Message from the Head  Dr. Brenda Austin-Smith

Theme in Yellow

I SPOT the hills
With yellow balls in autumn.
I light the prairie cornfields
Orange and tawny gold clusters
And I am called pumpkins.
On the last of October
When dusk is fallen
Children join hands
And circle round me
Singing ghost songs
And love to the harvest moon . . .

—Carl Sandburg

As I write this short message, it is the last day of summer, but autumn is already palpable in the air, the light, and most obviously, in the crowds of students flowing through the hallways of the university as the new academic year begins again. So welcome, colleagues, staff, and students of the Department of English, Film, and Theatre, to what promises to be another great year of teaching, learning, talking, sharing, and all around collegial exchange. There is much to look forward to as we begin the new fall term in the company of new and returning members of the department. The department retreat will be held on November 5, and will provide us with a chance to talk about plans for our department’s future. And sooner even than that, we will have a chance to celebrate the accomplishments of our recently retired colleague and former department Head, Dr. Arlene Young, at a retirement party to be held in her honour on October 29.

By the time you read this, the annual Arts Celebrating Arts event will have taken place. Many of us already reconnected at the annual DEFT Welcome Back Reception on September 9, where our new MA and PhD students were introduced to the department. And several members of the department will have attended the announcement of Gail Asper and Michael Patterson’s gift to the Taché Arts Project, supporting the per-

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Message from the Head

forming arts at the University of Manitoba. In Gail’s honour, the university has named the entire facility, which includes the Conklin Theatre as well as prop, set, and costume shops, the Gail Asper Performing Arts Hall. You can read more about this event elsewhere in this newsletter, and marvel at the link to online pictures of both Bill Kerr and Chris Johnson in suits and ties. Earlier in September we also honoured Carol Shields, a former Professor in our department, for her internationally recognized contributions to the world of letters, as a sculpture of her likeness was unveiled in the Innovation Plaza. For those of us who remember Carol's presence in the department, and for those who know her solely through her books and short stories, this event was a funny and moving tribute to a colleague whose witty and insightful prose made Winnipeg into a literary city of romance and possibility—not just of cold weather. For now, though, let me again welcome everyone back to this vibrant and interdisciplinary department of ours, and urge you all to read on and to celebrate the accomplishments of the lot of us. Happy autumn!

Message from the Associate Head

Dr. Alison Calder

W

ell, here we are again. Fall is in the air, the lineups at Starbucks are long, and the annual struggle to fit back into one's teaching costume has arrived. I was nearly run over by a steamroller while I was waiting for the bus to campus last week, and it's hard not to see that as a sign. Good luck to us all!

Just before the term started, DEFT received funding to support two sections of ENGL 1400 designed for EAL students. These classes offer more class time and more instructor contact. As well, classroom work is targeted to the particular difficulties that may be experienced by EAL students. We have been able to offer targeted sections like this before, and the students had a much higher success rate than in the regular ENGL 1400 courses. At the time I write this, there are few students enrolled in these new sections, perhaps because of the late date we were able to advertise them. Nevertheless, I’m sure we all can attest to the need for sections like this, and we hope to be able to offer them on an ongoing basis. Another new thing this year is the addition of waiting lists to the Aurora system. We are using them for our ENGL 0930, 1340, and 1400 sections, and they seem to be cutting down on both student and instructor anxiety.

This is the first year that we are exclusively offering combined Honours/Graduate seminars. I would like to track successes/challenges for both students and instructors in relation to this new format, so please let me know what your experience in them is like.

