

Society for Socialist Studies Conference 2018
Draft Schedule

Tuesday, May 29th

Concurrent Sessions A: 8:30 – 10:00 am

A1	The Media, Trumpism, and Liberalism Collide in the 21 st Century – 1 of 2
A2	Socialisms and Literatures
A3	Neoliberal Environments: Commodifying, Privatizing and Automating

Break: 10:00 – 10:30

Concurrent Sessions B: 10:30 – 12:00

B1	The Media, Trumpism, and Liberalism Collide in the 21 st Century – 2 of 2
B2	Activism Against the Academy: Critical Reflections on Activist Ethnographies
B3	Book Launch - Corporatizing Canada: Making Business out of Public Service
B4	Global Capitalism, Value, and Imperialism

Lunch: 12:00 – 1:30

Concurrent Sessions C: 1:30 – 3:00

C1	Futures of Feminisms
C2	Overcoming Schisms in Socialism
C3	Migrant Workers and social Reproduction of Capitalism

Break: 3:00 – 3:30

Concurrent Sessions D: 3:30 – 5:00

D1	Roundtable: Canadian Copyright: Understanding the Problem, Seeking Solutions. Publisher's perspective
D2	The "Alt.Right" and Its Utilization of "Free Speech" Discourse
D3	Parliamentarist and Extra-Parliamentarist Paths to Socialism
D4	Marxist Theories of Being, Class Consciousness, and Revolution

6:00 – 7:30 Briarpatch Reception: Snapshots of Unrest: Protest in Regina & Saskatchewan, 1970 to 2000

Day Two – Wednesday, May 30th

Concurrent Sessions E: 8:30 – 10:00 am

E1	Corporate power, fossil capital, climate crisis
E2	Social Change and Musical Work
E3	Socialist Futures: Engaging Additional Critical Theories

Break: 10:00 – 10:30

Concurrent Sessions F: 10:30 – 12:00

F1	From Corporate Power to Climate Justice: Towards an Agenda for Transformation
F2	What would Democratic Consultation Look Like?
F3	Intellectual Labour: Academe as Commodity

Lunch: 12:00 – 1:30 **Keynote:** Cherry Smiley “*Violence Against Indigenous Women and Girls in Canada: What’s Missing from the Conversation?*”

Concurrent Sessions G: 1:30 – 3:00

G1	The Politics of Treaty Interpretation and the Tasks of Inheritance
G2	Abolitionist Politics Today
G3	Reconciling Social Justice and Truth

Break: 3:00 – 3:30

Concurrent Sessions H: 3:30 – 5:00

H1	Policing and Authoritarianism
H2	Workers’ Councils and Cooperatives
H3	Environmental politics in the Anthropocene

5:00 – 7:00: President’s Reception

7:00 – late: Banquet at Bushwacker Brew Pub

Day Three – Thursday, May 31st**Concurrent Sessions I: 8:30 – 10:00 am**

I1	Geopolitical Economy Research Group (GERG)
I2	The Canadian State and Unemployment
I3	Media, Art, and Imagining Socialism

Break: 10:00 – 10:30

Session J: 10:30 – 12:00

Québec-Canada: how to rethink a left convergence?

Lunch: 12:00 – 1:30 **Keynote:** Brigitte Baptiste, “*Queering Ecology: The Quest for Multiple Identities*”

1:30 – 3:00 Plenary: Manifestos and Declarations: Political Struggles and Political Imaginations

Break – 3:00 – 3:30

3:30 – 5:00: AGM

Day One – Tuesday May 29th

Concurrent Sessions A

Session A1

8:30 – 10:00

Location:

The Media, Trumpism, and Liberalism Collide in the 21st Century – Session 1of2

Organizer: Margot Hurlbert, University of Regina – mhurlbert@uregina.ca

The media reflects an institutional expression of thoughts, ideas, and issues in society. For over a century, the Supreme Court of Canada has protected the rights of the media to be free from influence and control of the government. Now in the 21st century new social processes create a complex, institutional landscape where conflicting and diverse interests are represented in varying degrees and manners. The media has also expanded from newspapers, magazines, into new media platforms and practices becoming multi-national and global in scope. This panel broaches questions such as: How in the 21st century are the voices of diverse Canadian and American perspectives represented, or not in the media? Has the ultra conservative media created a hegemonic apparatus that has levelled a successful long-range multi-front assault on liberalism? What are the countervailing media practices and processes opposing this multi-front assault?

