Utrecht University Research Focus Area Cultures, Citizenship and Human Rights



Newsletter

Dear all,

With this newsletter we wish to inform you of upcoming events, calls for funding and new releases. If you have relevant information or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

The CCHR team,

Prof. Rosemarie Buikema, Prof. Antoine Buyse and Prof. Ton Robben

News

Migration Initiative Meeting: December 6, 2016

We had another inspiring last session, during which we discussed the particular research interests of the participants, possible collaboration and possible funding to discuss possible further steps, joint initiatives (workshops, invited speakers to further discuss research topics and methods) and seed money proposals. The next meeting is on **Tuesday December 6, 15-17 hrs, Muntstraat 2a, room 1.11**.

Save the date: CCHR Symposium on Friday September 8, 2017

On Friday September 8, 2017 we will open the academic year by means of an international CCHR symposium on the topic of cultures of citizenship. During the symposium a selection of our CCHR-affiliated researchers will present their ERC or National Research Council funded research projects. Consequently, we will look to the future prospects of the research focus area by setting out new thematic lines. Speakers are Jacqueline Bhabha (Yale), Birgit Meyer (UU), Sandra Ponzanesi (UU) and other local and (inter-)national guests still to be confirmed.

Results CCHR grant proposal round September 2016

For the September 2016 round of funding the CCHR selection commission received 6 eligible applications that have been selected for funding. All have impressed us in terms of the quality of the work and determination of the scholars to make CCHR a strong and timely focus area within Utrecht University. The selected proposals are:

- Julie Fraser 'Research Visit with the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women'
- Judith Keilbach 'Workshop Migration, Memory and European Television Culture'
- Brianne McGonigle Leyh 'Socializing Transitional Justice?'
- Barbara Oomen & Barnita Bagchi 'Utopia and the Future in Transcultural, Transnational, and Intermedial Perspective'
- Martijn Oosterbaan 'Summary Research Project: Religion and the Popular Culture of Sovereignty'
- Milica Trakilovic 'Borders Across Borders in Europe: Oral and Visual Memory in Europe and Beyond'

CCHR Online Blog



Members Utrecht Young Academy selected

The first 24 members of the Utrecht Young Academy (UYA) have been selected. They are all excellent young academics, between 0 and 8 years after their PhD. The Utrecht Young Academy (UYA) has been set up to

connect young UU academics from different disciplines and to provide them with a platform for freely interacting and exchanging ideas.

The Utrecht Young Academy allows members to get familiar with each other's fields of expertise, and enables them to discuss important meta-level topics like interdisciplinary and internationalisation in research and teaching, the organisation of science/science policy and connecting science and society. The members also get the chance to start projects together, that focus on these topics and/or on gaining public attention for Utrecht University's research and teaching.

Members are nominated for a period of 5 years. Every year, 8 new members will be selected, until the number of members stabilises at 40.

The following selected members are affiliated with CCHR: Tessa Diphoorn, Borja Martinovic, Brianne McGonigle and Susanne Knittel.

Read more

Conferences / Courses / Lectures

CCHR, the Comparative Literature Seminar, and the Doing Gender Lecture Series present:

A lecture by Dr Benjamin Authers

Thursday December 1, 2016: 16:00-17.30 hrs

Utrecht, Drift 21, room 0.32



Lecture: 'Analogies of harm: Excess, expression, and pornography in Margaret Atwood's *Bodily Harm* and the Supreme Court of Canada decision in *R v Butler*.'

Thinking through Margaret Atwood's novel *Bodily Harm* and the Supreme Court of Canada case *R v Butler*, this talk examines a Canadian discussion about the excessiveness of the freedom of expression to which pornography has been central. In Atwood's novel, expression is central to *Bodily Harm*'s narrative of personal political revelation. Yet it is also at the root of a discourse of harm that Atwood elucidates throughout the text as she incorporates pornography into an expansive analogic continuity of violence. In *Butler*, the Supreme Court curtails

obscenity in the name of equality and collective well-being, even as it continues to view expression as a valuable individual freedom and a national good. In each text the freedom both is and is not safeguarded, with the Supreme Court longing for an ideal Canada where obscenity is absent and with Atwood's novel concluding in deferral. In each, freedom of expression can be conceived of and celebrated, but its excessive meaning must also be contained.

Benjamin Authers is Assistant Professor of Law in the School of Law and Justice at the University of Canberra, Australia, and a Visiting Fellow at the School of Regulation and Global Governance (RegNet), Australian National

University. His research is on human rights, literature, and law, with a particular interest in the language and place of texts in Canadian and global human rights contexts. His book *A Culture of Rights: Law, Literature, and Canada* was published by University of Toronto Press in 2016.

