Greetings from the Director
Dr. Cheryl van Daalen-Smith

It is indeed an honor to bring greetings as the Director of Interdisciplinary Studies; such a gem of a program with innovative and academically courageous students. In the program office we continue to seek ways to strengthen our sense of community as well as our presence here at York and abroad. One of the ways is re-imagining our website and ensuring those who explore Interdisciplinary Studies have a better sense of what it is and what it entails. But then again if you’re reading this, you’re either an IS student, alum or supervisor. Borrowing from an earlier York campaign (identified in caps) you know that in Interdisciplinary Studies we: QUESTION EVERY ANGLE. STUDY EVERY ANGLE. RESEARCH EVERY ANGLE. OK, maybe we don’t question, study or research every angle... but we certainly immerse ourselves in three disciplines and this immersion brings forth many angles to explore, reflect upon, question and build from. At York we’ve long said that A WORLD WITHOUT BORDERS NEEDS AN EDUCATION WITHOUT BORDERS. In the Graduate Program in Interdisciplinary Studies, we BREAK DOWN TRADITIONAL BOUNDARIES AND BRING TOGETHER THINKERS FROM 3 THREE DISCIPLINES...And together this arrangement seeks to enable Interdisciplinary Studies students to TACKLE REAL-WORLD ISSUES. ...WE DON’T JUST SEE THINGS IN A DIFFERENT LIGHT, WE SEE THE LIGHT IN ITS ENTIRE SPECTRUM. Pretty Cool.

So many new things are happening in your program that we’re excited about. Last year we launched the IS Speaker series and this year we will have two events with IS alumni. We’re also launching the IS THINK TANK – a periodic structured gathering of IS students to facilitate knowledge sharing and to get your creative and writing juices going. Our new website is awesome and really shows prospective students what IS is really all about. Our new admits are enjoying a deeper sense of cohesion as a cohort launching a FB page and getting social events planned. We’re always looking for input and involvement so... Fiona and I invite you to come in and see us! Cheryl
Interdisciplinary Studies Speaker Series
John Greyson
Inaugural Speaker and Alumni

On Wednesday March 12th, 2014 The Graduate Program in IS welcomed well-known and much-loved alumni Dr. John Greyson to be our inaugural speaker in our Annual Speaker Series. John’s presentation - entitled Making Glue from Macaroni: Adventures in Interdisciplinarity from York to U of T to Capetown and Cairo- included reflections about the program, and how it served as a launching space for his career in academe. Snippets of his various films plus anecdotes made this presentation engaging and inspiring.

Contest:
Name the new Interdisciplinary Studies Community Newsletter....

As we launch this new way to build community in Interdisciplinary Studies at YorkU, all members of the INST community are invited to name the Newsletter. What should our Community Newsletter be named? You tell us... Context closes December 31st, 2014. Email submissions under the subject line “Name the Newsletter” to gradinst@yorku.ca

NEW STUDENT EXECUTIVE MEMBERS FOR 2014-2015

The program welcomes Keith Francis and Zainub Verjee as student executive members for the upcoming academic year.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP ROLES

Kaspar Saxeena is serving as the IS student representative for the Faculty of Graduate Studies Council. Sam Aria is serving as the GSA President for the IS Program. Rebecca Barnstaple is the program Social Convener. Thanks everyone!

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES' WEBSITE

Recently, the Graduate Program in Interdisciplinary Studies secured permission from the Director of Marketing and the Dean of Grad Studies to use images from a past York Branding campaign. We are so excited because the images and the messaging truly articulate what IS is and can be for so many students and their projects. Be sure to check it out.

http://interdis.gradstudies.yorku.ca/
Caroline Novak, pictured right, currently completing her Interdisciplinary Studies thesis Form and Ephemerality: Musical Performance and Danse Macabre in Medieval Art, Architecture, Music, and Cosmology, was delighted to speak at the University of Cambridge, where she presented excerpts of her thesis-chapter “Mouth as Margin: Orality and Oral-Figuration in English Romanesque Sculpture” at the Marginalia tenth-anniversary celebration and conference, Out of the Margins: New Ideas on the Boundaries of Medieval Studies, Sept. 19-20, 2014. Caroline offers heartfelt gratitude and good vibrations to York University’s Graduate Program in Interdisciplinary Studies, to supervisors Malcolm Thurlby, Rob Bowman, and Jamie Scott, and to the Medieval Reading Group at Cambridge! Way to go Caroline!!! We’re proud of you!

