

MANECCS NEWS & VIEWS

The Newsletter of the Middle Atlantic and New England Council for Canadian Studies April 2014

A Gathering in Niagara Falls

The Middle Atlantic and New England Council for Canadian Studies (MANECCS) continues preparations for its biennial conference to be held at the *Sheraton on the Falls* in Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada on September 25 – 27, 2014.

Keynote Address

We are pleased that the Hon. James Bradley (MPP – St. Catharines) Minister of the Environment for Ontario, will be our keynote speaker at the 2014 MANECCS Biennial Conference.

His keynote address is titled, “*Canadian-American Environmental Relations: A Look Back, A Look Ahead.*” It will be a retrospective account of Canadian – American environmental relations and his longstanding experience in this portfolio.



The keynote talk will take place during the MANECCS luncheon on Friday, September 27, 2014.

Jim Bradley is the MPP for St. Catharines. He was first elected to the Ontario legislature in 1977 and has been re-elected ten consecutive times. He was appointed Minister of the Environment in October 2011.

Bradley has served as Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services, Municipal Affairs and Housing, Transportation, Tourism, Minister Responsible for Seniors and Government House Leader. He served as interim leader of the Ontario Liberal Party from November 1991 to April 1992.

Before his election to the legislature, Bradley was a teacher with the Lincoln County Board of Education. He also served as a member of the St. Catharines City Council from 1970 to 1977.

Conference Focus

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 and establish a special theme within the larger conference on “**Niagara Falls and**

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the Niagara Region: An Interdisciplinary Case Study.”

Topics for this special theme include, but are not limited to:

- The History and Geography of the Region (this could include a focus on wine production) as well as its military significance of the region in early Upper Canada/New York state, War of 1812, Underground Railroad, First Nations, etc.
- Environmental Issues
- Strategic Importance and Security - historically and currently
- The Falls in Popular Culture: Art, Literature, Media, History
- Economic significance – International Business and Tourism
- Theatre, Performing Arts, and the Shaw Festival



Hotel Information

We have reserved a block of rooms for conference participants at the Sheraton on the Falls Hotel (5875 Falls Ave., Niagara Falls, ON L2G 3K7).

The Sheraton on the Falls (<http://www.sheratononthefalls.com/>) is an award-winning resort and conference hotel with a number of restaurants and other amenities on site, including themed restaurants such as the Hard Rock Café and Planet Hollywood, indoor and outdoor pools (overlooking the falls from the rooftop!), and is convenient to area attractions such as Casino Niagara, world class wineries, and a number of golf courses. We have negotiated a competitive rate of \$129 CDN/night for conference attendees in rooms that were newly appointed in 2012.

Book your accommodations **before August 25, 2014** at this website reserved for MANECCS biennial conference attendees: <https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/maneccs14>.

You can also reach the hotel by phone at (905) 374-4445 or 1-888-229-9961. Be sure to mention that you are with the MANECCS conference so that you get the conference rate!

Travel

Here is some general travel information.

Niagara Falls is a city accessible to both Canadian and American scholars. If you are flying it is only minutes from four International Airports: 15 minutes from Niagara Falls International Airport (IAG); 30 minutes from the Buffalo Niagara International Airport (BUF); 45 minutes from the Hamilton International Airport (YHM); and 90 minutes from Toronto Pearson International Airport (YYZ) and Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport (YTZ). If you are coming by train, VIA Rail and Amtrak provide daily service to Niagara Falls with connections throughout Ontario, Quebec and New York. If you are coming by bus the Niagara Falls bus terminal services Coach Canada, GO Transit, Greyhound Canada, Megabus, and Niagara Transit. More information about ground transportation from Buffalo Niagara International Airport is available at the following site: <http://buffaloairport.com/Canadian/Ground.aspx>.

Don't forget your passport!

EXTENSION OF DEADLINE

The deadline for the submission of proposals for the Biennial meeting in Niagara Falls has been extended to April 15, 2014,

Please email all inquiries and materials by April 15, 2014 to:
Stephanie Bangarth, PhD
sbangar@uwo.ca

Around MANECCS

At Bridgewater

Andy Holman

Thursday, March 20: Canadian Studies Lecture, Dr. Anna Waclawek (Concordia University, Montreal, Canada), "Graffiti and Street Art"

Anna Waclawek teaches in the Department of Art History at Concordia University in Montreal, Canada and author of *Graffiti and Street Art* (Thames & Hudson, 2011). Her book analyses the increasingly important roles of street art in urban visual culture. This talk was offered in concert with Prof. Steve Smalley's BSU class on Graffiti and Street Art.

