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42nd Annual Conference
Society for Caribbean Studies
University of London
4-6 July, 2018

Grann Brijit de Jean Philippe MOISEAU
From the Chair of the Society

It has been a great pleasure to hold our SCS 41st Annual Conference at the University of Essex. We received expressions of interest from a very wide range of research areas and topics, including the Anglophone, the Francophone and the Hispanic Caribbean. We had the pleasure to listen to Professor Robin Blackburn’s keynote lecture, a thought-provoking analysis of the relationship between slavery and capitalism in the Americas. We had two award-winners this year. Jean-Philippe Moiseau, a visual artist from Haiti, was the 2017 Bridget Jones Award winner. We had the pleasure to learn more about his artistic philosophy during the personal and touching presentation he gave on the first day of the conference. Laëtitia Saint-Loubert, a PhD candidate at the Yesu Persaud Centre for Caribbean Studies, was awarded the 2017 David Nicholls prize for the best postgraduate essay. The David Nicholls Prize is sponsored by the David Nicholls Memorial Trust.

Fabienne Viala (Chair)
Bridget Jones Award 2017

Recipient of Bridget Jones Travel Award Jean Philippe Moiseau

The recipient of the 2017 Bridget Jones Travel Award was Jean Philippe Moiseau from the Dominican Republic. He came to the 41st Annual Conference for the Society for Caribbean Studies at the University of Essex to make his presentation on “Grann Brijit: Unmasking Haitian Vodou.”

According to Moiseau “could certain episodes in Haiti’s history have given rise to clichés surrounding Vodou? Persecuted in Haiti, Vodouisants saw vodou banned, faced anti-superstition campaigns and were forced to convert to Christianity. Vodou has been distorted in the mass media and portrayed as evil.”

His presentation aimed to interrogate these commonplaces, by depicting an alternative take on Vodou and underscoring its continued relevance for Haiti today.

Audley Chambers, Chair Bridget Jones Award Comm
Society for Caribbean Studies Committee
2016-17

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Recent Publications

Joanne Chassot

Ghosts of the African Diaspora: Re-Visioning History, Memory, and Identity


www.upne.com/1512601589.html

The first monograph to investigate the poetics and politics of haunting in African diaspora literature, Ghosts of the African Diaspora: Re-Visioning History, Memory, and Identity examines literary works by five contemporary, postcolonial studies, and queer theory, this truly interdisciplinary volume makes an important contribution to the fast-growing field of spectrality studies.

Contents:

Introduction: Tracing the Ghost
Chapter 1 - “Voyage through death / to life upon these shores”: Representing the Middle Passage
Chapter 2 - Dusky Sallys: Re-Visioning the Silences of History
Chapter 3 - “You best remember them!”: Repossessing the Spirit of Diaspora
Chapter 4 - “A ghost-life”: Queering the Limits of Identity

Afterword: Learning to Live with Ghosts

Joanne Chassot argues that reading these texts through the lens of the ghost does cultural, theoretical, and political work crucial to the writers’ engagement with issues of identity, memory, and history. Drawing on memory and trauma studies, postcolonial studies, and queer theory, this truly interdisciplinary volume makes an important contribution to the fast-growing field of spectrality studies.

JOANNE CHASSOT is a lecturer in English and American literature at the University of Lausanne, Switzerland.
John Mair

Investigative Journalism Today: Speaking Truth to Power - by John Mair and Richard Lance Keeble

Rumours of the death of investigative journalism have been greatly exaggerated. This book is proof enough of that. Examples from the corporate and alternative media across the globe highlight the many imaginative and courageous ways that reporters are still "kicking at the right targets". Edited by - and contributed to - by John Mair and Richard Lance Keeble, the burden of the book is both how much more important investigative journalism is in an age of so much disinformation, and what techniques and approaches are needed now in a fast-changing information world.

"It makes headlines, sells newspapers, gets viewing figures and tells the public things they do not know but have a right to know. It speaks truth to power."

Brexit, Trump and the Media by John Mair and Tor Clark

They were the two volcanic surprises in world politics in 2016 – Brexit, the UK vote to leave the European Union in June, and the election of Donald Trump as the 45th President of the United States in November. Neither was predicted by the polls, neither pleased the establishment in both countries. Both will have long-term ramifications, good and bad, for decades to come.

But what role did the media on both sides of the Atlantic play as midwives to these ‘populist’ revolts? Was it wary enough? Did the media, in all its various forms, act as watchdog or lapdog? With the 2017 UK General Election results fresh in our minds, this is a timely and cogent analysis of how we arrived at where we are.

Data Journalism: Past, Present and Future by John Mair, Richard Lance Keeble and Megan Lucero

This is the third in the Abramis Data Journalism series and twenty first in the acclaimed 'hackademic' series. As ever with a new collection, there are new authors and fresh perspectives. A vast range of topics is covered - including the Panama Papers exposé, the role of data journalism in the recent UK general elections and referenda, the challenges facing DJ in China and Russia, and an overview of the history of DJ in the US and UK – while experts provide tips on improving DJ skills.

John Mair is the series editor of the Abramis 'hackademic' books.

http://www.abramis.co.uk/publish/home.php
Henrice Altink

A Black Scourge?: Race and the Rockefeller’s Tuberculosis Commission in Interwar Jamaica

From 1927 till 1942, the Rockefeller Foundation ran a tuberculosis commission in Jamaica that carried out research into the epidemiology of the disease, examined the efficacy of a vaccine with heat-killed tubercle bacilli, and offered basic treatment to tuberculosis sufferers. Drawing amongst others upon the diaries and scientific writings by staff employed by the commission, this article explores the role that race played in the tuberculosis commission. It assesses how race shaped the research carried out by the commission, how it informed staff interactions and staff-patient relations, and the clash and/or confluence of ‘imported’ and local racial ideas in the commission’s work. http://www.scielo.br/pdf/hcsm/v24n4/0104-5970-hcsm-24-04-1071.pdf

Henrice Altink is Reader in Modern History, University of York

Emily Senior

The Caribbean and the Medical Imagination, 1764–1834 Slavery, Disease and Colonial Modernity

During the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, the Caribbean was known as the 'grave of Europeans'. At the apex of British colonialism in the region between 1764 and 1834, the rapid spread of disease amongst colonist, enslaved and indigenous populations made the Caribbean notorious as one of the deadliest places on earth. Drawing on historical accounts from physicians, surgeons and travellers alongside literary works, Emily Senior traces the cultural impact of such widespread disease and death during the Romantic age of exploration and medical and scientific discovery. Focusing on new fields of knowledge such as dermatology, medical geography and anatomy, Senior shows how literature was crucial to the development and circulation of new medical ideas, and that the Caribbean as the hub of empire played a significant role in the changing disciplines and literary forms associated with the transition to modernity. https://www.cambridge.org/core/books/caribbean-and-the-medical-imagination-17641834/741A4D81431DB39BB715EE67BD30771D

Laëtitia Saint-Loubert


“Publishing against the tide: Isla Negra Editores, an example of pan-Caribbean transL/National solidarity", Mutatis Mutandis: La traducción literaria en el Gran Caribe, 10, 1 (2017), 46-69


