



Canadian Studies Update

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The Association for Canadian Studies in the United States

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Message from the President

On a recent visit to San Antonio in preparation for the Fall ACSUS biennial conference, I was made keenly aware of how important the shift of power in the US will be for Canada and Canadian studies. Texans, it seems, are quite aware of Canada, but its importance pales in comparison with America's southern neighbors.

In a recent paper, Henry Wells, Political and Economics Relations Officer at the Canadian Consulate General in Dallas, presents a vivid and compelling assessment of how a shift of power to states such as Texas presents new economic, political, and cultural challenges for Canada and Canadian studies in the US. This is because Canadian ties with these states are different from those with more familiar northern tier and industrialized states along Canada's border.

As Wells points out, "Politicians in the South and the West may be politically predisposed against government involvement in such activities as support for cultural industries, universal medical coverage, or official bilingual policies." And, of course, officials and academics in these states, more

geographically distant from Canada, are likely to be less familiar with Canadian history and political practices.

The same point was made in a special article on the Canada-US relationship published in *Time Canada* last July. The author, Stephen Handleman, pointed out that with population and wealth increasing in the Georgia to California Sunbelt, political interest and American awareness is further shifting to the relationship with Mexico. That President Bush chose to travel to Mexico for his first foreign visit was not a surprise to Canadianists.

“The shift in power to fast growing southern and western states will have a significant impact on ACSUS.”

This shift in power to fast-growing southern and western states will have a significant impact on ACSUS. The vast majority of members of ACSUS come from the part of the US that is most closely geographically, economically, and socially linked to Canada. With new high-profile issues such as North American free trade, culture, immigration, and border security concerns, this may change, but probably not a great deal.

New strategies for attracting Canadianists from states in which the hemispheric focus has traditionally been Latin America need to be developed. An important step in the right direction is the decision to hold ACSUS 2001 in San Antonio, and to include a host of panels and plenaries dealing with crucial issues affecting both Canada and Mexico. But clearly more outreach recruitment efforts will be needed over the longer term.

Donald Alper
President

Notes from the National Office

As I read over initial proofs of this newsletter, I realized that among all the articles and bits of information we gathered, we don't have much on the conference! ACSUS '01 will take place this fall, from Wednesday, November 14 through Sunday, November 18, at the Hyatt Regency Riverwalk Hotel in San Antonio, Texas.

ACSUS is taking advantage of the San Antonio location to give particular attention to NAFTA and to Canada-Mexico relations. In addition to the expected economic and political topics that naturally come out of such a focus, we hope to include cultural, economic, and literary aspects as well.

The program for the ACSUS '01 conference is currently in the initial stage of development: proposals have been submitted and panels are being crafted. We're discussing possible

plenary speakers, breakfast hosts, authors to read, and entertainment and receptions. In the coming weeks, the overall program will begin to take shape.

We're trying something new this year, working with a solid, established Internet company to offer exhibits on-line prior to and following the conference. We'll have our regular exhibitors and publishers, too, who will display books and products on site.

As in past years, I'm sure you'll find the conference will provide for an excellent exchange of information. San Antonio will deliver a warm setting in November (if weather holds true to averages!) and the hotel location right in the heart of the Riverwalk can't be beat. We will again offer a "mentor" program for first-time conference attendees and

... Continued on page 2

New Members

Paul Adams

Texas A&M University

William Baurecht

University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh

Christine Brooks

University of Western Ontario

Stephen Brooks

University of Windsor (ON)

Hans Carlson

University of Maine, Orono

Rhonda Evans Case

University of Texas at Austin

Robert D. Denham

Roanoke College (VA)

Nathalie Dolbec

University of Toronto (ON)

Judith Dunlop

University of Maine, Orono

Andrea Ebaló

Western Washington University

Alkisti Fleischer

Georgetown University (DC)

Susan Fliss

City University of New York

Jonathan Frauley

Queen's University (ON)

Stephanie Golob

City University of New York

Beth Ladow

Independent Scholar (MA)

Kristine D. Lynch

Michigan State University

James Moreira,

University of Maine, Orono

Shirley Musekamp

University of Calgary (AB)

Renée Norrell

Birmingham-Southern College (AL)

H. Lorraine Oak

SUNY Buffalo (NY)

Elvira Orza

Government of Quebec (NY)

Micah A. Pawling

University of Maine

Brian Payne

University of Maine, Orono

Fernand Roy

Université du Québec à Chicoutimi

Gabrielle Slowey

University of Alberta

Linda Trimble

University of Alberta

Dorn Van Dommelen

University of Alaska, Anchorage

Canadian Studies Update

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Canadian Studies Update is a publication of The Association for Canadian Studies in the United States (ACSUS), distributed free to all members of the Association. Material for publication should be submitted to the ACSUS national office at the address listed below.

ACSUS, a multidisciplinary association of scholars, professionals, and institutions, is dedicated to improving understanding of Canada in the United States. Founded in 1971, ACSUS encourages creative and scholarly activity in Canadian studies, facilitates the exchange of ideas among Canadianists in the U.S., Canada, and other countries, enhances the teaching of Canada in the U.S., and promotes Canada as an area of academic inquiry.

Base membership fees are as follows: individual-\$60 one year, \$110 two years; institutional-\$115 one year, \$210 two years; student-\$30 one year, \$50 two years; life \$1000.

For additional information about ACSUS programs and activities, please contact ACSUS, 1317 F Street NW, Suite 920, Washington, DC 20004-1151; Tel: 202-393-2580; Fax: 202-393-2582; e-mail: info@acsus.org; Web: www.acsus.org.

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Senior Advisor: Norman T. London

Notes . . . Continued from page 1

graduate students. We plan to offer two workshops again, similar in scope to the two we held in Pittsburgh on "Getting Published" and "Applying for Grants."

We hope to have the registration brochure out by late spring/early summer. Meantime, we'll post information as we receive it at the ACSUS web site (www.acsus.org).

With this issue of *Update*, we're giving some focus to various campus programs, including an article on Speakers Series which often form the locus of some of our Canadian studies programs. Please let me know if you have developed an interesting program—we'd like to highlight it in a future issue.

For a second year running, the Thomas O. Enders Endowment will host a fellow in Montreal during the 2002-2003 academic year, hosted jointly by the Université de Montréal and McGill University. Beginning with the 2003-2004 academic year, the Fellowship will alternate regularly with the University of

Calgary. Brochures announcing the 2002-2003 Fellowship in Montreal will be mailed this spring.

Bob Thacker has announced that he will not stand for reappointment as Editor of *The American Review of Canadian Studies* following the eighth volume he'll have edited, which will likely fall in early 2002. If you'd like to be considered for the position of Editor of *ARCS*, drop a line to the secretariat. We will mail a formal announcement of the search for a new editor in the coming weeks.

I've enjoyed recent visits by several members of ACSUS who have been in Washington for other business. If your plans bring you to Washington, please do give me a call so that we can get better acquainted. Individual meetings with ACSUS members enable me to learn more about our membership and become more responsive to member needs.

