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# SLSA Conference 2015, "After Biopolitics"

# Rice University, Houston TX, November 12-15, 2015

Program, Publication Date: November 9, 2015

# SESSION 1: THURSDAY 2:00-3:30

### 1(A): BRC AUDITORIUM

Libidinal Ecology – Sex and Sustainability: A Conversation Chair: Dominic Pettman, New School for Social Research

Participants:

Margret Grebowicz, Goucher College

Dominic Pettman, New School for Social Research Respondent: Alan Stoekel, Penn State University

#### 1(B): BRC 120 EXHIBITION HALL 1

Felt Bioart: Flesh, Difference, Affect Disability Studies as a Gateway Towards Understanding Transgenic Transhumanism

Chair, Adam Zaretsky, Marist College

Dementia: Art and Personhood

Melissa Liu, University of Washington, Seattle

**Human Embodiment & Beyond** 

Kira deCoudres, Hampshire College

Transgenic and Differently Abled: Disability Studies for Genetically Modified Humans

Adam Zaretsky, Marist College

#### 1(C): BRC 120 EXHIBITION HALL 2

Toward a Biopolitics of the Sensorium

Chair: Ned Weidner, Claremont Graduate University

From Data to Dalliance: Towards a New Theory of Embodied Time

Mario Tofano, Claremont Graduate University

Sounding The Artifice: Synesthesia, Biopolitics, and Walter Benjamin

Seth Alt, Claremont Graduate University

The Smell of Death and Excrement: Reimagining Community Through Stench

Ned Weidner, Claremont Graduate University

The Waste in Lucy Walker's "Waste Land": Garbage and the Biopolitics of the Senses

Tamara Ramirez, Claremont Graduate University

### 1(D): BRC 10<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM 1003

Writing "Life" (I): Infirmity, Disability, Vulnerability

Chair: Jesse Miller, University at Buffalo, SUNY

Gissing Street is Not Healthy For You: Middlebrow Reading, Mental Hygiene, and the

Intemperate Normate in Christopher Morley's The Haunted Bookshop

Jesse Miller, University at Buffalo, SUNY

Disneyfied Adulthood and Dispossessed Youth in P.D. James's The Children of Men

Burcu Kuheylan, SUNY at Stony Brook

Skin and Surface: Treating Leprosy in Graham Greene's A Burnt-Out Case

Katherine Skwarczek, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Viral Posthumanisms: Representing Zoonotic Diseases in Contemporary Narratives

Raymond Malewitz, Oregon State University

#### 1(E): BRC 106 BREAK OUT ROOM

Writing "Life" (II): The Body Politic

Chair: Walter Kalaidjian, Emory University

Wasting Away on the Land: Conceptions of Agency and Futurity in Nathaniel Rich's Odds Against

**Tomorrow** 

Andrew Rose, Christopher Newport University

Laboring and Arboreal Bodies: Charles Chesnutt's Environmental History, or Toward a Racial

Anthropocene

Joseph Carson, Rice University

Posthuman Biopolitics in Leonora Carrington's The Hearing Trumpet

Walter Kalaidjian, Emory University

#### 1(F): BRC 280 LECTURE HALL

Biopolitics and Ecology (I): Micro- and Macro-Trophisms

Chair: Derek Woods, Rice University

Envisioning Amphibiosis: Theodor Rosebury and Redemptive Microbiology at the Advent of the

Human Microbiome Project

Melissa Wills, University of California, Davis

Trophic Form: Biopolitics and the Imaginary Ecosystem

Derek Woods, Rice University

"Nature only wants to please itself": Biopolitics, Ecophobia, and Contradictory Natures in

Terrence Malick's *The Tree of Life* Connor Stratman, University of Texas

### 1(F): BRC 172 CONFERENCE ROOM

N/A

#### 1(G): BRC 10TH FLOOR SEMINAR ROOM 1060A

Biopolitics and Race

Chair: Eve Allegra Raimon, University of Southern Maine

The Shifting Ground of African American Memorialization

Eve Allegra Raimon, University of Southern Maine

The Steersman and the Slave Ship: Reprogramming Cybernetics and Race

Michael Hessel-Mial, Emory University

The Syntax of Survival: Biopolitics Of An Oral Practice of Parents of Black American Children

Caroline Collins, UC San Diego

Race, Disease and Biopolitics: "Letting Die" and the Discourse of Genetic Susceptibility

Jordan Liz, University of Memphis

### 1(H): BRC 10TH FLOOR SEMINAR ROOM 1060B

Open

#### 1(I): BRC 282

Biopolitics Before "Biopolitics" (I): Antiquity Chair: Richard Hutchins, Princeton University

Animal Technologies and Animal Revolt in Lucretius

Richard Hutchins, Princeton University

Blackbirds and Biopolitics: Popular Receptions of Morality and Science via Aesop

Jason Hogue, University of Texas, Arlington

Relics Were Never Modern: Theorizing Hospitality without Sacrifice

Rachel S. Anderson, Grand Valley State University

1(J): BRC 284

N/A

1(K): BRC 285

N/A

1(L): BRC 286

N/A

1(M) Pop-up Performance in BRC 120 Exhibition Hall:

"The Animal Revolution," Ron Broglio, Arizona State University

## SESSION 2: THURSDAY 4:00-5:30

#### 2(A): BRC AUDITORIUM

Biopolitics Before "Biopolitics" (II): A Conversation on Biopolitical Thought and the Renaissance Chair: Joseph Campana, Rice University

Participants:

Steven Swarbrick, Brown University

Patricia Cahill, Emory University

Joseph Campana, Rice University

Perry Guevera, Emory University

#### 2(B): BRC 120 EXHIBITION HALL 1

Beyond the Ocular: Space and Sensation in Modern and Contemporary Art

Chairs: Ashley Busby, Susquehanna University; Melissa Warak, University of Texas at El Paso Surreal Sensations: Surrealist Exhibitions Spaces as Immersive Sensory Environments Ashley Busby, Susquehanna University

Fanatical Allies: Between First Glance and Double Take (Situating Jean Dubuffet in the

Greenberg-ian Postwar Milieu in America) Roja Najafi, University of Texas at El Paso

Ancient Music and Contemporary Sculpture: Houston's Infinity Machine

Melissa Warak, University of Texas at El Paso

### 2(C): BRC 120 EXHIBITION HALL 2

Reconceptualizing Aesthetics

Chair: Jennifer Wagner-Lawlor, Penn State University

Becoming Plastic: Reconceptualizing Aesthetics for Art in the Posthuman

Jennifer Wagner-Lawlor, Penn State University

Restaging Chemical Warfare in Art: The Affirmative Power of Judy Chicago's "Atmosphere Pieces"

Susanneh Bieber, Crystal Bridges Museum

Alice's Adventures Under Glass: Photography, Science, and Lewis Carroll's Alice Books

Emily Lyons, University of Arizona

Improvising Consciousness

Josephine Anstey, University at Buffalo

#### 2(D): BRC 10<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM 1003

Papers from the Society for the Study of Biopolitical Futures (I): The Biopolitical Infrastructure of Blood, Soil, and Sex

Chair: Cristina Iuli, Universitá degli Studi del Piemonte Orientale

From Misrecognition to Pattern Recognition, from Biopolitics to Bioinformatics:

Adventures of Blood, Sex and Soil in Annihilation Films

Cristina Iuli, Universitá degli Studi del Piemonte Orientale

Biopolitical Junkyards, Remediation and Risk: Blood, Sex, and Soil

Aaron Jaffe, University of Louisville

Bloody Orgies of the Emergent Metropole: System, Scene, Soiled

Ted Geier, Rice University

#### 2(E): BRC 106 BREAK OUT ROOM

**Biopolitics and Companion Animals** 

Chair: Steven LeMieux, University of Texas at Austin

"Distilling Doggie Dynamics": Interrogating the Biopolitics of EA's The Sims series

Melissa Bianchi, University of Florida

Queer Intimacies on the Frontline: A Theoretical Account of Human/Canine Relations within the

United States Military

Cynthia Bateman, University of South Carolina

Regulating Reproduction: The Biopolitics of Spaying & Neutering

Meredith Clark, Arizona State University Post-parasite: Cats, *Toxoplasma gondii*, and I Steven LeMieux, University of Texas at Austin

#### 2(F): BRC 280 LECTURE HALL

Air Stream

Chair, Karen Pinkus, Cornell University

Airborne: Noise Pollution and Environmental Imaginaries

Marina Peterson, Ohio University

Cloud Culture: Regarding the Incommensurability of Air and Aesthetics

Heather Diack, University of Miami

Respondent: Karen Pinkus

### 2(F): BRC 172 CONFERENCE ROOM

N/A

### 2(G): BRC 10TH FLOOR SEMINAR ROOM 1060A

Virtual Bodies, Material Effects: Medical Technology, Biopolitics, and the Occlusion of Alterity

