



Turun yliopisto  
University of Turku



# TUCEMEMS

ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020



TURKU CENTRE FOR MEDIEVAL AND EARLY MODERN STUDIES

## TURKU CENTRE FOR MEDIEVAL AND EARLY MODERN STUDIES

*Turku Centre for Medieval and Early Modern Studies (TUCEMEMS) is a multidisciplinary research centre funded by the University of Turku. The centre provides support and advances research that centres around different historical time periods from the late antiquity to the latter part of the 18th century. The centre actively collaborates with Finnish as well as international associations, centres, and institutions.*



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## Editorial

For the first time, the TUCEMEMS annual report combines information from the past two years, 2019 and 2020. The first one passed quickly and was very busy, packed full with different activities. Then came March 2020 and the COVID-19 lockdown, and all activities were put on hold. Because of this, it makes sense to offer a combined annual report.

While 2019 was business as usual for TUCEMEMS, with monthly talks, Studia Generalia lectures, publishing activities, teaching and much more, 2020, in contrast, will go down in history as a year, when everything changed. Meetings with colleagues, students and teachers in person were henceforth considered dangerous, when they were not outright forbidden, and travel to conferences abroad or working in foreign archives, libraries or other research institutes was virtually impossible. After a normal start to 2020, all activities of TUCEMEMS were put on hold until autumn, when Finnish society slowly began to re-open, only to again be closed in the closing months of the year.

But the lockdown and restrictions have also taught us new ways of interacting with colleagues and friends. Online talks, maybe even with a virtual wine reception, conferences and workshops have emerged and have attracted numerous participants, some from such distant places such as Australia, the U.S. or South America. Via the internet, TUCEMEMS activities have reached a much larger international audience than before.

And the show has gone on in other fields too. TUCEMEMS members have defended their dissertations online and obtained their doctoral degrees. TUCEMEMS has continued its collaboration with archives, museums and other institutions through social media and via streamed lectures that have enjoyed a wide reach in Finland.

We have made it, continuing our studies and pursuing our interests in the past, despite these difficult times. Let us not give up!

Kirsi Salonen, Director

Professor of European and World History



# Crossing Boundaries: Turku Medieval and Early Modern Studies

The peer-reviewed book series of TUCEMEMS is published by Amsterdam University Press. Its international Advisory Board consists of leading experts in the fields represented by the Centre. The series publishes monographs and collected volumes that stand at the intersection of disciplinary boundaries to introduce fresh connections between established fields of study. In 2019 and 2020, three new titles were published in the series:

*Languages in the Lutheran Reformation: Textual Networks and the Spread of Ideas*, edited by Mikko Kauko, Miika Norro, Kirsi-Maria Nummila, Tanja Toropainen, and Tuomo Fonsén (2019) <https://www.aup.nl/en/book/9789462981553/languages-in-the-lutheran-reformation>

*Contacts and Networks in the Baltic Sea Region: Austmarr as a Northern mare nostrum, ca. 500–1500 AD*, edited by Maths Bertell, Frog, and Kendra Willson (2019) <https://www.aup.nl/en/book/9789462982635/contacts-and-networks-in-the-baltic-sea-region>

*The Power of Religious Societies in Shaping Early Modern Society and Identities*, by Rose-Marie Peake (2020) <https://www.aup.nl/en/book/9789462986688/the-power-of-religious-societies-in-shaping-early-modern-society-and-identities>

The Editorial Board is looking for high-quality manuscripts of monographs or collected volumes. For further information, please visit <https://www.aup.nl/en/series/crossing-boundaries-turku-medieval-and-early-modern-studies>.

Matti Peikola  
Series Editor



# Teaching

The 2019 academic year witnessed the start of some big changes to teaching in TUCEMEMS. For several years, the centre has coordinated the Prehistorical, Ancient, Medieval and Early Modern Studies programme, which consisted of Basic studies (25 ECTS) and Intermediate studies (35 ECTS). But starting with the 2020 academic year, the content of the study programme underwent significant modification, forming now only a single study programme (25–60 ECTS).

The newly fashioned study programme consists of one compulsory introductory course entitled ‘Introduction to the Study of Old Times’ (5 ECTS), as well as three modules that each include various optional courses: ‘Periods’ (10–15 ECTS), ‘Languages’ (5–20 ECTS) and ‘Methods’ (5–20 ECTS).

The ‘Periods’ module gives students a basic knowledge of at least two historical periods, with students choosing their preferences from prehistory, ancient history, medieval history and early modern history. The ‘Languages’ module supplies students with a basic knowledge of at least one of the languages used in the past, such as Latin, Ancient Greek, Old English, Old German, Old Swedish or Old Finnish. And the ‘Methods’ module guides students through the world of the methodologies of historical study, familiarising them with technical skills such as palaeography, numismatics, epigraphy, codicology, diplomatics, text editing or archaeology.

The new study programme started in autumn 2020 during the COVID-19 epidemic. Some courses have been cancelled, but others have gone ahead in the form of distance teaching or hybrid teaching.

# TUCEMEMS Activities 2019

## Monthly Talks

Time and place: Aikala, Historicum, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Thursdays 14.00–16.00

18 January: Felicitas Schmieder (Professor of European History, FernUniversität Hagen), ‘Global Politics in the 15<sup>th</sup> Century? Information and Assessments of Tamerlane and His Sons by Latin European Powers’



Felicitas Schmieder in the middle.

Since the 13<sup>th</sup> century, the Latin European reaction to Mongol empire building had resulted in a much deeper, actualised, and usable knowledge in Europe about the regions beyond the Holy Land and the Black Sea. This knowledge was used to plan cooperation against the Muslim enemies oppressing Christian Jerusalem. Around 1500, a new Muslim enemy, now threatening Christian lands within Europe (however you define it), arose: the Ottoman Turks were successfully conquering the lands of the Byzantine Empire right up to the gates of Constantinople itself. In that moment, a new ‘Mongol’ rose in the shadow of the Ottomans when Timur Lenk (Timur the Lame, known in the Latin world henceforth as Tamerlane) took power in the region of modern Uzbekistan and of the trading cities of Samarkand and Buchara. Expanding to the west, as well as to the east, Timur beat the

Ottoman Sultan Bayezid, who would die as a result, in the Battle of Ankara 1402 – postponing, as we know now, the Ottoman conquest of Constantinople for another half century. Timur died in 1405; his sons were far less successful and other powers took over. However, as if reminded of their hopes from more than a century ago, Western powers maintained contact, sent envoys, and tried to plan globally with the Mongols, recalling the hopes that they had placed in Tamerlane a century before – and early modern Europe never forgot Tamerlane’s legacy.

15 February: Päivi Onkamo (Physiology and Genetics, University of Turku), ‘Human Population Genetics in Medieval Finland’

Ancient DNA opens a direct window into the past – genetically, who were the people inhabiting Finland in previous centuries? Were there geographical differences within the country? Did the population change over time? Onkamo briefly presented the methodology and gave us a glimpse of the latest research results. The focus was on the second millennium CE.



Päivi Onkamo in the middle.

15 March: Lauri Viinikkala (Finnish History, University of Turku), 'Digital Lies or Historical Knowledge? Mixed Reality in Historical Research'



The participants in Viinikkala's lecture for to try the technology for themselves.

Mixed reality, including virtual and augmented reality, has recently been adopted in numerous museums and cultural heritage sites as a method for reconstructing past environments and events. This, in turn, has raised questions concerning the relationship between entertainment and information when representing the past in such ways. Are digital reconstructions mere fantasy or, at most, just visualisations of already existing knowledge? Can they even create new knowledge about the past, and if so, on what premises?

As past events did not happen in words, they cannot be fully described or understood in words alone. Non-linguistic methods of historical representation are also necessary. On the other hand, as digital reconstructions of sensory environments of the past cannot convey the meanings given to different things by contemporaries, even these non-linguistic interpretations of the past inevitably remain incomplete.

Mixed reality is one of the most promising methods to overcome these limitations. This technology makes it possible to combine the material remains of the past with digital reconstructions, and to combine the non-linguistic knowledge thus created with the existing

lingual knowledge. It also gives an opportunity to present different and even partly contradictory interpretations of the past, thereby making the uncertainty of the past clearly visible.

17 April: Antti Lampinen (Assistant Director, The Finnish Institute at Athens), ‘Ausonia and Ausones: What Classical Ethnonyms Tell about Identities from the Middle and Late Byzantine Period?’