**Book reviews**

“Marie Vieux-Chauvet’s Dance on the Volcano (trans. by Kaiama L. Glover) and Shara MacCallum’s Madwoman”, Wasafiri, 94 (summer 2018), 112

“Dark Tales of Two Cities: San Juan de aquí, San Juan de allá”, review of San Juan Noir (English and Spanish editions), ed. by Mayra Montero (Brooklyn, NY: Akashic Books 2016), SmallAxe, forthcoming

**Translations**


Laëtitia Saint-Loubert, is a PhD Student in Hispanic Studies/Caribbean Studies (YPCCS) and Part-time teaching assistant in French Studies at the University of Warwick. Best Paper Award for "Translating Caribbean localities: navigating the waters of global literary circulation and/or resisting its ebb and flow?" (Lisbon Summer School for the Study of Culture, 2017) and the David Nicholls Memorial Prize from the Society for Caribbean Studies (2017).

https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/modernlanguages/academic/postgraduate/saint-loubert/

**Olga Lidia Saavedra Montes de Oca**

**Autumn 2017 ORAL HISTORY**

“Dealing with sensitive topics in communist societies: oral history research in and on Cuba”

“Opening other closets: remembering as a transgender person and as a family Member”

This themed issue on oral history research in Cuba focuses on how researchers and participants deal with sensitive topics during the interview process. The issue highlights that any topic can be a sensitive topic when interviewing participants who have lived and still live in a communist society. It will offer various reflexive perspectives on the interview process, focusing in particular on how both researcher and participant address such topics, and on how these approaches are later analysed and interpreted by the researcher.

also The Family as a Space for Gender Transition, an exhibition by Olga Lidia Saavedra Montes de Oca (aka Olisam) - https://onca.org.uk/whats-on/past/2017-2/olisam-family-space-gender-transition/

and Selected from the recent open call for submissions for the upcoming Photoworks Annual Issue 24, Olga Lidia Saavedra's series uses photography and storytelling to explore the relationship between the family unit and transgender individuals in Cuba

https://photoworks.org.uk/showcase-olga-lidia-saavedra/#close-no
Concepción Méngibar-Rico

*El Teatro de Tema Caribeño: Viejos Mitos y Nuevas Visiones*

This thesis is about the Caribbean, the myths in its Caribbean expression and reinterpretation, and drama forms in the theater of a series of authors of great aesthetic, ideological and theatrical interest: Derek Walcott, Steve Carter and Fred D’Aguiar. It also has an introduction on aspects related to the Caribbean and dramatic forms such as carnival, music, language and distinctive creations such as Jonkonnu and Jamaican pantomime. This work deals simultaneously with purely Caribbean aspects and the classic Western tradition and other areas of the Caribbean, highlighting the semiotic and cultural significance of specific aspects of Caribbean culture through three myths: Don Juan, Medea and El Dorado.

http://ruja.ujaen.es/handle/10953/859

Alice Samson

*Recent research in Mona island Puerto Rico*


"European visitors in native spaces: Using palaeography to investigate religious dynamics in the New World", *Latin American Antiquity* 27, 443-461. https://lra.le.ac.uk/handle/2381/37562

Philip Nanton


‘All that Greek manure under the green bananas’: Migration in Derek Walcott’s *Omeros* and Homer’s *The Odyssey*. *Migration Studies*.

In 1992, soon after Derek Walcott had won the Nobel Prize for Literature, a frenzy of literary comparison began between Walcott and Homer. It was captured in the English newspaper *The Observer’s* profile of Walcott which offered the headline ‘Homer of the Caribbean’. Since then there has been no shortage of post-colonial critics determined to capture every Homeric twist and turn they choose to discover in his poetry. A useful summary of their perspectives can be read in Rachael D. Friedman’s 2007 essay ‘Derek Walcott’s Odysseys’. Simultaneously, many other critics have drawn attention to his uniquely Caribbean contribution to poetry which encompasses the diversity of the region and his ability to mine that diversity. Many have considered *Omeros* the high point of that achievement. https://doi.org/10.1093/migration/mnx068


Jonathan Pugh

*Relationality and island studies in the Anthropocene*

The island has become arguably one of the most emblematic figures of the Anthropocene. It is regularly invoked as exemplary of the changing stakes of our planet. This generates a crucially important role for island studies scholars; to explore, question, but now perhaps also trouble, some fundamental debates about islands in the Anthropocene. This paper picks up a particularly recurrent theme for island scholarship in recent decades—relationality and islands—and reorientates this within the stakes of the Anthropocene; discussing some implications for island studies, island ontology and resilience ethics. https://doi.org/10.24043/isj.48

*Assemblage, Transversality and Participation in the Neoliberal University*

This paper develops a novel approach to what we call ‘participation as assemblage’ by drawing upon Félix Guattari’s foundational work on assemblage theory. We develop and ground our concerns by taking the reader through the details of a participatory development case study that we have been involved in from the Caribbean since the 1990s. Through unfolding this long story we explain how we have historically engaged different participatory literatures and today find Guattari’s work on transversality and ethico-aesthetics salient as a way into thinking through our central interest in participation as assemblage. Here both our case study and Guattari’s originating work on assemblage are further grounded by working through some salient relationships between experimental approaches to participatory development and the contemporary neoliberal University. https://doi.org/10.1177/0263775817709478
Dalea Bean


“This war is going to teach us many lessons: Amy Bailey’s instructions to Jamaica during World War II” Caribbean Quarterly 63 (4) 2017


This book highlights the important, yet often forgotten, roles that Jamaican women played in the World Wars. Predicated on the notion that warfare has historically been an agent of change, Dalea Bean contends that traces of this truism were in Jamaica and illustrates that women have historically been part of the war project, both as soldiers and civilians. This ground-breaking work fills a gap in the historiography of Jamaican women by positioning the World Wars as watershed periods for their changing roles and status in the colony. By unearthing critical themes such as women's war work as civilians, recruitment of men for service in the British West India Regiment, the local suffrage movement in post-Great War Jamaica, and Jamaican women's involvement as soldiers in the British Army during the Second World War, this book presents the most extensive and holistic account of Jamaican women's involvement in the wars. https://www.palgrave.com/gb/book/9783319685847

Justin Sihera

This critically acclaimed documentary follows the adventures of legendary Caribbean boat builder Alywn Enoe as he struggles to complete a traditional racing sloop in time for the Antigua Classic Yacht Regatta. His is a dying art and his mission is to train his sons to keep these skills alive.

http://www.vanishingssail.com/
Kate Quinn

*Beyond Westminster in the Caribbean* analyses Westminster governance in the post-independence Caribbean and reflects on the weaknesses of the model, the absence of a will to change despite the deficiencies and proposals for the way forward. Drawing on the contributions of distinguished scholars, prominent serving politicians and a sitting prime minister, the book offers a critical review of the state of Caribbean constitutions and a frank discussion of whether these small states can weather the threats that have presented themselves since the end of the Cold-War and the rise of neoliberalism. Can the Westminster model survive and thrive in the contemporary Caribbean, or is it time to move beyond Westminster?

