

Report of the Vice-President (Equity Issues)

Advancing Equity, Diversity and Indigenous Issues in Times of Economic Crisis

Malinda S. Smith, Vice-President, Equity Issues, CFHSS
September 2011

I. Consolidating the Mandate of the Portfolio

Since my term as Vice-President Equity Issues began in November 2008, my work has focused on consolidating the revised and updated mandate of the Equity Issues Portfolio (EIP) approved by the Board at its 24-27 March 2007 meetings (attached as Appendix A). When the Executive decided to stagger the terms of the vice-presidents, it was agreed that the VP Equity's term would be extended by one year in order to allow me to consolidate the changes. In the language and intent of the Board, the EIP "advances issues of interest and concern to equity-seeking groups (women, Aboriginal people, people of colour, people with disabilities and people of diverse sexual orientation and gender expression) who work and study in the humanities and social sciences. Under the guidance of the Vice-President, EI, the Equity Issues Steering Committee (EISC): Monitors the status of equity and diversified groups in the Federation's member associations and universities; advocates for increased attention to issues of equity and diversity; and educates with respect to these issues. The lobbying and educational endeavours extend beyond the Federation ... With the support of the EISC, the VP, EI contributes to Federation policy documents to ensure equity perspectives are taken into account."

I am able to say with confidence that the Board's wisdom in broadening the mandate of the portfolio and embarking on efforts to diversity is bearing fruit, but 3 years on, we have some ways to go. The profile of the portfolio is robust, because of outreach, public engagement through the Equity Matters blog postings, and excellent Congress programming. As well, interest in collaborating with the EIP has increased markedly and external fundraising to support the work of the EIP has been especially successful between 2009 and 2011 (over \$60,000). However, the challenges are ongoing, indeed growing. Canada is amidst a demographic revolution which will challenge teachers, researchers and universities for decades to come. As then VP Women and Equity Issues Donna Pennee noted, "As the demographics of our fields continue to shift, the Federation's capacity to sustain, renew and diversify its membership and its reach, will be improved by the changes proposed here." This Fall I will be editing a new series on how and why diversity matters, particularly to realize a creative and innovative society, and why this demographic shift is a call to action in the human sciences in particular.

I. Advancing Equity and Diversity Through Economic Crises

During times of economic crisis, transformational leadership is essential to maintaining equality gains, and advancing equity and diversity. During Strategic Directions, 2011-15 discussions, the Board called upon the CFHSS to "Reinforce the commitment to equity and acknowledge the value of diversity," to "Make aboriginal learning and research a priority for the Federation." We also agreed to increase our reach among Canadians by "Improv[ing] the depth and reach of our positions on equity and diversity including Aboriginal issues" (p. 6). Equity policy priorities identified (pp. 14-15) include the following: (i) Mentoring and training in the SSH; (ii) Equity Matters blog, digitization and open access teaching and learning resources (Appendix B); (iii) Equity and diversity audits; (iv) Invigorating the EISC and building the Equity Issues Network. Drawing on best practices, my 2011-2012 workplan developed with the Executive and the Senior Management offers a detailed outline on how to promote and operationalize equity and diversity in the academy. Below is a report on the activities of the portfolio and on some exciting new initiatives on the blog and at Congress 2012.

II. Annual Conference and UNB-STU Congress

As VP Equity it was my privilege to chair a panel at the 1st Annual Conference, "The Humanities Paradox: More Relevant and Less Visible?," a new initiative of the Executive Director, Jean-Marc Mangin. Entitled, "***Inclusive Excellence: New Approaches on Equity and Diversity in a Pluralist Society***," the panel featured insights from Ashok Mathur, CRC in Artistic Inquiry, Kiera L. Ladner, CRC in Indigenous Governance, and Grace-Edward Galabuzi, Co-Chair of Ryerson's Anti-Racism

Taskforce. In the lead up to the conference, I solicited articles for, and edited, a blog series on, “Interculturalism and pluralism.” Since the 14 January, 14 blog entries by leading scholars in Canada, the US and the UK have been published. See: <http://blog.fedcan.ca/tag/interculturalism-and-pluralism/>].

