I am pleased to be able to present here the 2018 Annual Report for the Humanities Research Institute. The HRI exists to support the research and creative activities of its associates, both faculty and graduate student members, and it does so in a number of ways. We provide competitive funding grants for associates’ projects, funding for conferences and symposia, and funding to help graduate students attend academic conferences. This report highlights just some of the work being done by our associates and will list some of the ways in which the HRI has provided help. It is certainly not an exhaustive list, of course, and much is happening in the faculty that is not mentioned here.

This report will also spotlight Professor Angus Smith (Classics), the 2018 winner of the Faculty of Humanities Award for Excellence in Research and Creative Activity. Please see the write-up inside. I would encourage nominations for next year’s award. Too seldom do we put our colleagues or ourselves forward for such recognition both within the Faculty and within the broader University. Time to change that.

Too seldom too do we have the opportunity to meet as a community of researchers. For much of the year we just never see one another.

The two HRI Symposia, though they come in the busy months of December and April, always provide fantastic occasions for interaction and mutual support of our various research and creative agenda. The symposium in April, organized by Keri Cronin entitled, “The Elephant in the Room: Making Space for Animals in Our Research and Teaching”, was held in the Marilyn I. Walker School of Fine and Performing Arts for the first time. It was a wonderfully lively and informative event and we will have to take the party downtown again! Another means of sharing our various events is the HRI Monday Morning Bulletin. I thank everyone for their efforts in keeping me informed so that this can continue to brighten your inbox on Monday morning. Look forward to next year’s edition starting in September. We should involve the broader community in what we do, and Brock Talks offers an important way in which we can do this. Please support our colleagues when they present papers as part of Brock Talks and consider offering a talk yourself.

I thank the HRI Board Members for their service: Alex Christie (CDH), Keri Cronin (Visual Arts), Fanny Dolansky (Classics), Nigel Lezama (MLLC), Elizabeth Neswald (History), and Gale Coskan-Johnson (English, editor of the Brock Review). They have all been most helpful to me. In particular, I would like to acknowledge Fanny’s and Gale’s contributions as they step away from the Board. Finally, I would especially like to thank Michèle Black, the executive assistant to the dean, for all of her help with the HRI over the year, and our dean herself, Carol Merriam, for all of her patient guidance. Gratias maximas vobis omnibus ago!

Michael Carter
Director,
Humanities Research Institute
Associate Dean,
Research and Graduate Studies

HUMANITIES RESEARCH INSTITUTE
ANNUAL REPORT 2017-18

Gratias maximas vobis omnibus ago!
DAVID VIVIAN, MIWSFPA

Brock University’s Marilyn I. Walker School of Fine and Performing Arts (MIWSFPA) delivered a robust program of public presentations in 2017-18.

The year began with an original exhibition of work by indigenous artists collected by Suzanne Rochon-Burnett (Awakening the Spirit) presented in the MIWSFPA Visual Arts Gallery as part of the Celebration of Nations, including workshops, lectures, performances and presentations at the School and the FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre (FOPAC).


DART premiered the Commedia dell’arte play written and directed by Mike Griffin, Pantalone’s Palace in October, followed by Top Girls, directed by Danielle Wilson in March. Graduating theatre students presented Five Women Wearing the Same Dress and Lac Athabasca, a Canadian play inspired by the debates about oil exploration and pipelines.

The Department of Music presented Encore! Professional Concert Series, the Guitar Extravaganza, University Wind Ensemble and the RBC Foundation Music@Noon Series. We welcomed choral music professor Dr. Rachel Rensink-Hoff to the School. The Viva Voce Choral Series scaled new heights with the Brock University Choirs and the Avanti Chamber Singers. A new String Orchestra was launched under the baton of George Cleland. The Walker String Quartet marked their second year, visiting local schools and performing concerts at the FOPAC in the remarkable Cairn’s Recital Hall and Partridge Concert Hall of the FOPAC.

