

**The Annual Conference of the Victorian
Interdisciplinary Studies Association of the
Western United States, 2016**

TRANSGRESSIONS



Keynote Speaker, Dennis Denisoff, McFarlin Professor of English, *University of Tulsa*

Dennis Denisoff's current monograph project, tentatively entitled *Eco-Pagan Politics in British Literature and Culture: 1850-1920*, explores the intersections of Victorian ecology, animality, and desire in pagan works by Florence Farr, Vernon Lee, Walter Pater, Simeon Solomon, R. L. Stevenson, and others. His books include *Aestheticism and Sexual Parody*, *Sexual Visuality from Literature to Film*, and the novels *Dog Years* and *Winter Gardeners*. He has edited *Queeries: An Anthology of Gay Male Prose* and *The Nineteenth Century Child and Consumer Culture*, and co-edited *Perennial Decay: On the Aesthetics and Politics of Decadence* and the ongoing project *The Yellow Nineties Online*.

VISAWUS 2016

TRANSGRESSIONS

September 29-October 1, 2016

Austin, Texas

Conference at a Glance

Thursday, September 29, 2016

Wyndham Garden Hotel, Austin

Registration, 8:00-3:00

8:00-9:00- Continental Breakfast

9:00-9:20- Opening General Session, Lana Dalley, VISAWUS President,
location, Guadalupe-Barton Creek

9:30-10:45AM- Session 1A, Literary, Religious and Historical Transgressions,
location, Guadalupe Barton Creek

11:00AM-1:00PM- Lunch on your own

1:00-2:30PM- Concurrent Sessions

Session 2A, Communal Transgressions and Religious Collisions,
location, San Gabriel

Session 2B, Overcoming Religious Boundaries, location, Shoal Creek

2:30-3:00 PM- Break

3:00-4:30 PM- Concurrent Sessions

Session 3A, Women's Disguises, *location, Shoal Creek*

Session 3B, Literary and Scientific Transgressions, *location, Guadalupe/Barton Creek*

5:00 PM- Dinner on your own

5:00 PM- Board of Directors Meeting (location San Gabriel) and Dinner

Friday, September 30, 2016

Wyndham Garden Hotel Austin

8:00- 8:45 AM- Continental Breakfast

8:00-12:00- Registration

8:45-10:15- Concurrent Sessions

Session 4A, Blurring Gender, Class and Race Boundaries, *location, Blanco*

Session 4B, Exotic Transgressions, *location, San Gabriel*

10:15-10:30 AM- Break

10:30AM-12:00PM

Session 5A, Socratic, Tragic and Extraterrestrial Boundaries, *location, Shoal Creek*

12:00-1:15- Lunch and Business Meeting, *location Guadalupe Barton Creek*

1:15-2:45- Concurrent Sessions

Session 6A, Decadent Transgressions, *location, Blanco*

Session 6B, Corruption, Reform, Spiritual Ecstasy in Visual Culture, *location, San Gabriel*

Session 6C, Salacious Cultural Spaces, *location, Guadalupe Barton Creek*

2:45-3:30 PM- Break, High Tea, *location Lady Bird Lake*

3:30-4:45 PM- Concurrent Sessions

Session 7A, Transcending Photographic, Class and Moral Barriers,
location, Blanco

Session 7B, Degenerative Hedonism, *location, San Gabriel*

**Session 7C, Vandalism and Decadence: Beneath the Surface of
Classical Culture,** *location, Guadalupe, Barton Creek*

5:00-6:00PM- Cocktail Reception, location, Lady Bird Lake

6:00-7:00PM- Keynote Speaker: Professor Dennis Denisoff

7:00-8:30 PM: Banquet, location, Lady Bird Lake

Saturday, October 1, 2016

Wyndham Garden Hotel Austin

8:00-9:00AM- Continental Breakfast

9:00-10:15AM- Teaching Roundtable

Session 8A, “Teaching Transgression/Transgressive Teaching,”
location, Guadalupe Barton Creek

10:15-10:45AM- Break

10:45AM-12:15PM- Concurrent Sessions

Session 9A, Anatomies of Exposure: Tracing Fleshly Transgressions,
location, Blanco

Session 9B, Beyond Aesthetic, Generic and Poetic Boundaries, *location,
Guadalupe Barton Creek*