Usually, Byzantine writers labelled their culture and society with the simple term ‘Roman’. However, they also began to use the term ‘Ausones’ with greater frequency from the 11<sup>th</sup> century onwards. The term Ausones (Αὔσονες) appeared in various written texts from John Tzetzes’ scholastic works all the way to Michael Attaleiates’ historiography, poetry and eulogies. The term was originally the Greek name for an Italic group called the Aurunci, which resided in Northern Campania. Why did the usage of the name Ausones increase suddenly in the 11<sup>th</sup> century? Why did the Romans in the Byzantine Empire feel that this name was a synonym for their own official ethnonym *Rhomaioi* (Ῥωμαῖοι/*Romani*)? In this paper, Lampinen examines how the term Ausones was used in 11<sup>th</sup>-century writing as well as during the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> centuries, when the western Latin discourse aimed at steering the Byzantine people towards the term *Graeci/Graikoi*. The resurrection of such a name with strong ties to classicism reveals much about the changes within the ‘Roman’ identity and the rhetorical pressure it endured during the Middle Ages in the Mediterranean.



Antti Lampinen.

26 September: Panu Savolainen (Finnish History, University of Turku), ‘Examining Roof Trusses’

Panu Savolainen presented his interdisciplinary research project ‘Examining Roof Trusses: What Woodwork Tells about Medieval Church Builders and Innovations in the Late Medieval Europe’, funded by the Finnish Cultural Foundation.

31 October: Reima Välimäki (Cultural History, University of Turku), ‘Imagining the Ancient Finnish History in 21<sup>st</sup>-century Internet Discussions’

This lecture outlined the goals and methodologies of the project ‘The Ancient Finnish Kings: A Computational Study of Pseudohistory, Medievalism and History Politics in Contemporary Finland and Russia’, funded by the Emil Aaltonen Foundation. Pseudo-historical blogs and discussion forums challenge the academic study of archaeology and history, claiming that in the Viking Age and early Middle Ages the Finns were ruled by mighty kings, and that this glorious past is neglected – or even consciously hidden – by scholars and authorities. The ‘Ancient Finnish Kings’ project studies the proliferation and effects of such digital texts, as well as their implications for politics and for the culture of history.

28 November: Visa Immonen (Archaeology, University of Turku), ‘Roots of Life? New Perspectives on the Study of Medieval Wood Use’

Wood was a ubiquitous material for premodern communities living in the subarctic region. In his talk, Immonen presented new methodological and theoretical ways to study the use of wood in the Middle Ages. This talk was based on the interdisciplinary project ‘Carving Out Transformations: Wood Use in North-Eastern Europe, 1100–1600’ (Academy of Finland, 2018–2022). The project adopts a long-term perspective to look at the changing significance of wood, embodied in both material and metaphorical movements of the substance from forests to households and markets, and from blocks of wood into ecclesiastical sculptures. How were these movements entangled with different ways of life and with the interactions between humans, animals, the environment, and the divine? Answering such questions reveals something about the premodern relationship with wood.

## Studia Generalia Lectures 2019

### Life and Research at the Academy of Turku (1640–1828)

Time and place: PharmaCity, Auditorium (Pha1), Mondays, 17.00–19.00.

TUCEMEMS had a public lecture series about different aspects of scholars' everyday life and studies entitled 'Life and Research at the Academy of Turku (1640–1828)'. This project began in autumn 2018 and continued through the spring of 2019 with the following lectures.

28 January: Professor Emeritus Hannu Riikonen (University of Helsinki, Literature Studies), 'The Foreign Relations of the Royal Academy of Turku at the Age of H. G. Porthan'

Knowledge of Latin as well as more modern languages was useful for professors and students, since they had to keep in touch with foreign institutions, examine literature, go on field trips, and maintain correspondence with other researchers in the field. In this lecture, Professor Emeritus Hannu Riikonen examined the levels of language proficiency of professors and students of the Royal Academy of Turku. The lecture also addressed questions of how up-to-date the available foreign literature at the Academy library was at the time, as well as the library's collections of source materials for doctoral dissertations.



Hannu Riikonen.

18 February: Professor Kirsi Vainio-Korhonen (Finnish History, University of Turku), ‘Licensed Midwifery and the 18<sup>th</sup>-century Royal Academy of Turku’

Midwifery is an age-old profession among European women. It is one of the earliest regulated and licensed professions available to women, and the formal training, professional communities and professional identity of midwives all have their roots in medieval Europe. In her lecture, Kirsi Vainio-Korhonen focused on the licensed Finnish midwives and their education at the 18<sup>th</sup>-century Royal Academy in Turku. Licensed midwives were required to be literate in order to read professional literature and, in their capacity as office-holders, they had to be able to write and sign certificates that would be given to courts and parishes. In 1711, the first midwifery code of conduct mentioned that education must last for a period of two years, followed by a midwifery examination, a professional oath, and a certificate of study. Trained midwives were experts in their field, and their expertise was required not only in the delivery room, but also in the courtroom – usually as witnesses in criminal cases. Using the 18<sup>th</sup>-century court minutes, Vainio-Korhonen also examined how licensed midwives were involved in juridical examinations, what kinds of written and oral statements they gave to the courts, and what these documents tell us about their professional skills and expertise.



Topi Artukka.

18 March: Doctoral Student Topi Artukka (Finnish History, University of Turku), ‘Dancing Academy: Professors, Students and Social Life in the Beginning of 19<sup>th</sup>-century Turku’

Topi Artukka presented his dissertation project ‘Dancing Academy: Professors, Students and Social Life in the Beginning of 19<sup>th</sup>-century Turku’.

15 April: Dr Teija Alanko (Biodiversity Unit, University of Turku), ‘The Gardens of The Royal Academy of Turku in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Centuries’

Archaeobotanist Teija Alanko from the Biodiversity Unit of the University of Turku gave an introduction to the history of the gardens of the Royal Academy of Turku in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. The Royal Academy played an important role in garden culture, and probably had a herb garden since its foundation in 1640.

The first botanical garden was located close to the Royal Academy building; it was founded in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century by Professor Elias Tillandz who had previously studied botany in Uppsala, Sweden. The garden was eventually left untended, however, and it was not until the 18<sup>th</sup> century that a new garden was in the works, inspired by the ideas of Professor Carl von Linné – then director of the Uppsala Botanical Garden – and the era’s wider ideas about utilitarianism. The new garden was designed by Pehr Kalm and Johan Leche and was located close to Turku Cathedral by the Aura River. The garden was home to a variety of useful plants, numbering more than two thousand by the late 18<sup>th</sup> century.



Teija Alanko.

## Other Activities

### **Research Day – Seminar on the Research of the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> Centuries**

The study of the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries, both in the context of existing nation-states and elsewhere in the world, has been received considerable attention from Finnish scholars, with historians, archaeologists, theologians, and researchers of historical geography, languages, and culture all conducting their own research in this era. Although conferences provide researchers with an opportunity to keep in touch with colleagues, the Finnish researchers of the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries have very few events in which to meet, and connections and ties across different research fields could be considerably strengthened on a national scale. The fields of medieval studies or 18<sup>th</sup>- and 19<sup>th</sup>-century studies (Glossary; Suomen 1700-luvun tutkimuksen seura; Nineteenth Century Studies Network) have proven just how fruitful multidisciplinary research and collaboration can be. The activities of regional research centres, such as the Turku Centre for Medieval and Early Modern Studies (TUCEMEMS) and the Tampere Centre for Classical, Medieval and Early Modern Studies (Trivium), have created fertile grounds for the cross-pollination of ideas across academic institutions and disciplines. Researchers of the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries used to have their own, comparable forum in which to meet colleagues, and one of the main goals of this present workshop concerned the future revival of such a forum. We hope that researchers from different fields of study will decide to join us, regardless of career stage: from students working on master's degrees to docents, all are welcome to attend.

This seminar discussed the revival of the Finnish 16<sup>th</sup>- and 17<sup>th</sup>-century research network, and mapped out the research areas that such a group might focus on. Based on these discussions, plans were put in place for future annual meetings, whether those took the form of a conference or a joint publication. In the future, we shall also explore possibilities for international collaborations with researchers of the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries from other countries. We welcome each and every one of you who identifies as a researcher of this historical era, regardless of your particular field of study.



Research day.

*Panellists:*

Kaisa Häkkinen, Emerita Professor (University of Turku)

Päivi Järviö, DMus, University Lecturer (University of the Arts, Helsinki)

Petri Karonen, Professor (University of Jyväskylä)

Päivi Maaranen, PhD, senior researcher (Finnish Heritage Agency)

Elina Salmela, PhD, research doctor (University of Helsinki)

Kaarle Wirta, PhD, post-doctoral researcher (University of Tampere)



The panellists.

