



MSU C4I Weekly Newsletter

November 2, 2020

C4I News & Events

We're continuing to program virtual events and opportunities here at MSU C4I through Fall 2020 & Spring 2021. If you are interested in giving a virtual webinar or presentation, please email Dr. Stephanie E. Vasko (C4I Managing Director) at vaskoste@msu.edu.

2020 University Interdisciplinary Colloquium

"Art as Research // Research for Art"

Dylan Miner
American Indian and Indigenous Studies,
Residential College in the Arts and Humanities

11/13/20, 12-1PM
Zoom Link: <https://msu.zoom.us/j/98504663406>
Password: msuc4i

In his talk, geared specifically for the Interdisciplinary Colloquium, artist and scholar Dylan Miner will discuss his own artistic practice and the research methodologies that he employs within his artmaking practice, as well as the genre-crossing nature of his work. He will use his talk to think through contemporary art as an interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary practice that explodes the logics of university-based disciplinarity.



2020 University Interdisciplinary Colloquium

Every other Friday starting 9-18-2020
12PM-1PM via Zoom

The University Interdisciplinary Colloquium celebrates excellence in interdisciplinary research that involves humanists or artists as partners. Presentations will be delivered by accomplished interdisciplinary scholars who are engaged in work that integrates a wide variety of perspectives, including the full range of perspectives within the university as well as those from outside the university.

Below you'll find our draft Fall 2020 schedule, stay tuned for more info!



12/4/20 — April Baker-Bell (English, African American and African Studies), "'We Need a Teacher-Researcher-Activist': An Interdisciplinary Approach to Antiracist Medical Education"

2020 Fall Interdisciplinary Write-In

11/13/2020
9AM-11:45AM via Zoom

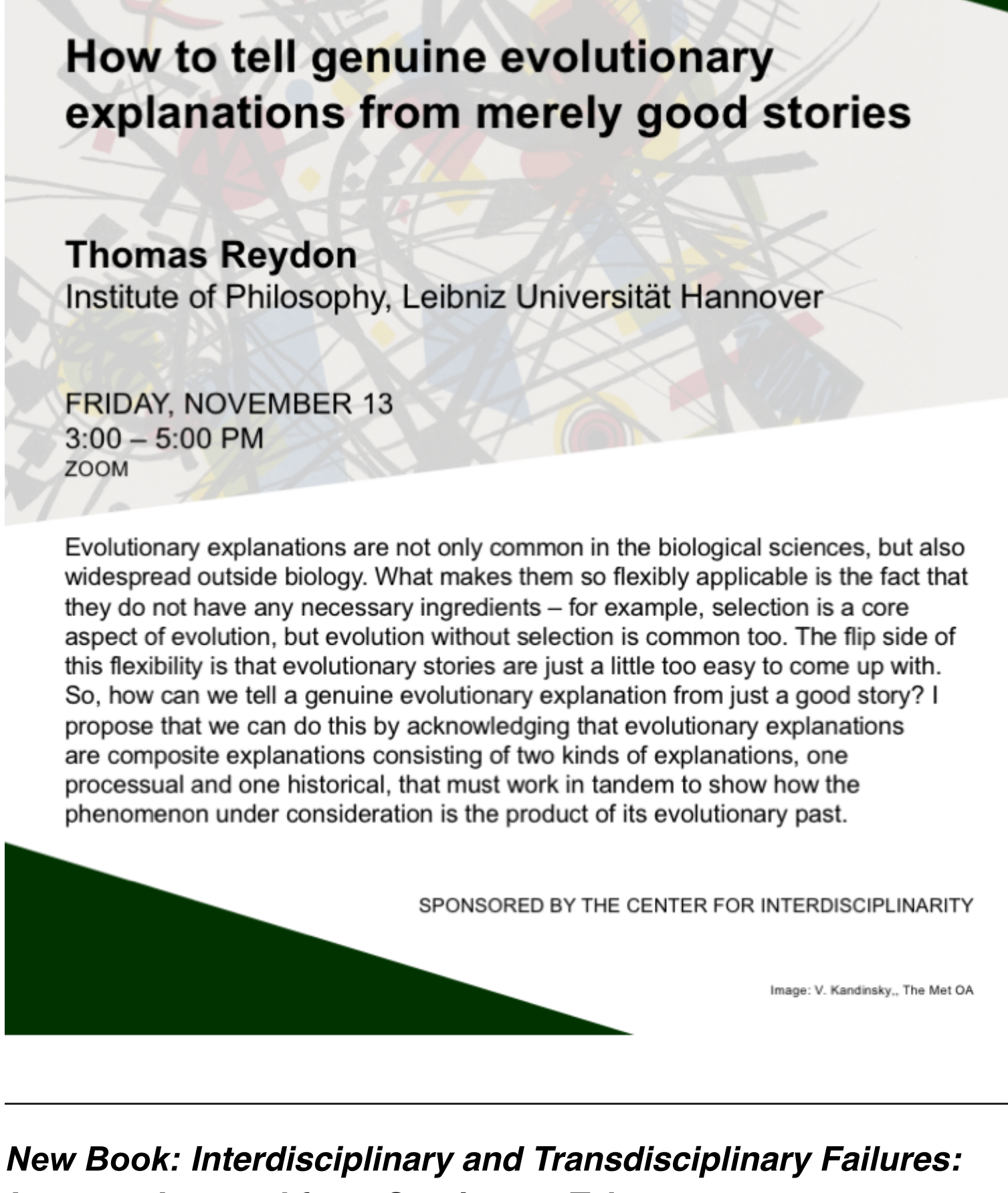
Are you working on an interdisciplinary journal article, grant proposal, book chapter, thesis, dissertation, curriculum, portfolio, online work, or piece of publicly-engaged scholarship? Join us for three hours of dedicated writing time to advance your interdisciplinary scholarship! Email vaskoste@msu.edu for the Zoom link and password.

