20th ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF
ACTC Association for Core Texts and Courses
Thursday-Sunday, April 10-13, 2014

LIBERAL ARTS AND CORE TEXTS IN OUR STUDENTS’ WORLD

Sponsored by
Pepperdine University, Seaver College, Great Books Colloquium
and Co-sponsored by
Concordia University Irvine and Fresno Pacific University

The Hilton Hotel LAX, Los Angeles

THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2014
THE EXECUTIVE
2:30-5:30 PM ACTC Board Meeting

REGISTRATION: Outside the International Ballroom

6:00 PM Reception: ACTC Members and Conference Attendees

INTERNATIONAL BALLROOM
7:00-8:00 Dinner
8:00-9:00 Plenary Address: Norman Bradburn, former Provost, University of Chicago and Senior Fellow, NORC, “For What Are the Humanities Good?”

FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 2014, MORNING

INTERNATIONAL BALLROOM
7:30-8:10 Breakfast
8:10-9:05 Plenary Address: Robert Hagstrom, Legg Meson Investment Counsel, “Investing: The Last Liberal Art.”

9:20-11:50 Friday Morning Panels

MARINA
CO-SPONSOR’S PANEL: Concordia University Irvine
Wise, Honorable and Cultivated Citizens
Scott Ashmon, Associate Professor of Old Testament and Hebrew, Director of Core Curriculum, “Psalm 1 as Educational Pattern and Vision”; Daniel Deen, Assistant Professor of Philosophy,
“Euthyphro and Civic Responsibility”; John Clinton Armstrong, Professor of History and Political Thought, Christ College; “Cursus honorum and honoris causa: Negotiating Honor in Cicero’s De Officiis”; Jeffrey C. Mallinson, Associate Professor of Theology and Philosophy, Christ College, “St. Augustine as a Guide to Honorable Classroom Discussion of Controversial Topics;” Daniel van Voorhis, Associate Professor and Chair, History and Political Thought, “Not Many Wise, Not Many Honorable: Alexander Solzhenitsyn’s Commencement Address to Undergraduates.”

Chair: Scott Ashmon

SAN LORENZO A
On Opening Homer for Our Students

Chair: David Sweet, University of Dallas

NEWPORT B
Religion in the Core? In What Guise? What Might Be Missing without It?

Chair: Brian Schwartz, Carthage College

CATALINA B
The Humanities, the Sciences, and Technical Instruction: Issues of Educational Compatibility within Liberal Education

Chair: Chris Constas, Boston College

CATALINA A
Addressing Family and Love of Partners in the Classroom: Is the Academy, Are Our Students Interested?
Tarig Ahmed Mohamed, Zayed University, “Ibn Hazm al-Andalus: The Art of Love and Beauty”; Minu Tharoor, New York University, “Difference and Discoveries: Kalidasa’s Sakuntala as Liberal Arts Core Text”; Lynn Tatum, Baylor University, “Framing the Issue: Sex, Women, and Family in the Frame Tale of Arabian Nights”; Abu Baker Ibrahim, Zayed University, “Reshaping Students’ Perception about Marriage, Women, and Family: Teaching Core Texts that Have Affected Arab Intellectual Discourse”; William Shapiro, Emory University, “Hedda Gabler: Liberated or Enslaved?”

Chair: James Woelfel, University of Kansas
CATALINA C
Selfish or Realpolitik? Machiavelli, Shakespeare, Hobbes and Milton Speak to Students of the 21st Century
Chair: Michael Dink, St. John’s College, Annapolis

CENTURY C/D
Constructing a Course with Asian Core Texts: What Might Be the Considerations, Educational Philosophy, and Essential Texts? Panel 1
Chair: Jane Kelley Rodeheffer, Pepperdine University

SAN LORENZO B
Creating the Proper Reading Distance or Proximity between Students and Core Texts
Lamiaa Youssef, Norfolk State University, “What Do an Old English Epic and a Video Game Have in Common?” Richard Burke, Lynchburg College, “Facing Moral Timidity: *Great Expectations* and Preparing for the Days and Years Ahead”; Robert Sanzone, Deerfield Windsor School, “It Was a Pleasure to Burn: Banter and Bigotry in Ray Bradbury’s *Fahrenheit 451*”; Barry Craig and Sara MacDonald, St. Thomas University, “Contemporary Fiction and Core Texts: Mark Helprin’s *Freddy and Fredericka.*”
Chair: Mark Walter, Aurora University

CENTURY A/B
Framing the Picture: Movies as Conflicted and Constructed Core Texts
Chair: Bernadette McNary-Zak, Rhodes College