Second, it was a delight to organise and chair the Equity Issues programming @Congress2011, “**Transforming the academy: Indigenous education**” <http://blog.fedcan.ca/2011/05/26/equity-matters-at-congress-2011/>]. It built on the Congress2009 panel, “Decolonizing the academy: The status of Indigenous peoples and scholarship” (with Makere Stewart-Harawira, Rauna Kuokkanen, Joyce Green), and the Congress2010 panel on “The Status of Inuit, Métis and First Nations Women 30 Years On” (with Mary Simon, Ellen Gabriel and Tracey Lindberg). The 2011 programming was the most extensive undertaking on Indigenous people by the CFHSS and it was a resounding success. This timely series included a Big Thinking keynote by Chief Shawn Atleo, for which I facilitated the Q&A. It also included me hosting over a dozen leading scholars speaking on three well attended panels on, “Indigenous education and Indigenizing the academy,” “Mentoring the next generation of Aboriginal academic leaders,” and “Aboriginal leaders in conversation on education,” as well as chairing the panel, “Equity in Times of Economic Crisis.” The EIP programming benefitted from the support and talent of many people, particularly behind the scenes volunteers; the cosponsorship of scholarly associations and universities; the fabulous Congress team at the Secretariat – Alison Faulknor, Jessica Harrington, Alison Hebbs and the ever amazing Karen Diepeveen. I will be forever grateful to Marie-Paule Ravary, the extraordinary Director of Corporate Affairs, who retired after Congress. A big thanks to now departed Ryan Saxby-Hill who I had the pleasure of working with for 2 years. If you missed this series at Congress 2011, the videos and podcasts are available via YouTube, UNBTV, Vimeo and the *Congress2011.ca* web site <http://congress2011.ca/experience/video/>].

In the lead up to the Congress2011, I solicited and edited the *Equity Matters* blog series on “**Indigenous education and Indigenizing the academy**” <http://blog.fedcan.ca/tag/indigenous-education/>]. This series explores, among other important issues, Indigenous education, Indigenous knowledge, the role and responsibilities of Indigenous intellectuals and administrators, issues of identity, nationhood and sovereignty, and reconciliation. It now includes over 20 entries by senior and new scholars located in universities across Canada (Patricia Doyle-Bedwell, Jeff Corntassel, Jean-Paul Restoule, Dwayne Donald, Jo-Ann Episkenew, Lynn Gehl, Chris Andersen, Onowa McIvor, María del Carmen Rodriguez de France, Joyce Green, Tasha Beeds, Shanne McCaffrey, Dale A. Turner, Mark Aquash, Martin J. Connor, Florence Glanfield, Len Findlay, and Meenal Shrivastava). I also have contributed three entries, including on “Federal Election 2011: First Nations, Inuit and Métis Issues and Candidates” (26 April) and “For Aboriginal people education is the ‘new buffalo’” (23 August). The series has garnered national and international attention. Two of these blogs (Chris Anderson and Joyce Green) were reprinted in *Aboriginal Policy Studies*, vol. 1, 2 (Sept. 2011) <http://ejournals.library.ualberta.ca/index.php/aps/index>]

III. Connecting with Canadians: Public Engagement via Equity Matters

Since its launch, *Equity Matters* <http://blog.fedcan.ca/category/equity-matters/>] on the Fedcan Blog has become among the best equity and diversity resources for engaged scholarship, and a venue for bridging the gap between researchers and various publics, as well as for connecting pedagogy, teaching and learning. A productive relationship with the Communications team (principally Karen Diepeveen) under the leadership of Alison Hebbs, has enabled *Equity Matters* to become an internationally renowned venue for public intellectuals and HSS researchers. Since my first posting, “Equity (Still) Matters” <http://blog.fedcan.ca/2010/01/08/equity-still-matters/>], some 130 entries have been posted by leading scholars in the HSS, including Canada Research Chairs, Trudeau Fellows and Scholars, members of the Royal Society of Canada, and presidents of scholarly associations in Canada and abroad. The blog statistics collected by our Communications team reflect thousands of page openings and an international readership.

