

ALUMNI NEWS

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CANADA-U.S. EXCHANGE ALUMNI
ANCIENS DES ÉCHANGES CANADA-É.-U.

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Fulbright Canada Turns 20 Years Old!!!

This year Fulbright Canada celebrates 20 years of successful programs and alumni achievement. Fulbright Canada now boasts 1000 alumni in the U.S. and Canada through a series of highly successful programs and the growing number of partnerships between both countries.

A recent success is the new Eco-Leadership Program which started in 2009. Eleven alumni and current grantees were funded micro-grants of up to \$4000 to conduct a series of activities in local communities that benefited the local environment. Some projects included the construction of a pollinator garden on the campus of Vanderbilt University, a watershed protection and education program in Southern California, and a vermin-composting program at the student residences of McGill University in Montreal.

Over the past year, several Fulbright Canada alumni have made headlines with their research. American alumnus Gil Alterovitz, who studied signal processing methods for 3D structure analysis on his exchange in 1999, developed a system whereby music would replace electronic beeps in the monitoring of the operating room patients. To read more about Alterovitz's research, see:

<http://www.wbur.org/2010/03/04/surgical-symphony>.

Another recent alumna, Fulbrighter Julia Gaffield recently uncovered Haiti's Declaration of Independence while working at the British National Archives, which has since been returned to Haiti. To read the article featured in the New York Times, follow the link:

http://www.nytimes.com/2010/04/01/world/americas/01document.html?_r=2&scp=1&sq=Gaffield&st=cse.

Fulbright Canada plans to hold a gala dinner September 23, 2010 at the Aviation Museum in Ottawa to commemorate Fulbright's first 20 years. Ruth Simmons, current president of Brown University and Fulbright Fellowship alumni, will be the guest speaker. Simmons has won many honors, including the 2002 Fulbright Lifetime Achievement Medal and was recently appointed by President Obama as a member of the President's Commission on the White House Fellowships.

(More on Fulbright can be found on page 6)

Public Affairs

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ALUMNI MESSAGES

We would like to send a warm welcome to our **Canadian Parliamentary Internship Program Alumni**.

Each September, 10 young professionals from across the country come to Ottawa for 10 months to experience Parliament Hill from a different perspective – a non-partisan viewpoint. As participants in the Parliamentary Internship Program, interns work for Members of Parliament from both the Government and Opposition benches.

Interns regularly meet with eminent Canadians through the Brown Bag Lunch Series and have access to a wide range of journalists, members of the diplomatic community, and representatives of Canada's public and private sectors. Parliamentary interns get involved with a wide variety of tasks based on their interests and varied skill sets.



They spend one week each year in Washington, D.C. with meetings on the Hill. Prior to their departure this year, the interns visited the US Embassy for briefings with American Officers. The Interns in turn host the U.S. Congressional Fellows in Ottawa for a week in late spring.

The Parliamentary Internship Program celebrated its 40th anniversary back in 2009 and continues to be one of the top sought-after post-graduate experiences.

For more information please visit:

<http://www.pip-psp.org>.

Dr. Ramona Lumpkin, a Former Fulbright Scholar to England, has been named Mount Saint Vincent University's new president and vice-chancellor. Lumpkin will take over from interim president and former federal NDP leader Dr. Alexa MacDonough on October 1, 2010.

"Exciting things are happening at the Mount," said MacDonough in an April press release. "And ... the Mount community will be well served by her (Dr. Lumpkin's) energy, passion, and skills."

Lumpkin has been serving as principal of Huron University College, a liberal arts institution affiliated with the University of Western Ontario, since 2001. Prior to that, Lumpkin served as vice-president academic and provost of

Royal Roads University in Victoria, B.C. Lumpkin holds a PhD in English literature from the University of Kentucky.

