



Internal use 574258

Application for a Grant

Identification						
This page will be made available to selection committee members and external assessors.						
Funding opportunity Insight Grants						
Joint or special initiative						
Application title On Empty: The Cultural Politics of Oil						
Applicant family name Szeman			Applicant given name Imre		Initials J L	
Org. code 1480111	Full name of applicant's organization and department University of Alberta English and Film Studies					
Org. code 1480111	Full name of administrative organization and department University of Alberta English and Film Studies					
Scholar type	Regular <input checked="" type="radio"/>	New <input type="radio"/>	Research Group			
If New, specify category	1 <input type="radio"/>	2 <input type="radio"/>	3 <input type="radio"/>	4 <input type="radio"/>	435-4	
Does your proposal require a multidisciplinary evaluation?					Yes <input type="radio"/>	No <input checked="" type="radio"/>
Is this a research-creation project?					Yes <input type="radio"/>	No <input checked="" type="radio"/>
Does your proposal involve human beings as research subjects? If "Yes", consult the <i>Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans</i> and submit your proposal to your organization's Research Ethics Board.					Yes <input type="radio"/>	No <input checked="" type="radio"/>
Does your proposal involve activity that requires a permit, licence, or approval under any federal statute; or physical interaction with the environment? If 'Yes', complete Appendices A and B.					Yes <input type="radio"/>	No <input checked="" type="radio"/>
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total
Total funds requested from SSHRC	<u>21,910</u>	<u>64,377</u>	<u>65,715</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>152,002</u>



Family name, Given name

Szeman, Imre

Participants

List names of your team members (co-applicants and collaborators) who will take part in the intellectual direction of the research. Do not include assistants, students or consultants.

Role

Co-applicant

Collaborator

Family name

Given name

Initials

Org. code

Full organization name

Department/Division name

Role

Co-applicant

Collaborator

Family name

Given name

Initials

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Collaborator

Family name

Given name

Initials

Org. code

Full organization name

Department/Division name



Research Activity

The information provided in this section refers to your research proposal.

Keywords

List keywords that best describe your proposed research or research activity. Separate keywords with a semicolon.

oil; energy; contemporary culture; documentary film; contemporary fiction; oil spills; pipelines; ecological sustainability; social and cultural theory

Priority Areas - Priority area(s) most relevant to your proposal.

Disciplines - Indicate and rank up to 3 disciplines that best correspond to your activity.

Rank	Code	Discipline	If "Other", specify
1	70000	Interdisciplinary Studies	
2	50600	Communications and Media Studies	
3	61400	Urban and Regional Studies, Environmental Studies	

Areas of Research

Indicate and rank up to 3 areas of research related to your proposal.

Rank	Code	Area
1	170	Energy and natural resources
2	180	Environment and Sustainability
3	214	Global/Climate Change

Temporal Periods

If applicable, indicate up to 2 historical periods covered by your proposal.

From	To
<p>Year</p> <p>1970 BC AD</p> <p>_____ ○ ●</p> <p>_____ ○ ○</p>	<p>Year</p> <p>2010 BC AD</p> <p>_____ ○ ●</p> <p>_____ ○ ○</p>



Family name, Given name
Szeman, Imre

Research Activity (cont'd)

Geographical Regions

If applicable, indicate and rank up to 3 geographical regions covered by or related to your proposal. Duplicate entries are not permitted.

Rank	Code	Region
1	1130	Western Canada
2	1140	Northern Canada
3	1000	North America

Countries

If applicable, indicate and rank up to 5 countries covered by or related to your proposal. Duplicate entries are not permitted.

Rank	Code	Country	Prov./ State
1	1100	CANADA	
2	1200	UNITED STATES	
3			
4			
5			



Family name, Given name

Szeman, Imre

Response to Previous Critiques - maximum one page

Applicants may, if they wish, address criticisms and suggestions offered by adjudication committees and external assessors who have reviewed previous applications.

Not applicable.



Family name, Given name

Szeman, Imre

Summary of Proposal

The summary of your research proposal should indicate clearly the problem or issue to be addressed, the potential contribution of the research both in terms of the advancement of knowledge and of the wider social benefit, etc.

The character of contemporary life depends fundamentally on oil -- an accessible, easy to store, easy to transport, and rich source of energy that has created the material conditions for manufacturing economies, global trade, large-scale human population growth, auto-mobility, and more. And yet, it is only in the past decade that full recognition of oil's significance for contemporary society and culture has become a prominent feature of everyday debate and discussion. Oil is today front page news across the globe as never before - from disputes over the Keystone XL and Northern Gateway pipelines to debate over the price at the pump and its potential impact on the US presidential election; from analyses of oil's role in shaping geopolitical tensions to anxieties about diminishing reserves; and, in Canada, from the specific impact of oil sands development on the environment to the role played by oil in reshaping power, politics and economics in the country.

In *On Empty: The Cultural Politics of Oil*, I intended to undertake a multifaceted analysis of the cultural and social claims and assumptions that shape and guide how we think and talk about oil - a map of the multiple, complex and often contradictory ways in which oil is positioned in our social imaginaries. The book that will emerge from this research will probe the narratives and discourses surrounding oil at three distinct sites: (1) in recent visual art, documentary cinema and contemporary fiction; (2) as they emerge in public debates in relation to three major oil 'events': the running aground of the Exxon Valdez, the recent BP oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, and the emergence of the oil sands as an environmental problem on an international level; and (3) in philosophical discussions about ecological limits, sustainability, and the capacity of contemporary society to undergo intensive and extensive social and political change. By investigating each of these sites, what I wish to capture is the full range of the contemporary discourses that have emerged in relation to this puzzling substance, whose impact on human life has been deeper than we have previously believed, and whose eventual decline and disappearance will pose substantial cultural, political and philosophical challenges. The overall aim of my research is to uncover the aesthetic, political and conceptual impasses in our current understandings of oil, in order to contribute to more nuanced discussions of our life with oil, and to generate new ways of understanding the petrocultures we collectively inhabit.

On Empty is an interdisciplinary project located within the style and approach to the analysis of texts, discourses and socio-cultural issues that has come to be known as cultural studies. Through the multiple ways in which I plan to circulate the results of this research---a conference involving policy makers and business leaders as well as academics, an innovative scholarly book, a continually-updated website, and a concluding series of public roundtable discussions---this project will contribute to debates and discussions in both scholarly communities and the general public about the complex interconnections between oil, culture and society. *On Empty* will make a contribution to a number of fields of academic study, including cultural studies, critical theory, and ecocriticism, while bringing the crucial category of culture into the on-going public dialogue about our dependence on this key resource.

Detailed Description

Overview and Objectives

As an increasing number of scholars are pointing out, the character of contemporary life depends fundamentally on oil—a cheap, accessible, easy to store and transport, and rich source of energy that has created the material conditions for manufacturing economies, global trade, human population growth, auto-mobility, and more (Kunstler, Mitchell, Smil, Yergin *Prize*, Yergin *Quest*). However, it is only in the past decade that full recognition of oil’s significance has become a prominent feature of everyday debate and discussion (notwithstanding the 1973 global oil crisis; see Borasi and Zardini). Oil is today front page news across the globe as never before—from disputes over the Keystone XL and Northern Gateway pipelines to discussions about the price at the pump and its potential impact on the U.S. presidential election; from analyses of oil’s role in shaping geopolitical tensions to anxieties about fuel supply and diminishing reserves; and, in Canada, from the specific impact of oil sands development on the environment to the role played by this resource in reshaping power, politics and economics in the country.

There are books that address peak oil and the problem of our dependence on petrocarbons (Deffeyes, Juhasz, McKillop and Newman, Simmons), others that deal with this commodity’s prominent role in geopolitics (Klare, Retort), and still others intent on legitimating the current system of oil extraction, distribution and consumption (Levant). The majority of books written about oil today approach the substance normatively, either arguing strongly for its civilizational or economic necessity (regardless of its environmental or political costs), or decrying its damaging effects and hoping for a quick switch to other, more environmentally-friendly sources of fuel (Marsden, Nikiforuk *Slaves*), even though such sources as do exist cannot hope to address the ever-expanding global demand for energy. What is missing at present is a multifaceted analysis of the cultural and social claims and assumptions that shape and guide how we think and talk about oil—a map of the multiple, complex and often contradictory ways in which oil has come to be positioned in our social imaginaries. In *On Empty: The Cultural Politics of Oil*, my aim is to produce just such a map through an investigation of the narratives and discourses surrounding oil in contemporary culture, politics, and social and cultural theory.

My on-going interest in what I describe as the “cultural politics” of oil was triggered by an encounter with novelist Amitav Ghosh’s prophetic 1992 essay, “Petrofictions.” In it, Ghosh famously laments the lack of literary fiction addressing the topic of oil and what he terms the “Oil Encounter”—the historic intertwining of the fates of (US) Americans and the peoples of the Middle East as a consequence of this resource. Ghosh offers multiple reasons why the sixteenth-century spice trade (his point of comparison for measuring the relative dearth of oil narratives) generated greater fictions and more of them than has oil. But if there is a single, dominant reason for the absence of fictions addressing petroleum, according to Ghosh it is because

to a great many Americans, oil smells bad. It reeks of unavoidable overseas entanglements, a worrisome foreign dependency, economic uncertainty, risky and expensive military enterprises; [it smells] of thousands of dead civilians and children and all the troublesome questions that lie buried in their graves... And to make things still worse, it begins to smell of pollution and environmental hazards. It reeks, it stinks, it becomes a Problem that can be written about only in the language of Solutions. (139)

In the intervening two decades since Ghosh’s article first appeared, and with even greater urgency since the start of the new century, writers, philosophers, artists, and filmmakers *have* taken up the challenge of producing the petrofictions necessary to fully make sense of our oil present. In doing so, the best of these oil narratives have confronted us with the wretched scent of oil while trying to avoid framing the use of fossil fuels in the blunt language of problems and solutions. In *On Empty*, I plan to

undertake the first extended exploration of the fictions, narratives and discourses that enable, legitimate and critique the shape and character of our petro-societies. In doing so, however, I plan to examine not only engagements with oil in those petrofictions for which Ghosh longed (i.e., encounters with oil in novels, films and the visual arts), but also the circulation of discourses of oil in relationship to prominent public oil crises, as well as the specific significance of oil for cultural and social theories concerned with ecological limits, sustainability, and our social and political futures.

