ABOUT US
The Centre for Studies in Religion and Society is an interdisciplinary research centre located at the University of Victoria in Victoria, British Columbia. Its mission is to foster the scholarly study of religion in relation to any and all aspects of society and culture, both contemporary and historical.

The CSRS hosts several national public policy research networks, sponsors graduate student, faculty and sabbatical fellowships, and produces a dynamic annual program of public lectures and seminars. The CSRS is committed to pluralism and dialogue, attracting participants whose backgrounds and perspectives reflect a wide variety of religious and secular points of view.

The CSRS Annual Report is published by the Centre for Studies in Religion and Society at the University of Victoria.

Edit & Design: Robbyn Lanning
Administrative Support: Bonnie Sawyer

DIRECTOR’S NOTES Paul Bramadat

This year our fellows and guest lecturers included emerging and established scholars from the University of Victoria’s departments of Philosophy, Education, Art History and Visual Studies, Pacific and Asian Studies, Political Science, Law, History, English, Environmental Studies, and Religious Studies. Joining them were faculty and graduate students from around the world. The disciplinary and geographical range of our researchers this year was, as in previous years, quite impressive.

Our weekly lecture series and our daily coffee discussions continue to be the main contexts in which we stimulate critical conversations about religion and society. As you can see from the lists below, this year the content and approach of our speakers ranged quite widely, and provided audiences with a great deal of food for thought. The fall was particularly busy at the CSRS. Harold Coward and Conrad Brunk, the Centre’s founding and second directors, joined me and about 70 others to celebrate the first 20 years of the Centre’s life. Both directors provided accounts of the key projects and themes that attracted the attention of scholars and students in those foundational decades. I followed their leads by reflecting on the research and outreach undertaken during my first seven years as director. However, I also looked forward to the next twenty years, and tried to imagine the kinds of research questions that will allow us to address rapid changes in both religion and society in Canada and abroad. The Centre is well positioned not just to interpret these broader changes but also to grapple meaningfully with those changes that may be particular to our own so-called “Cascadia” region.

The second special event we hosted marked the arrival of all seven volumes of the St. John’s Bible at the University of Victoria. The event featured speeches, readings, two public viewing periods, and a world premiere of a musical composition created specifically to mark the event. A generous gift from the friends of Remi De Roo, this bible is a remarkable work of art and an illustration of the ways some Christians are responding to new social realities.

As well, this November we organized a SSHRC-funded international conference that dealt with the relationship between minority religious communities and the state, with a special focus on particular “fields of practice” in Canada, including environmental activism, education, policing and security, treaty negotiations, and healthcare. The event included not just faculty and graduate students but also practitioners who contributed richly to the conversations we had over several days.

This fall Bonnie Sawyer, a former graduate student fellow of the CSRS, joined us as our full-time administrative assistant. Her familiarity with the ethos of the centre, combined with her mastery of its administrative structure, allows her to strengthen the centre quite significantly. Robbyn and I are very pleased to have her join our team, and thank her for her role in facilitating many of the exciting events captured in this report. Finally, this year marks the departure of CSRS Librarian, June Thomson; after more than 20 years of esteemed service to the centre, June is officially retiring. June’s expertise and indeed presence, will be greatly missed by us all.
CSRS FELLOWS

SCHOLARS-IN-RESIDENCE WHO FORM THE HEART OF OUR COMMUNITY

VISITING RESEARCH FELLOWS

Nicola Hayward (McGill University)
The Use of Funerary Art for Commemorating Social Identity:
The Case of the Via Latina’s Samaritan Woman

Tamsin Jones (Trinity College, Hartford CT)
Movement Matters: New Materialism and the Study of Religious Experience

Morny Joy (University of Calgary)
A Question of Influence? Hannah Arendt and Paul Ricoeur

Dietrich Jung (University of Southern Denmark)
Constructing Islamic Modernities: Identity, Social Order and Religious Traditions

Andrew Klager (University of Fraser Valley)
Interreligious Peacebuilding between Muslims and Coptic Christians in Egypt: Using Mennonite Approaches to Conflict Transformation

Sarah Laflamme (University of Montreal)
The Religious Vote in Canada: Dynamics, Mutations and International Comparison

Francis Landy (University of Alberta)
The Covenant with Death and the Constitutive Enigma: A Literary Reading of First Isaiah

Kristin Norget (McGill University)
Practicing Catholic Indigenous Theology in Mexico