Finally, thanks to Judith Owens for serving as Acting Associate Head when I was on research leave last spring!
Message from the Graduate Chair

Dr. Glenn Clark

As I have announced, with relief, to Department Executive and Department Council, the graduate program is on stronger footing this year than last. Entering the program are 6 new PhD students, 2 new MA students, 2 new Pre-MA students and 1 exchange student who is taking several DEFT courses. Over the course of the summer we lost only 2 international students to visa problems. In total, we currently have 29 students in the graduate program at various stages: 5 MAs, 20 PhDs, 3 Pre-MAs and 1 exchange student. Our six graduate seminars, which are all cross-listed with honours seminars, are well-populated this year. In a year in which the Faculty of Arts is rigorously cancelling classes with low enrollments, we will have no administrative problems running any of these seminars. This will be the first year in which all seminars are cross-listed, and I’m sure it will take all of us some time to become entirely familiar and comfortable with the pedagogical strategies required to make this structure work well. I wish luck and patience to everyone teaching a cross-listed seminar, and I have no doubt that while this structure will bring some challenges, it will also offer valuable opportunities in the classroom for graduate students as well as for instructors.

Over the spring and summer 2 PhD students and 2 MA students successfully defended dissertations and theses. These were, respectively, Dustin Geeraert (supervisor: Arlene Young), Michael Minor (supervisor: Warren Cariou), Sasha Braun (supervisor: Alison Calder) and Kirsty Cameron (supervisor: George Toles). Congratulations to all four, and to their supervisors, for their splendid achievements! Congratulations as well to Melanie Unrau and Petra Smith, who successfully completed PhD candidacy exams during spring and summer. It is also a pleasure to recall that Luann Hiebert (supervisor: Alison Calder) received her PhD at the University’s Spring Convocation this past May. Since I last reported to you, we have learned that both Katelyn Dykstra and Vanessa Nunes have been awarded doctoral SSHRC grants. Melanie Braith and Sabrina Mark have each received a UMGF, and David Shaw’s new CGSM was quickly upgraded to a Research Manitoba Graduate Scholarship. Congratulations to all these very impressive achievements! Our 2016-17 Departmental Awards have been disbursed through Financial Aid and Awards.

No theses are eligible for the Warhaft award this year, however I expect that we will run a competition for the Kroetsch Award, as 6 creative-MA theses written during the past three years are now eligible. A general information meeting for new and returning graduate students was held September 9, with Katelyn Dykstra representing pAGES, and Karalyn Dokurno representing GSA. I will host a Grant Application Information Meeting on Friday, September 23 for graduate students writing SSHRC and CGSM grant applications. Doctoral SSHRC applications and voluntarily-submitted CGSM applications are due in the Graduate Office on Friday, October 14. Shortly thereafter, the Graduate Selection Committee and myself will read and offer advice on all graduate grant proposals. Serenity Joo and Pam Perkins have generously offered to run another Grant Proposal Workshop on Wednesday, October 5. The Graduate Committee has agreed that both the Grant Application Information Meeting and the Grant Proposal Workshop will be designated as Professionalization Seminars, for which graduate students obtain credit toward an official Professionalization Workshop Letter of Completion.

I expect an energetic and innovative series of Professionalization Workshops this year. Topics, facilitators and dates of these Workshops will be announced soon. Any faculty members who have ideas
Message from the Graduate Chair

for workshops, or wish to facilitate a particular workshop, should contact the Graduate Chair as soon as possible. At its meeting in September, the Graduate Committee took the occasion offered by the presentation of pAGES’ report on the doctoral candidacy exam process at Canadian U15 universities to begin discussion of the possibility of reforming our own candidacy exam process. The committee asked the Chair to devise and circulate a questionnaire canvassing faculty opinion on the need for change in our process. Results of the questionnaire will be submitted to an ad-hoc committee which in turn will analyze the questionnaires and the pAGES report and make recommendations to the Graduate Committee in the winter. At this time I would like to thank the members of pAGES for their valuable work in preparing their report on candidacy exam procedures in various Canadian English departments. On a final note, I would like to thank outgoing Graduate Selection Committee members Michelle Faubert, Dana Medoro, Mark Libin, and Luke Tromly for their hard work during 2014-2016.