Tuesday, March 25: Inaugural BMP Lecture in Canadian Studies, Dr. Erin Hurley (McGill University, Inaugural BMP Lecturer in Canadian Studies), "Performing the Nation in Quebec"

Erin Hurley writes and teaches about theatre and identity-making. She is the author of the award-winning book *National Performance: Representing Quebec from Expo 67 to Céline Dion* (Toronto, 2011). In this talk, Dr. Hurley examined the relationship between nationalism and theatre performance in the

French-speaking province of Quebec. The BMP Lecture in Canadian Studies is an annual series that connects lecturers and audiences at Bridgewater State, McGill University and Plattsburgh State University of New York on timely and scholarly topics.

Monday, April 14: Canadian Studies and First Nations Lecture, Dr. Marianne Stenbaek (McGill University), "Sovereignty Starts at

Home: Inuit Nunaat and Sovereignty,"

Heritage Room, Maxwell Library, 1:50-3:15 pm

Marianne Stenbaek teaches courses on Inuit and First Nations literature, and on Northern Regions at McGill. She is author and editor of several books and articles on Nunavik and Greenland and is presently writing a book on Nunavimmiut writings (Inuit from Nunavik) with Minnie Grey, a distinguished Inuk.

The talk is co-sponsored by BSU's Canadian Studies Program and its U.S. Indigenous and Ethnic Studies Program.

Thursday, April 17: Canadian Studies Annual Spring Symposium.

Also in the works is the Annual Spring Symposium which, this year, will focus on the timely issue of US and Canadian Veterans' Health Issues. The Surgeon-General of Canada, Brigadier-General Robert Bernier will deliver the keynote address. Also participating are Dr. Terence Keane (Boston University), a leading PTSD researcher, Dr. Stephanie Belanger (Royal Military College of Canada), Director of the Canadian Institute for Military Veterans Health Research, Dr. Victoria Bacon (Bridgewater State), Mr. Joseph Miller (University of Maine), and Dr. Joel Sokolsky (former Principal of RMCC and holder of the 2013-14 Killam Professorship in Canadian Studies at BSU).

At MCLA

Bob Bence

The North American Model United Nations (NAMUN) is organized and conducted by University of Toronto students. This year (19-23 February) Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts (MCLA) was one of 29 Canadian and U.S. universities sending teams of delegates to participate in both historical and contemporary international decision-making committees.

While the challenging UN simulations are valuable learning experiences, just as important is the very Canadian venue. At the opening meeting a choral rendition of *O Canada* preceded the keynote address by The Honorable Bill Graham, former MP, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister of National Defense. Through various interactions with their northern neighbor delegates Massachusetts students intentionally and unintentionally gained knowledge and perspectives on both Canadian and the U.S.

Bob Bence welcomes any questions by other faculty considering student participation in NAMUN.

MANECCS President to Assume New Academic Post

Current MANECCS President Joe McGinn will be moving from his current position as Dean of the Honors College at Towson University to take the provost's position at the University of Maine at Farmington.

Joe and his wife Jeanne have contributed much to our organization both in terms of executive leadership and conference organization. One has to merely recall the concerts and organization of our last meeting in Philadelphia.

In her announcement to the UMF community, UMF President Kathryn A. Foster said, "Dr. McGinn brings an impressive combination of intellectual savvy and leadership experience to UMF. Friendly, thoughtful, approachable, diplomatic, principled, professional, and academically sophisticated, Dr. McGinn is a careful listener and articulate communicator who has already shown great knowledge of



and enthusiasm for UMF, Western Maine and the University of Maine System." All who have worked with Joe over the years would agree with these sentiments.

Both Joe and Jeannie are looking forward to working together in Maine and to the new challenges in front of them.

Given his long time commitment to Canadian Studies, it should be considered as significant that Joe will be assuming his new position as Provost on July 1, 2014.

**SAVE THE DATES
SEPTEMBER 25-27, 2014
NIAGARA FALLS, ONTARIO**

**FOR UPDATES ON THE
BIENNIAL GATHERING,
PLEASE VISIT**

<http://maneccsbiennial2014.wordpress.com/>