



CHAIR'S REPORT

The Ninth Annual Conference of the Transatlantic Studies Association, 12-15 July, 2010, Van Mildert College, Durham University



The conference had panels on Transatlantic History, International Relations and Security Studies; Canadian Transatlantic Relations; Anglo-American Relations; Literature and Culture; NATO; and Planning and the Environment. Nested within the panels were several themes, including papers on diplomatic practice and French re-integration into NATO. There were roundtables on Economics and the End of the Cold War, the Vietnam War and Transatlantic Relations, and on Theodore Roosevelt and European Power Politics. The plenary lecture was given by Mitch Lerner of Ohio University on the Johnson Era and Transatlantic Bridge Building. Over a hundred delegates attended and some ninety academic papers were delivered. It was notable that there was a significant strengthening and growth in this year's Literature and Culture Panel organized by Constance Post and Louise Walsh and that members of the Planning and Environment Panel were also keen to expand its numbers and impact.

Several papers have been submitted to the *Journal of Transatlantic Studies* for consideration for publication and there are plans for a special issue of the *Journal of Transatlantic Studies* drawn from papers given at the conference on Anglo-American relations to be guest-edited by Steve Marsh from Cardiff University and Charlie Whitham from the University of Wales Institute-Cardiff. The conference also witnessed the second awarding of the Donald Watt Prize for the best paper by an early career researcher in a closely contested competition. The award of £250 went to Frederic Heurtebize of the University of Angers. The conference was a huge success and much gratitude is owed to the local or-

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ganizer, John Dumbrell, and to Lorraine Holmes for doing such a splendid job.

Ties were further strengthened with a strong presence from Society Historians of American Foreign Relations, including Mitch Lerner and Tom Zeiler, who is Executive Editor of *Diplomatic History*. There were discussions about future mutual participation in each other's conferences. There were major and very positive management committee developments and Deepak Gopinath was elected as a new member. The institutional strength of the TSA has been notably improved with the creation of an effective management committee and with the spread of responsibilities. The TSA continues to produce both a monthly e-bulletin and a yearly Newsletter and its website www.transatlanticstudies.org goes from

strength to strength. Its database of transatlantic scholars is also a significant public good created by the Association and is set to be up-dated this current year. Future conference planning involves Dundee for the tenth anniversary conference in 2011 followed by Cork in 2012. For the future there are various possibilities being explored including the Roosevelt Centre in Middelburg, The University of Northumbria in Newcastle and the London School of Economics.

In short, the TSA continues to thrive and move from strength to strength along with its journal the *Journal of Transatlantic Studies*. For further information I would invite you to visit www.transatlanticstudies.org Professor Alan Dobson: Chair TSA 19/08/10 Scottish Charity Regulator: TSA Charity Number SC039378

EDITORIAL

G-8 8-Ball

Watching North American and European governments grapple with the economic crisis over the past two years reminds one of the break in a game of billiards. The shock of the crisis has sent government policies careening in every possible direction at high speed. All this is very odd in light of what we have been told about sovereign decision-making in the Age of Globalization - that it is now pretty much impossible. International markets and capitals flows have become so highly integrated and independent of government guidance, much less control, that in a crisis it has been assumed that no state will be able to put its economic house in order without the cooperation of the other states with which it routinely does business. This may yet turn out to be true - even at two years old this crisis seems young - but the G-8 nonetheless seem determined to test the validity of the assumption.

Canada's Prime Minister Stephen Harper, the host of the 2010 G-8 summit held in late June at Huntsville, Ontario, attempted to set an agenda of collective effort in stressing deficit-cutting through fiscal discipline along with economic reforms that did not include a bank tax. Harper's positions were diametrically opposed to those of the world's largest economy - and the one with which Canada, incidentally, is far more integrated than with any other - the United States. By the time of President Barack Obama's arrival at Huntsville his administration had authorized \$787 billion in federal spending to stimulate the American economy (in addition to the \$356 billion authorized by the outgoing Bush administration's Troubled Assets Relief Program or TARP). It had further ventured \$2 trillion worth of commitments in spending toward depreciated real estate assets, and pushed a health care reform package through Congress esti-



mated to cost \$900 billion over the next ten years. Yet politically engaged and highly influential economists such as Paul Krugman continue to argue that this effort in fiscal stimulus may not be enough to pull the United States out of its worst economic slump since the Great Depression. Canada has, admittedly, been so much less damaged by the crisis than the United States that the differing responses are hardly surprising. And yet the contrast has been so great that the *Wall Street Journal* recently noted that Canada, traditionally derided in the United States the North American home of interventionist social democracy, will soon have a lower government profile in its economy than its southern neighbor.

