



UNIVERSITY OF  
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Centro de Estudos Galegos  
University of Stirling



XUNTA DE GALICIA  
PRESIDENCIA  
Secretaría Xeral de Política Lingüística

Centro de Estudos Galegos de Escocia  
University of Stirling  
June 7-8 2007

## **A Galaxia Explicada: Galician Culture in Dialogue**

### **First Call for Papers**

“A galaxia explicada” is the title of the fifth chapter of Ramón Otero Pedrayo’s *Ensaio Histórico sobre a cultura galega*. In this expansive essay, the Ourense writer narrates the political and religious ascent of Santiago de Compostela as Galicia’s spiritual and symbolic capital and presents the universality of the camino de Santiago as an essential component of Galician identity. We wish to expand upon the dialogic notion of this sentiment, and seek to compare and contrast Galician reality with that of other cultures from a multidisciplinary perspective. The objective of the conference is therefore to bring Galician culture, society and academic research in specific fields into contact with that of others, especially that of the British Isles and Scotland. In particular, three themes have been identified:

a) The first session of the conference will address the question of national identity and will be underpinned by the contemporary importance and at times controversy that we associate with this issue. In particular, the relationship with international institutions (specifically that of the European Union and Community) will be investigated.

b) The second session will be dedicated to historical research, and how the peripheral nature of countries like Galicia and Scotland has or has not been an impediment for integration within the more important events and processes that have shaped the modern context of Europe and beyond.

c) Finally, the third session will address the sociolinguistic situation of lesser-used languages in the European context. Special emphasis will be conferred upon Galician and the minority languages of the British Isles, taking into account that on many occasions sociolinguistic research in these areas has taken place in the narrow fora of academic research.

The Centro de Estudos Galegos in Scotland therefore invites abstracts for papers on history and sociolinguistics for inclusion within sessions b and c.

Papers should be no longer than twenty minutes in length. The maximum number of papers per session will be three, and the Centro de Estudos Galegos in Scotland will select presentations on the basis of the quality and plurality of their topic, context and focus. Confirmed participants will be provided with accommodation for one night and conference lunches.

Abstracts should be approximately three hundred words in length and submitted in both Galician and English. A short biography/CV should also be included, as well as contact information and details of technical requirements.

Papers can be delivered in either Galician or English.

Abstracts should be sent by 31<sup>st</sup> March to both of the addresses below:

Dr. Craig Patterson  
Director of Centro de Estudos Galegos

Mr. Xabier Cid  
Xunta Lector

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