Chair: Steven Pokornowski, Whittier College

Decolonialism, Medicine, and Provincialized Biopolitics

Steven Pokornowski, Whittier College

Of Mere and Surplus Flesh: The Biopolitical Afterlives of Saartjie Baartman and Henrietta Lacks,

or, Decoding Biopower's Post-Racial Futures

Rachel Ann Walsh, St. Bonaventure University

Statistics, Biopolitics, and Synecdochal Characterization

Sophia Hsu, Rice University

#### 2(H): BRC 10TH FLOOR SEMINAR ROOM 1060B

The Posthumanism Turn as the Capitalist Sublime

Chair, Robert Faivre, SUNY Adirondack

Biopolitical Feminism and After: Gender, Labor and the Crisis of Capitalism

Jennifer Cotter, William Jewell College

Planetary Ethics, Racial Assemblages, and Class Difference

Amrohini Sahay, Hofstra University

Reading Dialectically: or; Sublating the Climate Fictions of Posthumanism

Robert Faivre, SUNY Adirondack

### 2(I): BRC 282 (until 5:20)

Figures of the Juridico-Political (I): Techniques and Methods

Chair: Annie Lowe, Rice University

Before Biopolitics: Michel Foucault and Quantitative Method

Jonathan Schroeder, University of Chicago Biopolitics and the Intercultural Cities Project

Senka Bozic Vrbancic, University of Zadar and Tomislav Pletenac, University of Zagreb

Governmentality 'After Biopolitics' Annie Lowe, Rice University

2(J): BRC 284

N/A

2(K): BRC 285

Rethinking the "Objects" of Biopolitics Chair: Erik Davis, Rice University

Re-Animism: or, Object Oriented Imagination

Erik Davis, Rice University

Rethinking Biopolitics through Bitcoin and Blockchain Technology

Melanie Swan, Kingston University London The Popular as Biopolitical Project & Objective

James Hay, Institute of Communications Research, University of Illinois

Towards an Ergonomics of Bios

Mark Martinez, Missouri State University

### 2(L): BRC 286

Sex, Time, and Sharknados: Intangible Turning Points of Biopolitics

Chair: Kim Lacey, Saginaw Valley State University

Sex Without Biology: The Culture of Desire and the Politics of the Public Sphere.

Conor Shaw-Draves, Saginaw Valley State University

Biopolitics of Slow: Turning Points in Scientific Representation and Ecological Biopolitics

Jared Grogan, Wayne State University

How to Survive a Sharknado and Other Unnatural Disasters, or The Citizen-Body Under Arrest Kim Lacey, Saginaw Valley State University

# Thursday 5:30-7:00

BRC Exhibition Hall: Opening Reception for Art Exhibition

Thursday 7:00-8:30

#### Keynote Talk by Mark Dion, BRC Auditorium

### SESSION 3: FRIDAY 9:00-10:30

#### 3(A): BRC AUDITORIUM

Encounters with Joan Slonczewski (I): Transhuman Evolution in Antarctica

Joan Slonczewski, Kenyon College

Introduced by Bruce Clarke, Texas Tech University

#### 3(B): BRC 120 EXHIBITION HALL 1

Making "Life"

Chair: Kari Nixon, SMU

Life at the Borderline: The Bio/Chemical Divide

Kari Nixon, SMU

Future Life Will Be Synthetic: About the Emergence of Engineered Life, Its Promise, Prophecies,

Media, and the Formal Causalities Needed to Make Sense of Them

Thierry Bardini, Université de Montréal

Towards the discovery of virtual potentials of life: In Potentia and Biopolitics of Bioart

Emre Sünter, University of Montreal

Life as a process of making in the Mixe Highlands (Oaxaca, Mexico): towards a 'general pragmatics' of life

Perif Pitrou, CNRS, Laboratoire d'anthropologie sociale - Pépinière Interdisciplinaire CNRS-P

#### 3(C): BRC 120 EXHIBITION HALL 2

Expanding Systems Aesthetics (I): Institutional Critique and the Systems Aesthetic

Chairs, Francis Halsall, National College of Art and Design, Dublin and Johanna Gosse, Columbia University

Open Systems as the US Mail, The Telegraph and The Semaphore Alphabet: Decoding William Copley's SMS Portfolios

Mike Maizels, Davis Museum at Wellesley College

Light and Space as Institutional Critique

Dawna Schuld, Indiana University, Bloomington

"When Attitudes Become Toys": Play Orbit and the Cybernetics of Participation

Tim Stott, Dublin Institute of Technology

### 3(D): BRC 10<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM 1003

Algorithms of Experience: Experiments in the Politics of Cultural Computation

Chair: Ed Finn, Arizona State University

Algorithmic Culture and the Politics of Process

Ed Finn, Arizona State University

Black Box Fictions: Tom McCarthy's "Satin Island," Reality Hunger, and the Politics of Algorithmic

Intelligibility

Lee Konstantinou, University of Maryland From Gamification to Experimental Games

Patrick Jagoda, University of Chicago

Respondent: Avery Slater, UT Austin

### 3(E): BRC 106 BREAK OUT ROOM

The Afterlives of Bodies: Sounds, Songs, Calls Chair: Fran Bartkowski, Rutgers University—Newark

Biophilia: Viral Desire, Media, and Digital Biopolitics

Stephen McNulty, Rutgers University-Newark

Tissue Culture: Eugenics and The Child as Organic Form

Julian Gil-Peterson, University of Pittsburgh

Civilized Animals: Contradictions of Freedom and Control in Prisoner and Horse Rehabilitation

Erica Tom, Rutgers University-Newark

Sound in the Natural-History Museum: Birds, Music, and Natural Identity

Rachel Mundy, Rutgers University-Newark

#### 3(F): BRC 280 LECTURE HALL

Gillen D'Arcy Wood's Tambora: The Eruption that Changed the World: A Roundtable Discussion Chairs: Robert Markley, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign and Noah Heringman, University of Missouri

Gillen Wood's Tambora

Noah Heringman, University of Missouri

Tambora Reconsidered

Rajani Sudan, Southern Methodist University

Catastrophic History in Environmental Literary Studies

Eric Gidal, University of Iowa

#### 3(G): BRC 172 CONFERENCE ROOM

Pushing the Boundaries of Nature Writing (ASLE panel)

Chair: Karen Anderson, St. Mary's College of Maryland

**Domestic Pests** 

Karen Anderson, St. Mary's College of Maryland

Ecofeminism and the human body: the naked photo project

Janine DeBaise, State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry

Untitled (poems)

Karl Zuelke, Mount St. Joseph University

Untitled (poems)

Stephanie Strickland, Independent

### 3(H): BRC 10TH FLOOR SEMINAR ROOM 1060A

The Biopolitics of Sensation (I): Interfaces

Chairs: David Parisi, College of Charleston and Mark Paterson, University of Pittsburgh

Biopolitics and Sensation: Remarks on the Subjectification of Experience

David Parisi, College of Charleston and Mark Paterson, University of Pittsburgh

Imagining the Aerial Sensorium: From Hot Air Balloons to Drones

Kelly Bezio, Texas A&M, Corpus Christi

Affecting the Interface: A Critical Engagement With Interface Design and Interpretation

Brittany Paris, UCLA and K. B. Cornelius, UCLA

### 3(I): BRC 10TH FLOOR SEMINAR ROOM 1060B

Feminism and Biopolitics—Sex and Reproduction

Chair: Merry Jett, University of Texas at Dallas

"Short-gevity": Sex, Degeneracy, and Nineteenth-Century Free-Love Feminism

Emily Waples, University of Michigan

Reproduction and Biopolitics in the Victorian Sensation Novel

Sophia Hsu, Rice University

Evil Wombs and Fragile Minds: The Gendered Biopolitics of Madness in 1970s Hollywood

Cinema

Merry Jett, University of Texas at Dallas

3(J): BRC 282

N/A

3(K): BRC 284

N/A

3(L): BRC 285

N/A

3(M): BRC 286

N/A

### SESSION 4: FRIDAY 11:00-12:30

#### 4(A): BRC AUDITORIUM

Object-Oriented Feminism – Dead or Alive 1: Necro-Niceties

Chair: Katherine Behar, Baruch College

Live Evil: Patriarchal Life and Object Undeath

Timothy Morton, Rice University

Notes Toward a Theory of the Non-Human Unconscious

Patricia Clough, CUNY Graduate Center This is Why We Can't Have Nice Things

Katherine Behar, Baruch College

Respondent:

Irina Aristarkhova, University of Michigan

### 4(B): BRC 120 EXHIBITION HALL 1

Narrating Animals

Chair: Julie McCown, University of Texas at Arlington

In the Name of the Mother: Framing Narratives of Human and Elephant Life

Alice Bendinelli, Southwestern College

Policing the Borders of Life and Death: The Animal In Ambrose Bierce's Fiction

Dalia Davoudi, Indiana University

Affirmative Biopolitical Communities: Narrative Space in Gerald Durrell's Zoos

Mary Pollock Sanders, Stetson University

Resisting Extinction and Constructing Knowledge: Mountain Sheep and the Nineteenth Century

Daniel Vandersommers, University of Mississippi

#### 4(C): BRC 120 EXHIBITION HALL 2

Expanding Systems Aesthetics (II): Systems, Bodies, Identities, Politics

Chairs, Francis Halsall, National College of Art and Design, Dublin and Johanna Gosse, Columbia University

The Artist as "Weatherman": Environmental Art and Political Ecologies

John A. Tyson, National Gallery of Art

Nervous Systems and Biopower in Stan VanDerBeek's Theatre of Life

Erica Levin, Ohio State University

Bitmaps and Blackness (Charles Gaines' Interfaces)

