

**Rice University Graduate Symposium 2010**  
**Biopolitics and the Humanities: States of Subjectivity**  
**Houston, Texas**

**Friday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

12:00-12:45: Lunch

12:45-1:00: Opening Remarks by Scott Gunther

1:00-2:10: Book Biology: The Body's Drive for Literary Evolution

Moderator: *Kate Sullivan*

**Anna Dodson Saikin** (Rice University): "Look on me as dead': Romantic Loss and *The Last Man*."

**Alessandro Saluppo** (Fordham University): "Fascism as a Semantic Void into the Metanarrative of Rational Modernity."

**Ryan Stodtmeister** (University of California, Santa Barbara): "Irony in the Age of Affective Labor: Somatic Biopower in *Ulysses*."

2:20-3:30: Biological and Socially Constructed Subjectivities

Moderator: *Anna Dodson Saikin*

**Chad J. Pevateaux** (Rice University): "Accounting for Sacred States: Positive Biopolitics and Negative Zootheology."

**Kate Sullivan** (Rice University): "Consider the Jellyfish: A Revision of the Vulnerability of Life and the Politics of Death."

**Samhita Sunya** (Rice University): "The State of Exceptionalism: HIV, Terrorism, and 'the Abyss of the Other's Desire'."

3:40-5:15: The Rhetoric of Exception: State Occupied Subjectivities

Moderator: *Jon Nelson*

**Kattie Basnett** (Rice University): "Narratives of (non)Reproduction: Evolution, Eugenics, and the Contraceptive Hardy."

**Elliot A. Jarbe** (The University of Western Ontario): "Acoustic Anatomy: Occupation and the Biopolitics of Noise."

**Laura Richardson** (Rice University): "Zombification and Desubjectivation."

**Ben Saxton** (Rice University): "Following the Breadcrumbs: Sheriff Bell's Journey in *No Country for Old Men*."

5:25-6:35: Biopower and Gender Roles

Moderator: *Heather Elliott*

**Alexander Adkins** (Rice University): "'There is Power in Looking':

Reading the gaze in Charlotte Brontë's *Jane Eyre*."

**Jennifer Hargrave** (Rice University): "To Travel or Not to Travel: The Link Between Female Mobility and Nationhood in Renaissance Drama."

**Margaret Harvey** (Rice University): "The Problem of the Feminine Woman in GDR Literature and Film."

6:35-8:00: Dinner

**Saturday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

9:00-9:30: Breakfast

9:30-10:40: Contested Spaces and Nativism

Moderator: *Amelia Scholtz*

**Myrriah Gómez** (University of Texas, San Antonio): "Before the Bomb, There Were Bean Fields: Tropes and Chronotopes in Los Alamos Poetry."

**Michael R. Griffiths** (Rice University): "Bios, Nomos, Cosmos: Immunity in Nativist Discourse and Indigenous Poetics."

**AnaMaria Seglie** (Rice University): "Shifting Textualities: Religion, Mobility and Empire in Lyman Beecher's 'Plea for the West'."

10:50-12:00: American Stratifications: Race and Class

Moderator: *Kimberly Macellaro*

**Gora Chakraborti** (The George Washington University): "The Roar of Power: Disembodied Sound and Bodily Experience in William Faulkner's *Pylon*."

**Jon Nelson** (Rice University): "Biopolitics in Philip Roth's *The Plot Against America*."

**Gary T. Van Cott** (Tulane University): "Person-to-Person Relations in New Orleans Post-Emancipation Regional Ontology in the Age of Louisiana's 1898 Constitution, 1898-1954."

12:00-1:00: Lunch

1:00-2:15: Keynote Speech by **Timothy C. Campbell** (Cornell University): "Playing at *Bios*: Attention and an Affirmative Biopolitics."

2:25-3:35: Visual Representations of the Abstracted Body

Moderator: *Sophie Weeks*

**Stephanie Chadwick** (Rice University): "Antiheros and Prostitutes: George Grosz, *Lustmord*, and the Body Politic."

**Heather Elliott** (Rice University): "Hunt, Hughes, and Visions of the Child."

**Mary Slavkin** (City University of New York), "Undermining and Enhancing Political Messages in Text and Image: Connections to Normative Discourses in Political Critiques."

3:45-4:55: Subjectivity and Racialized Bodies

Moderator: *Chad J. Pevateaux*

**Christopher Driscoll** (Rice University): "Re-humanizing Fanon: Homi Bhabha's Dismissal of Frantz Fanon's Black Humanism and Some Thoughts on its Implications for Activist-oriented Scholarship."

**Abby Goode** (Rice University): "Reclaiming the Maternal Body: Intersubjectivity and the Autonomous Narration of Childbirth in *Beloved*."

**Darrius D. Hills** (Rice University): "The Agential Body: Womanist Thought on Embodied Resistance."

4:55-5:05: Closing remarks by Karen Rosenthal