



ATHENA

HRG NEWSLETTER 2024-2025



Director's Message

After an exciting year of engaging talks for enthusiastic crowds in 2023/24, the HRG is thrilled to announce significant expansions of our offerings and phenomenal partnerships for 2024/25. This year's theme, "Open Dialogue and Open Minds," presents a lineup of speakers with expertise in literature, arts, philosophy, science, and history. We launch in September with an event featuring prolific writer and professor **Randy Boyagoda**, the University of Toronto's Advisor on Civil Discourse, speaking on the very topic of civil discourse on campus in an evening that will be recorded and broadcast nationally and streamed internationally on the **CBC's** longest-running radio program, IDEAS. Running continually since 1965, IDEAS' dedication to philosophy and critical thought makes it a perfect match for the HRG at UWindsor. We are pleased that they chose to partner with us, and we look forward to welcoming host **Nahlah Ayed** and the IDEAS team to our campus. We hope to have a large and enthusiastic welcome for them from our audience and suspect many of you will be keen to hear the lecture and meet Nahlah. October features renowned writer, broadcaster, and national arts expert **Jesse Wente** for a talk about Indigenous representation on film. The HRG is partnering with the Moving Histories: Public Memory and Visual Culture Symposium and the Windsor International Film Festival for a screening programmed by Jesse in coordination with his HRG talk.

In November, we launch the first of three annual events dedicated to the legacy of University of Windsor Philosophy professor Dr. Catherine Hundleby. This inaugural event features a panel on justice and argument featuring PhD students **Alisha Jacobs** and **Oxana Pimenova** with Professor **Christopher W. Tindale**. The HRG is proud to devote this series to Catherine's memory, as she touched and is missed by so many. This event will also introduce the Green Bean Café on main campus as a venue for HRG events. Also in the fall, Humanities Week returns this November with a weeklong series of online events dedicated to ways to communicate Humanities research widely across multiple forms of media, from books to smartphones. We welcome feedback from our audience on their preferred venues and times for our offerings and look forward to comments on preferred spaces to host our spirited events. All are welcome to register and attend this weeklong series on publicity, communication, and dissemination of our thoughts and work.

We greet the new year with **Donald Robertson**, noted psychologist and bestselling author, on stoicism's philosophical, psychological, and historical dynamics. In February, we will hear from esteemed freshwater scientist **Dr. Catherine Febria** about the interconnections between women and water. We will end our season with an HRG Fellowship extravaganza that features our 2024-25 HRG Faculty Fellow, **Dr. Gregg French**, and our six student fellows, an initiative spearheaded by the Feminist Research Group and continuing with the generous support of Dr. Robert Aguirre and the Office of the Provost. This event will give our three undergraduate fellows, **Hallelujah Aboona**, **Faiha Alhussainawi**, and **Roy Koloff**, and graduate fellows, **Karleigh Kochaniec**, **Kalie Chapman**, and **Elsbeth McKay**, the opportunity to speak about their research programs supported by their HRG fellowships.

Thanks to everyone who came out to our vibrant slate of events last year, which featured writers, journalists, educators, filmmakers, artists, and scholars—many of whom combined two or three of those descriptors: Deborah Dundas, Jason McBride, Michael Naicker, Michelle Shephard, Rebecca Major, Timotheus Vermeulen, and our 2023-24 Fellow, Catherine Heard. We are grateful to Dean Cheryl Collier and the FAHSS Dean's Office for their continued support of everything the HRG does in our community. The HRG extends sincere appreciation for the support of the team at SoCA for hosting so many of our events in the beautiful Performance Hall. Please take special note of days, times, and locations for this year's roster of activities and stay updated about our exciting events through the HRG listserv. If you have not subscribed yet, please email your request to join HRGmail@uwindsor.ca. We invite your comments and suggestions to our email address as well. You can also find out what we are up to at any time at uwindsor.ca/hrg. Please mark your calendars for a captivating season ahead. We hope to see and hear from you at our upcoming events. In the meantime, please read on for more information and all the best to you for 2024-25!

Kim Nelson

Director of the Humanities Research Group



HRG 2024-2025 UPCOMING CALENDAR EVENTS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2024 - PERFORMANCE HALL, 6PM



Randy Boyagoda is the University of Toronto's advisor on Civil Discourse. The author of seven books, including four novels, a novella, a critical biography, and a scholarly monograph, he is Professor of English at the University of Toronto, where he serves as Vice-Dean, Undergraduate in the Faculty of Arts and Science. He contributes essays, reviews, and opinions to a variety of publications including the New York Times, the Times Literary Supplement, and the Globe and Mail, while appearing frequently on CBC Radio. He served as President of PEN Canada from 2015-2017. He lives in Toronto with his wife and four daughters.