Speakers:

- Margot Hurlbert, University of Regina: *The Changing Nature of Freedom of Speech*
- Mitch Diamantopoulos, University of Regina: *The road to Trump's triumph: The rise of right-wing media alternatives and the collapse of the journalistic centre*
- Kim Pollock: *Who Are the Real "Deplorables": How Did Workers Actually Vote in 2016 and Where Does That Leave Us?*

Session A2

8:30 – 10:00

Location:

Socialisms and Literatures

Speakers:

Kevin Malton, McMaster University: *"This was the time we were here": Hope, Revolution, and the Utopian Desire in China Mieville's Bas-Lag Trilogy*

Sabujkoli Bandopadhyay, University of Regina: *Imagination, Activism and Resistance: Lessons from Three Women's Text from the Global South*

Miglena Todorova, University of Toronto: *Women, Socialisms and the (Im)Possibilities of Political Togetherness and Solidarity in the Contemporary World*

Session A3

8:30 – 10:00

Location:

Neoliberal Environments: Commodifying, Privatizing and Automating

Speakers:

- Niloofer Golkar, York University: *Automation and environment: environmental destruction, mining and unemployment*
 - Hunter, Garson; Sanchez, Miguel, University of Regina: *Frenzied non renewable resource extraction in Saskatchewan during the boom. Where did the economic benefits settle?*
 - Jaffe, JoAnn; Gertler, Michael E., University of Regina: *Primitive Privatization: Dismantling the Commons and the Common Carrier in Saskatchewan*
 - Murray, Adrian, University of Ottawa: *Crisis, Commodification and Social Reproduction: The Cape Town Water Crisis and the Politics of Social Movement Defense*
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Concurrent Sessions B

Session B1

10:30 – 12:00

Location:

BOOK LAUNCH - Corporatizing Canada: Making Business out of Public Service

Organizer: Chris Hurl, Concordia University

A book launch for the recently published collection from Between the Lines press, looking at the impacts of corporatization and corporate-style governance on Canada's public sector. Over the past three decades, some of Canada's most crucial public services – including education, healthcare, transportation and utilities – have started to mimic private enterprises in the way that they operate. The panel will feature authors from the collection, speaking to how this has played out in a range of different areas including state policy-making and planning, health care, criminal justice, education, and social and community services.

Speakers:

- Chris Hurl, Concordia University
- Kevin Walby, University of Winnipeg
- Jamie Brownlee, Carleton University
- Claire Polster, University of Regina
- Peter Graefe, McMaster University
- Heather Whiteside, University of Waterloo
- William Carroll, University of Victoria

Session B2

10:30 – 12:00

Location:

Activism Against the Academy: Critical Reflections on Activist Ethnographies

Organizers: Devin Clancy, York University; Colin Hastings, York University

This session invites contributions from researchers who employ ethnography to advance activist struggles. Such work may be broadly defined as engaged activist research, activist scholarship, participatory research, or community-based research. We especially encourage reflections on ethnographic projects conducted as part of grassroots anti-colonial, anti-racist, anti-capitalist,

anti-fascist, abolitionist, feminist, anarchist, socialist, and harm-reduction organizing among others. Participants may engage with questions such as: How can researchers effectively mobilize ethnographic findings to advance activist projects? How might ethnographers navigate the disparate expectations of the neoliberal academy and activist organizations? What particular activist ethnographic strategies have been most productive in your work?

Speakers:

- Annelies Cooper; Et al., York University: *Curated Consultation and the Illusion of Inclusion in York University's Sexual Assault Policy-Making Process*
- Karl Gardner, York University: *University-Based Research On, With, and For Social Movements*
- Ann-Marie Urban; Laurie Clune, University of Regina: *Situating Nurses and Their Work through an IE approach*
- Thania Vega, York University: *The Challenges of Activist Research with Workers in Precarious Conditions of Employment*

Session B3

10:30 – 12:00

Location:

The Media, Trumpism, and Liberalism Collide in the 21st Century – 2of2

Organizer: Margot Hurlbert, University of Regina – mhurlbert@uregina.ca

The media reflects an institutional expression of thoughts, ideas, and issues in society. For over a century, the Supreme Court of Canada has protected the rights of the media to be free from influence and control of the government. Now in the 21st century new social processes create a complex, institutional landscape where conflicting and diverse interests are represented in varying degrees and manners. The media has also expanded from newspapers, magazines, into new media platforms and practices becoming multi-national and global in scope. This panel broaches questions such as: How in the 21st century are the voices of diverse Canadian and American perspectives represented, or not in the media? Has the ultra conservative media created a hegemonic apparatus that has levelled a successful long-range multi-front assault on liberalism? What are the countervailing media practices and processes opposing this multi-front assault?