The book that will emerge from this research will thus probe the cultural politics of oil at three distinct sites: (1) in the visual arts (e.g., Arns, Biemann, Burtynsky, Franke, Logar, Watts), documentary cinema (e.g., see full list in References; also Monani, Szeman “Crude”, Wenzel “Consumption”), and contemporary literature (e.g., Amsterdam, Bacigalupi, Ballem, Chamoiseau, Habila, Negarestani, Reiss, Scarrow *Last*, Stegner, Wayne); (2) as they emerge in public discussions and debates in relation to three oil ‘events’: the running aground of the Exxon Valdez, the BP oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, and the emergence of the oil sands as an environmental problem on an international level (due to its CO₂ emissions and the proposed pipeline expansions into the US and to the Pacific coast); and (3) in theoretical discussions about ecological limits (Perelman, Stoekl, Urry), sustainability, and the shape of the commons (Bellamy Foster, Hardt). By investigating the narratives and discourses of oil in *culture*, *politics* and *theory* (the respective focus of each of the three sites identified above), what I wish to capture is the full range of the contemporary discourses that have emerged in relation to this puzzling substance whose impact on human life has been more significant than we have previously believed. It is no exaggeration to suggest that the twentieth century would not have been the same without a source of energy easy to store and transport—one with a huge energy output per unit of fuel and one that forms the basis of all manner of other substances (from plastics to lubricants) without which it is hard to imagine life on the planet today (McNeill). As the first extended exploration of the significance of how we name and narrate oil as promise, problem and possibility, my aim is to produce a book that will act as a resource for readers and researchers intent on understanding the place of oil in contemporary society, politics and culture. Exploring the cultural narratives and discourses through which we explain (or, as the case may be, fail to explain) the place of oil in our lives allows us to grasp its essential social and cultural significance, brings clarity to public debates about the commodity and the economic and social commitments we have made to it, and helps us grasp what our futures might look like in its absence.

In my examination of responses to oil in contemporary culture, I intend to probe the way in which oil is narrated, and the issues and problems that arise in conjunction with these narratives. This section of the proposed book, “Petrofictions: A Bestiary,” will consist of three subsections in which I will examine some of the prominent oil narratives that have arisen since Ghosh’s essay, through an investigation of representations of oil in specific examples of the visual arts, contemporary fiction (with an emphasis on science fiction), and recent documentary film. This section will also explore the manner in which oil troubles the long-imagined link between aesthetics and politics. When novelists, visual artists or filmmakers decide to focus on oil—its environmental impact, the nature of the society that it fuels, the folly of depending on a finite energy source—it is often because they wish to both inform and to unsettle quotidian beliefs and behaviors, thereby activating a political response in their readers and/or viewers with respect to oil. Yet the unique position of oil at the heart of contemporary society troubles the (perhaps always already problematic) relationship between aesthetics and politics. Oil is more than a political problem or social crisis in need of amelioration: it is an *ur*-commodity that gives shape to every aspect of the petrocultures in which we live. The consequences of petro-societies—from environmental damage and impact on human health to a persistently destabilized geopolitical system due to the necessity of energy to keep economies running—demand a major (and speedy) collective response to a ‘problem’ without precedent. How exactly might such a response be generated productively within and by cultural forms, since given oil’s importance to the functioning of contemporary society it seems that

simply identifying the problem it represents is insufficient or inadequate? Of the growing number of petrofictions, the ones that I am most interested in examining in detail are those that shape their narratives in awareness of the aesthetic and political challenge of facing up to oil. Though I will offer an overview and analysis of some of the most important cultural narratives of oil, my exploration of the discourses of oil within cultural forms will thus be guided by a careful consideration of the state and fate of the politics of aesthetics in the contemporary era (Rancière *Aesthetics*, Rancière *Emancipated*). I have started on these investigations in two recent papers that examine attempts by filmmakers and visual artists to pierce through some of our dominant narratives in an effort to try to get us to think and act differently about oil (Szeman “Crude”, Szeman “Cultural”).

Oil is a physical substance—a thing identified by a concrete noun, rather than an idea named by an abstract one (such as freedom or identity) whose meaning emerges out of cultural debate and struggle. Even so, oil only has such significance as it does for us as a result of the cultural narratives that enable its extraction and which shape the broader social forms, experiences and expectations within which it circulates. Among the most significant of these narratives today are those produced in relation to oil events. In earlier research, I sought to disentangle and understand the claims, arguments and assumptions made about oil by producing a taxonomy of the dominant narrative forms taken by public discussions of the substance. I identified three main genres, which I named strategic realism, technological utopianism, and ecological apocalypse (Szeman “System”). In *On Empty*, I plan to undertake a more nuanced analysis and elaboration of the present state of public discourse on oil through an assessment of the rise and fall of crisis narratives in relation to oil events. The significance of oil in our lives and the potential consequences of its extraction and use becomes a matter of public concern primarily at moments in which some form of energy crisis occurs. The first and most globally significant of these was the 1973 OPEC oil crisis, though there are many others at a local or national level (e.g., in Canada, the Mackenzie Valley Pipeline Inquiry, 1974-1977; see Berger). I want to map out public discourse around oil at the present time by investigating journalistic accounts (i.e., newspaper and magazine articles, popular non-fiction books, television reports, etc.) of three oil events: the Exxon Valdez oil spill in Alaska, the recent BP spill in the Gulf of Mexico, and the emergence of the Alberta oil sands on an international level as a major environmental problem. The last two events have had the biggest impact on recent narratives and discourses about oil, if in very different ways. Despite the fact that the oil sands are as of late continuously reported on as an essential aspect of the narrative of Canadian economic and social life in the beginning of the twentieth-first century, its quotidian character makes it distinct from the immediate crisis of a giant oil spill or tanker crash. Considering these two events in the context of another major North American oil crisis twenty-five years earlier will allow me to assess the distinct ways in which oil narratives in the era of globalization are constituted. In all three cases, I want to assess, too, the complex ways in which crises—whether the singular events of Valdez or the Gulf, or the protracted event of the oil sands—are culturally and socially managed, such that the potential break in the business-as-usual extraction and use of oil becomes at most an historically contained trauma that fails to derail the relentless forward motion of petroculture (on social and cultural crisis, see Berlant, Cazdyn). For this part of *On Empty*, in addition to work at libraries, I plan to make short research trips to the local sites of oil events (in Alaska and Fort McMurray) as well as to TV news archives at Vanderbilt University and at CBC Toronto.

In addition to representations or narratives of oil, I am also interested in better understanding the conceptual demands that the substance makes on us. My final site of investigation is the significance of oil for social and cultural theory. If oil is indeed fundamental to the character of the past two centuries, what impact might this have on how we conceptualize social form and political possibilities? In his recent book *Carbon Democracy*, Timothy Mitchell argues that “modern mass politics was made possible by the development of ways of living that used energy on a new scale... this assembling of political power was later weakened by the transition from a collective life powered with coal to a social and

technical world increasingly built on oil” (12). This might seem like a too crude form of materialism—one that reduces the complexities of human culture and society to shifts in dominant forms of energy. But analyzing cultural and social developments in relation to energy in this way is proving to be revelatory (Szeman “Literature”). This section of my investigation will look at two main issues. First, I will look at the light cast by oil on the relationship between belief and action that is fundamental to theories of social and political change (an issue raised in a different way in my analysis of aesthetics and politics in the earlier section on culture). In this part, I plan to look in particular at how new materialist theories might impact the ways in which we understand the function of oil on the present and future of global society (Bennett, Bennett and Joyce, Coole and Front, Latour *Politics*, Latour *Reassembling*). Second, I will explore the challenge oil produces for discourses of left political economy and social theory as it maps future social possibilities. By looking at Marxist environmental theories (Bellamy Foster, Biro, Burkett, Burkett and Bellamy Foster, Constanza, Perelman, Stevens), I plan to consider how and why left theory considers and/or fails to consider the importance of oil as an energy source that generates the shape and capacity of modern social life. In this final part of my study, I want to consider how a recognition of the significance of oil changes the ways in which we understand the shape and characteristics of the social and political present, and of the future to come.

Project Details: Methodology and Outcomes

On Empty is an interdisciplinary project located within the style and approach to the analysis of contemporary texts, discourses and socio-cultural issues that has come to be known as cultural studies. As in the work that I have done throughout my career, my focus here will be on the manner in which discourses concerning issues of pressing social, political and cultural concern are mobilized, legitimated, and disputed. What emerges are insights not only into the subject at hand—oil—but also the structures and processes through which knowledge is produced, circulated and takes effect, as well as the social consequences (actual and potential) of such structures and processes.

My methodology will include literary-critical analysis that attends to the manner in which the texts that I will look at frame issues and problems. I will make use, too, of the practice of critical discourse analysis to examine the manner in which concepts are mobilized in relation to oil to produce specific outcomes at specific times and in particular places. One of the things that have always intrigued me about oil is that its raw substance produces interestingly new and distinct challenges for critical analysis. No mere external input that can be easily substituted for another energy source, oil is what allows the massive social and physical infrastructure of global modernity to operate at its current (and still expanding) scale. In order to address this aspect of oil, this project also necessitates an engagement with those forms of materialist criticism that attend to the “efficacy of objects in excess of the human meanings, designs, or purposes they express or serve” (Bennett)—that is, to demands made on us by specific objects and infrastructures as they push and direct human agency and decision-making, and shape our understanding of social possibilities and limits (Bennett and Joyce).

