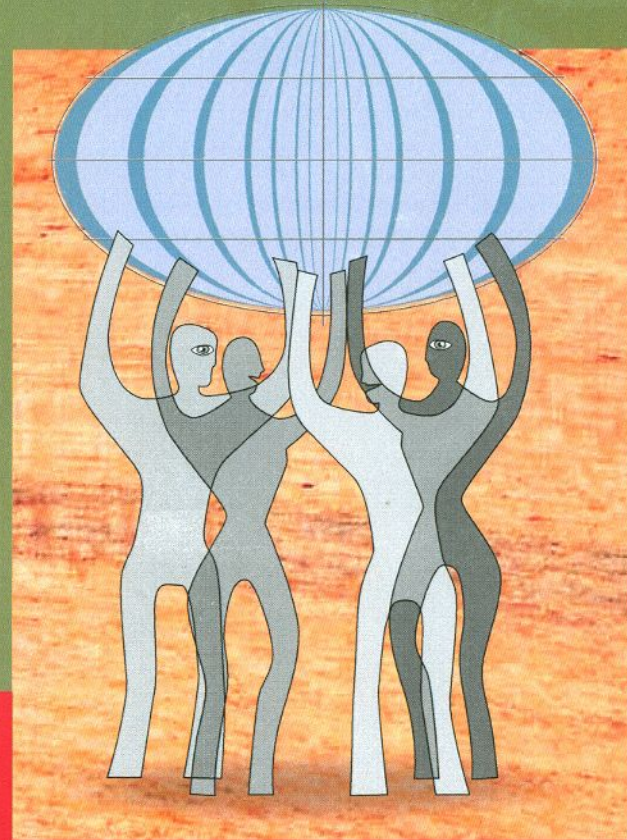


VOICES AND VISIONS

Humanities in the Third World



Virginia Humanities Conference

**April 4 - 5
2008**

Radford University



Virginia Humanities Conference

The Virginia Humanities Conference, founded in the 1940s, is the oldest continuously operating humanities organization in the Commonwealth. Public and private colleges, universities, and community colleges throughout the state constitute the member institutions of the VHC, whose purpose is to promote research, teaching, and general interest in the humanities disciplines.

Governed by a group of Delegates representing all member institutions, and an executive committee of officers elected by the Delegates, the VHC sponsors an annual academic conference focused on a broadly interdisciplinary theme in the humanities. Scholars, teachers, and students of the humanities from throughout the Commonwealth, the nation, and beyond are invited to attend and to contribute to the annual conference. The conference topic is chosen by the current president of the VHC, and the conference is hosted by the president's home institution.

This year's conference, organized by VHC President Kim Kipling and hosted by Radford University is focused on the topic "Voices and Visions: Humanities in the Third World."

In 2009, under the Presidency of Dr. Kirk Richardson, the Virginia Humanities Conference will be hosted by Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Virginia. The conference, tentatively titled "Humanities on the Screen," will be held in late March or early April.

In 2010 the conference will be held at Mary Baldwin College in Staunton, Virginia, under the leadership of Dr. Amy Tillerson.

Please visit <http://vahumanitiesconference.org> for information on past and future VHC activities.

vHc

Virginia Humanities Conference

2007 – 2008 Officers

President	Kim Kipling Radford University
Vice President	Kirk Richardson Virginia Commonwealth University
Secretary	Amy Tillerson Mary Baldwin College
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2007 – 2008 Member Institutions

Bluefield College	Radford University
Bridgewater College	Richard Bland College
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Hampton University	Virginia Commonwealth University
Hollins University	Virginia Military Institute
James Madison University	Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
Lynchburg College	Virginia Wesleyan College
Mary Baldwin College	
Patrick Henry College	

Voices and Visions

Humanities in the Third World

Conference Program

April 4 – 5, 2008

Friday, April 4

Registration / Check-in **8 a.m. – 4 p.m.**
Location: Cook 104

Concurrent Sessions A **9:00 – 10:30**

- 1. North Meets South, East Meets West, Past Meets Present**
Location: Waldron 215
Facilitator: Marwood Larson-Harris, Roanoke College

“A Sisterhood Between ‘First World’ Women and ‘Third World’ Women”

Ki youn Sung, University of Mary Washington
“Taoist Philosophy and Western Economic Theory”

Grace Kuznkowski, Hollins University
“Heart of Darkness: Blind Spot of the Past”
Stan Galloway, Bridgewater College

2. Third World USA

Location: Waldron 219

Facilitator: Sharon Hartline, Radford University

“New World and Third World Confluence: The New Historicist Poetry of Affrilachian Frank X Walker”

Theresa Burriss, Radford University

“Anne Spencer’s Appalachian Roots: A Poetic Voice from America’s Third World”

Dana Cochran, Radford University

“Christianity’s Seminal Role in the Birth of the Harlem Renaissance and the Symbolism of Delia Jones in Zora Neale Hurston’s ‘Sweat’”

