Call for Papers

20th Annual Building Bridges Graduate Conference

HOSPITALITY
Welcoming the Stranger

November 3-4, 2017
Southern Illinois University
Carbondale, IL

Keynote Speaker
Dr. Susan Gottlöber
Maynooth University

The aim of the Building Bridges Graduate Conference is to promote interdisciplinary and critical discourse on a proposed theme of research. The theme for this year’s conference is hospitality. Our current political moment has seen rising tensions over questions of national identity, immigration, and responsibility toward refugees (among others). These events have reinvigorated the need to think the significance, limits, and possibilities of hospitality toward the stranger. To that end, this conference will explore some of the following questions: Under what conditions should political asylum be given? Do better-off and more stable countries have a responsibility to accept refugees fleeing famine, persecution, and/or war-torn regions? How should we navigate the tension between hospitality and the need for border security? How should we determine who has the rightful claim to a territory/place such that they have the power to play the host, to welcome or refuse the stranger? What is the relationship between hospitality and law? These are but a few of the questions that will animate the conference. We welcome a wide-range of topics that converge on the theme of hospitality.

Given the interdisciplinary aim of the conference, we welcome and encourage submissions from a broad range of disciplines as well as from individuals working beyond academia.

Submission Deadline: September 30, 2017
Acceptances Announced: October 10, 2017

Guidelines for Submission

- Submit abstracts (for non-traditional presentations) or full papers (for traditional papers).
- Abstracts should not exceed 250 words. Papers should not exceed 3000 words, preceded by an abstract. Abstracts and papers should be prepared for blind review.
- On a separate document, please include the following information: title of paper/presentation, presenter’s name, institutional or organizational affiliation, and email address.
- Submissions should be sent in .doc, .docx, or .pdf format to Aaron Darrisaw at adarrisaw@siu.edu. Please indicate in your email if you are also interested in chairing a panel during the conference.