I plan to write a wide-ranging book that will contribute to debates in visual, literary and cultural studies, critical theory, environmental studies, and public policy. At present, I imagine the structure of the book to be as follows (page numbers are approximate):

Introduction: Bubbling to the Surface (40 ms. pages)

1: System Failure: Oil, Futurity and the Anticipation of Disaster (50 ms. pages; expansion and revision of *South Atlantic Quarterly* article)

2: Petrofictions: A Bestiary (120 ms. pages)

3: What We Talk About When We Talk About Oil: Oil Events, 1989-present (100 ms. pages)

4: Oil in Theory: On Limit, Excess and the Future (80 ms. pages)

Conclusion: On Empty (40 ms. pages)

Total: 430 manuscript pages / ~280 published pages

In addition to working on a book during the three years of the SSHRC Insight Grant, I also plan to participate in a conference on “Oil and Canadian Society” at McGill’s Institute for the Study of Canada (February/March 2014), which I am in the process of planning in conjunction with the Institute’s Director, Dr. Will Straw. This conference will bring together researchers, politicians, policy-makers and business leaders to discuss and debate the multiple ways in which oil is re-shaping Canadian culture and society in the twenty-first century. In the final year of SSHRC funding, I will organize and participate in a series of roundtable discussions about the cultural politics of oil held across the province of Alberta. The roundtable will involve three people: a member of the Fort McKay First Nations or Métis communities, a representative from the Oil Sands Developers Group, and me. Finally, I will provide an on-going update of the status of my research on the Petrocultures website, so that students and colleagues can provide me with immediate feedback on my writing and research as it develops, and interested members of the public can engage in my work as well.

One of the challenges that I hope to undertake in this project is to learn how to more effectively communicate the results of academic research to publics. The book that forms the central element of this research project will be written in a manner that will appeal to the academic community and to the public at large.

Project Schedule

This project is based primarily on the collection and analysis of documents, texts, films, and visual art. The vast majority of the texts that I plan to use are accessible to me via the University of Alberta’s library system and the Alberta Provincial Archives in Edmonton. However, the project would benefit greatly from an opportunity to make short research trips to key sites under analysis: Prince William Sound, Alaska; Gulf Coast, Louisiana; Fort McMurray, Alberta; and sites along the proposed Keystone XL and Northern Gateway pipelines. During these short trips, I would research local responses to the oil events that I am examining, which may differ in important ways from public discourse and debate at the national and international level. In order to research the response of television journalism to the three oil events I am studying, I would also make short research trips to the Vanderbilt Television News Archive (Nashville) and the CBC News Archives (Toronto). (In my budget for this project, I have included expenses for trips to Alaska and Fort McMurray; I will pay for the costs of trips along the route of the Keystone XL / Northern Gateway pipelines and to the Gulf Coast out of my CRC research budget).

The sections of the proposed manuscript that will need most attention from me are Chapters 3 and 4 (approximately a third of Chapter 2 will have been completed by the start of this grant). The final year of the SSHRC IG coincides with my next scheduled sabbatical. The sabbatical will allow me to complete the project within three years and to engage fully in the public outreach component of *On Empty*. In order to concentrate on my research and writing, during the period of SSHRC funding I will attend no more than two conferences per year to share the on-going results of my research.

2013-2014 (Year 1)

- Gathering of textual and theoretical material
- Presentation of research at “Oil and Canadian Society” at McGill University
- Write Intro, Chapter 1 and 2

2014-2015 (Year 2)

- Research travel: Alaska (1 week); Fort McMurray (1 week); New Orleans; Port Arthur, TX; Cushing, OK (2 weeks)
- Write ½ of Chapter 3; begin work on Chapter 4

- Present on-going research at Society for Literature, Science and the Arts

2015-2016 (Year 3)

- Research travel: Nashville (1 week); Toronto (1 week)
- Write second ½ of Chapter 3, complete Chapter 4 and 5
- Present on-going research at Society for Literature, Science and the Arts (or other conference)
- Public presentation of research findings in Banff, Calgary, Edmonton and Fort McMurray
- Submit completed manuscript for publication

Anticipated Significance and Timeliness

This is timely and important research. When it is published, *On Empty* will constitute the first major volume in a growing area of scholarship. The just completed SSHRC-funded Petrocultures conference (September 2012) offers just one example of the ever-increasing level of interest in oil, the culture(s) of petrocarbon societies, and resource fictions in the humanities and social sciences. Originally planned as a one-day event for 20 to 25 faculty and students, the huge interest in the topic (180+ submissions from across the disciplines) resulted in its expansion to a four-day event involving 110 participants from 12 countries.

On Empty will contribute significantly to on-going debates in Canada and across the globe about the social function and importance of oil. My project promises to have an impact not only within the academy, but also in public discussions about decisions made by governments, industry and citizens in relation to oil discovery, extraction, and consumption.

List of References and Project Bibliography

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Black Sea Files: Video Essay in 10 Parts. Dir. Ursula Biemann, 2005. DVD.

Burning the Future. Dir. David Novack. Mongrel Media, 2008. DVD.

Burning Water: Fracture Earth... Fractured Lives. Dir. Cameron Esler and Tadzio Richards. Bunbury
Films, 2010. DVD.

Crude: The Real Price of Oil. Dir. Joe Berlinger. Red Envelope Entertainment, 2009. DVD.

A Crude Awakening. Dir. Basil Gelpke. Perf. Matt Savinar. Mongrel Media, 2006. DVD.

End of Suburbia. Dir. Gregory Greene. Perf. Barry Zwicker, James Howard Kunstler. The Electric
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Gasland. Dir. Josh Fox. HBO Documentary Films, 2010. DVD.

The Great American Oil Spill. Dir. Ros Edwards and Tim Green. Sprout Pictures, 2010. DVD.

H₂Oil. Dir. Shannon Walsh. Loaded Pictures, 2009. DVD.

Land of Oil and Water: Aboriginal Voices on Life in the Oil Sands. Dir. Warren Cariou. Perf. Warren
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Lessons of Darkness. Dir. Werner Herzog. Hemispheric Pictures, 2002. DVD.

Oil on Ice. Dir. Dale Djerassi and Bo Boundart. Perf. Peter Coyote. Oil on Ice Partners, 2005. DVD.

Oil Spill: The Exxon Valdez Disaster. Dir. John Akomfrah. Smoking Dogs Films, 2009. DVD.

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The Power of Community: How Cuba Survived Peak Oil. Dir. Faith Morgan, 2006. DVD.

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Imre Szeman / *On Empty*
Knowledge Mobilization

On Empty engages with the multiple ways in which we represent the problems and possibilities of oil to ourselves—with the various ways in which oil has come to form an essential part of our social imaginaries as much as our economies and the physical infrastructures within which we live. A key aspect of the project is an investigation of the difficulties of communicating with publics about oil in ways that might generate the degree of social change necessary to offset the short and long term consequences of its use. In accordance with this aspect of my project, I have planned to circulate the results of my research in a variety of different ways, in the hope of finding a significant audience for the work in which I will be engaged.

Academic Book Publication: The primary way in which I plan to circulate my research results is through the publication of a single-authored academic book. While this book will be intended for scholars, my aim is to write it in such a fashion that interested, non-specialist readers will be able to follow my arguments and assess my claims. A number of academic presses (including ones with whom I have previously worked, such as Duke University Press) are encouraging academic authors to shape their research publications in a manner that captures the imagination of the general public as well as of scholars. I intend to undertake the challenge of writing in a way that speaks to as large an audience as possible. As I have done with other recent publications, I will negotiate a contract that will make PDFs of the book available as open access documents two to three years after publication.

In addition to this book, I will publish articles based on my research in academic journals and book collections. As I already do, I will make these publications available for free on my website.

Conference: I will be co-organizing a two-day conference on “Oil and Canadian Society” at the McGill Institute for the Study of Canada (MISC) in February/March 2014. This conference follows the successful four-day long “Petrocultures: Oil, Energy, Culture” conference held at the U of Alberta in September 2012. The latter conference was an academic one; as is common with the annual conferences held at MISC, “Oil and Canadian Society” will bring together researchers, politicians, policy-makers and business leaders to discuss and debate the multiple ways in which oil is re-shaping Canadian culture and society in the twenty-first century. As well as co-organizing this event, I plan to share my research on *On Empty* at this conference.

Public Lectures: In the final year of SSHRC funding, I plan to organize and to participate in a series of roundtables about the cultural politics of oil, which will be held across the province of Alberta in Winter/Spring 2016. The roundtable will consist of three people: me, a member of the Fort McKay First Nations or Métis communities, and a representative from the Oil Sands Developers Group (I have experience working with each of these groups). The roundtables will take place in Banff (The Banff Centre), Calgary (Mount Royal U), Edmonton (U of Alberta), and Fort McMurray (Keyano College). They will be geared to the general public; the events will be advertised both on the campuses on which they take part and also in the wider community. The event at Banff will be videotaped and included on the The Banff Centre’s iTunesU site.

Website: In conjunction with a website manager (an MA or MFA student at U of A), my RA and I will continuously update the Petrocultures (www.petrocultures.com) website, adding information about our own on-going research as well as news of other events, book, films, and news items connected to the themes addressed in *On Empty*.



Family name, Given name

Szeman, Imre

Expected Outcomes

Elaborate on the potential benefits and/or outcomes of your proposed research and/or related activities.

Scholarly Benefits

Indicate and rank up to 3 scholarly benefits relevant to your proposal.

Rank	Benefit	If "Other", specify
1	Knowledge creation/intellectual outcomes	
2	Enhanced theory	
3	Student training/skill development	

Social Benefits

Indicate and rank up to 3 social benefits relevant to your proposal.

Rank	Benefit	If "Other", specify
1	Environmental outcomes	
2	Cultural outcomes	
3	Social outcomes	

Audiences

Indicate and rank up to 5 potential target audiences relevant to your proposal.

