

Shastri News - December 2007

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The Shastri Institute 40th Anniversary Campaign - Funding the Future

On November 29, 2008, the Shastri Institute celebrates its 40th anniversary. For 40 years the Shastri Institute has built knowledge and goodwill between Canada and India and has enriched the lives of countless Indian and Canadian researchers, scholars, students and artists by providing opportunities for research, training and collaboration. The Institute's cross-disciplinary focus has meant that it has contributed to the Canada-India relationship in a wide variety of areas and its emphasis on applied research has meant that it has had an impact within and outside academia. In order to celebrate its achievements the Institute hopes to hold celebrations on each of its member campuses as well as regional and national events.

The Institute is also calling upon the community that it has supported to demonstrate solidarity with the Institute and its works by making a donation to its 40th Anniversary Campaign. Your support ensures the long-term sustainability of the Institute's current programming and provides the Institute the opportunity to continue to expand and grow. The money raised through the Institute's campaign will go to support its student awards, poverty reduction research in India, seed grants and fellowships.

To donate to the Institute, please visit the Canada Helps website at <http://www.canadahelps.org/CharityProfilePage.aspx?CharityID=27979> or complete this Donation Form and mail or fax it to the Shastri Institute. For further information on how you can support the Institute by naming an award or grant, making a bequest or gift of stock, please contact Alana Froese at afroese@ucalgary.ca or (403) 220-7467.

Shastri Institute Welcomes New Members

The Shastri Institute is pleased to welcome new members Maharshi Dayanand University, Wilfrid Laurier University and Ecole Polytechnique de Montréal.

News from Members

McGill University

International Symposium on Emerging and Novel Technologies

Defence Food Research Laboratory and McGill University are co-sponsoring an International Symposium on Emerging Technologies for Food Processing on December 19 to 20, 2007 at DFRL, Mysore, India. If you are planning a trip to India and happen to be there around this time, you would be welcome to attend the conference and present a talk on any subject matter relevant to the symposium.

Please contact Hosahalli Ramaswamy for more details
Professor Food Science
514-398-7919:

Payton MacDonald: Works for Tabla

Shawn Mativetsky, percussion instructor and course lecturer at the Schulich School of Music, has just released his debut CD entitled 'Payton MacDonald: Works for Tabla' on the Atma Classique label. For the past ten years, Shawn has been commissioning composers to write new music for this instrument. This innovative cross-cultural music is written in the Western contemporary/new music tradition, but with inspiration from Indian classical music; this recording is the first of its kind. The album contains works for tabla that Shawn commissioned from the American composer, Payton MacDonald; his 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Concertos for Tabla and Percussion Quartet as well as Alap, Jor, and Jhala for solo tabla.

For more information: <http://www.atmaclassique.com> or <http://www.shawnmativetsky.com>

Workshop on Transport, Health, Environment and Equity in Indian Cities

December 17-19, 2007, at the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi

Organized by McGill University and Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, and funded by a Partnership Development Seed Grant from the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute and the Canadian International Development Agency

A three-day workshop will be held December 17-19, 2007, on Transport, Health, Environment and Equity in Indian Cities, at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi. The event, jointly organized by McGill University and TRIPP – IITD, will bring together academics and researchers, decision makers, and key industry and NGO representatives, to discuss the critical research needs for better understanding, and more effectively addressing, the urban transport situation in India, and useful approaches for meeting those research needs, given institutional constraints. The focus will be on the following critical urban transport impacts in India: air pollution from motor vehicles; road safety; and access for non-motorized modes and the urban poor.

Apart from contributing to the development of research approaches for addressing the urban transport challenge in India, the workshop will highlight and strengthen India-Canada collaboration, provide opportunities for exploring long-term academic and research partnerships, and serve as a platform from which to launch ongoing debate on this important policy issue.

For more information, please contact:

Professor [Madhav G. Badami](#), McGill University

Professor [Geetam Tiwari](#), IIT Delhi

University College of the Fraser Valley

The Centre for Indo-Canadian Studies has been busy with many events. Two newsletters have been published which include descriptions of events and photos.

For our July newsletter, please [click here](#).

For our November newsletter, please [click here](#).

University of Lethbridge

Ethnicity Conference: Call for Papers

Interdisciplinary Conference

Ethnicity: Theory and Practice in the 21st Century

The University of Lethbridge, Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada

September 26 – 28 2008

Abstract deadline – February 29 2008

The organizers invite scholars from around the world to attend this conference, which will be held at the University of Lethbridge in beautiful southern Alberta, Canada. The goal of this conference is to explore issues intersecting identity theories and pedagogical approaches concerning ethnicity. We encourage researchers and teachers from the Arts and the Sciences to send us proposals.