Walker Cultural Leaders at the Department of Visual Arts included Dr. Charmaine Nelson: Colonial Print Culture and the Limits of Enslaved Resistance: Examining the Late Eighteenth and Early Nineteenth-Century Fugitive Slave Archive in Canada and Jamaica, in 2017 and Dr. Julie Crooks: The Bell-Sloman Collection at Brock University: A Fugitive Archive, accompanied by an exhibition in the MIWSFPA Visual Arts Gallery, in early 2018. Our graduating Honours VISA Studio students presented two excellent capstone exhibitions at the RHAC: Just Resting My Eyes and Turnin’ This Car Around. The School proudly hosted the Spring 2018 HRI symposium: The Elephant in the Room: Making Space for Animals in Our Research and Teaching, at which Professor Donna Szoke was presented with the 2017 Faculty of Humanities Award for Excellence in Research and Creative Activity. Professor Keri Cronin published her much anticipated Art for Animals: Visual Culture and Animal Advocacy 1870-1914.

The Centre for Studies in Arts and Culture had a banner year with notable collaborations including RHAC, regional and international artists. Viennese Walker Cultural Leader Bernhard Cella presented Flip, Flip and print: Unfolding the World of Self-Publishing and The book as printed space - concept and printed work; Medium/Media. The book Silo City: Post-Industrial Ephemera: Soundings, gestures and Poetics, was published in 2018.
My research involves the archaeology of prehistoric Greece and the eastern Mediterranean, with a focus on the Bronze Age Minoan and Mycenaean Civilizations. Within the contexts of these civilizations, my interests have centered on the fields of ceramic analysis and mortuary archaeology. Since my arrival in the Department of Classics at Brock University in 2004, I have pursued this research primarily through my involvement in three separate archaeological excavations in Greece: the Mochlos excavations on Crete; the Ayia Sotira Excavation Project in Nemea; and most recently the Gournia Excavation Project on Crete. This means that I spend my summers conducting research in Greece, normally as part of large international teams of students and scholars. Such research can be costly, and I have been fortunate to receive grants in support of my research from Brock and the HRI, as well as from SSHRC, the CFI, the Institute of Aegean Prehistory, and other sources.

As a member of the Mochlos Excavations team on Crete from the early 1990’s until 2006, I sought to understand how pottery from the settlement and cemetery could inform us about regional economic, political, and social differences on Crete during the Late Bronze Age. My involvement with the Mochlos excavations has resulted in authorship and contributions to three books and multiple articles, which have helped to bring this very important Bronze Age settlement in Crete to light.

My current project involves the Minoan site of Gournia on Crete. Gournia is one of the best known ancient towns in the Minoan world of Bronze Age Crete, and our current excavations were designed to bring modern archaeological methodology to this important site. The Gournia Excavation Project is a very large endeavor, at points involving an international team of over 100 scholars and students converging on east Crete for our annual six-week excavation season. As an Associate Director of the excavation, I have been primarily involved with the study of the Middle and Late Bronze Age pottery from the site, and our work has already resulted in one major preliminary report, as well as a number of articles and a recent session at the Annual Meeting of the Archaeological Institute of America. More information about the excavation is available at www.gournia.org.

Archaeology is a collaborative enterprise, and as such I have been fortunate to be able to involve many Brock University Classics students in my overseas research. I have brought students with me every summer to serve as research assistants, and have led the Brock University Archaeological Practicum to sites on Crete as well as mainland Greece, including Ayia Sotira and Gournia. I am privileged to be part of a university and a Classics department that recognizes the important contributions that archaeology can make to both our understanding of the ancient world and to the education of our undergraduate and graduate students. I thank the Humanities Research Institute for its support over the years, and also for this wonderful recognition of my work.
Rachel Rensink-Hoff comes to Brock University following eight years developing the choral program at McMaster University. She serves as Director of Choral Activities and Assistant Professor of Music Education for the Marilyn I. Walker School of Fine & Performing Arts and was also appointed Artistic Director of the Avanti Chamber Singers, a Niagara-based chamber choir. This fall, she will be launching a new Brock-based community choir for women.

