# **UBC** Public Humanities Hub

Vancouver Campus



# ANNUAL REPORT 2022/23

INCUBATE. COLLABORATE. COMMUNICATE. ADVOCATE. CELEBRATE.



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# LETTER FROM THE ACADEMIC DIRECTOR



2022-23 was the first year of the Public Humanities Hub's second three-year funding cycle. With support from VP-Research, the Faculty of Arts, the Allard School of Law, the Faculty of Education, and SSHRC, the Hub was able to support thought-provoking scholarship, inspiring campus programming and public engagement in diverse areas of Humanities research for another year.

This year, we funded three research clusters whose activities will focus on Shakespeare's First Folio, Comics, and Solidarity Economies in the coming months. The Hub also awarded fellowships to support four scholars' development of public-facing humanities research projects within an interdisciplinary community of scholars. PHH seed grants—introduced last year—supported 6 creative and collaborative public humanities projects that mobilized humanities ideas in the public sphere this year. And finally, the Hub awarded five Public Engagement awards to recognize the community-engaged work being done by UBC scholars, students, and community partners. The Hub is honoured to have all these amazing researchers and partners in our community.

2022-3 was an intensely busy year. The Hub hosted or supported 64 events. Highlights included launching the "Ethics of Trauma-informed Research" webinar series linked to our SSHRC Partnership Grant on "Visual Storytelling and Graphic Art in Genocide and Human Rights Education"; several workshops and panels on scholarly publishing; and five SSHRC-Connection Grant funded conferences for which we provided support. PHH-Vancouver also partnered with several community organizations including the Museum of Vancouver, Heritage Vancouver Society, Sliced Mango Collective, the Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre, and the German Consulate General for Vancouver on public panels, book launches, and film screenings. It was a busy but engaged year.

On a more personal note, as I step away from directing the Public Humanities Hub, I would like to say that working with the Hub over the past four years—during its birth in Summer 2019, its necessary pivoting to online programming during the COVID lockdown, and its return to in-person programming over the past year—has been one of the most rewarding

challenges of my academic life. To all the research fellows, cluster leads, seed grant winners, public engagement award-winners, and advisory board members: Thank you for sharing your research ideas with me and giving the Hub an opportunity to help you achieve your research goals. Your scholarship and scholarly ethos continue to inspire me.

I would also like to thank the staff for their enthusiasm and imagination over the past four years. The Hub's growth and impact would not have been possible without Heather Tam, who joined the Hub as Senior Program Assistant at the very beginning, and continues to lead with gentleness and integrity now as the Hub's Program Manager, and Project Manager Sydney Lines, whose creativity and experience design expertise have guaranteed many successful kinds of engagement. Thanks also to GAAs Heidi Rennert and Minori Kato-Hopkins and to undergraduate RA Leann Wu, who contributed extraordinary capacity and expertise to our work, particularly in conference support and digital projects support; and finally, thank you to Dylan Annandale, who joined us for a few months as Program Assistant after graduating with an English Honours BA. Dylan's professionalism and grace under pressure showed us all the value of a Humanities undergraduate degree; we wish him well as he embarks on a doctoral program at Penn State.

Following a multi-faculty search, Dr. Mary K. Bryson was appointed as the next Academic Director of the UBC-V Public Humanities Hub beginning July 1, 2023. Dr. Bryson is a Professor in the Department of Language and Literacy Education, Faculty of Education. Their research and teaching interests include medical humanities, critical literary theory, academic freedom and collegial governance, queer and trans theory and critical digital literacies.

I wish Dr. Bryson and everyone in the Public Humanities Hub community the very best in carrying out the important work of the Hub this year. In these complex times, the work that Humanities scholars do matters more than ever before.

Sincerely, Mary Chapman Founding Academic Director





Photo by Paul Joseph / UBC Brand & Marketing / UBC Studios

AWARDED

\$43,000

TO 3 RESEARCH CLUSTERS

AWARDED SEED GRANTS TO

5

1

FACULTY

GRAD STUDENT

TO SUPPORT COLLABORATIVE, EXPERIMENTAL PUBLIC HUMANITIES PROJECTS

AWARDED PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT AWARDS TO

3

FACULTY

2

**GRAD STUDENTS** 

HOSTED & CO-SPONSORED

64

PUBLIC EVENTS

WITH

4600+

ATTENDEES

AWARDED

5

PUBLIC HUMANITIES FACULTY
COURSE RELEASES

PROVIDED MATCHING FUNDS FOR

5

SUCCESSFUL SSHRC CONNECTION APPLICATIONS



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 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.

# 2022/23 PUBLIC HUMANITIES FACULTY FELLOWS

" 'Say Mi Affi Work,' though still ongoing, evolved from a potential digital mash-up project based on an element of an in-progress monograph to much more in the last year. With regard to the latter, I was able to draft and polish a book proposal for art/if/acts, an experimental thoughtproject on Black diasporic expressive form... The project proper, however, turned into plans for a multimedia exhibition on Caribbean labour and language in September 2023 at the newly-opened Black Arts Centre (BlAC) in Surrey, BC. Because the project had to be expanded to take that form it required further funding, which the Centre has applied for through a CCA's Arts Across Canada grant. Hopefully—with approved funding for the application entitled "Black Storytelling in the Archives—in Conversation with Louis Maraj," submitted by Rebecca Bair, BlAC Codirector. The installation, set to include audio pieces, photography, live poetry, and interactive art, will be set alongside workshops for artists in BLAC's Artist Directory."



Louis M. Maraj
Assistant Professor
School of Journalism, Writing, and Media
"Say Mi Affi Work"

"Tangential to this work of 1. Networking with art spaces across the city to find a home for the expanded art project, while 2. Composing parts of it (which includes fragments of the essay/poem "Quite here you reach" to be published in Canadian Literature 251), I also composed the related experimental project 'Subject to/flesh, object/to verb (:) the business of naming.' The project was published open access in issue 20.1 of Communication and Critical/Cultural Studies and a reading of the project took place on April 14."