SAN LORENZO E
Leadership: Its Arts, Innovations, and Traditions
Chair: Patrick Malcolmson, St. Thomas University
NEWPORT C

Christianity in the Core: The Power of Its Teachers, Teachings, and Images
Chair: Ellen Rigsby, Saint Mary’s College of California

SAN LORENZO D

Core Texts and Liberal Arts in Europe: Liberal Education on the Re-bound?
Karin Beck, Leuphana College, Leuphana Universität, “The Liberal Arts in Germany”; Emma Cohen de Lara, Amsterdam University College, “Liberal Education and Core Texts: The Case of the Netherlands”; Nigel Tubbs, University of Winchester, “The Liberal Arts in Britain”; Claudia Heuer, Leuphana College, Leuphana Universität, “Faust's Dilemma and the Liberal Arts in Germany.”
Chair: José M. Torralba, Universidad de Navarra

FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 2014 AFTERNOON

INTERNATIONAL BALLROOM
12:05-12:55 PM   Lunch
12:55-1:50: Plenary Address: Julia Hejduk, Professor of Classics, Baylor University, “The Liberal Arts and Virgil’s Aeneid: What Can the Greatest Text Teach Us?”

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

NEWPORT C

CO-SPONSOR’S PANEL: Fresno Pacific University, Leisure & Greed in the Ancient World
W. Marshall Johnston, Associate Professor of Ancient History and Classics, “Otium and Its Discontents in Catullus and Vergil”; Pamela M. Johnston, Ancient History and Classics, “The locus amoenus in Pastoral Core Texts from Homer to Marvell”; Richard Rawls, Associate Professor of History/Chair, Georgia Gwinnet College, “Xenophon’s Oeconomicus and Training for Life”; David Mason, Associate Professor of History, Georgia Gwinnet College, “Thorstein Veblen’s ‘Leisure Class’ and Conspicuous Consumption.”
Chair: Greg Camp, Fresno Pacific University

SAN LORENZO F

Natural Order, Science, Religion and Ethics: Early Ecological Beginnings of a Synthetic, Liberal-Arted View. Panel 1
Chair: Patricia Greer, St. John’s College, Santa Fe
SAN LORENZO E

Student Platonic Experience of the Liberal Arts
Raymond Ciacci, University of Chicago, “Why Should a Freshman Read Plato’s Meno when Entering the Academy?” David Cole Simmons, University of Dallas, “Persuading Callicles”;
Chair: Michael McShane, Carthage College

CENTURY A/B
Core, Classics, and Creativity
Chair: Seemee Ali, Carthage College

CENTURY C/D
Authority, Literature, Minority Voices: Constructing Alternatives
Erik Rangno, Orange Coast Community College, “Charles Brockden Brown’s Wieland and the Problem of Reading”; Geoffroy de Lacroçade, Norfolk State University, “Utopia, Anti-Authoritarianism, and the Historical Imagination: Pierre Quiroules’ The Anarchist City in Latin America”; Christopher Rivera, University of Southern Indiana, “Minority Voices and Core Texts.”
Chair: Gretchen Schulz, Emory University

NEWPORT B
How Liberal Arts Education Influences the Student’s Professional Career
Chair, Tom Krause, The Agora Foundation

MARINA
Workshop on ACTC “Tradition and Innovation” Summer Seminar to be held at Columbia University and Yale University in June 2014
Co-Directors of the project will provide an overview. Representatives from participating selected institutions will give a brief synopsis of expectations of participating teams and of future curricular plans. Initial plans for a similar 2015 seminar will be discussed. Institutions interested in submitting a proposal for the 2015 summer seminar are invited to attend the workshop.
Co-Directors, J. Scott Lee, ACTC; Roosevelt Montás, Columbia University

4:15-6:00 Friday Afternoon, Second Session Panels

NEWPORT B
AIS and ACTC: Core Associations for the Liberal Arts (Cum Shakespearean Exemplar)
Rick Szostak, University of Alberta; Gretchen Schulz, Oxford College of Emory University.
Host: Richard Kamber, The College of New Jersey, President ACTC
CENTURY A/B
Natural Order, Science, Religion and Ethics: Liberal Education and Our Earthly Responsibilities.
Panel 2
Chair: Jamie Cromartie, Richard Stockton College of New Jersey

CENTURY C/D
Suffering: Ravishment, Endurance, Disenchantment, and Empowerment
Chair: Bainard Cowan, University of Dallas