IV. Equity Matters for Teaching and Learning

As the CFHSS’s July 2011 Communiqué noted, the *Equity Matters* series have become so successful, they are being used by universities and colleges for teaching and learning. On behalf of the CFHSS, and working closely with the ED and Directors of Programming and of Policy and Communications, I have explored university partnerships to better utilise the blog entries in pedagogy, teaching and learning. Moreover, many of the articles I solicited have been reprinted in other venues, including

on associations' web sites (e.g. Paul Gorski on Humane Connection), scholarly associations sites (e.g. Malinda Smith on CSSE and C-SWIG); in *University World News* (e.g. Carl James, 15 May 2011), and the newsletter of the Canadian Association for the Prevention of Discrimination and Harassment in Higher Education (e.g. Carl James and Darren Lund, 23, 1 (2011)).

Consistent with our commitment to find creative ways to deepen services to members, I invited a collaborative series on **"ableism and disabilities"** [<http://blog.fedcan.ca/tag/ableism-and-disability/>] with the Canadian Disability Studies Association. The new series was launched after Congress and already is among the most extensive educational series in Canada. Over 10 entries have been posted since the 17 June 2011. As well, in collaboration with the Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation, a series on courage, social justice and policymaking featured world renowned Trudeau Scholars and Fellows Isabella C. Bakker, FRSC (York), Janine Brodie, FRSC (Alberta), David R Boyd (UVic), and Vanier/Trudeau Scholar Danielle Peers (Alberta).

V. What's Next?

At the heart of my VP Equity workplan for 2011-2012 is finding new and creative ways to sustain the work of the EIP in times of economic crisis. The opportunities for Congress collaboration and cosponsorship remain as strong as ever. The interest in *Equity Matters* is growing. Several exciting new series are unfolding this Fall 2011 and Winter 2012. Further, planning is well underway for Congress2012 and on some new initiatives, including open access e-booklets.

- Equity Matters series on **"Diversity, creativity and innovation."** This new VP Equity series, launched on 13 September, aims to dovetail with the EIP's Congress 2012 programming under the theme, *"Crossroads: Equality, Diversity and Innovation in an Uncertain World."* I will edit this series, which will include scholars from across Canada and abroad, beginning with two pieces by Scott E. Page on "Difference Matters: Diversity, Complexity and innovation" (13 Sept.) [<http://blog.fedcan.ca/2011/09/12/difference-matters-diversity-complexity-and-innovation/>] and "Diversity Should Power Science Research and Innovation" (15 Sept). More than ever, diversity matters to the growth and ongoing success of the CFHSS and Canada and this series will help illuminate how and why.
- Equity Matters series on **"Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered, Queer, Intersex and Two-Spirited."** Over the summer 2011, in consultation with colleagues and extended an open invitation for SSH scholars to write for this series on a range of issues related to LGBTQI2-S. The series will begin mid-September and run into the Winter 2012.
- Equity Matters series on **"Equity and Education."** Building on the EISC's research on inclusive excellence and recognition of the need to educate on equity and diversity, at my request EISC member Dolana Mogadime (Brock) drafted a call to Education colleagues, which was reworked with feedback from Kathy Sanford (CSSE, CASWE) and the EISC. See: [http://www.csse-scee.ca/nouvelles/apropos/invitation_to_contribute_to_equity_matters].
- **Equity E-Books for Teaching and Learning:** I am already working to convert the best of the various *Equity Matters* series I solicited and edited for the blog into open-access e-booklets on *Indigenous Education and Indigenizing the Academy in Canada*, *Debates on Equity, Diversity and Pluralism in Canada*. I anticipate doing the same with the LGBTQI2-S series. The aim is to have the first of these completed by December 2011 and the other two by the March AGM.

