



THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG

N E W S R E L E A S E

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For Immediate Release

University of Winnipeg Scholars at International Conference: *Assimilation - Integration - Acculturation? The German-Canadian Case*

WINNIPEG— What happens when people come to a country and stay there temporarily or permanently? Both in Europe and in North America, scholars and society at large have attempted to explain this immigration process, generating a host of theories—and unanswered questions. What used to be seen in an unproblematic way as settlement processes are now often referred to as transitional social practices and diasporic experiences.

Assimilation-Integration-Acculturation? The German-Canadian Case runs from August 26 through 29, 2004. Scholars from around the globe will gather at the Forks—Winnipeg’s premier meeting place for thousands of years—to shed light on complex immigration issues. The case of German migrants in Canada will be used to generate new theories: How were German immigrants shaped by Canadian society and how in turn did they shape this society? These and other questions will be explored by internationally renowned scholars, including **Christiane Harzig, the 2004 winner of the prestigious John G. Diefenbaker Award**. Dr. Harzig, a guest of the University of Winnipeg History Department for the 2004-05 academic year, is looking at domestic workers who migrated to Canada and how they used their positions of employment to pursue other life goals. She plans to include this innovative research as part of a book on the subject.

Dirk Hoerder, former Diefenbaker Award recipient, **Royden Loewen**, Chair of Mennonite Studies at The University of Winnipeg, and **Angelika Sauer**, the former University of Winnipeg Chair in German-Canadian Studies will also present papers on the concepts of assimilation, integration, acculturation, incorporation, adaptation, and appropriation.

The conference is open to the public. For a preliminary program and registration form, please visit <http://germancanadian.uwinnipeg.ca/7-1Color.pdf>

The University of Winnipeg, located in the heart of the city, is a compact, caring community committed to access and excellence in the arts and sciences. Ranked by Maclean’s magazine as one of Canada’s top ten undergraduate universities, The University of Winnipeg is home to more than 8,300 full- and part-time students. Established in 1871 as Manitoba College, The University of Winnipeg has a proud tradition preparing students to think critically and creatively, and to live fully in the world.

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