Rank	Audience	If "Other", specify
1	Academic sector/peers, including scholarly associations	
2	General public	
3	Provincial/territorial government	
4	Aboriginal Peoples	
5	NGO and community organizations	



Family name, Given name

Szeman, Imre

Expected Outcomes Summary

Describe the potential benefits/outcomes (e.g., evolution, effects, potential learning, implications) that could emerge from the proposed research and/or other partnership activities.

a. Research Outcomes

By drawing attention to the ways in which oil circulates culturally and socially (as much as through the engines of our economies), On Empty will result in new ways of thinking and talking about oil. Through the multiple forms of planned knowledge mobilization---conference, roundtables, website and book---the project will generate enriched and capacious public discussions of the fundamental role played by our dominant forms of energy in shaping our cultures and societies, leading to a better understanding of the pathways Canadian society might take as it adapts to life after being a resource economy. On Empty will also benefit the students and postdoctoral fellow connected to the project by providing them with research training and the opportunity to engage in research in a new area of study.

b. Scholarly Benefits

One of the primary ambitions of On Empty is to produce a major new text of social and cultural criticism that will help to further establish and promote a developing field of study: the analysis of the cultural significance of the resources that we use to fuel modern societies. In doing so, it is intended to contribute to three other existing and/or developing fields of study: environmental criticism, left cultural criticism, and those new form of materialist criticism that attend to "efficacy of objects in excess of the human meanings, designs, or purposes they express or serve" (J. Bennett 20). By providing a multi-faceted analysis of the cultural politics of oil, On Empty will provide a platform from which other scholars can examine the significance of energy resources to the shape, form and character of social and cultural practices. As well, by foregrounding the problem of the contemporary politics of aesthetics, I hope to contribute to the on-going assessments of the changing interconnections between culture and politics in the 21st century.

c. Social Benefits

Given the central importance of oil to contemporary societies---and its important role at the present time in both Canadian society and its economy---drawing attention to its social consequences, as well as to the ways in which we represent and narrate oil within our cultural forms and practices, will offer us a new understanding both of how energy shapes society and how we might adapt to life after oil. As I argue in "System Failure," most discussions of oil have to date been dominated by narratives of either eco-apocalypse (the impossibility of addressing the problem of oil due to its social necessity, even given its impact on the environment) or techno-utopianism (an expectation or hope that new technologies will save us in the nick of time). These narratives produce conceptual and political blind spots and impasses. One of the primary social benefits of On Empty will be the resources that it will offer publics interested in thinking seriously about the ways in which oil, society and culture are deeply interconnected, which will in turn permit new understandings of the characteristics of the petrocultures we inhabit.

d. Audience

Oil---its presence, accessibility, lack, decline, cost and consequences---impacts everyone. As such, while I intend to produce research with scholarly merit that makes a contribution to academic communities, it is also important that this proposed research be accessible to the broader public. Through the conference, planned roundtables, and the published research, one of the outcomes of On Empty will be the generation of more nuanced public discussion and debate about the ways in which we live with and understand oil---a substance that is problematic to live with, and, in our current social configurations, impossible to live without. I'd like On Empty to generate open discussions of where we might go from here.

Research Team, Previous Output and Student Training

i. Research Team

I am the principle researcher on *On Empty*. Though there is no research team of professors, I will involve a PhD research assistant in all three years of the project, and will include a Postdoctoral Fellow (PDF) in the final two years. Though the PDF will be engaged in their own research in relation to the themes and issues addressed in *On Empty*, it will be invaluable to me to have an interlocutor with whom I can exchange ideas and share on-going research in the relatively new field of the cultural studies of resource extraction. The PDF, PhD students and MA/MFA student will meet every two weeks to discuss research progress and to share developments in our respective projects.

At the end of the project, I am planning to stage roundtables on the “The Culture of Oil” in four cities and towns in Alberta: Banff, Calgary, Edmonton and Fort McMurray. These roundtables will include two other guests: Ken Chapman, Executive Director of the Oil Sands Developers Group and Ron Quintal, President, Fort McKay Métis Nation or Peter Fortna, Manager, Fort McKay Métis Nation (or other representatives of these groups). Though they will not participate directly in my research activities, their participation is important to the plans for knowledge mobilization associated with *On Empty*.

This will be the primary research project on which I will be working during the period of this grant (2013-2016). In addition, I will also be completing editorial work on two co-edited books: a book of essays emerging out of the September 2012 Petrocultures Conference and the *Companion to Critical and Cultural Theory* (co-edited with Sarah Blacker and Justin Sully, Wiley-Blackwell, 2015/2016).

ii. Previous Output

Since completing my PhD in 1998 and starting my first academic position in 1999 at McMaster, I have authored, co-authored or co-edited 10 books on popular culture and cultural studies, globalization and culture, and postcolonial literary and cultural studies; these books have been published by major scholarly presses, including Duke University Press, Johns Hopkins University Press, University of British Columbia Press and Wiley-Blackwell. In addition, I have published more than 75 book chapters and articles in major journals in the humanities and social sciences, including *Cahiers de Recherche Sociologique*, *Cultural Studies*, *English Studies in Canada*, *Journal of American Studies*, *Minnesota Review*, *PMLA*, *South Atlantic Quarterly*, *Third Text*, and *Topia*. My most recent SSHRC Standard Research Grant (2007-2010) resulted in numerous articles and the book *After Globalization* (Wiley-Blackwell, 2011; paperback 2012, co-written with my co-investigator Dr. Eric Cazdyn); each of my previous grants have resulted in book publications as well as the publication of numerous essays and book chapters.

I initiated the research that led to the development of *On Empty* in an article published in *South Atlantic Quarterly* in 2007: “System Failure: Oil, Futurity and the Anticipation of Disaster.” This article, which grew out of papers I presented at the Modern Language Association Conference, Université de Montréal, the Canadian Association of Cultural Studies conference (at which I was a keynote in 2007), York University, Carlow University (Pittsburgh, PA), and in Zagreb, Croatia, explored the dominant narratives through which our social imaginary in relation to oil has been configured. I termed these narratives, which circulate across media and socio-cultural institutions, strategic realism, techno-utopianism, and eco-apocalypse. Though “System Failure” represented a shift in my research from globalization and popular culture to environmental criticism, new materialisms, and resource narratives, it also continues my long standing interest in understanding the changing relationship between culture and power in the contemporary world, and especially of the ability of culture to affect social and political change.

“System Failure” was the first of a number of articles that I have since published on the

intersections of oil, culture and politics. These include:

- “The Cultural Politics of Oil: On *Lessons of Darkness* and *Black Sea Files*.” *Polygraph* 22 (2010): 3-15.
- “Literature and Energy Futures.” *PMLA* 126.2 (2011): 32-36.
- “Crude Aesthetics: The Politics of Oil Documentaries.” *Journal of American Studies* 46.2 (2012): 423-439.
- “Oil Imag(e)inaries: Critical Realism and the Oil Sands” (co-written with Maria Whiteman). *Imaginations: Journal of Cross-Cultural Image Studies* 3.2 (2012): 46-67.

I have also edited a special section of *American Book Review* on “Petrofictions,” which included contributions by fifteen scholars and to which I contributed a review essay and an introduction.

In addition to work that deals directly with cultural representations and discourses of oil, I have also explored the operations of contemporary cultural and social genres and practices whose explicit aim is to generate widespread social change, often through their diagnosis of looming environmental crises. These include:

- “The Big Picture: On the Politics of Contemporary Photography” (co-written with Maria Whiteman). *Third Text* 23.5 (2009): 551-556.
- “The Political Nature of Things: David Suzuki and Narratives of Change.” *The Public Intellectual and the Culture of Hope*. Ed. Joel Faflak and Jason Haslam. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2013 (in press).
- “Life After People: On Form and Ecological Futures” (co-written with Brent Bellamy). *Green Planets: Ecology and Science Fiction*. Ed. Gerry Canavan and Kim Stanley Robinson. Middletown, CT: Wesleyan University Press, 2013. (accepted).

Since 2007, I have presented my research on the cultural politics of oil as an invited speaker at Lakehead University, SUNY Buffalo, University of Alberta (as a respondent to the author Andrew Nikiforuk), UBC Okanagan, University of Guelph, and University of Warwick (where I spent an extended time as a visitor at the Institute for Advanced Study). Finally, through my work as the co-founder of the Petrocultures Research Cluster (www.petrocultures.com), which has been funded by a grant from the Kule Institute for Advanced Study at the University of Alberta, I have worked to establish a structure to support humanities and social science research on oil and energy in Canada and abroad. The first step in this process was the just completed four-day long conference, “Petrocultures: Oil, Energy, Culture,” which included papers by 100 scholars from twelve countries, and concluded with a two-day field trip by conference participants to Fort McMurray and Fort McKay, where they met with city officials, representatives from industry, and members of the Fort McKay First Nations and Métis communities. A selection of essays from the conference is being prepared for publication as an edited collection by McGill-Queen’s University Press.

My previous work in relation to oil, energy and culture has given me the necessary research background and scholarly experience to carry out the research and writing that I am proposing to do in *On Empty*; my record of lecturing and publication offers evidence of the fact that I will engage successfully in the forms of knowledge mobilization that I have described elsewhere in this application.

iii. Student Training

I have supervised a significant number of graduate students—19 PhDs, 18 MAs and 4 PDFs—over the past decade. In recognition of my qualities as a graduate supervisor, in 2008 I received the President’s Award for Excellence in Graduate Supervision from McMaster University. I have done my utmost to ensure that my graduate students have opportunities to engage in meaningful research, to present their

research at conferences, and to publish their research findings in venues that will allow for the widest possible dissemination of their work.

