

TSA

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Annual Conference, Dundee, July 2004.

It was a pleasure to welcome all the delegates to the second full conference in Dundee again this July. We were very pleased to note the growing interest in the Association and the vibrancy of the panels and various projects that are at a formative stage resulting from various panel discussions. We hope that the Association continues to act as a focus for discussions on transatlantic issues into the future.

We were delighted and honored to have a good representation of papers in the various fields, but also to have such a rewarding set of plenary papers by the keynote speakers: Lloyd Gardner (Rutgers University), Klaus Schwabe (University of Aachen), Timothy Fulford (Nottingham Trent University), Richard Crockatt (University of East Anglia), Alan Rice (University of Central Lancashire). We thank them all for their contributions.

We welcome your suggestions for improvements to the conference structure or anything that you would like to see feature in this newsletter. We would like to encourage a more active dialogue on shared issues of concern through this letter and as such would welcome your contributions to future editions. We aim to have the next letter out by April 2005. Could you send any thoughts or contributions to Dr. David Ryan, who can now be found at the Department of History, University College, Cork, Ireland or on david.ryan@ucc.ie

We look forward to hearing from you.

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Conference Structure and Panel Conveners, Dundee 2004

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THE IMPACT OF US BASES IN EUROPE

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THE COLD WAR AND THE TRANSATLANTIC REGION: HISTORY, SECURITY AND CULTURE

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2004 TSA Annual Conference, 12-15 July 2004 *Professor Alan Dobson*

The conference in July attracted over 120 delegates and nearly 100 academic papers were delivered and a workshop on the impact of US bases in Europe was held. The conference appeared to be very successful and anecdotal reports have all been very positive. The use of *rapporteurs* for some panels – Godfrey Hodgson for Anti-Americanism and Warren Kimball for Anglo-American Relations was a welcome and useful development that we might wish to follow in the future. The panels had a good range of papers and the panel conveners are all to be congratulated on achieving that. A great deal of hard work goes on behind the scenes by panel leaders to bring things together and this is much appreciated.

Alex Danchev and Warren Kimball are currently working on a special issue of the *Journal of Transatlantic Studies* which will publish a range of papers from the conference on Anglo-American Relations. For the funding for this we are grateful to the Bruce Centre, University of Keele and NATO, both of which have pledged £1,000 each towards the costs. It is hoped that the special issue will be published in the spring of 2005. It will appear alongside a bumper themed issue of the JTS devoted to NATO, details of which appear elsewhere in this Newsletter.

The next annual conference will be held at Nottingham University 11-14 July. The call for papers will shortly be issued along with the name of panel conveners. For 2005 we propose to limit the number of panels more and work with sub-panels and hope to draw papers together on panel sessions that provide more inter-disciplinary insights into particular issues and themes. The call for papers will be issued shortly.

For those of you who attended the TSA conference for the first time you should know that the full conference fee included two years subscription to the *Journal of Transatlantic Studies* and that those who stayed for less than the full conference but were still residential will receive one year's subscription. A number of papers delivered at the conference have been submitted to the JTS for consideration for publication, but more would be welcomed and the possibilities of publication in the JTS should

be advertised abroad as much as possible. Those of you whose institution has not yet subscribed to the *Journal of Transatlantic Studies* should be robustly encouraged to do so.

Panel Reports

Planning, Regeneration and the Environment

John McCarthy and Dimitrios Konstadakopoulos

The disciplinary background of the presenters on this small panel was varied, and included urban studies, planning, and regeneration, as well as environmental policies, practices and experiences, all largely from a transatlantic perspective. A number of papers looked at urban regeneration policies and practices, paying particular attention to sustainable development. For example, **Barbara Issley** (Geddes Institute, University of Dundee) examined the concept of sustainable forest management in Canada and the UK, focussing on its social repercussions. A paper by **Greg Lloyd**, also of the Geddes Institute, (delivered by E. Coles), discussed the theoretical implications of planning for national space, following the 'Fourth Way'. **Dimitrios Konstadakopoulos** (University of the West of England, Bristol) analysed the reasons for the economic and demographic growth of small towns in England and Wales, drawing from traditional locational theories. **John McCarthy** (Geddes Institute) discussed the rationale of a 'culture-led' approach to urban regeneration and analysed its success in the cities of Dundee and Belfast.

