WESTERN LITERATURE ASSOCIATION
CONFERENCE PROGRAM
OCTOBER 19-22, 2005
OMNI HOTEL, LOS ANGELES

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19TH

1:00-4:00 p.m.  Executive Council Meeting

4:00-7:00 p.m.  Registration

5:00-6:45 p.m.  Executive Council Dinner

7:00-9:00 p.m.  Keynote Address and Opening Night Reception
                Keynote Speaker: Kevin Starr

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20TH

8 a.m.-5 p.m.  Registration

8 a.m.-5 p.m.  Book Exhibit

Thurs. 8:00 a.m.-9:15 a.m.  SESSION ONE

1A  To Stop Time in its Tracks: Reactionary and other Utopias

Stephanie LeManager, University of California, Santa Barbara
“Almost Heaven: Summerland and the Politics of Forgetting in Gilded Age California”

Michael Beehler, Montana State University
“Remembering Historicity: Frank Lloyd Wright’s California Romanza”

William Katerberg, Calvin College
“Return to Nature: Right-Wing Apocalypse and Reactionary Utopianism in the American West”

1B  West of Remembrance: A Gathering of Creative Readings

Ann Ronald, University of Nevada-Reno
“Northwest Passage in the Early Days of the Twentieth Century”
Ann Putnam, University of Puget Sound
“Ninety Days: A Memoir”

Beverly Connor, University of Puget Sound
“Power Failure”

1C

**Born Back Ceaselessly: The Performance of Memory in the Land of Forgetting**

Drucilla Wall, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
“Showdown at City Hall: The Power of Stories as Resistance to the Specter of Urban Sprawl”

Deb Cumberland, Winona State University
“Sneaking Past the Guards: Memories of Germany in the American Midwest”

Todd Robinson, University of Nebraska-Omaha
“Coors Light Cowboys and Custom Burritos: Consuming Authenticity in the Mass Market West”

Deborah Lichtman, University of San Francisco
“Watching My Mother on Film: Bound to Remember While Yearning to Forget”

1D

**Unexpected and Forgotten Wests**

Ludwig Deringer, Aachen University (Germany)
“Old Words, New Worlds: Migration, Multiculturalism, and Cultural Memory in Rudy Wiebe’s *Sweeter than All the World*”

Edward Watts, Michigan State University
“How to Forget the French: George Bancroft’s Story of the West”

Tom J. Hillard, University of Arizona
“The Subversive West of Herman Melville”

Bob Lyon
“Some of the Worst Western Books You Could Read”

9:00-9:30

**Coffee Break**
Thurs. 9:30-10:30 a.m.   PLENARY SESSION

History, Fiction, and the Literary West

Kevin Starr, University of Southern California

Forrest Robinson, University of California, Santa Cruz

Krista Comer, Rice University

William Deverell, University of Southern California

Thurs. 10:45-NOON   SESSION TWO

2A  Native and Anglo Perspectives on California and L.A.

Lisa Slappey, Rice University
“California in the Novels of Leslie Marmon Silko and Thomas King”

J. Gerard Dollar, Siena College
“It’s Not the West Anymore: L.A. as Other in House Made of Dawn and Ceremony”

Joseph Mills, North Carolina School of the Arts
“Brautigan’s Babylon”

Genevieve Later, Thompson Rivers University
“Inventing Los Angeles: Narrativity in Davis and Starr”

2B  Extreme Wests: Challenging the West of Our Imagination

Chair: Barbara J. Cook, Mount Aloysius College

Alex Hunt, West Texas A&M University
“West of What I Had in Mind: Proulx, ‘Brokeback Mountain,’ and Authenticity”

Sarah McFarland, University of Alaska Southwest
“The Bear Went Over the Mountain and Into a Backyard Pool: Wildlife in Suburbia”

Barbara J. Cook

2C

Clint Eastwood: New Perspectives

Chair: Leonard Engel, Quinnipiac University

Brett Westbrook, St. Edwards University
“Feminism and the Limits of Genre in A Fistful of Dollars and The Outlaw Josey Wales”

Matt Wanat, Mayville State University

Richard Hutson, University of California, Berkeley
“One hang, we all hang’: High Plains Drifter”

Leonard Engel
“The Many Faces of Eastwood’s Characters: Tracking the Evolution and Devolution of an Icon”

2D

Picturing and Projecting (onto) Western Landscapes

Donald A. Barclay, University of California, Merced
“The Passion and the Power to Roam’: Early Tourists Write About Yosemite”

David Messmer, Rice University
“Past Constructing Present/Present Constructing Past: The Undoing of Memory in the Juxtaposed Photography of William Henry Jackson and John Fielder”

Jill Hampton, University of South Carolina
“Western American Landscapes in the Poetry of Irish Immigrants”