Speakers:

- Brabazon, Honor; Kozolanka, Kirsten, University of Toronto: *Neoliberalism, Authoritarian-Populism, and Democracy in the Publicity State: The harper Years and Beyond*
- William Solomon, Rutgers University: *Framing Financial News*
- Alan Freeman, University of Manitoba: *Making the crime fit the punishment: RussiaGate and the criminalisation of communication in the United States of America*

Session B4

10:30 – 12:00

Location:

Global Capitalism, Value, and Imperialism

Speakers:

- Henry Heller, University of Manitoba: *Between Sovereignty and U.S. Domination: The Brief Prime of Canadian Imperialism*

- Aina-Obe Shamsuddin Bolatito, Sudan University of Science and Technology: *The Colonization Lasts; Stolen Assets and the Lost Wealth, the Repatriation Obstacles Confronting Nigeria*
 - Rob Aitken, University of Alberta: *The Afterlives of Global Capital: Recirculating Financial Waste*
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Concurrent Sessions C

Session C1

1:30 – 3:00

Location:

Futures of Feminisms

Organizer: Elaine Coburn, Glendon/York University

This interdisciplinary session invites critical reflections about the futures of feminisms, in theory and in everyday practices. Contributors may draw on historical analyses that inform possible feminist futures or map contemporary fields of feminisms -- queer, Indigenous, intersectional, trans, global South, socialist, eco-feminist and more -- as entry points into imagining ways towards feminist futures. What challenges do feminist futures face? And what might the futures of feminisms look like, in all their tensions and contradictions but also liberatory possibilities.

Speakers:

- Fiona Macdonald, University of the Fraser Valley, Abbotsford, B.C.: *2018 Feminists: Problematizing the “Year of the Man”*.
- Peter Hodsman, King’s University College: *Zero Point Two Percent: Male Feminist Allyship and Gender Privilege in Academia*.
- Tiffany Boulton, University of Lethbridge: *Disturbing Balances: Feminist Disability Theory and Liminal Embodiment*.
- Meg Howison, York University: *The Sins of Academia: Attitudinal Ableism in Post-Secondary Institutions*

Session C2

1:30 – 3:00

Location:

Overcoming Schisms in Socialism

Organizer: Sean McMahon, American University, Cairo; Sandra Rein, University of Alberta

Schisms have long defined socialist relations and processes and their expression in ideas, from Marx and Bakunin through to dialecticians and “non-bullshit Marxists,” to autonomists and neo-Marxists and the Frankfurt School. Recalling that in Doctor Zivago Pasternak observes that “[p]rogress in science is governed by the laws of repulsion, every step forward is made by refutation of prevalent errors and false theories,” this panel seeks papers that productively use repulsion between scholars and/or tendencies in the socialist tradition to create new scientific

analyses of our changing historic moment. Papers expressing combinations of acutely incompatible or seemingly irreconcilable socialist ideas are particularly encouraged.

Speakers:

- Sean McMahon, American University, Cairo: *Selling Ideas: Realizing Surplus Value and Hegemony*
- Sandra Rein, University of Alberta: *Recovering and Overcoming: Raya Dunayevskaya, Marxist Humanism and “Orthodox” Marxism*
- Radhika Desai, University of Manitoba: *Marx and Polanyi as Socialists*
- Alexandre Charron, University of Victoria: *The Economic Theories of Rosa Luxemburg and Michal Kalecki: Continuity or Rupture*

Session C3

1:30 – 3:00

Location:

Migrant Workers and Social Reproduction of Capitalism

Organizer: Andrew Stevens, University of Regina

Over the last decade the Canadian government has recruited and accepted a growing number of foreign workers. Programs like the Temporary Foreign Worker program have constructed labour markets for low-wage industries in social reproductive work – for example in care-giving and in accommodation and food services sectors. In this session, papers examine the impacts on workers in these low-paid social-reproductive sectors and how this labour has become essential to contemporary capitalism.