Azam Rahmani (Tarbiat Modares University, Iran)
Development and Psychometric Properties of Risky Sexual Behavior Assessment Tool in Iranian Young Women

Katy Sian (University of Manchester)
Sikh and Muslim conflict in the global Sikh Diaspora: A comparison of the UK and North America

Jeremy Smith (Federation University Australia)
Civilizations Analysis, the Sociology of Religion and Latin American Critiques of Eurocentrism

Oriana Walker (Harvard University)
A Cultural History of Breathing

COMMUNITY SABBATICAL FELLOWS

Saul Arbess
The Role of Spiritual Institutions in Creating an Architecture for a Sustainable Peace

Roshan Danesh
The Dimensions of Baha’i Law: A Study of Context, Structure and Form in Baha’u’llah’s Kitab-i-Aqdas

Sorcha McEwan
The Yoga Phenomenon: Body and Spirit Together Again?

Marian Partington
Re-membering: Articulating the Unspeakable

Dan Rutherford
Church Engagement and Moral Freighting: A Canadian Perspective on Putnam and Campbell’s Theory of Religiously-Based Social Action

Moses Wesa
Healing Conflicts in Kenya: The Restorative Justice Approach

UVIC GRADUATE RESEARCH FELLOWS

Fahimeh Ghorbani (MA Cand., UVic Art History & Visual Studies)
Spiritual Theories on Traditional Practice of Craft in Safavid Iran

Allison Grey-Noble (MA Cand., UVic Art History & Visual Studies)
The Living Walls and Seeing Stones: An Inquiry into Jewish Iconoclasm and Cultural Hybridity in Late Antiquity

Madeline Holden (MA Cand., UVic Pacific & Asian Studies)
Religion and Economics: Islamic Microfinance in Indonesia

Catherine Nutting (PhD Cand, UVic Art History & Visual Studies)
Rubens and the NeoStoic Baroque

Matthew Riddett (PhD Cand, UVic Political Science)
Identity and the Politics of Education

Adam Yaghi (PhD Cand, UVic English)
A Nation of Narrations: Religion, Hegemony, Identity & Heterogeneity in the Arab American Literary Tradition
VISITING GRADUATE RESEARCH FELLOWS

Angela Andersen (PhD Cand., The Ohio State University)  
*Cem Evleri: An Examination of the Historical Roots and Contemporary Meanings of Alevi Architecture and Iconography*

Rachel Brown (PhD Cand., Wilfrid Laurier University)  
*Immigration, Integration and Ingestion: The Use of Food and Drink in Religious Identity Negotiations for North African Muslim Immigrants in Paris and Montreal*

VANDEKERKHOVE FAMILY TRUST GRADUATE STUDENT FELLOWSHIPS

Adam Carmichael (PhD Cand., UVic Political Science)  
*Problematic Settlers: Settler-Colonialism and the Political History of the Doukhobors in Canada*

Agnieszka Doll (PhD Cand., UVic Law)  
*“Mother Poland” in Straightjackets: Exploration at the Intersection of Gender, Psychiatry, Religion and Law*

WINNIFRED LONSDALE GRADUATE STUDENT FELLOWSHIP & RELIGIOUS STUDIES TA GRADUATE STUDENT FELLOWSHIP

Justine Semmens (PhD Cand., UVic History)  
*Morality, Deviance and the Parlement of Paris in Catholic Reformation France*

IAN H. STEWART GRADUATE STUDENT FELLOWSHIP

Sam Grey (PhD Cand., UVic Political Science)  
*(Un)Forgiven: The Confluence of Religious and Civic Virtue in, and through Reparations Politics*

Richard Veerapen (PhD Cand., UVic Law)  
*Physician Engagement with Family and Close Others of Patients during the Informed Consent Process*

CSRS ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE

Trudi Lynn Smith (Visual Artist, UVic Environmental Studies)  
*Portable Camera Obscura: Sewing Contemplation*

UVIC FACULTY FELLOWSHIPS

Margaret Cameron (Philosophy)  
*Varieties of Aristotelianism*

Kathryn Chan (Law)  
*Faith-based Organizations as Loci of Law: A Malawian Case Study*

ASSOCIATE FELLOWS

James Acken  
*Sacred Violence and Divine Eloquence in Early Norse and Celtic Culture*

Harold Coward  
*Word, Chant, and Song as Forces for Spiritual Transformation in Hinduism*

