The 2013 International Conference

Changing Religious Movements in a Changing World

Falun (Sweden), 21–24 June 2013
Dalarna University, Högskolegatan 2, Falun

PROGRAMME
Participants with the “full registration” package will congregate for a departure at 8,45 a.m. in Stockholm, Klarabergsviadukten (just above the Central Train Station: from the station take the escalator upwards to Klarabergsviadukten; after the escalator, go out through the doors to the right and board the bus for the field trip to culturally significant locations throughout the Swedish region of Dalarna. The bus will leave at 9 a.m. Dalarna is famous for its small and picturesque villages, beautiful nature, traditional culture and handicraft. We will first visit Falun’s World Heritage Site and the 17th century part of the town. At that time, Falun was one of the most important towns in Sweden because of its copper mine. Then we will continue to the old traditional villages around Lake Siljan, stopping on our way at some other places of traditional and cultural importance. The journey will culminate with a traditional Swedish Midsummer Feast in the village of Leksand, before our arrival in Falun late that evening.
Saturday June 22, 2013

9-11 / Session 1 – Plenary – Fö5

**Is the World of Religions Really Changing?**

Welcome by Academic Authorities
Presiding and Introducing: Massimo INTROVIGNE

- Fluctuations, Transformations and New World Orders: Changing Religious Movements in a Changing World
  Eileen BARKER (London School of Economics)

- From Sectarianism to Universalism: Responses to Religious Pluralism in the United States
  Constance A. JONES (California Institute of Integral Studies, San Francisco)

- Texas Pentecostalism: A Test Case for the Definition of New Religions
  J. Gordon MELTON (Baylor University, Waco)

11-11,30 / Coffee Break

11,30-13 / Parallel Sessions

11,30-13 / Session 2 – V223a

**Contemporary Socio-Religious Movements of Russian Origin in Post-Soviet and Western Societies**

Chair: Milda ALISAUSKIENE

- The Anastasia Movement: From Russia to the West
  Rasa PRANSKEVICIUTE (Uppsala University)

- Cosmocentrism and the Idea of the Social and Religious Activities of Fedorov’s Religious-Philosophic Movement in Contemporary Russia
  Elean KONSTANTINOVA (The Institute of World Literature, Moscow)

- “New Cosmic Religion” and the Ancient Cult of the White Old Man Interpreted Anew: Communities of Ritual Healers in Post-Soviet Kalmykia
  Valeriya GAZIZOVA (University of Oslo)

- The Transformations of Russian New Age Movement “Anastasia”
  Julia ANDREEVA (European University, St. Petersburg)

11,30-13 / Session 3 – V227

**Old New Religions and Changing Attitudes to Ecumenism**

Chair: Dyron DAUGHRITY

- The Watch Tower’s Changing Hymnody: How Music Reflects Change among Jehovah’s Witnesses
  George D. CHRYSSIDES (University of Birmingham)

- Christian Science in Ecumenical Dialogue: Signs of Change
  Shirley PAULSON (University of Birmingham)

- Unorthodox Orthodoxy in Britain
  Margaret Z. WILKINS (Independent Scholar and Researcher, UK)

11,30-13 / Session 4 – V310

**The Changing New Age**

Chair: Jean-François MAYER

- New Age, Spiritual or Religious? Self-designations within the New Age Movement
  Knut MELVAER - Margrethe LØØV (University of Bergen)

- “Lielvarde Belt”: Folk Tradition, the New Age Religion and Nationalism in Latvia
  Agita MISANE (University of Latvia)

- Textual Lives and New Age Spirituality
  Lisbeth MIKAELSSON (University of Bergen)

- Is It Really only “Love and Light”? The Belief in Evil Spirits within New Age
  Sara DUPPILS (Åbo Akademi University, Turku)

11,30-13 / Session 5 – V322

**Changing Jewish and Israeli Perspectives**

Chair: Constance A. JONES

  Adam KLIN-ORON (Hebrew University, Jerusalem) - Marianna RUAH-MIDBAR (Zefat Academic College)
13-14,15 / Lunch (Scandic Hotel)

14,30-18 / Parallel Sessions
[Each session will have a coffee break between 16,15 and 16,30]

14,30-18 / Session 6 – V223a
Changing Religion in Scandinavia
Chair: Liselotte FRISK

The Case of Aarhus, Denmark. Changes in the Field of New Religious Movements from 2002 to 2012
Lars AHLIN (University of Aarhus)

A Buyer’s Market: The Commodification of Religion in Sweden
Gwendolyn ALEXIS (Monmouth University, West Long Branch)

Strategies Among Young Jehovah’s Witnesses in Secondary School in Sweden
Pernilla LIEGDREN DOBRONRAVOFF (Dalarna University, Falun)

Nigerian Pentecostalism in Sweden: The Case of Redeemed Christian Church of God
Nils MALMSTRÖM (Lund University)

14,30-18 / Session 7 – V227
Changing Movements: Case Studies - I
Chair: Philippe MURILLO

