

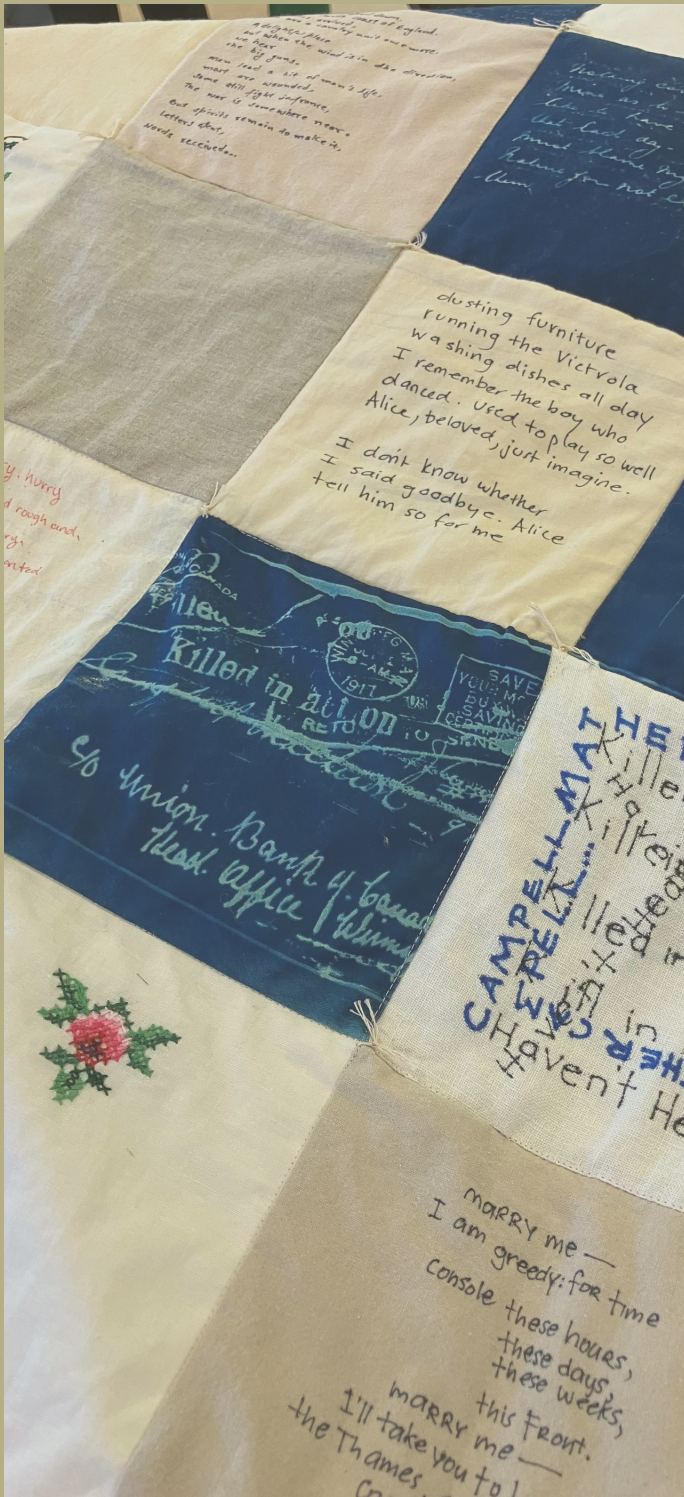
UMIH

University of Manitoba
Institute for the Humanities



2024 - 2025
Annual Report

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This document is available in an accessible format upon request. Please contact the Assistant to the Director of the UMIH via email at umiheumanitoba.ca or by phone at (204) 474-6323.

INTRODUCTION



The University of Manitoba's Institute for the Humanities reports annually to the Dean of Arts, the Vice-President (Academic) and Provost, and the Vice-President (Research). It is customary for this report to be presented annually at the year-end meeting of the Board of Management. Additional copies are also distributed to the President, the Associate Deans of Arts, and other supporters who are part of the University of Manitoba community. Copies are also distributed off-campus to other humanities institutes. This is the 33rd report since 1990-91, there having been no report in 1997- 98.

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

The UMIH Board of Management met on May 30, 2025 to complete the following tasks: to review UMIH's 2024-25 programming; to discuss applications from prospective Research Affiliates and Graduate Fellows; and to approve a proposed budget for 2025-26. The Institute is grateful for the support of the board members who served in the 2024-2025 academic year. They are:

- Joyce Chadya (History), 2021-2026
- Sarah Ciurysek (School of Art), 2022-2025
- Katrina Dunn (ETFM), 2022-2025
- Bruce Erickson (Environment and Geography), 2022-2025
- Mara Fridell (Sociology), 2022-2025
- Fenton Litwiller (Recreation Management and Community Development), 2021-2026
- Simone Mahrenholz (Philosophy), 2022-2025
- Nicole Rosen (Linguistics), 2023-2026
- Armelle St.-Martin (French, Spanish and Italian), 2021-2026

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



Dr. Vanessa Warne
UMIH, Acting Director (2024-25)

It was a busy year at UMIH, with many well-attended events. Between late September and mid-March, we hosted 33 events, from film screenings to research talks to hands-on making sessions. We connected a portion of our events thematically, focusing on hands-on humanities, material culture, and object stories.

We also had a series of skills events for students and faculty on topics such as public speaking, copy editing, and time management. We paired humanities research with wellness and community-building work by holding a series of crafternoons. We welcomed students, faculty, and support staff from across campus to these events. Temporarily transforming a boardroom into a studio space, we invited participants to try out weaving, block printing, paper scrolling, and coptic-style book binding, among other practices. For example, we also engaged global trade and ecological crises by repurposing old clothes into hand-knotted rugs.

In meetings of the UMIH book club, we explored the importance of a hand-embroidered cotton sack to members of a Black family separated by enslavement. Roundtable events were especially successful. To deepen our material intelligence, we invited humanities scholars to reflect on the role hands-on making plays in their teaching and research.

We welcomed speakers on, among many other topics, beading, papermaking, quilting, and the media history of hobbyist woodworking. We also partnered with the Centre for Creative Writing and Culture on a successful series of events exploring the storytelling potential of hand stitching, found poetry, and archival records.

