

Bulletin

The Canadian Society for the Study of Religion
La Société Canadienne pour l'Étude de la Religion

Volume XXI, No. 2
ISSN 0708-952X

April / Avril 1998

CONTENTS / TABLE DES MATIÈRES:

CLICK THE UNDERLINED ITEMS TO JUMP TO THEM

CONTENTS / TABLE DES MATIÈRES:

CLICK THE UNDERLINED ITEMS TO JUMP TO THEM

<u>I.</u>	<u>A Word from the Editor / Mot du rédacteur</u>
<u>II.</u>	<u>President's Message / Message du président</u>
<u>III.</u>	<u>Notes / Informations</u>
<u>IV.</u>	<u>New Members</u>
<u>V.</u>	<u>Membership Statistics</u>
<u>VI.</u>	<u>Personal Notes / Notes personnelles</u>
	THE FOLLOWING ITEMS APPEAR ON SEPARATE PAGES

	<u>Program for the 1998 Congress at the University of Ottawa - LINK</u>
	<u>Membership Fees & Form - LINK</u>

I. A WORD FROM THE EDITOR / MOT DU RÉDACTEUR

This issue of the *Bulletin* is the longest since I became editor in 1995; hopefully, it will also be the most useful to members of the CSSR/SCÉR. Please note that the *Bulletin* contains the complete CSSR/SCÉR program for the 1998 Humanities and Social Sciences Congress to be held May 28-31 at the University of Ottawa. Please bring the *Bulletin* with you as copies will not be available in Ottawa. Of special note this year are two multi-disciplinary panels: "Native Cultures and the Healing Arts," and "Issues in Religious Studies in Mexico."

My special thanks to Bill James for his leadership as president of the CSSR/SCÉR during the past two years.

Depuis que je suis devenu rédacteur en 1995, il n'y a pas eu d'autres *Bulletins* qui ont été aussi importants que celui que vous tenez en main. De plus, il deviendra le plus utile pour les membres du CSSR/SCÉR. Veuillez noter que ce *Bulletin* renferme le programme du Congrès des Humanités et des Sciences Sociales qui aura lieu du 28 au 31 mai 1998, à l'Université d'Ottawa. N'oubliez pas d'amener votre copie du *Bulletin*, puisqu' aucune copie ne sera disponible à Ottawa. Cette année, je vous prie de noter en particulier deux tribunes multi-disciplinaires, "Native Cultures and the Healing Arts," et "Issues in Religious Studies in Mexico."

Mes plus grands remerciements à Bill James pour le leadership exemplaire qu'il a démontré en tant que président du CSSR/SCÉR ces deux dernières années.

Brian W.W. Aitken
Huntington College in Laurentian University
SUDBURY ON P3E 2C6

II. President's Message / Message du président

It may take some getting used to, but this year, from 28-31 May for the first time ever we're going to "The Congress," not "The Learneds." With this inaugural Congress in 1998 at the University of Ottawa, the Humanities and Social Sciences Federation of Canada promises "to build on the venerable tradition of the Learneds while adding new features to the familiar programs." The HSSFC has assumed a role in the overall planning and organization of the Congress, thereby reducing somewhat the burden previously placed on the hosting university. What are the new features of the Congress, assuming the usual ingredients of papers and panels and business meetings are the continuing aspects of what we'll find there?

For one thing, we're promised "special colloquia to attract the best scholars." These colloquia are organized by several societies with support from the Federation as a way of providing a focus for the Congress and as part of a new plan to interest the general public and media. During the time that the CSSR/SCÉR is having its meetings on May 30th we are co-sponsoring a Joint Health Colloquium on "Native Cultures and the Healing Arts," with such participants as Alanis Obomsawin and Richard Wagamese. At the time of this writing Thomas King is scheduled as a possible respondent. Readings given by renowned authors have been popular at past Learneds. This year Rohinton Mistry, author of *Such a Long Journey* and *A Fine Balance*, will be giving a public reading on May 29th.

The duration of the Congress is being compressed to extend over only eleven days this year. This will mean that our meetings will overlap to a larger extent with more groups than in the past. Opportunities for collaboration with other societies are therefore greater. An expanded and rejuvenated Book Fair is also promised. The publishers' book display was an important feature of the old Learneds, though many had the feeling it was not quite all that it might have been. Perhaps this will change this year, with a larger display and the scheduling of related events.

