

*Victorians Institute*  
*2015 Conference*  
*October 2, 3*

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2**

**Registration begins at 8:00 in the Lobby of Kuhn Hall**

**SESSION I – 9:00 – 10:15**

**Panel 1 – Reading Bodies**

**Kuhn 122**

**Chair: Eric Lorentzen, University of Mary Washington**

Casey Cothran, Winthrop University

“Now give me the wig, and unfasten the straps of this hump”: Guy Boothby, the Remarkable Body, and the Work of the Liar

Holly Fling, University of Georgia

“I shall do everything it becomes me to do”: The Work of Becoming Rosamond in Eliot’s *Middlemarch*

Mary Clai Jones, Lincoln University

Cosmetics as Disguise: The Work of Femininity in Wilkie Collins’s *The Law and the Lady*

**Panel 2 – Dickens**

**Kuhn 125**

**Chair: Lesa Scholl, University of Queensland**

Celeste McMaster, Charleston Southern University

Articulating Venus: Domestic Piece-Makers in *Our Mutual Friend*

Claudia Martin, Binghamton University (SUNY)

Dickens’s Lawyers: The Counter-Narrative of Visible Work in *Great Expectations* and *Bleak House*.

James Hamby, Middle Tennessee State University

Aunt Betsey, Miss Wade, and Miss Havisham: Scorned Women and Their Protégés

**Panel 3 – What work is**

**Kuhn 215**

**Chair: Jenny Pyke, Wake Forest University**

Rebecca King, Middle Tennessee State University

Real Men Work: Masculinity in Late Victorian Discourses of Work

Elise L. Smith, Millsaps College

“What you hate doing”: Edith Nesbit’s Conception of Work in *The Red House* (1902)

Joyce McPherson, University of Tennessee-Chattanooga

Reconciling Doyle’s Paradox: Sherlock Holmes and the Work of the Society for Psychical Research

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**SESSION 2 – 10:20 – 11:35**

**Panel 1 – Intellectual Work**

**Kuhn 122**

**Chair: Casey Cothran, Winthrop University**

Benjamin Hudson, University of Georgia

“Truant Reading”: Walter Pater and the Dilettante’s Queer Aesthetics

Albert Pionke, University of Alabama

John Stuart Mill and the Marginal Work of an English Reviewer

Brent Shannon, Eastern Kentucky University

“An almost superhuman amount of work before him”: Studying and Examinations as Labor in Oxbridge Fiction

**Panel 2 – Working the Periodical**

**Kuhn 125**

**Chair: Carla Coleman, Austin Community College**

Siobhan Craft Brownson, Winthrop University

“I Became an Editor”: Periodical Editing as Profession, Vocation, and Avocation

Loretta Clayton, Middle Georgia State University

Glamorizing Work: Professionalization, Social Class, and the Female journalist at the *fin de siècle*

Christina Henderson, Georgia Regents University

Nineteenth-Century Telegraphic Fiction and the Professional Woman

**Panel 3 – Play and Pleasurable Labor**

**Kuhn 215**

**Chair: Cameron Dodworth, Methodist University**

Kimberly Jo Stern, University of North Carolina

Class Dismissed: Oscar Wilde and Educational Labor

Anoff Cobblah, University of Michigan

Serious Satire and Science: What Samuel Butler Played For

Mark Rollins, Young Harris College

“What kinds of labour are good for Men?”: Work and/as Pleasure in Hardy’s Fiction

**SESSION 3 – 11:45 – 12:45**

**Panel 1 – George Eliot**

**Kuhn 122**

**Chair: Casie LeGette**

Casie LeGette, University of Georgia

Putting George Eliot to Work

Ann Marie Klein, University of St. Thomas

Portraying Carlyle’s Ethic: George Eliot’s Tailors and Tools

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**Panel 2 – Labor**

**Kuhn 125**

**Chair: Eric Lorentzen**

Eric Lorentzen, University of Mary Washington

The Work of Teaching the Work of Teaching in Victorian Literature and Culture

Katharine Faron, Lincoln College of New England

Victorian Labor and the Sense of Self: The Role and Expansion of Students' Sense of Self  
When Studying Victorian Labor