Kris Cohen, Reed College

Respondent: Christine Filippone, Millersville University

#### 4(D): BRC 10<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM 1003

Papers from the Society for the Study of Biopolitical Futures (II): Codes and Swarms

Chair: Adam Nocek, Arizona State University

Just Another Manic Monad: Of Glass, Bees, and Glass Bees

Dominic Pettman, New School for Social

Mickey Mouse Science: the Molecular Biopolitics of Visual Media

Adam Nocek, Arizona State University

The Sexual Politics of Krill: Mammalian Indigestions from Blackfish to Breast Milk

Margret Grebowicz, Goucher College

#### 4(E): BRC 106 BREAK OUT ROOM

Cosmopolitics, Climate Change, and Science Fiction

Chair: Brandon Jones, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Conserving Area X: Cosmopolitics and Landscape in the Southern Reach

Michael Uhall, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Mobile Matter: Ancient Microbes and Big Data

Noelle Belanger, Noelle(University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Ursula K. Le Guin's Cosmopolitics and the Futures of Environmental Displacement

Brandon Jones, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

#### 4(F): BRC 280 LECTURE HALL

Beyond the Stage: Creative Connections of "Physical Listening" Between Humans, Horses, and the

Environment—A Roundtable Discussion

Chair: Erica Tom, Rutgers University

Presentation:

JoAnna Mendl Shaw, The Equus Projects; Juilliard School of Dance

Participants:

Kari Weil, Wesleyan University

Mira Katz, Sonoma State University

Frances Bartkowski, Rutgers University, Newark

Ned Weidner, Claremont Graduate University

Richard Nash, Indiana University

Erica Tom, Rutgers University

### 4(G): BRC 172 CONFERENCE ROOM

Race, Gender, and the Production of Biomedical Knowledge

Chair: Laura Shackelford, Rochester Institute of Technology

**Beyond Diagnosis** 

Laura Shackelford, Rochester Institute of Technology

Bodies, Brains, and Jelly-Fish: Sexology, Abnormality, and Sexuality in H.D.'s Notes in Thought and Vision

Kate Schnur, University of Michigan

Cybernetic Maternity: Techno-Mediated Motherhood in American Modernism

Heather Love, University of South Dakota

#### 4(H): BRC 10TH FLOOR SEMINAR ROOM 1060A

The Biopolitics of Sensation (II): Bodies

Chairs: David Parisi, College of Charleston and Mark Paterson, University of Pittsburgh

Producing the 'Educated Finger': The Sensualisation of Medical Authority and the

Technologisation of the Sphygmic Arts

Christopher O'Neill, University of Melbourne

Dark Chambers and Spinning Chairs: Ernst Mach, NASA, and the disciplining of the vestibularocular body

Mark Paterson, University of Pittsburgh

Proprioception, or Internal Resonance: Notes on the Biopolitics of Individuation

Scott Richmond, Wayne State University

#### 4(I): BRC 10TH FLOOR SEMINAR ROOM 1060B

Biopolitics Before "Biopolitics" (III): The Eighteenth Century

Chair: Travis Landry, Kenyon College

Biopolitics in the Travelogue of an 18th-Century Moroccan Ambassador

Travis Landry, Kenyon College

"An Oran-Outang Husband": The Biopolitics of Apes in the Eighteenth Century

Bryan Alkemeyer, The College of Wooster

"nothing but Nature entirely abandon'd of Heaven": Pioneering Posthumanism in Robinson

Crusoe

Clint Wilson, Rice University

4(J): BRC 282

N/A

4(K): BRC 284

N/A

4(L): BRC 285

N/A

4(M): BRC 286

N/A

4(N): Pop-up Performance in BRC 120 Exhibition Hall:

"Techniques and Time," Brad Necyk, University of Alberta

# Friday 12:30-2:00

Boxed Lunch Art Plenary Sessions—Paid registrants pick up lunch and drink, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, BRC

#### (A) Exhibition Artists Round Table 1, BRC 120 Exhibition Hall 1

Participants:

Bryndis Snaebjornsdottir, Malmö Art Academy, Lund University

Natalie Loveless, University of Alberta

Emilie St. Hilaire, Concordia University

Danielle Dean, CORE Fellows Program, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston

Adam Zaretzky, Marist College

Eben Kirksey, University of New South Wales

Julia Oldham, Independent Artist

#### (B) Exhibition Artists Round Table 2, BRC 120 Exhibition Hall 2

Participants:

Ali Nickerson, University of Alberta Mark Wilson, University of Cumbria Kyle Terrence, University of Alberta Ron Broglio, Arizona State University Brad Necyk, University of Alberta Karin Bolender, University of New South Wales Ted Hiebert, University of Washington, Bothell Jeanne Liotta, Independent Artist

# (C) Films of Jeanne Liotta, BRC 280 Lecture Hall (Presented in partnership with the Houston Cinema Arts Festival)

"SOON It would be too hot" (6:38)

(A media project on climate change, commissioned for projection on NOAA's Science on a Sphere.) "Observando el Cielo" (19:00)

(Seven years of celestial field recordings gathered from the chaos of the cosmos and inscribed onto 16 mm film. Natural VLF recordings of the magnetosphere allow the universe to speak for itself.)

# (D) Films of Julia Oldham, BRC Auditorium (Presented in partnership with the Houston Cinema Arts Festival)

"Infinitely Impossible" (10:30)

(About a woman having a love affair with infinity, with physicist Eric Corwin.)

"Break Up" (5:19)

(About romantically involved scientific collaborators who are breaking up, and their work about granular materials turns out to be a perfect metaphor for their relationship, with physicist John Royer.)

#### \*Julia Oldham and Jeanne Liotta at the Houston Cinema Arts Festival\*

Jeanne Liotta at the Menil Collection, Monday, November 16, 8pm: <a href="https://www.menil.org/events/1084-desired-constellations-short-films">https://www.menil.org/events/1084-desired-constellations-short-films</a>

Julia Oldham at She Works Flexible Gallery, Sunday, November 15, 3pm: http://houstoncinemaartsfestival.org/films/star-noise-recent-videos-by-julia-oldham

Both at CineSpace Gallery Exhibition and Screenings at Brasil/She Works Flexible Gallery, November 12-December 12: The Houston Cinema Arts Festival's CineSpace exhibition features five artists who explore outer space through video, photography, animation, and drawing. On view will be media installations, animations, and screenings by Laura Heit, Jeanne Liotta, Julia Oldham, Kelly Sears, and David Janesko. For more information on this event and The Houston Cinema Arts Festival: http://houstoncinemaartsfestival.org/

# **SESSION 5: FRIDAY 2:00-3:30**

5(A): BRC AUDITORIUM

"Life," Biopolitics, and Contemporary Art: A Conversation with Mark Dion

Chair: Maria Whiteman, Rice University

Participants:

Mark Dion, Independent Artist

Toby Kamps, The Menil Collection

Amanda Boetzkes, Guelph University

Bruce Hainley, Art Center College of Design

#### 5(B): BRC 120 EXHIBITION HALL 1

Performative Experiments in Multispecies Contact Zones (I): Ethno-ethology

Chairs: Dehlia Hannah, Arizona State University and Eben Kirksey, University of New South Wales

Rodeo Lab: Rope-Tricks and Ethological Art Experiments

Karin Bolender, University of New South Wales

Making Worlds With Crows

Thom van Dooren, University of New South Wales

Lil Bub and Friendz Visit the Center for Feline Studies

Ananya Mukherjea, CUNY Staten Island, and Jeffrey Bussolini, CUNY Staten Island

Field Trip: Horses at the Museum Lee Deigaard, The Front Gallery

#### 5(C): BRC 120 EXHIBITION HALL 2

Expanding Systems Aesthetics (III): Systems of Contemporary Art in a Global Context Chairs, Francis Halsall, National College of Art and Design, Dublin and Johanna Gosse, Columbia University

One Among Many: Experiencing Complexity in Participatory Art Systems

Cristina Albu, University of Missouri, Kansas City

En Route

Jaimey Faris, University of Hawaii

Microcultural Incidents: Gesture, Bipedalism, Systems

Judith Rodenbeck, University of California, Riverside

Subjects of the Institution of Art: New Systems, New Art Worlds

Lane Relyea, Northwestern University

### 5(D): BRC 10TH FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM 1003

Papers from the Society for the Study of Biopolitical Futures (III): Biosecurity, Ecology, Trauma Chair: Gaby Schwab

Legacies of the Manhattan Project: Precarious Lives in Nuclear Ecologies

Gaby Schwab, University of California, Irvine

Iwakami Yasumi and the Stoics of Fukushima Prefecture

Margherita Long, University of California, Irvine

Killing Times: the Temporal Technology of the Death Penalty

David Wills, Brown University

### 5(E): BRC 106 BREAK OUT ROOM

The Biopolitics of Animal Studies

Chair: Ned Weidner, Claremont Graduate University

Posthuman Feminism and the Animals in Marlen Haushofer's The Wall

Alba Tomasula y Garcia, UC Berkeley

The Biopolitics of Animal Noise: Toward Acoustic Affinity

Ned Weidner, Claremont Graduate University

More Than Human: Neoliberalism, Biopolitics, and Animal Studies

Rick Elmore, Appalachian State University

### 5(F): BRC 280 LECTURE HALL

Rethinking the Biopolitics of Water (I)

