ACTC
The Association for Core Texts and Courses

Thirteenth Annual Conference

From Here to There: The Odyssey of the Liberal Arts

March 29 – April 1, 2007

Sponsored by
Hampden-Sydney College
and Co-sponsored by
Averett University
James Madison University
Lynchburg College
Norfolk State University

Crowne Plaza Hotel, Williamsburg, Virginia
13th ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF
ACTC Association for Core Texts and Courses
Thursday-Sunday, March 29 – April 1, 2007

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Crowne Plaza Hotel, Williamsburg, Virginia

Book Displays in the Hall Outside the Richmond Dining Room

THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 2007
2:00-5:30 PM ACTC Board Meeting
LINCOLN BOARD ROOM

6:00 PM Reception: ACTC Members and Conference Attendees
7:00-8:00 Dinner: RICHMOND HALL DINING ROOM
8:00-9:00 Opening Plenary Address: Bruce Kimball, author, Orators and Philosophers: A History of the Idea of Liberal Education. Title of Address: “A Textual Odyssey through the Liberal Arts.”
FRIDAY, MARCH 30, 2007 MORNING
8:20-9:20  Breakfast: RICHMOND HALL DINING ROOM

9:20-11:50  Friday Morning Panels

GENERAL EMMORY’S REDOUBT
CO-SPONSOR’S PANEL: James Madison University. Engaging Students in Challenging Core Texts.
How can we encourage students to participate in discussions about texts and issues that make them uncomfortable? This interdisciplinary panel will discuss pedagogical methods for increasing student engagement in texts they often find challenging and controversial. Cynthia Gilliatt (English), Carol Hurney (Biology), Michael Moghtader (Writing Program), Christine Robinson (Sociology), Sue Spivey (Justice Studies).
Chair: Karyn Sproles (English)

GENERAL LONGSTREET’S REDOUBT
The Boundaries, Nature, and Inculcation of Moral Education in the Core
Chair: Harold Stone, Shimer College

GENERAL HOOKER’S REDOUBT
Religiously Based Institutions: The Strengths of Traditions for Liberal Arts Education
Chair: Tom McElligott, Saint Mary’s College of California

THE ANNEX
“Reacting to the Past” – A New Step Forward in the Pedagogy of Core Texts
Chair: Mark C. Carnes, Columbia University
8:20-11:50 Friday Morning Panels (continued)

CLAIRE BARTON’S ROOM

Teaching: Implications for Effectiveness Beyond the Text

Chair: Barbara Stone, Shimer College

KEARNEY’S REDOUBT

Love, Longing, Desire, Fear and Death

Chair: J. Gary Elliott, Kentucky State University

LINCOLN BOARD ROOM

Choosing a Path through Dante’s Comedia and Liberal Education

Chair: Laurel Eason, Catawba College

STUART’S REDOUBT

DISCUSSION PANEL, with two presenters: Assessment of Core and Core Text Programs
This panel will discuss the problems and possibilities of assessment of core text programs as a project for ACTC. Presenters: Mary L. Montminy-Danna and Paula Jeanne Martasian, Salve Regina University, “Mapping Your Liberal Arts Journey;” Peggy Pittas, Lynchburg College, “What do you want to know -- Assessing Student Learning in a Great Books Program.” Other participants: David DiMattio, Saint Bonaventure University; Joseph Lane, Emory & Henry College; Joan Peterson, Saint Mary’s College of California.

Chair: J. Scott Lee, ACTC
FRIDAY MARCH 30, 2007 AFTERNOON
12:10-1:00 PM  Lunch: RICHMOND HALL DINING ROOM
1:00-1:50  Culture and Society Speaker: Paul Cantor, University of Virginia, author, 
Gilligan Unbound: Pop Culture in the Age of Globalization. Title of Address: “The Homeric 
Question: Is the Odyssey A Great Book?”

2:10-3:55  Friday Afternoon, First Panels

KEARNEY’S REDOUBT
Principles, Practices, and Problems of Core Text Programs
Katharine R. Meacham and Greg Clemons, “The Impossible Dream: Odyssey of Liberal 
Arts in Action at Mars Hill College;” Lawrence K. Schmidt, Hendrix College, “Journeys: a Core 
Course from Greece to China, Islam, Darwin and Home Again;” Tina Maria Jones, Hampton 
University, “Humanities in Motion;” Anne Marie Bowery, Baylor University, “A Task for Hercules: 
Revisioning the Place of the Baylor Interdisciplinary Core in Light of Baylor’s Vision 2012.”
Chair: Robert Anthony Busch, St. Gregory’s University