2E

Willa Cather: Faith, Landscape, and Memory

Catherine Holmes, College of Charleston
“The Cathedral and the Rock: Faith and Dominion in Willa Cather’s Death Comes for the Archbishop”
Chloe de los Reyes, California State University, San Bernardino
“Gardens with a View: The Treatment of Cultivated Lands in Willa Cather’s Fiction”

Jennifer Bradley, Mercy College of Health Sciences
“Homesteading 101: An Independent Study; Or, ‘Reading’ the Memories of Amanda Smith Cather’s Scrapbook

Margaret Doane, California State University, San Bernardino
“The Treatment of Old Age in Cather’s Novels, Short Stories, and Essays”

2F

Recovering the Past in Chicano/a Fiction

Arianne Burford, University of Arizona
“Rendering Visible the Invisible: Deromanticizing Pesticides and the Labor of Chicanas in Moraga’s Heroes and Saints and Viramontes’s Under the Feet of Jesus”

Edgar Fuentes, University of Houston-Downtown
“Transgressing Barriers and the Power of Memory in Sandra Cisneros’s ‘Remember the Alamo’”

Jane Creighton, University of Houston-Downtown
“Abrazos y Despedidas: Saving Memory in John Phillip Santos’ Places Left Unfinished at the Time of Creation”

2G

Personal Inhabitutions of Western Landscapes

Liz Stephens, Utah State University
“A Memoir of Western Geography (or: Inhabitation)”

Elizabeth Mack, University of Nebraska, Omaha
“Journey into Catherland”

David Mogen
“Riding the Hi-Line Into the Past”

Evelyn Funda, Utah State University
“Loosestrife”

2H

Literary Anglo California
Brain Ray, University of South Carolina
“Abortion and Californian Exceptionalism in Joan Didion’s Run River”

Lisa Sperber, University of California at Davis
“Autobiography and Place in Frank Bidart’s ‘California Plush’”

Julia Stein, Santa Monica College and East Los Angeles College
“Remembering Upton Sinclair’s novel Oil!: A forgotten history of 1920s Los Angeles”

Thurs. 12:00-1:30 p.m.  PAST PRESIDENT’S ADDRESS AND LUNCHEON

Introduction: Melody Graulich, Editor, Western American Literature

Susan Kollin, Montana State University
“Dead or Alive: The New Regionalism and Global Contexts”

Thurs. 1:45-3:00 p.m.  SESSION THREE

3A  Asian Americans and the Landscapes of Race and Citizenship (Part I)

Melody Graulich, Utah State University
“Assumptions of Citizenships: Rereading the Yearbooks of Japanese Americans, 1941-45

John Streamas, Washington State University
“Liberal Internationalism and Racial Politics in Snow Falling on Cedars”

Mayumo Inoue, University of Southern California
“A Post-Internment Exile: Anti-Essentialist Critique and Gothic Citizenship in Hisaye Yamamoto’s ‘Wilshire Bus’”

3B  The End is Near Again: California’s Apocalyptic Imagination

O. Alan Weltzien, University of Montana-Western
“Disassembling California: Writing/Riding the Earthquake”
Ann Wolfe, San José Museum of Art
“Painting America’s Demise: Sandow Birk’s Inferno and the American Apocalyptic Tradition”

Pamela Albanese, City University of New York, The Graduate Center
“A Four-Part Poetics of the End: Landscape and Catastrophe in Los Angeles”

3C

New Approaches to Jack London

Hisayuki Hikage, Reitaku University (Japan)
“Jack London and Consumer Culture”

Patrick K. Dooley, St. Bonaventure University
“Jack London and Missionaries”

Seth Bovey, Louisiana State University, Alexandria
“Jack London’s Canine Novels and the Problem of Film Adaptation”

3D

The Urban West Across Disciplines: Truck Driver Theory, Punk Rock, Airport Art, and Post-Hard Bop Jazz

Chair: Marit J. MacArthur, University of California at Davis

Olivia Burgess, Texas A&M University
“Excavating the ‘Truth’ in Mike Davis’ Los Angeles”

Rob Wallace, University of California, Santa Barbara

Chris Schaberg and Dan Thomas-Glass, University of California at Davis
“Airport Art and the Misuses of Space”

Robert Bennett, Montana State University

3E

Mining Unusual Western Lives

Lawrence L. Lee
“In Search of my wicked uncles; or, what’s true or not”

Cheryll Glotfelty, University of Nevada, Reno
“‘Mob Princess Murdered in L.A.!’: The Life and Untimely Death of Las Vegas Author Susan Berman”

Randi Tanglen, University of Arizona
“Even Lummis/Frances Douglas: The Writerly Wife and Wifely Writer”

