Children's Literature Graduate Organization

The 5th Annual Graduate Student Colloquium

“What d’you want a flaming book for?”:
Dangerous Ideas in Children’s Literature

Mr. and Mrs. Dunsley, on number one, with Mr. Dunsley, who was employed at the school, and Mrs. Dunsley, who was a teacher, and their children, were very proud of their garden. They had worked hard to create a lovely place, with flowers and trees, and a small pond where they could sit and relax. One afternoon, Mr. Dunsley was reading a book to his children, and while he was reading, a large bird flew into the garden and landed on the pond. The children were thrilled, and they asked Mr. Dunsley to read more of the book, but he refused. He told them that they should not lose their focus on the garden and that it was time for them to start working on their homework.

Mr. and Mrs. Dunsley lived just across the street from the school. They had two children, a boy and a girl, who were very smart and enjoyed reading. One day, Mr. Dunsley found a book in the garden, and he showed it to his children. They were very excited, and they asked Mr. Dunsley if they could read the book. He agreed, and they started reading it together. The book was about a little girl who lived in a small house at the edge of the woods. She was very brave and loved to explore the woods, where she found many interesting things.

Mrs. Dunsley was reading a book to her children, and while she was reading, a big bird flew into the garden and landed on the pond. The children were thrilled, and they asked Mrs. Dunsley to read more of the book, but she refused. She told them that they should not lose their focus on the garden and that it was time for them to start working on their homework.

Alice was beginning to get very tired of sitting on her sister’s lap, and of having nothing to do. Once or twice she had peeped into the book her sister was reading, but it had no pictures or conversations in it, and she could not make out what it meant. “It’s got no pictures,” thought Alice. “And I don’t understand half the words.” So she was considering in her own mind (as well as she could, for the very great size of it was a little provoking) whether the pleasure of making a bonfire was worth the trouble of getting up and taking the books, when suddenly a White Rabbit with pink eyes ran close by her. There was nothing so very
9:00
Check-in and introductions

9:30
Opening Remarks-
Dr. Paula Connolly

10:00
Panel One: Gender & Cultural Studies

Jillian Bailey: Breaking the Curse of Patriarchy in *Ella Enchanted*

Arooj Hussain: The “Ideal” Romance: Classism and Racism in *Wuthering Heights* and its Contemporaries

10:45
Panel Two: Contemporary Studies

Clark Meshaw: Alice vs. the Heart Witches: Censorship Through Simplicity in Adaptations of Lewis Carroll

Victoria White: The Fluidity Between the Semiotic Chora and Symbolic Law of the Father in Laurie Halse Anderson’s *Speak*
11:30

Panel Three: Social Messages & Education

Sam Martin: Violence and Agency: A Dangerous Pattern

Katherine Tallent: “The beauty of his voice wove a magic spell…” The Magic of Education in Elizabeth George Speare’s *The Witch of Blackbird Pond*

12:15 - 1:00

Break-
Complimentary Refreshments

1:00

Panel Four: Literature & Performativity

Amy Arnott: Every Move They Make, Every Step They Take, the Capitol is Watching Them: Gender Performance and the Pantopticon in *The Hunger Games*

Ryan Weber: Playing with Performance: Identification and Performativity in Emily Horner’s *A Love Story Starring My Dead Best Friend*
1:45

Panel Five: Literature & Theology

**Kathleen Carroll:** Plato’s Pedagogy in the Present: Sterilizing Ancient Greek Mythology in Modern Children’s Literature

**Colby McMurry:** Taking the Bible Back to Sunday School: The Importance of Static Genre in Adaptations of Children’s Bible Stories

2:30

Panel Six: Rhetoric & Genre Studies

**Jessie Cortez:** "Condescending is a Word Which Here Means..." Rhetoric in Lemony Snicket's *A Series of Unfortunate Events*

**Bradley Hartsell:** Scandinavian Syncretism: How Two Nordic YA Novels Elevate the Genre Through a Cocktail of 'Low Culture'

3:15

Guest Speaker-
Dr. Sarah Minslow

3:30

Closing Remarks
Speakers

Dr. Connolly is a professor of English at UNC Charlotte and the faculty adviser of The Children’s Literature Graduate Organization. She teaches a wide range of topics from Disney films to classic British Children’s literature. Her research interests include multiculturalism and visual semiotics in Children’s Literature.

Dr. Minslow is the Director of Undergraduate Advising at UNC Charlotte, and she has conducted extensive research in the field of Children’s Literature. Dr. Minslow is passionate about shedding light on war, refugees, and immigration narratives. She is currently working on The Child in Southern Literature and Film grant, helping to explore and celebrate the diversity of Southern childhoods.
Special thanks to...

The UNC Charlotte English Department for their encouragement and support, before and during this event! We are thankful to have a department that recognizes the importance of Children's Literature.

GPSG, without whom this event would not have been possible. From the food to the programs, GPSG funding has helped this small, student-led organization put on its 5th Annual Colloquium.

Want to become a member of the Children's Literature Graduate Organization? Please contact unccharlotteclgo@gmail.com to register your interest for Fall 2018!