

## **CALL FOR PROPOSALS: CACLALS CONFERENCE 2016**

### **Proposals due 31 December 2015**

In conjunction with the annual Congress of the Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences, the Canadian Association for Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies (CACLALS) will host its annual conference May 28-30, 2016, at University of Calgary, Calgary AB.

The theme of Congress 2016 is **“ENERGIZING COMMUNITIES”** and according to CFHSS “reflects the university’s commitment to community engagement at local, regional, national and transnational levels.” The elaboration on the theme stresses Calgary’s “commitment to sustainability” and “respect for difference and diversity among all people.”

We welcome proposals for individual 20-minute presentations, panels, workshops, or other special events on these or any other themes related to **“ENERGIZING,” “ENERGY,”** and the fraught term **“COMMUNITY.”**

Topics related to the conference theme that members may wish to consider could include but are not limited to:

- energy pasts and futures and their entanglement with human and non-human histories
- transnational and postcolonial approaches to petro-capitalism, alternative energy uses and discourses
- representations of energy-related industries (oil, nuclear, solar, etc.), activities (exploration, extraction, research, investment), or applications (transport, heat/light, warfare) in literary works, films, other popular media, policy documents, etc.
- historical analysis of the rhetoric of “energy” in biopolitical terms; how are we enjoined to exert energy or be energetic in the name of health and/or morality? How does the imperative to be energetic facilitate or impede forms of political resistance?
- enhancement and/or waning of specific kinds of political, affective, social, physical energy
- critical analysis of the effects/affects of the rhetoric of “community” in government, corporate, and NGO policies and public relations, educational and religious institutions, and social movements
- discussions of community in relation to problems of scale; e.g. how does the language of community enable or prevent thinking about relations at different scales ranging from the local to the transnational and the planetary?
- the resonances of community in thinking through environmental and human/non-human relations
- the discourse and practice of community-engaged research in the university
- discourses of community in postcolonial literature and/or criticism
- intersections with or genealogies for: the work of “energizing communities” via projects for the public humanities and/or literary publics; citizenship in a global, multicultural, settler-colonial or anticolonial frame; “communities of concern” and/or “communities of practice”; contemporary calls for renewed internationalism over climate change, regime change and economic refugees; socially-engaged writing such as poetry, documentary, memoir, auto-theory or fiction

- critical discussions of community in terms of religious/spiritual groups and practices; how religion can energize or enervate public and political discourses, especially in a postcolonial context

CACLALS welcomes conference presentation or workshop proposals that address dimensions of any of the questions or issues above or are otherwise related to the Association's mandate. We welcome traditional papers designed to be delivered in not more than 20 minutes; workshops; member-organized panels in which 3-5 members deliver 5-minute position statements related to a single issue or text and then open up discussion to the audience; and member-proposed special events. If the latter have funding implications, we ask that the proposal include ideas about how at least partial funding might be secured. By 31 December, 2015, proposals of not more than 350 words should be submitted via [caclals.ca](http://caclals.ca) on the proposal form found under CFPs and Conferences, CACLALS, CACLALS at Congress 2016. They will be double blind-vetted. Please note that only proposals from paid-up members will be considered, and this stipulation applies to proposals for the Graduate Student Presentation Prize panel as well as regular proposals. The automated membership system created by the Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences is now available on the new website [caclals.ca](http://caclals.ca), and we encourage everyone to use this system when renewing membership in CACLALS or joining for the first time. However membership inquiries and fee payment can still be directed to [pmccall@ucalgary.ca](mailto:pmccall@ucalgary.ca)

### **The Annual CACLALS Graduate Student Conference Presentation Prizes**

Information about the Graduate Student Conference Presentation Prize can be found at [caclals.ca](http://caclals.ca) under the CFPs and Conferences tab. Students wishing to be eligible for the prizes must check the "Grad Prize Submission" box on the proposal form at [caclals.ca](http://caclals.ca) if they wish their proposal to be considered for the prize. They are welcome to submit proposals without entering the competition.