



CAS Newsletter

New CAS Director

The CAS is pleased to announce that **Professor Bryce Traister** has taken on the role of CAS Director effective July, 2014. Professor Traister, who is also Chair of the Department of English & Writing Studies, has been an Associate Director of the CAS since 2005 as well as being an instructor of graduate and undergraduate courses, and Undergraduate Program Coordinator.

We welcome the leadership qualities, experience, and dedication he will bring to his new role as Director.

Visiting Fellowships

Don Abelson is currently on academic leave. Professor Abelson was a Visiting Professor at the University of Aix-Marseilles in Aix-en-Provence in October and at Sciences Po (Institute d'études politiques), in Lyon, France, in November, 2014. Professor Abelson was also a guest on the Nov 17th episode of TVO's *The Agenda*.

Ben Muller (King's - Political Science) is currently a Visiting Scholar at The University of Arizona in Tucson.

CAS Speakers' Series Presents...

November 18, 2014: Stephanie Ricker Schulte

Associate Professor, Dept. of Communication, University of Arkansas
"National Utility or Global Inevitability? Competing Visions of the Internet and Why They Matter."

Stephanie Ricker Schulte is the author of *Cached: Decoding the Internet in Global Popular Culture* (NYU Press, 2013). Her work has appeared in the *Journal of Television and New Media*, the *Journal of Transnational American Studies*, *Mass Communication and Society*, *Feminist Studies*, and the *Journal of New Media and Culture*.



January 28, 2015: Jesse Walker - Author, and Books Editor, *Reason Magazine*.



Jesse Walker has written on topics ranging from pirate radio to copyright law to political paranoia, and is author of the books *Rebels on the Air: An Alternative History of Radio in America* (New York University Press, 2001) and *The United States of Paranoia: A Conspiracy Theory* (HarperCollins, 2013). Walker's articles have appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Washington Post*, *The Baltimore Sun*, *The Boston Globe*, *The Week*, *Slate*, *Salon*, *L.A. Weekly*, *New York*, *The New Republic*, *National Review*, *No Depression*, *Radio World*, *Telos*, *Z*, the *Journal of American Studies*, and many other publications.

Joseph Hubbard (Date TBA) – Local Artist, and Activist

Joseph Hubbard received a BA, BFA and MA in art history from the University of Illinois, and has taught at schools in the US and Canada. Hubbard acquired Canadian citizenship in 1974, and was seconded by the Ontario Government as an advisor on provincial art curricula. He currently serves as artists' representative on the Board of Directors of Museum London, and has worked as president of Canadian Artist's Representation at the Forest City Gallery, London.



"Whereas it is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God,...both Houses of Congress have requested me "to recommend to the people of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer, to be observed... that we may then all unite in ... humble thanks for ...for the great degree of tranquility, union, and plenty which we have since enjoyed; and particularly...the civil and religious liberty with which we are blessed..."

George Washington, 1789.

Happy Thanksgiving 

Undergraduate Instructors

Tom Cull (1020, 2230F)

Dylan Cyr (2200E)

Rasmus Simonsen (2231G)

Teaching Awards

The following CAS Faculty Affiliates were celebrated for excellence in teaching in 2013-14:

Dan Bousfield, Cristine de Clercy,

Peter Ferguson (Political Science),

Sonia Halpern (Women's Studies),

Tim Blackmore, Norma Coates

(FIMS), and

Alison Meek (History – King's).

Congratulations to all!



Professor Alison Meek is presented with her award for Excellence in Teaching, 2013-14.

Faculty Publications

Michael Arntfield: [Introduction to Forensic Writing](#), (co-authored by Justice Kelly Anne Gorman), Carswell Publishing, September, 2013.

Rasmus Simonsen: *Manifesto Queer Vegan*. Eds. Marco Reggio and Massimo Filippi. Trans. Filippo Trasatti. Aprilia, IT: Ortica Editrice. Print.

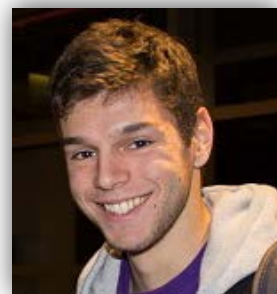
Link: <http://www.orticaeditrice.it/prod.php?id=45>

Review of *Buried Lives: Incarcerated in Early America*. Eds. Michele Lise Tarter and Richard Bell (University of Georgia Press, 2012). *American Studies Journal* 53.2 (2014): 196-97. Print.