The contrast within North America nonetheless pales next to that between Europe and the United States. Far from following the American lead, the Conservative/Liberal Democratic coalition now governing the United Kingdom arrived at the G-8 having just tabled a kill-or-cure budget of massive cuts in public spending designed to seize control of finances strained by the crisis. The budget included reductions of twenty-five percent in the funding for most government departments by 2014-15, a raised rate for the value added tax, and also a £2 billion levy on banks for security against future crises. "Our policy," maintained Chancellor of the Exchequer George Osborne, "is to raise from the ruins of an economy built on debt a new, balanced economy where we save, invest and export."

Then there is Germany. Angela Merkel's CDU/FDP coalition also chose investment over redistribution with a budget announced in June that promised to save Berlin €80 billion by 2014. This move was at odds with economic priorities in France, hitherto Germany's indispensable ally in building Europe, where President Sarkozy had been urging additional stimulus rather than fiscal consolidation. Additionally, Germany's unilateral ban on naked short selling and naked credit-

default swaps until March 31, 2011, has annoyed not only France but also the rest of the European Union. Markets spooked by the move sheared 2.8 percent from the FTSE, almost 3 percent from France's CAC 40, and 2.7 percent from Germany's Dax. French finance minister Christine Lagarde said that her government would not be following Germany's lead and added more critically that the views of governments affected by Berlin's action should have been sounded.

The backdrop to all of this, of course, was the Eurozone's financial crisis and the sovereign debt crises of Greece, Italy, Spain, and Portugal. The German government's action expresses to a significant degree the national mood that Germany should do what it can to ensure that the European crisis be confined to Southern Europe. And, of course, the differences among the G8 become even deeper and more complex when large economies of the G20 such as China and India are added to the mix. Experts in the "dismal science" seem to have no more common explanation for what they call the "uneven pattern" of government action over the past two years than they had for the root causes of the crisis in the first instance. It's a very different world from that of 1974 when the United States created the Library Group, forerunner of the G6 and G7, to create a forum of consultation among for the industrial economies struggling under the OPEC crisis of 1973. That crisis now seems quaint --- and that group vastly more consultative.

Carl Hodge



TSA CONFERENCE PANAL REPORT

France's Re-Integration into NATO: Historical Perspectives and Contemporary Analysis'

by Annick Cizel, University Sorbonne Nouvelle – Paris 3, France

Two slots were generously allocated on Tuesday morning to the panel dedicated to France's reintegration into NATO, to discuss first "historical perspectives" in their Cold War setting, then "contemporary analysis" in the wake of France's 2009 reintegration into military command. A set of four papers presented original research and conclusions in the wake of a conference on "France and the United States in NATO, 1949-2009," which in January 2010 had brought together international scholars, among whom TSA members Valerie Aubourg, David Haglund, Christian Nünlist and Luca Ratti, to the Sorbonne Nouvelle, in Paris. Here again the panel displayed international viewpoints, with scholars from Canada, Italy, and France.

The French NATO relationship was born under the auspices of Canadian mediating skills. As Senior Departmental Historian of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade in Canada, Hector Mackenzie used the wealth of Canadian archives to discuss 'France, the North Atlantic Triangle and Negotiation of the North Atlantic Treaty' from 'A Canadian Perspective'. As it spanned the year-long negotiations that elapsed between the Pentagon Talks of March 1948 and the final stage toward the treaty in March 1949, Hector! Mackenzie's paper highlighted Canada's capacity to build bridges between the Anglo-Saxon 'special relationship', traditional to the 'ABC' rapprochement, and France. Indeed, the 'special relationship' shared by Canada and France, rooted as it is in cultural, philosophical, political, and social grounds, was to support and inspire Canadian diplomatic action with United States delegations in Washington, as well as with political representations in Europe's allied countries, to secure the latter's acceptance of such long term binding security agreement. Euro-Canadian collaboration eventually influenced the final drafting of Article II to include cultural, economic, and social considerations. Even if personal diplomacy proved a decisive factor in securing French inclusion

beyond the original tripartite negotiations, and subsequent support for the Alliance, the 'special relationship' would as ever stumble over the colonial issue, as the historical US-Canada anti-colonial coalition rejected French claims to inclusion of the Mediterranean coast of Africa, to settle for an uneasy compromise over Algeria.

