



CONGRESS2014

OF THE HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES



BORDERS
WITHOUT BOUNDARIES



HIGHLIGHTS

May 24 to 30, 2014



FEDERATION FOR THE
HUMANITIES AND
SOCIAL SCIENCES

FÉDÉRATION
DES SCIENCES
HUMANES



About Congress

The Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences is proud to have brought you our 83rd Congress, the largest multidisciplinary academic gathering in Canada—indeed, one of the largest such gatherings in the world. Congress 2014 will be remembered for its interdisciplinarity, for the 75 scholarly association meetings and the 5,000+ research papers presented. It took place in an outstanding setting at the beautiful Brock University campus in St. Catharines, Ontario in the heart of the Niagara region. Congress is not only a unique opportunity for the research community to connect with colleagues and peers, but also to network and share research and findings with policy-makers, funding agencies, the media and the public at large. This annual event forges essential links between academia and the world beyond, offering:

- Unparalleled opportunity for cross-disciplinary scholarly discussions
- Professional development workshops for scholars at all stages of their careers
- Canada's largest academic book fair
- Forward-looking programming on topics such as the future of the PhD and copyright issues
- Sessions on funding opportunities with federal granting agencies
- Information on international research collaboration opportunities

Congress truly has something for everyone, spanning seven days and bringing the community more than 2,500 events—meetings, panel presentations, keynote speeches, films, theatre, musical performances and art exhibits—many free and open to the public.

Congress impact on the community

- **350** local volunteers
- **125** local hires
- **70+** on-campus receptions
- **10,200** accommodation room nights
- **60** beer kegs, **120** cases of local wine and **900** catering orders served
- **\$10 million** estimated economic impact to the Niagara region

Congress in the news

Creating meaningful connections between researchers and the broader community is a key goal for Congress organizers, both at the Federation and at the host university. Through proactive outreach to media, government and other stakeholders, the Federation leverages each Congress to promote and convey the value of social sciences and humanities research to Canadians.

Congress 2014 garnered extensive media coverage from regional and national outlets, with over 180 stories running in 85+ different online, print, radio and television outlets.

- The *National Post* ran an eight-part series "Oh, the Humanities," highlighting some of the fascinating research showcased at Congress 2014, and also published an op-ed by *Big Thinking* speaker David Plotz of *Slate*.
- The *Globe and Mail* published op-eds from Antonia Maioni, President of the Federation, and Kevin Kee, Associate Vice-President of Research, Brock University, on the first weekday of Congress, followed by two stories later in the week.
- Other highlights included two stories in *Maclean's*, four stories in the *Toronto Star*, a live interview on CBC Studio Q with Jian Ghomeshi and a television interview on CTV News.
- On the local front, 24 Congress stories hit the regional outlets in the Niagara area.





Borders without Boundaries

In keeping with the Congress 2014 theme of *Borders without Boundaries*, this year's Congress had an impressive array of international and interdisciplinary programming, open to all attendees. From *Big Thinking* speakers, to a diverse mix of Federation-supported international keynote speakers, interdisciplinary sessions and equity sessions, it was an exciting line-up. *Career Corner* provided opportunities for attendees at all stages of their careers to interact with research funders and explore career-related topics. Highlights of this year's Congress included the opportunity to get directly involved in an urgent policy issue through the Feeding the Future event hosted by Genome Canada, exploring Life after Graduation hosted by Mitacs, and the National Film Board's Film Night at Congress.

Congress by the numbers

8,000+ attendees

5,000+ papers

200 interdisciplinary sessions

75 scholarly associations

180+ media stories

70 exhibitors at Expo

11 book launches at Expo

8 *Big Thinking* lectures

9,000+ tweets using #congreSSH hashtag

Big Thinking

The *Big Thinking* series profiles leading scholars and public figures who present forward-looking research, thought-provoking ideas and solutions to the critical issues of our time.

Borders without boundaries: Whose stories are ours?

Lyse Doucet

Chief International Correspondent for the BBC

Children's voices have power: Ending inequalities affecting First Nations children and families

Cindy Blackstock

Executive Director, First Nations Child and Family Caring Society, Associate Professor, University of Alberta, and Director, First Nations Children's Action Research and Education Service

The borders between life and death: Stories of the supernatural and uncanny among Canada's Great War soldiers

Tim Cook

First World War Historian at the Canadian War Museum, and Adjunct Research Professor at Carleton University

"Servitude and Grandeur" of the university

Lise Bissonnette

Writer, journalist, editor, analyst and administrator

Fast, cheap, and out of control: How the Internet has made journalism better than it's ever been

David Plotz

Editor of *Slate*

The end of settler societies and the new politics of immigration

Catherine Dauvergne

Professor at the University of British Columbia Faculty of Law, and Trudeau Fellow

If mayors ruled the world: Is the city democracy's best hope?

Benjamin Barber

Senior Research Scholar at The Graduate Center, City University of New York

Blood: The Stuff of Life

Lawrence Hill

The author of nine books, including *The Book of Negroes*



All *Big Thinking* lecture videos from Congress 2014 can be viewed at congress2014.ca/bigthinking

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FUTURE CONGRESSES

2015

University of Ottawa
Ottawa, Ontario
May 30 - June 5, 2015

2016

University of Calgary
Calgary, Alberta
May 28 - June 3, 2016

2017

Ryerson University
Toronto, Ontario
May 27 - June 2, 2017



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