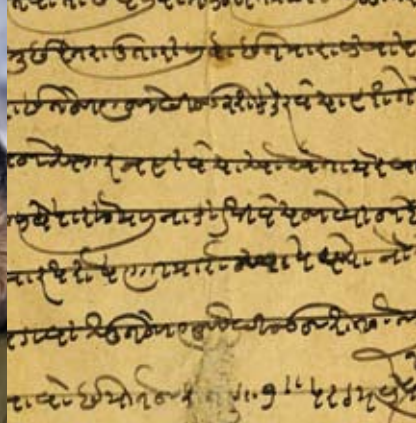
  
L'INSTITUT SHASTRI INDO-CANADIEN SHASTRI INSTITUTE

---

# DEFINING WHAT IT MEANS TO UNDERSTAND

---

ANNUAL REPORT 2007-2008





**Abhoy Ojha, PhD** [Faculty Research Fellowship] Business Process Outsourcing: Challenges for establishing Enduring Relationships

**Adrienne Fast** [Student Excellence Award]

**Alan Ruffman, PhD** [Partnership Development Seed Grant] Tsunamis - Building Capacity in Tamil Nadu and Nova Scotia

**Alexis Sornin** [Librarian Training Fellowship] Reference collection of shastra literature at the Library of the Canadian Centre for Architecture (CCA)

**Aleha Aziz** [Intern] Access to Quality Health Care and Information: How Does Gender Intervene

**Amrit Dhariwal** [Student Research Fellowship] Links among Acculturation, Romantic Experience, and Psychological Functioning: A Cross-Cultural Examination of Indian and Canadian Adolescents

**Andrew Stevens** [Student Excellence Award]

**Anjali Roy, PhD** [Faculty Research Fellowship] Global Music Flows and Diasporic Identity [Scholar Travel Subsidy Grant] 8th International Conference on Diversity in Organizations, Communities and Nations University of Toronto - Bollywood's Transnational Flows

**Anne-Mari Gaston, PhD** [Arts Fellowship] The Stri Project

**Ansa Pottekkat** [Intern] Healthy Aging in Chennai: Community Development through the involvement of Service Providers

**Anthony Parel, PhD** [Scholar Travel Subsidy Grant] Presenting paper "Hind Swaraj and Swaraj in Literature"

**Asha Pande, PhD** [Faculty Enrichment Fellowship] Canadian Francophone Literature

**Assam University** [Canadian Studies Development Grant] Ethnicity and Conflict Resolution in a Multi-Cultural Society: Canadian and Indian Perspective

**Atreya Yegneswaran, PhD** [Scholar Travel Subsidy Grant] Making Connections: Exploring the relationship between music therapy and music education - 2nd International Music Therapy Conference

**Banaras Hindu University** [Canadian Studies Development Grant] Problems of the Elderly People in India and Canada

**Benjamin Wood** [Student Excellence Award]

**Berhampur University** [Canadian Studies Development Grant] Indo-Canadian Families: Challenges and Opportunities in the Pluralistic Canadian Society

**Bharathi Harishankar, PhD** [Faculty Enrichment Fellowship] Web-based Introduction to Canadian Studies for Indian Students

**Brian Given** [Scholar Travel Subsidy Grant] Speaker at the National Seminar on Marginalized Groups: Problems and Prospects in Contemporary India

**Bruno Paquet** [Arts Fellowship] Research on Kerala Pooram

## Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute (shā'strē in'dō-kə'neIdIən 'InstItju:t) *n.*

1. a forty-year-old organization with 81 member institutions of higher learning throughout Canada and India
2. a binational organization that seeks to operate with parity in its governance and programming.
3. a not-for-profit organization with a mission to improve the quality of life of the peoples of Canada and India by building and strengthening intellectual and cultural linkages through research, dialogue and exchange

Music and Kathakali Dance-Drama Accompaniment

**Carmel Mothersill, PhD** [Partnership Development Seed Grant] Clinical Implications of Radiation Induced Non-Targeted Effects

**Carmen Loiselle, PhD** [Partnership Development Seed Grant] Establishment of formal research collaboration and graduate training partnership between McGill University's Psychosocial Oncology Research Training and the Centre of Psychooncology for Education in Bangalore

**Christian Michaud** [Grants to Support Development of Study-In-India Programmes] Les Missions Commerciales de l' Université Laval

**Cole Swanson** [Arts Fellowship] Minirature Paintings in Rajasthan: Internationally Contributing Traditions to Contemporary Painting

**Colleen Kawalilak, PhD** [Grants to Support Development of Study-In-India Programmes] Study-in-India Programme for Students from the Faculty of Education

**Curtis Andrews** [Arts Fellowship] Advanced Study of South Indian Percussion in North Tamil

**Dali Basu** [Arts Fellowship] Intensive Classical Indian Dance Training with a Concentration on Odissi

**Delhi University** [Canadian Studies Development Grant] Environment, Technology, and Governance in Economic Development - Canada and India

**Diptiranjan Pattanaik** [Scholar Travel Subsidy] Translating a Colonised Region - 21st Annual Conference at Canadian Association for Translation Studies

**Enakshi Dua, PhD** [Scholar Travel Subsidy Grant] Visiting scholar at Jadavpur University

**Francois Thibeault** [Student Excellence Award]

**Ganapathy Palanithurai, PhD** [Faculty Enrichment Fellowship] Local Governance in India and Canada

**Gillian Calder** [Scholar Travel Subsidy Grant] Theatre workshop facilitated by Jana Sanksruti

**Goa University** [Canadian Studies Development Grant] Colloque International en etudes quebecoises: Diversite culturelle, divergences et convergences

**Gopalakrishnan Karunanithi, PhD** [Faculty Enrichment Fellowship] Sociology of Refugees in Canada

**Gregory Melchin** [Student Excellence Award]

**Harpreet Kaur** [Doctoral Research Fellowship] Sikh Diaspora in North America and the Punjab Crisis

**Himachal Pradesh University** [Canadian Studies Development Grant] Human Rights and Globalization, Issues and Challenges: India and Canada

**Ian Cuthbertson** [Student Excellence Award]

**Jacoba Kuikman, PhD** [Faculty Research Fellowship] Jews in India in the New Millenium



Gary vanLoon  
President

# A Message from the President

Dear Friends of the Shastri Institute,

This year, 2008, marks the fortieth anniversary for the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute – forty years of Indian and Canadian academics linking together in areas of shared interest. Over these past four decades, both India and Canada have changed dramatically in many ways. The Institute's history has paralleled these changes. In 1968, the Shastri Institute provided one of the few institutional gateways connecting our two countries and in fact, only a small number of special individuals had an interest in such connections. But in 2008, we witness a cavalcade of exchanges between India and Canada through regular delegations from business, governments and universities. We are now only one player in this ongoing exchange.