As readers of this report will discover, UMIH worked with two Winnipeg-based, non-profit Arts organizations in 2024-25. We collaborated with MAWA (Mentoring Artists for Women's Art), supporting a number of events, including a free public lecture series on Canadian Women's Art by the Honorable Patricia Boovey and an exploration of the collection of the Manitoba Museum guided by Cree-Métis artist Cynthia Boehm. We also partnered with C'Cap (the Centre for Cultural and Artistic Practices), supporting an installation featuring work by Mark Neufeld and Julie Oh. These events demonstrated our commitment to humanities outreach and to partnering with local organizations and community-based experts.

I wish to acknowledge the many people who contributed to UMIH's programming as speakers or event hosts in 2024-2025. They include: Dr. Brenda Austin-Smith, Dr. Alison Calder, Dr. Warren Cariou, Dr. Sean Carleton, Dr. David Churchill, Dr. Danielle Dubois, Dr. Sarah Elvins, Dr. Michelle Faubert, Dr. Nicole Goulet, Dr. Erin Keating, Dr. Len Kuffert, Dr. Michael Sampson, Dr. Christine Stewart, Gerardo Villagran Becerra, and Dr. David Watt.

Contributors from beyond the University of Manitoba include: Moni Brar, Jenna Butler, Dr. Urvashi Chakravarty, Dr. Melanie Dennis Unrau, Kristian Enright, Lisa Hislop, Sam Jones, Dr. Celiese Lypka, Dr. Emily Maggiacomo, Dr. Carla Manfredi, Mark Nowak, Kelly Shepherd, Dr. Mariya Shymchyshyn, Michelle Waitzman, and Dr. Maria Zytaruk. I am especially pleased with ways in which our programming welcomed colleagues from the University of Winnipeg as speakers, deepening collegial and institutional connections.

Thanks go to UMIH Research Cluster leaders, Dr. Jamie Paris and Dr. Hee-Jung Serenity Joo. Both of their Research Clusters undertook focused and productive work, creating opportunities for collegial exchange, community engagement, and learning. Thanks also to UMIH affiliates, Dr. Youcef Soufi and Dr. Rachel Shields, and to our UMIH Graduate Fellows, Karen Brglez and Carla M. Kennedy, for sharing their research.

I also wish to express UMIH's gratitude for the opportunity to collaborate with CCWOC, the Centre for Creative Writing and Oral Culture, on a series of events featuring Writer-in-Residence Dr. Sonja Boon. Thank you to Dr. Jocelyn Thorpe (Director, CCWOC), Dr. Nancy Kang (Acting Director, CCWOC), and Dr. Sonja Boon. The opportunity to work with and learn from Sonja deeply enriched both my time at UMIH and our programming.

Thanks go to Ekene Emeka Maduka for her work for the Institute, both this year and in recent years. This is a year of transition for Ekene, who recently joined the Faculty of Arts Hub team. This change means we can look forward to exploring opportunities for more collaboration and resource sharing between UM groups supported by the Faculty of Arts.

Thanks also go to UMIH Research Assistant Lakshmisree Shaji Marar and UMIH student interns Hanako Teranishi and Patrick Fermin. Our student team members contributed to the success of the 2024-25 year through their energetic participation in UMIH events and by authoring blog essays reflecting on those events. Their work helped to both document and amplify UMIH events. I invite you to read their writing, which is archived at www.umhumanities.com.

My last note on the theme of gratitude is to thank all the people who made time to attend talks, to participate in hands-on making sessions, or to join our book group. I direct readers to more detailed information about this year's programming shared below. To stay informed about future UMIH programming, please follow us on Instagram (@__umih) or sign up for our email newsletter. You can reach us with questions, suggestions, or requests at umih@umanitoba.ca.

In past Annual Reports, UMIH Directors have reported on their own research achievements and plans. I will briefly note that my monograph, *By Touch Alone: Blindness and Reading in Nineteenth-Century Culture*, will be published by the University of Michigan Press in July 2025.

I conclude by welcoming Dr. Jorge Nállim (History) to the role of UMIH Director. His highly productive and positive relationship with UMIH as a past Research Cluster leader will serve as an excellent foundation for the work ahead. My time as Acting Director of UMIH has been brief but rewarding. I look forward to finding new ways to continue to support the work of UMIH in the future.

ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR



Ekene Emeka Maduka
UMIH Assistant to the Director

The 2024–2025 year was a special one. In Summer 2024, I had the incredible opportunity to travel to Santiago, Chile, to represent UMIH at the CHCI Conference alongside then Director Dr. Hee-Jung Serenity Joo. This trip was made possible by the generous support of the Faculty of Arts Endowment Fund. Together, Dr. Joo and I participated in a panel focused on small-budget institutes, where I spoke to an international network of humanities scholars. It was an energizing moment of connection and learning. I'm grateful to Dr. Vanessa Warne, who brought thoughtful leadership to UMIH together with a strong commitment to experiential humanities learning. I supported her programming by designing event posters and promoting events via UMIH's social media channels. One of my personal goals was to boost our digital presence and I'm thrilled to report that we reached peak engagement on Instagram this year. Through collaborations with the Centre for Creative Writing and Oral Culture, the Institute welcomed new audiences and fresh energy. A particular highlight for me was the "Crafternoon" series. The hands-on, paper-based craft session was my favorite event of the year.

The Crafternoon series drew our highest attendance since the pandemic, testament to their impact and appeal. In this academic year, I also deepened my knowledge of the platforms and systems that support the Institute's daily operations, from Squarespace for our blog, to Instagram for outreach, and UM systems for finances, orders, and catering. In March 2025, the role of UMIH assistant was transitioned to the Faculty of Arts Dean's Office Hub. This move opens the door to meaningful interdepartmental collaboration and more sustainable administrative practices for the Institute moving forward.

