

UBC Public Humanities Hub

Vancouver Campus



ANNUAL REPORT 2019/20

INCUBATE. COLLABORATE. COMMUNICATE. ADVOCATE.



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LETTER FROM THE ACADEMIC DIRECTOR

When the Public Humanities Hub was founded in July 2019 as a three-year pilot to foster collaboration among Humanities scholars in Arts, Law, and Education at UBC-Vancouver, between scholars at UBC's two campuses, and between academic and community partners, it was nothing but a vision and an empty office in the 6th floor of Buchanan Tower. Today, thanks to the hard work of a dynamic steering committee, a creative and passionate staff, energized Humanities researchers, and keen community partners, the Public Humanities Hub has become a true centre of activity for Humanities research. It's also become a driver of public engagement at UBC-Vancouver and beyond.



2019-20 was an exceptional year for humanity, not just for our fledgling Humanities Hub! The racist violence and hate crimes, violated Aboriginal title claims, forced migrations, climate change, and a global pandemic were some of the many challenges that dominated the headlines. The public turned repeatedly to Humanities researchers for critical lenses through which to understand these issues. Clearly, many Humanities scholars equipped with anti-colonial, anti-racist intellectual tools and historical perspectives have the potential to help society understand these issues and to imagine and build a better world. The Public Humanities Hub is committed to creating a more inclusive Humanities by encouraging progressive methodologies and working against some of the more exclusive assumptions that have underpinned some past Humanities work.

Moving our planned face-to-face events entirely online in March because of COVID restrictions promises to extend the reach and impact of UBC Humanities scholarship even further, as our ideas can be shared with new audiences around the world. We are excited by the potential partnerships and collaborations our online engagements will foster. Moving online also invites us to think more deliberately about the question of accessibility to all our events, something we will work on in the coming year!

Those of us who have worked to build the Public Humanities Hub this year have been inspired by four guiding verbs—**INCUBATE. COLLABORATE. COMMUNICATE. ADVOCATE.**—and I hope this annual report contains ample evidence that we have been busy doing all these things this year!

Let me add a fifth verb—**CELEBRATE**—because I could not be prouder of what the Hub and our colleagues and partners have accomplished in the space of our inaugural year of working together!

The Public Humanities Hub staff and I look forward to working with you all in the coming year, whether virtually or in person!

Mary Chapman
Academic Director



OVERVIEW

About the Creation of the Public Humanities Hub

UBC-Vancouver's Public Humanities Hub is a three-year pilot project established in 2019 to foster and support collaborative research and to highlight and develop public-facing research in the Humanities in the Faculty of Arts, the Allard School of Law, and the Faculty of Education, at UBC-Vancouver. UBC-Vancouver's Public Humanities Hub is the result of wide consultation with UBC Humanities researchers beginning over a decade ago. It has been developed to provide support fitting the nature of collaborations within the Humanities. This pilot was designed by former Associate Dean of Research (Arts) Matthew Evenden and an advisory group, in collaboration with the Faculty of Arts, the Faculty of Education, and the Peter A. Allard School of Law, and with the support of the offices of the President, the Provost and VP-Academic, and the VP-Research and Innovation. The Public Humanities Hub supports a number of Research Excellence strategies identified in [UBC's Strategic Plan](#), including Strategy 6: Collaborative Clusters; Strategy 7: Research Support; Strategy 9: Knowledge Exchange; and Strategy 10: Research Culture. UBC-Vancouver's Hub will collaborate with a parallel Public Humanities Hub at UBC-Okanagan.



AT A GLANCE

Mission

The Hub fosters incubation, cultivates collaboration, inspires communication, and promotes advocacy of research excellence in the public humanities at UBC-Vancouver and beyond.

Vision

The Public Humanities Hub functions as an interdisciplinary academic hub for faculty, graduate students, and staff. It imagines the Humanities as innately public and fosters a rich public humanities community at UBC through deliberately designed scholarly engagements.

Values

The Hub imagines Humanities knowledge creation and dissemination as interdisciplinary, collaborative, community-engaged, equitable, sustainable, inclusive, accessible, and technologically supported.



HIGHLIGHTS OF 2019/20

Photo by Hover Collective / UBC Brand & Marketing

SURVEYED

123

UBC HUMANITIES FACULTY TO
INFORM HUB GOALS, STRATEGY
AND PROGRAMMING

HOSTED

12

PUBLIC EVENTS

WITH

452

ATTENDEES

AWARDED

4

PUBLIC HUMANITIES FELLOWS
COURSE RELEASES

HOSTED

3

NETWORKING AND BRAINSTORMING EVENTS FOR
FACULTY AND GRADUATE STUDENTS THAT LED TO A
VIRTUAL CONFERENCE, THE FORMATION OF
WORKING GROUPS, AND FACULTY PARTICIPATION
IN COMMUNITY PARTNER PROGRAMMING

AWARDED

\$50,050

TO 5 RESEARCH CLUSTERS

ENGAGED

774

SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWERS ACROSS FACEBOOK,
INSTAGRAM, TWITTER AND YOUTUBE PLATFORMS

 ***in·cu·bate***

/'ɪnkjuːbeɪt/

verb

*to cause or aid the
development of an idea*

The Public Humanities Hub recognizes the challenges of **incubating** research projects and Humanities careers and sees one of its key responsibilities as supporting faculty and graduate students through its Public Humanities Fellowship Program, support for Digital Humanities research, and its consultations with faculty and graduate students.