VI. Building the Network, Maintaining the Momentum

As VP, I reiterate the statement from then Justice Rosalie Silberman Abella's 1984 *Report on the Royal Commission on Equality* at every opportunity (and I did so in an Equity Matters blog, "Leading on Equity and Diversity" [<http://blog.fedcan.ca/2011/01/05/leading-on-equity-and-diversity-matters-yes-we-can-and-yes-we-will/>]): "Equality in employment will not happen unless we make it happen." However, the barriers and obstacles "are so formidable and self-perpetuating that they cannot be overcome without intervention. It is both intolerable and insensitive if we simply wait and



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Humanities and Social Sciences
Fédération canadienne
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hope that the barriers will disappear over time.” We must maintain the momentum to eradicate barriers, engender and diversify an inclusive organisational culture, and collaborate with an increasingly diverse membership: *First*, outreach for the EIP includes the EISC and is indispensable to the effective functioning of the portfolio, for research and awareness, Congress programming, and networking among scholarly associations. I am in the process of rebuilding the Equity Issues Network (EIN), and ensuring that it weaves in the interests and concerns of the Women’s Issues Network (WIN). I anticipate bringing to the March Board meeting and AGM the EIN’s terms of reference and membership. *Second*, as Congress 2012 planning proceeds, networking is already taking place, and cosponsorship of EIP events has been identified, and we will work to embed this programming in those of scholarly associations. *Third*, as VP I have participated in national and international scholarly forums on equity and diversity in the SSH, in the disciplines and the profession, as well as on transnational graduate training and mentoring. I will be speaking at conferences in Toronto, Montreal, San Diego, Paris and Edinburg over the next months and in the process, hope to build transnational networks across the human sciences.

Appendix A: Report of the Vice-President (Equity Issues)

**Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences
Board of Directors Meeting, March 24-25, 2007**

**Fédération canadienne des sciences humaines
Réunion du Conseil d'administration, les 24 et 25 mars 2007**

Item #10 - Report from the VP Women's and Equity Issues

Women's and Equity Issues (WEI) Portfolio - Proposal from the Vice-President

During my term as V-P, WEI (since 2004-05), I have been advised by a number of colleagues within the Federation's representative structure itself (board and general assembly memberships) and from humanities and social science colleagues more broadly, to consider improving the reach and efficacy of this portfolio through revision of its name, mandate, and steering committee composition. As the demographics of our fields continue to shift, the Federation's capacity to sustain, renew and diversify its membership and its reach, will be improved by the changes proposed here.

The WEI Steering Committee (WEISC) formally adopted in winter 2006 a name change of the annual postcard. Formerly called "Ivory Towers" (a name the Board requested we discontinue in a time of government cuts to post-secondary education), the postcard circulated in 2006 as "Feminist and Equity Audits," though WEISC had advised a further shift to the more inclusive name, "Equity Audit." We also urged the incorporation of reportage (or at the very least, emphatic statements on the lack of such) on equity issues more broadly understood than feminist or women's issues alone. This adoption of a name change for the postcard, and some small steps towards diversifying the categories included in the postcard for Congress 2006, were intended to be preliminary steps towards revising the name of the portfolio as well. However, given that the "Ivory Towers" postcard originated and had been brought to the Federation's membership as a joint publication between Fedcan and Dr. Wendy Robbins (at the time, V-P, WIN [Women's Issues Network] for the Federation) and Dr. Michelle Olivier, co-founder with Dr Robbins of the feminist distribution list PAR-L, the proposed name change for the postcard had to be addressed with Professors Robbins and Olivier. They could not agree with WEISC to shorten the title of the postcard to Equity Audit, and cited their compliance with the Board's request to delete the phrase "Ivory Towers" as sufficient compromise on their part for the joint production of the card.

It is my understanding that a past Federation discussion of a call to delete the word "Women's" from this portfolio was quite rancorous and was resolved through the maintenance of the word "Women's" (and more recently of the word "Feminist") in the postcard. However, it has also become clear through a series of recent events and calls for action that the name, mandate, and composition of the WEI portfolio and steering committee need to be updated.

