

CENTRE FOR RESEARCH iN CULTURAL STUDIES

ANNUAL REPORT

2024-25



THE UNIVERSITY OF
WINNIPEG

CRiCS
Centre for Research in Cultural Studies



Social Sciences and Humanities
Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en
sciences humaines du Canada

Canada



MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

2024-25 has been a stellar year for CRiCS, its programming, and membership. Highlights include the Centre's inaugural participation in UWinnipeg's Research Week; a lecture series on Culture, Climate Justice, and Critical Hope; and a collaborative publication with the University of Manitoba's Centre for Human Rights Research, *Unmasking Transphobia: Building Transpositive Solidarities*, edited by former CRiCS Acting Chair Dr. Jason Hannan. We also hosted the Palestinian Literature, Film, & Theory Reading Group led by Drs. Jane Barter,

Bruno Cornellier, and Jason Hannan. In keeping with the critical interdisciplinary work of Cultural Studies and CRiCS, this robustly attended group was an important intervention into the relatively few opportunities for such discussions on campus. Our CRiCS dedicated RA, Precious Gauthier, has made outstanding contributions across the centre's programming, helping to demonstrate that CRiCS serves as a context for the mentorship of students from the MA program in Cultural Studies and the Research Assistants of faculty members. I want to extend a special thanks to Angela McGillivray for her exemplary work in the capacity of Administrative Coordinator for CRiCS, and to the Advisory Committee members for their dedication and commitment to the self-governing of CRiCS. It has been my pleasure and privilege to continue serving as the Director of the Centre. It is an intellectual community of truly remarkable connections, in and beyond the University.

- Dr. Angela Failler

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CENTRE MEMBERSHIP

DIRECTOR

Dr. Angela Failler

STAFF

Angela McGillivray (Administrative Coordinator) - August 2024 to present
Jordyn Sheldon (Research Coordinator) - December 2023-August 2024

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Member At Large: Jason Hannan (Rhetoric, Writing, and Communications)

Member At Large: Bruno Cornellier (English)

Member At Large: Kerry Sinanan (English)

Coordinator of the MA program in Cultural Studies: Peter Ives (Political Science)

CRYTC Member: Mavis Reimer (English, Graduate Studies)

Student Representative: Shivanya Ra Albas (MA student, Cultural Studies)

External Member: Vacant

CRiCS MEMBERSHIP



Dr. Angela Failler
CRiCS Director, Canada Research
Chair, Women's & Gender Studies



Dr. Chigbo Arthur Anyaduba
English



Dr. Jobb Arnold
Conflict Resolution Studies



Dr. Adina Balint
Modern Languages
and Literatures



Dr. Jane Barter
Religion and Culture



Dr. Julie Chamberlain
Urban and Inner-City Studies



Dr. Bruno Cornellier
English



Dr. Amelia Curran
Criminal Justice



Dr. Bronwyn Dobchuk-Land
Criminal Justice



Dr. Christina Fawcett
English



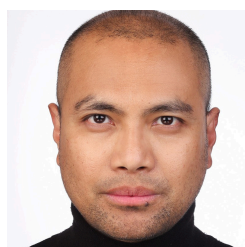
Dr. Melissa Funke
Classics



Jennifer Gibson
Gallery 1C03



Dr. Pauline Greenhill
Women's and Gender Studies



Dr. Dennis Gupa
Theatre and Film



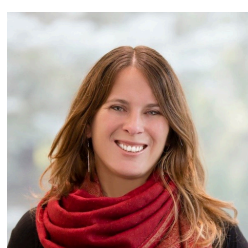
Dr. Jason Hannan
Rhetoric, Writing, and
Communications



