DIRECTOR'S NOTES Paul Bramadat

This has been a very good year, both because we have continued the tradition established decades ago of being a home for researchers and research, but also because recent successes have laid the groundwork for a very exciting future.

In November, we hosted a Festrschrift to honour Dr. Andrew Rippin, a world-renowned Islamicist, former Dean at UVic, and a very dear friend of the CSRS. We planned to present the book to him at the event, but nature had its own plans, and he was too ill to attend. He passed away just days after the symposium. His absence meant that for his UVic friends and for others in the local community the event functioned as an impromptu celebration of his life. It was an honour for the CSRS to help the community to bear witness to the passing of this wonderful friend, colleague, and citizen. We were pleased, as well, that Dr. Gerald Hawting from the School of Oriental and African Studies in London, was able to provide an excellent keynote lecture.



Scholars associated with the CSRS have often addressed the philosophical, economic, social, theological, and cultural forces associated with the changing place of women both in religious communities and in the broader society. So, it was very stimulating to work with colleagues at the University of Calgary to create and host *Women*, *Rights*, *and Religion*. This international workshop took place here in August and included scholars from the US, Germany, Thailand, Canada, Australia, India, and Malaysia.

In March we hosted an Ideafest event dedicated to religion and spirituality in the "Cascadia bio-region," the area (generally) encompassing Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia. Speakers dealt with the history, geography, and colonial legacy of the region, as well as some of the distinctive spiritual practices and sensibilities for which it is now known. We were delighted to learn at the end of March that our project has received support from the Social Science and Humanities Research Council. We look forward to engaging you in conversations about the peculiar history and trajectory of religion in this bio-region over the next four or five years.

As well, we recently installed the professional-grade display cabinet we designed to house the Found in Translation collection of contemporary illustrated or illuminated translations of sacred texts. Having all of the items with us at the CSRS will enable us to seek support for a major conference, research initiative, and public engagement activities related to what ancient texts might mean in the modern (or post-modern) world.

This report provides readers with a good sense of the wide range of scholars whom it has been a great pleasure to host this year. I am always humbled to see people at our social gatherings, daily coffee meetings, public lectures, workshops, or in the CSRS hallways stepping across disciplinary and cultural boundaries to learn, and to help others to understand. It is just one of the ways the CSRS serves as a model for intellectual engagement.

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: Jeremy Riishede



INSIDE

Director's Notes

CSRS Fellows

Lectures & Events

CSRS Community

Publications

Staff & Committees

Financial Summary

2015/2016 Donors

CSRS FELLOWS

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

VISITING RESEARCH FELLOWS



Jason Byassee (Vancouver School of Theology) *Help us Hermes: What does "means" mean?*



Jelle Creemers (The Evangelical Theological Faculty, Belgium) *Emancipation, Socialization and/or Economic Calculation:* Understanding the Move to & Dynamics of the Structural Institutionalization of Evangelical Free Churches in Belgium in View of Operative Relations with the Civil Authorities (1987-2015)



Chandima Gangodawila (University of Sri Jayewardenepura) Neutralizing Bad Karma within the Ethics of Theravāda Buddhism



Tamsin Jones (Trinity College, Harftford CT) *The Allure of Trauma*



Shokoufeh Sakhi (York University)
Tortured Bodies, Victimization and the (Un)Making of
Human Subjects: A Study of the Religio-ideological Prison
System in Iran (1980s)



David Seljak (St. Jerome's University) Indigenous Peoples and Spirituality in Canada



Renee Soulodre-La France (King's University College) Fighting for Freedom: Black Auxiliaries in the Spanish and British Empires



Sarah Wilkins-Laflamme (University of Waterloo) *Religious-Secular Distinctions in Social Attitudes and Behaviour*

COMMUNITY SABBATICAL FELLOWS



Terry Ann CarterThe Influence of Buddhism on North American
English Language Haiku Poets



Hellen Ngatho *Women in Leadership in Religion*



Louis Sutker A personality Assessment Scale Based on the Sefirot

UVIC GRADUATE RESEARCH FELLOWS



Paige Thombs (MA Cand., History) Social Change in Canada and its Effect on Freedom of Religion and the Legal Duty to Accommodate

VANDEKERKHOVE FAMILY TRUST GRADUATE STUDENT FELLOWSHIPS



Brian Pollick (PhD Cand., Art History & Visual Studies) Money, Merchants and the Visualization of Morality in Late-Medieval Italy



Lauren Thompson (MA Cand., Germanic & Slavic Studies) The City That Stumbles: Obstacles in Munich's Memorialization Processes and Gunter Demnig's Stolpersteine Project

