

Vin Nardizzi
Shakespeare and the Histories of Sustainability
SAA 2016

Email Correspondence:

Email #1

Hello Everyone!

I am pleased to welcome you to "Shakespeare and the Histories of Sustainability," a seminar that will run under the "Oecologies" banner at the upcoming annual meeting of the Shakespeare Association in New Orleans (23-26 March 2016). We have a full seminar roster, and I expect that we will have exciting papers and wonderful conversations.

By the end of October, I will have emailed you with our seminar's set of due dates. Here, I want to note that 15 February 2016 is the day that I must confirm with the SAA offices your participation in the meeting. I do not know yet where our seminar will appear on the program. May I ask that you drop me a quick e-line at some point this upcoming week to confirm that this is your preferred email address?

To refresh your memory and to help you think preliminarily about your contribution, I include here our seminar description:

What might Shakespeare and his contemporaries contribute to multi-disciplinary conversations about sustainability? Do English Renaissance texts and institutions model "sustainable practices"? Do they resist such practices, imagine them differently, or figure their failure? Papers are welcome on such topics as catastrophe, climate change, debt and gift economies, excess and festival, husbandry, resource depletion and extraction, resilience, risk management, scarcity, sufficiency, and yields.

all best wishes,
Vin

Email #2

Hello everyone!

I'm pleased to share the schedule of tasks that will lead up to our seminar on "Shakespeare and the Histories of Sustainability."

8 January 2016: All seminar abstracts due to Dropbox
12 February 2016: All seminar papers submitted to Dropbox
11 March 2016: Responses due
23-26 March 2016: SAA Annual Meeting in New Orleans

I ask that your abstracts not exceed 500 words. In an effort to reduce the amount of reading that everyone does -- our seminar is full! -- I ask that your papers not exceed 2,000 words (or about 7-8 double-spaced pages). I have set the deadline for the papers as I have because I have been instructed that I must report the names of all participants to the SAA offices no later than 15 February 2016. I also ask each of you to read and respond to the papers of 2 of your colleagues; each response should be no more than 1,000 words. During the seminar, our conversations will be guided by these responses and by the omnibus-style reportage of Hillary Eklund, Patricia Badir, Rebecca Totaro, and Tiffany Werth, our fabulous four invited participants.

Two further things:

1) Since this seminar is sponsored by the "Oecologies" research group, which convened a speaker series on sustainability in 2014-15, I will make available via Dropbox some key readings drawn from that series that might help you conceptualize and frame your papers. I expect that I'll be able to share these readings in December-ish.

2) It is my hope that we will sustain our conversations after the seminar. I am thinking that we might all go out for dinner. I will be in touch as March approaches with further details.

If you have any questions about the tasks ahead of us or any time conflicts that I should know about, please do not hesitate to contact me. I'm super-excited to meet many of you for the first time and to catch up with so many more of you in New Orleans!

with all best wishes,
Vin

Email #3

Hello everyone!

As promised, I've created a Dropbox folder for the readings that we are recommending for our seminar on "Shakespeare and the Histories of Sustainability." Please let me know if you did not receive an invitation from Dropbox and/or if you have any problems accessing the materials housed there.

The four invited participants and I each selected texts that we thought could productively inform our thinking on our seminar's topic. In the Dropbox folder, you should find articles by Srinivas Aravamudan, Timothy Morton, Jeremy Davies, and Rebecca Welshman as well as part of Jeremy Caradonna's new book on sustainability. In addition, we also encourage you to listen to this podcast, which should pair well with the Morton article:

"Poop Train." Podcast. *RadioLab*. Ed. Jad Abumrad and Robert Krulwich. WNYC, 24 Sept. 2013. Web. 24 Nov. 2015. (<http://www.radiolab.org/story/poop-train>)

The texts are interdisciplinary; in some cases, they are challenging and mind-bending. Please feel free to use any (or none) of these materials in your papers. They may also inform, however

implicitly, our discussion at the seminar table in New Orleans. I recommend these readings knowing full well the multiple pressures on your time, and so thank you, in advance, for engaging them in whatever manner suits you best.

with all best wishes,
Vin