Speakers:

- Andrew Stevens, University of Regina: *We can't have line-ups at Tim Horton's: Migrant workers and the social reproduction of prairie capitalism in Saskatchewan*
- Adam R. Belton, University of Alberta: *Temporary Foreign Workers' exploits in neoliberal policies and lobbying by the Alberta Hotel and Lodging Association*
- Kendra Strauss, Simon Fraser University: *Paid reproductive labour in the homecare sector in B.C. – the politics of the minimum wage*

Concurrent Sessions D

Session D1

3:30 – 5:00

Location:

Roundtable – Canadian Copyright: Understanding the Problem, Seeking Solutions. Publisher's Perspective.

Organizer: Errol Sharpe, Fernwood Publishing

In the last five years there's been lots of conflict in the academic community around copyright. Many champion open access, while publishers and authors decry the decline in their earnings for use of their material. Those of us who are small, independent publishers in Canada are torn

between our objective to see as many readers as possible reading our books, and our need to generate the revenues that pay for our publishing activity. The supreme court ruling against the practices of York University opens the debate around copyright. The panel will analyze these issues and propose a way forward.

Speakers:

- Errol Morris, Fernwood Publishing: *Understanding the problem, seeking solutions. Publishers Perspective*
- James Lorimer, Co-owner and publisher James Lorimer & Co. Toronto and the owner and publisher of Formac Publishing in Halifax.
- Jeff Miller, President and publisher of Irwin Law Inc.

Session D2

3:30 – 5:00

Location:

The “Alt.Right” and Its Utilization of “Free Speech” Discourse

Organizer: Garry Potter, Wilfred Laurier University

The New Far Right has increasingly and frequently quite successfully used a discourse concerning free speech, and sometimes even academic freedom, to advance their political agendas and also to discredit universities (for examples as being suppressors of free speech left wing thought police) in the eyes of the general public. There has been a disturbing blurring of discursive lines between those of the far right and those of the mainstream media, as became quite apparent, for example, in the Wilfrid Laurier University issue(s). This session asks for papers analysing this phenomenon and also considerations for what should be appropriate and effective socialist responses.

Speakers:

- Garry Potter, Wilfred Laurier University: *The Asymmetry of Left and Right*
- Yuri Forbes-Petrovich, Lakehead University: *Tactical Freedom of Speech and Strategic Social Censorship: The Rhetorical Politics of the Alt-Right*
- Jerrold L. Kachur, University of Alberta: *Masquerading in the Beard of a Prophet: Trump’s Truth-Talk and the Poverty of Democratic Moralism*
- Peter McInnis, St Francis Xavier University: *Academic Freedom Under Duress*

Session D3

3:30 – 5:00

Location:

Parliamentary and Extra-Parliamentary Paths to Socialism

Speakers:

- Paul Christopher Gray, Brock University: *Slaying Leviathan: Reconciling ‘Parliamentarism’ and ‘Extra-Parliamentarism’ through Common Strategies to Transform the State*
- Sarker Kanchan, University of British Columbia – Okanagan Campus: *Spring Thunder Over India: 50 Years of Naxalbari Movements*
- Paolo Aguinda, National University of San Marcos: *A critical analysis of a possible social democratic in Perú*

Mojtaba Mahdavi, University of Alberta: *Imagining Indigenous Democratic Socialism in the Muslim Context?*

Session D4

3:30 – 5:00

Location:

Marxist Theories of Being, Class Consciousness, and Revolution

Speakers:

- Robert P. Biezenski, University of Regina: *The New Materialist Conception of History*
 - Rupi Minhas, York University: *The Politics of Possibility - Examining the contours of the German Revolution, 1918-23*
 - Gerald de Montigny, Carleton University: *Marxist social work?*
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6:00 – 7:30 Briarpatch Reception: Snapshots of Unrest: Protest in Regina & Saskatchewan, 1970s to 2000

Location: TBA

Snapshots of Unrest presents photos from Saskatchewan and Regina's radical past, pulled from the archives of Briarpatch Magazine, one of Saskatchewan's last remaining independent magazines. Join local activists in discussion and dialogue as they look back on 30 years of struggles led by Indigenous peoples, workers, students, and farmers that shaped our city and province.