 $rummage\ power\ dynamics\ in\ complaint\ about\ anti/blackness\ thru\ experimental\ inter(con)textual\ subject(ivity), t(h)inking\ how\ names\ function\ rhetorically\ to\ [\ ]\ onto-linguistic\ violence\ in\ re/calling\ traumage\ power\ function\ respectively.$ 

LOUIS M. MARAJ, PHD

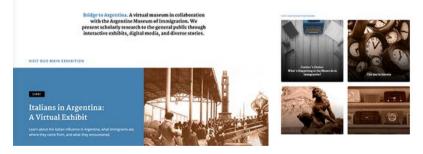
Friday April 14, 2023 3pm PST | Buchanan Tower 241 | Zoom: https://tinyurl.com/namingbusiness



Benjamin Bryce
Associate Professor
Department of History
"Taking the Museum Online: The National Immigration Museum (Buenos Aires)"

# **VPRI** Research Cluster funding

Benjamin Bryce led a successful application for 2023/24 Research Excellence Cluster funding offered by the UBC Office of the Vice President Research & Innovation. The Latin American Landscapes research cluster connects scholars from across Arts whose research engages with landscapes in Latin America.



Bridge to Argentina

"I developed and completed a very polished first version of a trilingual, online museum about immigration to Argentina. Moving forward, this website will be a platform for new exhibits and continue to be a connection between scholarly research and public institutions (immigration museums). Between May 2022 and June 2023, three PhD students, one MA student, and two BA students worked collaboratively. We developed exhibit ideas, met with the director of the museum, promoted the project through social media, and solicited new contributions... [One of the PhD] students], who is ABD, got a job interview at McGill, and selling her experience working in public humanities, digital projects, and the topics of the museum (migration and Latin American Studies) strengthened her dossier. Attending other events run by the hub and discussing my project with other public humanities fellows was very fruitful."

Associated PHH event | November 21, 2022: "How to Engage Community: A Project Showcase" with Dr. Ben Bryce (History), Noah James (History), Dr. Maria Carbonetti (French, Hispanic and Italian Studies), Sydney Lines (English) and Kyle Nelson (Centre for Community Engaged Learning).

"Behind the Camera' is a digital humanities teaching resource made up of modules that each include 1) a 20-minute lecture covering a focused topic in 19th-21st century Japanese photography from a gender studies perspective, 2) a digitized archive of related photographs, 3) an annotated bibliography (all in English and Japanese), 4) translated essays and articles related to the lectures, and 5) an interactive timeline of women in Japanese photography. Each module will be easily applicable to a range of UBC courses covering Japanese history, art history, culture, and gender studies. The website also includes innovative and interactive data visualizations and timelines related to modern Japanese history, the most extensive collection of bibliographical data on women photographers in Japan, and global events in the history of photography. This project is focused on creating resources for students that make the history of Japan and Japanese visual culture more accessible to UBC students and to broad audiences. The lecture videos make primary source historical documents (photographs, texts, and interviews) accessible to students and are close captioned in Japanese and English."

Art Research Centre, Ritsumeikan

University | ARC-iJAC Project Spotlights: An

Interview with Kelly Midori McCormick

(University of British Columbia) and Carrie

Cushman (Hartford Art School) on Expanding
the Study of Japanese Photography and Gender: Modules
for Teaching and Public Access

North American Coordinating Council on Japanese Library Resources | Japanese Studies Spotlight: Behind the Camera: Digital Interventions in the History of Japanese Women Photographers



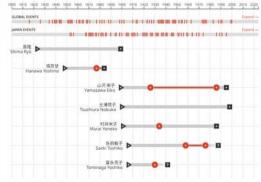
Kelly McCormick
Assistant Professor
Department of History

"Behind the Camera: Gender, Power, and Politics in the History of Japanese Photography"

"This fellowship has been extremely helpful in giving me time to explore new directions in developing digital humanities work that I would not otherwise have taken risks with experimenting in."



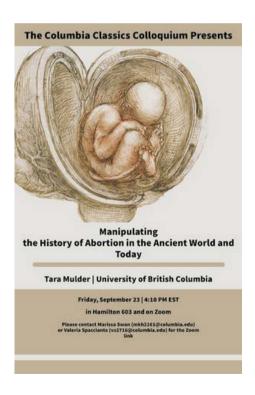






Tara Mulder
Assistant Professor of Teaching
Department of Ancient
Mediterranean and Near Eastern
Studies

"Midwifery and Childbirth in Ancient Rome and Today"



"I am extremely grateful for the time that was afforded to me by the fellowship!"

"During my year as a Public Humanities Hub Fellow I was able to record a podcast episode on midwifery in ancient Rome with the award-winning, Canadian-run podcast, Peopling the Past. I was also able to give an invited lecture at Columbia University titled, 'Manipulating the History of Abortion in the Ancient World and Today,' which dealt with the recent US Supreme Court decision overturning Roe v. Wade and paving the way for the outlaw of abortion on a state by state basis. In January 2023, I secured a contract for a trade book with the University of California Press for my manuscript, A Womb of One's Own: Childbirth in Ancient Rome. Thanks to the time available from the course release, I was able to draft up two public-facing articles that I hope to pitch and publish along with the publishing of this trade book."



Podcast Season 3, Episode 2 – Call the

(Roman) Midwife: Ancient Delivery and

Childbirth with Tara Mulder

'It's not an understatement to say that this course release dramatically altered the trajectory of my intellectual work. I owe the Public Humanities Hub a significant debt for the advice and financial backing that resulted in a variety of outcomes (new publications and book deal) and supportive relationships that allowed for my intellectual passions to flourish. As a result of my course release, I was able to publish new work (two new articles in literary magazines and the acquisition of a new book contract). I also presented my findings to various audiences (in Maui, Toronto, Chicago and other cities). Through various conversations with academics and other writers, I was able to map out a nascent emancipatory epistemic logic — a different way of understanding the complicit and complex foundations of knowledge production that go beyond extraction. My final project was just submitted to the publisher (Doubleday/Penguin Random House) and will be published in September 2024. My piece in Geist magazine that explores these themes is forthcoming."

"The Public Humanities Hub is an important lifeline for many of us who consider ourselves public intellectuals. It's an imperative space for anyone interested in keeping the creative in mind - as bell hooks might remind us - those of us who are committed to both a politics and a poetics of the imagination."