Kaspar Saxeena, pictured right, was recently awarded a SSHRC Travel grant which enabled him to travel to Poland, Italy, England and Switzerland this past summer (2014). We’ve asked Kaspar to give us a report of his research travels and you’ll find that wonderful report later on in this newsletter. Kaspar has been a leader in his career as an artist and is emerging as a leader in his innovative area of scholarship exploring Monsters. Ever the pay-it-forward type of person, Kaspar steps up whenever the program needs input or leadership and to that end we’re thrilled with his agreement to stand as the IS representative on the Graduate Faculty Council.
Within the Graduate Program in *Interdisciplinary Studies*, we are looking for ways to link current students, alumni and newly admitted students. Why? Because isn’t it generally a good idea to hear ideas, tips and strategies from positive, successful peers? We think so. That’s why this year, a panel of students greeted both newly admitted students during the September program orientation session as well as prospective students during the Fall Interdisciplinary Studies Information Session. Students and alumni are encouraged to submit tidbits all year long for inclusion in your Community Newsletter.

**From Alexandra Busgang – in the home stretch, heading towards defence:** Cite everything. When you are starting your preliminary research, and you are going through pages and pages and pages of what seems like redundant information, you will one day look back and wish that you remembered who said that incredibly profound statement. You will only realize it was incredibly profound once you are deep into the abyss of your research question.

**From Sandi Trillio – (in the home stretch)** As a part-time student I did most of my thesis writing on weekends which felt very disjointed. Thankfully I was able to take a 5-week break from work last summer to immerse myself in the content and complete my first draft. Not sure I would have been able to pull all the pieces together otherwise.

**From Ahmad Hassan – (in the midst of revising his thesis)** This is a problem driven program. Here we get to integrate multiple disciplines to act as different lenses and the idea is to study the problem through them without getting lost! I have discovered that the sooner you can focus i.e. by defining and refining the problem, the more time you will have challenging existing theories and most likely you will have one of your own by the end of it :)

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**A BI-ANNUAL INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES CONFERENCE??**

DOES THIS INTEREST YOU? SHOULD WE DO IT? WHEN WE ASKED YOU IN THE RECENT SURVEY, MANY OF YOU SAID YES IT’S A GOOD IDEA. SO......

WE ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO HELP US EXPLORE THIS POSSIBILITY......

Please Email the Program if you are interested. With a student committee, we CAN make it happen!
Alexandra Busgang: My interdisciplinary studies thesis is titled Architectural Consumption in Los Angeles: Modernism, Power, and the Aesthetics of Plenty. This project includes a creative examination in film of aesthetics, architecture, and the landscape of Los Angeles. As architectural consumption worsens, Los Angeles continues to grow, ignoring issues of ecology and land use. The growing environmental crisis demands a revaluation of the role of aesthetics in daily life. My aim is to explore the culture of design, image circulation, and media that propels the aesthetic economy and contributes to large amounts of waste.

Sandi Trillo: Since starting the IS program part-time in 2011, I have been involved with the subject of my case study, Sustain Ontario: the Alliance for Healthy Food and Farming, as a researcher and volunteer. Sustain aims to transform Ontario’s food system into one that is more ecologically, socially and financially sustainable by influencing public policy and spreading innovation. The Alliance’s goals were of interest to me as a researcher and personally. As a researcher, I wanted to know how the design of Sustain’s structures, processes and strategies impacted the Alliance’s ability to acquire legitimacy and influence public policy. Coming into the program I wanted my learning experience to benefit both me and Sustain. Throughout the program, I shared what I learned (e.g. papers I wrote and articles of interest) with Sustain’s Director and others at Sustain. Doing so enriched my learning experience. I still want to ‘translate’ my thesis into something that will be more accessible for Sustain and similar food and farming networks.