RELIGIOUS STUDIES TA GRADUATE STUDENT FELLOWSHIP



Justine Semmens (PhD Cand., UVic History)
Marriage, Moral Delinquency, and the Criminal Courts
in Counter Reformation France, 1550-1650

WINNIFRED LONSDALE GRADUATE STUDENT FELLOWSHIP



John Trafford (MA Cand., UVic History)
"The Old Gods and the New": The Politics of Ethnic
and Religious Identity in Restoration England

IAN H. STEWART GRADUATE STUDENT FELLOWSHIP



Bassam Chiblak (PhD Cand., English) Agnostic Masculinity and the Victorian Bible in the Fiction of Eliza Lynn Linton



Atri Hatef Naiemi (PhD Cand., Art History & Visual Studies) *The Ilkhanid 'Little Cities of God'*



Galina Scolnic (MA Cand., Sociology)
The Pentecostal Movement in Soviet Union



Brandon Taylor (MA Cand., English) Milton's God: Deism, Puritanism, and the Religiopolitical Landscape of Early Modern England

CSRS FELLOWS

VISITING GRADUATE RESEARCH FELLOWS



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



Susie Fisher (PhD Cand., University of Manitoba) Seeds from the Steppe: Material Culture and the Politics of Emotion among Mennonite Migrants in Canada, 1870-1950



Gry Hvass Pedersen (PhD Cand., University of Southern Denmark) *Modernity, Islamic Tradition and Higher Education:* Visions of Modern Islamic Universities and Students' *Muslim Selfhoods in Asia*



Justin Stein (PhD Cand., University of Toronto)
Alternate Currents: the Trans-Pacific Development
of Reiki Healing
Photo of Justin Stein by Silke Reents

UVIC FACULTY FELLOWSHIPS



Real Roy (Biology)
From Cells to Prayer:
Dwelling in a Cosmic Community



Daromir Rudnyckyj (Anthropology) Anti-Debt: Islam and the Critique of Finance Capitalism

CSRS ARTISTS-IN-RESIDENCE



Dániel Péter Biró (Musician) Music Composition Based on the Philosophical Text Ethica of Baruch Spinoza



Terence Marner (Photographer) *Searching for Home-Finding Fingerposts in Neuroscience*



Janet Munsil (Playwright)
Act of Faith: A New Play about Belief and Disability



ASSOCIATE FELLOWS

Angela Andersen

Cem Evleri: An Examination of the Historical Roots and Contemporary Meanings of Alevi Architecture & Iconography

D. Mitra Barua

Buddhism in Two Bengals from 1757 to 1988: Theravada Buddhism as a Minority Religion and its Transnational Connections

Harold Coward

Word, Chant, and Song in the Major Religions: Spiritual Transformation

Erica Cruikshank Dodd

Treasures of the Early Christian Church

Scott Dolff

Merciful Love and the End of Ethics

Robert Florida

Ethical Issues in Modern Buddhism

Mona Goode

The Evolution of the Muslim Zakat Tax as an Obligatory Act

Nicola Hayward

The Use of Funerary Art for Commemorating Social Identity: The Case of the Via Latina's Samaritan Woman

Victor Hori

The Modernization of Buddhism in Global Perspective

Lesley Jessop

Students or Tailors? A Re-evaluation of the Sculptures on the South Transept of the Cathedral of Notre-Dame in Paris

Francis Landy

The Book of Isaiah

Graham McDonough

How Catholic Schools can be Thought of as Sites of Inter-Religious and Ecumenical Dialogue

Joachim Ostermann

Secular and Religious Interpretations of Philosophy of Nature

Jordan Paper

Theology Throughout Most of the Human Past: The Spiritual Life and Understanding of Gathering-Hunting Peoples

Jarrad Reddekop

Relating to the Forest in Amazonian Quichua Philosophy; Relational Ontology, Selfhood, Ethics, and Aesthetics

Anna Tsurkan

Islam and Politics in "Arab Spring" Countries from an International Community Perspective

Carolyn Whitney-Brown

The Meaning of Founding Stories: Jean Vanier and L'Arche Communities Around the World

Katherine Young

The Divyaprabandham, Canonization, and Śrīvaisnava Formation: Musical Tropes and Identity Negotiations

