IT HAS BEEN A privilege to return to the Frost Centre for one year as Director, replacing Julia Harrison, who took a well-deserved sabbatical after leading the Centre for many years. Working with faculty, graduate students, post-doctoral fellows and researchers at the Frost Centre is a stimulating and rewarding experience. We are very lucky to have excellent staff support from our Administrative Assistant, Cathy Schoel, who makes everything run smoothly: she balances many balls in the air at once, always with efficiency, grace and warmth.

This year, we welcomed three new PhD students and seven Masters students who came from a broad range of universities, disciplines and backgrounds. It is precisely this diverse range of scholars that makes the Frost Centre an exciting interdisciplinary focus for teaching and research. We also graduated three PhDs and six MAs.

A significant part of my job centred on tasks relating to the Frost Centre’s future: creating a consultation process to explore the formation of a School of Canadian Studies and engaging in the quality assurance (IQAP) process for our PhD. The MA program, reviewed under Julia’s guidance last year, is now complete, as the report from Trent’s IQAP committee has gone to Senate. Reviewers praised the quality of our program and faculty but suggested that we may be ready now to branch out and have two Masters programs, one in Canadian Studies, one in Indigenous Studies, with lots of cross-listing and collaboration between the two. This suggestion was endorsed by the Frost Board and discussions are under way for implementation; such a proliferation of programs is a promising and exiting development that would reflect the continuing importance of Indigenous Studies as its own area of specialty at Trent, as evidenced by their successful PhD program.

The review of our joint PhD program with Carleton took place this spring, and we look forward to that IQAP report as well. Our collaboration with Carleton continues to be a source of strength; together we offer the only PhD in Canadian Studies in the country, and we have built up a strong, attractive interdisciplinary program.

Encouraged by the senior administration, and with our eyes to the future, we also
engaged in a comprehensive consultation process about a School of Canadian Studies. Meetings were held with various constituencies and a draft proposal circulated extensively for comment. The process culminated in an evening workshop, facilitated by Prof. Emeritus Deborah Berrill, at which small groups worked on a number of questions: should we have such a School, and if so, what would be our mission, rationale, organization and governance? Positive feedback was overwhelmingly in favour of the proposal. A new School of Canadian Studies would be a home to a range of academic activities, including research projects, conferences and workshops, visiting fellows, community outreach, and, perhaps most importantly, it will consolidate under one umbrella a number of degrees relating to the study of Canada: the undergraduate degree, the MA, the PhD, and potentially a new Masters in Arts Administration (more on this below).

A School of Canadian Studies would build on existing strengths and longstanding distinctive traditions at Trent. Those consulted felt the time is ripe for Trent to reaffirm itself as THE place for the study of Canada, as Trent capitalizes on its comparative advantage in Canadian Studies and its longstanding reputation as a free-standing program, not merely an appendage of other programs. In keeping with its heritage, the School would of course recognize the central importance of incorporating research and teaching relating to colonialism and Indigenous-settler relations within Canada, and in a comparative context.

A consolidated School promises renewed vigour for the study of Canada across Trent and bolsters both the Canadian Studies undergraduate and graduate units, both of which are, like all Trent departments, adapting to challenges presented by attrition of faculty and continual budget reductions. The undergraduate program is of particular concern since a recent report by the Humanities Dean indicated that within a few years, there would only be one faculty member left in Canadian Studies. Since there is no commitment to renew our teaching resources in this area, we feel this puts the undergraduate program in jeopardy.

Also with an eye to the future, the Frost Centre sponsored a working group to create a new Masters in Arts Administration which would be a professional, cost-recovery program. The working group included, and consulted with faculty from English, History, Cultural Studies, Politics, Business Administration and Canadian Studies; it also engaged in very positive community consultation and was given expert advice by Trent Alumnus, Su Ditta. The proposed one-year program, which involves course work, as well as a placement in an arts organization, was reviewed very positively by external reviewers last summer. We are now waiting for administrative decisions.

I will be starting a leave in July 2014, and the Directorship will be assumed by Prof. John Milloy, a long-standing faculty contributor to the Centre. A recipient of the Symons award for teaching, John also served as the Master of Peter Robinson College at Trent. Nationally and internationally known for his outstanding research on Indigenous history, John will bring to the Centre his twinned dedication to teaching and research excellence.

**Faculty Profile**

**Dimitry Anastakis**

I HAVE JUST completed my final year as chair of the undergraduate Canadian Studies program, a position I passed on to fellow History Department member Professor Chris Dummitt. Though letting go of my administrative duties as chair in undergrad Canadian Studies, I will remain active as a member of the Frost Centre as it continues to revitalize and maintain its position as one of the nation’s leading centres for the study of Canada. I will also teach the core MA colloquium for one more year in 2014–5. Along with this grad course, I serve on a number of committees for students in the Frost Centre, a role I greatly enjoy.

In terms of research and writing, I am working on a number of projects. I am in the midst of turning my second-year Trent history and Canadian Studies course into a textbook by the same name: *Death in the Peaceable Kingdom: Canadian History Through Murder, Execution, Assas- sination and Suicide*. This unique textbook, utilizing famous and not so famous incidents of violence to explain broader trends and cases, will be published by the University of Toronto Press in March 2014.