In the past year, your executive along with many of our members have sought to redefine The Shastri Institute's role in our outward-looking, 'globalized' India and Canada. Emphatically, we believe that we can and must build on the solid foundation we have constructed over the years. We have established strong connections at the highest levels, we work with professors and students in the best universities, and we have been making contributions that touch every element of civil society in both countries. Our Institute presents a balanced view of what higher education is and what it can do – starting with the need to develop a basis of human understanding through cultural contributions while also contributing to developments in science, technology, and policy as they relate to the human situation.

Our mission is to improve the quality of life of the peoples of India and Canada by building and strengthening intellectual and cultural linkages through research, dialogue and exchange. In working toward this end, our plans for the coming year and for the future include a three-fold mandate that is outlined in our Strategic Plan:

## *Enable connections –*

Over our forty years, the Shastri Institute offices and membership have accumulated a deep knowledge of higher education in India and Canada. Based on this substantial and growing knowledge, the Institute will continue to act as a catalyst for individuals and delegations wishing to establish and expand academic connections between India and Canada.

## *Offer programs –*

We will continue to offer and expand a variety of programs that respond to the needs and goals of our diverse membership. Initiatives to provide and support partnership-forming seed grants, development of courses to be jointly offered in India and Canada, internships for students and recent graduates and bi-national research directed toward millennium development goals are all part of our offerings for the coming years.

## *Facilitate shared investigation of issues –*

The Shastri Institute is a unique organization, having a membership of scholars in both countries whose expertise spans virtually every field in the academy. As we grow in our understanding of each other, we recognize areas of broad interest to India and Canada. We are building structures that enable multi-disciplinary and bi-national groups to address these subjects of global importance.

To support our goals, we have embarked on a major fundraising initiative. We are seeking to raise a million dollars to expand our programming by supplementing the core support received from member institutions and the two national governments. Members of our Networking Committee and Development Committee will welcome assistance from all our Shastri colleagues as we seek to achieve this ambitious goal.

During the past two years, I have had an opportunity to visit a good number of our university members in both India and Canada. At every one of these institutions, I witnessed enthusiastic participation in joint projects such as ones on Sustainable Biodiesel (University of Saskatchewan and IIT Delhi), Simplified Low-Height Personal Mobility Devices (Queen's University and National Institute of Design), and Bollywood Transnational Flows (IIT Kharagpur and University of Toronto). These and many other projects point to the rejuvenation of the Shastri Institute by a cadre of both experienced and new young academics.

We can look forward to tapping this enthusiasm as it helps us to clarify what it means to understand and to use the understanding to contribute to the betterment of society in India and Canada.

Sincerely,

# Providing the chance to go the distance

Understanding means actively engaging that which we seek to know.  
It requires interaction.

## *Understanding Canada: Canadian Studies*

The objective of the Canadian Studies Programme is to ensure the expansion and deepening of knowledge of Canada in India. This year, programme participants explored a rich variety of Canada-focused topics including diversity, human rights, indigenous populations, environmental sustainability, governance, security, Francophone studies and the Indian Diaspora in Canada. While some participants focused their studies on Canada alone, many others used a comparative approach; assessing what can be learned from the experiences of India and Canada in regards to issues of mutual interest.

## CANADA AND INDIA STUDIES

SEVERAL PUBLICATIONS WERE COMPLETED, TWO MEMORANDUMS OF UNDERSTANDING WERE SIGNED BETWEEN CANADIAN AND INDIAN UNIVERSITIES AND ONE STUDENT EXCHANGE WAS ESTABLISHED AS A RESULT OF OUR FELLOWSHIPS THIS YEAR.

In 2007-2008, the Canadian Studies Programme provided over \$150,000 to Indian universities, faculty members and doctoral students. The universities hosted conferences, lectures, workshops and symposia on topics related to Canada. Many of these events attracted international presenters and participants. All events enhanced the reputations of each university's Canadian Studies initiatives and helped to strengthen

the study of Canada in India.

Individual faculty and doctoral students were provided the opportunity to travel to Canada to perform intensive research. Not only did these opportunities provide access to information unavailable in India, they also led to fruitful partnerships with Canadian academics and provided hands-on research experiences.

Additionally, Dr. John Reid of Saint Mary's University was awarded a Visiting Lectureship grant to speak on Multiculturalism and Aboriginal Identity at eight Indian universities. His lectures were attended by faculty and students and were covered by the local press, enabling the community at large to gain insight on this issue from a Canadian Studies expert.

## *Understanding India: India Studies*

This year, the India Studies Programme provided twenty-five Canadian faculty, students and artists with the opportunity to travel to India to undertake research and training. Their fellowship topics ranged from language study, psychology, specialized topics within religious studies, development studies, political science, physics, and several art forms including dance, percussion, vocals, theater, painting and textiles.

Upon their return from India, the fellows are processing the outcomes of their experiences and some have indicated plans to collaborate with their Indian affiliates in future research activities. Nancy Batty, Faculty Research Fellowship recipient from Red Deer College,

Alberta, hopes to return to India with some of her students for further studies in Indian history, culture and literature.

Three scholars from Canadian universities were granted \$5,000 to establish term-abroad programmes, student internships, or student exchanges in India. The programmes they develop will offer opportunities for students to travel to India over the course of the next few years.

Eminent scientist Dr. M. S. Swaminathan, Chairman of the M. S. Swaminathan Research Foundation, was this year's Indian visiting lecturer. Considered to be the father of the Green Revolution in India, He spoke at McMaster University, Saint Mary's University and the University of Saskatchewan on biodiversity, biotechnology and food security.





# A Canadian Scholar Seeks to Uncover Knowledge of Indian Architecture

Alexis Sornin of the Canadian Centre for Architecture (CCA) was a Library Training Fellowship recipient this year. With his fellowship, he aimed to assemble a reference collection of *shastra* literature about city-planning, architecture and sculpture in India for the Library at the CCA where

it would be made available to art and architectural historians as well as to national and international scholars.