Staff News

Vanessa Warne is pleased to be guest editing, with Dr. Hannah Thompson of Royal Holloway University, a special issue of Disability Studies Quarterly on the theme of Blindness Arts. She is also looking forward to presenting research on Philadelphia-based artist Teresa Jaynes’ multi-sensory art installation Common Touch at the upcoming International Visual Literacy Association’s conference in Montreal. To learn more about Common Touch, please visit: http://commontouch.librarycompany.org/.

Vanessa is also delighted to be the recipient of a 2015 Merit Award for Service. Hurrah!


Pam Perkins has just co-edited a collection of Romantic-era Scottish travels by Anne Grant and Elizabeth Isabella Spence and has articles recently out and forthcoming on Grant, Spence, and on early 19th-century visitors to Newfoundland.

The highlight of the year for Moti, however, was the paper she presented at Oxford in January: “Baptized by Irony: A Christian Reading of Gulliver’s Travels, Book IV,” British Society of Eighteenth Century Studies, St. Hugh’s College.

Michelle Faubert submitted her edition of Mary Shelley’s Mathilda to Broadview Press this summer, and saw her article “Granville Sharp’s manuscript letter to the admiralty on the Zong massacre: a new discovery in the British Library” to publication in Slavery & Abolition. It is available for viewing with free access at this address: http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/0144039X.2016.1206285

She also presented at the North American Society for the Study of Romanticism conference in Berkeley, California, where she also served as a judge for the yearly Pedagogy Contest.

David Williams’ Milton’s Leveller God is a study of political evolution in the epic poems from feudal monarchy to Leveler-style democracy. Milton’s God strategically uses the language of the English Levellers, as Williams shows from countless writings published in the revolutionary period, making the epics a hidden foundation of popular democracy. As with his social heresies, Milton’s religious heresies have also been a carefully concealed force for sexual equality, undercutting old hierarchies of man/woman, soul/body, and ruler/ruled.

Brenda Austin-Smith presented the “Odd Cult Out: Cinema by any ‘other’ name” at the Film Studies Association of Canada Conference in Calgary. While in Calgary, she was elected Member-at-Large of the Canadian Association of Chairs of English. Brenda also contributed the essay “Becoming Ordinary: Fifty Years of Arts and Culture in Canadian Dimension” to the collection Canada Since 1960: A People’s History: A Left Perspective on 50 Years of Politics, Economics and Culture. Toronto: James Lorimer, 2016. Brenda took office as the Vice President of the Canadian Association of University Teachers in June.

Alison Calder is excited to report that her poetry collection Connectomics will be coming out with the UK’s IRON Press. A shorter version of this collection was published last fall by Jack Pine Press as a limited-edition, artist-designed chapbook. The British edition includes new poems and is a regular book. It will be launched at next June’s IRON in the Soul festival in Cullercoats. A quick perusal of festival events reveals that it also features a poets-against-prose writers cricket match, a breakfast talk about existentialism, and clog dancing.

Adam Muller’s project entitled, “Synagogues in Germany: A Virtual Reconstruction” has been funded by the Presidential Advisory Committee on University Outreach.