Finally, my 2013 monograph, *Autonomous State: The Struggle for a Canadian Car Industry from OPEC to Free Trade* has received some recent recognition. It was awarded the 2014 Hagley Prize as the best book in business history by the Business History Conference and the Hagley Museum and Library of Wilmington, DE. Along with this prestigious international prize, the book was awarded the 2014 Political History Group best book prize at the Canadian Historical Association meetings, and was shortlisted for the SSHRC Canada Prize in the Humanities.

which ultimately will be a monograph, has yielded a number of presentations (including one at McMaster’s L.R. Wilson Institute for Canadian History in March), online articles, and one scholarly article in *Acade- diensis*, “The Quest of the Volk(swagen): The Bricklin Car, Industrial Modernity and New Brunswick.” (Spring 2014)

This follows my most recent book, an edited collection, *Smart Globalization: The Canadian Business and Economic Experience*, which was published in March of 2014 by the University of Toronto Press. *Smart Globalization* is an interdisciplinary examination that brings together historians and economists to consider cases and episodes in Canadian history that illustrate the ongoing prevalence of interventionist modes of policy-making, one which challenges the neoliberal paradigm and reminds readers of the continuing salience of the state in the economy.
News and Events

2013–14 Symons Award for Teaching Excellence

RECOGNIZED FOR HIS transformative teaching methods which have been significantly influenced by Indigenous concepts, Dr. Mark Dickinson, a graduate of the Canadian Studies PhD program in 2007, has been named the 2013–2014 recipient of Trent University’s Symons Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Dr. Dickinson has been recognized for his ability to build a classroom environment that is inclusive and recognizes that educators and students are co-learners in a seminar setting. Dickinson is also noted for his excellent lectures that are both engaging and entertaining for students.

Further to his reputation as a superlative teacher, Dr. Dickinson is a noted researcher and writer. He will publish Canadian Primal: Poet-Thinkers and the Rediscovery of Earth, with McGill-Queen’s soon.

250th Anniversary of the 1763 Royal Proclamation

IN ADDITION TO EARLIER Peterborough events, Trent University also participated in a commemoration event in London, England in the fall of 2013. Current director of the Frost Centre for Canadian Studies and Indigenous Studies and Trent history professor Dr. John Milloy travelled to London with a Canadian delegation. The delegation attended at the Church of the Guards Chapel to address the anniversary. Canada’s deputy high commissioner also attended the ceremony after hosting a breakfast at Canada House located in Trafalgar Square.

Earlier in the trip a ceremony and wreath laying was held at the Guards Chapel in remembrance of the First Nations soldiers of WWI.

January 23
Beyond Nanook: the Roots of Inuit Filmmaking, a Personal Perspective
Peter Raymont, Film Writer, Director and Producer, White Pine Productions

January 30
Views from the North: Photographs, Generations and Inuit Cultural Memory
Carol Payne, Carleton University

February 12
Four Solitudes? Indigenous and Settler Language Politics in Nunavut
Annis May Timpson, University of Edinburgh

The North at Trent 2014 Lecture Series

THE NORTH AT TRENT lecture series provided both the Trent and broader Peterborough communities, the opportunity to engage with scholars and an artist whose work focuses on Canada’s north in myriad ways.

Ashley Fellowship

THE ASHLEY FELLOWSHIP IS funded by a bequest from the late Professor C.A. Ashley, longtime friend of Trent University and an enthusiastic supporter of the role that informal contacts of college life can play in academic pursuits. The Ashley Fellows are visiting scholars who reside at one of Trent’s residential Colleges for part of the year, delivering lectures and meeting with faculty and students. The Frost Centre was proud to be involved with the distinguished 2014 visiting professor Dr. Veronica Strong-Boag. The 2013–14 Ashley Fellowship was generously supported by the Undergraduate Departments of History, Gender & Women’s Studies and Canadian Studies, the Frost Centre for Canadian Studies and Indigenous Studies, The School of Education and Professional Learning, and Traill College.

The lecture series has a proud history of bringing in top scholars. Credited with being one of the founders of Women’s and Gender History as a field of study, Prof. Strong-Boag, who teaches in the Institute for Gender, Race, Sexuality and Social Justice and Department of Educational Studies at UBC, is well known for both her scholarly work as well as her ongoing activism.
She is one of Canada’s most distinguished historians, a member of the Royal Society, and the 2012 winner of the Royal Society of Canada’s Tyrell Medal for her contributions to Canadian History. She has authored and edited over fifteen books. She is the recipient of many prestigious honour and awards, including a Killam Fellowship, the Jules and Gabrielle Leger Fellowship, the John A Macdonald prize for the best book in Canadian History and the Raymond Klibansky Prize.

**Windy Pine Retreat**

ONCE AGAIN, the Windy Pine Conference Centre served as the site for the unofficial beginning to the academic year. Set on 25 acres along the shores of Kushog Lake in Haliburton, the main cottage and accompanying cabins have become a cherished place for Frost Centre faculty, students and research associates since being given to Trent University and the Canadian Studies department by Dr. Mary Northway. Once again, more than a dozen individuals gathered in a casual setting to exchange current research as a way to stimulate teaching and writing for the upcoming school terms. Everyone left much richer for the experience thanks to the collaborative spirits of all who attended.

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**Suds and Speakers: Getting Out of Town**

By Mary Anne Martin, Anne Showalter and Karen Everett

ON FEBRUARY 27, after enduring months of one of the fiercest winters in recent memory, scholars were seeking some virtual relief in addition to intellectual stimulation when they attended the Suds ‘n Speakers event, “Get Out of Town.” Dr. Julia Harrison and Dr. Michael Eamon did not disappoint when they whisked the crowd of about 20 from BE at the Trend to radically divergent times and places that nonetheless demonstrated the consistent themes of adventure and home.

Professor Harrison, former Frost Centre director and author of the recently released book, *A Timeless Place: The Ontario Cottage*, spoke about “Getting Out of Town to Go Home.” She shared her research comparing “travel enthusiasts” with “cottagers” which raised recurrent themes of nationalism, home, and a sense of belonging. Dr. Harrison also illuminated the class- and race-based bounds of cottaging as well as the gendered nature of the work involved in travelling.

For Dr. Michael Eamon, Principal of Lady Eaton College, getting out of town involved sailing across the Atlantic. His talk, “Urban Aspirations, Rural Realities: Print and Sociability in British North America” painted a picture of eighteenth-century Haligonians and Quebec City residents struggling to reproduce their London home through print and other means. This search for home took the audience to 1700s pubs and coffee houses where literacy levels played a central role in this quest.

