



L'ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE POUR L'AVANCEMENT DES ÉTUDES NÉERLANDAISES  
CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF NETHERLANDIC STUDIES

[www.caans-acaen.ca](http://www.caans-acaen.ca)

# **Annual Meeting**

## **28-29 May, 2011**

**University of New Brunswick and  
St. Thomas University**

**Sir James Dunn Hall Room G-2  
St. Thomas University Campus**

**<http://www.mediacrossroads.com/STU/tour.htm>**

# **PROGRAM**

## ***Saturday May 28***

9.00 Welcome and coffee

### **Session 1. Nederlandse immigranten in Canada / Dutch immigrants in Canada**

*Chair: Mary Eggermont-Molenaar*

10.00–10.40 Guest speaker

*Will van den Hoonaard* (University of New Brunswick)

Silent ethnicity: The Dutch of New Brunswick

10.45–11.25 *Anne van Arragon Hutten* (Lakeville NS)

The Christian Reformed Church in Canada: Sixty years

11.30–12.10 *Michiel Horn* (York University)

Becoming Canadian: Further thoughts

12.15–13.30 Lunch

### **Session 2. Immigratie en integratie in Nederland en Canada / Immigration and integration in Canada and The Netherlands**

*Chair: Inge Genee*

13.30–14.30 Keynote speaker

*Mr. T.J.P. van Os van den Abeelen* (Vice-president Amsterdamse rechtbank)

Immigratie en integratie in Nederland in de jaren 2005-2010

14.30–15.10 *Gerry van Kessel* (Gatineau QC)

Immigrant integration in Canada: Past success and future challenges

15.10–15.30 Coffee

15.30–16.30 Annual General Meeting

17.30–19.00 President's reception

19:30 Conference dinner

*Isaac's Way Restaurant and Bar*

*73 Carleton Street, Fredericton*

*Ph. 506-472-7937 <http://isaacsway.ca>*

## ***Sunday May 29***

9.30–10.00 Coffee

### **Session 3. Nederlandse wetenschappers en kunstenaars / Dutch scholars and artists**

*Chair: Michiel Horn*

10.00–10.40 *Mary Eggermont-Molenaar* (Calgary AB)

William Rollo: Van Glasgow via Leiden naar Grahamstown

10.45–11.25 *Gerrit Gerrits* (Acadia University)

Unico Wilhelm van Wassenaer (1692-1766): Aristocrat, diplomat, mystery composer

11.30–12.10 *Alexander Zweers* (University of Waterloo)

Harry Mulisch's *De verteller* [The Narrator]. A novel too complex to give a paper about. An attempt.

12.15–12.30 Closing

12.30–14.00 Lunch

14.00–15.00 *Canadian Journal of Netherlandic Studies* Editorial Board meeting

**Program Coordinator: Inge Genee**

**Local Activities Coordinator: Will van den Hoonaard**

**We are grateful to the *Nederlandse Taalunie* for financial support**

## **Abstracts** (in alphabetical order)

### **Anne van Arragon Hutten** (Lakeville NS)

*The Christian Reformed Church in Canada: Sixty years*

This talk will take a look at the integration process of the Christian Reformed Church into the broader Canadian society. We will trace some of the congregations that have closed their doors in recent decades, but also those which are thriving and expanding, and point out some of the factors involved.

Anne van Arragon Hutten is largely an autodidact, who has published five books to date, all dealing with the history of the past century. ***UPROOTED: Dutch Immigrant Children in Canada 1947-1959*** (North Mountain Press, 2001), has caused considerable discussion within the Dutch community about the actual impact of that postwar wave of immigrants.

### **Mary Eggermont-Molenaar** (Calgary AB)

*William Rollo: Van Glasgow via Leiden naar Grahamstown*

Het thema van Congress 2011, *Coasts and Continents: Exploring Peoples and Places*, is leidraad voor mijn voordracht over William Rollo, een student van Prof. Dr. C. C. Uhlenbeck (1864-1951). Rollo werd in 1892 in Glasgow geboren. Die stad ligt aan de Firth of Clyde, een soort fjord dat via het Noorderkanaal met de Atlantische Oceaan is verbonden. In 1960 stierf hij te Grahamstown dat zo goed als aan de Indische Oceaan ligt. Tot zover over de oceanen, nu verder over de Peoples en de Places.