Most notably, at the end of the November 2006 General Assembly meeting, a member explicitly called the Federation Executive and the members-at-large to account for our lack of action on equity on the level of diversifying our own membership, noting that the issues were much broader than "women's" alone and required broader support through the Federation as a whole than could be offered by the V-P, WEI alone. Also in fall 2006, at the "Not Drowning But Waving" conference on Women, Feminism, and the Liberal Arts (in honour of Patricia Clements, former Federation President and first woman Dean of Arts at UAlberta), explicit calls were made for action on equity and beyond women's issues alone, when "women's" issues continue to be too narrowly defined by racial, class, hetero, and ablist privileges.

As a result of that conference, and towards greater inclusiveness and more precise calibration of equity concerns together, the WEI portfolio is providing the Congress 2007 session on Anti-racist Equity, Hiring, Retention, and Accountability ("Glass Ceilings and Trap Doors," May 30th, 10:30a.m. to noon: confirmed speakers from three different fields are Drs Audrey Koyayshi, Queen's, WMST and Geography; Carol Aylward, Dalhousie, Law; and Malinda S. Smith, Alberta, Political Science; a fourth speaker will be confirmed shortly.)

More recently still, at the February 2007 CAUT Women's Conference in Ottawa, organized by CAUT's Women's Committee, evidence of the limits of "women's issues" alone was writ large in the conference agenda, in the homogeneity of the invited speakers and the discussion group moderators, and indeed among the delegates themselves. For example, fewer than 10 percent of the more than 100 conferees were women of colour, but this did not stop a number of delegates from collaborating in the discussion groups to explicitly raise a call for greater diversification of people and issues from the planning moment forward for the next biennially scheduled CAUT Women's Conference. In particular (but not alone), the whiteness that "fronts" the hard-won gains of the women's movement is a legacy that continues unintentionally to preclude action (and sometimes even consciousness of the need for action) for equity more broadly understood.

In short, just as the label "Ivory Towers" was argued by Board members in March of 2005 to be a phrase dangerous to circulate at a time of declining government investment and interest in post-secondary education, so too, under the fall 2006 actions of the Conservative federal government, "women's issues" have become issues not only of declining interest but of active backlash. Budget cuts, office closures, and erasure of key objectives such as "equality" have fronted actions not only against women's issues across the country, but simultaneously other equity issues and their jurisdictions.

Now more than ever, it is imperative that we heed the call of a wide range of scholars and activists (a call that is at least two decades old), and a call from within our own membership, to collaborate and strike alliances with all of the equity groups under a single umbrella name and mandate, with a steering committee, board, general assembly, and association memberships that will both enact and reflect concrete commitment to equity tout court.

I therefore propose that the Board of Directors discuss and act on a request to change the Women's and Equity Issues to Equity Issues Portfolio, with corresponding changes in the language of Federation documents for the portfolio as follows:

About the Portfolio

The Equity Issues Steering Committee (EISC) advances issues of interest and concern to equity-seeking groups (women, Aboriginal people, people of colour, people with disabilities and people of diverse sexual orientation and gender expression) who work and study in the humanities and social sciences.

The Vice-President, Equity Issues, with the assistance of the EISC, monitors the status of equity groups in the Federation's member associations and universities, lobbies for increased attention to issues of equity and diversity, and educates with respect to these issues.

Equity Issues Steering Committee (EISC)

Mandate of the Committee

Under the guidance of the Vice-President, EI, the Equity Issues Steering Committee (EISC):

Monitors the status of equity and diversified groups in the Federation's member associations and universities; advocates for increased attention to issues of equity and diversity; and educates with respect to these issues. The lobbying and educational endeavours extend beyond the Federation to the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, to the government and the general public. All advocacy plans are closely coordinated with the Federation's Executive Committee. With the support of the EISC, the VP, EI contributes to Federation policy documents to ensure equity perspectives are taken into account.

Composition of the Committee

The Steering Committee is composed of five members who represent the equity groups: women, Aboriginal people, people of colour, people with disabilities; and people representing diverse sexual orientation and gender expression. The Vice-President acts as Chair of the Steering Committee. A majority of the positions must be held by women.



