Welcome to the Sixth Year of “Canadian Connections @ UB”

Munroe Eagles, Director, Canadian Studies Academic Program

It is hard to believe that we are releasing our sixth issue of our Newsletter this Fall. How time flies when you’re having fun and - I hope - doing good work!

Most significantly, CSAP is positively delighted to welcome a star faculty recruit to the campus this fall. Over the past year the Department of Transnational Studies was successful in recruiting Professor Cecil Foster, an internationally-recognized sociologist and political theorist whose primary academic affiliation to date has been with the University of Guelph. Professor Foster’s award winning publications deal with the Canadian experience with multiculturalism, a policy commitment enshrined in the constitution that is one of the most significant and defining features of the contemporary Canadian experience. Dr. Foster has been teaching courses for the Department of Transnational Studies as an adjunct professor for the past couple of years, and his arrival as a full-time faculty member (and incoming Director of Graduate Studies) will have a tremendous impact on our capacity to deliver world class instruction not only in Canadian Studies, but also in Caribbean and African and African-American Studies. He has also agreed to join Professor Jean-Jacques Thomas as an “Associate Director of Canadian Studies.”

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his appointment, our Canadian Studies offerings will be broadened and deepened, and our profile will rise significantly. We are genuinely excited by the opportunity that Professor Foster’s arrival presents for us, and are grateful to CAS Dean Bruce Pitman for the confidence that the approval for this extraordinary hire clearly expresses in our efforts. We will work hard to ensure that this confidence is not misplaced.

The other big news for this year is the launch this Fall of our Joint MA degree in “Canadian-American Studies” with our partners at Brock University. At present, five students have enrolled (3 at Brock; 2 at UB) in the Joint MA and they will be our ‘guinea pigs’ for the delivery of a truly international educational experience. Much hard work has been done on both campuses to bring this degree program to fruition and while it is always risky to acknowledge the contribution of particular individuals, I would be remiss in not expressing my gratitude for the generous contributions of Professors Jane Koustas, Marilyn Rose, and Gregory Betts on the Brock campus, and of Stephen Dunnett, John Wood, Mick Thompson, and Katie Darling at UB. In addition, Graduate Secretary for Transnational Studies Ms. Karen Reinard has been patiently and effectively working through the challenges of implementing a bi-national degree program. We simply could not have made it to this point without the expertise, patience, and dedication of these wonderful colleagues.

This much-anticipated and pioneering international degree program offers students the opportunity of earning a single degree while studying at two universities in two countries. This is the first such degree program offered in the entire SUNY system, and the same is true for Brock. In addition, in February 2013 we were informed that SUNY and the New York State Education Department had acted expeditiously to approve the offering of a UB-only version of the Joint MA degree in which students would be able to fulfill all degree requirements on our campus. This will provide flexibility to handle foreign students whose visas do not permit them to study on a part-time basis in Canada.

Between January and May of 2013 I had the great privilege of taking a sabbatical leave in Ocean Grove, in the state of Victoria, Australia. This proved to be a very congenial place to write and, in addition to completing several projects, I managed to make significant progress on a book manuscript tentatively entitled *The Constituency Foundations of Canadian Politics*. CSAP Associate Director Professor Jean-Jacques Thomas kindly served as Interim Director of CSAP during my sabbatical leave and it was comforting to know that the Program was in such capable hands during my absence. This fall I had the honor of being elected to a two-year term as Vice-President of the Association of Canadian Studies in the US (ACSUS), after which I will serve for two years as President of the Association.

In other news, Research Associate Professor Nik Nanos, CEO of Nanos Research, was named as a Fellow of the Canada Institute at the Woodrow Wilson Center in Washington, DC, for the period January – May 2013. He used his time in Washington to conduct research and interviews on the topic of energy relations between Canada and the US—a topic he will write a doctoral dissertation on for the University of Nottingham in the UK. Nanos will continue the “North American Monitor” for a ninth year this August when he fields a binational survey on CANAM relations to representative samples of Canadians and Americans. The results of nearly a decade of polling will be presented at the upcoming Association of Canadian Studies in the United States (ACSUS) meeting this November in Tampa, Florida.

I hope you enjoy this edition of our *Newsletter*. Thank you for your interest in Canadian Studies at UB.
breaking news! August 21, 2013

In an email released today, Myrna Delsan-Karan, President of the Association of Canadian Studies in the United States, announced that the University at Buffalo – SUNY was selected from a competitive pool of proposals to become the host institution for ACSUS for a three-year term beginning January 1, 2014.

Since its founding at Duke University in 1971, the Association of Canadian Studies in the United States (ACSUS) has emerged as the world’s premier organization outside Canada that is dedicated to fostering research and teaching about that country. With several hundred members drawn from a number of countries, over the years it has enjoyed tremendous success. It performs a wide range of important functions for the Canadian Studies community that include: sponsoring workshops and talks, organizing a biennial conference, publishing a highly respected journal (The American Review of Canadian Studies), organizing a variety of award programs for students and faculty in the field, publishing a Newsletter that is distributed widely across the international Canadian Studies community; and sponsoring a peer-reviewed “occasional papers” series to facilitate the rapid dissemination of research results. UB’s Jean-Jacques Thomas and Munroe Eagles currently serve on the Executive Council for the organization.

UB’s proposal, was submitted in July of this year by Munroe Eagles, Jean-Jacques Thomas, and Cecil Foster. According to Delsan-Karan, “After much reflection and examination, the proposal from the University at Buffalo was deemed, among a number of proposals, to be the most appropriate to strengthen our Association during these times of transition. To all those who worked on this proposal, we send our heartiest congratulations.”

Obviously, there will be much more on ACSUS at Buffalo in future newsletters, and we very much look forward to helping ensure that the organization’s future is as successful as its illustrious past.