After the talks, a lively question and answer period ensued and attendees were treated to a scrumptious collection of refreshments. Many thanks to our host, BE at the Trend, and our generous sponsors, the Frost Centre and Traill College, for making the event possible.
IN ADDITION TO their work as PhD students, Sean Carleton and Julia Smith are also members of the Graphic History Collective (GHC). In 2008, a number of artists, students, and professors formed the GHC to create comics to promote peoples’ critically informed engagement with the past. With the help of SSHRC funding secured by Frost Centre faculty members Joan Sangster and Bryan Palmer, in 2009 the GHC published a comic book on the history of May Day—International Workers’ Day, or May 1st—in Canada entitled May Day: A Graphic History of Protest. The GHC subsequently revised and republished May Day with Between the Lines Press in 2012. To date, close to 5,000 copies of the comic book have been purchased by unions, teachers, academic conferences, and individual activists and history enthusiasts.

Building on the success of May Day, the GHC is currently working on a new collaborative project which brings together activists, writers, and illustrators to produce short comics on radical history. These projects are made available for free on the GHC website as they are completed, and will hopefully eventually published in hard copy as an anthology. Projects completed to date look at such things as the Knights of Labor, the Black Panthers, the environmental movement, an 18th-century French feminist and utopian socialist, a socialist-feminist labour union, hobo life, and two important labour strikes in North American labour history.

Forthcoming projects will examine the experiences of Filipinos in the Canadian workforce, the struggle against neoliberalism in the 1990s, and the important 20th-century labour struggles involving miners and Indigenous longshore workers. All of the projects can be viewed for free on the GHC website: http://graphichistorycollective.com/

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MY APPOINTMENT at Trent started right after I obtained my PhD in History at McGill University, in 2011, when I was hired by the History Department and the Canadian Studies program to teach Quebec and French-Canada history. I was thrilled to join such an outstanding group of researchers and professors and I was soon welcomed as associate faculty at the Frost Center.

My expertise on Quebec history complements those of colleagues from my discipline, but the interdisciplinarity of the Frost Center broadened my horizons by connecting me with experts from fields such as Gender and Women’s studies, Cultural studies, Environmental studies and of course, Canadian studies. My interactions with graduate students remained mostly informal, but I have already received the chance to engage with them at invited speakers presentations, at the Trent-Carleton Graduate Conference, at a movie night and at a few casual lunches at The Trend. I look forward to be even more involved in 2014–15.

My teaching aims at offering Trent’s students various perspectives on the historical experience of Quebecers and French-Canadians. My courses cover political and social aspects, but I am also passionate about Quebec’s and French-Canadian culture. Besides scholarly texts, I like to use songs, artworks, excerpts from television shows, poems, novels, films and essays to give students a taste of how Francophones expressed their identities and defined themselves. In my fourth year seminar, “Ideas, Politics and Identities in Quebec,” I bring students to reflect on the complex and often paradoxical ways in which individuals and social groups build a sense of belonging to a nation, a religion, a province, a sex, an ideology, a class, or a political party.

As a researcher, I also cultivate a passion for the history of food, foodways and nutrition. Using school textbooks, government documents, cookbooks, advertisements and works of fiction, among other material, I have studied how and why nutrition came to be considered as a useful and important source of advice in Quebec between the 1860s and 1945, and how foodways changed during the same period. I am currently exploring relationships between the provincial government and various food experts in the Post-war period and the Quiet revolution. In 2012, I transported my research in class by creating a new course entitled “Food in History,” listed in the History, Canadian Studies and Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems programs. In class, I encourage students to think about issues such as gender roles, colonialism, capitalism, health and the environment, and to connect certain aspects of Canadian history with North American and global phenomena and with insights from various disciplines.

FACULTY PROFILE

Caroline Durand, Assistant Professor in History

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Community Connections

Mary Anne Martin

IN 2011, WHEN I began life as a PhD student with the Frost Centre, I had worked mostly with social services that support women facing difficult situations. However, I had become captivated by the occurrence of local food initiatives that were sprouting up like mushrooms in communities across Canada. I had the sense that Peterborough, a new place for me, was one of the forerunners of this movement and that the Frost Centre would support my curiosity. The following summer I joined a working group of the Peterborough Poverty Reduction Network called the Peterborough Community Food Network which is comparable to food policy councils in many other regions. At the PCFN I have come to know many of the local actors leading the quest for immediate and long-term food access and food system change. There I have learned much about farmers’ markets, community gardens, community meals, emergency food access, school food programs, cooking classes, seed saving, good food boxes, gleaning programs, and advocacy around income, farmland and backyard hens. I have drawn on my studies to research and present topics like farmers’ market coupon programs and the findings from the mission to Canada by the UN Rapporteur for Food Security. Furthermore, in this work I have been able to incorporate the more sophisticated gender analysis that I have been developing through course work, comprehensive exams and teaching assistantships.

In the fall of 2013, I was asked to undertake a project for an ambitious initiative of the PCFN called The Nourish Project. Nourish aims to create a system of places for healthy local food across Peterborough City and County that promote fairness, health and community. My role has been to develop an evaluation framework and evaluative tools for Nourish. This has entailed an exploration of multiple dimensions of Nourish and locating it in the broader food system. Much of this work has involved identifying ways that people were collaborating to define and pursue a vision of social justice. Nourish embodies what I have intuited from the start: that food is a powerful gateway to social inclusion and social change.

I have been grateful for the support of the PCFN, Nourish and the Frost Centre to engage in my own form of praxis as I scrutinize my theoretical understandings in the community and draw on community engagement to inform my academic research. At this point I am excited to be blending the ingredients of gender analysis and food systems analysis as I proceed toward dissertational research that will be grounded in and hopefully of benefit to the Peterborough community.