Chair: Robert Markley, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Ecology and the Problem of Extraterrestrial Waters

Robert Markley, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Science, Aesthetics and William Beebe's Elusive Seas

Stacy Alaimo, University of Texas-Arlington

The Watering Hole in Anthropogenic Australia: Tank Girl, Sheep, and Kangaroo Rats

Lucinda Cole, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

#### 5(G): BRC 172 CONFERENCE ROOM

**Envisaging Life in Scientist Enclaves** 

Chair: Andrew Hageman, Luther College

Science as Leftism in Leo Szilard's "The Voice of the Dolphins"

Gerry Canavan, Marquette University

Red Mars, Red Plenty: Literary Dialectics of Scientific Community Life

Andrew Hageman, Luther College

The Amphibious Futures of Sealab and Samuel Delany's "Driftglass"

Melody Jue, Duke University

#### 5(H): BRC 10TH FLOOR SEMINAR ROOM 1060A

Clinical Labor in Biomedicine

Chair: Lorenzo Servitje, University of California, Riverside

The Working Dead: The Clinical Labor of the Victorian Poor in Edward Berdoe's St. Bernard's

Lorenzo Servitje, University of California, Riverside

Health Humanities, Biolabor, and "The Patient Narrative": Octavia Butler's Adulthood Rites

Olivia Banner, University of Texas, Dallas

Tapeworms as Prosthesis and Pregnancy: Clinical and Reproductive Labor in Mira

Grant's Parasite Trilogy

Stina Attebery, University of California, Riverside

### 5(I): BRC 10TH FLOOR SEMINAR ROOM 1060B

The Southern Reach Trilogy

Chair: Randall Honold, DePaul University - Institute for Nature and Culture

Biopolitical Measurement in The Southern Reach Trilogy

Andrew Strombeck, Wright State University

Dispatches from Area X: Responses to The Southern Reach Trilogy

Randall Honold, DePaul University

Broken Biopolitics in Jeff Vandermeer's Southern Reach Trilogy

Jeff Karnicky, Drake University

### 5(J): BRC 282

Law without Violence?

Chair: Dimitris Vardoulakis, University of Western Sydney

Why Adam Matters to Biopolitics: Spinoza on Law and Violence

Dimitris Vardoulakis, University of Western Sydney

Biopolitics and the Tree of Life: Arendt on Law and Violence

Peg Birmingham, DePaul University

The Violence of the Law: Benjamin and Agamben on Sovereign Subjectivity

James Martel, San Francisco State University

5(K): BRC 284

Object-Oriented Feminism - Dead or Alive 2: Out of Body

Chair: Katherine Behar, Baruch College

The Curse: Severed Qualities in Taboo

Frenchy Lunning, Minneapolis College of Art and Design

BioQueering Methods of Transgenesis

Adam Zaretsky, Marist College

Matters of Mouth

Jamie Skye Bianco, New York University

Respondent: Joshua R. Scannell, CUNY Graduate Center

#### 5(L): BRC 285

The Biopolitics of Sensation (III): Architectures

Chairs: David Parisi, College of Charleston and Mark Paterson, University of Pittsburgh

The Sensorial Apparatus of the Reggae Sound System Julian Henriques, Goldsmiths, University of London

Managing the Always-On Sensorium: Wearables, "Instinctive Alerts," and the Regimentation of

**Tactual Attentiveness** 

David Parisi, College of Charleston

Apocalyptic Hope: Infrastructure, Speculation, and "Smartness"

Orit Halpern, New School for Social Research

5(M): BRC 286

N/A

### SESSION 6: FRIDAY 4-5:30

6(A): BRC AUDITORIUM

Keynote Talk: Vinciane Despret, Free University, Brussels

5:30-7:30

Viewing of James Turrell's "Twilight Epiphany" and Reception in Herring Hall Courtyard, Rice Campus

# SESSION 7: SATURDAY 9:00-10:30

### 7(A): BRC AUDITORIUM

Encounters with Joan Slonczewski (II): Roundtable

Chair, Bruce Clarke, Texas Tech University

Joan Slonczewski, Kenyon College

Stacy Alaimo, University of Texas-Arlington

Colin Milburn, University of California, Davis

Dirk Vanderbeke, Friedrich-Schiller University, Jena

Christy Tidwell, South Dakota School of Mines and Technology

### 7(B): BRC 120 EXHIBITION HALL 1

Performative Experiments in Multispecies Contact Zones (II): Microbiopolitical Tactics

Chairs: Dehlia Hannah, Arizona State University and Eben Kirksey, University of New South Wales

Waste Matters: You Are My Future,

Kathy High, RPI

Rewilding and Reworming: Probiotic Arts

Jamie Lorimer, Oxford University

Hacking a Winogradsky Column: On Para-selves and Parasites

Eben Kirskey, University of New South Wales

#### 7(C): BRC 120 EXHIBITION HALL 2

The Biopolitics of Sensation (IV): Affects—A Roundtable Discussion

Chairs: David Parisi, College of Charleston and Mark Paterson, University of Pittsburgh

Contributors

Patricia Clough, CUNY Graduate Center Mark Paterson, University of Pittsburgh David Parisi, College of Charleston

Julian Henriques, Goldsmiths, University of London

#### 7(D): BRC 10<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM 1003

Enlightenment Prehistories for Biopolitics and Science Studies—A Roundtable

Chair: Sarah Ellenzweig, Rice University

Contributors:

Sarah Ellenzweig, Rice University

Helen Thompson, Northwestern University Courtney Weiss-Smith, Wesleyan University

Jess Keiser, Tufts University

Rajani Sudan, Southern Methodist University

#### 7(E): BRC 106 BREAK OUT ROOM

Writing "Life" (III): Bio-, Neuro-, and Eco-poetics Chair: David Strong: University of Texas at Tyler

Genetic Garbage: Disposable Bodies and Wondrous Beings in P. Inman's Platin

Joao Paulo Guimaraes, SUNY Buffalo

Nature vs. Culture: Xenotext and the Poetic Limit Wood Roberdeau, Goldsmiths, University of London Synaptic Poetics in Kimiko Hahn's Brain Fever (2014) Michelle N. Huang, The Pennsylvania State University The Ecstasy of the Mind: John Donne and Neuroscience

David Strong, University of Texas at Tyler

### 7(F): BRC 280 LECTURE HALL

Feminism and Biopolitics—A Roundtable

Chair: Maria Whiteman, Rice University

Participants:

Gaby Schwab, University of California, Irvine

Timothy Morton, Rice University

Iris van der Tuin, University of Utrecht

Karen Pinkus, Cornell University

### 7(G): BRC 172 CONFERENCE ROOM

Biopolitics, Capitalism, and Neoliberalism

Chair: Emily Johansen, Texas A&M University

Biopolitics in the Welfare State: Rethinking the role of Keynesianism in the Golden Age of

Capitalism

Danielle Guizzo Archela, Federal University of Parana, Brazil

Risk, Neoliberalism, and Biopolitical Resistance

Emily Johansen, Texas A&M University

The Biopolitics of Free Time: Leisure and Play as Forces for Critique

Ryan Hediger, Kent State University

#### 7(H): BRC 10TH FLOOR SEMINAR ROOM 1060A

Excretions and Other Expressions of Dog-ness: The Biopolitics of Canine Companions

Chair: Joela Jacobs, University of Arizona

Beloved Monstrosities: The History and Controversy of Purebred Dogs

Alba Tomasula y Garcia, UC Berkeley; albachatnoir@gmail.com Beyond Good and Evil: Reading Religion in the American Pit Bull

Katharine Mershon, University of Chicago

Impaired by Their Dog-ness? A History of Dog Tales

Joela Jacobs, University of Arizona

Canine Excreta and the Neoliberal Artistic Imaginary

Heidi Nast, DePaul University

#### 7(I): BRC 10TH FLOOR SEMINAR ROOM 1060B

Panopticism and Performativity

Chair: Peggy E Reynolds, Independent

Entanglement, Spirit Masters and Distributed Human Being: Towards a Posthuman Biopolitics

Peggy E Reynolds, Independent

Preening for the Algorithmic Gaze: Bioinformatic Media and Panopticonic Performativity

Jason Hoelscher, Georgia Southern University

We Can't Let Them Die: Biopower, Biopolitics, and the Self-tracking Technologies of Quantified

Self

Todd Woodland, University of California, San Diego

Forced Expression on the Body

Spencer Schaffner, University of Illinois

#### 7(J): BRC 282

Media and Biopolitical Afterlives

Chair: Ted Hiebert, University of Washington-Bothell

Photographing Air: Or, How to Make Friends with the Imaginary

Ted Hiebert, University of Washington-Bothell

From Recognition to Integration: Mediatic Disappearance After Biopolitics

David Cecchetto, York University

The Demons of Ecology

Amanda Boetzkes, University of Guelph

#### 7(K): BRC 284

Papers from the Society for the Study of Biopolitical Futures (IV): Biopolitical Incitements

Chair: Dimitris Vardoulakis, University of Western Sydney

Return Statements: The Critique of Post-Secularism

Gregg Lambert, Syracuse University

Derrida's Secret: Perjury, Oath, and the Social Bond Charles Barbour, University of New South Wales