After five years of discussion and planning, the inaugural meeting of the Joint MA in Canadian-American Studies was hosted by Gregory Betts (2nd from left), Director of Canadian Studies at Brock University, on Wednesday, September 4th, 2013. Pictured here are many of Brock’s Canadian Studies faculty, including Jane Koustas (third from left in back) whose work at Brock in the earlier stages of the program was critically important, and the first class of students (2 from UB, 3 from Brock). Munroe Eagles was behind the camera.

update on quebec studies

prof. and associate director of csap jean-jacques thomas

The past year has been a busy and highly successful one for our Quebec Studies program.

First, the Quebec Studies program at UB now has a physical home. After two years of preparation, Clemens Hall 902 was designated as the “Quebec room.” The room was remodeled and a standard meeting room with new furniture, portable audio-visual equipment (video projector and light screen) as well as telephone and computer equipment on a small desk for the QS Assistant, was installed. Also, a
new window was created between the room and the corridor. Work and furnishing took place during fall and spring semester while courses and meetings were also already taking place in the room. Three posters sent by the Quebec Délegation Générale in New York were framed and now hang on the walls of the room. The result is a very modern, professional and comfortable home for Quebec Studies on the UB campus.

Quebec Studies Center – Clemens Hall

Quebec Studies new home at UB

From the inception of the Quebec Studies project at UB it was understood that, in order to establish a durable presence of Quebec Studies on the UB campus, a certain portion of the funds, in addition to office and meeting space, should be used to create a web presence of Quebec Studies on the UB web site. Last year an independent contractor prepared a prototype of the future web site. Her general design and site architecture were approved by Canadian Studies and this year, with the new budget, it became the responsibility of the web group at the College of Arts and Sciences at UB to actually construct and manage the new web site. The site was completed in early March, just in time for the ACQS Outreach Seminar. All evaluations of the final site were extremely positive and we are most happy to have this new bilingual (French and English) communication tool at our disposal as it places Quebec Studies at UB on a global internet platform (http://quebecstudies.cas.buffalo.edu/).

In addition to the return visit of the Québec digital poet David Jhave Johnston to the Electronic Poetry Center (Media Studies), most Quebec activities for the year were regrouped on the occasion of the annual American Council for Quebec Studies (ACQS) Outreach Seminar that took place on the UB campus with the collaboration of Prof. Eileen Angelini of Canisius College. Because the funding at Canisius College was cut and thus Canisius, unlike last year, could not organize the Quebec Film Festival, it was decided that UB would organize the spring 2013 version of it. We also had the UQAM-UB conference “On the Waterfront” in preparation for the spring 2013. However, at the ACQS meeting in Sarasota (Florida) in the fall 2012, Jean-Jacques Thomas was asked if UB would not, instead of the “On the Waterfront” Conference, organize the annual ACQS Outreach Seminar since UB had the budget to organize an international conference in the spring. By November 2012 it was agreed that UB would host the ACQS annual Outreach Seminar by the end of March 2013 and not the Conference “On the Waterfront”.

A local committee devoted to the organization of the ACQS Seminar was set up and the planning was put in place for this Western NY community outreach activity. In short order it was approved by the board of ACQS. Also, since we had to change the framing of the Conference it was locally decided that during
the same semester that we would be hosting a national conference we would not organize the Quebec film festival that we had intended to launch during the spring at UB. Instead, we decided to include the visit of a well-known Quebec director, Louis Belanger, as part of the ACQS Outreach Seminar.

On March 22-23, UB organized the 2013 ACQS Outreach Seminar. Several lectures and workshops were offered with the following local and national leaders in the field of Quebec Studies or representatives of the Quebec oriented professional organizations and representatives of the Quebec government. Participants included:

**Louis Bélanger**, Film Director, Québec

**Francesca Bourgault**, AIEQ, Québec

**Ginette Chenard**, Raoul-Dandurand Chair, UQAM

**Myrna Delson-Karan**, President ACSUS, CUNY/Queens College

**Christian Flbaugh**, SUNY-Buffalo

**Emily Hall**, West Seneca Senior High School

**Patrick Hyndman**, Délégation Générale du Québec à New York

**Jane Koustas**, Brock University

**David Palmieri**, SUNY-Plattsburgh

**Raymond Pelletier**, Canadian-American Center, University of Maine – Orono

**Amy Reid**, President ACQS, New College of Florida

**Mark Richard**, SUNY-Plattsburgh, Vice-President ACQS

In all, 45 people officially registered and 5 additional people attended and received name tags. This included 11 undergraduate and 10 graduate students from UB. We had a request for 27 "Professional Enhancement" certificates that would cover mostly teachers. We had 13 official guests involved in the event. By all reports the Seminar was considered a well-planned event with a rich array of activities focusing on all levels of the US education system. Participants were happy to discover the variety and quality of Quebec activities taking place on the UB campus and, in particular, national representatives remarked the vitality of Quebec Studies among our Ph.D. candidates. After the event we received many compliments including this from a member of the ACQS board: “At our recent ACQS board meeting, I heard rave reviews of the Outreach program that you organized in Buffalo. Bravo... and thank you.”

Last year the Quebec Studies program was successful in attracting a PIRQ grant from the Government of Quebec. This year the allocation was used to support Nicole Bojko who, during the full academic year, was the Research Assistant (RA) for Quebec Studies. Also, PIRQ funds supported the Summer research trip of Nicole to Montréal to research the impact of French existentialism upon Quebec intellectualism in the 60’s and 70’s with the hope that her Ph.D. research on French Existentialism will include a special Francophone option (Quebec). UB Quebec Studies supported Nicole Dunham’s trip to Vancouver in the summer to the 2013 annual Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences in Victoria, BC, Canada on June 1st; Nicole Dunham studies the writings of Quebec writer Ying Chen. As Ying Chen and Dany Laferrière were the guests of the Congress, she also took this opportunity to interview both of them. Finally, Quebec Studies awarded a summer research fellowship Study Abroad stay in Montréal to Elizabeth Robinson so that she could attend the celebration of the 350th year of the arrival of the Filles du Roy. As Elizabeth is studying 17th century transatlantic relations, she wanted to attend the presentations and exposés in Quebec City at the end of June, meet the current researchers on this important New
World event, and potentially acquire some primary sources for her own research.

