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## 2016 Game Development Conference

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### Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant, MI | July 13-16, 2016

The "Reacting to the Past" Game Development Conference focuses on designing games for the pedagogical method "Reacting to the Past." We will play prototypes of several Reacting-style games that are currently in development, discuss game design principles and processes, and work to expand and explore ideas for new games. The preconference will be held July 13th, 2016. This preconference is intended to introduce people to RTTP, but experienced "reactors" are encouraged to attend as well.

There are two options for the pre-conference game: *Acid Rain in Europe, 1979-1989*

(<https://reacting.barnard.edu/acid-rain-and-european-environment-1979-89>) and *Paterson, 1913*

(<https://reacting.barnard.edu/paterson-silk-strike>).

### The Schedule (current May 1, 2016)

#### Wednesday, July 13th - "Newbie Day"

Room 1: *Acid Rain in Europe*, David Henderson and Susan Henderson (Trinity College)

Room 2: *Patterson Silk Strike, 1913*, Mary Jane Treacy (Simmons College)

#### Thursday July 14th

8:00-8:45: Breakfast

9:00-12:00: Playtest

- Room 1: *The Prado Museum's Second Expansion: The Diverse Art of the Spanish-Speaking World*, Bridget Franco (College of the Holy Cross)
- Room 2: *The February Revolution and Dual Power in Petrograd, 1917*, Sally A. Boniece (Frostburg State University)

12:15-1:30: Lunch

1:45- 3:15: Workshop Sessions 1

Room 1: Politics and Power in the 20th and 21st Centuries

- Anne-Marine Feat (Luther College), "The Rise of Europe's Far Right: The 2002 French Presidential Election"
- Suzanne McCoskey (Frostburg State University), "U.S. Investment in Liberia, 1925-1935: 'Mr. Firestone, What Are You Up To?'"

Room 2: Reacting to AIDS

- Victoria Lewis (University of the Redlands), "Out from the Shadows: Disability, AIDS, and the Americans with Disabilities Act"
- Bella Pori (Independent Scholar), "After a Long Battle: Congressional Hearings on AIDS, 1983-1985"

Room 3: Rights and Race in the U.S.

- Matthew Weidenfeld (Elon University), "Amending the Constitution: The First Federal Congress, 1789"
- Nicolas Proctor (Simpson College), "Reconstruction in New Orleans, 1866-1872"

3:15-3:30: Break

3:30-4:45: Workshop Sessions 2

Room 1: Controversies in Christendom

- John Giebfried (Saint Louis University) and Kyle Lincoln (Webster University), "Queen of Cities: The Crisis of the Fourth Crusade"
- Mary Beth Looney (Brenau University), "Restoration or Destruction?: The Cleaning of the Sistine Ceiling"

Room 2: Recent Controversies in the U.S.

- Daria Kluver (Central Michigan University) and Wendy Robertson (Central Michigan University), "Sea Level in Seattle"
- Meredith Goldsmith (Ursinus College), "Greenwich Village, 1960"

Room 3: Medicine and the Law

- John Moser (Ashland University) and Jeff Weidenhamer (Ashland University), "Tobacco on Trial: The Surgeon General's Advisory Committee on Smoking and Health, 1962-1964"
- Mark Thompson (California State University, Stanislaus), "Reacting to Physician-Assisted Suicide"

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● Room 1: Rebecca Livingstone (Simpson College) and Kelly McFall (Newman University), "Writing Endgames"  
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## Friday July 15th

8:00-8:45: Breakfast

9:00-12:00: Playtest

- Room 1: *Bacon's Rebellion, 1676-1677*, Verdis LeVar Robinson (Monroe Community College)
- Room 2: *Saint-Dominique to Haiti: The Haitian Revolution, 1791-1804*, Allison Shutt (Hendrix College)

12:15-1:30: Lunch

1:45-3:15 Microgames Session 1

- Room 1: Mary Beth Looney (Brenau University), "Bomb the Church: What We Don't Teach Our Students in Art 101"
- Room 2: Nick Proctor (Simpson College), "The Jumonville Incident"