#### 7(L): BRC 285

Figures of the Juridico-Political (II): "Life" Beyond the Human

Chair: Irus Braverman, SUNY Buffalo Law School

Zoopolitics Against the Dictates of Life: The Problem of Bio-Normativity

Peter Meedom, University of Oslo

Lively Legalities

Irus Braverman, SUNY Buffalo Law School

Unworking biopolitics: an unqualified form of life-in-common

Phillipe Theophanidis, Université de Montréal

#### 7(M): BRC 286

Fluxus Panel (I): Biopolitical Engagement in/as Fluxus: Food, Environment, and the Body

Chairs, James McManus, California State University, Chico and Roger Rothman, Bucknell University

Flux Fixed, Flux Fluxed: An Investigation of Flux Genetics

Hannah Higgins, University of Illinois, Chicago

John Cage, Roberto Esposito, and the biopolitical avant-garde

Roger Rothman, Bucknell University

Odds bodkins! an Empty Vessel! God's body and the Fluxus Self

James Housefield, University of California, Davis

### **SESSION 8: SATURDAY 11:00-12:30**

#### 8(A): BRC AUDITORIUM

You Must Carry Me Now: The Cultural Lives of Endangered Species

Chair: Ron Broglio, Arizona State University

Participants:

Bryndis Snæbjörnsdóttir, Malmö Art Academy, Lund University

Mark Wilson, University of Cumbria

Fröydi Laszlo, 284 Publishers

Amanda Boetzkes, University of Guelph

Cary Wolfe, Rice University

Ron Broglio, Arizona State University

#### 8(B): BRC 120 EXHIBITION HALL 1

Performative Experiments in Multispecies Contact Zones (III): Plant Thinking

Chairs: Dehlia Hannah, Arizona State University and Eben Kirksey, University of New South Wales

**Encountering Another Human in the Woods** 

Michael Marder, University of the Basque Country

Errorarias: Concert for Bipolar Flowers

Adam Zaretsky, Marist College

How to Interview a Plant

John Hartigan, University of Texas

#### 8(C): BRC 120 EXHIBITION HALL 2

Fluxus Panel (II): Biopolitical Engagement in/as Fluxus: Food, Environment, and the Body

Chairs, James McManus, California State University, Chico and Roger Rothman, Bucknell University

The Body as Intermedium: an exploration of the situation/s of the body in some Fluxus works Own F. Smith, University of Maine

The Influence of Intermedia, as defined by Dick Higgins, on the Visualization of Music

Jack Ox, University of New Mexico

The Emptiness of Emptiness /Eating an Orange -a simultaneous multiplicity of realities James McManus, California State University, Chico

### 8(D): BRC 10<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM 1003

Rethinking the Biopolitics of Water (II)

Chair: Robert Markley, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Muddy Waters

Rajani Sudan, Southern Methodist University

The Humid Life of Plants in William Bartram's Travels

Neill Matheson, University of Texas-Arlington

Watershed Ethics and Dam Politics: Mapping Biopolitics, Race and Resistance in *Sleep Dealer* and *Watershed* 

Tra Clough, University of Texas-Arlington

#### 8(E): BRC 106 BREAK OUT ROOM

Writing "Life" (IV): The Monstrous Other Chair: Carol Colatrella, Georgia Tech

Frankenstein's Creatures: The Pleasures of Toys, Games, and Costumes

Carol Colatrella, Georgia Tech

On Being: Cephalapon Seth Morton, Rice University

Policing Time: Time Travel Narratives and the Flesh of Dinosaurs

Laura Richardson, Rice University

Monstrous Life: Excess and Biopolitical Failure in Jurassic Park and Splice

Bethany Doane, Penn State University

#### 8(F): BRC 280 LECTURE HALL

Roundtable: Who Am Us, Anyway? The Human Species in a Posthuman Frame

Chair: Timothy Morton, Rice University

Participants:

Bruce Clarke, Texas Tech University

Erik Davis, Rice University

Iris van der Tuin, University of Utrecht

Thom van Dooren, University of New South Wales

Patricia Clough, CUNY Graduate Center

Dominic Pettman, New School for Social Research

Randall Honold, Depaul University

Christine Skolnick, Depaul University

# 8(G): BRC 172 CONFERENCE ROOM

Living on the Edge: The Not-Quite-Biopolitical Body Chair: Jean-Thomas Tremblay, University of Chicago

Flesh, or Beside Biopolitics: A Trans of Color Speculation on Organic Form

Julian Gill-Peterson, University of Pittsburgh

Breathing After the End of the World: On Enlightened and The Leftovers

Jean-Thomas Tremblay, University of Chicago

Nonchalance at the End of the World: J. G. Ballard's Critique of Biopolitics

Christopher Walker, University of California, Santa Barbara

### 8(H): BRC 10TH FLOOR SEMINAR ROOM 1060A

Romantic Posthumanism

Chair: Noah Heringman, University of Missouri

"Attraction Industrielle": Natural Technology in Socialist Utopia

Amanda Jo Goldstein, Cornell University

Bugs in the Machine: Romantic Entomology and a Curious History of Posthumanism's Forms

Crystal B. Lake, Wright State University

Deep Time and Cultural Encounter in the Enlightenment Voyage Narrative Noah Heringman, University of Missouri

### 8(I): BRC 10TH FLOOR SEMINAR ROOM 1060B

**Biopolitically Queer** 

Chair: Caitlin McIntyre, SUNY at Buffalo

 $Responsibly\ Irresponsible:\ Biomedical\ HIV\ Prevention,\ Pleasure,\ and\ the\ Reinvention\ of\ Safer$ 

Sex

Ivan Grabovac, Mount Royal University, Canada

"Hidden from Sight": The Queer Decomposition of Poe's "Marie Rogêt"

Caitlin McIntyre, SUNY at Buffalo

"The Other Page Half-Writ": Michael Field and the Queer Quantification of Biopower

Amy Kahrmann Huseby, University of Wisconsin-Madison

#### 8(J): BRC 282

Art and Biology, Aesthetics and Animality Chair: Carrie Rohman, Lafayette College

Biopolitics after Fukushima

Gabrielle Decamous, Kyushu University

Dementia: Art and Personhood

Melissa Liu, University of California, Irvine

UnCaging Cunningham's Animals Carrie Rohman, Lafayette College

Lossless Technology: Artificial animals, domestic animals, and extinction through art pieces

Maria Lux, Independent Visual Artist

#### 8(K): BRC 284

Object-Oriented Feminism - Dead or Alive 3: In Pieces

Chair: Katherine Behar, Baruch College, CUNY

Algorithmic Necropolitics: Embodiment and Liveliness in the Post-Biopolitical Human-Security

State

Joshua R. Scannell, CUNY Graduate Center

"Letting Objects Go" and Its Difficulty in Feminism and Beyond

Irina Aristarkhova, University of Michigan

"death-in-life": Biopolitical/necropolitical citizenship

Marina Grzinic, Institute of Philosophy ZRC SAZU, Ljubljana/Academy of Fine Arts, Vienna

Response to "Object-Oriented Feminism: Dead or Alive" Stream

Scott Richmond, Wayne State University

### 8(L): BRC 285

**Idiot Science** 

Chair: Elizabeth Wilson, Emory University

A Carbon Theory of Annihilation

Phillip Thurtle, University of Washington

Animism, Witchcraft, and Magic, or How to Rehabilitate a (Non-)Modern Technoscience

Adam Nocek, Arizona State University

Fermentum

Tyler Fox, University of Washington-Bothell

"Demo or Die!": the Architecture Machine Group, Responsive Environments, and the "Neuro-

Computational" Complex

Orit Halpern, New School for Social Research

8(M): BRC 286

Higher Powers: Encountering Non-Human Scales

Chair: Joshua DiCaglio, Pennsylvania State University

Toxic Cartography and the Trans-Scalar Subject: Geoengineering Conspiracy Theory

Zach Horton, University of California, Santa Barbara

Worlds Without Us: The Horror of Indifference in *The Southern Reach* Trilogy

Andrew Pilsch, Arizona State University

The Cosmic Encounter: Scaling Power beyond Ourselves

Joshua DiCaglio, Pennsylvania State University

# SATURDAY 12:30-2:00

Lunch on your own

# SESSION 9: SATURDAY 2:00-3:30

#### 9(A): BRC AUDITORIUM

You Can't Make This Stuff Up: A Spontaneous Critique of Academic Reason

Chair: Richard Doyle, Penn State University

I Don't Make Up What I Say, and Neither Do You: Declarations of the Noosphere

Richard Doyle, Penn State University

Toasting the Academy

Brian Rotman, Ohio State University

### 9(B): BRC 120 EXHIBITION HALL 1

Performative Experiments in Multispecies Contact Zones (IV): Provocateur Roundtable

Chairs: Dehlia Hannah, Arizona State University and Eben Kirksey, University of New South Wales Participants:

Vinciane Despret, Free University, Brussels

Cymene Howe, Rice University

George Marcus, University of California, Irvine

Patricia Clough, CUNY Graduate Center

Valerie Olson, University of California, Irvine

Dominic Boyer, Rice University

Dehlia Hannah, Arizona State University

Eben Kirksey, University of New South Wales

Others TBA

### 9(C): BRC 120 EXHIBITION HALL 2

Modes of Embodiment (II): Control, Technics, Care

Chair: Laura Otis, Emory University

Body, Autonomy and Governance of the Self in Contemporary Biopolitics

Adriana Correa and José Antonio Gediel, Universidade Federal do Paraná

Flesh and Empathy: The Biopolitical Aesthetics of Northern Mexican Women Artists

Marcela Romero Rivera, Hobart and William Smith Colleges

Life Form and Form of Life within an Agentive Configuration. A Birth Ritual among the Mixe of