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. 15, 2016	Daromir Rudnyckyj , Faculty Fellow, UVic Anthropology	Anti-Debt: Islam and the Critique of Finance Capitalism
Sept. 22, 2016	Chandima Gangodawila, Visiting Research Fellow, University of Sri Jayewardenepura	Neutralizing Bad Karma within the Ethics of Theravāda Buddhism
Sept. 29, 2016	Harold Coward, Emeritus Fellow	Word, Chant, and Song on the Islamic Spiritual Path
Oct. 6, 2016	Guest Panel Presentation	Conversation with Alan Batten, Margaret Cameron, Christopher Douglas, and Joachim Ostermann: <i>Deities and Destruction: Religious and Non-religious Perspectives on Natural Evil</i>
Oct. 13, 2016	Carolyn Whitney-Brown, Associate Fellow, St. Jerome's University	Jean Vanier, L'Arche and the Evolution of a Founding Story
Oct. 20, 2016	Shokoufeh Sakhi, Visiting Research Fellow, York University	Coercion, Conversions and Resistances: Political Imprisonment at the Onset of the Islamic State of Iran
Oct. 27, 2016	Lauren Thompson, Vandekerkhove Graduate Student Fellow, UVic Germanic & Slavic Studies	On the Street Where you Live(d): Remembering Individual Victims of the Holocaust through Stolpersteine
Nov. 3, 2016	Erica Dodd , Associate Fellow, American University of Beirut, University of Victoria	Documenting Treasures in the Early Christian Church
Nov. 17, 2016	Brian Pollick , Vandekerkhove Graduate Student Fellow, UVic Art History & Visual Studies	Open Arms: The Moral and Social Functions of Merchant Family Shields in Late-Medieval Italy
Nov. 24, 2016	Bassam Chiblak, Ian Stewart Graduate Student Fellow, UVic English	Victorian Agnostic Networks

SUPPORTED BY THE CSRS

THE CSRS PROUDLY CO-SPONSORED THE FOLLOWING EVENTS:

JULY 25, 2016 — GLOBALIZING THE ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT MITCHELL PLITNICK, Vice President, Foundation for Middle East Peace

NOVEMBER 23, 2016 – WHAT'S RELIGIOUS ABOUT PRIDE?

HEATHER R. WHITE, Department of Religion, Gender & Queer Studies Program, University of Puget Sound

JANUARY 25, 2017 — BUILDING A WORLD BEYOND BELIEFS THAT DIVIDE GRETTA VOSPER, Minister, West Hill United Church

FEBRUARY 4, 2017 - 30th annual medieval workshop - *medieval medicine*

Keynote: FAITH WALLIS, History of Medicine, McGill University

MARCH 4, 2017 - MEMORY AND MOMENTUM: CULTURE AND CHANGE IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

MARCH 23, 2017 — LANSDOWNE LECTURE: HISTORY OF JEWISH SCHOLARSHIP ON ISLAM: THE STORY OF A FASCINATION SUSANNAH HESCHEL, Eli Black Professor, Chair, Jewish Studies Program, Dartmouth College



LECTURES & EVENTS

CSRS THURSDAY PUBLIC LECTURES ...CONTINUED

Dec. 8, 2016*	William Morrow, Queens University	The Islamic State: A Case Study of Religion and Violence
Jan. 12, 2017	Brandon Taylor , lan Stewart Graduate Student Fellow, UVic English	The Imagined Individual in John Milton's Paradise Lost (1674)
Jan. 19, 2017	Dániel Péter Biró , Artist in Residence	Composing Spinoza's Ethica
Jan. 26, 2017*	Katharine Jefferts-Schori, Church Divinity School of the Pacific	Religion, Science, and Colonialism in the Anglican Communion Today
Feb. 2, 2017	Atri Hatef Naiemi, Ian Stewart Graduate Student Fellow, UVic Art History & Visual Studies	"Little Cities of God": Examining the Shrine Complexes of Sufi Shaykhs in Medieval Iran
Feb. 9, 2017	Réal Roy , Faculty Fellow, UVic Biology	From Cell to Prayer: Dwelling in a Cosmic Community
Feb. 23, 2017	Renée Soulodre-La France, Visiting Research Fellow, King's University College	Faithful Ties Make Good Colonists: Africans in Colonial North and South America
Mar. 2, 2017	David Seljak , Visiting Research Fellow, St. Jerome's University	The Crisis of the Spirit and the Globalization of Addiction
Mar. 16, 2017	John Trafford , Winnifred Lonsdale Graduate Student Fellow, UVic History	"The Old Gods and the New": The Politics of Ethnic and Religious Identity in Restoration England
Mar. 23, 2017 ^{LL}	Susannah Heschel, Dartmouth College	History of Jewish Scholarship on Islam: The Story of a Fascination
Mar. 30, 2017	Janet Munsil, Artist in Residence	Act of Faith: A New Play about Disability and Belief

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

CENTRE CINE

SEASON 2: SEPTEMBER 2016- APRIL 2017

Season two of the Centre Cine series featured six films which explored questions of morality, culture, the search for meaning, arising from the human spiritual journey. The selection, curated by CSRS artist in residence, Terry Marner, included titles such as *The Railway Man, Sabah*, and *Labyrinth of Lies*.