Fall 2014 INFO session for Prospective Applicants to Interdisciplinary Studies

On October 15th, we had almost 20 prospective applicants at our Fall Info Session, where the director and GPA provided an overview of the program, and Arun, the Funding Liason Officer and the Recruitment Officers provided information to would-be York students. The highlight of the event was the current student panel who provided insights into the life of the IS graduate student. Pictured to the right are Zainub Verjee, Rebecca Barnstaple, Emad Zahedi and Keith Francis. Thanks for representing the program so well!

New Text in Interdisciplinary Studies

The University College system has enjoyed a long and rich history at York University – a history in facilitating intellectual and social fellowship between faculty, staff, and undergraduate students and the broader local community. And within this college system, the role of the Fellow is, at its very core, an extension of the university into the community surround. McLaughlin College has been a leader in innovative practices which facilitate vigorous community building and under the leadership of Dr. Ian Greene and Dr. David Leyton-Brown, the creation of a Junior Fellow role was born. Through this role, graduate student leaders can now propose and enact innovative ways to contribute to the college’s intellectual life through the sharing of talents, skills, and scholarship. And further, this new role would have at its very core, an opportunity for graduate students to give back to the university through the provision of mentoring actions with undergraduate students.

Role: The role of the Junior Fellow at McLaughlin College would be to provide mentorship to undergraduate students through an offering of guidance and skill transfer. Specifically, Junior Fellows would offer mentoring to McLaughlin College Peer Mentors. In addition to this key role, the McL Junior Fellow would propose an offering of their own specific skill set, be that a lunch-time talk, a workshop, an art exhibit demonstrating principles of art-informed inquiry, etc.

Characteristics: A Junior Fellow at McLaughlin College is a graduate student affiliated with the college who is in good academic standing and who through the provision of a Statement of Intent, demonstrates a willingness to contribute to the intellectual and social well-being of the college.

Process

Interested graduate students would prepare a statement of intent providing an overview of the student’s relevant background, proposed offerings to the McL community as well as an overview as to their intended time availability for mentoring undergrad Peer Mentors. Applicants are asked to submit their statement of intent to the Graduate Program Director. These statements would be confidentially reviewed at the program level, and if so directed, the GPD would nominate the candidate to the Master of the College. The student would meet with the Master to discuss their background, skills and ideas as to how they would like to contribute to the college. The appointment of Junior Fellows is at the discretion of the Master and would last for the duration of time the student is a Graduate Student.

2014 SUCCESSFUL JUNIOR FELLOWS: The program welcomes the following successful Junior Fellows: Zainub Verjee, Emad Zahedi, Kaspar Saxeena, & Keith Francis.

Stay tuned for details about Junior Fellow Talks this Year.

RECENT Interdisciplinary Studies MA DEFENCES:


ANDREW ROTH: A Creative Exploration of the Use of Intelligent Agents in Spatial Narrative Structures”
In this *Supervisors’ Corner* section of our IS Community Newsletter, we invite Supervisors in *Interdisciplinary Studies* to submit strategies, ideas and tidbits of “good ideas” that they have found helpful. We GRATEFULLY received this advice on writing FROM DR. TOM COHEN, Associate Professor, Humanities:

**Being There: How to Write to Win Money (and a following)**

A few years ago, I served on one of the juries for OGS. It was my first time. Indeed, as my fellow members were nimblier than I at ducking, I ended up as chair. Having learned a lot about the jury-process, let me pass on advice to all us writers in Interdisc Studies, good for us in these interdisciplines and for any scholars anywhere. What holds for juries holds for other gate-keepers, and for general readers of our work. I address here the quest for cash, but my strictures are more general too.

Imagine your readers and engage them not as foe but as intellectual allies.