The Anzac Spirit: A Civil Religious Movement
Zoe ALDERTON (University of Sydney)

The Spiritist Revival. The Raising Voice of Popular Religion?
Anne KALVIG (University of Bergen)

From Children of God to Children of Members: Changing Views on Children in TFI 1988-2013
Sanja NILSSON (Dalarna University, Falun)

The Movement for the Spiritual Integration into the Absolute. Facets of an Identity: Minority of Conscience, Minority of Sexual Practice, and Minority Born of Repression
Gabriel ANDREESCU (National School for Political Studies and Public Administration, Bucharest)

14,30-18 / Session 8 – V310
Changing Local/Glocal Religious Landscapes - I
Chair: Agita MISANE

Analysis of the Religious Pluralism in Spain
Sonia BARTOL SÁNCHEZ (International University of La Rioja)

“We Are no Longer Able to Hear God!”: A Consideration of Christianity’s Fall from Grace in Western Europe
Dyron DAUGHRITY (Pepperdine University, Malibu)

Global Hindu Religious Movements and Their Return Home
Ferdinando SARDELLA (Uppsala University)

Challenges for Religious Diversity in Lithuania
Milda ALISAUSKIENE (Vytautas Magnus University, Kaunas)

Religions in Italy 2013
PierLuigi ZOCCATELLI (CESNUR, Turin)

The Phenomenon of Philippine Homegrown Religious Movements That Have Attracted Global Following
Maria Lourdes B. GONZALEZ (University of Asia and the Pacific, Pasig City)

14,30-18 / Session 9 – V318
Gender and New Religions
Chair: Susan J. PALMER

A Quantitative Perspective on Gender and New Religions
James R. LEWIS - Inga B. TØLENESSEN (University of Tromsø)

Every Man and Every Woman Is a Star: The Social Construction of Gender in Contemporary Ordo Templi Orientis
Manon HEDENBORG-WHITE (Stockholm University)
Sunday June 23, 2013

8,30-9,45 / Session 11 – Plenary – Fö5

The Occult, Prophecy, and the End of the World

Chair: J. Gordon MELTON

From Occultism and Spiritualism to Idealism and Mysticism, American Metaphysical Religion in the Making: Theosophy and New Thought
Philippe MURILLO (University of Toulouse)

Why the World Did not End and the New Age Exists after all: Maya Calendar, December 2012, Believers and the Media
Jean-François MAYER (Religioscope, Fribourg)

9,45-10 / Coffee Break

10-13 / Session 12 – Plenary – Fö 5

A Drama in Sweden: Murder in the Knutby Philadelphia Pentecostal Church

Chair: Eileen BARKER

The 2004 Murder (movie)

Knutby Philadelphia Church: An Inside Perspective
Pastor Peter GEMBÄCK (Knutby Philadelphia Church)

Sweden’s “Bride of Christ”, Åsa Waldau: A Study of Feminine Mysticism and Prophecy
Susan J. PALMER (Concordia University, Montreal)

The Life Story of Helge Fossmo: An Interpretation of Personal Narrative
Liselotte FRISK (Dalarna University, Falun)

13,15-14,45 / Lunch (Scandic Hotel)

15-18,30 / Parallel Sessions
[Each session will have a coffee break between 16,15 and 16,30]
15-18,30 / Session 13 – V223a

Esotericism and New Religions [Session organized in co-operation with ContERN (Contemporary Esotericism Research Network)]

Chair: Pier Luigi ZOCCATELLI

Discursive Complexes as a Tool to Systematize the Study of Contemporary Esotericism
Kennet GRANHOLM (Stockholm University)

Twenty-First Century Templars: The Evolution of the Ordo Templi Orientis under Hymenaeus Beta (1985-)
Christian GIUDICE (University of Gothenburg)

"Unveiling the Number 19": Secrecy, Concealment and Revelation in the Religious Thought of Mother Tynnetta Muhammad
Justine BAKKER (University of Amsterdam)

From Goddess to Cyborg: The Pagan and the Posthuman in the Digital Age
Venetia ROBERTSON (University of Sydney)

Neo-Pagans On-Line: An Example of Third Space
Giulia EVOLVI (Ph.D. Candidate, University of Colorado, Boulder)

15-18,30 / Session 14 – V227

Changing Local/Glocal Religious Landscapes - II

Chair: Ferdinando SARDELLA

Travel and New Religions
Alex NORMAN (University of Sydney)

Two Forms of Religious Pluralism: Monistic and Pluralistic
Jae-Hyun PARK (Daejin University)

East Asia’s Circular Theology and Deconstructive Theology: A Comparison
Nam-Sik KO (Daejin University)

15-18,30 / Session 15 – V310

Alternative Archaeology and New Religiosity in the Twilight Zone of Science

Presiding and Introducing: Pia ANDERSSON (Stockholm University) - Alternative Archaeology: A Brief Introduction

Archaeology and the Authority of Sacred History
James R. LEWIS (University of Tromsø)

God, Gods and Spacemen: Ancient Astronaut Narratives and Re-readings of the Bible
Erik A. W. ÖSTLING (Stockholm University)

