

*thinking* {  
nature  
aesthetics  
the urban  
the global  
the colonial  
dissent  
} *politically*

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](http://thinkingpolitically2011.wordpress.com)  
[cspt.thinking.politically@gmail.com](mailto:cspt.thinking.politically@gmail.com)

## Welcome

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.

## Thanks

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 generousities 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!

# Agenda

## Friday April 15

<i>pre-seminar</i>	2-4	
	4:30-5	registration
<i>thinking {the colonial} politically</i>	5-7	
	8-10	informal social at Canoe Club

## Saturday April 16

	8:45-9:15	coffee and registration
<i>welcome address</i>	9:15-9:30	
<i>thinking {the urban} politically</i>	9:30-11:30	
	11:30-12:30	lunch
<i>thinking {the global} politically</i>	12:30-2:30	
	2:30-3:15	campus scenes
	3:15-3:30	refreshments
<i>thinking {aesthetics} politically</i>	3:30-5:30	
	6-8	reception at Union Pacific

## Sunday April 17

	9-9:30	coffee and registration
<i>thinking {nature} politically</i>	9:30-11:30	
	11:30-12:30	lunch
<i>thinking {dissent} politically</i>	12:30-2:30	
	2:30-2:45	refreshments
<i>wrap-up</i>	2:45-4	

*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.

*thinking* { **the colonial** } *politically*

**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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**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

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**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

**Saturday April 16<sup>th</sup>, 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 16<sup>th</sup>, 3:30-5:30**

**DSB C 116**

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**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

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**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

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**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

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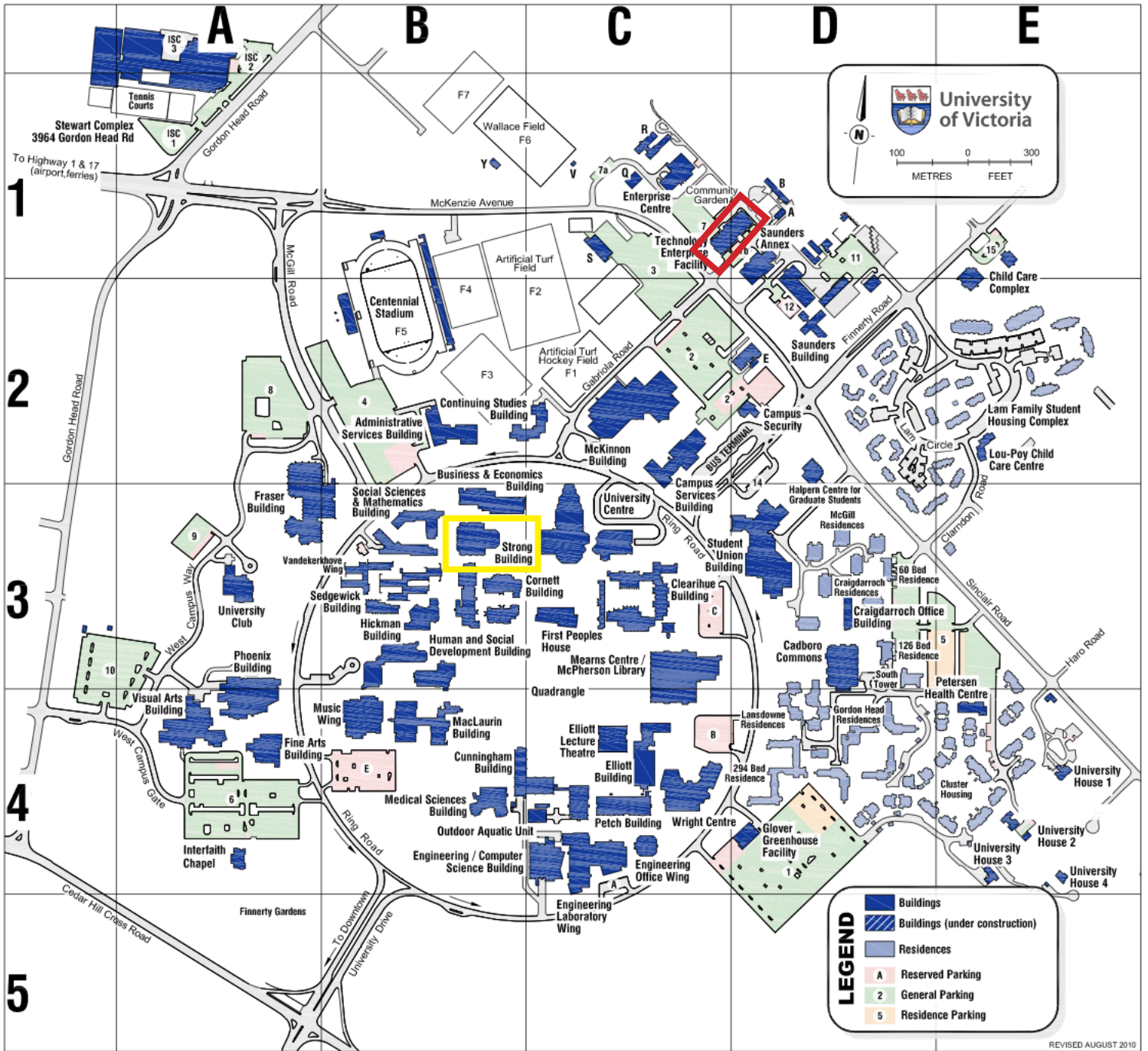
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Professor Michael Shapiro, from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, will facilitate a wrap-up session of the weekend's conversations. With his intellectual adventurousness, facility in cultural, social and political theory, and rich experience as the 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!*





