I’d like to invite members and friends of the PCCBS to attend our upcoming conference at the Huntington Library, April 1-3, 2016. It is an exciting time to be at the Huntington where we will enjoy newly renovated facilities in lovely southern California. Our program committee is led by Simon Devereaux who is assisted by Aaron Windel and Gordon Fulton. We invite faculty, PhD students and independent scholars working in the field of British studies to propose a paper or panel for what should prove to be an excellent conference. Generous support from the Sidney Stern Memorial Trust has been provided to help defray travel costs to the conference for graduate students delivering papers.

All the information you need to participate in the conference, including hotel booking, can be found below. Please also consider submitting your work to one of our prize committees. This year we will be awarding a graduate student prize and a book prize.

The recent conference in Las Vegas at the M Resort was a big success. Our program committee put together a truly first-rate program. I’d like to thank my fellow committee members, Simon Devereaux, Jeff Schauer and Kelly Mays for helping put together a diverse and engaging program comprised of traditional panels, a book roundtable featuring Peter Mandler and a first-ever graduate student panel dedicated to discussing the profession and publishing with Steve Hindle, Philippa Levine, James Vernon and Matt Newsom Kerr and chaired by Peter Hoffenberg. Thanks to Cian McMahon who did local arrangements and graduate assistant, Kat Wisnosky. The conference in Vegas included participants from all over our region as well as throughout North America, Britain and around the world.

Two excellent plenary talks were given at the conference. We were fortunate to have Tom Laqueur from UC Berkeley join us Friday evening to deliver a talk entitled, “The Right to Burial and the Crisis of the Old Regime in England.” I had the pleasure of introducing Tom Laqueur who spoke to a full-house from his new book due out this fall about death, modernity and the culture of mourning. Our Saturday lunchtime speaker was Kathleen Wilson from State University of New York, Stony Brook who was introduced by Jim Epstein. Kathleen Wilson delivered a beautifully illustrated lecture on gender, empire and theater in the early modern period. Her talk, “The Lure of the Other: Sheridan, Ethnicity and Performance in Kingston and Calcutta” traced the production of categories of race and sexual difference and the implications of these cultural constructions for British and imperial audiences.
Finally, I’d like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the dedicated PCCBS officers and to all of you who volunteered to serve on PCCBS committees. Alister Chapman kept all of us up with the happenings of the conference as Secretary and David Campion made sure our books were balanced as Treasurer. Vice President Simon Devereaux helped make things run smoothly and volunteered to assist with so many things. Molly McClain was our webmaster and I again am grateful to her for all of her support. Our graduate representative, Karin Amundsen, helped us think about and put together the panel for graduate students and provided valuable advice regarding how to best serve the needs of graduate students in the future. Thanks also go to the members of our prize committees. The graduate prize committee was chaired by Peter Hoffenberg and included committee members Ethan Shagan and Rob McClain. The article prize was chaired by James Vernon with Lisa Cody and Susan Amussen serving as committee members. I very much enjoyed working with the officers and committee members and look forward to the upcoming conference.

Please do join us at the Huntington in April.

Best wishes,

Michelle Tusan

Our PCCBS listserv is up and running, pccbs@mail.westmont.edu, and is a great place to connect with members and find fellow panelists. Please do not submit paper or panel proposals to this email.
CALL FOR PAPERS: PCCBS ANNUAL MEETING, April 1-3, 2016
HUNTINGTON LIBRARY, SAN MARINO, CA

The Pacific Coast Conference on British Studies invites paper and panel proposals for its 43rd annual meeting, to be held at the Huntington Library, San Marino, California, April 1-3, 2016.

The PCCBS invites papers representing all fields of British Studies -- broadly defined to include those who study the United Kingdom, its component parts and nationalities, as well as Britain's imperial cultures. We welcome proposals from scholars and doctoral candidates in a wide range of disciplines across the humanities, social sciences, and the arts, including History, Literature, Political Science, Philosophy, Religion, Gender Studies, Cultural Studies, Theater Studies, and Art History.

