

Migration/Vistaskipti

**The 9th Partnership Conference
University of Manitoba
University of Iceland**

**Veröld – House of Vigdís
University of Iceland
Reykjavík, August 29–30, 2019**

Thursday, August 29, 2019, Veröld–House of Vigdís, 023

8:30am–9:00am: **Registration**

9:00am–9:35am: **Welcome and Opening Remarks:**

- Katrín Jakobsdóttir, Prime Minister of Iceland
- Anne-Tamara Lorre, Ambassador of Canada to Iceland
- Dr. Jón Atli Benediktsson, Rector and President at the University of Iceland
- Dr. Jeffery Taylor, Dean of Arts at the University of Manitoba

Facilitator: Dr. Guðmundur Hálfðánarson, Dean of the School of Humanities & Jón Sigurðsson Professor at the University of Iceland

9:35–9:45: *coffee break*

9:45am–10.30am: **Keynote Address: “Migration Imagination: Identity, Belonging & the Icelandic-Canadian Experience, Then and Now”**

- Dr. Richard Sigurdson, Dean of Arts & Professor of Political Science at the University of Calgary, and former Dean of Arts at the University of Manitoba

Facilitator: Dr. Birna Bjarnadóttir, Project Manager at the Vigdís Finnbogadóttir Institute, University of Iceland, and former Chair of Icelandic at the University of Manitoba

10:30am–12:00am: **Panel 1– The Settlement, Migration, and Resettlement of Icelandic Traditions: From the Tenth Century to the Twenty-First**

— Dr. Ármann Jakobsson, Professor in Old Icelandic Literature at the University of Iceland: “Settler or Shaman: Settlement Hierarchy in 10th Century Iceland”

— Bergur Þorgeirsson, Director of Snorrastofa, Cultural and Medieval Centre in Reykholt: “Norwegian-American ‘missions of education’ and Old-Icelandic literature”

— Dr. Dustin Geeraert, Instructor, Department of Icelandic Language and Literature at the University of Manitoba: “From Vinland to Valinor: The Westward Journeys of Old Norse Mythology”

Facilitator: Ásdís Egilsdóttir, Professor Emeritus of Medieval Icelandic Literature at the University of Iceland

12:00pm–1:30pm: *Lunch*

1:30pm–3:00pm: **Panel 2– Transplanting Language: The Growth and Legacy of Icelandic in North America**

— Dr. Birna Arnbjörnsdóttir, Professor of Second Language Studies in the Department of Languages and Cultures at the University of Iceland, and the Director of the Vigdís Finnbogadóttir Institute of Foreign Languages: “Icelandic as a Heritage Language in North America”

— Dr. Alda Bryndís Möller, Ph.D in Food Science and Graduate Student in Icelandic at the University of Iceland: “Tale of Three Brothers: Letters from Rural Nebraska 1873–1915”

— Dr. Höskuldur Þráinsson, Professor Emeritus of Icelandic Linguistics at the University of Iceland and Dr. Sigríður Magnúsdóttir, Associate Professor Emerita at the University of Iceland and former Director of Speech and Language Clinic at the Icelandic University Hospital, Landspítalinn: “North American Icelandic – Recent Developments”

Facilitator: Dr. Helga Hilmisdóttir, Research Associate Professor, Árni Magnússon Institute for Icelandic Studies

3:00pm–3:15pm: *coffee break*

3:15pm–4:45pm: **Panel 3 – Migration across the Atlantic at the Turn of the Century**

— Dr. Sigríður Matthíasdóttir, Historian and Dr. Þorgerður Einarisdóttir, Professor of Gender Studies, Faculty of Political Science at the University of Iceland –Project *Single Women and the Journey West*: “Forgotten Women with Agency? Single Women who Emigrated from Iceland to North America, 1870-1914”

— Dr. Vilhelm Vilhelmsson, Director of the University of Iceland Research Centre in Northwest Iceland and Co-Editor of *Saga, The Sögufélag (Historical Association) Journal*: “Acculturation on Their Own Terms: The Social Networks of Political Radicals Among Icelandic Immigrants in Canada, 1890–1910”