Erica Cruikshank Dodd  
*Treasures of the Early Church*

Robert Florida  
*Ethical Issues in Modern Buddhism*

Mona Goode  
*Muslim Taxation: The Evolution of Zakat as a “Sacred Tax”*

Michael L. Hadley  
*Radical Evil and Restorative Justice*

Chelsea Horton  
*Mixed Blessings: Indigenous Encounters with Christianity in Canada*

Terence Marner  
*The Medieval Concept of “L’Homme Armé” in the Victorian Hymn and in the 20th-Century American Western*

Graham McDonough  
*The Catholic School as Public Ecclesial Space*

Jarrad Reddekop  
*Rethinking Human-Nonhuman Relations: Between Western and Amazonian Thinking*

Michael Reed  
*Ely, Art-Production and the Benedictine Reform, c. 10th–11th Centuries*

John Sandys-Wunch  
*An Introduction to the Old Testament for Non-Specialists*

Genevieve von Petzinger  
*Signs and Symbols: Tracking Geometric Rock Art across the Landscape of Upper Paleolithic Europe*

Carolyn Whitney-Brown  
*Reflecting on Past, Present and Future Connections between the United Church of Canada and L’Arche in Canada and L’Arche International Founder’s Project*

Katherine Young  
*On Tamil Religion, Caste, and Politics: Non-Brahmin Srivaisnavas Speak Out*
LECTURES & EVENTS

CSRS THURSDAY PUBLIC LECTURES
AN ECLECTIC OFFERING OF WEEKLY PRESENTATIONS BY FELLows AND ASSOCIATES OF THE CENTRE. AUDIO RECORDINGS OF MOST TALKS ARE AVAILABLE AT WWW.CSRS.UVIC.CA.

### Sept. 18, 2014
**Dietrich Jung**, Visiting Research Fellow, University of Southern Denmark  
**Constructing Islamic Modernities: Identity, Social Order and Religious Traditions**

### Sept. 25, 2013*
**Jeremy Smith**, Visiting Research Fellow, University of Ballarat  
**Lineages of Liberation? Civilizations Analysis, the Sociology of Religion and Latin American Critiques of Eurocentrism**

### Oct. 2, 2013*
**Adam Carmichael**, Vandekerkhove Family Trust Graduate Student Fellow, UVic Political Science  
**The Migration of Colonial Knowledge: The Case of Harry Hawthorn and the "Doukhobor Problem"**

### Oct. 9, 2013
**Rachel Brown**, Visiting Graduate Research Fellow, Wilfrid Laurier University  
**Consistency, Change, Culture and Context: The Four C's of Immigrant Muslim Food Practice**

### Oct. 16, 2013
**Jawid Mojaddedi**, Rutger’s University  
**CSRS Distinguished Lecture in Islam: Understanding Rumi’s Place within the Sufi Tradition**

### Oct. 23, 2013
**Katy Pal Sian**, Visiting Research Fellow, University of Manchester  
**Understanding the Contours of Sikh and Muslim Conflict in Britain and North America**

### Oct. 30, 2013*
**Paul Bramadat**, Director, CSRS; UVic History/Religious Studies  
**CSRS 20th Anniversary Event: 20-20 Vision: On the Cusp of the Next Twenty Years in Research**

### Nov. 6, 2013
**Justine Semmens**, Winnifred Lonsdale Graduate Student Fellow, UVic History  
**Did Romeo Rape Juliet?: The Christian Origins of Rape and Consent**

### Nov. 13, 2013
**Margaret Cameron**, Faculty Fellow, UVic Philosophy  
**True or false? The World was Created in Six Days**

### Nov. 20, 2013*
**Alan H. Batten**, RSC, Dominion Astrophysical Observatory  
**The Greater Cosmology**

### Nov. 27, 2013*
**Monique Scheer**, Eberhard Karls Universitaet, Tuebingen, Germany  
**European Union Centre of Excellence (EUCE) Lecture: New Centers of Islamic Theology at Universities in the EU: The German Case**

* indicates lectures generously supported by the Anglican Diocese of BC through the John Albert Hall Endowment.

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### 2014 DISTINGUISHED LECTURE IN ISLAM

**OCTOBER 16, 2014 – UNDERSTANDING RUMI’S PLACE WITHIN THE SUFI TRADITION**

**JAWID MOJADDEDI**  
Professor, Islamic Studies, Department of Religion  
Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey  

Today Jalal al-Din Rumi (d. 1273) is the most famous Sufi and perhaps the most famous of all mystics. His poetry is the most widely read poetry in North America, though not all readers are necessarily aware of its origins in the medieval Muslim world. This is due to the tendency to present him as the archetypal mystic sage, not tied to any particular tradition or historical period. This lecture situates Rumi in the medieval Muslim world, so he can serve as a window to a flourishing tradition of Sufism, while also highlighting what is distinctive about this remarkable poet.

