

BY THE NUMBERS: Victorians Institute Conference 2010
University of Virginia

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, October 1

- 8:30 – 1:45 Registration (Monroe Hall, first floor hallway)
9:00 – 10:00 Rare Book School Seminar 1: Teaching Victorian Book
History (Michael Suarez). Meet in Alderman Library 116.
9:00 – 10:30 Panels 1, 2, 3

1. Prosody (Newcomb Art Gallery)
Chair: Meredith Martin (Princeton)
 - a. Albert D. Pionke (Alabama), “Sorrow Figured in Threes: The Triadic Structures of Augusta Webster’s *Dramatic Studies* and *A Woman Sold*”
 - b. Yisrael Levin (Hobart and William Smith), “Aesthetic Prosody: Pater, Patmore, Omond”
 - c. Annie Swafford (Virginia), “Swinburne and the Möbius Strip: Circumvented Circularity and Appropriation of Medieval Lyric in *A Century of Roundels*”

2. Dickens and Money (Monroe 130)
Chair: Leslie Simon (Boston University)
 - a. David Bradshaw (Warren Wilson), “Sissy’s Stutterings and Sleary’s Standing By: Calculated Balances in Dickens’s *Hard Times*”
 - b. Richard Gibson (Wheaton), “Who’s Counting? *Dombey and Son*, A Christmas Carol, and the Counting-House”
 - c. Lesley Goodman (Harvard), “Dickens’ Living Coins: The Economy of People in *A Tale of Two Cities*”

3. Measurement (Newcomb Kaleidoscope)
Chair: Peter Capuano (Nebraska)
 - a. Claudia Martin (SUNY-Binghamton), “Crime and Measurement: The Reification of Time and the Inevitability of the Victorian Detective Novel”
 - b. Jonathan Farina (Seton Hall), “‘The New Science of Literary Mensuration’: Counting and Reading, Then and Now”
 - c. Chitra Ramalingam (Cambridge), “Stilled Lightning and Spinning Mirrors: Charles Wheatstone and the Imprecise History of a Precision Measurement”

Break (15 min)

- 10:45 – 12:15 Panels 4, 5, 6
11:00 – 12:00 Rare Book School Seminar 2: Editing Hopkins (Michael Suarez). Meet in Alderman Library 116.

4. Time and Infinity (Newcomb Art Gallery)
Chair: Anita Rose (Converse College)
 - a. Robin Barrow (Tennessee), "Logarithmic Time Perception, or The Sunshine and the Grass of Far-off Years"
 - b. Evan Horowitz (Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study), "Infinity Goes On, Even After the Sublime"
 - c. Rachel Feder (Michigan), "Victorian Refractions of Romantic Infinity: Number and Expansion in Robert Browning's "Two in the Campagna" and Emily Brontë's "[I'm happiest when most away]"

5. Mapping the Empire (Monroe 130)
Chair: Paul Cantor (Virginia)
 - a. Garrett Peck (British Columbia), "A Collection of Curiosities: Taxonomy and Natural History in *The Island of Doctor Moreau*"
 - b. Anna Louise Penner (U Mass, Boston), "Changing Strategy, Altering Perspectives: Late Victorian Representations of Indian Famine"
 - c. Alex Chase-Levenson (Princeton), "Digging Up Numbers: Narration, Quantification, and the Popularization of the Ancient Near East, 1820-1860"

6. Breeding (Newcomb Kaleidoscope)
Chair: Susan Fraiman (Virginia)
 - a. Suzanne Bailey (Trent), "The Beauty of the Ogive: Sir Francis Galton and the Victorian Statistical Imaginary"
 - b. Kathleen R. Slauch-Stanford (Delaware), "Diagnosing Genius: Francis Galton, Grant Allen, and the Production of Artistic Genius"
 - c. Elise Juzda (Cambridge), "Quantifying the Persistence of Racial Traits in Victorian Britain"

12:15 – 1:45 Welcome lunch [convene in Monroe 130]

1:45 – 3:15 **Plenary roundtable 1: Scholarly Journal Editors**
(Monroe 130)
Chair: Marilyn Gaull (Editorial Institute, Boston University)

1. David Latham (York), *Journal of Pre-Raphaelite Studies*
2. Dino Felluga (Purdue), *Romanticism & Victorianism on the Net*
3. John Lamb (West Virginia), *Victorian Poetry*
4. Ellen Rosenman (Kentucky), *Victorians Institute Journal*

Break (15 min)

3:30 – 4:30 Rare Book School Seminar 3: Victorian Book Illustration
(Barbara Heritage). Meet in Alderman Library 116.