GENERAL SMITH’S REDOUBT / THE STAGE
Teaching the Origin as a Scientific Text
John Angus Campbell, University of Memphis, “Darwin the Teacher: The Origin As A Pedagogical Resource and Model;” Keith Francis, Baylor University, “Proving Evolution: Understanding Darwin’s Evidence in the Origin of Species;” Taz Daughtrey, James Madison University, “Bringing Darwin into the Classroom.”
Chair: John Angus Campbell, University of Memphis

GENERAL LONGSTREET’S REDOUBT
The Family Part I: Fathers and Sons
Chair: Don Marshall, Pepperdine University

GENERAL HOOKER’S REDOUBT
Leadership and Its Relation to Core Text Programs
Chair: Joseph Knippenberg, Oglethorpe University
2:10-3:55    Friday Afternoon, First Panels (continued)

THE ANNEX
Against Impoverished Programs: Reconsidering Our Texts and Aims for the Liberal Arts Journey
    Chair: Khalil Habib, Salve Regina University

LINCOLN BOARD ROOM
Re-reading the Modern Novel: Journeys with Joyce, Proust, and Woolf
    Chair: Susan Facknitz, James Madison University

STUART’S REDOUBT
The Holocaust, Slaughters, and Atrocities: Addressing the Unthinkable or Being Inured
    Michael J. Lavin, St. Bonaventure University, “Mitigating Desensitization;” Judith Chelius Stark, Seton Hall University, “Adolf Eichmann’s Construction of the False Self;” Gregory A. Marks, “Rewriting Homer’s Odyssey; Rachel Ingalls and the Memorial Imperative.”
    Chair: Don Buerk, Defiance College of Ohio

CLARA BARTON’S ROOM
Science, Technology, and Cultural Challenge
    Chair: Marian Glenn, Seton Hall University

SUITE 367
Student Panel from Sponsor and Co-sponsor Institutions
    Chair: James Pontuso, Hampden-Sydney College
4:15-6:00  Friday Afternoon, Second Panels

GENERAL EMORY’S REDOUBT

**War, Part I: Greek Perceptions and Modern Lessons**


Chair:  Darcy Wudel, Averett University

GENERAL LONGSTREET’S REDOUBT

**Core Texts for the Teachers of Core Texts**


Chair:  Rali Christo, Saint Mary’s College of California

GENERAL SMITH’S REDOUBT / THE STAGE

**Tempest Over Regensburg: Defense & Critique of Reason in the West**


Chair:  Bainard Cowan, Louisiana State University

GENERAL HOOKER’S REDOUBT

**Teaching Darwin’s *Origin* in Philosophic and Educational Contexts**


Chair:  Taz Daughtrey, James Madison University

GENERAL EARLY’S REDOUBT

**Is It Character, Form, or System?**


Chair:  Susan L. Booker, Longwood University
Friday Afternoon, Second Panels (continued)

**THE ANNEX**
**Gateway Texts: The Liberal Arts and Their Problems**
Shawn Smith, Longwood University, “Homer’s *Iliad* and the Odyssey of the Ordinary;”
Ann Dunn, University of North Carolina at Asheville, “Petrarch’s *Triumphs*: An Undergraduate Introduction to the Renaissance;”
John Holt, Centenary College of New Jersey, “The Hero’s Journey in *Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance*;”
Mathew Fisher, University of Saint Francis, “From Homer to Morrison: Teaching the Bildungsroman.”
Chair: Peter Busch, Villanova University

**CLARA BARTON’S ROOM**
**Clarity and Reflection: Mathematical Contributions to Achieving Each**
Ronald Mawby, Kentucky State University, “Even the Flaws Are Perfections: Euclid’s *Elements* as a Core Text;”
Angus M. Johnston, University of King’s College, “Light and Mechanics in Grosseteste.”
Chair: Charles Hamaker, Saint Mary’s College of California

**SUITE 267**
**Recognition in the Odyssey**
Kathleen K. Marks, “Recognition and Hospitality in the *Odyssey*;”
Mark Walter, Aurora University, “Alterity and Recognition in the Western Tradition: Odysseus and the Other”
Chair: Jay Lutz, Oglethorpe University

**SUITE 367**
**Multiple Visions and Subjects: Novels and Approaches to the Liberal Arts**
Carla Mettling, Columbia College, “Time, Consciousness, Memory, and Identity: Narrative Structures in the Novels of Louise Erdrich;”
Susan Dodd, University of King’s College, “Paranoid to the Core: Multiple Visions in *Notes From Underground*.;”
Chair: Lyndall Nairn, Lynchburg College