RESEARCH AFFILIATES



Dr. Youcef Soufi

I'm very grateful to the UMIH for promoting and facilitating my research and writing this past year. In February 2025, my latest monograph, *Homegrown Radicals: A Story of State Violence, Islamophobia, and Jihad in the Post-9/11 World*, was published with NYU Press. In the preceding months, the UMIH became my homebase in reaching out to Canadian universities and organizing a series of book talks. The UMIH generously provided me with the travel funds necessary to present my book at Queen's, the University of Toronto, Simon Fraser

University, the University of Victoria, and the University of Alberta in February and March 2025. The UMIH also hosted a book launch on campus with a much-appreciated Q&A session with Acting Director Vanessa Warne. In terms of current research, the UMIH has fostered favourable conditions for me to gather data on the interrelationship between Islamophobia and Anti-Palestinian racism, post-October 7th, 2023, including ensuring access to boardrooms for my research teams' focus groups. The UMIH performs the valuable service of fostering scholarly connections and promoting critical reflection on the University of Manitoba campus and beyond. In this precarious time, when government crackdowns on academic freedom in the US and Europe intensify, its importance as a hub for advancing the humanities cannot be overstated.



Dr. Rachel Shields

The UMIH has given me a wonderful opportunity to have the support of an interdisciplinary academic community while finishing up my PhD. I have loved meeting the group of scholars and students who compose the UMIH and who create this space of thriving interdisciplinary research and dialogue. During my time as Research Affiliate, I have been able to finish my degree, publish a journal article, present my research at a UMIH event (where I received invaluable feedback and generous discussion from the

attendees), and receive financial support to attend a conference. I have also attended several talks and events at the UMIH that have broadened my awareness of the important activist work being done in the humanities, as well as given me some insight into my own professional development as I navigate my post-PhD future. I would like to sincerely thank the UMIH for these opportunities.

GRADUATE STUDENT FELLOWS



Karen Brglez, Department of History

I was extremely pleased to have received a UMIH graduate student fellowship for the 2024-25 academic year. Completing a doctorate is a bit of a marathon, and having the support of the UMIH over the course of the year was a great source of motivation and encouragement for me to continue furthering the process. I was able to connect with other professors and graduate students associated with the Institute and the scholarly exchange fostered my own growth as a researcher.

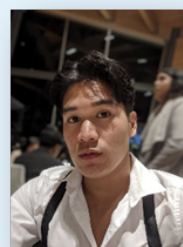
The UMIH provided me with my first opportunity to present my doctoral research to members of the university community. This was an invaluable experience. The supportive environment of the UMIH gave me confidence to share my work on missionaries and settler colonialism on the Canadian prairies to an engaging audience who provided me with helpful comments, questions, and discussion, and created opportunities for me to think about my research in fresh ways.



Carla M. Kennedy
Indigenous Studies

I'd like to express my gratitude for the UMIH graduate student fellowship that allowed me to present research for my PhD. The presentation itself demonstrated the value of stories, land, and generations. The experience was rich and allowed me to view how this work can benefit youth and/or young adults in a community-based PhD research project. I am now moving forward in the PhD process to the comprehensive exams, which will conclude this fall. Through the reading of literature on Indigenous methodologies and ontology, I have engaged with Anishinaabe stories as part of land-based learning. The Fellowship has contributed to my advancing in the reading process to move towards the comprehensive exams. As demonstrated in my presentation, my engagement with storytelling has been ongoing throughout my life and continues through both research and work with Indigenous communities. Additionally, I was able to connect with other academics who are engaged in research in storytelling. Overall, it was a revealing opportunity to network and become more informed about the research of others in the University. Thank you for the Fellowship.

STUDENT INTERNS



Patrick Fermin
Department of History

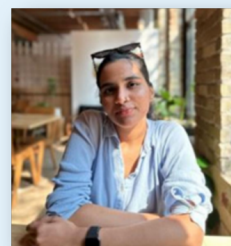
This year at the Institute for the Humanities has been incredible for me as a student intern. From being able to attend events within the University and in the Winnipeg community, as well as being able to continue my film screenings, I am incredibly happy about the work we have accomplished. One of the most important events for me was the UMIH book club where we read Tiya Miles's monograph *All That She Carried*. Being with a group of people who were able to connect with the book and bring unique perspectives in excellent conversations was a true highlight for me. Furthermore, connecting more with experts such as I did in my interview with Dr. Cariou regarding his petrographic artworks and with the Honorable Patricia Bovey regarding her lectures at MAWA was incredibly informative and fruitful for me. My own film screening, "Let's Have A Ball!," was also a great success, and I was very glad to be able to show and discuss one of my favourite films: *Paris is Burning*. Overall, this year at the Institute has been truly amazing and informative. I am grateful to have been a part of it.



Hanako Teranishi

English, Theatre, Film & Media

The 2024-25 year has been an incredibly successful year full of critical and creative explorations. I had the opportunity to participate in many workshops co-hosted by the UMIH and the Centre for Creative Writing and Oral Culture featuring Writer-in-Residence, Dr. Sonja Boon. In these workshops we engaged with crafts, such as fabric craft, embroidery, and bookbinding, as sites of knowledge. These workshops helped develop my skills as a writer as I was taught the value of incorporating craft into my writing practices. This year, I also worked with Dr. Jamie Paris' Ecology, Canadian Poetry, and Labour Research Cluster, organizing an open mic event with Dr. Paris. The open mic was very successful, reaching both faculty members and students across departments. This event taught me more about programming, and how to make writing and sharing writing more accessible to emerging writers. I am thankful to all the organizers who put on amazing events and participants who took the time to learn with us this year. I look forward to what the future brings and will hold close the experiences I am honoured to have had over the last couple of years with the UMIH.



Lakshmisree Shaji Marar

English, Theatre, Film & Media

This was my first time working as a Graduate Research Assistant for the UMIH, and it is certainly one I will always cherish. As a GRA, while my job requirements were to assist the Acting Director, Dr. Vanessa Warne, in her research, I also got to be a part of many of the programs organized by UMIH during the academic year. I was part of the craft afternoons that happened as part of the Hands-On Humanities project, where we gathered to learn more about beading, woodworking, textiles, printing, bookmaking, etc. This was a fun and educational experience for me, given my interest in material culture and literature. I also participated in the UMIH Book Club, where we read and discussed Dr. Tiya Miles' book, *All That She Carried*, in the fall. Additionally, I was part of both the Prairie Abolition Research Cluster and the Ecology, Canadian Poetry, and Labour Research Cluster, as my research and political interests aligned with the clusters. Working alongside the UMIH undergraduate student interns and the UMIH Assistant to the Director, with whom I shared office space, was a pleasure. I am forever grateful for the friendship, camaraderie, and sense of community they extended. As this year comes to a close and I graduate from the University of Manitoba, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to everyone at the Institute for making this experience so special.