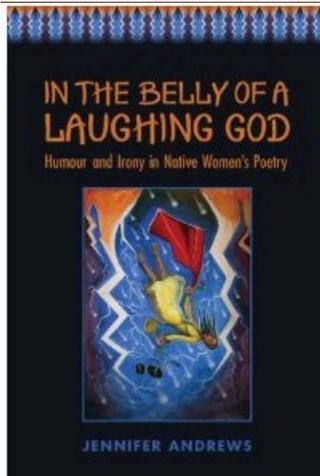
"(MSVU) has a reputation for academic excellence and a commitment to the advancement of women and these are two of my passions," Lumpkin said in a release. "I am delighted to be moving to Nova Scotia and becoming part of the Mount community."

(Metro Halifax, NS April 28, 2010).



Dr. Ramona Lumpkin

ALUMNI MESSAGES



In the Belly of a Laughing God:
Humour and Irony in Native
Women's Poetry

Professor Jennifer Andrews, An alumnus of the Fulbright Doctoral exchange program (1998-1999), in which she participated at the University of Arizona, has a forthcoming book from the University of Toronto Press that draws on the initial research she conducted in Arizona on contemporary Native American women poets.

In the Belly of a Laughing God: Humour and Irony in Native Women's Poetry (available in November 2010) examines how eight contemporary Native women poets in Canada and the United States: Joy Harjo, Louise Halfe, Kimberly Blaeser, Marilyn Dumont, Diane Glancy, Jeannette Armstrong, Wendy Rose, and Marie Annharte Baker employ humor and irony to address the intricacies of race, gender, and nationality.

Using the framework of humor and irony, five themes emerge from the words of these poets: religious transformations; generic transformations; history, memory, and the nation; photography and representational visibility; and land and the significance of 'home.' Through the double-voice discourse of irony and the textual surprises of humor, these poets challenge hegemonic renderings of themselves and their cultures, even as they enforce their own cultural norms.

Professor Andrews is a member of the Department of English at the University of New Brunswick and a co-editor of *Studies in Canadian Literature*. She has co-authored *Border Crossings: Thomas King's Cultural Inversions* (UTP, 2003) and numerous articles on English-Canadian, American and Native topics.

Lina Dilov, an E-Teacher Scholarship Program (E-Teacher) alumnus, a teacher with the Calgary Board of education, drew on her coursework from Teaching English to Young Learners, offered by the University of Maryland, in a presentation she gave at The Canadian Society for the Study of Education (CSSE), 2010 in Montreal.

Her presentation was inspired by the story telling topic covered in the course. Dilov believes that there is "a natural connection between the dual language books and English language acquisition." Many of the delegates who attended her session were able to get a fresh prospective for teaching English to young learners.

Dilov has also had informal leadership opportunities in the school where she teaches through sharing of resources, ideas and impressions from the E-Teacher course.

"Many teachers in my school are struggling to accommodate the growing population of ESL students; therefore, there is a great need of current research as well as practical suggestions for application, which the E-Teacher Scholarship program generously provides."

Dilov is one of four Calgary area ESL teachers to receive an E-Teacher scholarship in 2009-2010. The four were the first Canadians to be selected to participate in the program.

"There is a natural connection between the dual language books and English language acquisition."

ALUMNI MESSAGES

Pranay Lal, a Senior Partner at LevelNext: I am happy and excited to announce that I, along with some former State alumni have started a research and strategy company called LevelNext (www.levelnext.in). LevelNext provides a broad suite of research, strategy and advisory services to the development sector focusing on health, human rights, equity and environment sector. Although formed in 2007, LevelNext has only recently acquired a registered office in New Delhi, India.

LevelNext comprises an eclectic group of analysts, economists, geographers, lawyers, anthropologists, development and management experts currently based across the world. We believe in providing

solutions that are creative and flexible, and those which are built on expertise and experiences from across disciplines.

In our recent projects we have been doing research studies, developing advocacy and campaign strategies, and conducting policy and political analyses for our clients. I would be happy to share examples of our work in India, Nepal, Peru, Russia, New Zealand and Bangladesh and discuss opportunities to working with you - as a resource person, partner or as client. Please visit our website and I look forward to hearing from you.

