



THE RELIGION AND DIVERSITY PROJECT/RELIGION ET DIVERSITÉ

Volume 2 Issue 1 | Fall 2011

Letter from Director | Lettre de la directrice

The Religion and Diversity Project has had a productive year with team members working hard to launch new projects and to complete year one goals. The year began with the highly successful *Sexual Diversity and Religious Diversity* workshop organized by Pamela Dickey Young, which is discussed on page 2 of our newsletter. Team members met together for the second time last April in Ottawa. We were happy to bring Marie-Claire Foblets to our team meeting to share her experiences as the director of the RELIGARE project in Europe. Our afternoon conference, organized by Pamela Dickey Young and Nancy Nason-Clark, was *Hot Spots: Exploring Sites of Contention*. The high quality papers from that session are being compiled for consideration for a special issue in *Studies in Religion*, co-edited by Pamela Dickey Young and Donald Boisvert.

During the summer team members participated in conferences around the world, including the ISSR in Aix en Provence and the ASR in Las Vegas. Solange Lefebvre and I travelled to Sweden in May to take part in an International Colloquium on The Challenge of Religion hosted by the IMPACT program at Uppsala University in Sweden. This gave us the opportunity to connect with people coordinating in large research projects similar to the Religion and Diversity Project across Europe, to draw from their research experiences and to begin to build new comparative links.

This fall Religion and Diversity Project team members have been preparing workshops, lectures, grant applications and our Project Manager, Heather Shipley, has forged a partnership with the Canadian Museum of Civilization resulting in the team's participation in the Museum's "God(s): A User's Guide" exhibition, which will begin December 2nd, 2011. Details are included in the pages of this newsletter. The first in our series of graduate student workshops, facilitated by James Beckford, will take place in November.

You will find details of the exciting accomplishments and initiatives of team members in the following pages, and of course, on our website www.religionanddiversity.ca

Lori G. Beaman

Project Director | Directrice du projet

Le projet *Religion et diversité* a connu une année fructueuse. Les membres de l'équipe ont travaillé fort pour démarrer de nouveaux projets et pour atteindre leurs objectifs. L'année a commencé par l'atelier *Sexual Diversity and Religious Diversity*, organisé par Pamela Dickey Young. Vous trouverez plus de détails à la page 2 de ce bulletin. Les membres de l'équipe se sont rencontrés de nouveau en avril dernier à Ottawa. Ce fut un plaisir d'accueillir Marie-Claire Foblets à cette occasion. Elle est venue partager ses expériences en tant que directrice du projet RELIGARE en Europe. Cette rencontre fut suivie en après-midi par une conférence organisée par Dickey Young et Nancy Nason-Clark: *Hot Spots: Exploring Sites of Contention*. Les présentations de grande qualité qui ont été faites à cette occasion seront soumises pour publication dans un numéro spécial de *Studies in Religion*, co-dirigé par Pamela Dickey Young et Donald Boisvert.

Durant l'été, des membres de l'équipe ont participé à des conférences internationales, entre autres le ISSR à Aix-en-Provence et le ASR à Las Vegas. Solange Lefebvre et moi avons voyagé en Suède en mai pour prendre part à un colloque international sur *The Challenge of Religion*, organisé par le projet IMPACT de l'Université d'Uppsala en Suède. Cela nous a donné l'occasion d'entrer en contact avec des gens qui coordonnent en Europe de grands projets de recherche comme *Religion et diversité*, de profiter de leurs expériences de recherche et de commencer à bâtir de nouveaux liens comparatifs.

Cet automne, les membres du projet *Religion et diversité* ont préparé des ateliers et des conférences, complété des demandes de subventions et notre directrice de projet, Heather Shipley, a développé un partenariat avec le Musée canadien des civilisations, qui a mené à la participation de l'équipe à l'exposition «God(s): A User's Guide» qui sera à l'affiche à compter du 2 décembre 2011. Vous trouverez plus de détails dans ce bulletin. Le premier d'une série d'ateliers pour les étudiants, animé par James Beckford, aura lieu en novembre.

