Marital and Family Therapy. In addition to research, I am a family therapist specializing in same-gender couples and transgender issues.

Mary Marsiglio, Counseling Psychology, mmarsigl@uoregon.edu
My research interests include dating aggression and interpersonal violence in both adult and adolescent romantic relationships as well as general risk and protective factors for healthy relationship development in adolescent relationships. In addition to the panel questions, my experience as a researcher has helped me reflect on issues such as the intersection of ethical and cultural values in working with LGBTQI populations, recruitment of research participants from my own community in a small community, recruitment of adolescent LGBTQI folks, lack of mentor/role models in academia, queering child and family interventions, and systemic constraints specific to research in this area.

Sarah Rondot, English, rondot@uoregon.edu
I am focusing on Queer and Gender Studies and am interested in Cultural Studies and real world applications of theory, particularly women of color theorists Gloria Anzaldua and Cherrie Moraga. I am interested in coalitional work and hope to write my dissertation on Transgender theory and Anzaldua’s conception of coalitions. In my field of study in Transgender theory, I often struggle with the fact that I personally don’t self-identify as Trans- and feel that I will be not as accepted as those who do identify as Trans-. I think this is something that many struggle with in this field, i.e., how acceptable or productive is it to have straight (and white, male, etc.) individuals writing and researching (and teaching) theories of gender, race, class, sexuality, etc. Of course, my initial reaction is to say, completely acceptable! Very productive! But it would be interesting to see what the panel has to say--to a certain extent, it is more productive to have self-identifying queer or Trans- individuals teaching classes about sexuality, gender, and identity, largely because it hits home with students much more. In any event, I would like to talk to the panel about feeling a "part" of the field without having to be the ideal subject, if that makes sense.

La Vita Agra-Dolce: Italian Counter-Cultures and Translation During the Economic Miracle
Jamie Richards, Comparative Literature, jrichar9@uoregon.edu
My research focuses on Italian literature of the 1960s, specifically, translations from the American counterculture and poetry of the neo-avantgarde. Through a detailed study of three specific translational moments—Fernanda Pivano’s translations of Allen Ginsberg’s counterculture poetry, Luciano Bianciardi’s translation of Henry Miller’s controversial Tropic of Cancer, and the neo-avantgarde poets Edoardo Sanguineti and Alfredo Giuliani’s translations of British high modernist writers like James Joyce and T.S. Eliot—I explore the literary-historical period of the post-World War II economic boom in Italy. While recent translation studies scholarship focusing on Italy has addressed the Fascist period and the upsurge of translations under censorship, my aim is to build upon a similar idea of translation as cultural resistance in order to examine the relationship between translated and original texts during a period where the explosion of industry and prosperity led intellectuals to reconsider the ideological function and purpose of art. My study will be framed within polysystems theory as developed by Itamar Even-Zohar, which reconfigures the organization of literatures to include all the literary works produced in a given language (i.e., to include translations). While the polysystems approach is well-established within translation studies, I hope to contribute to Italian literary scholarship by combining pivotal author-based and translator-based case studies. Against the view of closed national literatures and the exclusion of translation, my revisionary approach will illuminate the role of translation in the formation of cultural and literary identity.
A Comprehensive Approach to Understanding and Evaluating Overuse Injuries in Runners

James Becker, Human Physiology, jamesb@uoregon.edu

In any given year, between 25% and 75% of runners will sustain an overuse injury. Despite a large body of literature, conclusive findings regarding biomechanical factors contributing to these injuries remains elusive. This can be partly explained by the retrospective nature of the majority of these studies, their reliance on pure biomechanical measures with the absence of clinical expertise, and evaluation of subjects in regards to group averages or normative data.

The overarching goal of this study is to evaluate runners for biomechanical parameters related to overuse injuries using an integrated, longitudinal approach. Subjects receive a clinical exam by a physician specializing in running injuries as well as a comprehensive biomechanical evaluation. Subjects will be followed for a three year period with re-evaluation every three months. All subsequent evaluations will compare individuals to their own baseline data to avoid the problems associated with group or normative average techniques.

In addition to improving our knowledge regarding biomechanical factors related to running injuries, it is also expected that the data collected throughout the study will aid clinicians in their diagnosis of current injuries, as well as developing treatment interventions and assessing the efficacy of those interventions.

To date, ten individuals have completed baseline testing. Though follow up data has not yet been collected, the comprehensive approach has been successful in helping several of these individuals identify reasons for chronic injuries they have suffered and develop appropriate interventions. Efforts are currently underway to assess the effectiveness of these interventions.

Altered Physical Activity Levels and Negative Health Outcomes Among Indigenous Siberians

Tara Cepon, Anthropology, tcepon@uoregon.edu

The shift from traditional lifeways to market integration has been marked by increased levels of chronic disease morbidity and mortality due to increased prevalence of obesity, cardiovascular disease, and type-2 diabetes. One of the suggested reasons for the increase in chronic disease risk is a decrease in physical activity levels associated with more sedentary lifestyles. Accelerometry provides a non-intrusive method for obtaining physical activity profiles for populations undergoing market integration. The present study was conducted among the Yakut (Sakha) of Siberia in order to: 1) produce a physical activity profile of Yakut men and women; 2) compare physical activity levels between sexes and age groups; and 3) apply this information to chronic disease profiles among the Yakut.