Cameron Burt received the Canadian Society of Medievalists’ Student Presentation Prize 2016 for his paper titled “Requysyte unto every astate and degree: William Caxton and the Early Printed Book Market,” delivered at the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences held this past summer at the University of Calgary.
George Toles’s critical study, Paul Thomas Anderson, which offers close readings of his major films, was published in August by the University of Illinois Press. George also completed a number of essays on various topics during his leave, both for edited monograph collections and journals. An essay on screenwriter, Joseph Minion (After Hours, Vampire’s Kiss) will be appearing in Lost Souls of Horror and the Gothic, edited by Elizabeth McCarthy and Bernice M. Murphy. McFarland, November 2016. “Intoxicating Stagecraft: Billy Wilder’s The Lost Weekend and the Mysteries of Theatre in Film” will be appearing in 2017 in the journal, Movie. This piece will serve as the introduction of his work-in-progress monograph on Theatre in Film. A portion of the essay was presented at the University of Manitoba Affect Conference last fall. “Prospero Unbound: John Barrymore’s Theatrical Transformations of Cinema Reality” will be appearing in Hamlet Goes to Hollywood, a collection of essays on Barrymore’s film work, edited by Steve Rybin and Murray Pomerance, Edinburgh University Press, 2016. (A longer version of this essay will also be a chapter in the monograph.) “Montgomery Clift’s Magnetic Passivity in George Stevens’ A Place in the Sun” will be included in another collection of film essays, Great Performances in American Film, edited by Murray Pomerance, 2017, University of Edinburgh Press/ and Oxford University Press in Canada. “Shades of Green Mourning in John M. Stahl’s Leave Her to Heaven” will be published in Film International, 2017. “Miscast for Death: The Inconsequential End of Gene Lockhart in Red Light” will be appearing in The International Journal of Film and Television, edited by Kyle Stevens, 2017. “The Theatre of Aloneness in Film” (also an intended chapter in the monograph) is under consideration at Raritan.

In addition to his scholarly research, George directed two theatrical productions during his leave. Will Eno’s Middletown was the first play to be produced in the new Conklin Theatre in January–February, 2016. He also helped adapt—with his son, Thomas—and co-directed, with former English Department student, Kevin Ramberran, a stage adaptation of John Fowles’s novel, The Collector, for the Winnipeg Fringe this summer, at the Warehouse Theatre. It proved to be both a critical and commercial success. George continues to produce daily micro-narratives, called Status Updates, for Facebook, a project started in 2008.

Diana Brydon awarded Honorary Degree, Linnaeus University, Sweden

Dean Gunlög Fur of Linnaeus University, Sweden, delivered this citation before conferring the honorary degree on Diana:

“You are a leading scholar in postcolonial literary and cultural studies and you are a quintessential intellectual and humanist, always engaged in searching further and listening intently for new and other ways to comprehend the world that we inhabit. As a literary scholar you have chosen to explore fiction and poetry to mine the possibilities for cross-cultural communication, driven by the conviction that no justice is possible without cognitive justice. Thus, you open up space for indigenous philosophy, and for contributions from the Global South, and your networks span the globe, from Brazil to Sweden, Finland to Australia, including indigenous scholars on different continents. You combine an interest in politics, feminism, and the meaning of globalization with a commitment to the place of knowledge and education in building democratic societies. You are recognized for your seminal contribution to the internationalization of higher education in Canada, and for your critical evaluation of the consequences and meanings of globalized cultures. Unfailingly generous, constantly curious, ever open to new suggestions, searingly honest, you have made an imprint on students, junior scholars, and peers across the globe and not least here at Linnaeus University, and the Centre for Concurrences in Colonial and Postcolonial Studies.

Your strength lies in your ability to see new possibilities and connections. You set high goals and search for innovative ways to reach them. Your thinking is visionary, and your approaches practical. You expect nothing less from your collaborators and you are always willing to provide encouragement as well as concrete support to those you work with.

You are deeply committed to international, interdisciplinary, and intergenerational developments of both the Arts and the Humanities. It is our great privilege to confer upon you this honorary doctorate at Linnaeus University.”
Staff News