In 'Washington's Assessment on the Union of the Left in France (1972-1981): Threat or Opportunity for NATO?', Sorbonne Nouvelle PhD candidate Frederic Heurtebize used abundant American and French archival and interview material to address the challenge posed to France's NATO membership by Socialist Party leader François Mitterrand's alliance with the Communist Party into the Union of the Left in 1971 which, even if over six years later (1977), would nonetheless lead to the introduction of Communist-led ministries into the French government by 1981. Spanning three U.S. and two French administrations, the paper analyzes the rocky transatlantic road to rapprochement, from suspicion, to concern, then pragmatism during the Nixon and Ford administrations, to gradual acceptance of the inevitable victory of the traditional French opposition in 1981 as a sign of political progress on the part of Washington's NATO ally. While Frederic Heurtebize was careful to extend his examination of the bilateral relationship to the transnational intellectual networks which gradually dispelled Washington's reluctance to accommodate France's home-grown combination of socialism and communism, his paper provided useful insights into the paradigm of Eurocommunism as PCs would gradually de-align from Moscow, as well as reciprocal Soviet estrangement from French communist leadership in the post-Stalin years of detente. The specificities of the French NATO relationship were thus shown to evolve from transatlantic Cold War defence and Gaullian reluctant Atlanticism into a paradoxical rapprochement sealed in pragmatism, and modernity. Frederic Heurtebize's paper was subsequently



awarded the Duncan Cameron Watt prize for the best paper presented by a younger scholar at the conference dinner the next day. His full-length article will appear shortly in the *Journal of Transatlantic Studies*.

The second session opened on Luca Ratti's 'Changing Perceptions of NATO? France, Germany, Italy and Atlantic Solidarity Since the End of the Cold War'. In an ambitious paper introducing a comparative perspective between France's, Italy's, and Germany's position in NATO, the Roma Tre scholar first underlined national perspectives as they have predominated since the end of the Cold War into the early twenty-first century. As systemic pressure for French reintegration following the mending of East-West divisions as well as Europe's natural slant toward improving crisis management and responsibility have pushed for reintegration, President Sarkozy's reassessment for modernisation further turned the page on Jacques Chirac's vocal reluctance at global participation. France's reintegration into military command, even if not public yet, was therefore effective prior to President Sarkozy's official proclamation. Indeed, the benefit in taking French-NATO cooperation to a higher level was mutual for both France and Europe. Conversely, Italy's natural inclination to follow US leadership, hence take on a minor political position within the Alliance, needs to be contrasted with her responsibility for U.S. military deployment on Italian soil. Finally, even though the Cold War secured Germany's loyalty in the early days of West German membership, Berlin's post-reunification commitment is now subject to questioning, in face of the added priority given to burden sharing in combat operations, and the political activation of enlargement within the larger circle of U.S. global partnerships. Even if Europeanism is indeed nested in Atlanticism, and even though sentimental allegiance and European solidarity may come to justify troop commitment, Germany nonetheless remains at odds with France over nuclear issues, as part of European deployment as elsewhere.

To conclude on the panel and open further discussion, Annick Cizel focused on one of the underlying sets of concepts which studies of the France NATO relationship call upon in her quote From "Exceptional" to "Special"? A Re-assessment of France's NATO relationship'.

While examining the readjustment of France's transatlantic identity within the new global framework of the 21st century, her discussion searched for lines of continuity in France NATO relations. As Nicolas Sarkozy's! approach to NATO has tried to balance the traditional paradigms of Atlanticism and Europeanism into improving stability for France-NATO relations, the French leader has seized the opportunity of re-evaluations toward the 2010 New Strategic Concept to elaborate on the collective identity born of Euro-Atlantic values and interests, and redefine France's strategic position in Europe toward enhanced European defence capability. In reaching out to European leadership and asserting his country's power of global influence into the post 9/11 security strategy, the French leader hopes to sustain France's pride and prestige as a 'middle power' nonetheless endowed with nuclear capability, and influential in world affairs at a time when the economic crisis tears at the domestic consensus, and questions the outcome of the next electoral round.

During the ensuing discussions, the audience tied new issues into the general framework common to all four papers. First, the long historical perspective taking in the Cold War as well as present times highlighted the need to place the original security imperative into the larger focus of shared identity and cultural traits to try and explain the longer transatlantic relationship. Ever since the early rounds of negotiations, it appears NATO has been used as a forum for individual nations as well as an international defence structure, and provided a basis for allied yet conflicting 'special relationships' as well as for an implicit hierarchy among its members. While some 'middle powers' will play key roles as mediators in international coalitions (Canada), others will try and hoist themselves up from their status as junior partners (France). Finally, the larger European framework proves essential when tackling individual European case studies: France's status and identity within the European Union, from the Brussels Treaty to partnership in ESDP, have ever contributed to defining her position within the Atlantic Alliance, whether it be related to U.S preoccupations over her immediate continental (Germany) or Mediterranean (Italy, Spain, Portugal) neighbours.