3:30 – 5:00 Victorians Institute Executive Committee meeting

3:30 – 5:00 Panels 7,8, 9

7. Political Economies (Monroe 134)
Chair: Maeve Adams (NYU)
 - a. Frank D. Emmett (independent scholar), "'Organ of Communication' or 'Plausible Demon of Government': James Kay and the Role of Numbers, the Tabular Form, and Cabbage Stalks in the Poor Law Migration Scheme, 1835-1838"
 - b. Supritha Rajan (Rochester), "Sacred Economies: Measuring Justice in William Stanley Jevons's Political Economy"

8. Prosodic Measures (Monroe 130)
Chair: Herbert Tucker (Virginia)
 - a. Mathew Bevis (York, UK), "Counting Tennyson"
 - b. Marc Plamondon (Nipissing), "Measured Language and Phonostylistic Keys"
 - c. Meredith Martin (Princeton), "Counting Victorian Prosodists: Productive Instability and Nineteenth Century Meter"

9. Periodical Numbers (Monroe 124)
Chair: Alison Booth (Virginia)
 - a. Laurel Brake (Birkbeck), "Numbers and Desire: Volume, Issues, and Supplements in 19C British Print Media"
 - b. Sigrid Anderson Cordell (Michigan), "From Racial Types to Typography: Mapping Empire in the Wide World Magazine"
 - c. Miriam Burstein (SUNY Brockport), "'In ten years there is an increase of 450 priests of Antichrist': Quantifying Catholics in *The Bulwark*, 1851-1861"

5:00 – 7:00 Reception: Pavilion I and Garden

5:45 and 6:30 "The Mendacious Mariner; or Pretty Poll of Portsea and the Captain with his Whiskers, A More Than Usually Nautical Drama" (1863), a Victorian home theatrical (Pavilion I)

Saturday, October 2

9:00 – 10:30 Panels 10, 11, 12

9:30 – 10:30 Rare Book School Seminar 4: Victorian Book Bindings (Barbara Heritage). Meet in Alderman Library 116.

10. Reckonings (Monroe 124)
Chair: Jonathan Farina (Seton Hall)
 - a. Richard Floyd (Virginia), "Lies, Damned Lies and Statistics? Counting Votes on the Hustings and in the House of Commons in Early Victorian England"
 - b. Maeve Adams (NYU), "Recounting the Family: The Census, Reform, and Social Accounting in Nineteenth-Century Britain"

- c. John Lamb (West Virginia), “The Foreign Numbers Game: The Victorians and the Lottery”

11. Formats (Monroe 130)

Chair: Leslie Haynsworth (South Carolina)

- a. Patrick Scott (South Carolina), “Digitizing Christina Rossetti’s *Verses* (1847): Bibliographical and Curatorial Issues in a Text with Multiple Versions”
- b. Heather Bowlby (Virginia), “Refiguring Camelot: Proportion and Perspective in Julia Margaret Cameron’s *Illustrations to Tennyson’s Idylls of the King, and Other Poems* (1874-75)”
- c. Rennie Mapp, “Souvenirs and Guides from the Great Exhibition: An Anxious Calculus of Taste”

12. Stevenson’s Calculations (Monroe 134)

Chair: Anthony Mandal (Cardiff)

- a. Kathryn Kruger (Nebraska-Lincoln), “‘Softened with Time’: Time-Keeping in Robert Louis Stevenson’s *Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*”
- b. R.L. Abrahamson (Maryland), “‘Such numbers are evidently quite untrustworthy’: Robert Louis Stevenson and the Absurdity of Calculation”

Break (15 min)

10:45 – 12:15

Plenary roundtable 2: On Scholarly Publishing
(Monroe 130)

Chair: Steve Arata, University of Virginia

1. Penny Kaiserlian, University of Virginia Press
2. Shana Kimball, University of Michigan Press
3. Anthony Mandal, Cardiff University

12:15 – 1:45

Lunch; Victorians Institute Business Meeting [Monroe 134]

