Cultural, Social, and Political Thought Workshop

FINAL PROGRAM

April 15-17, 2011
University of Victoria

Discussion room: DSB C 116
Breakout space: DSB C 114

thinkingpolitically2011.wordpress.com
cspt.thinking.politically@gmail.com
Thinking politically can be contextualized in various ways. Prominently, through the pervasive reach of social movements over the past few decades, it has become obvious that the problems that we struggle with in everyday life cut across arbitrary boundaries, such as those between public and private, us and them, and so on. In the context of North American universities, this realization has led many scholars to see disciplinary boundaries as getting in the way of meaningful studies of these problems. Interest in the growing approaches to interdisciplinary studies seems to be gaining momentum. This “new” interdisciplinarity continually raises the question of how we think politically within these inherited contexts. Since 1989, this challenge has been posed at UVic through the Cultural, Social, and Political Thought program – one of the few interdisciplinary networks in Canada that explicitly politicizes interdisciplinary thinking.

The difference that the political makes, we suggest, is in how we approach our sites of study. Given the complexity of interdisciplinary problems, attentiveness to the political disposes us to see how these problems are of our making, including how they are conceived. In this sense, the political is not simply an object of study (as in Political Studies), or a dimension of contemporary problems (as it tends to be in Cultural Studies). Rather, our very ways of thinking can be understood as political – that is, with implications for how we live together. Over the course of this three-day workshop, we endeavour to create a venue for meaningful conversation about how problems are conceived (e.g. geographically, artistically), and to what effects.

This workshop has been made possible by the Cultural, Social, and Political Thought (CSPT) Program. It has provided the rich intellectual context that evoked conversations about thinking politically among graduate students. In exploring ways to pursue this intellectual project, we received much encouragement and guidance from senior CSPT faculty - especially Professors Warren Magnusson and Rob Walker. Since we decided to begin by organizing a workshop, we have been given immense organizational and financial support from the outgoing and incoming CSPT Directors, Professors Arthur Kroker and Nicole Shukin respectively, as well as from the program assistant, Karen Erwin. We hope that some measure of the many generosities that CSPT has afforded this workshop will be felt by all participants.

Crucial financial and organizational support has also been provided by: the Deans of Social Sciences, Humanities, and Graduate Studies; the Departments of Political Science, Sociology, English, and History; the Graduate Students Society and Graduate Politics Students; and the Pacific Centre for Technology and Culture, specially Marilouise Kroker. The Thinking Politically organizing committee extends its sincere appreciation to these donors, as well as to all those graduate students, staff, and faculty who have contributed time and effort in order to make this workshop possible. With all this amazing support, we are excited to be creating a venue for thinking politically - which we hope will be the first of many more to come!
**Friday April 15**

- **pre-seminar** 2-4
- **thinking (the colonial) politically** 5-7
- informal social at Canoe Club 8-10

**Saturday April 16**

- **coffee and registration** 8:45-9:15
- **welcome address** 9:15-9:30
- **thinking (the urban) politically** 9:30-11:30
- lunch 11:30-12:30
- **thinking (the global) politically** 12:30-2:30
  - campus scenes 2:30-3:15
  - refreshments 3:15-3:30
- **thinking (aesthetics) politically** 3:30-5:30
  - reception at Union Pacific 6-8

**Sunday April 17**

- **coffee and registration** 9-9:30
- **thinking (nature) politically** 9:30-11:30
- lunch 11:30-12:30
- **thinking (dissent) politically** 12:30-2:30
  - refreshments 2:30-2:45
- **wrap-up** 2:45-4


**Friday April 15th, 2-4**

**TEF 170 PACTAC**

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**Pre-Seminar:**

*The Aesthetics of Digital Longing*

Timothy Murray, Professor of Comparative Literature and English, Director of the Society for the Humanities, and Curator of the Rose Goldsen Archive of New Media Studies at Cornell University, will discuss “The Aesthetics of Digital Longing” by way of an evocative discussion of Rancière and Deleuze in the context of interactive installations. He will illustrate his talk with a number of installations and sound pieces from Asia that are rarely discussed, in the interests of broadening the global perspective of what we think of as politics and art.

Professor Murray’s talk is sponsored by CSPT and the Pacific Centre for Technology and Culture (PACTAC). We trust that it will inspire people to get thinking politically.

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**Friday April 15th, 5-7**

**DSB C 116**

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**thinking**

Adam Coombs  
MA in History, UBC  

Amélie-Anne Mailhot  
MA in Politics, UQÀM  

Adam Gaudry  
Phd in Indigenous Governance, UVic  

Kelly Aguirre  
Phd in CSPT, Politics  

Rob Hancock  
Post-doc in Anthropology, UVic  

Christopher Teuton  
Assoc. Professor in English, UVic  

Greg Blue  
Professor in CSPT, History  

**Facilitator: Serena Kataoka**  
Phd in Politics, UVic; CSPT alumnus  

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**the colonial**

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**politically**
the urban

Laticia Chapman
MA in CSPT, Politics

Heather Cosidetto
Wayward School Co-Director

Fay Weller
Phd in Politics, UVic

Marta Bashovski
Phd in CSPT, Politics

Delacey Tedesco
PhD in Politics, UVic; CSPT alumnus

Warren Magnusson
Professor in CSPT, Politics

Michael Shapiro
Professor in Politics, Hawai‘i

Facilitator: Serena Kataoka
Phd in Politics, UVic; CSPT alumnus

thinking politically

the global

Renée McBeth
CSPT alumnus

Setareh Shohadaei
MA in CSPT, Politics

Adam Molnar
PhD in CSPT, Politics

Simon Glezos
Asst. Professor in Politics, Regina

Geoffrey Whitehall
Assoc. Professor in SPT and Politics, Acadia; CSPT alumnus

Mark Franke
Assoc. Professor, Dir Global Studies, CSTC, UWO; CSPT alumnus

Rob Walker
Professor in CSPT, Politics

Facilitator: Andréa B. Gill
Phd in CSPT, Politics

thinking politically

Saturday April 16th, 9:30-11:30
DSB C 116

Saturday April 16th, 12:30-2:30
DSB C 116
Saturday April 16th, 2:30-3:15

In the spirit of workshop collegiality and experimentalism, come join us for one of three informal activities that will encourage us to decompress and get grounded where we are:

An Ethno-Botany Walk Around Campus
This leisurely walk n’ talk will make its way through some of the campus’ lush woods and tucked-away corners, stopping at three sites of ecological and historical interest.
Come join Anita Girvan, a UVic grad student and local eco-adventurist! Meet at 2:30 in our Breakout Space (DSB C 114).

Bunnies and Deers: A Political Economy of a Universe-City
This campus legend will be drawn out along some of UVic’s meandering trails, winding toward Finnerty Gardens.
Come join Warren Magnusson, long-time UVic Faculty and avid urbanist! Meet at 2:30 in our Discussion Room (DSB C116).

West Coast Modernism: Linking Campus & City Centre
This outing will take you across campus to the Library Gallery and Screening Room to view an architecture exhibition and film exploring post-war modernist urban design in Victoria.
Come join Serena Kataoka, UVic grad student and urban art interventionist! Meet at 2:30 in our Discussion Room (DSB C116).

After these on-campus adventures, we will make our way back to the lounge for coffee and treats to fuel us for the rest of the day.

Saturday April 16th, 3:30-5:30

DSB C 116

aesthetics
Lori Steuart
MA in CSPT, English
Rébecca Lavoie
PhD Interdisciplinary, Concordia
Simon Labrecque
PhD in CSPT, Politics
David Cecchetto
Asst. Professor, New Media, OCAD; CSPT alumnus
Konrad Ng
Asst. Professor in Creative Media, Hawai’i; CSPT alumnus
Timothy Murray
Professor of Comp Lit, Humanities Dir, Curator of New Media Art, Cornell
Arthur Kroker
Professor in CSPT, Politics; Dir of PACTAC
Facilitator: Simon Glezos
Asst. Professor in Politics, Regina

thinking

politically
Sunday April 17th, 9:30-11:30
DSB C 116

nature

Joanna Dawson
MA in English, UVic

Stefan R.D. Morales
Wayward School Co-Director

Douglas Willcocks
Phd in CSPT, Sociology

Victor Lorentz
PhD in Geog, UofT; CSPT alumnus

Steve Garlick
Asst. Professor in CSPT, Sociology

James Rowe
Senior Instructor in Enviro, UVic

Nicole Shukin
Assoc. Professor in CSPT, English

Co-facilitators: Anita Girvan
Phd in CSPT, Interdisciplinary

Micheal Lukas
Phd in CSPT, English

Sunday April 17th, 12:30-2:30
DSB C 116
dissent

Dann Hoxsey
MA in Sociology, UVic

Reilly Yeo
MA in English & Politics, UBC;
Managing Dir. Openmedia

Nick Montgomery
CSPT alumnus

Mark Willson
Phd in Politics, UVic

Kevin Walby
Post-doc in Sociology, UofT;
CSPT alumnus

Peter Nyers
Assoc. Professor in Politics, CSCT,
& G11N, McMaster; CSPT alumnus

Bill Carroll
Professor in CSPT, Sociology;
Dir of Social Justice Studies

Facilitator: Andréa B. Gill
Phd in CSPT, Politics
Professor Michael Shapiro, from the University of Hawai’i at Mānoa, will facilitate a wrap-up session of the weekend’s conversations. With his intellectual adventurousness, facility in cultural, social and political theory, and rich experience as the editor of two book series entitled Taking on the Political and Borderlines, as well as of the journal Theory and Event, Professor Shapiro will highlight some key sites and questions that have been opened up in the course of the workshop.

Then it is up to us to run with those projects!
For further direction, feel free to call a workshop organizer at: (250) 896-7603 or (250) 580-2672.
Come join us for an informal social at a local brewpub in Victoria's inner harbour to kick-off the workshop! An extensive drink and dinner menu will be available (at attendees' own cost). Canoe Club upper mezzanine 450 Swift Street www.canoebrewpub.com

You are invited to a reception that we will be providing a variety of delicious appetizers on the North end of Chinatown. We will be hosting in the emerging design district.

Union Pacific 537 Herald Street www.unionpacificcoffee.com

You are invited to a reception that we will be hosting in the emerging design district on the North end of Chinatown. We will be providing a variety of delicious appetizers, alongside a cash bar.