

**FCT XXV INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE**  
**PROGRAM SCHEDULE**  
**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2022**

1.00 pm – 2.00 pm

**Lunch**

2.30 pm – 4.00 pm

**Annual General Body Meeting of FCT**

Venue: Saraighat Hall

4.00 pm- 4.30 pm

**Reception & Tea**

Venue: Saraighat Hall

4.30 pm – 5.30 pm

Venue: Saraighat Hall

*Chair: Professor Ramesh Chandra Deka*

**Inaugural Session**

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| 4.30 pm- 4.40 pm | Welcome by Dr. Deetimali Barua Nath, Head, Department of English, Cotton University, Guwahati  |
| 4.40 pm- 4.50 pm | Introduction by Professor Prafulla C. Kar, Convener, Forum on Contemporary Theory, Baroda, India   |
| 4.50 pm- 5.00 pm | Address by Professor William D. Pederson, Director, International Lincoln Center for American Studies, Louisiana State University in Shreveport, USA |
| 5.00 pm- 5.20 pm | Inaugural Address by Professor Ramesh Chandra Deka, Vice Chancellor, Cotton University, Guwahati   |
| 5.20 pm- 5.30 pm | Vote of Thanks by Dr. Sanghamitra Sadhu, Local Convener  |

5.30 pm – 6.30 pm

**Keynote Address**

Venue: Saraighat Hall

*Chair: Gaurav Desai*

Speaker: Roland Greene

Mark Pigott KBE Professor, Anthony P. Meir Family Professor of the Humanities and Director, Humanities Center, Professor of Comparative Literature, and by courtesy, of Iberian and Latin American Cultures at Stanford University, USA

***“Literary Studies Between Universalism and Apocalypse”***

6.30 pm- 8.30 pm

**Cultural Program**

(Performed by Students of Cotton University & Don Bosco Institute)

Venue:

8.30 pm – 9.30 pm

**Dinner**



**Wednesday, December 21, 2022**

9.00 am - 10.30 am

Venue: Phukan Hall

*Chair: Kalidas Misra*

***Post-Theory***

**“Spectres of Derrida: A Theory of the Death of the Death of Theory”**

Bijay K. Danta

**“Post-Theory and Zena Hitz’s *Lost in Thought*”**

Balabhadra Tripathy

**“Post Theory: Between the Paradigms of Structuralism and Poststructuralism”**

Kakali Dutta

**“Arts and Ideas: A Take on ‘Post Theory’ Position”**

Amritanand Nayak

**“Death is the Mother of Beauty: Secular Eschatology in Ian McEwan’s *Saturday*”**

Samik Malla

Venue: Bordoloi Hall

*Chair: Sanjay Mukherjee*

***Close Readings***

**“Caroline Levine’s ‘Form Collision’: A Study of Toni Morrison’s *Sula*”**

E. Raja Rao

**“Understanding the Immigrant Experience Through the Reading of *Somewhere We Are Human*”**

Teeju Bhagat

**“Scripting Selves: An Alternative Approach to Reading Theatre Artistes' Self-Narratives”**

Niyati Shah

**“Paradigm of Teaching/Learning and Philosophy in Modern Times in Naguib Mahfouz’s**

***The Cairo Trilogy*”**

Khyati Sorathiya

**“Looking for Emotions in Infrastructures: Humans as/and Infrastructure in Kazuo Ishiguro’s**

***Never Let Me Go*”**

Rajesh Bharvad

10.30 am – 11.30 noon

**Plenary**

Venue: Phukan Hall

*Chair: James Winchester*

***Decolonial Turn in African Education***

**“Structural, Epistemic and Humane Dimensions of Decolonization in the Contemporary**

**University”**

Rajendra Chetty

**“Cognitive Conflict and Counter Example in Mathematics Teacher Training”**

Rajendran Govender

**Tea**

11.30 am – 11.45 am

11.45 am- 1.15 pm

Venue: Phukan Hall

*Chair: Dilip K. Das*

***Theory in Latin America***

**“Roberto Bolano’s *Nocuturnoen Chile* as a Contemplative ‘Aura’ of Terror, Trauma and Tyranny”**

Indrani Mukherjee

**“The [Im]possibility of Theory: Critiquing *Pedro Paramo*”**

Aloka Patel

**“Understanding the Violent Disruption of ‘Web of Life’ through an  
Eco-Critical Reading of ‘Regimes of Accumulation’”**

Amrit Raj

**“Dancing in the Spaces Between the Binaries: Nepantleras in *Cantoras* and *The Gods of Tango* by  
Carolina de Robertis”**