This book is the product of a collaboration between the UCL Institute of the Americas and the University of the West Indies (Mona), as part of the AHRC-funded research network on 'Westminster in the Caribbean: History, Legacies and Challenges'

*Beyond Westminster in the Caribbean* published by Ian Randle Publishers Kingston (Jamaica) and Miami

Papillote Press

Viviana Prado-Núñez

*The Art of White Roses*

Viviana Prado-Núñez won the Burt Award for Caribbean Young Adult Literature (2017) for this breathtaking first novel set in Cuba.

It is 1957, in a quiet Havana suburb. Adela Santiago is thirteen and lives in a small blue house with her family. But something is amiss. Students on her street are disappearing, her parents’ marriage seems to be disintegrating and a cousin is caught up in a bombing at a luxury hotel. Welcome to the revolution. Welcome to Cuba.

"A gorgeously written story, full of nuance, sadness, and the joy of growing up. A terrific debut from an exciting new voice in young people’s literature".

Daniel José Older, author of the award-winning YA series “The Shadowshaper Cypher”.

"For a young woman’s debut novel, Viviana Prado-Núñez writes with assurance, eloquence and beauty".

Jamila Gavin, author of “Coram Boy”, winner of the Whitbread Prize for Children’s Book of the Year

https://papillotepress.co.uk/2018/02/the-art-of-white-roses/
Home Home

by Lisa Allen-Agostini

Set in Canada with a Trinidadian backdrop, Home Home explores mental illness as any other kind of illness, and the LGBT family as any other kind of family.

“I loved this book. It vividly creates a world of depression and lost opportunity but also of hope and unconditional love.”
Patrice Lawrence, author of Orangeboy.

Home Home was the third-prize winner in the Burt Prize for Young Adult Caribbean Literature in 2017.

About Home Home

When a depressed Trinidadian teenager is sent by her mother to Canada to live with her lesbian aunt she feels lonely and in exile. But with the help of her aunt, a gorgeous-looking boy, and her Skyping best friend “back home”, she begins to accept her new family and her illness. Then her mother arrives and threatens to take her back to Trinidad. Where then is home?

About the author

Lisa Allen-Agostini is a widely-published novelist, journalist and poet from Trinidad & Tobago. Her first YA work, The Chalice Project, was a sci-fi novel set in the Caribbean. She writes primarily about the Caribbean, its people and its culture. She lives in Trinidad with her family.

ISBN: 9781999776831
Format: paperback
Publication date: 31 May 2018
Distributor: NBNi
Price: £6.99
Size: 197 x 130mm
Genre: Young Adult
Sales: Inpress
IN THE FORESTS OF FREEDOM
The fighting Maroons of Dominica
Lennox Honychurch

In this detailed and brilliantly researched book, Lennox Honychurch tells the enthralling and untold story of how the Maroons - escaped slaves - of the Caribbean island of Dominica challenged the colonial powers in a heroic struggle to create a free and self-sufficient society.


“This book will long stand as the definitive account of these Maroons whom the British considered, after those in Jamaica, the major menace to their plantation system. Dominica’s Maroons have finally found their chronicler.”
— Richard Price, author of Maroon Societies

“The brave people who held out in Dominica’s mountain wilderness for generations against the military forces of two colonial empires have had their story well told at last. Their spirits can now be at rest.”
— Adam Hochschild, author of Bury the Chains

Lennox Honychurch is a Dominican historian and anthropologist. He has published numerous books and academic papers on the history of Dominica and the Caribbean region. He is also an artist and a poet. He lives in Dominica, his birthplace. See: www.lennoxhonychurch.com

“The small and invaluable Papillote Press”: books from the Caribbean
Leah Gordon
*Ghetto Biennale / Geto Byenal 2009-2015*

The Ghetto Biennale is hosted by the artists’ collective, Atis Rezistans and has taken place every two years starting in December 2009. The Ghetto Biennale is attempting to momentarily transform spaces, dialogues and relationships considered un-navigable and unworkable into transcultural, creative networks. The Ghetto Biennale has realised a ‘chaotic, amorphous de-institutional space for artistic production that attempts to offer a vibrant creative platform to artists from wide socioeconomic classes.’

This illustrated catalogue documents the first four events which took place from 2009 to 2015. Documentation of the projects and works produced during the Ghetto Biennales and a compendium of the local host artists and their work, are accompanied by new and reprinted texts by wide-ranging writers - including Emilie Boone, Claudel Casseus, Rossi Jacques Casimir, John Cussans, Jean D'Amerique, Peter Haffner, Charlotte Hammond, John Kieffer, Jean-Daniel Lafontant, Elizabeth McAlister, Polly Savage, Katherine Smith.


**Caribbean In/Securities: Creativity and Negotiation in the Caribbean (CARISCC)**

The fifth staging of CARISCC’s touring presentation “*Negotiating Caribbean In/Securities through Creativity: A Research Project and Art Exhibition*” will be displayed at Midlands Arts Centre, Cannon Hill Park, Birmingham, B12 9QH, UK, from Friday 4 May to Sunday 1 July 2018.

This FREE exhibition is part of a broader Leverhulme Trust-funded initiative specifically curated to showcase details about the important research themes currently being examined by CARISCC’s international interdisciplinary network of scholars.

The network’s members are based at seven leading institutions for Caribbean Studies (the universities of Birmingham, Leeds, Glasgow and Dundee in the UK; The University of Amsterdam in The Netherlands; Brock University in Canada; and Rutgers University in the USA), and all work in close collaboration with academics from the University of the West Indies at its campuses in Jamaica, Barbados and Trinidad & Tobago. Through CARISCC, the network’s members look at how Caribbean people deploy their creative energy to live with the everyday effects of poverty, inequality, social conflict and environmental challenges, while also generating globally influential creativity in political, literary, dance, aural, visual and audio-visual cultures.

Leon Sealey-Huggins

‘1.5°C to stay alive’: climate change, imperialism and justice for the Caribbean

Treating the threat of climate change in the Caribbean as a case study instructive for responses globally, this article examines the social and political relations of climate change. It argues for an analysis taking into account the ways in which the histories of imperialism and colonialism have shaped contemporary global ‘development’ pathways. The article charts how Caribbean vulnerability to temperature rises of more than 1.5°C of warming comprise an existential threat structured by contemporary social relations that are imperialist in character. Hope can be taken from a politics of climate justice which acknowledges the climate debts owed to the region.


Jerome Handler


The island of Barbados provides an ideal case study to explore the beginnings of slavery and definitions of slave status in England's early American colonies. Africans and Europeans confronted each other earlier and on a larger scale in Barbados than in any other English colony. By tracing the development of slavery from the colony's settlement in 1627 this article argues that the legitimization or legalization of African slavery and the status of slaves were established in custom long before any slave laws were passed. Focus is on slave status as a point of analysis, implicitly defined by three major features: chattel property, lifetime (or permanent) servitude, and inheritance of slave condition from an enslaved mother. In examining the evidence for these features, the article contends they were part of the culture of the Euro-Atlantic world and English worldview by the time the island was settled. None of the features was ever defined in any law; rather, they were implicit in any Barbados law that mentioned slaves.

https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/0144039X.2015.1123436

"Contesting 'White Slavery' in the Caribbean: Enslaved Africans and European Indentured Servants in 17th-Century Barbados" New West Indian Guide 91: 30-55.