MARINA
Clashes, Tragedies, and Resolutions in Cultural Conflicts: Options Presented by Core Texts
Julie Park, Saint Mary’s College of California, “Right Collides with Right: Conflict in the Oresteia”; James Guest, Independent Scholar, “The Quarrel of the Ancients and Moderns in Gulliver’s Travels”; Geoffrey Kellow, Carleton University, “By No Means Improved: Franklin’s Prodigal Passage to London and Back in the Autobiography”; Isabel Killough, Norfolk State University, “Crossing the Border between Civilization and Wilderness: White versus Indian Opposition in The Last of the Mohicans.”
Chair: Frank Rohmer, Austin College

NEWPORT C
Play, Aesthetic, Art: On Freedom and Beauty in the Core
Chair: Ken Parker, Orange Coast Community College

SAN LORENZO E
On Inclusion, Systemic Failures, and Student Judgment: Meaning, Value, and Justice in the West
Chair: Lamiaa Youssef, Norfolk State University

SAN LORENZO F
Between Parents and Students: Conversations on the Liberal Arts That Matter
Chair: Gavin T. Colvert
CATALINA B

**Student Panel 1: The Moral and Ethical Background of Our Actions**


Chair: Luke Asher

CENTURY A/B

8:30 PM

**Special Performance by ACTC Oxford Scholar Abroad Aron Dunlap, Shimer College**

“Auden’s Poetry in Performance.”

SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 2014, MORNING

INTERNATIONAL BALLROOM

8:00 -9:05 AM  **Breakfast**

**Recognition of ACTC-Oxford Scholar Abroad Program, Scholar in Residence Award:** Marylu Hill, Villanova University, 2014 ACTC-Oxford Scholar in Residence Award Winner.

9:20-11:50  **Saturday Morning Panels**

MARINA

**SPONSOR’S PANEL. Pepperdine University**

**The Great Books Colloquium at Pepperdine: A Tasting Tour**


Chair: Jane Kelley Rodeheffer

CENTURY A/B

**ACTC LIBERAL ARTS INSTITUTE MEMBER PANEL 1**

**Carthage College, University of Dallas, Saint Mary’s College of California**

**Imagination: The Core of the Core**


Chair: Seemee Ali, Carthage College
NEWPORT C
ACTC LIBERAL ARTS INSTITUTE MEMBER PANEL 2
Benedictine University
Awkward Classics in our Students’ World: Negotiating Texts and Contexts with an Apprehensive, Skeptical Audience
Chair: Zubair Amir, Benedictine University

SAN LORENZO E
The Cloud: Liberal Arts, Judgment, and Problems for Students
Chair: Neil Robertson, University of King’s College

NEWPORT B
Core Texts and Core Courses: The Experience of Columbia and Ursinus
Chair: Paul Stern

CENTURY C/D
Crossing from the Religious to the Secular and Back
Chair: Nancy Enright, Seton Hall University

SAN LORENZO F
Sociability, Virtues, and Habituation: Acquiring the Words and Deeds of Ethical Behavior
Gregory A. McBryar, Morehead State University, “The Political Animal? Teaching Aristotle’s Politics to Today’s Students”; Patrick Downey, Saint Mary’s College of California, “Amasis’ Bedpan and the Difference (if any) between Men and Women;” Marc B. Sable, Bethany College, “Friendship in Aristotle’s Ethics and the Lives of Today’s Students”; Russell J. Woodruff, St. Bonaventure University,
“An Experiment in Aristotelian Character Shaping”; Alheli de Maria Alvarado, Columbia University/NYU, “Keep Calm and Carry On: Marcus Aurelius’ Ancient Cures for Modern Ailments”; Andrew Moore, St. Thomas University, “Contracts between Enemies: On Bonds and The Merchant of Venice.”

Chair: Susan McWilliams, Pomona College

CALIFORNIA D
Math as a Liberal Art


Chair: Patricia Greer

SAN LORENZO D
An African-American Core Text Course: What Might Be Included?

Chair: Michael Cundall, North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University

CALIFORNIA B
Individual, Nation, World: French Insights and Influence on Democratic Cultures, Rights and National Aspirations


Chair: David Dolence, Dominican University

CALIFORNIA C
Fictional Wastelands or the Death of Nihilism: Is There a Thread for the Core Leading out of the Maze?