The CCA recently became a member of the Shastri Institute and we are thrilled to be associated with a centre that manages one of the world's leading research libraries devoted to the history, theory and criticism of architecture and its allied disciplines.

As a result of Sornin's Fellowship a bibliography of about 500 entries on *shastra* literature in India is now part of the CCA Library holdings. Its records are accessible through the CCA's online catalogue ([www.cca.qc.ca/library](http://www.cca.qc.ca/library)). There exists no similar up-to-date bibliography on the subject of *shastra* literature as it relates to planning, architecture and iconography anywhere else in the world.

By making this reference collection on *shastra* publicly available the CCA expects to attract scholars from the fields of architecture and indology in order for them to write a hitherto disregarded chapter of the global history of architecture and to critically examine a neglected aspect of the artistic tradition in South Asia.

Sornin's work comes at a pertinent time as South Asian communities grow more abundant in Canada and across the globe. He hopes his collection of *shastra* literature will help the Indian diaspora to rediscover ways to create places of social gathering and religious worship.

## An Indian Scholar Challenges her Peers to Go the Extra Mile

Dr V. Bharathi Harishankar set out on her Faculty Enrichment Fellowship to explore and create a web-based Introduction to Canadian Studies for Indian Students – a seemingly modest goal in comparison to what she in-fact achieved.

Dr Harishankar's love of Canadian literature began when she attempted a comparative study of Margaret Laurence and Patrick White for her Ph.D. thesis. Since then, she has become a Reader in English at the University of Madras where she has taught courses, guided research and published in the field of Canadian Studies.

During her Shastri fellowship, Dr Harishankar was hosted by Athabasca University in Alberta and was affiliated with Dr Evelyn Ellerman. Thanks to appointments arranged by Dr Ellerman, Harishankar was able to discuss pedagogical methods of teaching with several Canadian academics during her visit. Harishankar established collaborations that will shape her future work. She expects that her web-based Introduction to Canadian Studies will open doors for future doctoral scholars to study areas of Canadian literature that are currently sparsely known in India.

Because of the connections that Harishankar made in Alberta, the University of Madras and Athabasca University recently signed an MoU for collaborative research. Drs

Ellerman and Harishankar will continue their collaborations with a new project designing a comparative online course on film studies. Athabasca University has offered Harishankar an Honorary Adjunct Professorship in their Communication Studies department. Finally, as further credit to her achievements, the University of Madras has proposed the creation of a Centre for e-Learning, which will expedite Harishankar's design of the web-based introduction to Canadian Studies.

When asked to reflect on her fellowship experience Harishankar said, "Shastri Institute scholars, on their part, have to view the fellowship as something beyond personal research work. This way our institutions can benefit and meaningful collaborations can happen."



---

# Enabling Connections; Inspiring Teamwork

---

Understanding means  
acknowledging that we learn more  
by working together.

## *Partnership Development Seed Grants*

This year the Shastri Institute awarded nine Partnership Development Seed Grants valued at \$20,000 each to initiate scholarly activities that foster the creation of new knowledge and foster long-term partnerships between institutions in the two countries. The nine grant recipients represented a wide range of disciplines including film studies, geography, geology, peace studies, and health studies. Their topics of research ranged from, “The Development of a Non-toxic Chemotherapeutic Agent for the Treatment of Breast Cancer” to “Encouraging Conservation and Sustainable Develop-

ment in the Indian Himalaya through Partnerships and Participatory Governance.”

Last year’s seed grants resulted in several follow-up visits and workshops, technology exchanges, publications and scientific collaborations this year. Since this programme is only in its second year, we look forward to seeing more results of these collaborative projects in the future.

Carmelle Robert of Université Laval received a Partnership Development Seed Grant in 2006-2007 that helped fund meetings between the Indian and Canadian space agencies regarding the use of their collaborative Ultraviolet Imaging Telescope (UVIT) project as part of the ASTROSAT orbiting observatory. The Shastri Institute’s contribution to these meetings enabled a balanced participation between Indian and Canadian representatives. It also led to further collaborations like the one between researchers at Université Laval, the Indian Institute of Astrophysics, and the Herxberg Institute of Astrophysics to establish a list of star-forming regions to be studied jointly with UVIT.

## *Scholar Travel Subsidy Grants*

The Scholar Travel Subsidy Grant was newly initiated in 2007 to subsidize travel costs for scholars traveling between Canada and India. Nineteen Canadian and Indian academics received support to participate in conferences and meetings this year. Conferences that benefitted from their presence included the World Congress on Psychology and Spirituality and the 8th International Conference on Diversity in Organizations, Communities and Nations.

Due to the ease of application and flexibility of scope that this grant offers, it was an especially popular new initiative in 2007-2008. We had no difficulties allocating all \$20,000 of available funds to deserving applicants. We plan to have four fixed deadlines for applications in 2008-2009 in order to continue servicing the growing number of applications.

◀ Indian participants at the ASTROSAT/UVIT Science Planning Meetings, funded in-part by a Shastri Institute Seed Grant, are reviewing the status and capabilities of the ASTROSAT instruments (Quebec, 2007)





# Scholars on a Mission to Implement Change



Professor B. S. Ghuman (left), Dean of the Faculty of Arts at Panjab University and a recently elected member of our Executive Council along with Dr. Cherie Enns (right), professor of Geography at the University of the Fraser Valley, received a Partnership Development Seed Grant for their collaborative work on “Children and the City.”

*During the last half-century, world populations have become more and more concentrated in cities. In industrialized countries, a half to three-quarters of all children live in urban areas, in the developing world, the majority of children and youth will be urban in the next few decades.*

*There is particular concern about the effects of rapid industrialization and urbanization on the growth and development of children. Across a wide range of indicators, cities are failing to meet the needs of young people and their families.*

It was on the basis of these initial findings that Profs. Enns and Ghuman came together in February of 2008 to hold a Child and Youth Friendly Community Development Conference in Chandigarh. The conference emphasized the challenges that children face in the process of rapid urbanization such as social exclusion, boredom, pollution, and traffic. The conference brought together child-friendly community experts with academics, business, government, and non-government leaders. Presenters included Dr. Eliana Riggio Chaudhuri, consultant and former coordinator for the International Child-Friendly Cities Secretariat at the UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre in Florence, Italy and Dr. Sudeshna Chatterjee, planner and urban design consultant focusing on child-friendly environments in developing countries, principal of Kaimal Chatterjee & Associates, New Delhi and a research affiliate of Children, Youth & Environments Centre for Research and Design at the University of Colorado.