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Derek Newman-Stille

THIS HAS BEEN a year of involvement in the Canadian science fiction community for me. Earlier this term, I won the Aurora Award, a top award in Canadian speculative fiction (SF) for my website Speculating Canada (www.speculatingcanada.wordpress.com), which features interviews of Canadian speculative fiction authors, commentary on developments in Canadian SF, and reviews of SF novels, poetry, and short fiction. I was able to give panels on portrayals of disability, LGBTQ2 communities, and poetry in speculative fiction at Can Con, a convention on Canadian SF in Ottawa, Ontario. I was also invited to give a guest post on Sysanym (http://sysanym.blogspot.ca/2013/10/teaching-little-monsters-guest-post-by.html) titled “Teaching Little Monsters” about the pedagogical power of horror. My exposure of the potential of horror to teach also extended to a talk and author introduction I gave at the Cat Sass Reading Series in Norwood, Ontario for “The Strange and Unusual”.

Overall my work with the SF community is generally directed at the exploration of the social activist potential in SF. Speculative fiction is an often disregarded genre in Canadian literature and is often viewed as purely pleasure reading rather than having deeper social implications, so my community engagement has been focused primarily on exploring social complexity in SF. I have just been invited to do a regular radio programme on Trent Radio about Canadian SF.

In addition to explorations of Canadian SF from a critical lens, I have also been able to contribute to the SF community as an artist. I was invited to contribute art twice to the horror anthology Postscripts to Darkness, and provided a painting for issues 4 and 5. I was also invited to contribute art to the new speculative journal Lackingtons, which will be published later this summer.

Melissa Sharpe-Harrigan

I DON’T LIVE in Peterborough, but in Chatham-Kent. I chair the “Standing Committee on Student Engagement” with the Pathways to Prosperity Project - a pan-Canadian research project on immigrant settlement and integration. Through that, we are designing and acquiring funding to initiate a student research exchange program, which is exciting.

In addition to that, I sit on the South Western Ontario YMCA Board of Directors, where I help to create not for profit policy to promote healthy mind, body and spirit. I also sit as a member of the Tilbury Rotary Club, focusing my time on creating a sustainable food bank in my community.

In my spare time, I use my children’s birthday parties to raise money for our local food bank as well. Last year, we topped $1000 in a volleyball birthday bash, and Lucky Birthday Euchre tournament to celebrate our children’s birthday parties!
Melissa Sharpe-Harrigan

IN MAY OF 2014 I had the opportunity to present two papers at the Canadian Political Science Association, which held its annual conference in conjunction with Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences. Funded by the Canadian Studies Program to attend, I am grateful for the opportunity to network and learn of new cutting edge research being done in Canadian politics.

I began my participation in the conference by chairing a discussion in urban studies on local climate change policy and inter-local cooperation. Chairing a panel outside of my area of research was an energizing experience. Following that session, the first paper I presented was in the urban studies section, and investigated the extent to which municipalities advertised or targeted particular groups of immigrants to settle in their communities online. In this paper, I highlight the racial, gendered, and citizenship hierarchies that are evident in the content and images of these websites. The paper was presented alongside some of the scholars I have been reading in my own work, and to see the multiplicity of ways scale is used to intersect and analyze political events.

Overall, the conference was an excellent experience to share and receive feedback for my own work, and meet and connect with scholars of interest.

Kris Millett

IN MAY, I attended the 2014 Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences at Brock University, presenting a paper for a panel on the ‘financialization of everyday life’, as part of the Society for Socialist Studies.

My panel colleagues and I each looked at different domains of life where the financialization of the economy (the dominance of financial markets and speculation over investment in production in the economy) is creating unequal outcomes, precarity, and dispossession. I presented on the ‘financialization of the law of order state’. This looked at how financialization exacerbates social insecurity produced under neoliberalism, and moreover, profits off it through the creation of new financial products (debt-based securities, etc.). I explained how this leads to the intensified use of punitive approaches to social problems.

The paper has linkages to my MRP research on the criminalization of Somali Canadian youth: as case studies, I looked at two recent events that have disproportionately affected the Somali Canadian community: the Project Traveller police raid in Etobicoke and the passing of C-43 Faster Removal of Foreign Criminals Act. At Congress, I was able to attend many illuminating panels that helped push my MRP research forward - particularly Abigail Bakan’s panel on the challenges of intersectionality.

This was my first time presenting at an academic conference, and it was a great learning experience (the questions portion was particularly character-building). My stay during the week in nearby Niagara Falls was particularly educational, as I witnessed first hand the on-the-ground effects of disinvestment under a neoliberal/financialized climate.

I would like to thank the all the people associated with the Frost Centre for their support in making this happen!

Margo Perun

ON JANUARY 27, 2014, I presented a paper on the Environmental Panel of the third Graduate Conference on the Internationalization of Public Policy at McMaster University. The title of my paper was “Climate Change Adaptation Policy in Ontario: An Analysis of the Provincial Government Approach.”

The conference Mapping the Global Dimensions of Policy 3 was interdisciplinary and open to MA and PhD students. It was hosted by the Department of Political Science at McMaster University, in conjunction with the Canada Research Chair in Public Policy and Globalization, Institute for Globalization and the Human Condition, Canadian International Council–Hamilton Branch, Centre for Engineering and Public Policy global Health Program, and the Centre for Climate Change.
THANKS TO support from the Frost Centre, I attended the Berkshire Conference on the History of Women at the University of Toronto from May 22 to 25, 2014. The title of the conference was “Histories on the Edge/Histories sur la brèche.” Over four days, presenters from around the globe presented papers on women’s and gender history in a variety of historical and geographical contexts. I heard many stimulating presentations and also presented a paper that I co-authored with my supervisor and Frost Centre faculty member Dr. Joan Sangster. The conference thus provided an important opportunity for me to share my work with an international audience and to interact with other scholars studying women’s and gender history.

As the Berkshire Conference (Berks) is one of the largest conferences on women’s and gender history and attracts scholars from around the world, the program consisted of hundreds of speakers and panels. The panels I attended examined such issues as left feminism; disability and work; collaborative projects with Indigenous women; the past, present, and future of gendered labour history; the politics of sterilization and eugenics; and international comparisons of Indigenous women and boarding school experiences.

I presented on Day Two of the conference on a panel that Professor Joan Sangster and I organized on gender and work: Gendering Bodies in Employment and Legal History. Our paper was entitled “The Body in Flight: Law, Regulation, and Flight Attendant Activism.” We received useful feedback which we will use to revise the paper before submitting it to a journal for consideration for publication.

