



Philadelphia 2016

**GLOBAL, GLOCAL, AND LOCAL:
DISTINCTION AND INTERCONNECTION
IN THE BALTIC STATES**

25th Conference on Baltic Studies

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, USA
May 26-28, 2016

Global, Glocal, and Local: Distinction and Interconnection in the Baltic States
University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, USA, May 26-28, 2016

This conference explores the independence, dependence, and interconnections of Baltic states, peoples, and communities across time and space in multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary perspective. It will uncover the distinctive, hybrid, and globalized features of culture, politics, economics, history, language, and other aspects of life in the Baltic countries.

The Association for the Advancement of Baltic Studies is the world's leading scholarly society for research on Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. AABS administers six grants and scholarships, supports the Baltic Studies Summer Institute, publishes the *Journal for Baltic Studies* and *Baltic Studies Newsletter* among other activities, but its premier event is its biennial conference.

This year, we are proud to host President of Estonia Toomas Hendrik Ilves as keynote speaker and offer a reception, two museum exhibits, a film festival, two luncheons, literary readings, an evening ball, and a book exhibit in addition to the latest research from scholars at over 100 institutions in over 15 countries.

Best wishes to all attendees for a fruitful conference!

Janis Chakars, Conference Chair

Conference Program Committee

Division Chairs

Olavi Arens, Advancing Baltic Studies
Milda Richardson, Aesthetics and the Arts
Neringa Klumbytė, Anthropology
Kenneth Smith, Business and Economics
Andris Straumanis, Communication
Kara Brown, Education
Jennie Shulze, Ethnic Minorities
Tiima Ann Kirss, Gender
Bradley Woodworth, History and Memory
Ellen Cassedy, Jewish Studies
Dzintra Bond, Linguistics
Kevin Karnes, Musicology
Daiva Markelis, Literature
Daunis Auers, Political Science
Daina S. Eglitis, Sociology
Robert Smurr, Environment and Public Health
Dace Veinberga, Religion and Folklore

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Table of Contents

Special Events and Exhibits	4
Day One in Brief	5
Day One Schedule	5-9
Day Two in Brief	10
Day Two Schedule	10-16
Day Three in Brief	17
Day Three Schedule	21-24
Conference Map and Internet Access Information	24
Donors, Supporters and Advertisers	25-29

Special Events and Exhibits

Museum Exhibit: *Pirmoji Banga* (The First Wave, Houston Hall)

In the nineteenth century, for economic and political reasons, the first wave of Lithuanian emigrants came to the United States. The Martynas Mažvydas National Library of Lithuania created this display to show the activities of Lithuanian-American organizations in that time period through a look at their published books, newspapers, stamps, photos and receipts.

Museum Exhibit: *Latviešu Pasaule* (Latvians Abroad, Houston Hall)

This exhibit, “Charter for Latvians in Exile,” proposes that the Displaced Persons camps in Germany had a far-reaching and positive effect on the subsequent émigré life of the refugees in their host countries because the camps gave people time to recover from the trauma of war and loss and to start to develop an ideology and build institutions.

Publisher’s Exhibition (Houston Hall, May 26-28)

Keynote Address and Reception (Hall of Flags, Houston Hall, May 26, 7:00 pm)

President Toomas Hendrik Ilves, “International Order Under Strain: Implications for the Baltic Sea Region”

Foreign Policy Research Institute Luncheon (Ben Franklin Room, Houston Hall, May 27, 12:00 -1:30 pm)

Learn about the *Baltic Bulletin*, this prominent think tank’s new initiative centered on the Baltic states, and how you can participate. Space is limited to 80 people on a first come, first served basis.

Wiki Café (May 27 & 28, 12:00-3:00pm, Houston Hall)

Reading Wikipedia is often a way people are introduced to new subjects. Writing for Wikipedia can be a method of public outreach for scholars. Join Mike Lyons (Saint Joseph’s University) for help contributing to Baltic studies through this medium.

AABS Ball (Philadelphia Society of Free Letts, 531 N 7th St, May 27, 7:00 pm)

Music by Pēdējais Vilciens (The Last Train) plus food and dancing. Shuttle bus will run continuously between the conference hotel (University City Sheraton, 3549 Chestnut St. and the Society of Free Letts). Pre-registration required.

AABS Luncheon (Hall of Flags, Houston Hall, May 28, 12:00-1:30 pm)

Incoming AABS president Giedrius Subačius (University of Illinois, Chicago) will address attendees. Pre-registration required.

Short Festival of Baltic Short Films (Slought, 4017 Walnut St., May 28, 8:00 pm)

A screening of six short films from the Baltic states curated by Jule Rozite and introduced by Laris Kresliņš.

DAY ONE: Thursday, May 26

8:00am – 11:30am AABS Board Meeting

10:00am – 5:00pm Conference Registration

12:00pm – 5:00pm Museum Displays: Pirmoji Banga (The First Wave) and Latviešu Pasaulē (Latvians Abroad) in Houston Hall

12:00pm – 5:00pm Book exhibit in Houston Hall

12:45pm – 5:45pm Panel Sessions

7:00pm Keynote Address: “International Order Under Strain: Implications for the Baltic Sea Region” by President of Estonia Toomas Hendrik Ilves in the Hall of Flags, Houston Hall with a reception following.

