



CFP Round-Table Topic: **The Rhetoric of Trauma and the Silencing of Discourse**

**DEADLINE: 15 NOVEMBER, 2022**

The panel will explore different points of view on this controversial topic: how can we discuss ideas, arguments and events that we are not supposed to talk about because our words may trigger, or re-traumatize victims. The rhetoric of trauma and victimization can be used to rule out publications of slave narratives, or Holocaust testimony or Truth & Reconciliation Indigenous witnessing of atrocities. Can we find a balance in academic discourse?

The title of Lawrence Hill's award-winning Canadian novel, *The Book of Negroes* had to be changed to, *Someone Knows My Name* on order to be published in the USA, Australia and New Zealand. The book was publicly burned in The Netherlands because of the Canadian title. In this context how do we uphold freedom of speech or academic freedom under the threat of "cancel culture."

This is a jointly organized panel between ACCUTE and the Canadian Comparative Literature Association. Organizers: Jill Planche, Toronto Metropolitan University and Joseph Pivato, Athabasca University.

If you have questions and proposals you can contact Joe Pivato in Edmonton by e-mail [pivato@athabascau.ca](mailto:pivato@athabascau.ca)