Alumni from various exchange programs are part of the Steering Committee for **Portal for North America**. Portal for North America is a unique web-based tool for knowledge exchange within Canada, Mexico and the United States. Built by the [Centre for International Governance Innovation \(CIGI\)](#), it provides accessible avenues for research, education and network-building on critical continental issues.

Main objectives include:

- To provide open access to the most comprehensive resources for

research and analysis on interaction between Canada, Mexico, and the United States;

- To develop and promote **educational resources** for increased continental studies; and
- To establish and **foster a network** of scholars, policymakers, practitioners and students interested in North American governance issues.

For more information visit: <http://www.portalnorthamerica.org/about-us>.

“Comprehensive resources, promote educational resources, and foster a network of scholars.”

Angela Aleiss, Ph.D. (Fulbright Fellow, University of Toronto 1994) is a Visiting Assistant Professor at The University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) and teaches film and religion. She was recently a commentator for "Reel Injun," a feature-length documentary of Native Americans in the movies. The film was produced by Re[z]olution Pictures International, an Aboriginal-owned film and television company in Montreal. "Reel Injun" has been screened widely in film festivals throughout Canada, the U.S., and

Europe. The film will premiere in the U.S. this fall on PBS.

Aleiss is also a contributing writer for "The Vampire Book: The Encyclopedia of the Undead" (3rd edition) to be published by Visible Ink Press in the fall of 2010. Her article, "Mormon Influence, Imagery Runs Deep through Twilight" was published by Religion News Service and picked up by several major newspapers across the U.S.

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INTERNATIONAL VISITOR PROGRAM REFLECTION

"Integration... it's everybody's business!"

By **Nathalie Angibeau**
(A 2009 International Visitor Program Participant)

Life is a whirlwind of change that often leads us on many adventures. In February 2009, thanks to the *International Visitor Leadership Program*, I had the opportunity to visit five U.S. states and meet a great number of individuals and organizations working in the immigration and integration fields. I had no clue I would soon be, in a way, an 'immigrant' myself.

Quebec and the United States have many things in common but also many differences, including policies regarding the integration of new immigrants. While it may be true that neither policy represents the perfect solution to a complex problem, the actions of both governments make it possible for many immigrants to integrate society in their adopted land in a harmonious way.

We have a tendency to think that only immigrants have to go through the process of integration. In reality, all of us have, at one time or another in our life lived an integration situation: a new workplace, travel to a new country, moving to a new neighborhood.

Last May, I left my job, my city, my country, to go work in Haiti with the Red Cross. I went through all the emotions and preoccupations immigrants experience. Like them, I had to find a way to adapt. And, like them, with a good measure of perseverance, I was able to adapt to change and overcome all the obstacles in my way.

In the end, life is a bit like the weather: hot or cold, we are all able to adapt. Human beings have the innate capacity to integrate and cross the borders of diversity.

"Quebec and the United States have many things in common but also many differences..."

A CALL TO ACTION: THE E-MENTOR CORPS

At the Presidential Summit on Entrepreneurship on April 27, 2010, Secretary Clinton announced a Call to Action to advance mentorship for emerging and aspiring entrepreneurs around the world through an E-Mentor Corps.

The Department of State has partnered with leading businesses, networks, NGOs, universities, and foundations to build this E-Mentor Corps.

Alumni are invited to answer this Call to Action. The Office of Alumni Affairs supports and encourages this exciting new effort.

For a fact sheet defining the program, click here:

<http://www.america.gov/st/texttrans-english/2010/April/20100427120950eaifas0.2072369.html>.

For more information on the summit visit:

http://www.america.gov/entrepreneurship_summit.html.



E-Mentor Corps

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FULBRIGHT CANADA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, DR. MICHAEL HAWES

In recognition of our commitment to tell the Fulbright story, and to showcase our alumni, Fulbright Canada is holding an alumni anniversary contest. Alumni of the program have been invited to recount their experiences. The grand prize is an all expense paid trip to the capital to attend the gala.

On behalf of everyone in the program, I am pleased to share a sample of the entries that have been received. The Fulbright Canada alumni contest grand prize winner will be announced [on August 1st](#).