All in all, attending the Berks was a wonderful experience, and an important contribution to my scholarly development. I would like to thank the Frost Centre for supporting my attendance.

IN JUNE 2013 I presented a paper at the Academic Conference on Canadian Science Fiction and Fantasy in Toronto, Ontario titled “Speculating Diversity: Nalo Hopkinson’s Brown Girl In The Ring and the Use of Speculative Fiction to Disrupt Singular Interpretations of Place.” The ACCSSF Conference brought together scholars examining the field of Canadian Speculative Fiction.

I gave a paper titled “Places of Suffering: Spacialising Disability and Trauma in Leah Bobet’s Above” at the Science Fiction: The Interdisciplinary Genre conference at McMaster University in Hamilton Ontario in September and was able to meet with both academics and Canadian speculative fiction authors, seeing contributions to the field by both scholars and writers.

I travelled to New Jersey in November for the Mid-Atlantic Popular and American Culture Conference and gave a paper at the Academic Conference on Canadian Science Fiction and Fantasy in Toronto, Ontario titled “Contagious Thoughts and The Empire of Fear: Pontypool” at The International Conference for the Fantastic in the Arts in Orlando, Florida. This is one of the largest speculative conferences and I have appreciated the opportunity the Frost Centre has given me to be able to attend the conference and give papers on Canadian SF for the last 3 years.

It has been a great year for my discussions of Canadian speculative fiction and would like to thank the Frost Centre for all of the support and the opportunity to speak to a wide variety of different scholars, and introduce Canadian speculative fiction to people who would not otherwise have encountered these brilliant authors.

I BEGAN MY PhD in the Frost Centre in 2011 with a passion for disability studies and Canadian speculative fiction (horror, science fiction, fantasy, and all of the speculative genres in between). My research is focused on the use of the monstrous protagonist in horror and dark fiction texts as a figure that can be inscribed with abstracted characteristics of disability including accommodating to diverse spaces, exploring differences in sensory experience, the experience of abjection, and stigma for bodily difference. Monsters like the vampire, the werewolf, and Frankensteinian monsters are created by societies to represent our diverse fears, anxieties, discomforts, and hidden desires and the monstrous assemblage can be examined to reveal Canadian social assumptions about disability.

Disability is a social text, and one of the areas where we construct ideas about disability is in our literature. Although most disability studies analyses of literary representations of the spectrum of ability tend to focus on realist literature, my research hopes to examine the ways that speculative authors examine disability differently— the way that horror tends to come to embody our fears about disability, science fiction explores our notions of disabled futurity, and fantasy examines other worlds of ability.

My current research is a deviation from my previous academic interests since my M.A. was in Anthropology, examining Bronze Age Minoan art. As a Canadian with disabilities, I have watched as texts were written onto my body through assumptive frameworks about diverse bodies and my current research has provided me with a chance to engage with textual explorations of disability.
A Conversation with SSHRC Postdoctoral Fellow, Dr. Lisa Pasolli

By James Onusko with Lisa Pasolli

As editor of this year’s Frost Report, it was my pleasure to have a great conversation with fellow academic Lisa Pasolli this past spring.

James Onusko: Lisa, can you describe your work and what you have focused on in your promising career?

Lisa Pasolli: Most of my work is oriented around the history of child care politics in twentieth-century Canada. During my PhD (at the University of Victoria) my focus was on the British Columbia story beginning in the 1910s, and now that I’ve moved on to the postdoc I’ve been looking at child care policies and advocacy in the national context since the Second World War. I came to this interest in child care politics as a way to understand the place of working mothers in Canadian society—more broadly, then, my interests lie in the history of women, gender, and social welfare.

JO: What drew you to Trent University and the Frost Centre?

LP: The opportunity to work with Joan Sangster was a big draw, since her work is so important to those of us who do women’s history. I also thought it would be interesting to work in an interdisciplinary Canadian Studies centre, since most of my academic life, so far, has been pretty strictly limited to history departments. And since I’ve lived and studied in the prairies, the maritimes, and the west coast, I thought it was time to give Ontario a try!

JO: What have you been working on while in residence at the Frost Centre?

LP: One reason it’s been so nice to have a home in the Frost Centre is its proximity to archives, so I’ve been to Ottawa and Toronto gathering material that’s allowed me to get several new projects underway. I’ve been working on a piece about government-sponsored day nurseries that operated during the Second World War, which I hope to see published soon. I’ll be attending the fourth national day care conference in Winnipeg in the fall, so I’ve been working on a history of the three previous national conferences held in 1971, 1982, and 2004. Fellow Frostie Julia Smith and I are getting underway on a co-authored article that will examine day care workers in BC during the 1970s, and we’re writing a historiographical piece about women and work. And last but not least I’ve also been working on turning my dissertation into a manuscript – my book Contested Child Care: The Dilemmas of Working Motherhood in British Columbia’s Social Policy will be coming out in Spring 2015.

JO: What have been some of the highlights while you have been with us?

LP: The Frost Centre, and Trent more generally, is a lively place when it comes to visits from speakers, visiting academics, and others. It’s been great to see Joseph Boyden, Alanis Obamsawin, the Northern Lecture Series, and to spend time with Veronica Strong-Boag when she was here as the Ashley Fellow earlier this year.

JO: Have you had a chance to enjoy Peterborough and the Kawarthas, more generally?

LP: Yes, definitely! I have been having fun cycling, playing softball, exploring the running trails, and being a dedicated attendee at Friday afternoon happy hours. However, I am still waiting for someone to invite me to their cottage, which I think will mean I’ve really been initiated into Ontario life.
Sean Carleton


“Rebranding Canada with Comics: Canada 1812: Forged in Fire and the Continuing Co-optation of Tecumseh,” Active History.ca (April 2014).