Rensink-Hoff enjoyed two significant collaborations this year. She worked with the Chorus Niagara Children’s Choir to launch the inaugural District School Board of Niagara Honour Choir. In March, eighty students were invited to join together for two days of singing and vocal training, culminating in an open concert at Cairns Recital Hall. As a representative of the Brock Music Department, she also assisted with the Junior Treble Festival, a festival that brought 350 young singers from across Ontario to the First Ontario Performing Arts Centre in April for a day of workshops and clinics.

In 2017, Rensink-Hoff presented on the works of Canadian choral composers at the National Conference of the American Choral Directors’ Association in Minneapolis and delivered a lecture on behalf of Choral Canada at the World Symposium on Choral Music in Barcelona. She was honoured to serve as guest conductor of the Nova Scotia Youth Choir in September, and this summer, will return to Nova Scotia for their Sing Summer choral program for youth.

As Vice-President of Programs for Choral Canada, she serves on the planning committee for the national choral conference to be held this June in St. John’s, Newfoundland.

Rensink-Hoff’s recent research interests include singing and community wellness and the choral works of Canada’s women composers. Drawing from education theory, performance psychology, community music and choir acoustics, she is developing a new research direction that examines resonance as a metaphorical and literal guide for group singing pedagogy and practice. She looks forward to exploring the interdisciplinary possibilities for this project with colleagues within the School and across campus.
ALLISON GLAZEBROOK

The graduate students in the Department of Classics are very grateful to HRI for its support of their graduate student conference: “Entertainment and the Expression of Identity in Greco-Roman Antiquity”. This was the fourth such conference organized by graduate students in the Department of Classics and provided an opportunity for students to share their research with their peers.

The conference investigated how entertainment intersects with ideas of identity and included nine speakers from across North America on topics ranging from representing Spartan women on the Athenian stage, Greek inspired invective, animal performers and cultural identity, to spectator identification at the Roman circus. Papers engaged with literary, historical, visual, and material evidence, and combined discipline specific methodologies with other approaches, including gender theory, sociolinguisitics, and sport psychology. The keynote speaker was Professor Alison Keith from the University of Toronto who spoke about female slave identities in Latin literature. Department of Classics students, Jeff Masse and Rick Castle, each presented thought provoking papers on Aristophanes and Catullus respectively.

The successful event was held Saturday, February 24th in the International Centre with lunch at the Skybar Lounge. The event also received support from the Department of Classics and the Faculty of Graduate Studies. The core of the organization committee was Francesca Patten, Esther Knegt, and Rick Castle, but the students impressively took an inclusive approach to organizing with all students in the Department contributing in some way.

THE DIGITAL PEDAGOGY INSTITUTE

DAVID HUTCHISON AND JUSTIN HOWE

The 4th annual Digital Pedagogy Institute was held at Brock University (St. Catharines, Ontario) on Wednesday August 16, 2017 & Thursday August 17, 2017, convened at Brock through the Centre for Digital Humanities, in partnership with the Brock Library and the Centre for Pedagogical Innovation.

An HRI sponsored partnership between Brock University, the University of Guelph, and the University of Toronto Scarborough, the two-day conference included keynote addresses, presentations, workshops, and digital tool training that focused on the innovative use of digital technologies to enhance and transform undergraduate and graduate teaching.

The attendees, comprised of over 70 educational developers, librarians, graduate students, and others from across North America, engaged with a robust workshop and presentation program in the areas of:
• digital pedagogy best practices in the Humanities or Social Sciences;
• digital pedagogy collaborations between faculty, educational developers, librarians, graduate/undergraduate students and/or organizations outside the academy;
• the state of digital pedagogy education in higher education;
• digital pedagogy case studies, including innovative new uses for traditional digital pedagogy tools.

