

# German-Canadian Studies Newsletter

Volume 7, Issue 1

June 2004

For Your Calendar:

**Assimilation—  
Integration—  
Acculturation?  
The German-  
Canadian Case.  
International  
Conference in  
Winnipeg, 26-29  
August 2004.**

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## Conference on German- Canadians

What happens when people come to a country and stay there temporarily or permanently? Both in Europe and in North America, the attempts by scholars and society at large to describe and explain such immigration processes have generated a host of theories and models that are linked to key concepts such as assimilation, integration, acculturation, incorporation, adaptation, and appropriation. What used to be seen in an unproblematic way as settlement processes are now often referred to as transnational social practices and diasporic experiences.

**The international conference “Assimilation—Integration—Acculturation? The German-Canadian Case,” taking place in Winnipeg from 26 to 29 August 2004, will use the case of German migrants in Canada to explore these issues and to ask: How were German immigrants shaped by Canadian society and how in turn did they shape this society?**

The conference is open to the public.

- ◆ For a **preliminary program**, see p. 2
- ◆ A **registration form** is on p. 3.

## Diefenbaker Award Winner Comes to UW

The 2004 recipient of the Canada Council for the Arts' prestigious John G. Diefenbaker Award is Dr. Christiane Harzig, a professor of history at the University of Erfurt. During the academic year 2004-5, she will be based at the University of Winnipeg's Department of History, which nominated her for the Award, and work in co-operation with the Chair in German-Canadian Studies and other migration scholars at the University.

Dr. Harzig will research the history of



Harzig: 2004 Diefenbaker Award Recipient

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## Preliminary Program

### THURSDAY, 26 AUGUST 2004:

Arrival of participants, check in at the *Inn at the Forks* hotel.

**6:00 p.m. get-together, drinks, dinner: TBA**

### FRIDAY, 27 AUGUST 2004:

**9:00 a.m.: Welcome**

**9:30 a.m.: Session 1: Keynote address**

*Local, Continental, Global Migration Contexts: Projecting Life-courses in the Frame of Family Economies and Emotional Networks*

Dirk Hoerder (U. Bremen)

**10:30 a.m.: Coffee break**

**11:00 a.m.: Session 2:  
Acculturating Practices, 1770s-1830s**

*The Beginning of the Moravian Mission in Labrador, 1771-1775*

Kerstin Boelkow (Lauterbach, Germany)

*Model Farmers, Dubious Citizens: Pennsylvania Germans in Upper Canada 1786-1830*

Ross D. Fair (Ryerson U.)

**12:30 p.m.: lunch**

**2:00 p.m.: Session 3:  
Whose nation? Germans in pre-1914 Canada**

*Teaching the Nation: Language and Identity in Waterloo County, 1850-1914*

Barbara Lorenzkowski (Nipissing U.):

*Assimilation, Integration, and Acculturation in 'Canada's German Capital': A Case Study of Berlin (Kitchener), Ontario*

Ulrich Frisse (Wilfrid Laurier U.)

**3:30 p.m.: Coffee Break**

**4:00 p.m. Session 4: Questioning Identity**

*German-Quebecers or German-Québécois? The Double Integration of People of German Origin in Québec*

Manuel Meune (U. Montreal)

*Re-Imagining German-Canadian Cultural Identity: Reflections on Past Deconstructions and New Evidence*

Myka Burke (U. Leipzig)

**5:30 p.m.: End of Day 1**

**7:30 p.m.: Dinner, tours, etc.: TBA**

### SATURDAY, 28 AUGUST 2004:

**9:00 a.m.: Session 5: Gender in German-Canadian Studies**

*Gender in German-Canadian Studies. Challenges From Across the Borders*

Christiane Harzig (U. Erfurt)

*Respectable Women For a New Nation: Gender, Ethnicity, and the Immigration Work of Elsie von Koerber, 1870-1885*

Angelika Sauer (Texas Lutheran U.)

**10:30 a.m.: Coffee break**

**10:45 a.m.: Session 6: Diasporic Experiences**

*'Germans Only in Their Hearts': Making and Breaking the Ethnic German Diaspora*

Hans Werner (U. Winnipeg)

*'What Church Do You Go To?' The Difficult Acculturation of German-Jewish Exiles in Canada, 1933-2003*

Patrick Farges (U. Paris)

*Rural Reichsdeutsche in Saskatchewan's St. Joseph's Colony, 1926-1950*

Gwendolyn Guth (U. Ottawa)

**12:30 p.m.: lunch**

**2 p.m.: Session 7: Language in post-1945 Waterloo County**

*Language Use and Identity: Analysing Language Behaviour of German-speaking Immigrants in Kitchener-Waterloo*

Grit Liebscher (presenting), Mathias Schulze (U. Waterloo)

*Germans in Canada: Merely a Simple Case of Labelling?*

Lori Heffner (U. Alberta)

**3:30 p.m.: Coffee Break**

**4:00 p.m.: Session 8: Postwar experiences: Constructing and Deconstructing Identities**

*Making a Mennonite Middle Class, 1945-1973*

Royden Loewen (U. Winnipeg)

*The Waterloo Centre for German Studies: Mandate and Research Program*

David G. John (U. Waterloo)

**5:30 p.m.: End of Day 2**

**7:30 p.m.: Dinner, tours, etc.: TBA**

### SUNDAY, 29 AUGUST 2004:

**9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.: Concluding Roundtable:** What have we achieved? Where do we go from here? Plans for a future workshop/conference in German-Canadian Studies.