M. Charmaine Eddy, Professor in English Literature

Shelagh D. Grant, MA, DLitt, FRCGS
2014 “Arctic Sovereignty and International Law,” presented at the Arctic Security Whole of Government Research Workshop, sponsored by the Department of National Defence, Canadian Forces Leadership Institute and Trent University, held at Fort Frontenac, ON: May 6–7. (publication pending)

2013 “Arctic Governance and the Relevance of History” presented at the Arctic Governance Conference hosted by the Rothermere American Institute and St. Antony’s College at Oxford University, UK, September 26–27. (publication pending)


Julia Harrison, Professor in Anthropology

Derek Newman-Stille
(September, 2013). “Where Blindness is Not(?) a Disability: Alison Sinclair’s Darkborn.” Mosaic: A Journal for the Interdisciplinary Study of Literature. 46.3 (Special Issue: Blindness)


I CAME TO TRENT in 2009 as an undergraduate student in the Concurrent Education program, intent on becoming a high school teacher. Thankfully, I realized early on that a classroom full of fourteen-year-olds was not where I wanted to spend the rest of my adult life, and shifted my focus away from “teachables” and toward Canadian Studies. After completing my joint degree in Canadian Studies and History, I decided to continue my education at Trent in the Canadian Studies and Indigenous Studies MA program.

My research is on archives and multiculturalism. I will be looking at the three local archives in Peterborough as well as the Peterborough Partnership Council on Immigrant Integration’s “My Canadian Story” project, a digital archive. I will see the different stories they tell about immigration, integration and cultural difference and how they fit within the larger multicultural narrative in Canada, as well as Peterborough as a “reluctantly multicultural” community.

I chose to do my MA at the Frost Centre because it offered me the interdisciplinary flexibility that I believe my project needs, and also because I was committed to staying in Peterborough. I have sat on the board of Trent Radio since my first year at Trent, first as Vice Chair, then as President and Chair for the past four years. I have also served as an operator and run a weekly programme called “Growing Pains,” where I read children’s and young adult fiction on the air. I am now entering my third year as President and Chair of the board of the PR Community and Student Association, the organization that runs Sadleir House. This year, I’ve been planning events to celebrate Sadleir House’s 10th Anniversary—it opened in February 2004. Throughout this hectic academic year, Trent Radio and Sadleir House have been my havens. They’re the places where I feel most at home.
Momin Rahman, Associate Professor, Sociology (Sabbatical 2013–2014)


“Public Culture: a series of talks organized by Trent Sociology Students Collective.” Talk for a panel discussion on the Quebec Charter of Values, October 2013, Trent University.


Joan Sangster, Professor in Gender & Women’s Studies


Julia Smith


Elaine Stavro, Associate Professor, Political Studies


“Merleau-Ponty and Revolutionary Agency,” *Theory & Event* Volume 17. 1 March 2014

“Bad Parents, Bad Mothers; Mobilizing Affect in Welfare Reform in the United Kingdom” delivered to The British Studies Conference, March 7th, 2014, Riverside California, *Embodied Becoming: The Political Thinking of Simone de Beauvoir* Completed manuscript currently under review at McGill Queens Press.

David Tough


Amy Twomey


Kelly Young, Associate Professor, School of Education


Meghan Buckham  
MA  
**Barriers and Facilitators to Indigenous Knowledge Incorporation in Policy Making: The Nunatsiavut Case**

THE INCLUSION and application of Indigenous Knowledge (IK) has become a central and often demanded element of policy making involving Indigenous peoples. However, there are very few examples that exist in the literature and elsewhere that show how IK can be effectively integrated into decisions, policies, and programs. In response to these challenges, this research explored what processes are used to incorporate IK into policy and their effectiveness through the development of a framework that sought to identify critical factors related to IK inclusion. The framework was then applied to evaluate IK incorporation opportunities in the Nunatsiavut case, focusing on the development of the Nunatsiavut Government’s Environmental Protection Act. This research identifies the importance of governance structures and processes, community participation and engagement approaches, and IK research and support programming in enhancing opportunities for IK to be integrated and reflected in policy outcomes. The Nunatsiavut case largely supported, but in some cases challenged critical factors of IK incorporation identified in the framework. The findings of this study are valuable for policy and decision makers (both Indigenous and non-Indigenous) regarding approaches and programs that can assist and support IK inclusion into policy processes and decisions.

**Blair Cullen (MA)**  
**Local Immigration Partnerships: A Case Study in Regional Governance of Durham Region, Ontario**

INTRODUCED AS part of the Canada-Ontario Immigration Agreement, Local Immigration Partnerships (LIPs) mark a fundamental shift in local settlement policy. To address the gap in knowledge about the implications of this policy change, this thesis research features a case study of Durham Region’s LIP. Objectives were designed to examine the impact of Durham’s LIP by interviewing 52 key-informants within six sectors involved in settlement and integration. Findings indicate an effective application of the LIP policy with participants pointing to the LIP’s vital role in bringing Welcome Centres to Durham, increasing the attention and profile of immigration issues and improving governance relations amongst different sectors in settlement and integration. A product of local circumstances, the LIP has engaged in a quasi-advocacy role.

**I DON’T THINK OF myself as a typical MA student and found myself at home in the interdisciplinary research and scholarship that makes the Frost Centre unique and distinctive. My background is actually electrical engineering (Waterloo, 1985), micro-electronics, software engineering and information technology, but my first real job was in journalism, working as a beat reporter for the now defunct Ottawa Journal.**  

Since then, journalism, newsmaking and politics remained a lifelong interest, though only as a spectator sport. In the last few years, my interest in politics was revived when I joined other residents of Durham Region in opposing plans to build a massive garbage incinerator in my community. Unfortunately, the project is going ahead but in the process, I started to examine the communication strategy of the regional government and of the incinerator industry—how did it so effectively reframe an environmentally destructive practice as unquestioned “common sense”? I decided then that I needed a deeper understanding of politics, communication and the intersection between environmental politics and business as usual.

