

— SYMPOSIUM & CELEBRATION —

HONOURING DR. RITA IRWIN



MAY 4, 2024

Symposium, Scarfe 100 | 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Celebration | Haida House, MOA | 6:00 - 10:00 p.m.



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Faculty of Education

Department of Curriculum & Pedagogy

WELCOME

Welcome to Celebrating Rita Irwin!

On behalf of the Department of Curriculum and Pedagogy (EDCP) I want to welcome everyone to the celebration and symposium where we are honouring the work of our friend and colleague, Dr. Rita L. Irwin. Dr. Rita Irwin was the Head of the Department of Curriculum Studies (that later became EDCP) when I first joined the department and faculty at the University of British Columbia in 2001. Even then, I knew I was in the presence of a remarkable human being. In the years since, I have been astonished by the

depth of her scholarship, leadership and humanitarianism including her ability to bring people together. Please join me in congratulating Dr. Rita Irwin for her many wonderful accomplishments and her many years of outstanding teaching and service to the university and to the profession.

Sincerely,

Dr. Samson Nashon,
Head and Professor,
Department of Curriculum
and Pedagogy, UBC.

Cover image credit, left | Kris Krüg,
photography, InSEA 2019 World Congress.

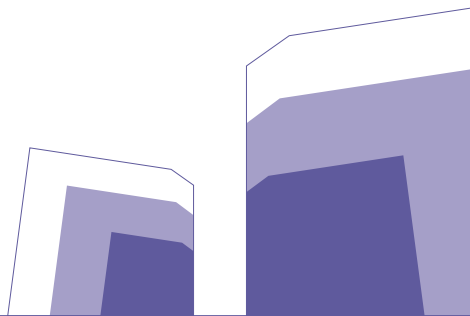
INTRODUCTION

Since first attending UBC in Art Education as a doctoral student in 1986, Rita Irwin has left an incredible legacy of scholarship, commitment and caring in our Department, Faculty, the University and quite literally the academic world beyond. For those of us who have had the privilege to be colleagues and friends, we know Rita beyond her extensive vitae. Rita Irwin has been an innovative and committed artist, researcher and teacher advancing art education, curriculum studies and photography. Rita L. Irwin is a scholar, mentor and leader in the most significant art education and curriculum associations in Canada and internationally. As a graduate advisor, she is beyond compare. From her stellar work in these areas within Canada and abroad, she has received numerous well deserved awards and accolades including her most recent award to be presented at the CSEA conference in Halifax. More than anything she brings together colleagues and

students into a world where collegiality goes hand in hand with creativity, scholarship and the arts. The number of folks that wanted to be a part of this symposium clearly indicates the high regard we all have for this remarkable woman. We wish her well in this next chapter of her life as she continues to inspire us personally and professionally.

Symposium and Celebration Committee

Dr. Kit Grauer
Dr. Marie-France Berard
Dr. Shannon Leddy
Dr. Anita Sinner



Symposium

Scarfe 100 | 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.



8:30

Registration

Neville Scarfe Lobby, 2125 Main Mall.

*as there is no food or drinks allowed in Scarfe 100
be prepared with your own water bottles.

Displays in the Lobby will include; videos and photos, the *Paper Quilt Project*, artworks by Wendy Stephenson, and a Sam Black print.

9:00

Territorial acknowledgement

Grace Point (Musqueam Nation & University of British Columbia)

Welcome

Dr. Samson Nashon

(Head and Professor, Department of Curriculum & Pedagogy)

Introduction & Welcome

Dr. Kit Grauer (Professor Emerita, University of British Columbia)

Dr. Lorrie Miller (University of British Columbia) *Paper Quilt Project*

9:30

Dr. Kit, Gauer (Professor Emerita Art and Museum Education, UBC), Dr. Sydney Craig (Former Director of Teacher Education, UBC), Dr. Mike Emme (Professor Emeritus, University of Victoria), Glen Coutts (President of InSEA), Susan M. Coles (Vice President of InSEA)

Leadership

Rita Irwin redefined what leadership can mean as she brought people together in community. We look at her leadership in ARTE, Curriculum Studies, Teacher Education, the Canadian Society for Education Through Art and the International Society for Education through Art. This is just a sampling of her influence.



