

AuCanada

The Canadian Studies Center at Bowling Green State University

Spring 2002 Vol. 09 Issue 1

Classroom in the Wilderness

The twenty-two students taking Environmental Studies 400-Canadian Wilderness this spring are hoping for clear skies at night and dry, sunny days. The two-part course is taught both in the BGSU classroom and in Canada. At their desks, students study Canadian energy production and its relationship to the environment. The predominately junior and senior level environmental science and environmental policy majors are also reading about Algonquin Provincial Park in Ontario. They are learning about the human and natural history of Algonquin and its ecological processes and interactions. Along with standard lectures, a class at the planetarium features the night sky as it appears over Algonquin in May. Another session in the pool familiarizes students with basic canoe skills including the all-important righting of an overturned canoe.

Students are drawn to the course by of a seven-day field experience allowing them to come into direct contact with the Algonquin eco-region. Limited road access necessitates canoe travel to fully experience the lakes, rivers, white pines, and wildlife of this vast 3,500 square mile area. The biological diversity of flora and fauna and environmental capacity of the park create an ideal natural laboratory for



students and researchers from all over the world. Night temperatures potentially below freezing, waters only recently thawed, and primitive camping make the trip anything but a leisurely nature respite. The field experience involves a back-country canoe trip in the interior of the 109 year old park. The challenges of portage from one lake to another and functioning as a team in the wilderness are rewarded by camping under the stars. Using GPS equipment to aid their navigation, students compete in teams on a scavenger hunt on the final day at the park.

The last leg of the study-in-Canada trip takes students to Toronto to meet with experts on alternative energy. Gaining a new understanding of how human influence can affect a natural area is a desired outcome of the course. An appreciation of the magnificent beauty of the vast Algonquin Park is a given.

From the Director

Business between Canada and the U.S. continues to grow, despite recent border delays. Both countries strive to develop new procedures to speed up the flow of legitimate traffic while being more focused on security issues. Ontario-Ohio trade mirrors this growth and we hope that the economic developers workshop in Windsor will discover new ways to take advantage of cross-border opportunities.

As we go to press, the softwood lumber dispute continues, resulting in higher U.S. construction costs and lost jobs in Canada. At least the simmering dispute over tomato trade seems be nearly over. One can only hope for a similar outcome on lumber.

Canadian artist Tom Thomson who died before the Group of Seven was officially named, found inspiration in the pristine beauty of Algonquin Provincial Park in Ontario. Now a group of BGSU students will develop an appreciation for the landscape and ecosystem that Thomson loved.

Our Canadian Studies continues to grow in terms of newly developed courses, faculty research and student interest. We are honored to be the new home for the *American Review of Canadian Studies* scholarly journal and thank outgoing editor Bob Thacker for his many years of creative and dedicated stewardship.

