

Welcome to Charlotte, NC and to the 43rd Meeting of the Victorians Institute

Henry James once said of Wilkie Collins: “To Mr. Collins belongs the credit of having introduced into fiction those most mysterious of mysteries, the mysteries which are at our own doors.” Indeed, through the fiction of Collins (and others) the Victorian Era saw the rise of the detective novel as an art form. Moreover, it also produced a wealth of poems, novels, and prose works that concerned themselves with mysteries, secrets, and enigmas. Sensing that they stood on a threshold, that the shadowy borders of new knowledge and understanding lay almost within reach – at their “own doors,” as James said – Victorian authors struggled with a variety of mysteries arising from their interests in science, religion, the occult, mesmerism, identity, sexuality, race, class, and the Empire. This year’s Victorians Institute Conference explores how people in nineteenth-century England grappled with the specters of the unknown and unknowable. We gather on October 25, 2014, exactly 160 years after the Charge of the Light Brigade, part of the Battle of Balaclava. Perhaps a bit like Alfred, Lord Tennyson, we set out to contemplate those who boldly ventured into (metaphorical) fields of smoke and darkness.

The conference’s keynote speaker is Professor Marlene Tromp, Dean of Arizona State University’s New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences. In her many publications, Dr. Tromp explores the curious social phenomena of the Victorian Era. She has investigated séances, mediums, and ghostly encounters, scandal and violence, “freak show” exhibitions, and the sinking of the Titanic. Dr. Tromp also examines more subtle Victorian mysteries in her study of nineteenth-century literature and culture: mysteries of class, mysteries of gender, mysteries of human cruelty and of human transformation. In her keynote address on “Blood Evidence: Forensics, Narrative, and Cultural History,” she will discuss more dark mysteries of the Victorian past.

For those of you attending the conference for the first time, we hope you will remain with the institute, which was founded in 1970, and that you will join us again for future conferences. The institute also publishes the *Victorians Institute Journal*, an award-winning, refereed scholarly journal that publishes articles, reviews, and newly edited texts of interest to scholars in nineteenth-century cultural studies. We hope you will consider contributing your scholarship to both the journal and its online annex at NINES. You can learn more about the institute by accessing our webpage at www.vcu.edu/vij/index.htm; learn more about the journal, edited by Don Richard Cox and Maria K. Bachman, at <http://victorian.utk.edu/>.

We are delighted that you have joined us. Enjoy the conference!

Casey A. Cothran
Conference host

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

FRIDAY OCTOBER 24

7:30 – 11:30 Conference Registration and Check-in

Maple Room
(Omni Room 221)

8:00–9:15

Panels 1, 2, 3

Panel 1: Birds and Waterways in Dickens's Late Novels

Pomodoro Salon A

Moderator: Robert C. Petersen, Middle Tennessee State University

Max Hohner, Arizona State University

“‘Bird’s-Eye View’: The Tower of London Ravens, Nonhuman Panopticism, and Dickens’s Construction of Cloisterham in *Edwin Drood*”

Todd Starkweather, South University

“Dickens’s Mysterious Waterways and the Imperial Gothic”

Gretchen Braun, Furman University

“The Natural Company of Such as I Am?: Regret, Renewal, and the Feminine Thames”

Panel 2: Investigating Unique and Varied Literary Output

Pomodoro Salon B

Moderator: Michelle Mouton, Cornell College

Andrew Adams, Western Carolina University

“To be shot out of a machine?: Alice M. Diehl’s *In Human Shape* and the Railway and General Automatic Library”

Siobhan Craft Brownson, Winthrop University

“Ghosts of Christmas Periodicals Past”

Alexie McPherson, University of Tennessee, Chattanooga

“The Dream Which Was True: Realism and the Fantasy Mode in Frances Hodgson Burnett’s *A Little Princess*”

Panel 3: Mediums, Spiritualists, and Mesmerists

Willow Room

Moderator: Cynthia Macri, Winthrop University

Claudie Massicotte, University of California, Los Angeles and McMaster University

“Helene Smith: A Medium’s Imagination”

L. Anne Delgado, Indiana University

“Madame Blavatsky’s ‘Bag of Tricks’: Mystery, Female Authority, and Occult Knowledge at the End of the Nineteenth Century”

