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2015 DICKENS PROJECT WINTER CONFERENCE KNOXVILLE, TN

Weekend Schedule: **Thursday, Feb. 19th to Sunday, Feb. 22nd***

Thursday, Feb. 19th

- 6:00 pm Nancy Henry will pick up John Jordan, Ellen Rosenman, Kevin Sigerman and Anne Sullivan in hotel lobby to attend the 7:00 pm Lady Vols game

Friday, Feb. 20th

- 6:45 pm Meet in the lobby
- 7:00 pm Reception dinner at Crown & Goose; Registration packet pick-up

Saturday, Feb. 21st

- 7:00-8:00 am Breakfast, Crowne Plaza
- 8:00-8:15 am Welcome Introduction: Nancy Henry (UT) and Ellen Rosenman (UK)
- 8:15-9:30 am Panel I
- 9:30-9:45 am Mid-Morning Break
- 9:45-11:00 am Panel II
- 11:15-12:15 pm Lunch
- 12:30-1:45 pm Panel III
- 2:00-3:15 pm Panel IV
- 3:15-3:45 pm Afternoon Break
- 3:45-5:00 pm Panel V
- 6:30 pm Dinner on your own, guided by Matt Smith
- 7:00 pm Faculty will meet at Cru, nearby hotel

Sunday, Feb. 22nd

- 8:00-9:00 am Breakfast, Crowne Plaza
- 10:00-12:00 Hike (Tentative based on departure times/interest/weather)

*Transportation arranged by the conference organizers to and from the airport and bus terminal.



Dickens Graduate Winter Conference
Sponsored by: The Dickens Project, University of Tennessee and University of Kentucky
Knoxville, TN 20-22 Feb. 2015

Presentation Panels for Saturday, February 21

Breakfast: 7:00 – 8:00 a.m.

Welcome Introduction: Nancy Henry and Ellen Rosenman: 8:00 – 8:15

- I. **8:15 – 9:30 a.m. The Body Politic**
Mentor: Ryan Fong (Kalamazoo College)
Panel Moderator: Ellen Rosenman (University of Tennessee)
- a. "Once Upon a Beard: Masculinity, Historiography, and Genres of Victorian Facial Hair." Mark Celeste, Rice University
 - b. "The Weight of Womanhood in George MacDonald's 'The Light Princess.'" Jacqueline Harris, University of Nebraska, Lincoln
 - c. "The Biopolitics of Metonymy in *Mary Barton*." Sophia Hsu, Rice University

Mid-Morning Break

- II. **9:45 – 11:00 a.m. Aesthetic Markers**
Mentor and Moderator: Elizabeth Meadows (Vanderbilt); Amy Billone (University of Tennessee)
- a. "*To an Exile*: Michael Field's Backward Queering." Tara Thomas, University of California, Santa Cruz
 - b. "Subversive Seduction: The Disruptive Power of Music in W. M. Thackeray's *Vanity Fair*." Sarah Cash, University of Miami [cancellation]
 - c. "Rereading Emily Dickinson: The Musical Notation of the Dash." Kristen Smith, Ryerson University

Lunch: 11:15 – 12:15 p.m.

- III. **12:30 – 1:45 p.m. Affecting *Bleak House***
Mentor and Moderator: John Jordan (UC, Santa Cruz); Kat Powell (University of Tennessee)
- a. "Disrupting Orphans: Overlooking the Vagrant Orphan in the 1834 New Poor Law and *Bleak House*." Wietske Smeele, Vanderbilt University [cancellation]
 - b. "Embracing Narratives: Esther and the Maternal Narrator of *Bleak House*." Brianna Beehler, University of Southern California
 - c. "Feeling and Making Sense in *Bleak House*." Pritika Pradhan, Rutgers University.
- IV. **2:00 – 3:15 p.m. Forming Fictions**
Mentor and Moderator: Ellen Rosenman (University of Kentucky)
- a. "*Vanity Fair* (in Parentheses): Uncertain Relevance in the Novel without a Hero" Kevin Sigerman, Rutgers University
 - b. "Romancing the (Moon)Stone: Wilkie Collins and a Science Sublime" Lily Zhu, University of Texas
 - c. "*American Notes* as Dickensian Memoir." Kathryn Ford, The Australian National University.

Afternoon Break

- V. **3:45 – 5:00 p.m. Prosthetic Rhetoric**
Mentor and Moderator: Carol MacKay (University of Texas)
- a. "*Little Dorrit* and *Our Mutual Friend*: Crutches, Chairs, and Other Performance Pieces." Rebecca McCann, University of Tennessee
 - b. "'The Spark of Life': Fireside Media and (Re)Animation in *Our Mutual Friend*." Anne Sullivan, University of California-Riverside
 - c. "Of Rabbits and Reason: Epistemology, Religion, and the Nature Fakers Controversy." Matt Smith, University of Tennessee