Though not loudly and publicly proclaimed, for some present-day white Barbadians, as for some Irish and Irish-Americans, the “white slavery” narrative stresses a sense of shared victimization; this sentiment then serves to discredit calls for reparations from the descendants of enslaved Africans in the United States and the former British West Indies. This article provides a detailed examination of the sociolegal distinctions between servitude and slavery, and argues that it is misleading, if not erroneous, to apply the term “slave” to Irish and other indentured servants in early Barbados. While not denying the hardships suffered by indentured servants, referring to white servants as slaves deflects the experiences of millions of persons of African birth or descent.

**Louise Hardwick**

Joseph Zobel (1915-2006) is one of the best-known Francophone Caribbean authors, and is internationally recognised for his novel *La Rue Cases-Nègres* (1950). Yet very little is known about his other novels, and most readings of *La Rue Cases-Nègres* consider the text in isolation. Through a series of close readings of the author’s six published novels, with supporting references drawn from his published short stories, poetry and diaries, *Joseph Zobel: Négritude and the Novel* generates new insights into Zobel’s highly original decision to develop Négritude’s project of affirming pride in black identity through the novel and social realism. The study establishes how, influenced by the American Harlem Renaissance movement, Zobel expands the scope of Négritude by introducing new themes and stylistic innovations which herald a new kind of social realist French Caribbean literature. These discoveries in turn challenge and alter the current understanding of Francophone Caribbean literature during the Négritude period, in addition to contributing to changes in the current understanding of Caribbean and American literature more broadly understood.

[https://liverpooluniversitypress.co.uk/products/95554](https://liverpooluniversitypress.co.uk/products/95554)

**Keisha Mitchell**

*Dear Little Brother, ...: My Answers to Your Questions*

Dear Little Brother is an intervention created in response to teachers asking for a manual to help boys face the storm and stress of adolescence. It has been generated through surveying questions from boys ages 16 to 19 years who attend traditional high schools. The content is full of facts and stats to give boys the information that they need to make healthy choices about life, parents, careers, and sex. This book is a must have for everyone parenting or working with teen boys today.


A companion book to *Dear Little Sister*

'Dear Little Sister' (D.L.S) contains pages of insightful, inspirational and uplifting thoughts for young girls. It is highly recommended for young girls as it gives realistic answers to very pertinent questions. Dr. Keisha A. Mitchell has successfully attempted a different method that epitomizes creativity. D.L.S is a highly confidential journal that reveals the mind of a teenage girl seeking answers to her questions. It is an on-going conversation between a little sister and her older sister as both parties share their thoughts, feelings and advice for different situations. Parents, teachers, counsellors and youth pastors can take full advantage of this literary work as it discusses life changes, relationships between God, family, and friends, along with the ever intriguing topic of love, sex and dating.

Ana Rodríguez Navas

*Idle Talk, Deadly Talk - The Uses of Gossip in Caribbean Literature*

Chaucer called it "spiritual manslaughter"; Barthes and Benjamin deemed it dangerous linguistic nihilism. But gossip—long derided and dismissed by writers and intellectuals—is far from frivolous. In *Idle Talk, Deadly Talk*, Ana Rodríguez Navas reveals gossip to be an urgent, utilitarian, and deeply political practice—a means of staging the narrative tensions, and waging the narrative battles, that mark Caribbean politics and culture.

From the calypso singer's superficially innocent rhymes to the vicious slanders published in Trujillo-era gossip columns, words have been weapons, elevating one person or group at the expense of another. Revising the overly gendered existing critical frame, Rodríguez Navas argues that gossip is a fundamentally adversarial practice. Just as whispers and hearsay corrosively define and surveil identities, they also empower writers to skirt sanitized, monolithic historical accounts by weaving alternative versions of their nations' histories from this self-governing discursive material. Reading recent fiction from the Hispanic, Anglophone, and Francophone Caribbean and their diasporas, alongside poetry, song lyrics, journalism, memoirs, and political essays, *Idle Talk, Deadly Talk* maps gossip's place in the Caribbean and reveals its rich possibilities as both literary theme and narrative device. As a means for mediating contested narratives, both public and private, gossip emerges as a vital resource for scholars and writers grappling with the region's troubled history. - [http://www.upress.virginia.edu/title/5102](http://www.upress.virginia.edu/title/5102)

Christer Petley

*White Fury - A Jamaican Slaveholder and the Age of Revolution*

The story of one of Jamaica's most powerful colonial inhabitants: Simon Taylor, one of the wealthiest and most influential slaveholders of the eighteenth-century British empire.

Offers new insights into the merciless machinery and hazards of Jamaican plantation life through Taylor's letters.

Examines the impacts of the American, French, and Haitian Revolutions on the British imperial slave system.

Details the importance of sugar and slavery to the eighteenth-century empire, the rise of the Caribbean planter class, and the struggle over the future of slavery that took place during the Age of Revolution. [https://global.oup.com/academic/product/white-fury-9780198791638?cc=gb&lang=en&](https://global.oup.com/academic/product/white-fury-9780198791638?cc=gb&lang=en&)

20
Colin Clarke and Yonique Campbell


'Violence and fear have become a daily staple for Latin Americans. In Violence in Latin America and the Caribbean Tina Hilgers and Laura Macdonald have made a major contribution at two levels. In their Introduction and Conclusion they offer a superb scholarly synthesis of the phenomenon and the literature, while in the chapters they have compiled, the reader will find a good selection of topics and countries. A book that has all the ingredients to become a classic.'

Sergio Aguayo, El Colegio de México

https://www.cambridge.org/core/books/violence-in-latin-america-and-the-caribbean/ED5EB2F4429F75E7DAD3B64C43BD658A

Ben Etherington

Literary Primitivism

This book fundamentally rethinks a pervasive and controversial concept in literary criticism and the history of ideas. Primitivism has long been accepted as a transhistorical tendency of the "civilized" to idealize that primitive condition against which they define themselves. In the modern era, this has been a matter of the "West" projecting its primitivist fantasies onto non-Western "others." Arguing instead that primitivism was an aesthetic mode produced in reaction to the apotheosis of European imperialism, and that the most intensively primitivist literary works were produced by imperialism's colonized subjects, the book overturns basic assumptions of the last two generations of literary scholarship.

Against the grain, Ben Etherington contends that primitivism was an important, if vexed, utopian project rather than a form of racist discourse, a mode that emerged only when modern capitalism was at the point of subsuming all human communities into itself. The primitivist project was an attempt, through art, to recreate a "primitive" condition then perceived to be at its vanishing point. The first overview of this vast topic in forty years, Literary Primitivism maps out previous scholarly paradigms, provides a succinct and readable account of its own methodology, and presents critical readings of key writers, including Aimé Césaire, Frantz Fanon, D. H. Lawrence, and Claude McKay.

Ben Etherington is a lecturer in Literary Studies at Western Sydney University.

https://www.sup.org/books/title/?id=28205
By Our Own Hands – A People's History of the Grenadian Revolution
A pamphlet from CLS by Steve Cushion and Dennis Bartholomew

Between 1979 and 1983, the people of the Caribbean nation of Grenada made a courageous attempt to overcome the legacy of slavery, British colonialism and a viciously corrupt post-colonial dictatorship.