Bruce Wyse, Wilfrid Laurier University

“The Universal Friend’ and the Transvaluation of Death in *Mesmerism: A Mystery*”

9:30–10:45 Panels 4, 5, 6, and 7

Panel 4: George Eliot

Pomodoro Salon A

Moderator: Monika Brown, University of North Carolina, Pembroke

Kristen Pond, Baylor University

“The Mysterious Other and the Ethics of Sympathy in George Eliot”

Rebecca Thorndike-Breeze, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

“The Mysteries of Subjectivity in George Eliot’s *Daniel Deronda*”

Colin Cavendish-Jones, City University of Hong Kong

“George Eliot and the De-mystification of Christ”

Panel 5: Crime and Victorian Newspapers

Willow Room

Moderator: Albert D. Pionke, University of Alabama

Susan Shelangoskie and Jennifer L. Brown, Lourdes University

“Mysterious News to Revealing Narrative: The Reconstruction of History through the Fictionalization of the Case of John Tawell”

Robin Barrow, University of Tennessee

“A Mystery Behind the Railway Door: The Case of Colonel Baker and Kate Dickinson”

Dagni Bredeesen, Eastern Illinois University

“Who killed the little child at Road? Who slew the “Chopped-up Murdered Man”? (Re)Solving True Crimes in *The Female Detective*”

Panel 6: Dickens, *East Lynne*, Institutions, Mothers, and Children

Pomodoro Salon B

Moderator: Cameron Dodworth, Spring Hill College

Kirsten Andersen, University of Virginia

“The Melodrama of Maternal Misrecognition in *Bleak House* and *East Lynne*”

James Hamby, Middle Tennessee State University

“The Child as ‘Noble Savage’ in *A Holiday Romance*”

Valerie Kolbinger, University of South Dakota

“Forcing me to act for myself”: A Distrust of Institutions in Wilkie Collins’s *The Woman in White* and Ellen Wood’s *East Lynne*”

Panel 7: Investigating a Lost Text: *The Notting Hill Mystery* (Panel Time: 10:00–10:50)

Cypress Room

Moderator: Keaghan Turner, Coastal Carolina University

Cheryl Blake Price, University of North Alabama

“In all probability”: The Actuary in Early Detective Fiction”

Lara Karpenko, Carroll University

“Crimes Too Horrible to Contemplate: Mesmerism, Sensation, and Sympathetic Reading in Charles Adams’s *Notting Hill Mystery*”

11:00–12:15 Panels 8, 9, 10, and 11

Panel 8: Oscar Wilde

Pomodoro Salon A

Moderator: Max Hohner, Arizona State University

Kayley Thomas, University of Florida

“His fascinating incompleteness”: John Keats and the Aesthetics of Negative Capability in Oscar Wilde’s *The Picture of Dorian Gray*”

Anthony Garcia, Old Dominion University

“A Decent-Looking Man, but Rough-Like’: Dorian Gray and the Gothic Anxiety over Lower-Class Masculinity”

Panel 9: Mysteries of the Body

Pomodoro Salon B

Moderator: Cynthia Macri, Winthrop University

Catherine Burton, Lehigh University

“Disagreeably suggestive of something animal’: Species Indeterminacy in Richard Marsh’s *The Beetle* (1897)”

Sarah Lennox, University of Florida

“The Mismarked Body of Phoebe Marks: *Lady Audley’s Secret*, Physiognomy, and Social Class”

Jessica Campbell, University of Washington

“Sacrifice and the Monstrous Double: The Strange Cases of Dr. Jekyll and Dorian Gray”

Panel 10: Detection in a Variety of Narrative Forms

Willow Room

Moderator: Todd Starkweather, South University

Melanie East, University of Toronto

“The Ethics of Mystery: Detection and Dream Vision in *The Man Who Was Thursday: A Nightmare*”

Erica McCrystal, St. John’s University

“Mounting his high tower’: The Detective as a Function of Narrative in *Bleak House*”

Rebecca Hill, Connors State College

“*Dracula* and the Late-Victorian *fin-de-siècle* Anxiety”