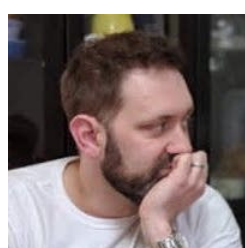
Dr. Peter Ives
Political Science



Dr. Leah Kuragano
History



Dr. Shauna Labman
Global College



Brett Loughheed
University Archives,
Oral History Centre



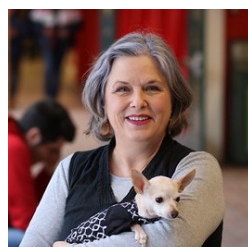
Dr. Mary Jane McCallum
History



Dr. Andrew McGillivray
Rhetoric, Writing, and
Communications



Dr. Heather Milne
English



Dr. Julie Pelletier
Anthropology



Dr. Sam Popowich
Library



Dr. Kathryn Ready
English



Dr. Mavis Reimer
English, CRYTC



Dr. Jacqueline Romanow
Indigenous Studies



Dr. Sharanpal Ruprai
Women's and Gender Studies



Brianne Selman
Library



Jane Shulman
Education



Dr. Ray Silvius
Political Science



Dr. Kerry Sinanan
English



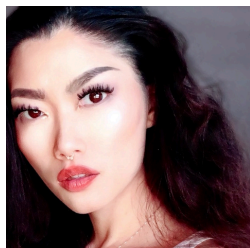
Dr. Aarzo Singh
Women's and Gender Studies



Dr. Kevin Walby
Criminal Justice



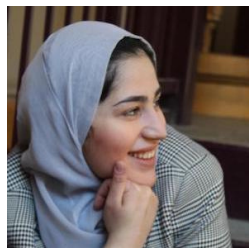
Dr. Tracy Whalen
Rhetoric, Writing, and
Communications



Dr. Jenny Heijun Wills
English



Dr. Doris Wolf
English



Salam Al Sayed
External Member



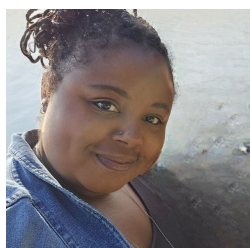
Dr. Heidi Kosonen
Visiting Scholar



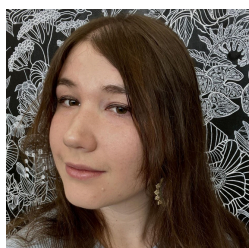
Les Sabiston
External Member



Angela McGillivray
Administrative Coordinator



Precious Gauthier
MA Student, Cultural Studies, and
CRICS Research Assistant



Shivanya Ra
MA Student, Cultural Studies



Katryna Barske
Alum, Cultural Studies



Alireza Bayat
Alum, Cultural Studies



Taylor Boucher
Alum, Cultural Studies



Claire Normandeau
Alum, Cultural Studies



Perry Thomson
Alum, Cultural Studies

CENTRE ACTIVITIES

KNOWLEDGE MOBILIZATION EVENTS AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

2024-25 Lecture Series:

Conversations on Culture, Climate Justice, and Critical Hope

“What Does This All Have to Do with Coconuts and Rice?”* (and Typhoons and Climate Change?): Theatre Between Philippines, Southeast Asia, and Canada (and Beyond)”

Lecture by Dennis Gupa, Assistant Professor, UW Department of Theatre and Film

Wednesday, September 25, 2024 | 12:30-1:20pm



“Planetary Death and Death-Denial in the Processes of Life”

Lecture by Heidi Kosonen, Postdoctoral Researcher, Contemporary Culture, University of Jyväskylä, Finland

Co-presented with the UW Comparative Literature Program

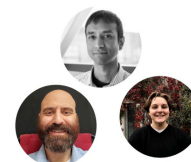
Friday, October 4, 2024 | 12:30-1:20pm



“The Meat Industry and Climate Disinformation”

Lecture/panel discussion by Jason Hannan, Professor, UW Department of Rhetoric, Writing & Communications, Howard Nye, Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy, University of Alberta, and Maddie Youngman, PhD Candidate, Gender and Social Justice Program, University of Alberta

Wednesday, November 20, 2024 | 12:30-1:20pm



Crippling Climate Adaptation: Disability Justice and Climate Change

Film screening and discussion with the film’s co-directors, Karina Cardona and Erika McPherson

