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*Please distribute widely*

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**CALL FOR PAPERS**

Seventh Annual General Meeting of the  
Canadian Association for Food Studies

*Crossroads for Food Studies: A Fork in the Road?*

Wilfrid Laurier University and University of Waterloo  
Waterloo, Ontario  
May 26-28, 2012

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The Canadian Association for Food Studies (CAFS) will host its seventh annual general meeting at Wilfrid Laurier University and University of Waterloo, Waterloo (ON), from May 26 – 28, 2012 in conjunction with the 2012 Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences.

Founded in 2005, CAFS promotes critical, interdisciplinary scholarship in the broad area of food systems: production, distribution, and consumption. CAFS members are drawn from an array of disciplines including adult education, agriculture, anthropology, economics, environmental studies, health studies, home economics, human nutrition, geography, literature, psychology, philosophy, policy studies, public health, rural studies, sociology, social work and urban planning. CAFS membership is open to academics, students, policy makers, community workers, professionals, practitioners and others interested in food studies research.

CAFS recognizes the need for interdisciplinary research on food issues both within and outside of academia in response to societal needs such as informing policy makers, assessing the outcomes of community-based work, and demonstrating the health, social, cultural, spiritual and environmental impacts of food systems.

To encourage interdisciplinarity, and to reflect the broad range of important work happening in this field, we encourage academics and community researchers to submit proposals for any of the following: (see below for descriptions of each)

- thematic sessions
- individual paper presentations
- pecha kucha–like presentations
- exploration gallery displays

The 2012 CAFS conference theme, which reflects the Congress theme, is Crossroads for Food Studies: A Fork in the Road? Our subject matter necessarily requires the crossing of disciplines and both the coming together and moving apart of ideas, individuals, and methods. The crossroads, then, represents the place where our studies both intersect and diverge, the moments when we make decisions about directions to take and colleagues with whom to collaborate, and the realities we face around change as individuals and communities, within the institutions of academia, government, social organizations, and elsewhere. These realities also engage with the crossings of food that take place at a larger scale—the migrations of food, products, and people around the planet, the entanglements of commerce and culture, and the challenges of rationalizing globalism with food issues both regional and local.

We invite submissions that deal with these questions, within (but not limited to) food production and consumption, regional and local foodscapes, relationships between urban practices and rural environments, other investigations from community development to interdisciplinary education to crossings of art, technology, and food.

We also encourage proposals dealing with the following ongoing CAFS interests as they relate to aspects of food or food studies:

- program or project evaluation
- research or funding directions
- research methodology and practice
- politics and policy
- the political economy of food and agriculture
- ecological food and agriculture environments
- the sociology and culture of consumption
- activism and media
- gender, ethnicity/race, class and justice
- food insecurity and hunger
- sustainability
- food culture or history
- food ethics or philosophy

## THEMATIC SESSION PROPOSALS

submission deadline:  
December 16, 2011

Please send the session title and the name and organizational affiliation of the session organizer. Please also include the authors' names, affiliations, email addresses, and abstracts (150 words) of each paper to be included in the session. If you suggest a chair for the sessions, please include details on that person as well. Submissions will be accepted in either French or English. If possible, please submit in both French and English. The program committee will work with session organizers to ensure disciplinary diversity and content compatibility.

*Note: Sessions will be 90 minutes in length and organizers should take this into account for effective time management. Individual papers are typically 15 minutes with 5 additional minutes for questions (for a total of 20 minutes). A session will therefore typically have 4 presenters.*

## INDIVIDUAL PAPER PROPOSALS

submission deadline:  
January 13, 2012

Please send a brief abstract (150 words), along with your paper title, and the name(s), affiliation(s) and email address(es) of the author(s). Submissions will be accepted in either French or English. If possible, please submit in both French and English. The program committee will work to ensure disciplinary diversity and content compatibility when placing individual papers within sessions.