Read more

Marianne van den Boomen Lecture 2016

On Thursday, November 24, 2016 at 17.00 the first annual Marianne van den Boomen Lecture will be held at Utrecht University in the Auditorium of University Hall (Academiegebouw), followed by drinks.



This lecture series is dedicated to the memory of Marianne van den Boomen (1955-2014), a Dutch internet and digital media activist who wrote on information technologies from as early as 1984. Having worked for two decades as a journalist and online editor, participating in numerous initiatives in the field of digital media, she started lecturing at Utrecht University in 2003, where she also wrote her PhD on material metaphors in new media. Even though her disease made it especially challenging to continue, she completed and successfully defended her thesis in 2014, just a few months before she passed away.

The lecture series aims to study societal and cultural impacts of digital media. Every year a leading scholar in the field is invited to address the changes, opportunities, and challenges brought about by the mediation and datafication of everyday life, and to discuss the consequences these processes have for institutions, inclusion/exclusion politics in the public sphere, citizenship, and for

our private lives.

We are extremely pleased to announce that the first Marianne van den Boomen Lecture will be given by Professor Leah Lievrouw, UCLA, Department of Information Studies. In her talk, titled "Algorithms and Activism: Resistance in the Age of Data", Lievrouw will address "emerging forms of data-focused engagement and resistance in the context of algorithmic media, drawing examples from data activism, design activism, data journalism, civic hacking and community informatics, and activist projects and movements like Anonymous, Black Lives Matter, and the Edward Snowden and Aaron Swartz cases, among others." Please see the attached pdf for an abstract of the talk.

As the venue holds a maximum of 150 people, we would kindly like to ask you to register for the event via Google Forms at: https://goo.gl/forms/nhNkYveoYw08Da2A2.

Meet international pioneers in giving, hear why millennials donate to art, learn about European trends in fundraising. Renée Steenbergen, senior research fellow Arts Philanthropy at CCHR, and the Stichting Geef om Cultuur invite you to visit this transnational symposium with academic researchers from London, Brussels, Copenhagen, Hamburg and Rotterdam.

Join us in the dialogue about public and private roles in arts funding and share new insights about donor behaviour. With the cooperation of the Musée du Louvre and the National Opera Ballet.

Read the full programme on www.ArtsPhilanthropy.eu

There is a special fee of 30 euro for UU-students, with a maximum of 30 students.

Please register by sending an email to welcome@artsphilanthropy.eu

Book Launch

Thursday December 8, 2016, Book I(a)unch

This CCHR bookla(u)nch will be dedicated to highlight recent publications by CCHR members. The authors will briefly introduce their work and discuss their projects with the attendants in a plenary session. Members of the CCHR PhD group will prepare a brief response to each of the each of the speakers. We'll also announce the sixth round of seed money funding and encourage CCHR members to join forces and submit projects related to one of the three CCHR research lines (Mediation, Sovereignty and Contestation). We in particular encourage new initiatives addressing migration and the current refugee crises. There will be ample opportunity to discuss plans and meet possible partners.

Speakers of this book launch session are:

- Paulien de Morree Rights and Wrongs under the ECHR. The prohibition of abuse of rights in Article 17 of the European Convention on Human Rights.
- Dann Hassler-Forrest Science Fiction, Fantasy and Politics: Transmedia World-Building Beyond Capitalism

Location: 12.00 – 13.30 hrs at the Sweelinckzaal, Drift 21

Please register (catering): cchr@uu.nl

Call for funding

Deadline 1 February 2017

The members of the participating research programmes in Cultures, Citizenship and Human Rights are encouraged to apply for the co-funding of initiatives. CCHR funding is meant to encourage new, interdisciplinary research projects that contribute to one or more CCHR research lines: Mediation, Sovereignty, and Contestation.

In particular we encourage projects that work on migration and/or refugees.

Important note: in view of the coordination for matching purposes and the resources applied for, we ask that you first submit your application to and discuss it with the person responsible within your own department (department head, Research Director and/or Director of Education) prior sending it to us.

Format:

Grant proposals should meet the following criteria:

- The project includes researchers from at least two research programmes
- Maximum of €10.000

Grant Proposals contain the following information:

- 1 Summary
- 2 Project description
- 3 Expected aims and output
- 4 Time schedule
- 5 Detailed budget (incl. co-funding)

Grant proposals do not exceed 3 pages.

Proposals can be send to cchr@uu.nl

New Releases

Special Issue: Transnational Cinema: Postcolonial Cinemas in Europe. Migration, Identity and Spatiality in Film Genres by Sandra Ponzanesi and Verena Berger



Transnational migration and questions of identity are amongst the most powerful forces of social transformation in contemporary Europe. Hence, representations of migrant, exilic and diasporic experiences as well as the dynamics of postmodern multiculturalism have assumed a prominent position over the past three decades in European mainstream and art house cinema.

Read more

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