Co-presented with Prairie Climate Centre

Monday, January 27, 2025 | 12:30-1:20pm



Forward, by Chantal Bilodeau

Viewing and post-show debrief with the cast and crew, UW Department of Theatre and Film

Thursday, February 13, 2025 | Performance at 7:30pm, immediately followed by debrief



“Energy and Climate Communications at Cultural Events”

Devin Latimer, Faculty Member, UW Department of Chemistry

Friday, March 7, 2025 | 12:30-1:20pm



<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/crics/research-talk-series/2024-25.html>

Palestinian Literature, Film, and Theory Reading Group

Discussion group, organized by CRiCS members Jane Barter, Bruno Cornellier, and Jason Hannan

September 11, 2024; October 11 and 25, 2024; November 8 and 22, 2024; December 6, 2024; January 24, 2025; February 7 and 28, 2025; and March 14, 2025
12:30-2:00pm

<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/crics/reading-group-series/2024-25.html>

SPECIAL EVENTS

Research Week 2024-25

Wednesday, November 13, 2024

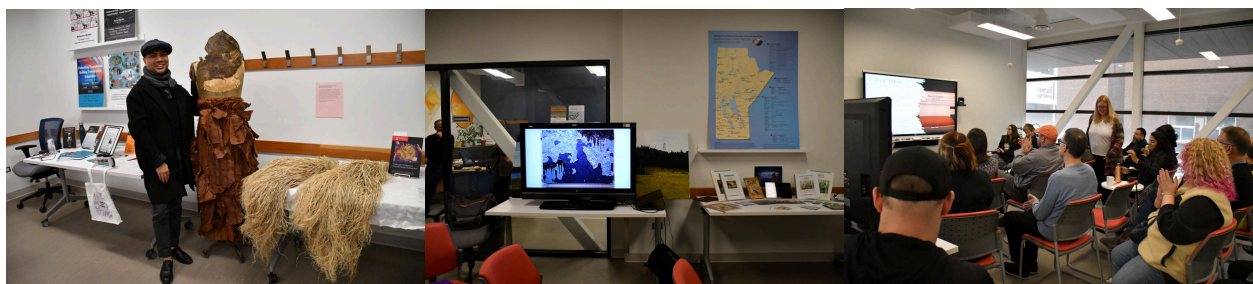
10:00am-4:00pm: *Research Exhibition*

- Dr. Sam Popowich, Digital Infrastructure Librarian
- Dr. Dennis Gupa, Assistant Professor, Theatre and Film
- Dr. Aarzoo Singh, Assistant Professor, Women's and Gender Studies
- Ben Davis, visual artist, and Dr. Kevin Walby, Professor, Criminal Justice
- Dr. Angela Failler, Professor, Women's and Gender Studies, Canada Research Chair, and Director of CRiCS
- Dr. Mavis Reimer, Professor, English and Director of CRYTC, Dr. Doris Wolf, Associate Professor, English, and Dr. Roland Bohr, Associate Professor, History

12:20-1:30pm: *Lightning Talks*

- Dr. Kerry Sinanan, Assistant Professor, English
- Dr. Melanie Braith, Senior Research Associate for The Six Seasons of the Asiniskaw Īthiniwak and CRYTC
- Dr. Christina Fawcett, Instructor, English
- Dr. Peter Ives, Professor, Political Science
- Dr. Jenny Heijun Wills, Professor, English
- Dr. Jane Barter, Professor, Religion and Culture
- Dr. Jason Hannan, Professor, Rhetoric, Writing, and Communications
- Dr. Andrew McGillivray, Associate Professor, Rhetoric, Writing, and Communications
- Ben Davis, visual artist, and Dr. Kevin Walby, Professor, Criminal Justice
- Dr. Bruno Cornellier, Professor, English
- Dr. Angela Failler, Professor, Women's and Gender Studies, Canada Research Chair, and Director of CRiCS

<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/crics/special-events/crics-crytc-research-week.html>