**Panel 3 – Play, Sports, and Morality**

**Kuhn 215**

**Chair: Todd Starkweather**

Todd Starkweather, South University

Turning Play into Work: Sport and the Regulation of Children

Yvonne Elizabeth Pelletier, University of Tennessee

Playing at Work: Tom Brown's Rugby School and Thomas Hughes's Rugby Settlement

**Panel 4 – Imperialism**

**Kuhn 227**

**Chair: Lesa Scholl**

Christy Rieger, Mercyhurst University

"I Am a Very Good Doctor Really": Romance, Medicine and Magic in Kipling's *Kim*

Lesla Scholl, Emmanuel College, University of Queensland

Alienated Labour and the Taste of Dispossession: Imperialism and Political Economy in  
Harriet Martineau's *Cinnamon and Pearls* (1833)

**Panel 5 – Periodical Work**

**Kuhn 212**

**Chair: Daniel Cook**

Daniel Cook, Saginaw Valley State University

"A Heartless Common Hack": Subscription, Professional Society, and Augusta

Webster's *A Preacher*

Sue McPherson, Sheffield Hallam University

*Out of Work*: Margaret Harkness, Unemployment and Illusory Communities

**1:00 – 1:45 – lunch**

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**SESSION 4 – 2:00 – 3:45**

**Panel 1 - Special Panel in Recognition of the Centenary of Mary Elizabeth Braddon's death  
Sponsored by the Braddon Association**

**Kuhn 122**

**Chair: Anna Brecke, co-founder, Braddon Association**

Sarah Young, Old Dominion University

Heteronormative Perversions in *Lady Audley's Secret*

Elizabeth Adams, Independent Scholar

Mary Elizabeth Braddon: Art Authorship and Professionalism

Timothy Carens, College of Charleston

Subversive Fantasy and Domestic Labor

Christiana Salah, University of Connecticut

Not so Different, You and I: The Actress and the Governess in the Victorian Sensation

Novel

**Panel 2 – The Psychology of the Self**

**Kuhn 125**

**Chair: Siobhan Craft Brownson, Winthrop University**

David Bradshaw, Warren Wilson College

The Task of Telemachus and Self-Help Smiles: Subduing to the Useful and the Good

Chip Rogers, Middle Georgia State University

Class, Work and [Un] Fulfillment in *David Copperfield*, *Bleak House*, and *Great Expectations*

Catherine Blass, Greenville Technical College

The Psychological Labor of Alienation in *Childe Roland to the Dark Tower Came*

Jennifer Pyke, Wake Forest University

Nothing but what was severely workful: Searching for Beautiful Stillness in *Hard Times*

**Panel 3 – The Work of Authorship**

**Kuhn 215**

**Chair: Albert Pionke, University of Alabama**

Robin Barrow, University of Tennessee

Hardy's Fiction(al) Career

John Lamb, West Virginia University

“When they come to die/Good press-men to the country go”: Poetic Labor and Pastoral