RESEARCH CLUSTERS

Prairie Abolition Research Cluster

The Prairie Abolition Research Cluster met twice this year, as we proposed. In the fall term, we organized a "meet-greet-make" for local cluster members (community members, students, faculty, and staff) to get to get to know each other while creating collages based on the prompt of what a world without prisons could look and feel like. Our discussions were guided by two questions provided by our cluster members in Alberta: What does it mean to be in good relations with Indigenous peoples, Indigenous knowledges, and our more-than-human relations? What miyo-maskihkih (good medicine) do I bring into these spaces of co-creation and world building?

In the winter term, we held a two-day community colloquium entitled "Prairie Abolition: Here and Now," on the topic of anticolonial abolition across the Prairies. It featured panels that included our cluster members from the University of Alberta and University of Saskatchewan, local students, and local community organizers. We asked participants to consider what it means to be theorizing and practicing prison abolition on treaty land. In other words, how can we forward an understanding of abolition that centers Indigenous sovereignty and freedom? The last event of the colloquium was a hands-on workshop facilitated by Big Gay Wall on community safety, held at WestEnd Commons and generously co-sponsored by UMQueer.

*Report by UMIH Research Cluster
coordinator, Dr. Hee-Jung Serenity Joo
(English, Film, Theatre, & Media)*

Prairie Abolition Research Cluster Members

- Kirsten Wurmman (Manitoba Law Library-Prison Libraries Initiative)
- Dr. Nancy Van Styvendale (Native Studies, U of Alberta)
- Trixie Maybituin (Faculty of Law)
- Dr. Erin Keating (English, Theatre, Film and Media)
- Karrie Auger, Owîskwasikîs (U of Alberta)
- Jacob Carson (Faculty of Education)
- Danielle Bird (Indigenous Studies, University of Saskatchewan)
- Dr. Bronwyn Dobchuk-Land (Department of Criminal Justice, U of Winnipeg)
- Dr. Joe Curnow (Faculty of Education)
- Ashley Huot (Humanities Liaison Librarian)
- Anny Chen (Community Engaged Learning)
- Quinn Saretsky (Community activist)
- Belkis Elmoudi (student)
- Marianne Shaibu (student)
- Hanako Teranishi (student)
- Debbie Fong (student)
- Dr. Sarah Auger (University of Alberta)
- Dr. Merissa Daborn (University of Manitoba)
- Dr. Fenton Litwiller (University of Manitoba)

Prairie Abolition Research Cluster Events

December 4, 2024: Meet-Greet-Create:
Prairie Abolition research cluster meeting

February 7-8, 2025: Prairie Abolition: Here
and Now, a two-day colloquium on
anticolonial abolition across the Prairies



Ecology, Canadian Poetry, and Labour Research Cluster

Co-ordinating the Ecology, Canadian Poetry, and Labour Research Cluster has been a pleasure. Our cluster had three interdependent goals. First, we wanted to run workshops and mentor local and emerging poets on the writing of labour poetry. Second, we wanted to bring in Winnipeg and prairie poets to give readings of their labour poetry either on Zoom or in person. Finally, we sought to invite scholars of labour poetry to deliver in-person or virtual talks, while bringing together scholars of Canadian poetry to discuss the intersection of labour, ecology, and poetics. The cluster achieved its primary goals by hosting six events either on campus or virtually, including a successful open mic night on March 21, which was co-hosted by poet and ETFM graduate Alison

Holliday, co-organized by undergraduate ETFM student Hanako Teranishi, and attended by at least 20 students. We ran our events on time and budget, and we hosted ten poets, most of whom were female-identified and BIPOC writers who are not always given opportunities to read their work in university settings. The cluster, moreover, supported the creation of the forthcoming poetry anthology *"I'll Get Right On It": Poems On Working Life In the Climate Crisis*, edited by the Land and Labour Poetry Collective (Fernwood Press, 2025). I was a member of the editorial team, as was group member and incoming CCWOC writer-in-residence, Dr. Melanie Dennis Unrau. Thus, our cluster facilitated important conversations about the role of poetry in discussions of labour and ecology with

local poets, and helped in the generation of knowledge both in terms of an anthology and in terms of future peer-reviewed research papers. We also helped to create a community of poets in the Faculty of Arts that, I hope, will lead to future mentorship and collaboration opportunities for new and emerging writers.

Report by UMIH Research Cluster coordinator, Dr. Jamie Paris (English, Theatre, Film & Media)

Ecology, Canadian Poetry, and Labour Research Cluster members

- Dr. Steve Asselin (English, U of Winnipeg)
- Dr. Brenda Austin-Smith (ETFM)
- Dr. Kathy Block (Academic Learning Centre)
- Dr. Melanie Dennis Unrau (St. John's College)
- Dr. Lindsay Diehl (ETFM)
- Theodore J. Farough (ETFM)
- Dr. Mylène Yannick Gamache (Indigenous Studies / Women's and Gender Studies)
- Lakshmisree Shaji Marar (ETFM)
- Dr. Christine Stewart (Women's and Gender Studies)
- Hanako Teranishi (ETFM)
- Sakshi Tyagi (ETFM)



Left: Open Mic Event (March 21, 2025); Right: 'Poetry as Academic Conversation' featuring Dr. Alison Calder and Dr. Christine Stewart (March 12, 2025).

Ecology, Canadian Poetry, and Labour Research Cluster Events

October 21, 2024: Poetry Reading in preparation for the forthcoming anthology *Workers of the Warming World Unite* (Fernwood Press). Featured poets: Moni Brar, Jenna Butler, Melanie Dennis Unrau, Sam Jones, and Kelly Shepherd.

November 18, 2024: Poetry Reading by Kristian Enright, moderated by Dr. Jamie Paris (ETFM).

