

*Our monthly e-Bulletin provides quick updates on activities of THEN/HiER and its partners.*



## What's new with THEN/HiER?



\* **THEN/HiER Publication Awards.** Congratulations to Dr. Carla Peck, Department of Elementary Education at the University of Alberta, who has been awarded a 2011 THEN/HiER Publication Prize for her article, "It's not like [I'm] Chinese and Canadian: I am in between': Ethnicity and students' conceptions of historical significance," published in *Theory and Research in Social Education* (2010). This article makes a significant contribution to understanding the teaching, learning and assessment of history in Canada.

\* **Ruth Sandwell, THEN/HiER Executive Board member,** is pleased to announce that the University of Toronto Library has recently made available to the public a database of primary source documents for teaching history. *Online Primary Documents for History* was originally developed for the *History Wars* course Professor Sandwell teaches at U of T.



\* **Stéphane Lévesque, THEN/HiER Executive Board member,** is announcing the release of the new Virtual Historian 2.0: Where the past meets the future. This new web platform provides learners with a more personalized and powerful approach to the study of the past. All lesson activities are designed to support concepts of historical thinking inquiry as designed by the Historical Thinking Project at the Centre for the Study of Historical Consciousness at UBC. Read the complete story.



\* **THEN/HiER would like to congratulate Catherine Duquette, Francophone Graduate Student Committee Coordinator,** for successfully defending her PhD dissertation this month. The title of her dissertation is *Le rapport entre la pensée et la conscience historiques chez les élèves de cinquième secondaire des écoles francophones du Québec* (The Relationship between Historical Consciousness and Historical Thinking in Fifth-Year Francophone Secondary Students in Québec).

\* **The first Approaching the Past event for 2011/2012, "World War I and the Archives,"** was a fantastic evening of history education focused on local narratives. It was held on October 5 at the Toronto Archives and the Spadina Museum Historic House. The next *Approaching the Past* event, "Secret Lives, Affective Learning: Using Drama to Teach History" will be held on November 29 from 5:30 to 7:30 pm at the Zion Schoolhouse in north Toronto. More details soon on the website.



## Small Projects Grants

THEN/HiER awarded three Small Projects Grants this month:

- *Tournée québécoise de l'exposition Anne Frank, 2011-2013.* Personnel from Anne Frank House, based in Amsterdam, will train student peer guides in Québec secondary schools to deliver their WWII exhibition program that deals with racism, anti-semitism, and immigration.
- *Education Programs - The Green Corn Ceremony/Snowshoes and Canoes.* The Six Nations at Chiefswood National Historic Site in Ontario will develop materials to teach students visiting the site about local history and cultural institutions.
- *Japan Through the Senses Education Kit.* The Richmond Museum Society in BC will revise and update this education kit that teaches students about the importance of the history of Japanese culture in Canadian society.

## What's new with our partners?

\* **The Ontario History and Social Science Teachers' Association (OHASSTA) Annual Conference** will take place November 18-19 in Toronto. There are 46 workshops to choose from over the two days, including four in French. OHASSTA Leadership Award winners include Canadian author Lawrence Hill and Toronto Star cartoonist Theo Moudakis.



\* **McCord Museum of Canadian History.** Have you heard about their new iPhone app that has been launched on App Store? If you are in Montreal and want to see how it looked years ago, *MTL Urban Museum* is the perfect app to download, and it's free!

\* **Canadians and Their Pasts held a conference in Québec City from September 29 to October 1 titled**

*The Past Around Us: Historical Consciousness in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.* The themes of Exploring Historical Consciousness, Developing Historical Consciousness, and Historical Consciousness and the Future were developed through presentations by scholars in history and history education such as Michel Côté (Musée de la civilisation, Québec), Gerald Friesen (University of Manitoba), Kevin Kee (Brock University), Peter Seixas (University of British Columbia), and Sam Wineburg (Stanford University).



\* **Canadian Museums Association.** The CMA will celebrate 65 years soon. Help them celebrate! Do you have an artefact in your collection, dating back from 1947? How is this artefact significant? Does it have an interesting story? Your artefact could be featured on the Canadian Museums Association's website or in an upcoming issue of *Muse* magazine, the CMA's bi-monthly publication and the voice of Canada's museum community. Send an image of your 1947 artefact, along with a short text (approx. 150 words) to mboulanger@museums.ca. The CMA will contact you if your artefact is selected.



## Graduate Student Committees

In the midst of the busyness of fall, the Anglophone Graduate Student Committee has been taking steps to outreach to graduate students across the country. We welcome Caitlin Johnson as our newest committee member and representative from Nova Scotia, and are currently looking for representatives from Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Northwest Territories, and the Yukon. We are also updating our web page to make it more inviting



Rose Fine-Meyer

and informative for students, so make sure you visit to learn about ways to get involved. For example, we are in the process of developing two proposals for this coming year – a national series of events in Faculties of Education for National Heritage Day, as well as a “Reading/Responding Club” for students and teachers – and we look forward to meeting more graduate students through these programs. Contact Samantha Cutrara or Rose Fine-Meyer.



