

Oovtâst – Together. New concepts, theories and methodologies
on Saami studies
Inari, Finland, September 25th–27th, 2013
Call for abstracts

Oovtâst – Together. New concepts, theories and methodologies on Saami studies conference will be held in Inari, Finland on September 25th–27th, 2013. In recent decades Saami research has gone to new directions and become more multivoiced. The aim of the conference is to chart this new multivoiced research and to find out at what point Saami studies are today and what are the main questions, new thoughts, and directions at the present. Oovtâst will offer a multidisciplinary venue for finding new methodological, conceptual and epistemological approaches to Saami studies. The aim of the conference is to move from the earlier lappologist research and politically aimed functional Saami studies towards emancipatory science which critically analyses Saami culture and Saaminess using both emic perspectives and different theoretical and conceptual approaches.

Conference will bring together researchers, students, and artists specialized in Saami studies and culture. In addition it offers a forum for discussion concerning comparative indigenous studies. International scholars offer new perspectives on Saami studies and vice versa. We wish to gather together scholars specialized in indigenous studies and to offer a possibility to create new networks which will help to develop multidisciplinary research across state borders.

Themes of the conference are:

1. Saami culture, history and cultural practices: art, heritage, and changing representations
2. Language, knowledge and socialization
3. Saami society: politics and law related to cultural, social and ethnic differences

Confirmed keynote lecturers:

Kaisa Rautio-Helander, Sámi University College

Else Grete Broderstad, University of Tromsø

Marja-Liisa Olthuis, University of Oulu

Torunn Pettersen, Sámi University College/University of Tromsø

Sanna Valkonen, University of Lapland

The organizing committee invites the submission of abstracts for papers to be held in the conference *Oovtâst – Together. New concepts, theories and methodologies on Saami studies* in Inari, Finland, September 25th–27th, 2013. Abstracts for 15 minute presentations should be up to 300 words. After each presentation there will be 15 minutes for discussion. We welcome topics from different areas of Saami studies including for example archaeology, ethnography, sociology, political science, legal sciences and linguistics. Please submit the abstracts at the latest by April 1st, 2012 by e-mail to veli-pekka.lehtola@oulu.fi.

Languages in the conference are Saami languages, Finnish and English.

CONFERENCE DEADLINES

April 1, 2013 *Submission of paper abstracts*

April 30, 2013 *Notification of approval of paper abstracts*

August 1, 2013 *Deadline for registration*

CONFERENCE FEES

Registration fee: 50 euros

Dinner: 30 euros

CONFERENCE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE:

University of Oulu, Anni-Siiri Länsman and Veli-Pekka Lehtola

University of Lapland, Sanna Valkonen and Juha Karhu

Sámi Education Institution, Anne-Marie Kalla, Liisa Holmberg, and Outi Länsman

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

Day 1: Saami culture, history and cultural practices - Wednesday September 25th

9.00–9.30 Registration and coffee

9.30–10.00 Music and welcoming words

10.00–11.00 Keynote lecture

11.00–12.00 Lunch

12.00–13.00 keynote lecture

13.00–17.00 Four parallel workshops and a coffee break

Theme suggestions: (15 minute presentations and 15 minute discussion)

- *Cultural heritage and memory*
- *Changing representations in art/media*
- *Traditional knowledge*
- *Spirituality and religion in transition*

18.00 Evening program with dinner and music

II Day: Language, knowledge and socialization - Thursday September 26th

9.00–10.00 Keynote lecture

10.00–10.30 Coffee break

10.30–12.30 Four parallel workshops

Theme suggestions for the day:

- *Linguistic and cultural formation of Saami societies*
- *Education, Saami pedagogies*
- *Place names, named places*
- *Language and culture, sociolinguistics*
- *New winds in the Saami literary studies*

12.30–13.30 Lunch

13.30–14.30 Keynote lecture

14.30–17.00 Four parallel workshops and a coffee break

15 minute presentations and 15 minute discussion

18.00 Evening programme with music at the hotel

III Day: Saami society - Friday September 27th

9.00–10.00 Keynote lecture

10.00–10.30 Coffee break

10.30–12.00 Four parallel workshops

Theme suggestions for the day:

- *Building the Saami society*
- *International and comparative research on and by indigenous peoples*
- *Traditional livelihoods, land rights, natural resources*
- *Conflicts of belonging*
- *Global use of resources vs. traditional land use*
- *Sustainable development*

12.00–13.00 Lunch

13.00–14.00 Keynote lecture

14.00–16.00 Four parallel workshops and a coffee break

15 minutes presentations and 15 minutes discussion

16.00 Closing of the conference

Closing speech

18.00 Evening program by the local Saami