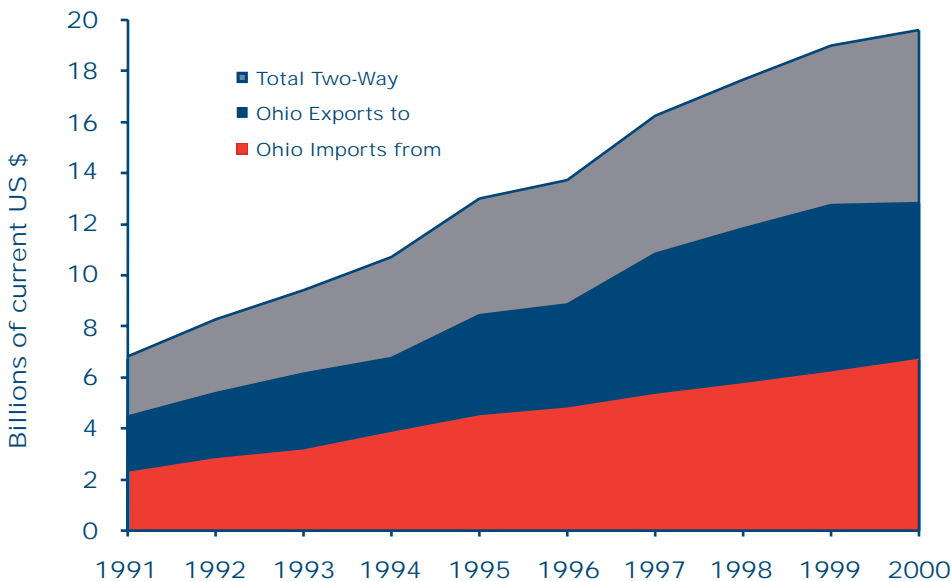
Mark J. Kasoff
Director

Ohio-Ontario Economic Links

North Dakota may be the geographic center of North America but the economic center of North America is all about Ohio and Ontario. Individually, and especially combined, the gross product of Ontario and Ohio rivals that of many developed nations. Private sector integration in the region rests upon the foundation of trade and investment. The Canada - U.S. Free Trade Agreement of 1989 that was folded into the 1994 North American Free Trade Agreement is a well-known pillar supporting the activities between businesses in the state and province. Lesser known cultural and economic agreements between municipalities, such as those between Bowling Green-St. Thomas or Sylvania-Woodstock, reinforce this growing economy.

Trade

Merchandise trade in the Ontario-Ohio economic region is growing at a healthy 13 percent per annum, far outpacing overall



national gross product growth. Besides growing faster than the general economy trade between these jurisdictions is very diversified and thus quite stable. Led by the motor vehicle/parts & accessories industry this region also exchanges high volumes in the chemical, machinery & equipment, electronics, and aerospace sectors. In 2001, two-way merchandise trade topped US \$18 billion.

Investment

Cross-border direct investment is a proven job creator further enhancing the

overall economic stability of the region. At least 30,000 jobs in Ohio and Ontario result from direct investment and partnering activity in the region. Parent-subsidiary arrangements, strategic alliances, and joint ventures made by firms in all parts of the state and province have led to executive exchanges and enriched communities. Increasingly, high tech and service sector firms are creating partnerships across the border. Large multinationals and very small businesses find it profitable to have a physical presence in both jurisdictions.

Development Agencies

Economic development agencies in Ohio and Ontario have a long history of cooperating in order to bring about a higher quality of life. The Ohio Department of Development and the Ontario Ministry of Economic Development are the lead agencies working together to foster trade and create jobs.

At the municipal level several cities, in addition to those mentioned above, have joined forces for the purposes of cultural exchanges and economic partnerships. Officials have formed arrangements that enhance both communities by fostering understanding, solidifying business linkages, and building their respective economic bases. Workshops like the one outlined on the facing page serve to refine these relationships so that businesses and citizens alike may benefit.

CSC Faculty '02-'03

The Canadian Studies Center offers undergraduate students a Canadian Studies minor with an interdisciplinary focus on the United States-Canada international relationship. Students can study areas of interest in greater depth which will enhance future career opportunities. Canadian Studies can be used with any major (business administration, history, international studies, etc.).

Robert Berg, Romance Languages

Jeffrey A. Brown, Popular Culture

Beth A. Casey, English

T. Berry Cobb, Physics & Astronomy

Evron Collins, Jerome Library (Maps)

Suzanne Crawford, Higher Education

Edmund J. Danziger, History

Christine Drennen, Canadian Studies Center

Henry A. Garrity, Romance Languages

Stuart R. Givens, History

Jeffrey J. Gordon, Geography

Franklin W. Goza, Sociology

Mary Jane Hahler, Humanities, Firelands College

J. Chris Hughen, Finance

David J. Jackson, Political Science

Mark J. Kasoff, Economics & Canadian Studies Center

Catherine Kaukinen, Sociology

Rex L. Lowe, Biology

R. Michael McKay, Biology

Holly Myers-Jones, Environmental Programs

Janis L. Pallister, Romance Languages

Katherine Roberts, Romance Languages

Andrew Schocket, History

Roger E. Thibault, Biology

Linda Ueltschy, Legal Studies & International Business

Floris Wood, Science Library

Fred Zackel, English & Ethnic Studies

Students Interpret Canadian Poetry

Forensics: The act or practice of rendering aloud written or printed matter. Last January eleven BGSU students donned their warmest wool and trundled off to Montréal to participate in the Collegiate Forensics Association championship tournament.

