

CENTRE for
RESEARCH
in
CULTURAL
STUDIES

ANNUAL
REPORT



Message from the Director



It has been a pleasure to serve as Director for CRiCS during the 2023-24 academic year. This period has been marked by significant CRiCS events and initiatives. We successfully launched the special issue “Memorial Reckoning and the Fall of Imperial Icons” of *Global Media Journal - Canadian Edition* (2022: Volume 14 Issue 2), co-edited by myself, Jason Hannan (former Acting Director), and Dr. Sabrina Mark (former CRiCS Research Coordinator), which includes contributions from numerous CRiCS members. We also celebrated the release of Dr. Hannan’s latest book, *Trolling Ourselves to Death: Democracy in the Age of Social Media* (Oxford UP 2023), exploring the challenges of democracy in the digital age.

CRiCS has continued to be instrumental in knowledge sharing within the field, organizing events such as the CRiCS Research Talk Series and Professional Development series. Last year, we hosted a roundtable on “Unmasking Transphobia: Building Transpositive Solidarities” and co-organized a series of campus events on Building Trans Solidarity. These initiatives, supported by several CRiCS members, not only share research insights but also engage broader audiences and facilitate discussions on key social issues. CRiCS's diverse approach to research, publication, and knowledge dissemination highlights its role as a leader in critical cultural studies. Overall, it has been a fruitful year for CRiCS. I am grateful for the support of Research Coordinator Jordyn Sheldon. I also extend my sincere thanks to the Advisory Committee and the CRiCS membership for their dedication to maintaining a thriving and internationally recognized research community.

- Dr. Angela Failler

CRiCS Centre for Research
in Cultural Studies

University of Winnipeg

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CENTRE MEMBERSHIP

Director: Dr. Angela Failler

Staff: Jordyn Sheldon (Research Coordinator)

Advisory Committee Members:

- Member At Large: Heather Milne (English)
- Member At Large: Jason Hanan (Rhetoric, Writing, and Communications)
- Coordinator of the MA program in Cultural Studies: Bruno Cornellier (English)
- CRYTC Member: Mavis Reimer (English, Grad Studies)
- Student Representative: Perry Thomson (MA in Cultural Studies Student)
- External Member: Vacant



*Angela Failler
(CRiCS Director,
Women's and Gender
Studies)*



*Jordyn Sheldon
(Research
Coordinator)*



*Chigbo Arthur
Anyaduba (English)*



*Jobb Arnold
(Conflict Resolution
Studies)*



*Adina Balint
(Modern Languages
and Literatures)*



*Jane Barter
(Religion and
Culture)*



*Alyson Brickey
(English)*



*Julie
Chamberlain
(Urban and Inner-City Studies)*



Bruno Cornellier (English)



*Amelia Curran
(Criminal Justice)*



*Bronwyn Dobchuk-Land
(Criminal Justice)*



*Christina Fawcett
(English)*



*Matthew Flisfeder
(Rhetoric, Writing,
and Communications)*



*Melissa Funke
(Classics)*



*Jennifer Gibson
(Gallery 1C03)*



*Pauline Greenhill
(Women's and
Gender Studies)*



*Jason Hannan
(Rhetoric, Writing,
and Communications)*



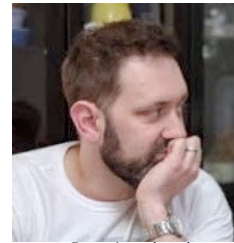
*Peter Ives
(Philosophy)*



*Leah Kuragano
(History)*



*Shauna Labman
(Global College)*



*Brett Lougheed
(Oral History Centre)*



*Mary Jane McCallum
(History)*



*Andrew McGillivray
(Rhetoric, Writing, and
Communications)*



*Heather Milne
(English)*



*Julie Pelletier
(Anthropology)*



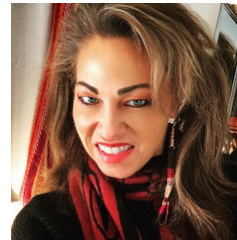
*Sam Popowich
(Library)*



*Kathryn Ready
(English)*



*Mavis Reimer
(English/Grad
Studies)*



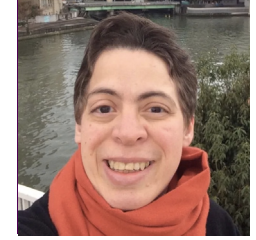
*Jacqueline Romanow
(Indigenous Studies)*