Undergraduate News

Gold Medalist 2013-14 - Benjamin Green

Fourth-year student **Benjamin Green** was awarded the Gold Medal in American Studies for 2014. Ben graduated at Spring Convocation with an Honors Specialization in Canadian-American Relations. Each year the Gold Medal is awarded to the fourth-year student who graduates with the highest GPA in their Honors Degree Program. Next year, Ben will be attending Osgoode Hall Law School. Congratulations Ben and best of luck in the future!



Morrison Scholarship Winners 2014-15



Cory Goetz

Fourth-year

HSP American Cultural Studies



Bradley Metlin

Third-year

HSP Canadian-American Relations

The Morrison Scholarships in American Studies, donated by Dr. Katherine and Mr. Russell Morrison, are awarded annually to two American Studies undergraduate students (one fourth and one third-year), who demonstrate impressive academic performances in their respective American Studies programs. Congratulations to Cory and Bradley!

New Department Rep!

CAS is pleased to welcome second-year student **Riley Connor** as our University Student's Council Representative for American Studies in 2014-15.

Selected Topics course offerings in American Studies 2014-15

American Studies 2230F: *The Cult of Celebrity in American Culture*

American Studies 2231G: *Guns, Violence and Freedom in the American Context*

*New in 2015-16: American Studies 3340F/G: *Selected Topics** (TBA)

New History courses (can be counted towards American Studies degree)

History 2132A: *History of American Popular Culture*

History 2135B: *African-American History*

History 2137B: *Draft Dodgers, Hippies, & Black Panthers: The U.S. in the 1960s*

Upcoming Event..

Plans are underway for the Second Annual **"All-American" Trivia Night** event which will take place in March, 2015 (date TBA). Free appetizers for all participants, and prizes for the winning team! Watch our website for updates on this fun and popular event!



Graduate Instructors

Bryce Traister (9050A)

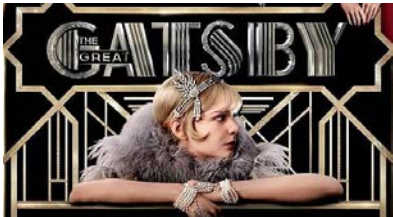
Thy Phu (9000B)

Aldona Sendzikas (9200B)

Alison Meek (9301A)

Body Electric

Call for Papers!



The CAS graduate journal *Body Electric* has issued a [Call for Papers](#) for the second edition. Inspired by the 2013 Hollywood adaptation of F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*, this edition of the journal will deal with the themes of lack and excess, abundance and scarcity, want and deprivation. This can mean wealth, social status and mobility, power, ethics, and more.

The deadline for submissions is **January 15, 2015**.

Please contact *Body Electric* Editor-in-Chief [Caroline Diezyn](#) for information.



Graduate News

Welcome 2014-15 MA Students!

The Centre for American extends a warm welcome to our 2014-15 graduate students, **Kate, Nick, Natasha, Jason, Ariana, Aleks, Lori, & Heather**. Good luck, and we hope you have a great MA year in the American Studies program at Western!

Grad Student Presentations 2013-14



In March & April 2014, the Graduate Teaching Assistants for the introductory class, American Studies 1020, were given the opportunity to deliver a class lecture. Pictured from left to right are GTA's Brett Wiepjes, Alexandra Myers, and Jeremy Appel.

DAVID ENNETT (2014) presented his paper "Exploring 21st Century (In)Security: "Whistleblowers", Surveillance and the Collection of Personal Information" at the SOGS-Net Symposium on "Knowing (in)Security" at the Balsillie School of International Affairs, University of Waterloo, February 13, 2014. David is currently enrolled in the Masters in Public Administration program at Western.



TRISTAN JOHNSON (2014) presented his paper "Spit out of the Melting Pot: The Muslim-American Experience after 9/11" at the MENARG (Middle East & North Africa Research Group) Research Workshop at Western, May 9, 2014. Tristan is currently pursuing an MA in History at Western.