*Note: Presenters should ensure that their papers are of an appropriate length for the time allocated. Individual sessions are 15 minutes in length with 5 additional minutes for questions (for a total of 20 minutes)*

## PECHA KUCHA-LIKE PROPOSALS

submission deadline:  
January 13, 2012

Pecha kucha is a short-form presentation that emerges from the design world (see [www.pecha-kucha.org/what](http://www.pecha-kucha.org/what) for more details). These presentations comprise exactly 20 slides, each shown for exactly 20 seconds (using the automatic timer of Powerpoint or Keynote), comprising a total presentation time of just 6 minutes and 40 seconds. The goal is to explain one or two key ideas pertaining to your work, rather than a complete research study or project. Presenters should think in terms of describing a narrative, a theme, an experimental direction, or another BRIEF notion, which will trigger connection-making in the audience and eventual feedback. A facilitated discussion takes place at the end of all pecha kucha presentations given within a session. Typically 7 or 8 pecha kuchas will be given per session.

To submit either an individual pecha kucha or an entire session of 7 or 8 presentations that you would like to coordinate, send a brief abstract (150 words), along with your pecha kucha title (or pecha kucha session title and participant abstracts), and the name(s), affiliation(s) and email address(es) of the presenter(s). Submissions will be accepted in either French or English. If possible, please submit in both French and English. The program committee will work to ensure disciplinary diversity and content compatibility when placing individual presentations within sessions.

## EXPLORATION GALLERY DISPLAY PROPOSALS

submission deadline:  
March 30, 2012

Following on last year's broad participation in this successful experimental format, CAFS encourages graduate students, food practitioners, members of the NGO community, researchers outside the academy, artists, and learned members of the community to contribute works for our Exploration Gallery. All media are invited including posters, books, slide shows, video, or works of art and design. The Exploration Gallery will run for the duration of the CAFS conference. Please contact the programming committee well in advance if your submission requires special installational arrangements, in order to determine if your submission can be accommodated.

### Award for Excellence in Food Studies Research

The purpose of this award is to recognize CAFS members for outstanding research contributions in the past FIVE years that have had a significant impact in the field of Food Studies. To nominate a member, please submit the following:

Send all nominations to [CafsAdmin@foodstudies.ca](mailto:CafsAdmin@foodstudies.ca) for forwarding to the CAFS Awards Committee Chair.

submission deadline:  
March 1, 2012

- a cover letter from the principal nominator detailing the member's contributions to substantive areas of research and/or theory and other qualifications for the award
- the nominee's current CV (optional)
- two or three letters of support (at least one from a CAFS member)
- up to three samples of the nominee's research (optional)

### Student Paper Award in Food Studies

Launched in 2011, this award was created to recognize scholarly excellence and encourage participation by undergraduate and graduate students. The award includes a \$200 stipend, a one-year CAFS membership, complimentary conference registration, and a banquet ticket for the CAFS conference. Notification of awards will be made by April 30, 2012.

The following are the guidelines for submission:

Send all submissions to [CafsAdmin@foodstudies.ca](mailto:CafsAdmin@foodstudies.ca) for forwarding to the CAFS Awards Committee Chair.  
submission deadline: January 15, 2012 (for paper abstract);  
March 1, 2012 (final paper)

- The paper must be student-authored and on any of a wide variety of disciplinary or transdisciplinary food issues.
- Co-authored papers by two students are also permitted, if both students agree that they made comparable contributions to the paper.
- Applicants must also submit an abstract for the CAFS conference by the abstract deadline.
- The paper may have been written for a course, a major research project, or a thesis or comprehensive exam.
- Written papers should be between 4500 and 6000 words (excluding bibliography).
- Videos and other non-print formats will also be considered.

This year we will include authors' email addresses in the conference program to facilitate contact between audience members and presenters. If you would like your email address to be EXCLUDED from the program, please indicate this in your proposal.

All proposals should be sent as Word (.doc) documents to:

[cafs2012@gmail.com](mailto:cafs2012@gmail.com)

All prize submissions should be sent as Word (.doc) documents to:

[CafsAdmin@foodstudies.ca](mailto:CafsAdmin@foodstudies.ca)

Further information is available at:

Canadian Association for Food Studies: [www.foodstudies.ca](http://www.foodstudies.ca)

Canadian Federation of the Humanities and Social Sciences: [www.fedcan.ca](http://www.fedcan.ca)