Concurrent Sessions Schedule and Presenters

Thursday, September 29, 2016

Wyndham Garden Hotel Austin

8:00-9:00 Continental Breakfast

Registration 8:00-3:00

9:00-9:20 Opening General Session

9:30-10:45AM

Session 1A, Literary, Religious and Historical Transgressions,
location, Guadalupe Barton Creek

Chair, **Genie Babb**, *SUNY, Plattsburgh*

“The Sin of Isolation and the Cult(ure) of Collaboration:
Transgressive Victorian Adaptations,” **Cameron Dodworth**,
Methodist University

“The Good Girl in Conflict: The Early Religious Novels of
Elizabeth Missing Sewell” **Sarah E. Moore**, *UT Dallas*

“Hints of Transgressive Same-Sex Attraction in George Eliot’s
Writing” **Constance Fulmer**, *Pepperdine University*

11:00AM-1:00PM---Lunch on your own

1:00-2:30PM: Concurrent Sessions

**Session 2A, Communal Transgressions and Religious
Collisions,** *location San Gabriel*

Chair, **Constance Fulmer**, *Pepperdine University*



Elizabeth M. Sewell.



“Common Meals and Plain Minds: Taking Food off the Table in *Jude the Obscure*” **Lindsey Holmes**, *Texas A & M University, Corpus Christi*

“Shifting Parameters of Religious Transgressions” **Rex Hamilton**, *University of the Pacific*

“George Eliot’s Conception of Faith in ‘Janet’s Repentance’” **John Mazaheri**, *Auburn University*

Session 2B, Overcoming Religious Boundaries, location Shoal Creek

Chair, **Lana Daley**, *California State University, Fullerton*

“The Christian Science Novel, 1900-1910” **Anne Stiles**, *Saint Louis University*

“Clergymen’s Apostasy in Dinah Craik and May Augusta Ward” **Hyson Cooper**, *Berklee College of Music*

“George Eliot Up Close,” Katherine Voyles, **University of Washington, Bothell**

2:30-3:00 PM: Break



3:00-4:30 PM: Concurrent Sessions

Session 3A, Women’s Disguises, Shoal Creek

Chair, **Kellie Holzer**, *Virginia Wesleyan College*

“Transgressing the Borders of Respectability that They Themselves Police: Female Detectives in Mid-Victorian Fact and Fiction” **Dagni Bredesen**, *Eastern Illinois University*

“‘He Could Hold His Own with the Very Best of Them There’: Women’s Male Disguise and Gender Transgression in Florence Marryat’s *Her Father’s Name*” **Sarah Lennox**, *Eastern Connecticut State University*

“Who Cares what Becomes of the likes of me?” Giving Voice to Ivy Pearson in *Jekyll and Hyde*” **Nancy Rosenberg England** , *UT Arlington*

Session 3B, Literary and Scientific Transgressions, location Guadalupe Barton Creek

Chair, **Constance Fulmer**, *Pepperdine University*

“When Masculinities Meet Memories in George Eliot’s *The Mill on the Floss*”
Hera Kim, *Texas A & M University*

“Monstrous Narratives: The Hybridization of the Literary and the Scientific” **Holly J. McBee**, *Dickinson State University*

“Pen, Pencil, and Plagiarism: Wilde’s Transgressive Textual Inheritance” **Sandra Leonard**, *Kutztown University*

5:00 PM: Dinner on your own

5:00 PM: Board of Directors Meeting (location, San Gabriel) and Dinner

Friday, September 30, 2016

Wyndham Garden Hotel Austin



8:00- 8:45 AM Continental Breakfast

8:00-12:00 Registration

8:45-10:15: Concurrent Sessions

Session 4A, Blurring Gender, Class and Race Boundaries, location Blanco

Chair, **Lana Dalley**, *California State University, Fullerton*

“Affective Legacies: Transgressive Characteristics and Heritage in *Jane Eyre*”
Lauren Bailey, *CUNY*

“Small Economies and the ‘Sour-grapeism’ of Money-Spending” **Jane Boyton**, *CUNY*

“Lost Roses: Cross-Fertilization and hybridization in *The Moonstone*” **Aileen Farrar**, *Northern Arizona University*

Session 4B, Exotic Transgressions, location San Gabriel

Chair, **Kristin Mahoney**, *Western Washington University*

“‘Sultana’s Dream’: Rokeya Sakhawat Hossain’s Feminist Utopia in the Imperial Commons” **Kellie Holzer**, *Virginia Wesleyan College*