3:15-3:30: Break

3:30-4:45: Microgames Session 2

- Room 1: Kelly McFall (Newman University) and Emily Simon (Newman University), "The North Korea Hunger Games: Famine, Rogue Regimes and the Ethics of Aid, 1995-8"
- Room 2: David Simkins (Rochester Institute of Technology) and Jonathan Truitt (Central Michigan University), "Religious Empires and Religious Sources"

4:50-5:35: Game Mechanics Session

- Room 1 Roundtable: "Scalability in Game Design"

Judy Walden (Simpson College), Mark Higbee (Eastern Michigan University), Paul Wright (Cabrini College), Verdis Robinson (Monroe Community College)

- Room 2 Roundtable "'Se juega, on joue, wie spielen': Designing Games for the Foreign Language Classroom"

Stephany Slaughter (Alma College), David Eick (Grand Valley State University), Bridget Franco (College of the Holy Cross)

## Saturday July 16th

8:00-8:45: Breakfast

9:00-12:00 Playtest

- Room 1: *Montgomery 1956: White Supremacy versus Civil Rights in the Bus Boycott*, Mark Higbee (Eastern Michigan University)
- Room 2: *The Second Spanish Republic*, Nicolas Proctor and Ethan Fredrick (Simpson College)

“Resistance on Trial: The Destruction of the Deathstar”

- Room 2: Andrew Peterson (Ferris State University), “Surviving College: A Student’s Guide to Avoiding Educational Apocalypse”
- Room 3: David Simkins (Rochester Institute for Technology), Jonathan Truitt (Central Michigan University), and Adam Cerling (Independent Scholar), “Winning at World History: Classwork as Game Mechanic”

### 3:30-4:45: Game Mechanics Sessions

- Room 1: Jonathan Truitt (Central Michigan University) and Andrew Peterson (Ferris State University) “So You Have an Idea: From Concept to Playable Prototype”

## Additional Elements

This year's Boardgame Night will be held at the Mountain Town Brewing Company's Tap Room (<http://www.mtpleasantbrew.com/taproom.aspx>) and feature a microbrew made especially for RTTP! So that we can reserve adequate space, please let us know if you plan to attend when you register for the conference.

Saturday afternoon is reserved for a Postconference, "At the Intersection of Game-Based Learning and Reacting to the Past," on exploring non-RTTP games and examining how their mechanics might be used in Reacting games.

## Housing

Participants will be housed in a Central Michigan University residence hall. CMU is generously subsidizing housing for conference-goers at a rate of \$50 for all three nights of the event (Wednesday-Thursday-Friday). If you need housing for the night of either Tuesday the 12th or Saturday the 16th, it is available at a rate of \$30/night.

## Travel Information

The closest airport to CMU is MBS International Airport (<http://www.mbsairport.org/>) (MBS) in Freeland Michigan, about half an hour away, and which offers Delta and United flights to and from larger hubs in Chicago, Minneapolis, and Detroit. Other options include Bishop International Airport (<http://www.bishopairport.org/>) (FNT) in Flint, about 90 minutes away, Capital Region International Airport (<http://www.flylansing.com/>)(LAN) in Lansing, about an hour from Mount Pleasant, and Gerald R. Ford International Airport (<http://www.grr.org/>)(GRR) in Grand Rapids, about two hours away.

We can arrange for some shuttle services from MBS and/or LAN, but those flying in from other areas will need to make their own arrangements to get to the CMU campus.

## Event Fees

**Pre-Conference**

**GDC**

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**RC Members** \$30 (\$60 after 6/10) \$150 (\$200 after 6/10)

**Non-Members** \$36 (\$66 after 6/10) \$180 (\$230 after 6/10)

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**The registration site for GDC-2016 is now open! (<https://www.regonline.com/builder/site/?eventid=1824414>)**

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