Complimentary beverages available throughout the day in Houston Hall

Session One, 12:45 - 2:15pm

1. Behind the Scenes: The Baltic States’ Restoration of Diplomatic Relations, 1990-1991 (Williams Hall 220)

Chair: Kaarel Piirimäe (University of Tartu)

Respondent: Andrejs Plakans (Iowa State University)

Lars Grønbjerg (Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs), “Danish Diplomacy and the Baltic Struggle for Independence, 1988-1991”

Kristine Bekere (University of Latvia), “The Latvian Diaspora’s Involvement in the Processes of Latvian State Independence Renewal, 1989-1991”

Kaarel Piirimäe (University of Tartu), “A Look from Inside: Estonian Diplomatic Activities, 1990-1991”

2. The Baltic German Experience: New Perspectives (Williams Hall 319)

Chair: Bradley Woodworth (University of New Haven/Yale University)

Viktors Dāboliņš (Museum of the History of Riga and Navigation), “The Making of History: Livonian Coin Collectors from the Late Seventeenth Century to the Mid-Eighteenth Century”

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Continued

Feliks Gornischeff (University of Tartu), “The Baltic Germans in the Diplomatic Service of the Russian Empire During the Reign of Alexander I (1801-1825)”

Peter Wörster (Herder-Institut, Marburg), “Residential Town Between Königsberg and St. Petersburg: Mitau, the Ducal Court, and Its Aftermath”

Dorothee Goeze (Herder-Institut, Marburg), “Nobility at Home: Heredity and the Task of the Nobility in the Baltic”

3. Internationalism, Emigration, and Diaspora: Musical Expressions (Williams Hall 304)

Chair: Kevin C. Karnes (Emory University)

Darius Kučinskas (Kaunas University of Technology), “Lithuanian Music for Piano Rolls: Aspirations of Cultural Independence and the Necessity of International Collaboration”

Maarja Merivoo-Parro (Tallinn University), “Exploring the Cold War Estonian Diaspora through Popular Music”

Heather Garbes (University of Washington), “The University of Washington Baltic Choral Library: History, Purpose, and Future”

4. Communication and Identity (Williams Hall 301)

Chair: Asta Zelenkauskaitė (Drexel University)

Bjorn Ingvaldstad (Bridgewater State University), “Sangailė and Sundance: How a Lithuanian Film Parlayed US Funding into an International Success”

Liene Ločmele (Vidzeme University of Applied Sciences) and Nadezhda Sotirova (University of Minnesota, Morris), “‘Don’t Tell Them I’m Leaving’ vs. ‘Don’t Tell Them I’m Staying’: Identity Negotiations within Recent Emigration Discourses in Latvian and Bulgarian Speech Communities”

Andris Straumanis (University of Wisconsin-River Falls), “Jaunā Tēvija and the Latvian Baptists of West Philadelphia, 1913-1917”

5. Language, Literature, and Identity (Williams Hall 305)

Chair: Maija Burima (Daugavpils University/University of Latvia)

Laura Laurusaite (Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore, “Relics of Soviet Mentality in Contemporary Lithuanian and Latvian (E)migration Literature”

Natalija Sroma and Anastasija Vedela (University of Latvia), “Minority Literatures in Latvia: Between the Locality of Diaspora and Globalism in International Russian Literature”

Continued

Eneken Laanes (Under and Tuglas Literature Centre/Tallinn University), “Broken Lineages, Impossible Affiliations: The Russian Baltic Subject in Andrey Ivanov’s *Ash* and *A Handful of Dust*”

Session Two, 2:30 - 4:00pm

1. Exiles as Sources of Knowledge and Action (Williams Hall 305)

Chair: Edward Cohn (Grinnell College)

Arta Ankrava (University of Minnesota), “From Displaced Persons to Exiles: Latvian Language Publications in Austria”

Ginta Remeikis (Independent Scholar), “Baltic DP Camp Phenomena and the Psychodynamic of the ‘Lucky’ Ones”

Triinu Ojamaa (Estonian Literary Museum), “The Memoirs of an Exile Musician as a Source for the Study of Cultural Contacts”

Giedrius Janauskas (Vytautas Magnus University), “Demos Diplomacy of Lithuanians in the USA: From Cold War Strategic Model to Mass Movement”

2. Media and Ideology (Williams Hall 220)

Chair: Liene Ločmele (Vidzeme University of Applied Sciences)

Laura Ardava (University of Latvia), “Social Memory and Commemoration of the Third Latvian National Awakening (1988-2014) in Media”

Kristina Juraitė (Vytautas Magnus University), “Living in the World of Curved Mirrors: Critical Readings of Soviet Propaganda”

Asta Zelenkauskaitė and Brandon Niezgoda (Drexel University), “Situating the Rhetoric of Trolling on Lithuanian Online News Comments”

3. Liturgical Art and Aesthetic Theory (Williams Hall 304)

Chair: Milda Richardson

Lehti Mairike Keelmann (University of Michigan), “Fashioning Livonia with the Wealth of the World: The Brotherhood of the Black Heads and Reval’s Artistic Landscape”

K. Paul Žygas (Arizona State University), “St. Casimir’s Chapel’s Design Sourcebooks”

Robert R. Clewis (Gwynedd Mercy University), “Immanuel Kant’s Theory of the Fine Arts”

Lindsey Woolcock (Vytautas Magnus University), “Aesthetics and Historiography of Wayside Shrines in the University of Pittsburgh’s Lithuanian Room”

4. Policy Change in the Baltic Region (Williams Hall 301)

Chair: Aušra Park (Siena College)

Joseph Ellis (Wingate University), “A Culture of Policy Innovation in Estonia”

Kazimierz Musiał (University of Gdańsk/Södertörn University), “How Epistemic Communities Frame the Baltic Sea Region”

Renata Blumberg (Montclair State University), “Scaling Food Safety in the European Union”

5. Crossing Linguistic, Geographic, and Cultural Boundaries (Williams Hall 319)

Chair: Daiva Markelis (Eastern Illinois University)

Dalia Staponkute (Independent Scholar, Cyprus), “Being Lithuanian in the World: How Language Shows our Literary Dis/Locations”

Jurate Motiejunaite (University of Alberta), “Mothers, Wives, and Whores: Transnational Women’s Subjectivities in Margaret Atwood’s *The Robber Bride* and Jurga Ivanauskaitė’s *Mieganciuju drugelin tvirtovė*”

Hazel Frankel (University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa), “David Fram’s Yiddish Poems of Lithuania and South Africa”