*Programme:*

Thursday, 24 January

9.00–10.00: Registration (University of Turku, Natura-building)

10.00–11.30: Welcome greetings and Panel Discussion (Lecture Hall X, Natura)

11.30–13.00: Lunch

13.00–14.00: Viewpoints on research of the early modern period (Lecture Hall IX, Natura)

14.00–14.30: Coffee Break

14.30–16.30: Project Presentations (Lecture Hall IX, Natura)

16.45–17.30: Discussion on the Founding of a Research Network (Lecture Hall IX, Natura)

19.00–late: Get together at the Panimoravintola Koulu restaurant

Friday, 25 January

10.00–12.00: Research Presentations / Thematic Discussions (Sirkkala Campus, Minerva-building)

12.00–13.00: Lunch

13.00–15.00: Research Presentations / Thematic Discussions Continue

15.00 (or earlier): End of the Seminar

### **Time and Justice – Workshop**

Aikala, 16 May, 2019

TUCEMEMS organised a workshop in Turku for all Finnish researchers working on projects relating to legal history. The workshop included discussions about time and the administration of justice, with workshop participants presenting a range of perspectives based on their own research.

Organisers: Mia Korpiola (Law, University of Turku) and Kirsi Salonen (European and World History, University of Turku).

### **Death in Theory – Workshop**

17 May, 2019, 10.00–16.00.

Venue: Aikala room (Sirkkala Campus, Historicum Building, II floor)

Death brings to light the methods of disposing or preserving the corpse. These methods are part of a system which provides meaning for death itself. Although death is a biological process, it is at the same time a phenomenon of cultural, social, religious and philosophical significance. This workshop on Death in Theory addressed questions such as the following: what kind of conceptual frameworks, terminology and methodology are needed in studying death? Moreover, how do they affect the analysis of historical or prehistorical death? While the workshop presented the multidisciplinary nature of current death studies, it also enabled essential dialogue and cooperation between scholars working in the different fields.



The workshop participants in discussion.

### *Programme*

10.00: Welcome

10.20–12.00: First session (Visa Helenius, Agita Misane, Terhi Rintamäki, Mia Korpiola)

11.30–12.00 General discussion

12.00–13.00: Lunch break

13.00–15.00: Second session (Kaarina Koski, Sanna Lipkin, Ilona Pajari, Ulnor Uotila, Auli Bläuer, Ulla Moilanen)

15.00–16.00: Coffee, workshop and closing remarks

### *Contributors and topics:*

Auli Bläuer (Zooarchaeology, Natural Resources Institute Finland): ‘Identification and Deposition of Burnt Human Bone Remains in Finnish Prehistory’

Visa Helenius (Philosophy, University of Turku): ‘Lucretius and Death Anxiety: A Contemporary Perspective’

Mia Korpiola (Law, University of Turku): ‘Death and Law: Legal Historical Perspectives’

- Kaarina Koski (Folkloristics, University of Turku): 'Mind and Matter in Ritual Practice'
- Sanna Lipkin (Archaeology, University of Oulu): 'Reproducing Death and Humanity'
- Agita Misane (Sociology of Religion, Riga Stradins University): 'Death, Afterlife and Lifeworld: The Classical Social Constructionist Approach'
- Ulla Moilanen (Archaeology, University of Turku): 'Deviant Burials: What Are They?'
- Ilona Pajari (Social History, University of Jyväskylä): 'Death Studies in History: Applied and Original Approaches'
- Terhi Rintamäki (Sociology, University of Lapland): 'I Disappear'
- Ulnor Uotila (Archaeology, University of Turku): 'Ancestor Belief: Travelling Concept between Finnish National Sciences'

The workshop was conducted in English.

Organisers: Ulnor Uotila (Archaeology and Finnish History, University of Turku) and Ulla Moilanen (Archaeology and Finnish History, University of Turku)

### **TUCEMEMS at Turku Medieval Market, 27 June, 2019**

Venue: Old Town Hall, Vanha Suurtori 3, Turku (Old Great Square)

#### **Daily Life and Beliefs in Medieval Turku**

This year, the TUCEMEMS afternoon presentations at the Medieval Market discussed medieval Turku and unbelievable beliefs. The presentations addressed the development of topography in Turku, using the Aura River as an example. Furthermore, different medieval beliefs in the natural as well as the supernatural were discussed from the perspective of the everyday life of the people of medieval Turku.

#### *Programme:*

12.00–12.30: Jussi Kinnunen, 'Development of the Aura River and Medieval Topography'

12.30–13.00: Ilari Aalto, 'Peter's Key and Olaf's Axe: Bricklayers' Symbols in Medieval Turku'

13.00–14.00: Break

14.00–14.30: Sara Norja, ‘From Lead to Gold: Alchemy in the Medieval World View’

14.30–15.00: Vilma Mättö, ‘Mythical Creatures of the Middle Ages’

15.00–15.30: Reima Välimäki, ‘Holy and Not-So-Holy Priests in the Late Middle Ages’

15.30–16.00: Jenni Kuuliala, ‘Punishment Miracles in the Late Middle Ages’

### **Book Launch Event, 16 October**

Time and place: Aikala, Historicum, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, 12.00

TUCEMEMS celebrated the publication in 2019 of the following works from the Crossing Boundaries series (Amsterdam University Press):

*Contacts and Networks in the Baltic Sea Region. Austmarr as a Northern Mare Nostrum*, ca. 500–1500 AD, ed. Maths Bertell, Frog & Kendra Willson.

*Languages in the Lutheran Reformation. Textual Networks and the Spread of Ideas*, ed. Mikko Kauko, Miika Norro, Kirsi-Maria Nummila, Tanja Toropainen & Tuomo Fonsén

The event was hosted by Professor Matti Peikola (English, University of Turku).

### **The History of the Turku Court of Appeal Workshop, 31 October**

Time and place: Calonia, Cal. 3008, 11.00–16.00.

TUCEMEMS organised a workshop in Turku for all researchers working on projects relating to the history of the Turku Court of Appeal and of Finnish legal history more broadly. The workshop involved planning a research and publication strategy related to the 400-year-old history of the Turku Court of Appeal, founded in 1623. Historians and law students from the universities of Helsinki, Jyväskylä, Turku and Tampere attended the workshop.

Organisers: Mia Korpiola (Law, University of Turku) and Kirsi Salonen (European and World History, University of Turku).

### **10 December: Crises and the Schism in Late Medieval Europe**

TUCEMEMS and the SCISMA project, funded by the Academy of Finland, organised and hosted a workshop in Turku about medieval crises on 10 December, 2019.

Venue: Sirkkala Campus, Kaivokatu 12, Minerva & Historicum Buildings

In the late medieval period, western Christendom faced dramatic challenges. The Black Death, the Hundred Years War, and the Great Schism, along with other natural and man-made disasters, gave the period its distinctive character. The ‘Crises and Schism’ workshop brought together an international panel of speakers to discuss and debate some of these crises and the strategies that both individuals and institutions developed in their efforts to manage them.

*Programme:*

9.00–10.30: Welcome & Session 1 (Seminar room Tempo, in Minerva, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor)

- Benjamin Weber (University of Stockholm): ‘Dealing with a Financial, Logistical and Legitimacy Crisis: Papal Administration of Crusading Funds in the 15<sup>th</sup> Century’
- Jussi Hanska (University of Tampere): ‘Pope, Anti-Pope, What Does It Matter? Benedict XIII and the Anti-Judaic Preaching’

10.30–11.00: Coffee break

11.00–12.30: Session 2 (Seminar room Aikala, in Historicum, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor)

- Edward M. Schoolman (University of Nevada, Reno): ‘The Second Pandemic and Ecological Crisis in Late Medieval Italy’
- Georg Modestin (Kantonsschule Freudenberg, Zurich): ‘... *et statum Alamanie perturbavit in suis processibus contra Ludewicum factis*: Louis the Bavarian, the Avignon Popes, and the Schism in the German Empire in the First Half of the 14<sup>th</sup> Century’
- Jenni Kuuliala (University of Tampere): ‘Witchcraft and the Veneration of Saints in Catholic Reformation Era Italy’

12.30–13.30: Lunch break

13.30–14.30: Session 3: Presentation of the SCISMA Project (Seminar room Aikala, in Historicum, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor)

- Anni Hella, Teemu Immonen, Marika Räsänen, Kirsi Salonen, Reima Välimäki

14.30–15.00: Coffee break

15.00–16.30: Session 4 (Seminar room Aikala, in Historicum, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor)

- Anni Hella (University of Turku): ‘Battle over Manuscripts: Authority of Texts in the Council of Ferrara-Florence’
- Teemu Immonen (University of Turku): ‘Managing the Crises: Roman Parish Churches and the Western Schism’

### **Christmas Party, 13 December, 2019**

TUCEMEMS’ Christmas Party was held on Friday 13 December, at 14.15 in the Signum building on University Hill. The event began with Mikko Kauko’s presentation, ‘Comparison of Mechtild’s Revelations in Different Languages. Part II: Variants’ Philological Treasure House’ (Room: Signum SS123). Following Dr Kauko’s talk, Christmas treats were served in the break room downstairs.