C4I Visiting Fellow Lecture: Dr. Thomas Reydon presents "How to tell genuine evolutionary explanations from merely good stories"

11/13/20, 3-5PM
Zoom Link: <https://msu.zoom.us/j/93473995920>
Password: msuc4i

Join us for a lecture from C4I Visiting Fellow Dr. Thomas Reydon (Institute of Philosophy, Leibniz Universität Hannover) titled "How to tell genuine evolutionary explanations from merely good stories."

Abstract
Evolutionary explanations are not only common in the biological sciences, but also widespread outside biology. What makes them so flexibly applicable is the fact that they do not have any necessary ingredients – for example, selection is a core aspect of evolution, but evolution without selection is common too. The flip side of this flexibility is that evolutionary stories are just a little too easy to come up with. So, how can we tell a genuine evolutionary explanation from just a good story? I propose that we can do this by acknowledging that evolutionary explanations are composite explanations consisting of two kinds of explanations, one processual and one historical, that must work in tandem to show how the phenomenon under consideration is the product of its evolutionary past.



New Book: Interdisciplinary and Transdisciplinary Failures: Lessons Learned from Cautionary Tales

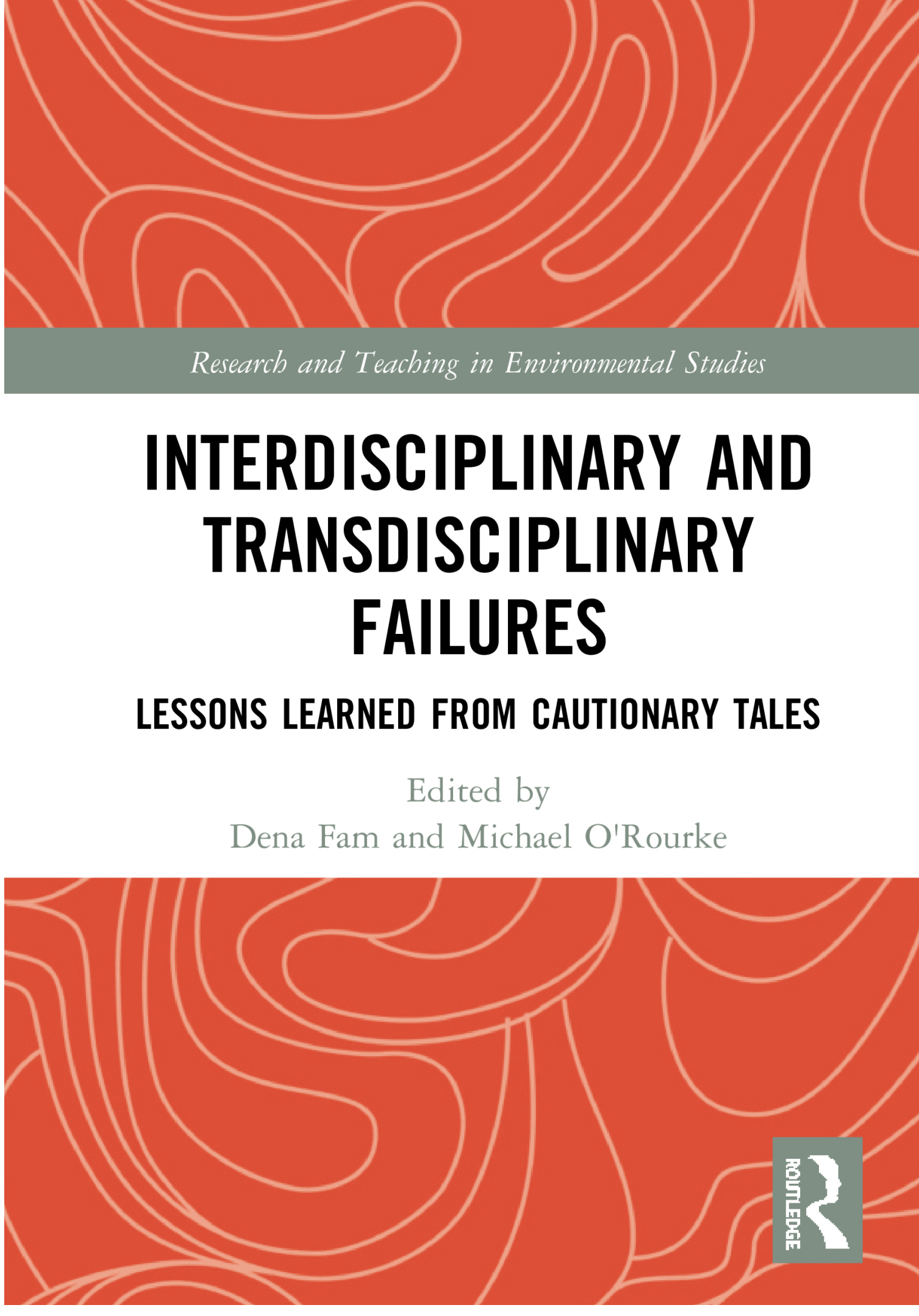
Check out *Interdisciplinary and Transdisciplinary Failures: Lessons Learned from Cautionary Tales*, featuring Michael O'Rourke (C4I Director) as co-editor and a chapter co-author and Stephanie E. Vasko (C4I Managing Director) as a chapter co-author. Unlike other volumes in the current literature, this book provides insight for interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary researchers and practitioners on what doesn't work. Documenting detailed case studies of project failure matters, not only as an illustration of experienced challenges but also as projects do not always follow step-by-step protocols of preconceived and theorised processes. Bookended by a framing introduction by the editors and a conclusion written by Julie Thompson Klein, each chapter ends with a reflexive section that synthesizes lessons learned and key take-away points for the reader.