Chair: Kenneth Cardwell, Deep Springs College
SAN LORENZO A
Constructing a Course with Asian Core Texts: What Might Be the Considerations, Educational Philosophy and Essential Texts? Panel 2
Chair: Peter Diamond, New York University

SATURDAY, APRIL 12, AFTERNOON
INTERNATIONAL BALLROOM
12:05-1:00 PM Lunch
1:00-1:55PM Plenary Address: Richard Kamber, President ACTC and Professor of Philosophy, The College of New Jersey, “Under Plato’s Pillow: Aristophanes’ Clouds and Plato’s Symposium.”
2:10-3:55 Saturday Afternoon, First Session Panels

CENTURY A/B
ACTC LIBERAL ARTS INSTITUTE MEMBER PANEL 3
Pepperdine University
Great Texts in Other Contexts
Paul Begin, Associate Professor of Hispanic Studies, “Calderón de la Barca’s Life Is a Dream”; John Peterson, Visiting Assistant Professor of Literature and Composition, “N. Scott Momaday’s The Way to Rainy Mountain”; David Holmes, Professor of English and Director of African American Studies, “W.E.B DuBois The Souls of Black Folk.”
Chair: Leslie Kreiner Wilson, Pepperdine University

CENTURY C/D
Philosophy, Education, and Citizenship
Chair: Auksuole Rubavichute, Mountain View College

NEWPORT B
The Trajectory of the Liberal Arts: Students, Programs, Careers
Stephanie Walker, Norfolk State University, “Using Core Texts to Develop Living and Learning Communities”; Steven Epley, Samford University, “Bridging the Gap between Eighteenth-Century British Laboring-Class Verse and Our Students’ World of Service Learning”; Karen Cherewatuk, St. Olaf College, and Jason DeRose, NPR News, “The Synthetic Essay, Revisited: Ecclesiastes, Iphigenia, Showings and Public Service Journalism.”
Chair: Randy Michael Olson, Saint Michael’s College
NEWPORT C
Religion and Culture: How the Demographics of Students Inform or Transform the Intentions of Authors
Jonathan W. Pidluzny, Morehead State University, “How Religions Die: Alexis de Tocqueville on the Genesis and Decay of Otherworldly Concerns”; Bridget Rose, Samford University, “From Beijing to Birmingham: Encountering Core Texts in a Multicultural Classroom”; James Bachman, Concordia University Irvine, “Shaken as well as Stirred? Shifting Intentions of a Core Texts Professor.”
Chair: Joshua Parens, University of Dallas

CATALINA C
Adam Smith
Richard McGowan, Butler University, Core Texts Impact What and How Business Majors Think”; Joseph M. Knippenberg, Oglethorpe University, “Liberal Learning in the Marketplace: Thinking about Liberal Education with Adam Smith.”
Chair: John Ruff, Valparaiso University

SAN LORENZO E
Dante: What Can Students of Today Learn from the Divine Comedy?
Nigel Tubbs, University of Winchester, “A Modern Divine Comedy?” Steve Varvis, Fresno Pacific University, “Dante Questions His World and Ours”; Allison Wee, California Lutheran University, “Dante’s Inferno in Today’s Classrooms”; Kathryn Davis, Carthage College, “‘He awoke and found it truth’: Matelda’s Corollary as Dante’s Justification of Parnassus.”
Chair: Gabriel Pihas, Saint Mary’s College of California

SAN LORENZO F
Bringing the Self and the Other to Cervantes
Eric C. Graf, Universidad Francisco Marroquin, “How to Read Don Quijote as a Great Book about the Soul and Politics: First Read Apuleius’s The Golden Ass and Plato’s Republic”; Carolyn Lukens-Olson, Saint Michael’s College, “The Dangling Knight: Don Quixote, Puppet”; Leigh Simone, St. Bonaventure University, “Being (Un)comfortable in the Core: How Some Students Responded to Fantasy, Reality, and the Chivalrous in Don Quixote.”
Chair: Laurie Johnson, Kansas State University

CATALINA B
The Soul and Skills of Democracy: Core Texts and Governance
Chair: Jeroen Lutters, Windesheim University of Applied Sciences

MARINA
Qualitative Narrative Assessment (QNA): Assessment Done by and for Humanistic, Liberal Artists
In parallel with a similar effort by the Association for General Studies, eight institutional members of the Association for Core Texts and Courses have finished the final chapters of a book to be published on Qualitative Narrative Assessment of Core Text programs and student learning. This book will link curriculum to student learning via narrative descriptions and narrative evidence of student learning.
Eight institutions will briefly discuss their final submissions. Geoffrey Vaughan of Assumption College will illustrate with extracts and summary of Assumption’s effort.
ACTC is developing a second cohort and second book which will enlarge the scope of QNA, and allow institutional representatives of the first and second cohort to form a network dedicated to bringing forward the qualitative powers of humanistic, liberal arts education. Institutional members or institutions participating in ACTC’s Summer Seminar at Columbia and Yale Universities, “Tradition and Innovation” are invited to attend.