My initial thesis project was to compare the stated environmental policy of the McGuinty Liberal government in Ontario with the actual decisions and policies but the 2012 Québec student conflict sent me in quite a different direction. Being fluent in French and English, I was dismayed at the gap between coverage in Québec newspapers and television. I joined the collective “Translating the printemps érable” (some pages available on the Internet Archive [https://web.archive.org/web/20120531211404/http://www.qubecprotest.com/]) that worked to translate material that better reflected the postions of the striking students and marchers who opposed the infamous Bill 78. Over the course of a few dozen translations, I developed a new thesis topic, studying the news coverage of the conflict. I think it fits well within the mandate of the Frost Centre because it engages Québec-Canada relations in a context outside of the usual language issues and constitutional wrangling. My overall question is, what do the differences in coverage tell us about the different perceptions in Québec and in the rest of Canada of the nature of postsecondary education, public spaces and even the legitimacy of state authority?

Currently, I balance work as professor in the School of Science and Engineering Technology at Durham College in Oshawa with part-time work on my thesis at the Frost Centre. It’s not easy to focus on my part-time studies because of the mental shift required—and there’s always something more pressing at the college or at home—but I enjoy the challenge.
Robert (Ben) Fawcett (MA)
Exploring Indigenous Contributions to (Indigenization of) the City of Saskatoon's 2012–2022 Strategic Plan

THE SELF-DETERMINING autonomy of urban Aboriginal communities in Canada’s Prairie Provinces can be strengthened at the local scale through decolonized municipal governance frameworks. The City of Saskatoon’s Strategic Plan 2012–2022 is highlighted to explore two interrelated questions: do Saskatoon’s Aboriginal engagement strategies represent a co-produced or indigenized mainstream planning and policy-making process? Does the potential indigenization of municipal planning and policy-making represent a promising pathway to facilitate local decolonization through collaborative municipal-Aboriginal governance in Saskatoon? Results from qualitative interviews reveal that the City of Saskatoon’s distinctive Aboriginal engagement strategies were not entirely meaningful for participants, though the planning process included elements that, if expanded upon, could deepen co-production. Indigenization through co-production necessitates a thorough integration of Aboriginal community input at every stage of a planning and policy-making process, shared control and decision-making mechanisms between municipal governments and Aboriginal communities, and ancillary considerations for increased Aboriginal representation and participation in the administrative and political functions of City Hall.

Linda Langford
(MA – MRP)
Climate Change Adaptation in the Greater Peterborough Area

CLIMATE CHANGE will impact the natural environment as well as human welfare by affecting economies, human health, infrastructure, intergovernmental relations and geopolitical linkages. Although there may be opportunities or benefits from climate change, it is anticipated that most impacts will alter existing situations in a negative or unplanned manner. Implementation of climate actions in Peterborough is underway but still in the preliminary stages. Fundamental roadblocks to climate change protection include funding, information and expertise, competing priorities, uncertainty and governance. The upfront costs of mitigation and adaptation for municipalities are a frequently cited barrier to climate change action. Municipalities have to contend with numerous competing priorities involving various programs. Climate change becomes just another pressure. The uncertainties of climate science and the unpredictability of weather events also discourage action. It is imperative that governments at all levels assume a leadership role and ensure that adaptation is occurring at a pace and scope that will safeguard our environmental, economic and social heritage.

James Lisowski
(MA – MRP)
Media Narratives and Red Power: The interrelationship between media, Mohawk militancy and the Canadian state

THIS MRP ADDRESSES a contemporary expression of Red Power, the 2007 National Day of Action (NDOA) blockades organized by Mohawk activist, Shawn Brant, doing so through examination of media coverage of these protests in mainstream, Indigenous and alternative media, especially newspapers. It thus aims to provide insight into the relationships among the media, Indigenous activism and militancy, and the Canadian state. The influences of various newsprint media in shaping the representation and public perception of the NDOA blockades are presented and, in the process, highlights the extent to which the 2007 protests reflect an ongoing Indigenous resistance to longstanding grievances. The Major Research Paper thus concludes that the NDOA blockades reflected a crucial disconnect among the media, Red Power activism, and the Canadian state, suggesting that this representational problem contributes to the ongoing impasse of Indigenous demand and the response of the colonial settler society.

John Marris (PhD)
Pausing Encounters with Autism and Its Unruly Representation: An Inquiry into Method, Culture and Academia in the Making of Disability and Difference in Canada

THIS DISSERTATION seeks to explore and understand how autism, asperger and the autistic spectrum is represented in Canadian culture. Acknowledging the role of films, television, literature and print media in the construction of autism in the consciousness of the Canadian public, this project seeks to critique representations of autism on the grounds that these representations have an ethical responsibility to autistic individuals and those who share their lives.

This project raises questions about how autism is constructed in formal and popular texts; explores retrospective diagnosis and labelling in biography and fiction; questions the use of autism and Asperger’s as metaphor for contemporary technology culture; examines autistic characterization in fiction; and argues that representations of
autism need to be hospitable to autistic culture and difference.

Chapter One offers an explanation of disability studies scholarship and the history of autism as a category of disability and difference. Chapter Two looks at how disability and specifically autistic representations have been understood academically and introduces the rationale and experiences of the focus group project. Chapter Three explores retrospective, biographical diagnosis, the role of autism as technological metaphor, and contemporary biography. Chapter Four looks at the construction of autistic characters in Canadian literature and film. Chapter Five interrogates documentary and news media responses to autism and the construction of autism as Canadian health crisis, and also explores how discourses that surround autism are implicated in interventions and therapeutic approaches to autistic individuals.

**Amy Twomey (PhD)**

**Pursuing Different Policy Paths in Long-Term Care: Manitoba, Ontario and the Politics of Commercialization**

In this dissertation, I explain why governments in two provinces, Manitoba and Ontario, have come to rely on the proprietary sector to markedly different degrees. While in the federation Manitoba stands out for its restrained reliance on this form of care, Ontario stands out for its exceptional dependence on commercial provision. In the chapters that follow, I employ an historical institutionalist framework of analysis to explain why these neighbouring provinces initially pursued different policy paths in long-term care and how these paths have been sustained over time.

