UBC Public Humanities Hub
Vancouver Campus

ANNUAL REPORT 2020/21

INCUBATE. COLLABORATE. COMMUNICATE. ADVOCATE. CELEBRATE.
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2020-21 was not the year that anyone expected. Nonetheless, it was an exciting second year for the Public Humanities Hub. A few days after the Hub celebrated Humanities Research at its March 2020 Afternoon Tea, UBC locked down because of the COVID pandemic and the Hub shifted into all-virtual mode. We learned quickly how to mute and unmute and keep everyone engaged! This past year, as a ‘virtual’ Hub, I’m proud to say that we doubled the number of public events that we hosted and quadrupled the number of attendees compared to our first year. At the same time, we increased our social media traction by 80%. Although a virtual hub was not what the members of the Advisory Board had in mind when they drafted the original proposal for a Public Humanities Hub, the dynamism that speakers achieved at online book launches, public scholarship training events, lectures, conference panels, etc. surprised us all! On the basis of that dynamism, the Hub is now committed to offering some of its programming online to continue to reach our diverse publics. At the same time, we are really looking forward to hosting some live events next year. Fingers crossed!
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<td>AWARDED</td>
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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 Faculty Fellowship Program, support for Digital Humanities research, and its consultations with faculty and graduate students.

**Incubating ideas through the Public Humanities Faculty Fellowship program**

Each year, the Public Humanities Faculty Fellowship Program provides course releases for up to four full-time, tenured or tenure-track UBC faculty members (in either research or educational leadership streams) in the Faculties of Arts and Education and the Allard School of Law to incubate individual humanities-oriented research projects requiring dedicated release time. These awards enable award holders to do their research in an interdisciplinary community of scholars and to explore ways to share their research more broadly and can serve as matching funds for future grant applications.
John Paul Catungal
Institute for Gender, Race, Sexuality & Social Justice

“Mentorship as Political Practice: Filipino-Canadians Organizing Against Educational Abandonment in Vancouver BC”

Media coverage of race data advocacy
CityNews | Global News | Ubyssey | The Tyee

Media work on anti-Asian racism during COVID
Vice | Globe and Mail | The Tyee

Media work on the impacts of COVID on variously marginalized communities
One Hour @ UBC lecture | Resilience BC Anti-Racism Network Asian Heritage Month panel | Data for Justice panel

“The onset of COVID required a major reconfiguration of my plans as a Public Humanities Hub fellow. My public scholarship work in the last year entailed working with the C19 Response Coalition to produce culturally and linguistically appropriate resources and, with RJ Aquino of Tulayan Filipino Diaspora Society, to advocate for the collection of disaggregated race data on COVID.

In response to the very public and spectacular forms of anti-Asian racism, I also participated in public education work to ensure that the long histories and multiple manifestations of anti-Asian racism are part of our collective understanding of violence during COVID times.

Hub support enabled me to devote time to do public-oriented scholarly work grounded in community commitments and responsive to the needs of local marginalized communities.”
“2020 marked the release of my first monograph, The Theatre of Regret: Literature, Art, and the Politics of Reconciliation in Canada, launched in an online Massy Reads event hosted by the Public Humanities Hub.

Daisy Rosenblum and I were awarded a Grant to Catalyze Research Clusters in 2021. Our ‘Relational Technologies’ research cluster brings together a cross-disciplinary team to support community-led cultural survivance through the innovation of digital tools and technologies for immersive and interactive storytelling. With the support of the Public Humanities Fellowship, I was able, with Daisy, to begin developing the website for the Centre for Engaged Documentation and Research (CEDaR), which will serve as home to the ‘Relational Technologies’ cluster. Support from the fellowship enabled us to work closely with Kwakw̱aḵw̱akw designer Meighan Giesbrecht.

Finally, working with the Indigenous Research Support Initiative (IRSI) Speaker Series, Dallas Hunt, Lisa Jackson, Karyn Recollet and I put together a roundtable that we titled ‘When the World is Ending… Strategies and Practices of Care Within Indigenous Futurist Research and Pedagogies.’ A recording of this roundtable is available on the IRSI website and we are in the process of publishing it as a dynamic web application.”

David Gaertner
Institute for Critical Indigenous Studies

“Centre for Community-Engaged Documentation and Research”
"Being a Public Humanities Fellow in 2020 really opened a space of creativity for me and enabled me to devote attention to a number of interrelated research projects. More specifically, I worked on three digital art projects: a virtual exhibition + website and an augmented reality installation and a multimedia animation. In addition, I was able to focus on two major book projects: Mischief Making, Michael Nicoll Yahgulanaas, Art and the Seriousness of Play and Bodies of Enchantment: Puppets from Asia, Europe, Africa and the Americas. I curated covers for the Autumn 2020 and Winter 2020 issues of BC Studies and gave three papers.

Nicola Levell
Department of Anthropology

“Dark Skies: Celestial Bodies, Art & Sounds—a Digital Exhibit”

Digital, Virtual and Augmented Reality Projects
Co-curator (with April Liu), "Chief Supernatural Being with the Big Eyes" (2021) by Ernest Swanson (Haida) with Mark Illing, Augmented Reality Art installation, Vancouver Mural Festival Winter ARts Festival, Feb 12-28, 2021.

Associate Curator, "Celestial Bodies: Four Stories of the Night Sky", Multimedia animation, Urban Screen Experiences, Rotary Centre for the Arts, Kelowna, Feb 5-28, 2021.


Hub-sponsored Public Event
Leslie Paris  
Department of History

“Send it to ZOOM!': A Fiftieth Anniversary Retrospective”

“I’m creating an online exhibit about ZOOM, the innovative 1970s American children’s television show produced at WGBH, Boston’s PBS member station. This exhibit will be hosted by WGBH in 2022 to coincide with the 50th anniversary of ZOOM’s pilot episode. During the tenure of this award, I have worked through the recently digitized ZOOM archive, creating metadata for all of the episodes from the show’s six seasons, and I have selected portions of episodes to highlight and enhance central themes in my written segments. In a second public-facing project, in Fall 2020, I published an article in the National Endowment for the Humanities’ magazine Humanities, focused on American children’s health and education from the early twentieth century to the era of COVID-19. I am grateful for the Hub-funded course release, which allowed me to work on these projects.”

Children after receiving smallpox vaccinations at Ann Street School in Los Angeles, Calif., 1949. Los Angeles Daily News Negatives / Department of Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library, University of California at Los Angeles. Published in “Surviving Childhood” by Leslie Paris, Humanities Fall 2020 Volume 41 Issue 4.

A live audio broadcast that presented *Radio Free Stein*'s musical melodramas based on selected plays by Gertrude Stein. Episodes featured musical excerpts, discussion between composers and host Adam Frank, and Q&A with listeners in the style of a radio call-in show. Five hour-long episodes were aired digitally every second Wednesday (2-3pm PT) October 14th – December 9th, 2020. *Radio Free Stein*, a project that stages the plays of Gertrude Stein in the medium of recorded sound. Our goals are to study Stein’s lesser-known theatrical work, to understand the relevance of music and sound to her poetics, and to expand ways of integrating words with other sonic elements.

The Vancouver International Film Festival hosted a VIFF Talks event with Joel Bakan and Jennifer Abbott, co-directors of *The New Corporation: The Unfortunately Necessary Sequel* on October 6, 2020.

A virtual screening of *The New Corporation* and filmmaker Q&A on November 2, 2020 attracted 268 attendees. Co-hosted with Allard Law’s International Justice & Human Rights Clinic and Centre for Business Law.

The Vancouver School Board hosted a webinar by Bonny Norton on how Storybooks Canada can be used in homes for online language and literacy learning during COVID-19 on May 15, 2020.

‘The Global Storybooks Project’ was the featured project in UBC Research Commons’ ‘Pixellating’ Digital Humanities Showcase on September 16, 2020.

Bonny Norton and Liam Doherty, LLED PhD candidate and Public Humanities Graduate Fellow, were interviewed by Mitacs about how ‘The Global Storybooks Project’ helps translate stories in multiple Indigenous languages.
The Hub provides assistance to Humanities faculty in developing grant applications. This year, we worked with Katherine Bowers (CENES) and Kate Holland (University of Toronto) on their successful SSHRC Connection Grant to support the celebration of Dostoevsky’s bicentenary in 2021, including a public scholarship event series and a Dostoevsky Research Portal.

The Hub is a co-sponsor of *decomp*, the UBC Social Justice Institute’s in-house literary and multimedia journal grounded in social justice that is committed to curating art from marginalized communities.

The Hub provided in-kind support for the CFI-funded Centre for Engaged Documentation and Research (CeDAR) project co-directed by Public Humanities Fellow David Gaertner and Daisy Rosenblum (First Nations & Endangered Languages Program and Department of Anthropology).
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 through its Research Cluster funding, Research Networks, 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 stages, disciplines, gender, etc. This year, the Hub funded 3 research clusters.

Critical Image Forum: Research in Photography and Expanded Documentary
Principal Investigator: Althea Thauberger (Art History, Visual Art & Theory)

Critical Image Forum is a research cluster focused on the political, ethical, aesthetic and social dimensions of expanded documentary practices. The Critical Image Forum has been formed on the premise that, within the global circulation of mass visual imagery, an ethics of documentation must be continually re-examined.

In 2020, Critical Image Forum launched their Dialogue Series, in collaboration with the Morris and Helen Belkin Art Gallery and the Department of Art History, Visual Art & Theory. In this ongoing series of audio and video recordings, members of Critical Image Forum speak with artists, journalists, scholars, cultural producers and theorists about their work and research concerns. The first two episodes feature Musgamakw Dzawada'enuxw artist and activist Marianne Nicolson and South African photographer Paul Weinberg.

Members:
Alejandro A. Barbosa (Associate)
Saranaz Barforoush (Faculty Researcher - School of Journalism, Writing, and Media)
Christine D’Onofrio (Faculty Researcher - AHVA)
Heather Diack (Associate - Art History, University of Miami)
Tobias Éwé (Graduate Researcher - AHVA)
Denise Ferreira da Silva (Faculty Researcher - Institute for Gender, Race, Sexuality & Social Justice)
Olivia Michiko Cagnon (Faculty Researcher - Theatre & Film)
Ayasha Guerin (Faculty Researcher - English Language & Literatures)
Kelly McCormick (Faculty Researcher - History)
Daniela P. Montelongo (Graduate Researcher, AHVA)
John O’Brien (Faculty Researcher - AHVA)
Marcus Prasad (Associate - Morris and Helen Belkin Art Gallery)
Shelly Rosenblum (Faculty Researcher - Belkin)
Xan Shian (Project Coordinator & Graduate Researcher - AHVA)
Erin Silver (Faculty Researcher - AHVA)
Tania Willard (Faculty Researcher - Creative & Critical Studies, UBCO)
Daniel Young (Graduate Researcher)
Steven Zhu (Graduate Researcher - School of Journalism, Writing, and Media)
Canadian Law and Humanities Network  
Principal Investigator: Julen Etxabe (Law)  
Collaborators: Michelle LeBaron (Law) and Mary Liston (Law)