Activity, anthropometric and health data were collected for 60 Yakut adults (≥18 years old, 29 women, 31 men). Participants wore ActiGraph GT3X accelerometers for three 7-day periods. Injuries were assessed using a retrospective activity diaries and clinical examination. Activity, demographic, and anthropometric data were analyzed using descriptive statistics and correlated with injury rates. The injury rate in this sample was higher than expected for the general population. This study is the first known to examine activity levels and injury rates among a traditional Siberian population.
Using Community Radio to Empower Women in Senegal: A Practitioner’s Perspective
Fatoumata Sow, Journalism and Communication, fsow@uoregon.edu

This presentation tells two stories of community radio and gender empowerment in Senegal, West Africa, drawing on my own experience directing both of these projects. First, it presents Manooré FM (The Voice of Women), an independent radio station in Dakar, Senegal’s capital, which is dedicated to exploring major political and social issues with gender issues in mind, and which I helped found in the 1990’s. I describe the breakthroughs in reporting and disseminating information about women achieved by Manooré, as well as the challenges faced by this type of insurgent, feminist station in a media environment long dominated by men and subtly influenced by various forms of patriarchy. Second, Manooré’s success contributed to the founding, with UNESCO help, of a network of low wattage community radio stations across rural Senegal (I directed that project in its early phases). These media centers include a community-run radio transmitter, photocopier, phone, and fax machine. They’re located in very poor and remote villages and run by people with little or no formal education. The media centers give the most disempowered people at the grass roots level (with a special emphasis on women) the ability to define their own development by taking control of the production and dissemination of information in their own languages on themes of interest to them. Community radio stations extend the gender empowerment mission of Manooré, but also place women’s issues in the context of a range of other development imperatives, sometimes with complimentary results, sometimes not.

Masculinity in Yu Hua’s Fiction from Modernism to Postmodernism
Qing Ye, East Asian Languages and Literatures, qingy@uoregon.edu

Bestselling book author, Yu Hua (born 1960), labeled as an avant-gardist and postmodernist writer, has been claimed as one of most successful writers in contemporary China. In this essay, I will analyze his works from the perspective of gender representations, including the depiction of men and women, gender relations, and masculine crisis. I want to explore how Yu Hua’s representation of gender is influenced by Chinese cultural elements, such as Chinese tradition, the status of literature, the function of writers, and the interaction of serious literature with popular culture. By reading Yu Hua’s literary works chronologically, it seems obvious that the masculine power becomes “weaker” whereas feminine power becomes “stronger.” In his latest work published in 2005 and 2006, quite interestingly, some female characters can control their fate and male characters become “subordinated” and “effeminated.” More importantly, my reading of Yu Hua’s work does not regard gender relations as simply biological; they can be interpreted as an allegory of the current Chinese social and political situation. If we imagine China’s party-state as “father” and the economic reforms beginning in the 1990s as “friend,” we find that Yu Hua struggles to a great extent with the complex relations between this “father” and “friend.” His position is frustrated by the powerful “father,” and disturbed by the “friend,” as he finds that the power, value, and responsibility inherent in literature is weakened by the market economy that penetrates almost every aspect of Chinese culture.

Accelerometers for 48 hour periods. Physical Activity Level (PAL; Total Energy Expenditure/ Basal Metabolic Rate) were calculated to control for body size. PALs ranged from 1.07 to 1.90. Men had an average PAL of 1.45 (0.18), while women had a slightly lower mean PAL of 1.38 (0.15), though this difference was not significant (P=0.085). 95% of individuals (27 men and 27 women) had PALs within or below the Sedentary Range (1.4-1.69). Low PAL and Activity Counts were correlated with increased serum triglyceride levels (P<0.05) in men and decreased levels of triiodothyronine (P=0.63) in women. This study documents low PALs in Yakut men and women and provides evidence for negative effects of more sedentary lifestyles.

Hand Gestures Perform Meaning
Elena Cuffari, Philosophy, ecuffari@uoregon.edu

This paper presents a radical claim: the way that traditional philosophy of language in the 20th century has understood linguistic meaning is too narrow. Theories of meaning must change to incorporate the regular, daily contributions of the body to conversation. Such a revision entails re-thinking human cognition and rationality as fundamentally embodied, social, and dynamic. For the purposes of the Research Forum, I adapt portions of my dissertation-in-progress to specifically address how revising our understanding of our meaning-making processes to accommodate the ubiquitous reality of hand gestures improves our abilities to communicate, learn, express, and be self-aware. In short, I’m after a better understanding of how gestures enact meaning and how our language use in general enacts, rather than represents, meaning. Our thinking and expressing practices are metaphorically structured, and the metaphorical power of hand gestures offers evidence of thinking and expressing as embodied activities. This embodiment is not merely at the level of neural maps or experiential source domains, but also at the direct, visible and tactile level of performance, as my analysis of a video clip of an interview will demonstrate. Thinking and communicating happen in the act of gesturing. My project is highly interdisciplinary in nature, drawing on linguistic theory and research. This presentation will thus be a fitting piece of any discussion on the future of collaborative research on human bodily performance and meaning-making.