Jawid Mojaddedi is Professor of Religion at Rutgers University. Since the publication of his translation, The Masnavi: Book One, which was awarded the 2004 Lois Roth Prize, Mojaddedi has been working towards completing the six books of Jalal al-Din Rumi’s magnum opus.

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### CSRS SUMMER LECTURE SERIES

PUBLIC PROGRAMMING FEATURING CSRS VISITING RESEARCH FELLOWS

**June 11, 2014**
**Bill Israel**, CSRS Community Sabbaticant  
Narrating the Meaning of Life: Ira Progoff’s Intensive Personal Journal (IPJ) Method

**June 18, 2014**
**Angela Andersen**, The Ohio State University  
From Tekke to Cemevi: The Conversion of Sufi Lodges into Alevi Meeting Places in Istanbul

**June 25, 2014**
**Chelsea Horton**, University of British Columbia  
Becoming Indigenous and Baha’i in Global North America
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<th>Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 8, 2015</td>
<td>Martin Bunton, UVic History</td>
<td>Erdogan's Democracy: The Legitimacy and Popularity of Turkey’s Islamist Government</td>
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<td>Jan. 22, 2015</td>
<td>Richard Veerapen, Ian H. Stewart, Graduate Student Fellow, UVic Law</td>
<td>Ethical and Legal Considerations in 'Triadic' Interactions Between Physicians, Patients and their Families during Informed Consent Processes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 29, 2015*</td>
<td>Harold Coward, CSRS Founding Director</td>
<td>Fifty Years of Religious Studies in Canada: A Personal Retrospective</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 5, 2015*</td>
<td>Siobhan Chandler, UVic School of Nursing</td>
<td>Like Nailing Jell-O to a Wall? Understanding Spiritual but not Religious Care in Nursing and Chaplaincy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 19, 2015</td>
<td>Agnieszka Doll, Vandekerkhove Family Trust Graduate Student Fellow, UVic Law</td>
<td>&quot;Mother Poland&quot; in a Straightjacket: The Intersection of Gender, Psychiatry, Religion, and Law</td>
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<td>Feb. 26, 2015*</td>
<td>Sam Grey, Ian H. Stewart Graduate Student Fellow, UVic Political Science</td>
<td>(Un)Forgiven: The Confluence of Religious and Civic Virtue in (and through) Reparations Politics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 5, 2015*</td>
<td>Kathryn Chan, Faculty Fellow, UVic Law</td>
<td>Faith-based Organizations as Loci of Law: A Malawian Case Study</td>
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<td>Mar. 12, 2015*</td>
<td>Damien Keown, University of London</td>
<td>Virtues, Vices and the Environment: Ethics and Ecology in Early Buddhism</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar. 19, 2015</td>
<td>Kristin Norget, Visiting Research Fellow, McGill University</td>
<td>Practicing Catholic Indigenous Theology in Mexico</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar. 26, 2015</td>
<td>Morny Joy, Visiting Research Fellow, University of Calgary</td>
<td>Affirmation of Life, Evil and Forgiveness: Hannah Arendt and Ricoeur</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr. 2, 2015</td>
<td>Trudi L. Smith, CSRS Artist in Residence, UVic Environmental Studies</td>
<td>The Inner Life of a Camera: The Camera Obscura and Contemplative Practice in a more than Human World</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr. 7, 2015</td>
<td>Sarah Wilkins Laflamme, Visiting Research Fellow, University of Montreal</td>
<td>The Religious–Secular Divide in Canadian Society and Politics</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* indicates Lansdowne lectures: part of UVic’s renowned public lecture series featuring distinguished scholars across an array of academic and research endeavours.
On September 20, 2014 the friends of Bishop Remi De Roo publicly presented all seven volumes of the Saint John’s Bible, Heritage Edition to the UVic CSRS. This generous gift inaugurates the Found in Translation collection of modern renderings of sacred texts from around the world. The Saint John’s Bible is the first handwritten illuminated Bible to be commissioned since the advent of the printing press. The Heritage Edition provides an opportunity to investigate the ways communities build bridges between ancient texts and contemporary societies.