Giedrius Subačius (University of Illinois at Chicago), “Upton Sinclair’s Novel on Lithuanian Emigrants *The Jungle* (1905-1906): Chicago Topography”

Session Three, 4:15 - 5:45pm

1. Relations Between Jews and Non-Jews Between the Wars (Williams Hall 220)

Chair: Ellen Cassedy

Valters Ščerbinskis (National Library of Latvia), “The Educated Class and the University: Jewish Students and Their Societies at the University of Latvia Between the Wars”

Lara Lempert (Vilnius University/Lithuanian State University), “Lithuanian and Jewish Intelligentsia in Dialog in Interwar Independent Lithuania”

Ēriks Jēkabsons (University of Latvia), “Jewish Soldiers in the Latvian Army During the War of Independence, 1918-1920”

Michael Casper (University of California, Los Angeles), “A King Travels: Antanas Smetona and the Jews, 1926-1940”

2. Baltic Literature Hour (Williams Hall 305)

Readings from new fiction and memoir.

Jocelyn Bartkevicius

Birute Putrius

Laima Sruoginis

Astrida Stahnke

3. Roundtable: The Baltic States in European Security (Williams Hall 301)

Sponsored by the Foreign Policy Research Institute

Chair: Chris Miller (Yale University)

Ron Granieri (University of Pennsylvania)
John Haines (Foreign Policy Research Institute)
Mitchell Orenstein (University of Pennsylvania)
Mindaugas Jurkynas (Vytautas Magnus University)
Andres Kasekamp (University of Tartu)
Karl Altai (Joint Baltic American National Committee)

4. Identity Formation in the Tsarist and Interwar Periods (Williams Hall 304)

Chair: David Feest (Nordost-Institut Lüneburg)

Ivars Ījabs (University of Latvia), “The Man with a Plait and Other: Political Satire in Early Latvian Nationalism”

Toivo Raun (Indiana University), “Imagining the Fatherland and the Homeland: The Estonian Sense of Space in the Late Tsarist Era”

Mark Moll (Indiana University), “University as Site and Source of Social Communication: Dorpat-Iur’ev-Tartu in the Nineteenth Century”

Jüri Kivimäe (University of Toronto), “Socialism, Nationalism, and History: An Intellectual Portrait of Hans Kruus”

5. Roundtable: Media, Language and Politics: How Should Baltic Media Speak to the Russian Minority? (Williams Hall 319)

Chair: Andris Straumanis (University of Wisconsin-River Falls)

Ainārs Dimants (Turība University/European Journalism Observatory)
Anda Rožukalne (Rīga Stradiņš University)
Guna Spurava (University of Latvia)

7:00 Keynote Address by President Toomas Hendrik Ilves, “International Order Under Strain: Implications for the Baltic Sea Region”

To be followed by a reception in the Hall of Flags, Houston Hall, University of Pennsylvania.

DAY TWO: Friday, May 27

8:00am to 3:30pm Conference Registration

8:00am – 5:00pm Museum Displays: Pirmoji Banga (The First Wave) and Latviešu Pasaulē (Latvians Abroad) in Houston Hall

12:00-1:30pm Foreign Policy Research Institute Luncheon (Ben Franklin Room, Houston Hall)

12:00-3:00pm Wiki Cafe

9:00am – 5:00pm Book Exhibit in Houston Hall

7:00pm AABS Ball featuring Pēdējais Vilciens (The Last Train), food and dance. (Latvian Society, 7th Street and Spring Garden). Shuttle bus will run between the venue and the conference hotel (University City Sheraton, Chestnut and 36th Streets).

Complimentary beverages available throughout the day in Houston Hall

Session One, 8:30 – 10:00am

1. Dealing with the Enemy: Baltic Economic Relations after 1917 (Williams Hall 220)

Chair: Joachim Tauber (Nordost-Institut Lüneburg)

Respondent: Olavi Arens (Armstrong State University)

David Feest (Nordost-Institut Lüneburg), “ ‘Gold Laundering’: The Tallinn Bank Georg Scheel & Co. as Intermediary in Soviet Gold Trade”

Katja Wezel (University of Pittsburgh), “Evacuation, Revolution, and Expropriation: Compensation Claims and Economic Reorientation of Baltic and German Entrepreneurs after World War I”

2. Gender in Activism and War (Williams Hall 301)

Chair: Mara Lazda (Bronx Community College, CUNY)

Virginija Jurėnienė (Vilnius University), “Jewish Women’s Activity in the Lithuanian Women’s Movement in the First Half of the 20th Century”

Rasa Navickaitė (Central European University), “Bringing Women’s Emancipation Back Home? Émigré Influences in Developing Feminism in Post-Socialist Lithuania”

Tiina Ann Kirss (University of Tartu), “Masculinity and World War I: Memoirs of Estonian Soldiers in the Tsar’s Army”

3. Teaching Identity and Language (Williams Hall 319)

Chair: Rimante Navickaite (Temple University)

Continued

Motti Zalkin (Ben Gurion University of the Negev, Israel), "Sola Education: The Emergence of Modern Jewish Education in Interwar Lithuania and Its Impact on Local Jews' Civic Identity"

Kara Brown (University of South Carolina), "Linguistic Repression and Resilience: Teachers and Language Revitalization in Southeastern Estonia"

Ineta Dabašinskienė (Vytautas Magnus University), "Learning Lithuanian as L2: A Case Study of Minority Children"

4. Literature, Trauma, and Healing (Williams Hall 304)

Chair: Nora Teikmanis (City University of New York, Queens College)

Ginta V. Remeikis, (Independent Scholar), "The Potential of Literature in Processing Trauma"

Dalibir S. Sehmy (University of Alberta), "Teaching Grey: Revealing Soviet Deportation through *Between Shades of Grey*"

Daiva Markelis (Eastern Illinois University), "The Life You Save May Be Your Own: Teaching the Literature of Suicide"