The institute was particularly pleased to offer as its plenary topics and speakers:

Learning to Collaborate (or Why You Should Hang Out with Librarians)
Dr. Ian Milligan – University of Waterloo

The State of Digital Pedagogy: Where Networks & Institutions Intersect
Dr. Bonnie Stewart – University of Prince Edward Island

The Hip Hop Archive as Pedagogical Design Issue: Speculating Across the Physical to the Digital
Dr. Joycelyn Wilson – Georgia Tech

In a post-conference attendee survey, the 2017 Digital Pedagogy Institute received a 90% rating on the global question, “Overall, how would you rate the content of the conference?” The 2018 Digital Pedagogy Institute conference will again be hosted by Brock University in August. The University of Waterloo has joined as a new partner.
MARIAN BREDIN

This important two-day conference was held at Brock on March 16-17, 2018. The conference hosted 32 undergraduate and graduate student presenters from eight different universities in Canada and the United States, including 12 current and former Brock students from Humanities programs. The opening reception was attended by Dr. Gervan Fearon, (Brock University, President and Vice-Chancellor), Mr. Juan Alsace, (U.S. Consulate General Toronto, Consul General), Ms. Anne Lee Seshadri (U.S. Consulate General Toronto, Public Affairs Officer), and faculty representatives from Brock, Wilfrid Laurier, Niagara University, and the University at Buffalo (SUNY). The conference keynote address was delivered by Dr. Daniel J. Broyld, the Fulbright Research Chair in Transnational Studies at Brock who was housed in the Centre for Canadian Studies. His address, “Douglass, Tubman & Brown: Recasting Their Fight for Black Liberation in the Transnational Light of Rochester and St. Catharines,” highlighted his ground-breaking recent research on local cross border Black histories.

On the second day, presentations were organized into eight concurrent sessions with topics ranging from ‘Borderlands in Historical Contexts’ to ‘Comparative Perspectives on Policy and Society.’ The quality of the student papers was outstanding and there was thoughtful engagement in discussion and debate by students from different universities in Canada and the U.S. The conference provided student researchers in a variety of disciplines the opportunity to present their research in an academic conference setting, many for the first time. Students gained experience in formal research presentation and engaged in intellectual exchange with their colleagues as a valuable introduction to scholarly activity. The conference also made an important contribution to the study of Canada-US relations, a key focus of Brock as a border university. Crossing Borders also serves as a reputational and recruitment tool for Brock, particularly for our Canadian-American Studies MA, offered jointly with UB. Four students who attended the conference have subsequently accepted offers of admission to the Canadian-American Studies MA.

ELIZABETH GREENE

Funding from HRI allowed the Brock University Archaeological Society (BUAS) to host its 29th annual Scholarly Symposium, titled “Living on the Edge: Exploring the Borders of the Ancient World” on Saturday March 10th, 2018. This event brought many students and professors from different departments of the humanities under one roof to hear an exciting roster of speakers from Canadian universities:

• Allison Glazebrook (Classics, Brock University) “Bodies in Place: the Sexuality of Space in Aeschines 1 Against Timarchos”
• Benjamin Kelly (History, York University) “Living on the Edge in Roman Egypt: Floods, Revolts, and Polar Archaeology”
• Carrie Murray (Classics, Brock University) “Far from the Madding Crowd? Questioning the Role of Pantelleria in Antiquity”
• Colin Rose (History, Brock University) “Homicide and the Borders of State Power in Early Modern Europe”
• Darian Totten (Classical Studies, McGill University) “Movement on the ‘Edges’: Shepherds, Salinae, and Seasonal Cycles in the Making of a Region in Southern Italy”

The symposium also featured a raffle and dinner for participants at Johnny Rocco’s Italian Grill. It offered a wonderful opportunity to consider the people and places that reside on the borders of traditional views of the Classical world. We are grateful for funding from HRI that helped us to continue the long tradition of the symposium, and we look forward to next year’s event.
The Humanities Research Institute’s Fall Term symposium was held on December 14, 2017 in the Dr. Charles A. Sankey Chamber. The title of the symposium was “Declare the past, diagnose the present, foretell the future.” – Hippocrates which was based on the paper proposals received from members of the Faculty of Humanities, including graduate student associates of the HRI.

