



MENNO SIMONS COLLEGE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Menno Simons College Presents Local Expert on Food Security in Northern Manitoba MSC hosts second lecture in series focused on international development

WINNIPEG, October 12, 2013 – Over the course of the 2013-14 academic year, Menno Simons College (MSC) will host a series of lectures by distinguished scholars from Canada, the United States, and the United Kingdom speaking on the theme *“How We Grow, Share & Eat: Moving Towards Just and Sustainable Food & Farming Systems.”*

The second lecture in the series, titled *Harvest of Hope and Food Sovereignty in Northern Manitoba*, is scheduled for October 24 and will feature the University of Manitoba’s Dr. Shirley Thompson. Drawing upon her research in northern, Aboriginal communities in Manitoba, Dr. Thompson will highlight the need for community action plans to implement country food programs, community gardens, land use practices, and food co-operatives.

With a focus on sustainable farming, food security, and ethical land use, MSC’s Esau Lecture Series brings together a variety of noted international development experts to address the complexity and issues of today’s world where a burgeoning global economy leaves many people with a scarcity of food, while others experience over-abundance.



“We are very excited to be hosting Dr. Thompson,” says Jerry Buckland, MSC Dean. “Her research hits close to home and reminds us that food security is not just a third world problem—it’s domestic concern as well. All communities need the reliable, sustainable meeting of basic of needs to remain healthy. Dr. Thompson’s work makes the links between sustainability, health, and policy clear.”

All lectures will take place from 7:00 to 9:00 PM in the University of Winnipeg’s Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall. Admission is free.

The remaining Esau Lecture Series consists of the following dates, presentations, and guest speakers:

- **October 24, 2013:** with Dr. Shirley Thompson, Associate Professor, Natural Resources Institute, University of Manitoba.

- **November 21, 2013:** *Feeding the World: is Hunger Inevitable?* with Dr. Haroon Akram-Lodhi, Chair & Professor of International Development Studies, Trent University; and author of *Hungry for Change: Farmers, Food Justice and the Agrarian Question*.
- **January 23, 2014:** *This land is Our Land?: Re-Integrating Earth, Eating, and Ethics* with Dr. Nettie Wiebe, Professor of Church and Society, St. Andrew's College, University of Saskatchewan.
- **February 27, 2014:** *Campesino a Campesino: Agroecology and Resilience* with Dr. Eric Holt-Gimenez, Executive Director of Food First/Institute for Food and Development Policy, Oakland, California.
- **March 20, 2014:** *The Sustainable Intensification of World Agriculture* with Dr. Jules Pretty, Deputy Vice-Chancellor at the University of Essex, and Professor of Environment and Society, author of many books including *The Earth Only Endures*.

About Menno Simons College

Menno Simons College, a part of Canadian Mennonite University and affiliated with the University of Winnipeg, has been offering programs in International Development Studies (IDS) and Conflict Resolution Studies (CRS) since 1989. MSC fosters a vibrant undergraduate learning community in its newly renovated facility at 520 Portage Avenue. It offers 3-year and 4-year majors and a minor in IDS and CRS, an honors program in IDS, and an extensive practicum program. The College has over 1,000 students and hundreds of alumni working in the development and conflict resolution sectors in Manitoba, Canada, and internationally.

- 30 -

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- 30 -