Panel 11: Women, Travel, and Writing

Cypress Room

Moderator: Claudie Massicotte, University of California, Los Angeles and McMaster University

Indu Ohri, University of Virginia

“Far From the Haunts of British Tourists’: Amelia Edwards’s Ghostly Critique of English Tourism”

Lindi Smith, University of Tulsa

“What will now be our fate seems very uncertain’: Lady Sale and the Mysteries of Afghanistan, 1841–42”

Suzanne Flynn, Gettysburg College

“Savagery giving and civilization receiving’: Isabella Bird’s Encounters with Asian Alterity”

12:15–1:30 Lunch on your own in Charlotte

Victorians Institute Board Meeting

Maple Room (Omni Room 221)

1:30–2:45 Panels 12, 13, 14, and 15

Panel 12: Mysteries of Clothing and Identity

Pomodoro Salon A

Moderator: Emma Burris-Janssen

Deirdre Mikolajcik, University of Kentucky

“The Reigning Fashion”

Janet Myers, Elon University

“Pockets, Privacy, and the Mysteries of Sexuality in George Eliot’s Novels”

Panel 13: Mysteries in Dickens

Pomodoro Salon B

Moderator: James Hamby, Middle Tennessee State University

Lainie Pomerleau, University of Georgia

“From Angel to Anchorite in the House: The Religious Mystery of Ada Clare’s Ascetic Domestic Piety in *Bleak House*”

Alyssa Leavell, University of Georgia

“What a Capital World It Isn’t: Rethinking Economic Essentialism in *Little Dorrit*”

Henna Messina, University of Georgia

“Pip’s Sartorial Eye: Epistemological Limitations in *Great Expectations*”

Holly Fling, University of Georgia

“A Mobilization of Bakhtin’s Carnavalesque: Seeking Possibility and Improvement through Subversion of the Social Order in *Great Expectations*”

Panel 14: Mysteries of Paint and Letters

Willow Room

Moderator: Karen Stock, Winthrop University

Daniel Brown, University of South Florida

“‘Art Mystic’: Representation in Transition in Wilkie Collins’s *Hide and Seek* (1854)”

Adam Hebert, North Carolina State University

“Incomprehensible?: On the Mysterious Vicissitudes of Language and Thought in George Eliot’s *The Mill on the Floss*”

Cameron Dodworth, Spring Hill College

“The Strokes of Brush and Blade: How Basil Hallward Executed Dorian Gray in the Style of Naturalism”

Panel 15: Mysteries of Marriage

Cypress Room

Moderator: Anita Rose, Converse College

Danielle Adams, Georgetown University

“The Sensation of Silence: Elizabeth Gaskell’s *Cranford* and the ‘Problem’ of Marriage in Victorian England”

Loretta Clayton, Middle Georgia State College

“Mysterious Subjectivities: From Marian to Madame Fosco in Wilkie Collins’s *The Woman in White*”

Susan Bernardo, Wagner College

“Tales of Victorian Marriage: Domestic Hauntings in Nesbit’s ‘The Ebony Frame,’ ‘From the Dead,’ and ‘The Letter in Brown Ink’”

3:00–4:15

Panels 16, 17, 18, and 19

Panel 16: Women in the Fin-de-Siècle

Pomodoro Salon A

Moderator: Casey Cothran, Winthrop University

Emma Burris-Janssen, University of Connecticut Storrs

“‘I am guilty; I have murdered him’: Constructing Violent Femininity in Mona Caird’s *The Wing of Azrael*”

Angharad Eyre, Queen Mary, University of London

“Socialist Dreams and Feminist Allegories: The Power of Religious Mystery in the New-Woman Writing of Olive Schreiner and Margaret Harkness”

Jessica Saxon, Craven Community College, New Bern, NC

“(En)Gendering Erotica Readers: Narration, Style, and Possible Worlds in *Venus in India*”

Panel 17: Mysteries of Reading Wilkie Collins's *The Moonstone*

Pomodoro Salon B

Moderator: Holly Fling, University of Georgia

Jennifer Camden, University of Indianapolis

"In plain English, it's your sovereign will and pleasure, Miss Verinder, to jilt my son?": Plain English and Other Mysteries in Wilkie Collins's *The Moonstone*"