Semiotic Arousal in Millenarian Representations of the Megalithic Past: Alternative Archaeologies in the 2012 Phenomenon
Kevin WHITESIDES (University of Edinburgh)

Alternative Archaeology, Has It Happened?: Paganism and Archaeology in Twenty-first Century in Britain
Robert WALLIS (Richmond University, London) - Jenny BLAIN (Sheffield Hallam University)

Mainstream Archaeology and Alternative Archaeology in Scandinavia
Stig WELINDER (Mid Sweden University, Härnösand)

15-18,30 / Session 16 – V318

"American" Movements: Changes and Controversies

Chair: Alessandro AMICARELLI

The Controversy around the LDS Paris Temple Project
Bernadette RIGAL-CELLARD (University of Bordeaux)

The Love Never Dies: 25 Years of “Charisma” as a Tool for NRM Studies
Christopher HARTNEY (University of Sydney)

“The Mormon Moment”: When Did It Begin and Has It Really Ended?
Michael W. HOMER (Utah State Historical Society)

Health Dissent in Conservative American Subcultures
Holly FOLK (Western Washington University)

19,30 / Banquet (Scandic Hotel)
Monday June 24, 2013

8,30-10,45 / Parallel Sessions

8,30-10,45 / Session 17 – V223a

Changing Movements and Perspectives from Korea

Chair: Christopher HARTNEY

Return of Korean Messiahs in the Crisis of Christianity: A Comparative Study of Unification Church, WMS Church of God, Jesus’ Morning Star Movement and Shinchonji
Shin AHN (Pai Chai University, Daejeon)

The Changing Concept of “New Religions” from a Religio-typological Context
Kim CHONGSUH (Seoul National University)

The Ultimate Aim of New Religion Movements and the New Rule and the Social Structure of the New World (Centering the Rule of Heaven and the Culture of Neo-Human)
Gang-Hyen HAN (Mejiro University, Saitama)

8,30-10,45 / Session 18 – V227

Changing Movements: Case Studies - II

Chair: George D. CHRYSSIDES

Converting to Soka Gakkai in Cuba: Individual Motivations and Organizational Strategies
Girardo Rodriguez PLASENCIA (Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University, Beppu)

A Case Study on Taiwan Contemporary New Religions in Terms of Changing Religious Movements in a Changing Society. Focused on Taiwan I Kuan Dao Gyung-Won LEE (Daejin University)

The Death of Rev. Sun Myung Moon and What It Portends for the Unification Church
Dan FEFFERMAN (International Coalition for Religious Freedom, Washington DC)

An Update on Religious Freedom Issues Relating to the Unification Church in Japan
Shunsuke UOTANI (Universal Peace Federation, Tokyo)

8,30-10,45 / Session 19 – V310

Changing Controversies

Chair: James R. LEWIS

Addressing the Issue of Interaction Between New Spiritual Movements and Society from the Perspective of Conflict Theory
Natalia SHELARU (Soteria International, Copenhagen)

Squeezing into Uncomfortable Spaces: Scholarly Objectivity and Strong Opinions
David WEBSTER (University of Gloucestershire, Cheltenham)

The Reluctant Player: Negotiating Tensions in the Study of New Religious Movements
Cimminnee HOLT (Concordia University, Montreal)

Jesus’ Wife: A New Controversy in the Study of Christian Faith
David W. KIM (Seoul National University)

8,30-10,45 / Session 20 – V318

Swedenborgianism in a Changing World

Chair: Marzia COLTRI

From “Ed” to “Web”: The Changing Audience of Swedenborgianism
Jane WILLIAMS-HOGAN (Bryn Athyn College)

Science, Modernity, and Individuations of Belief: Swedenborg and the Roots of American Religious Pluralism
Devin ZUBER (Swedenborg House of Studies of the Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley)

“Times They Are a-Changin”: Faith Conversations in 2013
Göran APPELGREN (Swedenborgian Pastor, Stockholm)

Smuggling Religion: Swedenborgianism and Literary Fiction
Sylvia MONTGOMERY SHAW (Writer, Boston)

10,45-11 / Coffee Break
Changing Movements in a Changing Society: A Local Story with a Global Meaning

Chair: Jean-François MAYER

Pyramid of Merkinė: New Age or Popular Catholicism?
Milda ALISAUSKIENE (Vytautas Magnus University, Kaunas)

Lithuanian Occulture and the Magic of Druskininkai: From Ciurlionis to Povilas Zekas
Massimo INTROVIGNE (CESNUR, Turin)

13 / Departures and Field Trip

For those registered for the field trips, buses will leave the university from Högskolan Dalarna at 13 p.m. (box lunches will be provided), taking participants either directly to Arlanda Airport (arrival: 16 p.m.) near Stockholm or to a visit to Kalle Runristare, a neo-Pagan rune-carver on an island outside Stockholm. This island, Adelsö, is a World Heritage Site with historical importance, where the kings lived in the Viking era. The journey ends in Stockholm in the late evening.