Comparing Segmental and Suprasegmental Features in Indian English, Hindi, and Telugu
Hema Sirsar, Linguistics, hsirsar@uoregon.edu

Indian English (IE), an official language of India, differs suprasegmentally and segmentally from other English dialects. This study explores whether IE sound structure varies with the divergent native languages (L1s) of its speakers, as suggested by Wiltshire & Harnsberger (2006), or whether its sound structure are similar regardless of speakers’ L1. To investigate this question, measures of rate, rhythm, and final lengthening were taken in Hindi (Indo-Aryan), Telugu (Dravidian) and in IE, which was produced with native fluency by the same five Hindi and five Telugu speakers. Vowel and obstruent segments, common to all languages, were also extracted from the 13 stimulus phrases and acoustically analyzed. The results indicate some influence of the different L1s on IE rhythm structure and voice onset time (VOT), but none on IE speech rate, final lengthening, or vowel and /s/ production. Mostly, the results indicated that when language differences did exist (and there were many similarities across the languages), these were more likely to be between Hindi and IE, between Telugu and IE, or between Hindi and Telugu than between the IE produced by speakers of different L1s. Such results suggest that IE is a pan-India dialect of English, not merely an L1-influenced L2 for Indians.
The Application of Speech Recognition Systems in Interior Design

Yin Yu, Interior Architecture, yiny@uoregon.edu

Architects have been designing wheelchair-friendly buildings for disabled people very successfully. Disabled people can easily access museums, restaurants, concert halls, airports, and private homes. However, the scenario in which a wheelchair-dependent person falls down while at home alone comes to mind. The person may be conscious but cannot get up by him/herself or could be in an even worse situation. If there was a system, like a smoke detector, which could help disabled people ask for help, it could save lives.

As an interior architecture student with a background in electrical engineering, I think in a different way about interior design. During my undergraduate studies, I designed a speech recognition system. I recorded 54 speakers’ voices, then used MATLAB (a numerical computing environment) to extract their voice features. The system could identify each speaker when they spoke again. As an intern, I was also involved in building a phone call system that could recognize the content of what the speaker said and then execute an order. Using these technologies, we could design safer homes for disabled people. The system could “listen” 24 hours a day, the way a smoke detector does. When it detects a voice, for instance saying “Call 911,” the system would dial 911 automatically.

We have had these technologies for years, but my question is, how can we use them more realistically, practicably, affordably, and in a more environmentally-sound way? Researching the application of this technology, I can combine my engineering background with interior architecture to research and design a home to improve the lives of disabled people.

Program Strategies for Adults with Developmental Disabilities

Jen Hernandez, Arts and Administration, jeannelle@uoregon.edu

Adults with developmental disabilities are an underserved constituency in many communities. Although services are available to adults with disabilities for independent living or job skills building in many areas, social and personal enrichment opportunities are less often formally offered by community organizations. The research presented here focuses on design strategies that arts and cultural organizations can utilize to develop engaging and accessible public programs for constituents with developmental disabilities. The strategies included here have been generated through the participation of west coast arts organizations and museums, those organizations’ program audiences, and the involvement of local community members. Participants in this research have offered their personal and professional views of programming success through interviews and surveys, and have agreed to participate in programs observed by the researcher.

The main themes of the research are captured in two sub-topics: the significance of collaboration in program planning, and the methods of creating access to programs for adults with developmental disabilities. Collaboration, among different departments and staff members within an organization, between different local organizations, and among targeted audiences within communities has a substantial impact on the perceived success or failure of public programs. Accessibility of community organizations and programs extends beyond physical navigability of space and environment; access to programs is also contingent on public and targeted audience awareness of opportunities within communities. Building positive relationships between organizations and their communities to create greater access for all audiences is an important element toward success for programs.

Transnational Femininities and Masculinities

3:15—4:15
EMU Owyhee River Room

Session Moderator: Karen McPherson

Panelists: Brian Guy
Fatoumata Sow
Li Wang
Qing Ye

Code Violations: Gender Inequality and Senegal’s Family Code

Brian Guy, Political Science, bguy@uoregon.edu

My research explores the impact of the 1972 Family Code on gender inequality in Senegal by examining both its historical development and the contemporary challenges to it. This family law legislation attempted to codify gender equality and seemed to establish Senegal as a leader on the continent and in the developing world by granting women significantly greater rights and legal safeguards. Yet, seven years in the making, the Family Code was the product of an uneasy compromise between Senegal’s socially powerful and politically influential Sufi Muslim Brotherhoods and the newly independent state’s attempts to unify and secularize its legal framework. Thus, as a highly visible forum for expressing the values of religious and political leaders regarding the “proper” place of women in Senegalese society, battles over the Family Code inform and shape the current political landscape in fundamental ways. It is therefore a rich site in which to study the intricacies of the politics of gender in Senegal. Empirically, I focus on four aspects of the Family Code which are currently hot spots of gender equality efforts since they represent some of the most critical sites of state interaction with the personal lives of its citizens: marriage and divorce, domestic violence, child custody, and property concerns. By chronicling key changes to these aspects, I identify how state and religious organizations affect, and are affected by, gender equity and other activists.