Minelle Mahtani
Associate Professor
Institute for Gender, Race, Sexuality,
and Social Justice

"Radical Reciprocity: Mapping the Geographies of Inspiration in Critical Canadian Studies" Awarded in 2021-22

**Associated PHH events** | UBC Canadian Studies Brenda and David McLean Lectures: The "Another Canada" Series

- March 7, 2023: "<u>Creating a Critical Canadian Studies:</u>
   <u>Dialogue-Based Constellations of Care</u>", with
   Canadian Studies Graduate Students Isabelle Español,
   Lulu Jama, Benjamin Johnstone, Jasmine Manango,
   Abigaelle Normand, Naeemah Shah, Will Shelling,
   Xin Wang and Zihao Zhang
- March 22, 2023: "Fireside Chat with Some of My Best Friends Author Tajja Isen"
- April 26, 2023: "Looking for a Place to Happen"

The Ex-Puritan literary magazine, Issue 59 Fall 2022 | "The Living that Took Place: An Interview with Chelene Knight by The Generous Imaginary"

# LOOKING BACK: UPDATES FROM 2021/22 PUBLIC HUMANITIES FACULTY FELLOWS



*In My Day* is a verbatim work of contemporary drama that exists at the cross section of disability and memorial arts focused on the first fifteen years of HIV/AIDS pandemic in Vancouver, directed by Rick Waines (Zee Zee theatre company) and convened by 2020/21 Faculty Fellow John Paul **Catungal** (GRSJ). It ran at The Cultch on December 2-11, 2022. Dr. Catungal was also Chair of the play's Committee for Anti-Racism and Equity (CARE), and co-investigator of the "HIV In My Day" oral history project led by Dr. Nathan Lachowsky at the University of Victoria.

trying to write but

distracted

2021/22 Faculty Fellow Colleen

Laird (ASIA) won the British Film

Institute's Sight and Sound magazine
award for Best Video Essays of 2022
for her audiovisual essays The Writing

Process, Negative Space, and Eye-CameraNinagawa. All three essays display
facets of her work in Japanese Film

Studies, and reviewers have lauded
them as "beautifully paced, and jawdroppingly composed."

# INCUBATING PUBLIC HUMANITIES: SEED GRANTS

#### **Seed Grants**

Responding to the need for low-barrier grants to fund new, experimental humanities projects at UBC, the Hub launched the Seed Grants program to support creative and collaborative public humanities research projects imagined broadly. Funds are awarded in the amount of up to \$1000 and are open to UBC-V faculty, staff, and graduate students in Arts, Education, and Law.

## Kyra Philbert

MSN student, School of Nursing, GRSJ alum "Nurse Angélique Presents...!" drag-burlesque experience [Website]

Kyra Philbert used the methodology of a/r/tography, an arts-based form of educational inquiry, to generate openings into the morality of the Canadian Nurse for her MSN thesis. With the seed funds, Kyra developed "Nurse Angélique," a dragburlesque piece featuring local performers who explored concepts related to nursing. The pedagogy represented a testimonial teaching of a palimpsest of Angélique, the enslaved Black woman who was executed by the government of New France in 1734 for setting a fire to escape to freedom. Held during National Nursing Week, this presentation interrupted the traditional celebration of ciswhite femininity, as National Nursing Week honours Florence Nightingale who is understood as a key figure in modern nursing. There was a talk-back for the audience to engage in reflection after witnessing Philbert's work.





Paroma Wagle, Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Geography, and
Kavita Philip, Professor, Department of English Language and Literatures
"Urban Climate Justice from Below: Redefining a Climate Justice Agenda from the Global South" report and public panel [Website]

This long-term project studies grassroots and city-level movements in order to understand the different dimensions of, and linkages between, urban inequalities and the effects of climate change. Dr. Philip and Wagle used the seed funds to kickstart early outreach activities, preparing to interview activists and social justice movement representatives from various cities in the Global South. They have also hosted a webinar and presented the initial part of this work (research conducted in Mumbai) at several conferences and talks; it also has led to a published paper in a well-known journal.

How we tackle climate change in our cities matters.

We turn to activists for their definitions and demands.



Helena Wu, Assistant Professor, Hong Kong Studies Initiative "Citizen-Spectatorship: Mapping Community Screening in Postmillennial Hong Kong"



This ongoing project aims to map out the public and private space used for community screenings of independent films in Hong Kong from early 2000s to 2019. Dr. Wu has explored the mutual impacts between documentary films and their spectatorship, and how this productive relationship has shaped independent filmmakers' production and distribution strategies continuously in postmillennial Hong Kong, particularly in the wake of recent key social developments. The seed funds were used to produce a metadata scheme and a data visualisation plan for a work-in-progress database with GIS functions.

# INCUBATING PUBLIC HUMANITIES: GRANT DEVELOPMENT AND MATCHING SUPPORT

The Hub assists Humanities faculty developing grant applications, and provides matching funds and in-kind support for SSHRC Connection Grant applications. This year, we helped develop three successful Connection Grant applications.

# Patrick Moran (FHIS)

"XVIIth Congress of the International Courtly Literature Society." \$21,972

#### Amanda Cardoso (LING)

"Language Attitudes and their Social Consequences in Diverse Contexts"
Co-investigator: Marie-Eve Bouchard (FHIS)
\$28,240

# Mary Chapman (ENGL)

"Onoto Watanna's Cattle at 100: Indomitable Women in the West During the Chinese Exclusion Era"

\$24,983



/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 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 promote interdisciplinary research activity and collaboration among Humanities scholars at UBC and 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 awarded \$43,000 to three research clusters for 2023-25.

## What's Past is Prologue: Mobilizing the UBC First Folio

PI: Patricia Badir, Professor (English Language & Literatures)

In January of 2021, UBC acquired a copy of the 1623 first Folio edition of Shakespeare's plays. The acquisition was the result of a campaign to raise funds from a consortium of donors from across North America, with the support of the Department of Canadian Heritage. The success of the campaign illustrates the extraordinary capacity of the First Folio to inspire conversation and mobilize collaboration. At the same time, the acquisition is not unproblematic. Because of the resources required to procure the book and to house it, and more importantly because of the role Shakespeare's drama has played in naturalizing settler colonialism, the First Folio now sits awkwardly in a University committed to decolonization and reconciliation. The First Folio Research Cluster stands at the beginning of what we expect will be a long and, at times, challenging engagement with the Folio, as we seek to balance the excitement with the controversy that accompanies an acquisition like this. On the one hand, we want to celebrate the generosity of the donors who made the purchase possible, while on the other hand, we are guided by the ethical imperative to interrogate the cultural legacy of Shakespeare and his place in Canada and in our University today. Our Cluster asks: how can we mobilize UBC's First Folio in meaningful ways to catalyze research and artistic works and to build a lasting community of practice that crosses traditional disciplinary boundaries?

