

The EGSA Digest

Frequenter Plerumque Verum

February 28, 2019

Inside this issue: All Good Things, Still No Hidden Message

I hope that your week has been excellent, friends. I hope that it has been as wonderful as Ben, as enlightening as Luke, and as uplifting as Caitlin. It is hard to believe that we are already this far into the semester, but this happens every semester, so really I shouldn't be too surprised. At any rate, I do hope that you'll check out the upcoming opportunities and general enlightenment within the pages below.

Sort of sincerely,

Clayton McReynolds

EGSA Secretary (a.k.a. Mister Secretary Sir, a.k.a. Minister of Misinformation)

Event Schedule

For a more conveniently condensed recounting of the events below, visit the [EGSA Website!](#) In addition to providing a clear calendar of upcoming events and important dates, the website works as a great guide for navigating your graduate school career with resources including the EGSA Handbook and the kinds of vital forms that the Department likes to cunningly conceal.

- ◆ **Women in the Academy Mentorship Program. Application due by February 28.**
“The Women in the Academy (WITA) Committee invites all women graduate students to participate in the Women in the Academy Mentorship Program. The WITA Mentorship Program seeks to develop women graduate students as leaders, scholars, and educators. Participants will join other graduate women in an interdisciplinary group led by two Baylor faculty mentors to have monthly conversations about a variety of topics related to life in the academy.” If you are interested in this great opportunity to build relationships with faculty and with grad students from some of those fabled other departments (and are also a woman), you can apply [here](#). For more info on WITA see [here](#). If you participated in the program last year, you don’t need to reapply, but you should let Kristina_Amrani@baylor.edu know that you intend to participate again. For any further questions, contact Dr. Barr at Beth_Barr@baylor.edu .
- ◆ **Tuesday, March 5. Ross Douthat on Decadent Societies. 7:00-9:00. Paul Powell Chapel, Truett.**
Come hear Ross Douthat conversate about decadence with Dr. Alan Jacobs. I suspect American society might not come out looking too hot here, but what else is new? For the deets, lookee [here](#).
- ◆ **Research Assistantship Opportunity with Dr. King. Applications due by March 22.**
Attached to this email you will find a document from Dr. King helpfully outlining what this assistantship entails, what qualifications are necessary, what the work and compensation will be, and how to apply. This research assistantship pays quite well, and the funding comes from the ABL, so if you’re facing the end of departmental funding this is a great option to explore!
- ◆ **Summer Digital Scholarship Applications. Applications due by April 1.**
If you’re looking for a good way to both learn something valuable and fend off starvation this summer, this is a great opportunity to check out! Eileen Bentsen reached out to encourage us to apply and remarked: “I’d love to see applications from grad students interested in learning the fundamentals of digital scholarship/digital humanities who already have ideas on how this methodology will benefit their thesis and career.” You can check out the details and/or apply [here](#).
- ◆ **September 18-21, 2019. Ecology and Religion in 19th Century Studies Conference. The ABL and the Interwebs.**
Here’s some info from Dr. Josh King on this excellent opportunity to go to a conference without having to travel, thus saving not only the environment but also time and money! “I am excited to share with you a Call for Papers for a unique conference that I am directing, and that will run from September 18-21, 2019. Ecology and Religion in 19th Century Studies is a flightless, multi-site conference that invites interdisciplinary attention to confluences between environmental and religious perspectives and practices in the long Anglophone nineteenth century (1780-1900). On-site and virtual presentations will be broadcast online from four participating sites” For more information see Josh’s email and follow this [link](#).

Event Schedule

- ◆ **January 9-12, 2020. Life Writing and the Life of Faith, a session hosted by the Conference on Christianity and Literature at the 2020 MLA Conference.**

This session sounds pretty sweet to me, and it might well be up a number of y'all's alleys, so check out the details [here!](#)

Accomplishments and Acclaim

- ◆ Aubrey has successfully defended her prospectus! I assume that Medievalists undertake this sort of defense through either jousting or swordplay. Possibly both. At any rate, Aubrey has done the thing and is to be congratulated accordingly!

EGSA Inquirer

Our sources have confirmed that everything is still fine. Rumors about mysterious unaddressed envelopes full of poisoned pharmacy coupons being sent to President Spofford's home in an attempt to end the folly of the Holly are spurious. Utterly ridiculous. Really, I don't know why I'm even bothering to mention such a silly idea!

But while we are on the subject of totally unfounded speculation, it is entirely false that mysterious changes have been observed in the allegedly creepy (I mean really it's quite beautiful if you think about it right) alien picture in the Carroll Science closet. Its facial expression has not changed. Its limbs have not moved. And it certainly is not trying to warn anyone about anything. It's just a picture after all.

Now let's end on some happy news! Something that is actually true is that Caitlin has already had the chance to get many of our potential initiates excited about the Enneagram and the truth it contains! Soon they too can join us in pursuing self-knowledge in this warm, friendly community that has nothing to do with evil disembodied aliens.