TENTATIVE PROGRAM
INDIAN DIASPORA CONFERENCE:
“THE INDIAN DIASPORA: IDENTITIES, TRAJECTORIES AND
TRANSNATIONALITIES”
AT THE U.W.I., ST. AUGUSTINE, 12TH -16TH MAY 2015

TUESDAY 12 MAY 2015

6:00 PM -8:00 PM  OPENING CEREMONY (TEACHING AND LEARNING CENTRE)
8:00 PM -10:00PM  RECESSION (Hosted by CAMPUS PRINCIPAL)

WEDNESDAY 13 MAY 2015
Panel 1  9:00 AM -10:30 AM  HISTORIOGRAPHY OF THE INDIAN DIASPORA
“Trends in the Historiography of Indentured Labour”
Brij V. Lal
“Historiography of Resistance of Indentured Labourers in Suriname”
M. Hasan Khan
“Historiography of Indentured Labour in the Indian Ocean with Focus on Mauritius”
R. B. Allen
“Indentured Indian Historiography in the Anglophone Caribbean”
L. Roopnarine

10:30 AM – 11:00 AM  COFFEE BREAK

Panel 2  11:00 AM - 12:30 PM  CROSS CULTURAL EXCHANGES
“Cross Cultural Exchanges in Mauritius”
K. Nayeck
“Music, Videos & Douglarization: Playing with Race & Crossing Ethnic Borders in Trinidad”
P. Moonsammy
C. Hoyer
“The Early Years in Suriname: Indenture, the Estates and Beyond”
C. Choenni

12:30 PM - 1:45 PM  LUNCH
Panel 3A  2:00 PM - 3:15 PM

**DISLOCATION AND DISSONANCE**

“Struggles of Indian Dalit Diaspora: A Case of United States of America”
S. Bandela

“Social Exclusion, Discrimination and Xenophobia in the Middle East: A Sociological Study of Indian Emigrants”
B. Bahadur

“Hindu Nationalism and The Model Minority”
S. Madivala

Panel 3B

**PEOPLE AND PERSONALITIES**

“Imaging & Imagining: Varied Conceptions of the Indian Diaspora”
C. Norton

“From Indian to Trinbagonian: Adrian Cola Rienzi as Trade Unionist & Politician”
B. Samaroo

“Ranjit Kumar & the Hindu Maha Sabha of Trinidad”
P. Gooptar

3:15 PM - 3:30PM  COFFEE BREAK

Panel 4A  3:30 PM - 4:45 PM

**SEXUALITY AND GENDER PERSPECTIVES**

“Interrogating Gender Roles: An Exploration of Interviews with Formerly Indentured Women”
A. Klein

“Perspectives of Administrators of Islamic Secondary Schools on Masculine Construction”
A. Ali & S. Geofroy

“The Mixed-Up Life of the Indo-Caribbean Woman”
J.V. Maharaj

Panel 4B

**LANGUAGE, EDUCATION AND IDENTITY FORMATION**

“A Comparison between Modern Standard Hindi and Trinidad Hindustani”
V. Bhimull

“Indians in Guyana and the Caribbean: Identity and Ethnicity”
R. Tiwari

“Longing, Belonging and the Search for Identity: A Reading of Peggy Mohan’s Jahajin”
N. Misra

6:30 PM – 8:30 PM  KEYNOTE ADDRESS (Prof. Brij V. Lal)
CULTURAL PROGRAMME & RECEPTION
(Sponsored by MGICC)
THURSDAY 14 MAY 2015

Panel 5  9:00AM-10:30 AM

DIASPORAS OF DIASPORAS
M. K. Gautam
“Buss Up Shop: A Little Bit of Home in London”
J. Mair
“The Quality of Life of Transnational Women: Trinidadian Migrant Women in Great Britain and the U.S.”
D. Prashad
“Diaspora Imaginaries, Transnationalism and Identity Reconstruction in Peripheral Post-Colonial Contexts: A Tale of Hindustani Migrants in Lisbon and Rotterdam”
J. Malheiros

