



NEWSLETTER

Social Justice Research Institute (SJRI)

February 2019

The Social Justice Research Institute (SJRI) is a vibrant collective of people who come together from a wide range of disciplines to construct and mobilize knowledge that addresses contemporary social problems in and beyond the Niagara Region.

This month's newsletter is dedicated to informing you about ways that you can get more involved with the SJRI in the coming months.

Become a Member!

Are you a Brock faculty member, student, or other community member interested in social justice? Would you like to learn more about SJRI events and research? If you answered yes to these questions, please consider joining us as a member. SJRI has three types of membership:

- **Affiliated Faculty Members** are tenured and tenure-track faculty, Emeritus Professors, and professional librarians apply for affiliation and are voted in at the annual AGM in May. Affiliated members are eligible for SJRI Grants as well as project facilitation and knowledge mobilization support and are encouraged to participate in the governance of SJRI.
- **Research Associates** are Brock-based post-doctoral fellows, visiting scholars, and adjunct professors who are working on projects with a social justice focus and who may be co-investigators on applications to the SJRI Grants Program
- **Participating Members** are students, stipend instructors, LTAs, activists, people from other universities, and other community members who [sign up](#) to subscribe to this SJRI newsletter to stay current on SJRI happenings and who may be involved in organizing SJRI events.

Check out our website to learn more about application criteria, membership privileges, and how you can join the SJRI as an [Affiliated Faculty Member, Research Associate, or Participating Member](#). If you have questions, please contact Julie Gregory (Project Facilitator) at jgregory@brocku.ca, or Rebecca Raby (rraby@brocku.ca), our Director.

Please also share this information with others who you think might be interested in joining the SJRI!

Attend an Event!

Join us on February 26 at Brock's Marilyn I. Walker School of Fine and Performing Arts in downtown St. Catharines for the 5th annual [Arts, Archives and Affinities](#). This year's exciting event features an art installation from 2:00 - 2:30 pm in MW 151 followed by a poetry reading, short performance piece, and artist talks from 2:30 - 5 pm in Studio D. Refreshments will be provided.

- **Candace Couse**, PhD candidate in Brock's Interdisciplinary Humanities program, will be presenting an art installation and speaking about her artistic practice and PhD research, which looks at the role art production has on artists undergoing illness and body trauma and how art production at this precipice may contribute to reorientation after sizeable shifts in understanding.
- **Adam Dickinson**, Associate Professor in Brock's English Language & Literature department, will be reading from *Anatomic*, his book of poetry which is described as follows on the back cover: *Structured like the hormones some of these synthetic chemicals mimic in our bodies, this sequence of poems links the author's biographical details (diet, lifestyle, geography) with historical details (spills, poisonings, military applications) to show how permeable our bodies are to the environment.*
- **Yasmine Kandil**, Assistant Professor in Brock's Drama in Education and Applied Theatre department, be exploring the functions of celebratory theatre, discussing an SJRI funded community-based project entitled "Return to the Nile," and staging a short performance by six Dramatic Arts students entitled "Still Here" on the topic of early onset Alzheimer's disease. The students created this performance based on interviews they conducted with caregivers of people with early onset Alzheimer's and the impact it has had on them.

Schedule of events and more details coming [here](#) soon. All welcome!

Apply for a Grant!

The [SJRI Grants Program](#) is available to Affiliated Faculty Members. The SJRI Grants Program is distinct from CRISS, BSIG, and other internal funding programs because its focus is on transdisciplinary social justice research and collaborations with a view toward funding projects that help sustain the SJRI. There are two types of SJRI grants available: [Community Engagement Grants](#); and [Research Seed Grants](#). Awards are valued at a maximum of \$4000 each, with \$8000 total allocated to each type of grant. Applications are due by Friday March 29. For assistance with grants applications, please contact Julie Gregory, SJRI Project Facilitator, at jgregory@brocku.ca at least two weeks prior to this submission deadline.

Join a Community Partnership Research Team!

There are still opportunities to get involved in community engaged research projects with members of local groups represented at the [event SJRI hosted on November 8](#).



Mental Health for Newcomers and Refugees

The Niagara Folk Arts Multicultural Centre is looking to develop a project to support the collection, analysis, and sharing data related to a pilot Mental Health for Newcomers and Refugees program that Centre has offered, and which ends (without renewed funding) on March 31, 2019. This is a great opportunity for SJRI affiliates with time and related research interest and expertise to support local research and knowledge-sharing.

Equity in Regional Housing

SJRI affiliate Joanne Crawford (Nursing) is looking to collaborate with other Brock faculty members and/or students to support the work she is about to undertake to help Niagara Regional Housing more fully understand equity in housing and related policies and interventions to address homelessness in the Region.



Please [contact us](#) if you are interested in learning more about these, or any other, community engaged research opportunities.

Keep up-to-date about SJRI Community Partnerships [here](#).

Suggest a Workshop!

[SJRI Workshops](#) are an opportunity for SJRI members and other interested individuals to connect and share knowledge and/or learn about various topics related to transdisciplinary, social justice research. If you would like to propose a topic and/or lead a future workshop, please contact [Julie Gregory](#).

Review a Book!

[Studies in Social Justice](#) is an open-access journal under the editorial leadership of SJRI affiliate David Butz (Geography & Tourism Studies). SSJ publishes articles, dispatches and creative works relating to the social, cultural, economic, environmental, political, and philosophical problems associated with struggles for social justice. Additionally, the journal publishes book reviews. The following is a list of books for which the journal is currently seeking reviewers:

Carroll, William K. and J.P. Sapinski. 2018. *Organizing the 1%: How Corporate Power Works*. Black Point, NS: Fernwood Publishing.

Fischer, Andrew Martin. 2018. *Poverty as Ideology: Rescuing Social Justice from Global Development Agendas*. Chicago, IL: Zed Books.

Rodríguez, Clelia O. 2018. *Decolonizing Academia: Poverty, Oppression, and Pain*. Black Point, NS: Fernwood Publishing.

Ward, James D., ed. 2018. *Policing and Race in America: Economic, Political, and Social Dynamics*. Lanhan, MD Lexington Books.

If you are interested in reviewing any of these books, or if you have another social justice-oriented book you would like to review, please contact [Julie Gregory](#).

LET'S STAY CONNECTED

Click [here](#) to check out our updated website and click [here](#) to follow our re-activated Twitter account.

Feedback and suggestions always welcome!