Currently, in the USA, only UCLA and UB train graduate students with a sub-specialization in Quebec Studies. Through yearly programs and specialized accelerated programs, we hope to train MA and Ph.D. students who will be able to offer a Quebec component in their future institutional teaching all over the US. It is encouraging to us to remark that, already today, after a only a few years of offering a solid and diverse Quebec Studies option at UB, two of our graduate students (Isabelle Fournier – for the second time – and Valérie Hastings) were asked by a Canadian University (Brock – Ontario –) and Niagara University (NY State) to offer a course on Quebec. One of our graduate students is the teacher assistant for Quebec studies at Canisius College (Aubrey Kubiak) and another is teaching Quebec Studies as an interim teacher at SUNY – Fredonia (Cindy Jones).

Professor Cecil Foster joined the Department of Transnational Studies as Professor and Director of Graduate Studies, and the Canadian Studies Academic Program as an Associate Director, in the Fall of 2013

“Why I moved to UB”
by Cecil Foster

For as long as I have known myself, I have always questioned things as I find them, always wondered what is just around the corner, or in this case just across the border. Often, this curiosity has led me to reflect on how things are in the world and what would happen if I had taken alternative paths, if others had different choices. And whether it is in fiction, non-fiction or academic writing, I have always explored the what-if. For me sojourners and immigrants—people always on the move physically and/or intellectually, but people seeking to satisfy the curiosity for life itself—aptly symbolize the Americas.

Some might say that I am an idealist. But I think of myself as someone who grew up and lived in different places in the Americas and who has inculcated in him such Americas’ concepts as what I call the Dreams of the Americas. This is the idea that the entire Americas is a place of second chances, where by shifting locations one can take experiences from the past, build on them and produce new experiences, treasuring
the past but looking forward to the future. After growing up in Barbados, I spent several decades living in Canada where I continued to live and write out of these Americas experiences and dreams. Now in keeping with my Americas orientation, I have moved on yet again, but still maintaining my links and connections.

Recently I joined an academic unit that seemed ideal for me and my curiosity about life. It is the Department of Transnational Studies at University at Buffalo, the premier public research university in State University of New York system. Here is a Department that offers an exciting program in Canadian Studies. More than that, there is a joint program with Brock University in St. Catharines, Ontario. This means that I will be able to continue and deepen my research, writing and teaching from Buffalo as if, technically, I am still living and writing in Canada. For I will be. Indeed, I will still be maintaining all my Canadian links. From this base I will continue to engage with the idea of Canadian identity, particularly how nationalist discourses in African-American communities in the United States from the Civil War onwards share much with the discourse on genuine multiculturalism and Quebec nationalism and its policy of interculturalism. There is so much that is uniquely American-Canadian that is open to students and faculty to study and research from within this program.

The Department of Transnational Studies appeals to me in other ways: I would not be doing Canadian Studies in isolation, but rather in combination with other fields of study any one of which would satisfy my desire to study things multicultural. Transnationalism is interdisciplinary, an approach I have always supported and practiced as one meaningful way we can make sense of a world—particularly the Americas—that is always defying attempts to confine it to exclusive categories and even disciplines and fields of study. Our transnational fields and programs include Caribbean and Latin American Studies which reminds me that I am and will always be a product of the Caribbean; there is African and African-American Studies, a program into which fits nicely my research on blackness in the New World; there is the American Studies program that provides the overall umbrella under which much of my writing and research falls; there is Gender and Global Studies which provides a platform on which I can continue to research and reflect on identities, immigration/settlement and social inequalities; and there is the Polish Studies program, which offers me a link between the Old World and New World, a link that enables me to explore shared concerns about the human experiences.

Well, I am glad that, like me, there are other people in the world also questioning things as they are and asking the what-if questions. I am glad I am now one of them. Specifically, I am excited to join a very diverse faculty and to work with students in the Department of Transnational Studies and our collaborators at Brock University.

Brock President Jack Lightstone (left) and UB President Satish Tripathi exchange signed copies of the Brock-UB collaborative agreement at a signing ceremony at Brock in February 2013.

**Brock and UB Renew Cross-Border Partnership**

Brock University and the University at Buffalo, the State University of New York renewed an agreement in February 2013 that will see a partnership between the two universities extended another five years.
Officials from the University at Buffalo (UB) visited Brock for the signing ceremony, which means continued shared research and education initiatives. It also makes official a joint master’s program in Canadian and American studies, which begins in September. The new program is a “big deal” for UB, said Charles Zukoski, UB Provost and Executive Vice-President for Academic Affairs. It’s the first international program established by any State University of New York. “It cements ties and it enhances educational opportunities for students,” Zukoski said. “We like to think of ourselves as an international university and this is an international opportunity to send our student abroad.”

Six students from each university will be part of the master’s program’s initial cohort. They’ll take classes and seminars, which include programming in English, history, child and youth studies, fine and performing arts, politics, economics and geography, on both sides of the border.

UB is home to 29,000 students, including 19,000 undergrads.

The partnership is an example of the interdependence that has always existed between western New York and Niagara, said Brock President Jack Lightstone. “At the same time, society, culture and the economy have evolved differently on either side of the Niagara River as a result of an international border definitively drawn in the aftermath of the War of 1812,” Lightstone said. “There is so much that Brock and UB can and must do to together to understand these dynamics and to better serve the economic, social and cultural development of our highly interdependent regions.”

The first partnership agreement between the two institutions was signed in 2007.

Profiles in Canadian Studies - Joint MA (with Brock) in Canadian-American Studies Student - Bobbie Thoman

Bobbie Jo Thoman grew up in Western New York, leaving for two years to begin her academic journey at Colorado Mountain College in Steamboat Springs, Colorado. It was there that her interests in environmental issues began as she studied the implementation of ideas such as corporate responsibility and product stewardship. She then transferred to the University at Buffalo to finish her undergraduate studies in Political Science and began taking courses in Canadian Studies. During this time Bobbie started to look at environmental policies on both sides of the border, and plans to continue researching the creation and practical implementation of waste reduction strategies between New York/Ontario and local municipalities.

