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Phyllis Brooks  
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For immediate release

WLU conference on biography and Canadian  
literature attracts 50 scholars from across Canada

About 50 academics from universities across Canada will be attending a two-day conference at Wilfrid Laurier University to discuss biography and Canadian literature.

The conference, to be held Sept. 28 to 29, is designed to bring together scholars interested in researching and writing biographies and studying biography as a literary form.

According to a recent report only a small number of Canadian literary scholars listed biography as a research interest. As a result biographies are lacking for many Canadian literary figures.

"Many problems surround biographical research in Canada," said James Doyle, professor of English at WLU. "We plan, during the two days, to focus attention on some of them and we hope to find solutions so more scholars will be encouraged to pursue research in this area."

Papers and panel discussions will be presented on topics such as problems of research and writing of Canadian biography; relationship between biography and literary criticism; relationship between biography and autobiography/the autobiographical novel; problems of dealing with living subjects; liaison between literary scholars and the Dictionary of Canadian Biography.

The conference is sponsored by the WLU English department with the assistance of The WLU office of research and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.