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CHIMO

The Newsjournal of the Canadian
Association for Postcolonial Studies

*Chimo (Chee'mo)
greetings [Inuktitut]*



Three Birds, 2003, ink on paper, by Damon Badger Heit

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“As this is the first CAPS conference since 2019 to be held in-person, we look forward to welcoming everyone to the event.”

President Report

Jesse Arseneault

Associate Professor, Department of English
Concordia University

Greetings from Haudenosaunee and Anishnaabe territory, protected by the Dish with One Spoon Wampum Agreement, what many now call the Niagara Region. The Canadian Association for Postcolonial Studies (CAPS) executive committee is currently in the heat of preparing for our upcoming conference at Congress, to be held from May 28 to 31. As this is the first CAPS conference since 2019 to be held in-person, we look forward to welcoming everyone to the event. I offer my thanks to our dedicated executive members once again for making this event possible. I specifically wish to single out Stephanie Oliver (Chimo Editor) for reviving and continuing work on Chimo. I equally wish to thank Executive Officer J. Coplen Rose, Early Career Representative and Local Arrangement Coordinator Anindo Hazra, Contract Academic Representative Jason Sandhar, Past President Asma Sayed, and Graduate Student Representatives Alexander Sarra-Davis and Susan Rajendran.

This group deserves extra commendation in that CAPS is currently facing a shortage of personnel, with several positions open since our last conference and Annual General Meeting (AGM). We are without three key positions, including Vice President (a role envisioned to transition into President of the association), Communications Officer, and Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Decolonization (EDID) Representative. I am grateful to Prabhjot Parmar for stepping into our association as acting Treasurer, which will alleviate much of this labour. However, without a full executive, our currently serving one is stretched thin, and this makes the labour of keeping the association alive, as well as organizing our annual conference, a challenge. It is a particular challenge given that the restructuring of our executive that occurred at our 2022 AGM means we are all in the process of learning what our new roles mean for the regular functioning of the association. While our current executive continues to serve our association with dedication, we are reaching out to members for nominations to fill vacant positions. Someone to fill the VP role and occupy what was formerly the President Elect position will be especially important to our association, as it is unlikely that I will be able to serve as President beyond my current term, which ends in 2024. In the absence of a permanent Communications Officer, our social media presence has also dwindled. With that in mind, I call on available members to nominate themselves for open positions at the upcoming AGM.

Having an EDID representative to steer the association toward the goals set out by CFHSS's "Igniting Change" report will also be important going forward. In the last year, it has become clear that—while our association has always been motivated by an ethic of equity, diversity, inclusion, and decolonization to some extent—a dedicated position for addressing these themes will be instrumental for responding to the changing needs of our members and the demands of being an association devoted to post- and de-colonial work in our current, troubled world. One example of this work involves our Graduate Student Presentation Panel (GSPP). As we discussed at the 2022 AGM, the anonymized peer review process, which focuses solely on students' proposals, does not allow considerations of the diversity of the panelists to come into play. As a result, our executive has committed to striking a sub-committee to revise our GSPP criteria for the coming year, something an EDID representative would be well positioned to assist in. Moreover, CAPS has in the last year met with the Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences (CFHSS) to request a revision of a conference cancellation policy that we saw as working against their stated commitment to EDID, in that it put a steep financial burden on smaller associations who may pull out of Congress, for example, for political reasons, as happened in 2021 in response to the racial profiling incident of 2019. An EDID representative would be an instrumental interlocutor in liaising with CFHSS to continue to hold them, and ourselves, to account in our ongoing imperative to change our institutional practices.

“While our current executive continues to serve our association with dedication, we are reaching out to members for nominations to fill vacant positions.”