1:45 – 3:15

Panels 13, 14, 15

13. Formalized Data (Monroe 134)

Chair: Sigrid Anderson Cordell (Michigan)

- a. Joshua Held (Indiana), “Sine Waves and Ethical Form in *Far from the Madding Crowd*”
- b. Jana Smith Elford (Alberta), “‘Elevating Influences’: Victorian Literary History by Graphs”
- c. Meegan Kennedy (Florida State), “‘The Art of Case-Taking’ Resisting Statistics in Victorian Medicine”

14. Life Cycles (Monroe 124)

Chair: Patrick Scott (South Carolina)

- a. Kay Heath (Georgia Gwinnett), "Aging by Numbers"
- b. Dana Simmons (UC-Riverside), "Accounting for Life: the Sciences of Human Need"
- c. Tess Stockslager (Liberty), "William Banting and the Original Low-Carb Revolution"

15. Novels that Count (Monroe 130)

Chair: Karen Chase (Virginia)

- a. Cameron Dodworth (Nebraska), "The *Four* Mystical Spirits of Christmas and the *Eighteen* Mysterious Religions of Coketown"
- b. Lindsay Mayo Fincher (Nebraska), "Cataloging and Quantifying: Dirt and the Working Class Problem in Elizabeth Gaskell's *North and South*"
- c. Jill Rappoport (Villanova), "Jane's Inheritance"

Break (15 min)

3:30 – 5:00 Panels 16, 17

16. Fearful Symmetries and Quantifying Spirits: Space and Time in the 19th Century (Monroe 130)

Chair: Andrew Stauffer (Virginia)

- a. Marilyn Gaull (Editorial Institute at BU), "A Fearful Symmetry: On Euclid"
- b. Alice Jenkins (Glasgow), "Thinking with Euclid in Victorian Britain"
- c. Jimena Canales (Harvard), "A Tenth of a Second: A History"

17. Babbage's Literary Legacy: Revisions, Reinventions, and Reworkings of Victorian Literary Culture in Neo-Victorianism and Steampunk (Monroe 134)

Chair: Bethany Nowviskie (Virginia)

- a. Lisa Hager (Wisconsin-Waukesha), "A League of Intersecting Discourses: Victorian Literature, Steampunk, and Alan Moore's *The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen*"
- b. Austin Sirkin (Georgia State), "You Got (Steam)Punk'd: The Transformation of Victorian Science Fiction to Modern Fantasy"
- c. Amy L. Montz (Southern Indiana), "Fashionable Afterlives: Neo-Victorian Visions of Victorian Materiality"

5:30 Dan Cohen keynote lecture (Monroe 130)

7:00 Reception/ supper (Monroe Hall)

Sunday, October 3

9:00 – 10:30 Panels 18, 19, 20

18. Beauty (Monroe 124)

Chair: Dana Wheelles (Virginia)

- a. Bethany Nowviskie (Virginia), "But Who Looks East at Sunset?": Gerard Manley Hopkins and Scientific Observation"
- b. Laurence Shafe (Bristol), "The Quantification of Beauty"
- c. Judith W. Page (Florida) and Elise L. Smith (Millsaps), "Trim as a corporal's boot": Order and Proportion in Victorian Garden Style"

19. Dickens (Monroe 130)

Chair: Heather Bowlby (Virginia)

- a. Clayton Tarr (Georgia), "Dickens and the Speed of Light"
- b. Kirsten Andersen (Virginia), "Four Times Ought's an Ought: Madness, Irrationality, and Empty Numbers in Dickens"
- c. Leslie Simon (Boston U), "Orphaned Objects: Dickens, Matter, and Narrative Mathematics"

20. Masculinity and Measurement (Monroe 134)

Chair: Ellen Rosenman (Kentucky)

- a. Janet C. Myers (Elon), "Beleaguered and Outnumbered: The Material Culture of the New Woman and the Crisis of Masculinity at the *Fin de Siècle*"
- b. Todd Starkweather (Virginia Commonwealth), "Keeping Score: Measuring Manliness and Organizing Play in Late Victorian Team Sports"
- c. Leslie Haynsworth (South Carolina), "Mr. Rochester v. Allan Quartermain: Binary Coding of Masculine Identity in Victorian Detective Fiction"

10:30 – 12:00 Scholar's Lab Open House (Alderman Library)

End of Conference