Samantha Cutrara

October was a busy month for the Francophone Graduate Student Committee. First, we would like to welcome two new committee members, Clotilde Assoume and Michel Trudeau, both history education doctoral



Catherine Duquette

students at the Université Laval. Soon you will be able to read their blog posts on the THEN/HiER website. We are always looking for new committee members and/or bloggers. Please contact me if you are interested in either of these opportunities. The Association québécoise pour l'enseignement en univers social (AQEUS) Annual Conference took place October 21-22, where we had a THEN/HiER information table. Over two days of intense discussions we were able to forge relationships with teachers and education and museum consultants. We hope that these are the first steps towards a lasting partnership. Also, on October 27-29 THEN/HiER held its annual regional conference in Halifax where I presented a paper on the importance of promoting constructive dialogue between historians and educators. Thanks to organizers Rose Fine-Meyer and Samantha Cutrara for their efforts in ensuring the success of this event. It is with great pleasure that the Francophone Graduate Student Committee is now picking up the torch to organize next year's regional conference for fall 2012 in Quebec City. Contact Catherine Duquette.

## Research Snapshots

This section of our monthly e-Bulletin highlights our members' research projects.

**Sharon Anne Cook, Distinguished University Professor**  
Faculty of Education, University of Ottawa



### History Education at the University of Ottawa

I coordinate an Educational Research Unit in the University of Ottawa's Faculty of Education which is devoted to promoting the educational history of Ottawa and the Outaouais Region of the National Capital area. *Making History/Faire l'histoire: Narratives and Collective Memory in Education/Récits et mémoires collectifs en éducation* aims to strengthen interdisciplinary links between researchers and scholars, addressing critical issues in the history of education of Aboriginal Peoples and Franco- and English-Ontarians as regards citizenship, gender, anti-racism, pedagogy and curricula. Our members are drawn from History and Education at the University of Ottawa: Stéphane Lévesque, Lorna McLean, Nicholas Ng-A-Fook, Timothy Stanley and myself from Education, and Ruby Heap from History. Selected projects of the Unit (graciously supported by a grant from THEN/HiER) include a far-ranging bibliography in French and English of Oral History sources; a guest-edited issue on Education and Oral History in the Oral History Forum; a yearly speakers' series featuring noted historians, teachers and educationists; conference presentations and jointly-written articles; and an evaluative role in the Governor General's Award for Excellence in Teaching Canadian History. The Unit aims to train both undergraduate and graduate students in the techniques and ethics of oral history, and to build a repository of oral history accounts using video equipment.

For more than a decade I have been a member of a CIDA-funded project titled *Developing a Global Perspective for Educators/Développement d'une perspective globale pour enseignants et enseignantes*. This collective, which includes Lorna McLean, Nicholas Ng-A-Fook, Ruth Kane, and Tracy Crowe, aims to have teacher education students and experienced teachers incorporate themes of peace education, sustainability, development, and gender equity into the mainstream curriculum. As I near retirement, the coordination of this collective has moved to Nicholas Ng-A-Fook, who has developed very strong links with the local educational community and re-visioned the collective.

Recently named Distinguished University Professor at the University, I have just completed a social history of Canadian women and smoking for McGill-Queen's University Press to be published in spring 2012. *Sex, Lies and Cigarettes: Canadian Women, Smoking and Visual Culture, 1880 - 2008* is the first historical survey of smoking in Canada. It explores women's long association with smoking in this country - first as implacable opponents of male smoking, and as protectors of children who would be smokers, then as consumers themselves, and as sexualized symbols to sell tobacco, such as we see in this sample 1961 advertisement for Matinee Cigarettes. Advertisements like this one help us unpack the gendered, raced, regionalized and linguistically-specific attractions for women seeking a modern identity through smoking. The "invisible" girl smoker from school health textbooks makes a (non) appearance, as do "liberated" feminist smokers, and marginalized women smokers of the Lower East Side and in other poor and racialized non-white regions in Canada. Countless screen sirens taught many women how to smoke while attending the movies. I hope to continue my studies of young women smokers from cultural and regional communities where smoking rates are higher than the norm through oral histories - returning to the work of the *Making History/Faire l'histoire* Educational Research Unit.



Currently I teach in the graduate program in the Faculty of Education and help administer the post-degree Teacher Education Program. I remain an admirer of the remarkable young (and sometimes not-so-young) candidates who are preparing to teach the next generation of students, especially those in history classrooms. If the only factor in a strong educational system were the quality of its teachers, I am certain we would have nothing to worry about in our future. An historical perspective of teachers and teaching in Canada demonstrates that while other factors are vital to the health of any educational system, the teaching force is deeply important, and that it has never been stronger.

**\* MORE TO COME NEXT MONTH!**