



Kwantlen
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

**INSTITUTE for
TRANSBORDER STUDIES (ITS)**

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Inspiration...



- Dreilaendereck, Basel (CH, FR, G)

Overview

- History & rationale
- Mandate
- Approach
- Activities: Research
- Activities: Teaching
- Activities: Outreach & partnerships

History & Rationale

- Established in April 2002
- Responding to need for studies
 - ❖ improving transborder relations between countries
 - ❖ especially between Canada and the US
 - ❖ even more so after 9/11

Mandate

The Institute for Transborder Studies (ITS) contributes to the promotion of cooperation across regional and national boundaries through teaching, research, and public outreach and partnerships concentrated on political, social, economic, and justice issues.

Approach

The Institute for Transborder Studies

- Is a forum for activities carried out in an inter-disciplinary fashion
- Builds on Kwantlen's areas of strength
- Integrates teaching, research, and public outreach activities

Activities: Research

1. Research on transborder relations and environments

Example:

Comparative Dispute Resolution in Bilateral, Regional, & Multilateral Trade & Investment Agreements

SSHRC Strategic Research Cluster Design Grant, October 2004 - November 2005



Research (contd.)

2. Academic program development

Example:

Joint ITS and Canadian Red Cross (CRC) Youth TAP (Training in Action Program)

Workshop on Humanitarian Issues & Law

How to transfer knowledge from our peaceful borderland experiences to communities in conflict regions

Research (contd.)

3. Establishing a Chair in Transborder Studies
4. Occasional papers on transborder issues
5. A periodic electronic newsletter on the Institute's activities > detailed website

Activities: Teaching

- Dissemination of research results through teaching and public outreach
- ITS activities are open to both Kwantlen's community and the public at large

Teaching

1. Speaker series: *Point of View*

6 annual public lectures by scholars, professionals, experts, & activists

2004-05

Fall term – *The Significance of Borders to Government & Business*

Spring term – *The Significance of Borders to Individuals & Society*

Sponsored by The Leon and Thea Koerner Foundation

2005-06

Fall term - *The Environment in a Transborder Perspective*

Spring term - *Media and the Transborder Perspective*

Teaching (contd.)

2. Special events on recent, important &/or controversial transborder issues

Special "Jean Monnet" Lecture

April 7, 2005, Richmond Campus, 7-9 p.m.

"The Economic and Monetary Union (EMU) and the Current Monetary Policy of the European Union: Including the New Members"

Guest speaker: Mathias Rauch, Visiting Professor,
University of Leipzig

Teaching (contd.)

3. Guest lecturers for Kwantlen's degree programs

- ❖ Visiting professor, teaching 1 term
Course: ***European Integration***

3 year Jean Monnet Project 2004-2007
European Module, European Commission
- ❖ Occasional visiting professors
- ❖ New course: ***Comparative Transborder Regions***
emphasis - Pacific Northwest

Teaching (contd.)

4. Educational services, e.g. written, audio-visual, and online materials

Example:

All ***Point of View*** Speaker Series lectures are available online

Activities: Outreach and Partnerships

1. Collaborative partnerships

for joint knowledge projects & knowledge exchange with

- ❖ Research and education institutions
- ❖ Public sector – government & inter-governmental organisations
- ❖ Private sector – business, non-governmental organisations, stakeholders at large

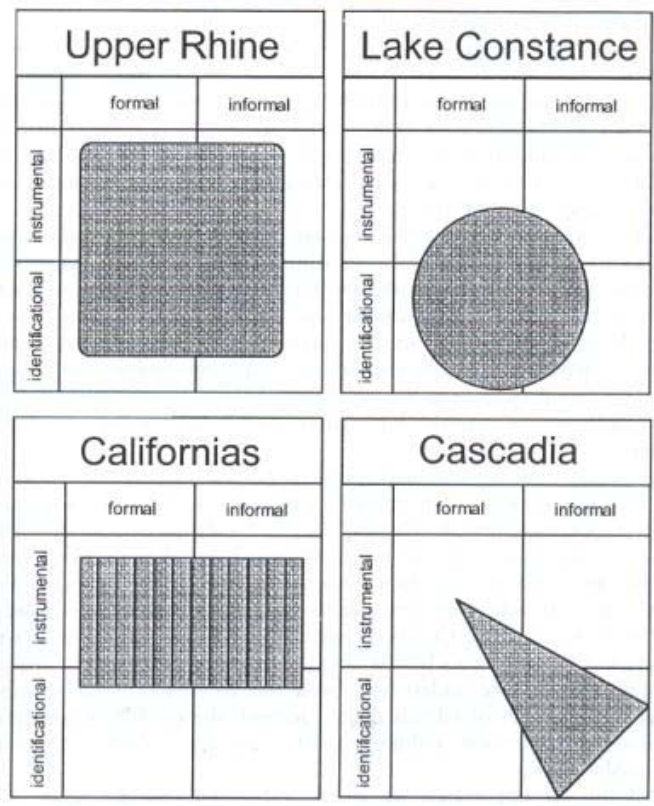
Activities: Outreach and Partnerships

2. Emphasis: The “**Pacific Northwest**”

- ❖ **Inward** and **outward** looking
- ❖ To conduct **policy** relevant research
- ❖ To serve as a **sounding board** for transborder concerns of the region



Figure 2
Dominant Characteristics of the Institutions of Cross-Border Cooperation
in the Four Border Regions



Blatter, J.K. “Debordering the World of States: Towards a Multi-Level System in Europe and MultiPolity System in North America? Insights from Border Regions” (2001)