5. Museums in Dialogue with Society: The Baltic Diaspora Story in Museum Expositions (Williams Hall 305)

Chair: Ralph Tuchtenhagen (Humboldt University of Berlin)

Maja Hinkle (Latvians Abroad Museum and Research Center), "Refugees and Emigrants: The Latvian Diaspora Story as Told by the Latvians Abroad Museum and Research Center"

Piret Noorhane (Estonian Studies Centre/VEMU, Toronto), "Museum of Estonians Abroad: The Enduring Estonian Footprint in the Centre of Toronto"

Audrius Plioplys (Independent Scholar), "Hope and Spirit: Informing the Public of Stalin's Atrocities"

Irene Chambers (Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture), "Gathering Memories for Future History"

Session Two, 10:15 – 11:45am

1. Learned Societies and Journal Publishing (Williams Hall 305)

Chair: Amanda Swain (University of California, Irvine)

Respondent: Guntis Šmidchens (University of Washington)

Concetta Seminara (Routledge), "Society Publishing with Taylor & Francis"

Continued

Clydette Wantland (University of Illinois Press), “University of Illinois Press and SASS”

David Barclay (German Studies Association), “Journal Publishing and the German Studies Association”

Terry Clark (Association for the Advancement of Baltic Studies), “AABS and Routledge”

2. Reimagining Baltic Histories in Sound (Williams Hall 220)

Chair: Ilze Šarkovska-Liepiņa (University of Latvia/Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music)

Ilze Šarkovska-Liepiņa (University of Latvia/Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music), “Gustov von Mengden and Songwriting in Livonia”

Kevin C. Karnes (Emory University), “The Invention of Baltic Europe in the Ear of the Enlightenment”

Danutė Petrauskaitė (Klaipėda University), “Music in the Kaunas Ghetto against the Background of Viliampolė (Slabodka) History”

Iivi Zajedova and Stanislav Nemeržitski (Tallinn University), “Dance and Sing for a Better Life: Estonia in XXVI Song and XIX Dance Celebrations”

3. Perspectives on the Holocaust in Lithuania (Williams Hall 301)

Chair: Christopher Gennari (Camden County College)

Saulius Sužiedėlis (Vytautas Magnus University), “Why the Holocaust? Searching for Answers in the Lithuanian Experience, 1934-1941”

Joachim Tauber (Nordost Institut), “Hitler, Stalin, and Anti-Semitism in Lithuania, 1939-1941”

Violeta Davoliūtė (Yale University), “Native Narratives: Soft Power and Cultural Collaboration in Lithuania under Nazi Rule”

4. Domestic Politics in Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania (Williams Hall 319)

Chair: Rita Peters (University of Massachusetts at Boston)

Andres Kasekamp (Tartu University), “The Electoral Breakthrough of the Populist Far-Right in Estonia”

Daunis Auers (University of Latvia), “The Consolidation of the Populist Radical Right in Latvia”

Aušra Park (Siena College), “A Crises Prime Minister: Global Leader, Local Implications”

5. Memory and Trauma in Baltic Literature (Williams Hall 304)

Chair: Ginta Remeikis (Independent Scholar)

Nora Teikmanis (City University of New York, Queens College), “Memory, Trauma, and Identity in Contemporary Latvian Literature”

Liina-Ly Roos (University of Washington), “Traumatized Bodies in the Baltic Imagination”

Maarja Hollo (University of Tartu), “Remembering and Forgetting in the Works of Bernard Kangro: From Personal Remembering to Moral Witness”

Lunch, 12:00 – 1:30pm

Foreign Policy Research Institute Sponsored Luncheon, Houston Hall

(80 capacity, Ben Franklin Room, Houston Hall)

Interested in contemporary politics in the Baltic states? Come to Friday's luncheon to learn more about *The Baltic Bulletin*, a new publication from the Foreign Policy Research Institute. *The Baltic Bulletin* publishes articles written by scholars and experts on the Baltic region who are interested in reaching a broader audience. To learn more about *The Baltic Bulletin*, please come to the Foreign Policy Research Institute's luncheon.

Session Three, 1:45 – 3:15pm

1. History and Memory in Nineteenth-Century and Twentieth-Century Lithuania

(Williams Hall 220)

Chair: Anastassia Zabrodskaja (Tallinn University)

Diana Vidutis (Lithuanian-American Community, Inc.), “The Thread Throughout: Gabrielė Petkevičaitė-Bitė and Lithuania's Rebirth”

Vasilijus Safronovas (Klaipėda University), “Remembrance of a Non-National War in a Heterogeneous State: The Case of Interwar Lithuania”

Egidijus Balandis (Vytautas Magnus University), “Lithuanian-American Sports Heroes in the First Half of the Twentieth Century: Creation of Celebrity, Lithuanian Community and Its Practices of Supporting Athletes”

Ann Traitor (State University of New York, Albany), “Gruto Parkas, Ariogala, and the Control of Lithuanian Historical Memory”

2. Speaking Languages: Grammar, Sound, and Usage (Williams Hall 301)

Chair: Dzintra Bond (Ohio University)

Linda Zalite (Graduate Center of the City University of New York), “The Incidence and Evolution of Palatalized Consonants in Latvian”

Continued

Renate Pajusalu and Karl Pajusalu (University of Tartu) and Andra Kalnača, Birute Klaas-Lang, Ilze Lokmane (University of Latvia), “Politeness and Grammar in Requests: Evidence from Estonian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Finnish, and Russian”

Pärtel Lippus, Uldis Balodis, Karl Pajusalu, Pire Teras, Tuuli Tuisk (University of Tartu), “Broken Tone in the Finnic Varieties of Latvia”

Violeta Kalėdaitė (Vytautas Magnus University), “Specificity of a Lithuanian Modal Existential Wh-construction”

3. Economic Policy (Williams Hall 319)

Chair: Kenneth Smith (Millersville University)

Hilmar Hilmarsson (University of Akureyri), “IMF and the Use, Overuse, and Abuse of the Government Ownership Concept in the Cases of Iceland and Latvia”