CRiCS Tour of “extracted” Exhibition by artist Ben Davis

Artist talk/exhibit tour

Wednesday, October 9, 2024

<https://aceart.org/2024/08/28/extracted-upcoming-exhibition-by-ben-davis/>



Thinking Through the Museum, Curatorial Dreaming Workshop: *Love Medicine*

June 27-28, 2024

<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/crics/special-events/curatorial-dreaming-love-medicine.html>

EVENTS/ACTIVITIES SUPPORTED BY CRiCS

Book Launches

Several CRiCS members shared invitations to their book launches during this reporting period, including:



Jenny Heijun Wills

Everything and Nothing at All: Essays

Saturday, September 21, 2024 at 7:00pm

In person at McNally Robinson, Grant Park, and streaming on YouTube

<https://www.mcnallyrobinson.com/event-18626/Jenny-Heijun-Wills-Book-Launch>



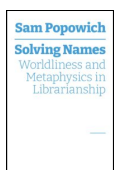
Rethinking Free Speech

Thursday, November 14, 2024 at 7:00 pm

In person at McNally Robinson, Grant Park, and streaming on YouTube

Hosted by CRiCS member Dr. Jason Hannan

<https://www.mcnallyrobinson.com/event-18662/Peter-Ives-Book-Launch>



Sam Popowich

Solving Names: Worldliness and Metaphysics in Librarianship

Tuesday, February 18, 2025 at 10:00am

Online book launch and discussion

<https://litwinbooks.com/books/solving-names-2/>

STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

STUDENT MEMBERS

CRiCS has several student members who are given access to the Centre's resources and workspace and who participate in Centre activities. There are seven student members who are either currently enrolled in or recent graduates of the Cultural Studies MA Program. Many participate in the Centre's in person and virtual events, and one is a member of the CRiCS Advisory Committee.

RESEARCH ASSISTANTS & INTERNS

CRiCS also supports the work of student Research Assistants (RAs) and interns of CRiCS members, hired through members' research grants including the Director's CRC and SSHRC awards, as well as those affiliated with CRiCS members through the Mitacs program.

CRiCS/Museum Queeries RAs met regularly on campus and/or via Zoom to organize and carry out their research work. Many also participated in the Centre's in person and virtual events.

Current RAs

Mahlet Cuff (Undergraduate student, Women's and Gender Studies) – Mahlet works as a Research Assistant for Angela Failler and Heather Milne. They have been an RA from January 2022-present. Their RA work is focused on Black queer life in Manitoba.

Precious Gauthier (Graduate student, Cultural Studies) – Precious works as a Research Assistant with Angela Failler for CRiCS. Her scholarly interests are focused on the experiences, inequalities and disparities in Black and Indigenous communities and the histories of Black people in Canada, specifically but not limited to exploring Black enslavement and mobility in central Canada.

Mika Castro (Graduate Student, Women's and Gender Studies, University of Toronto; UWinnipeg Women's and Gender Studies graduate) – Mika works as a Senior Research Assistant for Angela Failler and Heather Milne. She was hired as a Senior RA in September 2024 and will continue in this role until at least August 31, 2025. She has focused her RA work on the representation of queer immigration/migration at the CMHR, and is interested in museum interventions by queer people of colour.

Nic Kaneski (Undergraduate student, Women's and Gender Studies) – Nic works as a Research Assistant for Angela Failler and Heather Milne. They were hired as a Senior RA in September 2024 and will continue in this role until at least August 31, 2025. Nic's work is focused on queer and trans bodies as archives/museums.

VISITING SCHOLARS/ POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWS

Heidi Kosonen, a postdoctoral researcher (Contemporary Culture) at the University of Jyväskylä, Finland, was a visiting scholar at the University of Winnipeg from September 14 to November 15, 2024, working in collaboration with CRiCS member Pauline Greenhill (Professor, Department of Women's and Gender Studies). Her research expertise covers varied affective contemporary cultural phenomena from suicide cinema to hate speech. Dr. Kosonen was granted access to CRiCS office and research space during her time at UWinnipeg, and also delivered a talk—"Planetary Death and Death-Denial in the Processes of Life"—as part of the Centre's Fall lecture series, Conversations on Culture, Climate

Justice, and Critical Hope. This talk was co-presented with the University of Winnipeg's Comparative Literature Program.