David N. Biette,
Executive Director

News & Notes

Wisconsin and Quebec Agreements Initiate Exchange Programs

Last September, former Wisconsin Governor Tommy Thompson (now Health and Human Services Secretary) and former Quebec Premier Lucien Bouchard signed a series of agreements that opened the door for Wisconsin and Quebec to share information and initiate exchange programs focusing on higher education and workforce development. The agreements created exchanges between the University of Wisconsin and Wisconsin Technical College systems, the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development, and respective institutions in Quebec. The goal of the agreements is to reinforce cooperation already begun by the two governments that ensures economic development, technology transfer, and education and training.

An agreement between the Wisconsin Technical College System and Cégep International will enhance training opportunities for students as it improves teacher skills through exchange visits. A letter of understanding between the University of Wisconsin System and the Conference of Rectors and Principals of Quebec Universities pledged cooperation in establishing a student exchange program.

On-Line Course Now in Sixth Year

Mansfield University's on-line "Introduction to Canada" class is now in its sixth year. The course has undergone five revisions during that time, emphasizing different aspects of Canadian society and culture. Each year, from three to twenty-five Canadian students participate in each class, either on site or from a distance.

A linked e-mail system enables students to maintain a dialogue on directed topics such as the importance of the fur trade in Canadian development, the nature of the Canadian parliamentary system, the differences between US and Canadian cultures and values, and the nature of Canadian literature. Students take quizzes on-line and collectively work on developing web sites in areas such as Canadian politics, history, culture, and economy.

Students receive daily notices of planned activities, reminders of course requirements, and special events. They also participate in a daily Canadian knowledge contest. This year's course has five modules which cover history and geography, politics and society, Canada and the US, literary approaches to Canada, and domestic and foreign policy. Individuals who wish to browse through the course should contact Bob Timko at rtimko@mnsfld.edu to receive a password and set up a guest account. ■

Letter from Bob Timko

This past semester (September 4 - December 12, 2000), I had the opportunity to be a Visiting Professor in the Departments of English Philology, Regional Studies and Social Philosophy and Technologies at Volgograd State University and the Volzhski Humanities Institute in Russia. I taught five courses to about 115 students. In Volzhski I taught a class, "Canadian Language and Regional Identities." In Volgograd I taught "The Comparative Cultures of the US and Canada" and "Canadian Language, Multiculturalism, and Society." I also presented lectures on "Canadian Philosophy: Murray, Watson, Lodge, Taylor, and Grant."

My opening session at Volzhski was somewhat typical of my experiences in teaching: It was a four-hour class with the first ninety minutes consisting of a conversation with about 40-45 students on different pronunciations and different grammar usage in American, Canadian, and British English. I also spoke briefly about the character of the Canadian people. In the second 90-minute talk (at which there were about 85 people), I spoke about the concept of survival (as put forth by Margaret Atwood) and explained how Canadians have felt historically about their American neighbors. We spoke about the War of 1812 from the Canadian perspective and compared that political sense of survival to recent experiences with economic and cultural survival after NAFTA. Many students were surprised that Canadians are uneasy about Americans and many more were surprised that I spoke so candidly about American foreign and economic policies. There were many questions at the end.

Classes with the Russian students were typically exciting. I had given them old copies of the Canadian *Time* Magazine and asked them to read articles and then report on them in class. The questions my students asked were really enlightening. They wanted to know if school and teenage violence existed in Canada at the same levels as in the US. They also asked me to explain to them what might be the reason for school violence, and then admitted there is some violence in Russian schools. They also wanted to know why Quebec has different immigration policies from the rest of Canada and what was Canada's attitude toward NATO. These are all interesting and complicated questions which I think symbolized their eagerness to learn.

My experiences outside the classroom one Saturday morning may have been even more enriching. For example I visited the village of Mikhailovka where I was taken on a walking tour by a group of five teenagers who were very anxious to talk about American and Canadian schools. They barraged me with questions: What courses did students take, were they involved in sports clubs, was their music different from Russian music, what are houses like in both countries, what do families do? We stopped every so often to take photos and eventually went to an ice cream parlor where I was asked to compare Russian ice cream with American and Canadian ice cream. The teenagers even offered to buy me Russian pizza! They told me about their dreams of going to the University and perhaps getting a chance to study in Canada or the US. To experience the enthusiasm of these young students was like being lifted on a cloud. At the end, they confessed that they had cut school that morning so they could come and ask me questions. Yes, Russian children go to school on Saturdays!

I would urge anyone who may feel a need to renew their passion for teaching Canadian Studies to participate in a similar academic and cultural exchange.

Bob Timko
Director, Canadian Studies
Mansfield University

Recent Releases

APSA Canadian Politics Syllabus

The American Political Science Association (APSA) has a new syllabi collection on Canadian politics. Edited by Gregory Mahler, former president of ACSUS, the collection features contributions from faculty from community colleges to research universities. The collection includes high-quality syllabi on topics including an introduction to Canadian politics, *Le Fédéralisme canadien*, Aboriginal peoples and the Canadian State, the Canadian health care system, Canadian political institutions in comparative perspective, and more. The collection also includes four appendices with information on Canadian studies associations, programs, grants, and web sources. Visit www.apsanet.org/pubs/ for more information about the syllabi collections.

Judicial Power and the Charter

Christopher Manfredi of McGill University recently published an updated edition of *Judicial Power and the Charter: Canada and the Paradox of Liberal Constitutionalism*, which surveys the changing relationship between Canada's legal and political structures in the aftermath of Canada's Charter of Rights and Freedoms in 1982. *Judicial Power and the Charter* focuses on the use of judicial power to review and to nullify or modify policies enacted by democratically-accountable decision makers. In his new edition, Manfredi brings the content up to date as he incorporates all major cases decided by the Supreme Court since the original publication and covers debates that have emerged among political scientists. To place an order, call Oxford University Press at 800-387-8020; or visit www.oupcan.com.

Cultural History of Germans in Alberta

An annotated bibliography of the cultural History of Germans in Alberta can be found at www.ualberta.ca/~german/altahistory/title.htm. The site contains some 6,100 annotated entries from German- and English-language newspapers from 1882 to the present, as well as books, scholarly journals, photos, and archive holdings about German-speaking groups in Alberta, including Hutterites, Mennonites, Moravians, Swiss, and Austrians. The three-part site includes a searchable bibliography containing approximately 6,500 entries, a hierarchically organized list of the keywords used to index the bibliography, and a map of Alberta and a list of the place names occurring in the bibliography. Access to the website is free.

Essays on Canadian Cinema

Cinéma/Canada, Collection "Le Spectaculaire," edited by Marta Dvorak, is a collection of essays which offers a survey of Canadian cinema. The book contains articles by French and Canadian directors, critics, and academics, which examine the innovations of film makers from Claude Jutra and Gilles Carle, to the new generation of directors such as David Cronenberg, Atom Egoyan, and Patricia Rozema. The book also contains the original text of a round-table discussion with directors and other professional members of the film industry. The collection can be ordered from Presses Universitaires de Rennes, UHB Rennes 2- Campus La Harpe, 2 rue du Doyen Denis-Leroy, 35044 Rennes Cedex, France.

Nunavut

The International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs' most recent book, *Nunavut—Inuit Regain Control of Their Lands and Their Lives*, edited by Jens Dahl, Jack Hicks, and Peter Jull, includes an overview of Nunavut and its lessons to the global community, and the importance of self determination, writing systems, the broadcasting system, and bowhead whale hunting. For more information, visit www.iwgia.org.