Vous trouverez plus de détails sur les belles réalisations et les initiatives des membres de l'équipe dans les pages suivantes, ainsi que dans notre site web au www.religionanddiversity.ca

Contents

Announcements	2	Visiting Fellow: Andrew Yip	4	One Day Workshop Grants	6
Sexual Diversity and Religious Diversity Workshop	2	Post-Doctoral Fellows	5	Graduate Student Workshop	6
Second Annual Team Meeting	3	Visiting Fellow: James A. Beckford	5	Year Two Funded Projects	7
Visiting Fellow: Lene van der Aa Kühle	4	Canadian Museum of Civilization Partnership	6	Publications	7
				Upcoming Events	8



Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en sciences humaines du Canada



Announcements

- Team member **Rukhsana Ahmed** has received a SSHRC Partnership development grant for a project entitled *Ottawa Multicultural Media Initiative*. As the principal investigator Ahmed will develop a partnership with the City of Ottawa to study Ottawa's growing multicultural digital and print media and the opportunities and challenges for newcomer wellbeing, inclusion, and integration.
- Congratulations to student team member **Charlotte Baines** who has received sponsorship from the Victoria Multicultural Commission for her project entitled *The State of Victoria: A Leader in Multi-Faith Achievement*.
- A warm congratulations to the students of the Religion and Diversity Project who organized panels at Congress 2011 in Fredericton. **Steven Tomlins** organized a CSSR panel entitled *Inclusion and Exclusion: The Construction of Religious Identities in Canadian Mosaics*, and **Cathy Holtmann** organized a CSA panel entitled *Religious Diversity in Canada: Emerging Scholarship*. Congratulations to all students who participated.
- Team member **Winnifred Sullivan**, along with Professor Elizabeth Shakman Hurd (Northwestern), Professor Saba Mahmood (UC-Berkeley), and Professor Peter Danchin (University of Maryland Law) have received a grant from the Henry R. Luce Initiative on Religion and International Affairs for a new project entitled *Politics of Religious Freedom*. Visit their website at <http://iiss.berkeley.edu/politics-of-religious-freedom/> for more details.

Sexual Diversity and Religious Diversity Workshop

The *Sexual Diversity and Religious Diversity* workshop was held at Queen's University from March 31st to April 2nd, 2011, organized by Pamela Dickey Young, Tracy Trothen and Heather Shipley. The workshop brought together Religion and Diversity Project



Margaret Denike, Wing Hin (Vivian) Lee, Pamela Dickey Young, Rebecca Johnson and Susan Palmer

team members, Rukhsana Ahmed, Donald Boisvert, Pamela Dickey Young, Cathy Holtmann, Nancy Nason-Clark, Rebecca Johnson, Heather Shipley with international scholars including Andrew Kam-Tuck Yip (University of Nottingham), Margaret Denike (Dalhousie University), and Janet Jakobsen (Barnard College). Jakobsen gave the keynote address entitled "Moving Beyond Tolerance: Sexual Diversity and Economic Justice."

This workshop sought to explore the many interactions and interconnections between the construction of sexual identities and the construction of religious identities in different time periods, religious traditions and geographical areas.

To read the full workshop report please visit: <http://religionanddiversity.ca/en/events/#sex>



Susan Palmer, Nancy Nason-Clark, Donald Boisvert and Janet Jakobsen

Second Annual Religion and Diversity Project Team Meeting

In April, 2011 the second annual Religion and Diversity Project team meeting, *Hot Spots: Exploring Sites of Contention*, was held at the University of Ottawa. Co-investigators, collaborators, student members, partners, stakeholders and invited guests contributed to the success of the meeting.

