**Christianity and Literature Study Group**

**Call for Papers (Revised)**

**Annual Conference, Vancouver 2019**

The Christianity and Literature Study Group invites proposals for papers any aspect of Christianity and literature for its annual Conference at the 2019 Congress in Vancouver (June 1-4). We welcome a range of critical approaches and topics, including pedagogy, multimedia genres, and creative writing. The theme for this year’s Congress is “Circles of Conversation,” so proposals for panels with alternate formats are particularly welcome.

**The deadline for all paper proposals, including those for member-organized panels, is November 19th, with the exception of the joint panel with ACCUTE (“The Inklings’ Circles of Conversation”), which has the ACCUTE deadline of November 15th.**

**Paper Proposals**

Proposers should send a 300-500 word proposal (with no identifying marks), a 100 word abstract, a 50 word biographical statement, and the ACCUTE submission form (using link below), to tina.trigg@kingsu.ca or to kateq@uwindsor.ca no later than **19 November.** Paper proposals for member-organized panels should be submitted directly to the panel organizer. All CLSG proposals are sent to a minimum of two readers on a blind referee basis, and acceptance is confirmed usually by mid-January. **Please do NOT use the new ACCUTE conference proposal information portal: it will send your proposal to the ACCUTE organizers, not to us. Use the submission form provided at the following link:** [2019 ACCUTE Conference Proposal Information Sheet](https://accutecanada.files.wordpress.com/2017/07/2019-accute-conference-proposal-information-sheet1.docx)

**Note:** In order to present a paper at the CLSG meeting, you must be a member in good standing of ACCUTE as well as of the CLSG.

Proposals for papers for the general pool should be sent to either Tina or Katherine at the addresses or emails below:

Tina Trigg, Chair Katherine Quinsey

Department of English Department of English

The King’s University University of Windsor

9125 - 50 Street, Edmonton, AB T6B 2H3 Windsor, ON N9B 3P4

tina.trigg@kingsu.ca kateq@uwindsor.ca

**JOINT PANEL – ACCUTE/CLSG**

**The Inklings’ Circles of Conversation**

The Inklings Institute of Canada, members of CLSG (Christianity and Literature Study Group) an Allied Association with ACCUTE, is proposing a jointly-sponsored CLSG/ACCUTE session on the foremost Oxford Inklings, C.S. Lewis, J.R. Tolkien, Charles Williams, and Owen Barfield, as well as their mentors George MacDonald, G.K. Chesterton, and friend Dorothy L. Sayers. In the tradition of the Inklings members' own circle of conversation, which had a transformative impact on contemporary culture, and in celebration of the continuing circles of conversation and literary art that their legacy inspires today, we invite papers from a wide range of topics, including philosophy, aesthetics, science, theology, psychology, social justice, gender studies, ecology, and education. Alternate formats, including multimedia genres and creative writing, are particularly welcome. Please submit the following to Inklings Institute of Canada co-directors  Monika.Hilder@twu.ca or Stephen.Dunning@twu.ca no later than **November 15, 2018:** 1)  paper proposals (300-500 words without personal identifying marks); 2) a 100 word  (max) abstract; 3) a 50 word (max) biographical statement; and 4) the [2019 ACCUTE Conference Proposal Information Sheet](https://accutecanada.files.wordpress.com/2017/07/2019-accute-conference-proposal-information-sheet1.docx) available on the ACCUTE website.

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**CLSG Member-Organized PanelS**

**Christian Ecocriticism**

Christian tradition has often been associated with views of human exceptionalism that separate humanity from the nonhuman world and justify its exploitation. Recent studies challenge this view, while scholarship on medieval and early modern Western culture has long recognized within Christianity a dual strain, with an emphasis on human uniqueness and authority on one hand, and, on the other, an understanding of the autonomy of the nonhuman creation, our shared creatureliness, and the qualities of empathy to be learned from close association with the natural world.

This panel invites papers considering ecocriticism from a Christian perspective, that is, the human relationship to the nonhuman environment and the creatures with whom humans share that environment, as explored and expressed in various literary forms, from any period of literature. Cross-cultural discussions are welcome.

Proposals should follow standard ACCUTE format: (1) depersonalized proposal of 300-500 words; (2) 100 word abstract and 50-word biographical statement; (3) [2019 ACCUTE Conference Proposal Information Sheet](https://accutecanada.files.wordpress.com/2017/07/2019-accute-conference-proposal-information-sheet1.docx) available on the ACCUTE website. Proposals should be sent to panel organizer Dr Katherine Quinsey (kateq@uwindsor.ca) no later than **November 19, 2018.**

**CLSG Annual Pedagogy Roundtable 2019**

**Ethical Reading & Ethical Teaching: Opening Circles of Conversation**

Philosopher Nora Hamalainen contends that “no matter what our ethical concerns and commitments look like – when engaging ethically with literature we will need to consider the particularities of specific situations described in literary works” (2016). That is, ethical reading requires imaginative engagement, empathy, attention to detail, openness, a posture of humility; it is what Alan Jacobs has called “reading charitably” (2001). To train students as ethical readers demands ethical teaching. How do we “consider the particularities of specific situations” in students with increasing class sizes? What teaching practices enable us to see students as individuals through imaginative engagement and attention to detail? How do we sustain a posture of humility and of listening in classrooms, in written assignments, in group work? What do circles of conversation look like in “square” classrooms where infrastructure and systemic norms may inhibit? How does “reading charitably” translate into teaching charitably?

This roundtable seeks to share intentional pedagogical strategies for ethical reading of literature (any period/genre) and of readers alike; responses are welcome from instructors at any stage of career in faith-based or public institutions.

*Reminder: Participants in the Roundtable may also propose papers to CLSG/ACCUTE.*

Proposals should follow standard ACCUTE format: (1) depersonalized proposal of 300-500 words; (2) 100 word abstract and 50-word biographical statement; (3) [2019 ACCUTE Conference Proposal Information Sheet](https://accutecanada.files.wordpress.com/2017/07/2019-accute-conference-proposal-information-sheet1.docx) available on the ACCUTE website. Proposals should be sent to roundtable organizer Tina Trigg (tina.trigg@kingsu.ca) no later than **November 19, 2018.**

**Further Up, Further In: Seeking the Human in Contemporary Literature**

There may be no more fundamental question for literary studies than: what is a human being? Explicitly or implicitly, authors answer this question through the depiction of characters, and literary critics must answer it as they discuss an author’s depiction. For critics especially, what are some models of how we should answer this fundamental question?

Some related questions that we also want to consider:

* How should we describe human nature in our time?
* Historical meaning of Christian Humanism; what are some key sources, in Christian Tradition, that can guide our understanding of human nature today?
* What is the relationship of the Inklings to Christian Humanism? How do the Inklings see human nature?
* The relationship between humanism and technology; how has this apparent modern conflict affected our understanding of human nature?
* What might it mean to be a Christian Humanist today?
* How does Christian Humanism manifest itself in readings of contemporary texts? How does it problematize or illuminate contemporary literature?

Proposals should follow standard ACCUTE format: (1) depersonalized proposal of 300-500 words; (2) 100 word abstract and 50-word biographical statement; (3) [2019 ACCUTE Conference Proposal Information Sheet](https://accutecanada.files.wordpress.com/2017/07/2019-accute-conference-proposal-information-sheet1.docx) available on the ACCUTE website. Proposals should be sent to panel organizer Dr Greg Maillet (Greg.Maillet@crandallu.ca) no later than **November 19, 2018.**