Former DEFT Professor Carol Shields has been honoured with a bust in the University of Manitoba’s Innovation Plaza. Criteria for this honour are daunting: as the U of M website reads, “Persons to be recognized in Innovation Plaza must have demonstrated sustained excellence and global impact and influence through a body of research, scholarly works or creative activities conducted as an academic staff member at the University of Manitoba. The exceptional quality of their research, scholarly works or creative activities must have greatly enriched society and significantly contributed to social, cultural, economic and/or intellectual life in Canada and/or internationally.” Shields, who died in 2003, certainly fits this description. She began teaching literature and creative writing at the U of M in 1982, and was awarded Professor Emerita status after her retirement in 2000. She wrote poetry, short stories, novels, plays, and criticism, and is best-known for her novels The Stone Diaries, which won both the Governor General’s Award and the Pulitzer Prize, and Larry’s Party, which won the Orange Prize. Her biography of Jane Austen won the Charles Taylor Prize.* Her beautifully crafted work, often set in Winnipeg, casts a keen eye on the lives of women, particularly focusing on the small-scale and domestic. Her writing is simply wonderful. My favorite Shields story is “Mrs. Turner Cutting the Grass,” which contains a cautionary description of a poet/English professor who not only wears socks with sandals, but who also profits from an elitism and misogyny that targets gentle Mrs. Turner. In focusing on the normal, extraordinary lives of women and men, Shields provides a gentle politics with a core of steel.

--submitted by Alison Calder

* In a CBC interview, Shields talked about being immersed in Jane Austen’s details while writing this biography. The partner of one of my friends, after hearing the interview, said “I didn’t know Carol Shields was a lesbian.” When my friend asked where he got that idea, he said “she said she’d been living with Jane Austen for a long time.”
Theatre News

Our move into the (now officially) John J. Conklin Theatre in the Gail Asper Performing Arts Complex continues. Look for our actual entrance and lobby (including exposed brick wall) coming later this year. We are very excited about our upcoming 2016-2017 season which will all be in the John J. Conklin Theatre. Season tickets will be available soon.

*The Sea* by Edward Bond will run November 15-26, directed by Robert Smith.

*Translations* by Brian Friel will run January 17-28, directed by Bill Kerr.

*The Rover* by Aphra Behn will run March 14-25, directed by Margaret Groome.

Instructors, please note, as always, that any of us would be happy to talk to your classes about these productions.

Our first *Lunch Bhagg* productions in the new theatre are also coming soon. A pair of Beckett shorts, *Rough for Theatre 1* and *Come and Go* will be performed Oct. 11-13 and Ian Ross's *Canadian Steel* will be presented Oct. 18-20. We are also happy to welcome Ivan Henwood back to the fold as our new Film and Theatre Admin Assistant and to recommend seeing his work (wearing his other hats as Snakeskin Jacket producer and actor) in Will Eno's *Thom Pain* which will be the first Independent production in the Conklin theatre September 29th - October 2nd.

U of M has named the theatre facilities, which encompasses the *John J. Conklin Theatre* and state of the art set, prop and costume shops, the *Gail Asper Performing Arts Hall*. Read the full story in UM Today here: [http://news.umanitoba.ca/2m-gift-to-u-of-m-supports-performing-arts-community/](http://news.umanitoba.ca/2m-gift-to-u-of-m-supports-performing-arts-community/).
On behalf of pAGES, I would like to welcome all new and returning graduate students to what looks like a very exciting 2016-2017 academic year! This will be my third term as president or co-president of pAGES, and I continue to be impressed and encouraged by the vibrancy of our cohort. pAGES, as always, has many events planned for this year. Our weekly Write-on-Sites (now on Tuesday afternoons from 2:30 to 4:30) have gone on through the summer, and continue to be a very productive event. We also will continue to host PhD support group meetings throughout the year. In addition, we will be organizing another colloquium this winter. We have not yet decided on a theme for this year’s colloquium, but a call for papers will be circulated sometime later this fall, so do look out for that. As in previous years, we welcome contributions from all members of our department, students and faculty alike.

pAGES will be fundraising for the colloquium with our Bake and Book Sale this year. We will be welcoming contributions for that in the coming months, so please make sure to bring any books you no longer need to the pAGES office.

Finally, pAGES would like to congratulate all the graduate students in our department who have received awards, travelled to conferences, published papers, and completed various milestones in their programs. It seems, at every turn, our graduate students are accomplishing something amazing!