Nicolas Witschi, Western Michigan University
“The Genre with No Name: The Gunfighter Memoir and the Making of the Popular West”

3F California’s Forgotten Indians

Ceiridwen Terrill, University of California, Santa Barbara
“Jesus Holds the Garbage Can: The Chumash Vanished in Plain Sight”

Brad Monsma, California State University, Channel Islands
“The Lack of Bears and Human Disillusion: Grizzlies, the Chumash, and the Rest of Us”

Susan Bernardin, State University of New York, Oneonta
“[Acorn] Soup is Good Food: The Art of Replenishing California Indian Histories”

3G Youth Cultures

Krista Comer, Rice University
“Malibu and Its Others in Endless Summer (1966): Taking Local Youth Cultures Global”

Michael Willard, California State University, Los Angeles
“Narratives of Urban Crisis/Moral Panic, and Counter-evidence of Children’s Agency in Los Angeles Photographs, 1940-1970”

Victor Viesca, California State University, Los Angeles
“Chicana/o Aerosol Art and the Production of Nuevo L.A.”
3H Meaning and Memory in Exile and Essay: Personal Geographies of California

Chair: Gaynell Gavin, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Kelly Grey Carlisle, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Kate Flaherty
“Little House in Los Angeles: An Exercise in Fictional Genealogy”

Gaynell Gavin, “Fresno Recollected: A Love Affair”

Lisa Verigin

Thurs. 3:15-4:30 p.m. PLENARY SESSION

The Popular West as World Power: Narratives of Empire, Exclusion, and Enfranchisement

Chair: Curtis Marez, University of Southern California

Victoria Lamont, University of Waterloo (Canada)
“Eastward the Star of Woman’s Empire Makes Its Way: How Wyoming Suffrage History was Remembered and Forgotten”

Shelley Streeby, University of California, San Diego
“The Sensational West: Cultural Memories of the US-Mexico War after the Mexican Revolution”

Christine Bold, University of Guelph (Canada)
“Exclusion Acts: Popular Westerns and the Atlantic Diaspora”

Thurs. 4:45-6:00 p.m. SESSION FOUR

4A Gerald Vizenor: History, Survivance, Sovereignty

Chair: Linda Helstern, North Dakota State University

Linda Helstern
“The Past is Another Country: Gerald Vizenor’s Hiroshima Bugi: Atomu 57”
Ivan Weber
“‘Neither Fence nor Feathers’: Issues of Sovereignty in the Writings of Gerald Vizenor”

John Gamber, University of California, Santa Barbara
“We’re not Homing; We’re Home: Urban Community and/or Abjection in Dead Voices”

4B  
**Percival Everett, David Anthony Durham, and the Post-Soul West**

Chair: Michael K. Johnson, University of Maine-Farmington

Bertram D. Ashe, University of Richmond
“Post-Soul Old West: ‘Blaxploration’ in David Anthony Durham’s Gabriel’s Story”

Kimberly N. Ruffin, Bates College
“‘It was far too predictable what would happen’: Percival Everett’s Fiction and the Traces of Race in U.S. Ecological Memory”

Michael K. Johnson
“The Post-Soul Westerner in Percival Everett’s Short Fiction”

Joshua Damu Smith, University of Southern California
“Racial Reconstruction and the Post-Soul Western: The legacy of Civil War and Civil Rights in Percival Everett’s God’s Country”

4C  
**Robinson Jeffers’ Inhumanist Themes: War, Apocalypse, and Cosmic Peace**

Chair: ShaunAnne Tangney, Minot State University

Ronald P. Olowin, Saint Mary’s College
“Searching for Sophia: Robinson Jeffers and Shifting Cosmic Paradigms”

Robert Kafka, Managing Editor, Jeffers Studies
“Obsolete or Inevitable? War and the Forgotten Connection between Robinson Jeffers and Homer Lea”

Robert Brophy, California State University, Long Beach
“Los Angeles: Jeffers’ Archetypal Apocalyptic City, The Cycle’s End”
4D  Exploring Western Mavericks: Frederick Manfred and Vardis Fisher

Chair: Ann Putnam, University of Puget Sound

Mark Canada, University of North Carolina at Pembroke
Joseph M. Flora, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
“‘Dear Fred. . . . ‘Dear Vardis’: A Friendship in Letters”

Nancy Owen Nelson, Yavapai College
“‘The Last Chance for Man to Rise Above Pigdom’: Manfred’s Riders of Judgment in Our Time”

James Maguire, Boise State University
“Manly Humor in Manfred’s Controversial Novel The Manly-Hearted Woman”

4E  Seeing History in Black and White: Noir Visions in Film and Print

Chair: Audrey Goodman, Georgia State University

Jessica Bremmer, Georgia State University, “Femininity, Criminal Activity, and (Auto)Mobility”