TSA PLENARY LECTURE

Mitch Lerner at Durham

I don't like to fly. It isn't that I am scared of crashing; it is just that I never have a positive travel experience. Every flight I take leaves late, misses at least one connection, gets re-routed through some town that is farther away from my destination than when I started, and finally arrives at the airport hours, sometimes days, behind the promised time. And the flights themselves are usually nightmares. I always seem to sit next to someone who has not bathed since the Nixon administration; the food served is clearly left over from the Spanish-American War; and I always find myself surrounded by dozens of parents who are obviously bringing their infant children to colic conventions. So I confess that when I accepted Alan Dobson's kind invitation to deliver a keynote address at the 2010 TSA Conference, my enthusiasm was tempered a bit by the knowledge of what lay ahead as I tried to reach Durham. As it turns out, however, my fears were groundless. The travel itself, of course, was still a disaster, complete with a four hour delay in New Jersey, a missed connection, heavy turbulence, and enough screaming children that I can say with some confidence that I no longer fear Hell. But the four excellent days I spent in Durham more than compensated.

This was my first experience at TSA, so I am naturally reluctant to draw any larger conclusions about it. Still, it was an impressive and enjoyable event (some might even describe it as "fruitful!"). The food was good; the company was great; and the scholarship on display was exciting. The overall quality of the papers was particularly impressive. I attended many panels and never came away disappointed; one of them, an Anglo-American Relations session on Wednesday afternoon that included Chris Jespersen, Priscilla Roberts, and James Ellison, was among the best panels I have ever attended. In fact, the high-quality of the papers I heard has me wondering if perhaps the Society for

Historians of American Foreign Relations, of which I am an officer, should consider reducing the large number of papers that we accept, in the hopes of raising the overall quality.

My week in Durham left me convinced that the future of TSA is bright. Considering the impressive quality of scholarship currently being presented and the impressive quantity of beverages being consumed in the very enjoyable social functions, I would encourage the leadership to consider broadening its overall reach. Two ideas come to mind immediately. First, the scholarly focus is quite clearly on North America and Western Europe. My (admittedly very unscientific) analysis of the 2010 program produces a tally of 5 papers focused on Africa, 2 on Asia, and 54 on North America and Western Europe (some papers, of course, did not fit into any category). Since the Transatlantic is obviously a big place, perhaps some steps to reach out to scholars of Africa or Eastern Europe might help address this imbalance. Similarly, the Transatlantic includes a huge swath of territory on my side of the Atlantic. Holding a future conference in the US or Canada might help to spark additional enthusiasm and membership from what appears to be the under-represented side of the current roster.

Regardless of the future composition of the membership, however, the current version of TSA obviously has much to praise. My sincere thanks to Alan Dobson and John Dumbrell for the invitation, as well to everyone else who played a role in organizing this terrific event. I hope to see many familiar faces next year in Dundee!

Mitch Lerner

The Ohio State University



ANNOUNCEMENTS

LSE IDEAS

LSE IDEAS, the centre for international affairs, diplomacy and strategy at the London School of Economics, now runs a Transatlantic Relations Programme as part of its various activities, headed by Professor Michael Cox. The Programme was founded by three PhD students in 2009, and seeks to serve as a bridge between the academic and policy worlds by providing a forum for practitioners, academics, and policy analysts to explore the big questions in transatlantic relations.

While talk of a power shift towards an Asian Century may be dominating current debate, Professor Cox disagrees that the dominance of the West and the importance of the Transatlantic area, are in decline. "The last few years of doom-mongering surrounding the future of the West" he said, "strike me as premature. China may be rising, but it is not without its internal problems and remains generations away from Western living standards; the Russian resurgence remains reliant on oil and gas prices; and the election of Barack Obama has served to allay fears that rifts within the transatlantic alliance were in some way fundamental." Programme Coordinator Dr Nicholas Kitchen concurs, saying "the fact remains that the United States and Europe still account for over forty percent of all global output and the core NATO countries' military expenditures are more than five times that of China. The dollar is still the world's reserve currency, the grip of English as the dominant global language is only strengthening with globalization, and the

structures of global governance are resolutely Western models. Understanding Transatlantic relations is therefore central to any considerations of global order more generally."

To date, the Transatlantic Relations Programme has organised a number of events and book launches, including playing host to prominent policymakers including Jessica Mathews, Victoria Nuland and Jamie Shea, as well as analysts including Robert Kagan, John Ikenberry, Steven Clemons, Stephen Brooks, Charles Kupchan, Mary Sarotte, Karen Greenberg and Stewart Patrick. In January, the Transatlantic Relations Programme produced a report analyzing the shift in American foreign policy under Obama, which is available at <http://www2.lse.ac.uk/IDEAS/publications/reports/SR003.aspx>, and are preparing a report on the future of the United Kingdom's Foreign Policy for launch in the Autumn.

The Programme also runs a regular Digest of key articles and features on Transatlantic Relations, as well as a blog, *Transatlantia*. The Programme has a number of Research Associates from across British, European and American academia, and runs a research network for scholars interested in transatlantic affairs. To be included on the network, or to contribute to the blog, email ideas.transatlantic@lse.ac.uk, and follow the Programme's activities through LSE IDEAS' website or Facebook.