Emily Handy, Winthrop University

"The Mystery of Periphery: Wilkie Collins' Indian Narratives in 'A Sermon for Sepoys' and *The Moonstone*"

Margee Husemann, Warren Wilson College

"The Empire as Carnival: Mystery and Morality in *The Moonstone*"

Panel 18: Mysteries of Material Value

Willow Room

Moderator: Siobhan Craft Brownson, Winthrop University

Albert D. Pionke, University of Alabama

"The Mysteries of Victorian Middle-Class Status"

Emily Ann Dotson, University of Kentucky

"Margaret Hale and the Mystery of the Endlessly Clean and Comfortable Home: The Secret Life of the Victorian Managing Daughter"

Andrew Willson, Yale University

"Producing Mysteries and the Mysteries of Production: William Morris, Utopia, and the Uncertainties of Victorian Labor"

Panel 19: Mysteries of Art

Cypress Room

Moderator: David J. Bradshaw, Warren Wilson College

Karen Stock, Winthrop University

"Fairies, Bedlam, and the Enigma of Richard Dadd"

Meghan Freeman, Manhattanville College

"Mysteries of Artistic Misidentification in George Eliot's *Middlemarch*"

Megan Steigerwald, Eastman School of Music at the University of Rochester

“The ceremony of innocence is drowned’: The Mystery of Exotic Childhood in Benjamin Britten’s *The Turn of the Screw*”

4:30–5:00 Afternoon Tea (and Coffee)

Birch Room

Sponsored by the Graduate School at Winthrop University

5:15–6:30 Special Panels 20 and 21

Special Panel 20: Mysteries of Scholarship

Juniper Room

Moderator: William Naufftus, Winthrop University

Don Richard Cox, University of Tennessee

“CSI London: Textual Forensics in Dickens”

Patrick Scott, University of South Carolina

“Barking Dogs and Deaf Ears: The Mysterious Unheeded Scottish Origin of Tennyson’s *In Memoriam*”

Monika Brown, University of North Carolina, Pembroke

“Finding Catherine Englefield, the Author of *Father Oswald*: Investigating a Victorian Mystery in the Twenty-First Century”

Special Panel 21: Mysterious Victorian Influences

Willow Room

Moderator: Natalie Mera Ford, St. Joseph’s University

Kimberly Manganelli, Clemson University

“The Blood of the Vampire: Spectors of Miscegenation in Neo-Sensation Narratives”

Keaghan Turner, Coastal Carolina University

“Baker Street Bric-À-Brac: Sherlock Holmes as Collector”

Alexander Bove, Pacific University

“Gender Mysteries and Their (Dis)Solutions: Sexuality, Image, and Play from Dickens’ *David Copperfield* to Neil Jordan’s *Breakfast of Pluto*”

Emily Harbin, Converse College

“From Victorian to Postmodern: Fluid Identity and Intertextuality in *Sherlock*”

SATURDAY OCTOBER 25

7:30–10:30 Conference Registration and Check-in

Maple Room
(Omni Room 221)

8:00–9:15 Panels 22, 23, 24, and 25

Panel 22: Mysterious Edibles

Poplar Room

Moderator: Kellyanne Ure, Snow College

Christy Rieger, Mercyhurst University

“Mystery and Material Culture in the Late-Victorian Transforming Drug Narrative”

Bonnie Shishko, Indiana University

“The Mysteries in Our Own Kitchens: Victorian Cookbooks and the Evolution of the Culinary ‘Secret’”

Michelle Mouton, Cornell College

“Anthony Trollope’s Travel Writing and the Demystification of Global Food Systems”

Panel 23: Dickens and Childhood

Willow Room

Moderator: James Hamby, Middle Tennessee State University

Tyler Dean, University of California, Irvine

“Exhuming Youth: The Victorian Gothic and the Mysteries of Childhood”

Carra Glatt, Harvard University

“The Mystery of Little Nell: Tracing the Source of a Victorian Legend”

Celeste McMaster, Charleston Southern University

“Mrs. Jarley’s Wax-Works: Exhibiting Domestic Dangers”