Civil discourse or civil war? Ideas and Realities of the Contemporary University

In this lecture, novelist and professor Randy Boyagoda argues that universities have always been expected to promote civil discourse and never satisfy anyone's expectations that they are doing so successfully. This gap between idea and reality is consistent with a larger gap between ideas and realities of the university, which are always subject to criticism and complaint from their constituents and from the public at large, that they are failing to fulfil their missions and instead sustaining endless conflicts and controversies. Do we assign seemingly unmeetable expectations to the university itself, and can there be another way to close the gap between our ideas about it, and its realities? And could a more durable conception of civil discourse itself be a way of doing so?

The event will be recorded for broadcast on CBC IDEAS with host Nahla Ayed in attendance

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2024 - PERFORMANCE HALL, 5:30PM



[Jesse Wenté's Website](#)

Jesse Wenté is a respected writer, broadcaster, and arts administrator. He is part Genaabaajing Anishinaabek and a member of the Serpent River First Nation. Wenté served on the board of directors for Native Earth Performing Arts, ImagineNative, The Toronto Arts Council and the Canada Council for the Arts. He has been a programmer for many film festivals, including ImagineNative Film and Media Festival, the Reel World Film Festival, and the Toronto International Film Festival. In 2012, Jesse presented First Peoples Cinema, the largest retrospective of global Indigenous cinema ever mounted to that point. It was accompanied by a gallery exhibition, Home on Native Land, co-curated with Steven Loft. He is the founding director of the Indigenous Screen Office and current Chair of the Canada Council for the Arts.

Searching for History and Truth on Screen

In this exclusive talk Jesse Wenté, the bestselling author, award winning speaker and longtime film critic and curator, will explore truth, history and Indigenous representation on screen in the films, *The Searchers* and *Maliglutit (Searchers)*. *The Searchers* is among the most famous films by legendary director John Ford, starring his muse John Wayne, while *Maliglutit (Searchers)* is a modern remake by equally legendary director Zacharius Kunuk set in the Arctic. Using both films, Jesse will explore Indigenous representation in cinema, narrative sovereignty, and how our understanding of history is shaped by screen storytelling.

Talk to be followed by special WIFF screening of Zacharius Kanuk's Maliglutit (Searchers)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2024 - GREEN BEAN CAFE, 6PM

First Annual HRG TRIBUTE to CATHERINE HUNDLEBY



This special HRG SALON event, dedicated to Dr. Catherine Hundleby, features a panel presentation by **Alisha Jacobs**, **Oxana Pimenov**, and **Christopher W. Tindale**. Jacobs is a 2nd-year PhD candidate in Argumentation Studies whose work focuses on social justice issues; Pimenova is a SSHRC post-doctoral student at CRRAR who holds PhDs in Law and Policy Studies. Her post-doctoral project is entitled "Developing a predictive machine learning model to detect and forecast Argument Continuities in government-led reasoning: the case of superficial Indigenous consultations." Tindale is a member of the Philosophy department, the Director of CRRAR, and co-editor of the journal, *Informal Logic*. A prolific and influential thinker in the areas of Argumentation Theory and Rhetoric, his work has been translated into several languages.

Justice and Argument: The Legacy of Catherine E. Hundleby

In many minds, Philosophy Professor Catherine Hundleby is to be remembered for her pioneering work in feminist argumentation. Equally important are her responses to issues of injustice (argumentative and epistemic injustice) and her work on equity. "Oppression," she wrote in a 2013 paper, "pervades social institutions from formal organizations such as schools and the law to informal institutions such as politeness, marriage, and even the discipline of philosophy. Oppression shapes the people in those institutions and influences their argumentation practices, and the reception of their arguments." This stand is the focus of the panel, which takes its impetus from Hundleby's work but quickly moves to explore wider questions that impact on Canadian issues of injustice, especially involving Indigenous communities.

HRG 2024-2025 UPCOMING CALENDAR EVENTS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 30, 2025 - PERFORMANCE HALL, 6PM



[Donald Robertson's Website](#)
[Newsletter](#)
[Amazon Author Profile](#)

Donald Robertson is an author and former cognitive-behavioural psychotherapist, who was born in Scotland but now lives in Canada and Greece. He is one of the founders of the Modern Stoicism nonprofit and the founder and president of the Plato's Academy Centre nonprofit in Athens. He is the author of seven books on philosophy and psychotherapy, including *How to Think Like a Roman Emperor* and, more recently, *How to Think Like Socrates*.