As with my previous research projects, *On Empty* is intended to maximize the intellectual and educational benefit for the graduate students and junior scholars involved in the project. To begin with, I have devoted a significant portion of the budget for this project to funding for a Postdoctoral Fellowship (PDF). There are too few PDF opportunities for young Canadian scholars working in the humanities and social sciences. The PDF associated with *On Empty* will allow a junior scholar working in a relatively new scholarly area—the study of the cultural and social changes produced in and by resource economics, the analysis of representations, narratives and discourses of energy within different cultural forms and media—the time, support, and encouragement to further develop their research and to shape it for publication. I will supervise the PDF in the same fashion as I would a SSHRC PDF, offering feedback, advice and ideas, but not expecting the junior scholar to align their own project on oil and energy with my own. The PDF will be a valuable interlocutor with whom to share research and to engage in on-going scholarly dialogue. I will advertise the postdoctoral position widely in Fall 2013 on listservs devoted to literary and cultural studies, as well as sending emails regarding the PDF opportunity to prominent Canadian scholars working in fields related to the themes and issues addressed in *On Empty*. During their time at the U of Alberta, the PDF will be given the opportunity to present their research in the “New Directions in Culture, Theory and Politics” lecture series that takes place each year under my direction, which will place them into contact with leading researchers in literary and cultural theory today.

The PhD student who will act as a research assistant on the project will carry out typical tasks associated with such a position (e.g., bibliographic research, manuscript preparation, photocopying, archival research, organizing sources materials, etc.). S/he will be also be given guidance and assistance in developing their own research and opportunities to engage in new forms of research practice. In Year 1, I have included funding to allow the RA to travel to the “Oil and Canadian Society” conference planned for the McGill Institute for the Study of Canada. This will give the RA an opportunity to see how the theme of oil, culture and society is addressed by distinct actors and communities in Canadian society (the event will include academics, but also activists, policy makers, community leaders, politicians, and members of the business community). In Year 3, the RA will be able to work with me at the Vanderbilt TV news archive, which will allow them to learn firsthand the distinct processes by which one works with archived audio-visual materials. In Years 2 and 3, I have budgeted funds to enable the RA to attend conferences to present their on-going research, so that they might receive feedback on their own work and learn from the research of other scholars in their field.

By assisting me in the preparation of the roundtables that will conclude the project, the RA will have the chance to learn the steps involved in staging public events, and will be encouraged to consider the processes by which they might frame their own research for wider dissemination. As scholars, we are being encouraged to find new ways to share our research with those publics who fund us. How students might deal effectively with publics is an important skill for doctoral students to develop, and is not self-evident to junior researchers who in the process of being professionalized and who are more often than not being pushed in the opposite direction: to make their work erudite and complex enough to impress others working in their academic fields of study.

Finally, I have also budgeted for a student who would manage the on-going development and maintenance of the existing Petrocultures website. I would like this website to act as a site that collects research related to oil, energy and culture, and which acts as a space to which scholars working in this area of research can turn to for news about publications, events, conferences, etc. I will likely hire an MFA or MDes student from the U of Alberta’s Art and Design program, due to their facility with visual design but also because it would allow them to develop web design skills that they do not currently learn within their programs of study. Finally, students in these programs are relatively underfunded compared to other Masters students on the U of A campus.



Family name, Given name

Szeman, Imre

Funds Requested from SSHRC

For each budget year, estimate as accurately as possible the research costs that you are asking SSHRC to fund through a grant. For each Personnel costs category, enter the number of individuals to be hired and specify the total amount required. For each of the other categories, enter the total amount required.

Personnel costs	Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4		Year 5	
	No.	Amount	No.	Amount	No.	Amount	No.	Amount	No.	Amount
Student salaries and benefits/Stipends										
Undergraduate										
Masters	1	3,898	1	4,054	1	4,216	0	0	0	0
Doctorate	1	16,336	1	16,990	1	17,670	0	0	0	0
Non-student salaries and benefits/Stipends										
Postdoctoral	0	0	1	37,268	1	27,319	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Travel and subsistence costs										
	Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4		Year 5	
Applicant/Team member(s)										
Canadian travel	0		1,915		3,855		0		0	
Foreign travel	0		2,270		0		0		0	
Students										
Canadian travel	1,676		0		0		0		0	
Foreign travel	0		1,880		4,415		0		0	
Other expenses										
Professional/Technical services										
Supplies										
Non-disposable equipment										
Computer hardware										
Other										
Other expenses (specify)										
Roundtable advertising	0		0		3,000		0		0	
Roundtable travel	0		0		3,240		0		0	
Honoraria	0		0		2,000		0		0	
Total	21,910		64,377		65,715		0		0	

Imre Szeman / On Empty - Budget Justification

The costs associated with research assistants, postdoctoral fellows, per diem costs, etc. are all based on figures provided by U of Alberta Research Services. A 4% annual increase is included in the RA rates as well as health benefit costs for PDF (health benefits are not covered by the U of A). I have scheduled the PDF to begin in second year of the research project in order to allow for time to properly advertise the opportunity to Canadian students.

The requested funds are used for three costs associated with this research project: (1) student and postdoctoral (PDF) salaries; (2) research and conference travel; and (3) costs associated with a roundtable on the cultural politics of oil that will take place at four sites in Alberta. The roundtable event has been limited to Alberta in order to contain costs and to make research available to those members of the public most directly involved in debates and discussions over oil in Canada (i.e., Alberta is a site where my research is likely to be contentious). 85% of the funds are in support of students and the PDF. I will be making a contribution of \$39,171 from my CRC budget to offset some costs.

2013-2014 (Year 1)

Year 1 of the research project will be focused on the gathering of textual material accessible through the U of A library systems and on the writing of the theoretical chapters of the book project.

a. Student Salaries

- \$ 16,336 Research Assistant (PhD) (See “Student Training.” I am requesting a PhD RA who will assist me with tasks connected to research for *On Empty*).
- \$ 3,898 Website Manager (MA/MFA student)

b. Travel

Conference Travel. Funds for travel for PhD student; I will cover my own costs.

- \$ 1,676 “Oil and Canadian Society.” Two-day conference, McGill Institute for the Study of Canada, Montreal, QC (Feb/Mar 2014)
- \$ 1046 Travel: Flight (Edm>Mtl return \$946; ground transport \$100)
 - \$ 450 Accommodation (3 nights x \$150 per night)
 - \$ 180 Per Diem (4 days x \$45/day – Thurs to Sun)
- \$1,676 Total

\$21,910 YEAR 1 Total / CRC Contribution: \$1,676

2014-2015 (Year 2)

a. Student Salaries

- \$ 16,990 Research Assistant
- \$ 4,054 Website Manager
- \$ 37,268 PDF (\$46,000 salary + \$1,268 for health costs *less \$10,000 from CRC*)

b. Travel

1. Research travel

- \$ 2,270 i. Alaska: Anchorage/Prince William Sound
- \$1,250 Travel (Edm>Anchorage return \$1000; rental car \$250)
 - \$ 750 Accommodation (5 nights x \$150 per night)
 - \$ 270 Per Diem (6 days x \$45/day)
- \$2,270 Total
- \$ 1,915 ii. Fort McMurray/Fort McKay
- \$ 790 Travel (Edm>Fort Mac return; rental car \$400)
 - \$ 900 Accommodation (4 nights x \$225 per night)
 - \$ 225 Per Diem (5 days x \$45/day)

\$1,915 Total

2. *Conference Travel*. Travel for PhD student; I will cover my own costs. (*\$1,880 from CRC*)
\$ 1,880 Society for Literature, Science and the Arts (Fall 2014)
\$ 1100 Travel (Flight est. site of 2014 event not yet known; ground \$100)
\$ 450 Accommodation (3 nights x \$150 per night)
\$ 330 Per Diem (4 days x \$45/day – Thurs to Sun) + Conf. Fee \$150
\$1,880 Total

\$64,377 YEAR 2 Total / CRC Contribution: \$11,880 (\$10,000+\$1,880)

2015-2016 (Year 3)

In Year 3, I expect to be on sabbatical. I will devote time to finishing up research travel in Fall 2015 and to completing the manuscript in Winter/Spring/Summer 2016.

a. Student Salaries

- \$ 17,670 Research Assistant
\$ 4,216 Website Manager
\$ 27,319 PDF (\$46,000 salary + \$1,319 for health costs *less \$20,000 from CRC*)

b. Travel

- i. Vanderbilt Television News Archives (Travel with RA; cost for RA only; *\$2,535 from CRC*)
\$ 2,535 \$ 1,120 Travel (Edm>Nashville; ground \$200)
\$ 900 Accommodation (6 nights x \$150 per night)
\$ 315 Per Diem (7 days x \$45/day)
\$2,535 Total

- ii. CBC Libraries and Archives / Media Archives at U of Toronto Libraries
\$ 2,035 \$ 820 Travel (Edm > Toronto return; ground \$150)
\$ 900 Accommodation (6 nights x \$150 per night)
\$ 315 Per Diem (7 days x \$45/day)
\$2,035 Total

2. *Conference Travel*. Travel for PhD student; I will cover my own costs. (*\$1,880 from CRC*)
\$ 1,880 TBA: Congress *or* MLA *or* American Society for Environmental History
\$ 1100 Travel (est.; site of 2015-6 conf. not yet known; ground \$100)
\$ 450 Accommodation (3 nights x \$150 per night)
\$ 330 Per Diem (4 days x \$45/day – Thurs to Sun) + Conf. Fee \$150
\$1,880 Total

c. Other expenses

- \$ 3,000 Roundtable: Advertising in student and local newspapers (\$750/site x 4).
\$ 2,000 Honoraria for roundtable participants (2 participants x \$1000)
\$ 0 Public Presentation Reception Costs (4 x \$500 per site; *covered by CRC funds*)
\$ 5,060 Travel and Accommodations
\$ 1800 Ft Mac to Edm to Calgary to Ft. Mac) (\$600 x 3 people)
\$ 200 Car Rental (Calgary to Banff – 2 days)
\$ 2250 Accommodation (5 nights x \$150/night x 3)
\$ 810 Per Diem (6 days x \$45/day x 3)
\$5060 Total (1820 for Szeman; 3240 for other 2 participants)

\$65,715 YEAR 3 Total / CRC Contribution: \$26,415 (\$20,000 +\$2,535+\$1,880+\$2000)

\$152,002 TOTAL REQUEST (Additional from CRC: \$39,971)



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Internal use	CID (if known)
160056	59658

Identification
Only the information in the Name section will be made available to selection committee members and external assessors. Citizenship and Statistical and Administrative Information will be used by SSHRC for administrative and statistical purposes only. Filling out the statistical and Administrative Information section is optional.