As our acting Treasurer has only recently signed on to the association, I will provide a truncated Treasurer's Report, in preparation for the formal treasurer's report to be delivered at our upcoming AGM. Our association continues to be in a good financial position, though I offer this news with the added caution that our return in-person gatherings will come with significant expenses. Our account balance currently sits at \$21,879.42, well above the minimum threshold of \$10,000 required to sustain the association. While we hope to maintain this balance, conferences held with CFHSS (particularly with the added costs of hybrid formats) require careful management of our conference expenditures. Our conference will come with steep costs, likely in the range of \$5,000 when the bill is delivered. Moreover, as external sources of funding, such as those once provided by the Commonwealth Foundation, no longer support our association, our revenues continue to come exclusively from memberships and conference registrations. We also financially support our partner association, the Association for Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies (ACLALS), with 10% of annual membership revenues. For these reasons, having a consistent and permanent Treasurer is of central importance to the financial wellbeing of our association, since managing these funds requires a significant time commitment and makes possible the vibrant and dynamic conferences we continue to hold annually.

While there may be a few challenges facing CAPS, we nonetheless have an exciting event ahead of us. Our first in-person conference since 2019 kicks off on May 28, 2023, at the Keele Campus of York University in Tkaronto/Toronto. With plenary speaker Dionne Brand (co-hosted with ACCUTE) and a “Rehearsals for Living” conversational keynote by Robyn Maynard and Leanne Betasamosake Simpson (co-hosted with the Indigenous Literary Studies Association), our headline events promise to enliven our conference's (and Congress's) theme of “Reckonings and Reimaginings.” We also have a vibrant collection of papers to be presented by members, which you can find on our conference program at the CAPS website. Remember that, if you are still unsure about attending, you can register for the conference on-site when Congress kicks off. I and the rest of the CAPS executive members are excited to see many of you soon!

Sincerely,

Jesse Arsenault
CAPS President



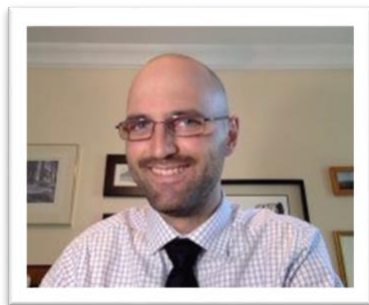
For the most up-to-date CAPS conference program visit:

<https://caclals.ca/cfps-conferences/caps-at-congress-2023/>



Interested in
Getting Involved
in CAPS?

- We're looking to fill the following positions:
 - **Vice President**
 - **Communications Officer**
 - **EDID Representative**
- For more information about these positions, email CAPS President Jesse Arsenault at jesse.arseneault@concordia.ca



Join Coplen for the international debut of Xolisa Ngubelanga's film *Pieces of an African Drum* at the CAPS conference on Monday, May 29 at 6 pm. All are welcome to attend this free film screening.

Executive Officer Report

Coplen Rose

Adjunct Professor, Department of English and Theatre, Acadia University
Writing Instructor, New College Writing Centre, New College
Sessional Lecturer, Institute for Studies in Transdisciplinary Engineering Education and Practice, University of Toronto

The fast-approaching start of Congress has prompted me to write a brief introduction to my role and discuss some of the planning that has gone into our conference this year. My name is Coplen Rose and I am the Executive Officer for CAPS. The Executive Officer role is one of the new positions that emerged out of the reorganization of our executive committee last year. Prior to holding this post, I served as the Atlantic Representative. As our organization revised the executive positions to move away from a regional focus, creating roles that reflect the specific duties needed to run our organization, I moved into the new Executive Officer role. As a sessional lecturer working in multiple departments in Ontario, I enjoy the flexibility that this position provides.

The Executive Officer supplies clerical support to the President and other members of the executive committee, particularly in the present moment as the Vice President position is vacant. In addition to collecting and organizing notes from our meetings, I participate actively in the planning and preparation associated with our annual conference. This can include vetting conference abstracts, working closely with members of the Indigenous Literary Studies Association to organize participants for our annual co-hosted roundtable, and meeting with executive members of the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences to discuss policy changes and their impact on CAPS. These opportunities offer me a chance to raise questions specific to sessional lecturer experience at critical points in the conference planning process. It is a wonderful position to hold for those members of CAPS who are interested in helping to plan our annual events and want to stay up to date on the multiple projects undertaken by the CAPS executive committee.

