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# **Bulletin** of the Bibliographical Society of Canada

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# Note from the Editor

Dear BSC Members,

Welcome to the first entirely digital issue of the BSC *Bulletin*. We hope you will enjoy this new layout and – more importantly – the exciting news from our members shared below. Thank you to everyone who contributed!

Philippe Mongeau Editor, *Bulletin* 

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# President's Report

Of necessity, many of us over the last year have had to refocus and devote our time and energy to working exclusively online. While we have all found ways to teach effectively online, those of us who require real books and literary papers have had our research negatively impacted by the closure of libraries and archives. Our research institutions are getting ready to reopen and it is time to consider getting back to our research and writing.

The past year has highlighted the importance of communication with each other. To get our research back on track we need to share ideas, bounce research strategies off each other, direct each other to relevant resources, question each other, and recommit ourselves to going to the next level and publishing our work.

After an exhausting and challenging year, urging you to take on the demands of academic writing may seem too much to ask. Conversely, it just may be a way to help us get back to normal. A way to get started is to consider using our BSC-SbC internet discussion group BIBSOCAN. In the past few months, some interesting questions have been posted on BIBSOCAN. The immediate responses of members from across Canada and the United States were both informative and stimulating. The engagement was clearly of benefit to both the posers of the questions and to the respondents. Another way to start exercising the writing muscles is contributing research notes, collections details, and relevant news items to the BSC-SbC *Bulletin*. The *Bulletin* Editor, Philippe Mongeau welcomes contributions from members.

It was with great pleasure that we announced the appointment of a new Editor for our peer reviewed journal *Papers/Cahiers* in January. Dr. Elizabeth Willson Gordon, Associate Professor of English and Canada Research Chair in Modern Literature and Print Culture at King's University in Edmonton, will be taking the helm with our next volume. The *Papers/Cahiers* has been the vehicle by which we have shared our research with each other and the wider academic community to advance and expand our discipline. The recent move to open-source online access has extended access to our research far beyond our membership. So, as you return to research and writing, the *Papers/Cahiers* provides an excellent potential publishing venue for you.

Many years ago, I recall a heated argument over the existence of sound without a listener. In the same vein, does your great theory exist if you do not publish it? My very best wishes to each of you as you relaunch your research and writing.

Karen Smith BSC President

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## New Members

This year, the BSC welcomes or welcomes back the following members:

Alan Corbière
Margaret Dixon
Gillian Dunks
Susan Fisher
Erica Finch
Myron Carlyle Groover
Tanja Harrison
Isabelle Robitaille
Steve Jankowski
Marie-Hélène Jeonotte
Barbara J. Kaye

Erin Kelly
Marcelle Kosman
Madeleine Krucker
Sara Lake
John Latour
Natalia Mykhaylychenko
Joanne Smyth
Andrew Stewart
Saeko Suzuki
Danielle Van Wagner

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## **Society News**

## **BSC-SbC Withdrawal from Congress 2021**

In solidarity with the Black Canadian Studies Association (BCSA), the BSC-SbC Council has voted for the BSC-SbC to withdraw from Congress 2021.

The BSC-SbC's resolve to be a supportive and welcoming Society for our Black colleagues is steadfast. That support extends to our colleagues in other associations who have not had their concerns about systemic inequities addressed in a caring and timely manner. The BCSA outlined their concerns on 9 Feb. 2021 in their BCSA Statement Regarding 2021 Congress. The Federation responded in a <a href="mailto:newsrelease">newsrelease</a> on 11 Feb. 2021. The BCSA then issued a <a href="mailto:follow-up">follow-up</a> statement on 20 Feb. 2021.

We are disappointed in the Federation's lack of progress to accommodate the BCSA's reasonable requests until after the Association had withdrawn from Congress. We support the BCSA's decision to withdraw from Congress. It is for similar reasons the Council feels that the BSC-SbC cannot fully discuss "Relations of the Book," a theme that invites serious conversations about Canada's history of anti-Blackness and anti-Indigeneity, in the context of Congress 2021. Therefore, we are withdrawing from Congress 2021.