She has recently relocated to Niagara Falls, New York as part of the LiveNF initiative. As an Urban Pioneer she is expected to use her knowledge and energy to help generate new ideas and re-brand the city.

In addition to joining the new Joint MA program between Brock University and the University at Buffalo, Bobbie will serve as a Teaching Assistant in the Canadian Studies program at Brock University. Her ultimate goal is to educate the public and local municipalities in waste
reduction options to help push Western New York into a more environmentally sound future.

Professors David Castillo (L), Chair, Romance Languages and Literatures, and Jean-Jacques Thomas, welcome Quebec Delegate General Andre Boisclair (R) to UB’s Quebec Studies Center, August 19, 2013

Crossing Borders Student Conference, 2013

Munroe Eagles

As part of the collaborative agreement first signed in 2007 by the Presidents of Brock and UB, and renewed in February of this year (see story), Brock and UB alternate as hosts of the long-running “Crossing Borders Student Conference.” This year’s conference – the 18th meeting – was hosted by Brock University on March 14th and 15th, 2013.

The conference opened with a keynote address by Professor Susan Gray, a scholar from Arizona State University who was visiting Brock as the Fulbright Research Chair in Transnational Studies. Her talk was entitled “From Homeland to Bordered Lands? Great Lakes Geopolitics and Odawa Family History after 1815”. About two dozen students from both sides of the border presented papers at the conference, and for the first time one panel was conducted in French.

“Crossing Borders 2013” included a panel discussion on “Both Sides of the Border: Fostering Transnational Collaboration, Innovation, Incubation, and Commercialization in Science, Technology, Entrepreneurship, and Math (STEM) – Challenges and Benefits” featuring presentations from faculty, administrators, and industry representatives from Canada and the US.

The conference was closed by a second keynote address, this one by Brock Professor Emeritus Wesley Turner whose lecture was entitled “The War of 1812: Perceptions and Reconsiderations.”

The conference will return to UB in March 2014.

The Peace Bridge – One of the busiest and most important CANAM Border Crossing Points

Another Voice: Despite stress, Peace Bridge’s governing structure is among the best

Dylan S. McLean, Doctoral Candidate, UB Political Science and CSAP Graduate

Editor’s Note: The normally smooth functioning 10 member binational Buffalo-Fort Erie Public Bridge Authority (also known as the Peace Bridge Authority) was disrupted spectacularly during the winter and spring of 2013 when political interference with the body resulted in
deadlock and cross-border hostility. The House and Senate of New York State passed a bill calling for the abolition of the authority. This was not signed into law by Governor Cuomo and a compromise was brokered that allowed the Authority to resume its monthly meetings. Dylan’s piece was published at the height of the controversy in May, 2013.

(Originally published in the Buffalo News on May 30, 2013)

The recent Peace Bridge fiasco is shameful. The Peace Bridge Authority’s well-earned reputation for binational amicability, earned through decades of cooperation, has been tarnished. The best possible solution will be realized through a healthy dose of humility by all interested parties. Altering its proven governance structure is no solution.

Structures spanning an international border connect, and cannot be separated from, multiple levels of government bureaucracy and jurisdictional environments. Each jurisdiction has regulations that do not span the border, yet the bridge does. It cannot be divided physically. Further, because of this unique operational environment, it should not be divided operationally.

Twenty-four bridges and one tunnel link the United States and Canada. Last year, Munroe Eagles and I concluded an in-depth study of the governance regimes used at a healthy majority of these facilities, including our local bridges.

What did we find? The unified governance model in place at the Peace Bridge is best positioned to deal with the multiplicity of challenges imposed by the facility’s cross-border character.

The arrangement being proposed by Assemblyman Sean Ryan, D-Buffalo, and his counterparts would place the Peace Bridge on the path toward the worst possible governance regime. Dysfunction, division and inefficiency may occur in unified governance structures – as they can in any organization – but they are built into the organizational structure of divided governance.

Republican State Sen. Mark Grisanti – a supporter of the Ryan proposal – pointed to the Blue Water Bridge as an example of what the Peace Bridge could be. This is laughable. That bridge links Sarnia, Ont., with Port Huron, Mich. Its ownership, governance and management are split.

A 2007 examination by the auditor general of Canada cited numerous dysfunctions and inefficiencies attributable to divided management. For example, because engineering inspection reports were not shared across the border, the Canadian authority was not even able to ascertain whether the bridge would reach its expected lifespan.

Today the situation at the Blue Water Bridge has improved considerably. This is largely attributable to the skill and the personalities of current management on each side of the border. The institutional structure remains a challenge. Duplication and inefficiencies remain, and are reflected in tolls that are collected in both directions.

Organizations of all types are vulnerable to personality enhanced or incited dysfunction. There is no institutional design that can eliminate the potential for internal conflict. However, a divided institutional arrangement maximizes the potential for conflict and dysfunction.

Dylan S. McLean is an instructor in the Department of Political Science at the University at Buffalo and a graduate of the Advanced Certificate Program in Canadian Studies. He is currently completing a doctoral dissertation comparing gun regulation in Canada and the US.

For the sixth year, students in CDN 500 – An Overview of Canadian Studies met with their counterparts from Brock at five joint seminars during the Fall 2012 semester. The meetings were held at the Peace Bridge Authority Board Room, Fort Erie, ON. Brock instructor Daniel Kolundzic is on the far right of the group. Munroe Eagles is behind the camera!

CSAP graduate Dylan Mclean (far right) presents a paper at the "Metrolux 2012" conference in Luxembourg City, September 2012.