## **Comics Studies Cluster**

PI: Elizabeth Nijdam, Assistant Professor of Teaching (Central, Eastern & Northern European Studies) Comic art and the study of its content, methods, distribution, and pedagogical value have become increasingly visible in higher education: comics are an important medium for knowledge creation and established as an essential format for reaching diverse audiences and tackling difficult subject matter. However, as a field, it lacks an institutional centre that might offer the structure and support for the collaborative work necessary to advance rigorous academic study. With UBC comics researchers, practitioners, and teachers in disciplines as varied as Education, German Studies, Classical Studies, Creative Writing, English, and the Romance Languages, comics studies at UBC is present but diffuse. Moreover, many UBC faculty members are interested in learning more about what comics and graphic novels might offer to their teaching and research, but they don't know where to turn with their questions and potential projects for collaboration. The Comics Studies Research Cluster will support academic and public-facing scholarship in Comics Studies at UBC. We will connect with artist practitioners in Vancouver (Cloudscape Comics Collective, Vancouver Comic Arts Festival, etc.) to support the work of comics creators locally while developing a network of Canadian comics scholars with UBC as an important centre for the study of comic art.



Image courtesy of @ubccomicsstudies on Instagram

## Connecting Education and Social Solidarity Economies

PI: Michelle Stack, Associate Professor (Educational Studies)

Post-secondary institutions (PSI) play pivotal roles in the socialization of professionals and opinion leaders who impact our day-today lives and policies and practices that determine how we deal with pressing global crises. PSI are sites of opportunity for some and growing inequity for others, evidenced by increasing housing and food insecurity among students and contract faculty. These dynamics lead to significant contrasts between the image of a university as a place of thriving amidst diversity and the reality of it being a place where the stratification and disparities of the wider world are reflected. Social solidarity economies (SSE) have an impressive track record for providing more affordable, democratically governed and equitable communities. Despite the success of SSE (including co-operatives) there is little connection to the PSI sector. This project will develop a community-university social solidarity economies network. We will hold a series of online talks and one or more events in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside (DTES) that draws on arts-based approaches to develop spaces that facilitate engagement and building collaborative relationships and reciprocal learning. Our work starts with the assumption that changing the academy to be more responsive and responsible outside its walls requires learning beyond its walls.

# UPDATES FROM 2022/24 RESEARCH CLUSTERS

Continuing activities by research clusters that were funded in last year's competition.

Canadian Network of Law and Humanities | Principal Investigator: Julen Etxabe (Allard Law)

CNLH continued its outreach activities with an inaugural in-person conference at Green College August 29-30, 2022. Participants reflected on the topic Reimagining "the Human" in Research, Teaching, and Innovation and situated their work in relation to these various axes in a workshop-style setting to maximize mutual engagement. Keynote speaker Professor Desmond Manderson (Australian National University) argued for the rearticulation of law, politics and aesthetic in the Western Constitutional imaginary in connection with Indigenous law and art.

The cluster closed the year out with a public screening of the documentary The New Corporation: The Unfortunately Necessary Sequel at the Chan Centre, followed by a roundtable discussion with the filmmaker, UBC Law professor Joel Bakan. The workshop also included general discussion about next steps for the Network, including the organization of a larger international conference in UBC.



Members of the CNLH cluster participating in their inaugural conference at Green College, August 2022

Unsettling University Governance | Principal Investigator: Mary Bryson, Professor (Language & Literacy Education) The Unsettling University Governance cluster seeks to fill lacuna in research pertaining to minoritized faculty members and participation in university governance. In 2022-2023, this cluster prepared pilot project materials to carry out research dialogues with faculty members who are minoritized and have significant experience in leadership roles in Canadian universities. They were able to successfully get BREB approval for all Pilot Project materials, going into the next year.

They prepared a manuscript that is currently under review where they have accomplished a very innovative literature review in an area characterized by a surprising gap both conceptually and empirically. The Unsettling University Governance team also produced a new podcast series, "Governance Hack," which is a forum for dialogue led by faculty across multiple diversity groups and kinds of leadership experience, focused on tackling problems of how to decolonize university governance.



Podcast: Governance Hack



**Sound and the Humanities** | Principal Investigator: Tamara Mitchell, Assistant Professor (French, Hispanic & Italian Studies)

The Sound and Humanities Research Cluster was launched in 2022, by three collaborators from Hispanic Studies, Film Studies, and the School of Music. Throughout 2022-2023, the research cluster worked towards nurturing a space for interdisciplinary and collaborative scholarship and discussion in the field of humanistic sound studies—both online by building their website, and by hosting two semester-long thematic series. In the latter, reading group discussions of cutting-edge research were held throughout the semester both virtually and in-person, each culminating in talks led by world-class scholars.



Fall 2022 series, "Sonic Materiality & Surveillance" | Discussing scholarship by Professor Tom McEnaney (Comparative Literature and Media Studies, University of California-Berkeley), and hosting his virtual talk on "Stop Listening: Surveillance, Sound, Sexuality, and Race in Manuel Puig's Kiss of the Spider Woman" (17 November 2022).

Spring 2023 series "Indigenous Knowledge, Law & Sound" | Reading group discussions and Q&A led by xwélmexw (Stó:lō/Skwah) UBC School of Music professor Dylan Robinson (7 February 2023), and Hopi Professor Trevor Reed of Arizona State University's Department of Law and Ethnomusicology, who visited UBC for a breakfast and reading group session with graduate students and gave a talk on "Restorative Justice for Indigenous Voices" (7 March 2023).

<u>Documentary, Arts-Based Methods and Social Justice</u> | Principal Investigator: Shannon Walsh, Associate Professor (Theatre & Film)

The DocUBC cluster brings together a range of scholars and artists working on documentary, visual, and arts-based methodologies for social change. The 2022-2023 academic year served as a warm-up with a few first connecting activities to establish needs and interests in the group as a way to move to Year Two, highlighted with a very successful and productive lunch, walk and sharing session at the UBC Botanical Gardens in September, where fantastic feedback was garnered on the forged energy, sharing, and learning across disciplines on our collective areas of interest.

