The 8th International Tartu Conference on North-American Studies,  
A RETURN OF HISTORY?  
April 26-28, 2007

PRELIMINARY CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Thursday, April 26

11:00-12:00  Registration (Lobby, Main Building of the University of Tartu, Ülikooli 18)

12:00-13:00  Official opening of the conference (Festive Hall)  
Professor Tõnu Lehtsaar, Rector of the University of Tartu  
Professor Valter Lang, Dean of the Faculty of Philosophy  
Professor Krista Vogelberg, President of the Baltic Center for North-American Studies

13:00-14:00  Introductory plenary presentation (Festive Hall)  
Krista Vogelberg, University of Tartu

14:00-15:00  Plenary presentation (Festive Hall)  
Michael E. Parrish, University of California, San Diego  
Uses and Abuses of History by the Supreme Court of the United States

15:00-16:00  Lunch

16:00-17:00  Plenary (Main Building 128)  
Markku Henriksson, University of Helsinki  
History in Stone: Reading the Statues and Monuments in North America

17:00-18:00  Debate (Main Building 128)  
Monuments Telling Their Stories: Estonian Parallels

19:00-21:00  Reception (University Café) (invitations only)

Friday, April 27

10:00-11:00  Plenary presentation (Main Building 128)  
Alan Baker, Swarthmore College  
History of Philosophy in the American Context

11:00-12:00  Workshops  
Workshop A (Main Building 128)  
Ilmar Anvelt, University of Tartu  
Edward Hopper and Mark Kalev Kostabi  
Juris Nikoforovs and Margarita Spirida, University of Latvia  
Renaissance in the Culture of Aboriginal Canada
Workshop B (Main Building 140)
Leena Kurvet-Käosaar, University of Tartu
(In)sanity's Edge in the Work of Charlotte Perkins Gilman and Elizabeth Aspe
Reet Sool, University of Tartu
Furor Americus: Lawrence Ferlighetti

12:00-12:30 **Coffee break** (University Café)

12:30-14:00 **Workshops**

**Workshop A** (Main Building 128)
Redi Koobak, University of Tartu
Regarding the Bodies of Others: Representations of Race, Gender and Torture in the Abu Ghraib Prisoner Abuse Case

Pille Põiklik, University of Tartu
History Realized: The Role of the Past in the Representation of Conservatism in Media Texts

Raili Põldsaar, University of Tartu
Returning Discourses in the American Gender Equality Debates

**Workshop B** (Main Building 140)
Milda Danyte, Vytautas Magnus University
How Unofficial Memory Is Rewriting History in Recent Canadian Historical Fiction

Lembi Loigu, University of Tartu
The Background Materials of Margaret Atwood’s *The Handmaid’s Tale* at the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library of the University of Toronto

Rūta Šlapkauskaitė, Vilnius University
Who’s Afraid of Canadian History? Stories That Walk with Ghosts: Leonard Cohen’s *Beautiful Losers* and Joseph Boyden’s *Three Day Road*

14:00-15:00 **Lunch**

15:00-16:00 **Workshops**

**Workshop A** (Main Building 128)
Irina Novikova, University of Latvia
Cold War Re-Visited in American and Soviet Films of the 1950s: Red Scare and Tarzan’s Yell

Andrea Zittlau and Pierre Gottschlich, University of Rostock
*Good Night and Good Luck*: A Film Discourse on the McCarthy Era and Beyond

**Workshop B** (Main Building 140)
Danutė Bulziene, Šiauliai University
The Role of Art and Literature in the Reflections of American Writers

Lauri Pilter, University of Tartu
Grand Narratives of Europe and of America: Thomas Mann and William Faulkner

16:00-17:00 **Coffee break** (University Café)

16:30-17:30 **Workshops**
**Workshop A** (Main Building 128)
Yury G. Akimov, St. Petersburg State University
National History and National Unity: Canadian Historiography and Nation Building

Kristina V. Minkova, St. Petersburg State University
Creating Models of Federalism: Rethinking Canadian Experience

**Workshop B** (Main Building 140)
Jari Kakela, University of Helsinki
The American Grand Narrative Projected into the Distant Future: Isaac Asimov’s *Foundation* Series as a Grand Narrative of American Expansionism Transformed into a Gaia Hypothesis and Beyond

Shikongo Ndinelago, University of Namibia
My Part of the Cryptex: Dan Brown’s *The Da Vinci Code* and Barbara Cartland’s *Loved for Himself* as Models of History

17:30-18:30 **Plenary presentation** (Main Building 128)
Stephen G. Rabe, University of Texas, Dallas
Creating a Multicultural Society: Immigration in the United States Since 1965

Saturday, April 28

10:00-11:00 **Plenary presentation** (Main Building 128)
Eric Sandeen, University of Wyoming
Viewing the Ruins of Empire

11:00-12:30 **Workshops**
**Workshop A** (Main Building 128)
Elizabeth Peterson, University of Jyväskylä
Pressure to *Please*: The Case of English and Politeness in Finland

Irina Koksharova, University of Tartu
Changing Rules of Politeness in American-Russian Gate-Keeping Encounters

Natalja Zagura, University of Tartu
Power Talk in *The West Wing*
**Workshop B** (Main Building 140)
Ljuba Tarvi, Tallinn University
The West and the Rest: To Fall or Not to Fall?

Jennifer Uhler, University of Tartu
Great American Myths: Investigations of Stereotypes and Culture in Language Teaching

12:30-13:30  **Plenary presentation** (Main Building 128)
William Marling, Case Western Reserve University
How ‘American’ Is Globalization?

13:30-14:00  **Official closing of the conference** (Main Building 128)
History and Simulacra of America: In Memoriam Jean Baudrillard