The Politics of the Female Reproductive Body in Mo Yan’s Frog

Li Wang, East Asian Languages and Literatures, lwang7@uoregon.edu

China’s family plan policy and later its one-child policy have attracted a lot of academic attention. Scholars explore these issues mainly from the perspectives of history, population problems, human rights and so on; few study them from the view of literary representation as there are very few literary works that deal with these issues. The year 2009, however, witnessed the publication of the novel Frog by Mo Yan, an important contemporary Chinese writer who visited our campus last spring. Frog is about how China’s family plan policy was carried out in the countryside ever since the establishment of the People’s Republic of China. The protagonist, Aunt (姑姑), was a countryside obstetrician who strictly followed the family plan policy. Her career has undergone a gradual change from moments of glory to occasional doubts and finally deep regret in her old age.

In this paper, I will focus on the various competing discourses that contend to control the female reproductive body: the Chinese traditional reproductive culture; the state family plan policy with the support of the whole state apparatus; later, the discourse of neoliberalism; and the discourses of medical science and nationalism, which also play important roles. In a sense, the female reproductive body in this novel becomes the very site where many political agendas are at work. Frog reflects the works of those competing discourses on the female reproductive body in different eras. And I’m adopting the notion “politics” both in its more concrete sense of political events, policies and agendas, and in the feminist sense that claims “personal is political.”
Thinking Big: Graduate Research in Health and Human Performance
Poster Session

3:15—4:15
EMU Fir Room

Poster Session Participants:

- Ashley Bailey
- Scott Breloff
- Mallory Brown
- Vienna Brun
t
- Chu Chen
- Ying Chen
- Shiu-Ling Chiu
- Wook Choe
- Erin Doerner
- Jonathan Elliott
- Natalie Endrulat
- Luke Ettinger
- Joshua Felver-Grant
- Masahiro Fujimoto
- Teresa Hawkes
- Robert Hermosillo
- David Howell
- Jacqlyn Hyler
- Lamia Johnston
- Jeremy Jones
- Nicole Kaye
- Jesse King
- Steve Laurie
- Benjamin Lester
- Sarah Levi
- Melissa Liebert
- Felicia Madimenos
- Caitlin Mahy
- Jennifer Miner
- Jonathon Miner
- Rhonda Nese
- Rachel Painter
- Stephen Ratchford
- Katie Ravitch
- Scott Reed
- Julia Ridgeway-Diaz
- Jon Runyeon
- Michael Schwartz
- Irina Shport
- John Statz
- Karalyn Tom
- Prakaivan Vajrabhaya
- Christopher Vatland

Migration, Discrimination, and Resistance

10:45—12:15
Gerlinger Lounge

Session Moderator: Lise Nelson

Panelists:  
- Sara Cribbs
- René Kladzyk
- Thomas Nail
- Arthur Santana

Yellow with Green Dots: Healthcare Administrators’ Views on Changing Demographics in a New Destination City

Sarah Cribbs, Sociology, scribbs@uoregon.edu

This project investigates ways in which the administrators of one local health care institution perceive the institution as adjusting and how those administrators frame adjustments as its surrounding city is transformed into a new destination city for Spanish-speaking im/migrants. This study examines both the macro-sociological phenomenon of immigration and social geography and the micro-sociological level of interaction influenced by racial attitudes. Thus, this study builds on immigration literature by examining the perceived impact of the changing demographics in the surrounding new destination city on the administrators of a health care institution and geographic placement of services relative to Spanish-speaking im/migrant population growth. Additionally, this study contributes to sociology of race and ethnicity and social psychology by studying how the administrators within the institution frame the impact of immigration on their particular institution and how racialized attitudes and understandings influence perceptions. Those racialized attitudes likely influence the administrators’ perceptions in ways that have real material consequences, like access to health care programs and services. This project contributes to the understandings of new settlement communities across multiple disciplines: sociology (immigration, race relations, social-psychology, sociology of health, social inequality, and sociology of organizations) and social geography.

Mobility in the El Paso/Juárez Metroplex: Navigating Fronteriza Identity in Necropolis

René Kladzyk, Geography, kladzyk@uoregon.edu

Together, the cities El Paso, Texas, and Juárez, Mexico, form the largest international border metropolis in the world. While El Paso consistently ranks among the safest cities in the U.S., Ciudad Juárez’s recent and extreme escalation of violence has produced one of the world’s most dangerous locales. Within this starkly differentiated and transnational urban conglomeration, complex geographies of gender, culture, and identity have emerged, prompting the following question: To what extent is the mobility of women being renegotiated in a context of extreme violence, and in turn, how is the presence of violence in Ciudad Juárez shaping and redefining fronterizo (borderlander) identity?

