

2 Second call for papers

THE MAASTRICHT CENTER for Transatlantic Studies (MCTS), consisting of 25 transatlantic universities in the Americas and Europe, invites scholars to participate in the conference on Democracy & Culture in the Transatlantic World.

THERE IS A STEADILY GROWING interest in transatlantic relations. The interdisciplinary debate on globalization has contributed to the perception of a shrinking world where the Atlantic, as a historical crossing-point for all kinds of communication, no longer seems wide and separating. The debate on globalization and the related transformations of world affairs have opened up for questions about the nature of western relations and of what constitutes the western community.

THE CONFERENCE ON DEMOCRACY and Culture in the Transatlantic World addresses several inter-locking dimensions. First, what is the nature of transatlantic relations in the past and the present? What do we mean by the western community, western values and the western project and what often are addressed as westernization? Second, what constitutes a cross-Atlantic culture and what roles do language, religion,

literature, music and art play in the cross-Atlantic relationship and its development? Third, how do we understand western democracy and the western political culture? What constitutes western democracy and is there a unified perception of the content of such values and the way they are promoted in a post-Cold War era?

THE OVERALL AIM of the conference is to bring together scholars from across the world and from across the arts, humanities and social sciences, to discuss the nature and changing traits of Democracy and Culture through the lens of the transatlantic perspective. Papers can be theoretical, methodological or empirical in their scope. They should address topics and phenomena from both European and American angles. In addition, priority in the selection process will be given to papers that in depth problematise the transatlantic dimension – e.g. comparative, cross-cultural and intercultural methodologies, analytical perspectives and pedagogic approaches. The organizers especially welcome young scholars and post-graduates. The best contributions will be published in the series of publications from MCTS on transatlantic relations.

For more information, visit the conference website:

www.vxu.se/conference/mcts2004

Electronic formats are accepted in Microsoft Word or plain text format.
Please send a 300–400 word abstract by April 15, 2004 to:

Daniel Silander
School of Social Sciences
Växjö University
351 95 Växjö, SWEDEN
E-mail: Daniel.Silander@svi.vxu.se

Växjö University