

BETTY BEDNARSKI
Professor Emerita

BA (Hons French and German) University of London (1965)
MA (French) Dalhousie University (1970)
Ph.D. (Quebec Literature) Université Laval (1987)

Coordinator of Canadian Studies (1996-2004)
Chairperson, Department of French (2007-2008)

E-mail: b.bednarski@dal.ca

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Quebec literature, Literary translation, Jacques Ferron, Literature and Medicine

AWARDS, MAJOR GRANTS, RECOGNITION, HONOURS

- 2006 Resident, Banff International Literary Translation Centre, June 12 - July 3
- 2002 Awarded 3-year SSHRC Research Grant for research project "The Physician Writing."
- 2002 Winner of Burgess Faculty Research Award, FASS, Dalhousie University.
- 2001 Granted the inaugural Hannah Millennium Visitor Award by Associated Medical Services, to allow affiliation with Dalhousie Medical School, July-December 2001.
- 2001 One of ten Dalhousie "Popular Profs" in the *MacLean's Guide to Canadian Universities and Colleges*, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004.
- 1991 Finalist for Governor General's Literary Award ("études et essais") for *Autour de Ferron : littérature, traduction, altérité*.

- 1991 Awarded le Prix de l'APFUCC (Association des professeurs de français des universités et collèges canadiens) for *Autour de Ferron: littérature, traduction, altérité*.
- 1990 Awarded the Gabrielle Roy Prize for Canadian literary criticism in French (for *Autour de Ferron: littérature, traduction, altérité*).
- 1987 October-December. One of six Dalhousie scholars featured in a Killam Library display entitled "The Impossible Sum of Our Traditions" celebrating Canadian Studies at Dalhousie.
- 1985 Runner up (with Honourable Mention) for the 1984 Canada Council Translation Prize (for *Selected Tales of Jacques Ferron*).

MOST SIGNIFICANT RECENT PUBLICATIONS

1. BOOKS (SINCE 2000)

Tales from the Uncertain Country and Other Stories, translated and with an afterword by Betty Bednarski. Toronto : McClelland & Stewart, coll. New Canadian Library, 2010. 276 p. (41 short stories from Jacques Ferron, *Contes*, édition intégrale, 1968)

Jacques Ferron hors Québec / Jacques Ferron Outside Quebec. Toronto : Éditions du Gref, 2010. 326 p. Co-edited with Ray Ellenwood.

Autour de Ferron : littérature, traduction, altérité. Toronto: Editions du GREF, 1989. 156 p. Revised and expanded edition forthcoming in 2011-2012. (See AWARDS..., above.)

2. JOURNALS EDITED (SINCE 2000)

Celebrating the Physician writer: Texts from the Jacques Ferron Symposium, April 25, 2006, special Medical Humanities issue of *Dalhousie Medical Journal (DMJ)*. Vol. 34, no. 2 (fall 2006). 55 p. Co-edited with Derek Roberts.

3. INTRODUCTIONS, PREFACES, AFTERWORDS (SINCE 2000)

“Literature and Medicine: Making the Connections,” guest editorial, in *Celebrating the Physician Writer: texts from the Jacques Ferron symposium, April 25 2006, Dalhousie Medical Journal*, vol. 34 , no. 2 (fall 2006), p. 50-52 (with Derek Roberts) .

“Afterword,” Jacques Ferron, *Tales from the Uncertain Country and Other Stories* (Toronto: McClelland & Stewart, 2010). p. 267-273

4. ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS (SINCE 2000)

“‘Sameness’ and ‘Difference’ in *Les Belles-sœurs* : a Canadian Spectator’s Reflections on Two Polish productions of Michel Tremblay’s Play,” in *The International Journal of Francophone Studies*, Vol. 13, No. 2 (2010), p. 315-325.

“Lire, écrire, soigner: les médecins fictifs de Jacques Ferron. Fragments d’un discours sur la littérature et la médecine,” dans Gérard Danou (s. la dir. de) *Peser les mots : Actes du colloque « Littératures et médecine »*, Université de Cergy-Pontoise, 26 et 27 avril 2007, Limoges (France), Lambert-Lucas, 2008, p. 48-66.