10:00

Music

Dr. Peter Gouzouasis
(University of British Columbia)

Image, top | Family Portrait, circa 1962

Image, bottom | Mentors | Dr. Ann Calvert, Dr. Doug Boughton, Dr. James Gray, Dr. Rita Irwin, Dr. Ron MacGregor (photo taken at Ron MacGregor's retirement celebration 1997).



10:15

Dr. Adrienne Boulton (Kwantlen Polytechnic University), Dr. Yichien Cooper (Washington State University), Dr. Yung-Shan Hung (National Academy for Educational Research, Taiwan), Dr. Ching-Chiu Lin (Simon Fraser University), Dr. Blake Smith (Art educator, curriculum designer, Rhode Island), Dr. Michele Sorensen (University of Regina), Dr. Dai-Rong Wu (Taipei National University of the Arts)

Scholarship

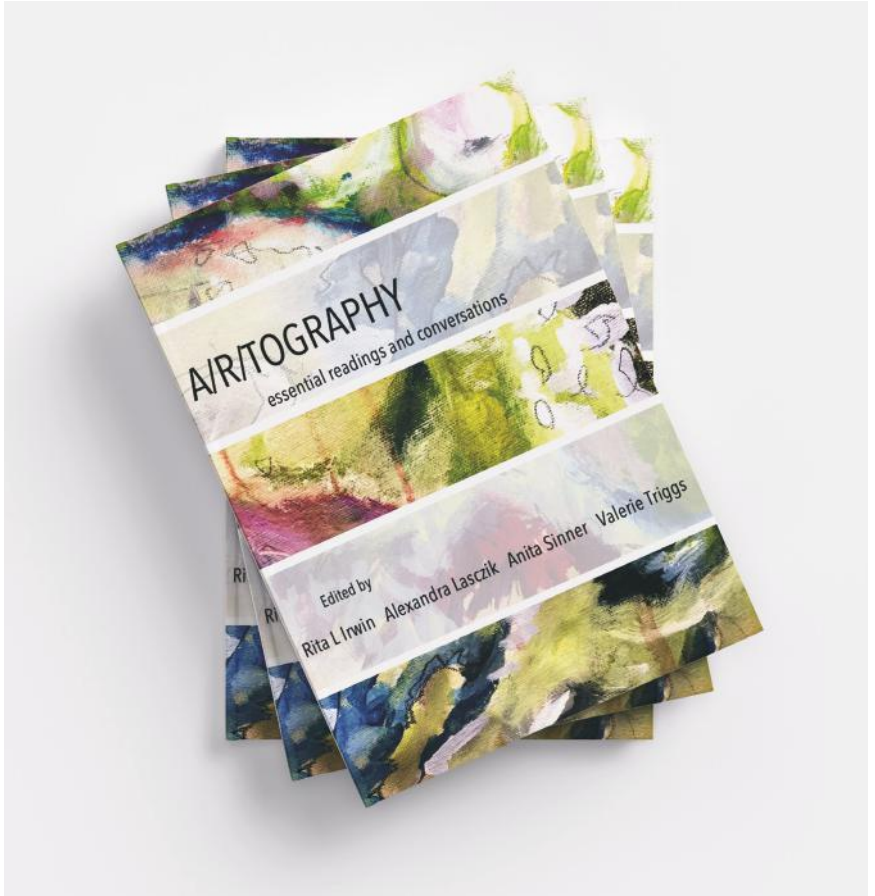
This segment of the symposium offers a reflective exploration of Rita's impact in the fields of education, arts education, and curriculum studies, and extends beyond them. Speakers will share their moments, stories, and insights into the broad-reaching implications of Rita's scholarship and her role in shaping a community of artists, educators, and scholars.



10:45

Break

Book Signing & *Paper Quilt Project*



Recently published! *A/r/tography: Essential Readings and Conversations*.
Irwin, R. L., Lasczik, A., Sinner, A., & Triggs, V. (Eds.) 2024. Intellect.