Raul Eamets (Tartu University), “The Labour Market and Labour Market Policies During the Great Recession: The Case of Estonia”

Morten Hansen (Stockholm School of Economics in Riga), “An Optimal Fiscal Council for Latvia”

Lisa Wilder (Albright College), “Social Capital and Confidence in Estonia: An Analysis by Demographics and Geography”

4. Crossing Cultures: Estonia (Williams Hall 304)

Chair: Eneken Laanes (Under and Tuglas Literature Centre/ Tallinn University)

Katre Talviste (University of Tartu), “Latvian Literature in Estonian School Textbooks”

Marin Laak (Estonian Literary Museum), “Global Networks of Local Literature: Estonian Literatures in *Books Abroad*”

Tiina Kattel (University of Tartu), “Translations of Lithuanian Literature in Soviet Estonia”

5. The Baltic Stage and Contemporary Art (Williams Hall 305)

Chair: Milda Richardson (Northeastern University)

Martynas Petrikas (Vilnius University), “At the Crossroads of Culture: A Case Study in Popular Entertainment of Interwar Lithuania”

Jurgita Staniškytė (Vytautas Magnus University), “(Re)imagined Pasts: Performing Histories and Reinventing Identities on the Baltic Stage”

Ina Pukelytė (Vytautas Magnus University), “Yiddish Actors in Lithuania: Vagabonds, Nomads, Networkers, Globalists?”

Mark Allen Svede (The Ohio State University), “Has Gender Parity Been Achieved in Latvian Contemporary Art?”

Session Four, 3:30 – 5:00pm

1. Soldiers in the Baltic in the Twentieth Century: Social Realities Seen and Created
(Williams Hall 220)

Chair: Saulius Sužiedėlis (Millersville University)

Mart Kuldkepp (University College London), “A Resource or a Threat? The Attempts at Repatriating Estonian World War I POWs During the Estonian War of Independence”

Lüsi Esse (University of Tartu/Stanford University), “The Forgotten Soldiers? The Fate of the Estonian World War I Veterans During the Interwar Period”

Harry Merritt (Brown University), “Civil War in the Borderlands? Latvian Soldiers in Nazi German and Soviet Service in World War II”

Oskars Gruziņš (University of Latvia), “Children of War in the Baltics: Sources, Challenges, and Limitations”

2. Heritage, Identity, and the Nation-State (Williams Hall 305)

Chair: Eriks Selga (Temple University)

A. Lorraine Weekes (Stanford University), “Expanding and Protecting the Nation in Estonia”

Emilia Pawlusz (Tallinn University School of Governance, Law and Society), “Scandinavia’s Best Kept Secret”—Imagining the Estonian Nation in Tourism and Nation-Branding”

Aleksandras Gedmintas (State University of New York, Delhi), “The *Kibinas* as a Cultural Marker for Karaim/Lithuanian Identity”

Karina Vasilevska-Das (University of California, Berkeley), “Children’s Bodies Falling: The Case of Latvian School Song and Dance Festival Faintings”

3. Diplomacy in the Twentieth Century Seen from East and West (Williams Hall 301)

Chair: Jürgen Warmbrunn (Herder-Institut, Marburg)

Ville Laamanen (University of Turku), “Soviet Cultural Diplomacy with Scandinavians: VOKS as Guardian of Moscow’s Interests, 1939-1940”

Paulis Lazda (University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire), “Atlantic Charter and the Baltic States: A Glass Half Empty and Half Full”

4. Russia and the Baltic States (Williams Hall 319)

Chair: Daunis Auers (University of Latvia)

Ginta Palubinskas (West Virginia State University), “Russia’s Conduct toward Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia—A Reflection of the State of the International Security System”

Rita Peters (University of Massachusetts at Boston), “Coercive Diplomacy and Small Powers: The Case of the Baltic States and Russia”

Emilija Pundzuite-Gallois (Sciences Po, France), “An Unusual Advocate of International Society: Lithuanian Russia Policy as a Means to Uphold International Liberal Democratic Values”

Mārtiņš Hiršs (Center for Security and Strategic Research, Latvia), “The Extent of Russia's Influence in Latvia”

5. Teaching and Learning: Trauma, Nursing, and Employment (Williams Hall 304)

Chair: Mark Moll (Indiana University)

Dovile Budryte (Georgia Gwinnett College), “Collective Traumas, Memory Politics, and Teaching Political Science: Insights from Classrooms in Lithuania and the United States”

Vilma Žydyžūnaitė and Ričardas Butėnas (Vytautas Magnus University), “Internalization of Values While Training General Practice Nurses in College Level Studies: Case of Lithuania”

Anders Paalzow and Zane Cunska (Stockholm University of Economics in Riga), “Do Study Connections Matter for Future Careers? Application of Network Analysis to University Graduates”

7:00pm

AABS Ball at the Philadelphia Society of Free Letts (531 N. 7th Street at the corner of Spring Garden)

Join us for a traditional Latvian Cold Dinner Buffet by the Amber Table and music by “Pēdējais Vilciens.” The party will be from 7pm to 12am - music, dinner and dessert are included. Beverages will be available at the onsite bar. A shuttle will be operating in an ongoing loop from the University City Sheraton Hotel (Chestnut and 26th Streets) to the Society of Free Letts from 6:30pm until 12:30am.