#### *Abstract for Mikko Kauko’s presentation:*

Saint Mechtild of Hackeborn was an influential representative of medieval German mysticism in the monastery of Helftra in the late 13<sup>th</sup> century. Her revelations have been preserved in Latin as well as in many ancient vernacular languages as translations. The presentation concentrated in particular on the 1469 Swedish translation of the revelations. The main focus was on comparing it to the Latin versions and to a few early German translations. Kauko argued that it is more fruitful to read the Swedish version not on its own, but together with the other versions at the same time. The presentation considered changes in additions, deletions, and the order of presentation between the different versions, as well as considering some of the possible reasons for such changes. Through these various modifications, translators brought their own perspective, perhaps differing from that of the original author. Another possible reason accounting for the changes was because different versions were adapted according to new audiences and contexts of use. This presentation presented research from a larger project of Kauko’s in which he is examining all the different versions of Mechtild’s revelations, with an especial focus on Jöns Budden’s Swedish translation from 1469. Kauko has also produced an annotated Finnish translation of the revelations. His presentation was philological in nature, but included aspects from linguistics, translation studies, and cultural history. This talk was a continuation of Kauko’s presentation of the previous year, but it was nevertheless easy to follow, even without having heard the first part.

## **16 December, TUCEMEMS meets Trivium in Tampere (Museum visit, Seminar + Evening Get Together)**

TUCEMEMS travelled to Tampere to meet with colleagues of Trivium. The day witnessed a full programme, comprising a museum visit and a seminar with seven presentations. The day ended with a delightful buffet dinner offered by Trivium. TUCEMEMS thanks the organisers warmly!

### *Programme:*

11.15: Visit to Ostia Exhibition in Vapriikki

12.30–14.00: Lunch (Paid for by Trivium)

14.00–16.30: Session 1:

- Julia Schön: ‘The Making of Saint Leopold’
- Anna-Stina Hägglund: ‘The Financial Organisation of Birgittine Monasteries in the Fifteenth Century: Theory and Practice’
- Saku Pihko: ‘The Construction of Information in Medieval Inquisition Records’
- Thomas C. Devaney: ‘Seeing the Virgin: Emotions and Visual Perception on Pilgrimage’

16.30–17.00: Coffee

17.00–18.30: Session 2:

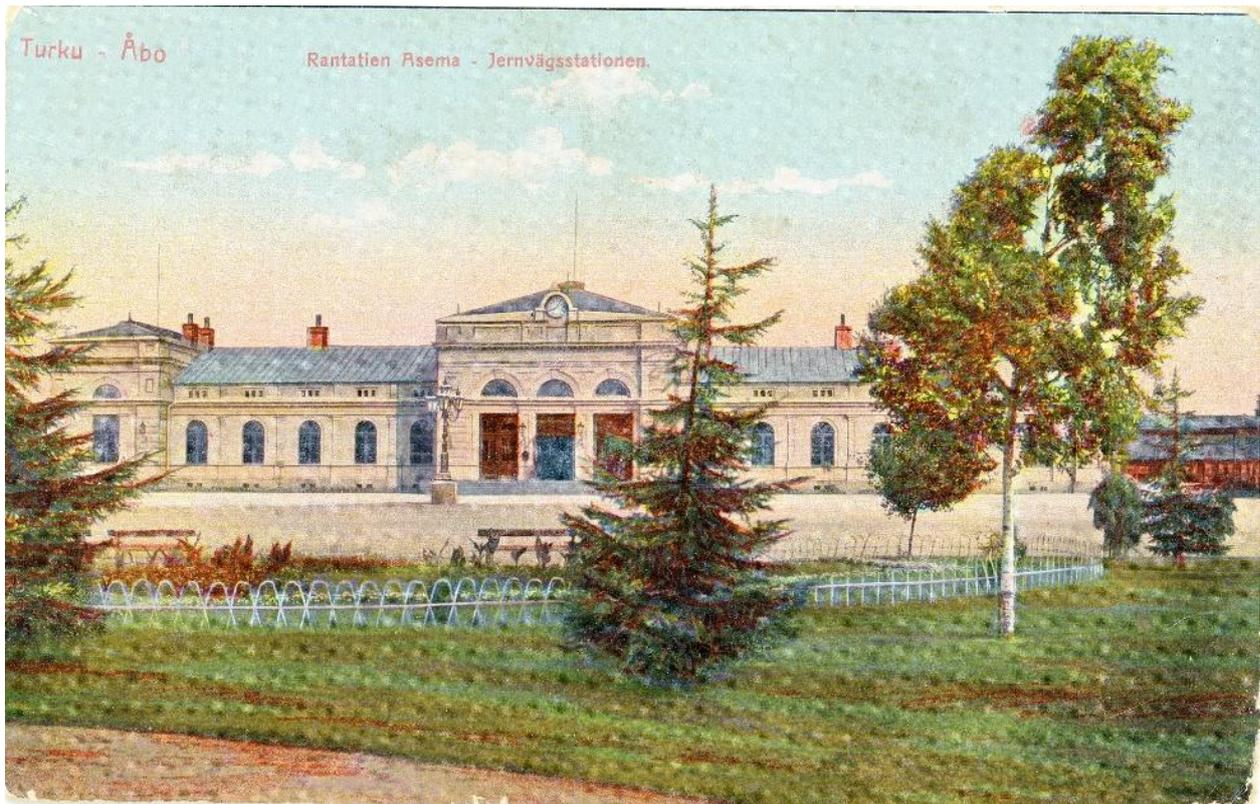
- Ulla Ijäs: ‘Merchants as Readers and Distributors of Knowledge in the Late Eighteenth-Century Northern Baltic’
- Katariina Lehto: ‘Early Eighteenth-Century Natural Philosophy in Medicine: The Medicinal Substances of Peter Elfving (1677–1726), Professor of Medicine at the Royal Academy of Turku’
- Marko Lamberg: ‘Finding and Interpreting Medieval and Early Modern Nightmares & Finding and Interpreting Medieval and Early Modern Location Descriptions’

18.30–late: Evening get together

## Guest Lectures

Monday 28 January, 2019, Aikala, 14.00–16.00: Assistant Professor Emir O. Filipović (Medieval History at the University of Sarajevo): ‘Frontiers in the History of a Typical Frontier Region: Bosnia between East and West’

Friday 7 June, 2019, Aikala, 14.00–16.00: Oleksandr Okhrimenko (Medieval Studies at the Department of Ancient and Medieval History, Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, Ukraine): ‘Daily Life in the Cities of England, the 11<sup>th</sup>–13<sup>th</sup> Centuries: The Main Thesis and Problems on Medieval Sources Studies’



## TUCEMEMS Activities 2020

### Monthly Talks

30 January: Maija Ojala-Fulwood, 'Early Modern History from the Perspective of Mobility'

This presentation examined what the history of the Baltic area during the Middle Ages and the beginning of the Early Modern era looks like when it is examined from the perspective of mobility. It also discussed the methods and sources that are available when trying to find new information on individuals' movements, and on their motives for being mobile. A goldsmith journeyman called Merten Dutschendorp, for instance, travelled from Tallinn to Stockholm in 1475 with a reference-letter signed by the aldermen of his craft. Merten's goal was to work in the town as a goldsmith and stay there permanently. He was one of the many journeymen who moved around in the Baltic area looking for work. The presentation also gave a short overview of the immigration policies in the Swedish empire, and introduced Ojala-Fulwood's new research project on the control of mobility in the early modern North.

