



THE OFFICE OF THE VICE-PRINCIPAL, RESEARCH

SURF 2023 PROGRAM

AUGUST 16, 2023 • 8:00AM-2:00PM • UTM CAMPUS

Event Agenda

Wednesday, August 16, 2023

9:00 AM - 2:00 PM



Kent Moore

Vice-Principal, Research

Introductory Remarks - 9:00-9:15 AM

Session One - 9:15-10:15 AM

Moderated by Payam Zahedi, Director, Office of the Vice-Principal, Research (OVPR)

Keynote Speaker:

Alison Syme, Associate Professor, Department of Visual Studies

Talk Title: *"Reconceiving the Victorian Artist"*



My research primarily focuses on art of the later nineteenth and early twentieth centuries in Britain, France, and the United States. Within this field, I study a range of different topics and traditions, from the neomedievalism of the Pre-Raphaelites to society portraiture to early abstraction. All of my research, however, is characterised by a commitment to close looking, examination of the intersection of art and visual culture, interdisciplinary enquiry, and analysis of the role of metaphors in artistic practice and poetics. My first book, *A Touch of Blossom: John Singer Sargent and the Queer Flora of Fin-de-Siècle Art* (Penn State University Press, 2010), shortlisted for the Modernist Studies Association Book Prize in 2011, considers Sargent in the context of nineteenth-century botany, gynaecology, literature, and visual culture and argues that the artist mobilised ideas of cross-fertilisation and the hermaphroditic sexuality of flowers in his works to “naturalise” sexual inversion, visually elaborating a floral poetics of sexual variety. I am currently working on my third book, *Burne-Jones and the Book*, which explores the Victorian artist’s poetics of materials and animation strategies in the context of Victorian science and print culture.

Student Rapid Talks - Session One

Teaching Accessibility in Software Design via Adventure Games

Ansh Agrawal

Faculty Supervisor: Sonya Allin

Towards autonomous continuum robotics: An iterative vision based movement pipeline from simulation to reality

Courtney Amm

Faculty Supervisor: Lueder Kahrs

Do Hints Enhance Learning in Programming Exercises? Exploring Student Preferences and Effectiveness

Giang Bui

Faculty Supervisor: Andrew Petersen

Assessing the relationship of leaf spectral reflectance with chlorophyll fluorescence, and its ability to track physiological changes related to plant health.

Giacomo Campo

Faculty Supervisor: Ingo Ensminger

Does musical sensorimotor synchronization ability predict spontaneous synchronization in a speech task?

Meyha Chhatwal

Faculty Supervisor: Christina Vanden Bosch der Nederlanden

Developing the Next Generation of Cancer Protein Drugs

Rama Edaibis

Faculty Supervisor: Jumi Shin

The effect of environmental enrichment on embryonic ethanol induced behavioural impairments in zebrafish.

Patrick Fahim

Faculty Supervisor: Robert Gerlai

Unlocking Key Predictors of Positive Mental Health Among Youth Using the Canadian Community Health Survey Data

Louisianne Saldagna

Faculty Supervisor: Asal Aslemand

Wellness Break - 10:15-10:30 AM

Session Two - 10:30-11:30 AM

Moderated by Payam Zahedi, Director, OVPR

Keynote Speaker:

Christina Vanden Bosch der Nederlanden, Assistant Professor, Psychology

Talk Title: *“Music, language, and busy sound scenes: How do we develop expertise for communicating with others?”*



My research investigates the perceptual, cognitive, and neural foundations of human communication in development. In particular, my work studies two important forms of communication: music and language. I ask questions related to how we attend to communicative signals, like speech and song, in real-world listening situations where many sounds compete for our attention. I compare music and language processing directly to one another to understand the similarities and differences between information processing in each domain from infancy to adulthood. And finally, I look at how features of music can be leveraged to improve language processing in individuals who struggle with language, such as those with Dyslexia. In the Language, Music, Attention, and Audition (LAMA) lab, we use a combination of methods like behavioural change detection and neural auditory envelope tracking to get a better picture of how it is we learn to attend to what's relevant for communication.

Student Rapid Talks - Session Two

"Look, it's a 'Cah'!" – An Exploration of How Infants Adapt to Unfamiliar Accents

Maripaz Gonzalez

Faculty Supervisor: Elizabeth Johnson

What's your type? Effects of Variable Fonts on Reading Speed

Silvia Guidi

Faculty Supervisors: Benjamin Wolfe & Anna Kosovicheva

Are Crystallographic Water Sites Conserved Between Conserved Residues of A2A

Ing Xhu Lim

Faculty Supervisor: Sarah Rauscher

Impact of road salts on aquatic detritivores

Silas Peters

Faculty Supervisors: Shannon McCauley & Rosalind Murray

Automated delineation of urban land use land cover using high resolution images

Carolyne Qiang

Faculty Supervisor: Yuhong He

Toward the characterization of membrane receptor conformational states via an orthogonal N-terminal tag

Guoria Sun

Faculty Supervisor: R. Scott Prosser

Differences in Intention to Major in Computing Across CS1

Bingcheng Wang

Faculty Supervisor: Andrew Petersen

Sex-specific improvement of memory and amyloid pathology in the 5xFAD mouse model of Alzheimer's disease

Sandra Youssef

Faculty Supervisor: Iva Zovkic

UTM Exhibitor Tables - 11:30 AM-2:00 PM

Have questions about the student experience at UTM? Visit our exhibitor tables to speak with staff from the [UTM Library](#), the [Robert Gillespie Academic Centre](#), and the [Career Centre](#).

Poster Presentations - 11:30 AM-12:30 PM

Students will be at their posters to explain their research and answer questions.

Lunch & Poster Viewing - 12:30-2:00 PM

While you enjoy lunch, please continue to wander and view student posters. Please note that students may not be at their posters at this time.

Poster Presentations

For a complete list of presenters, posters, and where to find them in the IB atrium, please visit our schedule online.

VIEW SCHEDULE

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