

Shastri News- October 2010

Promoting Shastri — Presidential Tours

As a follow-up to the Shastri Action Plan, it is now important to get the word out to the community of members, partners, and supporters. To that end, President Singh and Vice-President/President Elect Braj Sinha have spoken at various events and meetings to promote Shastri's new vision (see below).

On behalf of Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute, President Sunaina Singh paid tribute to Monkombu Sambasivan Swaminathan, Ph.D. after his Shastri-Pearson Lecture at the University of Alberta on October 7. Here is an excerpt of President Singh's tribute to Dr. Swaminathan:

"Your honours are numerous; your legacy well-established; your benefits to humanity known and appreciated. You have been called 'the father of economic ecology' by the United Nations with whom you worked; and the 'father of India's Green Revolution' in the media; but for many, you have distinguished yourself as a champion of the poor and an advocate for a topic dear to myself — gender equity. Finally, you have uplifted an entire nation and the greater agricultural community with your groundbreaking and tireless work in sustainability. You were addressing issues of sustenance, farming, and food security before they were widely known. Shastri is proud to provide, the Shastri-Pearson Lecture with the financial assistance of the Canada International Development Agency."

This Edmonton/U of A function was one of a series of events in which Shastri participated as President Singh met with members, potential members and stakeholders in Edmonton, Calgary, Prince George, Vancouver and Victoria. The focus of these presentations was the recently signed India-Canada MOU on Higher Education and how Shastri's action plan aligns with it. Look for more reports on the tour in future newsletters.

- Sept 23 – Synergy Conference in Toronto
- October 7 – U of Calgary senior administrators
- October 8 – U of Alberta and McEwen University senior officials; Edmonton leaders
- October 8 – Dinner reception for Calgary Indo-Canadian community and Indo-Canadian Chamber of Commerce
- October 12 – U of Northern BC President and Vice Chancellor
- October 13 – U of Victoria President and Vice Chancellor; meetings and presentations with faculty and senior administrators
- October 14 – Meetings and presentations to UBC senior administrators and a public presentation (SFU also invited)
- October 28/29 – First Shastri Regional Workshop, U of Saskatchewan

- Nov 1/2 – Proposed presentations to CIDA, DFAIT, Minister Jason Kenney
- Nov 8 - Presentation to AUCC Presidents Roundtable in Delhi

Shastri Grants - Deadlines coming up

There is still time to plan for upcoming Shastri grants. Please see attached Guide to Grants and Awards for further details...

*Name of Grant/Award
Application Deadline*

SICI-AIESEC Bursary to travel to India

To be advised

Shastri Action-Research Program

To be advised

Collaborative Research Projects

November 15th, 2010

Canadian Studies Program Development Grant

December 15th, 2010

Lal Bahadur Shastri Student Prize

January 30th, 2011

Student Excellence Awards

November 30th, 2011

Scholar Travel Subsidy Grant

March 1st, 2011

Shastri Regional Workshops and Symposia

The first symposium will take place at the U of Saskatchewan October 28-29, 2010. Engaging India will be the focus of this and subsequent events over the next 18 months across Canada. Contact Savhanna Wilson to register and for more information: sjw094@mail.usask.ca.

Details of the next symposium will be forthcoming in the next Shastri Canada e-newsletter.

Calls and Classifieds

Asia Pacific Foundation

My name is Heather Kincaide and I am a researcher at the Asia-Pacific Foundation of Canada, a not-for-profit think tank on Canada's relations with Asia. We are attempting to estimate the number of Canadian citizens currently in India. As the Census of India does not enumerate Canadian citizens in India, we requested foreigner registration data from police services across India under the Right to Information Act. However, few services responded. We would like to know if any of your members:

