

Citation Reader: William J. Buxton
Department of Communication Studies

Heather Menzies

Mr. Chancellor, it is my pleasure to introduce Heather Menzies, an award-winning, Ottawa-based writer and scholar, speaker, peace and social-justice activist, video producer, and passionate gardener.

The author of seven books, including the 1996 best-seller, *Whose Brave New World*, Heather Menzies' most recent book *No Time, Stress and the Crisis of Modern Life* (which won the Ottawa Book Prize in 2006) investigates the link between various diseases of our time – from stress and depression amongst adults to attention deficit disorder in children.

It maintains that the health crisis in our population is also taking place in institutions and society at large. She argues for a renewal not only of the humanity of our social institutions but of ourselves. Her most recent work, entitled *Enter Mourning* (forthcoming with Key Porter Books) is a memoir on death, dementia, and coming home.

Heather Menzies has made enormous contributions in the area of gender, technology and work from a Canadian perspective, drawing on the writings of Harold Innis, George Grant, Marshall McLuhan, Ursula Franklin, and Irene Spry, among others.

Her books, journal and magazine articles, and public talks have been inspirational and influential to many Canadian academics and students in communications studies, social science and the humanities, and also for policymakers and citizens.

For almost three decades, Heather Menzies' analyses have revealed – in a nuanced and complex manner – how the lives of Canadians have been affected by the development and implementation of digital technologies.

Ms. Menzies has also pioneered Canadian feminist analyses of digital technology through her early analysis of the impact of computerization on women's work and through her ruminations on the nature of technology, time, and health.