Cormac McCarthy Conference 2019
August 29 to September 1
Conference Organizers: Stacey Peebles, Dustin Anderson, Steven Frye

Keynote Address: David Krakauer, President, The Santa Fe Institute

Thursday, August 29 (Room 400)
Registration: 4:00-5:00
5:00 – 6:30: Conference Opening and Welcome – The State of McCarthy Scholarship
Stacey Peebles will lead a discussion including all conference participants on where we are headed in McCarthy studies

Friday, August 30 (Room 415AB)
Check-in: 7:30-8:00
Session I: 8:00-9:30 — Blood Meridian and Other Considerations
Chair: Steven Frye, California State University, Bakersfield

- “Suzerain of the Page: Blood Meridian’s Judge Holden as a Metaphor for the Author,” Mark Maynard, Truckee Meadows Community College
- “Feeling and Thinking Amid Desolation: Empathic Witness and Reading Fictional Minds in Blood Meridian,” Ricky Shear, University of Texas, Austin
- “Blood Meridian’s Epilogue and Scientific Principle,” Tai Kondo Koester, University of Colorado, Boulder

Session II: 9:45-11:15 — The Southern Works
Chair: Dianne C. Luce, Emeritus of Midlands Technical College

- “‘He never was right’: Authorial Cruelty in Child of God,” Lee Clark Mitchell, Princeton University
- “‘No Gray Middle Folk Did He See’: The Role of African Presence in Suttree,” Noemi Fernandez Labarga, Flagler University
- “Naturalism and Polyvalence in The Orchard Keeper,” Steven Frye, California State University, Bakersfield
Session III: 11:30-1:00 – The Border Trilogy and Other Considerations

Chair: Stacey Peebles, Centre College

- “‘Not Even Chaos’: Evolution, Design, and Complexity Science in the Border Trilogy,” Bryan Vescio, High Point University
- “Save Them For Later: Cannibalism and Unsustainable Farming in The Road,” Thomas Winningham, University of Southern California
- “Shadows of Jung and Campbell in the Border Trilogy,” Scott Yarbrough, Charleston Southern University

Lunch: 1:00-3:00 (On Your Own)

Session IV: 3:00-4:30 - Complexity Theory and Cormac McCarthy

Chair: Steven Frye, California State University, Bakersfield

- “Nomadism and the Making and Unmaking of the world in The Crossing,” Lydia R. Cooper, Creighton University
- “Biology, Embodiment, and Systemic Disanthropocentrism in McCarthy and Bacigalupi,” Derek Thiess, University of North Georgia
- “Every Force Evolves a Form: Davenport, McCarthy, and Complexity,” Brian Geimza, Texas Tech University

Keynote Address: 5:00-6:30 (Room 408)

David Krakauer, The Santa Fe Institute

Dinner 7:00-9:00 (Room 410)
Informal Gathering to Follow
Saturday, August 31 (Room 408)

Session I: 9:00-10:30 – *No Country for Old Men* and Other Considerations

Chair: Rick Wallach, Independent Scholar

- “‘Will the Circle Be Unbroken’: Geometrical Codes in *No Country for Old Men*,” Eric Lawrence, California State University, Northridge
- “The Descent of Man, The Descent of America: New Naturalism and Neoliberal Subjectivity in *No Country for Old Men*,” Sarah McCreedy, University College, Cork
- “Horribly Burned: McCarthy’s Old Testament Sacrifices,” Dustin Anderson, Georgia Southern University

Session II: 10:45-12:15 – The Archives and Insights from Correspondence

Chair: Dustin Anderson, Georgia Southern University

- “*Blood Meridian* and the Wittliff Archives,” Adam David Morton, University of Sydney
- “‘All but out of business’: How Robert Coles and the Lyndhurst Foundation Sustained McCarthy’s Career in the 1980’s and Beyond,” Dianne C. Luce, Emeritus of Midlands Technical College

Lunch: 12:15-2:00 – Buffet at the Hilton (provided)

Session III: 2:00-3:30 – Issues, Themes, and Motifs

Chair: Stacey Peebles, Centre College

- “Ouroboros: McCarthy Dreaming Science,” Jay Ellis, University of Colorado, Boulder
- “Hunter, Predator, Prey: Significance of Hunt in Cormac McCarthy’s Fiction,” Katerina Bartova,
- “Milk and Cake: Women and Food in McCarthy’s Fiction,” Nell Sullivan, University of Houston, Downtown
Session IV: 3:45-5:15 - McCarthy’s Borderlands

Chair: Steven Frye, California State University, Bakersfield

- “Imagined Borderlands in the Southern Works of Cormac McCarthy,” Rick Wallach, Independent Scholar
- “E Pluribus Unum: John Joel Glanton or the Son of Many Fathers,” Wallis Sanborn, Our Lady of the Lake University
- “Cormac McCarthy’s Mexican Mirror,” Allen Josephs, University of West Florida

Closing Reception (Room 410)
Cash Bar
5:30-7:00

Sunday, September 1 (Room 408)

Closing Session: 9:00-10:30 - A Panel Discussion on McCarthy in the Classroom
Chair: Stacey Peebles, Co-Editor of the MLA Volume on Teaching Cormac McCarthy