INCUBATING IDEAS THROUGH THE PUBLIC HUMANITIES FACULTY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

The Public Humanities Faculty Fellowship Program provides course releases for up to four full-time, tenured or tenure-track UBC faculty members (in research and educational leadership streams) in Arts, Law and Education to **incubate** individual Humanities-oriented research projects requiring dedicated release time. These awards enable award holders to do research in an interdisciplinary community of scholars and to explore ways to share their research more broadly. Hub Fellowship funding can serve as matching funds for future grant applications.



2019/20 PUBLIC HUMANITIES FACULTY FELLOWS

“The Public Humanities Hub fellowship provided me the time, space, and collegial support I needed to finish both my book and film. In January 2020, when I took up the fellowship, a lot of work still needed to be done to complete the project. Even more needed to be done when COVID-19 and then mass uprisings against racial injustice in the wake of George Floyd’s police killing happened, both of which—I felt strongly—had to be integrated into the project. It became a real challenge to finish—we unlocked the film twice, and I was madly writing copy for the book as it was on its way to the printer—and the Hub fellowship was instrumental in enabling me to meet these deadlines.”

Hub-sponsored Public Event

January 21, 2020 Public Scholarship Workshop: Trade Books: Writing and pitching non-fiction for general audience. A book launch and film screening are being planned for next year.

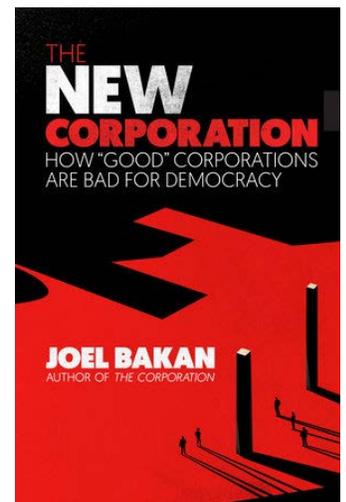


Joel Bakan

Peter A. Allard School of Law

“The New Corporation”

Law Professor Joel Bakan’s sequels to his award-winning 2004 book and documentary film both titled *The Corporation* are coming soon. A new book and documentary film titled *The New Corporation* will engage with CEOs, economists, philosophers, politicians, and activists to further examine the rising influence of corporate power over politics, the environment, and societies at large, and instigate new conversations about governance and public action.





Adam Frank

Department of English Language
& Literatures

"Radio Free Stein (Boxed Set)"

Drawing on his exploration of modernist American writer Gertrude Stein's poetics in relation to twentieth- and twenty-first century North American musical composition, Adam Frank used the fellowship to stage a collaborative sound interpretation of one of Stein's avant-garde dramatic works.



"As a Public Humanities Hub Fellow, I accomplished several things related to my Radio Free Stein project. First, I made good progress on a book called Radio Free Stein (Boxed Set), completing a chapter on 'Gertrude Stein's Radio Audience' that explores Stein's 1934 radio interview and offers a 'physiognomic' analysis that takes up Theodor Adorno's writing on radio. Second, I pursued the public-facing RADIO FREE RADIO, a live audio YouTube broadcast that presents Radio Free Stein's musical melodramas based on selected Stein plays. These bi-weekly episodes will feature musical excerpts, discussion with the project's composers, and Zoom Q&A with listeners in the style of a radio call-in show. And finally, I wrote an essay on Canadian pianist Glenn Gould's contrapuntal radio which will appear next year in an edited book collection on neo-avant garde radio. A good year, and many thanks to the Public Humanities Hub!"

**Hub-sponsored Public Event
October 14 - December 9, 2020**

Five podcast episodes featuring discussions with guest composers about the experimental plays of Gertrude Stein.

"Working on the reader was a phenomenal experience. It's wonderful, as a student of Classics, to see life being breathed back into the field in new and interesting ways such as Dr. McElduff has done. To be translating a section of *The Golden Ass* and then checking its code a moment later is really something special."

- James Mckitrick

UnRoman Romans

Chatting with OER Champions Interview



Hub-sponsored Public Event

March 3, 2020 Pixellating: Digital Humanities Project Showcase of *UnRoman Romans*, hosted by UBC Library Research Commons.



Siobhán McElduff
Department of Classical, Near Eastern & Religious Studies

"*UnRoman Romans*: Enabled Public Scholarship"

Together with undergraduate students Keith Warner-Harder, James Mckitrick, Sophie Roth, Danielle Lee, and Grace Guy, Siobhán McElduff has produced an Open Education Resource that goes beyond materials that present a homogenized view of the Roman empire by bringing together ancient sources treating social outsiders such as bandits, entertainers, gender-nonconformists, sex workers, and witches. Siobhán McElduff was recognized in 2020 as a UBC OER Champion.



Bonny Norton

Department of Language &
Literacy Education

*“Translation, identity, and the
Global Storybooks initiative”*

Through her collaborative analysis of translation data, Bonny Norton will guide Global Storybooks translators’ negotiation of linguistic and cultural issues in the translation process for multilingual storybooks, enriching the free online literacy resource, and promoting children and youth literacy around the world.