— Dr. Pam Perkins, Professor of English at the University of Manitoba: “Narrating Migrations: Women and Newfoundland’s 19th Century Migratory Fishery” (This paper will be read by Dr. Vanessa Warne of the University of Manitoba)

Facilitator: Dr. Hrefna Róbertsdóttir, Historian and Director of National Archives of Iceland

4:45pm–6:00pm: **Reception & Exhibition Opening**

Transitions/Vistabönd

Curator: Kristján Steingrímur Jónsson, Art Historian and Director of the University Art Collection

The exhibition Transitions / Vistabönd will open in Veröld – House of Vigdís at 17:00 on Thursday August 29 and will be on display until October 29. The participants are the composer Anna Þorvaldsdóttir, the artists Karlotta Blöndal, Olivia Plender, Unnar Örn and Ragnar Kjartansson, and the author Kristín Ómarsdóttir. With one exception, they all have in common the link of having been artists in residence at the Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity in Alberta, Canada, or have had work exhibited there. The exhibition has been set up in association with the conference [Migration/Vistaskipti](#). Though its exhibits reflect the varying subject matter of the creative artists, they display nonetheless the strong connection between man and nature. Very different localities become the source for art that expresses itself in various forms and media, and the exhibition consists of visual images, texts and music.

5:00pm–5:15pm **Opening remarks:**

— Dr. Jón Atli Benediktsson, Rector and President of the University of Iceland

Facilitator: Dr. Birna Arnbjörnsdóttir, Director of the Vigdís Finnbogadóttir Institute of Foreign Languages

Friday, August 30, 2019

***Please note that panels 4/5 and 6/7 are scheduled simultaneously, in Veröld–House of Vigdís, Room 023 (Panels 4 and 6) and Room 007 (Panels 5 and 7)**

Veröld–House of Vigdís, 023

9:00am–9:45am: Keynote Address: “Einar H. Kvaran (1859-1938) and the Complexity of Hopes”

— Dr. Guðrún Guðsteinsdóttir, Professor of English Literature in the Department of Languages and Cultures at the University of Iceland

Facilitator: Dr. Gregory Alan Phipps, Assistant Professor in the Department of English, University of Iceland

Veröld–House of Vigdís, 023

9:45am–10:45am: Panel 4–Identity and Immigrant Memory in North America

— Dr. Laurie K. Bertram, Assistant Professor of History at the University of Toronto: ““Don't ask Icelanders how to make their Christmas Cake”: Vínarterta and Icelandic Immigrant Memory in North America” (This paper will be read by P. J. Buchan of the University of Manitoba)

— Alison Calder, Professor of English at the University of Manitoba: ““Chow Mein – It's a Newfoundland Thing”: Migration, Identity, and Noodles in Ann Hui's *Chop Suey Nation*”

Facilitator: Dr. Birna Arnbjörnsdóttir, Professor of Second Language Studies in the Department of Languages and Cultures at the University of Iceland, and the Director of the Vigdís Finnbogadóttir Institute of Foreign Languages

Veröld – House of Vigdís, 007

9:45am–10:45am: Panel 5–Icelandic Immigrant Writers of North America

— Jay Lalonde, Graduate Student, Inter-American Studies, Department of English, University of Iceland: ““Our Destination Was Nova Scotia, in a Country Called Canada”:

Images of the Icelandic Settlement in Nova Scotia and its Community in Selected Works of J. M. Bjarnason“

— Dr. Magnús Þór Þorbergsson, Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the University of Iceland University of Iceland: “Migrating Plays”

Facilitator: Dr. Dagný Kristjánsdóttir, Professor of Modern Icelandic Literature at the University of Iceland.

