

**Eugenics, Race and Psychiatry in the Baltic States: a
Trans-National Perspective 1900-1945**

Goethe Institute Riga, May 7 – 8, 2009

Organized by the Working Group in the History on Race and Eugenics (HRE), the Oxford Brookes University, the Nordost-Institute in Lüneburg, the Estonian University of Life Science in Tartu and the Goethe Institute Riga

Sponsored by the Gerda Henkel Stiftung, the Fritz Thyssen Stiftung and the Nordost-Institute Lüneburg

Wednesday May 6, 2009

8:00 pm **Reception** at the Pharmacy Museum (Riharda Vagnera Str.13)

Thursday May 7, 2009

9:30 am to 10:30 am: Registration and Coffee

10:30 am: Opening & Greetings

11.00 am to 11:30 am **Opening Speech**

Paul Weindling (Oxford Brookes University)

11:30 am to 1:00 pm: **Panel 1 - Eugenics in the Baltic States**

Ken Kalling (University of Tartu)

The Application of Eugenics in Estonia

Rita Gravere & Juris Salaks (Museum for the History of Medicine, Riga)

The National Living Power Research Institute in Latvia and its Problems

Björn Felder (University of Tübingen):

Eugenics and Racial Identity in Latvia: Scientific Transfer and European Zeitgeist

Chair: Marius Turda (Oxford Brookes University)

1:00 pm to 2:00 pm Lunch break

2:00 pm to 3:30 pm: **Panel 2 - Racial Anthropology in the Baltics**

Erki Tammisaar (University of Tartu)

The role of K. E. v. Baer in the birth of Anthropological Scholarship in Russia

Christian Promitzer (University of Graz)

A Lithuanian in the Balkans: Jonas Basanavičius (1851-1927) and Bulgarian Racial Anthropology

Leiu Heapost (University of Tallinn)

The Mongoloid-issue in the Racial Studies of Estonians

Chair: Ken Kalling (University of Tartu)

4:00 pm -5:30 pm: **Panel 3 - Psychiatry in the Baltics**

Vladimirs Kuznecovs (University of Latvia, Riga)

Latvian Psychiatry and Medical legislation of the 1930s and the German Eugenic Law of 1933

Arunas Germanavicius (University of Vilnius)

Development of Lithuanian Psychiatry 1918 - 1940

Octavian Buda (National Institute of Legal Medicine Bucharest)

From Psychiatry to Eugenics: The late works of Emil Kraepelin and the Eugenic Debates in Interwar Romania

Chair: Volker Roelcke (University of Gießen)

6:30 pm: Dinner

Friday May 8, 2009

9:30 am to 11:00 am **Panel 4 – Eugenics, Gender and Minorities in Northeastern Europe**

Maija Runcis (Södertörns högskola)

The Swedish Sterilisation Politics from a Gender Perspective

Ineta Lipša (University of Latvia, Riga)

Attitude towards Contraception and Abortion in Latvia, 1918-1940

Katrin Steffen (Nordost-Institute Lüneburg)

Jewish Body and Gender politics: the Polish example

Chair: Sevasti Trubeta (Freie Universität Berlin)

11:00 am to 11:30 am Coffee Break

11:30 am to 1:00 pm **Panel 5 - Eugenics and Transfer: International Perspectives**

Volker Roelcke (University of Gießen)

The Establishment of Psychiatric Genetics in Germany, Britain, the USA, and Scandinavia ca. 1910-1960: on the inseparable History of Eugenics and medical Genetics

William deJong-Lambert (City University of New York)

Out of the Night: Hermann J. Muller and Eugenics in the Soviet Union

Vsevolod Bashkuev (Institute of Mongolian, Buddhist and Tibetan studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences - Siberian division))

Soviet Eugenics for National Minorities: Eradication of Syphilis in Buryat-Mongolia as an Element of Social Modernization of a Frontier Region, 1923-1928

Chair: Björn Felder (University of Tübingen)

1:00 pm to 2:00 pm **Lunch**

2:00 pm to 3:30 pm **5. Panel: Eugenics and Transfer: European Perspectives**

Anne Cottebrune (University of Gießen)

Eliot Slater (1904-1983) and the Roots of Psychiatric Genetics in Great Britain: Transfer of German Scientific Concepts in the Context of British Eugenics

Maciej Gorny (Polish Acad. of Sciences, Centre of Historical Research Berlin)
First World War and National Characterology in East-Central Europe

Corina Palasan (Oxford Brookes University)

Eugenics and Psychology in Interwar Romania. The case of the 'Experimental, Compared, and Applied Psychology Institute' of the Ferdinand I University of Cluj (Romania), 1919 – 1947

Chair: Andreas Lawaty (Nordost-Institute Lüneburg)

3:30 pm to 4:00 pm **Coffee Break**

4:00 pm to 5:30 pm **Panel 6 – Eugenics, Racism and Racial Biology**

Kamila Uzarczyk & Wanda Wojtkiewicz-Rok (University of Wrocław)

'Germania docet': Polish Eugenics between Social and Racial Hygiene.

Florian Mildemberger (Viadrina-University, Frankfurt/Oder)

The Last of the Dorpat-school: Neo-vitalism, Racism, anti-Semitism and Biology in the Work of Jakob v. Uexküll (1864-1944)

Michal Simunek (University of Prague)

Mendel's Heritage? The Instrumentalization of Personality of J. G. Mendel in Bohemia and Moravia during the Nazi Era (1939-1945)

& Movie: "J.G.Mendel, 1944".

Chair: Katrin Steffen (Nordost-Institute Lüneburg)

6:00 pm **Conclusive Comments: Paul Weindling, Marius Turda**

Plenary Discussion

7:30 Closing Dinner

Saturday May 9, 2009: Departure

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