

## Centre for American Studies News Archive 2014

### Don Abelson - Guest on The Agenda

Professor Don Abelson was a guest on the November 17th episode of TVO's *The Agenda* with Steve Paikin. The title of the episode was "Think Tanks and Policy Planks."

### Cory Goetz, Bradley Metlin - Morrison Scholarship Award Winners

Fourth year student Cory Goetz, and third year student Bradley Metlin have been awarded the 2014-15 Morrison Scholarship in American Studies for Academic Achievement. The Morrison Scholarships, donated by Dr. Katherine and Mr. Russell Morrison, are awarded annually to two American Studies undergraduate students who demonstrate impressive academic performances in their American Studies program. Congratulations to Cory and Bradley! *Posted November 5, 2014.*

### Jake Skinner - Municipal Election Victory

On October 27th, 2014, Jake Skinner (MA American Studies 2012 and current PhD Candidate in Local Government) was elected to a four year term as a School Trustee in the Thames Valley District School Board representing Wards 7, 8, 9, 10, and 13 in London, Ontario. Among all the candidates for School Trustee in London, Ontario, he was the only non-incumbent elected. Skinner won with 9632 votes, more than double the next nearest competitor. Congratulations Jake!

### Ben Muller - Visiting Scholar at The University of Arizona

Ben Muller (King's - Political Science) is currently a Visiting Scholar at The University of Arizona in Tucson. Ben was invited to be CCI's inaugural Visiting Scholar due to his distinguished multidisciplinary research on the intersection of borders, borderlands, security and identity, and biometric technology; issues of deep relevance to our campus and community. *Posted October 29, 2014.*

### Fall Convocation - Congratulations MA Class of 2014!

Congratulations to our American Studies MA class of 2013-14 who will be graduating at Fall Convocation Ceremonies on Friday, October 24, 2014.

### Noelle Sepina - Women's Caucus Essay Award

Congratulations to Noelle Sepina (MA 2014) who is the recipient of the Women's Caucus Essay Award this year. This annual essay competition is sponsored by the Department of Women's Studies and Feminist Research. *Posted October 23, 2014.*

### Don Abelson - Visiting Professor at the University of Aix-Marseilles

Donald Abelson will be a Visiting Professor at the University of Aix-Marseilles in Aix-en-Provence, France in October, 2014. He will be working on a project on US think tanks and soft power with colleagues from the

Centre for Research on the Anglophone world (LERMA). In November 2014, he will be a Visiting Professor at Sciences Po (Institute d'études politiques), in Lyon. *Posted October 2, 2014.*

### **Jacob Skinner - School Board Trustee Candidate**

Jacob Skinner (MA 2012) and PhD Candidate in Political Science (Western) is running for TVSDSB School Board Trustee in the 2014 Municipal Elections which will be held on October 27, 2014. Good luck from your friends at the CAS! [Visit Jake's website](#). *Posted September 22, 2014.*

### **Mike Arntfield - New Book Forthcoming**

Professor Mike Arntfield's (English & Writing Studies) book, *Introduction to Forensic Writing*, co-authored by Justice Kelly Anne Gorman, will be published on September 30, 2014 by Carswell. Congratulations Mike! *Posted September 17, 2014.*

### **Tom Cooke - New Position as Adjunct Professor**

CAS Alumnus Tom Cooke (MA 2012) has been offered a part-time teaching position for 2014-15 with King's University College. In his role as Adjunct Professor, Tom will be teaching the fourth-year seminar course, Political Science 4430, Critical Security Studies. Congratulations on this great achievement Tom! *Posted August 6, 2014.*

### **Bryce Traister Named CAS Director**

The Centre for American Studies is very pleased to announce that Professor Bryce Traister has been named CAS Director effective July 1, 2014. Since the CAS introduced their academic programs in 2004, Professor Traister has been an active participant in his roles as Associate Director, Undergraduate Program Coordinator, and Course Instructor. Professor Traister is also Chair and Associate Professor with the Department of English & Writing Studies. We welcome the leadership qualities, experience, and dedication he will bring to his new role as Director. Congratulations Bryce! Previous CAS Director, Professor Don Abelson, is currently on academic leave. *Posted July 4, 2014.*

### **Alison Meek - Excellence in Teaching Award**

Professor Alison Meek (History, King's University College) has received the 2013-14 Excellence in Teaching Award, King's University College. An Associate Professor at King's since 2001, Dr. Meek has been on the Dean's Honor Roll of Teaching Excellence every year since her arrival. Her students describe her as the best professor they have ever had - passionate, energetic, stimulating, highly organized and motivating. Congratulations Alison! *Posted June 18, 2014.*

### **Benjamin Green - Gold Medalist 2014**

The CAS is pleased to announce that Benjamin Green has been awarded the Gold Medal in American Studies for 2014. Ben is graduating this spring with an Honors Specialization in Canadian-American Relations. Next year, Ben will be attending law school. Congratulations from everyone at the CAS! *Posted June 9, 2014.*

## Peter Ferguson - Award of Excellence

Professor Peter Ferguson (Political Science) was one of four instructors to receive the 2014 University Student Council Award of Excellence. Professor Ferguson received the award for his passion and dedication to engage and inspire undergraduate students in the classroom. Congratulations Peter! *Posted May 23, 2014.*

## Don Abelson - Presentations in Barcelona

Professor Abelson gave two presentations at Blanquerna - School of Communications and International Relations, Ramon Llull University, Barcelona, Spain.