Transatlantic Transformations

A new blog has been created by Raymond Haberski at Marian University for the purpose of creating a Danish research network in Transatlantic Studies. The network will work in partnership with the European Union Center for Excellence at the University of Wisconsin at Madison. We hope that members of the Danish network, presently some

forty scholars from a variety of fields will join the TSA and that the blog will benefit from contributions from TSA members.

The address is:

<http://transatlantictransformations.blogspot.com>



CONFERENCE REPORT

Theodore Roosevelt and Europe

On September 9-10, 2010, the Roosevelt Study Center at Middelburg in The Netherlands hosted a conference (co-sponsored by the Province of Zeeland, the Roosevelt Institute, and the Sorbonne Nouvelle) on Theodore Roosevelt and Europe. The nine presentations that were discussed by the participants were based on papers circulated in advance and posted on the RSC website. The symposium was organized by Jack Thompson, junior researcher at the RSC, and attended by RSC Director Cornelis A. van Minnen, Assistant Director Hans Krabbendam, and RSC Senior Researcher Giles Scott-Smith.



- Claire Delahaye, Paris III Sorbonne Nouvelle: "TR and World War One"
- Serge Ricard, Paris III Sorbonne Nouvelle: "The 1910 European Tour: Europe in TR's Worldview and European Views of TR"
- Jack Thompson, Roosevelt Study Center: "The Impact of Domestic Politics"

(S  verine Antigone Marin of Universit   de Strasbourg could not attend but her contribution on "TR and Germany" will be included in the projected publication.)

The TSA had a large footprint at the Middelburg Conference. Five TSA regulars – Michael Cullinane, Douglas Eden, David Haglund, Serge Ricard, Simon Rofe – presented papers, while Giles Scott-Smith was a host and co-sponsor. The Roosevelt Study Center has also been in TSA affairs, having mounted a panel on the relationship between the United States and the Netherlands at the Canterbury conference in 2009. The RSC website can be found at <http://www.roosevelt.nl/>

- Edward Kohn, Bilkent University: "The Young TR"
- Michael Patrick Cullinane, University College Cork: "Civilisation, Imperialism and the War with Spain"
- Douglas Eden, Institute for the Study of the Americas, University of London: "TR and Britain"
- David Haglund, Queen's University: "TR and France"
- Simon Rofe, University of Leicester: "Europe in TR's International Strategy"
- Carol Chin, University of Toronto: "Immigration and Foreign Policy"





CALLS FOR PAPERS

2011 Transatlantic Studies Association Annual Conference at West Park Conference Centre Dundee, 11–14 July, 2011.

The Chairman of the TSA, Prof Alan Dobson (University of Dundee) would like to extend an invitation to the 2011 Transatlantic Studies Association 10th Anniversary Conference.

Our outstanding 2011 plenary guests are Warren Kimball (Rutgers University)

Who will lead a There will also be a Multi-disciplinary Roundtable: Transatlantic Relations and the Second World War featuring younger scholars Gavin Bailey, Andrew Buchanan and Thomas Mills presenting new perspectives on the Transatlantic wartime relationship.

AND

Plenary Lecturer: Will Kaufman, University of Central Lancashire, wkaufman@uclan.ac.uk
Ghost Lighting the Transatlantic Stage: Explorations in Comparative Dramaturgy

The general panels, subpanels and panel leaders for 2011 are:

1. Literature and Culture: Constance Post, cjpost@iastate.edu and Louise Walsh walsh.lou@gmail.com

Sub-panels:

(i) *Literature, Culture, and Terror*: Constance Post, cjpost@iastate.edu and Louise Walsh walsh.lou@gmail.com

(ii) *Transatlantic Takes on the Construction of Identity* (proposals on film would be especially welcome): Constance Post, cjpost@iastate.edu and Louise Walsh walsh.lou@gmail.com

Transatlantic Self-Fashioning: Constance Post, cjpost@iastate.edu and Louise Walsh walsh.lou@gmail.com

(iv) *English Culture in Transatlantic Perspective, 1850-1939*: Sylvia Ellis, Sylvia.ellis@northumbria.ac.uk.

2. Planning and the Environment: Tony Jackson a.a.jackson@dundee.ac.uk and Deepak Gopinath d.gopinath@dundee.ac.uk

3. Economics: Fiona Venn vennf@essex.ac.uk, Jeff Engel jengel@bushschool.tamu.edu and Joe McKinney joe_mckinney@baylor.edu

4. History, Security Studies and IR: Alan Dobson a.p.dobson@dundee.ac.uk and David Ryan david.ryan@ucc.ie

Sub-panels:

(i) *NATO*: Ellen Hallams, EHallams.jscsc@defenceacademy.mod.uk and Luca Ratti ratti@uniroma3.it

(ii) *Obama and transatlantic relations -- a midterm assessment*: David Haglund david.haglund@queensu.ca

