



Volume 13, Number 2 (2020)

ISSN 1754-646X

- 1 Kaitlin Mondello
'Of Toads and Men': Brutal Kinship in Emily Dickinson and Charles Darwin
- 20 Jessica Witte
The 'Welsh Fasting Girls' and Anorexia Nervosa in the Victorian Medical Imagination
- 38 Gregory Phipps
The Narratives and Metaphor of the Balloonverse: A Literary Reading of the Big Bang Theory
- 52 Katalina Kopka and Norbert Schaffeld
Turing's Missing Algorithm: The Brave New World of Ian McEwan's Android Novel *Machines Like Me*

Article Reviews

- 75 Joshua Bartlett
Review of Mandy Bloomfield's "Widening gyre: A Poetics of Ocean Plastics."
- 77 Lauren Cullen
Review of Christie Leigh Harner's "Animal and Social Ecologies in Anne Brontë's *Agnes Grey*."
- 79 Hayley Flynn
Review of Sara Lyons's "Thomas Hardy and the Value of Brains."
- 81 Benjamin van Loon
Review of Ursula K. Heise's "Science Fiction and the Time Scales of the Anthropocene."
- 83 Jayne Thomas
Review of Alexandra Paterson's "Tracing the Earth: Narratives of Personal and Geological History in Charlotte Smith's *Beachy Head*."

About the JLS

The *Journal of Literature and Science (JLS)* is a peer-reviewed academic journal published twice annually in Summer and Winter. The JLS was founded in 2007, and produced its first issue at the beginning of 2008. It was originally hosted by the University of Glamorgan's Research Centre for Literature, Arts and Science (2007-12), before moving to its own independent online site in March 2013, with the support of the University of Westminster. The journal's first, and present, editor is Professor Martin Willis, Professor of English at Cardiff University. The Advisory Board includes leading scholars of literature and science from around the world. The JLS is published in digital format, is entirely open access, and requires no subscription fee.

The journal is dedicated to the publication of academic essays on the subject of literature and science, broadly defined. Essays on the major forms of literary and artistic endeavour are welcome (the novel, short fiction, poetry, drama, periodical literature, visual art, sculpture, radio, film and television). The journal encourages submissions from all periods of literary and artistic history since the Scientific Revolution; from the Renaissance to the present day. The journal also encourages a broad definition of 'science': encapsulating both the history and philosophy of science and those sciences regarded as either mainstream or marginal within their own, or our, historical moment. However, the journal does not generally publish work on the social sciences. Within these confines, essays submitted to the journal may focus on the literary and scientific productions of any nation or group.

All essays should be interdisciplinary in focus, offering an original view of both the literary or artistic subject matter and the science or sciences under consideration. While essays on individual examples of literary and artistic production are welcomed, these should also seek to show the wider significance of their analyses and interpretations. The journal does not publish essays focused exclusively on literature or art, or exclusively on the history and philosophy of science.

Submission and Citation Information

Abstracts and articles for submission should be sent to the Editor, Professor Martin Willis, by email only: WillisM8@cardiff.ac.uk

The *JLS* recommends that an initial email inquiry, including an abstract of the proposed article, should be sent in advance of completed articles in order to ensure that the subject matter is suitable for publication under the *JLS*'s remit.

All articles should be from 6000-9000 words in length, interdisciplinary in focus, and offering an original view of both the literary or artistic subject matter and the science or sciences under consideration. While articles on individual examples of literary and artistic production are welcomed, these should also seek to show the wider significance of their analyses and interpretations. The journal does not publish essays focused exclusively on literature or art, or exclusively on the history and philosophy of science.

All submitted articles should be presented in MLA Style, with notes kept to a minimum. *JLS* articles do not use personal pronouns (e.g. "In this article I will..." is not appropriate, while "This article will..." is appropriate). All spellings should follow British English. All submitted articles should include a short abstract (150 words maximum) below the title and author's name and ahead of the opening sentence.