Nominations to the Committee

A Call for Nominations is sent to the members of the General Assembly prior to the spring meeting of the Executive Committee asking for nominations in each of the five categories. It is expected that they will bring forward names of individuals within their constituencies (university or association) who are from and/or have expertise in one or more of the equity groups. Under the direction of the VP EI, a slate of candidates, with biographical notes, is prepared by members of the Executive Committee for consideration. The Board of Directors then ratifies recommendations made by the Executive Committee.

Given the requests for changes to the name and language of the mandate of the Women's and Equity Issues Portfolio and Steering Committee, the V-P WEI respectfully requests a suspension of this traditional time line for creating a slate of Nominations to the Committee until after the March 2007 Board Meeting, where discussion and approval of these changes will be sought.

Reporting of the Committee

The Chair of the Steering Committee will make regular reports to the Federation's Executive Committee.

Meetings of the Committee

The Steering Committee will meet in person at least once per year, and at other such times through various means (including teleconferences) as required through the year.

For information:

Steering Committee Membership History (2005 - 2007)

2005-2006

[Donna Pennee](#), Chair

[Deborah McGregor](#) (Aboriginal representative, Geography & Aboriginal Studies, University of Toronto)

[R. Patrick Solomon](#) (Visible minority and multicultural representative, Education, York University)

[Julie Rak](#) (Sexual diversity and disability representative, English, University of Alberta)

[David Rayside](#) (Sexual diversity representative, Sexual Diversity Studies, University of Toronto)

Ann Braithwaite (President, CWSA) Ex Officio

[Patricia Balcom](#) (Canadian Linguistic Association, English, Université de Moncton)

Recommendation #1:

That the Board defer the appointments to the existing Women's and Equity Issues Steering Committee until after the March 2007 Board meetings.

Recommendation #2:

That the Board change the name of the portfolio from Women's and Equity Issues to Equity Issues, the executive position title to Vice-President, Equity Issues and the committee title to Equity Issues Steering Committee.

Recommendation #3:

That the Board approve the Committee mandate, composition and nomination process as identified in the VP EI Report.

March 2, 2007



Appendix B: Report of the Vice-President (Equity Issues)

Report to the Board - Sept 2011

Malinda S. Smith, VP Equity Issues

2009

CFHSS's Big Thinking Lecture: Justice Rosalie Silberman Abella

Human Rights and History's Judgment (May 24, 2010). No recording.

Theme – A Retrospective on the Royal Commission on Equality in Employment 25 Years On
Equity Issues Events at Congress, Carleton University, Ottawa.

Videos available: <http://fedcan.ca/content/en/312/equity.html>

A More Equitable and Inclusive Academy? Rhetoric and Reality (Sunday, May 24): Marjorie Cohen (Simon Fraser University), Carl James (York University), Ashok Mathur (Thompson River University), Dolana Mogadime (Brock University)
Co-sponsored by York University and Brock University.

A Colour-Blind Academy? The status and experiences of visible/nonwhite minority scholars (May 25, 2009):
Anthony Stewart (Dalhousie University), Darren Lund (University of Calgary), Aruna Srivastava (University of Calgary),
Sunera Thobani (University of British Columbia)
Co-sponsored by Dalhousie University, University of Calgary, and UBC.

Decolonizing the Academy? The status of indigenous peoples and scholarship (Tuesday, May 26, 2009):
Joyce Green (University of Regina), Tracey Lindberg (University of Ottawa), Rauna Kuokkanen (University of Toronto),
Makere Stewart-Harawira (University of Alberta)
Co-sponsored by the University of Regina and University of Alberta.

25 Years After: A retrospective on the Abella Commission and employment equity (Wednesday, May 27):
Isabella C. Bakker (York University), Judy Rebick (Ryerson University), Deborah Stienstra (University of Manitoba), Joanne St.
Lewis (University of Ottawa)
Co-sponsored by the Gindin Chair and York University.

