The purpose of this conference is to explore Armenian identity from the remote past to the present. This conference will touch upon issues that have faced the Armenians, and how they have affected Armenian identity through the ages - how a small kingdom and people have been able to keep their cultural independence and survive. Armenian identity has gone through many changes, and our discussions will touch upon not only elements of continuity, but also rupture.

The papers from the conference will be edited by Touraj Daryaeae and published by Mazda Publishers, who produces works about the Armenian and Iranian world. The scheduled publication is in 2016.

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UCI School of Humanities

Armenian Identity Through the Ages

AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN ARMENIAN STUDIES SUPPORTED BY THE VAHE & ARMINH MEKHROUNI LECTURE SERIES AND THE SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES

Monday, April 6 - Tuesday, April 7, 2015
Day 1: 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM | Day 2: 10:00 AM -3:00 PM

Photo: Sako Tchilingirian
CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Monday, April 6, 2015

OPENING REMARKS - Touraj Daryaee, Howard C. Baskerville Professor in the History of Iran & the Persianate World

DEAN’S WELCOME - Georges Van Den Abbeele, Dean, UCI School of Humanities

PANEL I: ANCIENT ARMENIA
10:15 AM - 12:15 PM
Chair: Roman Smbatyan
Touraj Daryaee, UCI
“Urartu and Armina: Two Narratives through the Behistun Inscription”

Giusto Traina, Sorbonne
“Ethnicity and Dynasticity: Identity in Pre-Christian Armenia”

Ani Honcharian, UCLA
“And Moses became hayakhos: Literacy and Orality in Late Antique Armenia”

Gregory Areshian, UCLA
“Transformations of Armenian Identity from Late Antiquity to the Modern Age: A Contextualized Analysis”

LUNCH BREAK
12:15 PM -1:30 PM

PANEL II: MEDIEVAL ARMENIA
1:30 PM - 3:00 PM
Chair: Levon Petrosyan
Tamar Boyadjian, Michigan State
“Idem et ofer: Intersecting Representations of Armenians in Medieval Literature”

Khodadad Rezakhani, Free University Berlin
“From Shamiran to Arran: Caspian and Armenian Identities in the Early Islamic Period”

Robert Hewsen
TBA

COFFEE BREAK
3:00 PM -3:30 PM

KEYNOTE ADDRESS
3:30 PM - 4:30 PM
Sebouh Asalian, UCLA
“A Life Lived Across Continents: A Global Microhistory of Marcara Avachintz, the First Director of Colbert’s Compagnie des Indes Orientales, 1666-1688”

Tuesday, April 7, 2015

PANEL III: EARLY MODERN ARMENIA
10:00 AM -11:30 AM
Chair: Touraj Daryaee

Peter Cowe, UCLA
“Armenia in the 16th Century: Dark Age or Era of Transition?”

Edmund Herzig, Oxford University
“Go-betweens or In-Betweens?: Questions of Trade and Identity among Early Modern Armenian Merchants”

Roman Smbatyan, UCI
“Some remarks on the identity of Meliks of Artsakh (Karabagh) in 17-18 centuries AD”

LUNCH BREAK
11:30 AM -12:30 PM

PANEL IV: MODERN ARMENIA
12:30 PM-2:40 PM
Chair: Sebouh Asalian

Houri Berberian, CSULB
“Fin de Siècle Time-Space Compression, Armenian Identity, and Revolutionary Caucasus”

Shushan Karapetian, UCLA
“The Evolving Role of Language in the Construction of Armenian Identity in the Diaspora”

Myrna Douzjian, UCLA & CSU Fresno
“Transnational Identities in Atom Egoyan’s Ararat”

Rubina Peroomian, UCLA
“Effects of the Genocide, second generation voices”

CONCLUDING REMARKS