27 February: Thomas Devaney, “‘A Noise that Seems As If It Will Shake the World Apart’”: Auditory Perception and Emotional Experience in Early Modern Spain’

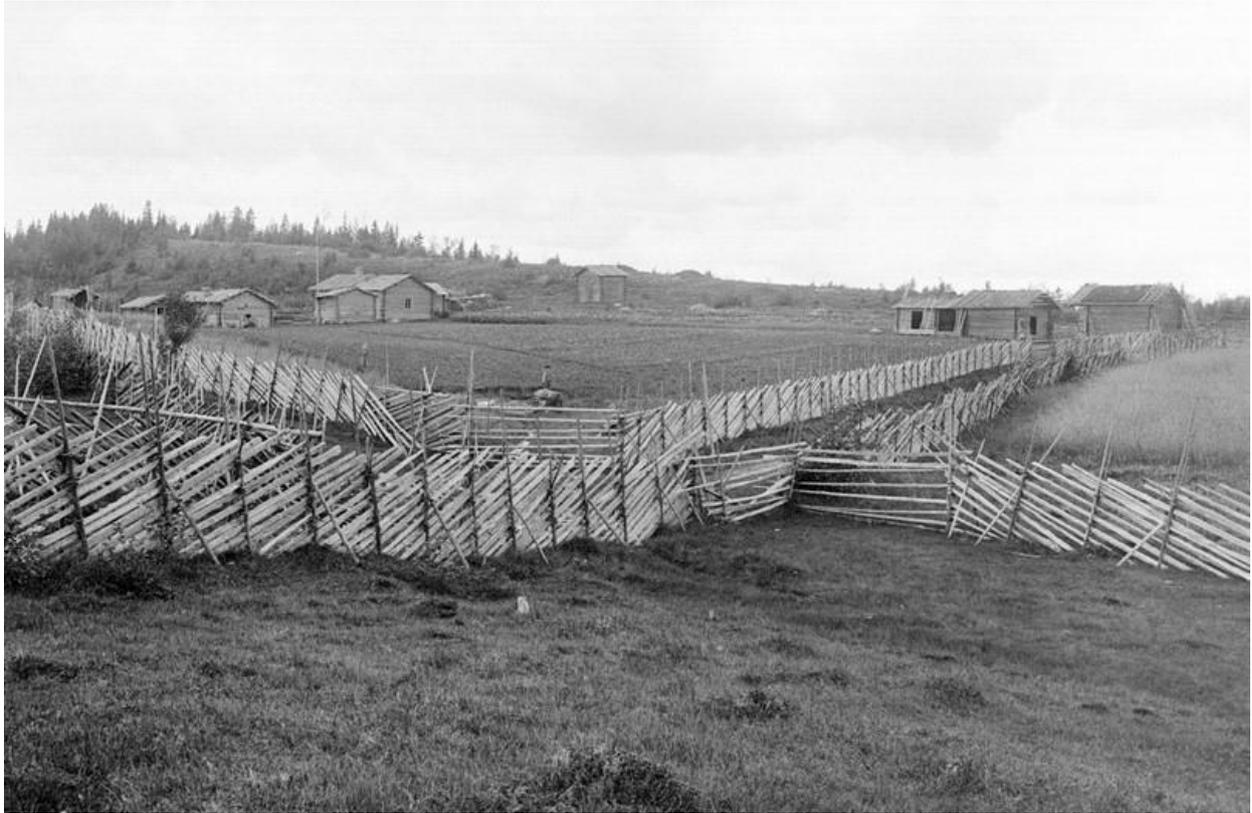
26 October: Reima Välimäki and Kirsi Salonen: ‘SCISMA Project: What Can Social Network Analysis Tell Us about the Staff and the Clients of the Papal Curia during the Late 14<sup>th</sup> and Early 15<sup>th</sup> Century?’

The Great Schism (1378–1417), and the resulting division of Christendom into the supporters of the Roman pope or those of the French pope, has traditionally been regarded as one of the biggest crises in the Catholic Church. Funded by the Academy of Finland, the SCISMA project researches how this crisis shaped and was reflected in the administration of the Roman Papal Curia. The Papal Curia, which stayed in Rome, had to shed its skin again, as the majority of the competent civil servants in the curia left Rome and returned to France with the antipope Clement VII. SCISMA examines this crisis from a new perspective: the administrative crisis in the curia of Rome also offered many opportunities. The administrative organisation and its methods had to be rebuilt, and therefore the door was opened for the recruitment of competent people to the curia.

The presentation examined the staff and the networks of the curia of Rome. On what kind of networks did the leading figures of the curia base their recruitment? Who were the key people in the curia? The presentation shows how social network analysis can be applied to the research and visualisation of papal source materials and to the administrative machinery of the church.

9 November: Kirsi Laine, ‘Mundane and Unique Factors Meet in the Decision-Making of Farmers’

The Great Partition was the biggest reform of patterns of land distribution in Finnish history, where farmers and other shareholders made unique decisions for themselves and for the next generation of land users. As the foundation for their decision-making, farmers had the one thing they knew best: the mundane day-to-day work of maintaining a stable income through farming. Based on her doctoral thesis, ‘Agriculture, the Great Partition and the Decision-Making of the Farmers in Southwestern Finland 1750–1850’, Laine examined what sort of image we can form of the southwestern farmers in Finland as decision-makers and planners for their future based on documents that discuss the Great Partition.



Geological Survey of Finland in 1905. Photo by W. W. Wilkman.

30 November: Taina Saarenpää, ‘The Continuum of Publishing Sources’

In this presentation, Saarenpää examined how medieval sources were published in Finland from the late 18<sup>th</sup> century up to the digital age. The focal point was on the *Black Book* of Turku Cathedral and the different stages of its publishing history. How were such sources published, how were such activities justified, and what was the role of researchers in the publishing process? This talk placed Finnish publication work within a broader European context, and also highlighted the significance of archives in the processes of collecting research material.

## Studia Generalia Lectures

[The Age of Enlightenment: An 18<sup>th</sup>-Century Phenomenon](#)

What was ‘the Enlightenment’, and how did it affect everyday life, people’s worldviews, and the institutions which continue to structure our lives to this day? During this spring’s Studia Generalia,

18<sup>th</sup>-century habits of thought are approached from a broad perspective, where people and operators occupy centre stage when examining conceptual and cultural changes.

This lecture series is related to the research project run by Professor Charlotta Wolff called ‘The Creators of the Enlightenment. The Change in the Way of Thinking in 18<sup>th</sup>-Century Northern Europe’ (The Academy of Finland, 2017–2021).

Location: Agora XX (Yliopistonmäki, Vesilinnankatu 3), Mondays, 17.00–19.00.

3 February: Charlotta Wolff (UTU, Finnish history), ‘The Makers of the Enlightenment: The Significance of Information and the Channels of Information in 18<sup>th</sup>-Century Society’

2 March: Leena Salmi (UTU, Language and Translation Studies) and Hannu Salmi (HY, Educational Science), ‘Madame de Genlis: The Pedagogue of the Enlightenment and Romanticism’

30 March: Mia Korpiola (UTU, Law), ‘The Significance of the Enlightenment on the Development of Law in Finland and Sweden’ – CANCELLED: Lecture rescheduled

27 April: Jukka Sarjala (UTU, Cultural History), H.G. Porthan and 18<sup>th</sup>-Century Theories on Emotion’ – CANCELLED: Lecture rescheduled

25 May: Ulla Ijäs (UTU, Finnish History), ‘The Age of Enlightenment Present in the Libraries of Shopkeepers in Viipuri between the End of the 18<sup>th</sup> Century and the Beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century’ – CANCELLED: Lecture rescheduled

This lecture series had to be postponed following the two first lectures due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The lectures will be rescheduled when as soon as circumstances allow.



## Events

### **Religious Communities in Rome in the Great Western Schism, 16–17 November 2020**

The project SCISMA together with [École française de Rome](#) and [the Finnish Institute in Rome](#) organised an online workshop discussing the ways in which religious communities in Rome reacted to the peculiar circumstances created by the Schism. In many cases, Roman religious communities were forced to rethink their loyalties in a precarious situation between two, and ultimately three, papal obediences. They were faced with fluctuating economic conditions, frequent military threats to the city, and, potentially, the questioning of their authority in religious matters. However, the Schism also created opportunities and intimated that a brighter future might lie ahead for those who endured the present tribulations. It is the intention of this conference to bring together academics working on different religious communities in Rome in order to foster dialogue and exchange so as to help better understand the effects of the Schism in the city.