Taking Canadian-American Border Studies Abroad

Dylan McLean, CSAP Graduate and Doctoral Candidate in Political Science

In September of 2012 Munroe Eagles and Dylan McLean traveled to Luxembourg City in order to present research we conducted during the preceding summer to the Unpacking Cross-Border Governance conference, which was hosted by the Metrolux research team of the CEPS / INSTEAD research center. This conference was intellectually disciplined and tightly focused around cross-border governance. It was therefore an ideal venue for their work, which investigated one of the rare manifestations of clear cross-border governance in North America. Along much of the Canada-US border a piece of physical infrastructure, often a bridge or a tunnel, is necessary to make crossing possible. Because many of these facilities are quite large and very significant to the binational relationship, a clear understanding of their management and governance models is essential. With this in mind, we conducted interviews with the operators of several of these facilities. What we learned about the variety of governance models in place, the various challenges that the border creates, and the impact of increased securitization was very well received at the conference.

Not only did we contribute to the conference; we also took a great deal away with us. We were able to absorb the cutting edge of border research through a series of panels, three separate keynote addresses, and a roundtable discussion. Presentations of particular interest showed how the method of social network analysis is being applied to border research, often in powerful ways. This method uses focused surveys and snowball sampling to complete a picture of a particular social network. For example, one paper depicted a social network related to public transportation management. When this method is applied to border studies one is able to clearly and accurately describe the linkages across a border (or not) at a given time.

We were also intrigued to learn of an ambitious project undertaken by Dr. Jan van der Molen and several of his colleagues at the Velt en Vecht Regional Water Authority in the Netherlands. As a senior advisor on policy and strategy for a water authority, which spans multiple jurisdictions, Dr. van der Molen saw
first-hand that there was a need for a handbook practitioners working in a cross-border environment could use to help them navigate the various challenges they often face as a consequence of operating in such an environment. He recognized that those managing and governing across a border, regardless of what is being managed or what border is being crossed, are likely to face the same general challenges. Thus his handbook tries to provide general solutions which can help them overcome these challenges. Such a product will likely prove useful to a variety of actors on the Canadian-American border, particularly the operators of the international crossings. It is available for downloaded, free of charge, here: [http://www.crossingbordersacademy.org](http://www.crossingbordersacademy.org)

It was also beneficial for us to simply interact with other researchers interested in cross-border issues. This includes the MetroLux team which focuses on the mechanisms of regional integration, both in political and economic terms. Also, other scholars known for making an impact on the cross-border literature added to the conference’s value, including Liam O’Dowd, Emmanuel Brunet-Jailly, and James Scott.

**A Fulbright Scholar Reports on His Semester at McGill University**

*James A. Gardner, Bridget and Thomas Black Professor; SUNY Distinguished Professor of Civil Justice, UB Law School*

From late August to early December 2012 I was a Fulbright Scholar at McGill University in beautiful Montreal, Quebec. My Fulbright project, entitled “Intergovernmental Contestation in Federal Systems,” is part of a larger project to study intergovernmental contestation in federal systems, focused of course on the forms and manifestations of intergovernmental contestation in Canada. Federalism is an organizational form of governance that channels intrasocietal tensions into an arena of national-subnational conflict. It thus contemplates routine intergovernmental contestation, and the regular outbreak of such conflict reflects the existence of a well-functioning federal system. My project examined two aspects of intergovernmental contestation: (1) the specific ways in which Canadian subnational units actually press conflicts against national power, and the relationship of these actual methods to those provided formally by the national constitution; and (2) the degree to which the dominance of national political parties may undermine the autonomy conditions necessary for meaningful subnational contestation of national power.

For the first part of the project, my goal was to complete research sufficient to lay the foundation for a paper comparing methods of subnational contestation in Canada to other cases I have previously examined in depth, including the United States and Spain. My intent was to look closely at the concrete, on-the-ground techniques by which Canadian provinces influence—and, in particular, attempt to resist or thwart—national policy initiatives by which they feel threatened or with which they merely disagree. Obviously, the high-profile, ethnically fraught clashes between Quebec and the national government fall into this category, but so do complaints by western provinces such as Alberta, or Atlantic provinces such as Newfoundland and Labrador, about inadequate influence on national policy making. The questions I hoped to answer included: How do these provinces react in such circumstances? Do they operate within arenas of contestation contemplated by constitutional or other forms of structural law? Or have they worked out...
extralegal or otherwise unforeseen methods of exercising influence, and if so, of what kind?

Thanks to the extraordinary resources of McGill University, I was able to complete a very considerable amount of research over the course of the semester. I read about 200 studies of Canadian federalism. I was able to meet with seven of the nine members of the Political Science faculty whom I had previously identified as doing work relevant to the project, and they provided numerous leads and insights. With the generous support of the Research Group on Constitutional Studies, I was able to hire a very talented, fully bilingual law student as a research assistant, and to guide him in a review of primary source material related to specific instances of federal-provincial conflict occurring over the last 60 or 70 years.

As a result, I now have a small mountain of material which I am beginning to sift through and analyze. My goal is to pull it together and complete a draft paper within the next eight months, a task which I presently believe to be very feasible.

In performing this research, I was astonished at the complexity of the Canadian system. In other federal systems with which I am familiar, the number of routes by which subnational governments may successfully assert themselves against national power is limited, and all players generally understand the parameters within which contestation may occur. In Canada, the variety of ways in which provinces may resist and influence the exercise of power by Ottawa seems virtually unlimited. One reason for this appears to be that the ground rules themselves – the formal arrangements of the constitution – are to this day unsettled, and relatively easily altered by agreement of governing elites without engaging formal processes of constitutional amendment. Because everything is up for grabs, provinces always have the opportunity to transform any policy dispute into a dispute over constitutional ground rules, and they appear to lack firm incentives to avoid raising the stakes in this way. I was also amazed at the degree to which intergovernmental negotiation (“diplomacy,” in Simeon’s term) dominates federal-provincial relations, and the astonishing diversity of forums in which and occasions upon which such negotiation may occur.

Participants enjoying a session at the ACQS Workshop held in Buffalo on March 22-23rd, 2013. Professor Jean-Jacques Thomas, the event’s organizer, is on the left.

Oh, academia: UB crosses borders with joint Master of Arts degree in Canadian-American studies

Tong Meng
Staff Writer, The Spectrum
Originally published Sunday, February 17, 2013

Two schools sit on opposite sides of the American-Canadian border, but their distance doesn’t keep them from working together. Instead, the unique proximity is allowing UB and Brock University to establish a joint degree.