Longing in John Davidson's *Fleet Street Eclogues*

Thomas Berenato, University of Virginia

Gerard Manley Hopkins, Christina Rossetti, and the Work of Forgiveness

Aruni Mahapatra, Emory University

Reading Anxiety: Austen, Bronte, and Gaskell

4:00 – 5:30 – Keynote Address

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Lever Auditorium, Kuhn Hall

Dr. Susan Fraiman

University of Virginia

**Behind the Curtain: Domestic Industry in *Mary Barton***

**5:45 – 7:00 – Conference reception**

**Lower Lobby and portico of Pfeiffer Building**

**Reception co-sponsored by Nisbet Honors Undergraduate Program**

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3**

**Registration begins at 8:00 in the Lobby of Kuhn Hall**

**SESSION 5 – 9:00 – 10:45**

**Panel 1 – Materiality**

**Kuhn 122**

**Chair: Robin Barrow, University of Tennessee**

Josh Poklad, Leeds Trinity University/Leeds Centre for Victorian Studies

Sleigh Bells and Factory Elves: The Spectacular Economy of Santa Claus

Ronit Mazovskiy, Tel Aviv University

Fetishizing the Material Product

Gretchen Braun, Furman University

“Taste for Dress” and Lust for Power: Textiles in the Hungry Forties

Katherine Monroe, George Mason University

A Treasure Trove of Crystal: Glass at the Great Exhibition of 1851

**Panel 2 – Sensational Work**

**Kuhn 123**

**Chair: Todd Starkweather, South University**

Mary Husemann and Sophie Yates, Warren Wilson College

Angel(ic) Mothers: Maternal Death in *The Moonstone* and *Dracula*

Jonathan Elmore, Savannah State University

“The World is Increasingly Unthinkable”: *Carmilla*, Natural Law, and the Horror of Human Limitations

Joshua Gooch, D’Youville College

Love your discipline! Work, Pleasure, and Subjection in *Dracula*

Sharon Kelly, West Virginia University

Science and Magic: Experimental Work

**Panel 3 – Conditions of England**

**Kuhn 125**

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**Chair: Lynn Alexander**

Heejoo Park, Boston College

Working Class Literary Culture in Elizabeth Gaskell's *Mary Barton*

Miranda Mattingly, University of Missouri-Columbia

Putting Reader Not Working Class Movements on Display in Kingsley's *Alton Locke*

Malcom Bare, University of Virginia

Charlotte Bronte's Urban City and the Industrial Novel: Architectural Realism from Glasstown to *Shirley's* Yorkshire

Michael D. Lewis, Washington and Jefferson University

Liberalism, Labor, and Agency in the Industrial Novel

**Panel 4 – Pedagogy**

**Kuhn 215**

**Chair: David Bradshaw, Warren Wilson College**

Jen Camden, University of Indianapolis

Slackers and Stars: Using the Novel as an Opportunity for Students to Self-Identify and Self-Select

Katarina Gephardt, Kennesaw State University

"I feel as if I am there": Neo-Victorian "Realism" and the Twenty-First Century Student

Abigail Mann, University of North Carolina–Pembroke

The Labor of Reading Like a Victorian: Serializing and Tweeting the Novel in the Undergraduate Classroom

Kate Faber Oestreich, Coastal Carolina University

The New 3Rs – Reading, Writing, and Transmediation; or Professional Labor and Digital Literacies in the Vic Lit Classroom

**SESSION 6 – 10:50 – 12:05**

**Panel 1 - Women's Labor**

**Kuhn 122**

**Chair: John Lamb, West Virginia University**

Hannah Ruehl, University of Kentucky

Political Aging: Redefining Women's Labor in Eliot's Felix Holt

Amberlyl Malkovich, Concord University

Scarlet Heroines From Street to Stage: Autonomy Identity, and the Victorian Working-Class "Woman"

Indu Ohri, University of Virginia

"A Fascination None of Us Could Resist": Female Servant Narratives in Victorian Women's Ghost Stories

**Panel 2 – Then/Now**

**Kuhn 123**

**Chair: Gretchen Braun, Furman University**

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Julie Wise, University of South Carolina Aiken

*The Ring and the Book, Serial, and the Work of the Storyteller*

Kimberly Manganelli, Clemson University

From “Cool Girls” to Gone Girls: Lady Audley, Amy Dunne, and the Labors of Marriage

Lillian Craton, Lander University

Filming Bertha Mason

**Panel 3 – The Contexts of Victorian Work**

**Kuhn 125**

**Chair: Emily Harbin, Converse College**

Frank Emmett, Emeritus Scholar, Shelter Island, NY

“Organ of Communication” or “Plausible Demon of the Government”: Dueling Data and Contested Narratives of the Poor Law Assisted Migration of Labourers Scheme, 1834 – 1837