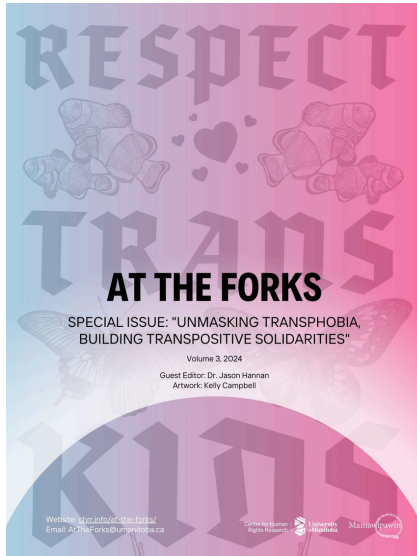


To learn more about Heidi's work, read the interview conducted by CRiCS RA, Precious Gauthier:

<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/crics/ra-contributions1/interview-with-dr-heidi-kosonen.html>

PUBLICATIONS

CRiCS PUBLICATIONS



Unmasking Transphobia, Building Transpositive Solidarities

At the Forks, Special Issue, vol. 3, no. 1, 2024.

CRiCS has collaborated with the Centre for Human Rights Research at the University of Manitoba to publish *Unmasking Transphobia, Building Transpositive Solidarities* as a special issue of *At the Forks*. The issue is based on the talks originally given for a CRiCS roundtable on Friday, March 31, 2023, and is guest edited with an introduction by former Acting Director and CRiCS member Jason Hannan.

<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/crics/unmasking-transphobia-building-transpositive-solidarities/at-the-forks-special-issue.html>

A collection on queer and Two-Spirit representation in Museums co-edited by Drs. Angela Failler (CRiCS Director), Sabrina Mark (former CRiCS Coordinator), Michelle McGeough (Concordia University), and Heather Milne (CRiCS member) to be published by Jagiellonian University Press, is also forthcoming.

MEMBER PUBLICATIONS

As a benefit of membership in CRiCS, we feature new publications from our members on our website: <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/crics/member-publications.html>

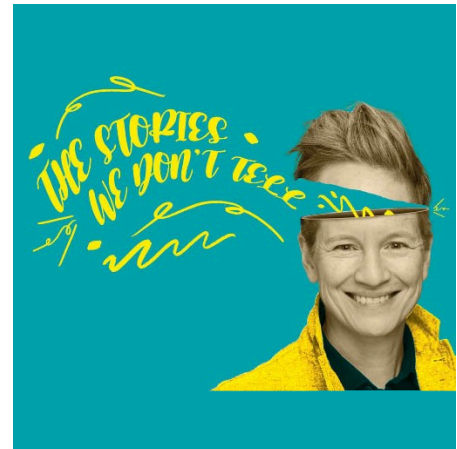
MEDIA & OUTREACH

Angela Failler is helping Canadians discover the gaps in our collective memory

July 3, 2024

Angela Failler was featured in University Affairs for her work as Canada Research Chair in culture and public memory and as Director of CRiCS.

<https://universityaffairs.ca/features/angela-failler-is-helping-canadians-discover-the-gaps-in-our-collective-memory/>



Many other CRiCS members were featured in media stories during the reporting period. Some highlights from our members include:

- Mary Jane McCallum's research into residential school student labour won two awards;
- Jenny Heijun Wills was a finalist for the Hilary Weston Writers' Trust Nonfiction Prize;
- Kevin Walby was recognized for his solidarity work with criminalized people;
- Mary Jane McCallum and Sharanpal Ruprai received SSHRC Insight Grants in 2024;
- Manitoba Indigenous Tuberculosis History Project (MITHP), led by Mary Jane McCallum, won a 2024 Manitoba Day Award;
- and Jason Hannan won the 2024 Erving Goffman Award for his book Trolling Ourselves to Death: Democracy in the Age of Social Media.