They’re establishing a joint interdisciplinary Master of Arts degree in Canadian-American studies. It is a concerted effort by the Canadian Studies Academic Program in the Department of Transnational Studies at UB and the Faculty of Humanities at Brock University, located in St. Catharines, Ontario.
“This is [the] first international joint degree being offered by the entire SUNY system, so students in this program will be pioneers in higher education in the state,” said D. Munroe Eagles, a UB professor of political science, in an email.

Eagles is a Nova Scotia native and the director of the Canadian Studies Academic Program. He is also a key figure in developing the program.

The interdisciplinary program allows students to approach their respective studies from both American and Canadian perspectives. The joint degree will cover a wide variety of disciplines – students will study a “comparative analysis of social, economic, political and cultural issues in the two countries,” according to Brock University’s course website.

However, a particular focus will be on the shared Niagara region and border. Students will investigate “the challenges and opportunities that the border provides to citizens in terms of realizing their common interests and objectives,” Eagles said.

The program commences this fall and will take place on both UB and Brock University campuses. Students will study at both universities during the program.

The new program is part of an agreement between President Satish Tripathi and President Jack Lightstone of Brock University signed on Feb. 1. The agreement extends the two universities’ partnership in education and research for five more years; the original one was signed in 2007 by Lightstone and former UB president John Simpson.

“The signing] was a wide-ranging meeting at which the presidents and provosts of the two institutions discussed a number of promising opportunities for expanding cooperation relating to economic development in the bi-national Buffalo Niagara region, cross-disciplinary research in targeted areas of mutual interest and exchange of faculty and students,” Stephen Dunnett told UB News Center. Dunnett is the vice provost for international education and a professor of foreign language education.

“I joined the program because I believe it will be relevant to my future and the future of the Buffalo/Niagara area,” said Bobbie Thoman, a UB graduate with a bachelor’s degree in political science, in an email.

Thoman sees environmental policy as one of the issues that needs to be fixed as her generation enters the professional world and believes the joint degree program will help her gain a better understanding of both countries’ policies.

“When dealing with the environment, in regards to protecting land and resources, there is no border,” she said. “What we do here in the United States directly affects Canada’s air and water quality and vice versa. Therefore, it is important to understand policies and opinions on both sides of the border to make environmental decisions.”

She thinks the location of UB and Brock University “couldn’t be more perfect.”

“I think an ‘international joint degree’ is a very exciting thing,” Thoman said. “It’s one thing to sit in a classroom and learn about the Canadian government and policies, but an entirely different experience to go over there and learn what’s going on firsthand.”

Eagles also sees the need for a firsthand experience in learning on both campuses. He believes “the deep and rich array of faculty expertise and interest” would not have been available to students otherwise. He said it’s beneficial for American students to interact with their Canadian counterparts and immerse themselves in the Canadian education environment.

UB provides many opportunities for students to gain an international educational experience. For instance, the university has numerous study abroad programs that students can engage in. Nonetheless, Eagles believes the joint M.A. program will offer students something different.
“It is impossible to be indifferent to the opportunities that any international educational experience provides,” Eagles said. “But this particular program puts this experience within easy reach of UB (and Brock) students by taking advantage of the fact that – for our campuses – the international is local.”

The joint M.A. program has come a long way. It was conceived five years ago in a discussion between Eagles and Jane Koustas, an associate professor and former associate dean of humanities and director of the Canadian studies program at Brock. They had brought their Canadian studies seminars together and students found these joint meetings to be very valuable, Eagles said, so he and Koustas considered a joint M.A. degree.

The program, for which a proposal was written in 2010, finally received approvals from the New York State and Ontario governments recently, Eagles said.

“Obtaining official approvals for the program, not only at the campus level but within the system and state/provincial levels, has been a major challenge for both [universities],” Dunnett said in an email. “Brock and UB have worked very closely to make this happen and thus have strengthened their partnership in the process.”

As part of the agreement for the program, participating students will have unlimited access to resources of both Brock and UB without having to pay additional tuition, according to Eagles.

Despite the challenges met along the way, Dunnett is optimistic about similar collaborations in the future.

“We certainly hope this first program of its kind is successful and leads to other joint degree programs,” Dunnett said. “If so, these are likely (in the short term at least) to be with Brock University, since a truly joint international program (one that isn’t purely online) requires the physical proximity of the partner institutions so that participating students can move back and forth between the campuses in doing the program.”

In the meantime, the joint M.A. program plans to welcome its initial cohort this fall, which will consist of six students of different disciplines from each university.


Jean-Jacques Thomas hosted a dinner with the Quebec Delegate General, August 19th. From L-R are Stephen Dunnett, Vice-Provost for International Education, Andre Boisclair, Delegate General for Quebec, NYC, Peter Rose, Quebec Attache, NYC, Cecil Foster, Keith Griffier, Munroe Eagles, and Jean-Jacques Thomas.

Celebrating Canada Day July 1st – and Dylan McLean’s successful defense of his doctoral dissertation proposal entitled “Guns and American Exceptionalism – Revolutionary Persistence.” At Joe’s Crab Shack, Amherst, NY.
“Exports to Canada” Program A Cross-Border Success

In November 2012, business, education and government leaders celebrated the success of the inaugural “Exports to Canada” program, a collaboration between the School of Management (SOM) and the Erie County Industrial Development Agency (ECIDA).

The Exports to Canada program is an economic development program that connects School of Management interns with local businesses to help them increase their level of exports across the border. Carrie Gardner, director of the School of Management’s Credit-Bearing Internship Program (CBIP), and Maryann Stein, director of international programs for ECIDA, worked together to launch the program, which provides training to local businesses seeking to expand their customer base into Canada and then matches them with SOM interns to help achieve that goal.

“We received strong support from our dean, Arjang Assad, and the UB Office of Economic Engagement, in getting the program under way,” Gardner says.