11:15

Dr. Sylvia Kind (Capilano University),
Dr. Stephanie Springgay (McMaster
University), Kwang Dae Mitsy Chung
(PhD candidate, University of Western
Ontario).

Artful Pedagogy

Through a choreography of interwoven offerings this session honors what Rita has made possible, and what her work continues to “do” for our own thinking-making-doing as artists and scholars and as we shape artful pedagogies.



12:00

Lunch

Lunch - [room 310] Pick up food and
eat in adjoining rooms or outside.

1:00

ME/N/TO/RING

in the Irwinian style

Dr. Daniel T. Barney (George Mason University, Virginia), Dr. Patti Pente (University of Alberta)

Two of Rita Irwin's past students who are now professors present their thoughts on an Irwinian style of mentorship that includes 1) the mentee's agency as a "Me" that moves to a relational "We" as the mentee pathfinds within a community of practice, 2) a "Nurturing" way of being-in-relation that fosters care and encourages growth, 3) a supportive journey "To" destinations that are in-the-making and not-yet-imagined, and 4) an ongoing ripple effect of the "Ring" of influences that interfere with established patterns far and wide.



1:30

Dance & Poetry

Dr. Celeste Snowber
(Simon Fraser University)

1:45

Dr. Anita Sinner (University of British Columbia), Dr. Lexi Lasczik (Southern Cross University), Dr. Kate Coleman (University of Melbourne), Dr. Belidson Dias (University of Brasilia), Dr. Ricardo Viadel (University of Granada), Dr. Barbara Bickel (Southwestern College, Santa Fe), Dr. Valerie Triggs (University of Regina)

A/r/tography

As Rita Irwin beautifully explained; “To be engaged in the practice of a/r/tography means to inquire in the world through an ongoing process of art making and writing not separate or illustrative of each other but interconnected and woven through each other to create enhanced meanings. A/r/tographical works are often rendered through the methodological concepts of contiguity, living inquiry, openings, metaphor, reverberations and excess.” In this session, colleagues and collaborators articulate some of their journeys as artist/researcher/teachers and allow this collective moment to reverberate.



2:15

Poetry

Dr. Kedrick James (University of British Columbia) reading poems by Dr. Carl Leggo



Relationality and Renderings | Rita Irwin and Alexandra Lasczik.

2:30

Dr. Marie-France Berard (University of British Columbia), Dr. Angela Baldus (EDCP Graduate, University of British Columbia), Dr. Nicole Lee (NSCAD University)

Marzieh Mosavarzadeh, Yasaman Mousavi, Nicole Rallis, Elmira Sarreshtehdari, Joanne Ursino (EDCP Graduate students, University of British Columbia)

Walking

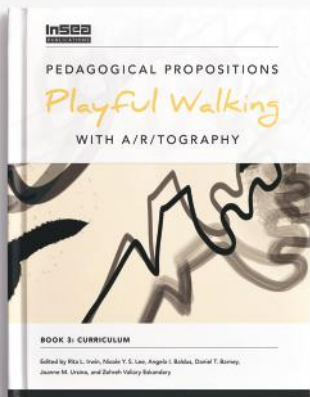
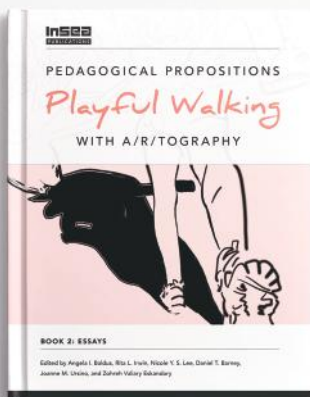
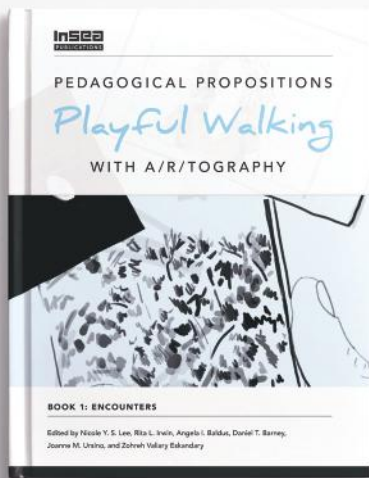
In this session, current and former doctoral students of Rita Irwin come together in acknowledgement of the generative practices of walking and study. "To create this symposium offering, we generously exchanged prompts for making which yielded c/a/r/tographic and a/r/tographic responses. These short responses aim to recognize the influence Rita has on our collaborations. In and through the art we make, we seek to know better how the transformation of material and immaterial forms sets our thought in motion and inspires us to think with Rita and the networks she's helped to craft."