“Jacques Ferron et le ‘hors-Québec’: petit essai de cartographie critique,” in *Egregore: A Festschrift for Ray Ellenwood. Open Letter*, Vol. 13, No. 1 (Fall-Winter 2006-7), p. 23-42.

“Ferron the Unforgettable,” in *The Medical Post*, April 4, 2006, p.26.

"Putting Medicine in its Place: The Case of Physician-Writer Jacques Ferron," in *Making Sense of Health, Illness and Disease*, (ed. Vera Kalitzkus and Peter Twohig), Amsterdam/New York: Rodopi, 2004, pp. 54-84.

“The Possibilities of Story: Jacques Ferron’s ‘Little William’ and the Teaching of Obstetrics,” in *Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Health, Illness and Disease* (ed. Vera Kalitzkus and Peter Twohig), Amsterdam/ New York: Rodopi, 2004, pp. 113-134.

"Marco Micone," in *Multicultural Writers Since 1945: A Bio-Bibliographical*

Sourcebook (ed. Bettina Knapp and Alba Amoia), London and Westport (Connecticut): Greenwood Press, 2004, pp. 349-353

"Pologne imaginaire, Pologne identitaire: Jacques Ferron et les écrivains polonais," in *Vers l'exploration des identités canadiennes* (ed. Ewa Welnic, Anna Branach-Kallas and Jakub Wojcik), Toruń (Poland), University of Toruń Press, 2002, pp. 21-35.

"Literature and Obstetrics: Reading Maternal Posture in Jacques Ferron's 'Little William,'" in *Literature and Medicine*, Vol. 21, No. 2, Fall 2002, pp. 216-241 (with Dr. Vivian McAlister).

"Les lettres polonaises," in *Jacques Ferron: le palimpseste infini*, Patrick Poirier and Brigitte Faivre-Duboz (dir.). Montreal: Lanctôt, 2002, pp. 295-310.

"Translating Ferron, Ferron Translating: Thoughts on an Example of 'Translation Within,'" in *Meta*, vol. 45, no. 1, March 2000, pp. 37-51.

5. REPRINTING IN ANTHOLOGIES

Twenty-seven reprintings of translations of Jacques Ferron's stories in twenty-two different anthologies – most recently:

"Mélie and the Bull," "The Rope and the Heifer," in *The Exile Anthology of Priests, Pastors, Nuns and Pentecostals: Stories of Preachers and Preaching*. Ed. Joe Fiorito. Toronto : Exile Editions, 2010, p. 49-65 and p. 225-236.

"The Grey Dog," in *The Exile Book of Canadian Dog Stories*, Ed. Richard Teleky. Toronto: Exile Editions, 2009, p. 126-130.

"The Parakeet," "How the Old Man Died," in *The Penguin Anthology of Canadian Humour*. Ed. Will Ferguson. Toronto: Penguin, 2006, p. 111-117.

"The Pigeon and the Parakeet," in *The Bedside Book of Birds: An Avian Miscellany*. Ed. Graeme Gibson. Toronto: Doubleday, 2005, p. 311-315.

6. RADIO BROADCAST

Translations of stories have been selected for broadcast on C.B.C. Radio programmes such as "Morningsides" and "Booktime," and in May 2003, on "Richardson's Roundup" and "Between the Covers".

SELECTED CONFERENCE PAPERS AND LECTURES (SINCE 2000)

"'Sameness' and 'Difference' in *Les Belles-sœurs*": a Canadian Spectator's Reflections on Two Polish Productions of Michel Tremblay's Play." British Association for Canadian Studies, Annual Conference, St. Ann's College, Oxford University, March 2009.

"From Literature to Obstetrics: How Reading Jacques Ferron Made a Medical Historian of Me." Lecture, History of Medicine Programme, University of Ottawa, February 2009. Invited.

"Le 'hors-Québec' de Jacques Ferron : petit essai de cartographie critique." Keynote lecture, Jacques Ferron et le 'hors-Québec,' Glendon College, York University, Toronto, January 2006. Invited.

"Jacques Ferron and the History of Medicine." Annual conference, CSHM (Canadian Society for the History of Medicine), Toronto, York University, May 2006.