Oaxaca, Mexico

Perig Pitrou, CNRS, Laboratoire d'anthropologie sociale - Pépinière Interdisciplinaire CNRS

The Politics of Emotions: Holding on and Letting Go

Laura Otis, Emory University

#### 9(D): BRC 10<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM 1003

Modes of Embodiment (I): Biopoetics of "the Body"

Chair, Lynn Turner, Goldsmiths, University of London

Fort/Spa: Biopoetics in Elizabeth A. Wilson, Sandor Ferenczi & Jacques Derrida

Lynn Turner, Goldsmiths, University of London

Microbial Methods in Foucault and Latour: Rethinking "An Analytics of Power" through the

Nonhuman Living Other

Annu Dahiya, Duke University

Regenerating Pluripotency, or The Plastic Life of Stem Cells

Jennifer Johung, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

#### 9(E): BRC 106 BREAK OUT ROOM

Beyond Thanatopolitics: Rethinking Hospitality, Community, and Resistance through the Posthuman Chair: John Bruni, Grand Valley State University

Medusas vs. Supermen: Posthuman Sex Wars in Early Science Fiction Magazines

Patrick B. Sharp, California State University, Los Angeles

"Living-On": Biopolitical Resistance in John Cassavetes's A Woman Under the Influence

John Bruni, Grand Valley State University

Viral Television: The Biopolitics of Contagion in Recent Science Fiction Television

Sherryl Vint, University of California, Riverside

#### 9(F): BRC 280 LECTURE HALL

Putrefaction, "Life," and Biopolitics—A Roundtable

Chair: Lucinda Cole, University of Illinois Urbana-Champagne

Participants:

Lucinda Cole, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Ned Weidner, Claremont Graduate University

Robert Markley, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Helen Thompson, Northwestern University

#### 9(G): BRC 172 CONFERENCE ROOM

Space, Time and Technologies Real and Imagined

Chair: Dennis Summers, Strategic Technologies for Art, Globe and Environment

Light-Space Modulators — From Moholy-Nagy to Doctor Who

Barbara Miller, Western Washington U

Resonant Frequencies

Nelson Smith, Kansas State University

Collage (Montage, etc) in Digital Media and Photography, and its Implications for the Natural

World

Dennis Summers, Strategic Technologies for Art, Globe and Environment

#### 9(H): BRC 10TH FLOOR SEMINAR ROOM 1060A

Writing "Life" (V): Technologies, Prostheses, Assemblages

Chair: Louise Economides, University of Montana

The Expansion-Pack Brain: Ex-bodied Cognition in Ulysses

Nell Pach, University of Chicago

The Mosquito Death and the Madonna's Cry: Embodiment and Biopolitics in Lynette Roberts and Keith Douglas

Suzanne Black, SUNY College at Oneonta

A Feeling of Attachment: Biopolitics and Fences in Never Let Me Go

Justin Omar Johnson, Stony Brook University, SUNY

More (In-)Human than Human: Biotechnology, Species, and the Politics of *Différance* in Recent Fiction

Louise Economides, University of Montana

#### 9(I): BRC 10TH FLOOR SEMINAR ROOM 1060B

Elemental Media (I)

Chair: Melody Jue, UC Santa Barbara

Molecular Critique

Heather Davis, Penn State

Playing with Water: Biocapital, Watery Thinking, and Paulo Bacigalupi's The Windup Girl

Tom Idema, University of Utrecht

Freeze-frame: Glaciers, Ice, and the Question of Archive

Melody Jue, UC Santa Barbara

Mediating Atmospheric Vulnerability: Ozone Depletion and Environmental Time

Christopher Walker, UC Santa Barbara

#### 9(J): BRC 282

Laruelle and the Nonhuman: Ecology and Animality in Non-Standard Philosophy -- A Conversation with John Ó Maoilearca and Anthony Paul Smith.

Chair: John Ó Maoilearca, Kingston University

Participants:

John Ó Maoilearca, Kingston University Anthony Paul Smith, Lasalle University

#### 9(K): BRC 284

Rethinking Biocitizenship

Chair: Jenell Johnson, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Epigenetics and the Biocitizen Kelly Happe, University of Georgia

Non-human Biocitizens: Lab Animals and the Politics of Hope Marina Levina; John Paul Bushnell, University of Memphis

"We Believe It Is Time To Look Down": The Dark Mountain Project and the Political Aesthetics of Despair

respail

Jenell Johnson, University of Wisconsin-Madison

#### 9(L): BRC 285

Bio-Animation: Representations of Human/Nature in Anime and Video Games

Chair: Pamela Gossin, University of Texas

Good/Evil, Space/Time and Cute Girls: The Philosophy of Physics in Magical Girl Madoka

Marc Hairston, University of Texas

Animating the Oregon Trail: Encounters with History, Nature, and People in The Oregon Trail

Video Game

Jennifer Kraemer, University of Texas-Dallas

"Animated' Nature: The Ethics of Empathy in Hayao Miyazaki's Ecophilosophy

Pamela Gossin, University of Texas - Dallas

#### 9(M): BRC 286

Embodiment, Robotic Life and Social Media

Chair: Mari-Lou Rowley, University of Saskatchewan

I'm OK & U? A Poetic Investigation of Intentionality, Empathy and Embodiment in Social Media

Mari-Lou Rowley, University of Saskatchewan

Mobile Bodies in Subjective Spaces: Power, Agency and Surveillance,

Judy Ehrentraut, University of Waterloo

Robotic Life and the Biopolitical Body,

Jennifer Rhee, Virginia Commonwealth University

YOU DIED: The Biopolitics of Death and Writing in From Software's Dark Souls Series

Kyle Bohunicky, University of Florida

# **SESSION 10: SATURDAY 4:00-5:30**

#### 10(A): BRC AUDITORIUM

Foucault and Biopolitical Thought: A Roundtable Discussion

Chair: Jeffrey Nealon, Penn State University

Participants:

Peg Birmingham, Depaul University

Jenell Johnson, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Gregg Lambert, Syracuse University

James Faubion, Rice University

#### 10(B): BRC 120 EXHIBITION HALL 1

The Body as Creative Partner at the Intersection of Art and Technology in 1960s and Today

Chair: Anne Collins Goodyear, Bowdoin College Museum of Art

Making Synthetic Art, Doing Artful Engineering

Patrick W. McCray, University of California, Santa Barbara

The Body as Medium in American Art of the 1960s

Anne Collins Goodyear, Bowdoin College Museum of Art

Virtual Space, Bodily Matter: Bruce Nauman's Holograms at the End of the Sixties

Taylor Walsh, Harvard University

### 10(C): BRC 120 EXHIBITION HALL 2

Imagining Affirmative Biopolitical Futures: The Loss of the Commons and the Recent Turn Towards Communities Re-envisioning the Commons

Chair: Jen Caruso, Minneapolis College of Art and Design

20th Century Design for Living: 'Good Design' and the Common Good

Gretchen Gasterland-Gustafsson, Minneapolis College of Art and Design

Landing: Site and Speculative Aesthetic Pedagogy

Damon Stanek, Minneapolis College of Art and Design

Towards a Sensuous-Aesthetic Praxis

Jen Caruso, Minneapolis College of Art and Design

### 10(D): BRC 10TH FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM 1003

Papers from the Society for the Study of Biopolitical Futures (V): Affirmative Biopolitics—Sovereignty, Rights, Community

Chair, Richard Barney, University at Albany, SUNY

On Not Giving Up: Animals, Biopolitics, and Impersonality in Coetzee's Fiction

Richard Barney, University at Albany, SUNY

The Biopolitics of Double Affirmation

Philippe G. Lynes, Concordia University

Toward a Biopoetics: Bataille, Kleist and the Avowal of Sovereignty:

Kir Kuiken, University at Albany, SUNY

#### 10(E): BRC 106 BREAK OUT ROOM

Ecologies of BioSciFi

Chair: Sarah Lane, University of California, Santa Barbara

Patterns of Life in Jack Finney's The Body Snatchers

Anneke Schwob, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Perceptive Practices, Recalcitrant Natures, and Interspecies Political Ecologies: Posthuman

Futures in Margaret Atwood's MaddAddam Trilogy

Sarah Lane, University of California, Santa Barbara

Speculative Fur: Interspecies Embodiment and Alien-Animal Experiences in Science Fiction

Olivia Burgess, Colorado School of Mines

#### 10(F): BRC 280 LECTURE HALL

The Biopolitics of Digital Abstinence

Chair: Marcel O'Gorman, University of Waterloo Critical Media Lab

Twelve Tabernacles for the Contemplation of Digital Abstinence

Marcel O'Gorman, University of Waterloo Critical Media Lab

Hands Off: The Digital Chastity Belt

Adam Cilevitz, University of Waterloo Critical Media Lab

Not All For Nothing: Rethinking Digital Abstinence in a Technological Society

Jason Lajoie, University of Waterloo

Tweeting Towards Death: Reinhabiting Digital Ecologies through Digital Life Writing