*Exploring People* wordt voor deze voordracht vrij vertaald als 'mensen die iets onderzoeken.' Wat, waar en hoe onderzocht Willie Rollo Klassieke Talen en een Baskisch dialect en langs welke *Places* bracht het hem?

### **Gerrit Gerrits** (Acadia University)

*Unico Wilhelm van Wassenaer (1692-1766), Nobleman, Diplomat and Mystery Composer*

Johan Huizinga, the famous Dutch historian, wrote in *Nederland's beschaving in de zeventiende eeuw* that the nobility from the eastern Dutch provinces in particular was a boorish lot who were not receptive to culture and made no contributions in that regard. To Huizinga, Dutch culture at the time was almost solely a product of the middle class, burger, milieu. Enter Unico Wilhelm van Wassenaer, born near Delden, Overijssel, in 1692 into, admittedly, a prominent aristocratic family. Unlike his paternal grandfather and father, Unico Wilhelm did not enter the army/navy but became a diplomat serving, for example, as Dutch ambassador in Paris for a number of years. His leisure time he devoted to the arts, especially musical composition. Perhaps his most accomplished compositions are his *Concerti Armonici* that were published in

his own lifetime, not under his own name but under that of an acquaintance named Carlo Ricciotti, and this was done at Van Wassenauer's own request. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century a Polish composer attributed the *Concerti* to the well known, 18<sup>th</sup> century Italian composer Giovanni Pergolesi (1710-1736), and that attribution stood until 1980 when the Dutch musicologist Alfred Dunning found the autograph manuscript of the *Concerti* in the library of Twickel, the castle/country estate near Delden where Unico Wilhelm was born. (The *Concerti* are now available, with the composer's name on them, under the Naxos label.)

What I will be concentrating on in the paper is why Unico Wilhelm, and other aristocrats like him, pursued the arts, and in so doing I will be employing, and applying, the theories of the Frenchman Pierre Bourdieu about social capital and cultural capital. In addition to that I will look at the related question why Unico Wilhelm refused to have the *Concerti* published under his own name.

I might just add that in recent decades the history of the Dutch nobility has, in all its various aspects, been receiving increasing attention, and that for good reason, it would appear. For example, the only female author of note in 18<sup>th</sup>-century Overijssel was a barones, namely Clara Feyoena van Raesfelt, née van Sytzama. This increased interest has also led to the founding of an annual publication devoted to the history of the Dutch nobility, titled *Virtus, Jaarboek voor Adelsgeschiedenis*.

### **Will van den Hoonaard (University of New Brunswick)**

#### *Twenty years after Silent ethnicity: the Dutch of New Brunswick*

My book *Silent Ethnicity: the Dutch of New Brunswick* was published by New Ireland Press in 1991. In this presentation I shall speak briefly on the substance of this book and the nature of criticisms directed at it. I also intend to speak about how the Netherlandic presence in New Brunswick has shifted since the publication of *Silent Ethnicity*. The presentation also touches on the challenges of doing research on particular groups, and on the highly differentiated nature of contemporary immigrants to Canada, whether from the Netherlands or from elsewhere.

### **Michiel Horn (York University)**

#### *Becoming Canadian: Further Thoughts*

Eighteen years ago I read a paper to the annual meeting of CAANS, held that year at Carleton University in Ottawa. Its title was "Becoming Canadian: A Migrant's Journey." It did not appear in print, but four years later the University of Toronto Press published my book *Becoming Canadian: Memoirs of an Invisible Immigrant*. Recently Mary Eggermont-Molenaar suggested to me that I should revisit the topics of integration and assimilation, and the place of immigrants in a society, at the Fredericton meeting.

From the perspective of CAANS, the topic has gained in significance because the Netherlands, too, is now involved in a debate about the implications of immigration for the host country. There are, of course, important differences between Canada and the Netherlands which I want to explore in my paper and which I hope will spark a useful discussion. But there

are also similarities, not least among them the perceived distance between the newcomers and the dominant resident population as a determinant of the process of integration. The history of Canada is instructive in this regard, and I will refer to that history frequently.