Law and Humanities is an interdisciplinary approach that emphasizes the cultural, literary, and imaginative aspects of law, without forgetting its ethical and political implications. As a field of research, law and humanities encompasses diverse areas of study, including law and literature, legal storytelling, law and film, law and language, critical race theory, feminist approaches to law, law and emotions, etc.

C+CSJS: Critical + Creative Social Justice Studies  
Principal Investigator: Denise Ferreira da Silva (Institute for Gender, Race, Sexuality & Social Justice)  
Co-Investigators: Vanessa Andreotti (Educational Studies), Manuel Piña (Art History, Visual Art & Theory)

The Transformative Justice Praxis involves gathering, studying, and disseminating current antiracist and anticolonial artistic and discursive productions by BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) and LGBTQI+ Brazilian and Peruvian individuals and collectives.
Reasonable Trust: Fostering Humanities Methods in Public Engagement with Science and Technology | Principal Investigator: Alan Richardson (Philosophy)

The Reasonable Trust Research Cluster gathers methods from science and technology studies, history and philosophy of science, rhetoric of science and medicine, health humanities, and applied ethics—and aims to determine what scholarship in these fields can contribute to understanding and addressing these issues. In 2019-20, the cluster co-hosted the Science and Technology Studies Colloquium Series, featuring guest speakers focusing on data science and mental health research as they relate to public trust in science.

January 20, 2021 - "Building Stronger and Connected Knowledge through Data Driven Cognitive Maps" by Dominic Oldman, Director, ResearchSpace, the British Museum

February 3, 2021 - "Geographical Data Science: Making Spaces for Interpretation" by Luke Bergmann (GEOG)

February 24, 2021 - "Data Science in Times of Pan(dem)ic" by Sabina Leonelli, Exeter University

March 2, 2021 - "A Fireside Chat with Dr. Margaret Price, Author of Mad at School: Rhetorics of Mental Disability and Academic Life" by Margaret Price, Ohio State University

Tracing the Scribe: Reassessing Professional Networks in the Paris Book Trade | Principal Investigator: Erik Kwakkel (School of Information)

Members of the research cluster presented at the Hub's Digital Humanities Conference in October 2020 on "Team Mahiet: Collaboration in the Paris Book Trade, 1325-1350" and on December 16, 2020 gave a virtual talk hosted by Tilburg University.
Eurasia Cluster | Principal Investigator: Katherine Bowers (Central, Eastern & Northern European Studies)

In 2020-21, many of the Eurasia Research Cluster’s plans were cancelled. However, in Spring 2021, we began meeting semi-regularly and launched a series of public events. The Cluster met informally online throughout Term 2 to get to know each other and to share information about each other’s research. During these meetings, we decided to hire a Research Assistant to compile a report of the activities of other similar Centres and Institutes in North America to help us plan for the future. The Research Assistant began work in June and expects to complete the report by August. The Eurasia Research Cluster also hosted four talks in the spring of 2021:

- Jan 13 2021 - “Queer of Colour Activism in Decolonial Europe” by Fatima El-Tayeb (Professor, Literature and Ethnic Studies, University of California San Diego) - hosted by GRSJ, co-sponsored by Eurasia Research Cluster, CENES and the Institute for European Studies.

- Feb 4 2021 - “Attuning to the Roma” by Ioanida Costache (doctoral candidate, Stanford University, Department of Music) - hosted by CENES, co-sponsored by the Eurasia Research Cluster and the School of Music. EVENT RECORDING

- Mar 16 2021 - “Russian Sexual Politics: The Day of Family, Love, and Fidelity” by Nick Mayhew (Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in Slavic Languages and Literatures at Stanford University) - hosted by CENES, co-sponsored by the Eurasia Research Cluster. EVENT RECORDING

- Mar 24 2021 - “Internationalism, Curiosity, and Violence: Questions of Race in the 1960s and 1970s Moscow” by Riikamari Muhonen (PhD Candidate of History, Central European University) - hosted by Institute for European Studies, co-sponsored by the Eurasia Research Cluster and Anthropology. EVENT RECORDING

The Cluster also facilitated a workshop, hosted by the Public Humanities Hub, on Feb 12 2021, on “Translating Research into Public Writing.” The workshop featured Dr Jennifer L. Wilson, a Contributing Writer at The Nation and freelance writer for other venues, who has built a career doing public writing.
The Hub’s Research Networks bring together leading scholars at UBC-V, foster interdisciplinary research, and enable researchers to access infrastructure that supports collaborative work with research partners.