To launch the meeting Jasjit Singh (University of Leeds) led team members in a workshop on how to conduct internet surveys. Drawing on his research within the Sikh community in the UK, Singh shared his strategies for using internet surveys among young Sikhs. His workshop encouraged many of our team members to think about how this type of methodology could be used in their own projects.

The second day of the conference brought Marie-Claire Foblets (University of Leuven) to share her insights and experiences with religious diversity in Europe in gen-



Jasjit Singh



Marie-Claire Foblet (centre left) with Lori Beaman, Barbara Thériault, and Linda Woodhead

eral and specifically in Belgium. Foblets is the coordinator of the RELIGARE project, a three year research project funded by the European Commission Directorate General Research-Unit L Science, Economy and Society that connects researchers from 13 universities and research centers across Europe. She shared her experiences working with a large research project that studies religion.

Papers were presented by team members James Beckford, Donald Boisvert, Pascale Fournier, Nancy Nason-Clark, Susan Palmer, Michael Wilkinson, and Linda Woodhead and student team members Charlotte Baines, Cathy Holtmann, Isaac Nizigama, and H el ene Thibault in our *Hot Spots: Exploring Sites of Contention* conference session. The results of this conference are being compiled for submission to *Studies in Religion*.

Team members came together at the end of the meeting to discuss research projects for the upcoming year.

See more photos from our team meetings at <http://religionanddiversity.ca/en/medias/images/>



Pascale Fournier during her presentation at the *Hot Spots: Exploring Sites of Contention* Conference

Distinguished Visiting Researcher: Andrew Kam-Tuck Yip

We are very pleased that Andrew Kam-Tuck Yip of the University of Nottingham and internationally recognized expert in religion, sexuality and ethnicity will be joining the Religion and Diversity Project at the University of Ottawa from

October 20 to November 20, 2011. His visit is funded by the University of Ottawa's Distinguished Visiting Researcher Program.

Andrew Kam-Tuck Yip's research career is built on ongoing interest in exploring the lived experiences and life circumstances of individuals within sexual, religious, and ethnic minorities - their identities and social relationships in diverse contexts. Dr. Yip, as Principal Investigator, just completed an AHRC/ESRC-funded project called *Religion, Youth, and Sexuality: A Multi-faith Exploration*, which explores the sexual attitudes and practices of young

people of various sexual orientations, from six religious traditions.

Yip will be leading the Religion and Diversity Project's one day workshop *Internet Research: Design and Recruitment*. His residency at the University of Ottawa will provide insights in designing and implementing internet surveys for the *Religion, Gender and Sexuality among Youth in Canada* project, headed by Pamela Dickey Young of Queen's University.

During his time at the University of Ottawa, Yip will give a public lecture entitled *Meanings and Connections: A Multi-faith Exploration of Young Religious Believers*. The lecture will take place on Thursday November 10, 2011 at 16:00 in Arts 509.



Andrew Kam-Tuck Yip (centre) with Wing Hin (Vivian) Lee and Rebecca Johnson at the Sexual Diversity and Religious Diversity Workshop

Lene van der Aa Kühle: Visiting Fellow

We are pleased to welcome Lene van der Aa Kühle to the University of Ottawa for a visiting fellowship, from May to December 2011. She is conducting comparative research between Canada and Denmark during her eight month stay in Canada. Kühle is a professor in the department of Culture and Society at Aarhus University in Aarhus, Denmark.

Kühle chose to come to Canada "because Canada is dealing with many similar debates about religious diversity as is Denmark, but it approaches these topics in slightly different ways, making it an interesting point of comparison."

She is enjoying her time in Ottawa and was glad to be able to connect with so many people associated with the Religion and Diversity Project. "I really enjoy working with Canadian scholars because they bridge the American approach, which is often very empirical, with the European concentration on theory so well."