For more information regarding the 20th Anniversary celebrations and related alumni activities, please visit: <http://www.fulbrightcanada.com/20th.php#/1> or call Jessie Davies, our Alumni Coordinator at 613.688.5518.

A SAMPLE ENTRY FROM THE FULBRIGHT 20TH ANNIVERSARY CONTEST

Turquoise, Water and Sky

By: Rishma Dunlop, PhD (visiting Fulbright Chair at Arizona State University 2010)

She wore a turquoise sari, strolling past a restored Spanish colonial mission in Old Town. It surprised me; she was the first woman in a sari I had seen in Phoenix. The brilliant blue-green hue of her silk sari stayed with me all afternoon, as I wandered through the marketplace among tourists and found myself wanting something turquoise, the color the Egyptians believed to be faith and truth. So I bought a small turquoise stone from a Navajo vendor and kept it in my pocket. The vendor had told me that the Aztecs used to place turquoise in the mouths of the dead to feed the heart, and Native colleagues at the university had helped me recognize its mythic significance — turquoise anchors a corner of the four-cornered Navajo world; it guards desert springs and it is itself water and sky. It's the stone that strengthens the eyes, the talisman that protects travelers against pain and demons in the desert. To protect yourself from lightning, say the Navajo, wear a bead of turquoise in your hair. I came to believe, like the Zuni, that turquoise is a form of stone-hard water. A gift of the desert, like a lover's name carried blue in the throat.

Winter in Phoenix wore the stillness of the Sonoran desert. On days when I drove to Arizona State University, where I was Canada-US Research Chair in Creative Writing, I was constantly struck by names of streets: Superstition Freeway— Drinkwater Boulevard—Carefree. The highways are flanked by saguaro cacti and Navajo designs, representing the cycles of life and the weather. The sky is a wide-open blue over banks of reddish earth—shades of terra cotta, vermilion, veins of blood-red—a desert tempered by iron.

The Fulbright Award was a precious gift of time for me. My scholarly research and creative writing had always been juggled between family and professional demands. But now, after years of being a wife, a mother of two daughters, a Ph.D. student, a professor and administrator of the Creative Writing Program at York University in Toronto, I found myself surprised by the wave of creativity that the Fulbright afforded me. Writing, here in the desert, I drank the bone-dry air with an open mouth and words exploded my hands, my eyes, my past.

Faithfully, I woke up and wrote every morning in a small house I had rented on the crossroads between Lowell and Harmony. I was inspired to work on a volume of new and selected poems, as well as the novel I had been planning to write for many years. Late in the afternoons, I would go over my notes at spots like the architectural wonder of the Biltmore Hotel, or at Valley-Ho, the hotel bar once frequented by Hollywood starlets, or the lounge at the historic Royal Palms resort surrounded by stone walkways, fountains and gardens. I explored the grounds and archives at Taliesin West, Frank Lloyd Wright's School of Architecture,

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doing background research for a character in my novel set in Arizona, British Columbia, New York and Paris.

Daily, the desert guided me into a calmness I applied to my writing. The silhouette of Camelback Mountain became the spine of the body through which I entered the exterior landscape to see the interior realm I was creating in my novel. The wave of creativity kept me alive inside the narrative I was writing, like a Phoenix rising, as my lover in Toronto kept telling me on the phone. At night, as the heat of the sun receded, the mesas were lit by the kind of moon that would remind me of children's storybooks; yet, sometimes the night sky was velvet black, moonless, eye-blind and pitch dark.

Several times a week, I enjoyed supper and conversation with scholars like Rosalynn Voaden who teaches a popular course titled "Sex Death Snow: An Introduction to Canadian Literature" at ASU. My lecture and poetry reading to her class became the catalyst to a long compare-and-contrast discussion about the U.S. and Canada. Arizona's immigration policy was sharply contrasted with the politics of diversity evident in the vast population of immigrants in my own city of Toronto, Canada. Yet, Arizona's policies of sustainability and solar energy conservation struck me as forward thinking, a source of viable exchange of knowledge between the US and desert areas like the Okanagan Valley in Canada.