“Making Transgressions Respectable: Tony Pastor’s New York City Vaudeville Theatre” **Scott Banville**, *Nicholls State University*

“Richard Marsh and the Plot Machinery of the Imperial Gothic” **Neil Hulgren**, *California State College, Long Beach*

10:15-10:30 AM: Break

10:30AM-12:00PM

Session 5A, Socratic, Tragic and Extraterrestrial Boundaries, location Shoal Creek

Chair, **Constance Fulmer**, *Pepperdine University*

“Socrates at the Old Bailey: Oscar Wilde and Socratic Transgressions” **Marylu Hill**, *Villanova University*

“Obscuring the Obscene in Victorian Print” **Jane J. Lee**, *California State University, Dominguez Hills*

“Transgressive and Transcendent Embodiment in Late-Victorian Scientific Romance” **Genie Babb**, *SUNY, Plattsburgh*

12:00-1:15: Lunch and Business Meeting, location Guadalupe Barton Creek

1:15-2:45: Concurrent Sessions

Session 6A, Decadent Transgressions, location, Blanco

Chair, **Neil Hultgren**, *California State University, Long Beach*



“The Character of Salome in *Fin-de-Siècle* Fiction by Women” **Petra Clark**, *University of Delaware*

“Post- Victorian Decadence & the Queering of Marriage: The Mackenzies on Capri” **Kristin Mahoney**, *Western Washington University*

“Decadent Transgression in the 21st Century: DBC Pierre’s *Lights Out in Wonderland*” **Martin Lockerd**, *UT Austin*

Session 6B, Corruption, Reform, Spiritual Ecstasy in Visual Culture, *location San Gabriel*

Chair, **Cameron Dodworth**, *Methodist University*

“Metrical Morality: Rossetti’s Instruments” **Kinsey Redd**, *Arizona State University*



“Reconsidering John Linnell’s *Noah: The Eve of Deluge*: Visions of Corruption and Reform in Early Victorian Britain” **Anthony Huffman**, *Case Western Reserve University*

“Art, Sweat, and Labor Politics: The Seamstress in Late Victorian Visual Culture” **Alice Walkiewicz**, *CUNY*

Session 6C, Salacious Cultural Spaces, *location Guadalupe Barton Creek*

Chair, **Kellie Holzer**, *Virginia Wesleyan College*

“Sex, Serialization, Suspense: Wilkie Collins and the Hotel” **Ashley Nadeau**, *University of Massachusetts, Amherst*



“‘By and by she was initiated into all safe love-practice’: Protective Sexual Pedagogy and Victorian Pornography” **Emily Wicktor**, *North Dakota State University*

“‘Settled Trouble’: A Closer Look at Monomania in Dickens’s *Our Mutual Friend* and *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*” **Daniel Stuart**, *University of North Texas*

2:45-3:30 PM: Break, High Tea, Lady Bird Lake

3:00-4:45 PM Concurrent Sessions

Session 7A, Transcending Photographic, Class and Moral Barriers, *location Blanco*

Chair, **Kristin Mahoney**, *Western Washington University*

“‘The Best Paid Posers in England’: Transgression and Late Victorian Artists’ Models” **Jo Devereux**, *University of Western Ontario, Canada*

“Mirror and Muse: Julia Margaret Cameron’s Portraits of Julia Jackson” **Andrea Wolk Rager**, *Case Western Reserve University*

“Pre-Raphaelite Poetic and Painterly Transgressions” **Sophia Andres**, *University of Texas of the Permian Basin*



Session 7B, Degenerative Hedonism, location San Gabriel

Chair, **Neil Hultgren**, *California State University, Long Beach*

“Fear of Degeneration: the Contradictory Effects of Hedonism” **Seul Lee**, *Texas A & M University*

“A Deadly Pestilence: Jack the Ripper and Miasma Theory” **Darby Walters**, *University of Southern California*

“Formal Transgressions: Vernon Lee’s Imaginary Portraits” **Jeffrey Kessler**, *Indiana University*

Session 7C, Vandalism and Decadence: Beneath the Surface of Classical Culture, location, Guadalupe Barton Creek

Chair, **Sophia Andres**, *University of Texas of the Permian Basin*

“‘An Infectious Callousness’: The Victorian Plunder of Antiquity” **Adele Lewis**, *Arizona State University*