The conference stressed the importance of finding a place for child-related issues in policymaking. After the conference, Profs Enns and Ghuman and their research teams held

workshops with students in three schools in order to identify the children’s perspectives, concerns and dreams related to their city.

As a result of the conference over 40 participants showed interest in implementing outcomes of the Child Friendly Plan (the draft report completed by the students after the conference). An intern is working on conference follow-up. Professor Enns has been invited to speak at a conference in Mumbai in October 2008 and she is working on arranging a follow-up session in Chandigarh at that time.

The nature of the Shastri Institute’s Partnership Development Seed Grant greatly facilitated the work of this team. Professor Ghuman remarked,

“I have completed international as well as national projects with other organizations; however, my experience with the Shastri Institute is differ-

ent. With the Shastri Institute, decisions revolve around merit. Their programme format is researcher-friendly and their particular emphasis on poverty reduction, sustainable development, and gender equality deserves special appreciation.

This bilateral grant was of immense benefit to both teams as well as to our institutions. Such projects provide an opportunity for scholars to start working from different perspectives and methodologies and then synthesize their work to arrive at unique interpretations. These projects also help junior team members to improve their research skills and gain international exposure. Bi-national projects are useful not only to scholars and participating institutions, but also to the general populations of both countries since some of the outcomes of joint research find their way into public policy.”



Children participating in a workshop where they are given the opportunity to voice their priorities regarding their communities.

# Empowering the Scholars of Tomorrow

Understanding requires a consideration for our future as much as it requires a consideration for the past.

## *Youth Internship Programme*

In 2007-2008, the Shastri Institute sent seven youth interns to India to perform fieldwork in health care, rainwater harvesting, sustainable agriculture and Canadian urban studies. The interns all experienced the thrills, challenges and frustrations of working in a foreign setting.

The interns made impressive strides with the language skills they developed while in the field and were pleased with the personal and professional skills they

## STUDENT PROGRAMMING

- 60 APPLICATIONS RECEIVED
- 19 AWARDS/INTERNSHIPS DISTRIBUTED
- 53% FEMALE RECIPIENTS
- 47% MALE RECIPIENTS
- OVER \$100,000 TOTAL FUNDS DISTRIBUTED

acquired during their stay. Jade Vo worked in Chennai on healthy aging and community development through the involvement of service providers. She has decided to stay in Chennai for another six months to volunteer on a project with the Madras Institute for Development Studies as a coordinator. Most of the interns hope to contribute to publications once more work on their projects has been completed.

## *Student Excellence Award*

Ten Canadian students were each awarded Student Excellence Awards of \$2,000 in 2007-2008. These students used the award to finance travel required for their research projects related to India. Maria James of the University of Manitoba, for example, embarked on a four-month study to explore the impact of stigma and discrimination on the lives of those living with HIV/AIDS in Kerala.

Others traveled within Canada, to the United States and even to Australia performing fieldwork relating to the Indian diaspora, visiting key centers of Indian Studies, and presenting papers related to India at international conferences.

We are excited to see these young scholars at work and look forward to a long relationship with them as their education progresses.

## *Supporting Students in Many Ways*

The Lal Bahadur Shastri Student Prize acknowledged two young Canadian women who wrote excellent papers on India in 2007-2008 with prizes of \$500 each. We also supported a summer term in India programme at Mount Allison University. Nine students from various Canadian universities took part in this successful programme, which we will continue to support in the summer of 2008.



▲ Students arrive in India for the Shastri/Mount Allison Summer Term in India, 2007.

► Kyle Jackson (centre) works alongside local students, farmers and other international volunteers to clear a mountainside using traditional Mizo tools. (Champhai, Mizoram, 2008)



# An Altruistic Young Academic on the Journey of a Lifetime...

Student Excellence Award winner, Kyle Jackson keeps the Institute updated on his time spend in India.

Dear Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute,

My trip to India began with a month of volunteer work in northeast India's Mizoram, my main region of academic interest. Some semesters ago, I studied Mizo history, and learned of the cyclical famine that is unique to India's northeast. This cycle restarted in 2006 and food scarcity in the remote western villages continues to be a problem today.

Last month our small team of volunteers worked with local NGOs to distribute 7,200 dehydrated vegetable meals - concentrated emergency food from the Fraser Valley Gleaners (FVGs) in Canada—to some of the remotest villages in Mizoram. Then we rolled up our sleeves and joined local students and farmers in clearing a mountainside slope using traditional Mizo tools. Together we constructed the first demonstration farm in sustainable slope-farming methods in Champhai.

Such a trip to Mizoram of course had a massive personal impact on me. It was a fabulous experience to help those people I'd studied, and to get to know them as individuals with families, with joys and sorrows, and with needs.

While in Mizoram, I completed further historical research in the archives. Histories of Mizoram place British missionaries and administrators in the foreground, while Mizos remain in the background. Through a careful re-reading of the sources for clues to Mizo responses, and through mobilizing studies on indigenous animism and spirituality, I aim to reconstruct the two-sided intricacies of Mizo-British cross-cultural religious contact. For this re-reading, I draw upon recent work in North American indigenous history, like Richter's *Facing East* (2001).

In a southern archive, I uncovered the day-to-day diary of

the most influential early missionary to Mizoram, and I am most excited about what its contents could yield for the project. I have received admission to mobilize all these sources at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London. Pursuing this project at SOAS will be a strong first step towards a career exploring the history of India's northeast as a scholar of South Asia.