When I was on duty, we jurors were three, in very different fields. One did theatre, another Romance languages, and I, the third, was a cultural historian. Still, despite our differences in discipline, in outlook, in taste, and in systems of weighing files, when it came to rankings we ended up uncannily alike. Why? I am not sure, but I wager it was the voice, the feel, the charm, and the intellectual interest of the students’ statements. After all, in this age of silly grade inflation, all applicants have good marks. And, given the genre’s euphemism, letters of support smelted monotonously rosy. So it was the applicants themselves who, by their efforts, proved themselves sheep, or goats. How did the sheep succeed? By “being there.” By treating their readers with respect and inviting them to an imagined dialogue. Your readers, almost certainly, will be strangers to your own work, its details and its assumptions. So lead them through your project as if they were intelligent and sympathetic outsiders. Therefore, identify and explain anything they might find obscure. Avoid all jargon, that linguistic psoriasis that encrusts so much humanistic scholarship. Whenever using technical terms, define and site them. Thereby, you signal your respect for your readers, your willingness to include them in your thoughts.

Explain your project fully, saying just why it matters. No jury, no reader, is impressed to learn that you want to “cast light upon” your subject. Rather, lay out a problem, a puzzle, a mystery. Or offer a beguiling hypothesis and show precisely how your work will test it. Do not fear to show enthusiasm. But do so through the gusto with which you describe your work. “I am passionately devoted to the role of gender in sugar production in Barbados,” or “I have always loved 19c Bulgarian social history” will not pay off. Rather, tell your jury that, imagine, the gendered nature of Barbadian sugar production is fascinatingly complex, or that the interplay of Ottoman and German legal regimes in the history of rural-urban migration in nineteenth century Bulgaria is an intriguing subject.

Insert your intellectual biography, but lightly. Give your readers some sense of what led you to your topic. Look forward too, and let them see where, in the long run, you see this project taking you. But keep such statements brief.

As for style, how to Strunk and White. Verbs are stronger than nouns, and nouns stronger than all the rest. Use the active voice. Concrete trumps abstract. And salt with metaphor, but a few shakes only. In sentences, put your main thing last. Short words are best. In short, write as if you enjoyed the process and wished the reader well. (Cont’d Next Page)

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**INTRODUCING YOUR SOCIAL CONVENOR:**

**Rebecca Barnstaple**

Admitted in Sept, 2014 Rebecca’s research brings together ‘Dance, Philosophy and Neuroscience and looks at how the ways we move impacts our health, relationships and who we become. “Our first event will be a holiday meet-and-greet where students can share their experiences and decompress together. Ideas, suggestions and comments are welcome from IS students of all cohorts. Please don’t hesitate to be in touch. See you December 10th with more details to be announced.

rebecca.barnstaple@gmail.com

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**EVENING HOURS FOR IS**

Do you find it hard to get to campus to meet with the Director during the day? We hear you! INST has launched pilot evening hours – on the First Wednesday of every month on an appointment basis. To make an appointment with the Director, email gradinst@yorku.ca.
Do this all this and the money, and the glory, are yours.

Now, how to climb inside your topic? A few more strictures, and strategies, promising loot and victory. Zumbastan!

With my investigation I intend to explore the factors that led to the revolt of Zumbastan’s lower classes. Several major parameters will be taken into consideration.

Wait a minute! Your jury already knows that you have an investigation. No NEWS to them. The jury does not give a tinker’s hoot that you have an intention. And then, the jury, on meeting ‘factors’, will draw a blank. Nobody, ever, anywhere, has seen a factor. The word is a nullity, a nothing, a willow-the-wisp. Occam’s razor will cut it, mercifully, out (Occam, the 14c philosopher, said “Entia non multiplicanda sunt: Entities are not to be multiplied. An editor’s mascot, Occam!). As for “parameters,” they are “factors” in-laws, just as blank and empty. Out they come!

Back to Zumbastan.

After1867, Zumbastan would never be the same. For the merchant elite, the year seemed an inferno; for the hard pressed workers, however, it was an unexpected triumph that would live on in popular legend.

