



SPRING 2009

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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GENDER EQUALITY COMMITTEE UPDATE

SID-OG Gender Equality Committee invites ALL members of SID-OG to participate in a **reading and discussion group** about gender and development issues. The aim of this group is to promote reflection, dialogue and debate related to gender and development issues. For more information, visit SID-OG's Website.

Dear Members,

Welcome to the fifth issue of *ConSIDerations*, your chapter's Newsletter. This issue is the first of two planned for 2008-2009.

I am pleased to report that 2008 was a period of enhanced productivity for the SID-OG Executive. The SID-OG Board of Directors participated in two strategic retreats following the June 2008 AGM, which led to the launch in September of SID-OG's revamped website, chapter presence on Facebook, and a new programming theme, *The International System Under Strain: Challenges for Development*.

This Autumn, we organized a number of successful events related to this theme, including: a **video screening of two documentaries about Africa** produced by WORLDwrite, an educational filmmaking charity in London, UK; a presentation by Marc Shotland, Senior Program Manager JPAL (Poverty Action Laboratory) at MIT on *Improving the Effectiveness of Poverty Programs through Scientific Results*; a panel discussion on *Alternative Development Paths in Latin America*; and a presentation with Dr. Diane Elson, University of Essex, on *Gender Equality and the Current Economic Crisis*. The programming lineup for 2009 is equally diverse, with more details to be found on p. 3.

In 2008, we recruited Dr. Arch Ritter (featured on p. 2) and Bruce Moore to the SID-OG Board of Directors, and our first volunteer coordinator, Christine Aubry who held two successful volunteer recruitment and

orientation sessions. We also began an innovative, 9-month community mentorship project with the National Association of Immigrant and Visible Minority Women (NOIVM) to *engage visible minority women in leadership roles in Canadian society*. SID-OG welcomes the three mentees: Yana Tarabukhin, Kimalee Philip, and Emem Inyang. We offer our appreciation to Dr. Annette Isaac, a former SID-OG Board Member (featured in the 1st issue of *ConSIDerations*), who is generously helping to facilitate our involvement.



Soraya Hassanali introducing Dr. Diane Elson, from the University of Essex, at an event in Nov. 2008

We remain in 2008-2009 in an upward phase of growth. In addition to the above, the focus of the Executive Board for the remainder of our mandate will be: to improve the chapter's public relations and external outreach capacity and to standardize our internal information and financial management systems.

Over the next weeks and months, I would encourage all members to attend as many of our events as possible, to encourage your colleagues and friends to join the chapter, and to stay tuned for other exciting new developments.

Sincerely,

Soraya Hassanali
SID-OG President
2007-2008, 2008-2009

MEMBER'S CORNER: ARCH RITTER

Arch Ritter is a Professor Emeritus in the department of Economics and The Norman Paterson School of International Affairs, at Carleton University. He recently joined the SID-OG Board of Directors. He has a special interest in programming for SID events, and organized a panel on "Alternate Paths in Latin American Development" in November 2008. Arch has been involved in development issues throughout his career, and after decades of membership in the chapter his contributions to the Board will be very appreciated.

One of his first publications was a book edited with another long time chapter member, David Pollock, and based on a conference organized through the School of International Affairs at Carleton in 1973:

A. Ritter and D. Pollock (editors), **Latin American Prospects for the 1970s: What Kinds of Revolutions?**, New York: Praeger 1973, pp. 1-335.

Ten years later, they followed up with another book based on the proceedings of a second conference they organized, also at Carleton:

A. Ritter and D. Pollock (editors), **Latin American Prospects for the 1980s: Equity, Democratization and Development**, New York: Praeger, 1983, pp. 1-330.

David Pollock had many years of experience with ECLAC in Chile and Washington, DC, and was one of Arch's closest colleagues and friends. Together they had a

wealth of knowledge on Latin America which they shared with Carleton students.

Arch has been widely known as a Cuba expert, and as well as for his academic contributions on Cuba. He was the initiator and organizer on the Canadian side of a Master's Program in Economics offered at and with the University of Havana from 1994 to 1999 for junior Cuban economics professors. In addition, he has wide-ranging interests related to development economics in Latin America and Africa, including issues relating to indigenous peoples.

Arch worked in the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in Santiago (Chile) in 1973-1974 and has lived and worked in Kenya and Tanzania as well as Cuba. He has been active in NGOs and professional associations, having served as President of the Canadian Association of Latin American and Caribbean Studies, 1989-1990; and having been in charge of programming for the Canadian Institute for International Affairs (now the Canadian International Council) in the early 1970s. He served as the Chair of the Department of Economics, Carleton University, from July 2001 until June 2004. He is currently the Treasurer and on the founding Board of Directors of a new NGO, "Academics for Higher Education and Development."

The Ottawa-Gatineau Chapter of SID has welcomed Arch's participation on the Board and look for a long and fruitful collaboration.