Canadian and American Women Writers

Rodopi Press has published a new book from Heidi Slettedahl Macpherson on Canadian and American women writers, *Women's Movement: Escape as Transgression in North American Feminist Fiction*. The book explores the transgressive potential of feminist escape narratives and how they reflect the changing face of feminism. For more information, visit www.rodopi.nl.

Canada Observed

Canada Observed: Perspectives from Abroad and from Within, edited by Jürgen Kleist and Shawn Huffman, is a collection of fifteen essays written by Canadianists from different disciplines who assess current issues in the fields of history, politics, literature, immigrant identities, and the environment. For more information, visit www.peterlang.com.

Essays in Honor of Jeanne Kissner

Women Writing in Quebec: Essays in Honor of Jeanne Kissner is now available from the Center for the Study of Canada at Plattsburgh State University. For more information, call 518-564-2086.

Quebec Narrative Fiction

Susan Rosenstreich recently edited *Encounters with Quebec: Emerging Perspectives on Québécois Narrative Fictions* which was published by the Institute of Global Cultural Studies at Binghamton University. To order, write Global Publications, Binghamton University, State University of New York, Binghamton, NY 13902-6000.

Sustaining the Forests of the Pacific Coast

ACSUS president Donald Alper recently edited, along with Debra Salazar, *Sustaining the Forests of the Pacific Coast: Forging Truces in the War in the Woods*. This collection examines forest policy in the context of a bi-national region, exploring how two political systems, facing similar cultural and economic challenges, have treated their forests. The collection also brings consideration of environmental justice to forest policy discourse by highlighting perspectives of people—Natives, private non-industrial forest owners, citizen activists, and workers in the emerging non-timber forest economy—whose voices are often unheard in forest policy debate. To order the book, call 800-663-5714.

BC Forest Policy

ACSUS member Ben Cashore is one of the authors of the recently-released book, *In Search of Sustainability: British Columbia Forest Policy in the 1990s*. Cashore, along with co-authors George Hoberg, Michael Howlett, Jeremy Rayner, and Jeremy Wilson, highlights the efforts of British Columbia's NDP government to launch new forest policy initiatives in the 1990s. The authors examine seven components of BC forest policy: land use, forest practices, tenure, Aboriginal issues, timber supply, pricing, and jobs. The authors conclude that while environmental values have acquired a more central place in BC forest policy, they have not displaced timber production as the dominant force in policy making. The book is available from the University of British Columbia Press. Call 1-U PRESS WEST; or e-mail: custserv@raincoast.com.

Canada: A Reader's Guide

The International Council for Canadian Studies has just published the second edition of *Canada: A Reader's Guide*, compiled by

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ACSUS News and Membership Updates

David Rovinsky

After completing a year as Visiting Assistant Professor in the Department of Political Science at Siena College (Albany, New York), David Rovinsky accepted an appointment to the United States Foreign Service, and joined the State Department in December 1999. After spending a year at the National Foreign Affairs Training Center in Arlington, Virginia, he was posted to the American Consulate General in São Paulo, Brazil, where he will spend the next two years doing both consular and economic work. He may be reached at RovinskyDJ@state.gov.

Lori Saint-Martin

Congratulations to Lori Saint-Martin who, with her husband Paul Gagné, recently won the Governor General's Award for *Un Parfum de cèdre*, their translation of *Fall on Your Knees* by Ann-Marie MacDonald. The Governor General's Awards, Canada's highest national prizes for literature, are presented to authors of works in both English and French in each of seven categories: fiction, nonfiction, poetry, drama, children's literature (text and illustration), and translation.

Delson-Karan Wins National Honor

Myrna Delson-Karan was the recipient of the Nelson Brooks Award for Excellence in the Teaching of Culture, a national award presented by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) during a ceremony held at its national meeting this past November in Boston.

She was honored for her work in assuring the inclusion of Québec culture in French programs, textbooks, and publications throughout the United States. The many workshops, panels, papers, writings and materials she presented at conferences became part of the cultural and pedagogic background of teachers and professors who now teach Québec culture in great numbers. She also organized special festivals to focus attention on contemporary Québec authors and filmmakers.

Prof. Jean-Pierre Berwald of the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, who presented the award, said, "Her knowledge of the history, culture, and public life of Québec has been termed, 'encyclopedic'."

In accepting the award, Delson-Karan stated, "Québec culture is a treasure trove. It has been a joy to bring the discovery of the richness of this North American cultural

heritage to the students and teachers of the profession." Delson-Karan served as Education Attaché for the Government of Québec for ten years. She is now a professor of French at Fordham University.

Mary Jean Green Awarded the Prix du Québec, Publishes Book on Female Québécois Writers

At the biennial conference of the American Council for Quebec Studies (ACQS) last October, Quebec's Minister of International Relations, Louise Beaudoin, presented a \$5,000 award to Mary Jean Green, Edward Tuck Professor of French at Dartmouth College. This grant accompanies the Prix du Québec, awarded biennially by ACQS to honor a member who has contributed to greater understanding of Quebec in the United States.

Green has further enhanced understanding of Quebec through her recent book, *Women and Narrative Identity: Rewriting the Québec National Text*, which has been published by McGill-Queen's University Press. In *Women and Narrative Identity*, Green, using the tools of contemporary feminist criticism and building on a tradition of work on Quebec women's writing, considers issues of national and cultural self definition as she situates the literary texts of Quebec women within a political and historical context, while also relating them to the work of women writing in other cultural situations. Green demonstrates that the "national text" has at times functioned to constrain women's literary expression, while at other times it has empowered the feminine voice.

David Merrifield

Western Washington University (WWU) professor of economics David Merrifield died this past January at the age of 52. A long-time member of ACSUS, Merrifield served as director of Western's Center for Economic and Business Research since 1985, where his major work involved teaching and research focusing on the impact of Canadian and other economies on the Pacific Northwest. He was known to the business community and the media throughout the area for his economic analyses and forecasts, and was particularly sought out for his expertise on the impact of the Canadian economy on border states. Merrifield was the founding editor of the *Northwest Journal of Business and Economics* which served Washington, Oregon, Idaho,

Montana, Alaska, British Columbia, and Alberta. In 1990, Merrifield received WWU's highest recognition for faculty, the Excellence in Teaching Award.

Merrifield came to Western from Wichita State University, where he had taught for six years, in the fall of 1983. He earned a master's degree and doctorate in economics from the Claremont Graduate School in Claremont, California, and his bachelor's degree from Willamette University in Salem, Oregon. Merrifield is survived by his wife, Denise, daughter Sandra, and son Michael. Memorials may be made in support of the Merrifield children's education to the Merrifield Memorial Account at Whatcom Educational Credit Union, 600 E. Holly St., Bellingham, WA 98225; or to the American Cancer Society. ■

Remember to Vote!

Nominations for the Executive Council and for officers of ACSUS will be announced in a special edition of *Update* later this spring. Information on the election and the candidates will be posted at the ACSUS web site at www.acsus.org. Ballots will be mailed in June to be returned in early fall. Please be sure to read up on the candidates and to vote (lesson learned from the US elections in November 2000: every vote counts!).