That’s right! We are all investigators. The jury are investigators too. We scholars reason cleverly, but we do so amidst good stories that we like to tell with art and skill. You, the applicant for cash, must win your jury over, catching its curiosity, beguiling it not only with good, lively tales, but also with intriguing puzzles to which you, you promise, might offer the solution. The jury, without even knowing it, will warm to an application that promises intellectual entertainment, in the future, by delivering it now.

That is why language that says, “My study will engage the problem posed by the debate between these two schools of thought...” will give your grant the kiss of death. Cut to the chase: “For many years scholars have debated the reasons for Zumbastan’s dramatic implosion.” Engage the real world (real Zumbestan), and even the real world of thought (debates, theories). Hands on! Go there! Grab hold of your subject! No holding back, no gauzy film of talk about “intending to think” and “proposing to interrogate”.

How to interest your jury? Cut out any language that tells them things they already know: I am studying; this is an investigation; I want to know the answer: I really want that money and it will help me do the study that I just told you I was doing.

And, one last thing: remember the essentials: what is your subject? why is it interesting? what is your question? what might the answer be?

Have fun!, Tom Cohen
1st Annual Fall Co-Curricular DAY.

Wednesday October 29th, 2014
Committee Room, Room 223 McLaughlin College

AGENDA

8:30 - 9:00  Informal Networking for IS Community
Coffee and Muffins Provided by your GSA

9:00 - 10:00  Graduate Student Association Session – IS Community Meeting
with your GSA President Sam Aria… an information sharing opportunity for the IS Community.

10:00 – 11:00  Thesis Writing as a Creative Process: Tips on productive Interdisciplinary writing in Graduate School. With 2013 IS Alumnus & Thesis Prize Winner Sue Patrick Breit.

11:00-12:00  Applying for an Ontario Graduate Scholarship or a SSHRC Grant – the Ins and Outs, with Melissa Dalgleish, PhD (cand) & Research Officer Faculty of Graduate Studies.

12:00 – 12:30  Student Panel of successful Grant Recipients
with Kaspar Saxeena and Johanna Lewis. Q & A to follow.

12:30–1:00  Lunch

1:00-4:00  Class Two on Interdisciplinary Studies
(for 2014 new admits only. Sorry 😞)
Despite what some of my family may have thought, my 4 month SSHRC funded research trip to visit archives in Europe was not a vacation! It was an opportunity which challenged me to intensively engage with my work in a series of new environments. There is no substitute for travel in a scholar’s life, because reading about historical facts in a book doesn’t create the same understanding as reading those same “facts” on the faces of the people themselves.

Of course, one of the keys to quality research while on the road is community. When my wonderful host Dr. Eugenia Sojka, at University of Silesia asked me to give talks and conference presentations, or to meet with students and faculty, of course I said yes to everything she asked me to do! Having received funding, part of my personal ethic there is an obligation to give back and “pay it forward”. At Nicholas Copernicus University, Department of English in Torun, Poland I gave one of my earlier lectures “The Monster Gardens,” which is an introduction to monster and mythical creature taxonomy. At Days of Canadian Culture Conference, Institute of English Literatures, Canadian Studies Centre at the University of Silesia in Sosnowiec, Poland I gave a paper about one of my photography works in progress “You Put a Spell on Me: Land, Language and Looking Glass Photography on the Big East River.” At Urban Amazement:

An illustration of this process of looking for the “invisible” can be seen in my family research trip looking for grave mounds in Streitwald, near Heroldhausen, Germany. See the Album: https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.10154717924505294.1073741829.633900293&type=1&l=fada1ea120

A great thing about Poland is it is very cheap to live, allowing me to spend valuable time THINKING in a spartan room away from everything, scanning books, going over my internal maps and organizing some of the messes within my mind following my coursework. I don’t have much that I would be ready to show or explain to anyone else, but I’m positive the value of taking this creative time without obligations will be key to the future strength of my project, which often deals with “invisible” histories.
The mapping of my project has never worked in a straight line, and this trip was no different. My first stop was **Turin, Italy**. After arriving, I found out that the two museums I had planned to visit were unfortunately closed due to mass cutbacks in Italy to arts organizations! I tried to nurse my disappointment through a visit to the **Museo Egizio**, rumored to be the best collection of Egyptian antiquities outside of Egypt. They allow photography and I was surprised to capture many images which I could use in my research! My journey to Turin showed me again that on a winding road no effort is truly lost!