The tragic last few days of the Revolution have obscured the remarkable achievements of the Grenadian people during the previous four years. In the face of the unceasing hostility of the United States government and its continual destabilisation campaign, the people of Grenada rebuilt their economy with an emphasis on social justice and economic stability rather than mere profit for, mainly foreign, capitalists; they established a remarkable education system and improved their health service; they started a house-building and housing repair programme that addressed the needs of the poorest members of society.

http://cls-uk.org.uk/?p=279

Up Down Turn Around - The Political Economy of Slavery and the Socialist Case for Reparations
by Steve Cushion

A pamphlet from Caribbean Labour Solidarity

When British Prime Minister David Cameron visited Jamaica in September 2015, he ignored calls for an apology and reparations for the Transatlantic slave trade, instead offering £25 million to build a prison for Jamaicans currently serving sentences in the UK. The British government has a long history of such contempt for those victimised by slavery and the ongoing consequences to the descendants of people enslaved under the British Empire despite or, perhaps, because of the vast wealth that British capitalists extracted from the Caribbean during the 17th, 18th and early 19th centuries. Nevertheless, Jamaica was a British colony with a slave-based economy for 179 years from 1655 to 1834, with an average of 150,000 enslaved people. During this period, the enslaved labourers received no wages. A calculation of how much these unpaid wages represent in today’s money produced a figure of a thousand billion pounds sterling.

In pursuing the case for reparations, this pamphlet advances the proposition that not only was slavery important for the development of modern capitalism but that currently existing business corporations owe their very existence to profits made from the slave-based economy of the 17th and 18th centuries. It is to these modern corporations that we present the bill for 200 years of unpaid wages in the name of the descendants of the enslaved.

Situated opposite the mouth of the Orinoco River, western Trinidad has long been considered an entrepôt to mainland South America. Trinidad’s geographic position—seen as strategic by various imperial governments—led to many heterogeneous peoples from across the region and globe settling or being relocated there. The calm waters around the Gulf of Paria on the western fringes of Trinidad induced settlers to construct a harbour, Port of Spain, around which the modern capital has been formed. From its colonial roots into the postcolonial era, western Trinidad therefore has played an especial part in the shaping of the island’s literature. Viewed from one perspective, western Trinidad might be deemed as narrating the heart of the modern state’s national literature. Alternatively, the political threats posed around San Fernando in Trinidad’s southwest in the 1930s and from within the capital in the 1970s present a different picture of western Trinidad—one in which the fractures of Trinidad and Tobago’s projected nationalism are prevalent.

While sugar remains a dominant narrative in Caribbean literary studies, this book offers a unique literary perspective on matters too often perceived as the sole preserve of sociological, anthropological or geographical studies. The legacy of the oil industry and the development of the suburban commuter belt of East-West Corridor, therefore, form considerable discursive nodes, alongside other key Trinidadian sites, such as Woodford Square, colonial houses and the urban yards of Port of Spain. This study places works by well-known authors such as V. S. Naipaul and Samuel Selvon, alongside writing by Michel Maxwell Philip, Marcella Fanny Wilkins, E. L. Joseph, Earl Lovelace, Ismith Khan, Monique Roffey, Arthur Calder-Marshall and the largely neglected novelist, Yseult Bridges, who is almost entirely forgotten today. Using fiction, calypso, history, memoir, legal accounts, poetry, essays and journalism, this study opens with an analysis of Trinidad’s nineteenth century literature and offers twentieth century and more contemporary readings of the island in successive chapters. Chapters are roughly arranged in chronological order around particular sites and topoi, while literature from a variety of authors of British, Caribbean, Irish and Jewish descent is represented.

https://liverpooluniversitypress.co.uk/products/74478

Jak Peake is a Fulbright scholar and lecturer in American literature in the Department of Literature, Film, and Theatre Studies at the University of Essex. He was a member of the American Tropics research project based at Essex and funded by the UK Arts and Humanities Research Council.
This is the first biography of the extraordinary, but ordinary life of, Patrick Nelson. His experiences touched on some of the most important and intriguing historical themes of the twentieth century. He was a black migrant to interwar Britain; an aristocrat's valet in rural Wales; a Black queer man in 1930s London; an artist's model; a law student, a recruit to the Auxiliary Military Pioneer Corps and Prisoner of War during the Second World War. Through his return to Jamaica after the war and his re-migrations to London in the late 1940s and the early 1960s, he was also witness to post-war Jamaican struggles and the independence movement as well as the development of London's post-war multi-ethnic migrations. Drawing on a range of archival materials including letters sent to individuals such as Bloomsbury group artist Duncan Grant (his former boyfriend and life-long friend), as well as paintings and newspaper articles, Gemma Romain explores the intersections of these diverse aspects of Nelson's life and demonstrates how such marginalized histories shed light on our understanding of broader historical themes such as Black LGBTQ history, Black British history in relation to the London artworld, the history of the Second World War, and histories of racism, colonialism and empire.

**Reviews**

“Gemma Romain's narrative of Patrick Nelson's life in Jamaica, London and beyond gives us valuable insights into a range of experiences of an 'ordinary' black man in the mid-twentieth century. From growing up in Kingston in the 1920s, to working as a valet, to life in queer Bloomsbury as a lover and model for Duncan Grant, to his harsh years as a soldier and POW in the Second World War, he witnessed Jamaican and British histories of colonialism and decolonisation and reminds us of how much we need to know of the rich diversity of black lives.” – Professor Catherine Hall, Chair Emerita of the Centre for the Study of the Legacies of British Slave-ownership, University College London, UK

“Gemma Romain's book is a feat of prodigious historical research and her fascinating subject, Patrick Nelson, emerges in its pages with richness, detail, and context. Romain's attentiveness to the particular challenges of unfolding lives traditionally unattended to, and her sheer skill in finding hitherto obscure materials, are remarkable. This book changes our sense of what it is possible to know, and to say, about black queer Caribbean life in the early part of the twentieth century.” – Nadia Ellis, Associate Professor, University of California, Berkeley, USA

“As rich in its explicit methodology as it is in its content ... Romain weaves a tale that makes a significant contribution to the understanding of black British history, queer history, histories of art and modernism, of London and of Jamaica ... A very welcome addition for academic readers researching and teaching in these fields, this book will also be of great relevance to wider audiences interested in these topics.” – Journal of Historical Geography
Africa’s Sons Under Arms

Exhibition: ‘Fighting for empire: From slavery to military service in the West India Regiments’

A display about the West India Regiments will run at the Museum of London Docklands from 10 November 2017 to 9 September 2018. It is centred on Samuel Hodge, the first African-Caribbean man to win the Victoria Cross, Britain's highest military award.

The display is curated by David Lambert, Professor of History at the Department of History. It has been created in partnership with the University of Warwick and the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC), and draws on research undertaken as part of the ‘Africa’s Sons Under Arms’ research project.

This display explores the changing image of the West India Regiments from their creation at the end of the 18th century up to the First World War. It speaks directly to many of the themes in the permanent displays at the Museum of London Docklands, notably enslaved resistance, black agency, and visual representation. The theme is explored primarily through prints, ephemera and maps, as well as a large framed oil painting by Louis William Desanges entitled ‘The Capture of the Tubabakolong, Gambia (1866)’, which depicts Private Samuel Hodge.