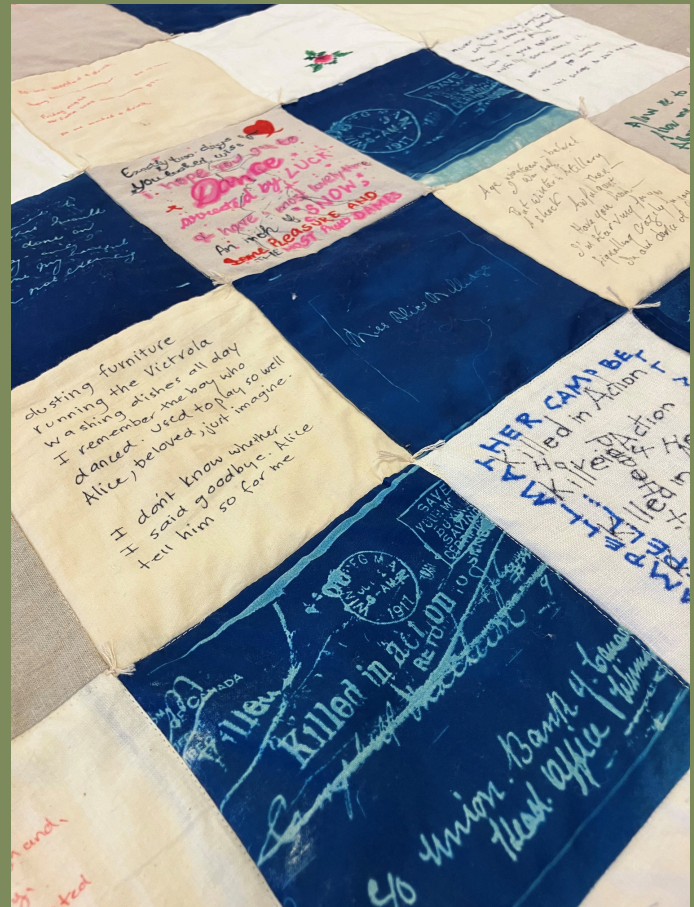
November 20, 2024: 'Working at the Edges of the Anthropocene,' a talk by Mark Nowak.

March 12, 2025: 'Poetry as Academic Conversation: A Poetry Reading and Conversation,' featuring Dr. Alison Calder and Dr. Christine Stewart, moderated by Dr. Jamie Paris (ETFM).

March 14, 2025: 'Poetic Resistance: Glory to Working-Class Creatives,' a talk by Justene Dion-Glowa, moderated by Dr. Jamie Paris (ETFM).

March 21, 2025: Open Mic Event, co-hosted by Alison Holliday and Dr. Jamie Paris (ETFM), co-organized by UMIH Intern Hanako Teranishi (ETFM).

UMIH PROGRAMMING



Top left: "Small Things: Cross-Stitch Provocations" with Dr. Sonja Boon; top right: detail of collaborative quilt created by "Dear Alice" participants; bottom left: pop-up installation by "Small Things" participants; bottom right: "Impersonal Love: Theorizing antisocial maternity in the wake of Leo Bersani," a talk by Rachel Shields

UMIH Programming 2024-2025

As noted above, in 2024-25, UMIH took programming inspiration from two closely related topics: hands-on humanities and the study of material culture. We also prioritized professional development for humanities scholars, both established and emerging scholars. To get a better sense of UMIH's offerings this year, we invite you to review this list of events.

Events on Material Culture

October 2, 2024: 'Hands-On Humanities,' a panel discussion featuring: Dr. Alison Calder (ETFM), Dr. Warren Cariou (ETFM), Dr. Sarah Elvins (History), Dr. Nicole Goulet (Religion), Dr. Len Kuffert (History), and, Dr. Celiese Lypka (English, University of Winnipeg).

October 22 and November 28, 2024: UMIH Book Club on Tiya Miles' award-winning monograph *All That She Carried: The Journey of Ashley's Sack, a Black Family Keepsake* (2022).

November 6, 2024: 'Object Lessons,' a panel discussion featuring: Dr. Brenda Austin-Smith (ETFM), Dr. Sean Carleton (History & Indigenous Studies), Dr. Mike Sampson (Classics), and Dr. Carla Manfredi (English, University of Winnipeg).

November 29, 2024: 'Public Humanities on the Ground: Cultivating Flax for Papermaking in a Campus Community Garden,' a talk by Dr. Maria Zytaruk (University of Calgary)

Hands-on Humanities Events

October 16, 2024: UMIH Crafternoon #1: Weaving with Mini-Looms

October 30, 2024: UMIH Crafternoon #2: Rags, Rugs, and Repurposing

November 27, 2024: UMIH Crafternoon #3: Block Printing

January 30, 2025: UMIH Crafternoon #4: Paper Scrolling, Letter Folding, and Collage.

March 13, 2025: UMIH Crafternoon #5: Book Binding for Beginners.

Skills Development Events

October 24, 2024 : 'Managing Challenges as an ABD Humanities Student,' a skills event featuring Dr. Emily Maggiacomo (University of Toronto).

November 1, 2024: 'So you want to be an Editor?,' a skills event featuring Lisa Hislop and Michelle Waitzman from Editors Canada, presented with UMIH support in collaboration with ETFM.

January 28, 2025: 'Digital Public Scholarship - Benefits and Pitfalls,' featuring panelists: Dr. Philip Chase (County College of Morris), Dr. Dorothy Kim (Brandeis University), Dr. Kim TallBear (University of Alberta), and Dr. Vanessa Warne (University of Manitoba). This event was supported by the University of Manitoba's Strategic Initiatives Fund and both organized and moderated by Dr. Erin Keating (ETFM).

March 25, 2025: 'Experiential Teaching and Learning in Humanities Classrooms,' a roundtable conversation co-hosted by the UMIH and The Office of Experiential Learning (CATL), featuring panelists Dr. Danielle Dubois (Religion), Dr. Christine Stewart (Women's and Gender Studies), and Dr. David Watt (ETFM); moderated by Gerardo Villagran Becerra (Faculty Specialist: Experiential Learning).

Events featuring UMIH Affiliates, Fellows, and Interns

February 6, 2025: Book launch in celebration of UMIH Affiliate Dr. Youcef Soufi's book *Homegrown Radicals: A Story of State Violence, Islamophobia, and Jihad in the Post-9/11 World* (NYU Press).

