

OBITUARY / DÉCÈS

**Cathy Leigh James**

After a courageous struggle with cancer, Cathy James died peacefully on 12 December 2007. Cathy was an active member of the Canadian Historical Association and at the time of her death a professor in the Liberal Arts Programme at Seneca College in Toronto. She was a

committed scholar, mentor to many young historians of education, and passionate believer in social justice, all of which contributed to her work on the settlement movement in Toronto and the professionalization of social work.

Cathy's early training as an historian began at the University of British Columbia, where she also acquired teaching credentials. She then came east to study with Alison Prentice at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education/University of Toronto, obtaining her PhD in 1997. A Spencer Postdoctoral Fellowship enabled her to continue her research and to produce a series of fine articles. The first of these, in the *History of Education Quarterly* (1998), was a fascinating study of how theatrical events were employed by Toronto's social workers at the turn of the twentieth century "not merely for the sake of an evening's entertainment" but for educational purposes. Another article, providing a new interpretation of the reform movement in Toronto's settlement houses, was published in the *CHR* in 2001. Cathy was also a valued member of the Ottawa-based Research Group on Women and Professional Education and contributed to its publication in 2005 of *Learning to Practise: Professional Education in Historical and Contemporary Perspective*. Her chapter, "Professional Enactments: Practical Training and the Education of Social Workers in Toronto, 1914-1929," was truly exceptional and was awarded the Founders' Prize by the Canadian History of Education Association for the best English-language article/chapter on the history of education, 2004-2006. At the time of her death she was completing her manuscript on the settlement movement in Toronto.

Cathy's untimely loss has robbed us of a young scholar whose sound and insightful work was already notable, and who was poised to make further important and valuable contributions. Her students at Seneca have lost a dedicated and inspiring teacher. And her many friends will deeply miss a colleague whose engaging personality, lively mind, and readiness to

take up a challenge were always an invitation to a delightful conversation or collaboration.

In celebration of Cathy's life her family and friends have established a scholarship to support students graduating from the Liberal Arts Programme at Seneca College and enrolling at University. Donations can be made to the "Seneca College Cathy James Scholarship Fund," 1750 Finch Ave. East, Toronto, M2J 2X5, Attn: Lisa Mills.

Wyn Millar and Bob Gidney

Lawrence D. Stokes

With the sudden death of Lawrence D. Stokes on Christmas Eve, the Department of History at Dalhousie lost a cherished colleague.

Larry's dedication as a teacher was legendary. He committed himself to whatever subject he was teaching — whether the history of Germany, the study of European culture or George Orwell — with an intensity and enthusiasm that successfully encouraged students to raise their intellectual expectations of themselves. He had a uniquely effective teaching strategy that used carefully organized seminars for an intensive dialogue about demanding readings. As challenging as his classes in Weimar and Nazi Germany may have been, they invariably filled before the term started. He had a moral gyroscope that enabled him to analyze the historical contingencies and complexities of totalitarian regimes without conceding a relativism about their violations of humanity.

After playing goalie behind Frank Mahovlich at Saint Michael's College School, Larry forwent a promising hockey career to study at the University of Toronto, where he graduated with First Class Honours in Modern History. An internationally competitive Woodrow Wilson Scholarship took him to The Johns Hopkins University, where he studied with Vernon Lidtke and received his PhD in German History in 1972. In 1967 he joined the Dalhousie History Department, where he taught for the next 31 years.

With students as well as departmental colleagues, he was an assiduous marker, microscopically reading each paper to make stylistic comments, grammatical and typographical corrections, and recommendations for further reading. He was a generous but absolutely honest reader and marker: when students and, indeed, colleagues received high plaudits from him, they knew that it meant something.

Larry was a historian's historian. His devotion to archival research resulted in monumental publications of documents from the Schleswig-Holstein town of Eutin during the Nazi period; the town's citizens organized several meetings to mark their publication. This research provided the base for over two dozen articles, many of them in German, examining experiences during the Nazi regime in every aspect: from minor careers and everyday life, through neighborly betrayals and complicity in genocide, to heroic resistance. His classic article on reports of "Einsatzgruppen" murders in the eastern theatre studied some of the earliest documentation of the Final Solution as a Nazi program.

Larry was a pillar of collegiality. He meticulously edited the department's annual report so we had a comprehensive idea of the department's academic contributions. He kept track of each colleague's research so he could pass on reviews of potentially interesting books and articles. He crucially initiated and sustained the department's remarkable Graduate-Faculty Colloquium. He was always good for a 20-minute in-the-hall seminar when asked a casual historiographical question.

In retirement, Larry remained a keenly active historian, with a fruitful interest in the transnational careers of writers such as Alfred Ernst Johann Wollschläger and Thomas Wolfe during the 1920s and 1930s. He died on his way to the National Archives in Ottawa.

A memorial service will take place in early spring in Halifax.

John E. Crowley (*Dalhousie University*) and
Stephen J. Brooke (*York University*)



Christiane H.E. Harzig
Christiane Harzig was a distinguished scholar whose broad ranging historical interests brought her to Canada when she was awarded the John G. Diefenbaker Award in 2004, an award that enables a German scholar to spend up to a year in Canada pursuing research in the humanities and the social sciences.

Truly interested in a transnational perspective, Dr. Harzig's intellectual work and publications dealt with gender and class, jazz and multiculturalism, and citizenship and the nation, in German, American and Canadian history. Receiving her PhD from the Technical University of Berlin in 1990, Dr. Harzig's dissertation was entitled "Family, Work and the Female Public Sphere in an Immigrant City." This was the beginning of numerous projects related to migration experiences in different national contexts including *Immigration and Politics: Historical Memory and Political Culture in Sweden, the Netherlands and Canada* (2004) (in German) and (with co-editors Danielle Juteau and Irina Schmitt) *The Social Construction of Diversity: Recasting the Master Narrative of Industrial Nations* (2003). The latter book featured essays from scholars in ten different countries on the impact of immigration on social, political and cultural development.

She passed away on 6 November 2007, from a malignant melanoma, a little over a year after she moved from Germany to the United States to begin a new phase in her life at Arizona State University as an Associate Professor specializing in the history of migration. She was 55.

Donations can be made to the Emma Goldman Scholarship Fund in memory of Christiane Harzig for which Chris left a bequest for one travel grant each for three years, for a student specializing in gender, feminist, or migration history.

Compiled by **Alexandra Mosquin**
with assistance from **Dirk Hoerder**