The CSRS wishes to thank the 267 individuals who have thus far made donations towards the acquisition of the Saint John’s Bible. The text is currently being housed in UVic Special Collections and the centre is now fundraising for a display case to safely exhibit the Bible at the CSRS. Those interested in making a donation in support of the Bible’s display and programming related to the Found in Translation collection can visit https://extrweb.uvic.ca/centre-for-studies-in-religion-and-society.

Milkweed and Butterfly (detail), Chris Tomlin, Copyright 2002, The Saint John’s Bible, Saint John’s University, Collegeville, Minnesota USA. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

LECTURES & EVENTS

THE SAINT JOHN’S BIBLE - HERITAGE EDITION

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Milkweed and Butterfly (detail), Chris Tomlin, Copyright 2002, The Saint John’s Bible, Saint John’s University, Collegeville, Minnesota USA. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

IDEAFEST 2015

MARCH 5, 2015
CANADA’S WAR AGAINST ISIS
Hosted by the Centre for Global Studies (CFGS)

With the ‘war’ against ISIS unlike-ly to be short, it is important to fully understand Canada’s role. How can ISIS be dismantled? What is the risk of Canada’s involvement expanding? What is the nature of the aggressive ideology that ISIS represents? What is the nature of the threats faced at home? To gain a better understanding, a group of UVic scholars panelists Martin Bunton (CFGS, History), Andrew Rippin (History), Scott Watson (Political Science), Andrew Wender (History, Political Science), provided context to this war from a variety of perspectives: historical, political, religious and diplomatic. The evening’s session was moderated by Paul Bramadat (CSRS).

20-20 VISION

OCTOBER 30, 2014
20-20 VISION: ON THE CUSP OF THE NEXT TWENTY YEARS IN RESEARCH
CSRS 20TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

To celebrate the accomplishments of the CSRS over the last twenty years, former center directors Harold Coward and Conrad Brunk joined current director, Paul Bramadat to share some of the most interesting milestones in the centre’s past twenty years.

Looking forward, Paul Bramadat also posited the “big questions” that might captivate the imaginations of scholars of religion and society over the next two decades, including whether or not the concepts and techniques we have used to analyze religion will still be of use to those interested in the emerging forms of religious life; and how we might interpret new forms of religious and spiritual life in our society and in societies beyond our borders.

Catch your favourite CSRS lectures on Vimeo and Soundcloud!
Visit http://www.crsrs.uvic.ca/events/audio_files.php to connect.
SUPPORTED BY THE CSRS

January 31, 2015 – 28th Annual Medieval Workshop:
Burnt at the Stake
Sponsored by: Medieval Studies, Continuing Studies, Centre for Studies in Religion and Society

February 6–7, 2015 – Symposium:
Witches of the West: Witch-hunts in our Modernity
Sponsored by: Medieval Studies, UVic Libraries, Centre for Studies in Religion and Society

CHRONICLING THE CSRS

Adapted from material contained in his recently published book, Fifty Years of Religious Studies in Canada: A Personal Retrospective (Wilfred Laurier Press, 2014), CSRS founding director Harold Coward shares his story behind the creation and growth of the CSRS in his new UVic-published booklet, The UVic Centre for Studies in Religion and Society: My Story of its Birth and Development.

The booklet provides rich insight into the centre’s research and publishing activities, governance and finance structures, as well as the unique community of fellows fostered at the CSRS ranging from graduate student, faculty, and community fellows, to the more recently established Artist in Residence program. Copies are available in print at the centre and will soon be available both at the McPherson Library Archives and online through the CSRS community on the University of Victoria’s learning and research repository UVicSpace at http://dspace.library.uvic.ca/handle/1828/4490.

SELECTED NEW PUBLICATIONS*

- Paul Bramadat and Lorne Dawson, eds. 2014. Religious Radicalization and Securitization in Canada and Beyond. University of Toronto Press.

*For a complete list of publications from CSRS fellows, check out our soon-to-be-renovated website.
FINANCIAL SUMMARY

OPERATIONS

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1For the period April 1, 2014 to March 31, 2015. Figures reflect costs associated with core staff and student employees.

REVENUE EXPENDITURES:
In addition to the cost of salaries, the CSRS’s revenue provides resources for fellowships, programming (such as lectures, special events, hosting), library materials, outreach, and office amenities.

DONATIONS

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THE CSRS THANKS ITS GENEROUS DONORS: