Notice of the Final Oral Examination for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy

of

ALYSSA ARBUCKLE

MA (University of Victoria, 2012)
BA Hons (University of British Columbia, 2011)


Interdisciplinary Studies

Wednesday, May 26, 2021
9:00am (PDT)
Remote Defence

Supervisory Committee:
Dr. Ray Siemens, Department of English, University of Victoria (Co-Supervisor)
Mr. Jonathan Bengtson, University Librarian’s Office, UVic (Co-Supervisor)
Dr. Janni Aragon, Department of Political Science, UVic (Non-Unit Member)
Dr. John Maxwell, Publishing, Simon Fraser University (Outside Member)

External Examiner:
Dr. Matthew K. Gold, English and Digital Humanities, City University of New York

Chair of Oral Examination:
Dr. Iain McKechnie, Department of Anthropology, UVic

Dr. Stephen Evans, Acting Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies
Abstract

Opening Up Scholarship in the Humanities: Digital Publishing, Knowledge Translation, and Public Engagement considers the concept of humanistic, open, social scholarship and argues for its value in the contemporary academy as both a set of socially oriented activities and an organizing framework for such activities. This endeavour spans the interrelated areas of knowledge creation, public engagement, and open access, and demonstrates the importance of considering this triad as critical for the pursuit of academic work moving forward—especially in the humanities. Under the umbrella of open social scholarship, I consider open access as a baseline for public engagement and argue for the vitalness of this sort of work. Moreover, I suggest that there is a strong connection between digital scholarship and social knowledge creation. I explore the knowledge translation lessons that other fields might have for the humanities and include a journalist–humanist case study to this end. I also argue for the value of producing research output in many different forms and formats. Finally, I propose that there are benefits to explicitly popularizing the humanities. In sum, this dissertation speculates on past, current, and future scholarly communication activities, and proposes that such activities might be opened up for wider engagement and, thus, social benefit.