Founded in 1795, the West India Regiments were military units based in the Caribbean and, later, west Africa, created by the British army during the war with Republican France. British army commanders established twelve West India Regiments in total with the view that black soldiers were necessary for the security of the British islands as white soldiers suffered terribly from disease. More than 13,000 enslaved African men and boys were bought at a cost of about £70m in today’s money.

After the slave trade was made illegal in 1807, the British army looked for a new source of soldiers. Men liberated from slave ships by the Royal Navy were given the option of enlisting in the army and this became the main source of new recruits. After slavery was ended in the British Empire by 1838, free men enlisted, including Samuel Hodge, who was a West Indian Regiment volunteer soldier born on the island of Tortola in what is now the British Virgin Islands.

The Regiments served in the Caribbean and West Africa, helping to maintain and expand Britain's colonial empire. They were involved in putting down revolts against British rule by enslaved people (e.g. Barbados in 1816) and their descendants (e.g. Jamaica in 1865). On three occasions, soldiers also rebelled themselves (1802 in Dominica, 1808 in Jamaica and 1837 in Trinidad).
$1.5M Mellon Foundation grant to build massive slave trade database

Michigan State University, supported by nearly $1.5 million from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, will create a unique online data hub that will change the way scholars and the public understand African slavery.

By linking data collections from multiple universities, the website will allow people to search millions of pieces of slave data to identify enslaved individuals and their descendants from a central source. Users can also run analyses of enslaved populations and create maps, charts and graphics.

The project, called “Enslaved: The People of the Historic Slave Trade,” is funded by a $1.47 million grant from the Mellon Foundation.

“‘Enslaved’ brings new digital tools and analytical approaches to the study of African slavery and the Atlantic slave trade,” said project co-investigator Walter Hawthorne, professor and chair of MSU’s Department of History. “By linking data compiled by some of the world’s foremost historians, it will allow scholars and the public to learn about individuals’ lives and to draw new, broad conclusions about processes that had an indelible impact on the world.”

Dean Rehberger, director of Matrix: The Center for Digital Humanities and Social Sciences at MSU, will lead the project along with Hawthorne and Ethan Watrall, associate director of Matrix and assistant professor of anthropology.

This project, which will take 18 months, is the first phase of a multi-phase plan. In phase one, MSU and partners will develop a proof-of-concept to show data can be linked across eight well-established online databases, including the collection at MSU’s Matrix.

The partner projects in phase one are “African Origins and Voyages: The Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade Database” led by David Eltis, professor emeritus, Emory University, and Paul Lachance; “The Slave Societies Digital Archive” led by Jane Landers, Vanderbilt University; “Dictionary of Caribbean and Afro-Latin American Biography” and “Dictionary of African Biography and African American National Biography” led by Henry Louis Gates Jr., Steven Niven and Abby Wolf, Hutchins Center for African and African American Research at Harvard University; “Freedom Narratives” led by Paul Lovejoy, York University; “Legacies of British Slave-Ownership” led by Keith McClelland, University College, London; and “The Liberated Africans Project” led by Henry Lovejoy, University of Colorado Boulder; and “Slave Biographies” led by Daryle Williams, University of Maryland.
From the Blog of the Legacies of British Slave-ownership project.

Bute House, official residence of the First Minister of Scotland
by Rachel Lang

In 1766, the Edinburgh town council announced a competition to design a new town to the north of Scotland’s capital city with the aim of providing grand, spacious houses for the city’s elite. The competition was won by 26-year-old James Craig with a plan for two garden squares connected by three wide, terraced streets. Built in stages between the 1760s and the 1820s, the New Town provided an alternative to the polluted, overcrowded wynds of old Edinburgh and symbolised Scotland’s confident steps towards a new Enlightenment.

On the north side of the grandest square, the houses blend together in a pleasingly unified palace façade, designed by Robert Adam in 1791 as the crowning glory of the whole development. The house in the centre of the façade, number 6 Charlotte Square, the most commanding house in the best position, is just that bit bigger and grander than the rest. Into this house, in the late 1790s, moved its first resident, John Innes Crawford.

Crawford had a country residence too, Cleghorn House near Lanark. He was a member of the Highland Society, a Captain in the 10th Regiment of North British Militia and had scientific and literary interests. His mother lived with him until his marriage in 1799 and shortly after, he moved to nearby George Street.

Crawford’s wealth derived from Bellfield, the sugar plantation in St James, Jamaica, which he inherited at the age of five or six on the death of his father James Crawford [3]. James junior was born in Jamaica in 1776 but within two years of his father’s death, his mother had returned to Scotland where she remarried. He does not appear to have visited his plantation as an adult or met the several hundred enslaved people, also his personal property, who lived and worked there. But his fortunes were bound up with their subjugation and liable also for the debts of his planter father, reportedly over £15,000 in the mid-1790s, when the net proceeds of the estate were £3,000 a year.

Subsequent residents of Bute House were also connected with the slave economy. Sir John Sinclair (1754-1835) bought the property in 1806, moving three doors down from his previous address at number 9. A more illustrious character than Crawford, he held a seat in the House of Commons from 1780 to 1811 but is best known today as the compiler of the Statistical Account of Scotland, a landmark survey of the country’s geography, economy and inhabitants [5]. Sinclair was a trustee of the marriage settlement of Hon. Archibald Macdonald and Jane Campbell, who had married in 1802; the settlement included three plantations in St Vincent. Sinclair died in 1835 before the slave compensation was paid out, but the remaining trustee received a half share in £15,766 7s 6d for the ownership of 610 enslaved people.

Sinclair sold 6 Charlotte Square in 1816 to Charles Oman, who ran the property as a hotel. Oman quickly expanded his property portfolio in the 1810s and 1820s, becoming the premier hotelier in the city.
eldest son, also called Charles, does not appear to have joined his father’s business; he died on Trinity estate in St Mary, Jamaica, in 1819.

The house is now the official residence of the First Minister of Scotland and the venue of regular meetings of the Scottish Cabinet. Until recently, its connections to the slave economy have been overlooked, in common with many properties financed or inhabited by slave-owners. LBS seeks to reinscribe slave-ownership into the history of modern Britain.

**Repairing the Past, Imagining the Future: Reparations and Beyond**

By: *Nick Draper*

Kristy Warren and Kate Donington (for two days) and Nick Draper (for one day) attended the Repairing the Past, Imagining the Future: Reparations and Beyond conference, organised by University of Edinburgh in collaboration with Wheelock College (Boston, US) in Edinburgh 5th and 6th November. The conference was ambitious, combining academics and activists from the Caribbean, North America, South Africa, and Europe, and addressing not only the British Atlantic but the francophone and Dutch worlds. Historians were in a distinct minority. The number of proposals submitted in response to the Call for Papers led the organisers to organise parallel sessions around a handful of set-piece plenaries: this allowed a wide range of issues to be covered but inevitably forced the audience to choose among attractive conflicting alternatives. Verene Shepherd of UWI Mona and Chair of the Jamaica National Committee opened the conference with a powerful keynote address re-stating and amplifying CARICOM’s arguments and evidence, which among other responses drew an intense exchange with representatives of pan-African reparations activists based in Britain; Verene later came back to the issue to stress the importance to CARICOM and the National Committees of grass-roots movements. Her keynote was followed by a strong plenary panel on the state of play in the US among African American campaigners.