(iii) *Diplomats at War: The American Experience*: Simon Rofe jsimonrofe@le.ac.uk and Andrew Stewart AStewart.jscsc@defenceacademy.mod.uk

(iv) *The Periphery Is the Centre: Transatlantic Engagement in International Crises Since the Cold War*: Annick Cizel annick.cizel@univ-paris3.fr David Ryan david.ryan@ucc.ie

(v) *Anglo-American Relations*: Steve Marsh, marshsi@cardiff.ac.uk



There will also be a roundtable on the contemporary Anglo-American special relationship: seventy years on. Co-chaired: Alan Dobson a.p.dobson@dundee.ac.uk and Steve Marsh marshsi@cardiff.ac.uk

5. Transatlantic Memorial and Public Memorials: Michael Cullinane, M.Cullinane@ucc.ie

6. Transatlantic Relations and Energy: Fiona Venn, vennf@essex.ac.uk

The Donald Cameron Watt Prize

To be awarded annually by the Transatlantic Studies Association for the best paper at its annual conference by an early career scholar.

Judging will be based solely on the written versions of the papers submitted, which may not necessarily be the delivery versions. Entries should be submitted by 30 April, preceding the annual conference in July. This is the final deadline and no late entries can be accepted. The full version of the paper must be submitted by this date. The delivery of the

paper is not part of the assessment but candidates for the award must attend and deliver the paper at the conference.

The prize for the best paper will be awarded at the conference dinner. In addition, the paper will automatically be sent out for refereeing for publication in the *Journal of Transatlantic Studies* providing that it has not been submitted elsewhere.

Sum £250

Early career scholar is defined as: a PhD student; anyone within 3 years of having been awarded a PhD; anyone who has a full-time appointment at a recognised higher education institution, but has not held the post for more than 3 years and does not fall into the doctoral category.

Papers should be submitted to Tony McCulloch on or before 30 April 2011 for the annual conference in July 2011

tony.mcculloch@canterbury.ac.uk

Scottish Charity Regulator: TSA Charity Number SC039378

The Eighth Biennial *Symbiosis* Conference at the University of Glasgow, Scotland from 23–26 June, 2011.

We invite proposals for panels and individual 20 minute papers that engage a variety of transatlantic and/or transnational topics in the literatures and cultural histories of the Atlantic world. The conference is certainly not limited to local concerns, although papers that treat Glasgow (and Scotland, more widely) as a site of Atlantic cultural exchange are especially welcome, as are those examining the first decade of Transatlantic literary responses to 9/11, 2001–2011. Submissions are encouraged from scholars of literary his-

tory from the early modern period to the present.

Please submit a 300-word abstract and a 1-page CV as Microsoft Word attachments to Dr. Chris Gair (c.gair@englit.arts.gla.ac.uk) by the end of December, 2010. Inquiries are welcome before then. More details of the conference will be posted on the journal's Facebook page and on its website <http://www.symbiosisonline.org.uk/>.



Ninth Middelburg Conference of European Historians of the United States

27-29 April, 2011.

On 27-29 April 2011 the Roosevelt Study Center in Middelburg, The Netherlands, will host for the ninth time the biennial conference of European historians of the United States. The theme of this "Middelburg 9" conference is:

"The U.S. South and Europe"

The American South has always been a distinct region, but in recent years this section of the United States has emerged, according to *New York Times* journalist Peter Applebome, "as a dominant economic, political and cultural force in American life. To understand America, it is necessary to make sense of the South." This Middelburg conference aims to explore the historical relationship between the American South and Europe from colonial times to the present era of globalization. Papers are invited to address economic, political, ideological, military, religious, and cultural aspects of this transatlantic relationship between Dixie and Europe in general or to focus on particular southern states/cities/organizations/individuals and their relationship with Europe/European countries/organizations.

Historians interested in presenting a paper at this conference are invited to send by email a one-page proposal before October

15, 2010 to the Roosevelt Study Center, in Middelburg, the Netherlands, e-mail address: rsc@zeeland.nl.

The organizers, Cornelis A. van Minnen (Roosevelt Study Center) and Manfred Berg (Heidelberg University), will make every effort to maintain the plenary character of all sessions at the conference and to schedule sufficient time in the program for discussion. Oral paper presentations should not exceed twenty minutes in length.

Selections of revised conference papers originally presented at preceding "Middelburg Conferences" have been published in conference volumes and, although a guarantee cannot be given, the organizers again envision a publication (in either book form or as a thematic issue of *European Journal of American Studies*, the digital peer-reviewed journal of the European Association for American Studies. To be acceptable for publication revised conference papers should be between 5,000 and 10,000 words, including notes, and written according to the guidelines of *The Chicago Manual of Style*.

Hotel expenses and meals of the paper presenters at the conference will be covered but conference participants are expected to cover their own travel expenses.