The keynote speaker for this event is Professor Nasrin Rahimieh, Maseeh Chair and Director of Dr. Samuel M. Jordan Centre for Persian Studies and Culture and Professor of Comparative Literature at the University of California, Irvine.

Suggestions for areas of discussions are (but not limited to):

- Ethnicity-based and race-based stereotyping
- Human rights and ethnic diversity
- Transnational citizenship: fact and fiction
- Multicultural ideals and reality
- Ethnic representations: films, literature, and other mediums
- Comparative analysis: ethnic acceptance in international context
- Ethnicity and the body
- Space/place and ethnicity
- Teaching ethnically
- Gendered ethnicities
- Ethnicity and life writing

Because we aim to encourage discussions amongst the conference speakers, papers should be limited to 15 minutes in length. Accepted participants should inform the organizers about media requirements such as DVD, slide projection, and other equipment.

Please send abstract for paper proposals (300 words) and direct all enquiries to

[Maria N. Ng](#)

The Department of English
The University of Lethbridge

or

[Michelle T. Helstein](#)

Kinesiology and Physical Education
The University of Lethbridge

The organizers prefer an electronic copy of the abstract. Accepted participants will be notified at the end of March or beginning of April 2008.

Simon Fraser University

India Fall 2007 Education Field School

India is an exciting interplay of traditional elements and explorations in change. This programme will be based in Chandigarh, the capital of the Punjab and Haryana states, which has been shaped by its Sikh, Muslim and Hindu roots. In this context, we will use formal and informal education as vehicles to explore the development of a global perspective. This will involve diverse experiences with Panjab University, local schools and NGO organizations. Home stays with families will provide additional rich experiences.

Field School Director:

Mati Bernabei

Programme:

This field school is relevant for students who are interested in development and cultural themes, who are pursuing an education minor and/or who are interested in entering PDP. India offers a rich opportunity to explore intercultural and international approaches in education while being able to use English in a variety of contexts. The programme will involve a variety of experiences such as visits to local communities, meetings with community organizations, exchanges with university students, cultural events, presentations by different specialists, and volunteer work with community organizations/schools. Important cultural and historical centres such as Amritsar will be visited. The programme will consist of the following three courses for a total of 12 SFU credit hours.

EDUC 370 – 4 International and Intercultural Education

This course is based both on practical and theoretical orientations to international and intercultural education including perspectives on the relationships between culture, learning and schooling. Participants will have opportunities to analyze and to reflect upon their experiences in educational contexts, home stays and intercultural experiences. These interactions will provide a basis for

examining methods for developing culturally sensitive and culturally responsive teaching practices and curricula.

EDUC 471-4 Curriculum Theory and Development

Teachers play important roles in the development of curriculum expectations, experiences and learning resources. We will explore various learning contexts in India, meet with educators and students, visit schools and meet with other educators. As we explore various models of curriculum development, participants will be introduced to skills and ideas that contribute to the development of meaningful curriculum. Part of the course will involve creating curriculum units based on these experiences.

EDUC 372-4 Special Topics in Education: An Analysis of International Service Learning

An integrated range of both formal and informal learning experiences in this programme prior to leaving Canada and in India will provide a rich basis for exploration of relevant themes in international and global education. Participation in, and reflection upon, a volunteer placement in Chandigarh and the daily intercultural interactions will be an experiential basis for this course.

For further details please visit

<http://www.sfu.ca/international/abroad/fieldschools/>

New Publication

Canadian Policy on Nuclear Cooperation with India: Confronting New Dilemmas, edited by: Karthika Sasikumar and Wade L. Huntley. The Simons Centre for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Research, Vancouver, B.C. 2007.

Canadian Studies Lecturer to Visit India

Dr. John Reid, Saint Mary's University, will undertake a lecture tour in India during January and February 2008.

Dr. Reid is a historian with expertise in Aboriginal History. He has written about the aboriginal nations of northeastern North America (Eastern Canada) over thirty years. Currently he is coordinating a research project exploring interactions between indigenous civilizations and the British Empire in Asia and in the Atlantic world.

We thank all those who contributed to this edition of the newsletter.

Please forward this newsletter to a friend and email us at sici@ucalgary.ca with your comments and suggestions for future issues. Please click here if you wish to unsubscribe to this newsletter.

Editor: Anita Dennis