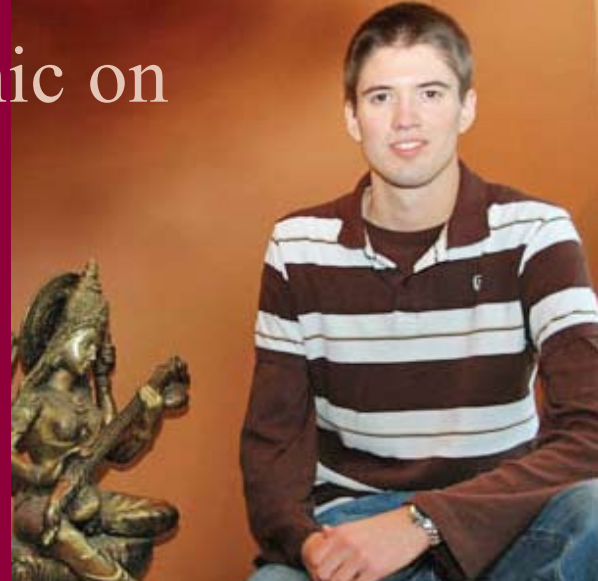
I am now living in West Bengal for four months of Bengali immersion thanks to this Shastri Institute award. I am writing this letter from a rural orphanage 180 kilometers by train west of Kolkata. If I can stay afloat during the upcoming monsoon, I'll live here until late July. My academic goal at this orphanage: to cram as much Bengali into my head as possible. My personal goal while at this orphanage: to put some smiles on these kids' faces.

Here, as in Mizoram, it is a pleasure to have my academic interests intertwined so closely with my charitable ones. I stoke the flames under the orphanage's massive rice pot, spoon out dinner for the children each evening, and offer tips to those children struggling with their English homework.

One of the tenets of the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute is to foster "mutual awareness and understanding between India and Canada." This has also been one of my own goals. Many evenings, just before dinner, all the children eagerly gather together in the main hall, where I field heaps of questions about Canada. As I answer these questions, I have often thought about the Shastri Institute's goal of bringing our two countries closer together, and of the Institute's enabling my being here. I count it a privilege to teach these children about Canada—even as they teach me about India—and to see their curiosities soar from the local to the global as they learn about a country some 11 000 kilometers away.

Your generous award has made this all possible. It has pushed open the heavy financial door to my volunteering and studying abroad. On behalf of myself, and the future students whose lives will also be affected so positively by receiving this award, I say thank you!

With very best wishes, Kyle Jackson



# Making Knowledge Accessible

Understanding means valuing knowledge and desiring for it to be shared.

The majority of the Shastri Institute's programmes are targeted towards a select group of academics in order to make a significant impact on their research. We ensure that these academics spread the benefits of our resources by publishing new findings, initiating new courses, organizing workshops and seminars and effecting discourse on public policy. Still, we are happy to have our Book and Journal Programme, which allows us to impact a large number of academics by disseminating resource materials through member libraries in India and Canada. As our membership increases in both countries, more and more libraries gain access to knowledge specific to Indian and Canadian Studies.



## *Disseminating knowledge in Canada*

This year, the book programme for promoting Indian studies provided over 13,800 books published in India to 29 different university libraries in Canada. These books covered a wide variety of topics related to India Studies and provided insight into India that is otherwise unavailable in Canada. Since our Canadian membership grew by over 20% this year, we are proud to be able to offer books to a larger number of libraries in Canada in the years to come.

## *Disseminating knowledge in India*

In 2007-2008, the Book and Journal Programme in India distributed over \$15,000 of books published in Canada to universities and Canadian Studies centers in India. All of our Indian member institutions renewed their access to over 140 Canadian journals as well.

## DISSEMINATION OF KNOWLEDGE IN 07-08

- OVER 14,000 BOOKS AND JOURNALS SHIPPED BETWEEN CANADA AND INDIA
- OVER \$199,000 TOTAL FUNDS ALLOCATED TO THE DISSEMINATION OF KNOWLEDGE
- ONE NEW INITIATIVE TO LAUNCH A WEB-BASED CATALOGUE OF CANADIAN STUDIES NATIONWIDE IN INDIA

The Shastri Institute's India office hosts a first rate library in Delhi that includes a multitude of books, journals, and electronic resources related to Canadian Studies. This year we launched an initiative to host a web-based catalogue that member institutions will be able to use to share and access literature and resources regarding Canada. This catalogue should be fully functional by the end of 2008.

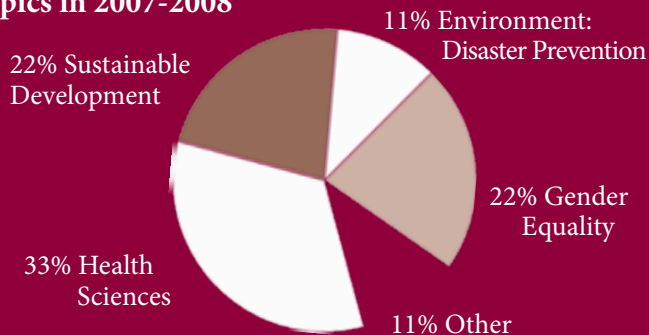
► A data collection team from Sarojini Naidu Girls' Post-Graduate College in Bhopal assisted one of our Shastri Applied Research Project Teams in surveying 1,460 households in 10 different slum pockets of Bhopal (2004-06). Their research assessed the problems of poverty, urbanization, and changing family structures in slums. It is this kind of engaged research that we are happy to be reinitiating through our Millennium Development Research Grants Programme this year.



# Redefining health, poverty, equality and development...

At the Shastri Institute, our mission is to improve the quality of life of the peoples of Canada and India. Due to our commitment to this mission, we value academic work that has a positive impact on Indian and Canadian society through innovation, discovery and influence on public policy. This year, through all our programmes, both large and small, students and faculty were equipped to make such an impact.

## Partnership Development Seed Grant Research Topics in 2007-2008



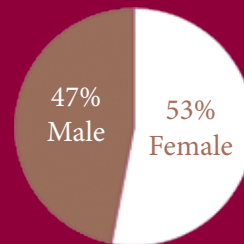
In 2007-2008, the Shastri Institute launched the Millennium Development Goal Research Grants Programme, which will provide funds for research that focuses on any of the eight United Nations Millennium Development Goals. These goals include reducing poverty, building gender equality, improving education and health care, ensuring environmental sustainability and building global partnerships for development. Three binational teams of scholars have been selected to receive grants of \$80,000. Their two-year research projects will commence in 2008-2009. We look forward to the impact these projects will have on policy and, ultimately, Indian and Canadian society at large.