Valerie Stevens, University of Kentucky

“I was worm too”: Animals, Classification, and Work in *Aurora Leigh*

Carla Coleman, Austin Community College

“The Art of Seeing”: Kingsley, Natural History, and the Work of Proper Perception

**12:15 – 1:15 – Lunch and business meeting**

**Barnet Room, Montgomery Building**

**SESSION 7 – 1:30 – 2:45**

**Panel 1 – Dark Work**

**Kuhn 122**

**Chair:**

Emma Burris-Janssen, University of Connecticut

“He’s had you!”: Doing the “Dirty Work” of Abortion in *The Woodlanders*

Esther Godfrey, University of South Carolina, Upstate

“How I Met Your Mother”: Wilkie Collins and the Prostitution Debates of the 1870s

Laurie Lyda, Catawba College

An Infected Tradition: Writing the Prostitute

**Panel 2 - Rhetoric and Work**

**Kuhn 123**

**Chair:**

Kate Katigbak, Five College Consortium

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“Snatched the lightning from the sky and the scepter from tyrants”: The mythic and etymological origins of The Industrial Revolution

Kristina Chesaniuk, Auburn University

Rhetorics of *The Factory Girl*: Ethos and Audience in Two Autobiographies by Ellen Johnson

R. P. Singh, University of Lucknow, India

Browning as Communicator: Application of Business Communication Theories on *Rabbi Ben Ezra*

**Panel 3 – Creative Labor**

**Kuhn 125**

**Chair: Kate Faber Oestreich, Coastal Carolina University**

Keaghan Turner, Coastal Carolina University

The Work of the Work of Art in John Galsworthy’s *Forsyte Saga*

Elizabeth Way, Wake Forest University

Working Matters: Sonnet, Sculpture, and Slavery in EBB’s “*Hiram Powers’ ‘Greek Slave’*”

Cameron Dodworth, Methodist University

Labor...Blessed Ideal or Gothic Nightmare?: The Reality of Work in Realist Works

**Panel 4 – Dickens and . . .**

**Kuhn 215**

**Chair:**

Alexie McPherson, University of Georgia

The Merry Grotesque: *A Christmas Carol* and Dickens’s Carnival Age

Laura Struve, Wilmington College

Sir James Fitzjames Stephen and his Feud with Charles Dickens: Disciplines of Law and Literature Go to Battle Over Professional Ethics

Richard Menke, University of Georgia

“Actual work . . . he had next to none”: Dickens, Maxwell and the Labor of Information

**SESSION 8 – 3:00 – 4:15**

**Panel 1 – Idleness**

**Kuhn 122**



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**Chair:**

Lynn Alexander, University of Tennessee-Martin

The Corruption of Idleness: Why the Sons of Industry Fail

Hyun-Jin Lim, Washington University

“Idiots talk . . . of Energy”: The Anti-Work Ethic and Narrative Function in *Our Mutual Friend*

Fatima Azam, University of Georgia

The Danger of a Pen in Idle Hands: Using Letters in *The Importance of Being Earnest* to Make the False Real

**Panel 2 – Material Culture and Domestic Detail**

**Kuhn 123**

**Chair:**

Catherine England, Francis Marion University

Unworkable Dinners: Elizabeth Gaskell’s *Wives and Daughters*

Karina Jimenez Everett, Stevens Institute of Technology

The Business of Secret Keeping: Domestic Labor in *North and South*

Martha Baldwin, University of Kansas

Servants and Sympathy in Dinah Craik’s *Mistress and Maid: A Household Tale* (1863)

**Panel 3 – What a Piece of Work is (Wo)Man**

**Kuhn 125**

**Chair: Madelyn Young, Converse College**

Emily Harbin, Converse College

Work, Athletics and “Vital Force” in the Writing of Arabella Kenealy

Barbara Tilley, DePaul University

Emma Brooke’s Socialist Politics: Labor and Motherhood

Beth Leonardo, University of Rhode Island

Not So Idle Gossip: Exploring Depictions of Verbal Female Enmity in George Eliot’s *The Mill on the Floss*