**Environmental Humanities Research Network**

In 2021-22, the Hub will be hosting brainstorming sessions with UBC scholars and external partners to explore interdisciplinary, collaborative, Humanities-focused research initiatives addressing the environmental issues of today. To launch the Environmental Humanities Research Network, the Hub will organize sessions showcasing environmental humanities research at UBC, and bring together scholars from across campus to discuss environmental humanities research at the *Un/Predictable Environments: Politics, Ecology, Agency* virtual conference in May 2021. The conference is being organized by Tracey Heatherington (UBC Department of Anthropology) and Queen’s University Belfast in collaboration with the University of Allahabad.
Digital Humanities Research Network

Collaborations of one kind or another are at the heart of most digital humanities projects: collaborations between researchers, between disciplines, between institutions, or between creators and users. Building on last year’s brainstorming conversations, DH Research Network members organized the inaugural DH conference at UBC. This network supports DH research on campus through DH project consultations, networking events, and project sponsorship funds.

Activities

From October 28-31, 2020, the Hub hosted “Collaboration,” a virtual conference that showcased DH research and infrastructure at UBC and beyond. Through panels, roundtables and social hours, DH scholars and practitioners gathered to discuss the various types of collaboration made possible via the digital humanities and to explore potential collaborations with colleagues at other universities in Canada and abroad. The DH conference was inspired by a Hub/Library survey about DH projects.

13 SESSIONS
812 TOTAL ATTENDANCE
FROM 27 COUNTRIES

Designing for Difference

Dr. Tara McPherson
Chair, Cinema and Media Studies, University of Southern California, and author of Feminist in a Software Lab

Wednesday, October 28, 2020 • 9:30 - 10:45 am PDT
Online via Zoom
“Just a quick note to thank you for your very generous honorarium for the talk on Ahenakew and DH in October. I decided to turn the honorarium into a scholarship for an Indigenous student at the Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technology. They told me that they had matching funds from the Government of Saskatchewan and so they are turning this into two scholarships worth $1500.00 each! Again, thanks very much!”

- Deanna Reder, Conference keynote speaker, Associate Professor Chair, Department of Indigenous Studies Co-Chair, Indigenous Voices Awards, 2017-present Series Editor, Indigenous Studies Series, Wilfrid Laurier UP P.I. for The People and the Text Simon Fraser University
Pixellating Project Showcases

May 20, 2020
“The Winnifred Eaton Archive”
A TEI edition of the collected works of the first Asian North American novelist
- Mary Chapman, Director, Winnifred Eaton Archive, Professor, the Department of English Language and Literatures, and Academic Director, Public Humanities Hub
- Sydney Lines, Project Manager, Winnifred Eaton Archive, and PhD candidate, the Department of English Language and Literatures
- Joey Takeda, Technical Director, Winnifred Eaton Archive, and User Interface Developer, Digital Humanities Innovation Lab, Simon Fraser University

September 16, 2020
“Storybooks Canada and Indigenous Storybooks”
Developing an app to aid in the translation of free, downloadable multilingual literacy resources for children and youth, using fully open source tools including GitHub, Jekyll, Ruby, kramdown, and Javascript.
- Liam Doherty: PhD candidate, Department of Language and Literacy Education
- Bonny Norton (FRSC): Professor, Department of Language and Literacy Education
This year, the Hub worked with units on campus and beyond to create opportunities for public scholarship training, facilitate research collaborations between UBC-V’s Humanities scholars and colleagues at other institutions, and to promote scholarly exchanges between UBC-V and UBC-O.

**Arts Amplifier**

The Arts Amplifier is a new professional development initiative to help Arts graduate students and postdoctoral fellows turn their ideas and projects into meaningful work experiences through leveraging their networks, skills and experience in co-developing their own work and professional development experiences. The Hub co-sponsored the Arts Amplifier’s launch party and panel on “Career Development and Public Engagement for MAs, PhDs, and Postdocs in the Social Sciences & Humanities”, a keynote on “Community Engagement and the Teaching-Intensive Institution” by Margaret H. Kunde, Assistant Professor of Communication Studies at Augustana College, and promoted internship opportunities for humanities graduate students and postdoctoral fellows. We were co-applicants in the successful $164k Ministry of Advanced Education grant for Phase 2 of the Co-op and Work-Integrated Learning Initiative funding competition.

November 5, 2020

“Career Development and Public Engagement for MAs, PhDs, and Postdocs in the Social Sciences & Humanities”

Moderator: Danielle Barkley, PhD – Educator, Career & Professional Development (Graduate Students), UBC Centre for Student Involvement & Careers

Speakers:

- Éric Bastien – Director, Research Partnerships Portfolio, SSHRC
- Loleen Berdahl – Professor, University of Saskatchewan, and author of *Work Your Career: Get What You Want from Your Social Sciences or Humanities PhD*
- Katina Rogers – Co-Director, Futures Initiative at Graduate Center CUNY and author of *Putting the Humanities PhD to Work: Thriving In and Beyond the Classroom*
- Nabén Ruthnum – Author, *Curry: Eating, Reading & Race* and other titles
- Jaspreet Sandhu – Loyalty and Engagement Leader, Toronto International Film Festival
- Paul Yachnin – Tomlinson Professor of Shakespeare Studies, McGill University, Director, TRaCE McGill
December 2, 2020

“Community Engagement and the Teaching-Intensive Institution”

Keynote Address:
Meg Kunde – Assistant Professor, Communication Studies, Augustana College

Speakers:
- Sean Ashley – Instructor, Sociology & Criminology, Capilano University
- Claudia Diaz – Educational Consultant, Indigenous Initiatives, Centre for Teaching and Learning Technology, UBC
- Caitlin Hartnett – Faculty, English, North Island College (Port Hardy, BC)
- Michael Jacobs – Dean, Humanities & Social Sciences, Monroe Community College (Rochester, NY)

Narrative Art & Visual Storytelling in Holocaust & Human Rights Education

Working with Principal Investigator Charlotte Schallié (UVIC), the Hub drafted a successful SSHRC Partnership Stage 1 application. We are now drafting our Stage 2 application. Over the next few years, we hope to collaborate with researchers at UBC and at partner institutions to develop trauma-informed pedagogy in genocide and human rights education, and provide training for community-engaged Humanities researchers through workshops and roundtables on participatory action research, research co-creation, and documentary filmmaking.