Among continuing events at our meetings, there is the Annual Joint Session, sponsored this year by the Canadian Theological Society on May 29th. This year's lecture, by Dr. Larry Rasmussen of Union Seminary, is entitled "Ecumenical Earth Ethics: Moral Frameworks and Deep Traditions."

Our CSSR/SCÉR dinner is planned for an Indian restaurant in downtown Ottawa; further details and instructions about signing up are given elsewhere in this *Bulletin*. For the first time, the CSSR/SCÉR is convening a breakfast meeting to which all heads or chairs of departments and religious studies are invited. This might be one of several forthcoming initiatives in the direction of greater collaboration in the context of the new Congress.

In anticipation of this year's meetings, I want to thank on your behalf Braj Sinha and members of the Program Committee for their work in putting together this assemblage of

panels and papers. Brian Aitken has been responsible, again, for the editing and publication of the *Bulletin*. Dan Berg of the University of Ottawa has been assiduous attending to the details for the local arrangements.

As I conclude my two-year term as the CSSR/SCÉR president, I want to thank the entire membership of the Society, but especially other Executive members, for their cooperation and support. I'm proud to have been associated with them, working on behalf of the academic study of religion in Canada. And, in anticipation, best wishes to my successor, to be elected at the Annual Meeting at the University of Ottawa in May. I hope to see you there.

William Closson James

III. **Notes / Informations**

REQUEST FOR PARTICIPATION:
CSSR Bulletin

Inform us of your new academic activities, your latest publications, the organization of seminars, colloquia, and conferences.

Tell us about appointments and retirements, and new developments in the teaching of religious studies. Send materials before September 1, 1998, for the October edition.

VOTRE PARTICIPATION AU
Bulletin DEMANDÉE

Le Bulletin de la SCÉR sera d'autant plus intéressant que vous y apporterez votre participation. Faites connaître vos nouvelles activités académiques, vos publications récentes, la tenue de séminaires, de colloques, ou de congrès que vous organisez.

Laissez-nous savoir des nouveaux développements, des retraites aussi bien que des nouveaux postes. Faites parvenir le tout avant le 1 septembre 1998 pour l'édition d'avril: le prochain Bulletin paraîtra en octobre.

SEND TO: Brian W. W. Aitken
Membership Secretary CSSR/SCÉR
Huntington University in Laurentian University
Ramsey Lake Road

SUDBURY ON P3E 2C6

FAX: 705-673-6917

E-MAIL: baitken/@nickel.laurentian.ca

IV. New Members

Paul Bramadat (Associate)
University of Winnipeg
Religious Studies Department
Winnipeg MB
Canada R3B 2E9

Barbara Jane Davy
(Student)
112 Russell Ave
Ottawa ON
Canada K1N 7X1

Prof. Eldon Hay (Retired/PT-
Employed)
35 Union St
Sackville NM
Canada E4L 4M6

Scott Dunbar (Student)
916 Clements Ave
North Vancouver BC
Canada V7R 2K7

John R. Franklin (Retired/
PT-Employed)
133 Southvale Dr
Toronto ON
Canada M4G 1G6

Matthew Alexander Lauder
(Student)
764 Mona Dr
Kingston ON
Canada K7M 5C2

Andrea Frolic (Student)
Rice University
Religious Studies Department
6100 Main St
Houston TX
U.S.A. 77005-1892

Susan Medd (Full)
Brandon University
Brandon MB
Canada R7A 6A9

Roxanne D. Marcotte
(Student)
3455 Stanley #409
Montreal QC
Canada H3A 1S3

Aviva Goldberg (Student)
858 Carlaw Ave
Toronto ON
Canada M4K 3L3

Randal F. Schnoor
(Student-Associate)
603-66 Spadina Rd
Toronto ON
Canada M5R 2T4

C. Peter Slater (Associate)
Theological Seminary of the
Episcopal Church
175 Ninth Ave
New York NY
U.S.A. 10011-4977

Sharon Hackett (Student)
5222 Esplanade
Montreal QC
Canada H2T 2Z5

Full / Temps plein	134
Retired/PT-Employed / Retraité(e)/Temps partiel	29
Student / Étudiant(e)	47
Associate / Associé(e)	36
Student-Associate / Étudiant(e)-Associé(e)	11
TOTAL	257

VI. Personal Notes / Notes personnelles

Harold Coward (University of Victoria)

Harold Coward has been reappointed for a second five-year term (1997-2001) as Director of the Centre for Studies in Religion and Society.