Peace and (In)security: Canada's Promise, Canada's Problem?

The Thirty-Sixth Annual Conference of the British Association for Canadian Studies

The University of Birmingham, Birmingham,
4–6 April, 2011.

The British Association for Canadian Studies (BACS) is pleased to announce that their 36th annual conference will take place on 4–6 April 2011 at the University of Birmingham. Founded in 1900, the 'Redbrick' university is located within the United Kingdom's second largest and most diverse city.

Reflecting one of the explicit priorities of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade of the Government of Canada, the conference aims to interrogate the historical legacies, contemporary realities and cultural myths of the 'peaceable kingdom'. What constitutes peace in the context of economic instability and political insecurity? Which discourses, images and texts circulate in a time of environmental crisis and social anxiety? How do the actions, events and conflicts of the Canadian past inflect the policies, politics and imaginings of future security?

The British Association for Canadian Studies invites paper proposals related to notions of peace and (in)security pertaining across, within and beyond the field of Canadian Studies. Proposals for 20-minute papers, to be presented in either English or French, are invited from any single disciplinary or multidisciplinary perspective. Multidisciplinary, interdisciplinary and comparative panel proposals, including those from postgraduate students, are welcome.

Paper proposals will be especially appreciated in the following areas:

identities and insecurities
surveillance and security: histories, institutions, discourses, practices
cultures of dissent: texts, policies, movements, communities
internal or external threats, conflicts, and instabilities
histories, visions and narratives of peace
geographies, representations and economies of (in)security

Proposals (panel and individual) and deadline: Email abstracts of 200–300 words and brief CVs should not exceed one side of A4 and must include your title, institutional affiliation, email and mailing address by **20 November 2010**. Submissions will be acknowledged by email. Postgraduate students are especially welcome to submit a proposal and there will be a concessionary conference fee for students. BACS regrets that it is unable to assist participants with travel and accommodation costs.

Enquiries and proposals to: Jodie Robson, BACS Administrator
Email: canstuds@gmail.com
Website: <http://sites.google.com/site/bacsconference2011>



Landscapes of Secrecy: The CIA in History, Fiction and Memory

East Midlands Conference Centre, University of Nottingham, 29-30 April, 2011.

April 2011 marks the 50th anniversary of the Bay of Pigs episode, when the CIA's failed attempt to overthrow the Castro regime in Cuba placed the Agency under the public spotlight and triggered debates over its role in US foreign policy that have never really subsided.

Marking the end of a three-year UK Arts and Humanities Research Council-funded project on the various facets of the CIA's history and its representation in fiction, memoirs and film, undertaken by academic specialists in intelligence studies based at the Universities of Nottingham and Warwick, this conference brings together many of the world's leading scholars in the field to debate the history of the Central Intelligence Agency and its place within the wider realms of post-war American politics and culture.

Focusing on the place of the CIA in post-war of American diplomacy and foreign policy, and also the more general public reception of the subject, the conference seeks to integrate international and cultural perspectives to provide a comprehensive approach to CIA history. In addition to examining the treatment of the CIA within American diplomatic history and national security policy, it also

explores history as a form of cultural production. Accordingly, this inter-disciplinary conference will hear from a wide array of distinguished speakers from the

fields of history, international relations, American studies, film studies and literature. In doing so, it offers a unique opportunity to examine and debate the multifaceted development of the CIA within post-war American and international history.

Speakers include: Matthew Aid, Richard Aldrich, Christopher Andrew, Nick Cullather, Richard Immerman, Rhodri Jeffreys-Jones, Loch Johnson, Edward Keefer, Robert J. McMahon, Timothy Naftali, Len Scott, David Stafford, Wesley Wark, Michael Warner and Hugh Wilford.

For further conference information and for details of how to register as a conference delegate please visit:

<http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/American/Landscapes/intro.aspx>

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RESEARCH NEWS

The English Diaspora in North America, Northumbria University

Compared to what has been written about the migration of Scots and Irish, relatively little energy has been expended on the numerically more significant English flows. In fact, the Scottish and Irish Diasporas in North America, together with those of the German, Italian, Jewish and African Diasporas, are well known and studied, but there is virtual silence on the English. Why, then, is there no English Diaspora? Why has little been said about the English other than to map their main emigration flows? Did the English simply disappear into the host population? Or were they so fundamental, and foundational, to the Anglophone, Protestant cultures of the evolving British World that they could not be distinguished in the way Catholic Irish or continental Europeans were? Given the recent vogue for these other Diasporas, our project seeks to uncover the hidden English Diaspora in North America. The project's

overall objective is to offer a knowledge-shaping new reading of English ethnicity abroad, particularly in North America, by tackling enduring historical mythologies about the absence of a strong ethnic identity among English immigrants between the 17th and 20th centuries. The project involves examining numerous aspects of English ethnic expression in North America, from associational life and sporting traditions to comparisons with other immigrant groups and political and social interactions between the English, Americans and Canadians.

