

# Traumatic Pasts:

## *Resilience, Resistance, and Remembrance*

Tri-University Annual History Conference



March 3, 2018

Wilfrid Laurier University

75 University Avenue West, Waterloo, Ontario



## Conference Welcome

Welcome to the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Tri-University History Conference! It has been a busy few months for us as organizers since our first meeting in September to discuss what theme would be most appropriate for the conference today. ‘Trauma’, we all agreed, was relevant to many of our fellow colleagues’ research, but we did not realize how ensuing events would make it arguably even more pressing and timely than in September. The study of trauma in history can be traced to the 1980s, yet remains a lively topic of historiographical debate today. 2017 alone, with the several hurricanes that ravaged the Caribbean Islands, the #MeToo Movement and the most recent trial of Gerald Stanley in Saskatchewan, urges us to continue inquiring into our traumatic pasts. That said, the presentations today do not speak solely of trauma. Resistance and resiliency mark the lives of many individuals and communities who have experienced trauma but refuse to be defined by it. The message that will emerge from today’s presentations will be that trauma, if anything, is not inevitable.

This year’s activities would not be possible without the help of many who graciously volunteered their time. There is simply not enough room to name them all, but we would like to especially thank Colleen Ginn, Adam Crerar and Michael Sibalis for their guidance, expertise and help throughout the process of organizing today’s conference. We would also like to thank the Tri-University History Program and the Department of National Defence for their support.

Eliza Richardson, Brittany Dunn and Eric Story

## Message from the Tri-University Director

Welcome to the Tri-University History Conference!

In the past couple of years, I’ve found myself talking with colleagues from other universities in other disciplines who’re exploring joint programs of their own. While interested in our example they’re initially taken aback. “Wait,” they say, glancing skeptically at one another and then back at me. “You’re a joint program with *three* schools? How does *that* work?”

And of course I say it works very well! The Tri-University Graduate Program in History is—in terms of students, faculty, and course offerings—one of the largest grad programs in History in the country. And yet, to our benefit, I think, the Tri-U doesn’t feel that way, thanks to the varied communities we form within and among the partner campuses.

As is so often the case, the annual Conference shows the Tri-U in action: cross-campus collaboration; faculty mentoring; connections to the community and beyond; and presenters from junior MAs to senior PhDs to graduates who’re back with us to share their research and to be part again of what one of my senior colleagues affectionately calls the “Group of Highway 7.”

Here’s to a great day!

Adam Crerar, Director, Tri-University Graduate Program in History

We acknowledge that Wilfrid Laurier University is situated on the traditional territory of the Anishnawbe, Haudenosaunee and Attawandaron peoples. It also lies on the land promised to the Six Nations called the Haldimand Tract, which includes a ten kilometer-span on either side of the Grand River.

**REGISTRATION AND COFFEE: 8:00-8:45**

**OPENING REMARKS: 8:45-9:00**

**SESSION ONE: 9:00-10:15**

**The Politicization of Play: Sport as Spectacle and Resistance in Authoritarian Regimes**

Location: Senate and Board Chamber  
*Chair: Dr. Alan McDougall, University of Guelph*

Cameron Winter, "Fists Against Fascism" (University of Waterloo)

Evan Cater, "In Defence of Fair Play: Boycott Campaigns and the 1936 Olympic Games" (University of Waterloo)

Jennifer McKay, "Coasting through Socialism: Sailing in the German Democratic Republic" (University of Waterloo)

**Constructions of the Body**

Location: Paul Martin Centre  
*Chair: Dr. Jane Nicholas, St. Jerome's University*

Lyndsay Rosenthal, "Colonel W.T.M. MacKinnon and the Evolution of Etchinghill Hospital, 1917-1919" (Wilfrid Laurier University)

Kirsten Schwegler, "It's a Man's War and the Women Are Just Living In It: Female Resistance and the Objectification of the Female Body in World War II Conflicts" (University of Guelph)

Ossian MacEachern, "Jewish Body, Christian Imagination: The Symbol of the Jew in Renaissance Italy" (Wilfrid Laurier University)

**Conflicts, Violence and Identities**

Location: DAWB 2-108  
*Chair: Dr. Roger Sarty, Wilfrid Laurier University*

Sholeye Yusuf Oluwaseun, "Inter Ethnic Conflicts and Africa's Borders" (Independent Scholar)

Mateusz Wesolowski, "Nest, Bulwark, Christ of Nations: An Examination of National Identities Presented in Polish Historiography" (Independent Scholar)

Grace Howard, "'Have You Any Women-folk Worth Fighting For?' An Analysis of Wartime Propaganda Posters, Gender Constructions, Sexual Violence, and Notions of Nationhood" (University of Guelph)

