



Unbeaten Paths

by Andy Rusnak

Welcome to the redesigned Community College Humanities Review. We know it's been a while and as we complete the transition of the Community College Humanities Association to its new home at the Community College of Baltimore County, we wanted to take this opportunity to put the CCHR back on track with a new look and expanded editorial content. You'll find not only the exemplary, peer-reviewed research by community college humanities faculty of the old Review, but also essays on pedagogy, profiles, and first-person, creative nonfiction pieces on teaching and research. Our goal is to publish two issues a year. The expanded content, we hope, will diversify your reading experience and open up more opportunities for faculty to engage what it means to teach humanities at a community college.

What you do is not only important, but critical in this mutable and ever-challenging world. The time and space of the old humanities are not the time and space of the new humanities, and we have a profound responsibility to not only redefine what the humanities mean in higher education and daily political and social life, but to find the right materials to build the bridge that will get us there, if "there" continues to exist. We may just be building bridges for a while, but it has been my experience that there is no stronger, "real world" pool of innovation, intellect, discipline, imagination, knowledge, and dedication than the nation's community college humanities faculty. You know college students better than anyone else. You know the kind of balanced education students require and the cognitive skills they need to navigate the early 21st century. You know how important is the need to preserve insight, reflection, and the role of uncertainty and questioning. You know how necessary it is for students to be able to recognize, dissect, and interpret meaningful conflict. And you know better than anyone how crucial it is to safeguard and, in some cases, restore, democracy, tolerance, and equal opportunity.

We're hoping this publication, this new diversity of content, this new vision by Professor and Editor Sydney Elliott of how a publication can serve its academic community, will activate a willingness on all our parts to carry this mantle, in big and small ways, forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrew Rusnak". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized initial "A" and "R".

Andrew Rusnak
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