



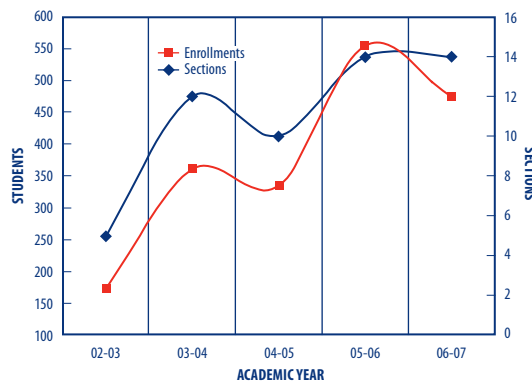
Autumn Canada

Study of Canada Thrives at BGSU

Canadian Studies is a thriving and rigorous academic program at BGSU, giving students valuable international perspective while preparing them to work in a global economy. Since half of Ohio's merchandise exports and one in ten manufacturing jobs are tied to Canada, it is likely that our students will find employment

with Canadian connections. The Canadian Studies undergraduate minor includes Introduction to Canadian Studies (CAST 201), Canadian History (HIST 414) and, at last count, twenty other Canadian content courses offered through eleven different departments. Over 1,050 students were enrolled in Canadian content course offerings in the 2006-07 academic year.

Student Interest in Canadian Studies is Strong

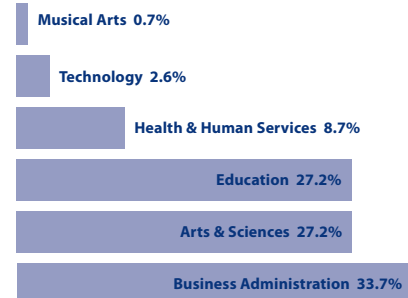


The strong support of the College of Arts and Sciences is evidenced by the growth of CAST 201 sections offered and students served.

Several graduate and honors students are conducting innovative research projects on Canada. Numerous doctoral dissertations, master's theses, and honors projects on Canadian topics have been completed.

Twenty-three highly motivated faculty with exceptional teaching and publication records form the core of the academic program at BGSU. They come from fifteen academic departments across the university plus the main library, which is a Selective Depository of the Government of Canada. These dedicated faculty advise students, confer with Center staff to plan outreach activities, and conduct curriculum planning and assessments.

Students Enrolled in CAST 201 are Diversified



The College of Business Administration is where the largest number of CAST 201 students have declared their major.

The relevance of academic programming is enhanced through conferences and workshops which bring executives, scholars, and artists into the classroom several times during the year. Similarly, BGSU students and faculty have numerous off-campus opportunities to pursue their Canadian interests. Study abroad opportunities are plentiful, including at the University of Guelph for students in environmental studies, and the Université Laval for master's students in French. Education majors can meet their practice teaching requirements (in English) in a Montréal school and live with a local family. For many years, a partnership with Walpole Island First Nation (Bkejwanong) has allowed for field trips and speaker exchanges. BGSU and the University of Windsor have a Memorandum of Understanding to foster collaboration in teaching, research, and business outreach.

The Center's comprehensive web site, at www.cba.bgsu.edu/cast, links students to classes and resources, invites online registration for outreach, provides summaries of past events, and presents a wide variety of analysis. 🍁

- IN THIS ISSUE**
- Study of Canada Thrives at BGSU
 - Kasoff Bids Adieu
 - Mission Afghanistan
 - New Millennium Textbook
 - Ohio Roundtable Turns Fifteen



Kasoff Bids Adieu



Members of the Canadian Consulate present a commendation letter from Michael Wilson, Canadian Ambassador to the United States, to Mark Kasoff. From left, Doris Bingeman, Dan Ujcz, Dennis Moore, Mary Lynn Becker, Mark Kasoff, George Costaris, and Doug Bingeman.