*Sharanpal Ruprai
(Women's and
Gender Studies)*



*Brianne Selman
(Library)*



*Jane Shulman
(Education)*



*Kerry Sinanan
(English)*



*Aarzo Singh
(Women's and
Gender Studies)*



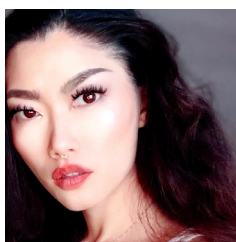
*Ray Silvius
(Political Science)*



*Kevin Walby
(Criminal Justice)*



*Tracy Whalen
(Rhetoric, Writing,
and Communications)*



*Jenny Heijun Wills
(English)*



*Doris Wolf
(English)*

Student Members

Salam Al Sayed
Katrinya Barske
Taylor Boucher
Nikki Brasseur
Mahlet Cuff
Laura Friesen *
Niamh Griffin *
Christian Higham

Riel Lynch *
Claire Normandeu *
Marie-Anne Redhead *
Vincent Tinguely
Perry Thomson *
Miklos Somorjai
Tammy Sutherland *

CENTRE ACTIVITIES

Knowledge Mobilization Events and Professional Development Activities

CRiCS Research Talk Series: Julie Pelletier (Anthropology) and Amelia Curran (Criminology)

-Lectures: Gambling Research Funding in Manitoba: a Critical Analysis and Gang Territories as Affective Embodied Mobility

-December 1, 2023 12:30 – 1:30pm

CRiCS Research Talk Series: Aarzoo Singh (Women’s and Gender Studies) and Leah Kuragano (History)

-“Object Stories: Colonial Histories, Affective Archives, and Postcolonial Feminist Epistemologies”

and “Affective Correction: Hawaii Five-O and the Policing of Indigenous Rage”

- Friday, March 8, 12:15 – 2:15pm

CRiCS Professional Development Series: Brianne Selman: Beyond the Impact Factor: Responsible Metrics

-Hybrid Workshop

-Friday, March 1 12:00 – 2:00pm

Special Events

CRiCS Directors Angela Failler and Jason Hannan, and Research Coordinator Sabrina Mark (editors) launched the special issue “Memorial Reckoning and the Fall of Imperial Icons” in *Global Media Journal—Canadian Edition*, on Thursday, May 25, 2023 12:30 – 1:30pm.

<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/crics/special-events/memorial-reckoning-and-the-fall-of-imperial-icons.html>

CRiCS co-hosted the MA in Cultural Studies Program Orientation, September 25, 2023 with Dr. Bruno Cornellier (Program Chair)

CRiCS co-hosted and co-sponsored a roundtable discussion on “Unmasking Transphobia: Building Transpositive Solidarities” in the previous year (March 2023) and went on to support and co-organize a series of campus events this reporting year on Building Trans Solidarity, including:

-Education Roundtable: Supporting 2SLGBTQ+ Students in Our Schools and Libraries. Q & A to follow. (September 23, 2023)

-Film Screening: Framing Agnes (2022), Zoom Q & A with director Chase Joynt and cast member Jules Gill-Peterson to follow.

