

# BYPRODUCTS AND THE NOVEL: RECOLLECTION IN SAMUEL RICHARD- SON'S *PAMELA*

## Allison Turner

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**Thurs Jan 10th 2019 3pm - 4.30pm @ KUY 410  
DEPT OF ENG UHM**

Turner's talk, "Byproducts and the Novel: Recollection in Samuel Richardson's *Pamela*," draws from her current book project, *The Salvaging Disposition: Waste and the Novel Form*, in which she argues for the central importance of waste to the cultural, social, and economic transformations that took place over the course of the long eighteenth century. In this talk, she argues that Richardson adapted the commercial logic of salvaging in order to reconceive the literary domain as a set of materials itself in need of maintenance. In doing so, Richardson developed the notion of literary plotting as a mechanism for recollecting textual byproducts—the discarded characters and sequences of events generated by episodic fiction. By making the recovery of these characters a condition of narrative closure, Richardson's novel helped to establish a literary framework in which disparate persons could appear both as the components of a single plot and as members of a social world more generally.

**Reception with light refreshments to follow.**

## WHO

Allison Turner is a postdoctoral fellow at the Rice University Humanities Research Center, where she studies eighteenth-century literature and culture, the history and theory of waste, as well as broader issues concerning the role of aesthetics and literary form in mass culture. She completed her PhD in the Department of English Language and Literature at the University of Chicago, and her article "Nature and Classification in Dorothy and William Wordsworth's *Writing*" appears in the most recent issue of *SEL Studies in English Literature*.

## WHAT

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT  
COLLOQUIUM PRESENTATION  
BY APPLICANT FOR THE LONG  
18TH CENTURY POSITION