Katie Moss, Georgia State University
“The Average Man Evolves in Two Versions of Double Indemnity”

John F. Ronan, University of Florida
“Dashiell Hammet’s Red Harvest”

Jamie Navarette, University of Nebraska at Omaha
“An Illumination of the Dark Sides of Achieving a Western Dream in the Coen Brothers’ Fargo”

4F  How to Become a Chicano/a Studies Professor

Moderator: José F. Aranda, Jr., Rice University

Lourdes Alberto, Rice University
“L.A.’s Best Kept Indigenous Secret: The Oaxacan Community”

John Esobedo
“Taking Notice: Celebrating Fifty Years of Latinos/as in U.S. Television”

Priscilla Ybarra, Rice University
“What It Takes to See Mexican Americans as Environmentalists”

José F. Aranda, Jr.
“The best I can do as a teacher is to ask continuously, ‘What is a Chicano?’”

4G Chinatowns and Asian Wests: Alienation, Historical Recovery, and American Xenophobia

Chair: Viet Nguyen, University of Southern California

June Hee Chung, DePaul University
“Recovering Other Wests: Asian Things, the Immigrant, and an Asian American Naturalism in Sui Sin Far’s Chinatown”

Angela Waldie, University of Calgary
“Historiographic Reflections on Vancouver’s Chinatown in Wayson Choy’s The Jade Peony and Sky Lee’s Disappearing Moon Café”

Darren Chiang-Schultheiss, Fullerton College
“Alienated from their Birthrights: Themes of Disconnection in No-No Boy, Nisei Daughter, and China Boy”

Gina Weaver, Rice University
“The Old West in Outer Space: Joss Whedon’s Firefly and American Xenophobia”

4H Native History and American Recreations

Peter L. Bayers, Fairfield University
“Remembering Lewis and Clark and the Problem of History”

Matt Everson, Chadron State College
“Bitter Nostalgia: Retracing Tragedy in the Land of Crazy Horse and the Indian Narratives of Mari Sandoz”

Jan Johnson, University of Idaho
“Narratives of Memory and Forgetting at Chief Joseph Days”
Andrea Marie Dominguez, University of Arizona
“The Cannibalistic Ritual of Museums: The Politics of Memory in Vizenor’s Chancers”

Thurs. 6:00-6:45 p.m. Reading: Percival Everett

Thurs. 6:45-7:30 pm Reading: Wanda Coleman

Thurs. 7:30-9:00 p.m. DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT AWARD PRESENTATION, ADDRESS, AND RECEPTION: AN EVENING WITH GERALD VIZENOR

FRIDAY OCTOBER 21ST

Fri. 7:00-8:30 a.m. Past Presidents and Graduate Student Breakfast

8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Registration

8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Book Exhibit

Fri. 8:00 a.m.-9:15 a.m. SESSION FIVE

5A Domestic Violence in the West

Chair: Lillian Schlissel, Brooklyn College, CUNY

Lillian Schlissel
“Stories of the 1930s”

Mary Clearman Blew, University of Idaho
Reading from When Montana and I Were Young

Barbara Richard
“Dancing on His Grave”

Judy Blunt, University of Montana, Missoula
“The Underground Railroad: Victims of Domestic Violence Along the Montana Hi-Line”

Jeanette Winkus, Northwest Indian College
“The Fight”
5B  Variations on the Western of Film

Chair: David Cremean, Black Hills State University

Timothy Steckline, Black Hills State University
“Strikes and Gutters: Innocence, Experience, and Ambivalence in Lebowski’s City of Angels”

David Cremean
“White Russians Versus Sarsparillas: The Big Lebowski as Drunken and Sober (New?) Western”

John Gourlie, Quinnipiac University
“The Aviator: Lift-Off, Soar, Crash and Burn”

Tamara Weets, Concordia College
“Fetishism, Masculinity, and the [Dis]possession of Brad Pitt in A River Runs Through It and Legends of the Fall”

5C  How the West Was, Like, Won: Representations of Memory in Western American Children’s and Young Adult Literature

Chair: Gabrielle Halko, California State University, San Bernardino

Helen Oesterheld, California State University, Dominguez Hills
“Francisco Jimenez’s The Circuit and the Myth of the Frontier”


Gabrielle Halko

5D  Northwest Histories and Memory: Readings by Three Writers of the Northwest

Chair: Philip Heldrich, University of Washington, Tacoma

Beth Kalikoff, University of Washington, Tacoma
“Memory and Forgetting in Tacoma”

Peter Donahue, Birmingham-Southern College
“The Fire Shall Try: a novel in progress”

