Mennonites and anthropology share a complex series of entanglements and this conference investigates all aspects of these relationships. The conference theme builds upon recent ethnographic studies and reconsiders the ways in which Mennonites have imagined, embodied, and enacted their religious practice. It examines new ways to ask what it means to be Mennonite.
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24

7:00 – 8:00 pm
RECEPTION FOR PRESENTERS AND SESSION CHAIRS
UWinnipeg Club (4th floor, Wesley Hall)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25

8:30 – 8:45 am
CONFERENCE WELCOME
- ANNETTE TRIMBEE, President, UWinnipeg, “Welcome”
- ROYDEN LOEWEN, UWinnipeg, “Conference Introduction”

8:45 – 9:45 am
PANEL 1: MENNONITE ANTHROPOLOGY
Chair: Stephanie Phetsamy Stobbe, Menno Simons College
- PHILIP FOUNTAIN, Victoria U of Wellington, New Zealand, “Fragments of a Mennonite Anthropology”
- JOHN JANZEN, U of Kansas, “Confessions of a Mennonite Anthropologist”

9:45 – 10:15 am Coffee

10:15 am – 12:15 pm
PANEL 2: RACE & ETHNICITY
Chair: Debbi DiGennaro, Oxford Center for Mission Studies
- ABIGAIL CARL-KLASSEN, El Paso, Texas, “Mennonite, Mestizo, and Indigenous Bridge Builders: Cross-Cultural Encounters in the Campos Menonitas of Chihuahua”
- PABLO HYUNG JIN KIM SUN, U of Toronto, “Making an Intercultural Mennonite Ethnoreligion in a Global Context”
- URSULA REGEHR, U of Bern and Museum der Kulturen Basel, “Coexistence Revisited: Mennonite Settlers and Indigenous People in the Gran Chaco”

12:15 – 1:15 pm Lunch

1:15 – 3:15 pm
PANEL 3: ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION
Chair: Hans Werner, JMS Board
- PAOLA CANOVA, U of Texas, Austin, “Racialized Desires: The Intimacy of Mennonite Economic Transformations in Paraguay”
- MARILIN REHNFELDT, Catholic University of Asuncion, Paraguay, “Mennonite Haciendas and the Indigenous Labour Situation: A Study from Central Chaco”
- FABRICO VAZQUEZ, Academia Diplomática del Paraguay, “Leisure, Tourism and Luxury: The New Mennonite Bourgeoisie of the Paraguayan Chaco”

3:15 – 3:45 pm Coffee

3:45 – 5:00 pm
KEYNOTE ADDRESS VIA SKYPE
Chair: Aileen Friesen, Plett Foundation
- JAMES URRY, Victoria U of Wellington, New Zealand, “Mennonites, Anthropology and History: A Complicated Intellectual Relationship”

5:00 – 7:00 pm Dinner Break

7:00 – 9:00 pm
PANEL 4: RITUALS
Chair: Kathleen Venema, UWinnipeg
- LAURA MEITZNER YODER and JAMIE HUFF, Wheaton College, “’The best education happens around the table’: Four decades of ‘Mennonite Dinner’ in Wheaton”

MENNONITES AND ANTHROPOLOGY:
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26

8:30 – 10:00 am
PANEL 5: DISSENSION
Chair: Muriel Smith, JMS Board

- CHRISTA MYLIN, State U of New York, Albany, “What Does the Lord Require of You?: Turner’s Root Paradigms and Schism in Mennonite Church USA”

10:00 – 10:30 am Coffee

10:30 am – 12:00 pm
PANEL 6: MISSIONS
Chair: Eliakim Sibanda, UWinnipeg

- DOREEN HELEN KLASSEN, Memorial U, Grenfell, “The Local and the Universal: Jacob Loewen and Ben Eidse’s attempts to Indigenize Theology”

12:00 – 1:00 pm Lunch

1:00 – 2:00 pm
PANEL 7: DISCIPLINE
Chair: Patti Harms, Brandon University


2:00 – 3:00 pm
PANEL 8: ARCHAEOLOGIES
Chair: Conrad Stoesz, Mennonite Heritage Archives

- JOHN D. THIESEN, Bethel College, Kansas, “H. R. Voth, the Hopi and a Contested Kansas Mennonite Anthropo-/Archeological Legacy”
- ROLAND SAWATZKY, Manitoba Museum, “Earthly Remains: Recovery, Analysis and Reburial of a Mennonite Skeleton at Kleefeld, Manitoba”

3:00 – 3:30 pm Coffee

3:30 – 5:30 pm
PANEL 9: BODIES
Chair: Robert Zacharias, York University

- KERRY FAST, Toronto, “Steinbach Pride: Becoming an Embodied Queer Mennonite Space”
- TIMOTHY EPP, Redeemer U College, Hamilton, “Encountering the Black Person in Canadian Mennonite Newspapers”
- TOMOMI NAKA, Tottori University, Japan, “Women’s Singlehood and Social Networks: Lived Experience in Conservative Mennonite Communities in the U.S.”
- JOEL NOFZIGER, Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society, “‘A Token of Love’: A Cultural History of Hairwork among Pennsylvania German Mennonites”

5:30 – 6:00 pm
CONFERENCE REFLECTIONS AND THANK YOUS
PHILIP FOUNTAIN and ROYDEN LOEWEN

ETHNOGRAPHY, RELIGION, AND GLOBAL ENTANGLEMENTS
LODGING
• Holiday Inn, 360 Colony St.
  Phone: 204-786-7011
  *Ask for special UWinnipeg (Mennonite Studies Conference) rates

PARKING
• AnX Parkade off of Colony St.
• Impark parking lots around the University
• Hudson’s Bay Parkade
• Street parking also available

FOOD
• Stella’s, The Buhler Centre
• Elements, Richardson College for the Environment and Science Complex
• Riddell Hall Cafeteria, Centennial Building
• The University Club, Wesley Hall
• Dozens of restaurants near campus

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Future Mennonite Studies Conferences:
2020 MCC at 100: Mennonites, Service and the Humanitarian Impulse
2021 Indigenous Mennonite Relations, Conrad Grebel University College
2022 Mennonite Migration to Mexico Centennial
2023 Russländer Mennonite Migration Centennial

JOURNAL OF MENNONITE STUDIES
Selected, peer-reviewed papers from this conference will be published in the 2020 Journal of Mennonite Studies.
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