Sophia Pelka, University of Waterloo

### 10(G): BRC 172 CONFERENCE ROOM

Sound and Embodiment in the Anthropocene

Chair: Greg Siegel, University of California, Santa Barbara

Past the Point of Silence: Noise Thinks the Anthropocene

Aaron Zwintscher, University of Central Florida

Exodic Impulse and Edenic Nostalgia: The Fantasy of Immunitary Logic and the Reality of the

Anthropocene in YA Dystopian Series

Sarah Shelton, The University of Texas at Arlington

Noise from Nowhere

Greg Siegel, University of California, Santa Barbara

### 10(H): BRC 10TH FLOOR SEMINAR ROOM 1060A

Biopolitics and the (Techno)Body

Chair: Melissa Littlefield, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Biopolitics 2.0

Gabriella Calchi-Novati, Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts

Biopolitics and the carnivalesque body

Mario Vrbancic, University of Zadar

Digital Golems: Religious bodies, electronic literature, and iPhone apps

David Benin, Saint Mary's College of California

Fashionable Feelings and Instrumental Intimacies: The Case of Emergent EEG Wearables

Melissa Littlefield, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

#### 10(I): BRC 10TH FLOOR SEMINAR ROOM 1060B

Elemental Media (II)

Chair: Melody Jue, UC Santa Barbara

Photo-/Phyto-: Media theory meets environmental remediation

Alenda Chang, UC Santa Barbara AlgoRhythmic Agricultures I: Water

Jamie Skye Bianco, NYU

AlgoRhythmic Agricultures II: Heat

Nicole Starosielski, NYU

### 10(J): BRC 282

Biomilitarization

Chair: Mike Hill, University at Albany, SUNY

The Wind-Up Bird: Pigeons, Drones, and Biomilitarization

Bill Hutchison, University of Chicago

You Can't Hide Your Lying Circuits: The Advent of Deceptive Machines

Kevin LaGrandeur, NYIT and IEET

War in the Age of Human Terrain Systems: Thinking Weapons and the Weaponization of Thought

Mike Hill, University at Albany, SUNY

Cancer is Terror is Metrics is Profit: Monetizing Digitized Embodiment in the Carceral State

Joshua R. Scannell, CUNY Graduate Center

#### 10(K): BRC 284

Figures of the Juridico-Political (III): Drama, Theurgy, Theology

Chair: David Kline, Rice University

Biopolitics, Immunity, and Community in Modern European Drama

Hedwig Fraunhofer, Georgia College

Wasted Lives, Drowned: Plays on the Refugee Crisis

Julia Boll, University of Konstanz

Political Theurgy

Francescomaria Tedesco, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Pisa

Theological Resistance Within the Biopolitical and the Auto-immunity of the Apocalyptic

David Kline, Rice University

### 10(L): BRC 285

The Biopolitics of Art and Criticism

Chair: Sean Matharoo, University of California, Riverside

Obesity and the Bolus of the Beyond: A Sociopolitical Reading of Metabolic Syndrome

Adam Zaretsky Marist College

(Auto) Immunising Bio-Art: the deconstruction and politics of art and criticism

Nicole Anderson, Macquarie University, Sydney

"My Wound Existed before Me": Transplanting Chimeras from L'Intrus to Trouble Every

Day to The Pig Wings

Sean Matharoo, University of California, Riverside

Touching Bare Life in the "Corridor of Absolute Dying": Biopolitics, Necrorealism, and Resistance to "Making Live" in Evgenii lufit's "Spring"

Brittany Roberts, University of California, Riverside

10(M): BRC 286

Life and Extinction

Chair: Stephanie S Turner, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire

"Life Finds a Way": Creature Features and Species Extinction Christy Tidwell, South Dakota School of Mines & Technology

Life after Extinction

Joshua Schuster, University of Western Ontario

Iconicity after Regenesis: Synthetic Biology's Inflection of Species Extinction

Stephanie S Turner, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire

### SATURDAY 5:30-6:30

RECEPTION CELEBRATING *CONFIGURATIONS* JOURNAL, HOUSTON MARRIOTT MEDICAL CENTER

SATURDAY 6:30-8:00

ANNUAL BUSINESS DINNER, HOUSTON MARRIOTT MEDICAL CENTER

ALL REGISTERED MEMBERS WELCOME

SATURDAY 8:30-11:30

ANNUAL SLSA DANCE, WILLIE'S PUB, RICE MEMORIAL CENTER, RICE CAMPUS Featuring FREE RADICALS, co-sponsored by KTRU RICE RADIO. For more information: <a href="http://www.freerads.com/">http://www.freerads.com/</a>; <a href="http://ktru.org/">http://ktru.org/</a>.

# SESSION 11: SUNDAY 9:00-10:30

11(A): BRC AUDITORIUM

Video Games' Extra-Ludic Echoes

Chair: David Rambo, Duke University

Gaming and the "Parergodic" Work of Seriality in Interactive Digital Environments

Shane Denson, Duke University and Leibniz University of Hannover

Spinoza on Completion and Authorial Forces in Video Games

David Rambo, Duke University

White Hand, Black Box: The Manicule from Mickey to Mario to Mac OS

Stephanie Boluk, Pratt Institute; Patrick LeMieux, Duke University

### 11(B): BRC 120 EXHIBITION HALL 1

Ethics, Animals, and Biopolitics

Chair: Larry Butz, Rice University

"He makes me independent": Service Animals, Law, and the Biopolitics of Public Accommodation

Larry Butz, Rice University

Transductive life: what animal trafficking can teach us about biopolitics

David Jaclin, University of Ottawa

Desire & the Law: Baboons and Biopolitics
Jason Price, United States Military Academy

#### 11(C): BRC 120 EXHIBITION HALL 2

In the Shadow of DARPA: Artistic Avant-Gardes and the Military

Chairs: Meredith Tromble, San Francisco Art Institute and Charissa Terranova, University of Texas, Dallas

Conflicted: Contemporary Artists and Defense Technologies

Meredith Tromble, San Francisco Art Institute

Geometric Abstraction in the Dustbin of History Charissa Terranova, University of Texas, Dallas

The Abstract Expressionist School of Midcentury Mathematics

Alma Steingart, Harvard University

### 11(D): BRC 10<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM 1003

Papers from the Society for the Study of Biopolitical Futures (VI): Apparatuses and Assemblages

Chair: Antoine Traisnel, University of Michigan

Crafty Care: From Biopolitics to Eco-Technics

Silvia Cernea Clark, Brown University

Émile Durkheim's Sociology of Energy

Lynn Badia, University of Alberta

Jakob von Uexküll, Chronophotography, and the Discrete Subject of Biopolitics

Antoine Traisnel, University of Michigan

#### 11(E): BRC 106 BREAK OUT ROOM

Biopolitics and Ecology (II): Assemblages of the Living and Non-Living

Chair: Devin Griffiths, University of Southern California

Darwin's Orchids and the Contrivance of Ecopolitics

Devin Griffiths, University of Southern California

Ecologies of the Long Take

Amy Rust, University of South Florida

Life and Death by a Haitian Hydroelectric Dam

Kieran Murphy, University of Colorado-Boulder

### 11(F): BRC 280 LECTURE HALL

Looking for a Home: Publishing Media Objects

Chair: Helen J. Burgess, North Carolina State University

I? E-Poetry

Leonardo Flores, U of Puerto Rico

Intimate Media

Craig Saper, UMBC

Radicant Publishing for Para-academic Rogues

Eileen A. Joy, Punctum Books

### 11(G): BRC 172 CONFERENCE ROOM

Figures of the Juridico-Political (IV): "Life," Race, Species

Chair: Shamim Hunt, The University of Texas at Dallas

Indigenous Biopolitics in Canada: Land/Body/Power

Marc Andre Fortin, University of Sherbrooke

Life, species, and the philosophical biopolitics of Hannah Arendt

Shamim Hunt, The University of Texas at Dallas

Techniques of (De)Subjectivity in Agamben

Kelly Kawar, University of Bonn

#### 11(H): BRC 10TH FLOOR SEMINAR ROOM 1060A

The Governmentality and Media of Survival

Chair: Christoph Engemann, Leuphana University Lüneburg

Areas of Invulnerability. From Survival to Resilience

Isabell Schrickel, Leuphana University Lüneburg

Frozen Arche Noahs - Cryopreservation and Cryobanking as Media of Survival

Stefan Höhne, Technical University, Berlin

Alexander Friedrich, Technical University of Darmstadt

Networks as survival machines

Christoph Engemann, Leuphana University Lüneburg

#### 11(I): BRC 10TH FLOOR SEMINAR ROOM 1060B

Writing "Life" (VI): Writing Science

Chair: Meredith Farmer, Wake Forest University

Post-Human Physics: L. L. Whyte and Modernist Culture After Relativity

Andrew Logemann, Gordon College

Revolution or Convolution? Critical Neuroscience, Literature and the Struggle for the Lifeworld

Romén Reyes-Peschl, University of Kent

"Death Trellised Life": Melville and the model of early organic chemistry

Meredith Farmer, Wake Forest University

Pseudoscience and Vulnerable Bodies in Joyce's Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man