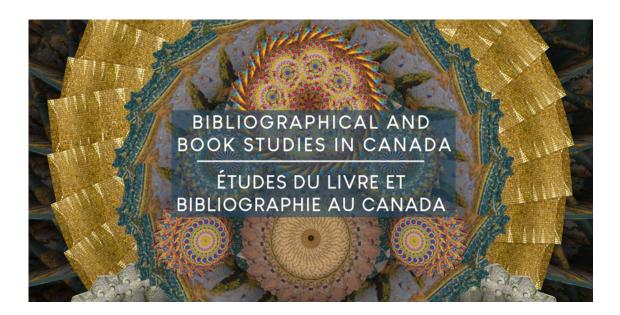
The BSC-SbC Council urges the Federation to implement the changes necessary to provide a safe, accessible, and supportive learning and sharing environment

for all. This includes, but is not limited to, addressing the BCSA's initial request to host a Congress whose theme centers around anti-Black racism and to ensure support for the attendance of Black and Indigenous scholars. While we are withdrawing from Congress 2021 in solidarity with BCSA, the BSC-SbC is committed to retaining our membership in the Federation and working to implement change from within. It is our hope that our withdrawal from this year's conference will reinforce to the Federation that it must be accountable for its lack of action, just as we engage in our own self-accountability work for the betterment of our organization and for society as a whole.

The BSC-SbC is committed to providing you with an opportunity to meet online and to share your research by mounting an independent online conference.

Details of our program are available below.

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## **Bibliographical and Book Studies Virtual Conference**

From May 31st to June 2nd, bibliographical and book studies researchers will gather for the virtual Annual Conference of the Bibliographical Society of Canada. Our speakers this year will engage with the theme "Relations of the Book" in connecting peoples, communities, cultures, and ways of knowing, while forming inclusive visions for bibliographical and book studies. We are excited to share a program of speakers that engage with the theme, which includes presentations on the decolonization of texts and diverse bibliographical approaches to examine marginalized 'book' cultures.

Unlike previous years, our annual conference will take place virtually and stretch over two days to accommodate members' schedules coast to coast. We have five panel sessions of speakers along with our Annual General Members meeting, and a new Special Collections Interest Group event to create a forum for those interested in special collections to discuss issues of mutual interest.

Everyone with an interest in the field is welcome, be they information professionals, professionals, professors, students or members of the book trade.

To address some of the inequities experienced by our colleagues and to be inclusive to communities that would like to engage with bibliographical and book studies, registration for conference will be free to the public. Please register at our EventBrite page, and we look forward to seeing you virtually at the Bibliographical and Book Studies in Canada Conference this summer!

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#### 2021 Prizes Awarded

#### Emerging Scholars Prize

The Bibliographical Society of Canada (BSC) is pleased to announce **Alexis** Paquette-Lacasse, a master's student of French language literature at the University of Montreal, has been awarded the 2021 Emerging Scholar **Prize.** The BSC Awards Committee was impressed by Paquette-Lacasse's scholarly accomplishments and excited by the originality of his proposed project that examines queer book history in Quebec in the mid-twentieth century. Paquette-Lacasse will present a paper at the BSC annual conference, which will be held remotely between May 31 and June 1, 2021, on the publication, distribution, and reception history of Raymond Goulet's L'âne de Carpizan or the Flying Bishop, which was self-published in 1957. Subtitled a "moral and philosophical tale for the use of all," Goulet's L'âne de Carpizan was a humorous novel that challenged that status quo, critiquing the Catholic Church, the Duplessis government, and French-Canadian society, while featuring the first transgender protagonist in a work of fiction in Quebec. Paquette-Lacasse's paper on Goulet's short novel is part of a larger project researching Quebec literature of marginalized sexual identities, published between 1944 and 1964.

Paquette-Lacasse will be invited to publish a revised, article-length version of his conference paper in the *Papers of the Bibliographical Society of Canada*, subject to peer review. The prize also includes a grant of \$500.

The <u>Emerging Scholar Prize</u> was established by the BSC in 2012 to support a scholar at the beginning of her or his career who is undertaking research in bibliography, book history, or print culture broadly defined, including the study of the creation, production, publication, distribution, and uses of manuscripts, printed books, or electronic texts.

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#### Graduate Student Merit Award

The Bibliographical Society of Canada (BSC) is pleased to announce that **Izabeau Legendre**, a doctoral student in the Cultural Studies interdisciplinary programme at Queen's University, has been nominated for the BSC-SbC's **Graduate Student Merit Award**. The Awards Committee was impressed by his work in studying the French and English Canadian Zine movement in an international and socio-political perspective. The Committee was also struck by his strong publishing record.