10:30 AM-11:00 AM  COFFEE BREAK

Panel 6  11:00AM-12:30 PM

MIGRATION AND MEDICINE
“Beyond ‘East’: Bihari Labor Migration to Bengal and Beyond in the 19th and Early 20th Centuries”
A. Yang
“Indian Labor Migration in Global Perspective: Comparing Kangany and Indenture Systems, 1840-1940”
P. Mohapatra
“Indian Immigrants, Infectious Diseases and Colonial Authorities, 1830-1870”
R. Boodhoo
“The Traumas of Indenture and the Continuity of Ancient Hindu Healing Remedies: A Psycho-Social Analysis”
S. Maharaj-Ramdial

12:30 PM-1:45 PM  LUNCH

Panel 7A  2:00 PM - 3:15 PM

LITERARY REPRESENTATIONS OF THE INDIAN DIASPORA
“Literary Representations of the Role of Indian Diasporic Communities in Challenging Culturally Homogeneous Constructions of the Postcolonial Nation-State”
E. Jackson
“Feminist Consciousness in Samuel Selvon’s “Tiger Books”
A. J. Pierre
“Gendering the Subject of Indenture in Three Guyanese Narratives of Migration and Settlement”
S. Scafe
ART, MUSIC AND AESTHETICS
S. Patasar
“Chandernagore Nadira: A Visual Retrospective of the East Indian Diaspora of Trinidad & Tobago”
P. Mohammed
A. Sydney

3:15 PM-3:30PM
COFFEE BREAK

INTO THE 21ST CENTURY: TRENDS & PERSPECTIVES
Plantation Diaspora and Global Trends”
K. Haraksingh

“Finding Distant Relatives in Ancestral India”
K. Mahabir

Michael Toussaint

IDENTITIES AND ETHNICITIES IN THE INDIAN DIASPORA
“From Indian to Trinidadian: the Construction and Deconstruction of Indian Identity from Colonialism to the Present”
S. Ramsumair
“Kinship and Ethnic Identity: Changing Realities of Indian Diaspora in Trinidad”
S. J. Chand
“The Integration of the Indo-Surinamese, 1945-1980”
R. Gowricharn

FRIDAY 15 MAY 2015

QUESTIONING & REDRAWING INDIAN DIASPORA HISTORIOGRAPHY
“An Authorized Version?: The Indo-Trinidadian Narrative since 2010”
B. Brereton
“Reconstructing the History of Indian Diaspora: Issues, Concerns & Challenges”
K. Kumar
“Voices from the Inside”: Locating Oral History in Diasporic Reconstructions; Trinidad 1920-1945”
S.A. Singh
“Exploring Interstices in the Question of Return in the Narratives of Indian Indentured Labor”
K. Peter
10:30 AM – 11:00 AM  COFFEE BREAK

Panel 9  11:00 AM - 12:30 PM  RELIGION & SPIRITUALITY IN THE INDIAN DIASPORA

“Identities & Ethnicities in the Indian Diaspora”
K. Fox-Knudtson

“An Imagined Community: the Hindu Diaspora in Trinidad”
A. Bhagwat

“The Hindu Dimensions of a Cuban Revolutionary’s Nationbuilding: José Martí & the Bhagavad-Gita”
A. García de la Torre

“Religions and Hindu Spirituality in the Tamil Diaspora of Paris”
D. Koumarane Villeroy

12:30 PM - 1:45 PM  LUNCH

Panel 10  2:00 PM - 3:30 PM  BRIDGING THE GAP: INDIA AND ITS DIASPORA

“India’s Relationship with British Guiana during the Guyanese Independence Struggle”
R. A. Waters, Jr.

“Cricket: A Connecting Bridge between the West Indies and India”
A. Bhavthankar

“‘To India with Love’: Communication, Interaction and Identity Formation”
R. Mahase

“Diasporic Dissonance: Trinidad Indians and India’s Struggle for Independence”
U. Quraishi

7:00 PM - 10:00 PM  CLOSING RECEPTION HOSTED BY THE INDIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER TO TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

SATURDAY 16 MAY 2015

TOUR/SITESEEING ARRANGED AND SPONSORED BY MINISTRY OF TOURISM