

nos documentos, no pobo as lendas e máis tarde un influxo na formación de Portugal, atraído polo mar das frota cruzadas de Normandía. Roma coñece a importancia de Santiago, os peregrinos veñen guiados pola *Galaxia*: a nosa terra, inspirada nos anhelos de occidente, está madura para a expresión románica e lírica, as súas glorias máis altas. Ocorreu coa arte románica algo semellante ó que xa sinalamos sobre a prehistoria galega. Da mesma maneira foron desatendidos ou desprezados o dolmen celta como a curva expresiva e escultórica do século de Xelmírez. A ofuscación do gótico foi paralela á ofuscación do romano imperial *foreign politics*. Non se concibían tremores de orixe nin plenitudes anteriores. Por iso a interpretación do *sociolinguistics* destino histórico de Galicia, tivo que ser equivocado, informe e *history* desprazado. O máis que se sentía no románico era un recollemento místico preciso para chegar á superior

**A galaxia explicada:  
cultura galega en diálogo  
*The Galaxy Explained:  
Galician Culture in Dialogue***

UNIVERSITY OF STIRLING  
SCOTLAND 7-8 JUNE 2007



UNIVERSITY OF  
STIRLING



Centro de Estudos Galegos  
University of Stirling



XUNTA DE GALICIA  
PRESIDENCIA  
Secretaría Xeral de Política Lingüística

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

“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 to 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 academia.

The **Centro de Estudos Galegos** teaches Galician language and culture in Scotland from its base at the University of Stirling. In addition, it organises and promotes diverse cultural activities ranging from guest lectures to concerts and international conferences. The Centro is financed by the Xunta de Galicia, the government of Galicia, and is managed by Dr. Craig Patterson with the assistance of the Visiting Lecturer in Galician Studies, Mr. Xabier Cid.

**A galaxia explicada • The Galaxy Explained**  
**7-8 de xuño • 7-8 June 2007**

**Programme**  
**7th June**

*Conference Opening Ceremony*

*Joanna McCloud Room, Iris Murdoch Building*

9:00: Jack McConnell, MSP, First Minister of Scotland (presented by Neil Keeble, Deputy Principal of The University of Stirling).

9:20: Marisol López, Xunta de Galicia Secretary for Language Planning (presented by Neil Keeble).

9:40: Participants' reception. Tea and Coffee.

*Session One: Galicia & Scotland: Between Devolution and Nation*

*Joanna McCloud Room, Iris Murdoch Building*

10:10 Anxo Quintana, Vice-President of Galicia (presented by Dr. Craig Patterson, Director of Centro de Estudos Galegos, University of Stirling).

10:40 Alex Salmond, MSP, Leader of Scottish Nationalist Party (presented by Professor David MacKenzie, Irish Centre for Galician Studies, University of Cork).

11:10 Professor Fernando Pérez-Barreiro Nolla, 'Making an Impact on International Relations: A Galician Perspective' (presented by Xabier Cid, Visiting Lecturer in Galician Studies, University of Stirling).

11:55 Discussion.

12:25 End of Session One.

12:30 Lunch.

*Session Two: Galicia as Historical Construction*

*Joanna McCloud Room, Iris Murdoch Building*

15:00 Dr. Ramón Villares, President of the Consello da Cultura Galega, 'A historia de Galicia na súa dimensión europea'.

15:45 Discussion.

16:15 Tea and Coffee.

16:45 Dr. Shariff Gemie (University of Glamorgan), 'Regionalism and Rebellion: Liberals and Carlists in Brittany and Galicia, c.1830-48'.

17:15 Professor David MacKenzie (Irish Centre for Galician Studies, University of Cork), 'Inside Out, Outside In: Views From and of Galicia Over the Ages'.

17:45 Dr. Carmen Fernández Pérez-Sanjulián (Universidade da Coruña), 'Historia e literatura galega: a dialéctica de dous discursos en beneficio mutuo'.

18:15 Discussion.

18:45 End of Session Two.

19:30 Conference Dinner and Music Reception (The Queen's Hotel, Bridge of Allan).

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**8th June**

*Session Three: Galician and Other Lesser-Used Languages in Europe*  
*Joanna McCloud Room, Iris Murdoch Building*

9:00 Dr. Anxo Lorenzo (Universidade de Vigo), 'Pode salvarse o galego? Reflexións sobre o futuro do galego e doutras linguas minorizadas en Europa'.

9.45 Discussion.

10:15 Tea and Coffee.

10:35 Bernadette O'Rourke (University of Galway), 'Bridging the Divide between Irish and Galician Sociolinguistics'.