Philip Heldrich
“At the End of the Carbon River”

5E  
**Bioregionalism and Literary Activism**

Josh Dolezal, Central College
“Social Justice, Literary Activism, and the Future of Bioregionalism”

Michelle Saterlee, University of Oregon
“Edward Abbey and the Memory that Interrupts: The Problem of Loss, Subjectivity, and the Wilderness”

Paul Formisano

5F  
**Gender and Culture in Women’s Writing of the older West**

Christine Hill Smith, Front Range Community College
“We find it necessary to keep up the little forms of civilization’: Social Class in the Early Correspondence of Mary Hallock Foote and Helena de Kay Gilder, 1868-1889”

Judy Norte Temple, University of Arizona
“Teaching Mary Austin: Challenges, ‘Unsuccesses,’ and Strategies”

Cathryn Halverson, Kobe Gaikokugo Daigaku (Japan)
“‘Their Heart through their Stomach’: Male Housekeepers and Western Women”

Carine Risa Applegarth, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
“Performances and Artifacts: Cultural Exchange in Mary Austin’s Texts”

5G  
**Domesticity, Fear, and Civilization in Larry McMurtry and Cormac McCarthy**

Sara Humphreys, University of Waterloo (Ontario)
“The Value of Domesticity in Larry McMurtry’s Lonesome Dove”
David R. Wallace, Jr., West Texas A&M University
“A Wilderness in Context: Civilization and the Unknown in Cormac McCarthy’s Blood Meridian”

James D. Jenner, Wayne State University
“In the Midst of Fear: Episodes of Intense Fear in Recent American Fiction”

5H Peaks and Plains: Readings of Creative Nonfiction

Sarah Vause, Utah State University
“At the Top of Her Game: The Female Voice in the Literature of Mountaineering”

David Stevenson
“Eros on the Heights”

Susanne George Bloomfield
“The Family Farm: Endings”

Fri. 9:00-9:30 a.m. Coffee Break

Fri. 9:45 a.m.-11:00 a.m. SESSION SIX

6A The Urban West in Literature: L.A.’s Apocalyptic Masculinity, Chicano Cityscapes, Magical Realist Imaginaries, and Tragical-Farcical Highways

Chair: Alex Hunt, West Texas A&M University

Sharon Becker
“Angels of Destruction: Apocalyptic Masculinity and the Fiction of 1930s Los Angeles”

Mikage Kuroki, University of California, Riverside
“El Monte, CA Speaks: Subaltern Cartographies in the Urban Dialectic”

Hande Tekdemir, University of Southern California
“Survival Tactics in Fiction and Reality: Can Magical Realism Represent the Magic Reality of City Life?”
Marit J. MacArthur, University of California at Davis
“Where Does the Freeway Lead? Pynchon’s Farcical Quest, Didion’s Tragedy”

6B
“A Dark Turn of Mind”: Watching *Deadwood*

Chair: Kenneth Speirs, Long Beach City College

Adam Fischer, California State University, Los Angeles
“‘Hold Fast Your Valuables’: The Unification of America in *Deadwood*”

Christopher Rock, California State University, Los Angeles
“*Deadwood*: Dispelling American Myths in Order to Reconnect with American History”

Kenneth Speirs
“‘Moving to Justify Theirselves’: Negotiating the Rule of Law in *Deadwood*”

6C
Ken Kesey: Taking Stock of a Literary and Extra-Literary Life

Robert Faggen, Claremont McKenna College
“Ken Kesey: The Author as Trickster and Celebrity”

Bennett Huffman, Western Oregon University
“Balancing Biography with Cultural Criticism in the Study of Ken Kesey”

Richard Hill, Concordia University
“Ken Kesey and Revolution”

6D
Bewilderments: Rhetorics of Nature in the Urban Northwest

Chair: Matthew Stadler

Matthew Stadler
“Kayaking to Work Downtown: Class and the Literature of Urban Renewal”

Diana George
“Serial Spaces: A Pacific Northwest Biopolitics”

Charles Tonderai Mudede
“The Force of Freeway Park”

Colin Booy, Duke University
“Utopia and the Production of Locality in Literatures of the Pacific Northwest”

6E Hollywood and the Literary Imagination

Jason Gallagher, University of Illinois-Springfield

Lawrence Coates, Bowling Green State University
“Two Hollywood Tales: Sinclair’s The Golden Scenario and West’s The Day of the Locust”

Christine Daley, City University of New York Graduate Center
“Hollywood Acolytes: The Silver Screen as Instrument of Human Redemption”

Nancy Cook, University of Montana
“The Outskirts of Fame: Close Encounters with the L.A. Entertainment Industry”