On Thursday afternoon, Nick attended panels on ‘Reparative Histories’ (at which Anita Rupprecht and Cathy Bergin with characteristic subtlety explored linkages between slavery and the imagining of the current refugee crisis and US memorialisation respectively) and on ‘International Law’, as well as giving a paper on LBS’s work in the economic history panel alongside Nuala Zahedieh. The Law panel, which was noticeably well-attended, featured an innovative approach to jurisdiction-[s]hopping by Jean Allain of Queen’s Belfast, and what appeared to be a very important contribution by Kate Bracegirdle of University of Sheffield on ‘unjust enrichment’ as a legal basis of claim over slavery: this appears to offer a solution to some of the difficulties of locus standi that have to date undermined in the courts reparations claims based on damage to the descendants of enslaved Africans.

On Friday, Kristy and Kate presented on the importance of teaching reparative histories using the Local Roots / Global Routes project as an example of how that might work in practice. They shared the ‘Educational Impacts’ panel with Warren C. Hope, who presented on need to imagine a new educational paradigm in order to address the academic achievement gap experienced by African Americans. While Amos N. Jones assessed the case for reparations using segregated education as an example.

Kristy attended the panel on the ‘Legacies of Slavery in the Francophone World’ which featured presentations from Fabienne Viala concerning the impact of white French supremacy on the ways and extent to which slavery is remembered; Kate Hodgson gave an historical overview of Haitian responses to reparations from the nineteenth century to the present day; and Magali Bessone explored the limits of tort
law in the attempt to achieve reparations for slavery. The day wrapped up with a public lecture by Hilary Beckles outlining the case against Britain for reparations for Caribbean slavery and its legacies.

The fact that a conference of this scale and reach could be mounted in Britain indicates that the question of reparations – for which grassroots campaigners have been working for years both in the Caribbean and Britain – is now for the first time entering academic discourse here.

**Windrush and Home Office immigration policy**

*Resolution of UCU Annual Congress*

Congress notes that the people of the ‘Windrush’ generation have helped to build this country. They belong here.

Congress condemns the disgusting behaviour of the British government in creating a ‘hostile environment’ for immigration by targeting these long-standing UK residents and their families. The threat of deportation, loss of access to work and public services, to those who have, over the years, paid taxes and national insurance, is not acceptable on any level. At least one individual who worked in education lost his job when he was asked to reapply for his position. Unable to produce the documents requested he found himself in a position of no man's land.

It is Theresa May both as minister and as Prime Minister who is responsible for the racially discriminatory and divisive ‘hostile environment’ policy aimed at Commonwealth citizens and all migrant communities, a policy that hits our members and students. Citizens, our sisters and our brothers, have been treated with contempt. Those involved in imposing such practices should be held to account.

The resignation of Amber Rudd does not end the Windrush scandal. An apology from the Prime Minister is not enough and, not good enough. Nor will a ‘forced’ apology help to rebuild the lives shattered by separation and emotional, psychological and financial hardship. The Government needs to acknowledge the many contributions made by Windrush and put it right, right now.

Congress calls on the NEC to:

1. call on branches to raise awareness with all members of the root cause of this policy – it is a deliberate racist policy
2. restate our position on discriminatory practices in the workplace and society as a whole and campaign to remove all forms of racism and promote harmony
3. actively oppose the ‘hostile environment’ strategy on our campuses
4. build on its previous work defending migrants by updating its materials putting the positive reality of the role migrant workers play
5. initiate an annual ‘Windrush day’ on campuses working with migrant and anti-racist organisations to promote the positive contribution of migrants
6. continue our support for the rights of overseas students and international staff seeking guarantees from governments and employers in the light of Brexit negotiations
7. encourage members to write to their MPs and Councillors with their objections and horror at the treatment of citizens
8. support and encourage campaigns against deportations both at a local and national level, working where possible with other trade unions trades councils and the TUC
9. demand the scrapping of Theresa May’s 2014 racist immigration act and support the call for:
   a. a complete amnesty for all of the long-term residents who are now threatened with deportation or the curtailment of their rights
   b. an immediate reinstatement of citizenship and the associated rights
   c. a real and actual timeline for compensation.
A one-day symposium on the cultural, political and infrastructural situation in Puerto Rico after Hurricane María struck the island in September 2017. Invited speakers: writer, photographer and filmmaker Eduardo Lalo (winner of the Rómulo Gallegos International Novel Prize in 2013), Antonio Carmona Báez (Public Policy, University of St. Maarten), and Sarah Molinari (CUNY Graduate Center).

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/puerto-rico-after-hurricane-maria-culture-politics-place-a-one-day-symposium-tickets-45480699998
SCS Postgraduate Conference

Call for Papers

Friday 25th May 2018
The National Archives, Bessant Drive, Richmond TW9 4DU

The Society for Caribbean Studies Postgraduate Caribbean Network invites submissions of abstracts of not more than 250 words for research papers on the Hispanic, Francophone, Dutch and Anglophone Caribbean and their diasporas for its annual postgraduate conference. We welcome abstracts from postgraduates at various stages of their research, whose research concerns any aspect of Caribbean Studies. We also welcome proposals for complete panels, which should consist of a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 4 presenters. Those selected for the conference will be invited to give a short presentation. Abstracts should be submitted along with a bio of not more than 150 words by 30th April 2018. Proposals received after the deadline will not be considered.

We intend this to be an opportunity for delegates to share and receive feedback on their work in a friendly and informal setting.

In addition to paper panels, the conference intends to offer:

- A keynote address (TBA)
- A panel of experts in Caribbean studies sharing tips and personal experiences of building an academic career and/or a career in the heritage sector
- An opportunity to learn more about The National Archives and explore their collections and reading rooms
- Coffee/tea and biscuits, buffet lunch

This event is free to attend. It has been thought out in the spirit of previous years’ postgraduate conferences. As Caribbean postgraduates are often dispersed across departments and universities, this event hopes to offer delegates an opportunity to meet with others who share their interests and to discuss their work, fostering ties that will endure throughout their studies. Many postgraduates also felt that the postgraduate conference held last year had provided them with a unique experience that prepared them to present papers to the annual conference of the Society for Caribbean Studies (SCS) that took place later in the year. This year’s SCS conference will be at the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, Senate House, University of London, 4th – 6th July 2018.
Call for Papers 2018

42nd Annual Conference of the Society for Caribbean Studies
Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, University of London 4-6 July, 2018

The Society for Caribbean Studies invites submissions of abstracts of no more than 250 words for research papers on the Hispanic, Francophone, Dutch and Anglophone Caribbean and their diasporas for this annual international conference. Papers from all disciplines of Caribbean Studies are welcomed. They can address any theme or topic focused on the Caribbean extended region. We also welcome proposals for complete panels, which should consist of a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 4 presenters. Those selected for the conference will be invited to give a 20-minute presentation. Abstracts should be submitted along with a short bio of no more than 150 words by 15th of January 2018. Proposals received after the deadline will not be considered.

