

6th Annual Contract Faculty Colloquium Program



TUESDAY, MAY 4

- 10:30 - 10:40 WELCOME: Sarika Bose
- 10:45 - 11:00 Laura Baumvol (School of Journalism, Writing, and Media/ASRW)
"Publishing in Disciplinary Communities in Non-English Dominant Contexts"
- 11:15 - 11:30 David Brownstein (History/Geography)
"Fashioning the Landscape: Women's Interwar Sportswear at the Canadian Pacific Railway Resorts"
- 11:45 - 12:00 Jennifer Gagnon (Journalism Writing and Media Studies, Political Science, and Vantage College)
"Bringing My Whole Self to the University - Disability Enters the Classroom"
- 12:15 - 12:30 Suzanne James (English)
"Interdisciplinary Team-Teaching Project: Redesigning and Revitalizing African Studies 352"
- 1:00 - 1:15 Somayeh Kamranian (French, Hispanic and Italian Studies)
"Travel: a cosmopolitan perspective of the Republic of Letters"
- 1:30 - 1:45 Uma Kumar (German)
"Significance of Artefacts for understanding the Holocaust - GERM 426"
- 2:00 - 2:15 Xueshun Liu (Asian Studies)
"Touching a Heart: A Beneficial Teaching Objective"
- 2:30 - 2:45 Paul Lusina (Electrical and Computer Engineering)
"Capstone Experience in Electrical & Computer Engineering"
- 3:00 - 3:15 Sarbjit Sarkaria (Electrical and Computer Engineering)
"A Practical Approach to Teaching Artificial Intelligence"
- 3:30 - 3:45 Meredith Beales (Co-ordinated Arts Program; Journalism, Writing & Media)
"Sequels, Sequelitis, and Genre: the Completion Problem"
- 4:00 - 6:00 ONLINE SOCIAL

REGISTRATION INFORMATION:

This Event will be held on Zoom. You are welcome to join in anytime; however Waiting Room will be enabled so please ensure you register for the link and let us know which sessions you're interested in attending. You're welcome to attend as many sessions as you like. It is recommended you join a few minutes prior to any of the presentations.

TO REGISTER please [email the UBC Faculty Association](mailto:faculty.association@ubc.ca) by **Friday, April 30** and provide your name, department and which session(s) you're interested in joining. Links will be sent out on May 3rd.

Speaker Profiles

6th Annual Contract Faculty Colloquium



Photography: Sarika Bose

Laura Baumvol (ASRW, Vantage College)

"Publishing in Disciplinary Communities in Non-English Dominant Contexts"

Laura Baumvol is a lecturer in the School of Journalism, Writing, and Media (JWAM). She was a recipient of the Emerging Leaders of America Scholarship (Global Affairs Canada) and her Ph.D. research focused on scholarly knowledge production and dissemination. She has taught a range of academic writing and communication courses in Canadian and international institutions. Laura has a broad interest in academic and public discourse, research-informed practices in teaching and learning, international education, and research methodologies. She has published papers and edited journals internationally and is an investigator in multiple research projects. She advocates for the promotion of students' and instructors' full participation in diverse scholarly discourse communities and for an inclusive and equitable internationalization of higher education.

Meredith Beales (Co-ordinated Arts Program)

"Sequels, Sequelitis, and Genre: the Completion Problem"

Meredith Beales teaches literature and academic writing at UBC Vancouver in the Coordinated Arts Program and the School of Journalism, Writing and Media. Recent publications include chapters on the representation of the past on the early modern stage and performance reviews in *Theatre Journal* and *Scene*.

David Brownstein (History/Geography)

"Fashioning the Landscape: Women's Interwar Sportswear at the Canadian Pacific Railway Resorts"

David Brownstein is an historical geographer and the Principal of Klahanie Research Ltd., a firm specializing in applied archival work. He has also taught at UBC since 2005, in three departments: Geography, History and Canadian Studies. This UBC exhibit was co-curated by KR colleague and art historian, Jennifer Howes. At present, David and Jennifer are collaborating on a logging history of local neighbourhoods for the Museum of Vancouver.

Jennifer Gagnon (Journalism Writing and Media Studies, Political Science, and Vantage College)

"Bringing My Whole Self to the University - Disability Enters the Classroom"

Dr. Jennifer M. Gagnon (she/her/hers) (PhD, Political Science, University of Minnesota, BA, University of British Columbia) is a continuing sessional lecturer in the School of Journalism, Writing, and Media, Department of Political Science, and Vantage College at UBC. Her research is interdisciplinary and embraces a broad range of topics in political theory, classics, disability studies, international relations theory, qualitative methods, Universal Design for Learning

(UDL), feminism, and gender. Her main area of research is in the intersections between ancient political thought and disability studies, especially as concerns gender, inclusion and exclusion, violence, and visible and invisible disabilities. As an activist, she is involved in efforts to promote a culture of consent, LGBTQ2SIA+ inclusion, and accessibility both on and off-campus. In partnership with the Equity and Inclusion Office, she is the creator and facilitator of UBC's Disability Affinity Group for disabled faculty and staff. Dr. Gagnon identifies as a bisexual and disabled woman and strives to bring her whole self to both her teaching and research.