February 13, 2025: 'Tipācimowinan: Ahki sigwa keteyak / Stories: land and the long-ago ones,' a talk by UMIH Graduate Fellow Carla M. Kennedy (Indigenous Studies).

February 27, 2025: 'Impersonal Love: Theorizing Antisocial Maternity in the Wake of Leo Bersani,' a presentation by UMIH Research Affiliate Dr. Rachel Shields (McMaster University).

March 6, 2025: 'Bleeding Hearts: Missions, Philanthropy, Gender, and Indigenous Peoples in Saskatchewan, 1890-1920,' a presentation by UMIH Graduate Fellow Karen Brglez (Department of History).

March 18, 2025: "Let's Have a Ball!" a film screening of *Paris is Burning* organized and hosted by UMIH Undergraduate Intern Patrick Fermin (Department of History).

Events presented in collaboration with CCWOC

February 3, 2025: 'Imagining a Sack: Journeying with Ashley's Sack' with CCWOC Writer-in Residence, Dr. Sonja Boon; a collaboration between UMIH and CCWOC.

February 10 and 24, 2025: 'Small Things: Cross-Stitch Provocations' with CCWOC Writer-in Residence, Dr. Sonja Boon; a collaboration between UMIH and CCWOC.

February 18, 2025: 'Sweaty Palms and Breathlessness: Preparing for Stressful Presentations,' a skills workshop by CCWOC Writer-in-Residence Dr. Sonja Boon; a collaboration between UMIH and CCWOC.

March 3 and 17, 2025: 'Dear Alice: Writing and Stitching with Archival Material,' a two-part hands-on workshop with CCWOC Writer-in-Residence Dr. Sonja Boon; a collaboration between UMIH and CCWOC.



'Dear Alice: Writing and stitching with Archival material' workshop with CCWOC Writer-in-Residence Dr. Sonja Boon

UMIH Collaborations and Sponsorships

July 13, 2024: Book Club Reading of Adrienne Maree Brown's *Pleasure Activism*, presented in collaboration with QPOC: Queer People of Colour Winnipeg.

September 10, 2024: 'Palestine & Us: Our Universities and Human Dignity,' presented in collaboration with Faculty for Palestine Manitoba.

October 3, 2024: 'Gestalt Narrative in Migration Fiction: The Silence of Trees' by Dr. Mariya Shymchyshyn (Visiting Scholar), presented in collaboration with ETFM.

October 11, 2024: 'Resisting Anti-Queer and Anti-Trans Hate,' a lecture by Dr. Tom Hooper, presented with UMIH support by the Department of History's 2SLGBTQ+ Histories Series.

October 28, 2024: Film screening of Byron's *SARDANAPALUS!*, moderated by Dr. Michelle Faubert (ETFM) and screened with UMIH support in collaboration with the Byron Society of America and the Keats-Shelley Association of America.

January 29-30, 2025: 40th Annual J.W. Dafoe Political Studies Students' Conference featuring the Honourable Bob Rae and a keynote address by Dr. Lloyd Axworthy, followed by Davos style Q&A with Dr. Andrea Charro, supported by UMIH.

February 7, 2025: 'Tariffs: Trump, Trade Wars, and the Politics of Uncertainty/Chaos,' an event organized and hosted by the Department of History with support from UMIH.

February 14, 2025: 'Heartstrings,' a colloquium organized and hosted by pAges, the Association of Graduate English Students, with support from UMIH.

March 6, 2025: 'One Time Performance' by Tehching Hsieh, a lecture supported by UMIH in collaboration with the University of Manitoba's School of Arts and *Mosaic*.

Community Sponsorships

October 27, 2024: 'Knowledge Repatriation: Artist Talk by Cynthia Boehm' hosted at the Manitoba Museum in collaboration with MAWA: Mentoring Artists for Women's Art.

December 7, 2024 - February 8, 2025: *ICECREAMPOWERPINKYSWEARLATER?* an exhibition featuring Mark Neufeld and Julie Oh, hosted by C'Cap: the Centre for Cultural and Artistic Practices, with support from UMIH.

January 9, 16, 23, and 30, 2025: 'Canadian Art History: Women Artists Breaking Glass Ceilings,' a lecture series by the Honorable Patricia Bovey, organized and hosted by MAWA: Mentoring Artists for Women's Art, with support from UMIH.

2024-2025 FINANCIAL REPORT



UMIH Block Printing Crafternoon; November 27, 2024

Financial Reporting

The actual and proposed budgets shared below were reviewed by the UMIH Board of Management and approved on May 30, 2025. In what follows, we share more information on both UMIH spending for 2024-25 and the proposed budget for 2025-26.

2024-25 Spending

Spending for 2024-25 is significantly below the proposed budget approved by the UMIH Board in June 2024. The operating budget for 2024-25 was initially projected at \$67,494.00. This projection reflected board members' expectation that UMIH would receive funding from a new endowment. The UMIH Board anticipated that this new funding, in the range of \$20,000, would be in addition to funding already provided by the Faculty of Arts. An endowment was not established and the hope of a larger operating budget for UMIH was not realized.

Despite having a smaller operating budget than projected, the UMIH was able to deliver a rich year of programming. We were also able to fulfill both sponsorship and employment commitments. This is in no small part due to our partnership with the Centre for Creative Writing and Oral Culture on a series of events in Winter 2025. These events were successful, in and of themselves, but they are also notable for the way they kept programming costs manageable.

2024-25 expenditures of note included the purchase of an OWL Labs microphone and camera system for hybrid events (May 2024) as well as a desk and chairs for the undergraduate interns' use (Sept. 2024). Other operational costs of note are: art rental fees, printing costs, water cooler costs, telephone costs, and subscription fees for Adobe, Canva, and Squarespace. No new investments were made in computers.

Regarding support for humanities research in 2024-2025, UMIH supported the work of two research affiliates, two research clusters, and two graduate fellows (with one student funded by our endowment with FGS and the other by operating funds from the Faculty of Arts). Regarding community outreach, we partnered with MAWA and C'CAP on a series of public events. UMIH also paid honorariums to guest speakers and sponsored humanities-themed events organized by other groups. Our total expenditures for 2024-25 were \$45,845.44.