*Programme:*

16 November

14.00: Welcome, Kirsi Salonen (University of Turku)

Presentation of conference participants

15.00: Keynote: Joëlle Rollo-Koster (The University of Rhode Island), 'A Tale of Two Cities: Rome and Avignon during the Schism'

Chair: Kirsi Salonen

16.15: Session 1 (Chair: Daniel Bornstein)

- James A. Palmer, 'Ideal Order and Lived Community: Challenges Facing Rome's Urban Clergy during the Great Western Schism'
- Reima Välimäki, 'Networks of Clergy in Boniface IX's Curia'

17.30: Session 2 (Chair: Armand Jamme)

- Ignacio García Lascurain Bernstorff, 'Poverty, Charity, Neapolitan Binds, and a Roman Clan: The Knights Hospitaller in Rome during the Great Western Schism, 1378–1409'
- Teemu Immonen, 'The Cistercian Community of Tre Fontane in the Schism'

18.45 Free discussion platform

17 November

14.00: Keynote: Bénédicte Sère (Université Paris Nanterre), 'Dominicans and the Great Western Schism: An Observatory of Long-term Ecclesiological Issues at Stake'

Chair: Pierre Savy

15.15: Session 3 (Chair: Marika Räsänen)

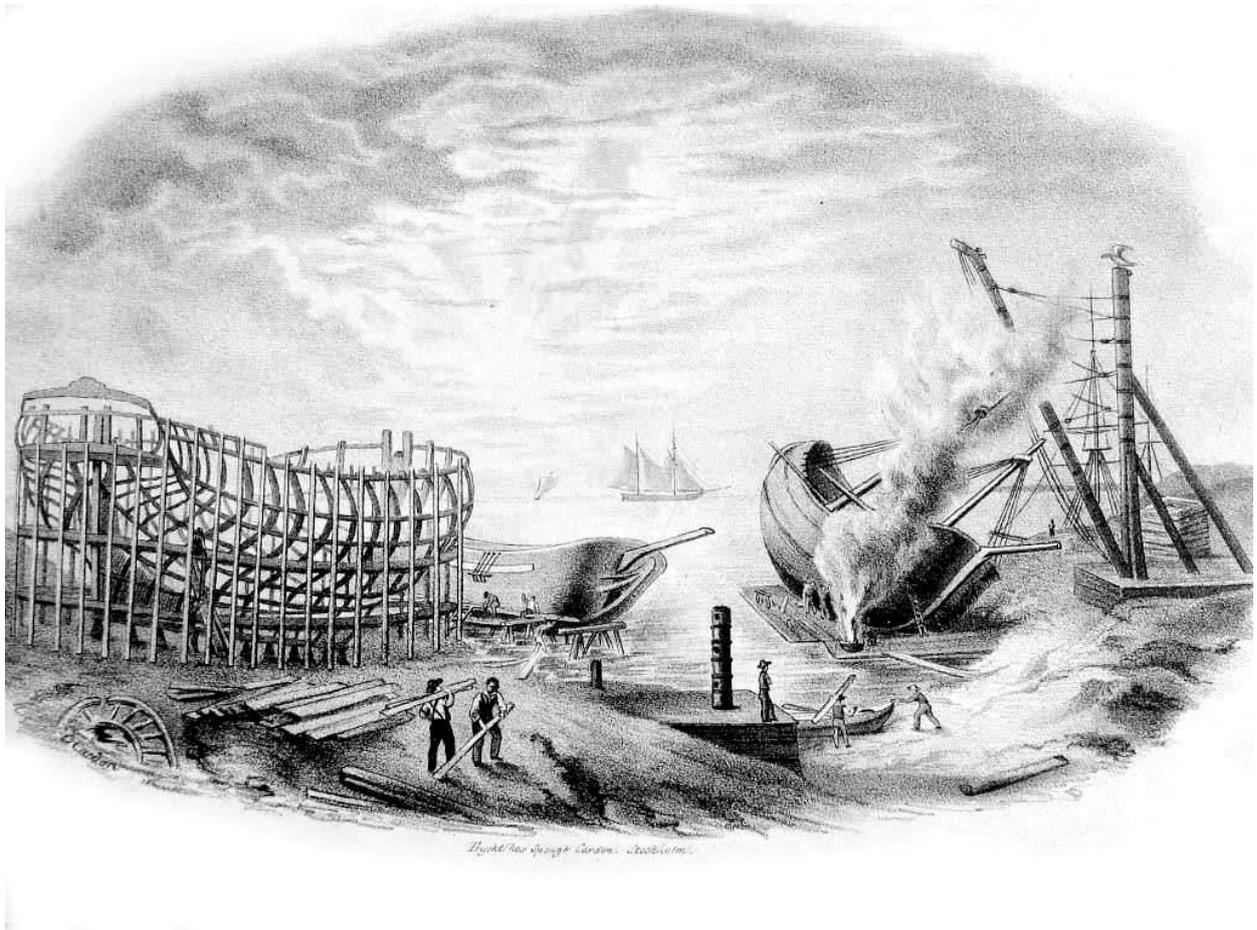
- Andreas Rehberg, 'Strategie per far fronte alle crisi dell'ospedale e della casa madre di S. Spirito in Sassia durante il Grande scisma occidentale'
- Emanuele Carletti, 'Una nuova comunità religiosa a Roma durante il Grande Scisma d'Occidente: i frati Servi di Maria a San Marcello (1369–1417)'

16.30: Session 4 (Chair: Kirsi Salonen)

- Anna Esposito, 'La comunità ebraica di Roma negli anni dello Scisma (1378–1417)'

- Marika Räsänen, ‘Dominicans and the Dominican Saints of the Roman Obedience’

17.30: Conclusion



## Doctoral disputations by TUCEMEMS members

Tanja Ratilainen – Archaeology

26 June, 2020

### **Early Brick Use and Brick Building in Mainland Finland: Contribution of Koroinen, Early Phases of Turku Project and Holy Cross Church of Hattula**

This dissertation focuses on the earliest traces of brick use on the mainland of medieval Finland, looking at when and where brick use and brick building started, the form in which it first appeared, and how it seems to have developed. In addition, this dissertation discusses the actors behind the building projects as well as the meanings of brick. This study goes through three different sites, along with their brick materials and structures: the Koroinen site, where the bishop’s see was

located in the 13<sup>th</sup> century; the Early Phases of Turku excavation site around Turku Cathedral; and a standing brick building in the Häme region, the Holy Cross Church of Hattula. All of these sites, excavated or studied through archaeology and building archaeology, are unique and are the first in medieval Finland in their own way. Koroinen was the first ecclesiastical centre and Turku the oldest town. Holy Cross Church is the only – and thus the first – parish church built in brick. This material will be discussed in light of new scientific dating and pXRF results and in the context of other sites with brick structures and buildings, all placed within a larger perspective of the Baltic Sea Region. The dating methods applied are dendrochronology, optically stimulated luminescence, radiocarbon dating and wiggle matching. The materials that have been dated include brick, wood, burnt bone and mortar.

Brick use started on the mainland of medieval Finland in the second half of the 13<sup>th</sup> century at Koroinen. Bricks were applied in various ways in several different structures, but the first brick buildings were erected only in the second half of the 14<sup>th</sup> century. Roof tiles and ordinary wall bricks and moulded bricks were imported, but all of them were also locally produced. The bishop was the first to employ brick, likely because he wanted to promote Koroinen as an ecclesiastical centre. Right after founding Turku, brick was applied in the hearths and floors of wooden buildings, which suggests that it was also available to other actors in the town. On the other hand, bricks, including the special raw bricks dealt with in this study, were seldom used except for a few modest structures, but it nevertheless seems likely that a large-scale building project was going on in the town in the early 14<sup>th</sup> century. In Häme, brick use also probably started in the 14<sup>th</sup> century. The main building material of Häme Castle may already have been brick by the end of the 14<sup>th</sup> century or early in the 15<sup>th</sup> century. The Crown seems to have launched brick use in Häme since the Holy Cross Church of Hattula was built only in the second half of the 15<sup>th</sup> century, at the earliest. In the Åland Islands, brick may have been introduced only in the early 14<sup>th</sup> century. Compared to the Baltic Sea region, brick building was launched modestly in medieval Finland, but as seen in the overview of the known traces and remains, it is richer and more varied and it was used earlier than recently believed.

Aino Liira – English

22 May, 2020

### **Paratextuality in Manuscript and Print: Verbal and Visual Presentation of the Middle English Polychronicon**

This study investigates the verbal and visual presentation of text across manuscript and print media through the concept of paratext. The term collectively refers to the various textual and visual elements which surround the main text in a book and guide its use and reception. The aim of the study is to critically evaluate the paratextual framework in the context of handwritten and printed English texts from the late medieval and early modern periods, and to further develop the theoretical and methodological applications of the paratextual framework to this material. In addition to the theory of paratext, this dissertation contributes to the wider study of the materiality of text and our understanding of late medieval and early modern authorship.