“It was a privilege to be appointed an inaugural Public Humanities Fellow. In addition to connecting with an exciting range of scholars within and beyond UBC, I had the opportunity to advance my work on the Global Storybooks project. Working with PhD candidate Liam Doherty, I co-authored an article on the project for The Conversation, which has had over 27,000 readers. We also co-authored an article for a teachers’ journal in the UK and a chapter for a Cambridge UP publication. The support the Hub provided me to advance my work was instrumental to my being awarded 2020 Academic of the Year by BC CUFA. I look forward to further connection with the Hub in the coming years.”

Hub-sponsored Public Event

March 12, 2020 “Translation, Multilingualism, and the Global Storybooks Project”, co-sponsored by the Language and Literacy Education, Public Humanities Hub, and the Language Sciences Initiative.

“The Global Storybooks project is truly global. With Dr. Norton’s guidance we have partnered with countless organizations around the world to create customized, free, and open educational resources adapted to local contexts. In the past year, we have worked with Education Without Borders, the Language Sciences Initiative at UBC, Vancouver School Board, Mosaic, and Umoja in Vancouver, and Saide in South Africa (where the origins of the project began).”

- Liam Doherty, LLED PhD candidate,
Public Humanities Graduate Fellow

INCUBATING DIGITAL HUMANITIES SCHOLARSHIP

Brainstorming Lunch

Digital Humanities researchers have been busy at UBC for several years **incubating** projects, but finding collaborators, and building teams have been challenging, according to faculty we surveyed this year. To build on the achievements of the Digital Salon Initiative founded by Kevin Fisher and Siobhán McElduff as well as on the UBC Library's Pixellating Series, and to help **incubate** further DH research at UBC, the Hub hosted a lunch to discuss DH initiatives and resources on campus and to explore the formation of a UBC DH working group. 21 faculty, graduate students, and staff met to discuss creating stronger connections between Arts ISIT, Advanced Research Computing, UBC Library, and Humanities faculty, and to identify computational and data management needs for Humanities scholars.



Photo by Mike Latschislaw

DH Office Hours, Co-sponsored by Advanced Research Computing and Arts ISIT

One support proposed at the Brainstorming lunch was a bi-weekly office hour at which DH scholars at any stage of a project could strategize about their data and computing needs with Megan Meredith-Lobay, Research Specialist, Humanities and Social Sciences at Advanced Research Computing. This year, Megan helped **incubate** fledgling projects and support more established projects.

 **col·lab·o·rate**

/kə'læbə,reit/

verb

*to work jointly on an activity,
especially to produce or
create something*

Fostering interdisciplinary **collaboration** is a central priority in UBC's strategic plan and a key goal of the Public Humanities Hub. The Hub supports **collaboration** between faculty members, graduate students, and other universities and community partners through its Research Cluster funding, Working Groups, and Partnerships with other units at UBC, other universities, and community groups.

RESEARCH CLUSTERS

Public Humanities Hub Research Cluster grants are intended to promote interdisciplinary research activity and **collaboration** among Humanities scholars at UBC and to help collaborators secure additional funding. The adjudication committee aims for diversity and representation among the recipients in terms of career stage, disciplines, gender, etc. This year, the Hub funded five research clusters.



Eurasia Research Cluster |

Katherine Bowers (Central, Eastern & Northern European Studies) is the principal investigator in a cluster focused on multidisciplinary research of the Eurasia region.



Tracing the Scribe: Reassessing Professional Networks in the Paris Book Trade |

Erik Kwakkel (School of Information) is the principal investigator in a cluster exploring professional networks in 14th-century European book trade.



Unsettling Victorians: A Rare Books Exhibition for NAVSA 2020 |

Gregory Mackie (English Language & Literatures) is the principal investigator in a cluster curating a Victorian rare books exhibition.



Reasonable Trust: Fostering Humanities Methods in Public Engagement with Science and Technology |

Alan Richardson (Philosophy) is the principal investigator in a cluster exploring public trust in science.



Critical Image Forum: Research in Photography and Expanded Documentary |

Althea Thauberger (Art History, Visual Art & Theory) is the principal investigator in a cluster exploring photographic literacy.



WORKING GROUPS

Photo by Jed Anderson

This year, the Public Humanities Hub set up two Working Groups.

The Digital Humanities Working Group fosters **collaboration** among UBC DH researchers, their students, and community partners. After an August 2019 brainstorming lunch, Hub staff and a two-campus DH committee began to plan a [Digital Humanities conference](#) on the theme of **Collaboration** for October 2020, contributed to the UBC Library Pixellating series, and advocated for greater DH infrastructure at UBC.

The Artificial Intelligence and the Humanities Working Group fosters **collaboration** among UBC Humanities researchers working on AI. This year, it organized a lunch with Vancouver Art Gallery curator Bruce Grenville to discuss a 2022 Vancouver Art Gallery exhibition on AI and Creativity and supplied moderators for an event about AI co-sponsored by the Vancouver Art Gallery and the Vancouver International Film Festival.

The Hub has plans to set up 3 additional working groups in the areas of Health Humanities, Environmental Humanities, and Global Humanities next year. Stay tuned!

UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS

Collaborating With Other Units at UBC

This year, the Hub co-sponsored events with the Public Scholars Initiative, Language Sciences Initiative, the Departments of English, History, and Language & Literacy Education, Social Justice Institute, and the School of Music, provided moderators and speakers for events at the Chan Centre, promised matching funds for a successful CFI grant application, and advised SPARC, the Knowledge Exchange, the Office of Community Engagement, and the Research Commons about ways to engage Humanities scholars at UBC.



We also **collaborated** with UBC-Okanagan's Public Humanities Hub to plan "Human Matters", a Summer 2020 conference co-sponsored by the Western Humanities Alliance and with numerous non-teaching units at UBC.



"We love your ideas and enthusiasm and I have had a number of emails already from other faculty thanks to you."

- Joyce Hinton, Co-Managing Director,
Chan Centre for the Performing Arts



Simpson Center for the Humanities at the University of Washington

This year, as part of the Hub's efforts to establish a Pacific Northwest/Cascadia Region community of scholars, the Hub organized a campus visit by faculty, graduate students, and staff members from the Simpson Center for the Humanities at the University of Washington. Co-sponsored by the UBC Public Scholars Initiative and the Simpson Center, the Hub welcomed University of Washington Humanities faculty and graduate students for an afternoon of lightning talks on their publicly engaged teaching and scholarship featuring

- Jason Groves, Assistant Professor of Germanics
- Leigh Mercer, Associate Professor of Spanish
- Chelsea Grimmer, Lecturer, Department of English
- Isaac Rivera, PhD student, Department of Geography

UBC graduate students also met with Rachel Arteaga (Assistant Director), Annie Dwyer (Assistant Program Director), and Chelsea Grimmer (Lecturer) of the Simpson Center's new Mellon-funded "Reimagining the Humanities PhD and Reaching New Publics: Catalyzing Collaboration" program over refreshments to discuss various public scholarship projects and alternative-academic career opportunities for Humanities PhD graduates.



UBC students, faculty, and staff also booked one-on-one consultations and group meetings with Simpson Center guests for more in-depth conversations about conducting community-engaged work. A reciprocal visit by Hub members to the Simpson Center is being planned for 2021-2022.



FOSTERING COLLABORATION WITH COMMUNITY GROUPS

Throughout the year, Hub Academic Director and staff met with community groups and organizations including the Vancouver Art Gallery, the Vancouver International Film Festival, and Roedde House Museum to explore the potential for future **collaborations**, engage with audiences who are seeking faculty expertise, and facilitate knowledge exchange between the university and the broader community.

This year, the Public Humanities Hub began **collaborating** with the Vancouver International Film Festival, by providing facilitators for two of VIFF's "Creator Labs": Phaniel Antwi (English Language & Literatures) facilitated "RaMell Ross on The Resistance of Form" and Dory Nason (Social Justice Institute and the Institute for Critical Indigenous Studies) facilitated "Marie Clements on Story as Survival".

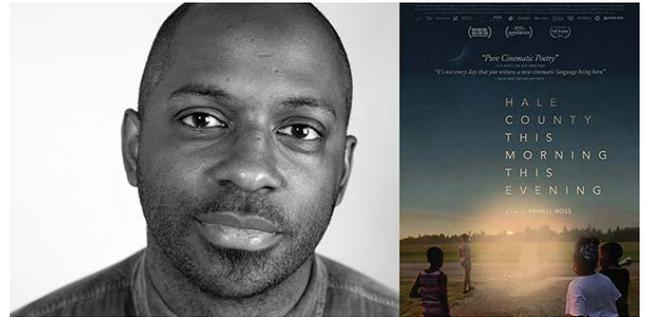


Photo via VIFF



Photo by Emily Cooper via VIFF



"I had the honour of hosting an Indigenous-focused Creator Lab at the Vancouver International Film Festival with the amazing Marie Clements and a host of Indigenous filmmakers today. It was humbling and amazing. Indigenous cinema is where it's at."

- Dory Nason, Associate Professor of Teaching
Social Justice Institute





Photo by Oliver Mann

"I wanted to express my appreciation for your open-mindedness in working with the Festival. Your suggestions of Dory Nason and Phaniel Antwi are exactly what these sessions needed and were an incredible baseline for illuminating and inspiring conversations.

The UBC Humanities Hub's partnership with the Vancouver International Film Festival's Talks is a foundational relationship that has afforded our program an opportunity to flourish. By connecting the Hub's scholars with special film guests that we invite for live conversations at VIFF, we are privileged to experience an elevated and engaging discourse. We look forward to continuing our partnership in future years and believe that it's an invaluable partnership."

- Ken Tsui, Director of Creative Engagement & Live Programming, VIFF

The Hub was also thrilled to **collaborate** with the Vancouver Art Gallery. UBC Humanities faculty in the Hub's AI Working Group have advised Senior Curator Bruce Grenville about an exhibition on "The Imitation Game: Visual Culture in the Age of Artificial Intelligence" he is curating for February 19, 2022 - October 23, 2022. English faculty Phaniel Antwi and Danielle Wong moderated "Experimental AI Storyteller: Not the only One presented by Stephanie Dinkins", a conversation with African American artist Stephanie Dinkins about her AI-informed art work at an event co-sponsored by the Vancouver Art Gallery and VIFF on October 8, 2019.



Photo by Carlos Bonmati. Courtesy of the Vancouver International Film Festival.