Panel 24: Detectives and Gender

Magnolia Room

Moderator: Siobhan Craft Brownson, Winthrop University

Andre DeCuir, Muskingum University

“– A Lady of Natural Detective Genius...’: Dickens, Mrs. Bucket, and the Female Detective”

Heather Sowards, Marietta College

“What an unwomanly thing to do!’: Revising the Image of the Female Detective in Mary Elizabeth Braddon’s *Eleanor’s Victory*”

Julia Dorothy Yost, Yale University

“There is nothing so important as trifles’: The Forensic Ascesis of Sherlock Holmes”

Panel 25: Secrecy and Bulwer–Lytton

Pine Room

Moderator: Jessica Campbell, University of Washington

Leila S. May, North Carolina State University

“The Mystery of History: Secrecy in Bulwer–Lytton’s Historical Novel *Leila*”

Maria K. Bachman, Middle Tennessee State University

“Strictly between ourselves’: The Open Secrets of *Our Mutual Friend*”

Daniel D. Schierenbeck, University of Central Missouri

“A strange patchwork of things the most discordant’: Politics, Religion, and the Occult in Bulwer–Lytton’s *Zanoni*”

9:30–10:45 Panels 26, 27, 28, and 29

Panel 26: Reinvestigating the Familiar

Poplar Room

Moderator: Lindi Smith, University of Tulsa

Ashley King, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

“The Divine Detective: Evidence and Evangelical Judgment in *Lady Audley’s Secret*”

Deborah Denenholz Morse, College of William and Mary

“‘Queer Dreams’: Heathcliff and Literary Shape–Shifting in Emily Brontë’s *Wuthering Heights*”

Timothy S. Hayes, Auburn University

“Did Stevenson Become Transnational?: Solving the ‘Mystery’ of Stevenson in the South Sea”

Panel 27: Historicizing Women and Women Historians

Willow Room

Moderator: Megan K. Mize, Old Dominion University

Cheryl A. Wilson, University of Baltimore

“Mysterious Attraction: The Victorian Jane Austen”

Anthony Teets, Stony Brook University

“Criminal Queens in the Victorian Imagination”

Robert C. Petersen, Middle Tennessee State University

“Agnes and Elizabeth Strickland’s *Life of Henrietta Maria* (1844): Rereading the Stuarts from the Perspective of Victorian Women Historians”

Ann-Marie Dunbar, Winona State University

“The Mysteries at Our Own Classrooms’ Doors: Teaching Gender, Genre, and Margaret Oliphant in the Undergraduate Seminar”

Panel 28: Untraditional Women: Ghosts and Second Wives

Pine Room

Moderator: Casey Cothran, Winthrop University

Natalie Mera Ford, Saint Joseph’s University

“Turning into spectres’: Ghostly Infertility in Victorian Fiction and Medicine”

Lauren Hoffer, University of South Carolina, Beaufort

“Murder and (Re)Marriage in Victorian Sensation Fiction”

Hannah Ruehl, University of Kentucky

“Mysteries of Love: Remarriage and Age in *The Way We Live Now*”

Panel 29: Religious and Scientific Mysteries

Magnolia Room

Moderator: Colin Cavendish-Jones, City University of Hong Kong

Shuhita Bhattacharjee, Presidency University, Kolkata, India

“Passionate Idols and Invasive Objects: Mystery, Religion, and Science in Fin-de-Siècle Fiction”

Jean Fernandez, University of Maryland Baltimore County

“Imperial Geographies and Mysterious Hindu Space in Flora Annie Steel’s *On the Face of the Waters*”

Rose O'Malley, The Graduate Center, CUNY

"Mysterious Beauties: Darwin and Childless Women"

11:00–12:15 Panels 30, 31, 32, and 33

Panel 30: Mysteries of Cognition

Poplar Room

Moderator: Maria K. Bachman, Middle Tennessee State University

Michael Shelichach, The Graduate Center, CUNY

"'You would have done it...in my place': The Proximity, Passivity, and Obsession of the Subject in Wilkie Collins's *The Moonstone* and *The Woman in White*"

Melissa Shields Jenkins, Wake Forest University

"Mysterious Pursuits: Thomas Hardy, Habit, and Sympathy"

Jonathan D. Elmore, Shepherd University

"There are always mysteries in life': *Dracula* as Ontological Handbook"