The approach taken in this study is philological and informed by textual scholarship; palaeographical and codicological methods are also used in the analyses. The material for the study comprises fifteen manuscript copies and three early printed editions of John Trevisa's Middle English translation (1387) of Ranulph Higden's *Polychronicon*. By comparing the paratextual matter across the different material manifestations of the work, the study explores how authors and book producers conceptualised paratextuality and attempted to guide their readers. The analyses focus on four major paratextual devices: prefatory and end matter, indices, marginal annotation, and elements of page layout, which includes text-organising devices as well as decoration and illustration.

The study shows that premodern book producers had an understanding of paratextuality as a phenomenon related to but separate from textuality. Various paratextual elements demonstrate how scribes, printers and other producers of the new copies balanced between producing the abstract text of the work accurately and improving the usability or desirability of the physical copy. Possibly for this reason, the indices were found to be particularly prone to changes. The producers' interpretations of the structure of the text, and the relationships between text and paratext, are apparent in the visual and textual presentation.

Harri Uusitalo – Finnish and Finno-Ugric Languages

14 June, 2019

**Ancestry, Author and Language: A Philological Study of the Finnish Legal Translation in the Codex Aitolahti**

This dissertation examines the Finnish legal translation in the Codex Aitolahti. The codex originated in the 17<sup>th</sup> century and it includes a Finnish translation of King Christopher's Land Law along with various Swedish texts. The study comprises four parts: material and visual features, textual comparison to other Finnish versions of the same text, authorship attribution, and linguistic comparisons to 17<sup>th</sup>-century biblical Finnish.

The aim of the study is to examine questions of the origin and authorship of the codex, as well as to gain a better understanding of the linguistic differences between old legal and biblical Finnish. All four parts of the study share a similar method: a very specific and detailed textual examination. Analysis of the Codex Aitolahti has also been placed in a comparative framework by examining it in relation to other material. The research findings lead to more precise information about the dating of the Codex Aitolahti, and elucidate the copying traditions of the manuscript in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Moreover, results show that the copying tradition of the law book was rather more diverse than previously thought. In terms of authorship, Uusitalo shows that Hartvig Speitz was not the author, as has been previously suggested. The dissertation also contributes to the overall picture that legal Finnish was at the time relatively unestablished in comparison to biblical Finnish.

Lauri Viinikkala – Finnish History

26 January, 2019

**Digital Lies or Historical Knowledge? The Relationship Between Physical Reality, Narration and Historical Knowledge in Representations of the Past Based on Mixed Reality Technology**

The subject of this dissertation is the use of mixed reality (MR) technology in representing and creating historical knowledge. The study examines the relationship between physical reality, narration and historical knowledge in representations of the past based on MR technology. These representations are studied as narratives, and their relationships to the physical remains of the past and to existing historical knowledge are analysed through the lens of the concept of authenticity. The thesis primarily engages with epistemology and the philosophy of historiography, but its

multidisciplinary nature also has implications for the fields of museology, narratology and information technology.

The thesis comprises introductory and summary chapters, six substantive articles, and an MR application. The articles deal with the technical background of MR applications, the ways in which MR creates historical narratives, the relationship of technology to tangible and intangible cultural heritage and to concepts of authenticity, and the use of MR as means to produce spatial and multisensory experiences. The MR application in turn brings in a practical example illustrating and discussing the themes of the thesis.

The source material of the study consists of representations of the past based on MR and created as part of the Futuristic History and MIRACLE projects at the University of Turku (along with the observations made during the creation processes).

The study shows that representations of the past that are based on MR and comprise a combination of physical reality supplemented with digital additions and lingual narration can convey both lingual and non-lingual historical knowledge. The results further reveal that the concept of authenticity is more useful in evaluating historical knowledge within MR representations if it is divided into subcategories of historical authenticity and authenticity of correspondence. The former indicates the age of the remains of the past, whereas the latter stands for the degree of correspondence between the representations and existing historical knowledge about the past. Finally, the study suggests that in order to be subject to academic rigour and scrutiny, representations of the past should include so-called paradata about the sources and creation processes of the narratives that they convey.

Taina Saarenpää – Finnish History

7 December, 2019

### **The Black Book of Abo Cathedral and the Continuum of Source Publications in Finland from the Early Modern to the Digital Era**

This dissertation examines the publication of medieval sources in Finland from the early modern period up to the digital era. It looks specifically at the various publications of the *Black Book* of Abo Cathedral within a wider European context. The contexts of archival science and history provide the basis for understanding the motives and institutional structures that influenced the publication of source material.

The study examines how and why sources were published, and what role the archive and scholars played in the publication process. It also considers how printed editions of sources interacted with a culture of public history in Finland. The phases of the publication of the *Black Book* are compared to the chronological classificatory schema for source publications in Europe, as outlined by Daniela Saxer and Raoul C. van Caenegem.

The source material of the study comprises the various editions of the *Black Book*, as well as the archives and scientific works of the individuals, institutions and projects involved in its publication. Publication of historical sources represents aspects of the culture of public history. Such publications allow people to build connections between the past, the present and the future. The analysis pursued in the dissertation is based on principles of source pluralism.

The study shows that the publication of sources in Finland follows international developments, but does not completely overlap with them. The *Black Book* has been a model for Finnish source publishing. Its editors were influenced by international publications and followed the newest publishing techniques. Yet the editions of the *Black Book* speak to the paradox of a wider culture of public history in Finland: on the one hand, editions represent an achievable output to enhance such a culture; but on the other hand, because the editions also serve as the basis of history writing, as memorials, as elements of identity building, and as an important connection to the west, the more abstract goals that they represent are, in a sense, unachievable.

In addition, the study shows how the role of the archive as an institution in publishing sources has changed over time, moving from a position of seeming neutrality to one of recognised expertise. The openness of the archive and the improvement of research environments has been the most important goal in all phases of source publishing. Even in the digital environment, the publishing of sources is based on the earlier selections of archives and by editors. Seeing the continuum of source publications allows us to critically evaluate the impact of editing and of the archive in the formation and use of research materials.

Kirsi Laine – Finnish History

8 May, 2020

### **Agriculture, Enclosure and the Decision-Making of Peasants in South-West Finland**

This dissertation examines agriculture and peasant decision-making in South-West Finland in processes of land re-allocation known as enclosure (*storskifte*) during the late 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup>

centuries. It focuses primarily on enclosure's effects upon farming. The key to understanding these effects is to look at the decision-making of peasants when acting as heads of households and as stakeholders in any given enclosure. Such decisions fundamentally shaped the forms of cooperation practiced by the village community following enclosure, as well as how enclosure effected changes in farming and land use.

The research is based on an extensive use of land survey maps and documents. It combines a statistical analysis of enclosure with a close reading of the documents, meaning that the overall picture formed on the basis of statistical analysis finds its explanation through the analysis of qualitative data and, vice versa, the phenomena suggested from qualitative analysis can be situated more broadly in the patterns revealed by the statistical data.

This dissertation shows that peasants were active decision-makers when it came to their own households, and that they fully understood enclosure practices and how to influence them. The peasants valued the economic advantages offered by the community, but they also aimed to achieve such advantages in a way that entailed as little as possible restriction of their individual agency on the part of the community. Individual peasants' economic status naturally influenced their decisions. Enclosure changed the way land was used, but it did not facilitate other changes in farming techniques, crops or the relationship between crop and animal husbandry. The greater freedom in land use enabled the increase in agricultural output for decades to come, leading ultimately to an expansion in the cultivated area, yet this land remained subject to existing methods and customs of farming.

## Dissertation defence through the screen – Aino Liira and her work on paratextuality in English manuscripts

### Capture:

Aino Liira is a researcher of the English language at the University of Turku and has been a member of TUCEMEMS for quite some time. Her areas of expertise include material philology, paratextuality, Middle English, late medieval manuscripts, and early printed books.



Photo by Aki Luotonen.

Aino Liira defended her doctoral thesis ‘Paratextuality in Manuscript and Print: Verbal and Visual Presentation of the Middle English Polychronicon’ at the University of Turku on May 22, 2020. Due to the ongoing pandemic, the dissertation defence was held remotely. Liira’s official Opponent was Professor Wendy Scase from the University of Birmingham. The presiding official for the dissertation defence was Professor Matti Peikola from the University of Turku. In her doctoral thesis, Liira examines the framework of paratext through handwritten and printed English texts from the late medieval and early modern periods.

