

## Objectives of the Conference

Ancient and medieval Europe east of the Elbe presents a fascinating field for the investigation of landscape transformations. The area is characterized by many features that clearly distinguishes it from the Mediterranean regions throughout the period – absence of Roman traditions, late appearance of Latin culture, colonization movement, chartered towns, independent developments concerning society, economy, and religion.

The conference will bring together a group of scholars from North America and Europe working in the fields of archaeology, history, palaeobotany and palaeozoology. A strong emphasis will be put on aspects of methodologies, interdisciplinary approaches and reflections overlapping areas and periods.

## Conference Committee

**Dr. Sunhild Kleingärtner**, Institut für Ur- und Frühgeschichte, Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel (skleingartner@ufg.uni-kiel.de)

**Dr. Sébastien Rossignol**, York University, Department of History (rossigno@yorku.ca)

**Donat Wehner**, M.A., Institut für Ur- und Frühgeschichte, Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel (donatwehner@gshdl.uni-kiel.de)

## Venue

York University, Keele Campus, 4700 Keele St., Toronto, Research Tower, Room 519

## Map of the Campus

You can find a campus map on the following homepage:  
[www.yorku.ca](http://www.yorku.ca)

## Registration

Two days – individuals: \$ 100, students: \$ 50

One day – individuals: \$ 50, students: \$ 25

Early registration (please contact Dr. Rossignol until 19 March):

Two days – individuals: \$ 80, students: \$ 40

One day – individuals: \$ 40, students: \$ 20

Fees will be waived for York University students but we would appreciate if those planning to attend would contact Dr. Rossignol.

## Sponsors

The Conference is sponsored by the Graduate School "Human Development in Landscapes", the Social Sciences and Humanities Council of Canada and the German Historical Institute in Warsaw.



Social Sciences and Humanities  
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sciences humaines du Canada



## Co-sponsors

Network in Canadian History & Environment / Nouvelle initiative canadienne en histoire de 'l'histoire' (NiCHE), Canadian Centre for German and European Studies, Department of History (York University), Faculty of Liberal Arts and Professional Studies (York University), Ad Hoc Research Fund (York University), Centre d'études médiévales (Université de Montréal)



Department of History, York University • Graduate School "Human Development in Landscapes", Christian-Albrechts-Universität Kiel • German Historical Institute in Warsaw present

**Fourth International Conference of the Interdisciplinary Association  
"Gentes trans Albiam – Europe East of the Elbe in the Middle Ages"**  
Keele Campus of York University, Toronto, 26-27 March 2010  
Research Tower, Room 519

# Landscapes and Societies in Ancient and Medieval Europe East of the Elbe

Interactions between Environmental Settings  
and Cultural Transformations

## Programme

### Friday, 26 March 2010

- 9.00-9.20 Welcome  
Carolyn Podruchny (York University): *For the Department of History*  
**Sébastien Rossignol** (York University): *Presentation of the Interdisciplinary Association "Gentes trans Albiam – Europe East of the Elbe in the Middle Ages"*  
**Sunhild Kleingärtner, Ulrich Müller, Donat Wehner** (University of Kiel): *Presentation of the Graduate School "Human Development in Landscapes" at the University of Kiel*  
**Grischa Vercamer** (German Historical Institute in Warsaw): *Presentation of the German Historical Institute in Warsaw*
- 9.20-9.35 **Sunhild Kleingärtner, Donat Wehner** (University of Kiel), **Sébastien Rossignol** (York University): *Introduction to the subject "Landscapes and Societies in Ancient and Medieval Europe East of the Elbe. Interactions between Environmental Settings and Cultural Transformations"*
- 9.35-10.15 First Keynote Address  
Chair: Richard C. Hoffmann (York University)  
**Piotr Górecki** (University of California at Riverside): *People, land, and settlement "East of the Elbe," 1150–1310: A very large subject in a very small place*
- 10.15-10.25 Discussion
- 10.25-10.45 Coffee break
- 10.45-12.00 Session 1 Colonization, expansion, and the environment  
Chair: Sébastien Rossignol (York University)  
**Corneliu Varlan** (Université Laval): *Présence romaine au Nord-ouest de la mer Noire et son impact sur la société et l'environnement de la région*  
**Artur Blązejewski** (University of Wrocław): *Cultural changes in the upper Oder basin in late Antiquity*  
**Timothy Newfield** (McGill University): *The Eastern European origins of early medieval livestock pestilences*
- 12.00-12.30 Discussion
- 12.30-14.00 Lunch