If you are curious about pAGES, have suggestions for events, or have ideas for other ways pAGES can make your experience as a graduate student—or, as faculty, your relationship with graduate students in DEFT—better, do not hesitate to contact pAGES at pages.info@umanitoba.ca or me, Katelyn Dykstra, at umdykstk@myumanitoba.ca. Have a wonderful year, everyone!

**Upcoming Events**

**Circle of Premodern Students** (CoPS), a group founded by DEFT graduate students, held their second annual Medieval and Modern symposium this past March. Christopher Crocker, Dustin Geeraert, and Elizabeth-Anne Johnson, three of the main symposium organizers, are co-editing a publication emerging out of both symposiums. Titles and abstracts were collected in August and final submissions are due in the new year. Geeraert is also guest editing a related project, a special themed section of the journal *Scandinavian-Canadian Studies* entitled “The Modern Reception of the Medieval Fóstbræðra saga.” The first CoPS event of the year will be a guest lecture by visiting professor Laurence de Looze, of the Department of Modern Languages and Linguistics at Western University, on November 17. We would like to thank The University of Manitoba Institute for the Humanities (UMIH), The President’s Office, The Faculty of Arts, The Department of English, Film and Theatre, The Department of Icelandic Language and Literature, The Icelandic Collection of Dafoe Library, *Mosaic: A Journal for the Interdisciplinary Study of Literature*, and all participants and contributors. Please see the UMIH Web Site for details at: [http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/arts/departments/humanities/](http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/arts/departments/humanities/).

Graduate students, graduates, and instructors of the Department of English, Film, and Theatre will be participating in two events under the heading “Weird Winnipeg” this fall. The first is “Weird Winnipeg: A Late Evening Reading in a Haunted House,” a part of the *Thin Air Winnipeg International Writers Festival*. Jonathan Ball and Daria Patrie will read from their work at Dalnavert Museum on Sunday, September 25 at 9:00. Tickets are $8. Both writers are contributors to the horror anthology *The Shadow Over Portage and*
Upcoming Events

Main (2016), which launched this past April and was edited by DEFT graduates Keith Cadieux and Dustin Geeraert. The second is a free reading featuring anthology contributors, which will take place at McNally Robinson at 7:30 pm on Saturday, October 29. https://shadowoverportageandmain.wordpress.com/

DEFT PhD and UMIH Research Affiliate Dustin Geeraert will give a lecture in the University of Manitoba Archives on Thursday October 20 at 2:30. The lecture, entitled “The Key to All Mythologies,” will draw on research from his dissertation, Medievalism and the Shocks of Modernity: Rewriting Northern Legend from Darwin to World War II. Sponsored by UMIH.

Posthumanities Research Group Fall 2016

The Posthumanities Research Group, through the Centre for Globalization and Cultural Studies, meets every 2nd Thursday at 2pm in 229 Isbister Building. We focus on theoretical readings concerning environmental humanities, posthumanism, and new materialism, mainly as these relate to literary studies and contemporary art and culture. We are flexible and readings may change according to preferences and suggestions of the group members on an ongoing basis.

If you have any questions about the group, or are having trouble finding a copy of the reading in advance of meeting, please contact Dr. Jessica Jacobson-Konefall, Postdoctoral Research Fellow.

September 21: Rob Nixon, Slow Violence and the Environmentalism of the Poor, Introduction and Chapters 1 & 2 (available online through UM library)

October 6: Chapter 1 from Donna Haraway's When Species Meet

October 20: Introduction, Donna Haraway, Staying with the Trouble

November 3:


December 1: Can Non-Europeans Think? sections TBA
The English, Film, and Theatre Students Association is an undergraduate-run student group that aims to connect the students of the Department of English, Film, and Theatre through academic and social events. We are open to both undergraduate and graduate students. Here is a schedule of events planned for the upcoming year:

**September 29, Hub Night Meet and Greet:** Come join EFTSA at The Hub for drinks, snacks, and karaoke! Find out more about the events we have planned for the year, and meet other DEFT students.