I am also contributing to our annual conference this year by hosting the international debut of Xolisa Ngubelanga's *Pieces of an African Drum*. The one-hour film is scheduled to begin at 6:00 pm on Monday, May 29 in ATK 109. The genesis of this text originally began as a play, which I attended at the 2018 National Arts Festival in Makhanda, South Africa. The work stood out to me at the time because of its unique approach to discussing land rights and mining in post-apartheid South Africa. Exploring the transition in the gold mining economy between apartheid and national independence, the play uses performance to foreground the plight of undocumented mine labourers in the present moment. In doing so, the work connects the trauma currently endured by undocumented mine labourers with the past physical and economic violence inflicted by apartheid. I began drafting a conference paper after watching the performance and presented this work at the 2019 CAPS conference. Then the COVID-19 pandemic emerged. In the multiple shifts since my preliminary research, Ngubelanga secured a grant to digitally record the play for an international audience. I collaborated with Ngubelanga on this process through a letter of support for the grant and a follow-up meeting and emails to discuss the transition from play to film and bringing this work to a Canadian venue. This project has been a success and I am excited to share Ngubelanga's play with the 2023 CAPS conference. All are welcome to attend the free screening.

I look forward to meeting many of you at the CAPS conference this year. Please don't hesitate to reach out or say hi at the conference!



"I look forward to meeting attendees during our multi-day conference. If you see me around, say hi! And, if you have any questions or concerns, do feel free to reach out to me and/or any of our conference organizers."

Early Career Representative / Local Arrangement Coordinator Report

Anindo Hazra

Sessional Faculty,
Department of English | Department of Humanities
York University

As Local Arrangement Coordinator for the CAPS Conference at Congress 2023 and Early Career Representative on the CAPS executive committee, I write to welcome new and returning CAPS Members to York University for Congress 2023. Our Conference runs from May 28-31, 2023 in the Keele Campus of York University, and further information about the Conference Programme may be found at <https://caclals.ca/cfps-conferences/caps-at-congress-2023/>. Our panels, roundtables, workshops, and keynote showcase the calibre and breadth of research interests represented in our membership, and I can't wait to see you all for our different events!

These are busy times for all of us, and I have here some further links to assist attendees.

- For more information about the various events, facilities, and resources offered by York University during Congress 2023, please visit: <https://www.federationhss.ca/en>
- For information about Travel Arrangements to Toronto/GTA, as well as to the York University Keele Campus, go to: <https://www.federationhss.ca/en/congress2023/travel-transportation>
- The TTC Subway Station nearest to the CAPS Conference Panel locations is the **York University Station on Line 1**.
 - **Attendees using the TTC subway system to travel to York, please note:** the TTC Line 1 Sunday Schedule for First Trains will likely not allow adequate time for attendees to reach the **8:30 AM panels (1 & 2) of Day 1 (Sunday, May 28, 2023)**, especially for those travelling from downtown or midtown locations, or making connections from other TTC Lines; GO Transit, etc. Attendees are requested to please make alternate arrangements to reach campus in time for **Panels 1 & 2**.