Planned Spending

Regarding the proposed budget for 2025/26, we anticipate several cost reductions. We are ending our Adobe subscription; we no longer need a phone line in the UMIH offices; our art rental costs will be lower as we will no longer rent art for Tier 409.

We do not anticipate any purchases of new furniture or new technology in the year ahead. For 2025-26, we have budgeted for similar investments in student employment to those we made in 2024-25. We will fund one Research Cluster (\$5,000) and two Research Affiliates (\$3,000 each). After careful consideration, the board voted to draw on unspent funds from the UMIH Graduate Student Fellow Endowment to fund 5 graduate student fellows. We have budgeted \$3,000 for honorariums and \$3,500 for costs related to bringing in guest speakers. We anticipate investing \$5,000 in non-UMIH event sponsorship. We have also budgeted for \$3,000 to support Faculty of Arts members who are applying for Tri-Council funding.

It is important to note that UMIH is supported by the Faculty of Arts, which provides our annual operating budget, pays salary costs for the Assistant, provides office space in Tier Building, and covers the cost of a 6-credit teaching release for the Director. The UMIH is deeply grateful to the Faculty of Arts for its continued support.



Part of a UMIH / CCWOC
needlework art installation in the
Engineering Building, UofM
March 2025

UMIH BUDGET: 2024-2025 Proposed and Actual / 2025-26 Proposed Budget

Office costs	Proposed 24/25	Actual 24/25	Proposed 25/26
Furniture	1,000.00	983.99	500.00
Software / Subscriptions	1,464.00	2,179.33	900.00
Computers	0	0	0
Hybrid Technology	1,660.00	1,737.77	0
Telephone	1,470.00	1,467.00	0
Art Rental	900.00	0	240.00
Stationary	300.00	0	300.00
Printing / Photocopying	100.00	590.60	400.00
Postage	50.00	0	50.00
Water cooler	100.00	69.39	100.00
Contracted services	0	38.00	400.00
Other office costs	0	88.25	100.00
Student Employment	Proposed 24/25	Actual 24/25	Proposed 25/26
One graduate student RA	6,000.00	2,353.31	3,000.00
Two undergraduate interns	5,000.00	4,049.28	6,000.00
Payroll Entry Account Inclusion		810.99	
Support for Research	Proposed 24/25	Actual 24/25	Proposed 25/26
Director	2,000.00	274.10	1,500.00
Affiliates	6,000.00	2,475.62	6,000.00
Graduate Fellows	5,000.00	5,352.07	5,000.00
Research Clusters	10,000.00	9,010.79	10,000.00
Tri-Council Grant Seed Funding	3,000.00	0	3,000.00
Sponsorships and Partnerships	3,000.00	1,788.78	3,000.00
MAWA Support	4,000.00	4,000.00	0
C'CAP Support	2,000.00	2,000.00	0
Public Programming	3,000.00	279.60	1,000.00
Non-project entertainment	150.00	0	200.00
Honoraria (non research clusters)	5,000.00	2,317.39	3,000.00
Travel (non research clusters)	0	0	3,500.00
CHCI Membership	300.00	0	300.00
Books for book groups	0	506.84	500.00
Catering (non research clusters)	0	1,100.42	500.00
Previous year carry over costs		2,371.92	1,500.00
TOTALS	67,494.00	45,845.44	50,000.00

A Sampling of UMIH Events: 2024-2025



Talk by UMIH Graduate Fellow
Karen Brglez
(Department of History)

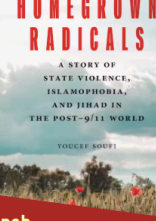
Thursday March 6
2:30 - 4:00 PM
Tier 409

Bleeding Hearts:
Missions, Philanthropy, Gender,
and Indigenous Peoples
in Saskatchewan, 1890-1920

Sentimentality was at the core of female missionary efforts in Saskatchewan. This presentation explores the strategic use of sentimental rhetoric by female missionaries who worked in the Canadian Indian Residential School System and in First Nations reserves during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Image credit: The Presbyterian Church in Canada Archives G-024-PC File 100, Residential School, 18th 18th, Sask, 1904

Institute for the Humanities 



HOME GROWN RADICALS
A STORY OF
STATE VIOLENCE,
ISLAMOPHOBIA,
AND TERROR IN
THE POST-9/11 WORLD
YOUCEF SOUFI

A Book Launch
featuring UMIH
Research Affiliate
Dr. Youcef Soufi
(Researcher in Islamophobia
The Centre for Human Rights Research)

Thursday 6 February
2:30 - 4:00 PM
409 Tier

Please join us to celebrate the launch of *Homegrown Radicals: A Story of State Violence, Islamophobia, and Jihad in the Post-9/11 World* (NYU Press). At this event, Dr. Soufi will share an overview and reading from his book. The event will include a moderated discussion. Refreshments will be served. All are welcome.

Image by Wirestock from Getty Images

Institute for the Humanities 



UMIH Graduate
Fellowship Talk by
Carla Kennedy
(Indigenous Studies)

Thursday Feb 13
2:30 - 4:00 PM
On Zoom

Tipācimowinan: Ahki sigwa keteyak
Stories: land and the long-ago ones

Antihegemonic perspectives encompass a holistic understanding of relationships between mental, physical, spiritual, and emotional aspects of self, alongside links between human and more-than-human relations over multiple generations. In this talk, Carla Kennedy will share stories from her grandmother's teachings on elements of Indigenous knowledge and applied sciences, stories told while checking snares for rabbits in the bush that surrounds the Qu'Appelle valley. These stories and life experiences are embedded in Carla's research, which integrates Indigenous methods with Drone technology. Please email umih@umanitoba.ca for the Zoom link.

ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND AND LEARN

Image by Wirestock from Getty Images

Institute for the Humanities 



UMIH Research
Affiliate Talk by
Dr. Rachel Shields
(McMaster University)

Thursday Feb. 27
2:30 - 4:00
409 Tier

Impersonal Love
Theorizing Antisocial Maternity
in the Wake of Leo Bersani

In this talk, Dr. Shields will explore connections between Leo Bersani's queer theory and views on motherhood that resist conventional pressures of "maternal love." Please attend to learn from Dr. Shields as she explores critiques of modern motherhood and analyzes both literary works and films that showcase alternative, "antisocial" maternal approaches.

