

16TH ANNUAL **MARCH 1-2** NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY  
RED RIVER GRADUATE STUDENT CONFERENCE

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# **FEAR and** **PARANOIA:**

## **Forging Meaning in Chaotic Times**

### **KEYNOTE**

*Forging Meaning: Critical Reading  
in the Writing Classroom*



Holly Hassel, Ph.D.  
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North Dakota State  
University



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# **THE RRGSC ORGANIZING COMMITTEE WELCOMES YOU.**

## **Proposals and Program**

Mike Bittner, M.A.

Stephanie Lemmer, Ph.D.

## **Funding and Sponsorship**

Becky Crisman, M.A.

Shane Gomes, Ph.D.

## **Coordination and PR**

Rio Bergh, M.A.

## **Rooms and Meals**

Deborah Haley, M.A.

Ali Froslic, M.A.

## **Social Media**

Jasmine Banasik, M.A.

## **Gopher and Moral Support**

Kaitlyn Grube, M.A.

Thank you for joining us at the 16th Annual  
Red River Graduate Student Conference  
in Fargo, ND.

**Red River Graduate School Conference**  
**Fear and Paranoia: Forging Meaning in Chaotic Times**

**Friday March 1st**

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**NDSU Harry McGovern Alumni Association**

**All presentations will be held in the Reimers Conference Room**

**Breakfast (outside of Reimers Conference Room) 9 am**

**Dystopian Literature: 9:45 – 10:45 am**

Moderator- Dr. Adam Goldwyn

Edward Pomykaj (University of Vermont)

“Thomas Pynchon’s Gravity Rainbow as Realism:  
Productive Paranoia and the Defiance of Frederic  
Jameson’s *Postmodernism*”

Lynn Koppner (New Mexico State University)

“Wading Through Modern Post-Apocalyptic and  
Dystopian Literature: A Study in the Fear and Chaos in  
the Modern Era”

**Heroes and Villains in Pop Culture: 11 – 12 pm**

Moderator- Shane Gomes

Michael Bittner (North Dakota State University)

“Batman- Gotham City’s Emergency Manager”

Rio Bergh (North Dakota State University)

“The Anti-Revolution: ‘Respectability Politics’ and the  
Delegitimizing of Radicalism in Black Panther”

Sam Kise (North Dakota State University)

“The Evolution: Women’s Power in the Populist  
Politics of Monday Night Raw”

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**Lunch (Reimers Conference Room) 12 – 1 pm**

**Panel: Fear and the Criminal Justice System: 1 – 2 pm**

Moderator- Dr. Rebecca Weaver-Hightower

Lindsay Campbell (North Dakota State University)

“Mass Media Effects on Police Officer  
Representation”

Deborah Haley (North Dakota State University)

“The Power of Police Representation in Literature”

Ian Kristan (North Dakota State University)

“Necessary Evolution of Police Training”

**Witches be Crazy: 2:15-3:15 pm**

Moderator Dr. Verena Theile

Becky Crisman (North Dakota State University)

“Something Wicked This Way Comes: How the Horror  
Genre Revitalizes *Macbeth*”

Alexandra Froslie (North Dakota State University)

“Scripture and Specters: The Performative Religion  
Behind the Salem Witch Hunt”

Kaitlyn Grube (North Dakota State University)

“The Moral Panic of the Witch Hunt: The Political  
History of the Witch Hunt Narrative”

**Workshop: Digital Pedagogy: 3:30-5 pm (Reimers Conference Room)**

Moderator-Dr. Mary McCall: 3:30-5

Amanda Watts (North Dakota State University)

Krista Aldrich (North Dakota State University)

Hannah Stevens (North Dakota State University)

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**Workshop: Applying to a PhD Program: 3:30-5 pm (Klefstad  
Conference Room)**

Rio Bergh (North Dakota State University)

Shane Gomes (North Dakota State University)

Ashleigh Petts (North Dakota State University)

Matthew Warner (North Dakota State University)

**Friday Night Dinner Social (Rhombus Guys Pizza) 6 pm**

Join us for a chance to socialize and eat pizza in downtown

Fargo

Hosted by the English Graduate Organization

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**Saturday March 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**Breakfast (Outside of Reimers Conference Room): 9 am**

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**Panel: Fear of the “Other” and Reparative Readings in Contemporary**

**Cinema: 9:30 – 10:30 am**

Moderator- Dr. Emily Wicktor

Stephanie Lemmer (North Dakota State University)

Rex Hughes (North Dakota State University)

Whitney Renville (North Dakota State University)

**Recovery of Marginalized Narratives: 10:45 – 11:45 am**

Moderator- Dr. Anastassiya Andrianova

Asema Acar (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)

“America’s History of Islamophobia”

Alan Farhan (North Dakota State University)

“Challenges of International Students in College Writing Classroom”

Shaibal Dev Roy (North Dakota State University)

“Equiano’s Narrative: Black Authorship in the White Print Culture”

Rowshan Chowdhury (North Dakota State University)

“Rape, Bodily Presence, and ‘Still Activism’: Agency of Indigenous Women”

**Keynote Lunch (Reimers Conference Room) 12:15–1:45pm**

Joanne Baird Giordano, Assistant Professor of English

(Salt Lake Community College) and

Dr. Holly Hassel, Professor of English

(North Dakota State University)

“Forging Meaning: Critical Reading in the First-Year Writing Classroom”

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**Online Rhetorics for Millennial Audiences: 2 – 3:15 pm**

Moderator- Dr. Lisa Arnold

Lee Gullickson (North Dakota State University)

“Using Memes to Find a “Rhetorical Remedy” in the  
Post-Truth Era”

Jack Law (North Dakota State University)

“The Conservative Mythos: A Deconstruction of  
PragerU’s Rhetoric”

Jasmine Banasik (North Dakota State University)

“My Monster/Myself: Monstrous Families in ‘Daisy  
Brown’ and Implications for the Audience”

**Rewriting Dystopia: 3:30 – 4:30 pm**

Moderator- Lee Gullickson

Sheridan Nelson (University of St. Thomas)

“Denouncing Dystopian Literature as Prophetic Prose”

Anthony Albright (North Dakota State University)

“Fear, Paranoia, and Chaos: Three Poetic Exploration”

Special thanks to R. S. Krishnan for his generous donation!

Also, thanks to Lee Gullickson for designing the program.

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Notes







The Committee would especially like to express its gratitude for help and support we received, both financial and moral, from the following individuals and organizations:

- **Michele Sherman** *Administrative Assistant, Department of English*
- **Amanda Watts** Ph.D., *President, EGO*
- **Hannah Stevens** M.A., *President, EGO*
- **Holly Hassel** Ph.D., *Keynote Speaker, Professor, Department of English*
- **Joanne Baird Giordano** M.A., *Keynote Speaker, Assistant Professor of English, Salt Lake Community College*
- **Claudia Tomany** Ph.D., *Dean, Graduate School*
- **David Bertolini** Ph.D., *Dean, College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences*
- **Verena Theile** Ph.D., *Director, Graduate Studies*
- **Rebecca Weaver-Hightower** Ph.D., *Chair, Department of English*

Thank you to all of the faculty members in the Department of English who inspired and mentored papers that grew into conference presentations. We would also like to say thanks to Publications Services. We appreciate your support.

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