The project team at Northumbria is Tanja Bueltmann, David Gleeson, Don MacRaid, James McConnel, Monika Smialkowska and Mike Sutton. Members of the team will be presenting at next year's TSA conference.





NEWS FROM THE ARCHIVES

Using the Freedom of Information Act in the UK

Despite now being ten years old, the UK's Freedom of Information Act (FoI) is a tool that many historians have yet to fully embrace. The Act provides potential access to a huge repository of information and rather than waiting 30 years for this to be released, the FoI gives scholars access now and the opportunity to study the very recent past. For those yet to use the Act this brief article sets out my Top 10 on getting the most out of FoI. It is not meant to be definitive, but is rather my personal musings based on using FoI extensively for the past 18 months:

- For TSA members the most interesting information is likely to be held by government departments. Requests can be made to all Ministries on-line and a list of useful addresses is included at the end of the article.
- Using the FoI is easy but not necessarily quick. Recipients have a statutory deadline of 20 days for replying to questions – maybe 10% of my requests have been answered in that timescale. Be ready to chase up your requests; I've had a few slip through the system. Having said that the UK system is a lot quicker than the American version.
- Be clear in what you ask for. Requests can be refused if they will cost more than £600 to process; most departments take this to mean 3.5 days. By keeping your questions concise and focused, you increase the chances of a positive response. But beware; typically you will receive only what you ask for, not more. You might therefore need to ask a couple of separate questions to get a full response.
- Only ask one question at a time. Recipients are entitled to aggregate requests; so if you ask multiple questions (including on the same day but on different forms or in separate e-mails) they can argue that dealing with the whole request will exceed the 3.5 day limit.
- Try different sources. I have found that whilst the FCO may refuse to release a document, the Treasury will release it in full. And, remember in the UK, the Treasury is copied in on almost all government correspondence, so whatever your question they are worth contacting.
- There is no requirement for recipients to acknowledge a FoI request. Although the FCO will give you a reference number and keep you informed of progress, do not be surprised if you hear nothing from the MOD until you receive a response to a question you forget ever asking!
- There are numerous exemptions to the Act. In practice this means correspondence with foreign governments, or between ministers, legal advice, or anything relating to national security is likely to be withheld. However, even if the recipient refuses to release a document they might still confirm its existence, which in itself can be informative.
- Don't waste your time pre-empting objections. My arguments that the US Government has already released similar documents, or that I believe it would be in the public interest for a certain document to be released, have had no impact.



- Some ministries are better than others. I have found the FCO helpful, the Treasury careless (releasing documents they probably shouldn't have), the MOD slow and DFID almost obstructive.

And finally, even if your request is answered you will not know what documents have been withheld. At best the FoI will give you an incomplete picture – but like a jigsaw with missing pieces, you may still be able to make out what the picture should be. Be ready to corroborate your research with other sources.

WEBSITE ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Online Database

The Transatlantic Studies Association hosts a database of its members' professional details on its website. It can be viewed at: <http://www.transatlanticstudies.com/2301/35801.html>.

A more comprehensive version is available at:

<http://mpcullinane.brinkster.net/TSA%20Membership%20Bios.pdf>

The website has a quick search database for names and professional affiliations as well as a more comprehensive PDF database with extensive profiles of TSA member's publications,

research interests, and contact information. We request that all TSA members update their details in the TSA database.

If you have not yet posted your professional details or if your online profile is out of date and wish to change some of your details, please contact Michael Patrick Cullinane (m.cullinane@ucc.ie) or Gavin Bailey (g.j.bailey@dundee.ac.uk). To add or update your details please check the existing entry for corrections to: First Name, Last Name, Affiliation, Position, Email, Publications, Research Interests, Current Research, Homepage.



New Links Page

The TSA website has created a new links page. This new addition to the website is designed to ensure greater collaboration between the TSA and other organizations with a similar mission or scope. We have recently added *Atlantic-Community.org*, an online platform for debating transatlantic issues. Also a link to *Transatlantic Transfor-*

mations, a blog about the post-Cold War Atlantic and a link to the Middelburg Centre for Transatlantic Studies is now online. We welcome any suggestions from members that may build connections between the TSA website and others. Please send your suggestions to Michael Patrick Cullinane (m.cullinane@ucc.ie).

Useful Web Addresses / E-mail Addresses

Foreign & Commonwealth Office: <http://foi.fco.gov.uk/en/request-form>

Ministry of Defence: <http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/ContactUs/RequestForInformationInformationRequestEmailResponse.htm>

Cabinet Office: foiteam@cabinet-office.x.gsi.gov.uk

Treasury: public.enquiries@hm-treasury.gov.uk

Department for International Development: enquiry@dfid.gov.uk