

LEGAL FICTIONS

November 13-14, 2009

IN EARLY CULTURES

The University of California, Irvine



co-sponsored by the Humanities Center, the Center in Law, Society and Culture, the Department of English, and the Chancellor's Fellows Program

GROUP FOR THE STUDY OF EARLY CULTURES
Second Annual Graduate Student Conference

Friday, November 13, 2009
Humanities Gateway 1030

8:30 – 9:00 | Breakfast & Coffee (catered)

9:00 – 9:15 | Welcome and Introductory Remarks

9:15 – 10:30am | **Illegal Fictions**

MODERATOR: PROFESSOR JANE O. NEWMAN, UCI
CJ Gordon, UC Irvine

“Bread God, Blood God: Mandatory Fictions in Late Medieval Eucharistic Piety”

Nicolette Bruner, University of Michigan

“False Prophets: Justice, Law, and Prescience in Njáls Saga”

Jennifer Nelson, Yale University

“Salvation History on Trial: Visual and Legal Representation in Bellaert’s *Belial* of 1484”

10:30 – 10:45 **Break**

10:45 – 12:00 | **Writing Jurisdictions**

MODERATOR: PROFESSOR RACHEL O’TOOLE, UCI
K-Sue Park, UC Berkeley

“On Law, the Legal Document and Legitimacy: Revisiting the *Requerimiento*”

Paul Johnson, UC Irvine

“The Legal and Literary Status (es) of the Early Modern Spanish Captive”

Macy Todd, NYU

“Verdicts North and South: Irish Law in Spenser and Carleton”

12:00pm – 1:30 | **Break for Lunch**

1:30pm – 2:45pm **KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

Laurie Shannon, Northwestern University

“In the Beginning:

Genesis, Animal Entitlement, and the
Legal Fiction of Human Authority in Early
Modernity”

introduced by Julia Lupton

2:45pm – 4:00 | **Fictiones Legales**

MODERATOR: PROFESSOR SUSAN JARRATT, UCI
Éloïse Lemay, University of Western Ontario
“Quantum interrex nobis!”

Michael W. Heil, Columbia University

“The Uses of the *Placitum* in the Late Tenth Century:
The Example of Cremona”

Alex Perkins, UC Irvine

“Citizens of God: Early Christian Identity and the Ethereal
Boundaries of Augustine’s *Civitas Dei*”

4:00pm – 4:15 | **Break**

4:15 pm – 5:45 | **Women, Men, and the Law in Early Modern
England**

MODERATOR: PROFESSOR IAN MUNRO, UCI
Laura Nowocin, Miami University

“My will shall be to me instead of law”: Silence, Excess, and
the Female Petitioner in the Seventeenth-Century Court
Masque

Josh Pearson, Kansas State University

“The Husband’s Office”: The Doubling of Domestic and Civil
Power in *A Comedy of Errors*”

Lisa M. Barksdale-Shaw, Michigan State University

“But now her price is fall’n”: Devalued Brides, Disappearing
Dowries, and the Legal Economies of Marriage in
Shakespeare’s *Lear*”

Daniel Bergen, Marquette University, WI

“The Female Ungoverned: The Case of Thomas Crowther vs.
Elizabeth Moorfoote”

630-8:30 pm

RECEPTION

28 Virgil Court

Irvine, CA 92617

Saturday – November 14, 2009

HUMANITIES GATEWAY IOIO

8:30 – 9:00 | Breakfast & Coffee (catered)

9:00 – 10:15 | Narrative and Adjudication

MODERATOR: PROFESSOR VICTORIA SILVER, UCI

Kathleen Zvarych, University of Texas at Austin

“Mining the Jurisprudential Landscape: Legal Discourses in Paradise Lost”

Nicole Wright, Yale University

“‘The consciousness of being half-caught in the act’: Self-awareness, culpability and ‘legal dignity’ in Walter Scott’s Later Novel”

Jeff Wilson, UC Irvine

“Straightening Out the Tudor Myth: Politics, Law, and the Modern Audience of the Shakespearean History Play”

10:15 – 10:30 | Break

10:30 – 11:45 | Legal Alchemy

MODERATOR: PROFESSOR JAYNE LEWIS, UCI

Jenny Liou, UC Irvine

“Not Betraying but Translating: Treason and the Legal Fictions of Restoration Science”

Jackie Way, UC Irvine

“The Magical Nature of the Law in Eliza Haywood’s *Adventures of Eovaai*”

Dan Keegan, UC Irvine

“Of A Montebank: The Poison Effect in *Hamlet*”

Anannya Dasgupta, Rutgers University

“I’ll bring thee rogue within the statute of sorcery”: Vagrancy, Witchcraft and Secular Law in Ben Jonson’s *The Alchemist*”

11:45 – 12:00 | Break

12:00 – 1:15 | The Medieval Legal Character

MODERATOR: PROFESSOR BECKY DAVIS, UCI

Patrick Blong, UC Irvine

“The Word: Providence and Law in the Towneley Cycle”

Jonathan Fine, UC Irvine

“Judge as Figure/Judge as Function: The Role of Judgment in Late Medieval German Literature”

Elizabeth Strakhov, University of Pennsylvania

“Historical Fiction and the Practice of Rhetoric: Chaucer’s Man of Law”

1:15 – 3:00 | Lunch (catered) and Roundtable discussion

This conference is free and open to the public. Co-sponsored by UCI’s Group for the Study of Early Cultures, the Humanities Center, and the Chancellor’s Fellowship Program.

For up-to-date conference information, visit the Early Cultures Website: <http://www.humanities.uci.edu/earlycultures/>

ENJOY!

