Armitage Symposium Schedule  
NecronomiCon Providence 2015  
Omni Hotel, Narragansett Ballroom 1st Floor  
Dennis Quinn, Symposium Chair

FRIDAY 8/21

9:00am-10:30am

Human Subjects: Lovecraft and the Disciplines

- “A Lawyer Looks at a ‘Layman’ Gentleman,” Jesús Emmanuel Navarro Stefanón, Círculo de Lovecraft Puebla, Civil Association
- “The Lovecraftian Cosmos: How the Tales of H.P. Lovecraft can be interpreted through the Concepts of Modern Science,” Fred S. Lubnow, Independent Scholar
- “Lovecraft and Folkloric Methodology,” Ken Van Wey, George Mason University, Fairfax, Virginia
- “Darwin and the Deep Ones: Anthropological and Evolutionary Anxiety in Lovecraft’s ‘The Shadow over Innsmouth’ and Other stories,” Jeffrey Shanks, Southeast Archeological Center, National Park Service

10:30am-12:00pm

Pop Goes the Gent: Lovecraft in Popular Culture

- “Ripples from Carcosa: HP Lovecraft, True Detective, and the Artist-Investigator,” Heather Poirier, Formerly with Louisiana State University; senior editor, *Journal of Clinical Oncology*
- “‘The Undying Leaders’: Ultraterrestrial Demonologies, Cthulhoid Conspiracies and the Rise of Lovecraftian Parapolitics,” Justin Woodman, Goldsmiths College, University of London

2:30pm-4:00pm

Space and Place in the Lovecraftian Milieu
• “Tentacles in the Madhouse: The Role of the Asylum in the Fiction of H.P. Lovecraft,” Troy Rondinone, Southern Connecticut State University


• “The Sombreness of Decay: Lovecraft in Wilbraham, Massachusetts,” Christian Haunton, University of Nebraska Omaha

• “‘Save the Old Brick Row’: H.P. Lovecraft and the Modernization of Providence,” Connor Pitetti, Stony Brook University

4:00pm-5:30pm

The Language of Lovecraft

• “Insider, outsider – from the commonplace to the uncanny in Lovecraft’s narration and descriptions,” Daphnée Tasia Bourdages-Athanassiou, Université Laval, Quebec City


• “Terrores innombrables: Lovecraft and the Hispanic World,” Juan Luis Pérez, University of Cordoba, Spain

• “The Unspeakable Onomasticon: Divers Observations on H. P. Lovecraft's Names and Name-Building,” Stephen Walker, University of Central Missouri

SATURDAY 8/22

9:00am-10:30am

(Re)Considering the Mythos

• “Color out of Mind: Correlating the Cthulhu Mythos to the Autism Disorder Spectrum,” Lars G Backstrom, Independent Scholar

• “From Crawling Chaos to Elder Things: Mythic Evolution in Weird Fiction,” Anthony Conrad Chieffalo, University of Rhode Island

• “Reordering the Universe: H.P. Lovecraft’s Subversion of the Biblical Divine,” Jessika R. Weise, Independent Scholar
In the dark manner of Others: Lovecraft in Literary Context

- “Stylometry and Collaborative Authorship: Eddy, Lovecraft, and ‘The Loved Dead,’” Alex Gladwin, Independent Scholar
- “Rarebit Dreamers: the Poetics of Lovecraft, Poe, and Winsor McCay,” Miles Tittle, University of Ottawa and Carleton University
- “Searchers after Horror: H. P. Lovecraft contra M. R. James,” Jerry C. Drake, US Department of State
- “H. P. Lovecraft and Georges Bataille: One Crawling Chaos Seen Emerging from Opposite Shores,” Christian Roy, independent scholar

2:30-4:00pm

The Armitage Talks I: Lovecraft, Ancient Rome, and the Cthulhu-Classical Tradition

In letter to R. H. Barlow (13 June 1936) Lovecraft wrote, “To me the Roman Empire will always seem the central incident of human history.” References to aspects of the Roman world permeate Lovecraft’s fiction, whether it be the Magna Mater in “The Rats in the Walls” or Lovecraft’s comparisons of the degradation of Old Ones’ civilization in At the Mountains of Madness to the crumbling later Roman Empire. In this panel, three experts on Lovecraft’s debt to Roman classics will explore such topics as Lucretius’ theology and the gods of the Cthulhu Mythos; how the story “The Very Old Folk” uses Rome as a way to project the Lovecraft’s own attitudes towards race, imperialism, and the role of civilization; how Livy’s account of the Bacchanalia influenced the ritual depicted in “The Call of Cthulhu”; and other Roman themes in Lovecraft’s works.

Panel participants are:
- Sean Moreland, University of Ottawa
- Byron Nakamura, Southern Connecticut State University
- Dennis Quinn, Cal Poly Pomona

4:00pm-5:30pm

Lovecraft and the Aesthetic Experience
The Music of ‘Erich Zann’, Phillip Chang, University of Colorado Boulder


"The Suffering Intellect: HP Lovecraft’s Weird Epistemology, " Daniel Holmes, Villanova University

“Howard Phillips Lovecraft’s The Shadow Over Innsmouth: An Aesthetics Analysis of the Construction of Fear,” Lucas Lopes C. Nóbrega, Federal University of Paraíba, Brazil

SUNDAY 8/23

10:30am-12:00pm

Beyond the Lovecraft Circle

• “A Closet Quetzalcoatl: Intimations of HPL and Same Sex Desire in R.H. Barlow’s 'The Wind That Is in the Grass’”, Jarett Kobek, Writer and Editor

• “The Derleth Mythos: Literary Evidence of Weird Realism,” Daniel Rottenberg, Metropolitan State University of Denver, Colorado


• ‘‘It was from the artists and poets that the pertinent answers came’: Shared Authorship in the Discourse Community of the Lovecraft Circle,” Nicole Emmelhainz, Christopher Newport University

1:00pm – 2:30pm

Philosophical Aspects of Lovecraft’s Fiction

• “‘Shapeless congeries of protoplasmic bubbles’: H.P. Lovecraft and the Plasticity of Users and Tools,” Jason Ray Carney, Christopher Newport University

• “H.P. Lovecraft and the Dimensions of Speculation,” Anthony Camara, University of Calgary

• “H.P. Lovecraft’s Optimism,” Matthew Beach, Brown University
• “Lovecraft, Rand and the Abyss of Opportunity,” Rolf Maurer

2:30-3:30pm

The Armitage Talks II: The Bishop Letters

A recently discovered collection of letters from HP Lovecraft to Zealia Bishop shines a light on Lovecraft’s professional relationship with a client. We examine the progression of his mentorship as revealed through this new collection of 37 letters being published this year by the H.P. Lovecraft Historical Society. We look at their progression from client/mentor to a growing friendship and their collaboration which led to “The Curse of Yig,” “Medusa's Coil,” and “The Mound.”

Presenters:
• Sean Branney, H.P. Lovecraft Historical Society
• Andrew Leman, H.P. Lovecraft Historical Society