Vancouver
Artgallery

Roedde House Museum

This year, the Hub began to formalize the existing partnership with this Vancouver West End historic house built in 1893 by German immigrant bookbinder Gustav Roedde. In the works are some UBC-curated exhibitions and community-engaged learning opportunities.



Photo from Roedde House Museum

 **com·mu·ni·cate**

/kə'mjunə,keɪt/

verb

to share or exchange

information, news, or ideas

Communicating the results of research is a crucial part of Humanities scholarship. To showcase recent scholarly research, the Public Humanities Hub co-sponsored presentations by visiting speakers on a variety of topics this year. To foster scholarly **communication** to broader audiences, the Public Humanities Hub, with help from UBC Media Relations, industry professionals, and academics, inaugurated a Public Scholarship Training Series, began to create complementary toolkits, and built a robust social media network through which to promote UBC Humanities research.

Humanities faculty used a variety of knowledge mobilization strategies to **communicate** their research and contribute to social change. They wrote op-eds and joint statements, presented at conferences, and spoke to national media and major networks to provide expert opinions on climate change, election discourse, Indigenous frameworks to develop better relations, Black Canadian history, and the role of journalism in times of crisis. They also used creative methods to showcase Humanities projects by coordinating staged readings and creating exhibitions to mark the anniversaries of historical events.

VISITING SPEAKERS

October 24, 2019

“Why Humanity Needs the Humanities Now”

Paul Yachnin, Tomlinson Professor of Shakespeare Studies,
McGill University

Co-sponsored with the Department of English Language & Literatures



January 8, 2020

“Mark Twain, George Luks and the Comic Grotesque”

Jean Lee Cole, Professor and Faculty Director of Community-Engaged Learning and Scholarship,
Loyola University Maryland

*Co-sponsored with the Department of History, Department of English Language & Literatures,
and Simon Fraser University Department of English*

January 28, 2020

“Exploring Environmental Humanities through Media-rich Visualizations”

Aleksandra Dulic, Director for the Centre for Culture and Technology, and Associate
Professor, Department of Creative Studies, UBC-Okanagan

Co-sponsored with the Department of Language & Literacy Education

March 12, 2020

“Operatic Redress: The Appropriation of Indigenous Song in the Opera *Louis Riel*”

Dylan Robinson, Assistant Professor and Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Arts, Queen's University, and Ian Cusson, composer, followed by a performance by soprano Melody Courage accompanied by Jonathan Girard conducting the UBC Chamber Orchestra

Co-sponsored with the UBC School of Music

Operatic Redress: The Appropriation of Indigenous Song in the Opera *Louis Riel*



PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP TRAINING SERIES

With access to tools, methods, and resources, any UBC Humanities scholar can become a public scholar. This series reflects on genres beyond the academic article and monograph through which Humanities faculty and graduate students can **communicate** their research more broadly and participate in the reciprocity of community-engaged work. This year's presentations focused on genres that our survey respondents expressed interest in learning more about.

November 4, 2019

"Communicating Research to Media"

Erik Rolfsen and Wan Yee Lok, UBC Media Relations Specialists, with an overview by Madeleine de Trenquallye, Editorial Communications Manager, Arts Communications

December 5, 2019

"Writing an Op-Ed"

Scott White, CEO and Editor-in-Chief, *The Conversation Canada*, and Michelle Stack, Associate Professor, Department of Educational Studies, UBC

January 21, 2020

"Trade Books: Writing and pitching non-fiction for general audience"

John Pearce, literary agent, Westwood Creative Artists, and Joel Bakan, Professor, Allard School of Law, and Writer/Producer of *The Corporation*

EVENT RECORDING | OP-ED TOOLKIT



EVENT RECORDING



March 6, 2020

"Podcasting as Peer-Reviewed Scholarship"

Hannah McGregor, Assistant Professor in Publishing, Simon Fraser University

Co-sponsored with the Institute for Gender, Race, Sexuality, and Social Justice

EVENT RECORDING | PODCASTING TOOLKIT

PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP TOOLKITS

As part of our Public Scholarship Series, the Hub has created a number of toolkits to assist with various kinds of public scholarship and practice. Each toolkit is themed around a specific kind of public scholarship.



Podcasts as Public Scholarship

Everything you want to know about how to produce a scholarly podcast at UBC, with examples of academics using this popular format to practice publicly engaged scholarship.



Exhibitions as Public Scholarship

How to develop a scholarly exhibit to deepen the impact of academic work by challenging us to shape, interpret, and **communicate** it in new and creative ways.



Op-Eds as Public Scholarship

A guide informed by expert op-ed writers on how Humanities scholars can connect with communities through an accessible genre, practice storytelling as **advocacy** and research dissemination, and shape their public academic profiles.

"Wow—thank you so much for this! We are just starting to explore publishing podcasts at *BC Studies* and this toolkit is an ideal resource. I look forward to checking it out in detail."

- Leanne Coughlin, Managing Editor,
BC Studies: The British Columbian Quarterly

 **ad·vo·cate**

/'ædvə,keɪt/

verb

*to publicly support or
recommend a particular
cause or policy*

Advocating—within UBC and beyond--for recognition of the value of Humanities research, particularly public-facing research—is a huge part of the Public Humanities Hub's mission. This year, we surveyed Humanities faculty and followed up on the results by **advocating** for enhanced Digital Humanities infrastructure at UBC-Vancouver and greater recognition in Tenure and Promotion and merit for public scholarship and community engagement.