- 14.00-15.15 Session 2 Communications and networks  
Chair: Richard C. Hoffmann (York University)  
**Martin Gravel** (Université de Montréal): *Les missi impériaux et la conquête de l'Est: les défis de la communication dans l'expansion orientale de l'Empire carolingien*  
**Sarah Nelly Friedland** (University of Kiel): *Network analysis in Slavonic archaeology – An example from the Plön area in Wagria (Schleswig-Holstein)*  
**Kai Schaper** (University of Kiel): *Cultural landscapes and aspects of Slavonic musical instruments and soundtool*
- 15.15-15.45 Discussion
- 15.45-16.15 Coffee break
- 16.15-17.30 Session 3 Encountering the environment  
Chair: Sunhild Kleingärtner (University of Kiel)  
**Ülle Sillasoo** (Tallinn University): *A cultural history of plants in medieval Livonia*  
**Ulrich Schmölcke** (Kiel): *Animals in the ports of trade of the Baltic sea*  
**Magdalena Wieckowska** (University of Kiel): *Settlement history on the basis of pollen analysis in the Middle Ages*
- 17.30-18.00 Discussion

### Saturday, 27 March 2010

- 9.00-9.40 Second Keynote Address  
Chair: Sébastien Rossignol (York University)  
**Jüri Kivimäe** (University of Toronto): *Colonizing the landscape: a case study of medieval Livonia*
- 9.40-9.50 Discussion
- 9.50-10.40 Session 4 Perception of landscapes  
Chair: Donat Wehner (University of Kiel)  
**Andris Šnē** (University of Latvia): *Landscape and long-term change: Sense of place, centrality, and identity in medieval Livonia*  
**Heidi M. Sherman** (University of Wisconsin Green Bay): *Staking the Novgorodian frontier: The Orthodox Christianization of Staraja Ladoga's pagan landscape in the twelfth century*
- 10.40-11.00 Discussion
- 11.00-11.20 Coffee break

- 11.20-12.35 Session 5 Taming of nature  
Chair: Ulrich Müller (University of Kiel)  
**Ben Krause-Kyora** (University of Kiel): *"Pig in a poke." Molecular-genetic and archaeological investigations at early mediaeval pigs (Sus scrofa) in North-East-Europe*  
**Ingo Petri** (University of Kiel): *Topography of metal handicrafts*  
**Daniel Zwick** (University of Kiel): *Dynamics for cultural change in the Baltic Sea region in the age of the Northern Crusades: A maritime archaeological perspective*
- 12.35-13.00 Discussion
- 13.00-14.30 Lunch
- 14.30-15.35 Session 6 Social formation and symbolic landscapes  
Chair: Colin M. Coates (York University)  
**Krzysztof Fokt** (University of Wrocław): *Archaeological remarks on rural landscapes in Silesia and Upper Lusatia*  
**Tomasz Gidaszewski, Jarosław Suproniuk, Marta Piber Zbieranowska, Michał Zbieranowski** (Institute of History, Polish Academy of Sciences): *Transformations of the natural landscapes of the Upper Noteć Region from the tenth to the sixteenth century*
- 15.35-15.50 Discussion
- 15.50-16.10 Coffee break
- 16.10-17.00 Session 7 Political and social transformations  
Chair: Grischa Vercamer (German Historical Institute in Warsaw)  
**Przemysław Wiszewski** (University of Wrocław): *Power, memory and political landscape in the late middle ages*  
**Cameron M. Sutt** (Austin Peay State University): *"The empty land" and the end of slavery: social transformation in thirteenth-century Hungary*
- 17.00-17.20 Discussion
- 17.20-18.00 Session 8 Interaction between physical environment and social landscape  
**Richard C. Hoffmann** (York University): *Summarizing remarks*
- All participants: Interdisciplinary Roundtable Discussion