Stein brought MBA students Mark Bortz and Chris Courtney on board to help run program. Their internships were partially funded through Western New York Prosperity Scholarships. Bortz and Courtney then matched MBA interns with participating companies, including Ascension Industries, Buffalo Newspress, Life Safety Engineered Systems, RJR Engineering, Secura Technologies and ValueCentric.

“While the anticipated benefit to the businesses is quite clear, this program has also provided our interns with access to some of Western New York’s most fascinating companies and has given them insight into the ECIDA’s mission,” Stein says.

Bortz notes that while he was “pretty green” at the beginning of the internship regarding IDAs and economic development, “this experience has given me an appreciation of how economic development entities directly benefit companies and the community.”

The Exports to Canada program will now be a recurring internship opportunity for MBA students, Gardner says, calling it “a valuable resource for students who wish to gain international business experience.” John Dunbar Jr., an adjunct instructor in the School of Management, served as faculty mentor to the interns in the program. He is principal of Strategic Investments and Holdings Inc., a private equity firm specializing in growth capital, recapitalization, acquisitions, family businesses and management buyouts of middle market companies.

National Grid provided a grant to assist the program through an approved economic development plan from the New York State Public Service Commission.

(This story originally appeared in the Fall 2012 issue of UB International: http://inted.oie.buffalo.edu/news/ubintlfall2012.pdf)
Short Notices

UB Canadian Studies visits the Historic Rideau Club, Ottawa, November 2012

UB Adunct Canadian Studies Professor Dan Kolundzic and Research Associate Professor Nik Nanos pose before a bust of Canada’s first prime minister, Sir John A. Macdonald in Ottawa’s Rideau Club in November, 2012. Nik is currently serving as President of the club, which was formed by Macdonald and George Etienne Cartier in 1865. In addition to Macdonald, who was the club’s first president, two other prime ministers also held the position (Sir Robert Borden and Lester B. Pearson). Nik hosted Dan and CSAP Director Munroe Eagles for breakfast at the club when they visited Ottawa in November to visit the Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs & International Trade (DFAIT) and the US Embassy. The purpose of the visit was to discuss the Binational Executive Seminar on Canada-US Relations with these key stakeholders.

CSAP Director Munroe Eagles

CSAP Director Munroe Eagles had a busy and productive year. In addition to the activities mentioned above, Eagles completed the research funded by his J.R. Mallory Research Grant from the Canadian Study of Parliament Group. The paper, entitled “Organized Interests and MPs in the Canadian House of Commons: Constituency and Committee Factors in Lobbyist Targeting,” is undergoing final revisions for publication and dissemination by the CSPG this fall. Together with PhD student and CSAP Certificate graduate Dylan McLean, Eagles completed “Governance Regimes for Cross-Border Infrastructure: A Comparative Study of Facilities on the Canada-US Border,” and they presented their results to the Metrolux 2012 Conference on “Unpacking Cross-Border Governance,” Luxembourg City, Luxembourg, September 6-7, 2012. The piece has been accepted for publication in the International Journal of Canadian Studies (2014). In the fall Eagles, along with co-authors Royce Koop (Manitoba) and Alison Loat (Samara Canada, Toronto) revised their conference paper “MPs and Their Constituencies – Evidence from “Exit Interviews,”” and it is currently part of a book manuscript that is being edited by Elizabeth Gidengil and Heather Bastedo entitled Canadian Democracy in the 21st Century and that was recently submitted for possible publication by the University of British Columbia Press. Eagles’ chapter entitled, “Constituency and Personal Determinants of MPs’ Positions on Social Conservatism Issues in the 37th and 38th Canadian Parliaments,” appeared in Amanda Bittner and Royce Koop, eds., Parties Elections, and the Future of Canadian Politics, University of British Columbia Press, 2013: 67-93. He also co-authored a chapter on “Canadian Politics” with former UB PhD student Sharon Manna (now at North Lake College, Dallas, TX) that appeared in 2013 in Mark Kasoff and Patrick James, eds., Canadian Studies in the New Millennium, Second edition, Toronto: University of Toronto Press, pp. 66-103. Between December 2012 and June 2013 he also served as an expert witness for the Attorney-General of Canada (Ontario) in a “Charter of Rights and Freedoms” challenge to a piece of Canada’s electoral law. Finally, Eagles will receive an award from UB’s Council of International Studies and Programs (CISP) in this fall recognizing his efforts in developing the Canadian Studies Academic Program.

Tasha P. Lavey, CSAP graduate and Doctoral candidate in Political Science, is almost finished her dissertation that investigates litigation based on Canada’s Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Her research was supported by a Dissertation Fellowship from the Canadian Embassy in Washington, DC, and she hopes to defend her dissertation this fall. She will be teaching again this year at the University of Louisville, KY.

Brian Carter, Professor of Architecture (and former Dean of UB’s School of Architecture & Planning), has recently published a new book entitled Battersby Howat Architects with the Technical University of Nova Scotia Press, Halifax, NS. This lavishly illustrated volume focuses on 10 projects undertaken by the Vancouver-based architectural firm Battersby Howat. It is available for purchase for
Research Associate Professor of Canadian Studies
Nik Nanos was in Washington, DC for the first five months of 2013 as a “Public Policy Scholar” at the Woodrow Wilson Center’s “Canada Institute.”

Megan Gall, CSAP graduate (see her profile in the Fall 2012 Newsletter), successfully defended her doctoral dissertation in Political Science on July 30th. Congratulations, Dr. Gall, and we wish you the very best for continued success in your career. Megan appears above following her successful defense with her committee chair, Harvey Palmer (L) and member Jason Sorens (R). CSAP Director Munroe Eagles was the third committee member (and is behind the camera for this shot!).

Delegations from UB and Brock met at Brock in February 2013 to renew the cross-border collaborative agreement between the two universities.