Shedding light on nascent social dynamics of borderland mobility, this project identifies shifts in perceptions of victimization, family and community structures, and the manner in which altered cross-border recreation has rewritten gendered cultural narratives within people’s daily lives. A striking example of redefined identities produced by this urban crisis can be found in the patterns and pathways of Nini culture. Nini, short for ni trabajan, ni estudian (meaning they neither work nor study), is the new nickname attributed to the vast swath of unemployed youth adrift in Ciudad Juárez, Mexico. The stories of this burgeoning demographic provide insight into the identities produced through Mexico’s current
Beyond Citizenship?: The Solidarity City
Thomas Nail, Philosophy, tnail@uoregon.edu
Migration has emerged as one of the defining features of the 21st century and the Americas in a globalized world. The last decade alone has marked the highest number of migrations world-wide in recorded history. But what is particularly interesting and unsettling about this phenomenon is that each year a higher and higher percentage of migrants around the world are becoming irregular or non-status. If citizenship and legal status are the conditions under which liberal democracies understand the political agency and rights of a people, what does this mean for the millions of people living without status in these democracies? Last year I was awarded a U.S. Fulbright Scholarship to conduct research on a proposed alternative to the citizenship model of political belonging and agency: the Solidarity City project in Toronto, Canada, the most diverse city in the world. I spent a year working with and researching the migrant justice group, No One is Illegal, and their attempts to build one of the largest grass-roots networks of community organizations to offer services to organize, and legally defend, non-status migrants against local and federal immigration policy. In this paper I argue that the Solidarity City project articulates not only a novel attempt at political universality and equality, worth considering, but also requires a new political philosophy, beyond the nation-state, based on what I call Singular-Universality: a widely inclusive politics that still retains the particularity of the local (city).

Pushed to the Periphery: Exeriority in Online Newspaper
Readers’ Comments
Arthur Santana, Journalism and Communication, arthurs@uoregon.edu
With heavy declines in circulation, U.S. newspapers are in the throes of figuring out ways of holding on to existing readers while attracting new ones. One of the most popular ways is by embracing reader participation with online reader comment forums.

This paper will discuss how capitalism is driving a new era of participatory journalism. It will demonstrate how reader participation has historically been an integral part of U.S. journalism while showing an unsavory side of its modern iteration.

Specifically, newspapers feel that audience interaction is the only way to survive online and have thus allowed readers to contribute their voice, usually anonymously. The result is a convulsion in the field of journalism that may benefit newspapers’ bottom line but which does not bode well for everyone. Research has shown that the forums are regularly filled with hateful comments, particularly when the story topic revolves around issues of race. In April 2010, Washington Post ombudsman Andrew Alexander wrote that “the growth [of the commenters] is critical to The Post’s financial survival in the inevitable shift from print to online.” Based on content analysis research of readers’ comments, this paper will ask: at what price for ethnic minorities, particularly Latinos?

If You Want Me You Can Watch Me on Your Video Phone:
Responsive Interpretation of Music Videos
Rosalynn Rothstein, Folklore, rothstei@uoregon.edu
The world presents itself to us with countless modes and mediums of self expression. Many of the realms of self expression now exist through communication via new or existing technology or modes of consumption. Thus, if one of the main expressions of the self is now through consumption and the ideal consumer has an insatiable thirst for the symbolic images that consumption provides, has self-expression been hijacked by the forces of capitalist production? By looking at modes of communication and performance that have either transformed, or emerged within the rapid development of technology over the past years, can we identify the extent to which these effects exist? If we look at specific examples, such as personal video responses to existing commercially produced videos, can we see the extent to which this form of expression is a viable form of self-expression or is affected by a consumer mentality? These visual artifacts can be commented upon and the resulting process of evaluation creates an expansive reflexive dialogue. By examining these responses, videos, and their interpretation process, we find an intersection between popular culture and folk culture which allows us to interpret the fan’s influence on popular culture production. By looking at specific examples of posted videos within a limited scope of artists, I will examine the context in which they are produced and viewed, therefore gaining an understanding of what some forms of cultural production mean to us in terms of the imagery used.

This study considers one such collective effort, that of the WikiProject: Countering Systemic Bias (WP:CSB). Using data collected from over 300 members of this project, I assess this group from a social network perspective and employ methods of social network analysis to understand the community’s work. Specifically, I compare the WP:CSB group’s article-editing behavior to a number of the project’s collectively agreed upon and stated goals, focusing most on the goal of improved coverage of non-Western people, groups, and locations. Preliminary findings indicate that Asian topics are more evenly taken up by WP:CSB, while African and South American topics are more clustered around a smaller subset of these editors. Full results, graphical representations, and interpretations will be discussed in this presentation.

