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Symposium

The Greek Diaspora: Greek and Canadian Perspectives

6-7 December 2014

Event starts at 6:00pm, 6.12.2014

Register at greekdiaspora@enl.auth.gr
 Information: Tel. 2310-991341
 Department of International Relations AUTH

Aristotle University
 Research Dissemination Center
 3rd, Septemvriou Str.

Open to the public
Certificate of attendance will be provided

In the frame of the Inter-University Cooperation Agreement between
 Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece, & York University, Toronto, Canada



Aristotle University of Thessaloniki



PROGRAM
Symposium
The Greek Diaspora: Greek and Canadian Perspectives
In the frame of the Inter-University Cooperation Agreement of
Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece
&
York University, Toronto, Canada
6-7 December 2014

Saturday 6th December, 2014

Amphitheater I

(Ground Floor, Aristotle University Research Dissemination Center, 3rd September Street, University Campus)

17:00-18:00 – Registrations

18:00-18:30 Opening Addresses

Pericles A. Mitkas

Rector of Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

Professor, School of Electrical and Computer Engineering, A.U.Th.

Pantelis Petmezas

Honorary Consul of Canada at Thessaloniki

Dimitris Mavroskoufis

Dean of Faculty of Philosophy, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

Professor, School of Philosophy and Education, A.U.Th.

Demetra Sfendoni - Mentzou

Coordinator of Aristotle University of Thessaloniki-York University International Agreement

Professor Emerita of Philosophy of Science, A.U.Th.

President of the Interdisciplinary Centre for Aristotle Studies, A.U.Th.

Marilyn Lambert - Drache

Associate Vice-President International, York University

Associate Professor of Linguistics, Department of French Studies, York University

18:30-19:30 Keynote Address

[Moderator: Tatiani Rapatzikou]

“The Greeks of Canada and their place in the history of the diaspora”

Sakis Gekas

Assistant Professor, Hellenic Heritage Foundation Chair in Modern Greek History,

York University

19:30-20:30 Reception – Ground Floor Foyer

Slide show of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki Summer School at York and the Greek Canadian History Project Archive

Sunday 7th December, 2014

Amphitheater III

(Basement, Aristotle University Research Dissemination Center, 3rd September Street, University Campus)

9:30-10:30 Greek North America

[Moderator: Marilyn Lambert-Drache]

"Traversing Identities in Greek America"

Anastasia Stefanidou,
Teaching Assistant, School of English, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

10:30-10:45 Coffee Break

10:45-12:45 The Greek Canadian History Project

[Moderators: Elpida Kolokytha and Demetra Sfedoni-Mentzou]

"The Making of an Archive: Finding a Home for the History of Greeks in Canada"

Sakis Gekas,
Assistant Professor, Hellenic Heritage Foundation Chair in Modern Greek History, York University

Christopher Grafos
Ph.D. Candidate, Department of History, York University

Kali Petropoulos
York University Alumna, York International Summer Study Abroad Assistant, York University

13:00-14:00 – Lunch Break – Amphitheater Foyer

Slide show of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki Summer School at York University, Toronto

14:00-16:00– The Greek Diaspora: Identity(ies) and Memory

[Moderators: Christopher Grafos and Kali Petropoulos]

"Multiculturalism in Toronto: Focusing on the Greek Element"

Penny Koutsi
MA Student, School of English, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

Mariza Tzouni
MA Student, School of English, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

“Greek Communities around the Globe”

Konstantinos Chatzipapathodoridis
MA Graduate, School of English, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

Christina Gkountona
MA Student, School of Philosophy and Education, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

“Notions on Identity and Memory in a Diasporic Context”

George Stremplis
MA student, School of Philosophy and Education, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

Fotini Tavlaridou
BA Student, School of German Literature and Culture, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

“Malleable and Contested Greece(s)”

Katerina Delikonstantinidou
Ph.D,Candidate School of English, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

Maria Iordana Touluka
BA Student, School of Philosophy and Education, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