"Towards a Comparative History of '*la posture anglaise*': England, France, Quebec. Cross-cultural Dimensions of an Obstetrical Position." Annual conference AAHM (American Association for the History of Medicine), Halifax, May 2006.

"'Reading, Writing, Doctoring': Doctor-Readers, Doctor-Writers in the Fiction of Jacques Ferron." Symposium: Jacques Ferron: the Physician Writing, Faculty of Medicine, Dalhousie University, April 2006.

"'Reading, Writing, Doctoring' in the Work of Jacques Ferron." Annual Conference, AMH (Association of the Medical Humanities), Royal Cornwall Hospital, Truro, U.K., July 2005.

“Imagining the Doctor: the Doctor Figure in the Medical Fictions of Jacques Ferron.” Conference, Making Sense of Health, Illness and Disease 4, Oxford University, U.K., July 2005.

“Exploring the Connections: Literature and Medicine in the Life and Work of Jacques Ferron.” IMH (Institute for the Medical humanities), University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, U.S.A., May 2005.

“Opening Up the COPS Curriculum: Can it Be Done?” Medical Education, Faculty Development Symposium, Dalhousie University, April 2005.

“Medical Practice and Beyond: Jacques Ferron and the Humanity of the Physician-Writer.” Keynote address CMA (Canadian Medical Association) Annual Leadership Forum, Ottawa, November 2004. Invited.

“Jacques Ferron’s “Little William” – An “Optimistic” Birth Narrative? The “Hope” for Literary Story in the Medical Curriculum.” Conference, Narrative Research in Health and Illness (BMA, BMJ), University of London, September 2004. Invited.

“Literature and the Curriculum: the Uses of Story in the Teaching of Obstetrics.” AMH (Association for Medical Humanities) Annual Conference, University of Swansea, U.K., July 2004-.

“The Physician Writing: A Literary Reading.” Conference, Making Sense of Health, Illness and Disease 3, Oxford University, U.K., July 2004.

“Literature and Obstetrics: Writing, Reading, Teaching Birth.” APOG (Association of Professors of Obstetrics and Gynecology) Annual Conference, Toronto, December 2003. Invited.

“The Possibilities of Story: Integrating Literature into the Medical Curriculum.” Conference, Making Sense of Health, Illness and Disease 2. Oxford University, U.K. July 2003.

“Langue(s) et écriture au Québec.” Invited lecture. Centre for Canadian Studies, University of Aarhus, Denmark. April, 2003.

"The Translator as Writer: Some Thoughts in the Canadian Context." Annual conference, British Association for Canadian Studies. University of Leeds, U.K. April 2003. Invited.

"Putting Medicine In Its Place: Literature and Medicine in the Life and Work of Jacques Ferron." Annual Hannah Lecture on the History of Medicine, Family Medicine Forum, College of Family Physicians of Canada and Collège québécois des médecins de famille. Montreal, November 2002. Invited.

"Writing to Making Sense of Medicine." Conference, Making Sense of Health, Illness and Disease 1. University of Oxford, U.K. June 2002.

"The Possibilities of Story: Jacques Ferron's 'Little William' and the Teacher of Obstetrics." Invited talk, Dalhousie Medical Humanities programme, November 2001.

"On the Trail of Jacques Ferron's 'English doctor': Some Incursions into the History of Medicine." Invited talk, Dalhousie Society for the History of Medicine, November 2001.

"Religion, Literature and Identity in Quebec: The Example of Jacques Ferron's 'Les deux lys'." Annual conference, Association of Canadian College and University Teachers of English. Quebec, Laval University, May 2001 (with Tom Faulkner, Department of Comparative Religion).

"Pologne imaginaire, Pologne identitaire: Jacques Ferron et les écrivains polonais." International conference, Exploring Canadian Identities, University of Toruń, Poland, April 2001.

"Some Minor Odysseys." Readings from Jacques Ferron. Odysseys Past, Present and Future. Annual conference, British Association for Canadian Studies, University of York, U.K., April 2001.

"Les lettres polonaises de Jacques Ferron." Invited paper, Jacques Ferron: le palimpseste infini, international conference, Bibliothèque nationale du Québec, Montréal, September, 2000.