Llamada a la participación 42 Conferencia Internacional de la Asociación Británica para los Estudios del Caribe (Society for Caribbean Studies), Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, Universidad de Londres, Inglaterra, 5-7 Julio 2018

La Asociación Británica para los Estudios del Caribe (Society for Caribbean Studies) solicita ponencias y trabajos de investigación sobre el Caribe y sus diásporas, en su espacio hispano, francés, holandés y anglofono. Se pueden proponer ponencias individuales tanto como paneles de 3 a 4 personas, sobre todo tema y campo de investigación dentro de los estudios caribeños. Las personas interesadas deben mandar un abstracto en inglés de 250 palabras junto con una biografía de 150 palabras antes del 15 de Enero 2018. El idioma de la conferencia será el inglés. Los ponentes seleccionados tendrán 20 minutos para presentar. No aceptaremos proposiciones después de la fecha limite.

Appel à Contribution

L’Association Britannique pour les Etudes de la Caraïbe (Society for Caribbean Studies) lance un appel à candidature pour sa 42ème conférence annuelle qui se tiendra à l’Université de Londres en Angleterre, du 5 au 7 Juillet 2018. La conférence est ouverte à toutes les disciplines des études caribéennes, et aux contributions dont les thématisques de recherche abordent l’espace caribéen et ses diasporas, tant dans les zones anglophones qu’hispaniques, hollandaises et françaises. Nous vous invitons à soumettre vos propositions sous la forme de résumés de 250 mots en anglais, accompagnés d’une biographie de 150 mots avant le 15 Janvier 2018. Les propositions envoyées après cette date ne seront pas considérées. Nous acceptons les propositions individuelles ainsi que les panels (min 3 personnes / max 4 personnes). Les participants auront 20 minutes pour présenter leurs travaux.
SCS Annual General Meeting
Thursday 6 July 2017
Essex Business School
University of Essex

Present: Gemma Robinson, Jak Peake, Pat Noxolo, Diana Josan, Sofia Aatkar, Shantel George, Shirley V. Pemberton, Joan Nche, Concepcion Mengibar, Jarula Wegner, Pietra Palazzolo, Karen Wilkes, Peter Hulme, Richard Frohock, Audley Chambers, Ayshah Johnston, Masako Inoue, William Tantam, Gad Heuman, David Lambert, Sheryllynne Haggerty, Adom Philogene Heron, Kate Quinn, Susan Gillman, Ennis Edmonds, Fabienne Viala

Apologies for absence: There were no apologies for absence.

1. Minutes of AGM 2016
Minutes of AGM were corrected to show that Meleisa Ono-George was elected as Conference Coordinator.

2. Matters Arising
There were no matters arising.

3. Chair’s Report
The Chair thanked the committee and members for supporting her in her role as Chair. FV confirmed that the conference call had been issued in English, French and Spanish and that this had been considered successful, and would be repeated in the future. She reported that the conference fees had been waived for postgraduate members of the SCS committee involved in conference but not presenting. FV confirmed that the Gordon Lewis partnership was ongoing, and a plenary session had been named the ‘Gordon K and Sybil Lewis Plenary Panel’. The subject of the panel would be for the SCS committee to decide.

4. Vice-Chair’s Report
PN noted that the executive roles of Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and Conference Coordinator would be available for election in 2018. PN stressed that new representatives for next year would be very welcome and encouraged colleagues to speak to the current committee about the roles. PN also noted a comment from the conference delegation about the use of non-alcohol spaces, such as an alcohol-free table and non-alcohol options at the Rum Punch reception. Gad Heuman noted that the Rum Punch Reception was a key part of the SCS conference and PN agreed and noted that the conference should be able to accommodate a range of different preferences relating to alcohol.

5. Treasurer’s Report
JP informed the members that Nicole Pierce had been unable to carry on in the role of Treasurer, and that as an ‘ordinary’ member of the committee and previous Treasurer (2014-16), he had taken back over the role of Treasurer in the interim. Members were asked to agree to the formal change of his role to Treasurer until 2018. It was agreed unanimously. JP reported that the Bridget Jones balance looking healthy and that support for the award should be able to continue in future years. JP reported that he was still in negotiation with the Lewis family, reporting that the SCS has held a named plenary for two years and that he expects to receive the donation of $US1000 from the family. He also encouraged members to consider taking up the Treasurer’s role as it was not onerous. He noted that all donations are matched by the Society and that it is now possible to use PayPal for payments to SCS.

6. Secretary’s Report
GRob reported that 5 bursaries had been awarded to: Shirley V. Pemberton, Michael Sivapragasam, Mala Jokhan, Ayshah Johnston and Diana Josan. Members congratulated the recipients.
7. Postgraduate report
AJ/DJ
AJ and DJ reported a successful 1-day event for the 3rd Annual Postgraduate Conference of the Society for Caribbean Studies held at the Centre for Caribbean and Diaspora Studies, Goldsmiths, University of London on 22nd May 2017. The organisers noted that delegates appreciated support from peers and established academics. It was noted that this will remain a free event, and as such offers an alternative to early career researchers to the costs of SCS annual conference.

8. Newsletter Editor’s Report
SC
SC reported that the inclusion of new books in the newsletter was very informative and will continue in future newsletters.

9. Membership review update
There were no matters were arising.

10. Website Report, including the following proposal:
SC
SC reported that the past papers from the conference had been recovered and were now reinstated on the website.
Members also consider the following proposal:
We would like to propose the return of the practice of publishing "Annual Conference Papers" on the Society's website on the following basis:

Participants in the annual conference are invited to submit their conference papers as a pre-publication version of academic articles, book chapters, or reviews. Papers posted on this site are work in progress, under submission, or in press and forthcoming elsewhere. They are not refereed and may be in various stages of completion. The form and content of papers are the responsibility of individual authors. Comments on papers or questions about their content should be sent directly to the author, at his or her email address.
Posting a paper on this site does not preclude simultaneous or subsequent publication elsewhere, including other Working Papers series. The copyright of a Conference Paper is held by the author, including proposal for publication of annual conference papers on the Society's website.

While members were positive about further dissemination of research, some problems were anticipated in relation to a duplication of institutional repositories that UK academics are required to submit their work to. It was also felt that the UK REF-inspired environment encouraged researchers to seek other forms of publication. Member discussed if it would be possible to make papers only accessible to SCS members. It was agreed to refer this proposal back to the committee for further discussion.

11. Election of Committee Members
Nominations were received from 8 members to sit on the SCS committee as Ordinary Members:
William Tantam
Adom Philogene Heron
Diana Josan
Ayshah Johnston
Gemma Romain
Karen Wilkes
Steve Cushion
Audley Chambers

GR noted that the constitution requires 7 ordinary members and allows a further 2 if warranted. The committee was duly elected unanimously. GR thanked Nicole Pierce for her service to the Society.

12. Conference
• Feedback on conference 2017 so far
It was noted that there were no baby changing facilities in the building and that the committee could look into offering information on crèche availability to help support attendance of delegates with childcare needs. It was proposed that Caribbean catering would be preferable at the conference, as has been done in some years. It was noted that a proof of attendance letter is required by some delegates.

- Arrangements for conference 2018
The conference will be held at Senate House ILAS in 2018 on 4-6 July 2018. William Tantam was named as the local contact. It was noted that accommodation costs would be high in London and the committee should seek to address this.

- Conference planning for 2019
The committee noted that it would be interested in looking at a venue in Wales or North of England. St Andrews was suggested as a possibility.

13. AOB
There was no other business.