DAY THREE: Saturday, May 28

8:00am to 3:30pm Conference Registration

12:00 – 5:00pm Museum Displays: Pirma Banga (The First Wave) and Latviešu Pasaulē (Latvians Abroad) in Houston Hall

12:00-1:30pm AABS Luncheon (Hall of Flags, Houston Hall)

12:00-3:00pm Wiki Café

9:00am – 5:00pm Book Exhibit in Houston Hall

5:15-6:45pm AABS Member Meeting (Hall of Flags, Houston Hall)

8:00pm Baltic Short Film Screening at Slought (4017 Walnut Street)

Complimentary beverages available throughout the day in Houston Hall

Session One, 8:30 – 10:00am

1. ROUNDTABLE “Economic Crisis in Latvia: A Grassroots Experience” (Williams Hall 220)

Panelists from Rīga Stradiņš University

Chair: Sergei Kruk

Inna Dovladbekova and Anželika Berķe-Berga, “Latvian Business Survival Strategies and the Effects of Austerity Policy”

Taņa Lāce and Ritma Rungule, “Survival Strategies and the Perception of the Crisis among Latvians”

Sanita Vasiljeva, “The Relevance of Social Capital in Overcoming the Crisis”

Sergei Kruk and Anda Rožukalne, “Civil Society and Public Communication”

Klāvs Sedlenieks, “The Vernacular Concept of State in Latvia: Some Anthropological Insights”

2. Transborder Nationalism and Identity in the Baltic States (Williams Hall 301)

Chair: Marina Germane (University of London)

László Kövecses (University of Glasgow), “Ethnic Dimensions of Estonian Foreign Policy”

Marianne Leppik (University of Tartu), “Multilingualism, Media-Related Practices, and Civic-Involvement of the Estonian Russian-Speakers”

Continued

Keven M. F. Platt (University of Pennsylvania), “The Baltic ‘Near Abroad’: Culture Across Borders or Borders Across Culture?”

3. The Global Baltic: Migration, Diasporas, Minorities (Williams Hall 305)

Chair: Aaron Bateman (University of Nottingham)

Ausra Bremner (Brooke House College/De Montfort University), “The Impact of Migration to the UK on Lithuanian Migrant Family relationships”

Inta Mieriņa (University of Latvia), “The Transnational Latvian”

Liene Salmiņa (Vidzeme University), “Interaction between Latvian Diaspora Communities and the Republic of Latvia”

4. Politically Active Diasporas (Williams Hall 319)

Chair: Katja Wezel (University of Pittsburgh)

Mara Lazda (City University of New York, Bronx Community College), “Ethnic, National, and Transnational Identities in Exile: The Experience of BATUN, 1969-1985”

Amanda Swain (University of California, Irvine), “Igniting a Generation: Romas Kalanta and the Lithuanian Diaspora”

Silke Berndsen (Zweigbibliothek Geistes und Sozialwissenschaften der MLU Halle), “Networks across Borders: The Interconnection of Baltic Émigré Engagement and Resistance in the Baltics from the mid-1970s to the late 1980s”

Tiina Ann Kirss (University of Tartu), “Beyond the Blue Gate: Contested Memory and Estonian Homeland/Diaspora Relations in the Soviet Era”

5. Language and Society: Past, Present, and Future (Williams Hall 304)

Chair: Karl Pajusalu (University of Tartu)

Delany Michael Skerrett (Australian Catholic University), “Moving the Field Forward: A Micro-Meso-Macro Model for Critical Language Planning: The Case of Estonia”

Kerttu Kibbermann and Gunta Kļava (University of Latvia), “Language Attitudes and Behaviors Among Russian Speaking Minorities in Latvia: On the Thresholds of Changes”

Dzintra Bond (Ohio University), Dace Markus (Riga Teacher Training and Education Management Academy), and Verna Stockmal (Ohio University), “Voices from the Past: Latvian Recordings in the POW Camps During WWI”

Session Two, 10:15 – 11:45

1. ROUNDTABLE: “The AABS as a Constituent Member of the ACLS” (Williams Hall 305)

Continued

Chair: Bradley Woodworth (University of New Haven/Yale University)

Olavi Arens (Armstrong State University)

David Barclay (German Studies Association)

Irena Blekys (The Association for the Advancement of Baltic Studies)

Janis Chakars (Gwynedd Mercy University)

Mara Lazda (Bronx Community College, CUNY)

2. Soviet Actions and Institutions of Oppression, Social and Information Control

(Williams Hall 220)

Chair: Ieva Zake (The College of New Jersey)

Respondent: Melissa Chakars (Saint Joseph's University)

Edgars Engģizers (Baltic International Academy), "Latvia in the Shadow of Soviet Military Bases"

Rosario Napolitano (Universita degli Studi di Napoli "l'Orientale"), "The KGB Building in Latvia: The Years of Fear"

Jürgen Warmbrunn (Herder-Institut, Marburg), "Libraries and Politics in Latvia, Czechoslovakia and Poland after 1945"

Edward Cohn (Grinnell College), "Prophylactic Policing and the KGB's Struggle with the Baltic Dissident Movement in the 1970s and 1980s"

3. Minority Rights: Past and Present (Williams Hall 301)

Chair: Kevin M.F. Platt (University of Pennsylvania)

Indra Ekmanis (University of Washington), "The Land Where I Sing: Youth and Cultural Integration in Eastern Latvia"

Marina Germane (University of Glasgow), "Max Laserson: Zionist, Latvian Statesman, and European Minority Thinker"

Katherine Vachawski (University of Denver), "The Calculus of Structural Barriers: The Polish Effort for Rights in Lithuania"

4. Latvian Literature and Culture (Williams Hall 319)

Chair: Katre Talviste (University of Tartu)

Maija Burima (Daugavpils University/University of Latvia), "Culinary Texts in Contemporary Latvian Literature in the Context of Elite/Mass Culture"

Guntis Šmidchens (University of Washington), "An Old Folktale in New Forms: Rainis, Kalnaellis and the Traditional Tale of the Glass Mountain"

Ilze Kacane (Daugavpils University) and Alina Romanovska (Daugavpils University), "The Hybrid Identity of Latvian Culture: Cultural, Historical, and Literary Aspects"

5. Media Development and Values (Williams Hall 304)

Chair: Andris Straumanis (University of Wisconsin-River Falls)

Ainārs Dimants (Turība University/European Journalism Observatory), “Latvian PSB on the Media Policy Crossroads to PSM”

Anda Rožukalne (Rīga Stradiņš University), “Baltic Journalism after the Economic Recession (2009-2014): Journalists between Stable and Changing Professional Values”

Guna Spurava (University of Latvia), “Privacy and Openness of Children in Local Social Network Sites in Latvia”

AABS LUNCHEON, 12:00 – 1:30pm

Hall of Flags, Houston Hall

Keynote speech by incoming AABS President Giedrius Subačius (University of Illinois, Chicago)

Pre-registration required.

