UPCOMING EVENTS

JOINT RECEPTION
François Lacasse: Outpourings
and Kingston in Relief: The Woodcuts of
Gwyneth Travers
Friday 29 April, 7 – 9 pm
Agnes Etherington Art Centre

Come to the Art Centre for a reception
celebrating the opening of François Lacasse:
Outpourings and Kingston in Relief: The Woodcuts
of Gwyneth Travers in the Atrium on Friday 29
April from 7 to 9 pm. Outpourings exhibition
curator Marie-Ève Beaupré and artist François
Lacasse will lead a walk-through tour of
the exhibition beginning at 7:45 following
welcoming remarks.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

AMS ANTI-OPPRESSION AWARD

Congratulations to Carla Taunton who has
been awarded the Alma Mater Society Anti-
Oppression Award. The award is presented
to a faculty or staff member for exemplary
commitment and initiative, both inside and
outside the classroom, towards fostering a more
inclusive campus, community, and society.
Carla was nominated for the award by her
ARTH 232* students.

THE DETECTION OF RARE WATERMARKS
ON OLD CANADIAN POSTAGE STAMPS

In the previous Newsletter (March, 2011)
John O’Neill of the MAC program described
the use of a beta-radiography plate to image
watermarks in old papers.

With the exception of only two occasions,
watermarked paper has never been used for
postage stamps of Canada. The stamps at the
left are from the first issue of the Dominion of
Canada following Confederation in 1867. They
were printed by the British American Banknote
Company in Ottawa. The majority of the stamps
of this issue were printed on unwatermarked
wove paper.

A few stamps of this issue were found to
have watermarks. A paper conservation
student, Jennifer Robertson recorded the beta
radiograph shown above. The watermarks are
barely visible to the eye, but are clearly seen
in the radiograph. These letters are part of the
complete watermark of the paper maker.

For many years the origin of these watermarks
remained a mystery. Research showed that
the supplier of the paper was Andrew Whyte
and Son of Edinburgh, Scotland. The company
had a warehouse in Bothwell Street, Glasgow.
The paper was made by W. and J. Somerville of
Gloucester, England.

The full watermark is in the header above. It
is an artificial name made up from Edinburgh,
Glasgow and Bothwell (E. & G. Bothwell). Clutha
is the old name for the river Clyde.