Centre Cine participants are sent the name of a selected film each month. They then locate and watch the film in their own time in preparation for an upcoming group discussion. Discussions are held at the CSRS and led by Terry Marner who facilitates the conversation about the film. All films in the series were available on Netflix and most are available from the Greater Victoria Public Library (GVPL) on DVD.

We hope you will join us for Centre Cine's third season coming up in Autumn, 2017. Visit our website to find out more, or email csrs@uvic.ca to sign up for the Centre Cine e-mailing list.



undicates Lansdowne lectures: part of UVic's renowned public lecture series featuring distinguished scholars across an array of academic and research endeavours.

LECTURES & EVENTS

CSRS SUMMER LECTURE SERIES

PUBLIC PROGRAMMING FEATURING CSRS VISITING RESEARCH FELLOWS

June 6, 2016

Celia Rabinovitch

CSRS Artist in Residence From Matter to Metaphor

June 14 2016

Sarah Wilkins-Laflamme

Visiting Research Fellow University of Waterloo (Almost) Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Religious Nones in British Columbia

June 28, 2016

Jelle Creemers

Visiting Research Fellow Evangelische Theologische Faculteit, Belgium If You Want the Trophy, You Must Play by the Rules! How the Quest for State Support Socializes Minority Religions in Belgium

Women, Rights & Religion Conference AUGUST 31 & SEPTEMBER 1, 2016

The CSRS partnered with University of Calgary Professor, and former Visiting Research fellow, Morny Joy to co-host the SSHRC-funded *Women, Rights, and Religion* conference.

After two days in Calgary, this group of scholars moved on to Victoria, with the CSRS hosting two-days of intense workshops featuring an international ensemble of scholars, each expert in the field of women and religion. Questions such as What do we understand by rights?, Can there be rights in religion or, Is the binary division, separating rights from religion inevitable? were addressed. Conference participants presented papers on themes related to philosophy; law; Islam and feminism; colonialism; racism, religious aspects of caring, charity, and justice; and women and religious freedom. Public lectures by Tamara Albertini (University of Hawaii at Manoa) and Jonnette Hamilton Watson (University of Calgary) accompanied the event and allowed for broader participation throughout the UVic community.



IDEAFEST 2017

MARCH 9, 2017
WEST COAST ECO-SPIRITUALITY:
RELIGION, REVERANCE, AND REASON IN CASCADIA

The CSRS was pleased to continue its participation in UVic's annual research festival. The 2017 event introduced the audience – including valued members of the CSRS community – to a number of themes that will be explored in the centre's SSHRC-funded research project, *Religion, Spirituality, Secularity and Society*



in the Pacific Northwest in Canada. The event is described below:

Nearly 50 per cent of British Columbians report they have no religion—that's more than twice the share of "nones" than any other region in Canada and higher than anywhere else in North America. The religious and spiritual style of the "Cascadia bio-region" is influenced by its distinctive history, politics and environment and is expressed through such activities as hiking, yoga, mindfulness practices, religious creativity and a reverence for nature. Join local scholars, practitioners and critics of West Coast ecospirituality to debate, debunk and discover the roots and implications of this unique phenomenon. Moderated by CSRS Director, Paul Bramadat, the dynamic event included the following expert guest panelists:

- Siobhan Chandler (Sociologist of Religion, independent scholar),
- Lynne Marks (UVic History),
- Mike Simpson (UVic Environmental Studies),
- Rev. Canon Bruce Bryant-Scott (Parish of St. Matthias Anglican).

COMMUNITY & PUBLICATIONS

FOUND IN TRANSLATION SOFT LAUNCH

In celebration of the arrival of the custom designed and built Found in Translation (FIT) exhibition display cabinet, the CSRS held a soft-launch of the FIT collection on April 11. The archival case took months to produce from its custom design to fabrication, and weighs in at over 1,100 pounds while still empty.

Members of the CSRS community visited the centre to see the Found in Translation collection of modern re-imagined sacred texts. Works featured in the collection range from graphic novels, comics, videos, to book art, and include such notable works as the *St. John's Bible Heritage Edition*, Sita Sings the Blues, Sandow Birk's *American Qur'an*, *Le Coran: Traduit de l'arabe par Jean Grosjean*, *Amar Chitra Katha Comics - Ultimate Collection*, and the *Book of Ruth* by artist David Wander

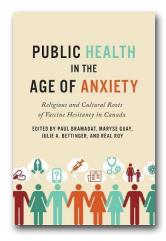
The FIT collection will be the focus of much upcoming research at the centre, resulting in the

production of a manuscript, conference, and exhibition in the upcoming years. Members of the campus community and public are welcome to view the collection by appointment.