For more information on TTC Subway timetables (click on individual stations for station-specific times), please go to:

Line 1: <https://www.ttc.ca/routes-and-schedules/1/1>

Line 2: <https://www.ttc.ca/routes-and-schedules/2/0>

Line 3 (Scarborough): <https://www.ttc.ca/routes-and-schedules/3/0>

Line 4: <https://www.ttc.ca/routes-and-schedules/4/0>

- Details about On-Campus Accommodation at York during Congress 2023 may be found at: <https://www.yorku.ca/conference/keele/2023-congress-accommodation/>

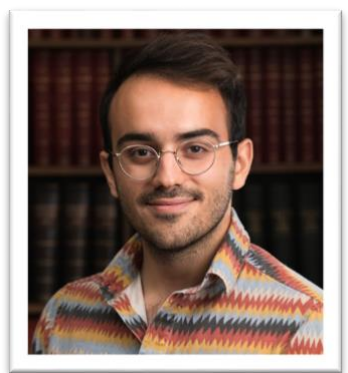
Our CAPS membership is diverse, and attendees of the Conference may also be interested to review the Career Corner workshops, a series of Professional Development events to be held at York University during Congress 2023. As you will see from the link below, the different workshops reflect and respond to a range of needs and interests. For more information, and a list of workshops, go to:

<https://www.federationhss.ca/en/congress/congress-2023/career-corner>.

As the CAPS LAC for the 2023 conference, I also look forward to meeting attendees during our multi-day conference. If you see me around, say hi! And, if you have any questions or concerns, do feel free to reach out to me and/or any of our conference organizers.



Susan Rajendran is a PhD Candidate in the Department of Humanities at York University. Susan's main research areas are in modernist literature in Sri-Lanka with themes related to Buddhism and postcolonial nationalist reconstructions.



Alex Sarra-Davis is a 7th-year PhD Candidate in the Department of English at the University of Toronto. Alex's research focuses on experimental narratology and typology in contemporary postcolonial novels, especially where those experiments challenge the ethics of representation and reading.

Graduate Student Representatives Report

Susan Rajendran

PhD Candidate, Department of Humanities
York University

Alexander Sarra-Davis

PhD Candidate & Course Instructor, Department of English
University of Toronto

Hello! We are your Graduate Student Representatives, Susan and Alex! If you see us at the 2023 CAPS conference, feel free to say hello! We're always happy to meet fellow CAPS members, answer questions, or hear out concerns about the association.

Attention all CAPS graduate student members!

Be sure to join Representatives Susan Rajendran and Alex Sarra-Davis at the first graduate student roundtable on Tuesday, May 30, from 1:00-2:30 pm in ATK 109! The roundtable will take place as part of the annual CAPS conference at Congress 2023, hosted this year at York University, and the theme will be "The Struggle of Remaining Productive During the Pandemic."

As PhD students in the final stages of our dissertation writing, we are intimately familiar with the direct and implicit challenges faced by graduate students since March of 2020. Although the graduate experience has always been both daunting and rewarding, the isolation and anxiety of the past few years has had a more acute impact on the life goals and general wellbeing of MA and PhD students alike. We therefore felt it critical that, in addition to the normal academic discussions at the conference, graduate students should also have the opportunity to participate in a more casual, interactive conversation. The graduate roundtable on the afternoon of Tuesday, May 30 won't follow any rigid format, but we will be looking to discuss topics of sustainable productivity, changing opportunities, and preserving our mental health in the face of tight deadlines. We are organizing this event in the spirit of engagement with our peers from diverse academic and affiliated communities alike, and welcome input from all attendees. We hope to see you there!

How can my voice be heard?

Beyond applying to present at its annual conference or for the graduate student prize, there are lots of ways to get involved in CAPS. If you have ideas for or concerns about CAPS, we encourage you to attend the 2023 CAPS Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, May 30 at 4:30 pm in ATK 109. You are also welcome to let us, as your representatives, know about topics you would like brought up on your behalf. Remember: you have a say in the CAPS vision, mandate, and structure. After the AGM, you can still get in touch with us or other members of the CAPS executive by emailing us individually or emailing info@caclals.ca.

New to CAPS? Tips for presenters ...