### **Gerry van Kessel (Gatineau QC)**

*Immigrant Integration in Canada - Past Success and Future Challenges*

Canada is a country built by immigration and more so than elsewhere Canadians support immigration. This support is based on clear evidence that immigrants have integrated with little problem and are co-builders of the country.

Successful integration implies many things – employment, schooling, and a sharing of the broad values of native-born Canadians. It is the result of a dual process - the selection of immigrants whose attributes make them likely to succeed in Canada and the openness and willingness of Canadians to accept newcomers.

Until 1990 a general principle of immigrant selection was to match immigrant intake to the needs of the Canadian economy. Immigrants, after some years in Canada, slightly outperformed native-born Canadians. Post 1990, however, government abandoned this tap-on, tap-off approach for a much higher annual intake based on assumed demographic requirements.

In recent decades immigrants, despite being better educated than previous immigrants, have higher unemployment, lower earnings, greater underemployment and more use of social assistance than native-born Canadians. There is tension within multiculturalism about the relationship between diversity and unity. The failure to settle successfully and the refusal of some immigrants to accept the basic tenets of Canada's secular society are barriers to integration. These are concerns that, left untended, could come between Canadians and their strong support for immigration.

### **Mr. T.J.P. van Os van den Abeelen (vice-president Amsterdamse rechtbank)**

*Immigratie en integratie in Nederland in de jaren 2005-2010 (keynote)*

Gegevens over immigratie (en emigratie) naar en van Nederland en de beweegredenen daarvoor. Ontwikkelingen asiel-migratie en overige immigratie, waaronder gezinsvorming en arbeidsmigratie, in Nederland. Stand van zaken met betrekking tot integratie van niet Nederlanders die in Nederland voor langere tijd verblijven. Het huidige maatschappelijk debat in Nederland over nut en noodzaak van integratie van buitenlandse bewoners van Nederland. Multiculturaliteit versus assimilatie. De overheidsmaatregelen op het gebied van integratie en het effect daarvan. Plaatsing van het voorgaande in Europees perspectief.

## Alexander Zweers (University of Waterloo)

Harry Mulisch's *De verteller [The Narrator]. A Novel Too Complex To Give a Paper About. An Attempt.*

The audience is justified to pose the question of why to choose a novel too complex to give a paper about. Well, Mulisch was an important and unique Dutch writer of the twenty's and twenty first century and he died last year at the age of 83. I feel very strongly that this writer should be commemorated at our conference. The subtitle of the book reads: *of een idioticon voor zegelbewaarders* (or an idioticon for keepers of a seal). In his dissertation about Mulisch de Rover (I owe a lot to this excellent book) explains that "*idioticon*" means a dictionary of idioms but Mulisch himself adds that one is inclined to think of "idiotics." The keeper of a seal is someone whose task it is to keep a secret sealed. The book consists of ten seals of which the second until the ninth contain text. The contents of the chapters/seals reveal some of the complex story line but at the same time introduce new puzzles. A major character in de novel is a philatelist and *een zegelbewaarder* in Dutch can be interpreted as a keeper of stamps. The further the story develops, the closer this character comes to the point that he commits suicide.

The father of Mulisch was an Austrian-Hungarian who fled to the Netherlands after the First World War and his mother was Jewish. During the Second World War his father worked in the Netherlands for a German Bank and, although his parents were divorced, his father prevented his ex-wife and son to be sent to a concentration camp and he succeeded in doing so because of his collaboration with the Nazi's. Thus, it is not surprising that Mulisch, who despised his father's political stand, but owed him his life, viewed the world as absurd. This was one of the reasons that he fled to the imaginary world of literature. But Mulisch was not a writer trying to reflect reality in his oeuvre. For him, with his boundless phantasy, literature provided a means to display his art of verbal games, i.e. Holland, for instance, appears in the book as Bolland (Bulgingland), the *overzeese gebiedsdelen, de overzeese geslachtsdelen* (the oversee genital parts; a curious kind of pornography). But also in the different letter types for different sections of chapters and in the unique structure of the narrative. In the paper the major aspects of these Entfremdung (making strange) devices will be discussed.