Panel 31: Poetic Mysteries

Pine Room

Moderator: Bill Naufftus, Winthrop University

Thomas Berenato, University of Virginia

"Gerard Manley Hopkins and the Mystery of Forgiveness"

Herbert F. Tucker, University of Virginia

"At the Doors of Perception: Readings in Poetic Liminality"

David J. Bradshaw, Warren Wilson College

"Mysteries of Identity and Arnoldian Elegiac: Wordsworthian Sway, Augustinian Source"

**Panel 32: Queen Victoria's Lost Pavilion (A series of 10-minute interconnected presentations
by scholars from various fields of study)**

Willow Room

Moderator: Robin Barrow, University of Tennessee

Sharon Joffe, North Carolina State University

"A Little Hot-Bed of Fresco Painting?: A Historical Overview of Queen Victoria's Garden Pavilion at Buckingham Palace"

David Hill and Andrew McCall, North Carolina State University
“Doors to the Past: Virtually Reconstructing the Pavilion”

Sharon Setzer, North Carolina State University
“Contemporary Accounts of the Garden Pavilion: ‘Perfect Bijou’ or Royal Blunder?”

Anthony Harrison, North Carolina State University
“The Mysteries of Victorian Taste”

Paul Fyfe, North Carolina State University
“Radiant Virtuality”

Panel 33: Mysteries of Prose, Politics, and Perception

Magnolia Room

Moderator: Moderator: Keaghan Turner, Coastal Carolina University

Daniel W. T. Hood, Boston College and James W. Hood, Guilford College
“The Terror Within: William Carleton, Folk Gothic, and Agrarian Political Violence”

Abigail Mann, University of North Carolina Pembroke
“Who Do You Love?: Mysteries of the Heart and the Confusions of Liberal Identity in *Phineas Finn*”

Laura Franey, Millsaps College
“Trollope and the Mysteries of Dowry Harassment”

12:15–2:00 Lunch and Keynote Address **Dogwood Room**
Featured Speaker, Marlene Tromp
Topic: “Blood Evidence: Forensics, Narrative, and Cultural History”

2:15–3:30 **Panels 34, 35, 36, and 37**

Panel 34: Victorian News Made Fiction

Poplar Room

Moderator: Anthony Garcia, Old Dominion University

Anna Brecke, University of Rhode Island
“The Occult, the Female Body, and Disrupted Domestic Space in Victorian Popular Fiction”

Kellie Holzer, Virginia Wesleyan College

“Abandoned Children in *The Female Detective* and *The Illustrated Police News*”

Patricia Miller, Idaho State University

“Revisiting Stevenson’s ‘The Body-Snatcher’”

Panel 35: Women and Sickness

Willow Room

Moderator: Jessica Saxon, Craven Community College

Esther Godfrey, University of South Carolina, Upstate

“Simple Sally: Arrested Development and Child Prostitution in Wilkie Collins’s *The Fallen Leaves*”

Kristin Messuri, Pennsylvania State University

“Reproductive Autonomy in Sarah Grand’s *The Heavenly Twins*”

Carolyn Ann Day, Furman University

“Revealing the Beauty Within: Consumption in Early Victorian England”

Panel 36: Mysteries of Sight, Seeing, and Scientific Advancement

Magnolia Room

Moderator: Rebecca Thorndike-Breeze, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Lisa McCarty, Duke University

“A Little Bit of Magic Realized: The Invention of Photography within the Victorian Home”

Maggie Gover, University of California, Riverside

“The Mysterious *Castle in the Carpathians*: Science, Illusion, and the Thrill of Experimentation”

John Lamb, West Virginia University

“Thomas Carlyle’s Magic Lantern Show: *Sartor Resartus* and the Phantasmagoria”

Panel 37: Mysteries of Pedagogy

Pine Room

Moderator: Amanda Hiner, Winthrop University

Eric Lorentzen, University of Mary Washington

“The Narrative of the Tombstone?: Teaching English 251S – British Victorian Detective and Sensation Novel”

Jennifer Fuller, Warner University

“Pop Culture: Balancing Popular and Canonical Victorian Literature in the Survey Course”