The *JLS* aims to complete the first stage of peer review (consideration of articles by the editor and advisory board) within 4 weeks of submission and the second stage of peer review (external, blind, double peer-review) within 8 weeks of the completion of the first stage. All authors whose articles reach the second stage of peer review should expect to have a decision on publication within approximately 12 weeks of the date of their original submission of an article

Citing the JLS: the journal's full title is the *Journal of Literature and Science*, and its first issue was Volume 1, Number 1 (2007). All page numbers to individual essays can be found when accessing the PDF file of that essay. The journal's ISSN is 1754-646X. Citations should give Author, 'Title,' *Journal of Literature and Science* Vol, No. (Year): pp., organized according to the specific style guide being used.

The *Journal of Literature and Science* is committed to real and immediate open access for academic work. All of the *JLS*'s articles and reviews are free to access immediately from the date of publication. There are no author charges (commonly known as APCs) prior to publication, and no charge for any reader to download articles and reviews for their own scholarly use. The *JLS* does not, therefore, operate either a Gold or Green model of open access, but is free to all at any time and in perpetuity. To facilitate this the *JLS* depends upon the financial underwriting provided by the University of Westminster's Department of English, the goodwill of its editorial team and advisory board, and the continuing support of its network of peer reviewers.



The *Journal of Literature and Science* also operates under the [Creative Commons Licence CC-BY-NC-ND](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/). This allows for the reproduction of articles, free of charge, for non-commercial use only and with the appropriate citation information. All authors publishing with the *JLS* accept these as the terms of publication. Please note that copyright of the content of all articles and reviews remains with the designated author of the article or review. Copyright of the layout and design of *JLS* articles and reviews remains with the *Journal of Literature and Science* and cannot be used in other publications. The *JLS* is a member of PILA (Publishers International Linking Association) and submits all articles and reviews, including all works that these cite, to CrossRef for cross-referral. To find *JLS* articles and reviews via their DOI numbers, use the URL [http://dx.doi.org/\[DOI number\]](http://dx.doi.org/[DOI number])

Reviews

The *JLS* reviews articles on literature and science, or relevant articles in cognate fields such as the history of science, cultural studies or sociology, published in academic journals within the last twelve to eighteen months. Reviews are generally commissioned by the Reviews Editor, but potential contributors are encouraged to contact the Reviews Editor to suggest articles for review.

The *JLS* does not, at any time, review books or collections of essays. The editors take the view that books within the field are already well covered by reviewing journals while journal articles, often the publication type that offers the most recent scholarship, are never considered in review processes. By doing so, the *JLS* hopes to offer its readers access to academic dialogue on the most recent advances in literature and science.

Reviews should be approximately 750 words in length, should follow MLA Style (notes generally not allowed), and should aim to describe the content of the article under review as well as offer an analysis of its strengths and weaknesses and conclude by assessing its significance for literature and science scholarship.

Proposals for review and completed reviews should be sent to the Reviews Editor, Dr Michelle Geric by email only: m.geric@westminster.ac.uk

Editorial Board

Editor: Martin Willis

Reviews Editor: Michelle Geric

Editorial Assistants: Rebecca Spear & Jim Scown

Advisory Board: Tim Armstrong, Gowan Dawson, Folkert Degenring, John Holmes, Lisa Hopkins, William Hughes, Kelly Hurley, Meegan Kennedy, Leah Knight, Sharon Ruston, Eleanor Sandry, Jonathan Sawday, Carol A. Senf, Andrew Smith, Laurence Talairach-Vielmas, Jeff Wallace, Alexandra Warwick and Catherine Wynne.

Web design: Martin Callanan

Logo: Joel Cooper

Joshua Bartlett is an assistant professor in the Department of American Culture and Literature at Bilkent University. He researches, writes, and teaches in the areas of early and nineteenth-century American literature, Native American literature, poetry studies, and ecocriticism. His work has appeared in *American Indian Quarterly*, *Early American Literature*, *The Goose: A Journal of Arts, Environment, and Culture in Canada*, *Journal of Literature and Science*, *Ploughshares*, and *Women's Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal*.