Based in the Theatre department, the forensics team is open to undergraduate students wishing to develop speaking skills, conquer fear of public speaking, or polish on-stage performance abilities. In the interpretive portion of the competition, participants could take part in the usual categories of prose, dramatic literature, and, for the first time, an experimental session on Canadian poetry.

To prepare, students sought the assistance of Canadian Studies faculty. Armed with volumes of Canadian poetry from the Center's library, students gained an appreciation of the importance of place in the writings of poets from Northeastern Canada and accounts about that part of the country. Students selected several pieces and combined them into a program about Northeastern Canada and performed a ten-minute interpretation. The poetry segment was judged on content (appropriateness of materials selected, arrangement of poems, and thematic coherence) and presentation mechanics (oral delivery and use of physical elements).

Students gained insights about Canada far beyond those acquired simply by visiting Montréal. The Director of the Forensics & Debate Program, **Paul Alday**, is pleased with the outcome and is hopeful that the Canadian poetry session will become a regular part of the annual competition. "The students did really well. Of the four who competed, three of them placed: 2nd, 4th, and 5th." Overall, BGSU took top honors by claiming twenty-nine individual awards and the national title.

CDA-US-MEX Meeting

On April 12, 2002 a virtual roundtable connected universities in Canada, the U.S., and Mexico. To view the conference on the political and cultural impacts of the 2000 federal elections in all three countries go to <<www.uakron.edu/bliss>>. Partially funded by the Canadian Embassy, the conference was coordinated by the Bliss Institute of Applied Politics, and the Canadian Studies Program at the University of Akron, and the Canadian Studies Center at BGSU.

Course Offerings '02-'03

The academic program at the Canadian Studies Center continues to offer new opportunities for students to learn about Canada. By complementing their major with a Canadian Studies minor students make themselves more marketable to employers.

Summer, 2002

ENG269 **Canadian Fiction**

Fall, 2002

CAST 201 **Introduction to Canadian Studies**

CAST 400 **North American Economy and NAFTA**

FIN 410 **International Financial Management**

FREN 366 **Introduction to Francophone Literature**

FREN 476/555 **Quebec/Quiet Revolution**
PEG218 **Curling**

Spring, 2003

CAST 201* **Introduction to Canadian Studies**

ENG269 **Canadian Fiction**

ENVS412 **Great Lakes Ecosystems**

FIN 410 **International Financial Management**

FREN 376/H **Introduction to Francophone Civilization**

FREN 458 **Career French I**

FREN 538 **Business French I**

HIST 319/H **Indian In American History**

HIST 414 **Canada**

PEG218 **Curling**

POLS400 **Canadian Government and Politics**

SOC 445 **Sociological Perspectives on Interpersonal Violence**

*Also offered at Firelands.

Agenda Set for Development Workshop

On May 22nd dozens of professionals from the economic development communities in southwestern Ontario and northwestern Ohio will gather in Windsor to explore ways to facilitate business integration and cooperative efforts needed to build the regional cross-border economy.

The event is intended to foster interaction among attendees. Goals of the workshop include sharing best practices and developing an understanding of the working dynamics and practicalities peculiar to each side of the border.

Opening remarks • 10:00 a.m.

"Welcome Address"

John Tennant, Canadian Consul General, Detroit

"Ontario Economic Development Update"

John Langley, Ontario Ministry of Economic Development and Trade

Panel Discussion • 10:40 a.m.

"Successful Ventures and Best Practices: A Profile of Cross-Border Community Ties between Northwest Ohio and Southwest Ontario"

Lunch • 11:45 a.m.

"Ohio Economic Development Update"

Wesley Fahrback, Governor's Regional Office for Development

Open Discussion Session • 1:00 p.m.

"Issues, Concerns, & Barriers to Development and Agenda Items for Future Discussion"

Conclusion • 2:00 p.m.