“‘Dost thou remember Sicily?’: English Decadents, Greek Love, and Sicilian Boys” **Thomas Prash**, *Indiana University*

“The Violent Aestheticism of *The Picture of Dorian Gray*” **Ashley Wilcox**, *Tufts University*

5:00-6:00PM: Cocktail Reception, location Lady Bird Lake

6:00-7:00PM: Keynote Speaker

Professor Dennis Denisoff McFarlin Professor of English, University of Tulsa

“Where the Freak Takes You: The Sensoria of Others in Victorian Travel Writing,” exploring the intersections of ecology, paganism and desire in the travel writing of Robert Louis Stevenson, Vernon Lee and others.

7:00-8:30 PM: Banquet, location Lady Bird Lake

Saturday, October 1, 2016

Wyndham Garden Hotel Austin

8:00-9:00 AM Continental Breakfast

9:00-10:15 AM Teaching Roundtable

Session 8A, “Teaching Transgression/Transgressive Teaching,” location, Guadalupe Barton Creek

Kellie Holzer *Virginia Wesleyan College*

Lana Dalley, *California State University, Fullerton*

10:15-10:45 AM Break

10:45 AM-12:15 PM Concurrent Sessions

Session 9A, Anatomies of Exposure: Tracing Fleshly Transgressions, location Blanco

Chair, **Genie Babb**, *SUNY, Plattsburgh*

“The Spectacle of the Body: Legal, Medical, and Recreational Transgression of Identity in Early Victorian Bodies” **Ann Tandy-Treiber**, *University of Minnesota*

“**Disclaimer:** I will be showing images of wax anatomical models. These are incredibly detailed and lifelike representations of female bodies and medical procedures related to childbirth. Be prepared to be like the Victorian audiences who saw these as parts of traveling exhibits!” **Ann Tandy-Treiber**

“Writing the Body: Confession and Exposure at the *fin-de-siècle*,” **Brian Donnelly**, *University of California, Santa Barbara*



“Friends with Benefits: Moffit and Gatiss’s Sherlock, Millennial Viewers, and Sex”
Bryn Gribben, *Seattle University*

Session 9B, Beyond Aesthetic, Generic and Poetic Boundaries, *location*
Guadalupe Barton Creek

Chair, **Neil Hultgren**, *California State University, Long Beach*

“The Good Kind of Bad: Isabella Bird’s Carefully Edited Transgressions” **Deanna Stover**, *Texas A & M University*

“Our Papers , Ourselves: Amateur Periodicals as Models of Urban Girlhood”
Elissa Myers, *CUNY*

“Shadow and Surface(ing) in *The Picture of Dorian Gray*” **Rebecca Ehrhardt**,
University of Southern California

VSAWC / VISAWUS 2017 Joint Conference:

“Victorian Education”

Vancouver, British Columbia

April 28-29, 2017

Publication Workshop April 27 & 30, 2017

The Victorian Studies Association of Western Canada and the Victorian Interdisciplinary Studies Association of the Western United States invite you to attend their joint conference, “Victorian Education,” to be held **April 28-29, 2017** in Vancouver, British Columbia. Please note that the **VISAWUS** conference will be in Spring 2017 (not in the Fall as usual). It is only 6 months away. The conference will explore Victorian concepts, theories, and expressions of education, teaching, and learning. The conference will also include a **publication workshop** for graduate students and junior scholars, to be held April 27 & 30, 2017.

VISAWUS 2016

Transgressions, September 29-October 1

Conference Organizer

Sophia Andres, *University of Texas of the Permian Basin*

Conference Co-Organizers

Kellie Holzer, *Virginia Wesleyan College*

Kristin Mahoney, *Western Washington University*

Scott Banville, *Nicholls State University*

Program Designer

Tessa Townsend, *University of Texas of the Permian Basin*

Student Assistants

Shea Campbell, *University of Texas of the Permian Basin*

Alyssa Malone, *University of Texas of the Permian Basin*



Cover art: *The Beguiling of Merlin* Edward Burne-Jones (1872–77) Oil on canvas, 186 cm × 111 cm (73 in × 44 in) Lady Lever Art Gallery, Port Sunlight, Merseyside

Concluding Image: *The Order of Release 1746* John Everett Millais (1852-3) Oil on canvas, 102.9 cm × 73.7 cm (40.5 in × 29.0 in) Tate Britain, London