Session Three, 1:45 – 3:15pm

1. Holocaust in Memory: Lithuania (Williams Hall 220)

Chair: Saulius Sužiedėlis (Millersville University)

Hannah Pollin-Galay (University of Pennsylvania), “Naming the Criminal: Lithuanian Jews Remember Perpetrators”

Charles Perrin (Kennesaw State University), “Jonas Šliūpas, Memoirs, and the Holocaust: Did an Anti-Semitic Lithuanian Mayor Try to Save Jews?”

Amira Eran (Hebrew University of Jerusalem), “Abba Kovner’s Concept of Heroic Death”

Ellen Cassedy (Independent Scholar), “Lithuania Looks at the Holocaust: Holocaust Remembrance in Lithuania Today”

2. The Construction of Images within and across National Boundaries (Williams Hall 301)

Chair/Respondent: Liisi Esse (University of Tartu/Stanford University)

Ieva Zake (The College of New Jersey), “Ethnic Tourism Soviet Style: Inturist’s Construction of the National Past in the Latvian SSR, 1960s-1980s”

Maira Bundža (Western Michigan University), “Web Archiving in the Baltic Countries”

Aiste Zalepuga (Yale University), “Preservation of Baltic Memory in a Digital Age”

Anastassia Zabrodskaia (Tallinn University), “The Perception of Russia Across Eurasia: Memory, Identity, and Conflict”

3. ROUNDTABLE: Returning Geopolitics and Past Futures of Baltic-Nordic Regionalism: Resilience or Marginalization? (Williams Hall 319)

Chair: Carl Marklund (Södertörn University)

Marta Grzechnik (University of Gdańsk/University of Greifswald)

Mart Kuldkepp (University College London)

Kaarel Piirimäe (University of Tartu)

Pärtel Piirimäe (University of Tartu/Swedish Collegium for Advanced Study)

Karolina Žurek (Stockholm University)

4. Emerging Cities and Their Know-How: Infrastructures of Supply and Communication in Baltic Cities, Late Eighteenth Century to the Present (Williams Hall 304)

Chair: Ivars Ījabs (University of Latvia)

Heidi Hein-Kircher (Herder-Institut, Marburg), “Emerging Cities in the Baltic Region Between Best Practices and National Movements”

Eszter Gantner (Herder-Institut, Marburg), “Transferring Best Practices: Eliel Saarinen Between Tallinn, Helsinki and Budapest, 1900-1914”

Emilia Karppinen (University of Turku), “Renegotiating Planning Practices: Mapping Out the Future of Helsinki (1910-1918)”

Vaike Haas (West Virginia University), “Marks on the City: Colonization, Planning, and Coastline Emergence in Tallinn, Estonia”

5. Business and Management Issues in the Baltics (Williams Hall 305)

Chair: Morten Hansen (Stockholm School of Economics)

Chutinon Putthiwanit (Turība University), “A Study of a Multinational Enterprise’s International Experience towards Export Volume in the Latvian Lumber Business”

Dainius Baliūnas (Vilnius University), “Innovative Strategic Initiatives in Pursuance Business Development in the Lithuanian Market”

Brent McKenzie (University of Guelph), “Retail Service Quality in Estonia, 1999-2014: A Longitudinal Study”

Session Four, 3:30 – 5:00pm

1. Writing the Lithuanian Experience (Williams Hall 220)

Chair: Daiva Markelis (Eastern Illinois University)

Jocelyn Bartkevicius (University of Central Florida), “The War after the War: Constructing Essays from Secrets and Lies”

Laima Vince (University of Maine), “Researching and Writing about Lithuania”

Violeta Kelertas (University of Washington), “Editing EuroEnglish”

2. Crossing Borders in the Medieval and Early Modern Eras (Williams Hall 301)

Chair: Mara Lazda (Bronx Community College, CUNY)

Kristina Markman (University of California, Los Angeles), “Hero or Villain? Mindaugas and the Image of Lithuanians in Medieval Chronicles”

Alexander Baranov (Freie Universität Berlin), “A ‘Russian Threat’? The Teutonic Order in Livonia and the Grand Duchy of Moscow at the End of the Fifteenth Century”

Ralph Tuchtenhagen (Humboldt Universität zu Berlin), “Colonial and Not Quite so Colonial Undertakings: Comparing Swedish Aspirations in Livonia and New Sweden 1629-1710”

Christopher Gennari (Camden County College), “The Baltic Fault Line: Sweden and Russia’s War over the Baltic in the 1650s and Its Meaning for the Boundaries of Europe”

3. Ideals, Reality and Dreams Fulfilled (Williams Hall 319)

Chair: Milda Richardson (Northeastern University)

Vaike Haas (West Virginia University), “Communist Ideals vs. the Realities of Soviet-planned Public Space: Taamsaare Park, Tallinn, Estonia”

Kädi Talvoja (Estonian Academy of Art), “The First Anniversary Art Exhibitions of Soviet Baltic Republics in Moscow as a Means of ‘Branding Nations’”

Milda Richardson (Northeastern University), “Jonas Mulokas and Gunnar Birkerts: Baltic Roots and Modernism”

4. Memory, Sovereignty and Political Belonging (Williams Hall 304)

Chair: A. Lorraine Weekes (Stanford University)

Respondent: Marina Mikhaylova (Temple University)

Neringa Klumbytė (Miami University), “Suffering, Sovereignty, and Commemoration of Soviet Terror in Lithuania”