- **Practice** your paper and any audio-visual components beforehand to ensure that it fits within the allotted time (typically 20 min. for three-paper panels, with Q&A at the end).
- **Arrive** early. Introduce yourself to the chair/other presenters before the session begins.
- **Set up** A/V in advance of the session. If you're using a laptop or tablet, ensure that you have all necessary dongles, connectors, charging cords, etc.
- **Ask** the chair any questions you have about how the panel will run. Feel free to request a time check (e.g. a signal two minutes before your time is up).
- **Consider** accessibility. For example, bring a paper copy of your talk in a large readable font in case a participant would prefer to read your presentation as you speak.
- **Adapted from:** <https://accute.ca/accute-conference/best-practices-for-presenters-and-chairs/a-presenters-guide-to-best-practices/>



“Adjunct faculty, situated at the margins of the neoliberal university, bring an indispensable perspective...”

Contract Academic Representative Report

Jason Sandhar

Adjunct Professor,
Department of English and Writing Studies
Western University

As Contract Academic Representative for CAPS, I am delighted to greet you to our first in-person conference since 2019. Over the last four years, I have designed and taught undergraduate and graduate courses in writing, postcolonial criticism, animal studies, literary theory, and global literature at Western University. I regularly publish in scholarly journals and am at work on a manuscript, *Reading the Unhuman: Biopolitics, Interspecies Assemblages, and Postcolonial Precarity in Indian Literature*. Additionally, I have served on several committees for the University of Western Ontario Faculty Association. If you have concerns about academic precarity or would like resources that can help you know your rights as a contract employee, do seek me out.

Little has changed for Canada's precarious academics since the pre-pandemic era. We still represent more than 50% of all faculty. We are still underpaid, overworked, and unacknowledged by administrators who, in 2018, [refused to disclose data](#) about their part-time faculty appointments. Perhaps the data does not matter: A [report](#) from the Centre for Policy Alternatives, which finds that contract faculty made up 53.6% of appointments in 67 of the country's 78 universities in the 2016-17 academic year, has not moved the needle for contract faculty rights. Little need be said about how academic precarity is bad for everybody. Less job security means less scholarly output, especially from underrepresented populations; less scholarly output means less critical thought; less critical thought means a less democratic society. We all lose in a culture of austerity.

Of note for contract faculty at this year's conference are a graduate roundtable, "The Struggle of Remaining Productive During the Pandemic," and a workshop, "Reckoning, Repairing, Reworlding: Alter-modes of Scholarly and Creative Practice." The graduate roundtable presents an opportunity for solidarity in our precarious times. As its description reminds us, "[t]he demands of producing meaningful scholarly work in a timely manner requires a great deal of concentration and a sense of security about the future." Such a statement rings true not only for graduate students, but all scholars rendered disposable by administrators who value their bottom line rather than the university's core mission to enable debate, democracy, and the dissemination of knowledge. The "Reckoning, Repairing, Reworlding" workshop, meanwhile, seeks to "strategize modes of collaboration, peer review, and academic and artistic adjudication that break away from forms of scholarly production valued by the colonial university." Adjunct faculty, situated at the margins of the neoliberal university, bring an indispensable perspective for the proposed community that this workshop proposes. Finally, do attend the CAPS Annual General Meeting! It is imperative that the executive hear from contract faculty. Our voices matter.

In solidarity,

Jason Sandhar
Adjunct Professor, Western University

The Big Thinking series is held throughout Congress and brings together leading scholars and public figures who present forward-thinking research, ideas and solutions to the critical questions and issues of our time. The series is open to all Congress registered attendees and to members of the general public registering with a community pass.