NOELLE SEPINA (2014) was awarded the Women's Caucus Essay Award in 2014 for her essay, *The Black Power Mixtape 1967-1975: Black Radical Feminism in the Post-Racial Era.* Congratulations Noelle!

*Congratulations to the MA class of 2013-14!
Good luck in the future, and thanks for a great year!*

Catching up with CAS Alumni..

BRETT WIEPJES (MA 2014) recently began a position as HBA 1 Program & Exam Coordinator in the HBA Program Services Office at the Ivey School of Business.



GRAHAM SHULAR (MA 2013) has been chosen to be a Junior Fellow (Non-Resident) at Massey College in the University of Toronto for the 2014-15 school year. Graham is currently a Master's of Teaching Candidate at the University of Toronto.



ALEX WAPIA (MA 2013) is currently employed by the London communications & marketing firm *Creative Donkey*, and she is also the PT Administrative Assistant for Western's Migration and Ethnic Relations Collaborative Graduate Program.



ADAM PAYLER (MA 2013) was recently hired as an AMCTO Municipal Management Intern at the City of Vaughan, after completing his MPA at Western in 2014.



TOM COOKE (MA 2012) is a PT faculty member of King's University College this year. Tom is the instructor for the 4th year Political Science course, "Critical Security Studies."



CAROLINE DIEZYN (MA 2012) began the PhD program in the Department of English at Western this September. Caroline is also continuing in her role as Editor-in-Chief of the graduate journal *Body Electric*.



KELSEY KILGORE (MA 2013) began a PhD program at the University of Toronto this Fall. Kelsey will be studying with the film historian Charles Keil, in the Department of History.



More CAS Alumni News..

JAKE SKINNER (MA 2012) was elected to a four year term as a School Trustee in the Thames Valley District School Board representing Wards 7, 8, 9, 10, and 13 in London, Ontario. Among all the candidates for School Trustee in London, Ontario, he was the only non-incumbent elected. Skinner won with 9632 votes, more than double the next nearest competitor. Congratulations Jake!



LINDSAY THORNTON (MA 2011) was employed as an Education Assistant at Fanshawe Pioneer Village this past summer. Lindsay began the Master of Teaching Program (J/I with specialty in history) at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto in September.

NICOLE WINGER (MA 2013) presented her paper, "Making it in New York City: The Supremes at the Copacabana" at the Ninth Annual Interdisciplinary Social Science Conference, University of British Columbia June 11-13, 2014. Nicole is a PhD student in Popular Music Studies at Western.



ROBYN SCHWARZ-PIMER (MA 2013) presented three papers earlier this year; the 14th International Conference of the Graduate Student Association of the Historical Sciences, Université Laval and the Graduate History Conference, "New Frontiers, York University in February, and the British Association for Canadian Studies 39th Annual Conference, "Warrior or Peacemaker? The Battle over Canada's Identity, 1914-2014", London, England in April. Robyn is currently a PhD student of History at Western.



ALEX MYERS (MA 2014) recently moved to Grand Bend, where she has started a full time job implementing health and safety with a local company. Alex also has her teaching certificate, and enjoys volunteering at area schools several times a week.



TRISTAN JOHNSON (MA 2014) Since August, Tristan has been the Producer and Host for *CHRW's Gradcast*, a SOGS-run radio show that primarily interviews Western grad students about their research. The show can be heard in London on Tuesdays at 6 on CHRW 94.9. More info can be found at <http://chrwradio.ca/programs/gradcast-future-radio>. Tristan is currently an MA student in the Department of History at Western.



Susanne (centre) & the victorious Women's Eight Team!

SUSANNE GRAINGER (MA 2014) and the Canadian women's rowing team had an amazing summer in 2014. Beginning in Aiguebelette, France at World Cup II, Susanne raced in the Women's eight and placed second winning a silver medal. Next, at the World Cup III regatta in Lucerne, Switzerland, Susanne and the women's eight placed first and won a gold medal! Last, but certainly the most important was the World Championships at the end of August in Amsterdam, The

Netherlands, where the women's eight placed second in the world, capturing the silver medal. Watch for Susanne and the Canadian women's rowing team at the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil!

We'll be cheering you on Susanne!