### *What is it about medieval and early modern research that fascinates you the most?*

Even before finishing her doctoral dissertation, Liira has been an active member of TUCEMEMS, indicating that she has had an interest in medieval and early modern research for quite some time. According to Liira, she was drawn to calligraphy from a young age, and hoped to study the subject further in the future. Today, she enjoys learning about books and book production as well as identifying the cultural influences in texts. She is most fascinated by encountering new phenomena when studying old texts and manuscripts.

***What was it like doing your doctoral dissertation during the COVID-19 pandemic?***

It is safe to say that the year 2020 has brought new challenges to everyday life. According to Liira, defending her dissertation remotely due to the COVID-19 pandemic was a primarily positive experience, offering her a viable alternative to the normal, in-person defence. Since attending her defence did not require traveling, the range of possible audience members was considerably expanded, since they could be based, in theory, anywhere. There were nevertheless some bumps on the road. Liira was among the first doctoral candidates to remotely defend her dissertation, so there were some teething problems: for instance, a hacker interrupted her defence, making for an unpleasant disruption. Fortunately, this was resolved quickly, and the defence continued without further issue.

Despite the remote and digital nature of the defence, Liira is keen to stress that the academic, formal feel of the event was maintained even in its digital form. The biggest change, however, came in the after-parties following the defence: any celebrations would necessarily have to take place at home, since all post-doctoral parties had been cancelled. That said, Liira still hopes to celebrate with the Opponent as soon as circumstances allow.

***What were your biggest challenges when you were working on your thesis?***

We wanted to know what challenges Liira faced during her research – beyond those posed by working on her doctoral thesis during the COVID-19 pandemic. ‘My goals for this thesis were very ambitious’, Liira states. In terms of difficulties, she mentions specifically how the research framework itself presented challenges since it operated on multiple, different levels, all of which had to be acknowledged. Her research thus combined several different theories and frameworks, which were used to further understand the essence of paratext and its usage. The breadth of the research material also posed a challenge. During the analysis, Liira had to choose which sections of her thesis she should prioritise in order to keep her work balanced. The scale of the research material also meant that these materials were archived all over the world. Because of this, Liira was unable to view some of the materials in person; fortunately, in our digital age she could still access and analyse the material digitally.

***How has the understanding of paratextuality changed over time?***

According to Liira, scholarly understanding of paratextuality has expanded in all directions. Research in the field of paratext is highly multidisciplinary, and researchers often use knowledge and methods from a range of disciplines in order to develop a perspective on paratextuality that is as holistic as possible. The basis of paratextual theory comes from literary studies, but it has also been discussed in other fields, such as media studies, philological studies, and book history. One of the biggest challenges within the original theory of paratext, according to Liira, is its predominant focus on questions of authorship. To take an example: the content of 19<sup>th</sup>-century literary materials is often very similar and limited in terms of paratextuality, and these texts usually have a single printed form, and were written by a single author. Yet when the scope of paratextuality is broadened to other types of (literary) works, it becomes much more challenging to determine how paratextuality works if the text itself survives in multiple unpublished copies or is not written by a single author.

***How did you end up doing your doctoral thesis about paratextuality and manuscripts?***

Liira has been studying paratexts, paratextuality and early English texts since before her doctoral dissertation. What initially drew her to such topics was an advanced university course she took called ‘Pragmatics on the Page’, during which she and the other students explored ways to combine material philology with linguistic research methods. This is when Liira became more familiar with the notion of paratext and paratextual theory; but manuscript research continued to interest her the most at that point.

***Are you going to do more research on paratextuality, or do you have other plans for the future?***

In addition to continuing with her focus on paratextuality, Liira also plans on taking her research in new directions. One of her interests will remain centred on viewing texts as a linguistic phenomenon based on the physical characteristics of any given work. Yet for future research, Liira wants to devote more attention to the blank spaces in books, an oft-neglected topic in the field of textual studies. Here, the focus would land on the absences in pages, rather than on their textual or visual content. Along with her research team, Liira is also planning a future project to look at the different graphical elements in texts that stand at the crossroads of text and illustration

## Honorable mentions

We would like to congratulate Emerita Professor Kaisa Häkkinen – a former member of the executive board of TUCEMEMS – for having been conferred the honorary title of Academician at the end of 2020.

Kaisa Häkkinen (b. 1950) served as Acting Professor and Professor of Finnish Language and Literature at Åbo Akademi University in 1993–1999 and as Professor of Finnish Language at the University of Turku in 1999–2015. She was Dean of the Faculty of Humanities, University of Turku, in 2004–2009.



Photo by Mikko Suominen.

Häkkinen's main research interests include the history and development of the Finnish language, its phonetic and morphological structure, the history and etymology of Finnish words and the history of language research. She is known, first and foremost, for her studies into the origin and history of words. In the 2000s, she has taken a special interest in studying old literary Finnish and the Finnish language in the works of Mikael Agricola.

Häkkinen's scientific production is extremely high-quality and high-impact. She has also devoted much effort to disseminating results in her field of research to wider audiences.

Häkkinen has held numerous positions of trust. She was a member of the Academy of Finland Research Council for Culture and Society in 1998–2000; member and chair of the Finnish Research Centre for Domestic Languages in 1994–2003; and member of the Cultural Committee of the Finnish National Commission for UNESCO in 1999–2001. She is also a member of the Finnish Academy of Science and Letters.

### **Häkkinen's most notable works**

#### Monographs:

- *From Agricola to Modern Finnish: The History of Written Finnish* (1994)
- *Finnish Prehistory in the Light of Linguistics* (1996)
- *Where Do Words Come From: Finnish Etymology* (1990)
- *The Name of the Bird: A History of the Finnish Ornithological Nomenclature* (2004)
- *Etymological Dictionary of Modern Finnish* (2004)

#### Textbooks:

- *Basic Linguistics* (1994)
- *The History of Finnish 2: The History of Finnish Language Research* (2008)

Häkkinen is a founding member of the Linguistic Association of Finland and served as the association's secretary in 1977–1985. Kaisa Häkkinen has been on the board of the Finno-Ugrian Society since 1993. She was Principal of the Society for the Finnish Language in 2000–2009. Furthermore, Häkkinen has been on the board of the Porthan Society since 2004, and she was vice chair of the Mikael Agricola Society in 2007–2009.

Häkkinen has received several awards in recognition of her scholarly work, including the Award of the Association of Finnish Non-fiction Writers in 2005; the Recognition Award from the WSOY Literary Foundation in 2005; the Church Cultural Award in 2017; and the State Award for Public Information in 2005 and Life Achievement Award in 2018.

# The Making of the Annual Report

As interns for TUCEMEMS, we were assigned to gather the years 2019 and 2020 of TUCEMEMS into a nice package. Here is a little greeting from us, Mari and Elina, to the readers.

Because of the ongoing pandemic, our work on the annual report had to be done remotely through Zoom-meetings and e-mails. Our own homes have become our new and improved offices, with few luxuries that traditional offices would lack. Not everyone has their own private lunchroom, break room, and restroom all within the same space. Unfortunately, the joy of spending time on a break or eating lunch might not be as joyous as it used to be, since most of the time the only colleague present is yourself. There is not much to gossip about when you are the one and only employee at the office. This has more or less become our new norm, since almost all lectures are done remotely, and libraries and other public study areas are now closed due to restrictions.



The home office is not most the ideal place to work, because your office happens to also be your home. Dirty dishes in the sink, the pile of laundry from the week before, and all the various forms of entertainment from your television to mobile devises are there calling your name. Even the most mundane tasks have suddenly become more urgent than ever before. We are quite certain that most students' apartments are more organised and tidier than ever before, due to the constant battle between work and all the distraction at home. Distractions can also come in the form of a spouse, a roommate, or as in Mari's case... in the form of a little Golden Retriever puppy.

Working from home always poses the challenge of separating your work from home. Especially within the lives of students, the line between working and free time has become narrower as the pandemic continues to restrict our abilities to work away from home. In sum, the life of a student has become more challenging since we must apply more discipline and energy towards our work to fight against all the distractions.

Even though our working environment has changed drastically and challenged us during the past year, we were still able to get a glimpse of what working with TUCEMEMS is all about. The fascination and interest in the research of pre- and early modern subjects shine through the various lectures, seminars and workshops that are provided by the research centre. For us interns, this has given a wonderful introduction to what the activities of TUCEMEMS entails. All in all, this internship has been rewarding for both of us, as we got to challenge our skills and work for the research centre.

Let us hope that the year 2021 will be once again filled with the various activities TUCEMEMS has to offer for their members and students alike!

From us to you,

Mari and Elina



# Administration

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