PUBLICATIONS:

- (1997) (ed.) *Life after death in world religions*. Maryknoll: Orbis Books.
- (1997) "The Religions of the South Asian Diaspora in Canada," in *A new handbook of living religions*. Oxford: Penguin and Blackwell, pp. 775-795.
- (1995) *Population, consumption and the environment: religious and secular responses*. Albany: SUNY Press.

Eldon Hay (Mount Allison University)

Eldon Hay, recently retired from the Department of Religious Studies at Mount Allison University, was selected as the recipient of the 1997 New Brunswick Human Rights Award. The award is presented each year to a person or group that has made an exceptional contribution to the promotion of human rights and equality in New Brunswick on a volunteer basis. Through community organizing and public initiatives, Eldon Hay is said to have made New Brunswick a better place for gay, lesbian and bisexual persons and their families, and thus helped build a province where individual rights and diversity are respected. A ceremony took place in Sackville, NB, on December 10, 1997 - International Human Rights Day - at which time the formal presentation of the award was made by New Brunswick Lieutenant-Governor, Marilyn Trenholme Counsell.

Alan Kirk (Mount Allison University)

Alan Kirk has joined the Department of Religious Studies at Mount Allison University as assistant professor. Dr. Kirk was formerly and instructor in the Department of Religious Studies at the University of Calgary.

Dan Merkur (University of Toronto)

PUBLICATIONS:

- (1997) "Freud and Hasidism," in *Religion, society and psychoanalysis: readings in contemporary theory*. Liebman Jacobs, Janet and Capps, Donald (eds.) Boulder, Colorado: Westview Press, pp. 11-22.
- (1966) "Psychoanalytic Methods in the History of Religion: a Personal Statement," in *Method and Theory in the Study of Religion*, 814: 327-343.
- (1996) "The Numinous as a Category of Values," in *The Sacred and its Scholars: Comparative Methodologies for the Study of Primary Religious Data*. Idinopulos, Thomas A., and Yonan-Leiden, Edward A. (eds.) E. J. Brill, pp. 104-123.
- (1977) "Transpersonal Psychology: Models of Spiritual Awakening," in *Religious Studies Review*. 23/2: 141-147

Daniel J. Sahas (University of Waterloo)

PUBLICATIONS:

- (1998) "Abû Quiia," in the *Encyclopedia Prosopographical Lexicon of Byzantine History and Civilization*. Vol. 3. Athens.

- (1994, published in 1997) "Cultural Interaction During the Unayyed Period: the 'circle' of John of Damascus," *ARAM Periodical*. Oxford/Leuven. 6: pp. 35-66.
- (1996, published in 1997) "Eighth-century Byzantine Anti-Islamic Literature: Context and Forces," *Byzantine Slavica*. Prague. 57: pp. 229-238.
- (1997) "Saracens and Arabs in the Leiman of John Moschos," *Byzantiaka*. Thessalonica. 17: pp. 121-138
- (1977) "This is a Great Mystery," in *The Sacrament of Marriage in the Orthodox Church*. Waterloo. 20 pp.

CONFERENCES (Papers Given)

- "Manuel Chrysoloras (c. 1350-1415): the Person and His Fines." An international symposium sponsored by the Royal Ontario Museum, the Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies, the General Consulate of Greece, and the Canadian Association of Constantinople in Toronto. Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto, November 29-30.
- "Muslim-Christian Orthodox Dialogue." An international panel dialogue, Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding. Georgetown University, Washington DC, October 21, 1997.
- "Plaster and Bricks: the Liturgical Character and Function of the Byzantine Iconography and Church Architecture." The 18th Canadian Conference of Medieval Art Historians. York University, March 21, 1998.

FELLOWSHIP:

- 1996-97 Byzantine Fellow, Dunbarton Oaks (Harvard University Center for Byzantine Studies, Washington DC)

Randi Warne (Mount St. Vincent University)

Randi Warne was given a tenure-track position in the department of Religious Studies at Mount St. Vincent University in July 1997. She is acting chair (January 1998 - June 1998). She was promoted to associate professor in March 1998 and granted tenure. She was nominated for the Alumni Teaching Award after her first semester. She has five entries (forthcoming) in the Routledge Encyclopedia of Feminist Theories (Religious Studies; Women and Christianity; Feminist Theology; Mary Daly; Women as Immanence), and she is delighted to be back in Canada.

Jinfen Yan (Mount Allison University)

Jinfen Yan is the 1997-98 McCarr Post-doctoral Fellow in the Department of Religious Studies. Dr. Yan was an associate researcher in the Department of East Asian Studies at the University of Toronto.

07 July 1998