Hewon Kari Yook, University of Mary Washington

Concurrent Sessions B

10:45 – 12:15

1. Poetic Voices – Across Time and Cultures

Location: Waldron 219

Facilitator: Mara Scanlon, University of Mary Washington

“Fruitful Intersections: Voices of the Third-World Displaced and Marginalized in the Works of Two Contemporary American Poets”

Vivian Teter, Virginia Wesleyan College

“Penetrating the Veil of Metaphors: Contemporary Black Poetry and the Boundaries of the Globe”

Obi Nwakanma, Saint Louis University

“The Human in Bulle Shah”

Aneel Kumar Raina, Panjab University, India

2. North and South of the Border

Location: Waldron 216

Facilitator: Sharon Hartline, Radford University

“Representations of Home in Guanacaste, Costa Rica”

Lisa Porter, Bridgewater College

“Borderlands Theory”

Elva Fabiola Orozco, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

3. Transformations: Motherlands and Other Lands

Location: Waldron 215

Facilitator: Kirk Richardson, Virginia Commonwealth University

“Finding the Mother-Country: Non/traditional Haunting in Michelle Cliff’s *Abeng* and *No Telephone to Heaven*”

Erica Spiller, Virginia Commonwealth University

“Gender and Transformations through African Stories”

Eve Davis, Hampton University

Luncheon

12:30 – 1:30

Location: Muse Banquet Room

Kim Kipling, VHC President, Radford University

Provost Wilbur Stanton, Radford University

Conference Welcome

1:30 – 1:45

Location: Muse Banquet Room

Plenary Session I

1:45 – 3:15

Location: Muse Banquet Room

“The Interstitial: Notes on Poetry as Passage Through Worlds”

Luisa Igloria, Old Dominion University

Concurrent Sessions C

3:30 – 5:00

1. Sun and Shadow: Caribbean Voices

Location: Waldron 219

Facilitator: Chris Foss, University of Mary Washington

“Narrative Style and Expressions of Power and Revolt in Antonio Benitez-Rojo’s Short Fiction”

Meriah Crawford, Virginia Commonwealth University

“Edwidge Danticat: Poverty and History in Haiti”

Constance Smith, University of Mary Washington

“Sexual Exploitation of Caribbean Women: Past to Present”

Lauren Parker, Hampton University

2. **Philia and Visions of Liberation**

Location: Waldron 215

Facilitator: Steven Scalet, Binghamton University

“Third World Liberation and ‘the Face of the Other’”

Glen Martin, Radford University

“Liberation Movements in the Third World: A Comparison of Paulo Freire and Enrique Dussel”

Amos Nascimento, University of Washington

“Philia in El Salvador, the Otherness of Place”

Tanya Loughead, Canisius College

3. **Discord and Harmony – Immigration and Migrant Literature**

Location: Waldron 216

Facilitator: Peggie Barker, Ferrum College

“Timelines of History: Tangled Threads”

Anne Breneman, Hampton University

“Dialogo Migrante”: the Phenomenon of Migrant Writers in Italy”

Michele Filippo Fontefrancesco, University of Mary Washington

Interlude

5:00 – 6:00

Location: Art Galleries, Powell Hall

“Affirmation of the Self” – Ethiopian-born artist, Tesfaye Tessema, synthesizes African and Western elements to create paintings that speak to the affirmative human experience.

Dinner: Caribbean Buffet

6:00 – 7:00

Location: Muse Banquet Room

Plenary Session II

7:30 – 9:00

Location: Cook 107

“What Is Latin American Philosophy?”

Susana I. Nuccetelli, St. Cloud State University

SATURDAY, APRIL 5

Concurrent Sessions D

9:00 – 10:30

1. **Student Panel: Indigenous Visions, Giving Voice to Local Practices**

Location: Cook 129

Facilitator: Kip Redick, Christopher Newport University

“Motives for African Religious Practices: Fear of Demonology”

Christina Jaeger, Christopher Newport University

“The Mbuti Pygmies of the DRC: The Connection between Human Rights and the Environment”

Elyse Thomas, Christopher Newport University

“Literacy as a False Prophet for the Holy Other”

Susan Watkins, Christopher Newport University

“Religion on the Sioux Reservation”

Joanna Andrusko, Christopher Newport University

“The Morality of Transforming Spirituality through Ethno-Tourism”

Kelly Moody, Christopher Newport University

2. **Colonialism and Its Aftermath – Language and Culture in Africa**

Location: Cook 112

Facilitator: Carter Turner, Radford University

“The ‘Other’ as Witch: Civilization, Modernization and Witchcraft in Africa”

Lori Underwood, Christopher Newport University

Dawn Hutchinson, Christopher Newport University

3. **Through the Eyes of the Artist**

Location: Cook 313

Facilitator: Stephanie Semler, Radford University

“‘You Look Beautiful Like That’: Malick Sidibe and the 2007 Venice Biennale”

Jennifer Davis, University of Mary Washington

Concurrent Sessions E

10:45 – 12:15

1. **Indigenous Wisdom – Forgotten Knowledge**

Location: Cook 129

Facilitator: Kirk Richardson, Virginia Commonwealth University

“Giving Voice to Oral and Local Culture through Literature”