🔊 **cel·e·brate**

/'sɛlə,breɪt/

verb

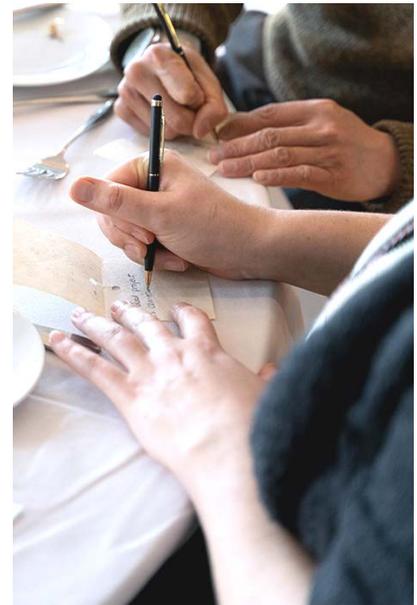
to honour or praise publicly



Celebrating the achievements of Humanities researchers at UBC is a key element of the Hub's mission. This year, there was a lot to **celebrate**.

AFTERNOON TEA AND SHOWCASE

On March 9, 2020, mere days before the UBC-Vancouver campus shut down because of COVID, Humanities faculty, students, administrators, staff, and community partners gathered for a Pacific-Rim inspired Afternoon Tea at the Sage Restaurant. That gathering was, for many of us, our last face-to-face social event before physical distancing measures made these kinds of events impossible. The Afternoon Tea's goals were to **celebrate** the Public Humanities Hub's inaugural year, to acknowledge the achievements of UBC Humanities researchers, and to think about how the Hub could support Humanities research in the coming year. After a welcome by Musqueam youth Alec Guerin, a slideshow showcasing recent Humanities publications, remarks by Dean of Arts Gage Averill and Hub Director Mary Chapman, and a draw for prizes donated by the Chan Centre, *Canadian Literature*, Roedde House, the Vancouver Art Gallery, and the Vancouver International Film Festival, our 119 guests wrote down their aspirations for the Hub on seed paper which the Hub will plant on campus soon.





"Your event at Sage was beautiful! Lots of ideas came after."
- Deb Pickman, Arts & Culture District

"Just wanted to congratulate you on yesterday's event. So well organized and executed and attended—and, I expect, productive of future things. Also, quite fun! Was very glad to be there."
- Judy Segal, English Language & Literatures



"What a great event! I just wanted to thank you (and your team) for all the work that went into it and all the work over the past year. It's hard to believe all that you have pulled together in such a short time. I bumped into several people today who were at the event and they all still had big smiles on their faces. In such troubled times, it was nice to have a proper celebration and to recognize all that has been accomplished."
- Matthew Evenden, Office of the Vice President, Research & Innovation



"What a beautiful idea to provide this seeded paper to enable our ideas to grow together on the Nest. My wish is that the Hub will continue to stimulate and foster inspiring events like this one."
- Nicola Levell, Anthropology



