

**Alexandro Malaspina Research Centre
Vancouver Island University**

Annual Report 2022-23

Overview

This report covers the period from April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023, during which the Alexandro Malaspina Research Centre at Vancouver Island University has continued its research and outreach activities in the quiet way adopted in recent years. In the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, there were no public events during this period.

Personnel

Director:	Dr. John Black	Professor Emeritus, VIU Liberal Studies
Associated Scholars:	Dr. David Livingstone	VIU Liberal Studies/Political Studies
Honorary Associates:	Dr. Robin Fisher	Mount Royal University (retd.)
	Robin Inglis	Director, North Van. Museum (retd.)
	Dr. Brad Piekkola	VIU Psychology (retd.)

John Black has announced his retirement as Director effective March 31, 2023. He will remain in the Centre as an Associated Scholar. The new Director will be David Livingstone.

Centre Research Projects

“Autobiography” of Alexandro Malaspina

John Black has continued work on this documentary fiction project, which takes the form of a fictionalised autobiography of Alexandro Malaspina.

Other Activity

Mandate Renewal

Discussions have continued with the goal of broadening the mandate of the Centre, and David Livingstone has been working closely with the Office for Scholarship, Research and Creative Activity on a draft proposal for submission to the Senate approval process.

The Compass Rose

The collaboration with the Liberal Studies Department, VIU's online journal for undergraduate students (at <http://wordpress.viu.ca/compassrose/>), was also affected by the pandemic, and has not published an edition for 2022-23. A new student editorial board has been formed by the faculty sponsor Prof. Warren Heiti (Liberal Studies and Philosophy) to review future submissions.

Alexandro Malaspina Liberal Studies Awards

The fund for these awards allows for multiple awards each year. The recipients of the 2022 Awards, which honour both Alexandro Malaspina's broad range of intellectual achievement and VIU Liberal Studies students' success in interdisciplinary study, are Kathryn Robson and Brooke Groome.

Respectfully submitted,

John Black
Former Director
Alexandro Malaspina Research Centre
April 1, 2023