Consultations

In response to faculty members’ requests, the Hub held an introduction session for new faculty to discuss Hub funding and course-release fellowships, and throughout the year provided advice to junior and established faculty on resources for open-source educational initiatives in the Humanities, on-campus contacts for research and project support, teaching public scholarship methods, and opportunities for collaboration with UBC colleagues and with community organizations.
FOSTERING COLLABORATION WITH COMMUNITY GROUPS

This year, the Hub launched the #MassyReads series in partnership with Massy Arts Society, a local community hub dedicated to supporting the practices of Indigenous and underrepresented artists, and Massy Books, an Indigenous-owned bookstore and community space. The virtual format allowed us to host public, moderated discussions between UBC authors who have recently published books on a shared theme. The series aims to better communicate the work of UBC scholars, to frame their work within critical discussions, and to offer a more public platform for community members to engage in those discussions while supporting local organizations committed to equity, justice, and the public good.

September 22, 2020
“On Ethics, Rights and Democracy”
with UBC authors Joel Bakan (Law) and Kimberley Brownlee (PHIL), moderated by Heidi Tworek (SPPGA, HIST)

EVENT RECORDING

November 18, 2020
“On Interrogating the Colonial Frame”
with UBC authors David Gaertner (CIS) and Hannah Turner (iSchool), moderated by Daniel Heath Justice (CIS)

EVENT RECORDING

January 20, 2021
“Speculative Fiction”
with UBC authors Patrick Moran (FHIS), Christopher B. Patterson/Kawika Guillermo (GRSJ), and Silvia Moreno-Garcia (STS graduate), moderated by Siân Echard (ENGL)

EVENT RECORDING

March 11, 2021
“Arts-Based Approaches to Well-Being Education”
with UBC authors Derek Gladwin, George Belliveau (LLED), Graham W. Lea (University of Manitoba) and guests, moderated by Karen Ragoonaden (UBC-O Centre for Mindful Engagement)

EVENT RECORDING
Vancouver International Film Festival
The Hub continued to partner with the Vancouver International Film Festival this year, providing a moderator for a VIFF Creator Talks screening and filmmaker conversation between Jules Koostachin (PhD candidate, GRSJ) and Tracey Deer (director of Beans) to reflect on the 1990 Oka Crisis and the legacy of resistance.

Vancouver Art Gallery
As the Vancouver Art Gallery prepares for their exhibition, “The Imitation Game: Visual Culture in the Age of Artificial Intelligence” (March 5 - October 23, 2022), faculty and graduate students have provided the VAG Senior Curator with expert commentary and research for the exhibition. The Hub is currently co-organizing an AI symposium on Speculative Futures with the VAG Director of Education and Public Programs, co-sponsored with Canadian Literature and the UBC School of Creative Writing, taking place April 7, 2022.
Brock House Society
The Hub was thrilled to collaborate this year with Brock House Society, a Vancouver-based 55+ senior activity centre that encourages and enables seniors to live fuller lives. Prior to the pandemic, the BHS Esther Birney Literary Arts Series hosted lectures by academics on topics in the literary arts, imagined broadly, followed by lunch with members.

For 2021, BHS and the Hub developed a virtual speaker series that aimed to address senior intellectual wellness and isolation, heightened due to COVID-19, by recuperating housebound and less mobile seniors and supplying program content through more equitable, accessible technology, with additional impacts on senior health and digital literacy. With the Hub, BHS is reimagining a more digital future for BHS intellectual programming, deeper engagement with humanities faculty, and broader accessibility for its senior membership.

April 1, 2021
“Domestic Sciences and Home Economics in Victorian Literature”
Heidi Rennert, PhD candidate, English Language & Literatures; Science & Technology Studies

April 8, 2021
“On Chaucer’s ‘House of Fame’” with a Middle English reading activity
Erica Machulak, PhD in medieval English literature and founder of Hikma Strategies

April 15, 2021
“The Theatre of Regret: Literature, Art, and Politics of Truth and Reconciliation in Canada”
David Gaertner, Assistant Professor, Institute for Critical Indigenous Studies

April 29, 2021
“The crossover between literature, urban spaces, and the environment”
Kirby Manià, Lecturer, the School of Journalism, Writing and Media

“Thanks so much for your excellent lecture yesterday. It was most informative and extremely well received as you could tell from the questions and comments. Thank you for generously sharing your syllabus, too. As always, universities are there to research and show the way forward. It gives me hope for the future. Your professionalism and interaction with our members was most impressive.”
- Glenys Acland, Volunteer
Esther Birney Literary Arts Series
Brock House Society
Communicating the results of research and its possible public impacts are crucial parts of public humanities scholarship. To showcase recent scholarly activities, the Public Humanities Hub co-sponsored presentations this year by visiting speakers on topics ranging from religion and U.S. election politics to the rhetoric of health. We expanded our Public Scholarship series by adding two new toolkits on curating exhibitions and creating accessible UBC events, and we expanded our existing toolkits on podcasting and writing op-eds. We also began working on a new toolkit about using Wikipedia for public scholarship. Like most organizations this year, we rapidly shifted to a fully virtual environment and conducted our communications more robustly via social media, our e-newsletter, and the web.