Several areas were identified where there is a desire for building and creating together and learning more that will inspire events for the upcoming year, including two half-day "sharing symposia" where members of the cluster can come together to share current work, and deepen connections and inspiration.



Photos by Jimmy Lo



Cinema Thinks the World | Principal Investigator: William Brown, Assistant Professor (Theatre & Film)

Cinema Thinks the World is a public screening and discussion series bringing scholars, cinephiles, the general public, and filmmakers together in a community based on conversation around cinema. In the past year, this cluster held thirteen well-attended public screening events, in collaboration with various external partners:

Filmmakers for Ukraine, CineWorks, the Hogans Alley Society, the Black Arts Centre, the Global Reporting Centre, the Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany Vancouver, SFU and the University of Victoria, while also involving the UBC Ukrainian Student Union, UBC Film Society, the Human Rights Collective, and the Centre for European Studies.

The events involved speakers of diverse backgrounds, from different departments and universities and including both junior and senior scholars, as well as independent speakers, featuring films from all over the world and Canada. Two events were created to tie in with Black History Month. One event was created to coincide with National Coming Out Day in Canada, and one with National Indigenous Peoples Day. The series also took in important and timely topics such as the war in Ukraine, human rights issues, and the ethics of filmmaking.



Photos 1 and 4 courtesy of William Brown. 2 and 3 by Jenny Cunningham.

A Literary Journey to Yoshino: Cultures of Travel in Early Modern Japan | Principal Investigator: Christina Laffin, Associate Professor (Asian Studies)

This project offers an unusual opportunity to collaborate with colleagues who have research and applied skills in literary study, art history, design, mapping, archiving, and digital humanities and to undertake this process with students leading the production of digital content. In 2022-2023, Christina Laffin and Joshua Mostow, professors in the Department of Asian Studies, created two linked graduate seminars, where UBC faculty and students closely examined the visual elements of the travelogue manuscript, A Record of Yoshino, and tested digital approaches to analyzing premodern sources, and then put those methods to practice.

A digitized manuscript and set of metadata has been shared via UBC Open Collections; an ArcGIS Story Map created, tracing the manuscript and early modern travel; students wrote essays on the decorative underpaintings found in the manuscript; a transcription, annotation, and translation to be shared in printed form with selections offered online using IIIF annotation; students also produced a video documenting the digitization process and a video on the significance of Yoshino as a site for poetry.





Photos 1 and 3 courtesy of Christina Laffin. 2 and 4 by Ricky Chen.



The Hub's <u>Research Networks</u> bring together leading scholars at UBC-V, foster interdisciplinary research, and enable researchers to access infrastructure that supports **collaborative** work with research partners.

# Digital Humanities Research Network

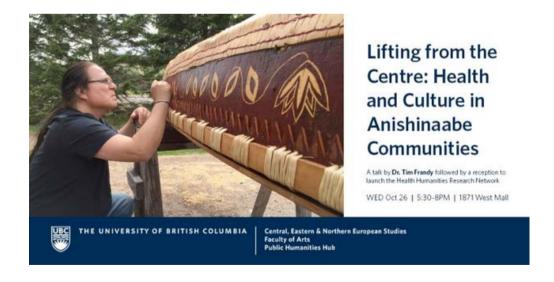
Collaborations of one kind or another are at the heart of most digital humanities projects: collaborations between researchers, between disciplines, between institutions, or between creators and users. Through the Digital Scholarship in Arts (DiSA) Project, the Hub hired a graduate academic assistant, Minori Kato-Hopkins, to provide digital humanities support for UBC faculty, staff, and students. Since the Hub launched a DH support intake form in June 2022, Minori Kato-Hopkins has provided more than 80 hours of consultations for 8 faculty members in the Faculty of Arts.

"I'm so excited about moving into digital humanities and launching this new project. Your team has already been so helpful. God bless the Pub Humanities Hub! They have already done so much for me, and I feel so supported. It's wonderful."

- Jessica Hanser, UBC Associate Professor of History

#### Health Humanities Research Network

To foster interdisciplinary collaboration, the Hub used Dr. Tim Frandy's "Lifting from the Centre: Health and Culture in Anishinaabe Communities" talk and reception on October 26, 2022 at the Asian Centre Auditorium to welcome them to UBC and launch the Health Humanities Research Network, where scholars across campus can come together to discuss Health Humanities research. This event was hosted by the Department of Central, Eastern & Northern European Studies and co-sponsored by the Hub as well as the Faculty of Arts. The 30 attendees who joined the talk learned about a series of culturally-situated health programs in Waaswaaganing (Lac du Flambeau, Wisconsin) that the speaker worked with community culture keepers to develop. The projects developed not only strengthen Anishinaabe cultures, ontologies, and epistemologies, but also help illustrate the value and necessity of humanists working in public health. Following the talk, participants at the Asian Centre Auditorium coalesced for the reception and discussed Health Humanities infrastructure and initiatives taking place at UBC. Today, the Health Humanities Research Network's mailing list comprises 30+ members, and the Hub is planning activities and events to explore interdisciplinary, collaborative, Humanities-focused research initiatives that address relevant contemporary issues in healthcare and beyond.



# UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS

The Hub continued to **collaborate** with units on campus and beyond to host public scholarship events, promote scholarly exchange, and to facilitate university-community research collaborations.

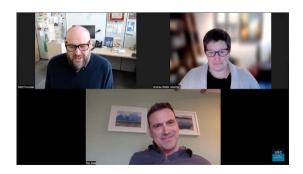
## **Graduate Pathways to Success**

The Hub worked with the <u>Graduate Pathways to Success program at UBC</u> in organizing a <u>panel</u> <u>discussion and interactive workshop</u> on honing research presentation capabilities for academics seeking learn how to effectively broaden their audience outside of their home disciplines.

