



THE RELIGION AND DIVERSITY PROJECT/RELIGION ET DIVERSITÉ

Graduate Student Workshop Series 1, Session 3

October 22-23, 2012

Donald Gordon Conference Centre,
Kingston, ON

List of Participants

Name	Institution	Supervisor
Audy, Emilie	Université de Montréal	Valérie Amiriaux
Gagnon-Tessier, Louis-Charles	Université de Montréal	Solange Lefebvre
Holtmann, Cathy	University of New Brunswick	Nancy Nason-Clark
Michels, David	Dalhousie University	Christopher Helland
Mosurinjohn, Sharday	Queen's University	Pamela Dickey Young
Rangdrol, David	University of Ottawa	André Laliberté
Riikonen, Tanja	Université de Montréal	Patrice Brodeur
Turriff, Shaun	Concordia University	Donald Boisvert
Van Arragon, Leo	University of Ottawa	Lori Beaman

Facilitator	Institution
Nancy Nason-Clark	University of New Brunswick



Social Sciences and Humanities
Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en
sciences humaines du Canada

Canada

Graduate Student Workshop Series Workshop 1:3

Professional Development Issues in the Lives of Graduate Students

The final session of the first graduate student workshop series was held at the Donald Gordon Conference Centre in Kingston, facilitated by Nancy Nason-Clark (University of New Brunswick). The workshop was a terrific success, bringing together an already engaged cohort of students within the project, to continue their research dialogues and further mentorship by RDP team members. The workshop focused on two main areas of professional development: 1) Applying for Academic Jobs and 2) Publishing Academic Work.

In the job application portion of the workshop, graduate students were asked to: “consider all aspects of the process of applying for an academic position and to think strategically about ways to enhance your chances of being successful long before you begin your search.” Professor Nason-Clark outlined the top 10 common mistakes made by job applicants and asked students for the following:

- Bring an up-to-date curriculum vitae;
- Write one paragraph (4-5 sentences max) that describes your research and its contribution to the discipline;
- Outline on one page, in point form, how you plan to [or have already begun to] disseminate your dissertation. Include conference papers, journal articles, chapters for scholarly books, magazine or community publications, and online/website publications.
- Create 2-3 questions that you might ask a potential candidate for an academic job.

Professor Nason-Clark outlined the following objective for the publishing portion of the workshop: To explore the story of how an article gets into print—from the idea stage through to publication—and thereby de-mystify the process. Sending appropriate manuscripts out for review is central to preparing for an academic (or research) career. In addition to outlining 5 common mistakes in the publishing process, students were asked to reflect on what they can take away from publication rejection.

A questionnaire was circulated in the workshop information package, which asked each student to provide feedback on logistical organization (i.e. communication in preparation to the event) as well as event organization (i.e. agenda, session structure).

Thank you to our workshop facilitators and of course our engaged cohort of students, the first series has been a tremendous success and has provided much helpful feedback for developing the second series.