Christine Beresniova (Indiana University), “Patriots and Traitors: How Holocaust Education in Lithuania became an International Battle for National Identity”

Frances W. Harrison (Binghamton University), “Perspectives on Cultural Memory and Security in Lithuania since the Ukraine Crisis”

5. Learning Languages (Williams Hall 305)

Chair: Delaney Skerret (Australian Catholic University)

Olga Urek (Arctic University of Norway) and Dace Markus (Riga Teacher Training and Education Management Academy), “Latvian Language Development Assessment Tools: Preliminary Results”

Piibi-Kai Kivik (Indiana University) and Anne Tamm (Central European University), “Comprehensive and Learners’ Grammars of Estonian: New Users, New Research” 22

Continued

Iveta Grinberga (University of Washington), “The Art of Teaching Latvian as Heritage Language: Research and Practice”

Aušra Valančiauskienė (University of Washington), “Testing Lithuanian as a Heritage Language”

AABS Member Meeting

5:15 to 6:45pm (Claudia Cohen, G-17)

Includes presentation of awards and graduate student/junior scholar conference travel grants.

Baltic Short Films Screening (Slough, 4017 Walnut Street)

8:00 – 10:00pm

Series curated by Jule Rozite, a film programmer from Latvia who received her film education in Glasgow, Scotland, and Vienna, Austria. She moved to New York in fall 2011. Rozite’s festival credits include the Glasgow Short Film Festival, the Stockholm Film Festival, the Hamptons Film Festival and the Tribeca Film Festival. Additionally, she has curated films for the Scandinavian House in New York.

Presenter: Laris Kresliņš (Moore College of Art)

Ten Minutes Older (Par desmit minūtēm vecāks), Herz Frank (Latvia, 1978), 10 min.

Iconic Latvian documentarian, Herz Frank, captures all the emotions and joy that cinema can evoke by focusing solely on one young boy’s face during a show.

St. John’s Day (Jaanipäev), Andres Sööt (Estonia, 1978), 20 min.

An insightful meditation on the loss of tradition during the stagnant Brezhnev years, filmed by Sööt on Midsummer’s Day in Tallinn.

Hare Krishna, Jonas Mekas (Lithuania/USA, 1966), 5 min.

Jonas Mekas observes New York street culture and traditions by featuring a group of Hare Krishnas in this kaleidoscopic short film.

Ivan’s Day (Ivanipäev), Ivan Pavljutskov (Estonia, 2014) 30 min.

Pavljutskov explores identity and traditions in modern day Estonia by following one couple over the course of Midsummer’s Day as they prepare for the evening’s celebration.

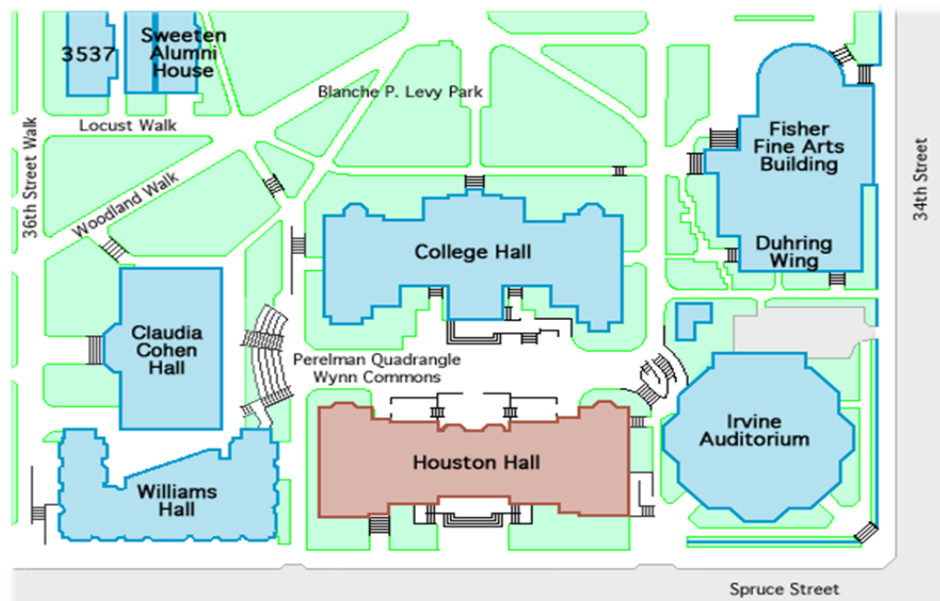
Continued

Castratus the Boar (Kastrāts kuilis), Lauris Ābele & Raitis Ābele (Latvia, 2014), 21 min.

The directors muse on life and masculinity in a small-town in Latvia, infusing their observations with choral music and an aesthetic that adds a beautifully surreal layer to the protagonist's otherwise mundane existence.

Cold Springs (Šalti šaltiniai), Giedrė Narušytė Boots (Lithuania, 2015), 5 min.

Cold Springs is a peaceful experimental animation about the changing of seasons, infused with nostalgia and Lithuanian folk traditions.



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*The Role of Visual Arts
and Artists in the Making of the
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Suzanne Pourchier-Plasseraud

Focusing on Latvia, (between 1905 and 1940), Suzanne Pourchier-Plasseraud, has chosen a nation without an ancient state history of its own, to illustrate the evolution of the concept of national identity into a claim for independence, with the help of art and artists.



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Antanas Smetona and His Lithuania

*From the National
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an Authoritarian Regime
(1893-1940)*

Alfonsas Eidintas, Vilnius University and Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Lithuania. Translated and edited by **Alfred Erich Senn**, University of Wisconsin-Madison

In *Antanas Smetona and His Lithuania* Alfonsas Eidintas recounts the life and times of one of the most important leaders of the Lithuanian national movement Antanas Smetona, the content of his authoritarian regime (1926-1940) and impact of his associates, who constructed the nationalist ideology, the economic progress, and the cultural life of independent Lithuania before the Soviet invasion of 1940.

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