Sydney Lines (PhD Candidate, English) facilitated a discussion and Q&A with panelists Dr. Greg Garrard (Professor of Environmental Humanities, Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies, UBC-O), Dr. Heidi Tworek (Associate Professor, History, UBC-V), Dr. Katrina Plamondon (Assistant Professor, Faculty of Health and Social Development, School of Nursing, UBC-O), and Dr. Ori Tenenboim (Assistant Professor, School of Journalism, Writing, and Media, UBC-V). Jacqui Brinkman (Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies) and Clare Hamilton-Eddy (Director of UBC Media Relations) led participants through interactive activities and provided strategies and resources on drafting key messages for their research projects.

## Visual Storytelling and Graphic Art in Genocide and Human Rights Education

With the SSHRC Partnership Grant-funded project on survivor-centred visual narratives, led by Principal Investigator Charlotte Schallié (UVic), the Hub co-hosted the first of six workshops in a webinar series on the "Ethics of Trauma-Informed Research" featuring Dr. Tim Cole (University of Bristol). The conversation focused on co-produced research projects that bring together academics, creatives and community partners.



"Participatory Action Research" with Tim Cole. Hosted by Andrea Webb (EDCP) and Matt Huculak (UVic Libraries). (April 7, 2023)

[Link to webinar series playlist]



# Ukrainian Scholar-at-Risk Program

The Hub co-sponsored Nataliia Ivchyk's 2022-23 Visiting Professorship at the UBC Department of History. Dr. Ivchyk is a Holocaust scholar from Rivne State University for the Humanities in Rivne, Ukraine, and co-founder and project manager of the <u>Center of Studies of Memory Policy and Public History "Mnemonics"</u>.

- "A Bridge over the Chasm of Oblivion: Creating Spaces of Holocaust Remembrance in Modern Day Ukraine." hosted by Green College (25 January 2023)
- "Resisting erasure: geo-mapping destroyed and forgotten Jewish communities." Co-sponsored with the Holocaust Education Committee of UBC History. (14 February 2023)
- "<u>The Holocaust in Ukraine: Violence, Gender and Memory.</u>" Hosted by the Holocaust Education Committee of UBC History, and co-sponsored by the Peter A. Allard School of Law and the Rudolf Vrba Memorial Lecture fund. (16 March 2023)

# FOSTERING COLLABORATION WITH COMMUNITY GROUPS

# Sliced Mango Collective and Heritage Vancouver Society

Shaping Vancouver: The Joyce Food Hub and Transit-Oriented Development (21 June 2022)
The Hub continued to partner with Heritage Vancouver in sharing conversations about the rezoning proposal of Joyce Street near the Joyce-Collingwood Skytrain, and the impact that the potential displacement would have on the cluster of local businesses there that act as a nucleus of Filipino and South East Asian Canadian community and culture. Along with Sliced Mango Collective, the Hub and Heritage Vancouver Society invited a group of panelists, including both representatives of community organizations and scholars, as well as community member guests as respondents, to discuss community identity in the context of neighbourhood and city planning.

## [Link to "Shaping Vancouver" event recording]

#### Museum of Vancouver and Heritage Vancouver Society

Making Space: Banning Cantonese BBQ Meats (19 November 2022)

In collaboration with the Museum of Vancouver and the "Seat at the Table" exhibit on Chinese Canadian history, the Hub and Heritage Vancouver Society organized a lunch and learn program. Participants watched the short documentary, Under Fire: Inside a Chinese Roasted Meats Shop in Vancouver while sampling delicious Cantonese BBQ meat. The filmmakers, Christy Fong and Denise Fong, and Dr. Imogene Lim (Vancouver Island University) were invited to speak.



Stills from a reel produced by Christian Zane Clado

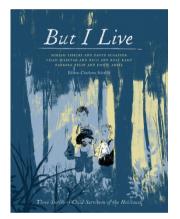
#### Book Launch of But I Live: Three Stories of Child Survivors of the Holocaust

Partnering with the Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre (VHEC) and UVic professor Dr. Charlotte Schallié, who co-edited this graphic narrative, the Hub co-hosted a book launch for this collection of illustrated stories depicting the experiences of three survivors during and after the Holocaust. Dr. Abby Wener Herlin (VHEC) moderated a conversation and subsequent Q&A with co-creators Miriam Libicki and David Schaffer.

- Canadian Book Launch for But I Live (11 September 2022)
- Book launch of But I Live: Three Stories of Child Survivors of the Holocaust (14 September 2022)



David Schaffer and Nataliia Ivchyk by Charlotte Schallié, November 30, 2022





#### Hillel BC

"If We Had Followed the Rules, I Wouldn't Be Here" (23 January 2023)

Alongside Hillel BC, the Hub co-sponsored a discussion of But I Live: Three Stories of Child Survivors of the Holocaust with author-survivor David Schaffer, artist Miriam Libicki, and project co-director Andrea Webb (UBC Education). The discussion was followed by a reception co-sponsored by the Embassy of Israel and the Hub.



# Co-sponsorship of a UBC collaboration with The Reach Gallery Museum

"Dūje Pāse toñ (From the Other Side): Arts Across the Border, From the Two Punjabs", co-curated by Anne Murphy (ASIA), was an exhibition on display at The Reach Gallery Museum in Abbotsford from May 27 to September 4, 2021, featuring work by 22 international artists reflecting on the impact and experience of the division of the once-united cultural and linguistic region of Punjab. The Hub cosponsored the translation of the exhibition catalogue of essays in English and Punjab, written in Gurmukhi and Shahmukhi scripts.



Krishna Luchoomun, *Muffled Stories*, 2018. Jagdeep Raina, *On Sunday I Went To The Kashmir Gate*, 2021, *Vale*, 2021, and *Filthy Imperial Glory*, 2021; Raghavendra Rao K.V., *Heritage*, 2020; Rachel Topham Photography.



Sana Iqbal. 1 & 1, 2021; Rachita Burjupati. *Untitled*, 2018; Rachel Topham Photography.



/kə'mjunə, keIt/

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 speakers on topics this year ranging from culturally situated health programs in Anishinaabe communities, critical diversity literacy for teacher education students in Europe, systemic ableism, publishing with university presses, and community-engaged scholarship.

Humanities faculty used a variety of knowledge mobilization strategies to **communicate** their research and contribute to social change. They published monographs, curated exhibitions, wrote op-eds, organized and presented at conferences, and spoke to national media and major networks to provide expert opinions.