- Know of other sources of data on the number of Canadian citizens currently in or living

permanently in India; b) Have any data on the number of Canadian citizens in India as a whole or in specific states or union territories. We are especially in need of statistics for the states of Haryana and Punjab, as well as the cities (and their associated states) of Mumbai and Pune (Maharashtra), New Delhi, Bangalore (Karnataka), Kolkata (West Bengal), Chennai (Tamil Nadu) and Kanpur (Uttar Pradesh). We would be happy to share our findings or collaborate with anyone who is interested! Please contact Heather Kincaide, Post-Graduate Research Fellow, Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada, 220-890 West Pender St, Vancouver BC V6C 1J9 Tel: 604-630-1543; <http://www.asiapacific.ca/> For a subscription to our free publications, please go

to <http://www.asiapacific.ca/en/newsletter/subscribe>

U of M Seeks a Writer-in-Residence

The University of Manitoba's Centre for Creative Writing and Oral Culture seeks a Writer/Storyteller-in-Residence for Fall 2011. This four-month position, from approximately September 1 to December 16, 2011, will require the successful candidate to spend approximately 16 hours per week providing mentorship and practical artistic advice to developing writers and storytellers at the University of Manitoba, to give a limited number of readings and/or performances on campus, and to lead an informal non-credit workshop. The remaining time is to be devoted to the writer or storyteller's own artistic projects. The successful candidate will receive a salary of \$20,000.00 CAD, accommodation, and return transportation to Winnipeg.

The Centre for Creative Writing and Oral Culture is an interdisciplinary centre with a mandate to promote the creation and the study of the verbal arts, both oral and written. Located at the University of Manitoba in the city of Winnipeg, the Centre sponsors readings, lectures, master classes and creative community projects that explore the connections between oral and written culture. Winnipeg is renowned for its vibrant arts community and its multicultural citizenry, including the largest urban population of Aboriginal people in North America. The Centre builds upon these local cultural strengths as a basis for its creative and critical work. To learn more about the Centre, visit <http://umanitoba.ca/centres/ccwoc/>.

Applicants should provide a covering letter summarizing their qualifications for the position and describing the artistic work they would undertake during the residency. Applications must also include a CV or résumé of career achievements (publications, performances, awards, residencies), a writing sample of no more than 20 pages (double-spaced and typed in a standard 12-point font) and two letters of reference discussing the applicant's skills as an artist and a mentor.

Candidates of all nationalities are encouraged to apply; however, full proficiency in English is required, and publications or performance credits in English would be an asset.

The Centre for Creative Writing and Oral Culture is committed to principles of employment equity. The application deadline is November 22, 2010. Electronic submissions of application materials are accepted at the Centre's email address, but attachments must be in Microsoft Word, PDF, RTF or DocX only. Please direct inquiries and electronic application materials to ccwoc@cc.umanitoba.ca.

Applicants may also submit hardcopy applications to:

Dr. Warren Cariou, Director
Centre for Creative Writing and Oral Culture, University of Manitoba
391 University College, 220 Dysart Road
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3T 2M8 CANADA

Books and other materials sent in support of applications will not be returned.

News & Updates

- DFAIT recently approved Shastri's proposal in the amount of \$159,756 for 2010-11 funding. Shastri was able to receive significantly more funding than last year despite DFAIT's budget cuts. We will be able to provide further details soon.
- CIDA Youth Internship Program – We have recently submitted a proposal to CIDA's Youth Internship Program for 20 interns doing great work in India through potential partnerships with Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC), Centre for Research in Rural and Industrial development (CRRID) and possibly National Council of Rural Institutes (NCRI).
- As mentioned before, we have hired a great communications & development officer in Brian J. Martin who has already jumped into the position with both feet. Get ready for more communications and opportunities to work together on an array of initiatives especially our new web portal and the regional workshops as discussed further.
- Shastri has recently taken out a membership on behalf of all its members in the Canada India Education Council (CIEC). Shastri will be working with the CIEC over the next few weeks and months on common issues as we advance Shastri's exciting Strategic Action Plan. Members should be in touch with Rick at rbutler@ucalgary.ca if you wish to raise any issues related to CIEC. Please go to CIEC's web site for more information <http://www.canadaindiaeducation.com>
- The development of Shastri's dynamic new Web Portal continues. The critical interviews are complete. Now the content and timelines are to be determined. An interim report will be present to the EC outlining the progress and identifying the next steps. There is still time for your suggestions to be included in this important project as it comes to fruition.