On October 14th, 2011 Kühle presented a paper entitled "Is Religious Diversity Really Diverse? Studying Religious

Diversity from a Bourdieu Perspective" as part of the Building Bridges: Lunch and Learn Lecture Series. Her talk explored the notion of religious diversity and

asked how particular frames of time, space and specific ideas of religious adherence affect the ways people understand religious diversity within society. Her talk drew from the work of French sociologist Pierre Bourdieu's concepts of fields, capital and habitus.



Lene van der Aa Kühle

Post Doctoral Fellows

The Religion and Diversity Project is pleased to have three post-doctoral fellows working with us this year.

William Hoverd has joined the University of Ottawa as a postdoctoral fellow, supervised by Lori Beaman, funded by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade. He comes from New Zealand's Victoria University of Wellington with a project entitled *Changes in Religious Diversity in Canada and New Zealand, 1980-2010*.

During his stay in Canada Hoverd says "I am intending to use my time with the MCRI to inform my own research into religion and diversity in New Zealand. I am particularly interested in exploring the potential tension which might emerge between New Zealand's official bicultural policy and its recent self-classification as a 'religiously diverse' nation."

Hoverd will be giving a public lecture in our Building Bridges: Lunch and Learn lecture series. His talk will take



William Hoverd

place March 1st, 2012 from 12:30 to 14:00 in Arts 509 at the University of Ottawa.

Valérie Behiery has joined the project at the Université de Montréal. She will be working with Valérie Amiroux on a project entitled *The Aesthetics of Alterity. Objects of mistranslation: Representing the 'Burka' in Canadian daily newspapers since 9/11*. She received her PhD from the Department of Art History and Communication Studies at McGill University.

About her post-doctoral research Behiery says "I am particularly excited about exploring these ongoing debates from a visual culture perspective -emphasizing how an image actually performs- as I am convinced that the success of the image of the fully veiled woman in conjuring up the notion of an alleged Islamic otherness and threat is attributable to culturally different attitudes towards both bodily visibility and the image." In addition to her post-doctoral research Behiery is also consulting with a museum in Montreal regarding Islamic art exhibits.

Amélie Barras will be joining the Religion and Diversity project as a SSHRC post-doctoral fellow at the Université de Montréal. Barras will be working with team member Solange Lefebvre on a project entitled *Exploring Religious Minorities' Understanding of Secularism in Light of Reasonable Accommodation Debates (Qc)*.

Barras completed her PhD in the De-



Behiery explains "Art is a very effective means for women artists of Muslim descent to question and deconstruct the stereotypical images of themselves which they are continuously confronted. The tongue and cheek humour of a piece like Arwa Abouon's *Complementary Colours* brings forward an alternative vision of the veiled woman usually portrayed as sad, oppressed, and unagentic."

© Arwa Abouon, *Complementary Colors (Watermelon)*, 11x20 inches, Digital print on Duratrans, 2004.

partment of Government at the London School of Economics. Her research focused on secularism in Islam in France and Turkey.

Barras says: "I am looking very much forward to get to know and collaborate with such a variety of colleagues working on issues related to religion. I am sure that this experience will greatly enrich my way of thinking and my own research."

James Beckford: Visiting Fellow

James Beckford of University of Warwick will be in residence at the University of Ottawa from October 31st until November 5th, 2011. While in Ottawa he will be conducting the graduate student workshop from the 2nd to 3rd of November, which brings together graduate students from across Canada.

Beckford will also give a public lecture at the University Ottawa as part of the Critical Thinkers in Religion, Law and Social Theory, a lecture series organized by Lori Beaman, Pascale Fournier, André



James Beckford

Laliberté, Sonia Sikka, and Elke Winter. His talk is entitled "Religious freedom, religious diversity, and prisons." The lecture will take place November 4th beginning at 16:00 in Simard 125.

Partnership: Canadian Museum of Civilization

The Religion and Diversity Project is partnering with the Canadian Museum of Civilization for their exhibit *God(s): A User's Guide*, which will open at the Museum of Civilization December 2nd, 2011. The exhibit will "explore the vast diversity, and the similarities, in the practices of the world's most widespread religions."