Recent Releases

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J. André Senécal. This 628-page volume identifies and evaluates a wide range of titles suitable for Canadianists outside Canada. While the majority of items are books, the reader will find a choice of periodicals and newspapers, an extended list of CD-ROM and on-line services, as well as references to other supports such as microfiche editions. The text's objective is to remain the one-stop source of information for the worldwide Canadianist. Targeted users include librarians developing and revising collections, staff on inquiry desks, researchers in the preliminary stages of a project, and non-initiates such as faculty working outside their discipline, and students. A CD-ROM version of the volume will be available soon.

Canada: A Reader's Guide is available for c\$40 through the ICCS, 75 Albert Street S-908, Ottawa, ON K1P 5E7. ■

Grants and Awards

Quebec Studies Program

In order to increase knowledge of Quebec in the United States, the Ministère des Relations internationales du Québec has established a financial assistance program for Quebec studies for the benefit of professors and researchers at American institutions of higher education.

The Quebec Studies Program's four components are as follows:

- **Grants to Professors/Researchers.** This component encourages research on all aspects of contemporary Quebec society that will lead to a better understanding of Quebec. Focusing on economics, business, trade, political science, other social sciences, energy, the environment, health, history, literature or culture, with a unique relevance to Quebec or to Quebec-Canada/US relations, the grant assists scholars at American universities in the writing of a publishable article-length manuscript or a book, the creation of a new course on Quebec or the addition of a new unit on Quebec to an already established course. Grant award range: us\$2,500 to us\$5,000 for projects carried out in Quebec.
- **Library Matching Grants.** The Government of Quebec has made matching funds available for eligible libraries and educational institutions to purchase Quebec books, periodicals, and audiovisual materials. The aim of the program is to assist American institutions in acquiring documentation that will help acquaint faculty members and students with Quebec. Special attention will be given to aiding Quebec studies programs in the United States. Grant award range: up to us\$1,000.
- **Grants to Study Centers.** This component is designed to enable university study centers interested in Quebec to obtain a grant to help develop or strengthen their academic activities involving Quebec (teaching, research, student study sessions in Quebec, etc.). Grant award range: up to us\$5,000.
- **Speakers and Writers.** This component is designed to give university centers or institutions access to Quebec speakers and writers. The lectures may focus on various subjects (economics, society, technology, the political situation, literature, etc.). Lecture tours will be encouraged as much as possible. Grant award range: financial assistance to cover part or all of the cost of

transportation, accommodation/living expenses and speakers' fees; priority will be given to jointly funded projects.

For complete descriptions of the components of the Quebec Studies Program and information about application procedures, please consult www.quebecusa.org or www.mri.gouv.qc.ca/dans_le_monde/etats_unis/studies/index.html.

Fulbright Distinguished Chairs Program

The following Fulbright awards carry enhanced benefits and are viewed as among the most prestigious appointments in the Fulbright Program. Lecturing is usually in English. There are three positions open in Canada:

- **Fulbright-University of Calgary Chair in North American Studies.** Grantee will teach graduate and undergraduate courses. Particular interest in areas of anthropology, archaeology, economics, linguistics, geography, history, political science, and sociology with other social science areas considered. Four-and-a-half months, starting September 2002 or January 2003. Benefits: approximately us\$15,000 and c\$20,000 Canadian (contingent upon funding). For more information, visit www.ucalgary.ca.
- **Fulbright—University of New Brunswick Chair in Property Systems.** Grantee will teach graduate and undergraduate courses in property systems as approached from one of the following disciplines: law, economics, public administration, business, geography, environmental studies, or agriculture. University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, NB. One academic term beginning September 2002 or January 2003. Benefits: approximately c\$25,000 (contingent upon funding). For more information, visit www.unb.ca/centres/property.
- **Fulbright-York University Chair.** Lecture at graduate and undergraduate levels in any field that fits the programs at York University. Academic and scholarly prominence required. York University, Toronto. Scholars are encouraged to include a letter of invitation from a host department at York University. Four-and-a-half months, starting September 2002 or January 2003. Benefits: c\$20,000 (contingent upon funding). For more information, visit www.yorku.ca.

All candidates must be US citizens and have a prominent record of scholarly accomplishment. Application deadline is May 1, 2001. Consult the Council for International Exchange of Scholars web site at www.cies.org for information about application procedures and current updates. To apply, send a letter of interest and c.v. to Dr. Karen Adams, Fulbright Distinguished Chair Program, Council for International Exchange of Scholars, 3007 Tilden St. NW Suite 5-L, Washington, DC 20008-3009. Adams can also be reached at 202-868-6245 or kadams@cies.iie.org.

Internship Opportunities at the Canadian Embassy

The Canadian Embassy in Washington provides internship opportunities for approximately one dozen students each semester. Many participants have benefited from the firsthand experience they gained while working on substantive projects at the Embassy and many former interns have gone on to careers in Canada-US relations.

The program provides students with an opportunity for involvement in governmental affairs as it nurtures a general understanding of the Canada-US bilateral relationship. Internship positions are available within the public affairs, trade, environment, energy, and congressional and legal affairs sections. Applicants are screened to match their particular academic and/or area interest. All interns are retained on a non-remunerative basis and usually work 4-1/2 days per week. The program is open to Canadian and American students at colleges and universities in Canada and the US.

For more information on the Embassy's internship program, see www.canadianembassy.org/embassy/internships.html; or contact Dan Abele, Academic Relations Officer at the Canadian Embassy, tel: 202-682-7717, or e-mail: daniel.abele@dfait-maeci.gc.ca. (Several Canadian Consulates in the US also offer internship opportunities. Contact the Consulate in your area for more details.)

Graduate Programs in Canadian Studies and North American French

The Canadian-American Center at the University of Maine at Orono is sponsoring a number of awards and fellowships. Among them are: Academic Year Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Awards which are open on a competitive basis to graduate students with research interest in Canada;

... *Continued on page 11*

Calls For Papers

Past Matters: History and Canadian Fiction

Engaging the past has been a consistent and profound concern in Canadian fiction over the last two centuries and particularly during the last three decades. To explore this concern, *Studies in Canadian Literature/Études en littérature canadienne* at the University of New Brunswick invites submissions for a special issue on history in anglophone and francophone Canadian fiction. Articles may be broadly theoretical and/or may focus on particular writers or texts, and submissions on any periods or histories are welcome.

Possible topics include theorizing the relationship between history and fiction, the role of nation in historical fiction; the influence of postmodernism on historiography and historical fiction; the relationship between private and public histories; the gendering of history, women's history, and feminist historiography; rewriting the past: revisionism in historical fiction; postcolonial issues/themes/strategies; the significance of race, ethnicity, culture in the writing of historical fiction; comparisons between treatments of history by English-Canadian and Québécois writers; history and sense of place; and First Nations history and historical fiction.

Manuscripts (no longer than 7,000 words) in either English or French should arrive by December 1, 2001. The issue will be co-edited by Herb Wylie and Jennifer Andrews, and will be published in 2002. Please send two copies of manuscripts to: *Studies in Canadian Literature/Études en littérature canadienne*, University of New Brunswick, PO Box 4400, Fredericton, NB E3B 5A3.