Izabeau Legendre will be presenting at the upcoming BSC Annual Meeting, which will be held remotely between May 31 and June 1, 2021, on his research into zine politics and the institutions of zine culture. This includes a comparative analysis of important centres of zine culture in the Anglophone and Francophone world, with a particular focus on the production and reception of Montreal zines and their makers. He is particularly interested in revealing the role institutions play as key elements of zine culture. Izabeau Legendre will also be invited to publish a revised, articlelength version of the paper in the *Papers of the Bibliographical Society of Canada*, subject to peer review.

The Graduate Student Merit Award includes a prize of \$500.

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#### 2020 Prizes Awarded

Congratulating the BSC-SbC Emerging Scholar 2020

The Bibliographical Society of Canada (BSC) is pleased to announce that **Marie-Hélène Jeannotte**, who recently completed her doctorate in études françaises at l'Université de Sherbrooke and is currently undertaking postdoctoral research at Queen's University, was selected as the recipient of the **Emerging Scholar Prize**. Her paper, "Pour une approche collaborative des archives des Premières Nations: un voyage accompagné dans la mémoire du théâtre d'Ondinnok," was part of the June 2020 conference program that was unfortunately cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

This paper draws on Dr. Jeannotte's postdoctoral research, which extends her interest in the history of Indigenous literatures in Québec through a study of the Ondinnok theater (1985-2017), research that she is carrying out in collaboration with founder Yves Sioui-Durand (Huron-Wendat). Dr. Jeannotte's paper argues for the value of collaborative approaches to researching Indigenous archives, which respects the needs and priorities of the community — in this case the Indigenous theatrical community. This paper will give an account of the collaborative archival method Dr. Jeannotte is developing with Sioui-Durand, as well as their archival discoveries thus far.

Dr. Jeannotte was invited to publish a revised, article-length version of the paper in the *Papers of the Bibliographical Society of Canada*, subject to peer review. The prize also includes a grant of \$500.

The <u>Emerging Scholar Prize</u> was established by the BSC in 2012 to support a scholar at the beginning of her or his career who is undertaking research in bibliography, book history, or print culture broadly defined, including the study of the creation, production, publication, distribution, and uses of manuscripts, printed books, or electronic texts.

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Congratulating the BSC-SbC's Congress Graduate Merit Award Nominee 2020

The Bibliographical Society of Canada (BSC) is pleased to announce that **Marcelle Kosman**, a doctoral candidate in the department of English and Film Studies at the University of Alberta, was nominated for the BSC-SbC's inaugural **Congress Graduate Merit Award**. Her paper, "Taking Out the Trash: The Ethics of Recovering White Feminist Fiction," was part of the June

2020 conference program that was unfortunately cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

This paper emerges from Ms. Kosman's doctoral research on early Canadian women's science fiction and fantasy writing, which examines the circulation of early Canadian women's sf between 1896 and 1946, and in so doing draws connections between white feminist nationalism, genre, and canonicity. In her presentation, Ms. Kosman will consider how early Canadian women's genre writing documents the desire of first wave feminists to build a racially and socially "pure" Anglo-Saxon Canada, and will ask how and why scholars might un-archive and interrogate these texts. However limited their original circulation and current canonicity may be, she argues that these texts warrant further investigation for how they shed light on both the history of white supremacy and the ongoing complicity of progressive and liberal white women in the oppression of marginalized peoples.

The Congress Graduate Merit Award included a prize of \$500. Ms. Kosman will also be invited to publish a revised, article-length version of the paper in the *Papers of the Bibliographical Society of Canada*, subject to peer review.

The Congress Graduate Merit Award was announced for Congress 2020 as part of a new award program facilitating the participation of graduate students in Congress activities. As a merit-based award, it serves to recognize and celebrate the academic excellence of deserving graduate students who present their work at Congress.

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## **New Special Collections Interest Group**

We are happy to report that the BSC Council adopted the proposal to create an interest group for special collections at its last meeting.

Several BSC members felt that since many of our members are information professionals, it would be beneficial to create a group within the BSC that would give them and others interested in special collections a forum to discuss issues of mutual interest.

There is no professional association for special collections professionals in

Canada. The BSC, by virtue of its status as the major scholarly association dedicated to book history in Canada, has unofficially already taken on this role to an extent. Our annual meetings have been an opportunity for special collections professionals to interact with book historians and their research, as well as connect with many of their peers. Our publications, *Papers/Cahiers* and the *Bulletin*, have kept special collections professionals up to date with developments in the wider Canadian book history community, as well as providing outlets for their own research and news.

