



COMMON PROBLEMS,
WORKING SOLUTIONS ACROSS
BORDERS

2014 MIDWEST ASSOCIATION
FOR CANADIAN STUDIES
CONFERENCE

MIDWEST ASSOCIATION FOR CANADIAN STUDIES in the U.S. Bi-Annual Meeting, November 2014

COMMON PROBLEMS, WORKING SOLUTIONS across BORDERS

SUMMARY REPORT

The Midwest Association for Canadian Studies 2014 Biannual Meeting, **Common Problems, Working Solutions across Borders**, was co-hosted by Michigan State University's Canadian Studies Center and College of Law from November 13 thru November 15, 2014.

A kick off reception led to 16 sessions and paper presentations featuring 46 speakers on various topics relative to Canada and of mutual interest in the U.S. Midwest. An audience of 60 attended the various sessions and also took in two different exhibits loaned to MWACS during the conference:

- Canada's Arctic: Vibrant and Thriving – a photograph collection of daily scenes in the Arctic
- 1812 – One War, Four Perspectives – a depiction of the War of 1812 and the perspective of four central participants – Canadians, Americans, British, Native Americans

Notably, there were at least 12 academic disciplines represented during the conference, from the professional schools of law, business, medicine, and engineering to social science – geography, political science, and sociology – as well as communications, arts and humanities. Both students and practitioners added to the mix. Representatives from the Consulate General's Office in Detroit and Chicago attended, along with the Quebec Government Office in Chicago. All told, the audience travelled from at least 12 different faculty institutions scattered across eight states and three provinces.

A key address by Chris Henderson brought the audience together to discuss today's renewable energy development – hydro, wind, solar and biomass projects – and the engaged role of the Indigenous community. (See aboriginalpower.ca to obtain book.) This general session was preceded by a conversation regarding nations' ties to the Arctic led by Professor Norman Graham, MSU and Cara DesGranges, Concordia University. Consul General of Canada in Detroit, Douglas George drew the attention of conference participants with a note of appreciation for the U.S. and Canada trade partnership, Canada's current priorities, and future expectations of binational collaboration.

The conference was marketed through at least three Consulate General's offices and the ACSUS and MWACS network, as well as the policy and private sector links found through the Great Lakes International Trade and Transport Hub (GLITTH) Initiative, the Institute for Public Policy and Social Research (IPPSR), the MSU Canadian Studies Center (CSC),

the Binational Regional Collaboration Effort, and through the student and faculty campus networks. Both the PBS Radio, WKAR, and television stations, Comcast channel 96, conducted interviews and aired content from the conference. Comcast Channel 96 broadcasts on the internet, at www.dsetv.com & YouTube Channel dsetvmuskegon.

Presented papers will be collected and reviewed through January 31, 2015. Academic and student paper awards will be announced in Spring 2015. Further association business included a grand announcement from Association of Canadian Studies in the United States (ACSUS) president, Kenneth Holland about recent changes in ACSUS structure, the 2015 Conference dates and location: Las Vegas, Nevada on October 14 thru 17 and the ACSUS Call for Proposals (see attached).

Additionally, early nominations for the location of MWACS 2016 were discussed. Proposals for hosting the MWACS 2016 Meeting should be forwarded to csc@msu.edu by March 31, 2015.

Nominations for the executive board were discussed. All nominations for the board and for committee chairs will be accepted through December 15, 2014:

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, ACSUS Liaison

COMMITTEE CHAIRS for

- Social/Conference
- Fundraising/Sponsorships
- Membership
- Operations/Business
- Communications/Marketing

Again, nominations for the 2016 conference as well as executive board and committee chair positions may be forwarded to CSC@msu.edu with the SUBJECT LINE: MWACS Nomination.

Election ballots for executive board and committee chair positions will be forwarded before or during January 2015.

Thanks to MWACS sponsors for their generous support.

GOLD SPONSORS:

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- Canadian Studies Center
- MSU College of Law
- Institute for Public Policy and Social Research
- International Studies and Programs

Consulate General of Canada in Detroit

SILVER SPONSORS:

Quebec Delegation Office in Detroit

BRONZE SPONSORS:

Association for Canadian Studies in the U.S.

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Additional thanks to all MSU Student Ambassadors and volunteers of time during the planning and implementation of the conference. See the THANK YOU page posted at MWACS.US

DATES TO REMEMBER

December 15, 2014	MWACS Executive and Committee Nominations Due
January 31, 2015	Conference Papers Due
March 6, 2015	ACSUS Paper Proposals Due
March 31, 2015	MWACS Location Nominations for 2016 Conference Due
Spring 2015	Paper Awards Announced
October 14-17, 2015	ACSUS Conference in Las Vegas

All who participated in the MWACS 2014 Meeting are invited and encouraged to participate in the ACSUS Meeting planned for October 2015. Those who attended are asked to complete the following quick rating scale of the MWACS 2014 Meeting.

TWITTER ACCOUNTS TO FOLLOW

@2014MWACS
@MSUCANADIAN
@CANCGETROIT
@CANCCHICAGO
@CONNECT2CANADA
@QCCHICAGO
@IPPSR

En Français:

@CGCANDETROIT
@CGCANCHICAGO
@QCCHICAGO

MWACS 2014 CONFERENCE EVALUATION

Please rate the following (1 low end, unacceptable; 3 average, appreciated; 5 high end, outstanding)

Once completed, please cut and paste your responses to CSC@msu.edu with the SUBJECT LINE: MWACS Rating. Please feel free to add additional comments.

Facilities	1(LOW)	2	3(AVG)	4	5(HIGH)
Food	1(LOW)	2	3(AVG)	4	5(HIGH)
Presentations	1(LOW)	2	3(AVG)	4	5(HIGH)
General Sessions	1(LOW)	2	3(AVG)	4	5(HIGH)
Networking	1(LOW)	2	3(AVG)	4	5(HIGH)

Additional Comments:

THANKS AGAIN TO ALL WHO ATTENDED THE 2014 CONFERENCE. IT COULD NOT HAVE HAPPENED WITHOUT YOU!