Day Two – Wednesday, May 30th

Concurrent Session E

Session E1

8:30 – 10:00

Location:

Corporate Power, Fossil Capital, Climate Crisis

Organizer: William Carroll, University of Victoria

This session explores the intersections between (a) networks, structures and practices of capitalist class power (and resistance to it), as centred in large corporations; (b) the political economy of fossil capital as a way of life that has reached global scale; and (c) the accelerating climate crisis, whose urgency seems to be matched by its intractability at least within the strictures of capitalism itself. Papers should address all three of these concerns, but can focus on any of a range of power modalities, including the following: corporate networks and elites, corporate ownership and control, the financing of fossil capital, corporate social responsibility

discourses, think tanks and corporate advocacy, business activism and lobbying, soft denialism and green capitalism, or carbon energy commodity chains.

Speakers:

- William Carrol, University of Victoria: *Who owns Canada's carbon-capital sector?*
- Robert J. Neubauer; Zoe Yunker, Simon Fraser University: *Behind the scenes of the new "Nation-to- Nation" relationship: Fossil capital, policy planning networks, and reconciliation.*
- Lisa Mills, Carleton University: *Not just a "black-and-green" conflict: The Conflict over the Proposed LNG Hub in Western Australia's Kimberley Region and the Politics of Time*
- Shannon Daub, Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives: *Contested capture: The natural gas industry's outsized influence in British Columbia*

Session E2

8:30 – 10:00

Location:

Social Change and Musical Work

Organizer: Rick Hesch

In what ways can musical performance and/or song writing contribute to our work for social justice? In what ways has neoliberal political economy both motivated and constrained the possibilities for socially conscious musical appreciation? How do politically conscious musicians produce their creative labour? Does public schooling remain a site for music educators to advance socially just understandings? Is insurgent music an effective way to support the mission of social movements? These are some of the questions which provoke the research and writing of the panelists for this session.

Speakers:

- Rick Hesch: *Maria Dunn: Case Study of a Musical and Under-recognized Working Class "Hero"*
- Gregg Olsen, University of Manitoba: *Power and Resistance: The Politics of Music*
- Jonah Olsen, University of Manitoba: *"No Hay Revolución Sin Canciones": The Musical Revolutions of 1973*

Session E3

8:30 – 10:00

Location:

Socialism Futures: Engaging Additional Critical Theories

Speakers:

- Burcu Ozdemir, University of Alberta: *A Lifeline Between Foucault and Derrida*
 - Emma York, University of Saskatchewan: *"The Fascist in Us All: What Social Psychology Offers for Socialist Futures"*
 - Holly Campbell, University of Regina: *Building socialism from below: Luxemburg, Sears, and the case of Occupy and other social movements*
 - Eleonora Roldán Mendivil, University of Hamburg: *Marxism and Race: towards a fruitful conversation*
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Concurrent Sessions F

Session F1

10:30 – 12:00

Location:

Roundtable: What Would Democratic Consultation Look Like?

Organizer: Amber Fletcher, University of Regina

The proposed roundtable examines the possibilities and alternatives for more effective public engagement on women's and gender issues in Canada. Based on a current SSHRC-funded project entitled "Engendering Public Engagement, Democratizing Public Space", the roundtable will begin with a brief commentary on what made the 1968-1970 Royal Commission on the Status of Women one of the most successful public consultations. The organisers will present insights from the SSHRC project's five pilot exercises across the country. Participants with experience of other consultations are encouraged to join us to explore what a truly democratic public engagement process could look like.

Speakers:

- Alana Cattapan, University of Saskatchewan: *Power, Privilege, and Policy Making: Reflections on 'Changing Public Engagement from the Ground Up'*
- Amber J. Fletcher and Adela Kincaid, University of Regina: *A Survey and a Map: Prompting Public Engagement on Women's Issues in Saskatchewan*
- Barbara Cameron, York University: *Gender, Representation and Public Engagement*

Session F2

10:30 – 12:00

Location:

From Corporate Power to Climate Justice: Towards and Agenda for Transformation

Organizer: Shannon Daub, Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives

This session explores the question of what it do be done about the fossil fuel industry as a source of obstruction to urgent and interrelated efforts to address climate change, realize of Indigenous Rights and Title, and democratize energy systems. It is hosted by the Corporate Mapping Project, a partnership investigating the role and power of the fossil fuel industry. As the partnership approaches its midpoint, we are turning our attention increasingly to solutions. The session considers various avenues for challenging corporate power, including institutional and political reforms; Indigenous resurgence and land-based rights; citizen- and social movement-led resistance; efforts based in law; and/or the development of alternative visions that challenge carboniferous capitalism itself.