We hope that the Special Collections Interest Group (SCIG) can further this role by creating a space for: information sharing; networking; training; advocacy; and outreach.

We will be organizing a SCIG session at the upcoming annual meeting. We look forward to getting together and discussing the future of the interest groups. Membership is open to everyone who is interested in any aspect of special collections.

In the meantime, please feel free to reach out to the SCIG committee members.

We look forward to seeing you at the Annual Meeting!

Scott Schofield Meaghan Scanlon Christopher Lyons

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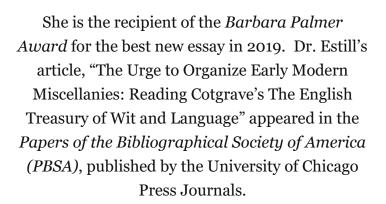
## Member News

St. Francis Xavier University Welcomes A New Canada Research Chair, Dr. Laura Estill

Susan Cameron, Angus L. Macdonald Library, St. Francis Xavier University

Dr. Laura Estill, Associate Professor of English, and Tier 2 Canada Research Chair, Digital Humanities, St. Francis Xavier University, is engaged in some forward-looking scholarship. The recent launch of the *Digital Humanities Centre*,

https://www2.mystfx.ca/digitalhumanities/ at St. Francis Xavier University promises to provide a platform for collaborative opportunities for diverse projects.



In addition to this endeavour, she is spearheading the inaugural, *Digital Humanities Summer Institute-East*, which will take place at St Francis Xavier University in Antigonish, Nova Scotia, from 26-30 April 2021. The first course is aimed at humanists and those with no prior database experience. It will be taught by <u>Dr. Harvey Quamen</u>, an Associate Professor of English and Humanities Computing from the University of Alberta.

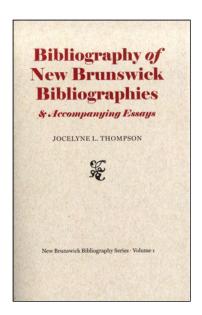
Her new courses, *Tablets to Tablets and How to Judge a Book by its Cover*, will provide collaborative opportunities involving our library's special collections. *Tablets to Tablets* examines how texts have been disseminated over time in order to demonstrate how material contexts affect textual meaning. Topics include, changing practices and ideas of authorship, publication, and reading. Evidence considered could span



from early textual objects (clay tablets) to today's technologies (computers, tablets, phones). *How to Judge a Book by its Cover*, offers a broad overview of the importance of paratexts--from advertisements to indices--from the middle ages to the present. Students will analyze texts from a book historical perspective, considering how presentation affects reception and meaning.

The BSC is pleased to also have her as a new member.

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# Launch of the New Brunswick Bibliography Series

Jocelyne L. Thompson, University of New Brunswick

The Bibliography of New Brunswick Bibliographies and Accompanying Essays, compiled by Jocelyne L. Thompson, with contributions by Peter F. McNally and Tony Tremblay, was published in April 2020, thereby launching the New Brunswick Bibliography Series (NBBS). Volume Two is now nearing completion with an anticipated publication date of April 2021. By John Leroux, the *Bibliography* of New Brunswick Architecture will be a definitive work containing over 700 bibliographic entries. Leroux is a practicing architect, author and editor of numerous books and articles on New Brunswick art and architecture, and current Manager of Collections and Exhibitions at the Beaverbrook Art Gallery in Fredericton.

An initiative of UNB (University of New Brunswick) Libraries in collaboration with the

<sup>\*\*</sup>Image shared with permission of Dr. Laura Estill.\*\*

celebrated Gaspereau Press, the NBBS proposes a new model for regional bibliography. The "big idea" behind it is that a comprehensive bibliography of the province can be compiled over time by breaking the task down into manageable pieces and inviting broad participation in the project. The "pieces" will treat all the subject areas normally covered in regional and national bibliographies, each of these pieces to be published as a separate volume. Each volume will bring the project closer to the ultimate goal, a complete *BIBLIOGRAPHY OF NEW BRUNSWICK*.

BSC members Peter F. McNally and Gwendolyn Davies are Honorary Editors of the NBBS. The series is overseen by an Editorial Board and an Advisory Board composed of representatives from all the major memory institutions in New Brunswick, including academic and public libraries, archives, museums, and galleries.

For more information, please contact Jocelyne L. Thompson, Editor, New Brunswick Bibliography Series, at <u>ilt@unb.ca</u>.

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