International Seminar on Canadian Studies

The Centre for Canadian Studies at Union Christian College in Kerala, India, publishes the multi-disciplinary *Journal of Indo-Canadian Studies (IJCS)* which reaches 650 university and college libraries in India and abroad. *IJCS* aims to ensure the availability of information on Canadian books, publishers, and authors to readers and researchers. *IJCS* is seeking academic assistance from established scholars to organize and coordinate many of its programs such as its International Seminar on Canadian Studies. Please forward articles (3000-4500 words, MLA guidelines) via e-mail to editor.jics@usa.net, or by post to Professor Jacob George, Director, Centre for Canadian Studies, Union Christian College, Always 683 102, Kerala, India.

Culture in a Globalized World

The Paideia Retreat 2001 will be held August 4-9 at the Quetico Centre in Northwestern Ontario. The wilderness retreat is accepting about 40 participants to present papers on "Culture in a Globalized World" and is seeking Canadian perspectives on that theme. There will be a keynote address and discussion groups centering around questions provided by participants. A volume of essays is planned for after the Retreat. Last year's retreat on "Globalization, Technology and Philosophy" attracted a diverse group of academics from across Canada and the United States. To apply, please send an abstract of a paper relevant to the theme to dtabachn@chat.carleton.ca. Graduate students are encouraged to apply. For general information and a list of costs, please visit www.paideia-retreat.com.

Crossing Borders/Border Crossings

Within the Canadian political and cultural imagination, the idea and realities of borders (national and international) have become layered with meaning to include a political and cultural reality, an ideological pressure, and an imaginative trope. "Bordering" is a resonant concept in a nation like Canada, which often imagines itself as vulnerable to the anxieties and anticipations attached to the particularities of crossing, liminality, and transgression.

In preparation for "Two Days of Canada," to be held November 7-8 at Brock University, the University is seeking papers on borders of all kinds through topics that might include but are in no way limited to explorations of: the anxieties and presumptions of the liminal and/or of the verge; borders as distinct from boundaries and bound-ness; borders and destination myths; "border" as verb; borderlands and culture; borders as ornamental and/or iconographic; and the borders of the future and/or of the past.

Please send three copies of 250-300 word proposals, accompanied by a 50-word bibliographical sketch and a 100-word maximum abstract by July 1 to: Klay Dyer, Department of English Language and Literature, Brock University, 500 Glenridge Avenue, St. Catharines, ON L2S 3A1; e-mail: kdyer@spartan.ac.brocku.ca; or fax: 905-934-3301.

IJCS: Post Canada

Postmodernism, postnationalism, postcolonialism, postfeminism—how meaningful is the "post" in relation to Canadian identity, to discourses of nationhood, to social and foreign

policy, to culture, and to history in the Canadian context? Does the "post" point in the direction of breakup or of redefinition for Canada? The *International Journal of Canadian Studies* invites submission for this thematic issue (Spring 2002) from the areas of social and political thought, international relations, history, cultural studies, literature, architecture, and the visual arts. Please forward paper and abstract (100 words) before June 15, 2001 to the *IJCS* at 75 Albert, S-908, Ottawa, ON K1P 5E7; tel: 613-789-7834; or e-mail: gleclair@iccs-ciec.ca.

IJCS: Call for Open-Topic Articles

In order to heighten the general interest of each issue and facilitate participation in the journal by the international community of Canadianists, the editorial board of the *International Journal of Canadian Studies* has decided to broaden the format of the journal. While each issue of the *IJCS* will still include a set of articles addressing a given theme, it will also include off-topic articles. Therefore, the editorial board welcomes manuscripts on any topic in the study of Canada. All submissions will undergo peer review. Please forward paper and abstract (100 words) to the *IJCS* at 75 Albert, S-908, Ottawa, ON K1P 5E7; tel: 613-789-7834; or e-mail: gleclair@iccs-ciec.ca.

Postcolonialism and Pedagogy: Canadian Literature in the Classroom

Current theoretical debates have had an enormous impact on the ways Canadian literature is being discussed and taught. A conference to be held in May 2002 at the University of Ottawa will consider how discussions of postcolonialisms have influenced approaches to teaching Canadian literature. Paper proposals are welcome on any issue related to the teaching of Canadian literature—from a focus on specific texts, to audio-visual or interactive presentations, to discussion forums or workshops. Questions that might be considered include: How do issues of nationalism and the role of education intersect? What role do Canadian literature anthologies and textbooks play in pedagogical practice? Papers may be of a theoretical or practical nature, focused on individual texts, or on a wider-ranging issues and concerns. Deadline for proposals is September 10. Please send 250-500 word proposals (in triplicate) to Professor Cynthia Sugars, Department of English, University of Ottawa, 70 Laurier Ave. E., Ottawa, ON K1N 6N5; fax: 613-562-5990; or e-mail: csugars@uottawa.ca. ■

Upcoming Conferences and Events

May 2001

May 4-5

The New England Political Science Association's annual conference, one of the most prestigious regional political science conferences in the United States, includes a thriving Canadian politics section. It regularly attracts prominent Canadianists from throughout North America, as well as the New England region. This year's conference, to be held May 4 and 5 in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, will include paper panels on Canadian politics, as well as a roundtable session on the legacy of Pierre Trudeau. For more information, contact Dr. James T. McHugh, NEPSA—Canadian Politics Section, School of Policy Studies, Roosevelt University, 430 South Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60605-1394; tel: 312-341-3745.

May 4-5

The Canadian Science Fiction and Fantasy Symposium will be held at the University of Ottawa. Over a dozen lecturers will address such topics as "Kebec as Utopia in the Work of Denys Chabot" and "Ritual Single Combat in the Works of Guy Gavriel Kay." For more information, contact the Canadian Science Fiction and Fantasy Symposium, Department of English, University of Ottawa, ON K1N 6N5; tel: 613-562-5800 x 1182; or e-mail: english@uottawa.ca.

May 9

The dinner lecture "Canadian Film and Filmmakers" will be presented at 5:30 by Darryl Macdonald, director, Seattle International Film Festival, at the Walker-Ames Room at Kane Hall on the University of Washington campus. Registration one week in advance is required. For more information, contact the Center for West European Studies at 206-543-1675; or e-mail: cwes@u.washington.edu.

May 14-June 16

"Inuit Art: Prints, Carvings, and Tapestries" is a two-part exhibition focusing on one of Canada's most important native art traditions. The exhibition, held at the Western Gallery at Western Washington University in Bellingham, features the work of Jesse Oonark, an artist from Baker Lake, Nunavut, whose drawings and textile art were translated into the print medium. These prints are placed in context with an important private collection containing prints, tapestries, and carvings by other Inuit artists. For more information, visit www.ac.wvu.edu/~canam.

June 2001

June 1-2

"Globalization and the Information Technology Revolution: Their Impact on North America's Federal Systems," will be held June 1-2 in Provo, Utah. The conference will explore how growing globalization and regionalism, combined with unprecedented technological change, are affecting governance in the federal systems of Canada, Mexico, and the United States, as well as relations among those three nations. Noted authorities from the three countries will make presentations. The first day of the conference will be held at Brigham Young University's International Studies Center and the second at the Sundance Ski Resort. For further information, please contact Earl Fry, BYU's Director of Canadian Studies, at 801-378-2453; or e-mail: earl_fry@byu.edu.