Speakers:

- Shannon Daub, Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives: *Wind-down: Considerations for the managed decline of fossil fuel industries*
- Robert Hackett, Simon Fraser University: *The Democratic Media and the Path to Climate Justice*
- David Langille, York University: *From Corporate Power to Pocket Power: Examining the potential for community-based alternatives*

- James Lawson, University of Victoria: *Lines of Work, Corridors of Power: Chains of Extraction as the Sources of Corporate Powers of Obstruction*

Session F3

10:30 – 12:00

Location:

Intellectual Labour: Academe as Commodity

Organizer: Chad D. Thompson, College of New Caledonia

Alfred Sohn-Rethel, a figure at the margins of the Frankfurt School, towards the end of his career published his life's work, *Intellectual and Manual Labour*. In this work, Sohn-Rethel sought to understand the status of the products of intellectual labour in the context of the commodity. What might this mean today? What becomes of traditional knowledge within academe? Can – or should - Enlightenment insistence on the unity of teaching and research be maintained? What are the implications of the “adjunctification” of higher education for scholarship? This session invites proposals on any aspect of intellectual labour and commodification.

Speakers:

- Chad D. Thompson, College of New Caledonia: *Academic Apostasy: ruminations from former faculty*
- Gerald de Montigny, Carleton University: *Universities for sale: Let me count the ways*
- Sebastián Vielmas, Université Laval: *Tuition-Free Higher Education and Social Rights in the Context of the Social Movements of Québec and Chile (2011–2012) / Gratuité scolaire et droits sociaux dans le contexte des mouvements sociaux du Québec et Chili (2011-2012)*

Keynote Lecture

12:00 – 1:30

Location: Education Auditorium

Cherry Smiley, Concordia University: *Violence Against Indigenous Women and Girls in Canada: What's Missing from the Conversation?*

This presentation will critically examine the discourse in regard to male violence against Indigenous women and girls in Canada with a focus on the National Inquiry that is currently in progress. Historical causes, contemporary issues, and possible solutions will be addressed from an Indigenous feminist perspective.

Concurrent Sessions G

Session G1

1:30 – 3:00

Location:

The Politics of Treaty Interpretation and the Tasks of Inheritance

Organizer: Corey J. Snelgrove,

Ignored within socialism and CPE, this panel suggests the relevance of treaty interpretation to the Left. Craft interrogates a possessive approach to treaties that works under the sign of reconciliation to justify extraction. Snelgrove presents a critique of CPE from the standpoint of treaty. Starblanket asks how Indigenous peoples might move towards forms of political identity, action and organizing that embody the spirit and animate the intent of treaties. Stark shows how the interpretation of treaties by higher courts detaches Indigenous political authority from territory and citizens to particular cultural practices serving to legitimize colonial expansion through land acquisition.

Speakers:

- Aimée Craft, University of Manitoba: *Broken treaties/fractured lands: jurisdictional and resource silos in an era of treaty infringement and reconciliation*
- Corey J. Snelgrove, University of British Columbia: *Treaty Differences: Towards a Politics of Interpretation*
- Gina Starblanket, University of Manitoba: *Beyond Rights and Wrongs: Towards a Treaty-Based Practice of Relationality*
- Heidi Kiiwetinepinesiiik Stark, University of Victoria: *Treaty Rights and the De-territorialization of Indigenous Political Authority*

Session G2

1:30 – 3:00

Location:

Abolitionist Politics Today

Organizer: Jeff Shantz, Kwantlen Polytechnic University

This session invites papers addressing aspects of the developing theories and practices of contemporary movements for criminal justice system abolition. Papers may address any focus of abolition, for example prison abolition, police abolition, anti-statism, etc., as well as specific community-based projects. Papers focusing on alternatives to statist criminal justice are also welcomed.