Upcoming Events/Deadlines

The 2013 ACSUS (Association of Canadian Studies in the United States) biennial conference on the theme of “Canada in the Hemisphere” will be held at the Tampa Marriott Waterside Hotel and Resort

**November 19-23, 2013.** The theme of the conference is “Canada in the Hemisphere”, in recognition of the 20th anniversary of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) on January 1, 2014, and the rising importance of the Arctic to Canada. Among the keynote speakers will be Gary Dewar, Canada’s Ambassador to the United States. Cosponsoring the conference are the Mexican Association for Canadian Studies/Asociación Mexicana de Estudios sobre Canadá (AMEC) and the Canadian Studies Network/Réseau d’études canadiennes (CSN-REC)

**Internships with the Canada Institute**

**Internship**
Feb 26, 2013 to Dec 31, 2016
The Canada Institute at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars seeks qualified, part-time interns each semester with an interest in, coursework related to, or experience working on Canadian policy topics and Canada-U.S. issues.

**Internship Description**
Internships with the Canada Institute are designed to provide the individuals selected with the opportunity for practical experience in an environment that successfully mixes academic study with public policy. Interns will gain valuable experience in a variety of projects such as conference organization, library and Internet research, assistance with the preparation of publications, and administrative assignments in support of program and Center activities. Interns assist with all aspects of the Canada Institute’s day-to-day operations and programming. Sample duties include but are not limited to:

- Editing and proofreading written materials
- Providing help with research for publications
- Researching potential speakers and participants for Canada Institute events
- Assisting Canada Institute staff with preparation for public events, including managing mailing lists, rsvps, and room setup
- Maintaining the program’s contact database
- Updating and editing the program’s website
- Other administrative duties as assigned

This is an unpaid internship, for between 15 and 20 hours per week. Application materials are due:
Fall Internship: August 1
Spring Internship: November 15
Summer Internship: April 15

27th Annual “Two Days of Canada” Conference – Brock University
7th-8th November 2013

With the theme of “Educating [in] Canada: Inequalities, Controversies, Debates, Possibilities” the 27th annual “Two Days of Canada” conference will be held at Brock University. The oldest Canadian Studies conference of its kind in Canada, Brock invites scholars and graduate students in all disciplines who study or research any aspect of education or pedagogy in the Canadian context to a conference centred broadly on education in Canada. Papers and panels that touch on any aspect of contemporary Canadian education are invited and encouraged. Proposals for individual papers, presentations, or panels from all disciplines, covering any aspect of Canadian education or the role of schooling in Canada, are welcomed. They should be no longer than 250 words and may be sent to Kevin Gosine, Department of Sociology (kgosine@brocku.ca) before September 6th, 2013.


The next MANECCS biennial conference will take place from September 25-28, 2014 at the Sheraton on the Falls in Niagara Falls, Ontario. With the incredible natural setting of the Canadian falls just across from our conference venue, and considering the impressive opportunity that hosting a conference in the Niagara Region offers us, we are inspired to take our cue from the local area for our conference theme: “Niagara Falls and the Niagara Region: An Interdisciplinary Case Study.”

For further information, consult the MANECS website: http://www.maneccs.org/news/

Call For Papers:

“Cultural Crossings: Production, Consumption, and Reception across the Canada-US Border”

Second international Culture and the Canada-Us Border conference, University of Nottingham, 20-22 June 2014. Keynote Speakers: Charles Acland, Danielle Fuller, and DeNel Rehberg Sedo

http://www.kent.ac.uk/ccusb/events/nottingham.html

The Leverhulme Trust-funded Culture and the Canada-US Border international research network is pleased to invite proposals for papers or panels addressing topics related to cultural production, consumption, and reception across the Canada-US border. The 49th parallel has been considered by many Canadian nationalists to symbolize Canada’s cultural independence from the United States, with attendant anxieties about how an “undefended” border might fail to safeguard Canadian culture adequately. This conference seeks to probe the implications for the production, consumption, and reception of literature, film, television, music, theatre, and visual art in relation to the Canada-US border. We encourage analysis of cultural texts, phenomena, and industries both in terms of how they might operate differently in Canada and the United States and the ways in which they might straddle, or ignore, the border altogether. We invite proposals on both contemporary and historical cultural texts and contexts.

Although submissions on any relevant area of interest are welcome, we particularly welcome papers focusing on the following in a cross-border and/or comparative context:

- book histories and publication contexts
- reading cultures and communities
- Hollywood North/runaway film and television production
- Film exhibition and television broadcast
- Performance
- Re-mounts, re-makes, and adaptations
- Musical production, consumption, or reception
- Museum and gallery exhibition
- Asthetic influences
- Cultural policy
- Economics and their implications for cultural production and consumption
- Fan cultures
- Celebrity culture
- Cultural workers
- National habitus
- Prize culture
- Reading and/or viewing
- Cultural censorship
Please send 300-word proposals for 20-minute papers and a brief bio to CCUSBorder@kent.ac.uk by 1 November 2013. Panel proposals should include individual paper proposals plus a 100-words summary of the panel’s theme.

A limited number of bursaries are available for graduate students delivering papers. Please email CCUSBorder@kent.ac.uk for details. The CCUSB network, funded by the Leverhulme Trust, grew out of a conference held at the University of Kent, UK, in 2009. Its core members are located at the Universities of Kent and Nottingham, SUNY Buffalo, Algoma, Mt. Royal (Calgary), and Royal Roads (Victoria). Participation in the network’s activities does not require membership. For further details visit: http://www.kent.ac.uk/ccusb

Trent University Celebrates 50 Years of Leadership in Canadian Studies

Trent University’s founding President, T.H.B. Symons, was instrumental in establishing the university as a leader in the field of Canadian Studies over the past 50 years. To celebrate this, the university is sponsoring a conference, tentatively titled “Contesting Canada’s Future”, to be held May 21-23, 2015 in Peterborough, ON. Conference planning has just begun, but anyone interested in participating can contact the conference organizers at canadaconference@trentu.ca.

Digital copies of this and earlier editions of the newsletter are available for downloading at:

www.canadianstudies.buffalo.edu/newsletter

To be added to (or removed from) the list of subscribers, please contact Munroe Eagles – eagles@buffalo.edu