ALL ARE WELCOME

3D rendering by Artbox

Institute for the Humanities 

UMIH Presents:
LET'S HAVE A BALL!
Hosted by Patrick Ian Formin



Tuesday, March 18, 2025
2:30 pm - 4:30 pm
409 Tier

Join us for a screening and discussion of
Paris is Burning

umih@umanitoba.ca with questions and accessibility needs

Image by Wirestock from Getty Images

Institute for the Humanities 

YOU ARE INVITED TO
AN OPEN MIC EVENT

OPEN MIC NIGHT

FRIDAY MARCH 21
4:00PM - 5:30PM
HANEY READING ROOM
FLETCHER ARGUE 625

Image by Wirestock from Getty Images

Institute for the Humanities 

POETRY AS ACADEMIC CONVERSATION
A POETRY READING AND CONVERSATION FEATURING
DR. ALISON CALDER & DR. CHRISTINE STEWART



MODERATED BY
DR. JAMIE PARIS

ORGANIZED BY THE ECOLOGY,
CANADIAN POETRY, AND LABOUR
RESEARCH CLUSTER

HOSTED BY UMIH

WED MARCH 12
2:30 PM - 4:00 PM
HANEY READING ROOM
FLETCHER ARGUE 625

ALL ARE WELCOME

Image by Wirestock from Getty Images

Institute for the Humanities 

EXPERIENTIAL TEACHING AND LEARNING IN HUMANITIES CLASSROOMS
A ROUNDTABLE CONVERSATION



CO-HOSTED BY UMIH AND THE OFFICE OF EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING (CATL)

Image by Wirestock from Getty Images

Institute for the Humanities 

Poetic Resistance:
Glory to Work-Class Creatives
with Justene Dion-Glowa



Join poet Justene Dion-Glowa for a reading from their collection *Trailer Park Shakes* (Brick Books) as well as new forthcoming work

The reading will be followed by a Q&A on remaining creative within the confines of working-class realities

Friday March 14
2:30-4:00pm CST
On Zoom

To receive the Zoom link, please email:
umih@umanitoba.ca

Image by Wirestock from Getty Images

Institute for the Humanities 

UMIH Presents:
Queer in Translation
REPRESENTATIONS OF QUEER LOVE IN INTERNATIONAL CINEMA

Presented by:
Patrick Ian Formin

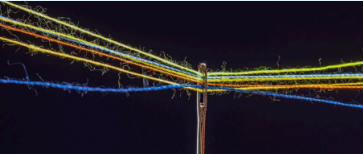
Wednesday, April 10, 2024
2:30pm - 3:30pm
409 Tier

Join us for a discussion of the film:
Lie With Me (2022)

umih@umanitoba.ca with questions and accessibility needs

Image by Wirestock from Getty Images

Institute for the Humanities 



Small Things:
Cross-Stitch Provocations



A Two-Part Hands-On Workshop
with CCWOC Writer-in-Residence Dr. Sonja Boon
Monday, Feb 10 & Monday, Feb 24
2:30-4:00pm; Tier 409

In this two-part workshop, participants will learn about cross-stitch histories and activism, create their own cross-stitch pieces, and then place them in public locations across campus.

All are welcome to attend.

This event is co-organized by CCWOC and UMIH. To learn more, follow us on Instagram @ccwoc.ufm and @umih. To learn more about Sonja Boon, visit sonjaboon.com

Image by Wirestock from Getty Images

Institute for the Humanities 



Dear Alice: Writing and Stitching with Archival Materials
A Two-Part Hands-On Workshop
with CCWOC Writer-in-Residence Dr. Sonja Boon
Monday, March 3rd & Monday, March 17 (2:30-4:00pm)

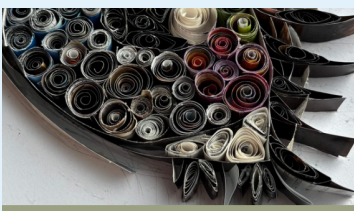
This two-part workshop brings archival materials, found poetry, and textile art into conversation with one another. The first session, to take place in UM Library Archives & Special Collections, will introduce participants to power, politics, and possibilities in the archives, while the second session, in Tier 409, will introduce found poetry as a mode of inquiry and creative exploration. Participants will create individual blocks of a quilt that will be stitched together by Sonja Boon.

This event is co-organized by CCWOC and UMIH. To learn more, follow us on Instagram @ccwoc.ufm and @umih. To learn more about Sonja Boon, visit sonjaboon.com

All are welcome

Image by Wirestock from Getty Images

Institute for the Humanities 



UMIH CRAFTERNOON
Paper, Scissors, Glue

Thursday Jan. 30
@ 2:30 in Tier 409

Image by Wirestock from Getty Images

Institute for the Humanities 



UMIH CRAFTERNOON
BOOK BINDING

Thursday March 13
@ 2:30 in Tier 409

Image by Wirestock from Getty Images

Institute for the Humanities 

POETRY AS ACADEMIC CONVERSATION
FEATURING
DR. ALISON CALDER & DR. CHRISTINE STEWART



Image by Wirestock from Getty Images

Institute for the Humanities 



SKILLS WORKSHOP
SWEATY PALMS AND BREATHLESSNESS: PREPARING FOR STRESSFUL PRESENTATIONS

Tuesday 18 February
@ 2:30 on Zoom

Image by Wirestock from Getty Images

Institute for the Humanities 

The University of Manitoba Institute for the Humanities (UMIH) was established in 1990 to foster research and scholarship in the humanities at the University of Manitoba, promote interdisciplinary research in the humanities, and help obtain external funding for humanities research.

The Institute addresses the needs and interests of researchers in a broad range of subjects including literature and languages, philosophy, history, and religion; and also the literary, philosophical, theological, and historical aspects of the social and physical sciences, mathematics, fine arts, and professional studies.

The UMIH is located within the Faculty of Arts, but is intended to serve the entire humanities constituency in the university and the general community.

The Institute is, accordingly, committed to community outreach through programs and lecture series for the general public.



University
of Manitoba

Institute for the
Humanities

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Facebook: Institute for the Humanities, University of Manitoba
Instagram: @umih____
Youtube: UMIH Institute for the Humanities
UMIH blog: <https://umhumanities.com/>