Speakers:

- Jeff Shantz, Kwantlen Polytechnic University: *Abolitionist Perspectives on Punitive Accumulation and the Neoliberal Containment State*
- Josephine L. Savarese, St Thomas University: *The Coldest of Shoulders: Making Canada Account for the Treatment of Abdoul Abdi*
- Tamai Kitossa, Brock University: *Prison Abolitionism and the Anti-Criminology Classroom*

Session G3

1:30 – 3:00

Location:

Reconciling Social Justice and Truth

Organizer: Margot Hurlbert, University of Regina

Social justice epitomizes the achievement of justice and fairness in relation to access to and the distribution of Society's resources, recognition, procedural, and substantive justice. These goals

have recently been juxtaposed against claims of free speech, freedom of religion, thought, intellectual curiosity, and academic freedom. Papers in this session will deconstruct these arguments, propose alternate framings and provide possible resolutions. Do solutions to the current conundrum require deep deliberations surrounding truth, truthiness, and post truth? Do such exercises pursue new conceptions of justice, or are these age-old arguments between qualitative and quantitative science in slightly new, different framings? All papers pursuing constructive deliberation and debate are welcome.

Speakers:

- Margot Hurlbert, University of Regina: *Juxtaposing the Legal Space with the Space of Discourse*
 - Stephanie Bryson, Portland State: *Can the Lifeworld Save us From Neoliberalism? Reconsidering the Contribution of Jurgen Habermas to our Understanding of Truth and Reason*
 - Rosalind Hampton, University of Ottawa: *“We’re not allowed to talk about politics:” Teacher candidates grappling with critical pedagogical responsibility*
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Concurrent Sessions H

Session H1

3:30 – 5:00

Location:

Policing and Authoritarianism

Speakers:

- Ashley Carver, Saint Mary’s University: *Preventive Authoritarianism: Preventative detention in Canadian anti-terrorism Investigations*
- Will Kujala, University of Alberta: *Police, Occupation, and the Prose of Counterinsurgency*
- Sarah E. Marshall, Brock University: *‘Studying Up’ the Moral Dilemmas of Police Misconduct, the Blue Code and Whistle Blowing*

Session H2

3:30 – 5:00

Location:

Workers’ Councils and Cooperatives

Speakers:

- Manuel Larrabure, University of California, Santa Cruz: *Post-capitalist Development in Latin America's Left Turn: beyond Peronism and the Magical State*
- Jonah Olsen, University of Manitoba: *Are Cooperatives a Viable Alternative to Capitalist Production in the Fight for Industrial Democracy?: Lessons from the Basque Country*
- Christopher Holman, Nanyang Technological University: *Reconsidering the Significance of the Workers’ Council Phenomenon: Castoriadis and the politics of the Autonomous Society*

Session H3

3:30 – 5:00

Location:

Environmental politics in the Anthropocene

Speakers:

- Yuri Forbes-Petrovich, Lakehead University: *Ecosocialist Community Organizing in the Anthropocene*
 - Harry Diaz, University of Regina: *Global Environmental Change: a Challenge to a Better Society?*
 - Curtis Shuba, University of Regina: *The Politics of (Un)Sustainability in Canada*
 - Kailah Sebastian, University of Regina: *Changing Watershed boundaries: The escalation of Climate change impacts*
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5:00 – 7:00: President’s Reception - Centre for Kinesiology (CK) 122

7:30 – late: Banquet at Bushwacker Brew Pub - 2206 Dewdney Ave.

Purchase your tickets in advance by emailing rosa1919@uvic.ca. The banquet meal features steak, a prairie staple. If you would prefer a chicken or vegetarian option, please be in touch via rosa1919@uvic.ca before May 23rd. Tickets are \$40 or \$25 for students and unwaged.

Day Three – Thursday, May 31st

Concurrent Sessions I

Session I1

8:30 – 10:00

Location:

Global Economy Research Group (GERG)

Organizer: Radhika Desai, University of Manitoba

The annual GERG Panel discusses major flashpoints in the world’s geopolitical economy. Today, they include Syria, Yemen, Venezuela, North Korea, Ukraine, and others. We welcome presentations on one or more of these or others that reflect on the rapidly changing configuration of world affairs in which western dominance is giving way to ever greater multipolarity.

