David Ciccocciro (Associate Professor in English and Linguistics, University of Otago in Dunedin, New Zealand) will speak on the tangled relationship between mental simulations and digital simulations.

Dr. Ciccocciro’s research focuses on literary and narrative theory, with an emphasis on emergent forms of digital literature as well as digital culture and posthumanism more generally. He is the author of *Reading Network Fiction* (2007), a book on pre-Web and Web-based digital fiction, and *Refiguring Minds in Narrative Media* (2015), which is focused on cognitive approaches to narrative and literary theory in print novels, digital narratives, and story-driven videogames.