Photo: Robbyn Lanning

SELECTED NEW PUBLICATIONS*



- Biró, Dániel Péter, Kai Johannes Polzhofer, eds. (2016). *Perspectives for Contemporary Music in the 21st Century*. Hofheim: Wolke.
- Bramadat, Paul, Maryse Guay, Julie Bettinger, and Real Roy, eds. (2017). *Public Health in the Age of Anxiety: Religious and Cultural Roots of Vaccine Hesitancy in Canada*. University of Toronto Press.
- Coward, Harold. (2016). "Hinduism in Canada" in *Melton's Encyclopedia of American Religion*, 9th Edition, Volume 2, Canada. Gale.
- Jones, Tamsin. (2016) "Bearing Witness: Hope for the Unseen," Political Theology, 17 (2): 137-150.
- Marks, Lynne. (2017). Infidels and the Damn Churches: Irreligion and Religion in Settler British Columbia. UBC Press. ISBN-13: 978-0774833448.
- McDonough, G.P. (2017). The "Scandal" of GSAs in Ontario Catholic Schools. *The Ecumenist: A Journal of Theology, Culture and Society*, 54(1), 1-9.
- Jarrad Reddekop, Tod D. Swanson. (2017) "Looking Like the Land: Beauty and Aesthetics in Amazonian Quichua Philosophy and Practice." *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*. DOI: 10.1093/jaarel/lfw086 (currently online only)
- Dolff, Scott. (2016). "New Apostolic Reformation." *Encyclopedia of Christianity in the United States*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield. Vol 4. 1616-17.

STAFF & COMMITTEES

OUR PEOPLE

Paul Bramadat, Director Robbyn Lanning, Administrative Coordinator Jeremy Riishede, Administrative Assistant Rachel Brown, Research Assistant Zoé Duhaime, Work-study Student

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Paul Bramadat, Chair (CSRS/History/Religious Studies)
Martin Bunton (Centre for Global Studies/History)
Margaret Cameron (Philosophy)
Kathryn Chan (Law)
Bruce Kapron (Computer Science)
Mitch Lewis Hammond (History)
Lisa Mitchell (Anthropology)
Chalotte Schallié (Germanic and Slavic Studies)
Coby Tschanz (Nursing)

Ex officio:

Oliver Schmidtke (AVP Research) Graham McDonough (Chair, CSRS Advisory Council)

Andrew Wender (Political Science/History)

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Victor Hori (Buddhist Community)
Dvora Levin (Jewish Community)
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Mary Louise Meadow (Anglican Community)
Amyn Sajoo (Muslim Community)

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FINANCIAL SUMMARY

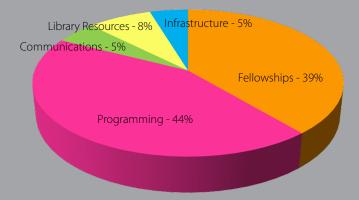
OPERATIONS ¹				
Expenses				
Salaries & Benefits	\$180,096			
Programming, Fellowship, Library Resource, Communications, and Infrastructure Expenses	\$108,907			
Total Expenses	\$289,003			
Revenue				
Combined Endowment, Library and Fellowship Funds	\$298,838			
Province of BC	\$8,245			
Grants, One-time Gifts, Recoveries, Royalties,				
and Miscellaneous Income	\$89,411			
Total Revenue	\$396,494			

¹For the period April 1, 2016 to March 31, 2017.

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	
CSRS Endowments	\$13,037
Saint John's Bible	\$6,720

THE CSRS THANKS ITS GENEROUS DONORS:

Allen and Loreen Vandekerkhove Family Foundation, the Anglican Synod of the Diocese of British Columbia, Maxine Bowen, Paul Bramadat and Karen Palmer, Harold and Rachel Coward, Barbara Frame, Raymond Grigg, Budd Hall, Mary J. Howie, Yvonne Y. Hsieh, Shaukat Husain and Gillian P. Ellis, D.R. and Diana MacDonald, John W. Martens, Mary Louise Meadow, Naz Rayani, W.A. and Darlene Southwell, Telus, TELUS Community Investment, Katherine Young, Anonymous (2).

Donors to the Saint John's Bible Heritage Edition Fund: Remi De Roo, Pearl Gervais, Mary J. Howie, Brian A. Pollick and Heather Lindstedt, Embert Van Tilburg, Anonymous (1).

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