## Gender Equality

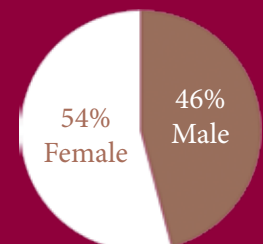
In May of 2007, the Shastri Institute collaborated with the McGill Centre for Research and Teaching on Women to host a binational conference on women and social change. The conference brought together scholars, policy makers, heads of women's organizations, media, healthcare experts, and women's rights activists from across Canada and India.

As a result of the conference Dr. Rama Singh of McMaster University was able to develop an impressive research proposal focusing on the role of women in the promotion of peace and prevention of violence, elimination of poverty and improvement of population health. McMaster University and University of Jammu are in the process of signing a Memorandum of Understanding to initiate this collaborative work. Dr. Ratna Ghosh, who also participated in the conference, was later awarded a Partnership Development Seed Grant for work related to gender equality.

## Grant Recipients in 07-08



## Funding distribution in 07-08



## Students Making a Sustainable Impact on the Environment

- Julia Freeman of British Columbia received a Student Excellence Award that she used to gather information on her thesis about agricultural biotechnology and bio-safety in India.
- Terah Sportel of Ontario received an India Studies Student Research Fellowship for her work on sustaining the rural livelihoods of coconut producers in Kerala

## One Man's Efforts to Improve Rural Education

Prof. R. Lal Kushwaha of the University of Saskatchewan received a Scholar Travel Subsidy Grant so that he could travel to a rural university in Chitrakoot to act as a visiting lecturer and to donate his personal collection of textbooks.



**SHASTRI INDO-CANADIAN INSTITUTE**  
**CANADA OFFICE, CALGARY**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION - MARCH 31, 2008**

	MARCH 31			MARCH 31	
	2008	2007		2008	2007
<b>ASSETS</b>			<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Cash	\$ 212,190	\$ 130,425	Accounts Payable	\$ 142,860	\$ 95,637
Term Deposits	417,675	599,446	Deferred Revenues	277,047	452,165
Accounts receivable	51,899	65,452		<u>\$ 419,907</u>	<u>\$ 547,802</u>
Prepaid expenses	645	395	<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Office & Computer Equipment	<u>\$ 10,416</u>	<u>\$ 11,756</u>	Endowment Funds	36,639	22,493
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u><b>\$ 692,825</b></u>	<u><b>\$ 807,474</b></u>	Other Internally Restricted Funds	30,470	6,220
			Unrestricted Fund	<u>205,809</u>	<u>230,959</u>
			<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>	<u><b>272,918</b></u>	<u><b>259,672</b></u>
			<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; NET ASSETS</b>	<u><b>\$ 692,825</b></u>	<u><b>\$ 807,474</b></u>

**STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES TO UNRESTRICTED FUND**

	YEAR ENDED MARCH 31	
	2008	2007
<b>REVENUE</b>		
Canadian International Development Agency	\$ 695,163	\$ 585,177
Foreign Affairs Canada	170,356	165,054
International Council for Canadian Studies	115,500	103,490
CIDA Youth Internship Programme	113,427	107,369
Membership and library fees	172,325	148,282
Interest income, Donations, and Other	<u>24,905</u>	<u>39,648</u>
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<u><b>\$ 1,291,676</b></u>	<u><b>\$ 1,149,020</b></u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Knowledge Partnership Programme	\$ 357,319	\$ 247,068
Canadian Studies Programme	130,110	124,244
Canadian Studies Scholars	117,246	103,490
International Youth Internship Programme	94,069	87,769
Sophia Hilton Foundation Animation Project	-	9,556
Salaries, benefits and personnel expenses	380,018	350,172
Fund development	60,063	-
Governance	56,125	71,989
Communications	31,070	31,608
Public Relations	22,790	31,736
Audit, Legal, insurance and other	21,335	29,358
Office and equipment	12,213	11,231
Travel	<u>9,318</u>	<u>17,744</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<u><b>\$ 1,291,676</b></u>	<u><b>\$ 1,115,965</b></u>
<b>NET INCOME FOR THE YEAR</b>	-	33,055
UNRESTRICTED FUND - Beginning of Year	230,959	197,904
Transfer to President's Fund	<u>(25,150)</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>UNRESTRICTED FUND - End of Year</b>	<u><b>\$ 205,809</b></u>	<u><b>\$ 230,959</b></u>

These financial statements are based upon the Institute's audited financial statements for 2007-2008 but are not themselves audited. The financial statements, audited by Cremers & Elliott for the Canada Office and by Khanna Gulati & Associates for the India Office, are available from the Institute's offices.



**SHASTRI INDO-CANADIAN INSTITUTE**  
**INDIA OFFICE, NEW DELHI**  
**BALANCE SHEET - MARCH 31, 2008**

	AS OF MARCH 31	
	2008	2007
<b>SOURCE OF FUNDS</b>	<b>Rs.</b>	<b>Rs.</b>
Capital Grants	3,319,902	2,910,650
Reserve Funds	1,775,553	2,201,556
	<u>5,095,455</u>	<u>5,112,206</u>
<b>APPLICATION OF FUNDS</b>		
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>		
Gross Block	5,517,139	5,357,116
Less: Depreciation	(3,800,570)	(3,772,036)
Net Block	<u>1,716,569</u>	<u>1,585,080</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS, LOANS &amp; ADVANCES</b>		
Cash and Bank Balances	6,910,906	10,745,162
Loans and Advances	2,014,881	2,151,799
Less: Current Liabilities	8,925,787	12,896,961
Less: Provisions	(4,435,931)	(8,241,888)
Net Current Assets	<u>(1,110,969)</u>	<u>(1,127,946)</u>
	<u>3,378,887</u>	<u>3,527,126</u>
	<u>5,095,455</u>	<u>5,112,206</u>

