



Brock University

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Multicultural Days conference attracts global interest

Brock University currently holds the top ranked Aid to Occasional Research Conferences and International Congresses in Canada Grant from SSHRC. Dr. Dawn Zinga from the Department of Child and Youth Studies was awarded the grant this past summer to support, *Multicultural Days: An International Perspective*, which will be held at Brock University from June 23-25, 2005.

While Zinga acts as the conference chair, the conference committee members include Dr. Sheila Bennett, Dr. Christine Tardif, Deborah Mindorff, Melissa Issak, Elizabeth Hall, Mayleen Ewers and Sherri Young.

The conference has attracted over 100 participants

from many different countries including Canada, the United States, Hong Kong, Finland, Australia, Mauritius, the United Kingdom, Portugal, Amsterdam, Israel, Switzerland, Thailand and Greece. The topics in the plenary sessions, symposiums and workshops include: multicultural education, youth, the impact of 9/11, immigration and acculturation and health, among others. Plenary session speakers include: Dr. John Berry (Queen's University); Dr. Michael Harris Bond (Chinese University of Hong Kong); Dr. Hardin L. K. Coleman (University of Wisconsin-Madison); Dr. Esther Geva (OISE/UT); Dr. Ingrid Johnston (University of Alberta); Dr. Michael Mobley (University of

Missouri); Dr. Jean Phinney (California State University); Dr. Christine Yeh (Columbia University); and Dr. Richard Pearce, (University of Bath).

Zinga has been approached to act as editor for a compilation based on selected articles from the international conference and is also planning on producing a second e-book. Her work in Child and Youth Studies includes a SSHRC funded research project of children and youth's perceptions of multiculturalism and investigating how child and youth conceptualize multiculturalism in artwork and narratives. Zinga is excited about the opportunity to include some of the material from the conference in a course on multicultural-

alism that she will be teaching next year.

Students, staff and faculty are welcome to attend this international conference and enjoy waived conference fees, provided that they register with Zinga before June 1, 2005. Interested individuals should contact Zinga at dzinga@brocku.ca for the Brock community registration form. They are also welcome to register for the social events and the meal plan.

Complete details about the conference and its associated social events can be accessed at www.multiculturaldays.ca. The web site also features the e-book and abstract book from the first Multicultural Days Conference that was held in 2003.



Dr. Dawn Zinga and Grant Mercer of Zing Media Inc.

For more information about conference details and registration information, please visit our website at www.multiculturaldays.ca

Multicultural Days
Conference
"An International Perspective" 2005
— June 23 • June 24 • June 25, 2005 —

Dr. Dawn Zinga
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Icewine research fosters biotechnology advancement at Brock

According to Dr. Debra Inglis of the Department of Biological Sciences, Canada is now the world leader in icewine production. "We are working hard at understanding the uniqueness of our product to preserve that identity," says Inglis. She is studying yeast

stress responses during icewine fermentation and their impact on icewine quality in collaboration with several Niagara industries that have been key to the success of this ongoing work. An additional joint project with co-researchers Drs. Reynolds, Brindle and

Pickering is focused on identifying chemical and sensory markers unique to Canadian icewines, including contributions from indigenous microflora during icewine fermentation.

Brock University's Cool Climate Oenology and Viticul-

ture Institute houses research and teaching laboratories, a pilot winery, museum artifacts, a climate-controlled wine cellar and a tasting facility for wine evaluation. The mission of the institute is to meet the research and educational needs of the

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cool climate grape growing and wine producing regions of Canada. Inglis' research grants allow new technology to assist with the research of osmotic stress response in wine yeast during fermentation of these high sugar juices. Current research of yeast strains and inoculation methods for icewine

fermentations is all part of the advancement of biotechnology research at the university.

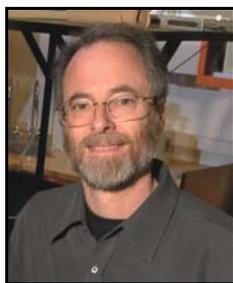
With the help of leading edge technology, the research program of Inglis and colleagues is contributing to the understanding of volatile acidity production during icewine fermentation.



Dr. Debra Inglis in Brock University's CCOVI wine cellar

Optimizing and understanding human development

The brain is the engine of human behaviour and its functioning is inextricable from



Dr. Sidney Segalowitz

the person's mental health. The brain not only develops rapidly in childhood, but also is dynamically reinventing itself throughout life, heavily affected by its chemistry, its genetics, its experiences and whatever else the environment throws at it. Examining some of these linkages is a central theme in the work of Psychology Department Professor Dr. Sidney Segalowitz. A current focus involves brain maturation factors that affect risk-taking brain, and the monitoring of one's actions in general. This has led to collaborations with colleagues on development of thinking as reflected in brain activation through childhood to young adulthood, on brain responses related to the dangerous interactions of hyper-aggressive children, as well as criminal psychopaths. He is also working on brainwave activation patterns affected by

changes in dopamine levels in the brain, with Parkinson's patients and in healthy aging. These various approaches all centre on the issue of how a brain controls its own functions so well when healthy, and how this breaks down when not healthy, damaged or simply, extremely tired.

Segalowitz is a distinguished researcher who is also acutely aware that this complex field involves assistance from people employed in all sectors of the economy. Over his career, he has partnered with members of the community, industry, hospitals, research institutes and universities. "These kinds of partnerships are so important when undertaking research that involves human development," notes Segalowitz. "The impact of this research is far reaching and I would not be able to conduct my work without the support of people from all sectors of the population."

Currently Segalowitz, together with colleagues is spearheading a drive for a new research facility at Brock University. Expected to open in 2006, the Lifespan Development Research Centre will include labs where individuals from the community can take part in research involving the psychological and physiological aspects of development from infancy through to old age.

Integrating Public Service, Teaching, Research and Technology

As recent chair of the federal task force on the *Disclosure of Wrongdoing in the Canadian Public Service*, Dr. Ken Kernaghan recognizes the synergy between research, teaching and public service, and has integrated all three in award-winning fashion. His recent public lecture at Brock University provided the audience with an eloquent testament to his long and distinguished career where he noted that, "Value and ethical concerns pervade the content of some of my courses, and my research in this area has found that the top three values cherished in public organizations across the country are integrity, respect and accountability or responsibility. One could make a persuasive case that these should be top values in university teaching as well."

This Department of Political Science Professor was recently honoured with an Award for Distinguished Teaching, but he is equally respected for his research on information and communication technology in the public sector. His latest research project has been undertaken in conjunction with a team of researchers comprised of experts from the United Kingdom, the Canadian Public

Policy Forum and professors and students from the University of Toronto, McMaster and Brock. The team has created a web site (www.publicsectorit.ca) with information on the political policy and managerial implications



Dr. Ken Kernaghan

of advances in information and communication technologies. This work is set to culminate in a book that will explore a full range of information technology issues.

This book will be in addition to the numerous articles he has written over the years, as well as a textbook co-authored with Dr. David Siegel entitled *Public Administration in Canada*. His published and unpublished research explores ethics, values, administration and business-government relations, which his students and colleagues are pleased to say, he incorporates into his daily life and lectures.