The 'ecological' city of Curitiba in Brazil, and the development of its social capital, was the subject of a paper by **Deborah Peel** (University of Dundee; delivered by John McCarthy), which focussed on the city's remarkable urban management model. The process of ecological modernisation in British Columbia and Scotland, based on the way in which these two territories apply strategic environmental management to land use and resource management, was presented by **Tony Jackson** (Geddes Institute) in a joint paper co-authored with John Curry of the University of Northern British Columbia. **Antonia Sagredo** (Complutense University, Madrid) gave an interesting historical account of the impact of the U.S. Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act of 1935 on the country's attempt to promote the conservation and profitable use of agricultural land resources

at a time of severe drought. **Dennis Tänzler** (Adelphi Research, Berlin), in a paper co-authored with Alexander Carius (also of the Adelphi Research) discussed the feasibility of a new approach to transatlantic dialogue on climate policy. Finally, **Uwe Luebken** (University of Cologne) presented a diachronic analysis of the impact of natural disasters, paying particular attention to river flooding in the USA and Germany.

The resulting discussion led to a valuable cross-fertilisation of argument, with presenters and members of the audience representing a variety of contexts and disciplinary fields. In particular, discussion showed how many of the issues discussed were context-dependent, so that relevant policies could not simply be transferred without being embedded in the local social, environmental, historical and cultural context.

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'The Cold War and the Transatlantic Region: History, Security and Culture.'
Peter Boyle (University of Nottingham)

Anna Locher and Christian Nuenlist (Centre for Security Studies, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Zurich), 'NATO's Secretary-General in a Time of Testing: Spaak, Sticker, Brosio and the French Challenge, 1958-1967'

John Kent (London School of Economics), 'Defence Strategy and Foreign Policy: The Creation of the Baghdad Pact and NATO'

Till Geiger (University of Manchester), 'The Mutual Weapons Development and the Failure of Transatlantic Co-operation in Weapons Procurement, 1954-1961'

A stimulating session was provided by three very interesting papers on aspects of defence issues in transatlantic relationships in the 1950s and 1960s. Anna Locher and Christian Nuenlist presented a joint paper on the role of the NATO Secretary-General in dealing with French President Charles de Gaulle. They argued that Paul-Henri Spaak, Dirk Stikker and Mario

Brosio did make a difference in containing French obstructionism – even against the severe obstacle of de Gaulle's fundamental objections to NATO. By filling the personal-institutional 'blank' in NATO research, Locher and Nuenlist shed new light on the bargaining within the Western alliance in the 1960s. John Kent focused upon the northern tier in his examination of NATO and the creation of the Baghdad Pact in the 1950s. Till Geiger analysed the difficulties in attempts to co-ordinate weapons development and the failure in the period, 1954-1961, to achieve transatlantic co-operation in weapons procurement.

The TRANSATLANTIC STUDIES ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, DUNDEE 14th July 2004

Apologies: Susan Isherwood (Treasurer); David Ryan (Secretary)

1. MATTERS ARISING from Minutes of AGM 30th April 2003 at Aberystwyth.

None

2. CHAIR'S REPORT: Professor Alan Dobson

2.1 The Chair opened by stating that the TSA is on a sound footing; around two-thirds of participants at the 2004 TSA Annual Conference in Dundee were new to the TSA. The TSA also continues to justify itself with a wide-reaching publication distribution list of around 300 academics worldwide. The Chair noted that he would feel more comfortable with a membership of around 500-600; this would ensure a 100-200 delegate attendance at the annual conferences.

2.2 It was useful to have the Second TSA annual conference at the Aberystwyth BAAS conference last April (2003), and it is planned to have the fourth annual conference in 2005 at the University of Nottingham. The year after the annual conference could return to Dundee, but the Chair is open to offers for 2006. In 2007 it would be useful to have the annual conference somewhere in the United States so as to boost the TSA's profile and assist recruitment in the USA. The Chair is also open to the suggestion for joint conferences at suitable venues in the future.