In the desert, demarcations are easily lost. Some nights, driving home, I felt that I was no longer only a Canadian; I was also an American, with a newly minted Social Insurance card, observing the differences that make a difference in our lives. Our shared geography across the Americas and Canada reminded me of the ways in which regional literatures, our fictions and non-fiction, teach us about the transparency and fluidity of border crossings. But the Sonoran also reminded me of the gift of grace we are given each time we touch a turquoise stone or drink a glass of water and recuperate in ourselves the incarnate sensorial experience of the living landscape in which we are embedded.

My Fulbright experience taught me to celebrate the spirit of resilience that is our shared continental awareness, and I will always remember the intensity of my impressions through the drumbeat of human emotions of grief, love and joy. But most of all, I will remember the Arizona landscape as a palpable force, the scent of orange blossoms, profuse and heady; the smell of diesel and tar on the highways; vast meadows of wildflowers, gold poppies and lupines, after the winter rains; and the astonishing saguaro cacti, green thorns pointing like fingers to the April sky, night-blooming, waxy white flowers spreading a fragrance of ripe melons through the desert air.

Back in Toronto, after my four month residency in Arizona, I often hold the small turquoise stone I bought in Old Town in my cupped hand. It returns me to the desert, a place of faith, where I swallowed words like water and sky.

CULTURAL AFFAIRS GOES ONLINE WITH ITS EDUCATION & THE ARTS BLOG

Alumni is invited to contact the Cultural Affairs office with projects and success stories for posting on the Education and the Arts Blog. Send us an email at cultural@state.gov.



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U.S. EMBASSY'S INFORMATION RESOURCE CENTER (IRC)

Research and Reference Services. Got a question about the U.S.? Looking for the latest public policy statement? A U.S. law? The IRC can help with your request for information from or about the U.S.

ottawareference@State.gov.

E-Alerts. Subscribe now to any of our services to receive e-mail messages alerting you to new texts and documents on your subject of interest:

http://ottawa.usembassy.gov/content/content.asp?section=issues&document=e_alerts.

Web Sites. Visit <http://ottawa.usembassy.gov> for information on the Embassy and about the United States. The site is updated daily.

ALUMNI SOCIAL NETWORKING

STATE ALUMNI now has a presence on two social networking websites to reach out to both alumni and potential alumni. The State Alumni groups are open for anyone to join on the following websites:

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#/group.php?gid=31684659276>

ExchangesConnect: <http://connect.state.gov/group/statealumni>.

We invite you to connect with State Alumni on both Facebook and Exchanges Connect!

JOIN THE CANADA-U.S. ALUMNI COMMUNITY

The electronic community has been launched and provides a forum for networking with other alumni interested in Canada-U.S. and Tri-lateral issues. As with most social networking websites, the communities on the State Alumni Website will allow you to find fellow alumni; engage in discussion; read & post articles, news about alumni achievements, and announcements from the Department of State and the Embassy. Registered alumni will be able to participate in live Q & A sessions with special guests and the sessions' transcripts will be available on-line as well.

These new communities have all that the global community has, including the research databases and more. We invite you to extend your networking by taking advantage of this opportunity to further your research and professional contacts with fellow alumni.

To be a part of the community, you need to register on the State Alumni Site at <https://alumni.state.gov>.

STATE ALUMNI NETWORK

The Department of State Alumni Network provides a great opportunity for State Alumni to remain in touch and meet others from around the world who have participated in U.S. government-sponsored programs. Those connected to the network can take advantage of upcoming web chats with experts, receive alumni news, free academic journals, global newspaper databases, and learn about grant opportunities. Update your user profile information if you have already signed up or register now at <https://alumni.state.gov>.



STATE ALUMNI FULBRIGHT LIBRARY

The Fulbright Library on State Alumni is a new way to share, connect and collaborate with other current and former Fulbrighters. It offers a platform, categorized by subject area, for you to share your articles, blogs, classroom materials and other media related to your areas of interest and research, particularly work related to your Fulbright grant.

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Alumni Links



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