Image, top left | *Pedagogical Propositions, Playful Walking with A/r/tography. Book 1: Encounters.* Nicole Y. S. Lee, Rita L. Irwin, Angela I. Baldus, Daniel T. Barney, Joanne M. Ursino, and Zohreh Valiary Eskandary (Eds.) 2024. InSEA Publications.

Image, top right | *Pedagogical Propositions, Playful Walking with A/r/tography. Book 2: Essays.* Angela I. Baldus, Rita L. Irwin, Nicole Y. S. Lee, Daniel T. Barney, Joanne M. Ursino, and Zohreh Valiary Eskandary (Eds.) 2024. InSEA Publications.

Image, bottom left | *Pedagogical Propositions, Playful Walking with A/r/tography. Book 3: Curriculum.* Edited by Rita L. Irwin, Nicole Y. S. Lee, Angela I. Baldus, Daniel T. Barney, Joanne M. Ursino, and Zohreh Valiary Eskandary (Eds.) 2024. InSEA Publications.

Cover Illustrations by Dr. Angela I. Baldus.





3:00

Presentation of Purple Suitcase

Dr. Shannon Leddy (University of British Columbia)

Dr. Angela Baldus (University of British Columbia)

Closing words by Dr. Rita Irwin



Book Signing (Continued)

A/r/tography: Essential Readings and Conversations will be available for purchase in the Scarfe Lobby.



Whispering Light | Dr. Rita Irwin

Celebration

Haida House, Museum of Anthropology | 6:00 - 10:00 p.m.



Videos, slides, food, dancing, photo booth





Planning Committee

Dr. Kit Grauer
Dr. Marie-France Berard
Dr. Shannon Leddy
Dr. Anita Sinner

Technical & Media Support Wizards

Kieran Forde (EDCP Graduate student)
Dr. Angela Baldus (EDCP Graduate)

Graduate Student Volunteers

Kwang Dae [Mitsy] Chung (UWO)
Ken Morimoto
Elmira Sarreshtehdari
Joanne Ursino
Zohreh Valiary Eskandary

Graduate Student Photographers

Kwang Dae (Mitsy) Chung (UWO)
Peisen Ding
Marzieh Mosavarzadeh

Special Thanks

Department of Curriculum & Pedagogy
Dr. Samson Nashon (Head and Professor, Department of Curriculum & Pedagogy),
Saroj Chand (Administrative Manager),
Kirsty Robbins (Graphic Design)
Gina Hiu Lam Wong (Administrative Assistant).

Paper Quilt Project

Dr. Lorrie Miller (University of British Columbia)

Museum of Anthropology

Gwilyn Timmers (Public Services Manager)

Faculty of Education

Michael, C.S. Murphy (Associate Director, Alumni Engagement)

Catering

Bay Area Gourmet Ltd.

Carol Livingstone, bayareagourmet.ca

Salishan Catering

Dennise Sparrow and Manoj Haley

salishancatering.com

Music

The Phonix Band Inc

Eric P.H.Tsang, thephonix.ca

Don't forget to share your photos of the event on our facebook and instagram page as an ongoing tribute to Rita:

#honouringrita

Highlights of the Symposium and Celebration will be posted on EDCP's website.

edcp.educ.ubc.ca







edcp.educ.ubc.ca



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Faculty of Education

Department of Curriculum & Pedagogy