Speakers:

- Radhika Desai, University of Manitoba

Session I2

8:30 – 10:00

Location:

The Canadian State and Unemployment

Speakers:

- Wilfred Lynch, University of Toronto: *Canadian State and "Canadian" Capital: Understanding the Big Business Lobby Group Using the Marxist Theory of the State*
- Leslie Nichols, Wilfred Laurier University: *Review of the Unemployment Benefits Program for Self-Employed Canadians: Are Marginalized Workers Disadvantaged?*
- Karam Mohinder Singh, Government of Punjab, Chandigarh: *Theorising Unemployment Under Capitalism: A Thesis for Superiority of Marxian Analysis*

Session I3

8:30 – 10:00

Location:

Media, Art, and Imaging Socialism

Organizer: Scott Forsyth, York University

Open to papers on media and the arts and imagining a future socialism. Open to a range of radical perspectives – feminist, anti-racist, anti-colonialist. Relationship to socialist and radical politics, socialist parties and states and social movements. Impact of the changing political economy of the media and new media technologies. Historical or contemporary explorations of radical cultural politics in any national context. Analysis and interpretation of works of art in any media and period. Classic or contemporary theoretical debates in radical and Marxist aesthetics. Emphasis could focus on radical cultural possibilities or critiques of dominant media.

Speakers:

- Scott Forsyth, York University: *The Sixties on Screen: Rebellion, Madness, and Representing the New Left*
- Herbert Pimlott, Wilfred Laurier University: *Let One Hundred Flowers Bloom'? Creating an Oppositional 'Emergent Culture' for Imagining a New Socialism*
- Tamara Hansen, Simon Fraser University: *Read, Listen, Tell: Reimagining and Decolonizing the Curricula*
- Paula Elias, University of Toronto: *Access as social movement: the ideology of participatory research with youth*

Session J

10:30 – 12:00

Location:

Québec-Canada: how to rethink a left convergence?

Organizer: Sebastián Vielmas, Université Laval and Jamie Lawson, University of Victoria

Left-wing movements and struggles, Québécois and Canadian, have their own trajectories and cultures. How could we rethink a convergence of these, based on common causes? How can

Canadian movements play a role in the social and national emancipation of the Québec people? How could progressive movements of Canada and Québec build a common strategy to support the emancipation struggles of First Nations? How could struggles in Québec inform and assist struggles in Canada for emancipation? How to build plural solidarities on a plural left? These questions will guide an open debate that should be sustained as key endeavour of the Society for Socialist Studies.

Speakers:

- Sebastián Vielmas
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Keynote Lecture

12:00 – 1:30

Location: Luther College Auditorium,

Brigitte Baptiste, Instituto de Investigación de Recursos Biológicos Alexander von Humboldt: *Queering Ecology: The Quest for Multiple Identities*

This presentation highlights the importance of including queer studies in discussions about the health of our ecologies. Baptiste argues that identity and relationships are part of our living systems and that scientific research frames and defines ecosystems in eurosexist ways. Baptiste challenges scientists to pursue broader and more inclusive investigations of society and nature so that both communities and environments can thrive.

1:30 – 3:00

Plenary: Manifestos and Declarations: Political Struggles and Political Imaginations

The Communist Manifesto, the Waffle Manifesto, the Dene Declaration, the Cyborg Manifesto, Idle No More, the Maple Spring and Occupy, are some critical political moments in the histories of working class, Indigenous, feminist, student and Québécois struggles. These movements found their public expression, in part, through Manifestos and Declarations. Manifestos analyse the injustices of the present and they help us look towards more equitable futures. In this panel, a range of distinguished guest speakers, many of them participants in the crafting important, recent Declarations, will contribute short reflections on each Manifesto: what it has meant historically and how it may illuminate our political imaginations as we strive for more just and peaceful worlds to come.

Speakers include:

- Radhika Desai, University of Manitoba
 - John Conway, University of Regina
 - Yann Allard-Tremblay, York University and member of the Wendat Nation
 - Sebastián Vielmas, Université Laval
 - Shannon Daub, Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives
 - Mojtaba Mahdavi, University of Alberta
 - Darren O'Toole, University of Ottawa and descendent of the Bois-Brûlé (Wiisakodewiniwag) of the White Horse Plains in Manitoba
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3:30 – 5:00

Society for Socialist Studies Annual General Meeting