**David Strong Building (DSB) B-3**

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

**Technology Enterprise Facility (TEF) C-1**

PACTAC (TEF 170) - Pre-Seminar

For further direction, feel free to call a workshop organizer at: (250) 896-7603 or (250) 580-2672.

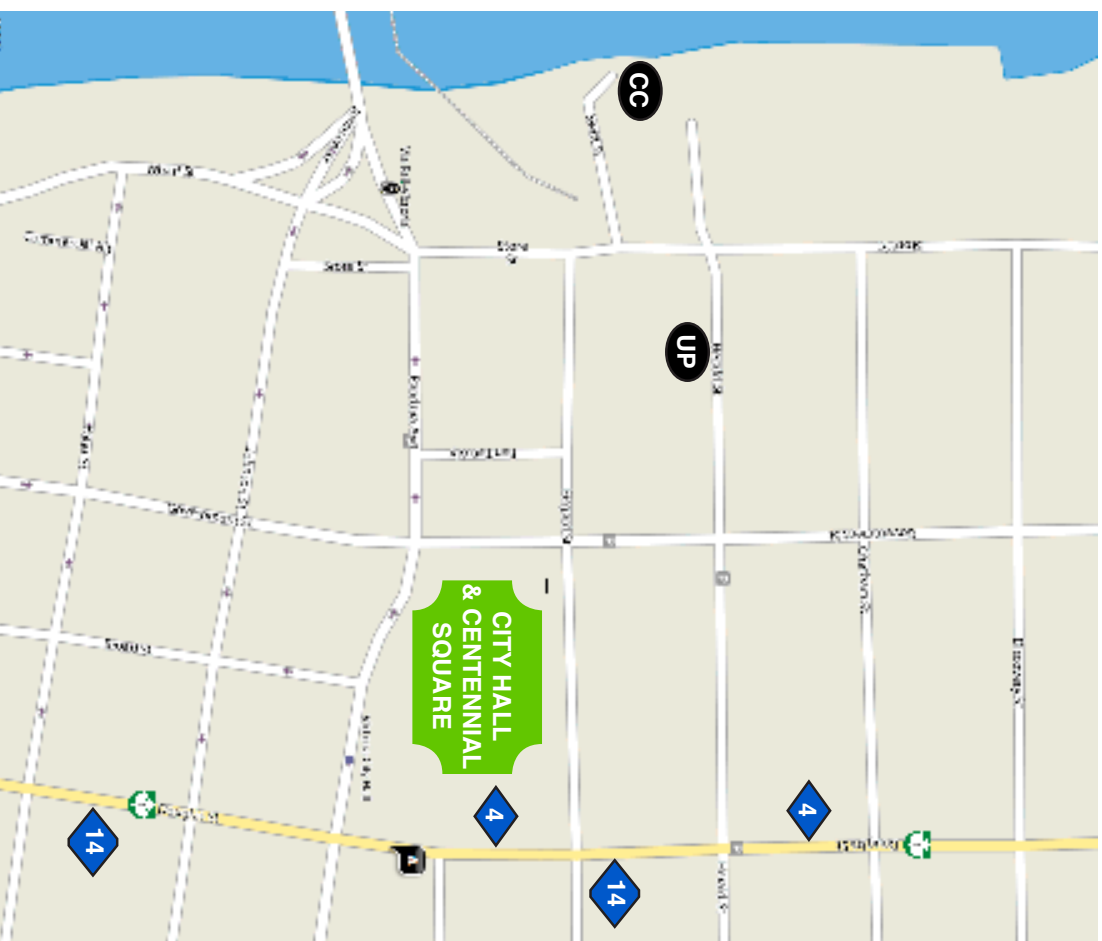
## Friday Social

## Canoe Club

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](http://www.canoebrewpub.com)

## Downtown Victoria Map



## Saturday Reception

## Union Pacific

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 appies, alongside a cash bar.

Union Pacific  
537 Herald Street  
[www.unionpacificcoffee.com](http://www.unionpacificcoffee.com)

**CC** Canoe Club

**UP** Union Pacific

**#** Bus stops from campus