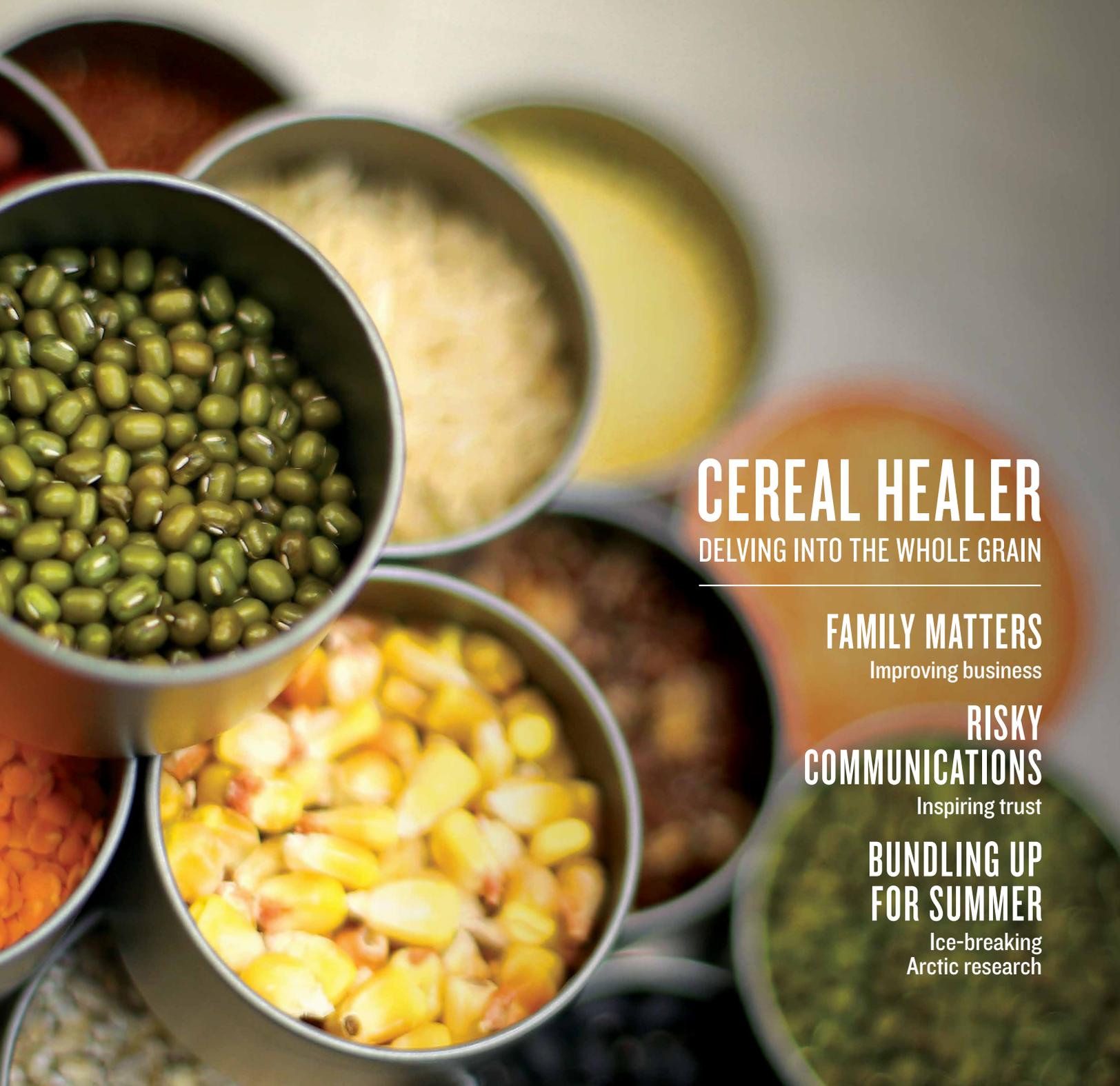


UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

# ResearchLIFE

SUMMER 2018 | VOLUME 2



## CEREAL HEALER

DELVING INTO THE WHOLE GRAIN

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**FAMILY MATTERS**  
Improving business

**RISKY COMMUNICATIONS**  
Inspiring trust

**BUNDLING UP FOR SUMMER**  
Ice-breaking  
Arctic research

## CONCURRENT IMAGINARIES, POSTCOLONIAL WORLDS: TOWARD REVISED HISTORIES

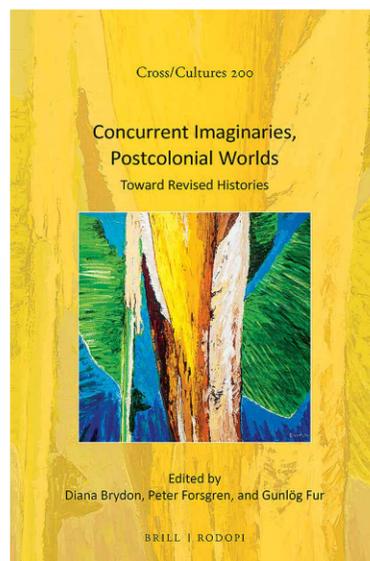
**B**RYDON, FORSGREN AND FUR'S EDITED COLLECTION, *Concurrent Imaginaries, Postcolonial Worlds*, demonstrates the productivity of reading for concurrences in studying archives, voices and history in colonial and postcolonial contexts. This multidisciplinary volume situates Nordic colonial practices within transworld contexts.