Heather Shipley has worked with the Canadian Museum of Civilization to put together four public sessions around the theme of Religious Diversity in Canada. The sessions are:

Multiculturalism, secularism and reasonable accommodation (February 16, 2012); *Religion in Public Institutions* (March 1, 2012); *Religion, Gender and Sexuality* (March 15, 2012); *Religion and Immigration* (April 5, 2012).

For more information about the lectures please visit the website our website www.religionanddiversity.ca. To learn more about the exhibit please visit the Canadian Museum of Civilization at <http://www.civilization.ca/event/god-s-a-user-s-guide>

One Day Workshop Grants

Two one day workshop grants were awarded for Fall 2011.

The first, entitled *Drama Queen/Malika: Fashion, beauty, humour, in a context of constrained visibility*, took place on September 30th, 2011 in Paris, France. The workshop was organized by Valérie Amiraux and Nacira Guénif. The workshop was conceived as a place where artists and scholars engage in discussion and conversation

regarding the variety of tones that compose visual cultures (including fashion, internet, contemporary art and Islamic culture, music scenes, theater experiments, comedy, advertising, etc.). The aim was to explore the impact of the intersection of norms carried by images coming from fashion, comedy, art and beauty industry and the way they interact with the figure of the Muslim(s).

The second, entitled *Internet Research: Design and Recruitment*, will be held November 3rd, 2011 at the University of Ottawa. Organized by Pamela Dickey Young, this workshop will address the particularities of web-based survey ethics issues, recruitment strategies, advertisement, development and research study timeline in order to ensure the internet survey projects funded by the MCRI in 2011-2012 are successful in their implementation.

Graduate Student Workshop

November 2011 will mark the first session of the Religion and Diversity Project's Graduate Student Workshop series. Our first workshop will take place on November 2nd to 3rd, 2011 at the University of Ottawa, facilitated by James Beckford of the University of Warwick.

The following students have been selected to take part in the workshop series: **Emilie Audy** (Université de Montréal), **Louis-Charles Gagnon-Tessier** (Université de Montréal), **Catherine Holtmann** (University of New Brunswick),

David Michels (Dalhousie University), **Sharday Mosuringjohn** (Queen's University), **David Rangdrol** (University of Ottawa), **Tanja Riikonen**, (Université de Montréal), **Shaun Turriff** (Concordia University), and **Leo van Arragon** (University of Ottawa).

The next session of the workshop will take place May 15th to 16th, 2012 at Université de Montréal and will be led by Kim Knott of the University of Leeds.

Year Two Funded Research Projects

Eight research projects were funded in this year's competition. These projects span a range of topics linked to the broader research goals of the Religion and Diversity Project.

The funded projects are :

- « L'aumônerie de prison : le cas de l'établissement de détention Tanguay (Montréal) » Barbara Thériault (PI, Université de Montréal)
- « Religion et sphère publique au Canada : comparaison des politiques de gestion » Solange Lefebvre (PI, Université de Montréal)
- “Comparative Law at the Intersection of Religious and Secular Orders: The Muslim Talaq in Israel” Pascale Fournier (PI, University of Ottawa)
- “Religion, Gender and Sexuality among Youth in Canada” Pamela Dickey Young (PI, Queen's University)
- “Conceptions of Religious Diversity among Immigrant and 2nd Generation Young Adults in Canada: Christians, Hindus, Muslims, Buddhists, Sikhs, and Religious Nones” Peter Beyer (PI, University of Ottawa)
- “A Web-based Survey Instrument on Religious Identity,” Peter Beyer (PI, University of Ottawa)
- “The Definition and Delimitation of Religion in the Context of Canadian and British Prisons” Benjamin Berger (PI, York University)
- “Uncovering Everyday Negotiations: Exploring Best and Worst Practices,” Lori Beaman (PI, University of Ottawa).