These stories and more can be found at the following link:

<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/crics/news/2024/crics-members-in-the-news-2024.html>

CONVERSATIONS ON CULTURE, CLIMATE JUSTICE, & CRITICAL HOPE

**27
JAN**

12:30-1:30PM

**CRIPPING CLIMATE ADAPTATION:
Disability Justice and Climate Change**

Film screening and discussion
with the film's co-directors,
Karina Cardona and Erika MacPherson

Co-presented with *Prairie Climate Centre*

In person in 3C25 or join on Zoom:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82032098600>


**13
FEB**
7:30PM
PERFORMANCE
FOLLOWED
DIRECTLY BY
DEBRIEF
**FORWARD
BY CHANTAL BILODEAU
Viewing and post-show debrief
with the cast and crew**

UW Department of Theatre and Film

UW Asper Centre for Theatre and Film
400 Colony St. (enter from Balmoral St.)

Tickets can be reserved free of charge by visiting the
Department of Theatre and Film website: uwinipeg.ca/theatre-film/


**7
MAR**

12:30-1:30PM

**ENERGY AND CLIMATE
COMMUNICATIONS AT
CULTURAL EVENTS**

Devin Latimer, Faculty Member
UW Department of Chemistry

In person in 3C25 or join on Zoom:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87494524816>



Contact crics@uwinipeg.ca
for more information



CONVERSATIONS ON CULTURE, CLIMATE JUSTICE, & CRITICAL HOPE

**25
SEPT**

12:30-1:30PM

**"WHAT DOES THIS ALL HAVE TO DO
WITH COCONUTS & RICE?" (AND
TYPHOONS AND CLIMATE CHANGE)?
Theatre between Philippines, Southeast Asia,
and Canada (and beyond)**

Dennis Gupa, Assistant Professor
UW Department of Theatre & Film

In person in 3C25 or join on Zoom:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87614677515>


**4
OCT**

12:30-1:30PM

**PLANETARY DEATH &
DEATH-DENIAL IN THE
PROCESSES OF LIFE**

Heidi Kosonen, Postdoctoral Researcher
Contemporary Culture, University of Jyväskylä, Finland

In person in 3C25 or join on Zoom:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84202784527>
co-presented with UW's Comparative Literature Program

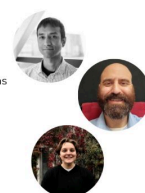

**20
NOV**

12:30-1:30PM

**THE MEAT INDUSTRY &
CLIMATE DISINFORMATION**

Jason Hannan, Professor
UW Department of Rhetoric, Writing & Communications
Howard Nye, Associate Professor
Department of Philosophy, University of Alberta
Maddie Youngman, PhD Candidate
Philosophy, University of Alberta

In person in 3C25 or join on Zoom:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82775791961>



Contact crics@uwinipeg.ca
for more information



PALESTINIAN LITERATURE, FILM, & THEORY READING GROUP

TIME 12:30-2:00pm

LOCATION CRICS Knowledge Mobilization

Lab in 3C25 or join on Zoom
(Passcode 398990, follow the link,
us06web.zoom.us/j/81652150890, or scan the QR code)



Led by designated CRICS members, join us for safe
conversations among members based upon the material.

Schedule of meetings:

DATE	READING	FACILITATOR
September 27, October 11 & 25, 2024	Edward Said, <i>The Question of Palestine</i> , Chapters 1-3	Jason Hannan
November 8, 2024	Film: <i>Divine Intervention</i>	Bruno Cornellier
November 22, 2024	Film: <i>A World Not Ours</i>	Bruno Cornellier
December 6, 2024	Mahmoud Darwish, <i>Almond Blossoms and Beyond</i>	Melissa Funke and Dominique Chudd
January 24 & February 7, 2025	Rashid Khalidi, <i>The Hundred Years' War on Palestine</i>	Jane Barter and Leah Kuragano
February 28 & March 14, 2025	Najla Said, <i>Looking for Palestine</i>	Jenny Heijun Wills



Centre for Research in Cultural Studies (CRICS) & Centre for Research in Young Peoples Texts and Cultures (CRYTC) Research Week Events