-Keynote Talk: Sex, Gender, and Identity: How to Be a Better Trans Ally by Brie Villeneuve, UWSA 2SLGBTQ+ Students' Director.(September 27, 2023)

-Cultural Event: Another Place hosted by aceartinc. (206 Princess Street). An evening of poetry and sound art by Hassaan Ashraf, Mutable Body, Dasha Plett, Melody Mckiver, and m. patchwork monoceros brought to you by the UW 2SLGBTQ+ Solidarity Committee and aceartinc. (October 1, 2023)

-Virtual Roundtable: Transphobia Right and Left. (October 5, 2023)

-Keynote Lecture: "After T-Day it got worse": trans genres for the interregnum. In this keynote lecture Dr. Trish Salah reflected upon the cultural, literary, and political conditions of possibility for Writing Trans Genres and Decolonizing and Decriminalizing Trans Genres. (March 22, 2024)

CRiCS member Jason Hannan, launched a book, *Trolling Ourselves to Death: Democracy in the Age of Social Media* online Thursday, January 11.

<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/crics/special-events/trolling-ourselves-to-death-dr-jason-hannans-book-launch.html>

CRiCS organized a screening of "Demystifying Islamophobia, Anti-Palestinian Racism and Antisemitism: Building Shared Understandings," hosted by Wilfrid Laurier University on March 6 from 6-8:30pm. The screening was followed by a facilitated discussion lead by Angela Failler and Student Rep. Perry Thomson.

CRiCS hosted a special event on Friday, September 22, 2023. Dr. Christina Bacchilega was a guest speaker who presented on "Fairy Tales and the Otherwise."

<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/crics/special-events/upcoming-fairy-tales-and-the-otherwise.html>

CRiCS co-hosted with the Department of Urban and Inner City Studies Dr. Julie Chamberlain's Book Launch: *Wilhelmsburg is our home! Racialized Residents on Urban Development and Social Mix Planning in a Hamburg Neighbourhood* April 18

<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/urban-inner-city-studies/news/20231/05/new-book-tells-the-story-of-racialized-communities-in-wilhelmsburg.html>



Poster for "Unmasking Transphobia, Building Transpositive Solidarities"

(photo credit: Jason Hannan)



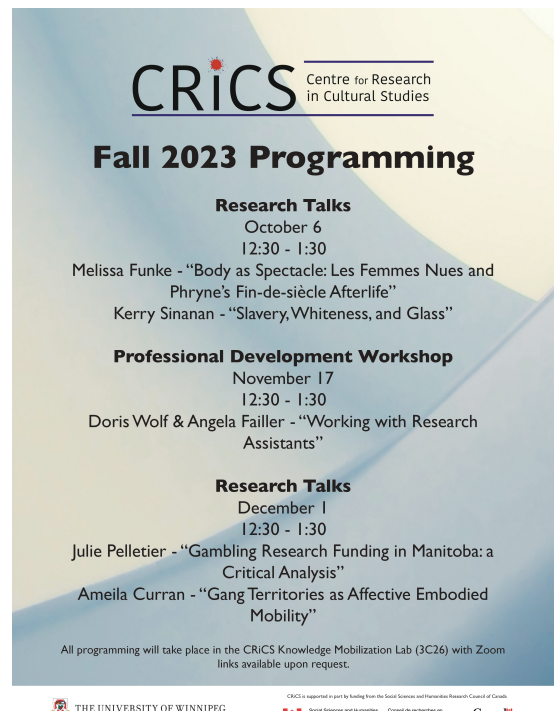
Poster for "Memorial Reckoning and the Fall of Imperial Icons" launch

(photo credit: Jason Hannan)



Poster for "Fairy Tales and the Otherwise" launch

(photo credit: Jason Hannan)



Poster for "Fall 2023 Programming" launch

(photo credit: Sabrina Mark)

Events/Activities Supported by CRiCS

Current projects include 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, (forthcoming), as well as a series of essays emerging from last year’s “Unmasking Transphobia: Building Transpositive Solidarities” roundtable supported and hosted by CRiCS (to be co-published by CRiCS and At the Forks, University of Manitoba, forthcoming).