"A World of their Own: Think Tanks and World Politics" on April 24, 2014, and "The Role of Think Tanks in International Relations: A View from North America", April 25, 2014.

## Tristan Johnson - Presenting at Workshop

MA student Tristan Johnson will be presenting his paper, "Spit out of the Melting Pot: The Muslim American Experience after 9/11" at the [MENARG](#) Research Workshop at Western, May 9, 2014. Tristan's presentation can be viewed on the [CAS YouTube channel](#).

## Don Abelson - Presentation in Italy

Professor Abelson gave a presentation entitled, "Policy Research, Political Advocacy and the Future of American Think Tanks," at IMT Institute for Advanced Studies in Lucca, Italy on March 27, 2014.

## Speakers' Series Presents Kathleen Hall Jamieson

The CAS Speakers' Series is pleased to welcome our featured guest speaker, [Dr. Kathleen Hall Jamieson](#) to Western on March 18. Kathleen Hall Jamieson is the Elizabeth Ware Packard Professor of Communication at the Annenberg Public Policy Center at the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Hall Jamieson is a nationally recognized authority on American political communication and rhetoric, and the discourse of presidential campaigns. She is the author or co-author of over 15 books. Dr. Hall Jamieson's presentation, "[The Implications of the Attack on Fact in Politics](#)" takes place on Tuesday, March 18, 4:30pm in NCB 113. A book sale and signing will take place in NCB 114 following the talk.

## Anna Zuschlag - Conference Presentation

CAS Events & Publications Assistant and PhD Candidate in History, Anna Zuschlag will present her paper, "Beat the Draft *and* Be a Man: The Selective Service System, Vietnam, and New Left Masculinity on Film" at the conference "War, Memory, and Gender" at the University of South Alabama, Mobile, on March 28, 2014.

## Mike Arntfield - New TV Series

Professor Mike Arntfield's (English & Writing Studies) new true crime reality series, [To Catch a Killer](#), airs on March 1, 2014 on OWN Canada.

## CAS Presenters at Waterloo Symposium

CAS Professor Ben Muller (King's), Alumnus Tom Cooke, and MA student, David Ennett are presenting at the [SOGS-Net Symposium on Knowing \(in\) Security](#) at the Balsillie School of International Affairs in Waterloo, Ontario, February 13, 2014.

## Speakers' Series Presents Sonia Halpern

The CAS is pleased to welcome [Sonia Halpern](#), Departments of Women's Studies and Feminist Research, & English & Writing Studies, Western, as our next guest of the CAS Speakers' Series. Her presentation, "[The Dark Room and Dark Side of New York Photographer Diane Arbus, 1960s-70s](#)" will take place on Thursday, February 6, 3:30pm, SSC 4255.

## Peter Ferguson - Teaching Fellowship

Professor Peter Ferguson (Political Science) has been awarded a three year fellowship in the newly created Teaching Fellows Program at Western. He is working collaboratively with librarians to design better learning activities to help students develop information literacy. *Posted January 16, 2014.*

## Rob MacDougall - New Book

Congratulations to CAS Director, Professor Rob MacDougall (History) on the recent publication of his book, [The People's Network: The Political Economy of the Telephone in the Gilded Age](#), University of Pennsylvania Press, December 2013.

## Don Abelson - New Journal Article

CUSI Director Don Abelson has a new article published in the journal *International Affairs*. The article, [Old world, new world: the evolution and influence of foreign affairs think-tanks](#) is featured in the January 2014 issue of the journal. *Posted January 13, 2014.*

## Ben Muller - CBC Radio Interview

Professor Ben Muller (King's) was interviewed on CBC Radio's "The Current" about Canadian Airport Security on January 16. [Link to the podcast here.](#) *Posted January 17, 2014.*

## Speakers' Series Presents Felipe Quintanilla

We are pleased to welcome Dr. Felipe Quintanilla, Professor of Spanish and Portuguese at Middlebury College, Vermont to the CAS Speakers' Series. Professor Quintanilla's presentation, "Archaeologies of (In)Visibility: The Latin Soldier in American Cinema" will take place January 16, 2014, 4:30pm, SSC 4255.

## **Stephen Adams - New Publication**

Professor Stephen Adams (English) has a new publication, "Philip Freneau's Summa of American Exceptionalism: 'The Rising Glory of America' without Brackenridge." *Texas Studies in Literature and Language* 55 (Winter 2013): 390-405. *Posted November 26, 2013.*

## **Tom Cull - PoetryLab, Nov 19**

American Studies 1020 instructor Professor Tom Cull is presenting in the #PoetryLab sponsored by Public [Humanities@Western](#). The event features four poets, and live music from London band, Wormwood. The event takes place in Conron Hall (UC 224), 7:30-9:00pm.

## **Arielle Stirling Wins Morrison Scholarship**

Third-year student Arielle Stirling is the recipient of the Morrison Scholarship in American Studies for Academic Achievement, 2013. Arielle is in the Honors Specialization in Canadian-American Relations degree module. Congratulations on this impressive achievement! *Posted November 18, 2013.*