Kip Redick, Christopher Newport University

“Indigenous and Western Technological Worldviews”

George Teschner, Christopher Newport University

“Mayan Astronomy: Anthropology, Archeoastronomy, History of Science, and the Difficulties in Translating Indigenous Knowledge”

Matthew Goodrum, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

2. **Islam, Feminism, and Identity Politics**

Location: Cook 313

Facilitator: Stephanie Semler, Radford University

“English Imperialism and Islamic Identity in Dina Zaman’s *I Am Muslim*”

Washima Che Dan, Universiti Putra Malaysia

“‘Islamic Malaysia’ in Malaysian Literature: Muslim Women, Femininity, and ‘Silent Power’”

Noritah Omar, Universiti Putra Malaysia

“Islam and the Idea of ‘Women’s Liberation’ in the Third World: Voices from Malay Novels”

Zariat Abdul Rani, Universiti Putra Malaysia

Luncheon

12:30 – 1:30

Location: Dalton Hall Cafeteria

Plenary Session III

1:45 – 3:15

Location: Cook 313

Facilitator: Elizabeth Fine, Virginia Polytechnic and State University

Anima Rising: Voices of Third World Women

“Raising Feminist Consciousness through Literature: The Kuwaiti Woman Writer, Hidāya S. al-Sālim, in ‘Kharīf bilā matar’”

Olatunbosun Ishaq Tijani, American University of Sharjah, United Arab Emirates

“The ‘Voice’ for the ‘Voiceless’: A Study of Mahasweta Devi’s *Dhoulī*, *Shanichari*, and the *Fairytales of Rajabasha*”

Debasish Chattopadhyay, Raja Peary Mohan College, Calcutta University, India

“Female Power and Education”

Lilian Jasper, Women’s Christian College, Chennai, India

Delegates Meeting

3:30 – 5:00

Location: Cook 112

Featured Speaker

Luisa A. Igloria is an Associate Professor in the Creative Writing Program and Department of English at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia. She received a Ph.D. from the University of Illinois at Chicago as a Fulbright scholar, an M.A. from Ateneo de Manila University in the Philippines, and a B.A. from University of the Philippines College in Baguio.

A prolific writer of both poetry and prose, Dr. Igloria is author of eight books, including *Encanto*, *In the Garden of the Three Islands*, *Songs for the Beginning of the Millennium*, and *Trill & Mordent*. Her latest collection of poetry, titled *Juan Luna's Revolver*, will be released later this year by University of Notre Dame Press. Her work has also been published in numerous anthologies and journals including *The Missouri Review*, *The Asian Pacific American Journal*, and *TriQuarterly*.

Dr. Igloria has won numerous national and international literary awards, including the Ernest Sandeen Poetry Prize for her forthcoming collection, the 2007 James Hearst Poetry Prize (selected by former U.S. Poet Laureate Ted Kooser), the 2006 National Writers Union poetry prize (selected by Adrienne Rich), and the 2006 Richard Peterson Poetry Prize (Crab Orchard Review). She is an eleven-time recipient of the Carlos Palanca Memorial Award for Literature--the Philippines' highest literary distinction.

Featured Speaker

Susana Nuccetelli was born in Argentina, where she received two Bachelor's degrees from Universidad Nacional de Rosario, one in linguistics and literature and a second in philosophy. She earned a Ph.D. in 1991 from Universidad Autonoma de Madrid, and a second Ph.D. in philosophy from the City University of New York in 1998. Dr. Nuccetelli currently holds the position of Associate Professor of Philosophy at St. Cloud State University in Minnesota.

Dr. Nuccetelli is a leading voice among a new generation of Hispanic philosophers working in the U.S. She has authored the monograph *Latin American Thought: Philosophical Problems and Arguments* (Westview Press 2002), co-edited *Latin American Philosophy: An Introduction with Readings* (Prentice Hall 2004), co-edited *Blackwell Companion to Latin American Philosophy* (forthcoming 2009), and published articles on various aspects of Hispanic thought in leading philosophy journals. Currently she is completing a second monograph, *Latin American Philosophy: A Critical Introduction*.

In addition to her teaching and research at St. Cloud State University, Dr. Nuccetelli has been active in many venues in promoting the study and teaching of Latin American Philosophy. Since 2000, she has been a driving force in the American Philosophical Association's Committee on Hispanics; currently she is chair of that committee.

Acknowledgments

Organizing and facilitating a conference of this nature is a collective endeavor. I wish to express my gratitude to the following for their support and their labor:

Special thanks to my colleague Stephanie Semler for her wonderful work in designing and maintaining the conference web site, and to my wife Susan Anderson for her help with logistics and registration. I thank Tanya Ridpath and her staff in the Office of Conference Services for handling a myriad of organizational details. I thank the Radford University Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies and the College of Humanities and Behavioral Sciences for financial support for the conference, and I thank my fellow VHC officers for their advice and moral support throughout the year. And finally, I sincerely thank my Radford colleagues and my fellow VHC delegates who graciously volunteered to serve as session facilitators.

Kim Kipling
VHC President, 2007-2008