Digitizing the Banal: 
The Politics of Recovery in Periodical Studies

Friday, October 27, 2:30-4:00
6106 AQ, Simon Fraser University

A talk by
Hannah McGregor
Simon Fraser University

Hannah McGregor is professor in the Publishing Department at Simon Fraser University. Her research and teaching focuses on the histories and futures of print culture and new media in Canada, with a focus on Canadian middlebrow magazines, and podcasting as both self-publishing and public pedagogy.

This talk begins with the question: what does recovery work look like for a print archive like The Western Home Monthly that is generic, repetitive, rural, domestic -- that is, as the title suggests, banal. Banality -- the quality of being conventional, commonplace, everyday -- links several of the characteristics that at once define The Western Home Monthly and doom it, and so many magazines like it, to apparent historical irrelevance.