11:05 Dr. Pilar García Negro (Universidade da Coruña), 'Mass media e ideoloxía lingüística: dualismo entre elementos identitarios e materiais'.

11:35 Discussion.

12:05 Close of Conference (Dr. Craig Patterson).

12:30 Lunch.

16:00 Cultural Visit (meet opposite Caffè Nero on the corner of Port Street and Hope Street, in Stirling city centre).

19:00 Out of Program - Dinner at Ranas (Friar St., Stirling).

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**How to join?**

Conference lunches will consist of a buffet selection on June 7-8, and will cost £6 per person per day. If you wish to take lunch on one or both days of the conference, please send a cheque for the total amount to Craig Patterson by no later than June 1st (if you are only taking one lunch, please indicate on which day this will be). Cheques should be made payable to 'University of Stirling'.

The Conference Dinner will take place on Thursday 7th June at 19:30 at The Queen's Hotel, Bridge of Allan. The hotel is a 15 minute stroll from campus, and can be reached by bus or taxi. If you would like to take dinner, the total cost will be £18.95 (without beverages); you should send a cheque for the total amount to Craig Patterson by no later than June 1st. Cheques should be made payable to 'University of Stirling'.

Dinner on Friday 8th June will take place at 19:00 at Rana's Punjabi Restaurant in Friar's Street, in the centre of Stirling. There is no need to send an advance payment for this but you should indicate your intention to attend by email to Craig Patterson by no later than June 1st.

**Conference Dinner**

*The Queen's Hotel • Bridge of Allan*  
*Thursday 7th June*

Cullen Skink  
Whisky Cured Salmon  
Haggis, Neeps & Tatties

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Venison Casserole with Suet & Thyme Dumpline  
Rib of Beef with Peppercorn Sauce  
Fillet of Trout, Mussel & Parsley Butter

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Cranachan  
Cloutie Dumpling & Brandy Sauce  
Mull Cheddar & Oatcakes  
£18.95pp

## How to arrive?



**By air** You can fly to either Edinburgh or Glasgow (International and Prestwick) Airports from a wide range of international and domestic airports, but not directly from Galicia. You can travel from Galicia via one of the London airports, via Frankfurt, Barcelona or Madrid. The nearest airport with direct links between Galicia and Scotland is Liverpool.

Scottish airports are well-linked with Stirling by rail and bus. If you are planning to drive, Glasgow Airport is approximately a 1 hour 20 minute drive to the University campus while Edinburgh Airport is a 45 minute drive.



**By rail** Stirling's location in the heart of Scotland ensures that the city enjoys excellent rail links with all major Scottish cities and, in turn, with the rest of the UK. Regular Scotrail train services run from both Edinburgh Waverley Station (50 minutes) and Glasgow Queen Street Station (40 minutes). Details of all rail services can be found at <http://www.nationalrail.co.uk>

It is recommended that you alight at Stirling train station and then make your way to the University by bus or taxi. Taxis are available from Stirling Rail Station concourse, with most buses to the University departing from Murray Place bus stop located just up the hill from the rail station. If you have accommodation in Bridge of Allan, you can alight at its rail station just above the town. Most of the trains linking Edinburgh with Dunblane or Glasgow with Dundee and Aberdeen make a stop in Bridge of Allan.





