Brave New Worlds

.

In October 2001, 198 participants — graduate students,

faculty and administrators from Canadian universities,

corporate and government representatives, and 27 foreign

delegates — gathered in Montreal to share ideas and strategies

for the changing landscape of graduate education.

Brave

New Worlds

deliberately blended excitement and critique:

high spirits about potentially transformative experiments and

pointed comments about shortcomings. Like the Renaissance

and modernist texts from which the title derives, the program

combined praise — as expressed by Miranda for the ship-

wrecked survivors whom she calls “beauteous” people, an

exclamation immediately ironized in Shakespeare’s

The Tempest

— and criticism, as conveyed in the futurist under-

takings of Huxley’s dystopia. The pluralized title invited

diverse feedback

Funding issues,

times to completion and professionalization underscore the

important link between graduate education and the national

economy. It is also essential to position Canadian initiatives

and trends in graduate education within the context of

international association and collaboration. These were the

principles guiding the international conference on graduate

education for the 21

st

century,