# OVERVIEW OF HUB COMMUNICATIONS

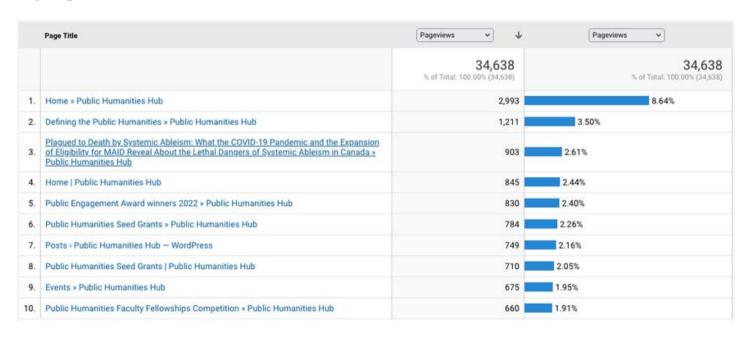
34,638

UNIQUE WEBSITE PAGE VIEWS

10,156

INDIVIDUAL WEBSITE USERS (16.8% RETURNING, 83.2 % NEW)

# **Top Pages**



# SPEAKERS SERIES

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.

August 30, 2022

#### "Critical Diversity Literacy: A View from Europe"

Speaker: Dr. Alisha M.B. Heinemann (Professor, University of Bremen, Germany).

Moderated by Dr. Michelle Stack (Associate Professor, Department of Educational Studies). Co-sponsored with Department of Educational Studies, Department of Central, Eastern & Northern European Studies, and Centre for Culture, Identity & Education.



September 20, 2022

# "Plagued to Death by Systemic Ableism: What the COVID-19 Pandemic and the Expansion of Eligibility for MAID Reveal About the Lethal Dangers of Systemic Ableism in Canada"

Speaker: Dr. Heidi Janz (Associate Adjunct Professor, John Dossetor Health Ethics Centre, University of Alberta). Co-sponsored with the Department of Physical Therapy, Canadian Institute for Inclusion and Citizenship, and the Department of Educational Studies

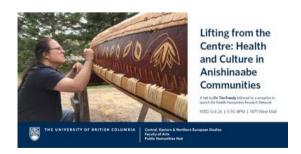


#### **EVENT RECORDING**

October 26, 2022

# "<u>Lifting from the Centre: Health and Culture in Anishinaabe Communities</u>"

Speaker: Dr. Tim Frandy (Assistant Professor, Nordic Studies) Followed by catered reception. Hosted by the Department of Central, Eastern & Northern European Studies. Co-sponsored with the Faculty of Arts.



# SPEAKERS SERIES

February 14, 2023

# "Resisting erasure: geo-mapping destroyed and forgotten Jewish communities"

- Dr. Nataliia Ivchyk (Visiting Scholar, Rivne State University, Ukraine)
- Dr. Frances Malino (Wellesley College; Board President, Digital Heritage Mapping)
- Jason Guberman-Pfeffer, Project Coordinator, Digital Heritage Mapping

Hosted by Dr. Richard Menkis (Associate Professor, UBC History). Co-sponsored with the Department of History and the Holocaust Education Committee.



March 8, 2023

# "A past that keeps on giving: Britain's colonial and post-colonial amnesia"

Speaker: Dr. Olivette Otele (Distinguished Professor of the Legacies and Memory of Slavery at SOAS, University of London). Hosted by the UBC History Department. Co-sponsored with UBC Political Science, UBC English Language & Literatures, the Peter A. Allard School of Law, UBC Green College, and the Institute for Gender, Race, Sexuality, and Social Justice.



March 23, 2023

#### "Pictures of Dorian Gray: Oscar Wilde in Weimar Germany"

Speaker: Dr. Yvonne Ivory (Associate Professor of German and Comparative Literature, University of South Carolina).

Hosted by the Department of English Language & Literatures. Compared to the Department of English Language & Literatures.

Hosted by the Department of English Language & Literatures. Cosponsored with Central, Eastern and Northern European Studies, Art History, Visual Art and Theory, Theatre and Film, and the Centre for European Studies.



April 5, 2023

# "Broad Brush Strokes and Fine Lines: Courtroom Drawing and the Visual History of the 20th Century"

Speaker: Dr. Charlotte A. Lerg (Ludwig Maximilians University, Munich, Germany)

Co-sponsored with Department of History.



# PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP TRAINING SERIES

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. This year's presentations focused on publishing with academic presses, community engagement, and research impact outside academia.

November 1, 2022

### "Policy Communication Workshop"

- Dr. Heidi Tworek (Associate Professor, Department of History)
- KJ Sharan (Head of Strategy & Development, SPPGA)

Partnership with Centre for the Study of Democratic Institutions (CSDI) at the School of Public Policy and Global Affairs at UBC.

November 21, 2022

# "How to Engage Community: A Project Showcase"

- Benjamin Bryce, Assistant Professor (History) & Noah James, MA Student (History) on the Roedde House Museum
- Maria Carbonetti, Lecturer (French, Hispanic and Italian Studies) on Spanish for Community
- Sydney Lines, PhD Candidate (English) on the Heritage Vancouver Society and Museum of Vancouver
- Kyle Nelson, Community Engaged Learning Officer (UBC Centre for Community Engaged Learning) on CCEL resources and funding



**EVENT RECORDING** 

March 7, 2023

#### "Preparing for the Public: A Conversation"

- Dr. Xine Yao (Lecturer in American Literature, co-director of the queer studies network qUCL, University College London)
- Moderated by: Dr. Danielle Wong (Assistant Professor, English Language and Literatures)



**EVENT RECORDING** 

# PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP TRAINING SERIES

# Series on Writing and Publishing Monographs

December 8, 2022

## "Writing and Pitching to University Presses"

- James MacNevin (Senior Editor, UBC Press)
- Mark Thompson (Acquisitions Editor, University of Toronto Press)
- Jonathan Crago (Editor in Chief, McGill-Queen's University Press)
- Moderated by: Mary Chapman (Professor, English Language and Literatures)



#### **EVENT RECORDING**

January 19, 2023

## "Publishing Your First Book: A Seminar for Pre-Tenure Faculty: The Authors' Perspectives"

- Dr. Christopher Lee (Associate Professor, English)
- Dr. Christopher Rea (Professor, Asian Studies)
- Dr. Heidi J.S. Tworek (Associate Professor, History)
- Moderated by: Mary Chapman (Professor, English Language and Literatures)
- Co-sponsored with the Faculty of Arts, Office of the Dean.