From Italy I journeyed to **Maison D’Ailleurs (Museum of Elsewhere)**, in **Yverdon Les-Baines, Switzerland**, probably the largest French language repository of Utopian and SF literature in the world. I was able to access their extensive database looking for early alien images, and I was able to bring home over 300 images, which I received permission to freely use in my research.

An essential stop for me was the **British Library in London, England**. In the rare book room I was able to view most of the 12th – 17th century images I have been studying in the contexts of their original publications, rather than in context of the writings of modern scholars. They had almost every book I requested! My only complaint was there is a limit of viewing 10 books per day! I also spent a day in their manuscripts department, but all too quickly I ran out of time (and money)!

The greatest highlight for my research project was the **The Warburg Institute in London, England**. It is one of the only libraries devoted to a variety of esoteric fields (“in several fields it can claim to be the most important library in the world”). How gratifying it was for me for the first time to see three whole shelves devoted to my main subject, the field of historical monsters in a scholarly library! Most of what they had in English I already have in my own collection, but they had many titles I had never heard of in different languages; Italian, German, French, Dutch and Polish. The daily costs brought my stay in London to an end however, after just scratching the surface of this library…

I suppose the only remedy possible for me is that I’ll just have to return with more money!
Facilitating A Firm Grounding in Interdisciplinary Studies

Last year, the IS Executive re-visited previous discussions concerning students and supervisors’ wishes to have/facilitate a firmer grounding in Interdisciplinary Studies. Discussions regarding just how that might be facilitated ensued and a program survey was developed and distributed to alumni and current students asking for their input as to how they would have liked to receive that foundation. The options were based on the discussions held in prior IS executive meetings as well as based on consultations with past directors and included:

a. Mounting of an additional 3.0 credit compulsory course in Interdisciplinary Studies. The course would be part of the teaching load of the GPD.
b. Elimination of an existing course option/addition of a new 3.0 credit compulsory course in Interdisciplinary Studies taught by the GPD.
c. Building in compulsory classes on Interdisciplinary Studies into the current IS 5000 6.0 credit course where students are provided with supervisory counsel as well as funding, ethics and thesis writing workshops. As in the other workshops, the IS classes would be facilitated pro bono by the GPD.

SURVEY RESULTS ARE PROVIDED BELOW

SURVEY RESULTS:

Twenty-Eight Students/Alumni responded to the survey. Five percent of respondents wanted an additional 3.0 credit course; 25% wanted to remove one of their current course requirements and add a course in IS; and 70% of survey respondents voted for Option Three (above) indicating they’d prefer that Content and Preparedness in the discipline and methodologies associated with Interdisciplinary Studies be built into the existing 6.0 credit IS 5000 course. We asked respondents if current IS students should be invited to sit in on these classes offered to new admits and overwhelmingly the response was yes, but that it be optional. We asked respondents to comment on how many classes per year, and the responses were widely varied but the leaning was to ‘front-end’ load conceptually and then to have a gathering once per term to help students stay close to their Interdisciplinary lenses and approaches.

2014-2015 PILOT CLASSES IN INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

Based on the Survey Results, this year the program is piloting the hosting of 3 classes in Interdisciplinary Studies taught by the GPD Dr. van Daalen-Smith. The first class was held during the 2-day orientation provided to new FT and PT admits on September 4th, 2014. The students were given information regarding the required textbook and readings in preparation for our first class. Student feedback was overwhelmingly positive stating “now I am far more clear about what Interdisciplinary Studies is!” The second class is being held on the afternoon of the October 29th, 2014 Inaugural Interdisciplinary Studies Co-Curricular Day. A third class will be held during the Winter term after which students will be asked if they would like a 4th class or to re-convene during their 2nd year. We will journey through this together with stop-gaps in place to ensure student directedness.
It was a pleasure welcoming our 2014 admits to the Interdisciplinary Studies Program. It is a privilege to be in this very unique and very different program. I especially am looking forward to working with you all. Our students go on to doing great and wonderful things. Only yesterday, we learned that Vicky McArthur, one of our alumni, is now a Professor at the University of Toronto, Mississauga Campus, while wrapping up her PhD at York.

