Conference Sponsors
The Humanities Institute in the College of Arts and Sciences and the American Studies Program at Fairfield University

Co-Chairs of the American Studies Program
Dr. Peter Bayers (English) and Dr. Marti LoMonaco (Visual and Performing Arts)

Conference Co-Chairs
Dr. Edrik Lopez (English) and Dr. Anna Lawrence (History)

The Chairs would like to thank our graduate assistant, Lindsay Alexander, and University staff Carolyn Arnold and Michelle Lesko for their help in organizing this event.
COFFEE AND PASTRIES
9:30 a.m.

OPENING REMARKS
9:45 a.m.
Dr. Peter Bayers
Department of English, co-chair of American Studies

Session One: Zombies! Knock-Outs! and the Fourth Estate:
Fixations in Contemporary Visual Culture
10 a.m. – 11 a.m.
Lindsey Petronella................. “The Distracted Google Eyes of the
Fourth Estate”
Chris Buza.......................... “A Walking Dead Hopes for the Post”
Kalee Brunelle...................... “The Knock Out Games Human Decency
on YouTube”

Session Two: Crafting Racial and Ethnic Identity
in American Media
11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.
Jamie Debicella.................... “Ethnomusicology in the Contemporary Film
Portrayal of Native American Culture”
Margaret DeMoura.................. “What’s the Way Forward? The Shifting
American Electorate and Presidential
Campaign Messages”
Ben Gott............................ “The Case of ‘The Bronze Buckaroo’: Race
and National Identity in the All-Black ‘Singing
Western’ Films of Herb Jeffries

Session Three: Imagined Gender Ideals: “Hysterical”
Patients, Choice Moms, and Teen Heroines
2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Lindsay Wrinn........................ “Hystria: Patriarchal Healthcare and Sexual
Domination in The Yellow Wallpaper”
Taylor-Trenchard.................... “Choice Moms and the Changing Landscape
of American Families”
Susan Williamson................... “Hunger Games and Heroines: The Rise
of Dystopic Literature and the Female
Protagonist in Popular Culture”

Session Four: The Material Origins of American Plays, Punk
Rock, and Chemistry Departments
3:15 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.
Alexandra Turner................. “The Birth of American Theatre”
Dawn Marie Murray............... “Xeroxed Americana: The Messages and
Imagery of 1980s Hardcore Punk
Rock Flyers”
Cathryn Prince...................... “A President, A Professor, and a Meteor:
The Birth of American Science”

RECEPTION
4:15 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.