Pr. Arch Ritter has recently joined SID-OG's Board of Directors

"The growing success of our Ottawa-Gatineau Chapter has caught the attention of SID constituents the world over. Many Chapters are looking at our approach to membership development, programming and management as a model for their own pursuits in supporting the Plan." Christopher Braeuel, SID Governing Council member

GOVERNING COUNCIL'S UPDATE

Christopher Braeuel, former SID-OG President and Board member, is serving on the SID Governing Council (2007-2010) and participated in the Council's 86th session in Rome, Italy in early October. The focus of the session was on reviewing the draft SID Strategic Plan (2008-2010) to reinvigorate SID internationally and to ensure the organization will be strong and vibrant for the future. Representing the North American region, Braeuel noted that "the growing success of our Ottawa-Gatineau Chapter has caught the attention of SID constituents the world over. Many Chapters are looking at our approach to membership development, programming and management as a model for their own pursuits in supporting the Plan." He adds that "SID international is only as strong as the na-

tional Chapters that make up the global community. As one of the more successful Chapters, Ottawa-Gatineau has a leadership role to play internationally in strengthening chapter development and in supporting those in their infancy, be they in Asia, Africa or elsewhere. We have much to offer and will do our part to support the implementation of the Strategic Plan." Once the Plan and its various elements have been finalized by the Council, an official copy will be available on the SID-OG website for your information. Christopher looks forward to working with the Ottawa-Gatineau Chapter to identify areas in which we are best positioned to support the Plan's implementation. For more information on the SID Governing Council for 2007-2010, please visit our website at: www.sidottawa.ca.

PROGRAMMING RECAP FOR THE YEAR

The programming season beginning in January 2009 has and will be a busy one for the Society albeit with a late launch due to the bus strike. It began with a presentation on February 25 by Keith Newman *"Redefining Canada's Global Agenda: What do Canadians Think?"* which was well attended and well received with representation in the audience by the North-South Institute, CIDA, and a number of NGO's. On March 11 the Gender Equality Committee organized an event *"Human Rights in Latin America: Overcoming Gender Bias"*.

Our next event on March 26, 2009 is Dr. Victor Sit, Director, Advanced Institute of Contemporary China Studies, Hong Kong,

who will be speaking on *"China and the Global Financial Tsunami: start of a new era?"* This will be followed by a Presentation by Mr. Jan Pronk, former Netherlands Minister for International Development and Special Envoy to the UN Secretary General on Darfur who will be speaking on "Peace Operations, Political Mediation and Development" while visiting the Chapter in April or May. Three more events are scheduled to close out the programming year, dealing with child soldiers - a presentation of the Gender Equality Committee - the economic challenges of small island states and the effectiveness of anti-poverty programming in Brazil/Latin America. Stay tuned for further announcements.



Panelists speaking on human rights in Latin America at Saint Brigid's Centre for the Arts and Humanities

EMERITUS MEMBER—DOUG DANIELS

Doug Daniels became President of the then SID Ottawa Valley Chapter in 1989 and remained as President until 1995. One notable event that the Chapter organized during this period was a three day international development conference that brought together over 250 participants, including the members of the SID International Board.

Doug was then elected to the Board of SID International for the period 1997-2001. He served as Treasurer on the Executive Committee during this period when Boutros Boutros Ghali was the President.

Doug Daniels has worked in international development for over 40 years beginning with a CUSO position in Uganda. He has worked for the Department of External Affairs and IDRC in Canada. He was one of the early employees of IDRC joining in 1973 and was involved in creating the agricultural economics program and setting up the Office of Planning and Evaluation as well as an Office for Central and Eastern Europe. He set up the Private Sector and NGO office for FAO in 1995.

His extensive experience was acquired while working in every continent and region on development issues related to education, health, agriculture, economics and research. He has published three books and more than 50 articles concerning international affairs and development.

Since his return to Canada in 2001, he has worked as a development consultant for UN and bilateral development agencies as well as different INGOs. He has also served on the Board of a number of NGOs.

He is currently on the Board of Directors of the National Council on Canada-Arab Relations, and he also has been and/or is on the following boards: Advisory Board, Canadian Journal of Development Studies; International Board of Governors, Society for International Development (Rome); Vice-President, International Book Bank (US); and CODE.

In recognition of Doug's contribution to the Chapter and to SID (Rome), SID Ottawa-Gatineau Chapter awarded Doug the status of Emeritus Member in 2008.



Board Member Vivian Cummins and Volunteer Coordinator Christine Aubry taking registrations at an event held at the IDRC

www.sidottawa.ca



**SOCIETY FOR
INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT (SID)
OTTAWA-GATINEAU
CHAPTER**

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Created in 1957, the Society for International Development (SID) is a unique global network of individuals and institutions concerned with development that is participatory, pluralistic and sustainable.

SID Ottawa-Gatineau, the second largest chapter in North America, is engaged in programming of seminars, newsmaker breakfasts and special conferences on timely and topical themes within the subject area of international development.

Mission Statement

The mission of SID Ottawa-Gatineau is to provide a forum for knowledge sharing on issues of development, globalization and human security. We achieve our mission by providing a network for individuals working in international development, globalization and human security; providing leading researchers and practitioners the opportunity to address and present pioneering analysis and policy initiatives on SID-related themes; providing a forum for student development and profile; and working in collaboration with other interested partners.

Join the SID-OG on

facebook

SID-OG would like to
thank its partners:

SID-OG BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2008-2009

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Special thanks also to SID-OG Volunteers:

Dave Rogers (Webmaster) - for his ongoing technical support and the development of a new look & feel for SID-OG's Website

Christine Aubry (Volunteer Coordinator) - who is instrumental in managing the volunteers working for SID-OG and keeping them involved in important activities of the chapter