The Psychology of Stoicism

What can we learn about self-improvement, or even psychotherapy, from the writings of ancient Stoics, such as Seneca, Epictetus, and Marcus Aurelius? Robertson will explore parallels between ancient philosophy and modern psychotherapy, in terms of both theory and practice. He will also discuss ways in which Stoic philosophy can help us today through the use of specific psychological exercises derived from ancient texts. He will also discuss ways in which Stoicism has been appropriated and misinterpreted by some modern influencers.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2025 - PERFORMANCE HALL, 6PM



Dr. Catherine Febria is a Pinay/Filipina immigrant, guest and settler on Turtle Island who conceptualized and launched the Healthy Headwaters Lab at the University of Windsor in 2019. Driven by the mission to restore freshwater ecosystems to full health to benefit future generations, she has brought together individuals with diverse gifts to work together in pursuit of research excellence through a de/anti-colonized, holistic, and partnership-focused approach. Her work focuses on relationships with freshwater, and the responsibility of all people to care for water. Drawing upon her lived experiences as a woman in science, the lab practices relationship-building, kinship and responsibility-based language when advancing research to inform freshwater restoration on local to global scales.

Women, Water and Restoration Science

Many cultures share the value that Water is Life. Locally to globally, women have held a responsibility to care for the Water. In so-called Canada we are in a phase of reconciliation, reconciling our relationship with the Water, Nibii. This talk will share a journey taken together - women, scientists, communities - all working to heal our relationships with Water. Highlighting examples from various grants including a recent SSHRC Partnership Development grant, I will share perspectives and examples of re-imagined, interdisciplinary and co-created research that embrace relational and narrative approaches. Notably, I will share insights into the diversity of outcomes that emerge when we seek to use science as a tool to connect Land, Water and People.

THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 2025 - PERFORMANCE HALL, 6PM



[Dr. Gregg French's Website](#)

Links to Articles in Edited Volumes:

[Reconstruction and Empire](#)

[Spain and the American Revolution](#)

[Spain, the United States, and Transatlantic Literary Culture throughout the Nineteenth Century](#)

Dr. Gregg French's research explores race-based identity formation and projections of imperial power in colonial spaces. During his time as the HRG Fellow, Dr. French will be completing his current book project, *America's Hispanic Empire: Antecedents and Identity Formation in the U.S. Imperial Experience*. The work critically examines how agents of the U.S. Empire were influenced by their interactions with Spanish colonial officials and the remnants of the Spanish imperial legacy during the long nineteenth century. Additionally, he will be piloting the revamped HRG Student Fellowship Program, which will provide both upper-year undergraduate and graduate students with the opportunity to advance their own research or creative project under his mentorship.

America's Hispanic Empire: Antecedents and Identity Formation in the U.S. Imperial Experience

Dr. Gregg French will explore how agents of the American Empire were influenced by their interactions with Spanish colonial officials and the remnants of the Spanish imperial legacy during the long nineteenth century. These interactions informed how Americans conceptualized and engaged with Indigenous peoples, Filipinos, and individuals of African descent who inhabited areas that had once been claimed by the Spanish Empire. The work concludes that representatives of the U.S. Empire developed an admiration towards their Spanish counterparts, including Spanish art and literature, imperial understandings, and colonial practices. This admiration enabled influential Americans to appropriate aspects of the Spanish past to serve as the foundation of the American imperial narrative and thus, challenges beliefs associated with the exceptional American experience.

This event features presentations from our **2024-25 HRG Student Fellows: Hallelujah Aboona, Faiha Alhussainawi, Roy Koloff, Kalie Chapman, Karleigh Kochaniec, and Elspeth McKay**

Humanities Week, Research Outreach Series

NOVEMBER 18-22, 2024 - 1:00-2:30PM ONLINE

Mark your calendars for a weeklong online series featuring experts from across North America dedicated to research and creative dissemination through community outreach, book publishing, podcasting, and arts-based expression.

Please join our listserv by emailing your request to receive notifications about all our events and to sign up for this vital and informative series.

Who We Are

Kim Nelson, Director, HRG

Cheryl N. Collier, Dean, FAHSS

Ronnie Haidar, Student Rep, Philosophy, FAHSS Student Engagement and Outreach Coordinator

Nick Hector, School of Creative Arts

Michelle MacArthur, School of Dramatic Arts

Judy Sinanga-Ohlmann, Languages, Literatures, and Cultures

For more information about HRG events, funding, and initiatives, please go to uwindsor.ca/hrg