Focusing largely on the period from the 1960s to the 1990s, I emphasize that present differences in ownership are a reflection of the different constellation of actors, events, ideas and institutions that came together at critical junctures in time, and the lasting legacies that these early windows of opportunity for reform have had on subsequent rounds of long-term care policy-making. In each province, diverging ideas about the appropriate role of the for-profit sector in meeting the long-term care needs of an aging population rose to prominence on the political agenda. Over time, rigidities developed in each system, making it difficult for actors advocating for new directions in ownership to realize their ambitions.

I conclude this dissertation by arguing that its findings can contribute in important ways to present discussions about long-term care reform in Canada generally and about the future role of for-profit providers specifically.

**James Onusko (PhD)**


This dissertation explores the intersections between the suburban landscape both ‘real’ and imagined, childhood, children and adolescents. I contend that there was a richness and diversity in the experiences of children and adolescents in postwar Canada that resists simplistic stereotypes that often depict suburbia as primarily middle-class, dull, homogeneous, conformist, and alienating for residents of all ages.

Suburban living has become the definitive housing choice for the majority of Canadians since the end of World War II. While class and gender were important factors shaping childhood and adolescence, my research findings also show that children and adolescents exercised their agency in this period, and they were active participants in their lives on personal, educational, community, and municipal levels. Young people were monitored, regulated and disciplined, but they were not passive receptacles in a world dominated by adults.

This interdisciplinary study uses a wide range of archival, visual and documentary sources, and also integrates oral histories as a key methodology. Ultimately, I offer a pan-Canadian view of changing images and constructions of childhood by delving into more specific topics to children and adolescents using postwar Calgary suburbia as a focal point in order to understand the heterogeneity of suburban life.
Incoming Students

CAST PhD

Katharine Gentle
Will explore “Post WWII Child saving movement: Institutionalization of Disabled Children.”

Heather Levie
Through the lens of literary studies I will examine how rurality and cultural particularity affect young Canadian women’s sense of identity and belonging.

Margo Perun
Looks at how Canadians are facing the threat of extinction in climate change.

CSID MA

Junyi Chen
Will be analyzing the identity of Chinese immigrants in Canada.

Ulrike Fliesser
Is looking at tourism in the Northwest Territories.

Toban Leckie
Will be working on, “Collaborative Adventure Tourism in Sahtu, NT: A Model for Culturally Sustainable Economic Development.”

Kristopher Millet
Is studying, “The ‘Problem’ is the Real Problem: Getting Behind the False Narrative, Structured Insecurity and Criminalization of Somali Canadian Youth.”

Caileigh Morrison
Is exploring the topic of local Archives and multiculturalism.

Laura Stanley
Studies contemporary independent Canadian music in the digital age.

Emily Yamashita
Will look at the Canadian government’s plans for economic development in the North.

Frost Centre Student Association

NOW IN ITS THIRD year, the Frost Centre Student Association (FCSA) acts as a voice for all Frost Centre students (“Frosties”) within the department, the university as a whole, and provides accessible social activities for fellow Frosties.

This year the FCSA welcomed its new students with a reprise of its Big Frostie/ Little Frostie program, which paired current and incoming Frost Centre students. Current Frosties contacted their “Little Frosties” before the start of fall semester, emailing or setting up coffee dates, and offering their wisdom and support on the transition into the M.A. and Ph.D. programs.

The FCSA focused on advocacy activities this year, working to make the university a friendlier place for Frost Centre students. This included having discussions with the university and department administration about funding arrangements, transportation to the Oshawa campus, and second language requirements for PhD students.

We encourage any Frosties to come with us with issues they think are affecting the quality of Frost Centre student life.

Social activities are an important part of the FCSA’s mandate, and the FCSA had packed line-up of social events throughout the year, including several getting-to-know-you pub nights at the Olde Stone, where Frosties old and new bonded over nachos and great conversation. The association also hosted a movie night in Kerr House, watching The Trotsky, a film about a Montreal high school student who believes he is the Canadian reincarnation of the Soviet Revolutionary. Frost Centre Ph.D. candidate Julia Smith introduced the movie, offering some context on the life and philosophy of Leo Trotsky.

The FCSA kicked off 2014 with an outing to a Peterborough Petes game. Frosties came from far and wide to watch the Petes trounce the Ottawa 67’s. Frosties also enjoyed a cozy games night in the Senior Common Room, complete...
with hot chocolate, popcorn, and friendly competitive spirit. March brought the FCSA’s annual Suds and Speakers series to The Trend. Suds and Speakers offered free food and good brews as students and professors gathered to warmly welcome back former Frost Centre director Dr. Julia Harrison, who gave an entertaining and educational talk based on her new book _A Timeless Place: The Ontario Cottage_. Dr. Michael Eamon ended the afternoon with a talk about 18th century print culture that was part academic, part comedy routine.

The FCSA is always looking for new students to get involved and help our association be a fun and supportive network, and will be holding elections for executive and committee positions in the coming months. If you are interested in getting involved, you can contact the FCSA President, Stephanie Dotto, at stephaniedotto@trentu.ca. Hope to see you out at our next meeting!

Professor Mary Jane McCallum has published her first monograph, _Indigenous Women, Work and History 1940–1980_. Mary Jane, who now teaches in the Department of History at the University of Winnipeg, completed a Masters thesis in the Frost Centre in 2002.

Frost Alum Chet Singh (MA, 2001) issued his sixth CD release _Occupation Nation_ in 2013. A well-known dub artist, Chet was active in the 1980’s as a part of the band One Mind, and he was also involved in Cultural Outreach.

If you wish to share milestones with us for a future Frost Report, please send one or two sentences to Cathy Schoel (cathyschoel@trentu.ca) for next year’s report.

Alumni Achievements


Editor-in-Chief: Joan Sangster
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Kerr House, Traill College
Trent University
1600 West Bank Drive
Peterborough, Ontario
K9J 7B8
(705) 748-1750

www.trentu.ca/frostcentre
frostcentre@trentu.ca
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