Wednesday, November 13

in the Knowledge Mobilization Lab (3C25)

10:00AM-4:00PM
Research Exhibition

Dr. Sam Popowich, Digital Infrastructure Librarian: "A Marxist Critique of Libraries"
Dr. Dennis Gupa, Assistant Professor, Theatre and Film: "Archipelago of Belongingness: Flawed Method / Relational Inquiry"
Dr. Aaroz Singh, Assistant Professor, Women's and Gender Studies: "Object Stories: Tracing South Asian Colonial Histories of Displacement through Affective Archives"
Ben Davis, visual artist, and **Dr. Kevin Walby**, Professor, Criminal Justice: "Bringing Together Critical Inquiry and Art in Counter-Visual Analysis"
Dr. Angela Failler, Professor, Women's and Gender Studies, Canada Research Chair, and Director of CRICS: "Culture and Public Memory"
Dr. Mavis Reimer, Professor, English and Director of CRYTC, **Dr. Doris Wolf**, Associate Professor, English, and **Dr. Roland Bohr**, Associate Professor, History: "The Research Behind the Texts: Creating Picturebooks and Apps with Rocky Cree Communities"

12:20-1:30PM
Lightning Talks

Dr. Kerry Sinanan, Assistant Professor, English: "Narratives of Slavery and the Black Radical Tradition in the Caribbean"
Dr. Melanie Braith, Senior Research Associate for The Six Seasons of the Asiniskaw Itiniwak and CRYTC: "Formula Fiction? Approaching the Workings of Large Language Models through Genre Theory"
Dr. Christina Fawcett, Instructor, English: "The Appeal of The Cozy: Gaming and the Comfortable Subversive"
Dr. Peter Ives, Professor, Political Science: "Rethinking Free Speech"
Dr. Jenny Heijun Wills, Professor, English: "your capacity to love, despite everything"
Dr. Jane Barter, Professor, Religion and Culture: "Theopolitics and the Era of the Witness"
Dr. Jason Hannan, Professor, Rhetoric, Writing, and Communications: "Grass-Fed Lies: The Mythology of Regenerative Animal Farming"
Dr. Andrew McGillivray, Associate Professor, Rhetoric, Writing, and Communications: "The Creative Power of the West Fjords: A Research Project on Art and Space"
Ben Davis, visual artist, and **Dr. Kevin Walby**, Professor, Criminal Justice: "Bounded Displacement and Paradox Territory: Reflections on Uranium City"
Dr. Bruno Cornellier, Professor, English: "The Intercultural Screen: Excavating Race, Whiteness, and Colonialism in Contemporary Quebec Cinema"
Dr. Angela Failler, Professor, Women's and Gender Studies, Canada Research Chair, and Director of CRICS: "Culture, Public Memory, and the 1985 Air India Bombings"



Cultural Studies engages with pressing issues of local and global consequence and is at the forefront of developing critical understandings of the social and political dynamics of contemporary culture.

Established in 2017, the Centre for Research in Cultural Studies (CRiCS) enhances UWinnipeg's ability to highlight these engagements and functions as a hub for interdisciplinary collaboration between students, faculty, and community research partners.

CRiCS increases research capacity on campus by providing a context for developing methods and tools for Cultural Studies research, supporting the program of the Canada Research Chair in Culture and Public Memory, and connecting student Research Assistants, Research Associates, Visiting Scholars, and Postdoctoral Fellows to the projects of the Centre. CRiCS aims to build sustainable, socially relevant research programs and raise the national and international profile of UWinnipeg as an outstanding place to do Cultural Studies research.

CRiCS shares space with the Centre for Research in Young People's Texts and Cultures (CRYTC). It is located in room 3C25 at the University of Winnipeg, on the traditional territory of Anishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, and Dene peoples, and on the homeland of the Métis Nation.

CRiCS Centre for Research
in Cultural Studies

2024-25 ANNUAL REPORT



THE UNIVERSITY OF
WINNIPEG



Social Sciences and Humanities
Research Council of Canada

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