

**Alexandro Malaspina Research Centre
Vancouver Island University**

Annual Report 2012-13

Overview

This report covers the period from April 1, 2012 to March 31, 2013, during which the Alexandro Malaspina Research Centre at Vancouver Island University has continued its research and outreach activities on a number of fronts, though in a quieter way than in recent years. The Centre has completed its move to its new location. This year's Malaspina Lecturer was Prof. John Lutz of the University of Victoria.

Personnel

Department(s)

Director:	Dr. John Black	Liberal Studies & Philosophy
Associated Scholars:	Dr. Ana María Donat	Modern Languages
	Dr. Oscar Clemotte Silvero	Philosophy
	Dr. Erik Liddell	Eastern Kentucky University
Honorary Associates:	Dr. Barry Gough	Professor Emeritus, Wilfrid Laurier
	Robin Inglis	Director, North Van. Museum (retd.)
	Ian Johnston	Liberal Studies and English (retd.)
	Dr. Russell McNeil	Liberal Studies and Physics (retd.)

Centre Research Projects

General Theses on Physics

The only work published by Alexandro Malaspina during his lifetime consists of an axiomatization in Latin of the metaphysical basis of Newtonian physics. John Black's work on its translation into English has been interrupted by his appointment as Dean of Social Sciences.

Related Projects

Translation and Web Publication of Source Documents

The project of translating, among other documents, the letters of Alexandro Malaspina and historical newspaper articles about him and his expedition, for publication on the Centre's website, continues. New facsimiles continue to be provided by Australian private scholar Robert King.

Public Events and Other Activity

Malaspina Lecture

The 2012 Malaspina Lecturer was Prof. John Lutz, of the History Department at the University of Victoria, author of *Makuk: A New History of Aboriginal-White Relations*, which won the prize for the best book in the Social Sciences in Canada in 2010. The Lecture itself, “What Connected at Contact? Aboriginal and European First Contact Stories from the Pacific Coast,” took place on October 4 and examined the investigation of oral history, unofficial journals, and other overlooked records of the contact period on the northwest coast.

Book Reading

On October 3 2012 Honorary Research Associate Prof. Barry Gough presented his latest book, *Juan de Fuca's Strait: Voyages in the Waterway of Forgotten Dreams*, at a well-attended event at Nanaimo's Harbourfront Library.

Alexandro Malaspina Liberal Studies Award

The recipient of the 2012 Award, which honours both Alexandro Malaspina's broad range of intellectual achievement and a VIU Liberal Studies student's success in interdisciplinary study, was Alysia Miller.

Respectfully submitted,

John Black
Director
Alexandro Malaspina Research Centre
May 7, 2013