Specifically, newspapers feel that audience interaction is the only way to survive online and have thus allowed readers to contribute their voice, usually anonymously. The result is a convulsion in the field of journalism that may benefit newspapers’ bottom line but which does not bode well for everyone. Research has shown that the forums are regularly filled with hateful comments, particularly when the story topic revolves around issues of race. In April 2010, Washington Post ombudsman Andrew Alexander wrote that “the growth [of the commenters] is critical to The Post’s financial survival in the inevitable shift from print to online.” Based on content analysis research of readers’ comments, this paper will ask: at what price for ethnic minorities, particularly Latinos?
Cultural Meanings and New Media Technologies
3:15—4:15
Gerlinger Lounge
Session Moderator: Bish Sen
Panelists: Yoon Cho
           Randall Livingstone
           Rosalynn Rothstein

Recalling Atoms and Bits: Memory Variance of Advertisements in Online Newspapers
Yoon Cho, Communication and Society, yoonyong@uoregon.edu
Although many U.S. newspapers have been online for more than 15 years, their web content continues to be largely dependent on what journalists first produce for the print product. But the same cannot be said about advertisements. An advertisement of a particular product or service that appears in the print product is vastly different than the advertisement for the same product or service when it appears online.
Unlike many advertisements that appear in newspapers, online advertisements, for example, are often in color, are usually more dynamic, and may contain streaming audio and video. For newsreaders, while the experience of reading the news can be seen as the same in print and online, the experience of advertisement exposure in both media is quite different. This research sets out to examine that difference.

Our research asks the basic question: Do reader engagements towards advertisements vary by media? To test this, research subjects (N = 45) were asked to peruse The New York Times broadsheet newspaper and its accompanying web site (nytimes.com) to determine the extent to which advertisements stood out. After examining both media of the same product on the same day of publication, subjects were asked about their impression — specifically, their recollection — about the advertisements in both media. The results reflect prior research showing that print subjects remembered more ads than online subjects and suggest that the development of dynamic online ads in the past decade have had little effect toward making them more impressionable than print ads.

Let’s Leave the Bias to the Mainstream Media: A Wikipedia Community Fighting for Info Neutrality
Randall Livingstone, Journalism and Communication, livingst@uoregon.edu
In WikiProject: Countering Systemic Bias, a small group of online editors have banded together in a virtual community to combat Western bias on the world’s largest digital encyclopedia, Wikipedia. This collective action by Wikipedians both acknowledges the inherent inequalities of a user-controlled information project like Wikipedia and highlights the potential for progressive change within that same project. These community members are taking the responsibility of social change into their own hands (or more aptly, their own keyboards).

In recent years much research has emerged on Wikipedia from varying fields, ranging from computer science to business and information systems to the social sciences. This work has collectively explored the possibilities and limitations of open-source content development from both technical and human perspectives. And while critical at times of Wikipedia’s growth, governance, and influence, most of this work observes with optimism that barriers to improvement are not firmly structural but, rather, that

Sustainable Cities: Applied Practical Research
10:45—12:15
EMU Owyhee River Room
Session Moderator: Nico Larco
Panelists: Erik Bonnett
           Matthew Hogan
           Kristin Kelsey
           Schuyler Warren

Finding the "Switching Point:" Cost Optimization for New Net Zero Energy Commercial Buildings
Erik Bonnett, Architecture, ebonnett@uoregon.edu
Achieving a Net Zero Energy building requires incorporating costly onsite renewable energy generation, which can be reduced with energy efficiency measures (EEMs). National Renewable Energy Lab’s Building Energy Optimization software (BEopt) automates building simulation runs to determine the cost-optimal combination of energy generation and energy efficiency for residential construction. However, several factors prevent BEopt from being an effective tool for commercial building design. This paper proposes an adaptation of the BEopt method, referred to here as the adapted Commercial Building Energy Optimization process (CBEo), to accommodate the greater complexities and demands of commercial building design.

The CBEo process begins by setting an economic performance benchmark, against which EEMs are analyzed, the cost of renewable energy generation onsite and/or offsite. Comparison to a fixed economic benchmark avoids the need to analyze all measures simultaneously, allowing, for instance, massing to be optimized earlier than mechanical equipment. Later in design, EEMs are bundled to capture synergies that reduce capital cost and increase energy efficiency. This paper presents the application of the CBEo process to the Archbold Biological Station Lodge and Learning Center. In this project, significant cost savings were achieved. For instance, highly effective daylighting eliminated the need for dimmable electric lighting and daylight sensors in most spaces because design light levels were achieved with daylight alone. The CBEo process could be used to optimize the cost and energy performance of a single building, a group of buildings or perhaps cities.

A Design Approach to Implementing the Passive House Standard in a Home Energy Retrofit
Matthew Hogan, Architecture, hogan2@uoregon.edu
Though many standards for energy performance in homes exist, none are as stringent as Passive House. Originally developed in Germany by Professors Bo Adamson and Wolfgang Feist, Passive House has recently gained traction in the United States. The standard relies on a super-insulated, airtight envelope that allows the building’s heating needs to be met with the minimum fresh air required to maintain indoor air quality. Passive House retrofits have been performed in Europe since the early 1990s and the first retrofit in the U.S. to Passive House standards was completed this year. A Passive House can save up to 90% on space conditioning over a standard code-designed house; the Passive House standard is therefore an ambitious benchmark for energy efficiency and has the potential to serve as a performance target for home energy retrofit projects. A preliminary literature review, however, has illustrated that very few examples of successful Passive House retrofits in the U.S. exist to date. Consequently, there is little information on the design and cost of such retrofits. This study seeks to establish an exemplar
through designing the retrofit of a 1907 house in Eugene, Oregon, with the goal of achieving the Passive House standard. Further, this study will investigate the cost-effectiveness of the retrofit over a 30-year period by performing a life cycle cost analysis. It is the hypothesis of this study that the retrofit will have a payback period of less than 30 years.