Drawing on a wide range of international case studies and with a strong environmental thread throughout, the book reveals a range of failure scenarios for interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary projects, including:

- Projects that did not get off the ground;
- Projects that did not have the correct personnel for specified objectives;
- Projects that did not reach their original objectives but met other objectives;
- Projects that failed to anticipate important differences among collaborators.

Illustrating causal links in real life projects, this volume will be of significant relevance to scholars and practitioners looking to overcome the challenges of conducting interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research.

Book available starting Nov. 1 at: <https://www.routledge.com/Interdisciplinary-and-Transdisciplinary-Failures-Lessons-Learned-from-Cautionary-Tales-O'Rourke/book/9780367207038>



MSU News & Events

HIVES hosting Eli Clare events November 5-6, 2020

HIVES has the honor and privilege of hosting disability activist and self-proclaimed rabble-rouser Eli Clare. Clare was recently named a [Disability Futures Fellow](#) by the Ford Foundation, and he'll be here for a trio events "at" Michigan State University (note: all events are digital). The events are described in detail below. Please make sure to RSVP if you plan to attend.

If you are interested in more of Eli's work, visit [his website](#) or read his most recent book: [Brilliant Imperfection](#).

EXPLORING BRILLIANT IMPERFECTION, WRITING ABOUT BODYMIND DIFFERENCE, NOVEMBER 5 @ 10:00AM EST

Using storytelling, brainstorming, and free writing, Eli Clare will lead us through ways of writing and thinking about all kinds of bodymind difference. In collaboration with MSU's Writing, Rhetoric, and American Culture Department and the MSU Writing Center.

RSVP [here](#) (Note, while all HIVES events are open to the public, priority will be given to MSU students in the event of the event reaching capacity)

THE INTERSECTION OF QUEERNESS & DISABILITY WORKSHOP, NOVEMBER 5 @ 2:00PM EST

What are the connections among ableism, homophobia, and transphobia? How do issues around queer disability identities fit into a broader intersectional social justice framework? Join Eli Clare for a facilitated dialogue! In collaboration with the Feminisms, Genders, and Sexualities Workshop.

RSVP [here](#) (Note, while all HIVES events are open to the public, priority will be given to MSU students in the event of the event reaching capacity)

ELI CLARE KEYNOTE, "NOTES ON CURE, DISABILITY, & NATURAL WORLDS," NOVEMBER 6, 4:00PM EST

Eli Clare is presenting his keynote, "Notes on Cure, Disability, & Natural Worlds" for the HIVES Research Workshop and Speaker Series on the topic of disability studies, animal studies, and popular culture. Open to the public, RSVP [here](#).