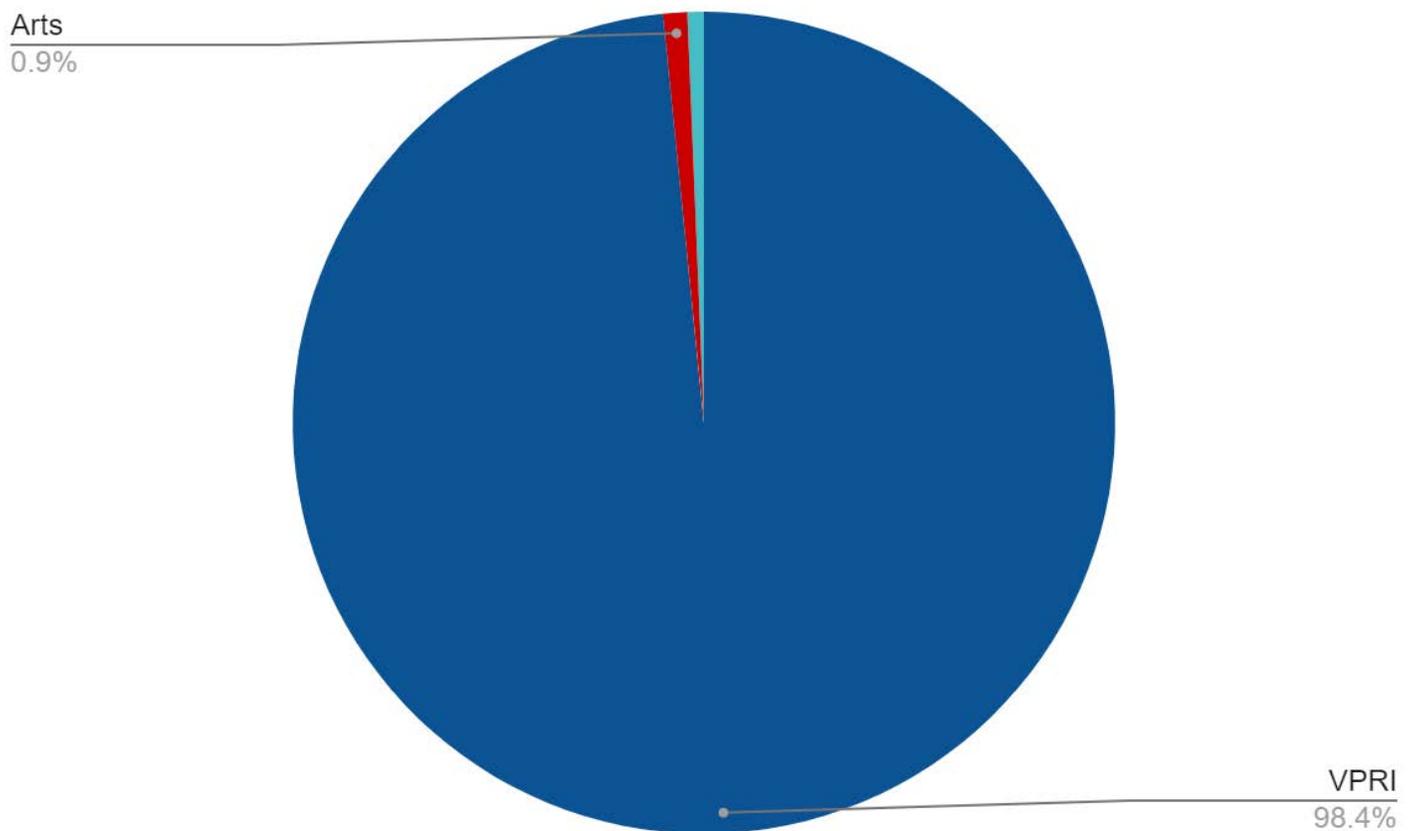
Photos by Oliver Mann

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Fiscal Year May 1, 2019 - April 30, 2020

The Public Humanities Hub was generously supported this year with funding from the Vice-President, Research and Innovation, the Faculty of Arts, and the Support Programs to Advance Research Capacity office.

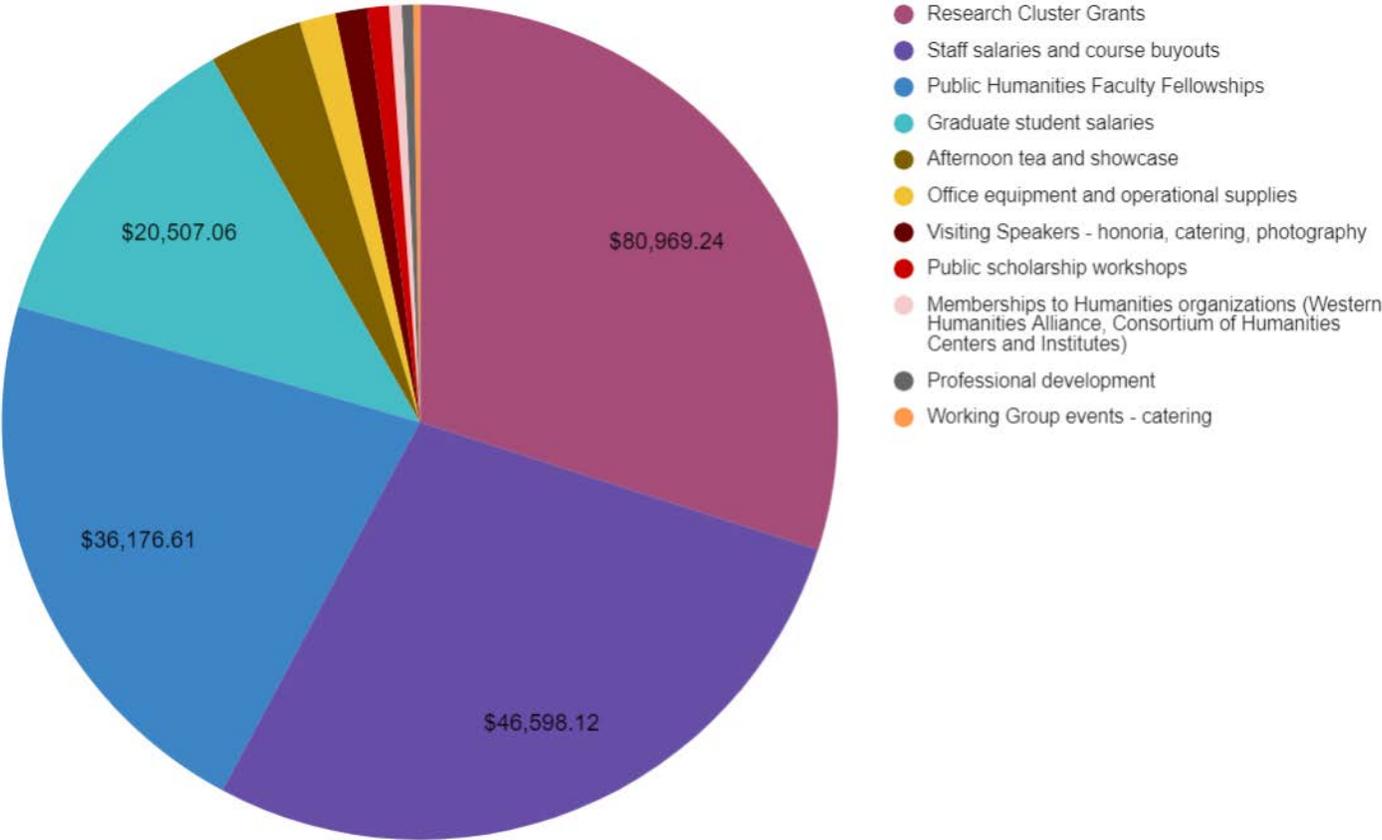
Funding Sources



FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Fiscal Year May 1, 2019 - April 30, 2020