Poster for "CRiCS Winter Programming" launch

(photo credit: Jordyn Sheldon)

STUDENT RESEARCH ASSISTANTS

Current RAs

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

Past RAs

Salam Al Sayed (Cultural Studies Alum) – Salam is a recent graduate from the UWinnipeg Cultural Studies program. She worked as a Senior Research Assistant for Angela Failler. She was in this position from October 2022-August 2023. Her RA work supported Dr. Failler's role as a board member for the Canadian Association of Cultural Studies.

Taylor Boucher (Graduate Student, Cultural Studies) – Taylor worked as a CRiCS-dedicated Research Assistant for Jason Hannan and Angela Failler. She was an RA from September 2022-2023. Her RA work focused on organizing and engaging with CRiCS events, in particular those centred on racial and cultural identity.

Mika Castro (Undergraduate student, Women's and Gender Studies) - Mika worked as a Research Assistant for Angela Failler and Heather Milne. She was an RA from September 2019-July 2023. 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.

Niamh Griffin (Graduate Student, Cultural Studies) – Niamh worked as a Research Assistant for Angela Failler and Heather Milne. They were an RA from September 2022 – January 2023. Their work was focused on queer life in Canada.

Adrienne Huard (Graduate student, University of Manitoba, Indigenous Studies) - Adrienne worked as a Senior Research Assistant for Angela Failler and Heather Milne. They were in this position from February 2022-August 2023. They have recently accepted a position as Assistant Professor in Native Studies at the University of Manitoba. Their work focuses on decolonizing museum practices from an Anishinaabe lens and how that relates to decolonial rhetoric.

Riel Lynch (Graduate student, Cultural Studies) - Riel worked as a Research Assistant for Angela Failler. She was an RA from September 2023 to present. Riel's scholarly research interests include cultures of both material (print) and reading groups.

PUBLICATIONS

RA Publications

Research Assistants contribute to CRiCS and related research projects in a variety of ways. CRiCS-dedicated RA Taylor Boucher organized a roundtable discussion with the theme of "Who Am I? Navigating the World as a Multiracial Person." Museum Queeries Research Assistants are writing essays for an upcoming collection that will be published by Jagiellonian University Press.

- **Salam Al Sayed**, Blog Post, "Critical Hope Towards Re-envisioning the University Now."
- **Taylor Boucher**, "BIPOC Perspectives on Multiraciality in Canada: Fieldnotes from a CRiCS Research Assistant"

Member Publications

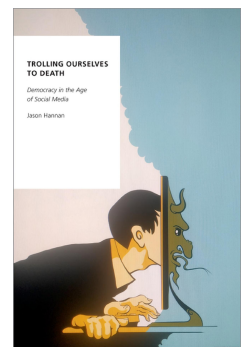
- **Angela Failor, Jason Hannan, and Sabrina Mark**, "Editorial: Memorial Reckoning and the Fall of Imperial Icons."

As a benefit of membership in CRiCS, we feature new publications from our members. These publications can be found on our website.

uwinnipeg.ca/crics/member-publications.html

Jason Hanan, *Trolling Ourselves to Death: Democracy in the Age of Social Media*. Oxford University Press Inc, 2024.

(photo credit: Oxford University Press)



MEDIA & OUTREACH

CRiCS Website

- After CRiCS was formally approved as a Research Centre by the Board of Regents in January 2018, the Centre launched a website to share information on the CRC in Culture and Public Memory, to feature its research projects, affiliated researchers, member publications, and offer up-to-date news and event information.
- Over the reporting period, the CRiCS website had:
 - over 12,000 unique page visits
 - visits from 14 countries
- Please see uwinnipeg.ca/crics/ for more information.

CRiCS Facebook Page

- The CRiCS Facebook page is another platform to share information on member activities, publications, and Centre activities.
- Please see facebook.com/CRiCS.UWinnipeg/ for more information.

Many of the members of CRiCS were featured in the media over the course of the reporting period. See the following link for these features:

- <https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/crics/news/index.html>

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.