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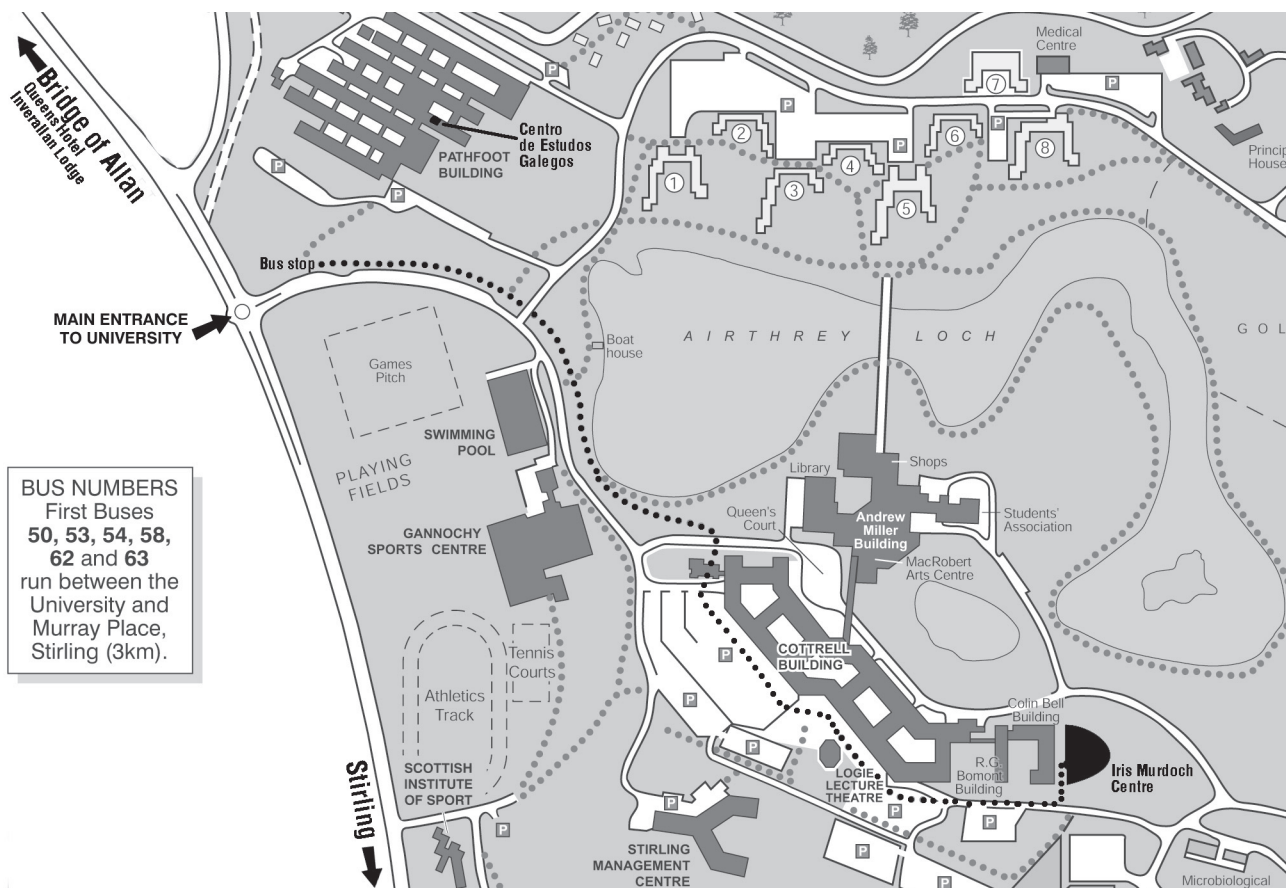


**By bus** The University is served by excellent bus links from Stirling city centre. At peak times some 19 buses per hour run from Stirling to the main University campus.

The principal provider of bus services is First, with routes 50, 53, 54, 58, 62 and 63 all running to and from the University and Murray Place, Stirling. Ferguson's buses run to and from the University on routes 50 and 153. In addition Scottish Citylink operate a service from Edinburgh to the University.



**By Car** Visitors to the University who choose to bring their car should note the following directions: if approaching from the East, South or West take the M9 to Junction 11. Once at the junction there is a roundabout which marks the end of the M9. From here you should take the exit for Bridge of Allan, follow the road through the town itself, and after about 200 metres you will find the University on the left. If approaching from the North take the A9 to the same roundabout and follow the same route through Bridge of Allan as above.



## **Where?**

Stirling is Scotland's youngest city gaining the status in the summer of 2002. This is Scotland's heritage capital, where the Wars of Independence were fought and won; where, for three centuries, monarchs ruled in regal splendour and where merchants and craftsmen plied their trade below the castle rock.

Nowadays you can literally touch and feel the sense of history and nationhood which is Stirling's trademark, as you meander through the Old Town, enter the spectacular cliff-top castle or sample the town's unique 'living history' events programme.

There are many attractive towns and villages surrounding Stirling. The beautiful spa town of Bridge of Allan with its tree-lined avenues, picturesque Doune village which is home to the Scottish Antique and Arts Centre offering a huge selection of collectables, contemporary gifts and quality traditional furniture, Dunblane with its splendid cathedral - a Gothic masterpiece founded in 1150, and the floral Campsie villages of Killearn, Kippen, and Balfroun.

Stirling is also on the doorstep of Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park - the first in Scotland, and forms an ideal basis from which to explore the natural beauty of the National Park area. There is truly something to delight everyone in the city of Royal Stirling and the stunning surrounding countryside.

Some links:

<http://www.stirling-tourism.co.uk> Hotels and B&B in Stirling

<http://www.visitscotland.co.uk> Touristic website

<http://www.bridgeofallan.org> All about Bridge of Allan, nice place near to the University with good hotels and B&B

<http://www.stir.ac.uk> University of Stirling

### **Do not miss**

- The Old Bridge
- William Wallace Monument
- Stirling Castle
- Loch Lomond

### **CONTACT**

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