February 9, 2023

#### "Publishing in the Public Humanities"

- Darcy Cullen (Founder of RavenSpace & Assistant Director, Acquisitions at University of British Columbia Press)
- Teresa Mangum (Director of the Obermann Center for Advanced Studies & Co-Editor of the Humanities and Public Life Book Series at University of Iowa Press)
- Siobhan McMenemy (Co-Director of the Amplify Podcast Network & Senior Editor at Wilfrid Laurier University Press)
- Moderated by: Paige Raibmon (Professor, UBC History & Editor, BC Studies)



EVENT RECORDING

February 21, 2023

#### "A Workshop on Book Proposals"

Courtney Berger (Executive Editor, Duke University Press)

Workshop followed by 1:1 consultations for book proposals in progress.



/'ædvə,keIt/

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 significant part of the Public Humanities Hub's mission. We continued to work with the UBC Library Research Commons, the Faculty of Arts, and Arts ISIT to pilot a Digital Scholarship consultations for UBC researchers seeking support for Digital Humanities projects. The Hub Academic Director and staff served on the board of UBC Knowledge Exchange and participated in the advisory team for the inaugural Partnering in Research conference, advocating for greater recognition of partnered research and its social impact.



verb
to honour or praise publicly

Celebrating the achievements of Humanities researchers at UBC is a key element of the Hub's mission. To recognize UBC Humanities scholars' contributions to expanding public conversations and fostering knowledge exchange, the Hub awarded five \$1000 Public Engagement Awards in 2022.



#### **Public Engagement Awards**

The winners of the award to recognize the contributions of a graduate student are Henry John, PhD candidate in History, for his commitment to inclusive public history and impact on museum policy and governance, and David Ng, PhD candidate in the Institute for Gender, Race, Sexuality, and Social Justice, for his innovative arts-based community-engaged research projects and impact in creating dialogue and understanding of issues faced by marginalized communities.

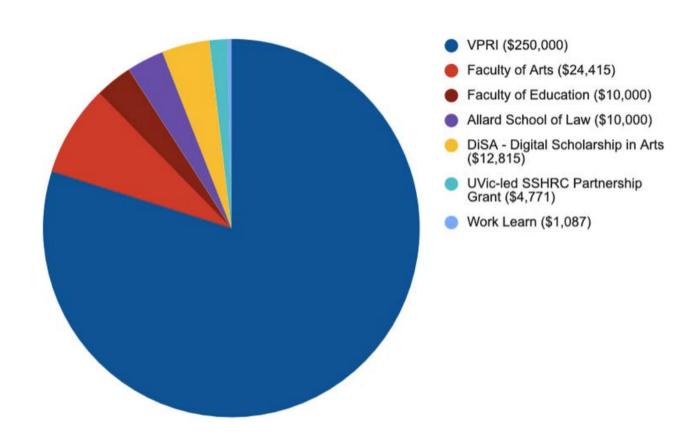
The winner of the award to recognize the contributions of a lecturer, sessional instructor, or postdoctoral fellow is Dr. María Carbonetti, Lecturer in French, Hispanic & Italian Studies, for her community-engaged student projects developed in partnership with Mapuche authors and community organizations, and for the local, national, and international impacts of her cross-disciplinary outreach projects.

The winners of the award to recognize the contributions of a tenured or tenure-track UBC-V Humanities faculty member (in research or educational leadership streams) are Dr. Katherine Bowers, Associate Professor in Central, Eastern, and Northern European Studies, for her innovative approaches to advancing scholarship in her field, mobilization of humanistic knowledge to organize a flash teach-in to offer perspectives on Russia's invasion of Ukraine in 2022, and mentorship of students in the public humanities, and Dr. Christopher Rea, Professor in Asian Studies, for his ongoing work to foster open-access humanities education, its measurable impact in his field and in the international community, and his sustained commitment to outreach and knowledge mobilization.

# FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

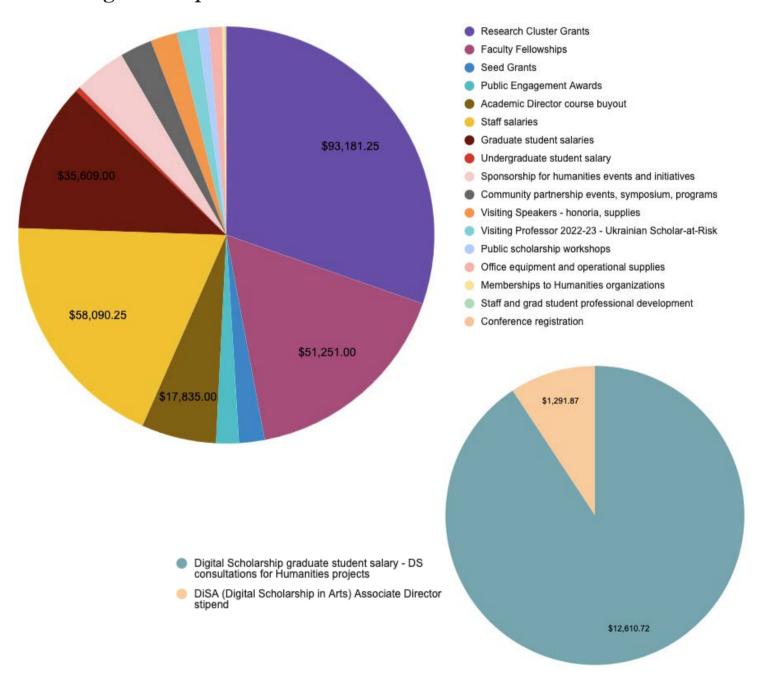
Fiscal Year May 1, 2022 - April 30, 2023

# **Funding Sources**



# Fiscal Year May 1, 2022 - April 30, 2023

# Program Expenditures



# **HUB STAFF**





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

**Heather Joan Tam** Program Manager

**Dylan Annandale** Administrative Assistant



Minori Kato-Hopkins Graduate Academic Assistant Digital Scholarship



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The UBC-V Public Humanities Hub is located on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Musqueam ( $x^w m \partial \theta k w \partial y' \partial m$ ) 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.