Suzanne James (English)

"Interdisciplinary Team-Teaching Project: Redesigning and Revitalizing African Studies 352"

Suzanne James, PhD, teaches English and African Studies at the University of British Columbia. Her areas of specialization are African women's writing, post-apartheid South African writing, contemporary Canadian fiction, children's literature and queer criticism. She has co-designed online courses in Children's Literature and Approaches to Academic Writing. Dr. James received the Fairclough Prize for excellence in teaching, and is the Chair of First Year Writing in the Department of English Language and Literatures.

Somayeh Kamranian (French, Hispanic and Italian Studies)

"Travel: a cosmopolitan perspective of the Republic of Letters"

Somayeh holds a Ph.D. in Comparative and French Literature from Paul Valery University, Montpellier, France (2014). She started her teaching journey in Canada as a sessional instructor of French in the Department of French, Hispanic and Italian Studies at the University of British Columbia in September 2015. She also taught French Literature and several Language courses as a limited-lecturer and sessional instructor at the French Department of Simon Fraser University (2016-2018). She also worked as a French Instructor in the Department of Language and Cultures at Kwantlen Polytechnic University (2017- 2019). Her PhD thesis focuses on literary aspects of mystical writing and she also studied the philosophical theme of cosmopolitanism in 18th-Century French Literature.

Uma Kumar (German)

"Significance of Artefacts for understanding the Holocaust - GERM 426"

Uma Kumar moved to Vancouver from India in 2003 and has been teaching with CENES since 2007. She holds a PhD in German Studies, a Master's in German Studies and a Master's in English Literature from the University of Bombay, India. Uma spent six years at the University of Vienna, doing research on Austrian literature.

Uma Kumar (cont'd)—

Uma has near-native proficiency in German. Her goal as a German instructor is to inspire students to learn German and expose them to the culture and literature of the German-speaking countries.

Uma also teaches GERM 426-001 a course on Literary Representations of the Holocaust.

Xueshun Liu (Asian Studies)

“Touching a Heart: A Beneficial Teaching Objective”

Xueshun Liu received his PhD in Asian Studies from UBC. Currently, he is a lecturer in the Department of Asian Studies. For the past 20 years, he has been teaching Chinese language and literature courses. His interests include innovative pedagogy, Chinese language and literature, oracle bone inscriptions, ancient Chinese astronomy and early Chinese history.

Paul Lusina (Electrical and Computer Engineering)

“Capstone Experience in Electrical & Computer Engineering”

Paul's role in UBC's Electrical and Computer Engineering department started in 2010 as a research project manager. This position soon led to a role developing the 4th year Capstone Engineering Design course. In 2016 Paul was appointed 12-month lecturer in the department where he enjoys experimenting with emerging best practices in teaching such as team-based learning, and teaching with technology.

Paul earned his Ph.D. in Ulm, Germany in the area of communications technology. He is a Professional Engineer with the Engineering and Geoscientists of BC, a member of the Canadian Engineering Education Association, and director with the Pacific Energy Innovation Association.

Sarbjit Sarkaria (Electrical and Computer Engineering)

“A Practical Approach to Teaching Artificial Intelligence”

Dr Sarbjit Sarkaria, while a software engineer by trade has been teaching CPEN 502 at UBC (formerly EECE 592) since 1994. He received his PhD in Neural Computing from Aston University, UK in 1991 and is a passionate follower of the latest advancements in deep neural networks and artificial intelligence. His recent publications address the application of reinforcement learning to optimal decision making in disaster response scenarios. Dr Sarkaria currently works as a Data Architect for Finning. Past employers include Motorola, Nokia and UBC founded MacDonald Dettwiler & Associates.

Your Host:

Sarika Bose, Chair, UBC Faculty Association Contract Faculty Committee Lecturer, English

Dr. Sarika Bose has taught at UBC for over 20 years, six of which she has served as the FA Chair of the Contract Faculty Committee. Dr. Bose is also the Chair of the Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT) Contract Faculty Committee. Dr. Bose completed her doctoral studies on Victorian Theatre and Oscar Wilde at the University of Birmingham in England. Her interests in Victorian literature and culture explore how Victorian writers of fiction and drama incorporate scientific knowledge and encounters with unfamiliar cultures. Dr. Bose has written extensively on both her field of study as well as issues facing Contract Academic staff. Occasionally, her expertise regarding the British Royal Family is sought after by various Canadian media outlets.