Name			
Family name	Given name	Initials	Title
Szeman	Imre	J L	Dr.

Citizenship - Applicants and co-applicants must indicate their citizenship status by checking and answering the applicable questions.

Citizenship status	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Canadian	<input type="radio"/> Permanent resident since (yyyy/mm/dd)	<input type="radio"/> Other (country)	Have you applied for permanent residency?
		_____	_____	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No

Statistical and Administrative Information

Birth year	Gender	Permanent postal code in Canada (i.e. K2P1G4)	Correspondence language	Previous contact with SSHRC? (i.e. applicant, assessor, etc.)
1968	<input type="radio"/> F <input checked="" type="radio"/> M	T6G1J2	<input checked="" type="radio"/> English <input type="radio"/> French	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No

Full name used during previous contact, if different from above
Imre J L Szeman

Contact Information
The following information will help us to contact you more rapidly. Secondary information will not be released by SSHRC without your express consent.

Primary telephone number				Secondary telephone number			
Country code	Area code	Number	Extension	Country code	Area code	Number	Extension
	780	9349792			780	2442901	
Primary fax number				Secondary fax number			
Country code	Area code	Number	Extension	Country code	Area code	Number	Extension
Primary E-mail imre@ualberta.ca				Secondary E-mail imre@ualberta.ca			

Personal information will be stored in the Personal Information Bank for the appropriate program.

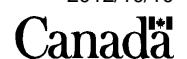
Checked

Web CV

2012/10/10

Identification

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Family name, Given name

Szeman, Imre

Current Address Use only if you are not affiliated with a department at a Canadian university. (If you are affiliated with a department at a Canadian university, the department's mailing address will be used.) If you wish to use another address, specify it under the Correspondence Address.			Correspondence Address Complete this section if you wish your correspondence to be sent to an address other than your current address.		
Address			Address		
			Department of English and Film Studies		
			University of Alberta		
			3-5 Humanities Centre		
City/Municipality	Prov. / State	Postal/Zip code	City/Municipality	Prov. / State	Postal/Zip code
			Edmonton	AB	T6G1J2
Country			Country CANADA		
Temporary Address If providing a temporary address, phone number and/or E-mail, ensure that you enter the effective dates.			Permanent Address in CANADA		
Address			Address		
			7103 - 112 Street		
City/Municipality	Prov./ State		City/Municipality	Prov./ State	Postal/Zip code
			Edmonton	AB	T6G1J2
Country			Country CANADA		
Start date (yyyy/mm/dd)	End date (yyyy/mm/dd)	Temporary telephone/fax number			
		Country code	Area code	Number	Extension
Temporary E-mail					



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Family name, Given name

Szeman, Imre

Research Expertise (optional)

The information provided in this section refers to your own research expertise, not to a research proposal. Filling out the following 4 sections is optional. This page will not be seen by selection committee members and external assessors. This section will be used for planning and evaluating programs, producing statistics, and selecting external assessors and committee members.

Areas of Research

Indicate and rank up to 3 areas of research that best correspond to your research interests as well as areas where your research interests would apply. Duplicate entries are not permitted.

Rank	Code	Area
1	100	Arts and culture
2	215	Globalization
3	120	Communication

Temporal Periods

If applicable, indicate up to 2 historical periods covered by your research interests.

From	To
<p>Year</p> <p>_____ 1850 BC AD</p> <p> <input type="radio"/> <input checked="" type="radio"/></p> <p>_____ <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/></p>	<p>Year</p> <p>_____ 2000 BC AD</p> <p> <input type="radio"/> <input checked="" type="radio"/></p> <p>_____ <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/></p>

Geographical Regions

If applicable, indicate and rank up to 3 geographical regions covered by your research interests. Duplicate entries are not permitted.

Rank	Code	Region
1	1000	North America
2	9001	International
3	3300	Eastern Europe

Countries

If applicable, indicate and rank up to 5 countries covered by your research interests. Duplicate entries are not permitted.

Rank	Code	Countries	Prov./ State
1	1100	CANADA	
2	1200	UNITED STATES	
3	3206	GERMANY	
4	3307	HUNGARY	
5	3419	RUSSIA (RUSSIAN FEDERATION)	



Family name, Given name

Szeman, Imre

Curriculum Vitae

Language Proficiency

	Read	Write	Speak	Comprehend aurally	Other languages
English	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hungarian-all; German-comprehend, read; Spanish-read
French	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

Work Experience

List the positions, academic and non-academic, you have held beginning with the current position and all previous positions in reverse chronological order, based on the start year.

Current position		Start date (yyyy/mm)
Full Professor		2009/9
Org. code	Full organization name	
1480111	University of Alberta	
Department/Division name		
English and Film Studies		
Position type	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Tenured <input type="radio"/> Non-tenure <input type="radio"/> Tenure-track <input type="radio"/> Non-academic	Employment status
		<input checked="" type="radio"/> Full-time <input type="radio"/> Part-time <input type="radio"/> Non-salaried <input type="radio"/> Leave of absence
Position	Start date (yyyy/mm)	End date (yyyy/mm)
Full Professor	2012/7	
Org. code	Full organization name	
1480111	University of Alberta	
Department/Division name		
Alberta Institute for American Studies		
Position	Start date (yyyy/mm)	End date (yyyy/mm)
Visiting Professor	2012/5	2012/6
Org. code	Full organization name	
9121149	University of Warwick	
Department/division name		
Institute for Advanced Study		
Position	Start date (yyyy/mm)	End date (yyyy/mm)
Full Professor	2008/7	2009/6
Org. code	Full organization name	
1350611	McMaster University	
Department/Division name		
English & Cultural Studies		

Personal information will be stored in the Personal Information Bank for the appropriate program.

Web CV



Family name, Given name

Szeman, Imre

Work Experience (cont'd)

Position	Start date (yyyy/mm)	End date (yyyy/mm)
Visiting Professor	2005	2006

Org. code	Full organization name
9145101	Humboldt University

Department/Division name
Institut für Anglistik und Amerikanistik

Position	Start date (yyyy/mm)	End date (yyyy/mm)
Visiting Professor	2004	2004

Org. code	Full organization name
9745137	University of São Paulo

Department/Division name
Departamento de Teoria Literaria e Literatura Comparada (DTLLC)

Position	Start date (yyyy/mm)	End date (yyyy/mm)
Associate Professor	2003	

Org. code	Full organization name
1350611	McMaster University

Department/Division name
English

Position	Start date (yyyy/mm)	End date (yyyy/mm)
Director	2003	2005

Org. code	Full organization name
1350611	McMaster University

Department/Division name
Institute on Globalization and the Human Condition

Position	Start date (yyyy/mm)	End date (yyyy/mm)
Associate Director	2001	2003

Org. code	Full organization name
1350611	McMaster University

Department/Division name
Institute on Globalization and the Human Condition



Family name, Given name

Szeman, Imre

Work Experience (cont'd)

Position	Start date (yyyy/mm)	End date (yyyy/mm)
Assistant Professor	1999/1	2003/12

Org. code	Full organization name
1350611	McMaster University

Department/Division name
English & Cultural Studies

Position	Start date (yyyy/mm)	End date (yyyy/mm)
Postdoctoral fellow or associate	1998/1	1999/12

Org. code	Full organization name
1351211	The University of Western Ontario

Department/Division name
Centre for Theory and Criticism

Position	Start date (yyyy/mm)	End date (yyyy/mm)
Student	1993/1	1998/12

Org. code	Full organization name
9956101	Duke University

Department/Division name
Literature

Position	Start date (yyyy/mm)	End date (yyyy/mm)

Org. code	Full organization name

Department/Division name

Position	Start date (yyyy/mm)	End date (yyyy/mm)

Org. code	Full organization name

Department/Division name



Family name, Given name

Szeman, Imre

Academic Background				
List up to 5 degrees, beginning with the highest degree first and all others in reverse chronological order, based on the start date.				
Degree type	Degree name	Start date (yyyy/mm)	Expected date (yyyy/mm)	Awarded date (yyyy/mm)
Doctorate	Literature	1993/09		1998/09
Disc. code	Discipline			Did SSHRC support enable you to get this degree?
52004	Literature, Comparative			<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Org. code	Organization			
1	Duke University			
Country UNITED STATES				
Degree type	Degree name	Start date (yyyy/mm)	Expected date (yyyy/mm)	Awarded date (yyyy/mm)
Master's	Theory and Criticism	1990/09		1993/01
Disc. code	Discipline			Did SSHRC support enable you to get this degree?
52616	Literature, American - Literary Theory			<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Org. code	Organization			
1351211	The University of Western Ontario			
Country CANADA				
Degree type	Degree name	Start date (yyyy/mm)	Expected date (yyyy/mm)	Awarded date (yyyy/mm)
BA Hon.		1986/09		1990/05
Disc. code	Discipline			Did SSHRC support enable you to get this degree?
55000	Philosophy			<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Org. code	Organization			
1350811	Queen's University			
Country CANADA				
Degree type	Degree name	Start date (yyyy/mm)	Expected date (yyyy/mm)	Awarded date (yyyy/mm)
Disc. code	Discipline			Did SSHRC support enable you to get this degree?
				<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Org. code	Organization			
Country				
Degree type	Degree name	Start date (yyyy/mm)	Expected date (yyyy/mm)	Awarded date (yyyy/mm)
Disc. code	Discipline			Did SSHRC support enable you to get this degree?
				<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Org. code	Organization			
Country				



Family name, Given name

Szeman, Imre

Credentials

List up to 6 licences, professional designations, awards and distinctions you have received and feel would be the most pertinent to the adjudication of your application. List them in reverse chronological order, based on the year awarded.