**SESSION TWO – KEYNOTE PANEL: 10:30-12:00**

**In the Face of Trauma: A Panel on the Past and Present Experiences of Veterans in Canada**

Location: Senate and Board Chamber  
*Chair: Dr. Tarah Brookfield, Wilfrid Laurier University*

Dr. Mark Humphries, Wilfrid Laurier University  
Bruce Moncur, Afghanistan Veterans Association of Canada  
Dr. Claire Cookson-Hills, Queen's University  
Marie-Claude Gagnon, It's Just 700 – Military Sexual Trauma

**LUNCH: 12:00-12:50**

**AWARDING OF THE TRI-UNIVERSITY ESSAY PRIZE: 12:50-1:00**

### SESSION THREE: 1:00-2:15

#### **Can Colonial Institutions Reconcile Colonization?**

Location: Senate and Board Chamber  
*Chair: Cody Groat, Wilfrid Laurier University*

Heather George, “Healing Intergenerational Trauma Through Storytelling and Art – Can Museums Heal the Wounds of Colonization?” (University of Waterloo)

Dr. Susan Neylan, “Building Friendship House: Indigenous Peoples, the United Church of Canada, and Reconciling Historical Trauma, 1958-2012” (Wilfrid Laurier University)

Dr. Susan Roy and Colin Wintle, “Ayamoowin ijwa paapoowin (Songs in the Key of Cree): the histories and power of Indigenous language and performance” (University of Waterloo)

#### **Activism, Incarceration and Criminal Justice**

Location: Paul Martin Centre  
*Chair: Dr. Dana Weiner, Wilfrid Laurier University*

Jason Romisher, “By Pen, Sword, and Struggle: African American High School Student Activism in Lawnside, New Jersey” (Simon Fraser University)

Nicholas D. VanExan and Katrina Gale, “Criminals, Crime, and Social Change: Using the New Zealand *Police Gazette* as a Cultural Window, 1894-1945” (University of Guelph)

Rebecca Pyrah, “Divisive Racism in a Corrupt US Justice System” (University of Guelph)

#### **Statecraft, Policy and Ideologies**

Location: DAWB 2-108  
*Chair: Dr. Adam Crerar, Wilfrid Laurier University*

Matthew Hargreaves, “The Kingly War: Confucian Morality, Asian Statecraft, and Eastern Modernity in Manchukuo” (Independent Scholar)

Paul Esau, “Project Ploughshares in the New World Order: ARMX, Bill C-6, and Common Security” (Wilfrid Laurier University)

Alex Rousseau, “Red Scares: Comparing Anti-Communist Discourse in Canadian Political Parties between 1930 and 1935” (Wilfrid Laurier University)

### SESSION FOUR: 2:30-4:00

#### **Healing through Art and Literature**

Location: Senate and Board Chamber  
*Chair: Dr. Mark Humphries, Wilfrid Laurier University*

Kylie Burchat, “Disappearing Past: Looking Towards Holocaust Survivors and Their Memoirs” (Wilfrid Laurier University)

Lorrie Gallant, “Walking Together: The Medicine of Art” (Woodland Cultural Centre)

Thomas Littlewood, “Location, Location, Location: The War Memorial in Saint John, New Brunswick, 1922-25” (University of Guelph)

#### **Insurgency and Counterinsurgency in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century**

Location: Paul Martin Centre  
*Chair: Dr. Geoffrey Hayes, University of Waterloo*

Andrew Cardy, “Wasted Opportunities: Special Operations Executive and the French Resistance, 1940-1944” (Wilfrid Laurier University)

Sean Summerfield, “The Malayan Emergency” (University of Waterloo)

Alexander Maavara, “Shackled Justice: Constitutional Constraints on Counterinsurgency in India’s Naxalite-Maoist Insurgency, 1967-2012” (Wilfrid Laurier University)

#### **Identity Formation and Gender Relations**

Location: DAWB 2-108  
*Chair: Dr. Amy Milne-Smith, Wilfrid Laurier University*

Amy McBride, “1970s Feminism at the University of Guelph” (University of Guelph)

Claire Milligan, “Surviving Famine: Evidence from the Wauchope Family and Business Collection” (University of Guelph)

Amy Poole, “The Interchangeability of Masculinity and Femininity through Foresight: Analyzing Prophetic Men and Women in the Family Sagas” (University of Guelph)

Kyle Pritchard, “‘To delight the eye of every factory man’: Women in the Canadian Munitions Industry during the First World War” (Wilfrid Laurier University)

**PLEASE JOIN US AT VERITAS FROM 5:00-7:00 FOR DRINKS AND SNACKS**

## Notes

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**Following the conference, please join us at Veritas Café!**

Veritas is located on Wilfrid Laurier Campus beside the Fred Nichols building, which faces the Quad.