10:45am–11:00am: *coffee break*

Veröld –House of Vigdís, 023

11:00am–12:00am: **Panel 6–Surrogacy Laws and Sexual Politics of Migration in Contemporary Canada and Iceland**

— Dr. Karen Busby, Professor of Law at the University of Manitoba, (Pamela White of Kent Law School is a co-author of the paper): “Migration: Canada’s Emergence as an International Surrogacy Destination”

— Dr. Thomas Brorsen Smidt, Project Manager, Gender Equality Studies and Training (GEST) Programme at the University of Iceland: “Sexual Migration, Queer Migration”

Facilitator: Björg Thorarensen, Professor of Law at the University of Iceland

Veröld –House of Vigdís, 007

11:00am–12:00am: **Panel 7–The Migration of Cultural Characteristics**

— Dr. Paul D. Larsson, Professor of Supply Chain Management, University of Manitoba: “Recent Migration to Canada and Iceland: Issues in Cultural Sustainability”

— Huimin Qi, Professor and Chinese Director of Northern Lights Confucius Institute: “Jazz Music in Fríkirkjan in Reykjavík (Independent Lutheran Free Church)”

Facilitator: Peter John Buchan, Instructor & Head, Department of Icelandic Language and Literature at the University of Manitoba

Veröld – House of Vigdís, 023

12:00 noon–1:00pm: **Panel 8– Narrative Traditions and Cultural Communities in Canada**

— Dr. Justin Jaron Lewis, Professor of Religion at the University of Manitoba:
“Migrations Transformed: Tosher Hasidic Teachings and Stories”

— Dr. Warren Cariou, Director, Centre for Creative Writing/Oral Culture and Professor of English at the University of Manitoba: “Terristory: Traveling and Belonging on the Land With Indigenous Traditional Stories”

Facilitator: Dr. Karen Busby, Professor of Law at the University of Manitoba

1:00pm–2:pm: *Lunch*

Veröld – House of Vigdís, 023

2:00pm–3:00pm: **Panel 9–The Migrant in Europe and the Americas, Then and Now**

— Dr. Hólmfríður Garðarsdóttir, Professor of Spanish at the University of Iceland:
“Within the Americas: Northbound Migration Attests to Manifold Exclusions and Lack of Political Resolutions”

— Dr. Simone Mahrenholz, Associate Professor of Philosophy at the University of Manitoba: “Past the Threshold: The Migrant as Doubly Connoted between Enemy and Strange Attractor”

Facilitator: Dr. Jón Ólafsson, Professor, Comparative Cultural Studies at the University of Iceland

3:00pm–3:15pm: *coffee break*

3:15pm–5:15pm: **Panel 10–Refugees and Asylum Seekers in Iceland, Project *Mobilities and Transnational Iceland***

— Dr. Guðbjörg Ottósdóttir, Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Social Work, University of Iceland: “Experiences of Syrian Quota Refugees and Professionals of Settlement Support Programs”

— Elísabet Kristjánsdóttir, M.A in Anthropology, Teaching & Research Assistant at the University of Iceland: “Women who Have Sought International Protection in Iceland”

— Elva Björt Stefánsdóttir, Graduate Student in Anthropology at the University of Iceland: “I wanted to belong to this community in Iceland.” The Life and Experiences of Refugees after Being Granted Asylum in Iceland””

— Dr. Unnur Dís Skaptadóttir, Professor in Anthropology at the University of Iceland: “Seeking International Protection in Iceland. Processes of Exclusion”

Facilitator: Dr. Thomas Brorsen Smidt, United Nations University, University of Iceland

5:15pm–5:30pm: **Closing Remarks**

— Dr. Guðmundur Hálfðánarson, Dean of the School of Humanities & Jón Sigurðsson Professor, University of Iceland

Gröndalshús/ Gröndal’s House:

6:00pm–7:30pm: **Special Panel on Transatlantic Publication Enterprises**

—Austin Quagleini, Graduate of the University of Manitoba in History and Religion: “Death or Glamour: Migration and Exorcism in *Grettir’s Saga*”

— Mooréa Gray, Writer and Editor: “Thinking Home: Stephan G. Stephansson's Poetry of Two Lands”

— Dr. Birna Bjarnadóttir, Project Manager at the Vigdís Finnbogadóttir Institute of Foreign Languages and former Chair of Icelandic at the University of Manitoba: “Poetry in Icelandic from Alberta and Other Inevitable Encounters in the World of Literature”

— Dr. Vanessa Warne, Associate Professor of English, University of Manitoba: “Revisiting: On William Morris’s Icelandic Travels”

Facilitator: Dr. Dustin Geeraert, Instructor, Department of Icelandic Language and Literature at the University of Manitoba