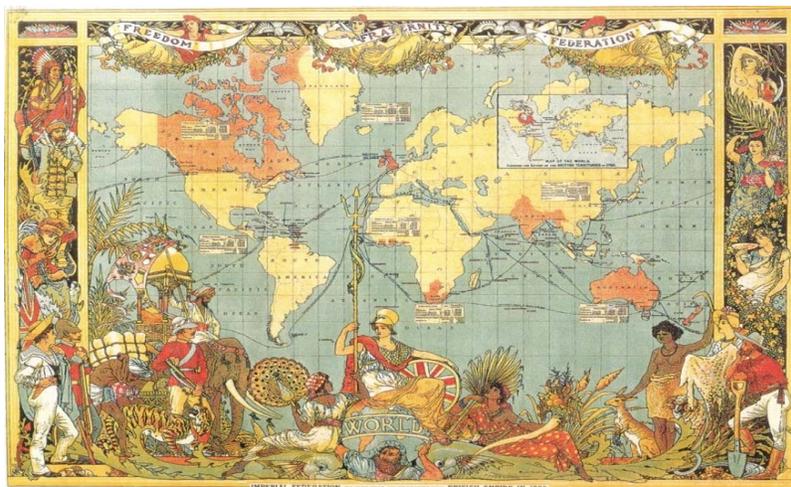


Diverse Victorians



Midwest Victorian Studies Association Annual Conference University of Iowa April 23-25, 2010

We invite all Victorian scholars to MVSA's 2010 conference to be hosted by the University of Iowa in Iowa City on April 23-25, 2010. The theme for the Midwest Victorian Studies Conference's thirty-fourth annual conference is "Diverse Victorians." We invite submissions of papers covering the full range of possible meanings of "Diverse Victorians," including, but not limited to *racial and ethnic differences; Great Britain's "four nations"; class formation and class identity; discourses of normality and abnormality; foreigners in Britain; musical diversity; Victorian understandings of the diversity of species; the range of Victorian religion and the era's smaller sects; diversity in the imperial context; the meaning of diversity to notions of citizenship; literary and artistic representations of diversity.*

In keeping with the theme, our plenary address will be by Patrick Brantlinger, author of *Rule of Darkness: British Literature and Imperialism, 1830-1914*, *The Reading Lesson: The Threat of Mass Literacy in Nineteenth-Century British Fiction*, and other works. Other special features include a concert of Victorian songs by baritone opera and concert singer Stephen Swanson and pianist Alan Huckleberry, and a program of Scottish dancing led by Anne Stapleton of the Stapleton School of Highland Dance in which conference participants can learn some steps. Even if you do not submit a paper, we hope you will attend this unique conference experience.

Those interested in proposing papers or full panels should submit 500-word abstracts and vitas by November 15, 2009 to the Midwest Victorian Studies Association's email: conferencesubmissions@midwestvictorian.org; if you receive no reply, please re-send.

Victorianists studying and working in the midwestern or southern United States will want to make a home in this long-standing scholarly organization. Graduate students are particularly welcome as attendees and presenters at MVSA conferences: conference fees are adjusted to make attendance more affordable, MVSA annually awards the Bill and Mary Burgan Prize for an outstanding paper by a graduate student at the conference, and the prestigious Arnstein Prize supports interdisciplinary dissertation research. A new annual award for a first book by a Victorianist in the Midwest was inaugurated in 2008.

<http://www.midwestvictorian.org/>