

## CMCS Faculty Meeting Spring 2020

In attendance: Martin Brückner, Wendy Bellion, Laura Schmidt, Michael Doss, Jennifer Van Horn, Jaipreet Viridi, Sarah Wasserman, Tom Guiler, Margaret Werth, Catherine Dann Roeber, Ikem Okoye, Lu Ann DeCunzo, Cindy Ott, Rebecca Davis, Thomas Rocek

- Award cycles; spring applications due March 15<sup>th</sup>
- DELPHI 2020: 24 applicants; 14 acceptances sent
  - Attempt to create a network of DELPHI alumni
  - Currently building in community field trips as a way to encourage DELPHI participants to imagine publics; new diversity initiatives; new speakers coming this year
- CMCS Biennial Conference 2021 proposals are due March 17
  - Open to modest conference proposals, such as workshops, one-day events, etc.
- CMCS GA applications due March 17<sup>th</sup> from grad students in ARTH, ENGL and HIST
- CMCS courses
  - Anne Bowler in Sociology: “Sociology of Art and Culture” with community partner in Wilmington, the Creative Vision Factory
  - Matt Rinkevich: “Honors Colloquium: Ren Things”; he worked with his students to produce a digital humanities project. Will be offered again fall 2020.
  - What are the logistics of cross-listing?
    - It is ad-hoc; ask the directors
- Emerging Scholars symposium: Animaterialities: The Material Culture of Animals (Including Humans)
  - April 24<sup>th</sup>: Workshop on campus by Dr. Giovanni Aloï
  - April 25<sup>th</sup>: Keynote by Dr. Aloï and 9 papers on three panels at Winterthur
  - Registration information is up on the website
  - On April 25<sup>th</sup>, there will also be a roundtable event at Winterthur in honor of Ritchie Garrison followed by a cocktail hour (will not overlap with Emerging Scholars)
- ThingStor
  - Progress being made in terms of available objects and objects that are nearly ready for public presentation
  - The library DH team is assisting us; they will be performing a socio-technical study (STS) will in later in the spring
  - We currently have a 3 year plan for continuity; after that, the project could be passed on
- CMCS publications
  - Three proposals have been submitted to the CMCS book series *Material Culture Perspectives*
  - *Elusive Archives*: currently under contract; there are 25 essays with only 2 non-UD contributors
  - *Modelwork*: contract signed with University of Minnesota Press
- Regional partnership with Drexel and William & Mary
  - CMCS will partner with Drexel University and the College of William & Mary on a new public humanities initiative: “Using Historic Collections for Civic

Engagement and Innovative Teaching and Learning.” Drexel recently assumed custody of the vast collections of the former Philadelphia History Museum (130,00+ objects, 17<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> centuries) and received a grant from the Collegiate Academic Association (CAA) in support of collaboration with CMCS and William & Mary that will include teaching, workshops, and public engagement with the collections. Ros Remer, vice provost for research at Drexel, is heading this initiative. The project will begin in September and

- Visiting scholars: CMCS continues to explore the viability of visiting scholar appointments for postdocs who would bring their own funding and have access to the resources and community of CMCS.
- Public engagement: CMCS-OLLI Wilmington collaboration: DELPHI students currently speak weekly there as part of an OLLI course.
- Public engagement: CMCS-OLLI Newark: CMCS has developed a new summer course for their participants.
- We are welcoming proposals working groups: 2020-2023. Call for proposals will come out shortly.
  - These working groups should have a 3-year lifespan with fairly regular events and meetings.
  - Should you have questions, you can reach out to Sarah Wasserman, who ran the Media Old and New Working Group for 3 years with Jason Hill.
  - Even if you submitted an idea in the fall, please resubmit your idea.
- At the request of the dean’s office, the directors have developed bylaws.
  - Includes a revised mission statement, adds an Advisory Committee, and a description of Affiliated Members.
  - Change in leadership structure: there will be a director and an associate director.
- Martin is circulating off as co-director of the Center after 6 years. CMCS thanks him for his outstanding service! CMCS is working with the dean’s office to plan for new leadership.
- Undergraduate Minor: CMCS needs to review the status of the minor given low enrollment (currently only one minor)
  - Discussion explored CMCS emphasis on graduate education and available personnel and financial resources for supporting graduate and undergraduate initiatives. Currently there are no mechanisms in place for supporting/advising minors.
  - CMCS leadership will convene a small group of faculty to continue exploring the status of the minor.
- Please send us your news!