Please visit the Religion and Diversity Project website for full descriptions of all our funded projects at www.religionanddiversity.ca.

Recent Publications



William Closson James

God's Plenty: Religious Diversity in Kingston.

(McGill-Queen's University Press, 2011)

Pamela Klassen

Spirits of Protestantism: Medicine, Healing, and Liberal Christianity

(University Of California Press, 2011)



Susan Palmer

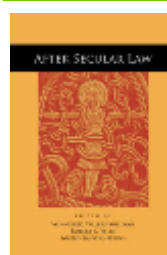
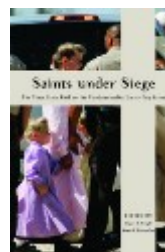
The New Heretics of France: Minority Religions, La Republique, and the Government-Sponsored "War on Sects"

(Oxford University Press, 2011)

James Richardson

Saints Under Siege: The Texas State Raid on the Fundamentalist Latter Day Saints

(NYU Press, 2010)



Winnifred Fallers Sullivan, Robert A. Yelle and Mateo Taussig-Rubbo (eds)

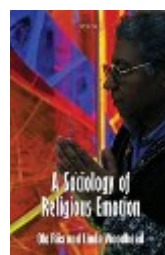
After Secular Law

(Stanford University Press, 2011)

Ole Riis and Linda Woodhead

A Sociology of Religious Emotion

(Oxford University Press, 2011)



Upcoming Events

November 2-3, 2011

Graduate Student Workshop, University of Ottawa

November 3, 2011

Internet Survey Research: Design and Recruitment, University of Ottawa

November 4, 2011

Critical Thinkers in Religion, Law and Social Theory, public lecture: James Beckford, University of Ottawa

November 10, 2011

Animaux, cultures et religions. Atelier. Université de Montréal Faculté de médecine vétérinaire, Saint-Hyacinthe, QC

November 10, 2011

Public Lecture, Andrew Yip, University of Ottawa

December 8, 2011

Critical Thinkers in Religion, Law and Social Theory, public lecture: Daniel Boyarin, University of Ottawa

January 18-21, 2012

Catholicisme, religion culturelle, institutions et diversité religieuse. Problématiques contemporaines et comparatives France/ Québec, Montréal, QC.

January 26, 2012

Building Bridges: Lunch and Learn, public lecture: Heather Eaton, University of Ottawa

February 10, 2012

Critical Thinkers in Religion Law and Social Theory, public lecture: Ayelet Shachar, University of Ottawa

February 16, 2012

Public lecture: Multiculturalism, Secularism and Reasonable Accommodation, Canadian Museum of Civilization, Gatineau, QC

March 1, 2012

Building Bridges: Lunch and Learn, public lecture: William Hoverd, University of Ottawa

March 1, 2012

Public Lecture: Religion in Public Institutions, Canadian Museum of Civilization, Gatineau, QC

March 15, 2012

Public Lecture: Religion, Gender and Sexuality, Canadian Museum of Civilization, Gatineau, QC

March 30, 2012

Critical Thinkers in Religion Law and Social Theory, public lecture: Saba Mahmood, University of Ottawa

April 5, 2012

Public Lecture: Religion and Immigration, Canadian Museum of Civilization, Gatineau, QC

For more information about any of our events please visit our website: www.religionanddiversity.ca

Contact Us:

Project Manager

Heather Shipley
hshipley@uottawa.ca
Tel: 613-562-5800 ext. 2662
Fax: 613-562-5991

Information Officer

Morgan Hunter
info@religionanddiversity.ca
Tel: 613-562-5800 ext 2662
Fax: 613-562-5991

By mail at:

Religion and Diversity Project
University of Ottawa
Department of Classics and Religious Studies
70 Laurier Avenue,
Room 102
Ottawa, ON K1N 6N5

Visit us online at:

www.religionanddiversity.ca

Research Nodes



Partners



Stakeholders