To participate, contact **Richard Edwards** in Ohio at 419.372.2457 or at <<cast@cba.bgsu.edu>>.

In Ontario contact **Robert Wheeler** at 519.631.1680 ext. 132 or on-line at <<rwheeler@st-thomasedc.on.ca>>.

Bruising Battle Over Tomatoes

Most of the billions of dollars of merchandise trade between Canada and the U.S. flows without dispute, indeed flows with maximum coordination. There are, of course, high profile disputes like softwood lumber which move in and out of the headlines and appear to be intractable. Other less publicized disputes simmer on the back burners of government agencies garnering attention only when the pot boils over. The case of the "tomato war" is one such issue that recently ripened into generous servings of claims, counterclaims, impositions of tariffs on both sides, and now may be on the brink of a tasteful solution.

The core of the issue deals with whether U.S. producers have been harmed by unfair trade practices, called 'dumping,' (selling product at below market rates with the objective of gaining market share by squashing the competition on price) by Canadian producers and vice versa. In just one year's time the case has proven itself to be a recipe for how international trade law can be misused for the protection of a domestic industry and how it can ultimately sow the seeds of a rational solution.

In March of 2001, U.S. greenhouse tomato growers first stirred the pot by convincing the U.S. International Trade Commission that they were being crushed by unfair Canadian competition. A tariff on southbound Canadian-grown greenhouse tomatoes was imposed while the claim was studied. Within a few months the Canada Customs and Revenue Agency, in response

to Canadian growers' claims, turned up the heat and imposed a tariff on all northbound U.S. grown tomatoes.

By the end of March, 2002, the dispute had fully ripened leaving U.S. and Canadian consumers holding the tab for the more expensive fruit, er vegetable. In a lucid moment, the same U.S. agency that imposed the tariff reversed itself with a final finding that Canadian greenhouse tomatoes were being fairly sold in the United States. As a result, the U.S. tariff has been dropped and several Canadian growers will get back millions of dollars. The Canadian government is expected to add the final seasoning to the pot sometime this summer by responding in kind.





ARCS Comes to BGSU

Beginning this summer the *American Review of Canadian Studies* (ARCS), the journal of the Association for Canadian Studies in the United States, has a new home. The multidisciplinary, quarterly journal offers a venue for publishing the scholarly works of Canadianists across the country. The Canadian Studies Center at BGSU will take over editing and production of the journal from St. Lawrence University.

Deep appreciation is extended to **Robert Thacker**, editor of the journal for the past eight years. For the six years just prior to that he was Associate Editor of book reviews for the journal. We salute the high standards he set.

Upcoming Events

Mark your calendars for the following events. Please contact **Linda Snyder** at **419.372.2457** if you are interested in more information.

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|---|---------------------|--|
|  | May 22, 2002 | Ontario-Ohio Community Economic Development Workshop, Windsor, Ontario |
|  | October 10-13, 2001 | Midwest Association of Canadian Studies, East Lansing, Michigan |
|  | November 13, 2001 | Canada-Ohio Business Dinner, BGSU, Ohio |
|  | January 18, 2003 | Sixteenth Annual Reddin Symposium, BGSU, Ohio |

Grants Awarded

The Canadian Studies Center is pleased to announce that three of our faculty members have been successful in securing outside grants for projects that will make substantial contributions to the growing academic program here at Bowling Green State University. Congratulations!

Dr. Catherine Kaukinen, Sociology, was awarded a Canadian Embassy Research Grant for a project this summer on "Victimization and Spatial Equity: Accessibility to Social Service Agencies and Crisis Centers."

Dr. Andrew Schocket, History, was awarded a grant from the International Council for Canadian Studies to develop a 400/500-level course entitled "Canadian History." This course is requirement for students completing the newly revised Canadian Studies minor.

Dr. Katherine Roberts, Romance Languages, was awarded a Canadian Embassy Faculty Enrichment Grant to develop a course on "Francophone Culture in North America: From Québec to Louisiana."

This is a publication of the



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