Multifamily Housing Site Design: Unlocking the Potential to Reducing Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)

Kristin Kelsey, Architecture, kkelsey@uoregon.edu

Suburban multifamily housing, with its medium to high density and typical location near commercial development, holds strong potential for active travel (walking and biking) in suburbia. While this is the case, the disconnected and enclosed development pattern typical of most of these developments significantly hinders this potential. Recent research shows that residents of suburban multifamily housing developments that are internally and externally well-connected walk or bike significantly more than residents of typical less-connected developments. As multifamily housing is the fastest growing housing market in the US with over 9 million units currently developed in this country, this potential for active travel can have a significant impact throughout the country.

This work will review the key characteristics of well-connected and walkable suburban multifamily developments and will provide the tools necessary to analyze project proposals. Participants will be introduced to site design principles that contribute to connected and walkable developments, a checklist to use when reviewing or developing site plans, ideas for simple and inexpensive ways to retrofit existing development, resources for reviewing and modifying multifamily zoning regulations, and fact sheets that debunk common myths about multifamily housing and walking in suburbia. Creating well-connected multifamily housing can help achieve the smart growth goals of reducing VMT and greenhouse gas emissions, can promote more active/healthy travel, and improve resident quality of life.

Connectivity in Suburbia: The Impact of Missing Pedestrian Network Models

Warren Schuyler, Landscape Architecture/Planning Public Policy and Management, swaren@uoregon.edu

In recent years, there has been a growing focus on pedestrian travel in urban and suburban environments as a strategy to promote health, fight obesity, foster community, and reduce pollution, traffic, and fossil fuel dependence. Much of the research in this area has focused on the correlations between the condition of the built environment and travel mode choices. In assessing the built environment for these purposes, academics and practitioners typically use some combination of quantitative and qualitative metrics. The most commonly used quantitative metrics fall under the general rubric of connectivity assessments. While methods for calculating connectivity in pedestrian networks have grown more varied, complex, and sophisticated over time, the underlying data used in the calculations has not. In both the literature and practice, data originally created to represent vehicle networks is being repurposed to represent pedestrian networks. This is problematic for several reasons: pedestrian networks are inherently of a different scale and quality than vehicle networks; vehicle networks rarely model pedestrian-only infrastructure; and pedestrians do not move through the environment in the same manner as vehicles. This study uses two relatively recent suburban developments in Clackamas County, Oregon, to assess the impact of using pedestrian rather than vehicle network data with three of the most commonly used connectivity metrics. In addition, we propose a fourth metric tied to density. Our results show that the lack of pedestrian network data can have a small significant impact on the assessed connectivity of the study sites.
**Sustainable Cities: Community Engagement and Place Making**

**1:45—3:00**  
EMU Owyhee River Room

Session Moderator: Yizhao Yang

Panelists: Gulcan Cil  
Leslie McLees  
Stephanie Moore  
Lanbin Ren

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**Do Homeowners Think Greener?**  
Gulcan Cil, Economics, gcil@uoregon.edu

In the U.S., households have always been encouraged to become homeowners through various governmental policies based on the widely held belief that homeownership benefits society as well as the individual involved.

Homeownership is presumably related to household's wealth and portfolio choices. But, it potentially affects various household outcomes. There is a whole body of literature in economics and other social sciences that deals with such effects of homeownership on individual and social outcomes. This study aims to contribute to literature on both homeownership and environmentalism by building a link between the two. This relationship is especially important in that the positive externality in question is on both current society and future generations.

Homeowners and renters have different interests and objectives regarding the dwellings and neighborhoods in which they live. Therefore, motivation for and benefit from investment in protecting environment might be different for homeowners and renters. More importantly, environmentally conscious behaviors, such as recycling and using green appliances might be more costly, if not impossible, for renters. The focus of this study is to find out such differences between homeowners and renters, and investigate the effects of homeownership on environmental consciousness and behaviors empirically.

Using U.S. General Social Survey data and rigorous econometric methods, the effect of homeownership on various measures of environmental consciousness is investigated. These measures include recycling, attitude towards pollution and protecting environment, environmental activism, such as involvement in environmental groups. Controlling for demographics and several household characteristics, results indicate some positive relationship between homeownership and environmental consciousness.