Chairs: Kathleen Burk, University of Dallas, David DiMattio, Montgomery County Community College, and J. Scott Lee, ACTC

SAN LORENZO D
Student Panel 2: Society and Core Texts

Tyler Walch, Pepperdine University, "Free Will and Fate: God's Relationship with Man in Paradise Lost"; Rebecca Lott, Concordia University Irvine, “Domat and Goethe on Social Hierarchy;” Brooklynn Titus, Concordia University Irvine, “The Evolving Identity of the American Colonists;” Shiniece Owens, Fresno Pacific University, “Sartre’s Existentialism is a Humanism.”

Chair: Brooklynn Titus

4:15-6:00 Saturday Afternoon, Second Session Panels

NEWPORT B
The Context of Life: Setting the Stage for after the Bachelor’s Degree


Chair: Kenneth Post, McMaster University

CENTURY A/B
Platonic Speeches, the Spirited Soul, and Passion

Paul Dry, Paul Dry Books, “Words and Desire”; Michael Dink, St. John’s College, Annapolis, “The Seriousness of Not Taking Ourselves Too Seriously”; James Berquist, University of Dallas, “Eros in Plato’s Symposium”; David Dolence, Dominican University, “The Value of Political Philosophy in Preparing Students in the Field of International Relations and Diplomacy.”

Chair: Deborah De Chiara-Quenzer, Boston College

NEWPORT C
From the End of the Middle Ages to the End of the Renaissance: Political and Religious Conceptions of Justice for a Modern Age


Chair: Tudor Jones, University of Oxford

SAN LORENZO E
Reception of the Tradition: Eras and Debates with Special Attention to Hegel

Larry Winters, Farleigh Dickinson University, “Will the Real René Descartes please stand up!”; Tom Darby, Carleton University, “Spiritual Crisis and the Institution and Demise of Metaphors of Authority”; Rebekah Howes, University of Winchester, “Master/Slave: Teacher/Student.”

Chair: Bryan M. Johnson, Samford University
CENTURY C/D

On J. S. Mill


Chair: Joseph Knippenberg, Oglethorpe University

SAN LORENZO F

Hamlet in Word and Deed: Inner Dialectic, Public Discourse, and the Call to Action

Ken Parker, Orange Coast Community College, “Thinking Dead”; Simone Lee Quinn, University of Chicago, “Hamlet’s ‘Madness’: Feigned Inconsistency and the Dialectical Struggle through Real Inconsistencies”; Mark Walter, Aurora University, “Hamlet, Public and Private.”

Chair: Page Laws, Norfolk State University

CATALINA B

Teaching Un teachable Core Texts

Katharine Streip, Concordia University, Liberal Arts College, “Teaching Marcel Proust’s In Search of Lost Time”; Marla L. Weitzman, University of Virginia’s College at Wise, “Jane Austen’s Persuasion: the Power of Choice”; John Doody, Villanova University, “Student Reactions to Reading Uncle Tom’s Cabin.”

Chair: John Sanders Huguenin, University of Virginia’s College at Wise

CATALINA C

Reading, Writing, Choice, and Core Texts: A Personal Path to the Liberal Arts


Chair: Richard Burke, Lynchburg College

CATALINA D

Miss Manners Meets Core Texts: Style, Elitism, and Proper Pleasures


Chair: Paul Kirkland, Carthage College

SAN LORENZO A

Thinking with Melville in the Core


Chair: David Clemens
MARINA
ACTC Liberal Arts Institute Advisory Board Meeting

The ACTC Liberal Arts Institute is currently composed of 12 institutional members. The Institute undertakes special leadership projects for ACTC. The Advisory Board meets to discuss these initiatives. The “Qualitative Narrative Assessment” project is an Institute initiative and will largely be discussed at the 2:10 workshop on Friday. The “Tradition and Innovation” project, in conjunction with Columbia and Yale, will have been discussed at the 2:10 on workshop.

This meeting will be devoted to the development of special topic conferences for the Fall of 2014 on “The Intersection of Secular and Religious Cores,” as well as future conferences on “Integrating Asian and Western Texts into Core Courses” and a European Core Text Conference. Parties who are interested in Institute projects or in exploring possibilities of new projects, or who believe that their institution would wish to join the membership of the Institute are invited to contact J. Scott Lee (jscottlee@prodigy.net) and attend the meeting.

Chair: J. Scott Lee, Executive Director, ACTC

SAN LORENZO D
Student Panel 3: Religious Suasions of Core Texts within Liberal Arts Education

Chair: Reile Slattery

SUNDAY, APRIL 13, 2014 MORNING

INTERNATIONAL BALLROOM
9:00- 9:30AM Continental Breakfast

9:30 - 11:00 Business Meeting, open to all.

Conference Closes Thanks for coming!