Proposals for individual papers, partial panels, or complete panels are all welcome, although complete panel proposals are preferred. We encourage the submission of proposals dealing with interdisciplinary topics, as well as panels on new pedagogies and technologies associated with British Studies.

The deadline for submission of proposals is DECEMBER 1, 2015. Proposals should include a 200-word abstract for each paper plus a one-page c.v. for each participant. Those submitting full or partial panel proposals should include a brief description of the panel plus a 1-page c.v. for the panel chair as well as for its commentator. Please place the panel proposal, its constituent paper proposals, and all vitae in a single file, making certain that your contact information, especially e-mail addresses, are correct and current.

Proposals should be submitted via e-mail attachment by December 1, 2015, to: PCCBS2016@gmail.com

*Graduate students who have papers accepted by the program committee will be eligible to request reimbursement for some travel expenses from the Stern Trust when registering for the conference.

HOTEL INFORMATION:
Hilton Pasadena
168 South Los Robles Ave.
Pasadena, CA 91101
(626) 577-1000

The special $169 rate will be available until February 29, 2016, or until the group block is sold-out, whichever comes first.

Call 1-800-HILTONS to make your reservation and be sure to mention the code “PCCBS” to receive the group rate. Or use the following link:

Both the link and central reservation are open 24/7 and will continue to take reservations as long as there are rooms available in the block, until the cutoff date.
**Call for Submissions:**
**PCCBS Book Prize, 2016**

The biennial prize for the best book published between 2014-15 by a member of the Pacific Coast Conference on British Studies will be awarded at the Spring 2016 meeting at the Huntington along with a cash award.

**Book Prize Submission Deadline:** December 1, 2015

Copies of the book should be sent to all three committee members:

Susan Amussen, Chair  
School of Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts  
University of California, Merced  
5200 North Lake Road  
Merced, CA 95343  
samussen@ucmerced.edu

Jennifer Anderson  
2415 Valhalla St.  
Pomona, CA 91767  
janderse@csusb.edu

Priya Satia  
History Department MC 2024  
Stanford University  
Stanford, CA 94305-2024  
psatia@stanford.edu

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**Call for Submissions:**
**PCCBS Annual Graduate Prize, 2016**

The PCCBS invites entries from PhD students for the annual graduate student prize. The prize will be awarded at the upcoming PCCBS conference this April at the Huntington. The student and the advisor, or instructor must be current members of PCCBS. The submitted entry will have been presented at the PCCBS meeting in March 2015 in Las Vegas, or, in the case of a graduate student studying at a university within the PCCBS region, at any other conference during 2015, as long as the paper concerns a topic within the scope of British Studies. The submission should be the paper as delivered with the addition of necessary notes and citations, the total to not exceed 18 pages double spaced. The winner(s) will receive a monetary prize and be recognized at the annual PCCBS meetings.

**Graduate Prize Submission:** December 1, 2015

Please send electronic or hard copies with cover letter from advisor or instructor to each member of the prize committee:

Peter H. Hoffenberg, Chair  
History Department, Sakamaki Hall  
University of Hawai‘i at Manoa  
Honolulu, HI 96822  
peterh@hawaii.edu

Rebecca Lemon, University of Southern California  
Director, Institute of British and Irish Studies  
Department of English, USC  
429 Taper Hall  
Los Angeles, CA 90089-0354  
rlemon@usc.edu

Jeff Schauer, University of Nevada, Las Vegas  
University of Nevada Las Vegas  
4505 Maryland Parkway  
Box 455020  
Las Vegas NV 89154-5020  
jeff.schauer@unlv.edu
Winner of the 2015 Article Prize


The PCCBS Essay Prize Committee for 2015 was delighted to make its biannual award to Rebecca Lemon (USC) for her sparkling and important essay “Compulsory Conviviality in Early Modern England” published in the journal *English Literary Renaissance*.