Stacey Floyd, Cardinal Stritch University

“Blending Gothic Mysteries with the Mysteries at Our Own Doors: Flipping the Gothic Literature Classroom”

Roger Schmidt, Idaho State University

“Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Undergraduate Forgeries: Teaching Sir Arthur Conan Doyle”

3:45–5:00 Panels 38, 39, 40, and 41

Panel 38: Novel Reviews and Poison–Pen Reviewers

Pine Room

Moderator: Siobhan Craft Brownson, Winthrop University

Kellyanne Ure, Snow College

“Defining Away the Mysteries at Their Doors: How Victorian Novel Reviewers Dealt with the Threat of Sensationalism”

Richard Menke, University of Georgia

“Unmediated Mass Culture: *The Sorrows of Satan* and the Sanctified Bestseller”

Panel 39: Mysteries of Science and Religion

Willow Room

Moderator: Amanda Hiner, Winthrop University

Frank Emmett, Shelter Island, New York

“The Mysterious Tenant’ James Kay’s *On Asphyxia*: Victorian Medical Science Attempts to Fix the Line between Life and Death”

Steven Mollmann, University of Connecticut

“‘The Eye of Reason’: The Sight of Victorian Science”

Katelyn Porubsky, University of South Carolina

“The ‘Science of Religion’: Blushing, Monogenesis, and Darwin’s Turn to the Bible”

Panel 40: Mysteries of Reading

Magnolia Room

Moderator: Jo Koster, Winthrop University

Emily Heady, Liberty University

“Reading to Mourn: Facts and the Loss of Narrative Mystery in *Hard Times*”

Megan K. Mize, Old Dominion University

“There’s nothing against my character’: Humor, Culture, and *She*”

Beth Seltzer, Temple University

“Sherlock Holmes and Victorian Detective Fiction as a Critique of Classification”

Panel 41: Mysterious Gazes and Thresholds

Poplar Room

Moderator: Emily Handy, Winthrop University

Charles T. Wheeler, University of Indianapolis

"Mysteries, Maturation, and Vicarious Heartbreak in Brontë's *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall*."

Rachel Phillips, Winthrop University

“A wild, wick slip she was’: Examining the Manifestation of Madness in Emily Brontë’s *Wuthering Heights*”

Noell Parker Jones, University of North Carolina, Wilmington

"Paranoid Eugenics of the West: Invasion, Soft Science and Eastern Exclusion in Bram Stoker’s *Dracula*"

Call for Papers!

The *Victorians Institute Journal* invites “The Mysteries at Our Own Doors” participants to submit their papers for publication in the *VIJ Digital Annex*. The *VIJ Digital Annex*, supported by NINES, serves as an online extension of each print issue of the journal (with separate content) and features book reviews, newly-edited rare archival materials, and full-length articles based on the best papers presented at the annual conference. Please submit the complete paper (including works cited and images) without your name; a separate cover sheet stating your name and affiliation; and a 100-word abstract to VIJ@mtsu.edu. Members of the VIJ board will act as a selection committee. The deadline is November 24, 2014.

If you are a graduate student, indicate this on your cover sheet. The best graduate student paper will receive the Patrick Scott award: \$250 and the opportunity to publish an extended version of the paper as an article in the 2015 issue of the *Victorians Institute Journal*.

Acknowledgements

This conference has been made possible by the generous support of Winthrop University. Special thanks are gratefully extended to Jack DeRochi (Dean of the Graduate School), Karen Kedrowski (Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences), and Robert Prickett (Chair of the Department of English). Others that have assisted in invaluable ways include Dr. Siobhan Brownson, Dr. Jo Koster, Dr. William Naufftus, Dr. Amanda Hiner, Dr. Cynthia Macri, Ms. Carol Schlabach, Dr. David Latané, Dr. Don Richard Cox, Dr. Anita Rose, Dr. Albert Pionke, Dr. Keaghan Turner, Dr. Gretchen Braun, Dr. Maria K. Bachman, Dr. Rebecca King, and Ms. Sarah Kelly. Particular thanks must be given to the cheerful, creative, and tireless Ms. Chelsea Bergmann, student academic assistant.

Additional thanks are offered to the College of Education’s Instructional Technology Center and to Winthrop University’s Printing Services.