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

	YEAR ENDED MARCH 31	
	2008	2007
<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>Rs.</b>	<b>Rs.</b>
<b>OPERATING</b>	<b>8,453,400</b>	<b>7,949,116</b>
<b>PROGRAMMES:</b>		
CIDA - SICI Programme	161,273	140,858
SHARP Programme	100,010	798,140
Canadian Studies/Special Activities	2,030,118	1,953,786
Library Programme	9,085,216	8,752,106
Fellowship Programme	5,569,151	3,988,087
Seminars & Conferences and New Initiatives	492,847	2,189,118
Restructuring & Governance Initiatives	787,471	1,752,902
Visiting Lectureship Programme	412,012	165,221
Collaborative Research Projects	1,211,527	-
40th Anniversary Celebrations	237,612	-
	<u>28,540,636</u>	<u>27,689,333</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
<b>OPERATING</b>	<b>8,266,398</b>	<b>6,837,071</b>
<b>IRRECOVERABLE AMOUNT WRITTEN OFF</b>	<b>375,099</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>PROGRAMMES:</b>		
CIDA - SICI Programme	161,273	140,858
SHARP Programme	100,010	798,140
Canadian Studies/Special Activities	2,030,118	1,953,786
Library Programme	9,085,216	8,752,106
Fellowship Programme	5,569,151	3,988,087
Seminars & Conferences	492,847	2,189,118
Restructuring & Governance Initiatives	787,471	1,752,902
Visiting Lectureship Programme	412,012	165,221
Collaborative Research Projects	1,211,527	-
40th Anniversary Celebrations	237,612	-
	<u>28,728,733</u>	<u>26,577,288</u>
	<u>(188,097)</u>	<u>1,112,045</u>
 Depreciation	 323,437	 361,762
Less: Transfer from Capital Grant	(85,531)	(187,988)
	<u>237,906</u>	<u>173,774</u>
<b>NET EXCESS (DEFICIT) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES</b>	<b>(426,003)</b>	<b>938,271</b>
<b>RESERVE FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD</b>	<b>2,201,556</b>	<b>1,263,285</b>
<b>RESERVE FUNDS CARRIED OVER</b>	<b>1,775,553</b>	<b>2,201,556</b>

## 2007-08 Executive Council

---

**Gary vanLoon**  
President  
Queen's University

**A. S. Narang**  
Vice-President/President Elect  
Indira Gandhi National Open University

**Yvon Dandurand**  
Secretary-Treasurer  
University of the Fraser Valley

**Patricia Dold**  
Member-at-Large  
Memorial University of Newfoundland

**V. D. Kaushik**  
Member-at-Large  
Himachal Pradesh University

**Ranbir Singh**  
Member-at-Large  
National Academy of Legal Studies and Research

**Sunil Kumar**  
Government of India Representative  
Joint Secretary,  
Ministry of Human Resource Development

**Peter Fawcett**  
Government of Canada Representative  
Foreign Affairs Canada

**Earl Choldin**  
Executive Director  
Ex Officio

## 2007-08 Donors

---

We would like to thank our members as well as the following organizations and donors for funding the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute's programmes in 2007-2008:



**Canadian International  
Development Agency**



**Foreign Affairs and  
International Trade Canada**



**The Department of Secondary and Higher  
Education, Ministry of Human Resource  
Development, Government of India.**

Mahinder Chaudhry  
Kantilal Dave  
Sheila Embleton  
Jennifer Fisher  
William Fyfe  
H. Patrick Glenn  
Peter Harnetty  
David Hopper  
Milton Israel  
George Kurian  
Flora MacDonald  
Kanta Marwah  
John E. McLeod  
Stephen McDowell

N. Deo Mishra  
Edward Moulton  
Arun Mukherjee  
Vasavan Nair  
William Noble  
Geoffrey Pearson  
K.D. Srivastava  
Srikanta Swamy  
Suresh Thadhani  
Gary vanLoon  
Daya Varma  
Douglas Verney  
Jagannath Wani  
Cicely Watson

And other anonymous donors.

## 2007-08 New Members

---

### **In Canada:**

Carleton University, Ottawa  
École Polytechnique de Montréal, Montréal  
Kwantlen Polytechnic University, Surrey  
University of Montréal, Montréal  
University of Northern British Columbia, Prince George  
University of Ottawa, Ottawa  
University of Prince Edward Island, Charlottetown  
Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo

### **In India:**

University of Agricultural Science, Dharwad  
University of Calcutta, Kolkata  
Goa University, Goa  
Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai  
University of Mangalore, Mangalore  
National Law School of Delhi, Delhi  
National Law University, Jodhpur



**Jadavpur University** [Canadian Studies Development Grant] Myths, Culture and Society: A First Nations Perspective

**Jade Vo** [Intern] Access to Quality Health Care and Information: How Does Gender Intervene?

**Jamil Rahemtula** [Intern] Adaptive Ecosystem Approach to Managing Urban Environments for Human Health

**Jawaharlal Nehru University** [Canadian Studies Development Grant] National Workshop on French Canadian Studies

**John Sinclair, PhD** [Partnership Development Seed Grant] Encouraging Conservation and Sustainable Development in the Indian Himalaya through Partnerships and Participatory Governance

**Jonathan Duquette** [Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship] A comparison between the Hindu concept of akasa and approaches of vacuum in modern physics

**Julia Freeman** [Student Excellence Award]

**Kannur University** [Canadian Studies Development Grant] Staging Diversity, Environment, and Human Rights: Workshop on Drama and Theatre: India and Canada

**Kory Goldberg** [Student Research Fellowship] Buddhists without Borders: Pilgrimage, Foreign-Aid, and Education in Bodhgaya, India

**Liselyn Adams, PhD** [Grants to Support Development of Study-In-India Programmes] Eight-Week Summer Study-in-India Programme

**Lopamoodra Sircar** [Arts Fellowship] Badal Sircar's Third Theatre: Participating in rehearsal and performance with Satbdi and Pathasena

**M. Khan, PhD** [Scholar Travel Subsidy Grant] Laboratory participation to further genomics techniques for addressing environmental and biodiversity issues

**Madras University** [Canadian Studies Development Grant] Non-Traditional Security: Canada and India Perspectives

**Mael Castellan** [Intern] Indigenous Knowledge and Rain-water Harvesting Systems

**Mahesh Dey, PhD** [Faculty Research Fellowship] A Critical Study of Native Culture and History

**Malcolm Lim** [Arts Fellowship] Carnatak Percussion Studies Program with Professor Trichy Sankaran

**Manorama Tripathi** [Scholar Travel Subsidy Grant] Oral Presentation at the Canadian Network for Innovation in Education

**Maria James** [Student Excellence Award] The impact of AIDS-related stigma and discrimination on families in Kerala, India