Departure

Photo: Immigrants from Hamburg, 1911, Quebec (William James Topley/National Archives of Canada/PA-010398)

## Diefenbaker Award

(Continued from page 1)

international migrations of domestic workers. Most of her research in Canada will focus on how Canadian immigration policy has enabled immigrant domestic workers to pursue their life goals. The Canada Council's website quoted David Burley, Chair of the UW's History Department, who stated: "Professor Harzig is a distinguished scholar with an international reputation for her outstanding contributions to migration history and in particular to the study of gender in that experience. In her work, she has imaginatively balanced an appreciation of insights derived from cultural studies with meticulous empirical research."

Dr. Harzig, a native of Berlin, has published and taught migration history and gender studies at the Free University of Berlin, Bremen University, York University (Toronto), and the State University of New York-Buffalo. Her dissertation investigated the experiences of German immigrant women in Chicago. In a collection of essays, *Peasant Maids - City Women: From the European Country Side to Urban America*, she co-operated with an international group of researchers to gain a better understanding of how and why women in Sweden, Ireland, Poland, and Germany migrated. In her *Habilitationsschrift* (post-doctoral dissertation) she analyzed, to quote the title, *Immigration and Politics: Historical Memory and Political Culture in Sweden, the Netherlands and Canada* between 1960 and 1990. She has recently co-edited, with Université de Montréal scholar Danielle Juteau, *The Social Construction of Diversity: Recasting the Master Narrative of Industrial Nations*. Other research interests include jazz and multiculturalism.

The Diefenbaker Award has been awarded annually since 1991. It gives a German scholar the opportunity to spend up to one year in Canada to conduct research in the humanities and social sciences. Only university departments and research institutes may nominate candidates. For more information on the Diefenbaker Award and on Dr. Harzig, see the Canada Council's news release at <http://www.canadacouncil.ca/news/releases/2004/qx127268599610781250.htm>.

## Conference Registration

I am registering for the conference "Assimilation - Integration - Acculturation? The German-Canadian Case," Winnipeg, MB, Canada, 26-29 August 2004:

- ♦ \$20.00 before 1 August 2004 (\$15 for students with ID) (cheque or money order)
- ♦ \$40.00 after 1 August 2004 (\$30 for students with ID) (cheque or money order)

First name: \_\_\_\_\_

Last name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Province/State: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation (University and Dept., or other): \_\_\_\_\_

20,000th Beaverbrae passenger with T.O.F. Herzer (r.) (n.d., private) (cropped)



The conference will take place the *Inn at the Forks Hotel*. Please make your own reservations at:

Inn at The Forks  
75 Forks Market Road  
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R3C 0A2 Tel: (204) 942-6555  
Toll-free (North America): 1-877-377-4100  
info@innforks.com <http://www.innforks.com>

**Send registration to:**  
**Chair in German-Canadian Studies**  
**Conference Registration**  
**The University of Winnipeg**  
**515 Portage Avenue**  
**Winnipeg, MB, Canada R3B 2E9**

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In person: My office at the University of Winnipeg is on the 3rd floor of Ashdown Hall: 3A37

**New Website!**  
**[germancanadian.uwinnipeg.ca](http://germancanadian.uwinnipeg.ca)**

*The Chair in German-Canadian Studies was established in 1989 with grants from the Secretary of State's Program for Canadian Ethnic Studies and a group of private philanthropists within the German-Canadian community of Winnipeg. It is located in, and affiliated with, the History Department at the University of Winnipeg, Manitoba.*

*The Chair promotes the teaching of, and research into the history and culture of German-speaking immigrants and their descendants in Canada. It interacts with the German-Canadian community in Winnipeg, Manitoba and the rest of Canada through public lectures and the newsletter. The Chair promotes regional, national and international research through conferences, grants and publications.*

**Editor/Producer: Alexander Freund**

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Unless otherwise stated, all articles were written by Alexander Freund  
Submissions of articles, news, reports, and reviews as well as artwork and photos for publication in this newsletter are welcome.

## Neues Buch:

### Deutsche Nachkriegsauswanderung

Alexander Freund. *Aufbrüche nach dem Zusammenbruch: Die deutsche Nordamerika-Auswanderung nach dem Zweiten Weltkrieg* (Schriften zur Historischen Migrationsforschung, Bd. 12). Göttingen: Vandenhoeck und Ruprecht unipress. ISBN 3-89971-106-8, Euro 29.90.

Millionen Deutsche wollten nach dem 2. Weltkrieg "raus aus Europa!" - so eine Schlagzeile von 1949. Knapp eine Million wanderten dann in den 1950er Jahren tatsächlich nach Übersee aus, die meisten in die USA und nach Kanada. Über diese größte Auswanderungsbewegung aus Deutschland im 20. Jahrhundert ist nur wenig bekannt. Erstmals werden nun die Erfahrungen der Auswanderer dargestellt. Auf der Grundlage von Zeitzeugen-Interviews und deutschen, kanadischen und amerikanischen Archivdokumenten wird untersucht, in welchen Situationen Deutsche in den 1940er und 1950er Jahren Auswanderung als Alternative zu ihrem Leben in Nachkriegsdeutschland wahrnahmen. Nachgezeichnet wird auch, wie Politiker die

Migration von Frauen und Männern, Alleinstehenden und Familien, Einheimischen und Flüchtlingen, Alten und Jungen zu kontrollieren versuchten und wie Betrüger mit den Hoffnungen von Millionen von "Auswanderungswilligen" Profit machten.



Analysiert werden zudem die im Prozeß der Auswanderungsentscheidung entstehenden individuellen, familiären und gesellschaftlichen Konflikte. (*Klappentext des Buchs.*)

Das Buch kann direkt beim Verlag bestellt werden:  
Email: [order@vandenhoeck-ruprecht.de](mailto:order@vandenhoeck-ruprecht.de)  
Tel.: 01149-551-5084-444  
Fax: 01149-551-5084-454.



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of WINNIPEG