Foreword

In this issue we are pleased to offer the 2011 Bechtel Lectures, the 2012 Eby Lecture (an Eby lecture was not presented in 2011), an Article, a Reflection, and a wide array of book reviews.

A word about the Lectures may be in order here. The Bechtel Lectures in Anabaptist-Mennonite Studies, established at Conrad Grebel University College in 2000 by Mennonite churchman Lester Bechtel, seek to make the world of research and study accessible to a broader constituency, and to build bridges of understanding between the academy and the church. Featuring distinguished scholars and leaders from across North America and around the world, these lectures enable representatives of various disciplines and professions to explore topics reflecting the breadth and depth of Mennonite history, identity, faith, and culture. The Eby Lectures, named for Benjamin Eby, a prominent early Mennonite church leader and educator in Waterloo Region, offer the College's own faculty members a similar opportunity to share research and reflections with the wider community. CGR is proud to continue the tradition of bringing the latest available presentations in both these lecture series to the attention of our readers.

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We announce, with regret, that Hildi Froese Tiessen, Professor of English and of Peace and Conflict Studies at Conrad Grebel University College, and the well-known animator of Mennonite/s Writing conferences from their inception in 1990, is concluding her role as Literary Editor with this issue. For more than fifteen years she has ensured that Literary Refractions – works of creative writing that contribute to "the negotiation of meaning and the modification and construction of tradition in the Mennonite world" – and attention to the arts in general fully share in this journal's mandate and commitment. While she is stepping down officially from CGR, we are glad to report that she will be the guest editor of an upcoming issue on Mennonite Writers.

Jeremy M. Bergen
Editor

Stephen A. Jones
Managing Editor