**October 27, Coffee House:** Come share your projects and works-in-progress with an open and supportive audience. Open to works of all disciplines: creative writing, music, research, visual arts, and more! Send your submission including title, a short bio, and a summary or draft of the work to be presented to eftsauofm@gmail.com by October 12.

**November 24, Exam Preparation and Write-in; Colloquium Proposal Workshop:** Stay focused by working on assignments and studying in a group. This write-in will give students the opportunity to get peer feedback and work without distraction. In addition, a DEFT graduate student will be offering a short workshop on proposal writing to help prepare for the colloquium. Snacks and coffee will be provided.

**January 5, Welcome Back Night:** details tba

**January/February, Colloquium (date tba):** Students from all levels and disciplines are welcome to submit their research to be presented to fellow students and professors. Details tba.

**February 16, Hub Night:** De-stress before reading week with karaoke, snacks, and friends at The Hub.

**March, EFTSA Film Festival (date tba):** A night of student-submitted short films. Awards will be given for Best Director, Best Cinematography, Best Acting, Best Screenplay, Audience Choice, and more! Submissions open January 4th for student-made videos 5 - 8 minutes in length. With the video file, please provide a title, possible genres, and a 200-word artist's statement by email to eftsauofm@gmail.com. Submission deadline is February 27th, 2017.

**March 30, Exam preparation and Write-in:** Stay focused by working on assignments and studying in a group. This write-in will give students the opportunity to get peer feedback and work without distraction. Snacks and coffee will be provided.

**April (date tba):** Year-end dinner and game night

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http://communitylink.umanitoba.ca/organization/eftsa

etfsauofm@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/EFTSA
Fall Workshop Series

Workshops:

Media Lab Workshops are hour-long introductory sessions into creative technologies and tools for digital humanities.

Programming for Fun and Non-profit using Scratch
Tuesday, October 4, 12-1pm

This workshop will introduce students to the Scratch programming environment. Created at MIT, Scratch was designed to introduce novices to computer programming in an accessible manner. Students will be able to create games, interactive artworks, research representations, and animations. More advanced environments, such as Processing and Quartz Composer, will be explored at the end of the workshop.

Digital collaboration: working well with others
Tuesday, October 18, 12-1pm

Real-time collaboration can be a powerful tool for facilitating research and creative production. In this session we will explore ways of initiating, editing and sharing a project between a number of possible workgroups and across several leading platforms.

Personal Digital Archives
Tuesday, November 1, 12-1pm

A workshop exploring different ways for students to track, save, and read digital articles from a variety of sources. The workshop examines two easy to use programs, Pocket and Zotero, to help students build their own digital library and organize sources and ideas for research. The workshop will also briefly touch on Calibre, an ebook management software.

Playing with texts: tools for digital textual analysis
Tuesday, November 15, 12-1pm

This session will introduce some digital tools meant to augment traditional ways of reading and analyzing texts. We will explore several freely-available tools and focus on questions concerning project planning, text preparation and revenues for publication and distribution.

Tech Lunches:

Media Lab Tech Lunches are thirty minute sessions focused on a particular skill or platform.

How to Use Skype
Thursday, October 13, 12-12:30pm

Learn how to get the most of Skype for meetings and interviews: How to use an external microphone, choose speakers, test your sound, and record. For OS X and Windows.

Mobile Audio Recording
Thursday, November 10, 12-12:30pm

Learn how to get the best recordings on an iPhone, Android, or with dedicated recorders (available in the media lab). We’ll explore simple recording techniques to get the most out of recordings of interviews, concerts, lectures, and more.

Online Meeting Platforms
Thursday, November 24, 12-12:30pm

A quick look into the best options for online meetings. We’ll explore Skype, Google Hangouts, Slack, JoinMe, and more.

All workshops will take place in the Department of English, Film, and Theatre Media Lab 233 University College.

For more information, please contact:

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