



Greetings from PNWCSC

A warm welcome to the Pacific Northwest Canadian Studies Consortium (PNWCSC) newsletter. The consortium supports knowledge of the interconnection between Canada and the United States. It promotes and sustains cross border connections between universities through supporting teaching, research, collaboration with other cross

border groups, and Canadian Studies projects. Membership supports:

- Over 40 member institutions on both sides of the border
- Research and travel grants
- Annual conference: interdisciplinary focus-building connections between and presentations by faculty and graduate students from member institutions
- Summer institute
- Close ties with Canadian Consulate General's office
- Opportunity for academics to offer expertise to Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER) projects

Membership Benefits

- Listing on website with links to your institution's Canadian studies scholars
 - Apply for grants to support Canadian focused travel, research or events
 - Send a voting representative to the AGM/conference
 - Submit graduate student and faculty proposals to the AGM/conference
 - Elect a provincial/state representative to the PNWCSC board of directors
 - Have your research profiled in this newsletter
- All this for amazingly low membership dues of \$250 (your local currency) per annum.

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(February 3, 2012 in Seattle)
and a new focus
for the Annual
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(AGM)

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benefits and an
invoice for dues
(thank you to
those who have
already paid)

Annual General Meeting: February 3, 2011

**"Global Change and Canada's Role"
February 3, 2011 at the AGM.
Call for papers in October!**

We all face rapid change in an ever more global and interdependent world. There has been a constant call from many quarters to 'think globally, act locally'. The PNWCSC is a partner in supporting learning about our 'neighborhood', the essential relationship between Canada and the USA, and their place in this world. Particularly in this time of retrenchment at academic institutions,

PNWCSC is an economical resource (\$250/year/institution) through which we can build stronger regional connections among Canadianists on both sides of the border.

To support this learning, PNWCSC will host a small conference at its AGM entitled **"Global Changes and Canada's Role"** on February 3,

2012. The theme is intentionally broad enough to support the excellent multidisciplinary foci of Canadian scholars in our region. We are particularly interested in research that involves the complexities of Arctic issues and also research focusing on/by indigenous peoples. Please look for a call for contributions (papers, round tables, films, performances, etc.) early in the fall.



New Leadership

This year new leadership has taken up duties within the PNWCSC. In the winter of 2010 Michael Treleven, executive director since 2001, and Daniel Turbeville, associate director, also since 2001, requested the Board's permission to leave their roles. In June Ross Burkhart, Boise State University, became the new executive director, and Gary Wilson, the University of Northern British Columbia, became the new associate director.

Under the leadership of Fr. Mike and Dan, and with the support of the Canadian government, the secretariat at the University of Washington and member institutions, the consortium grew from 28 members in 2001 to 47 members in 2011. During this time, the International Canadian Summer Institute flourished, there were lively exchanges at AGM meetings, and the consortium participated in many Canadian studies focused events in the region

and nationally. No small accomplishment!

In their first month of duty, the new directors have submitted a Program Enhancement Grant to the Canadian government, developed priorities for the coming year, supported the development of a new website, and hired a part time program manger. They are both active Canadian studies scholars. Following are brief descriptions of Ross and Gary and their research.

New Directors' Profiles

Ross Burkhart, Executive Director

I am an Associate Professor of Political Science at Boise State University and am also a Co-Director of the Canadian Studies Program at Boise State. My teaching interests are in international relations and comparative politics, including Canadian, European and Japanese politics. My research focuses on Canada-U.S. environmental policy and the Canada-U.S. borderlands. Both countries have made significant impacts on the regulation of the global environment and the preservation of domestic environmental space. I am interested in analyzing the extent to

which Canada and the U.S. are influenced by each other's domestic and international environmental policymaking through organizations such as the Commission for Environmental Cooperation. For example, the middle borderlands region of Duluth-Thunder Bay and Sault Michigan-Sault Ontario is understudied as a border crossing and interaction point between two cultural traditions, the Canadian and American. My research on Canada-U.S. environmental policy and the Canada-U.S. borderlands is conducted with my colleague Leslie R. Alm, Department of

Public Policy and Administration, Boise State University. Our work has been published in journals such as *Ameriquists*, *Canadian-American Public Policy*, and *International Journal of Canadian Studies*, and in books such as *Turmoil in American Public Policy: Science, Democracy, and the Environment* (Praeger Press, 2010) and *Canadian Studies in the New Millennium*, 2nd ed. (University of Toronto Press, 2011). Away from academics, I am happily married to Christy, and enjoy playing tennis and hiking as well as going to the movies with her and my stepson Justin.



Ross Burkhart, Executive Director. Photo courtesy of BSU

Gary Wilson, Associate Director



Gary Wilson, Associate Director. Photo courtesy of UNBC

Gary Wilson is an Associate Professor of Political Science and the Coordinator of the Northern Studies Program at the University of Northern British Columbia in Prince George. Gary was elected as Associate Director of Pacific Northwest Canadian Studies Consortium in 2011. He was the representative for British Columbia on the Consortium's Board of Directors between 2009 and 2011 and has been the institutional representative for UNBC since 2007. Although he began his academic career as

a specialist in Russian politics, Gary's research now focuses on politics and governance in the Canadian and Circumpolar North. He is particularly interested in the evolution of Inuit self-government in the Canadian provincial and territorial north, and Inuit transnational activism and cooperation. Closer to home, Gary is currently researching the positive and negative impacts of globalization and, in particular, the Asia-Pacific Gateway and Corridor Initiative on communities across northern British

Columbia. This research is funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. His research has been published in the *Canadian Journal of Political Science*, *Canadian Foreign Policy* and the *Canadian Political Science Review*. Gary teaches mostly in the area of comparative politics and area studies, but with a focus on Canadian politics and society in comparative perspective. He is married and enjoys playing soccer, curling and road hockey with his two sons, Alasdair and Owain.

Priority Projects

In recent months, with the financial support of the secretariat at the Canadian Studies Center, University of Washington, we have designed and are implementing a new website, have put the consortium files and historical records in order, have elected new executives, and are enthusiastic about continuing the development of the PNWCSC. After two years of transition in leadership roles among people who have supported the growth of PNWCSC for the past decade, the new executives and the secretariat are prepared to work rigorously. To this end we have three priority projects:

- To expand the Annual General Meeting into a short conference, with a call for presentations that will

encourage graduate students and faculty to connect with scholars in the entire region.

- To revive the International Canadian Summer Institute with a 5-7 day summer institute in British Columbia, concentrating on the cities of Vancouver and Victoria.
- To support Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER: <http://www.pnwer.org/>) with expertise from our academic community. Please look for more details in our next newsletter and let us know if you are interested in participating in this new endeavor. Here is a short description of PNWER: Founded in 1991, PNWER is the only statutory, non-partisan, bi-national, public/private partnership in North America. PNWER is the forum for collab-

orative bi-national planning involving both the public and private sectors and offers leadership at the state/provincial capitals, as well as at the national level in Washington, DC and Ottawa. PNWER facilitates working groups consisting of public and private leaders to address specific issues impacting our regional economy.



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We are on the web!

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