Canadian Studies at BGSU has been the highlight of my thirty-eight years in academic service. I started out at Antioch College in Yellow Springs, Ohio, eventually moving on to the State University of New York at Potsdam—almost perched on the Canadian border. In the 1980s Canada once again had a debate over free trade with the U.S. This concluded with the 1989 agreement and its successor, the 1994 NAFTA, which created a more open market for trade and investment in the Western Hemisphere. As an economist, I began to better appreciate how important Canada and the U.S. were to each other. For my students, I thought Canada was an excellent way to develop interdisciplinary and international perspectives.

When BGSU decided to develop a nationally recognized Canadian Studies program I was fortunate to be invited to be its first director. What a ride it has been over the past sixteen years! From humble

beginnings the program has become one of the largest and best of its kind in North America. Every year nearly 500 students take Introduction to Canadian Studies as part of their general education. Upper division and graduate level courses abound. From a dedicated handful of faculty pioneers like **Stuart Givens**, **Joe Mancuso**, **Jan Pallister**, **Beth Casey**, and **Trevor Phillips** the Canadian Studies Advisory Committee now has over twenty active members. With support from the State of Ohio, the program strengthens business relations between Ohio and Canada. (As we said in the last issue of this newsletter, Canadian business has been a beacon for the Ohio economy at a time when Ohio's traditional manufacturing base faced serious challenges.) Our outreach activities are second to none. The Reddin Symposium celebrated its twentieth anniversary last January thanks to the generosity of two generations of the **Reddin family**. Thanks to Dr. Janis Pallister's vision and generosity, a Francophone Canadian focus is a major part of our program.

For me to thank everyone who helped the program over the years would take volumes. Support from the Canadian Government has been vital. Yes, teaching and research grants are important, but suggestions on how to access Canadian scholars, performers, and universities are equally beneficial. This Canadian support was made without any attempt to influence our program. That is our job. So thanks to **George Costaris**, **Mary Lynn Becker**, and **Dennis Moore** at the Canadian

Consulate in Detroit, as well as the five Consul Generals I have had the pleasure to work with. Thanks to **Dan Abele** at the Canadian Embassy in Washington, D.C. for his advocacy on the importance of Canadian Studies programs.

At BGSU, far too many people to mention have made important contributions, but let me note a few. **Linda Snyder** was our first Administrative Assistant and so effective in organizing day-to-day affairs that she earned the unofficial title of "boss." **Christine Drennen** came as a graduate assistant thirteen years ago and did her thesis on Canadian investment in the U.S. She stayed with us and as we grew she became Assistant Director.

To Linda and Chris: Thanks for helping steer our ship so successfully through the early days. Thanks again to Jan Pallister for strengthening our Francophone programming. Finally, hats off to **Don Nieman** and **Roger Thibault**, Dean and Executive Associate Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, for recognizing the importance of Canada to Ohio and helping make our Canadian Studies program one of the best in the nation.

While I am not "toast" yet, it is time for me to move on to other pleasures—like shooting hoops with my grandchildren.

To all of you, a very fond and appreciative farewell!

Mission Afghanistan

Along with thirty-six other nations, Canada is part of a NATO-led mission to help establish democratic governance for the Afghan people. Afghanistan has been the site of armed conflict for decades and is reliant on international assistance to rebuild the war-torn nation and establish a functioning economic system.

About 2,500 Canadian troops are deployed in Afghanistan primarily in and around Kandahar. They are expected to remain until 2009.

Historically, Canadian forces have participated in peacekeeping missions around the world. Canada has played an essential role separating warring factions and making peace in such recent trouble spots as Haiti, Bosnia, and Angola. Canada's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Lester B. Pearson, was the first to propose deployment of peacekeeping forces during the Suez Crisis of 1956. He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1957.

Canadian troops went to Afghanistan in 2001 and the Canadian embassy opened in Kabul in 2003. The 2006 Canadian federal budget includes C\$5.3 billion over five years for defense and C\$200 million for security and reconstruction efforts in Afghanistan.