Lauren Cullen is completing her DPhil in English at the University of Oxford. Her thesis, *Beyond Sentimentality: The Animal Character in Nineteenth-Century Fiction*, investigates representations of animals and the rise of animal rights discourse in nineteenth-century literature and culture. She has research interests in Canadian literature, popular fiction, and animal studies.

Hayley Flynn is an independent scholar, having recently received her PhD from the University of Leicester for her thesis *The Dream Debate and the Periodical in the 1860s*. She is interested in representations of the mind in nineteenth-century literature.

Katalina Kopka is a PhD candidate and lecturer of English-Speaking Cultures at the University of Bremen, Germany. Her research interests include science and literature, film studies, trauma studies, cultural memory studies, gender studies, and transnational literatures. Currently, Katalina works on her dissertation about the ethics of Artificial Intelligence in contemporary science fiction films. Through her work, Katalina is affiliated with Fiction Meets Science, an interdisciplinary academic research program funded by The Volkswagen Foundation that examines the intersections of science and the humanities.

Benjamin van Loon is an independent scholar, association executive, and adjunct professor of communications at Northeastern Illinois University, where he holds a master's degree in communications and media.

Kaitlin Mondello is an Assistant Professor of Ecostudies in the Department of English at Millersville University of Pennsylvania. She received her doctorate in English from the City University of New York (CUNY) Graduate Center specializing in Romanticism and the Environmental Humanities. She is working on a book manuscript, *Toward a Posthuman Ecology: Evolutionary Aesthetics in Transatlantic Romanticism*, which explores intersections between literary and scientific work on species and ecology. Her work has appeared in *Essays in Romanticism*, *Romantic Ecocriticism: Origins and Legacies* (Lexington Books), and *European Romantic Review*.

Gregory Phipps is Assistant Professor in the Department of English at the University of Iceland. He has published two books, *Henry James and the Philosophy of Literary Pragmatism* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2016) and *Narratives of African American Women's Literary Pragmatism and Creative Democracy* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2018). His articles have appeared in journals such as *The Henry James Review*, *Philosophy and Literature*, *African American Review*, *Textual Practice*, *English Studies in Canada*, *MELUS*, *Philosophy and Cosmology*, and *Studies in American Naturalism*.

Norbert Schaffeld holds the chair of English Literature and Culture at the University of Bremen and is one of the directors of the interdisciplinary research project *Fiction Meets Science*. He previously taught at the universities of Wuppertal, Essen, Leipzig, and Jena. He also conducted research at Australian and Canadian universities, including: The University of Sydney, The University of Toronto, and The University of Guelph. He edited *Aspects of the Science Novel*, a special issue of *ZAA / A Quarterly of Language, Literature and Culture*, and published various articles on bicultural knowledge systems, emergent scientific discourse, gatekeepers of science, historical science novels, and maths films.

Jayne Thomas is Associate Tutor in English Literature at Cardiff Metropolitan University. Her research focuses on Romantic legacies. Her first monograph, *Tennyson Echoing Wordsworth*, was published by Edinburgh University Press in April 2019. She is a Member of the Editorial Board at *Connotations: A Journal for Critical Debate*. She published a journal article on Tennyson and Wordsworth with *Connotations: A Journal for Critical Debate* in 2017. She has an article on George Eliot and Wordsworth forthcoming with the Italian journal, *Nuova Armorica*. Her next project examines Romantic legacies in African-American literature.

Jessica Witte is a PhD candidate at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Her doctoral thesis investigates how the connotations associated with fasting changed over the long nineteenth century, contributing to a shift in Western medical epistemology that culminated in the pathologizing of anorexia nervosa in the 1870s. She is also exploring interdisciplinary research methodologies in the digital humanities with an emphasis on text mining corpora of primary medical texts.