“Greek Identity Beyond Borders”

Christina Galliou
BA Student, School of English, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

Isabel Vouza
BA Student, School of English, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

16:00-16:15 – Coffee Break

16:15-17:00 – Strengthening the York U – A.U.Th. Partnership

Demetra Sfendoni-Mentzou
*Coordinator of Aristotle University-York University International Agreement
Professor Emerita of Philosophy of Science, A.U.Th.*

Marilyn Lambert-Drache
*Associate Vice-President International, York University
Associate Professor of Linguistics, Department of French Studies, York University*

17:00-17:15 – Concluding Remarks

Tatiani Rapatzikou
Assistant Professor, School of English, AUTh

Speaker Bios

Constantine Chatzipapathodoridis is an M.A. graduate of the Department of American Literature, School of English, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. His fields of research include LGBT studies, performance studies, popular culture and southern studies. His M.A. thesis focused on the aesthetics of camp parallel to the Southern Gothic subgenre. So far, he has presented his works twice in international conferences and has managed to publish his first research paper. He is an ambassador of The Greek Canadian History Project. A Ph.D. is what he is hoping to pursue next.

Aikaterini Delikonstantinidou is a Ph.D. Candidate in the School of English at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. She is assistant editor of the academic journal *Gramma/Γράμμα: Journal of Theory and Criticism* and of the online journal *Critical Stages: The IACT webjournal*. Her research interests include Ethnic Studies (with a focus on the Greek American paradigm), Performing Arts, Ancient Drama, as well as Mythology, Folklore, and Ritual Studies. She is an ambassador of The Greek Canadian History Project.

Christina Galliou is in her third year of her undergraduate studies in School of English, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. Last semester she worked on a project named "20th century America" for her American Literature class that focused on various topics such as immigration and identity. She has participated in various Model United Nations events with emphasis on issues pertaining to immigration, diaspora, and identity. In addition she was the representative of the Greek Delegation in the EU Immigration committee for the 64th International European Youth Parliament in Frankfurt. She has also been a volunteer for AIESEC A.U.Th., a no-government and no-profit organization, which has offered her the opportunity to get in touch with people from many countries via the coordination of various internships allowing her to widen her knowledge with regard to multiculturalism and identity. She is an ambassador of the Greek Canadian History Project.

Sakis Gekas is Hellenic Heritage Foundation Chair of Modern Greek History at York University, Toronto. He works on British colonialism in the Mediterranean and the history of the Ionian State and offers courses on the history of Modern Greece, the history of Greek migration and Diaspora and the history of Empires and Colonialism in the Modern Mediterranean. He is co-director of the Greek Canadian History Project, an initiative to create an archive at York for the history of Greek immigrants to Canada. Sakis is now completing a book on the Ionian State and is spending his sabbatical year at the National Research Foundation in Athens, working on an economic history of Greece during the long nineteenth century.

Christina Gkountona is an M.A. student in School of Philosophy and Education, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. History of Philosophy is her field of interest with particular emphasis placed on epistemology. Her M.A. thesis focuses on the topic of "Aristotelian views about Memory: A Critical Approach from the Scope of Experimental Psychology and Neuroscience." She is an ambassador of The Greek Canadian History Project.

Christopher Grafos is a Ph.D. Candidate in the Department of History, York University. He is currently working on his dissertation that examines Greek homeland politics in Toronto and Montreal from 1967 - 1974. He is also a Co-Founder and Co-Director of the Greek Canadian History Project (Clara Thomas Archives & Special Collections, York University), which is an initiative designed to acquire, preserve,

digitize, democratize, and disseminate historical materials and knowledge concerning the experience of Greek immigrants in Canada and their descendants. Currently, he is the holder of the Hellenic Heritage Foundation Fellowship in Modern Greek History and serves as Graduate Representative on the Executive Board of the Modern Greek Studies Association.