Program Expenditures



HUB STAFF



Academic Director **Mary Chapman**

Professor, Department of English Language and Literatures

Mary Chapman is an award-winning scholar of American literature and culture. She has written for *The Conversation*, and been interviewed in *The Guardian*, *The Globe and Mail*, and the *Vancouver Sun*, and on podcasts *Think About It!*, *New Books Network*, and *She Votes*. Before entering academia, Professor Chapman worked as a Social Studies editor at Nelson Canada and as a researcher for “The Struggle for Democracy”, an award-winning ten-hour documentary television series aired on CBC and Channel Four.



Senior Program Assistant **Heather Joan Tam**

Heather was curator at the Bowen Island Museum & Archives where she curated exhibits on local history based on archival research and interviews, partnered with community organizations on annual events and fundraisers, and worked with students to research historical artifacts and create off-site displays. She has conducted research for documentary films on history in British Columbia and Canada, including *All Our Father's Relations* (dir. Alejandro Yoshizawa, 2016), and *Incorrigible: A Film About Velma Demerson* (dir. Karin Lee, forthcoming in 2021).

PUBLIC HUMANITIES GRADUATE ACADEMIC ASSISTANTS

The Hub mentors several UBC Humanities students each year through paid Graduate Academic Assistantships. GAAs help develop Hub programming and draft content for the website, toolkits, grant applications, and social media. They also represent graduate student perspectives on Hub subcommittees. Students are encouraged to design independent and team projects that enable them to develop skills they would like to learn while further developing skills they already have. Working for the Hub expands their career development opportunities and professional networks as they work with Humanities scholars from across UBC and beyond. These assistantships themselves function as forms of knowledge exchange as graduate students bring a refreshing, unique set of skills and knowledge to the Hub.



Gillian Glass is interested in mythmaking, storytelling, and sacred narratives. Her doctoral dissertation (in Classics, Near Eastern, and Religious Studies) considers the place of epiphanies (divine beings manifesting themselves to humans) in Jewish, Christian, and pagan fiction and novels from the 1st century BCE to the 4th century CE. This project compares ancient beliefs around interactions between humans and the divine, and the consequences (good and bad!) thereof. Gillian is a settler on Musqueam land. As a Graduate Academic Assistant, Gillian developed content for the Hub's social media and helped host live events.



Sydney Lines is a PhD student in English at UBC (Unceded Coast Salish Musqueam Territory). Her dissertation research focuses on the Romantic Century, roughly defined as the years between 1750-1850, and the resurgence of an Old Norse past in the literature and culture of the British Isles, particularly in the way it is used in nationalist mythmaking. She has several years experience working in alt-ac roles in higher education and museums, and in various kinds of cultural programming. She is a multifaceted creative thinker who loves big ideas, memorable stories, and gathering communities through participation in arts and culture. As a Graduate Academic Assistant, Sydney created the Public Humanities Hub website, advised on and built the Public Scholarship Toolkits, and assisted with event planning, strategic planning, and communications.



Ty Paradela is a doctoral candidate in History at UBC Vancouver. They are completing their dissertation on mass media audiences in the Philippines in the twentieth century. They are also directing the Babaylan Archive Project, an initiative to collect and organize materials on the history of queer organizing in the Philippines. Ty worked as a Graduate Academic Assistant for the UBC Public Humanities Hub when it was launched in Summer 2019 and led the development of a Public Humanities survey. Ty now works as a senior policy analyst at Women and Gender Equality Canada. They are currently based in Ottawa, Ontario.



Alyssa Sy de Jesus is completing her MA in English at UBC, Unceded Coast Salish Musqueam territory, in 2021. Her ongoing scholarship is on the conflation of taste, gender, and feeling in orientalist transports of the long eighteenth century and beyond. She has a growing background in research, programming, and curation for museums and cultural organizations (Roedde House Museum; The Vancouver Chinatown Foundation; LiterAsian Festival; and the Vancouver Fringe Festival). As a Graduate Academic Assistant, she was responsible for researching other Public Humanities programs and developing the Hub's first round of its Public Scholarship Series and online toolkits.



Joey Takeda is completing his MA in the Department of English at UBC with a focus on Asian North American literature and the digital humanities. He is currently the User Interface Developer at Simon Fraser University's Digital Humanities Innovation Lab and has experience as a consultant, researcher, and developer for digital humanities projects. At the Hub, Joey advised on various aspects of digital humanities infrastructure, recommending possible approaches for creating an accessible and sustainable DH infrastructure, and he helped facilitate collaboration between the Public Humanities Hub and other digital humanities initiatives.

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*The UBC-V Public Humanities Hub is located on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Musqueam (*xʷməθkwá'yəm*) people. The land it is situated on has always been a place of learning for the Musqueam, who for millennia have passed on their culture, history, and traditions from one generation to the next on this site.*