**STUART’S REDOUBT**
**DISCUSSION PANEL: Studies Abroad: Odysseys, Voyages of Discovery, Grand Tours**
Jim Anderson, North Island College; John Black, Malaspina University; and Stephen Duguid, Simon Fraser University will lead a discussion focused upon the question of what can be learned uniquely or peculiarly through study abroad programs. Participants will be asked to draw on their own experiences, if any, of study abroad programs and to reflect on how, if at all, canonical texts dealing with travel frame both prior expectations and the results achieved.
Chair: John Black, Malaspina University College
SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 2007 MORNING

7:30-8:10 AM  Breakfast, Richmond Hall Dining Room
8:10-9:00 AM  Presidential Welcoming Address: Phillip R. Sloan, President ACTC and Professor in the Program of Liberal Studies, Notre Dame, editor, Controlling Our Destinies: Historical, Philosophical, Ethical, and Theological Perspectives on the Human Genome Project. Presidential Address.

9:20-11:50 AM  Saturday Morning Panels

GENERAL EMORY’S RE DOUBT
CO-SPONSOR’S PANEL:  Lynchburg College: The Odyssey Goes . . .
Chair: Peggy Pittas, Lynchburg College

GENERAL LONGSTREET’S REDOUBT
War, Part II: Ethical Understandings, Justifications, and Repudiations
Chair: Christine Farina, The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey

GENERAL HOOKER’S REDOUBT
Reading and Interpretation: Techniques for Opening Student Eyes to the Paths Before Them
Chair: Laurel Eason, Catawba College

GENERAL SMITH’S REDOUBT / THE STAGE
Criteria for Core Texts
Chair: Susan E. Hanssen, University of Dallas
THE ANNEX

Exploring Film: The Celluloid Text in the Core Classroom


Chair: Margaret Mulrooney, James Madison University

CLARA BARTON’S ROOM

The Social Sciences, Liberal Arts, and Core Texts: Thinking About the Opportunities and Problems


Chair: James Woelfel, University of Kansas

LINCOLN’S BOARD ROOM

Returning to the Arts of Words: Grasping the Language of Poetry


Chair: Hazel Arnett Ervin, Morehouse College

KEARNEY’S REDOUBLE

Assigning the Crew Some Tasks: Student Engagements with Core Texts


Chair: John L. Simons, Colorado College
**Saturday Morning Panels (continued)**

**STUART’S REDOUBT**

**DISCUSSION PANEL: Building Core Curricula, Core Texts, and United Faculty in Community Colleges**

This panel will focus upon a proposed initiative by the Association for Core Texts and Courses, The Great Books Foundation, and the National Council of Instructional Administrators to build core text curricula in community colleges. One short paper will be presented: William Tell Gifford, Truckee Meadows Community College, “Core Texts and the Two-Year College: A Four-Year Odyssey;” J. Scott Lee, ACTC, Don Whitfield, Great Books Foundation, and Brent Cejda, National Council of Instructional Administrators, will speak about interests and projects which could be collected to form a national effort in liberal arts education at community colleges.

Chair: J. Scott Lee, ACTC

**SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 2007 AFTERNOON**

**12:10-1:00 PM  Lunch: RICHMOND HALL DINING ROOM**

**1:00-1:50  Humanities and Poetry Speaker: Joanne Gabbin**, author of *Sterling A. Brown: Building the Black Aesthetic Tradition*. Title of Address: “Bronzeville Odyssey: The Literary Legacy of Gwendolyn Brooks.”

**2:10-3:55  Saturday Afternoon, First Panels**

**GENERAL EMORY’S REDOUBT**

**CO-SPONSOR PANEL: Averett University. Core Texts Without A Core**

Darcy Wudel, Averett University, “Reading Thucydides and Thinking About Athens … and America”; Gary Tucker, “Can Machines (or Students) Think? The Turing Test and Asking Critical Questions,” Averett University; Jeff Fager, Averett University, “Why Bad Things Happen to Good People: A Core Text Perspective.”

