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BC Studies Conference

Thursday, May 2, 2019

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May 2nd, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM


# SESSION 3 [Panel]: The Anthony Martin BC Penitentiary Collection at TRU: Disseminating the Archive

Jennifer Murphy  
*Thompson Rivers University*

Mary Hemmings  
*Thompson Rivers University*

P.J. Murphy  
*Thompson Rivers University*

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Panel Proposal for BC Studies Conference 2019 (May 2-4)

Thompson Rivers University

“Intersections: Peoples and Places in British Columbia”

Title: “The Anthony Martin BC Penitentiary Collection at TRU: Disseminating the Archive”

Panelists: Jennifer Murphy, TRU, SSWHS; Mary Hemmings, TRU Law Librarian; P. J. Murphy, Dept. of English, TRU.

This panel is a sequel to “Relocating the Martin BC Penitentiary Archive at the Old Courthouse in Kamloops”, BC Studies Conference, May 3, 2013, Douglas College, New Westminster, “Transforming British Columbia”. This session was well attended and generated a lot of interest among archivists, curators, and local historians. If, as Michel Foucault argued, our institutional structures form a “carceral net”, then prison as a key intersectional point in that network can tell us a great deal about ourselves, our convictions, and our attitudes towards marginalized peoples.

This panel will focus on major developments in networking the Archive since the earlier presentation in 2013. Foremost among these is the establishment of a designated Archival Room in the TRU law library. Our panel could, indeed, be held there; in addition to archival holdings, a number of curated exhibitions and various art works are on display. Jennifer Murphy will discuss the Catalogue for the Collection that she compiled with curator, Kristina Bradshaw. Mary Hemmings will discuss how the website for the Collection has been made available to TRUSpace thousands of vintage photographic images et al. P. J. Murphy will raise a number of possibilities for scholarly research on this Archive of provincial and national importance.

Presenter C.V.s

Dr. Jennifer Murphy is a lecturer in the School of Social Work and Human Service at TRU. Her research interests include critical criminology, feminist pedagogy, and critical social work theories. She is the co-editor of two books on prisons, *Sentences and Paroles: A Prison Reader* (1998) and *Paroled for Life* (2002). Her MSW and PhD research focused on desistance theory and the reintegration of men and women parolees into community upon release from federal penitentiaries. She also has a forthcoming chapter in *Canadian Social Policy for Social Workers* (Oxford University Press, Feb. 2019) with Dr. Juliana West on Canadian criminal justice policy. She is currently the President of the Board of the Kamloops and District Elizabeth Fry Society, and has been a board member since 2011.

Mary Hemmings became Founding Law Librarian at Thompson Rivers University Faculty of Law in 2011. An academic librarian since 1980, Mary worked at Concordia University and McGill University. At the University of Calgary she helped establish the Bob Gibson Collection of Speculative Fiction and she was Interim and Assistant Director of the Law Library. Mary is the author of book chapters on visual legal semiotics examining 18th century satirical prints; the role of women in pulp fiction (1925-1945); and the role of libraries in controlling popular culture collections. She has been an active book reviewer for journals and newspapers since 1980. She also teaches Advanced Legal Research at TRU. Her research interests focus on social and legal controls of popular culture, and legal history, generally.

P. J. Murphy is a Professor in the Dept. of English at TRU. He has written extensively on Samuel Beckett, prison literature, and Canadian sentencing policies. He co-edited *Paroled for Life* (2002) and *Sentences and Paroles: A Prison Reader* (1998) with Jennifer Murphy, with whom he is Co-Director of the Anthony Martin Archive at TRU. He is currently serving as President of the Board, John Howard Society Thompson Region, where he has been a board member for the past 20 years.