**Planning for Socially Sustainable Urban Agriculture in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania**  
Leslie McLees, Geography, lmclees@uoregon.edu

Urbanization rates in the Global South are outpacing the ability of cities to provide jobs, infrastructure and social services. In the face of this, urban agriculture has become a relatively stable source of livelihood security. However, these farms do not only provide a steady income stream, they are also sites of social organization and daily living. Rather than just seeing urban farms as an avenue for urban greening or an informal activity that allows people to cope with economic conditions, this project examines urban farms for a broad range of contributions to urban life; from maintaining clean green spaces, removing bushy areas that can be hiding spaces for thieves, providing ways for women to earn extra income to support their children in school, and providing places where farmers can exchange ideas and experiences.
Exploring Food Sovereignty: The Intersection of Fair Trade and the Zapatista Movement in Chiapas, Mexico

Lindsay Naylor, Geography, naylorja@uoregon.edu

This brief presentation is intended to be an exploration of my preliminary work on the tension between livelihood and sustenance in Southern Mexico through an analysis of fair trade and autonomous Zapatista communities in Chiapas. Ultimately, the research will attempt to show how Zapatista communities have harnessed the fair trade marketplace to maintain and further their political agenda, assess who benefits from fair trade production, and identify how land use and food production has changed in fair trade producing communities. The primary goal of this presentation will be to explore the concept of food sovereignty as a key element of this study, in particular, the juxtaposition of subsistence food production, the demands of the neoliberal marketplace, and the realities of communities in resistance.

Voting as Revealed Preference for Farm Animal Welfare

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Benefit-cost analysis of environmental policies typically focuses on benefits to human health and well-being. For other species, economists have attempted to measure human willingness to pay (WTP) for changes in the numbers of individuals for different types of wildlife, and to preserve biodiversity. Regarding humans’ WTP for improvements in the quality-of-life for other species, however, the evidence is limited. During the general election of 2008, the state of California passed Proposition 2, which mandates improvements in the living conditions of certain types of farm animals. However, not every precinct in the state was in favor of this measure. I use spatial econometric methods to examine sources of heterogeneity in voting patterns across precincts in the state of California and seek to determine if people voted more in their own best interests or more selflessly in the interest of animal welfare. I explore the extent to which willingness to support Proposition 2 appears to have been related to incomes and baseline local food prices. To answer these questions and others, I use precinct level voting data from the 2008 general election in California. Preliminary results suggest that individuals who are single and younger are more likely to vote for farm animal welfare legislation. Conversely, individuals who live in a rural setting and those who are self-employed (including farmers) are less likely to vote for this legislation. Broadly, this research is intended to reveal the spatial and socio-demographic patterns in likely benefits from environmental policies that improve the well-being of various non-human species.

Global Relation: Political Solidarity and Human Relations

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For those interested in movement toward global, transnational political solidarity among human communities, existing categories of what theorists refer to as “relation” and “relationship” are incomplete. In this paper I argue that classical and contemporary accounts of oppression and equality reduce to structural accounts of humans as being situated relative to one another and that such analyses are crucial, yet there must be a corresponding attention to both the reality of and our lack of truly human relations. Studies of institutional oppression, and corollary analyses of equality, have yielded necessary critiques of structural factors that limit social mobility, access to opportunity, and inequality in distribution of material goods. Such discourse investigates material social positioning in a category where subjects are thought about as “relative to” one another. From this category, we come to understand one another in important regards as positionally nearer and farther, structurally and procedurally related. However, structural analyses of human social mobility tells us little or nothing about what it means for humans to relate on fundamental levels, what it means to be in relation. There is, simply put, a need for a positive project of human relations that theories of globalization, oppression, and equality cannot explain. Here, I offer an opening survey of human relations from a radical trajectory that is designed to complement and make actionable the kinds of theoretical projects aimed at social justice.

Ethno-development Policy, Tourism and Mapuche Struggles in Chile

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This paper critically examines the contested discourses and practices of ethnic and environmental governmentality in south central Chile through a discursive analysis of “ethno-development” policies deployed by Chilean state actors, non-governmental organizations, and transnational institutions such as the Inter American Development Bank, and their effects on indigenous involvement in tourism practices and discourses. Discursive analysis reveals the multiple ways ethno-development represents a new regime of external intervention and set of disciplining practices for Mapuche communities and ecologies. It also demonstrates the spaces and contradictions within these narratives that allow Mapuche actors to appropriate and contest these discourses. The paper represents part of a larger project that will ethnographically explore: 1) how ethno-development policies, in the concrete form of ethno-tourism projects, shape Mapuche communities’ political cultures and livelihood strategies; 2) how ethno-development policies are being contested and the limits of ethno-governmentality pushed by indigenous actors; and 3) how the practices of ‘ethno-tourism’ are better understood as a negotiated outcome between developmental agendas, the requirements of the tourism system, and the agendas and narratives of indigenous grassroots movements.

Political Ecologies of Information Communications Technologies (ICTs): Electronic Waste and Greening Technology

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Over the last few years, the issue of electronic waste (e-waste) has received increased attention in the media. While images of piles of computers burning in far off lands or an investigative video about illegal dumping of electronic devices in third world countries can cause strong reactions amongst media viewers, it is unclear how much of an impact these revelations have on changing and challenging the larger structures that permit (and profit from) such inequalities. At various governance levels (international, national and state), e-waste policy shifts seem to be occurring, yet at the same time, increasingly global economies are tied to the successful continuation and expansion of the ICT sector (both industrial and consumer products). Electronic waste is a serious environmental and social justice issue, but also stands as a sort of lynchpin to the broader picture of the political economic and ecological infrastructure of the ICT industries, and thus, the structures of capitalism generally. Through looking at e-waste, technology life cycles, computer recycling, and trends surrounding sustainable development, this paper will contribute a political ecological critique of ICTs.

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