6F Leslie Marmon Silko: Loss, Recovery, and Storytelling

Ikue Kina, University of the Ryukyus (Japan)
“Re-Visioning the ‘Garden’: Leslie Marmon Silko’s Gardens in the Dunes as a New Narrative of Recovery”

Nina G. Bjornsson, Eastern New Mexico University
“Silko’s Storyteller in Iceland”

Sara Spurgeon, Texas Tech University
“When the Border/Off the Map: Wars of Memory and Forgetting in Silko’s Almanac of the Dead”

6G Recovering Histories of the “Left” Coast
Kathleen A. Brown, St Edward’s University
“‘Creative Radicalism’: Robert Whitaker and the West Coast Literary Left”

Mario T. Garcia, University of Santa Barbara

6H  Growing Up in L.A. (or Under its Stars)

Richard Hunt, Delaware Valley College
“Clearcutting”

Stephen Cook, California State University, Sacramento
“High Desert and Ocean, Cowboy and Surfer: Growing Up in Southern California”

Angela Glover, University of Nebraska-Omaha
“Love in the Afternoon”

Fri. 11:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m.  SESSION SEVEN

7A  Reconsidering Nativism in the Modern(ist) West

Chair: Marit J. MacArthur, University of California at Davis

Geneva Gano, University of California, Los Angeles
“‘That great cosmopolitan country’: Willa Cather’s Borderlands

Matthias Schubnell, University of the Incarnate Word
“A Story for Polly: Americanization and Neighborization in Willa Cather’s ‘Neighbour Rosicky’”

Julianne Newmark, University of New Mexico
“Place, Not Race: Neonativism as a Correction to Walter Benn Michaels’s Nativist Modernism”

Anna Carew-Miller, Post University
“Edward Sheriff Curtis and The North American Indian: ‘The Vanishing Race’ or Living Culture?”
7B  The Urban West: Industrial Pasts, Postmodern Presents, and *Blade Runner* Futures

Chair: Robert Bennett, Montana State University

John Trombold
The City as Epic Subject: The Urban Literature of Portland and Seattle

Homer B. Pettey, University of Arizona
“Topographic Economies in *Thieves Highway* (1949)”

David Larson, Montana State University
“*Bladerunner* (1982/1993) and the Supplemental ‘Thirding’ of Memory

7C  Contemporary Western Voices: Creative Readings

Gerald Locklin, California State University, Long Beach

Zachary Locklin

Patricia Cherin, California State University, Dominguez Hills

Michael L. Johnson, University of Kansas
“To by God Set the Record Straight: A Poetic Debunking of Western Romance”

7D  Follow the Father, Forget the Father, Become the Father: Women Writers Struggle with Patriarchy on the Frontier

Chair: Kathryn West, Bellarmine University

Patricia L. Kalayjian, California State University, Dominguez Hills
“Oh Father, My Father”: Magawisca’s Plea in *Hope Leslie*

John Orr, University of Portland
“Portrait of the Artist as a Triple Minority: Mourning Dove’s Struggle for Artistic Autonomy”

Kathryn West
“Bending the Rule(s) of the Father(s): Agnes as Priest in Erdrich’s The Last Report on the Miracles at Little No Horse”

Linda Trinh Moser, Southwest Missouri State University
“Evocations of Patriarchy in Vietnamese American Literature”

7E
The Basque West

David Rio, University of the Basque Country (Vitoria, Spain)
“To Look Forward as Well as Backward: The Basque Legacy in Monique Urza’s The Deep Blue Memory”

Monika Madinabeitia, University of the Basque Country
“Basques in Frank Bergon’s West”

Frank Bergon, Vassar College
“The Basque Hotels of California”

7F
New Perspectives on Native American Literature

Tim Ackerman, Northwest Missouri State University
“Changing Stories: Media, History, and Personal Memory in Sherman Alexie’s The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven”

Bud Hirsch, University of Kansas
“American Indian Literature and the Comedy of Doubt and Wonder”

Reginald Dyck, Capital University
“Middle Class Dreaming on an Urban Reservation: Greg Sarris’s Grand Avenue”

7G
Theorizing Western Memory, Feeling, and Life Writing

Kathleen Boardman, University of Nevada, Reno
“Place and the Art of Memory in Western Life Writing”

Tara Penry, Boise State University
“Theorizing Emotion in Contemporary Western Life Writing”

Ken Melichar, Piedmont College
“Theoretical Thoughts on Cultures of Memory”
Black Masculinities and Western Geographies, Past and Present

Amanda Miller Plaizier, Utah State University
“Deadwood Dick and Quasi-Cowboy: Definitions of Self in the Photography of Nat Love”

Helen L. Fountain, University of Nebraska, Omaha
“Points West: The Monstrous Geography of Passing and Progress in Wallace Thurman’s The Blacker the Berry (1929)”