August 2001

August 24-27

The Atlantic Canada Workshop "Imagining a Region: Constructing and De-constructing Atlantic Canada," held at St. Francis Xavier University in Antigonish, Nova Scotia, brings together researchers from many fields whose work focuses on Atlantic Canada. For more information, e-mail Jim Bickerton at jbickert@stfx.ca; Nancy Forestell at nforeste@stfx.ca; or Marilyn Gerriets at mgerriet@stfx.ca.

August 9-23

Hike from Alaska to the Yukon on the Chilkoot Trail with the Canadian Studies Program at the University of Alaska Anchorage. The course is open to any student, American or Canadian, enrolled in an American or Canadian university who wants to explore the history of the Gold Rush and its importance to American and Canadian cultures. Students must be in reasonably good physical condition and have some hiking and camping experience. Students will earn one semester credit in Canadian studies from the University of Alaska. Applications should include a phone number, address, e-mail, and a letter explaining interest in taking the course as well as educational background and hiking and camping experience. To apply or for more information, contact Professor Dorn Van Dommelen, Director of Canadian Studies, University of Alaska Anchorage, 3211 Providence Dr., Anchorage, AK 99508; e-mail: afdvd@uaa.alaska.edu; or visit www.uaa.alaska.edu/summer/chilkoot.html.

September 2001

September 20-23

The Canadian Studies Committee and The Canadian Literature Committee at St. John's College, The University of Manitoba, present "The Canadian Prairies: Visited and Revisited." This multidisciplinary conference, sequel to one held in 1998, will bring together scholars from around the world to discuss the importance and meaning of the Canadian Prairies and bring into play wide-ranging views of the prairie based on literature, history, geography, economics, political studies, sciences, art, architecture, religious studies, philosophy, and sociology. For more information, contact Dennis Cooley, St. John's College, University of Manitoba, 92 Dysart Rd., Winnipeg, MB R3T 2M5; tel: 204-474-8100; or e-mail: dcooley@cc.umanitoba.ca.

October 2001

October 11-13

The annual convention of the Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association (RMMLA) will be held in Vancouver, BC, from October 11-13, 2001. The keynote speaker will be Linda Hutcheon of the University of Toronto. For more information, contact Joan Grenier-Winther, Executive Director, Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association, Washington State University, PO Box 642610, Pullman, WA 99164-2610; tel: 509-335-4829; fax: 509-335-3708; or e-mail grenierj@wsu.edu.

October 19-21

Building upon the successful 1999 McGill Institute for the Study of Canada history conference, the Association for Canadian Studies and its partners will host a second national conference on the teaching and learning of the history of Canada in the 21st century. Entitled "Giving the Future a Past: Teaching, Learning and Communicating the History of Canada—Challenges and Solutions," the conference will look at the ways in which history is most effectively taught to youth, as well as the relevance of history to daily lives. The conference, to be held October 19-21 in Winnipeg, Manitoba, will explore the teaching and learning of Canadian history from conventional approaches to innovative methods. The conference will include an exhibition by various organizations featuring displays from museums, television, film, multimedia,

... Continued on page 9

governments, and education. The exposition will showcase the new and innovative methods, resources, and techniques being used to ensure that the future has a past. The organizing committee welcomes and encourages submissions of papers as well as proposals for plenary sessions, workshops, and multi-media demonstrations. Please contact: The Association for Canadian Studies, a/s Université du Québec à Montréal V-5140, PO Box 8888, Downtown Station, Montréal, QC H3C 3P8; tel: 514-987-7784; fax: 514-987-3481; or e-mail general@acs-aec.ca.

October 25-28

Dorothy Livesay's poem, "We Are Alone," was the inspiration for this conference, "'Wider boundaries of daring': The Modernist Impulse in Canadian Women's Poetry," to be held at the University of Windsor in Windsor, Ontario, and co-hosted by Di Brandt and Barbara Godard. The conference seeks to explore the "wider boundaries of daring" envisioned by Modernist Canadian women poets as it focuses on the

contributions of Dorothy Livesay, P.K. Page, Miriam Waddington, Margaret Avison, Jay MacPherson, Elizabeth Smart, Phyllis Webb, as well as lesser known poets, to Canadian literature and society. The conference will be augmented by a festival of readings by several generations of women poets which will include performance and dialogue. For more information, contact Barbara Godard, 350 Stong, York University, 4700 Keele St., North York, ON M3J 1P3; fax: 416-736-5412; or e-mail Barbara Godard at bgodard@yorku.ca or Di Brandt at dbrandt@uwindsor.ca.

November

November 22-24

The Saskatchewan Institute of Public Policy at the University of Regina, in conjunction with the Association for Canadian Studies, Canada West Foundation, Canadian Plains Research Centre, Centre for Research and Information on Canada, and the Centre for Canadian Studies at Mount Allison, is hosting a

multidisciplinary conference in Regina entitled "The Social Value of Rural Canada: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives." The conference will bring together academics, policy makers, and rural and urban groups to examine the challenges and opportunities facing rural Canada. Political issues involving rural areas will be examined, as will stewardship of natural areas and the environment, rural areas as locations of industry and sources of community, demographic trends, the role of Aboriginal peoples in rural Canada, the relationship between rural and urban Canada, and international, interprovincial, and interregional comparisons. For more information, contact Rural Futures Conference, Saskatchewan Institute of Public Policy, University of Regina, Regina, SK S4S 0A2; or contact Dr. Raymond Blake, Director, Saskatchewan Institute of Public Policy, University of Regina, Gallery Building, College & Cornwall Street, Regina, SK S4S 0A2; tel: 306-585-5767, -5777; fax: 306-585-5780; or e-mail: sipp@uregina.ca. ■

SUMMER WORKSHOPS

Study Canada Summer Institute

The 23rd annual Study Canada Summer Institute, to be held June 24-29 at Canada House at Western Washington University in Bellingham, Washington, is designed for K-12 teachers, and librarians/media specialists in order to help them enhance the teaching of Canada in the school curriculum. The institute, directed by Dr. Donald Alper and Dr. Robert Monahan, will feature specialists on Canadian studies and a field trip to Vancouver. Participants will be acquainted with a variety of curriculum materials. Topics will include Canadian history, geography, government, environmental issues, culture, NAFTA, and more. The Institute is limited to 20 people. For more information, contact Dr. Donald Alper, Center for Canadian-American Studies, Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA 98225-9110; tel: 360-650-3728; or e-mail: alper@cc.wwu.edu.

Summer Explorations in Canadian Culture

From June 29 through July 13, Summer Explorations in Canadian Culture (SECC), held at Trent University in Peterborough, Ontario, is offering three programs of immersion in Canadian cultures and society. The programs will introduce participants to a variety of issues, themes, discussion topics, and experiences. The programs are available to educators, researchers, scholars, and students seeking to enhance their understanding of Canada. A choice of five-, seven-, or fourteen-day programs will explore such issues as national identity, aboriginal rights and self-government, community development, social welfare, and more. Class time is balanced with field experience. A certification of participation is awarded to those who successfully complete a SECC program or, by arrangement, SECC can offer university credit. The all-inclusive package includes meals, accommodation, and ground transportation as well as participation in local cultural activities such as theater, films, dance, workshops, and concerts. Applications are available by mail and on the SECC web page. For more information, contact: Summer Explorations in Canadian Cultures, Canadian Studies Program, Trent University, Peterborough, ON K9J 7B8; tel: 705-748-1817; or visit www.trentu.ca/secc.

