

# Workshop on Complexity, Computing and the Humanities

*The University of Western Ontario. June 16-17, 2008*

in HSB 9 (Health Sciences Building 9)

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## Sponsored by SSHRC, SHARCNET, and Western's VP-Research and International Relations

Sponsored by "Complexity and the Humanities" (RDI-SSHRC Project), The Hispanic Baroque Project (a MCRI-SSHRC Project), and SHARCNET (Shared Hierarchical Academic Research Computing Network), this workshop will serve as a springboard to present different approaches to research on the intersections between complexity, computing, and the humanities. Although it will include some papers of a theoretical nature, it is one of the objectives of the workshop to focus on practical and methodological issues. Most of the presentations will deal with specific tools, their usability in collaborative environments, as well as the possibilities open for humanities research by new high-computing capabilities available to researchers.

### Monday, 16 June 2008

9:00 Opening Remarks

9:15 Using Complexity Science To Measure and Make Social Change I:  
Complexity Science and Social Systems - Theory

Discrete System States

James Hay

Social Systems and d/c Cycles

David Flynn

10:15-10:30 *Coffee Break*

10:30-11:30 Using Complexity Science To Measure and Make Social Change II:  
Complexity Science and Social Systems - Applications

Introduction to Art Cycles

David Flynn

Siting Bologna in the Region of Complexity

Madeline Lennon

Illustrations of the Range of Applications

James Hay

11:30-12:30 Theoretical Considerations on Complexity

History as a Complex System

Carlos E. Maldonado

Computational Models of Moral Reasoning:  
Improving our Understanding of Moral Reasoning

Marcello Guarini

*12:30-2:00 Lunch Break*

2:00-3:00 Agent-Based Research and Modeling I

Networks and History

Tammy Smith

*3:00-3:30 Coffee Break*

3:30-4:30 Agent-Based Research and Modeling II

Modeling Cultural Dynamics: A (Beta) Simulator

Fernando Sancho & Juan Luis Suárez

4:30-5:30 Agent-Based Research and Modeling III

Presentations by Graduate Students (Titles TBA)

## **Tuesday, 17 June 2008**

9:30-10:30 Databases and Historical Research I

Databases and Historic Research: The 16th century English Army.

Mike Bauer & William Acres

*10:30-11:00 Coffee Break*

11:00-12:00 Databases and Historical Research II

Statistics for Historic Research: A 18th-century Mathematical  
Subscription List.

David Bellhouse

12:00-12:30 Databases and Historical Research III

MUSICAT's Choirbooks Databases

Mario Haza Treviño

12:30-2:00 *Lunch Break*

2:00-3:00 Natural Language I

Natural Language Processing and Text Mining. John Atkinson

3:00-3:30 *Coffee Break*

3:30-4:30 Natural Language II

Methodological Considerations for Poetic Analysis Using XML.

D. Grant Campbell & Craig Harkema

4:30-5:30 Natural Language III

Spoken Dialogue Systems.

José F. Quesada

**The Speakers:**

William Acres is Adjunct Research Professor in History at the University of Western Ontario (Huron University College) (Canada).

John Atkinson is Associate Professor of Computer Science at the Universidad de Concepción (Chile).

Mike Bauer is Professor of Computer Science at the University of Western Ontario (Canada).

David Bellhouse is Professor of Statistics and Actuarial Sciences at the University of Western Ontario (Canada).

Grant Campbell is Associate Professor at the Faculty of Information & Media Studies, the University of Western Ontario (Canada).

David Flynn is Professor Emeritus of Sociology at King's University College (Canada).

Marcello Guarini is Professor of Philosophy at the University of Windsor (Canada).

Craig Harkema is Liaison Librarian of Special Collections in the Research Services Division at the University of Saskatchewan (Canada).

Jim Hay is former CEO of Dow Chemical Canada and Adjunct Professor, Fac. of Engineering, University of Western Ontario (Canada).

Mario Haza is a database designer and consultant at the Instituto de Investigaciones Estéticas, UNAM (México).

*Presentation & Database:*

Lucero Enríquez & Mario Haza,  
Proyecto Musicat (DGPA-CONACYT),  
Instituto de Investigaciones Estéticas,  
Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México.

Madeline Lennon is Associate Professor of Art History at the University of Western Ontario (Canada).

Carlos Eduardo Maldonado is Profesor Titular at the Universidad del Rosario (Colombia).

José F. Quesada is Director of R&D at Natural Language (Infinity. A Vocalcom Company) (Spain).

Fernando Sancho is Assistant Professor of Computer Science at the Universidad de Sevilla (Spain).

Tammy A. Smith is Assistant Professor of Sociology at Stony Brook University (USA).

Juan Luis Suárez is Professor of Hispanic Studies at the University of Western Ontario (Canada).