2010 –

Theme – The Royal Commission on the Status of Women 40 Years On

Equity Issues Events at Congress, Concordia University, Montreal

Podcasts available: <http://fedcan.ca/content/en/312/equity.html>

Podcasts available: <http://experience.congress2010.ca/archives/1842>

Closing the Gender Gap: Provincial Perspectives (May 30, 2010):

Pat Armstrong (Professor of Sociology, York University) moderated this session with Emanuela Heynick (Ontario Pay Equity Commissioner), Louise Marchand (Présidente, Commission de l'équité salariale du Québec), Nitya Iyer (partner at Heenan Blaikie, and Equal Pay Commissioner in the Northwest Territories), and Norma Dubé (Assistant Deputy Minister, Women's Issues Branch of New Brunswick)

Sponsored by the Pay Equity Commission (Ontario) and the Federation Equity Issues Portfolio

Local and Global Social Justice Movements (May 31, 2010):

Janine Brodie, Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, Canada Research Chair (U of Alberta), A. Aziz Choudry (McGill), Gada Mahrouse (Simone de Beauvoir Institute, Concordia), and Sunera Thobani (University of British Columbia).

Co-sponsored by University of British Columbia.



Canadian Federation for the
Humanities and Social Sciences

Fédération canadienne
des sciences humaines

The Status of First Nations, Inuit and Métis Women 40 Years On (June 1, 2010):

Moderator Tracey Lindberg (Athabasca University and University of Ottawa) with Mary Simon (national Inuit leader and President, Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami) and Ellen Gabriel (President, Québec Native Women's Association)

Co-sponsored by Athabasca University.

The RCSW [Bird Commission]: The Status of Women 40 Years On (June 2, 2010):

Moderated by Carissima Mathen (University of New Brunswick and Women's Legal Education and Action Fund), with Jean Augustine (former Minister of State for the Status of Women) and Charlotte Thibault (Présidente, Conseil des Montréalaises).

Big Thinking Keynote: Donna Brazile

Women and Leadership in the Age of Obama (June 2, 2010):

Video via Ustream: <http://www.ustream.tv/recorded/7396219>

Video via YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fRiobsjxS7Q>

2011 –

“Transforming the academy: Indigenous education.”

Equity at Congress, University of New Brunswick-St Thomas University

Videos available: <http://congress2011.ca/experience/video/>

Big Thinking Keynote: Assembly of First Nations Chief Shawn A-in-chut Atleo:

First Nations Education: Can we afford to miss out? (May 30, 2011)

Partnership with CSSHE, co-sponsored by Athabasca University

Aboriginal Leaders in Conversation on Education (May 30, 2011):

Udloriak Hanson (Special Advisor to the President of Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami), Betty Ann Lavallée (National Chief, Congress of Aboriginal Peoples), Marie Battiste (University of Saskatchewan), Jo-ann Archibald (University of British Columbia), and David Newhouse (Trent University).

Co-Sponsored by the Deans of Arts and Humanities, Social Science, and Health Sciences, The University of Western Ontario, and organized in partnership with the Canadian Society for the Study of Education and the Canadian Association for the Study of Indigenous Education

Indigenous Knowledge and Indigenizing the Academy (May 31, 2011):

Kiera Ladner (University of Manitoba), Dwayne Donald (University of Alberta), Shanne McCaffrey (University of Victoria), D'Arcy Vermette (St. Thomas University) and Andrea Bear Nicholas (St. Thomas University).

Co-sponsored by the Office of the Provost/VP Academic, University of Alberta and the Office of the Provost/VP Academic, University of Victoria, and organized in partnership with the Canadian Association for the Study of Indigenous Education and the Canadian Sociological Association

Mentoring Next Generation of Aboriginal Academic Leaders (June 1, 2011):

Susan Aglukark (Distinguished Scholar in Residence, University of Alberta) with Isabel Altamirano-Jiménez (University of Alberta) chairing the conversation.

Co-sponsored by Athabasca University and the Office of the Provost/VP Academic, University of Alberta, and organized in partnership with the Canadian Sociological Association

Equity in Times of Economic Crisis (June 2, 2011):



Aloke Chatterjee (University of New Brunswick), Donna Pennee (University of Western Ontario), David Perley (University of New Brunswick) and Len Findlay (University of Saskatchewan), with Malinda Smith (University of Alberta, CFHSS VP Equity Issues) chairing the discussion.

Co-hosted by the Association for Nonprofit and Social Economy Research