Atelier de Français: A Workshop in French Language Acquisition, Technology, and Québec Theater

The workshop will be held August 5-10 at Canada House on the Western Washington University campus. Directed by Dr. Robert Balas and Dr. Anne George, the workshop provides high school and community college French language teachers with practical experience in the use of technology (software, computers, DV camcorders, language labs) for the teaching of French language and culture. Teachers receive a variety of workshop materials, including two CD-ROMS on Quebec theater. The workshop is limited to 20 participants. For more information, contact Dr. Donald Alper or Marty Hitchcock, Center for Canadian-American Studies, Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA 98225-9110; tel: 360-650-3728; or e-mail: alper@cc.wwu.edu. ■

Speaker Series Spotlight

Bowling Green State University

Speakers series can be an important component of Canadian studies programs. One of the nation's more elaborate speakers series is the **Reddin Symposium** held at Bowling Green State University in Bowling Green, Ohio. Mark Kasoff, Director of Bowling Green's Canadian Studies Center, notes that the Reddin Symposium, which is always held late January, is in its 14th year, and that "its mission is to help people in this area have a better understanding about some of the differences between Canada and the US."

Each year the Center chooses a topic that it thinks will help attendees gain new insight into Canada. This year's topic was "Public Education in Canada" and featured three speakers, Dr. Ratna Ghosh, the dean of the faculty of education at McGill University; Dave Cooke, the co-chair of the education improvement commission of Ontario and the former minister of education from that province; and Darrel Skidmore, former superintendent of greater Toronto public schools.

Attendance at the symposium has generally attracted around 100 people and is open to the public. The symposium is promoted "carefully and aggressively," says Kasoff. Former attendees are mailed notices, but this year, in light of the theme, flyers were mailed to targeted people in school districts throughout the state and in the Detroit area. As Kasoff notes, "The Canadian education system provides a nearby point of comparison for education reform proposals in Ohio and the United States. School funding arrangements, academic standards, safety, teacher training, vouchers, and many other issues are key aspects of the current debate. To gain a better sense of the strong and weak points of the US system it is useful to compare it to those of our international peers, and the Canadian case is particularly valuable in this regard. In many ways Canada already is what the United States will increasingly become: more ethnically diverse, with politically influential populations whose primary language is not English, and a nation dependent on foreign trade."

Evaluations invariably reveal positive feedback from the audience, as well as solicit suggestions for future topics. "The primary purpose of this event," says Kasoff, "is to educate those who come, and those who read the proceedings later, about Canada in ways that they didn't know about before."

The Reddin Symposium has been able to gain good press coverage. Last year's topic was urban development in Canada and the US

which attracted many people from local municipalities, including the mayor of Toledo. As a result, last year's symposium was covered in the local newspaper, *The Sentinel Tribune*, and made the front page of the Sunday edition of *The Toledo Blade*. Eventually, the symposium was picked up by the Associated Press wire service and covered by the major Detroit paper.

This year, the *Tribune* publicized the symposium in advance of the event. "I think this event has sort of gained a reputation of its own as being something that's worthwhile," says Kasoff, who has been involved with the symposium for ten years. "I think the event has demonstrated the very strong interest there is in the United States about Canada. And in the process I think it has helped many Americans gain fresh new insight into how we can begin to solve our own problems. That's not to say that everything that occurs in Canada is better than in the US, but that Canadians do things somewhat differently with regards to organizing their municipalities, for example, and to funding public education."

What makes the Reddin Symposium so successful? Kasoff responds, "I think what will make this one successful is that each one has a very clear focus, a very clear topic. Second of all, you have to get the right mix of speakers to reflect the appropriate points of view. And third, you have to be careful to try not to do too much in terms of jamming things up. This is a five-hour symposium and we only have three speakers. This way it enables time for a lot more dialogue with the audience than would otherwise be the case. In addition to that, we ask the speakers to be very serious in their presentations but not overly academic."

The Reddin Symposium gets its name from a prominent local family who spent summer vacations in Ontario and would always return feeling appalled at the general ignorance of Canada found in Americans. They had friends at the University and helped financially support this annual event to overcome that lack of understanding.

Bridgewater State College

This April marked the fourth annual **Distinguished Canadian Annual Address**, a speaker's program held at Bridgewater State College in Bridgewater, Massachusetts. Tony Cicerone, coordinator of Canadian studies, notes that prominent Canadians are identified and then invited to the Bridgewater campus. Unlike the thematic approach of Bowling Green, Bridgewater's speakers program

highlights individual Canadians and their personal achievements.

Previous speaker series have been well attended, notes Cicerone, with roughly 150 attendees, mostly drawn from faculty and students. The speaker series is publicized in local newspapers and through other organizations such as the New England-Canada Business Council which brings in some people from the general public.

Bridgewater's first speaker was Beverley McLachlin who has since become the chief justice of the Supreme Court of Canada. McLachlin has agreed to return this spring to give a graduation speech. The second year's speaker was Jill Sinclair, Canadian Ambassador for Mine Action, and last year's speaker was Jean Charest, Quebec Liberal Party and Leader of the Opposition. This year's speaker is Tim O'Neill, chief economist for the Bank of Montreal.

Bridgewater plans on hosting these speakers into the foreseeable future, notes Cicerone. "The College has been very generous in supporting us. As a matter of fact they put a line item budget in the Canadian studies budget specifically for this." Cicerone also hopes to gain outside support to raise the profile of the program further. "The most important thing we try to accomplish," says Cicerone, "is to just get people thinking about Canada and Canadians while highlighting our Canadian studies program."

Western Washington University

The Center for Canadian-American Studies at Western Washington University (WWU) in Bellingham, Washington, doesn't have a formalized speaker series but, in affiliation with the University's visiting professorship in Canadian culture, it has hosted speakers who talk to students or the community or both. For example, notes Don Alper, director of the Canadian-American studies program, this April three writers from Alberta, Aritha van Herk, Peter Oliva, and Nicole Markotic, will be speaking under that kind of sponsorship.

Speakers have either met on WWU's campus or at the Whatcom Museum of History and Art in downtown Bellingham. Anywhere between 50 to 150 people have attended these speeches. Off-campus events, admits Alper, are more likely to attract the general public.

"That's one of the reasons we do it," he notes. "It's a way of linking a campus event with the community and getting the people from downtown involved in a university event." The

... *Continued on page 12*

Focus on Canadian Studies—Western New York

Golden Horseshoe Educational Alliance

The Canada-US border stretches for thousands of miles. However, along that border, there is a unique section of not more than a hundred miles, notes Kerry Mitchell, public affairs officer at the Canadian Consulate General in Buffalo, New York, and that is the whole western New York area from Buffalo to Rochester and its corresponding region in Canada across Lake Ontario. This small slice of the border is blessed with a high concentration of academic institutions clustered close to the border on both sides—at least 24 degree-granting institutions (including some important research institutions) in addition to Canadian colleges—and is subsequently a source of much Canadian studies activity. With key urban centers like Toronto, Buffalo, and Rochester relatively close to each other, Mitchell says, “you’ve got critical mass here that is one of the attributes of this region.”