Jason Coats, Virginia Commonwealth University

### 11(J): BRC 282

**Epigenetics and Mereotopology** 

Chairs: Anna Neill, University of Kansas; Paul Outka, University of Kansas

Epigeneticization, or the Cultural Logic of Contemporary Biopower

Derek Lee, The Pennsylvania State University

Epigenetics: Materialism and Agency

Anna Neill, University of Kansas; Paul Outka, University of Kansas

Whitehead's Mereotopology: Randomness, Evolutionary Time and Protein P53

Steven J. Oscherwitz, Independent

### 11(K): BRC 284

Biopolitics and Foodways

Chair: Christina Stephens, UNC-Chapel Hill

Got Hormones?: Fearing Transsexual Reproductive Ecocatastrophe in the Nation's Milk, Meat,

and Mammals

Bailey Kier, University of Maryland

Affirmative Biopolitics: Reconsidering Chicken Slaughter in *The Passion* 

Christina Stephens, PhD Candidate UNC-Chapel Hill

Reading the End with Marianne Moore: Fishery Collapse and Sensing "A Grave"

Iemanja Brown, The Graduate Center, CUNY

### 11(L): BRC 285

Biopolitics After the Zombie Apocalypse (I): Systems and Structures

Chair: Lissette Lopez Szwydky, University of Arkansas

Apocalyptic Plagues and Internal Exiles: The Biopolitical Futures of Zone One and La Peste

Greg Clinton, Stony Brook University (SUNY)

Life in (Un)Death: In the Flesh, the Medicated Undead, and the Limits of the Biopolitical Adam Haley, Penn State University

Idiom Changes Everything: The Post-Apocalyptic Possibilities of Biopoetics in *Pontypool* Geffrey Davis, University of Arkansas

After Capitalism, After Communism: New Biopolitical Paradigms from Cuba in Juan de Los Muertos (Juan of the Dead)

Lissette Lopez Szwydky, University of Arkansas

#### 11(M): BRC 286

A Feeling for the Organism (I)

Chairs Ada Smailbegovic and Steven Swarbrick, Brown University

The Violence of the Frame: Image, Animal, Interval in Lars von Trier's *Nymphomaniac* Steven Swarbrick, Brown University

Among Dynamic Particulars: Poetic Ethologies of Non-Human Textures of Feeling

Ada Smailbegovic, Brown University

Subjectivity Out of Style: Affect Theory and Science Studies

Adam Frank, University of British Columbia

# SESSION 12: SUNDAY 11:00-12:30

#### 12(A): BRC AUDITORIUM

Extinction Studies: Life and Death in the Anthropocene Chair: Thom van Dooren, University of New South Wales

Interfaces of Felidae and Extinction: 'Victim' and 'Cause'

Jeffrey Bussolini, CUNY Staten Island, and Ananya Mukherjea, CUNY Staten Island

Ethopolitics Against Extinction
Matthew Chrulew, Curtin University

Biodiversity and Behavioral Agency: On the 'Letting Die' of a Phenomenon

Brett Buchanan, Laurentian University

The Unwelcome Crows: Hospitality in the Anthropocene Thom van Dooren, University of New South Wales, Australia

### 12(B): BRC 120 EXHIBITION HALL 1

Modes of Embodiment (III): Perceptions of/as the Virtual Body

Chair: David Mesplé

The Media of Life: Le Vivant et L'Artificiel by Vilém Flusser

Rodrigo Martini Paula, Rice University Performing the Virtual Normative Body David Mesplé, Texas Tech University

A "Seecular" Project at the Institute of Neuroscience

Hannes Bend, University of Oregon

### 12(C): BRC 120 EXHIBITION HALL 2

"A Cyborg Manifesto" at 30: (Re)considerations

Chair, Emily Lyons, University of Arizona

The "Manifesto for Cyborgs" 30 Years On: Rethinking Cyborgs, Feminism and Technoscience after the Twentieth Century

Thao Phan, University of Melbourne

On Cyborg Placentas and Organ Technologies

Sara DiCaglio, Pennsylvania State University

The Anthropocenic Cyborg in Notley's Descent of Alette

Kristin George Bagdanov, Colorado State University

Cyborg Sensoriums

Sumita Chakraborty, Emory University

#### 12(D): BRC 10<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM 1003

Papers from the Society for the Study of Biopolitical Futures (VII): Cultures of Control

Chair: Frida Beckman, Stockholm University

Control, Conspiracy, and Cognitive Mapping

Frida Beckman, Stockholm University

The Paranoid Style of American Liberalism

Gregory Flaxman, University of North Carolina

Who's Counting?

Ron Broglio, Arizona State University

#### 12(E): BRC 106 BREAK OUT ROOM

The New Davy: Romantic Life, Matter, and Aesthetics

Chair: Kurtis Hessel, University of Colorado at Boulder

Affect and Event in Humphry Davy's Consolations in Travel

Allison Dushane, University of Arizona

Chemical Poetics: Humphry Davy and the Aesthetics of Nitrous Oxide Experimentation

Nese Devenot, University of Pennsylvania

Reading Multi-Modal Texts: Humphry Davy as Case Study

Emily Stanback, University of Southern Mississippi Romanticism on Acid: Corroding the Enlightenment Kurtis Hessel, University of Colorado at Boulder

#### 12(F): BRC 280 LECTURE HALL

Figures of Biopolitics

Chair: Alastair Hunt, Portland State University

Lyric Afterlife, or What Emily Dickinson Teaches Us About 9/11

Stephanie Youngblood, Tulsa Community College

Political Animals

Alastair Hunt, Portland State University

Vulnerable Bodies, Normalizing Worlds: Consent in the Age of Biopolitics

Matthias Rudolf, University of Oklahoma

### 12(G): BRC 172 CONFERENCE ROOM

Biopolitics and Ecology (III): Neoliberalism, Catastrophe, and Resilience

Chair: Miranda Butler, University of California, Riverside

Impermaculture: Rhetorics of Resilience

Trey Conner, University of South Florida, St. Petersburg

Nature in the Echo of Disaster: The Politics of Representing Java's Mud Island

Phillip Drake, University of Kansas

A Canticle for Benjamin: The Radioactive Decay of History and its Redemption through the WIPP

Permanent Markers Project

Miranda Butler, University of California, Riverside

#### 12(H): BRC 10TH FLOOR SEMINAR ROOM 1060A

Infrastructure After Intelligibility: Opacity and Non-Sovereignty in New Media

Chair: James Hodge, Northwestern University

Against Feedback

James Hodge, Northwestern University

Critiquing the "Digital Ecosystem": The Deep Web in Contemporary Art

Jeff Scheible, SUNY Purchase

Dark Liquidity: The Scene of Global Finance

Brooke Belisle, SUNY Stony Brook The Distribution of the Habitual

Scott Richmond, Wayne State University

#### 12(I): BRC 10TH FLOOR SEMINAR ROOM 1060B

Body as Politic in Art & Theory

Chair: Vivian Sming, Independent

Sick Woman Theory

Johanna Hedva, Independent

Towards a More Vulnerable Thought

Chandler McWilliams, UCLA

In Love We Trust

Vivian Sming, Independent

#### 12(J): BRC 282

Science and Interspecies Relations

Chair: Michael Lundblad, University of Oslo

Eve Sedgwick's Cats: Suspicious Readings and the Biopolitics of Terminal Illness

Michael Lundblad, University of Oslo

Some (Dis)Assembly Required: Animal Specimens in Thomas Jefferson and John James

Audubon

Julie McCown, University of Texas at Arlington

Sharing knowledge? The biopolitics of interspecies relations in work and science

Fröydi Laszlo, 284 Publishers

#### 12(K): BRC 284

Biopolitics Before "Biopolitics" (IV): Imagining Forms, Biopolitical Formations--Literary Genres and Animal

Communities in Pre-Modern England

Chair: Debapriya Sarkar, Hendrix College

**Arcadian Zoopoetics** 

Karen Raber, University of Mississippi

Deforming Tragedy: Animal Life and the Romance of Disruption in The Tempest

Debapriya Sarkar, Hendrix College

What Do Shepherds Know?: Spenser, Otium, and the Resistance of Politics

Michael C. Clody, University of Houston-Clear Lake

### 12(L): BRC 285

Biopolitics After the Zombie Apocalypse (II): Nature and Society

Chair: Lissette Lopez Szwydky, University of Arkansas

Postapocalypse as Post-Biopolitical Futurism

Connor Pitetti, Stony Brook University (SUNY)

Predictions of Posthuman Apocalypse: Reading Metaphors of Biopolitics in Narratives of

Anthropogenic Zombie Pandemic

Nathaniel Doherty, Stony Brook University (SUNY)

"Your way of doing things is gone!": New Families and Identities in AMC's *The Walking Dead* Brooke Bennett, University of Arkansas

The Walking Dead in The Real World: Mapping the Material Effects of the Zombie Renaissance Shavawn Smith University of Arkansas

12(M): BRC 286

A Feeling for the Organism (II)

Chairs Ada Smailbegovic and Steven Swarbrick, Brown University

Habits of Feeling: Queer Theory and the Limits of Flexibility

Pearl S. Brilmyer, University of Oregon

Matter and Sense: A Sociological Study of Olfaction and Ontological Fracture in Contemporary

Life Science

Hannah Landecker, University of California

Strange Biology

Elizabeth A. Wilson, Emory University

SUNDAY 12:30-1:30

Wrap Up Session, BRC 10TH FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM 1003

### Acknowledgements

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