Category	Name	Source or Country	Duration (Months)	Value / Year awarded
Academic Prize	Pres. Award for Excellence in Graduate Supervision	CANADA		\$0 2008
Fellowship	Humboldt Fellowship	GERMANY	12	2005
Academic Prize	AUCC-Scotiabank Excellence in Internationalization	Private Sector		\$0 2004
Academic Prize	Petro-Canada Young Innovator Award	CANADA		2003
Academic Prize	John Charles Polanyi Prize (Literature)	CANADA		2000

Research Expertise

The information provided in this section refers to your own research expertise, not to a research proposal.

Keywords

List keywords that best describe your areas of research expertise. Separate keywords with a semicolon.

Cultural studies; cultural theory; visual culture; globalization; alternative culture; postcolonial literature; Canadian literature; film; oil and energy studies

Disciplines

Indicate and rank up to 5 disciplines that best correspond to your research interests. Duplicate entries are not permitted.

Rank	Code	Discipline	If Other, specify
1	70000	Interdisciplinary Studies	
2	50616	Popular Culture, Ideology	
3	50899	Other Fine Arts	Visual Culture
4	52004	Literature, Comparative	
5	51014	Intellectual History	



Family name, Given name

Szeman, Imre

Funded Research

List up to 8 grants or contracts you have received from SSHRC or other sources. List them in reverse chronological order, based on the year awarded. If you are not the applicant (principal investigator), specify that persons' name.

Org. code	Full name of funding organization	Year awarded (yyyy)	Total amount (CAN\$)
1	U of Alberta Senate	2011	\$5,625
Role Applicant		Completion status <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Complete	
Project title Banff Research in Culture 2012			
Applicant's family name		Applicant's given name	
Org. code	Full name of funding organization	Year awarded (yyyy)	Total amount (CAN\$)
1	Kule Institute for Advanced Study / U of Alberta	2011	\$15,000
Role Co-applicant		Completion status <input type="checkbox"/> Complete	
Project title Petrocultures: The Cultures of Oil in Canada and the World			
Applicant's family name		Applicant's given name	
Wilson		Sheena	
Org. code	Full name of funding organization	Year awarded (yyyy)	Total amount (CAN\$)
1	Alexander von Humboldt Foundation	2010	\$120,000
Role Applicant		Completion status <input type="checkbox"/> Complete	
Project title Cosmopolitan Film Cultures			
Applicant's family name		Applicant's given name	
Org. code	Full name of funding organization	Year awarded (yyyy)	Total amount (CAN\$)
3010325	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada	2008	\$13,120
Role Applicant		Completion status <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Complete	
Project title Alternative Culture Beyond Borders			
Applicant's family name		Applicant's given name	



Family name, Given name

Szeman, Imre

Funded Research (cont'd)

Org. code 1	Full name of funding organization Open Society Institute / Higher Education Support Program	Year awarded (yyyy) 2006	Total amount (CAN\$) \$240,000
Role Applicant		Completion status <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Complete	
Project title Alternative Culture Beyond Borders			
Applicant's family name Szeman		Applicant's given name Imre	
Initials J L			
Org. code 3010325	Full name of funding organization Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada	Year awarded (yyyy) 2006	Total amount (CAN\$) \$138,000
Role Applicant		Completion status <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Complete	
Project title Naming the Enemy? Anti-Americanism around the World			
Applicant's family name Szeman		Applicant's given name Imre	
Initials J L			
Org. code 3010325	Full name of funding organization Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada	Year awarded (yyyy) 2002	Total amount (CAN\$) \$46,000
Role Co-applicant		Completion status <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Complete	
Project title Globalization and Autonomy			
Applicant's family name Coleman		Applicant's given name William	
Initials			
Org. code 3010325	Full name of funding organization Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada	Year awarded (yyyy) 2001	Total amount (CAN\$) \$43,000
Role Applicant		Completion status <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Complete	
Project title The Eye and the Market: Globalization and Visual Culture			
Applicant's family name		Applicant's given name	
Initials			

Personal information will be stored in the Personal Information Bank for the appropriate program.

Web CV

Imre SZEMAN**1. Research Contributions (2006-2012)**Books (7)

- R Groden, Michael, Martin Kreiswirth, and **Imre Szeman**, eds. *Contemporary Literary and Cultural Theory: A Johns Hopkins Guide*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins UP, 2012. 536 pgs. [co-ed].
- R* Eric Cazdyn and **Imre Szeman**. *After Globalization*. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 2011. 264 pgs. [co-writer]
- R **Imre Szeman** and Tim Kaposy, eds. *Cultural Theory: An Anthology*. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 2010. 584 double-columned pgs. [co-ed]
- R* Coleman, Will, Petra Rethmann and **Imre Szeman**, eds. *Cultural Autonomy: Frictions and Connections*. Vancouver: U of British Columbia P, 2010. 330 pgs. [co-ed]
- R* James, Paul and **Imre Szeman**, eds. *Global-Local Consumption*. London and New York: Sage, 2010. 354 pgs. [co-ed]
- R Mookerjea, Sourayan, **Imre Szeman**, and Gail Faurschou, eds. *Canadian Cultural Studies: A Reader*. Durham, NC: Duke UP, 2009. 609 pgs. [co-ed]
- R* O'Brien, Susie, and **Imre Szeman**. *Popular Culture: A User's Guide*. Second, Revised Edition. Toronto: Nelson, 2009. 408 pgs. [co-writer]. With *Popular Culture: A User's Guide: Instructor's Manual*. 182 pgs. Third edition, 2013 (in press). [co-writer]

Book Chapters (not including introductory and editorial material in books above; 15)

- R Brent Bellamy and **Imre Szeman**. "Life After People: On Form and Ecological Futures." *Green Planets: Ecology and Science Fiction*. Ed. Gerry Canavan and Kim Stanley Robinson. Middeltown, CT: Wesleyan UP, 2013. (accepted) [co-writer]
- R **Imre Szeman**. "Out With the New." *Negotiations in a Vacant Lot: Studying the Visual in Canada*. Ed. Lynda Jessup, Erin Morton and Kirsty Robertson. Kingston and Montreal: McGill-Queen's UP, 2013 (accepted).
- R **Imre Szeman**. "The Political Nature of Things: David Suzuki and Narratives of Change." *The Public Intellectual and the Culture of Hope*. Ed. Joel Faflak and Jason Haslam. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2013 (in press).
- R **Imre Szeman**. "Manhattanism and Future Cities: Some Provocations on Art and New Urban Forms." *Transnationalism Activism Art*. Ed. Kit Dobson and Áine McGlynn. Toronto: U of Toronto P, 2012. 19-28.
- R **Imre Szeman**. "The Current Amazement: Afghanistan, Terror and Theory." *Globalizing Afghanistan*. Ed. David Jefferess and Zubeda Jalalzai. Durham: Duke UP, 2011. 165-185.
- R* **Imre Szeman**. "Theory of National Literature." *Blackwell Encyclopedia of the Novel*. Gen. Ed. Peter Logan. New York: Wiley-Blackwell, 2010. 562-566.
- R* **Imre Szeman**. "Globalization, Postmodernism and (Autonomous) Criticism" in *Cultural Autonomy: Frictions and Connections*. Ed. Petra Rethmann, Imre Szeman and William Coleman. Vancouver: U of British Columbia P, 2010. 66-85.
- R* **Imre Szeman**. "Nationalism and Globalization." *Reading the Nation in English Literature: A Critical Reader*. Ed. Elizabeth Sauer and Julia Wright. New York: Routledge, 2009. 220-228
- Imre Szeman**. "Preface" to Smaro Kamboureli, *Scandalous Bodies: Diasporic Literature in Canada*. Waterloo, ON: Wilfrid Laurier UP, 2009. ix-xi.
- R Nicholas Brown and **Imre Szeman**. "Theses on Philosophy in the Age of Finance Capital." *A Leftist Ontology*. Ed. Carsten Strathausen. Minnesota: U of Minnesota P, 2009. 33-55. [co-writer]

- R* **Imre Szeman**. "Imagining the Future: Globalization, Postmodernism and Criticism." *Metaphors of Globalization: Mirrors, Magicians and Mutinies*. Ed. Markus Kornprobst, et al. London: Palgrave, 2008. 167-183.
- R* **Imre Szeman**. "The Rhetoric of Culture: Some Notes on Magazines, Canadian Culture and Globalization." *Cultural Studies: An Anthology*. Ed. Michael Ryan. Cambridge: Blackwell, 2008. 82-97.
- R **Imre Szeman**. "Oil Futures." *FUEL* (Alphabet City). Ed. John Knechtel. Cambridge, MA: The MIT P, 2008. 18-35.
- R Ursula Biemann and **Imre Szeman**. "Tránsito forzoso: un diálogo sobre Black Sea Files Contained Mobility / Forced Transit: A Dialogue on *Black Sea Files* and *Contained Mobility*." *Political Typographies: Visual Essays on the Margins of Europe*. Barcelona: Fundació Antonio Tàpies, 2007. 2-35. [co-writer]
- R* **Imre Szeman**. "Cultural Studies and the Transnational." *New Cultural Studies: Adventures in Theory*. Ed. Gary Hall and Claire Birchall. Edinburgh: U of Edinburgh P, 2006. 200-218.