Captain Rhonda Matthews (left), a Reservist with Princess Louise Fusiliers, based out of at Halifax, Nova Scotia, and Warrant Officer Lori Coady (right), a Reservist with the 36 Service Battalion based out of St John's Newfoundland play with the children at the Said Abad School in Kandahar City, Afghanistan. Capt. Matthews and WO Coady are Civil Military Cooperation (CIMIC) team members working at the Kandahar Provincial Reconstruction Team (KPRT) in Kandahar City, Afghanistan. They went to the school to do an assessment.

The Kandahar region is marked by Taliban insurgents. Violence, including improvised explosive devices and suicide bombings is slowing progress on rebuilding goals. Since 2001, total military fatalities in Afghanistan have climbed to 563. Canadian troop losses stand at 54, the second largest number of troops lost by any country. American fatalities in Afghanistan are 381.

In instituting an education system it is noteworthy that millions of Afghani children now attend school, a third of whom are girls unable to go to

school under the Taliban regime. Infrastructure reconstruction consists of roads, reservoirs, water, sewer, and electrical systems. Other goals include creation of clinics and hospitals and seeding new economic activity with microfinance. While most Canadians support reconstruction and peacekeeping efforts, the growing death toll is causing some to call for an end to Canada's role in Afghanistan. The debate is likely to intensify in Canada as economic and human costs rise. 🍁

PHOTO:
Canadian Department
of National Defence.



“Canada is in Afghanistan at the request of the democratically-elected government of Afghanistan as part of a UN-sanctioned mission to help build a stable, democratic and self-sufficient society.”

<http://geo.international.gc.ca/cip-pic/afghanistan/menu-en.asp>

New Millennium Textbook

Patrick James and **Mark J. Kasoff** are editors of a new textbook entitled *Canadian Studies in the New Millennium*, to be published by University of Toronto Press (forthcoming Fall Winter 2007). The text is appropriate for virtually any academic setting in which Canada is a major part of the

subject matter. This book will be a valuable asset in accompanying a basic text on Canada either on its own or in comparative perspective within disciplines from both the humanities and social sciences. Chapters authored by recognized scholars explore the complete Canadian

experience. It offers a comparative perspective that fosters understanding about the similarities and differences between Canada and the U.S.

For more information go to www.utppublishing.com and search on Canadian Studies. 🍁

CHAPTER TOPICS

- History
- Geography
- Native Peoples
- Women's Issues
- French-Speaking Canada
- Literary and Popular Culture
- Politics and Government
- Foreign Policy
- Economy



“People came together and did exactly what they were supposed to do and that was exchange ideas, make contact, network, and leave learning something they didn’t know before.”

~Bruce Way~
Dean of Humanities
and Social Sciences, MCCC

Ohio Roundtable Turns Fifteen

The annual Ohio Canadian Studies Roundtable has been a partnership since the beginning when BGSU and the University of Akron co-planned the first gathering. The University of Windsor and Ohio Wesleyan University have also helped plan and host this annual event dedicated to connecting Canadianists.

The Roundtable celebrated its fifteenth birthday by going on a trip. In collaboration with the Michigan Canadian Studies Roundtable the two associations

held a joint event hosted at Monroe County Community College (MCCC) in Michigan. Among the record-setting ninety-seven participants were faculty from about twenty different Ohio and Michigan universities and colleges, along with K-12 educators, government officials, and community members (including the local French Canadian Heritage Society). Plans are already underway for the two roundtables to return to their respective states in 2008. Ohio Wesleyan University will host next year, date to be announced. 🍁



PHOTO: Courtney Sisung.

Roundtable participants prepare for a busy day of sessions on politics, culture and literature, teaching Canada, border issues, energy and environment, and the War of 1812.

FALL 2007 EVENTS

Please contact **Barb Berta** at 419.372.2457 or cast@cba.bgsu.edu for more information. Visit the Center web page at www.cba.bgsu.edu/cast.



November 7

Canada-Ohio Business Dinner, BGSU, Ohio.
Keynote: Robert Crow, VP, Industry, Government & University Relations at Research In Motion Ltd, makers of the BlackBerry™ wireless platform.



November 14-18

Association for Canadian Studies in the United States
19th Biennial Conference, Toronto, Ontario.

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