Sana Khatoun Zaidi

**“The Theory of Labyrinth: A Clickbait to the Network of Meta-Themes in Borges' *Ficciones*, the  
Precursors”**

Nipan Nath

Venue: Bordoloi Hall

*Chair: Pradipta Borgohain*

***Indigenous Theory and Identity***

**“Gandhi’s Experiment with Food: A Voice for the Ecology of New Humanity”**

Ranjan K Panda

**“Futurity, Finitude, and Vitality: A Comparison of Plant ‘Life’ in Western and Ancient Indian  
Thought”**

Java Singh

**“Beyond Anthropocene: Reading Easterine Kire’s *Spirit Nights* as a Narrative of Crisis”**

Nizara Hazarika

**“Theorizing Indigenous Identity Through Zo Philosophy and Folklore”**

Kimthianvak Vaiphei

**“Locating Sustainability in Food Practices of The Oraon”**

Deepica Elizabeth Lakra

1.15 pm – 2.15 pm

**Lunch**

2.15 pm – 3.45 pm

**Plenary**

Venue: Phukan Hall

*Chair: Gaurav Desai*

**“Three Decades of Forum on Contemporary Theory: A Critical Appraisal”**

**“A Requiem for FCT or A Remaking”**

Dilip K Das

**“Make It New: Five Finger Exercise for FCT”**

Bijay K Danta

**“My Thoughts on the Future of FCT”**

P. J. Thomas

**“FCT as Dialogues: A Commentary”**

Sanghamitra Sadhu

3.45 pm – 4.00 pm

**Tea**

4.00 pm – 5.45 pm

Venue: Bordoloi Hall

*Chair: E Raja Rao*

***Ecology and Environmental Criticism***

**“Reimagining Indigenous Peoples in America: From Wards of the State to Stewards of the Environment”**

Sanjay T. Menon

**“Ecology of New Humanities: A Reading of Louise Gluck’s Poetry”**

Nirupama Kujur

**“Place and Perception: Reading the Spatial Politics in Amitav Ghosh’s *Gun Island and Jungle Nama*”**

Pooja Bhattacharyya

**“An Ecological Reading of W. B. Yeats’ Poetry”**

Braja Kishore Sahoo

**“Ecological Balance: A Reflection of Humankind”**

Devartha Morang

Venue: Phukan Hall

*Chair: D. Venkat Rao*

***Transdisciplinarity, Material Memory & Politics of Fear***

**“Transdisciplinarity and the Theory of the Third: Observing from the Margins”**

C.S.Biju

**“Shoring Fragments: Towards an Ontology of Reading *The Wasteland* a Hundred Years on”**

Rakhee Kalita Moral

**“Material Memory: A Literary Perspective”**

Sridatta Nirjharinee

**“Theory at the Crossroads: Exploring a Race Free World in Mohsin Hamid’s *The Last White Man*”**

Gayathri P.J. & K.M. Johnson

**“Is Islamophobia an Emergent Discourse or Theory?” The Politics of Fear and Peril”**

Pinky Isha

**“Sologamy: A Calibrated Choice of Self-Partnering or Challenging the Society?”**

Dhwani N. Vaishnav

6.00 pm — 8.00 pm

**Plenary**

Venue: Phukan Hall

*Chair: Kailash C. Baral*

***The State of Theory Studies in India***

**“After Theory: Approaching Critical Humanities”**

D. Venkat Rao

**“Turns and Concepts: Speculating on Literary Theory in Indian Academia”**

Nandana Dutta

**“Doing Theory in India: Of Arrivals & Departures”**

Bibhash Choudhury

**“Revisiting Theory in Contemporary India”**

Jyotirmaya Tripathy

8.00 pm- 9.00 pm

**Dinner**



**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22**

**9:00 am – 10:30 am**

Venue: Phukan Hall

*Chair: Ranjan K. Panda*

***Materiality, Ecology, Network Theory***

**“Speculative Deaths and Ecocides: Interrogating Eschatological Desires in *I am Mother*”**

Namrata Pathak

**“De-Engaging Theoretical Entanglements: Encapsulating the Networks and Postulating the Theory-Wars”**

Abhilash Kaushik & Merry Baruah Bora

**“Weaving Six Yards of Wonder: The Ecosophical Heritage of Sambalpuri Handloom”**

Rosy Barik

**“Art of Living in ‘Critical Zone’: A Study of Amitav Ghosh’s *Gun Island* as Fictocriticism”**

Niladrinath Das

**“Posthumanism and Science Fiction: Reimagining the Human Body”**

Anupom Kumar Hazarika

Venue: Bordoloi Hall

*Chair: Sunita Manian*

*Anthropocene and Beyond*

**“The Resurrection of Critical Theory in the Era of Anthropocene”**

Prasad Pannian

**“Ceasing to Be Human: Han Kang’s *The Vegetarian* as a Response to the Age of Anthropocene”**

Namita Laxmi Jagaddeb

**“Enhancing the Understanding of Solastalgia and Anthropocene in Contemporary Writing—A  
Amalgamation of Theory and Praxis in the Works of Ghosh, Klien and Shafaq”**