Humanities scholars used a variety of knowledge mobilization strategies to communicate their research and contribute to social change. They wrote op-eds, published reports and policy recommendations, organized and presented at conferences, produced podcasts, and spoke to national media and major networks to provide expert opinions on racial justice, religion and history, ethics and technology, plague histories and public health today, folk music and contemporary social media trends, and the importance of humanities education in democratic societies.
During this remote year, we used our growing social media channels to connect with scholars and community members, announce funding opportunities, promote public scholarship resources, and to celebrate the achievements of UBC Humanities scholars. With 31 videos featuring public scholarship workshops, keynote lectures, panel discussions, and project showcases by UBC and visiting Humanists, the Hub’s YouTube channel is a growing resource for scholars and general audiences.

**Communication Highlights**

- **18,060** unique website page views
- **456** newsletter subscribers
- **717,270** total social media reach
- **80%** increase in social media followers

*Density map of audience locations*
The Hub invites and co-sponsors a range of visiting speakers to present on public scholarship, showcase innovative public projects, and share expertise on community-engagement in their scholarship and teaching.

May 14, 2020
“CityLife: A Community Storytelling Project”
Tessa McWatt, Author of Shame on Me: An Anatomy of Race and Belonging and Professor of Creative Writing, University of East Anglia.
Co-sponsored with UBC Creative Writing and the Centre for Community-Engaged Learning.

October 27, 2020
“Religion and the U.S. Presidential Election”
a UBC panel moderated by Paul Quirk, Phil Lind Chair in U.S. Politics and Representation at UBC
- Leslie Paris (History): “Young Adult Voters, Religion, and the Culture Wars”
- Richard Menkis (History): “Antisemitism in the Age of Trump”
- Tony Keddie (Classical, Near Eastern, and Religious Studies): “Trumpvangelicals, the Bible, and Christian Nationalism”
- Sabina Magliocco (Anthropology, Program in the Study of Religion): “Magic and Politics in the 2020 Election”
Co-sponsored with the Program in the Study of Religion, and Centre for the Study of Democratic Institutions at the School of Public Policy and Global Affairs.

November 3, 2020
“Working in Public: Generosity and the Knowledge Commons”
Kathleen Fitzpatrick, Director of Digital Humanities and Professor of English, Michigan State University. Co-sponsored with the UBC Library as part of the “Open Scholarship in Practice” series.

November 6, 2020
“Rethinking the Road: Autoethnography, Memory and Transient Landscapes”
Lynne Pearce, Professor, Lancaster University Department of English and Creative Writing. Co-sponsored with the UBC Migration Mobilities Group.
December 5, 2020
“Refugees and Borders: Remapping the World We Think We Know”
- Hassan Al Kontar, former Syrian refugee living in Canada, and refugee activist
- Efrat Arbel, Associate Professor, Allard Law
- Kristi Pinderi, LGBTQ+ Support Worker, DIVERSEcity and refugee advocate
- Edward Alden, journalist, and the Bernard L. Schwartz senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations
- Carlo Handy Charles, Doctoral scholar, McMaster University and Université des Antilles
- Saleem Spindari, Senior Manager of the Refugees and Migrant Workers Programs at MOSAIC

January 27, 2021
“How (and Why) to Queer Your Pedagogy”
Stacey Waite, Associate Professor, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, and author of Teaching Queer. Part of the UBC School of Journalism, Writing, and Media’s Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Speaker Series. Co-sponsored by the Hub.

March 2, 2021
“A Fireside Chat with Margaret Price”
Author of Mad at School: Rhetorics of Mental Disability and Academic Life, and Associate Professor of English at The Ohio State University. Moderated by Judy Segal, English Language & Literatures. Co-sponsored with the Women’s Health Research Cluster. Part of the UBC Science and Technology Studies Colloquium Series, and programming for the data science stream of the “Reasonable Trust: Fostering Humanities Methods in Public Engagement with Science and Technology” Research Cluster.

March 17, 2021
“Worn Words: Engaged research-creation and stories of ordinary words”
Erin Goheen Glanville, Sessional Lecturer, UBC Coordinated Arts Program. Co-sponsored with the Interdisciplinary Histories Research Cluster.

March 29, 2021
“COVID-19 & Older People’s Rights: Social Connectedness & Belonging”
- Kim Samuel, Founder, Samuel Centre for Social Connectedness
- Henry Shue, Emeritus Professor, University of Oxford
- Kimberley Brownlee, Professor, UBC Philosophy
- Sharifah Shekalala, Associate Professor, University of Warwick
- Bridget Sleap, Senior Rights Policy Advisor, HelpAge International
Event Reach Highlights

- Students: 26.8%
- Faculty: 11.6%
- Public: 33.4%
- Staff: 6.3%
- Alumni: 22.0%

Most visited event pages
- Religion and the U.S. Presidential Election
- Curating Exhibitions as Public Scholarship
- Podcasting the Dissertation

2200+ EVENT ATTENDEES
With access to tools, methods, and resources, UBC humanities scholars can become public scholars. 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.