What could be more pleasant than raising a drink and making a toast to the health of a friend? Well, in a virtuosic piece of literary history Lemon takes the practice of toasting, or ‘healthing’ as it was known, and shows that it was once reviled. Impressively moving between a rich field of texts and genres, including pamphlets, plays, and poems, Lemon recovers a fascinating debate in which ‘healthing’ controversial enough to be banned under the Protectorate and to have a royal proclamation issued against it by Charles II. Toasting was then associated with (imagine this!) Dutch excess, it was considered a dangerous and unhealthy form of binge drinking frequently satirized on stage. And yet, between the 1630s and 1650s Cavalier poets began to rehabilitate the practice as a quintessentially English bonding ritual, one used to manufacture and cement friendships. Rather than a rule of moderation, excessive conviviality became compulsory and was even used to help form new political solidarities as the country was tearing itself apart. Elegant and even funny the committee found the essay an exemplary piece of interdisciplinary scholarship. It commends the way in which the reading of a particular historical practice was used to tell us a much larger story about the emerging forms of civil society.

Finally, amongst the many outstanding essays the committee read it made honorable mention to Radhika Natarjan (Reed College) for her ‘Performing Multiculturalism: The Commonwealth Arts Festival of 1965” recently published by the *Journal of British Studies*. Its extensive archival work recovered the history of a largely forgotten festival and in doing so deftly resituated the history of multiculturalism in an imperial context. It is a terrific piece of work and all the more impressive as the first essay of an early career scholar.

Winner of the 2015 Graduate Prize


After reviewing excellent papers covering Early-Modern and Modern, domestic and overseas topics, the committee honored Catherine I. Chou, a PhD candidate at Stanford University studying with David Como, for her paper entitled: “Henry Howard and the Popish Parliament.” Ms. Chou is currently completing her dissertation with the assistance of a Five College Fellowship in history at Amherst College.

This paper is well-researched and well-written consideration of a mystery, or at least a speculation: "the purported plot to have Pope Gregory XIII call together an assembly of English Catholic noblemen and grant them the power to select one of their own as King." Such later-Tudor intrigue possibly involved Catholics in Spain, Tuscany, France and Italy, as folks there and elsewhere plotted regarding the Elizabethan succession. The paper successfully and convincingly marries primary and secondary sources, evaluated and discussed with originality and verve. It explores the grey areas between and among Protestant and Catholic ideas about the monarchy and succession.
News from Members

Norman Jones (Utah State University) is currently the Fletcher Jones Distinguished Fellow, Henry E. Huntington Library, where he is writing a book for Wiley/Blackwell entitled Being Elizabethan. His Governing by Virtue: Lord Burghley and the Management of Elizabethan England comes out with Oxford University Press in Fall 2015.


David Cressy (Claremont Graduate University) published Charles I and the People of England (Oxford University Press, 2015).
News from Members, continued…

Marc Matera (University of California Santa Cruz) published *Black London: The Imperial Metropolis and Decolonization in the 20th Century* (University of California Press, 2015).


Peter H. Hoffenberg (University of Hawaii at Manoa) wrote “Where can we go from here? The Future of Exhibition Studies,” *Contemporanea* 18:1 (2015): 130-134. He invites scholars interested in the history of science, medicine and technology in the Pacific region, rather broadly defined, including India, Australia, Fiji, New Zealand and other formerly British territories to contact him for a free copy of *The Bulletin of the Pacific Circle*. Please contact Peter at peterh@hawaii.edu.

Michelle Tusan (University of Nevada Las Vegas) published an article entitled, “Humanitarianism, Genocide and Liberalism” in the *Journal of Genocide Research* 17:1 (2015).


Lori Anne Ferrell (Claremont Graduate University) had a residential fellowship at Fondazione Bogliasco in Spring 2014; a visiting fellowship at Pembroke College Cambridge in Fall 2013 and early Winter 2014; and an NEH long-term fellowship at the Newberry Library, Chicago, in Spring and early Summer 2015.

J. Sears McGee (University of California, Santa Barbara) celebrated the publication of *An Industrious Mind: the Worlds of Sir Simonds D’Ewes* (Stanford University Press, 2015).