

ASSOCIATION
FOR THE ADVANCEMENT
OF SCANDINAVIAN STUDIES
IN CANADA



L'ASSOCIATION
POUR L'AVANCEMENT
DES ÉTUDES SCANDINAVES
AU CANADA

**AASSC CONFERENCE PROGRAM
at CONGRESS 2016
MONDAY MAY 30 – THURSDAY JUNE 2, 2016
UNIVERSITY of CALGARY**

Monday, May 30

11:00-12:30: Session I, The Cat Among the Pigeons: The Significance of Medieval Icelandic Saga Writing in an International Context (jointly hosted with the Canadian Society of Medievalists)

Chair: Natalie Van Deusen (University of Alberta)

Venue: Scurfield 257

CHRISTOPHER CROCKER (University of Manitoba), "Dreams From our Fathers: On Multiple Inheritance and the Medieval Icelandic Sagas"

RYAN ERIC JOHNSON (University of Iceland), "The Continent and the Islands: Transnational Communities in the Medieval Nordic World"

DUSTIN GEERAERT (University of Manitoba), "Conjuring Ghosts: Victorian Communion with Icelandic Saga Characters"

2:00-5:00: AASSC Executive Meeting. Venue: Hotel Alma – Parkdale Room

5:30 pm – 7:30 pm: AASSC Opening Reception Venue: MacEwan Hall – MSC218 – SAR Lounge

Tuesday, May 31 Venue: EEEL - 161

8.30 am – 9:00 am:

Welcome and Introductory Remarks: Mads Bunch, President

9:00 am – 10:30 am: AASSC/CINS KEYNOTE SPEAKER: JAMES LEARY (Emeritus Professor in Scandinavian Studies, Department of Scandinavian Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison): **"Finnish Contributions to North America's Folksongs"**

Chair: Natalie Van Deusen (University of Alberta)

Finnish immigrants and their descendants included remarkable performers who not only sustained and modified Old World folksong traditions, but altered and created songs to chronicle their New World experiences. This presentation—illustrated with sounds, still images, and film—focuses on field recordings made for the Library of Congress from the 1937-1940 in the Lake Superior region. Including the Laestadian hymns, militant labor

anthems, bawdy songs, laments, comic ditties, and spritely dance tunes of farmers, loggers, miners, and more, these recordings contribute significantly to our understanding of folksongs in North America.

The topic of Professor Leary's keynote talk aligns with the 2016 Congress theme, "Energizing Communities," and as such, will be of interest to a broad Congress audience.

10:30 am – 11:00 am: Break

11:00 am – 1:00 pm: Session II, Community Identities
Chair: Ingrid Urberg

TIM FRANDY, UW-Madison, "(Re-)Creating Identity and Community within North American Sámi Expressive Culture"

JULIANE EGERER, Freelance Researcher, "Exploring Transcultural Community: Realistic Visions in Sami-Norwegian-Danish and Ojibwe-Canadian Novels"

HENNING WÆRP, University of Tromsø, "Knut Hamsun's critique of consumerism – *Segelfoss Town* (1915)"

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm: Lunch Break

2:00 pm – 3:30 pm: Session III, Horror and Anti-Art
Chair: Helga Thorson

SVEND SKRIVER, University of Copenhagen, "Gothic Horror – a Reading of Karen Blixen's early Manuscripts"

INGRID URBERG, University of Alberta (Augustana Campus), "Homicidal Polar Bears, Human Heads and Horror: Svalbard as a New Gothic"

MADS BUNCH, University of Copenhagen, "Anti-art as Art in von Trier, Knausgård, and Llambras"

3:30 pm – 4:00 pm: Break

4:00 pm – 5:00 pm: Session IV, Punishment and Healing in Medieval Scandinavia
Chair: Erin McGuire

CHRISTINE EKHOLST, University of Guelph, "Bestiality, Bodies, and Boundaries in Medieval Scandinavia"

DANIELLE TURNER, California State University – Fullerton, "Science, Sorcery, and Healing in the Viking Age"

Wednesday, June 1 Venue: EEEL - 161

9:00 am – 10:30 am: Session V, Immigration and Homecoming in Literature

Chair: Mads Bunch

GUÐRÚN BJÖRK GUÐSTEINSDÓTTIR, University of Iceland, "Early Icelandic Immigrants and the Myth of the Revitalizing North"

MARIT BARKVE, UW-Madison, "Writing Community in Contemporary Norway: The Search for Den Store Norske *Innvandrerromanen*"

KATJA WILL, University of Greifswald, "Hvorfor skal jeg hjem igjen?' Homecoming in Scandinavian literature"

10:30 am – 11:00 am: Break

11:00 am – 12:30 pm: Session VI, Synergy and Engagement of Present and Past

Chair: Guðrún Björk Guðsteinsdóttir

LAURIE PRANGE-MARTIN, Yukon College/Aalborg University, "The Emergence of Memes in Online Discussions about Scandinavian Economics"

KAREN ALLEN, University of Washington, "The Song of the Vikings: Harmony and Synergy in Modern Nordic Security"

ERIN MCGUIRE, University of Victoria, "Hneftafl and other lessons: using Viking games to encourage student engagement"

12:30 pm – 1:30 pm: Working Lunch: Teaching Scandinavian Studies

Discussion led by John Eason (University of Alberta) and Erin McGuire (University of Victoria)

1:30 pm – 4:00 pm: AASSC AGM

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm: AASSC Banquet (ticketed event)

Held at Braserie Kensington (1131 Kensington Rd NW).

Transportation is available via LRT or taxi.

Thursday, June 2 Venue: EEEL - 161

10:00 am – 11:30 am: Session VII, Saints and their Biographers

Chair: Christine Ekholst

MARITA VON WEISSENBERG, Xavier University, "Princess and Prophetess: Marketing Saint Birgitta of Sweden"

NATALIE VAN DEUSEN, University of Alberta, "The Afterlife of Catholic Saints: Revision and Reduction in Jón Þorsteinsson píslarvottur's *Iðrunardiktur*"

11:30am: Closing Remarks Mads Bunch, President of AASSC

AASSC Program for Congress 2016 as per February 10, 2016

Note: For further information, please contact Dr. Natalie Van Deusen, AASSC Program Chair, at vandeuse@ualberta.ca or the AASSC home page at www.aassc.com or the Congress 2015 website at <http://congress2016.ca/>

NOTE:

During Congress, you may wish to attend some of the free public "Big Thinking" lectures.

The *Big Thinking* lecture series is held throughout Congress and is open to all attendees and members of the public. This series brings together leading scholars and public figures who present forward-thinking research, ideas and solutions to the critical questions and issues of our time. The 2016 *Big Thinking* lecture series is organized by the Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences and the University of Calgary.

His Worship Naheed Nenshi

Mayor, City of Calgary, Alberta

The power of change: Leadership, community and resiliency

Saturday, May 28 - 12:15 - 13:15

Naomi Klein

Award-winning journalist, syndicated columnist and *New York Times* bestselling author

This changes everything: Capitalism vs. the climate

Sunday, May 29 - 12:15 - 13:15

The Right Honourable Beverley McLachlin

P.C., Chief Justice of Canada

The rule of law in a multicultural society

Monday, May 30 - 12:15 - 13:15