June 17, 2020
“Marketing the Monograph: A Conversation on How to Promote Your Book”
with Heidi Tworek (History) and Renisa Mawani (UBC Sociology); moderated by Letitia Henville (UBC PhD Arts Co-op).

November 25, 2020
“Curating Exhibitions as Public Scholarship”
moderated by Shelly Rosenblum (Belkin Art Gallery).
- Gregory Mackie (UBC English) and Chelsea Shriver (UBC Library)
- Alvaro Santana-Acuña (Whitman College)
- Nicola Levell (UBC Anthropology) and Anna Nielsen (UBC Anthropology, PhD student)
- Michael Schwartz (Jewish Museum and Archives of BC)

February 12, 2021
“Translating Research into Public Writing”
with Jennifer Wilson (freelance writer); moderated by Katherine Bowers (UBC Central, Eastern, and Northern European Studies).

March 11, 2021
“Biography Writing as Public Scholarship”
with Sherrill Grace (UBC English) and Ira Nadel (UBC English); moderated by Minelle Mahtani (UBC Social Justice Institute).
March 12, 2021

“Wikipedia as Public Scholarship”
moderated by Erin Shields (UBC Library).
- David Gaertner (UBC Critical Indigenous Studies)
- Tina Loo (UBC History)
- Christine D’Onofrio (UBC Art History, Visual Art and Theory)
- Amber Berson (Queen’s University)
Co-sponsored by UBC Library as part of HonouringIndigenousWriters.

April 7, 2021

A two-part series on The Op-Ed as Public Scholarship

“Faculty Perspectives on Writing the Op-Ed”
- Bathseba Opinini (Educational Studies)
- Michelle Stack (Educational Studies)
- James Stewart (Law)
- Heidi Tworek (History, Public Policy)
- Dallas Hunt (English)

“Writing the Op-Ed: An Instructional Talk” with Patty Kelly and Liam Monaghan from the Centre for Writing and Scholarly Communication. Co-sponsored by the CWSC.
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. This year we’ve expanded our existing toolkits and added a few new offerings.

Creating Accessible Events
A compilation of services and tools to organize more accessible events at UBC Vancouver Campus.

Wikipedia as Public Scholarship
A guide to using Wikipedia as a pedagogical tool, research impetus, or original research.

Exhibitions as Public Scholarship
A guide to curating exhibitions of all sizes in libraries, galleries, museums, and digital spaces.

Podcasts as Public Scholarship
A guide to podcasting as public scholarship or as a pedagogical practice.

Op-Eds as Public Scholarship
A guide to writing solo or collaboratively for the public.
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 designated an Advocacy subcommittee to lobby for formalized recognition at UBC (like Tenure and Promotion and the awarding of Merit) for the value of public-facing research and community engagement. We also designated a new Graduate Student subcommittee focused on developing public scholarship, programming, and diverse career opportunities for graduate students while reimagining what graduate scholarship can look like in the academy. PHH Academic Director in partnership with the Library advocated for greater digital scholarship support from Arts while also serving on the advisory board of the Knowledge Exchange to guide support for public scholars at UBC. But advocacy work cannot happen without also attending to the systemic structures that scaffold inequities within the institution. In light of this, we have committed to refocusing the Hub’s work with social justice in mind and have tasked a new Equity subcommittee with reviewing our internal policies, programming, and communications for Equity, Diversity & Inclusion.
In the summer of 2020, the Graduate Committee surveyed 68 UBC Humanities masters and doctoral students to gain an understanding of interest in and preparedness for careers within and outside the academy, gauge anxieties and concerns about the precarity of the academic job market, which intensified at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, and to determine how best to develop Public Humanities Hub programming for graduate students in the Humanities.

In October 2020, the committee published a final report and analysis of those results with recommendations for various academic units and advisory groups who work with graduate students. They also created a dedicated Graduate Student Resource page on the Hub website which includes resources for both graduate students and those who supervise graduate students.

**Graduate Student Events**

January 28, 2021
"Podcasting the Dissertation" with Anna Williams, creator of *My Gothic Dissertation*, and Judith Pascoe, George Mills Harper Professor of English at Florida State University.

February 25, 2021
"Reimagining Graduate Scholarship @ UBC" moderated by Gillian Glass (PhD Student and Graduate Academic Assistant)
- Sydney Lines (PhD Student and Graduate Committee Rep)
- Susan Porter (Dean and Vice Provost, G+PS)
- Serbulent Turan (Coordinator, Public Scholars Initiative) and Ty Paradela (Public Scholar)
- Letitia Henville (Coordinator, Graduate Students, Arts Co-op & Project Lead, Arts Amplifier) and Henry John (PhD Co-op Student)
- Zoé Kruchten (Program Manager, Community-University Engagement Support)
- Mary Chapman (Director, Public Humanities Hub) on public scholarship opportunities sponsored by the Hub
**Graduate Student Leadership**

The Hub has fostered graduate student leadership through paid employment, workshops, and professional development opportunities. We sponsored a doctoral student to attend the MLA Virtual Summit for the Future of Doctoral Education. In collaboration with the Brock House Esther Birney Series, we sponsored a graduate student to give a public talk on their research.

