



PROGRAM

Celebration of 90 Years of American-Finnish Diplomatic Relations
May 6 – 7, 2009

University of Helsinki, Main Building
Unioninkatu 34 (Great Festive Hall and Runeberg Hall) Entrance: Aleksanterinkatu 5, cloakroom.

EXHIBITIONS: Bank of Finland: "The Country that Paid Its Debt"; The Fulbright Center; Migration Institute: "Titanic"; Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland; SAYL, the League of Finnish-American Societies; U.S. Embassy, Public Affairs Office and the American Resource Center; YFU, Youth for Understanding Exchange Organization. (Exhibitions open throughout the symposium in the University Main Building, Entrance Hall, Unioninkatu 34.)

WEDNESDAY, May 6, 2009

(9.00 Great Festive Hall Opens)

09.30-12.00 "A Very Good Beginning — 90 Years of American-Finnish Diplomatic Relations" (Great Festive Hall)

Moderator: Markku Henriksson (University of Helsinki)

09.30 Pop and Jazz Conservatory Ensemble

10.00 Welcome address: Chancellor Ilkka Niiniluoto (University of Helsinki)

10.15 Greetings: Michael Butler, Chargé d'Affaires, U.S. Embassy in Helsinki

10.30 Keynote by President Tarja Halonen

11.00 Ambassador Derek Shearer: "The Admirable Nation: Finland and the U.S. after the Cold War."

11.30 State Secretary Pertti Torstila (MFA): "Finland-USA 90 Years of Diplomatic Relations - An Overview"

12.00-13.00 LUNCH BREAK

13.00-14.30 PANEL DISCUSSION: AMERICAN AND FINNISH COOPERATION IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS (Runeberg Hall)

Chair: Professor Raimo Väyrynen (Director of UPI, The Finnish Institute of International Affairs)

- Chargé d'Affaires Michael Butler (U.S. Embassy)

- MP Pekka Haavisto (Finnish Special Envoy for Horn of Africa and Sudan)

- Director Risto E.J. Penttilä (Finnish Business and Policy Forum, EVA)

- MP Pertti Salolainen (Chair of Foreign Relations Committee in Parliament)

14.30-15.00 COFFEE

15.00-15.15 History of the Exhibition 'The Country that Paid Its Debt' by Vappu Ikonen, Chief Archivist, Bank of Finland (Entrance Hall, the Exhibition area)

15.15-15.40 THE LFAS ESSAY CONTEST WINNER AWARDS (Runeberg Hall)

Chair: Nicole Conn (U.S. Embassy, Public Affairs)

- Awards by Martin Saarikangas (Chairman of SAYL, The League of Finnish-American Societies)

15.45-17.15 HISTORY SESSION: FINNISH-U.S. RELATIONS (Runeberg Hall)

Chair: Markku Henriksson (Univ. of Helsinki)

- Professor Emeritus Michael Berry (Turku School of Economics): "Finland as a Symbol of American Hopes and Fears."
- Jussi Hanhimäki (Professor, Univ. of Tampere): "Exceptional, Never Central: The Evolution of Finnish-American Relations."
- Katri Sieberg (Erkko Professor, Univ. of Tampere): "American Dreams, American Reality, or the Finnish Economic System"

17.30 RECEPTION Commemorating the 60th Anniversary of ASLA Exchange (by invitation only):

- Welcome by Ossi V. Lindqvist, Vice Chair of Fulbright Center

THURSDAY, May 7, 2009

9.30–11.00 CROSS-CULTURAL FERTILIZATION (Runeberg Hall):

Chair: Markku Henriksson (Univ. of Helsinki)

9.30 Professor Auvo Kostainen (Univ. of Turku): "The Image of the Finnish-Americans in Finland and the United States"

10.30 J. Karjalainen ja Veli-Matti Järvenpää — "Paratiisin pojat": Finnish-American Folksongs

11.00-11.30 COFFEE

11.30–13.00 CREATIVE ECONOMIES (Runeberg Hall)

Chair: Mikko Saikku (University of Helsinki)

- Esko Aho (Executive Vice President, Nokia): "Educating the Innovators of Tomorrow's Economies."

- Sixten Korkman (Director, ETLA): "Comparing the American and Nordic Socio-Economic Models."

LUNCH BREAK

14.00–15.00 LOOKING AHEAD: A FINNISH PERSPECTIVE (Runeberg Hall):

Chair: Markku Henriksson (Univ. of Helsinki)

- MP Jyrki J. Kasvi: "More than Facebook-friends: the Atlantic Community and Virtual Reality."

BREAK

15.15–16.00 AN AMERICAN VISION FOR THE FUTURE (Runeberg Hall):

Chair: Markku Henriksson (University of Helsinki)

- Professor of Diplomacy Derek Shearer (Occidental College, Los Angeles): "Barack Obama and American Vision for the Future"

BREAK

16.30–17.30 CONCERT "Jazz Beginning" (Great Festive Hall):

- Greg Badolato (Berklee College of Music)
- *All Stars Band* (Pop & Jazz Conservatory)
- *Tinhau Quartet* (Pop & Jazz Conservatory)

17.30 RECEPTION (by invitation only):

- Welcome by Chargé d'Affaires Michael Butler

THE END OF THE SYMPOSIUM

ORGANIZERS: U.S. Embassy in Helsinki; University of Helsinki; Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland; The Fulbright Center / CO-ORGANIZERS: AmCham (The American Chamber of Commerce in Finland), ASLA-Fulbright Alumni Association, ETLA (The Research Institute of the Finnish Economy), Paasikivi-Seura, SAYL (The League of Finnish-American Societies), UPI (The Finnish Institute of International Affairs), YFU (Youth for Understanding Exchange Organization).