



*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*

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

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](mailto:aabs2016@gmail.com). Interdisciplinary papers should be sent to one divisional chair, according to the author's judgment, AND [aabs2016@gmail.com](mailto:aabs2016@gmail.com): **The deadline for submissions is September 15, 2015.**

**Conference divisions and chairs:**

Advancing Baltic Studies  
Aesthetics, Creativity and Arts  
Anthropology  
Business and Economics

Olavi Arens [olavi.arens@armstrong.edu](mailto:olavi.arens@armstrong.edu)  
Milda Richardson [m.richardson@neu.edu](mailto:m.richardson@neu.edu)  
Neringa Klumbytė [klumbyn@muohio.edu](mailto:klumbyn@muohio.edu)  
Kenneth Smith [Kenneth.Smith@millersville.edu](mailto:Kenneth.Smith@millersville.edu)

Communication and Media  
Education  
Environment and Public Health  
Ethnic Minorities in the Baltic  
Gender  
History and Memory  
Jewish Studies  
Linguistics  
Musicology  
Literature  
Political Science, International Relations, Law  
Religion, Folklore, Traditional Culture  
Sociology, Psychology, Demography

Andris Straumanis [andris.straumanis@uwrf.edu](mailto:andris.straumanis@uwrf.edu)  
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Daina S. Eglitis [dainas@gwu.edu](mailto: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/>).