Heather Robison, Utah State University
“California Love: The Legacy of Black Western Masculinity”

Fri. 12:45-2:00 p.m. SESSION EIGHT

Roundtable: Science in the Western American Imagination

Moderator: Gioia Woods, Northern Arizona University

Alison Deming, University of Arizona

Annette McGiveny, Northern Arizona University

Gary Nabhan, Northern Arizona University

Lauret Savoy, Mount Holyoke College

Detecting the Fictions of L.A. / L.A. in Fiction and Film

Anne Kaufman, Milton Academy
“The Last Best Refuge: Robert Crais’ Los Angeles

Toni Jensen, Texas Tech University
“Subversion of Genre and Geography: The Metaphor of the Freeway in Two Detective Fictions—Pynchon’s The Crying of Lot 49 and Yamashita’s Tropic of Orange”

Matthew Elliott, Emmanuel College
“‘Out of an American Pale’: John Fante’s Los Angeles and the Fictions of Whiteness”

Patricia Felisa Barbeito, Rhode Island School of Design
“Fear and Dreaming in L.A.: Chester Himes’s If He Hollers Let Him Go and Michael Mann’s Collateral”

8C  Consciousness and Memory in Willa Cather’s Narrative Art

Matthew Heimburger, University of Utah
“Existing with Fortitude: The Roles of Relativity, Uncertainty, and Consciousness in Willa Cather’s The Professor’s House”

Chris Kemp, Butler Community College
“Children of the Moon: The Search for Kinship and the Power of Memory in the Novels of Willa Cather”

Lee Clark Mitchell, Princeton University
“Memory and Loss of Narrative in Cather’s The Professor’s House”

8D  New Perspectives on American Indian Literature and Film

Matthew J. Lavin, Utah State University
“Western Roots, Eastern Audience: Marketing and Resisting the Exotic in Zitkala-Sa’s Serial Autobiography”

Lisa King, University of Kansas
“Visions and Re-Visions of a Catholic Priest: Syncretism in Erdrich’s Father Damien in The Last Report on the Miracles at Little No Horse”

Matt Burkhart, University of Arizona
“Refracting Old Stories through New Lenses: The Restorative Impulse in The Return of Navajo Boy”

8E  Between History and Language: Memory and Forgetting in Chicano/a and Latino/a Cultures

Sandra L. Dahlberg, University of Houston-Downtown
“Convenient Forgetfulness and the Art of Defense in Pérez de Villagrá’s History of New Mexico”

John Alba Cutler, University of California, Los Angeles
“Chicanos on the New Frontier: Viet Nam, History, and Memory”

Ellen McCracken, University of California, Santa Barbara
“Reclaiming Hispano Ethnicity: Fray Angelico Chavez and the Santa Fe Writers Group”

Edrik López, University of California, Berkeley
“Spanglish Texts”

Fri. 2:15-3:30 p.m.  SESSION NINE

9A  Zones of Contact

Chair: Stephen Tatum, University of Utah

Audrey Goodman, Georgia State University
“Photographs of the U.S.-Mexican Border”

John Beck, University of New Castle
“The West as Catastrophe: Clarence King, Mike Davis, and the Politics of Contingency”

Neil Campbell, University of Derby
“Feasts of Wire: Ruben Martinez’s Crossing Over”

9B  Masculinity, Movement, and Space in Chicano Fiction and Film

James Lambert, University of Arizona
“‘To Garza’s Barber Shop goes all that is good and bad’: Hybrid Identity and Masculine Space in Mario Suárez’s El Hoyo Story Cycle”

Juan J. Alonzo, Texas A&M University
“Contesting the Representation of Mexican Masculinity in The Ballad of Gregorio Cortéz”

Gregory Nicholson, Michigan State University
“Diasporic (Im)Mobility: Power and Movement in Carlos Bulosan’s America is in the Heart”

Bridget Hoida, University of Southern California
“The California Palimpsest: Unfolding the Papered People of Raymond Barrio and Salvador Plascencia”
Natural and Unnatural History: Ecocritical Perspectives

Ian F. Roberts, Missouri Western State University
“Remembrance of Things Pliocene: Western Literature and Evolutionary Ethics”

Rebecca Raglon, University of British Columbia
“Our Natural History: Messages from Frederick R. Gehlbach’s Texas Ravine”

George Handley, Brigham Young University
“The Amnesia of Landscape: An Ecocritical Reading of Marilynne Robinson”

Lauri Ricou, University of British Columbia
“Fructis Personae”

New Perspectives on Nineteenth-Century Literary California

Ken Stewart, University of Chicago
“Whitewashing and Historical Contingency: The Squatter and the Don and The Octopus”