The Spring Term symposium was based on an established practice of building the symposium around a theme that could accommodate a disciplinary range of papers. The symposium, held on April 17, 2018 in the Marilyn I. Walker School of Fine and Performing Arts was entitled “The Elephant in the Room: Making Space for Animals in Our Research and Teaching.”

HRI Fall Term Symposium

Session I:
Chair: Alex Christie (Digital Humanities)
James Allard (English Language and Literature), “The Hunterian Orations and the ‘Institution’ of Medicine”
Callie Long (PhD student, Interdisciplinary Humanities), “Wor(l)d of Hurt”

Session II:
Chair: Keri Cronin (Visual Arts)
Adam Rappold (Classics), “For the Wheel’s Still in Spin: The Evolution of the Skira Festival in Classical Athens”
Carrie Murray (Classics), “The Elephant in the Tomb: Reading Etrusco-Roman Symbols in the Capena Plate”
Ann Howey (English Language and Literature), “Out of the Tower: Lady of Shalott Images on the Web”

HRI Spring Term Symposium

Session I:
Chair: Keri Cronin (Visual Arts)
John Bonnett (History), “Turns, Convergences and De-Stabilization: Is the Animal turn the next Big Thing in History?”
Barbara Seeber (English Language & Literature), “Animals and the Country House Tradition Revisited in Mary Leapor and Jane Austen”
Elizabeth Neswald (History), “Feeding the Dog”
Adam Dickinson (English Language & Literature), “Anatomic: Microbes, Chemicals, and Metabolic Poetics in the Anthropocene”

Session II:
Chair: Michael Carter (Associate Dean, Research and Graduate Studies)
Kendra Coulter (Labour Studies), “The Elephants are Working: Animals, Labour, and Care”
Keri Cronin (Visual Arts), “Surveillance or Sanctuary?: The Power and Potential of Live Cams for Humane Education”
Lauren Corman (Sociology), “Vile Creatures: Abject Animals at the Limits of Society and Culture”

Presentation of Faculty of Humanities Award for Excellence in Research and Creative Activity to Professor Donna Szoke
Donna Szoke (Visual Arts), “Invisible Animals”
The move of the Marilyn I. Walker School of Fine and Performing Arts to downtown St. Catharines is a good example of Brock’s desire to engage the local community, but there are other ventures as well that are helping to fulfill the goal in Brock’s strategic plan of “Serving the social, cultural and economic well-being of the University, as well as the local, national and global communities.”

In 2012, the Faculty of Humanities began to take its research downtown. The Brock Talks series of public lectures, held at the St. Catharines Public Library, introduced research by Humanities scholars to the local community. The series, organized by Dr. Michael Carter, Associate Dean, Research and Graduate Studies, Faculty of Humanities has been a great success. Attendance has often been standing-room only.

The following presentations have been featured in the Brock Talks series in 2017-18:

- **September 20, 2017**
  - Karin Di Bella, Music: “Wit and Whimsey: Piano Works of Canadian Composer Jack Behrens”

- **October 18, 2017**
  - Diane Bielicki, Modern Languages, Literatures & Cultures: “The Murmuring Spring: Walter Kempowski’s Literary Collages”

- **November 14, 2017**
  - Alex Christie, Centre for Digital Humanities: “The Past and Future of Imaginary Worlds”

- **January 30, 2018**

- **February 28, 2018**
  - Carrie Murray, Classics: “Female Votive Figures: Religious Worship in the Ancient Mediterranean”

- **March 13, 2018**
  - Colin Rose, History: “Violence and Contagion in Early Modern Italy”

For more information regarding the Humanities Research Institute Annual Report 2017-2018, contact Michael Carter, mjcarter@brocku.ca, ext. 3796.