Bhakti Vaishnav

**“End of Anthropocentrism: Reading Amitav Ghosh’s *The Nutmeg’s Curse* from a ‘Theoretical’  
Perspective”**

Sanjeeb Kalita & Prasenjit Das

**“Excogitating Anthropocentrism: A Juggernaut of Hopes and Failures”**

Sangeeta Handa

10.30 am - 12.00 noon

Venue: Phukan Hall

**Plenary**

Venue: Phukan Hall

*Chair: Sanjay T. Menon*

*Lincoln & the Legacy of Poetic Prose*

**“Lincoln’s World Legacy in Poetic Prose”**

William D. Pederson

**“Truth to Post-Truth and the Language of Populism”**

Babu Rajan P P

**“Lincoln, King and the American Dream”**

Kalidas Misra

**“(Neo)Liberalizing Lincoln: Spielberg’s *Lincoln* and the Political-Economic Reconstruction of the  
US during the Lincoln Presidency”**

Sarkar Hasan Al Zayed

12.00 noon – 12.15 pm

**Tea**

12.15 pm – 1:15 pm

**Plenary**

Venue: Phukan Hall

*Chair: Roland Greene*

*The State of Theory in the World Today  
(A Roundtable)*

James Winchester  
Justin Henry  
Rajendra Chetty  
Gaurav Desai

1.15pm – 2.15 pm

**Lunch**

2.15 pm – 3.45 pm

Venue: Phukan Hall

*Chair: Ranjit Dev Goswami*

***Theory and Praxis***

**“History as Praxis: States of Being and Becoming”**

Garima Kalita

**“Slow Science: Teaching and Research for Sustainable Ecology”**

Bhagaban Tripathy

**“Paranoia Within Reparative Reading Practices: Aesthetics and Politics of Textual Discourse, the Signifier and the ‘Really Real’”**

Kaustabh Kashyap & Mousana Nightingale Chowdhury

**“Reading with Care: Kazuo Ishiguro’s *Never Let Me Go* and the Space for Arts/Humanities within Academia”**

Manish Solanki

**“Many Mansions, But No House: An Exploration of How Theory Meets Children’s Literature”**

Susan Vivien George

Venue: Bordoloi Hall

*Chair: William D. Pederson*

***Theory after a Crisis***

**“The State and Future of Democracy in and after the Covid-19 Pandemic: Lincoln and Agamben”**

Piyush Raval

**“Derrida, Deleuze and an Indian Thought System”**

Meenu A Gupta

**“A Study of Freudian Psychoanalysis in Pinter’s Plays”**

Monalisa Das

**“Critical Time-Binding: Evaluation of Trajectory of War in a Critical Zone”**

Pratiksha N. Chavada

**“The New Symbiotic Man of the New Millennium: A Study of ‘Ecological Humanities’”**

Bibhuti Bhushan Choudhury

3.45 pm – 4.00 pm

**Tea**

4.00 pm – 6.00 pm

Venue: Phukan hall  
Chair: Bijay K Danta  
*Critical Pedagogy*

**“Literature, Criticism & Theory: Ruminations on Reading”**

Sanjay Mukherjee

**“The Ever-Expanding Realm of Theory”**

Ajit Kumar Kullu

**“New Historicism: Ruminations in Practice”**

Henna Muliya

**“Deconstruction with/out Derrida: Ruminations on The Practice/s of ‘Theory’ in English Studies”**

Payal Jain

**“Theory as Parousia”**

Rajeev G & P J Thomas

**“(Reading) After Theory: A Response from the Twentieth Century Indian Compoetics”**

Parth Joshi

Venue: Bordoloi Hall

Chair: Indrani Mukherjee

*Speculative Realism in Performative Practices*

**“Ecophobia in the Age of Anthropocene”**

Kamalpreet Kaur

**“Understanding the Anthropocene through Oral Tradition: A Reading of Mamang Dai’s *The Legends of Pensam*”**

Lakshminath Rabha & Prithwa Deb

**“What is a Child? Exploring an Intentional Omission from the Theory”**

Kadri Ashwadhussain

**“Material Agency through Affiliative and Performative Practices: A Study of Select Indian Motherhood Narratives”**

Sapna PC

**“Speculative Realism in the Study of Rock Art in Odisha”**

Neha Sharma

**“Deconstructing Social Morality: Defending Prostitution as a Profession”**

Mahi Shivaji Shraddha Dahibaokar

6.00 pm –6.30 pm

**Closing Remarks & Valedictory Session**

Chair: Prafulla C Kar