Penny Koutsi is currently an M.A. student in the department of American Literature and Culture at Aristotle University. The theme of her dissertation is novels' adaptation on stage and the visualization of violence. Her academic interests include theater studies, postmodern fiction and ethnic identity. She has taken part in various conferences and written articles for ECHOES and MIT's online magazine. She is an ambassador of The Greek Canadian History Project.

Kali Petropoulos holds a M.A. in History from McMaster University and a Specialized Honors B.A. in History from York University. Her M.A. thesis titled, "Sixties Permissiveness: six inches short of a feminist," explored the mini-skirt as a Cultural Revolution, but argued that it was not a vehicle for liberation and permissiveness for feminists during the 1960s in Britain. After her M.A., she completed a post-Graduate diploma in Corporate Communications and Public Relations at Seneca College. Kali currently works at York International at York University as the Summer Study Abroad Assistant, where she coordinates York U summer abroad courses and other special summer school programs. She is also the Public Relations Coordinator for the Greek Canadian History Project (GCHP), managing the online platform for the project that includes the GCHP blog and Facebook Page.

Anastasia Stefanidou completed her Ph.D. entitled "Ethnic and Diaspora Poets of Greek America" at the Department of American Literature and Culture, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece. She has taught courses on 19th and 20th century American literature, prose and poetry, at the same department. She is currently teaching a graduate course on Research Methodology. Stefanidou was awarded a Salzburg Seminar Fellowship and a Princeton University Library Fellowship. She has recently been awarded a Library Research Fellowship from the Tsakopoulos Hellenic Collection, California State University, to conduct research on the memoirs of second-generation Greek Americans. She has presented her work at conferences in Greece and abroad and has published articles on Jeffrey Eugenides, prominent Greek American poets such as Nicholas Samaras and Andonis Decavalles, an essay comparing the work of Meena Alexander and Miranda Cambanis, and book reviews for the European Association of American Studies and *The National Herald*. Her scholarly work on Greek American literature has appeared in such journals as the *Journal of the Hellenic Diaspora*, *The Charioteer*, the *Journal of Modern Hellenism*, and *The Greenwood Encyclopedia of Multiethnic American Literature*. She is currently working on the stories of Theano Papazoglou Margaris and the novels of Elia Kazan.

George Stremplis is currently in the second year of his M.A. Studies in Ethical Philosophy and Bioethics in Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. He is keen on philosophy hence his B.A. and M.A. studies in that field. He is also interested in interdisciplinary approaches to history, literature and the arts. He is an ambassador of The Greek Canadian History Project. His next step is to pursue a Ph.D.

Fotini Tavlaridou is in the fourth year of her B.A. studies in School of German Literature and Culture of Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. She is presently working on the project "Mnemosyne" that focuses on the translation texts about memory, mainly of Aleida and Jan Assmann. "Memory" studies fascinate her, hence her diploma project focuses on memory and the Holocaust. She is an ambassador of The Greek Canadian History Project.

Maria-Iordana Toulika is in the third year of her undergraduate studies in the School of Philosophy and Education in the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. Her personal interests focus on Philosophy, Classical Music, and Poetry. She is an ambassador of The Greek Canadian History Project.

Mariza Tzouni is an M.A. student in the Department of American Literature School of English, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. She is currently completing her M.A. thesis focusing on female artists who have violently intervened on their bodies through performance art. She has previously worked on papers related to ethnic studies, New Feminism, and female performance art. Her participation in the 9th Biennial MESEA conference with the paper titled “Crossing Boundaries in a Post-Ethnic Era – Interdisciplinary Approaches and Negotiations” rendered diaspora and identity issues of further reflection and research for her. She is an ambassador of The Greek Canadian History Project.

Isavella Vouza is presently a third year student at School of English Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. Her academic interests pertain to English and American literature, and particularly to drama, cinema and theater. She is also interested in cross-cultural studies and sociology. She is currently working on “Artistic expression of youth in the city of Thessaloniki” for the course in “American Urban Spaces and Identity.” She is an ambassador of the Greek Canadian History Project.

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