7th Partnership Conference, University of Manitoba and University of Iceland
“Earthly and Cultural Metamorphoses”
in memory of Professor Haraldur Bessason (1931–2009)

September 17–19, 2010
Icelandic Collection, 3rd floor Elizabeth Dafoe Library, University of Manitoba

Program

Friday, September 17, 2010

8:30am–9:00am: Registration

9:00am–9:20am: Welcome and opening remarks:
— Dr. Joanne Keselman, Vice-President (Academic) and Provost, University of Manitoba
— Dr. Kristín Ingólfsdóttir, President and Rector, University of Iceland

9:20am–9:30am: In Memory of Professor Haraldur Bessason:
— Dr. Birna Bjarnadóttir, Acting Head, Department of Icelandic, University of Manitoba
Facilitator: Dr. Richard Sigurdson, Dean of Arts, University of Manitoba

9:30am–10:15am: Keynote address:
— Helga Kress, Professor Emeritus, University of Iceland:
“FAR AWAY IN THE ETERNAL SEA”. Stephan G. Stephansson and the Women Poets in Iceland”
Facilitator: Dr. Sveinn Yngvi Egilsson, Professor in Icelandic Literature, University of Iceland

10:15am–10:30am: coffee break

10:30am–12:30pm: Panel 1– Migration Then and Now
— Dr. Dagný Kristjánsdóttir, Professor in Icelandic Literature, and Dean of Faculty of Icelandic and Comparative Cultural Studies, University of Iceland: “Negotiating Childhood”.
— Dr. Richard Sigurdson, Dean of Arts, University of Manitoba: “Migration, Metamorphosis and Residual Identity Linkage: Icelandic-Canadianism in the 21st Century”
— Dr. Robert B. Klymasz, Zhurawecki Research Associate, Centre for Ukrainian Canadian Studies, University of Manitoba: “An Isle No More: Geography and Globalization as Aspects of New Iceland’s Culture Today”
Facilitator: Dr. Margaret Groome, Assistant Professor, Theatre, Program Chair and Artistic Director, University of Manitoba

12:30pm–1:30pm: lunch
1:30pm–3:00pm: **Panel 2—Icelandic People, Places, and Cultural Politics in Western Canada**; Joint Session with “Place and Replace: A Joint Meeting of Western Canadian Studies and the St. John's College Prairies Conference”:

—Laurie Bertram, PhD. Candidate, University of Toronto: “Topographies of Pastry and Edible Ethnicities: Vinarterta and Popular Icelandic-Canadian Identity”.
—Ryan Eyford, PhD. Candidate, University of Manitoba: “The Icelandic Reserve, Group Settlement, and Canada’s Liberal Order”
—Ágústa Edwald, PhD. Candidate, University of Aberdeen: “From Iceland to New Iceland: The Archaeology of 19th Century Emigration”
Facilitator: Dr. Birna Bjarnadóttir, University of Manitoba

3:00pm–3:15pm: coffee break

3:15pm–4:45pm: **Panel 3—Nations, National Identity and Literature**

—Dr. Gauti Kristmannsson, Associate Professor in Translation Studies, University of Iceland: “Nationalization of Literature Through Translation”
—Kristján Jóhann Jónsson, Associate Professor, School of Education, University of Iceland: “National Literature and a Progressive Past”
—Dr. Vanessa Warne, Professor, Department of English, Film and Theatre, University of Manitoba: “‘There we drank unlimited milk’: Feast, Famine and the Changing Body of William Morris”
Facilitator: Dr. David Arnason, Writer and Professor, Department of English, Film and Theatre, University of Manitoba

**Saturday, September 18, 2010**

9:00am–10.30pm: **Panel 4–Immigrant Teachers and Systematic Change: Problems and Progress**

—Dr. Clea Schmidt, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Education, University of Manitoba; Dr. Antoinette Gagné, Associate Professor at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education of the University of Toronto (OISE/UT); and Dr. Geri Smyth, Reader in the School of Education, University of Strathclyde, Scotland: “Immigrant Teachers and Systemic Change: Problems and Progress”
—Dr. Hanna Ragnarsdóttir, Associate Professor, School of Education, University of Iceland: “Immigrant Teachers in Iceland: Four Qualitative Studies”
—Hildur Blöndal, Adjunct Professor, School of Education, University of Iceland: “Immigrants and Immigrant Teachers in Iceland: Results of Quantitative Studies in Light of Qualitative Findings”
Facilitator: Peter John Buchan, Instructor, Department of Icelandic, University of Manitoba

10:30am–10:45am: coffee break

10.45am–12:15pm: **Panel 5– Legal Metamorphoses**

—Skip Koolage, Senior Scholar, and Elisa Hart, Anthropologist, University of Manitoba: “Who owns the past? And how is it passed on?”
—Dr. DeLloyd J. Guth, Professor of Law & Legal History, Faculty of Law, University of Manitoba: “Marriage and Family Laws in the Grágás and the Sagas”
—Patrick Tani, Third Year Student, Faculty of Law, University of Manitoba: “The Sword of Lady Justice in the Settler Periods in Old Iceland and New Iceland”
Facilitator: Dr. Irwin Lipnowski, Associate Professor, Department of Economics, University of Manitoba

12:15pm–1:15pm lunch

1:15pm–3:15pm: Panel 6–Cultural Metamorphoses
   —Dustin Geeraert, Ph.D. Candidate, Department of English, University of Manitoba: “The Darkness Outside the Hall: Modern Terrorism and Mythical Vengeance”
   —Dr. Birna Arnbjörnsdóttir, Professor of Second Language Acquisition, University of Iceland: “From the Classroom to the Community: A Language Learning Metamorphosis”
   —Elin Thordarson, M.A. Candidate, Department of Icelandic: “The Oil King”
   —Dr. Sveinn Yngvi Egilsson, Professor in Icelandic Literature, University of Iceland: “The Metamorphoses of Icelandic Landscape in Modern Poetry”
Facilitator: Dr. Pam Perkins, Associate Professor, Department of English, Film and Theatre, University of Manitoba

3:15pm–3:30pm: coffee break

3:30pm–4:30pm: Panel 7–Earthly Metamorphoses
   —Dr. Wooil M. Moon, Senior Scholar, Satellite Geophysics, University of Manitoba: “A View of Iceland’s Volcanoes, Seen from Satellites”
   —Dr. Helgi Björnsson, Research Professor of Geophysics, Institute of Earth Sciences, University of Iceland: “Glaciers in Iceland and their Response to Climate Change”
Facilitator: Dr. George Toles, Distinguished Professor, Department of English, Film and Theatre, University of Manitoba.

7:30pm-10:30pm: Gala Dinner at Johnson Hall, Gimli
   —featuring music performed by Peter John Buchan, tenor, and readings by Borga Jakobson, Shelly Gislason, and David Arnason, and more.

Sunday, September 19, 2010

New Iceland Heritage Museum, Gimli:

10:00am–10:30am: “The Institute of Vigdís Finnbogadóttir” – an introduction by Drs. Birna Arnbjörnsdóttir and Gauti Kristmansson.

10:30am–11:00am: “Skaftáreldar”– a new film on one of Europe’s greatest volcanic eruptions, with an introduction by Dr. Helgi Björnsson.