 **BIG THINKING**
VOIR GRAND

<https://www.federationhss.ca/en/congress/big-thinking>

2023 CAPS Conference: Keynotes



Dionne Brand, "A Brief Reading in Autobiographies"

Monday May 29, 1:30 pm, ACW 109

Co-sponsored by Association of Canadian College and University Teachers of English (ACCUTE), Black Canadian Studies Association (BCSA), and Association for Canadian and Québec Literatures (ACQL)

Dionne Brand is a renowned poet, novelist, and essayist. Her writing is notable for the beauty of its language, and for its intense engagement with issues of international social justice. She became prominent first as an award-winning poet, winning the Griffin Poetry Prize for her volume *Ossuaries*, and a Governor General's Literary Award and Trillium Book Prize for *Land to Light On*. Among other honours, she was awarded the 2003 Pat Lowther Memorial Award for *thirsty* and the Trillium Book Prize for *The Blue Clerk*, which was also nominated for a Governor General's Literary Award and the Griffin Poetry Prize. She served as Poet Laureate of the City of Toronto 2009-2012. Her latest collection, *Nomenclature: New and Collected Poems* was published in 2022.

Brand has also achieved great distinction and acclaim in fiction and non-fiction. Her most recent novel, *Theory*, won the 2019 Toronto Book Award and the BOCAS Fiction Prize. Her fiction includes *Love Enough*, nominated for the 2015 Trillium Book Award, and the critically acclaimed novels *In Another Place, Not Here, At the Full and Change of the Moon*, and *What We All Long For*. Her non-fiction includes *A Map to the Door of No Return: Notes to Belonging*, which has been widely taken up by scholars of Black Diaspora.

Dionne Brand was a professor in the School of English and Theatre Studies at the University of Guelph from 2004-2022 and holds several Honorary Doctorates. Previously Poetry Editor at McClelland & Stewart from 2014-2021, she is now Editorial Director of *Alchemy*, an imprint of Knopf Canada. She is a member of the Order of Canada.



Robyn Maynard and Leanne Betasamosake Simpson, *Rehearsals for Living*

Wednesday May 31, 3:15 pm (LAS A)

Co-sponsored by Indigenous Literary Studies Association (ILSA)

Robyn Maynard and Leanne Betasamosake Simpson will discuss their revolutionary collaboration, *Rehearsals for Living*. Their book is recently published with Knopf (Canada), Haymarket: Abolitionist Paper Series (US/UK), and is forthcoming with *Memoire D'encrier* (French translation). The epistolary work features a foreword by Ruth Wilson Gilmore and an afterword by Robin DG Kelley. The book is a Toronto Star, Globe and Mail, and CBC national bestseller, designated among the "best books of 2022" by CBC and the Hill Times, and was recently shortlisted for a Governor General's Award in the non-fiction literature category.



Robyn Maynard is a Black feminist living in Toronto, where she holds the position of Assistant Professor of Black Feminisms in Canada at the University of Toronto-Scarborough in the Department of Historical and Cultural Studies. She is the author of *Policing Black Lives: State violence in Canada from slavery to the present* (Fernwood 2017). The book was shortlisted for an Atlantic Book Award, the Concordia University First Book Prize and the Mavis Gallant Prize for Non-fiction, and was the winner of the 2017 Errol Sharpe Book Prize and the 2019 Prix de libraires. She has published works in *TOPIA: Canadian Journal of Cultural Studies*, *Canadian Woman Studies*, *Critical Ethnic Studies Journal*, *Scholar & Feminist Journal*, and an assortment of trade publications.

Leanne Betasamosake Simpson is a Michi Saagig Nishnaabeg scholar, writer, and musician. She is the author of eight books, including the novel *Noopiming: A Cure for White Ladies*, short listed for the Dublin Literary prize and the Governor General's award for fiction. Leanne's latest album, *Theory of Ice*, released by You've Changed Records was released in 2021 and short-listed for the Polaris Prize, and she was the winner of the Prism Prize Willie Dunn Award for excellence within the music, music video and/or film production communities. Leanne is an instructor at the Dechinta Centre for Research and Learning in Denendeh.

2023 CAPS Conference: Other Special Events

Graduate Student Prize Panel (GSPP)

Sunday May 28, 3:00 pm, DB0007

Join us for a panel featuring outstanding work by CAPS graduate students. Panelists will explore a diverse range of topics, from Jordan Abel's "nested politics of sovereignty" to the biopolitics of consumption and ecological futurity in *Locust Girl* to the postcolonial flaneuse as activist.