A very important word of advice to our new students is to take the word discipline out of Interdisciplinary and insert the word self before it. This program is driven by self-discipline and motivation. In order to succeed it is up to each individual to be extremely organized and proactive. The short term pain will reap great rewards in the long run. The Director and I are here to guide you academically and administratively, respectively, however it is up to you to strive for success. Also very important is checking the FGS and IS calendars daily so you will not miss important dates and deadlines. Our website is under construction and should be up-to-date next week.

We will be organizing a few workshops and events this year to keep our students connected. You will gain a lot by networking with our second and third year students. A special thanks to Rebecca Barnstaple who has stepped up to be our Social Convener and will be organizing events for the IS community. Please connect with me if you need anything. I have an open door policy from 2 to 4 PM in the afternoons Monday through Thursday. Please feel free to drop in with any concerns and I would be pleased to assist you. I thank you in advance for being mindful of these times as it will greatly assist me in dealing with my workload as I am only here 4 days a week.

A few reminders:
- 1st Annual Co-curricular Day
- Scholarship Workshop for 1st Year Full-Time Students applying to the Masters SSHRC and OGS, and 2nd/3rd Students applying to the Doctoral SSHRC and OGS scholarships, followed by Class Two on Interdisciplinary Studies for 2014 admits.

Please note that the online Fall 2014 Research Cost Fund competition is now open. Students are to click on the link "Online Application" on the Research Cost Fund website to access the online application form. Students are to submit the application form online, print off the application and submit it to their graduate program offices along with a one-page description of their thesis/dissertation project and their supervisor's statement. Oct 21st is the IS- deadline for students to submit their Fall 2014 Research Cost Fund applications to the program office. This reminder was sent out on October 6.

Nov 1st - Student Financial Profile application opens for Fall 2014 and Winter 2015. Deadline to apply for bursaries administered by FGS is January 15th, 2015.
http://gradstudies.yorku.ca/current-students/student-finances/funding-awards/bursaries

ALEXANDRA BUSGANG “Architectural Consumption in Los Angeles: Modernism, Power, and the Aesthetics of Plenty” Please check the INST website for finalized date, time and location. Students are welcome.
SAVE THE DATE!

THE 2014 Ethics Workshop for Interdisciplinary Studies

will be held on

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 26\textsuperscript{th}, 2014

with

\textbf{Alison Collins-Mrakus, MSc, LLM}

Senior Manager & Policy Advisor
Office of Research Ethics
12-2 PM
223 McLaughlin College
Bring your Own Lunch
Rsvp to gradinst@yorku.ca
The IS Think Tank:
A Thesis Writing/Knowledge Exchange Community Gathering

IS students want more opportunity to come together as a cohort to share ideas, get support, build skills and help their thesis progress! Well we’re launching THINK TANKS where you can join your Peers for an Interactive Knowledge Exchange and Writing Booster Event you won’t want to miss. Our first one will be facilitated by the GPD and eventually facilitated by other IS faculty, students and alumni! And we think that’s kinda cool!

Why Struggle Alone? Why Write or think or ponder all on your own? Come and share with your IS peers!

Please Rsvp at gradinst@yorku.ca and please bring a recently written 2-pager from your current work where you present one of your key findings. This will be for one of our fun activities...

Activities:
1. An opening 10 minute get-your-creative-juices flowing guest speaker
2. 3 minute thesis – a speed-dating styled knowledge exchange activity
3. Two Wishes and a Star Activity (see below)
4. And nibblies, of course ....

Wednesday November 19th, 2014 3:00 – 4:30 pm 140 McLaughlin College

IS students want COMMUNITY!