However, the Hub also depends on the diverse expertise and experience of its graduate students. We hired one full-time PhD Co-op student through UBC Arts Co-op and two Graduate Academic Assistants. In these positions, GAAs were instrumental in developing programming and events, toolkits, and strategies for supporting key initiatives. GAAs participate at various levels of the organization: they serve on subcommittees, consult with new partnerships, develop strategic plans, and define and steer its vision.
Humanities scholars engaged in the analysis of the world’s many literatures, languages, histories, and cultures have the intellectual tools and systemic perspective to effect significant change. This year, Hub staff reflected on how we can use our resources to advocate for social justice in an ongoing, sustained way, particularly in the aftermath of recent incidents of anti-Black police violence, anti-Asian hate crimes, vandalization of synagogues and mosques, murders of Indigenous women and girls and violation of Aboriginal title claims.

As part of our commitment to take action, Hub staff attended a bystander intervention workshop hosted by Hollaback!, an organization whose mission is to end harassment in all its forms by transforming the culture that perpetuates hate and harassment against women, LGBTQ+ folks, people of colour, and people of other marginalized identities.

Our training, team discussions, and writing exercises will guide the creation of an Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Plan for the Hub’s future programming and activities to support scholars, particularly IBPOC scholars, who have taken risks when they have produced critical race scholarship that points to the need to acknowledge and dismantle structures of white privilege and white supremacy at UBC; and to interrupt how racism exists in the world, particularly in Canada, at our own institution, and within us.

The Hub commits to

- Acknowledging how Humanities disciplines have historically and systematically been built on colonial and white supremacist frameworks
- Restructuring the power relations behind who and what gets to be “public” in Humanities disciplines at UBC and beyond by amplifying the voices, and public scholarship, of IBPOC and other scholars working against systemic racism, white supremacy, and settler colonialism
- Guided by IBPOC and anti-racist scholarship, undertaking a comprehensive and systematic audit of our operations, including governance, hiring practices, criteria for fellowship adjudication, communications, and programming with regard to equity, diversity, and inclusion, in order to develop an action plan to decolonize and dismantle systemic racism in our own organization
- Actively structuring the virtual and physical spaces of our programming as safe equitable spaces.
- Finding ways to strategically and equitably use Hub funding and resources to support and amplify all forms of IBPOC work in the public humanities, not just when they speak about race
- Promoting anti-racist pedagogies and methodologies in all Humanities disciplines
Celebrating the achievements of Humanities researchers at UBC is a key element of the Hub’s mission. This year we created the UBC-Vancouver Public Humanities Hub Public Engagement Award to celebrate and honour individuals who have exhibited outstanding public humanities engagement. We look forward to awarding it next year. We also launched the #HumaniSeries social media campaign on “Life in a time of COVID,” inviting UBC Humanities scholars to create short videos to share what they are reading, discuss the relevance of historical plague narratives, and showcase their writings and reflections on how to stay connected in isolating times. We plan to develop the series into a live event for UBC Humanities scholars to share their projects and meet potential collaborators.
Fiscal Year May 1, 2020 - April 30, 2021

The Public Humanities Hub was generously supported this year with funding from the Vice-President, Research and Innovation, the Faculty of Arts, and departments. The Hub has also begun to receive external grants to support graduate student salaries.

**Funding Sources**

- VPRI ($250,000)
- Arts ($28,802.32)
- Digital Humanities Conference sponsorship from departments ($6,750)
- MITACS ($6,000)
- Federal Student Work Placement Program ($1,673)
Fiscal Year May 1, 2020 - April 30, 2021

Program Expenditures

- Public Humanities programs - Research
- Cluster grants and Faculty Fellowships
- Staff salaries and course buyouts
- Graduate student salaries
- Visiting speakers - honoraria, supplies
- Sponsorship for humanities events and initiatives
- Public scholarship workshops
- Office equipment and operational supplies
- Conference registration (MLA)
- Consulting (grants)
- Memberships to Humanities organizations
(Western Humanities Alliance, Consortium of Humanities Centers and Institutes)
MLA Virtual Summit on the Future of Doctoral Education
In November 2020, the Hub sent a three-person team to participate in a virtual summit to “participate in online plenaries and workshops focused on curricular and cocurricular initiatives, departmental culture change, developing transferable skills, mentorship and advising, creating partnerships outside the department, and more.”
- Dr. Kyle Frackman (Associate Professor and Acting Head, Central, Eastern, and Northern European Studies)
- Dr. Letitia Henville (Coordinator, PhD Arts Co-op)
- Sydney Lines (PhD Student, English)

Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD)
workshop with CCEL
In February 2021, Hub staff, Humanities faculty from UBC and UVic, and representatives from community organizations (Roedde House Museum, Brock House Society, and the Vancouver Art Gallery) attended a workshop facilitated by the Centre for Community Engaged Learning at UBC to introduce ourselves to potential collaborators, conduct asset-based mapping using a strengths-based approaches to partnering with community, and brainstorm about shared goals between the partnering organizations to explore ideas for joint programming in the coming year.
HUB STAFF

Mary Chapman
Academic Director
Professor, Department of English Language and Literatures

Heather Joan Tam
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Gillian Glass
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Sydney Lines
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Heidi Rennert
Graduate Academic Assistant

Daisy Couture
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STEERING COMMITTEE

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David Gaertner
Assistant Professor
First Nations & Indigenous Studies

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The UBC-V Public Humanities Hub is located on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Musqueam (xʷməθkwéy̓əm) 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.