Followed by: President's Reception, 5:00 pm Scott Library - Atrium



Reckoning, Repairing, Reworlding: Alter-modes of Scholarly and Creative Practice

Film Screening: *Pieces of an African Drum*

Monday May 29, 6:00 pm, ATK 109

Taking a unique approach to land rights and mining in post-apartheid South Africa, *Pieces of an African Drum* is based on Xolisa Ngubelanga's original play. Exploring the transition in the gold mining economy between apartheid and national independence, the one-hour film uses performance to foreground the plight of undocumented mine labourers in the present moment.

Member-Organized Plenary Panel: Sam Selvon @100

Tuesday May 30, 8:30 am, ATK 109

This panel reflects on the work and legacy of Selvon 100 years after his birth in 1923. What are the ways in which we can continue to learn from Selvon's life and work? What are the ways in which Selvon's writing remains important? What are the literary aesthetics and insights that he pioneered and how have these been influential? How might new critical perspectives and debates inspire our continued readings of Selvon's work?



For information about the Graduate Roundtable (Tuesday May 30, 1 pm, ATK 109), see page 6!

Tuesday May 30, 3:00 pm, ATK 109

Organized by the international, multi-disciplinary Reckoning, Repairing, Reworlding Research Collective, this process-focused session will generate conversation along the lines of what adrienne maree brown calls "emergent strategy" (5), utilizing small-scale, interaction-based methods to engage CAPS members also devoted to what Michelle Murphy calls "alter-modes" of scholarly and creative practice.

Followed by:

CAPS Book Launch/Reception/Annual General Meeting, 4:30 pm, ATK 109

All CAPS attendees are encouraged to attend!

ILSA/CAPS Roundtable: "Ethics of Care for a Radically Different World"

Wednesday May 31, 1:30-3:00 pm, BRG The Eatery

Featuring Feisal Kirumira, Michelle Porter, Karyn Recollet, and Cheryl Suzack

This annual roundtable, a longstanding collaboration between the Indigenous Literary Studies Association (ILSA) and the Canadian Association of Postcolonial Studies (CAPS), brings together Indigenous scholars, artists, activists, and community members for a conversation-based panel to brainstorm responses to pressing problems affecting our world. This year, in line with the Congress theme and the conference themes of ILSA and CAPS, roundtable panelists will be asked to reflect on ethics of care that might help navigate a troubled present. Coming through the COVID-19 pandemic affirmed for many the need to care for one another and for the vulnerable, to recognize caregivers and caregiving responsibilities, and to imagine and enact ways of working that allow for caregiving. While Indigenous literatures' capacity to imagine possible futures is a key component of creating livable worlds that challenge the settler colonial status quo, this panel is equally interested in reparative ethics and tactics of care for attending to our relations with one another and with the lands and waters that sustain our shared world in the here and now.

Member News

Congratulations Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Award Winners!



- **Asma Sayed**, Canada Research Chair in South Asian Literary and Cultural Studies (pictured second from right), and **Jennifer Hardwick**, a faculty member in KPU's English department and Chair of Policy Studies (pictured far right), recently won **2023 Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) awards** from Kwantlen Polytechnic University (KPU). Read the press release below:
- <https://www.kpu.ca/news/2023/05/01/four-honoured-building-culture-equity-diversity-and-inclusion-kpu>

Refractions is a journal invested in how the light hits things differently.

Issue 2: Care Work



"Dirty J-Cloth" by Nico Williams (2022).

www.nicowilliams.com

- **Sadie Barker and Priscilla Jolly**, PhD candidates at Concordia University Montreal, have launched the journal [*Refractions: A Journal of Postcolonial Cultural Criticism*](#). The first issue features contributions from artists, filmmakers, educators and academics.

