Call for Papers
Association for the Advancement of Baltic Studies
BI-ANNUAL CONFERENCE
http://www.aabs-balticstudies.org/

Global, Glocal, and Local:
Distinction and Interconnection in the Baltic States


This conference will explore 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 premier scholarly society for research on Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. Its global membership includes scholars and supporters from North America, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Sweden, Finland, Germany, Australia, Great Britain, Russia, Israel, Japan, and elsewhere.

Proposal process:

The conference welcomes papers, panels, and roundtable presentations in fields related to the Baltic region, its countries, and populations within those countries, including minorities. Contributions are encouraged from disciplines including, but not limited to, the following: anthropology, architecture, business, communication and media, cultural studies, demography, economics, education, environment, ethnic relations, film studies, fine arts, gender studies, geography, history, international relations, law, linguistics, literature, memory, political science, psychology, public health, religion, sociology, and advancing Baltic studies. Interdisciplinary and comparative work is welcome. We are also particularly interested in papers focused on Baltic Jewish studies.

Graduate students, both Master and Ph.D., are encouraged to submit proposals.

Paper and panel proposals must include an abstract of no more than 250 words and a one- to two-page curriculum vitae. These materials should be sent simultaneously to the appropriate divisional chair’s email address below AND aabs2016@gmail.com. Interdisciplinary papers should be sent to one divisional chair, according to the author’s judgment, AND aabs2016@gmail.com: The deadline for submissions is September 15, 2015.

Conference divisions and chairs:

Advancing Baltic Studies  Olavi Arens olavi.aren@armstrong.edu
Aesthetics, Creativity and Arts  Milda Richardson m.richardson@neu.edu
Anthropology  Neringa Klumbytė klumbyn@muohio.edu
Business and Economics  Kenneth Smith Kenneth.Smith@millersville.edu
Communication and Media
Andris Straumanis andris.straumanis@uwrf.edu

Education
Kara Brown brownk25@mailbox.sc.edu

Environment and Public Health
Robert Smurr smurr@evergreen.edu

Ethnic Minorities in the Baltic
Jennie Shulze schulzej@duq.edu

Gender
Tiina Ann Kirss tiina.kirss@ut.ee

History and Memory
Bradley Woodworth bwoodworth@newhaven.edu

Jewish Studies
Ellen Cassedy ellen@ellencassedy.com

Linguistics
Dzintra Bond bond@ohio.edu

Musicology
Kevin Karnes kkarnes@emory.edu

Literature
Daiva Markelis dmmarkelis@eiu.edu

Political Science, International Relations, Law
Daunis Auers Daunis.Auers@lu.lv

Religion, Folklore, Traditional Culture
Dace Veinberga dace.veinberga@utoronto.ca

Sociology, Psychology, Demography
Daina S. Eglitis dainas@gwu.edu

All presenters must be AABS members by the time of May 26-28, 2016 conference. Those accepted for the conference who are not already members, can join at: http://www.aabs-balticstudies.org/aabs-membership-form

Conference Location:

The conference will be held at one of the leading universities in the United States in one of its finest and most historic cities.

The brainchild of Benjamin Franklin, the prestigious University of Pennsylvania claims status as the oldest university in the United States, but its pedigree includes Baltic studies as well. Among its many accomplished faculty is included Alfred Senn, who served as chair of the Department of Balto-Slavic Studies from 1947-1965 and is renowned for his work on Lithuania. The UPenn library contains a strong Baltic collection, especially regarding Lithuania and including items belonging to one of Lithuania’s founding fathers, Jurgis Šaulys. Notable alumni include recent AABS president Vejas Liulevicius, European MP from Latvia Krišjānis Kariņš, and the current president of Estonia, Toomas Hendrik Ilves.

Philadelphia is a vibrant center of culture and history. Attractions include the Philadelphia Museum of Art, Barnes Foundation, and Rodin Museum and range from Independence Hall to the Thaddeus Kosciuszko National Memorial and the new National Museum of American Jewish History. A city of firsts, Philadelphia was the site of America’s first paper mill, first almanac, first public school, first bible printing (in German), first public parks, first botanic garden, first public library, first volunteer fire company, first type foundry, first hospital, first scholarly society, and first and only art school for women, among other founding achievements, in addition to being the place where both the United States Declaration of Independence and Constitution were written.

Philadelphia is also home to numerous ethnic communities, including from the Baltic states. It is home to the Lithuanian Music Hall Association (http://lithuanianmha.org/) and the world’s oldest continuously operating Latvian social club, the Philadelphia Society of Free Letts (http://www.latviansociety.com/).