

The 8th Annual North Country Symposium

Sponsored by St. Lawrence University's Ellen C. Burt '42 Endowment for North Country Education

April 6-7, 2010

Eben Holden Conference Center, St. Lawrence University

“Our North Country Future, Starting Now!”

Program

Tuesday, April 6

- 7:00pm **Welcome and Background on Symposium**
William Fox, President, St. Lawrence University
James Shuman, Chair, Symposium Steering Committee
- 7:30 **Going Local and Collaborating Regionally**
Ben Dixon, Coordinator of Regional Development and Sustainability, St. Lawrence University
Mitchell Patterson, Economic Development Coordinator, Metropolitan Development Association
Elle Stasz, Coordinator, Central Upstate Regional Alliance
- 8:30 **Response and Keynote Preview**
Dr. David Brown, Co-Director, Community and Rural Development Institute (CaRDI), Cornell University

Wednesday, April 7

- 9:00am **Welcome and Background on Symposium**
William Fox, President, St. Lawrence University
James Shuman, Chair, Symposium Steering Committee
- 9:15 **Keynote: “The North Country’s Dynamic Demographic Profile: Opportunities and Challenges”**
Dr. David Brown, Co-Director, Community and Rural Development Institute (CaRDI), Cornell University
- 10:30 **“News Report” on Tuesday Evening’s Symposium Session**
David Sommerstein, North Country Public Radio
- 10:45 **Panel – Perspectives on Planning for the Future**
Tom Burns, District Superintendent, St. Lawrence-Lewis BOCES
David Acker, President and CEO, Canton-Potsdam Hospital
Clive Chambers, Executive Director, Cornell Cooperative Extension
Joseph Kennedy, President, SUNY Canton
- 12:00 **Lunch and Stakeholder Group Discussions**
- 1:15pm **Stakeholder Group Reports and Responses from Speakers**
- 2:15 **Opportunities for Collaboration and Federal Grant Assistance**
Susan Merrell, Director, North Country Regional Office, U. S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand
- 2:45 **Action/Research Team meetings**
- 4:00 **Collaborative Round-Robin Summary**

Action/Research Teams

Agriculture & Food	Energy	Housing
Arts, Entertainment & Tourism	Education	Health
Business Enterprise & Retail	Transportation	Finance, Real Estate, & Insurance

Registrants are to identify their preferences for different teams composed of community organizers, researchers, and students in the interest area. *At the Symposium, each action/research team will have opportunity on Wednesday afternoon to discuss regional initiatives in its sector and work on those initiatives or new initiatives they deem appropriate. Each group will appoint a convener for the coming year to serve as a clearinghouse for the group activity.* The teams will report their results before the end of the Symposium to be published on the website, <http://www.northcountry.symposium.org>

Keynote Speaker

Dr. David L. Brown has a 40-year career as a sociologist, demographer, professor and consultant, working for organizations including the US Department of Agriculture (USDA), the National Agricultural Lands Study (NALS), and since 1987 as co-Director of the Community and Rural Development Institute (CaRDI) at Cornell University. Dr. Brown has written books, chapters, and articles on demographic studies throughout the U. S. and Western Europe. His most recent books include *Rural Retirement Migration* (2008) and *Population Change and Rural Society* (2006). A frequent speaker and collaborator on development issues, Dr. Brown also directs several federal grants to support community development in rural regions.

North Country Symposium Steering Committee

Chair: James Shuman, *Chair, Department of Education, St. Lawrence University*

Members: Wade Davis, *Executive Director, Ogdensburg Bridge and Port Authority*
Kathryn Del Guidice, *Director of Extended Studies, Continuing Education & Lifelong Learning, SUNY Canton*
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Brian Norton, *Economic Developer, St. Lawrence County Office of Economic Development*
Leigh Rodriguez, *Business Services, St. Lawrence County Office of Economic Development*
Gregory Slack, *Director of Research and Technology Transfer, Clarkson University*
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and *Member, St. Lawrence County Council of Chief School Officers*
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and *Chair, St. Lawrence County Planning Board*
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Ex Officio: William Fox, *President, St. Lawrence University*
Lynn Fox, *Senior Adviser, US Federal Reserve Board, Canton, NY*
Benjamin Dixon, *Symposium Coordinator, St. Lawrence University*
and *Coordinator of Regional Development & Sustainability, St. Lawrence University*
Grace Bogosian, *Symposium Clerical Assistant, St. Lawrence University*