Glenna Matthews, University of California, Berkeley
“Thomas Starr King and the Launching of Literary California”

Karen Ramirez, University of Colorado
“Helen Hunt Jackson’s Ramona and the Creation of Southern California as an ‘Authentic’ Dwelling Place”

Realism and Western Realities in (and in Response to) Anglo Women’s Writing on the Frontier

Noreen Groover Lape, Columbus State University

Doug Werden, West Texas A&M University
“Is there any Realism in these Letters?: Letter Writing and Travel Writing Conventions in Elinore Pruitt Stewart’s Letters of a Woman Homesteader”

Deborah Paes de Barros, Palomar College
“Faulty Recall: Dismembering the Pasts of Mary Hallock Foote, Mary Austin, and Joan Didion”

9F

Masculinity, Intimacy, and Revenge in the Popular Western: Rethinking Owen Wister and Max Brand

Jefferson D. Slagle, Ohio State University
“‘Enter the Man’: Authenticity and Display in The Virginian”

Daniel Worden, Brandeis University
“Marrying Men: Intimacy in Owen Wister’s The Virginian”

Paul Varner, “Max Brand’s Destry Rides Again: Unconventional Revenge”

9G

West of Hollywood: Film, Forgetting, and Flashbacks

Cheryl-Anne Panlilio, University of Southern California
“‘Tipping is Un-American’: Forgetting a Foreign, Yet Familiar Past in Robert Emmett Sherwood’s The Petrified Forest”

Patricia Donaher, Missouri Western State University
“‘Lest We Forget’: Remembrance and Healing in John Ford’s She Wore a Yellow Ribbon”

Craig Rinne, University of Florida
“Flashbacks, Memory, and History in Sergio Leone’s For a Few Dollars More and Once Upon a Time in the West”

Mark Busby, Texas State University
“Channelling Clint and Sergio: Robert Rodriguez’s Southwestern Trilogy”

9H

Apocalypse Now and Then

Gerald Vizenor, University of New Mexico and University of California, Berkeley
“War at Sugar Point: Narratives of Disaster and Sovereignty”
Kathleen Moran, University of California, Berkeley
“Nathanael West, ‘the people’, and the Popular Front”
Christine Palmer, University of California, Berkeley
“Destroying California”

Fri. 3:45-5:00 p.m.  PLENARY

In Cities Lies the Preservation of Nature Writing: A Writers’ Roundtable
Chair: Douglas Burton-Christie, Loyola Marymount University
D.J. Waldie
Eloise Klein Healy
William Fox
Jenny Price
Susan Zakin
Michael P. Cohen

Fri. 5:00-5:45 p.m.  Reading: T.C. Boyle

Fri. 5:45-6:15 p.m.  Reading: Salvador Plascencia

Fri. 5:45-6:15 p.m.  Reading: Karen Tei Yamashita

Fri. 5:45-7:00 p.m.  Minority Scholars and Friends Reception

Fri. 7 p.m.  ANNUAL WLA AWARDS BANQUET AND DANCE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22ND
8:00 a.m.-noon Book Exhibit

8:00 a.m.-9:15 a.m. SESSION TEN

10A Watching Deadwood (Part II)

Chad Hammett, Texas State University
“Return of the TV Western: What Deadwood Means”

John Donahue, Champlain Regional College (Quebec)
“From Roaring Camp to Deadwood”

Jennilyn Merten, University of Utah
“How to Write a Western: Deadwood, Public Memory, and HBO’s Wild West”

10B Deep Mapping and Ecotones: Writing on Plains, Deserts, and Suburbs

Hal Crimmel, Weber State University
“Where Rivers Struggle: Invasive Species and the Canyons of the Green and Yampa”

Linda H. Ross, University of Wyoming
“Blow-hards and Blizzards: Winter Weather on the Plains”

Susan N. Maher, University of Nebraska, Omaha

Andrew Wingfield, George Mason University
“Hear Him Roar”

10C Mortal Fathers and Families: Contemporary Mormon Memoir

Maure Smith, Utah State University
“In Memoriam”

Russ Beck, Utah State University
“Obligatory: (re)Inventing the Past to Forget the Future”
Robb Kunz, Utah State University
“Body Language”

10D  Readings of Contemporary Wests

Lowell Mick White, Texas A & M University
“Brindled Pit Bull”

C. McKenzie, University of Arizona
“In the Longest Shadow of the Big Daddy: A Political Essay”

Melissa Bowles, Utah State University
“Buying Into the Farm”

Sat. 9:15 a.m.-10:30 a.m.  WLA Business Meeting and Coffee Hour

Sat. 10:30-11:45 a.m.  WLA Readers’ Theater

Sat. 11:00 a.m.  Buses for Field Trips depart