**Meenaskhi Thapan, PhD** [Faculty Research Fellowship] Pedagogy, Identity and Citizenship in Contemporary Society

**Meera Varghese** [Student Excellence Award]

**Michael Shepherd, PhD** [Scholar Travel Subsidy Grant] Workshop on Ontology

**Michael Windover** [Student Excellence Award]

**Michelle Folk** [Student Research Fellowship] The Social Relevance of Medieval Bhakti Women Saints for Contemporary Women

**MS University** [Canadian Studies Development Grant] Managing Global Competitiveness: Canada and India Perspectives

**Nancy Batty, PhD** [Faculty Research Fellowship] Myths, Dreams, and Shadows: The Haunted Houses of Shashi Deshpande

**Neelima Kanwar, PhD** [Faculty Research Fellowship] Memory, Experience, Identity: Reading Native Canadian Literature

**Neerja Chadha, PhD** [Faculty Research Fellowship] Acculturation and Social Cognition: A Study of Prosociality among the Indo-Canadians

**Osmania University** [Canadian Studies Development Grant] Globalization and Diversity: The Canadian Context

**P. Sundararajan, PhD** [Partnership Development Seed Grant] Design of Self-Assembling Amphiphilic

Photogenerators, High Performance Polymers and Cellulose/Polymer Blends Using Green Approaches

**Papia Taulkadav, PhD** [Faculty Research Fellowship] Linguistic Diversity and Group Rights: A Comparative Study of the Role of the Linguistic Minorities Commission of India and Official Language Commission of Canada

**Patricia Dold, PhD** [Faculty Research Fellowship] Research for Translation of the Sakta Mahabagavata Purana

**Patricia Gruben, PhD** [Partnership Development Seed Grant] Film Education study

**Pondicherry University** [Canadian Studies Development Grant] Sustainable Development of the Aboriginal (tribal) People of Canada and India

**Posh Chauhan Charak, PhD** [Faculty Enrichment Fellowship] Post-Degree Diploma Course in Communication and Culture: Canada and India Collaborative Project

**Prabjit Barn** [Intern] Bhopal Project: Assessing the Long Term consequences

**Prem Vivek, PhD** [Faculty Research Fellowship] Management of Urban Waste in Mega Cities: A comparative study of Mumbai and Toronto

**Priyankar Upadhyaya, PhD** [Scholar Travel Subsidy Grant] Summer Seminar Course "Peace Studies and Global Governance"

**Purushottam Patel, PhD** [Faculty Research Fellowship] Emergence of Written Aksara from its Earlier Spoken Form

**R. Indira, PhD** [Faculty Research Fellowship] Management of Common Property Resources among Indigenous Communities in Canada: Achieving a Convergence between Policy and Rights of Indigenous Peoples

## **Im·pact (im'pākt') *n.***

1. a forceful consequence; a strong effect
2. a Shastri Institute youth intern gaining employment with the World Health Organization to improve global standards on gender, women and health
4. an applied research project leading to the establishment of microfinancing and women's self-help groups in rural Karnataka
5. an achievable goal that the Shastri Institute strives for every day



## Radhey Kushwaha

## Programme Participants 2007-2008

## Yasmin Gopal

**Radhey Kushwaha** [Scholar Travel Subsidy Grant] Donating textbooks to a Rural University in Chitrakoot, giving lectures and seminars

**Rajiv Rawat** [Student Research Fellowship] Uneven Development, Neoliberalism Transition, & New State Formations in the Himalayas

**Rama Singh, PhD** 1.[Partnership Development Seed Grant] 2.[Scholar Travel Subsidy Grant] Seminar on Gandhi, Hindi & World Literature

**Rashmi Varma** [Arts Fellowship] Indian Textiles in Contemporary Art and Design Practices

**Ratna Ghosh, PhD** [Partnership Development Seed Grant] The National Knowledge Commission Report, 2006 Its implications for Women's Education in West-Bengal, India

**Rosaline Canessa, PhD** [Scholar Travel Subsidy Grant] 5th International Conference on Citizenship and Governance Re-visioning Social Transformation in the 21st Century

**Robin Oakley, PhD** [Faculty Research Fellowship] Generational Epistemologies of Science and Medicine Among Tamil People's Science Practitioners

**Ryan Kirkby** [Scholar Travel Subsidy Grant] World Congress on Psychology and Spirituality

**Sabita Majid** [Student Research Fellowship] Assessing the Impact of transnational Bollywood films, 1995-2005

**Sakti Jana, PhD** [Scholar Travel Subsidy Grant] Field and Library Research on Sustainable Food Production

**Sameer Deshpande, PhD** [Faculty Training Fellowship] Managing stakeholder relations in Indian social marketing organisations

**Samuel Benoit** [Intern] Local Knowledge and Sustainable Agriculture in Hill Regions of South India

**Sasha (Anirudhya) Ghoshal** [Arts Fellowship] Dhrupad and Rabindrasangeet Training and Performance

**Sathyapalan Jyothis, PhD** [Faculty Research Fellowship] Social Security Nets in Marine Fisheries Sector: A Comparative Study of India and Canada

**Shaily Mudgal** [Doctoral Research Fellowship] Third World Negotiations with Canadian Identity: A Study in Theory and Practice

**Siaram Pandey, PhD** [Partnership Development Seed Grant] Building a collaborative research effort to develop a non-toxic chemotherapeutic agent for the treatment of Breast Cancer

**Susan McNaughton** [Student Language Training Fellowship] Tamil Language Training

**Sushma Murthy** [Doctoral Research Fellowship] The Burnished Phoenix: Lesbian Aesthetics in the Works of Nicole Brossard

**Sylvie Roy** [Scholar Travel Subsidy Grant] Sub. International Workshop on French Canadian Studies at Jawaharlal Nehru University

**Tanmeet Jagdev** [Scholar Travel Subsidy Grant] "Music, Mind and Music Therapy" at an International Music Therapy Research Conference

**Terah Sportel** [Student Research Fellowship] Social Migration and the Influence of Liberalization Policies on Coconut Production in Kerala, India

**Tom Keenan, PhD** [Scholar Travel Subsidy Grant] Resource Personnel at "Myths, Culture and Society: A First Nations Perspective"

**Yasmin Gopal, PhD** [Faculty Training Fellowship] Technology and Social Change in India: What Can We Learn from Tilonia?