Journal Articles (17)

- R **Imre Szeman** and Maria Whiteman. "Oil Imag(e)inaries: Critical Realism and the Oil Sands." *Imaginations: Journal of Cross-Cultural Image Studies* 3.2 (2012): 46-67. [co-writer]
- R **Imre Szeman**. "Crude Aesthetics: The Politics of Oil Documentaries." *Journal of American Studies* 46.2 (2012): 423-439.
- R **Imre Szeman**. "Introduction: Petrofictions." *American Book Review* 33.3 (2012) : 3.
- R **Imre Szeman**. "Conscience and the Commons." *Reviews in Cultural Theory* 2.3 (2012): 85-93. (Reprinted in *Mediations* 26.1 (2012): 46-54.)
- R **Imre Szeman**. "Literature and Energy Futures." *PMLA* 126.2 (2011): 32-36.
- R* **Imre Szeman**. "Global Cultural Studies?" *Minnesota Review* 76 (2011): 146-161.
- R* **Imre Szeman**. "Neoliberals Dressed in Black; or, the Traffic in Creativity." *English Studies in Canada* 36.1 (2010): 15-38.
- R **Imre Szeman**. "The Cultural Politics of Oil: On *Lessons of Darkness* and *Black Sea Files*." *Polygraph* 22 (2010): 3-15.
- R Maria Whiteman and **Imre Szeman**. "The Big Picture: On the Politics of Contemporary Photography." *Third Text* 23.5 (2009): 551-556. [co-writer]
- R **Imre Szeman**. "System Failure: Oil, Futurity and the Anticipation of Disaster." *South Atlantic Quarterly* 106.4 (2007): 805-823.
- R **Imre Szeman**. "Canadians and Culture; or, Taxes, Money, Prestige, Ordinary Folk, Subsidized Whiners, and all the rest." Reader's Forum Section Editor and Introduction. *English Studies in Canada* 33.3 (2007): 1-5.
- R **Imre Szeman**. "Poetics and the Politics of Globalization." *Studies in Canadian Literature* 32.2 (2007): 148-161.
- R **Imre Szeman**. "Administered Lives: Scholarly Research, Accountability and the 'Public'." *English Studies in Canada* 32.4 (2006): 9-12.
- R* Cavell, Richard and **Imre Szeman**. "Introduction: Cultural Studies in Canada Today." *Review of Education, Pedagogy & Cultural Studies* 29.2/3 (2007): 139-158. [co-writer]
- R **Imre Szeman**, " 'Do No Evil': Google and Evil as a Political Category." *Topia: Canadian Journal of Cultural Studies* 18 (2007): 131-139.
- R **Imre Szeman**, "Critical Peripateticism." *Prefix Photo* 16 (2007): 14-19.
- R **Imre Szeman** and Maria Whiteman, "Wildlife, Natural and Artificial: An Interview with Peter Watts." *Extrapolation* 48.3 (2007): 604-620. [co-writer]

Edited Journal Issues (3)

- Imre Szeman**, ed. "Petrofictions." Section Editor. *American Book Review* 33.3 (2012) : 1-17, 29, 31.
- R **Imre Szeman**, ed. "Before and After Neoliberalism." *Mediations* 26.1 (2012). 182 pgs.
- R* Cavell, Richard and **Imre Szeman**, eds. "New Cultural Spaces: Cultural Studies in Canada Today." Special Double Issue of *Review of Education, Pedagogy & Cultural Studies* 29.2/3 (2007).

2. Other Research Contributions (2006-2012) (partial list)

- Founder and Co-organizer, Banff Research in Culture (2011-present)
- Founder and Organizer, New Directions in Culture, Theory and Politics lecture series (2010-)
- General Editor, *Reviews in Cultural Theory* (2010-present)
- Co-Editor, *Review of Education/Pedagogy/Cultural Studies*, 2004-2009
- Co-editor, *Cultural Spaces*, book series published by University of Toronto Press (2001-2010; fifteen titles in total)
- Editorial Boards: *Resilience* (2012-); *Public: Art/Culture/Ideas* (2012-); *Humanity* (2009-); *Imaginations* (2009-) *Communication and Critical/Cultural Studies* (2008-); *English Studies in Canada* (2007-); *Mediations* (2005-); *Mediactive: Ideas/Knowledge/Culture* (2003-); *Politics and Culture* (2003-); *Review of Education/Pedagogy/Cultural Studies* (1998-2002); *Topia: Canadian Journal of Cultural Studies* (2000-)
- Member, Modern Language Association Delegate Assembly (Politics and the Profession), (2003-2006); Sociological Approaches to Literature (2006-2011); Delegate Assembly (Sociological Approaches) (2012-2014).
- Advisory Boards: Center for the Study of Globalization and Cultures, Hong Kong University (2009-); Advanced Institute for Globalization and Culture, Lakehead University (2009-); UK Network for Modern Fiction Studies (2004-)

3. Most Significant Career Contributions

- R* **Imre Szeman**. *Zones of Instability: Literature, Postcolonialism and the Nation*. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2003. 240 pgs. My first monograph, this intellectual and cultural history examines the function of national literature in the development of postcolonial states. It is considered to be a major contribution to postcolonial studies. Reviewed in *Choice*, *European Legacy*, *Postcolonial Text*, *Topia*, and *University of Toronto Quarterly*. "Szeman speaks softly (and subtly), but as a leading-edge theorist of postcolonial literature and cultural studies, he has earned the intellectual authority that underlies the present bold project."—*Choice*
- R* Eric Cazdyn and **Imre Szeman**. *After Globalization*. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 2011. 256 pgs. [co-writer]. My second monograph, which appeared last year. As a result of high sales in 2011, a paperback edition will be released in 2012. Offers an assessment of the discourse of globalization after the 2008 financial crash, through interviews with students and assessments of official responses. "Relentlessly, remorselessly, endlessly, we are told there is no alternative to globalization, whether our lecturers are bourgeois economists, progressive journalists, or imaginative litterateurs. Eric Cazdyn and Imre Szeman dare to go beyond the standard thinking of the day and query the very heart of mobile capital and its impact on daily life. Their alternative vision breathes new life into our sense of evolution and inevitability."—Toby Miller
- R **Imre Szeman**. "System Failure: Oil, Futurity and the Anticipation of Disaster." *South Atlantic Quarterly* 106.4 (2007): 805-823. My first essay on the subject of oil. Since its publication, it has

become a touchstone for others working in the field of resource fiction and the cultural studies of resources.

- R Sourayan Mookerjea, **Imre Szeman** and Gail Faurschou, eds. *Canadian Cultural Studies: A Reader*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press, forthcoming 2008. 550 pgs. [co-ed] The first major anthology dealing with cultural studies in Canada. Reviewed in *Ariel*, *Canadian Literature*, *Choice*. “*Canadian Cultural Studies* marks an important publication... With contributions from media studies, literary studies, cultural studies, Aboriginal studies, and studies of multiculturalism, as well as government policy documents and a concerted effort to bridge the divide between Quebec and the rest of Canada, this reader does a great job of covering its ground... these are essential essays and documents. It is, moreover, an accessible and useful text that I heartily recommend to instructors of Canadian studies looking to foster a sense of academic rigour in their courses.”—*Canadian Literature*
- R Groden, Michael, Martin Kreiswirth, and **Imre Szeman**, eds. *Johns Hopkins Guide to Literary Theory and Criticism* 2nd Edition. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Univ. Press, 2005. 984 pgs. [co-ed]. Widely acknowledged to be the major reference work in the field of literary and cultural theory. Reviewed in *Choice*, *English Studies in Canada*, *Kirkus Review*, *J of Midwest Modern Language Association*, *New York Times Book Review*, *RMMLA Review*, *U of Toronto Quarterly*. Winner of Outstanding Academic Title, *Choice Magazine*, 2006. Chosen as an Outstanding Reference Book in 2005 by *Kirkus Review*. Nominee for the MLA James Russell Lowell Prize, 2005. Chinese translation in progress. “The new version of Guide will provide a new generation of scholars and students with an exhaustive reference, but it will also serve as a valuable and critical measurement of the discipline.”—*Rocky Mountain MLA Review*

5. Contributions to Training (2006-2012)

Postdoctoral Fellows (4): Andrew Glaser (2011-2012); Andrew Pendakis (2011-2012); Terri Tomsy (2010-2013); Dr. Sinem Yazicioglu (2011-2012).

PhD Supervisor (17): Don Moore (2002-2008); Lee Yoo Hyeok (2003-2009); Tim Kaposy, (2003-2008); Max Haiven (2007-2010); Andrew Pendakis (2005-2010); Justin Sully (2006-2011); Evan Mauro (2006-2012); Sarah Blacker (2007-); Matt MacLellan (2007-); Brett Bellamy (2009-); Dan Harvey (2009-); Jeff Diamanti (2010-); Adam Carlson (2010-); Valerie Savard (2011-); Kurt Pabst (2011-); Stephan Christianson (2011-); David Janzen (2011-).

PhD Supervisory Committees (12): Christina Brooks, 2004-2010; Michael Mikulak, 2006-2010; Alyson McCready, 2007-2009; Wafaa Hasan, 2007-2009; Alex DiCeanu, 2008-2009; Wanda Vrasti, 2008-2010; Jennifer Pybus, 2009; Barret Weber, 2010- ; Olga Pak, 2010- ; Andriko Lozowy, 2010- ; Lisa Haynes, 2011- ; Maya Seshia, 2011- .

PhD External Examiner (5): Mathias Nilges, English, University of Illinois-Chicago, 2008; Gaius Gilbert, Communications Studies, McGill University, 2009; Claudette Lauzon, Art History, McGill University, 2009; Brett Parker, English, University of Calgary, 2010; Katherine Hallemeier, Ph.D., English, Queen’s University, 2012.

MA Supervisor (13): Lindsay Nielsen (2007); Raffaella Tardioli (2008); Adrienne Havercroft (2008); Matt MacLellan (2008); Ana Candia (2008); Simon Orpana (2009); Amanda Delorey (2009); Jeff Diamanti (2010); Emily Murphy (2010); Maica Murphy (2010); Bradley Lafortune (2011); Shane Riczu (2012); Mitchell Johnson (2012).