The other major urban clusters on the US-Canada border, the cities of Detroit and Windsor, and Seattle and Vancouver, don’t have nearly the concentration of academic institutions, notes Mitchell. Because of this unique characteristic, back in the mid 90s the Golden Horseshoe Educational Alliance was formed, a cross-border alliance which aimed to take advantage of the rich academic community within the region. (The Alliance takes its name from the shape of the western edge of Lake Ontario.)

The academic community, notes Mitchell, was inspired to form its own alliance after the Canada-US Free Trade Agreement and other cross-border development initiatives. The Alliance was nurtured by both the American and Canadian Consulates and naturally focused on the long history of Canadian studies in the region.

The Golden Horseshoe Educational Alliance operates with limited staffing and funding. It has a steering committee, mostly comprised of Mitchell and student interns. One of its achievements has been to sponsor “Crossing Borders,” a multi-disciplinary student conference each year.

The objective of the Alliance is to stimulate collaboration within any discipline in the academic sector. “You’ve got great complementarity between institutions,” notes Mitchell. “A lot of different academic programs have a very natural counterpart on the Canadian side that may or may not have to do anything with Canada-US relations but certainly contribute to Canada-US relations in different ways.”

Mitchell also notes the Canada-US Fulbright program, the only fully-endowed Fulbright scholarship which allows a Buffalo area student to study in Canada each year. “It’s another symbol or manifestation of the rootedness of the

Canada-US relationship in this region and how it manifests itself in academic relations programs.” This scholarship, which was established in the early 90s, is perpetually endowed by the John R. Oishei Foundation.

“The opportunities that come from the critical mass and the long-standing history and interest with regard to the Canada-US relationship make us just a nexus for study and research related to the Canada-US relationship,” concludes Mitchell. “A border exists for all sorts of historical reasons, but the region itself transcends the border. So there is tremendous complementarity that one finds in the Toronto to Rochester area.”

The University at Buffalo

One Golden Horseshoe Educational Alliance member, the University at Buffalo—State University of New York, currently does not have an official Canadian studies program, but it does have many Canadian-related courses. Therefore, since 1984, the university has operated a Canadian-American Studies Committee to coordinate all the Canada-related activities and academic functions within the university.

H. Lorraine Oak, associate dean in the college of arts and sciences at the University at Buffalo, is the new chair of that committee.

The goal of the committee, notes Oak, is to further the interest in and study of Canada. Its main function is to help keep people in different departments and disciplines who are involved with Canada in touch and collaborating—something that’s particularly important because the university is such a large school. The committee also runs a small grants program that is funded jointly by the university and the Canadian Embassy. These grants have helped fund activities ranging from support for field

research by geographers and anthropologists to visits from prominent Canadian artists. Oak notes, “Given our location [Canada] is an obvious area for us to look at. There are a lot of people who have Canada interests here so it’s important to coordinate them and keep them in touch with each other.”

The university, says Oak, has discussed working towards a degree program, “but currently there are a number of other programs that seem to be filling most of the need” such as the Canadian-American Legal Studies Center program housed in the Law School and the Canada-US Trade Center in the Geography Department. The Legal Studies Center has recently begun an effort to recruit students interested in Canadian issues. The Trade Center’s first mission is to advance basic and applied research on economic transactions between Canada and the United States and consequently provides a diverse range of trade-related services to the public and private sectors.

Dan Abele, academic relations officer at the Canadian Embassy in Washington, D.C., notes that the University at Buffalo is “doing excellent work with regard to Canada-US trade issues, especially New York-Ontario trade. But the Embassy has also supported research in political science and the arts.”

In the past few years, the committee has made important strides in increasing its visibility on campus and in promoting Canada-related activities. The committee now enjoys permanent secretarial staff and other support. Last year, the committee established a web presence at <http://wings.buffalo.edu/pol-sci/can-am/mainframe.html>. The university also participated in a joint web production of a “border portal” with the Faculty of Information Studies at the University of Toronto. ■

Grants and Awards . . . *Continued from page 6*

Summer FLAS Awards, which are open on a competitive basis to graduate students wishing to improve their proficiency in French; Canadian-American Center Fellowships, which are available to graduate students in all disciplines focusing on Canada or Canadian-American relations; New England-Atlantic Provinces-Québec Fellowships, which are available to graduate students engaged in cross-border research; and Alice R. Stewart Graduate Fellowships in Canadian History which are available to graduate students engage in research of Canadian or Canadian-American history. For more information, contact the University of Maine, The Canadian-American Center, 154 College Ave., Orono, ME 04473; tel: 207-581-4220; or visit www.umaine.edu/canam.

James J. Hill Library

The James J. Hill Library is continuing its small research grants program to support work in its manuscript collection. The James J. Hill Papers (1856-1916) are an extensive and rich source for studies of transportation, politics, finance, Native American relations, art collecting, philanthropy, urbanization, immigration, and economic development in the upper Midwest, Pacific Northwest, and Western Canada. The deadline for applications is November 1. For more information contact W. Thomas White, Curator, James J. Hill Library, 80 W. Fourth St., St. Paul, MN 55102; tel: 651-265-5441; or e-mail: twhite@jjhill.org. ■

Announcing

The Jeanne Kissner Undergraduate Essay Award

The Association for Canadian Studies in the United States (ACSUS) is pleased to announce a new undergraduate competition created in honor of the late Jeanne Kissner, Co-Director of the Center for the Study of Canada at Plattsburgh State University and a former member of the ACSUS Executive Council. Professor Kissner was unflagging in her support of Canadian studies education at the undergraduate level and had always hoped that such an award would be established.

The award will recognize an undergraduate essay that presents a scholarly exploration of any Canadian studies theme. Essays in all fields—literature, history, and business, for example—are welcome.

The biennial competition will be open to all undergraduates in the United States

who are citizens or permanent residents of the US and who are enrolled in a course in Canadian studies during the two years preceding the biennial ACSUS Conference.

The author of the winning essay will receive free registration for the following ACSUS biennial conference as well as complimentary membership in ACSUS for two years.

The Jeanne Kissner Undergraduate Essay Award will be launched officially at the ACSUS '01 meeting in San Antonio in November.

For further information, please contact ACSUS at info@acsus.org, by telephone at 202-393-2580, or by fax at 202-393-2582. The committee establishing the award consists of Sylvie Beaudreau, Plattsburgh State University; Melissa Haussman, Suffolk University; and Mary K. Kirtz, The University of Akron.

Speaker Spotlight

... Continued from page 10

general public is alerted to events via mailing lists and notices in local newspapers.

Alper notes that last year WWU hosted a series of speeches on sustaining the Pacific Northwest forests that were well received. "What you're doing is you're raising the profile of Canadian studies on the campus and in the community. You're bringing to campus people with expertise and certain kinds of artistic or literary talents that enrich the intellectual life of the campus. It's very good for the students to be involved in these kinds of activities—they get different perspectives from people outside the University."

Even though Bellingham is only 20 miles from the Canadian border, observes Alper, there's "an amazing lack of awareness [about Canada] here in the community and the Pacific Northwest in general. You'd be amazed how few people pay much attention to anything Canadian other than going skiing or going to Vancouver for the evening." Americans are not nearly as aware of Canadian politics, art, and literature as Canadians are aware of American culture. It is Alper's hope that WWU's speakers series help correct that deficit. ■

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