

The International Canadianist



International Council for Canadian Studies

October 2005

Siauliai Canada Week

Canada was in the news in Lithuania during "Canada Week in Siauliai" October 3-8, 2005. Among the many events organized by the Canadian Embassy, in conjunction with the Lithuanian Association for Canadian Studies and the University of Siauliai, were a Canadian book display and an International Canadian Studies conference.



Over 200 students and members of the general public took advantage of the opportunity to view some of the most recent academic publications from Canada in the Traveling Canadian Studies Collection on display in the Reading Hall of Siauliai University Library.

The Fourth Baltic International Canadian Studies Conference titled "Canada: The Society and Individual" organized jointly by the Faculty of Humanities at Siauliai University, the Lithuanian Association for Canadian Studies and the Office of the Canadian Embassy in Vilnius took place at Siauliai University from October 7-8, 2005. Twenty-eight professors and students from eight countries (Lithuania, Canada, Turkey, Latvia, Poland, Israel, Russia and Sweden) presented papers in English and French. Conference participants were greeted by Vice Rector of Siauliai University Mr. **Juozas Pabreza**, Canadian Ambassador Ms. **Clare Poulan**, the President of the Lithuanian Association for Canadian Studies Association, Professor **Aldona Reksniene**, and Dean of Faculty of Humanities, Dr. **Genovaitė Kaciuskiene**. Mr. **Brian Herman**, Charge d'Affaires at the Office of the Canadian Embassy in Vilnius provided remarks entitled "Canada - We Live in Interesting Times."

Activities related to Canada and Canadian Studies in Siauliai are centered around Canada Room which was opened at the Faculty of Humanities in 2001. Every year a number of educational events related to Canada are organized by the Faculty.

St. Petersburg Hosts RACS Conference

The Russian Association for Canadian Studies (RACS) hosted the 8th Biennial International Conference entitled "Canada: Unity in Diversity" from September 29 to October 1, 2005. More than 70 participants from Russia, Canada, France, Germany, South Korea, and including immediate Past President of the ICCS, **Zilá Bernd** of Brazil, gathered to discuss Canada's experience in the fields of tolerance, and respect for diversity.

The conference was attended by the representatives of the Canadian Consulate General in St. Petersburg and the Canadian Embassy in Russia. **Helen Rodney**, Deputy Director of International Education and Youth (formerly International Academic Relations) at Foreign Affairs Canada, attended both the RACS conference and the 9th International Education Fair, held at the City Public Library, where she gave a special presentation on opportunities to study in Canada. The Travelling Canadian Studies Collection, exhibited at both the RACS conference and for two weeks at the City Public Library, attracted more than 5,000 visitors and proved so successful that the Library extended the display for an additional two weeks.

Success for Canadian Literature in Italy

For the first time the prestigious "Carlo Betocchi Poetry Prize", worth Cdn\$7,300 went to a non-Italian poet. From a field of three finalists the Jury unanimously chose 83 year old Canadian **Douglas Lochhead**, recipient of the 1980 Governor General Award, for his *La Strada di Tantramar* [*High Marsh Road*] translated into Italian by **Judith Rorai**, a Canadian from the Maritimes.

The prize was presented on October 1, 2005 during a very well-attended ceremony at Palazzo Vecchio, the Florence landmark. Lochhead's daughter, Sara, came from New Brunswick to deliver her father's acceptance speech. A video Lochhead made especially for the occasion was widely appreciated.

La Strada di Tantramar was published in Pisa in 2004 with the support of the **Canadian Studies Centre, University of Pisa**. The late Judith Rorai, the book's translator and editor, was a dynamic associate of the Centre and a teacher in the university's Department of English. Italy discovered Douglas Lochhead thanks to Rorai's seminal work.

Named after the 20th century Florentine poet Carlo Betocchi, the prize is sponsored by a local bank under the patronage of the City of Florence. The prize has previously been awarded to world-famous Italian poets such as Eugenio Montale and Mario Luzi.

Terry Fox Run for the Cure

The Terry Fox Run for the Cure is held in over 70 countries each year. But on March 20, 2005 over 1.9 million Cubans from 155 municipalities throughout the island took part in what must be the largest simultaneous Terry Fox Run in the world. At precisely 10:00 a.m. runners in 3,679 run sites across the island tuned into



Radio Reloj for the national countdown to start of the run. The 2005 edition of "La Carrera Terry Fox - Lucha contra el cáncer" raised over US \$41,000 for cancer research in Cuba.

Members of the Canadian Studies Centre in Las Tunas were among those who participated in the run, joining some 10,000 fellow citizens in the third annual Terry Fox Run in Las Tunas, pictured above.

Thomas Garden Barnes Chair in Canadian Studies

The University of California Berkeley has established the Thomas Garden Barnes Chair in Canadian Studies in recognition and appreciation of **Thomas G. Barnes** (ACSUS President, 2001-2003) and his long service to the Canadian Studies Program. **Nelson Graburn**, Professor of Anthropology and internationally known expert on Inuit art, and co-chair of the Canadian Studies Program at Berkeley since 1986, will be the first to hold the new Chair.



Funding for the endowed Chair in Canadian Studies began in 2000 with a generous seed grant from the Government of Canada. With the help of many small and several large gifts from individuals, foundations, and corporations the drive was successfully completed in the Fall of 2005. The Chair includes the Edward Hildebrand Fellowship Fund for Berkeley to support graduate study in fields related to the Canadian Studies Program.

Tom Barnes, Professor of History and Law, together with Emeritus Professor **Victor Jones** of Political Science, co-founded Berkeley's Canadian Studies Program in 1982, with the aim of institutionalizing the interdisciplinary study of Canada through instruction and research. For over 20 years the Program has encouraged and facilitated an awareness of Canadian issues on the Berkeley campus, in nearby institutions with no Canadian Studies programs of their own, and in the wider community as well.

Building Liberty

The Association for Canadian Studies in the Netherlands (ACS/N) organized a three-day conference entitled "Building Liberty: Canada and World Peace, 1945-2005" in May 2005 at the Roosevelt Academy in Middelburg, The Netherlands. The conference marked the end in a series of commemorative and celebratory events that took place in The Netherlands to mark the 60th anniversary of its liberation from German occupation and the role Canadian forces played in establishing peace and helping to rebuild the country in the immediate aftermath of war. The papers from the conference on topics ranging from military and diplomatic history, politics, sociology, media and communication studies, conflict analysis and human rights, law, literature, art, film, and popular culture have been published by Mr. Roelf Barkhuis.

DID YOU KNOW?

- ✳ *Twenty MBA students from U.S. business schools spent a week in classes and meetings at the University of Ottawa's School of Management in June 2005. This initiative of the Association of Canadian Studies in the United States (ACSUS) and Foreign Affairs Canada succeeded in making the students more aware of Canada as a business partner.*
- ✳ *The **Canada-UK Colloquia** are annual meetings by invitation, of British and Canadian parliamentarians, public officials, academics, representatives from the private sector, graduate students and others to discuss public policy issues of concern to both countries. The CUKC's publications are listed on the web site: <http://www.canada-uk.net>.*
- ✳ ***Central European Association for Canadian Studies**, a member of the ICCS since 2004, brings together university teachers, researchers and students from the Central European region who are doing work related to Canada. The association has around 165 members, coming from Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia and Slovenia. It publishes the annual **Central European Journal of Canadian Studies** and every three years holds a major international multidisciplinary conference.*



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