

The Mellon Workshop on Affect, Technics, and Ethics

presents a talk by

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Dynamic Vernaculars: Vectors and Multimodal Scholarship

After offering a typology of the digital humanities, this presentation will explore several aspects of the international electronic journal, *Vectors*: its conception, its mandates, its infrastructure, and its innovative collaborative design process. Some questions to be considered include: What happens when scholarship looks and feels differently, requiring different modes of engagement from the reader/user? How does "argument" shift when scholarship goes fully networked and multimedia? How do you "experience" argument in a more immersive and sensory-rich space? Can scholarship show as well as tell? What do humanities scholars gain from working with database structures? What kind of new partnerships will be required among libraries, publishers, and scholars to foster future growth in this area?.

Tuesday April 29, 2008

HMNSS 1500

3:00 – 4:30 PM

Tara McPherson teaches courses in new media, television, and popular culture in the School of Cinematic Arts at the University of Southern California (USC). Her *Reconstructing Dixie: Race, Gender and Nostalgia in the Imagined South* (Duke UP: 2003) received the 2004 John G. Cawelti Award for the outstanding book published on American Culture and was a finalist for the Katherine Singer Kovacs Book Award from the Society for Cinema and Media Studies. She is co-editor of the anthology *Hop on Pop: The Politics and Pleasures of Popular Culture* (Duke UP: 2003) and editor of *Digital Youth, Innovation and the Unexpected*, part of the MacArthur Foundation series on Digital Media and Learning (MIT Press, 2008). She is currently co-editing an anthology on digital narrative and politics and working on a book manuscript on the racial epistemologies of new media. Her new media research focuses on issues of convergence, gender, race, and representation, as well as upon the development of new tools and paradigms for digital publishing, learning, and authorship. She is the founding editor of *Vectors*, the multimedia peer-reviewed journal sponsored by the Institute for Multimedia Literacy at the University of Southern California. *Vectors* pushes far beyond the "text with pictures" format of much online scholarly publishing, encouraging work that takes full advantage of the multimodal and networked capacities of computing technologies. She was recently selected as one of three editors for the new MacArthur-supported *International Journal of Learning and Media* (forthcoming from MIT Press in 2009), a hybrid online/print journal that will also explore new forms of online publishing.

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