Chair: Larry Wilburn, Averett University

**GENERAL SMITH’S REDOUBT / THE STAGE**

**Perplexities in Reading America, Part I:**


Chair: John Holt, Centenary College of New Jersey

**GENERAL LONGSTREET’S REDOUBT**

**The Family, Part II: The Whole**


Chair: Elizabeth Kaufer Busch, Christopher Newport University
2:10-3:55 Saturday Afternoon First Panels (continued)

THE ANNEX
Religious Thought and Texts in Secular Institutions
Jim Woelfel, University of Kansas, “The Socratic Journey: Liberal Education as Demythologizing;” Sassan Tabatabai, Boston University, “Attar’s The Conference of the Birds in the Core;” Edwin Conner, Kentucky State University, “Monotheism, Intolerance, and Aggression: Teaching the Bible;” Kenneth Betsalel, University of North Carolina at Asheville, “‘Of It and It and It,’: Navigating the Liberal Arts with ‘I and Thou’.”
Chair: James F. Walter, Southeastern Louisiana State University

GENERAL HOOKER’S REDOUBT
Science and Liberal Arts: Sailing in Each Others’ Waters
Chair: Rena Denham, Truckee Meadows Community College

CLARA BARTON’S ROOM
K-16: Moving From Childhood to Adulthood Through Core Texts
Catherine Craven, Walker Upper Elementary, and Peg Downes, University of North Carolina at Asheville, “Using Galileo to Build an Expansion Bridge: High School to College Life;” Marian Glenn, Seton Hall University, “Adventures with Service Learning and Movies in a Core Text Based Freshman Seminar;” Harriet Elizabeth Hayes, Bridgewater College, “The Art of Remembering: ‘It is not about history, but about us’.”
Chair: Amelia Nancy Ross-Hammond, Norfolk State University

STUART’S REDOUBT
Glimpses or Chimeras of Permanence: The Guises of Human Achievement in the Epic of Gilgamesh
Chair: Kyriakoula Drakatos, Columbus State Community College

LINCOLN’S BOARD ROOM
Recognizing Heroes
Chair: John-Paul Spiro, Villanova University
LINCOLN BOARD ROOM

Chair: John Eastby

KEARNY’S REDOUBT

Asian Great Texts
Paul J. Contino, Pepperdine University, “Shusaku Endo’s Silence as Site of Inter-religious Dialogue;” Patricia Greer, St. John’s College, Santa Fe, “What is here may be elsewhere, but what is not here is nowhere else”; Peter G. Ahr, Seton Hall University, “The Gita and the Heart Sutra on the Journey to Interiority.”
Chair: Peggy Heller, University of King’s College

GENERAL EMORY’S REDOUBT

Perplexities in Reading America: Part II
Chair: Grant Venerable, Lincoln University

GENERAL LONGSTREET’S REDOUBT

Reflections on the Present: Advantages and Effects on Core Text Programs
Chair: Vincent Gaddis, Benedictine University

GENERAL HOOKER’S REDOUBT

Attractions of Textual Netherworlds
Thomas J. McElligott, Saint Mary’s College of California, “Caravaggio On Death and Life After Death;” Harold S. Stone, “Comparative Odysseys: The Journey to Hades and Back Again;” Alfred Martin, Benedictine University, “A Biologist’s Odyssey: Teaching in the Liberal Arts Core; Plato and Virgil on the Afterlife;”
Chair: John M. Armstrong, Southern Virginia University
GENERAL EARLY’S REDOUBT
The Human Condition
David Mirhady, Simon Fraser University, “Odyssey 18.130-42: The Poem’s Programmatic Passage?”; Matthew Sims, Lee University, “Teaching the Humanities at a Liberal Arts University: Exploring the Human Condition in Homer’s Iliad;” John Gary Elliott, Kentucky State University, “Teaching The Bacchae: Tragedy, Horror, and Dionysian Affirmation;” Bruce Wagner, Temple University, “Core Texts Reveal the Culture that Composed Them and the Insights of Students that Read Them.”
Chair: Patrick Flynn, Benedictine University

GENERAL SMITH’S REDOUBT / THE STAGE
Freedom and Its Uncomfortable Correlatives
Chair: Kenneth Betsalel, UNC Asheville

THE ANNEX
Negotiating (Post) Modernity: The Need for or Irrelevance of Traditions in Contemporary Texts
Chair: John Hunter Morgan, Glenville State College

STUART’S REDOUBT
Chair: Anna Lännström, Stonehill College

CLARA BARTON’S ROOM
Keystone Texts: Building A Semester of Reading Around an Essential Text
Chair: James F. Pontuso, Hampden-Sydney College
SUITE 367
Austen and Student Sensibilities
Chair: Alesa Mansfield, Columbus State Community College

SUITE 267
6:00 PM Reception: American Academy for Liberal Education: Liberal Arts and Accreditation in Light of the Spellings Commission Report
Hosts: Jeff Martineau and Jeff Wallin, AALE

SUNDAY, APRIL 1, 2007 MORNING
9:00- 9:45AM Continental Breakfast: Sauganash Ballroom
9:45- 11:00 Business Meeting

Conference Closes
Thanks for coming!