Visit the [link to the current CFP](#), which invites **reflections on "care work"** in relation to postcolonial studies, cultural media and practice, and institutions. The journal is accepting Perspective Pieces, Notes from the Field, Book Reviews, and creative submissions for this issue until **July 1, 2023**.

Member News cont'd

- **Geoffrey MacDonald** (York/U of T) published two journal articles: The *Journal of Postcolonial Writing* has published "**Toward an Intersectional Literary Criticism: Cross-Identity Representations, Social Location, and Shani Mootoo's Intervention**" (<https://doi.org/10.1080/17449855.2022.2161832>), wherein I theorize intersectionality as a tool for reading cultural crossings in literary texts, which is the framework for my book project. My analysis of the dear late Lee Maracle's 2014 novel will appear in *ARIEL* (vol. 54, no. 2, 2023, pp. 139-56): "**Justice, Healing, Resurgence: Spiritual Decolonization in Lee Maracle's *Celia's Song***."
- **Jason Sandhar** (Western) published his poem "**oak creek: 5 aug 1919**" in *The Red Hen Anthology of Contemporary Indian Writing* (edited by Anjum Hasan and Sampurna Chatterjee, Red Hen Press, 2022, pp. 174-5).
- **Stephanie Oliver** (University of Alberta – Augustana) published "**'Stinking as Thinking' in Warren Cariou's 'Tarhands: A Messy Manifesto'**" in a special issue of the journal *Canadian Literature* on "Poetics and Extraction" (no. 251, 2023, pp. 72-96, <https://ojs.library.ubc.ca/index.php/canlit/article/view/197243>). This essay asks: What does the language of stench offer writers like Cariou who use aesthetic experimentation to interrogate the neo-colonial capitalist logic of resource extraction? How does Cariou reimagine the language of scent for his creative, ethical, and political goals? What does the language of smell offer readers, who have diverse and complex relationships to oil and environmental risk?



Publications



In February 2023, Stephanie Oliver (University of Alberta – Augustana) organized "Conversations on Water," a series of events featuring poet and activist Rita Wong. Funded by a Kule Institute for Advanced Study Dialogue Grant, events included a Brown Bag Lunch with Tasha Beeds (in partnership with U of A's Centre for Literatures in Canada); a community event with Rita Wong, Louise Omeasoo (Samson Cree Nation Council), and Sarah Skinner (Battle River Watershed Alliance); a poetry reading; a visit to Dr. Oliver's Postcolonial Literature and Theory class; a library book display (curated with Laurel Warkentin and Shelby Paulgaard); and *immersed*, a visual exhibition of Wong's poetry (curated with Shelby Paulgaard) supported by funding from the SSHRC IDG "Literary Biodiversities in Western Canada."



Are you finishing a **research project**?
 Have you published new **creative work**?
 Are you part of an exciting **collaboration**?
 Did you receive a notable **award**?
 Do you have **other news to share**?



Please send a short description and any other information (links, images) to Chimo Editor Stephanie Oliver at ssoliver@ualberta.ca

Chimo Editor

Stephanie Oliver

Assistant Professor, Augustana Campus, University of Alberta

Hi! I'm Stephanie Oliver, an Assistant Professor of English at the University of Alberta's Augustana campus. I sit on the CAPS Executive Committee as Chimo Editor. I'd love to hear your ideas for Chimo, so come say hi at the conference!

CAPS Membership

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On the cover: Three Birds, 2003, ink on paper, by Damon Badger Heit. Badger Heit holds a BA in Indian Art and English from the First Nations University of Canada, is a member of the Mistawasis First Nation, and resides in Regina. His art-making is education-based, and he has worked as an art instructor for youth programs in schools through organizations like the MacKenzie Art Gallery and Common Weal Inc., producing a number of public art works with youth at Regina's Connaught and Thompson Community Schools. Damon currently works as the Coordinator of First Nations and Métis Initiatives at SaskCulture Inc., a non-profit volunteer-driven organization that supports cultural activity throughout the province.