Starting with the premise that our pluriversal world is constructed from concurrent imaginaries [representational systems that both mediate reality and form identities against the backdrop of differing ideas of histories] yet the role of concurrences has seldom been examined, the collection brings together case studies that confirm

**“The collection brings together case studies that confirm the productivity of reading, looking and listening for concurrences across established boundaries of disciplinary or geopolitical engagement.”**

the productivity of reading, looking and listening for concurrences across established boundaries of disciplinary or geopolitical engagement.

Contributors working in art history, sociology, literary and historical studies bring examples of Nordic colonialism together with analyses of colonial prac-



Edited by Diana Brydon, Peter Forsgren and Gunlög Fur (Brill Rodopi, 2017)

tices worldwide. The collection invites uptake of the study of concurrences within the humanities and in interdisciplinary fields such as postcolonial, cultural and globalization studies.

This collection will appeal to students, teachers and scholars interested in colonial and postcolonial studies, Nordic colonialism, archival research, and analyses of voice and place in literary and historical studies. **IR**



### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Diana Brydon, Canada Research Chair in Globalization and Cultural Studies, teaches in the department of English, film and theatre at the U of M. She works primarily in the areas of postcolonial literary and cultural studies. Her work characteristically bridges gulfs between disciplines and methods.

Peter Forsgren, professor in Swedish and comparative literature, teaches in the department of film and literature at Linnaeus University, Sweden. He has published books and articles in Swedish 20<sup>th</sup> century prose.

Gunlög Fur, professor of history and dean of arts and humanities at Linnaeus University. Her research and publications focus on colonial cultural encounters, indigenous histories, gender, and entangled histories of Scandinavian immigrants and American Indians.



## AT WAR AGAINST THE MOST TOXIC AGENTS ON EARTH

BY CHRIS RUTKOWSKI

**L**AST YEAR, A WOMAN IN NUNAVUT DIED and others fell sick from botulism contracted by eating whale meat that wasn't properly refrigerated because ocean temperatures were warmer than usual. In Ukraine, there were more than 100 cases of botulism reported in 2017, with 11 deaths due to eating improperly cooked or stored food.

Fortunately, if botulism is diagnosed early enough, it can be treated with an antitoxin that is produced in Winnipeg at Emergent BioSolutions, a global life sciences company located in SmartPark, the U of M's research and technology park. It makes and provides antitoxins, vaccines, and chemical compounds to address accidental, intentional, and naturally occurring public health threats.

Headquartered in Maryland, one of Emergent's largest footprints is here in Manitoba, employing more than 350 technicians, researchers, and professionals, and also training graduate students in fields related to biotechnology. More than 20 per cent of its 300+ staff are alumni of the university in fields such as chemistry, microbiology, immunology and molecular biology.

Senior vice-president of the antibody therapeutics business unit, Laura Saward [PhD/01] is an adjunct professor of medical microbiology at the Rady Faculty of Health Sciences.

“It has long been an interest by the American government to have something that could be used against a bioterrorism attack, so we worked initially with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and then with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to license an

antitoxin that would treat all types of botulism toxin. Emergent produces the botulism antitoxin for both public and government use,” says Saward.

Another alumna, Xiaobing Han, who studied immunology and trained in medical microbiology, is currently principal scientist in research and development at Emergent as well as adjunct professor of immunology and is working on developing antibody therapeutics against infectious diseases.

**“This is a good example of how the commercialization of research can benefit people around the world.”**



TOP: Work underway in the lab at Emergent BioSolutions

ABOVE: Adjunct professor of immunology Xiaobing Han

PHOTOS: Emergent Biosolutions

“I am very grateful for the training and academic connections I received from the U of M,” she says. “I now serve on two graduate student advisory committees, helped with tutorial sessions for Rady Faculty of Health Sciences students and teach graduate courses in immunology and methodology.”

“For the past decade, Xiaobing Han has contributed in a multitude of ways to the success of programs, growth and development of our company,” says Cory Nykiforuk, Emergent BioSolutions. “She is passing along her experiences and expertise to the next generation of scientists.”

Around the world, botulism continues to be a serious health threat.

Fortunately, the life-saving antitoxin is produced in Winnipeg, and can be rushed to the scene of outbreaks wherever it is needed.

Saward notes: “This is a good example of how the commercialization of research can benefit people around the world.” **IR**