3. NEWSLETTER

3.1 Chair wished to have it recognised that the newsletter organiser, David Ryan, has done a tremendous job in establishing the newsletter as a thriving concern within the TSA. David's effort was wholeheartedly acknowledged by the AGM. The Chair requested that the high quality of the newsletter be maintained by continuing and increasing input from members.

4. FINANCES

4.1 The Chair was happy to communicate that the TSA is financially stable. Subscriptions totalled approximately £1,000, and so far this money has been held back for miscellaneous uses, such as meetings of the TSA executive, subsidy of travel for promotional visits, or the publication of another special issue of the Journal of Transatlantic Studies.

5. JOURNAL

5.1 The Journal of Transatlantic Studies appears to have been very well received by the academic community. This includes the special issue on 9/11, for which special thanks were necessary to NATO and Baylor University, Texas, for their financial assistance.

5.2 The Chair welcomed comments for further special 'themes' for special editions. So far there has been a proposal for a themed issue on the EU-US relationship (led by Wynn Rees, Nottingham, Alastair Blair, Coventry).

5.3 Journal subscriptions are essential to the TSA, and while sales are not hitting the 'target' set at the outset, they are going well enough not to cause concern. Edinburgh UP has been very understanding of the TSA's position as a new

organisation. Still, members are urged to have their university libraries subscribe to the Journal as this generates a higher source of income.

5.4 Chuck Gannon (Bonaventure) asked about electronic access to the Journal. The Chair replied that, while this might prove a good thing, at present it would be too difficult and expensive an enterprise. Also, Edinburgh UP would need convincing of the need to transform to an electronic format.

6. 2004 TSA CONFERENCE

6.1 The Chair wished to record his thanks for the following organisations for their assistance in making this year's conference possible: the British Academy, NATO, the US Embassy London, The British International Studies Association, the Arts and Social Science Faculty and the Institute for Transatlantic European and American Studies, Dundee University, the Bruce Centre, Keele University, the Dundee & Angus Tourist Board, Edinburgh University Press, and the City of Dundee.

7. ELECTION OF MEMBERS

7.1. It was the Chair's belief that as yet the TSA is not financially solid and stable enough to permit re-election of members of the Secretariat. With the meeting's permission, the Chair proposed that the existing secretariat remain until the question of elections is revisited at the 2005 AGM. No objection to this proposal was noted.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

8.1 Alan Rice spoke of how good the conference had been, but was concerned about the literature and culture dimension. Attendances at panels and part-plenaries had been low in comparison to the sessions in politics, economics and diplomacy. Alan Rice suggested that 'themed plenaries' might avoid literature and culture specialists becoming marginalised at conferences. Alan Dobson replied that he too is troubled by this phenomenon, and in fact had spent more money and resources on inviting scholars of transatlantic literature and culture to this conference than previous conferences. Alan Dobson responded that ultimate responsibility lay with members to ensure the widest participation in the conference, and urged members to invite as many literature and culture scholars as they could to future gatherings. Alan

Dobson noted that the part-plenary method had not been as successful in integrating disciplines as was hoped, and remained open to members for suggestions on how this issue could be resolved at future conferences.

8.2 Jill Edwards said that some marginalising of international relations had also taken place at the conference. Low attendance at some panels in this subject has proved embarrassing, especially for those scholars presenting papers who have travelled from overseas. Alan Dobson replied that he was not sure he has the answer to this; there is the practical problem of needing individuals to come forward and offer to get others involved. More members have to take responsibility, he argued, for making the TSA conference work and reduce the marginalisation of certain disciplines. Such an occurrence is anathema to the very principles of the TSA.

8.3 Chuck Gannon talked of **themed sessions** to engage all disciplines, such as one or two target areas in the conference.

8.4 Tony McCullough suggested the creation of **interdisciplinary sub-groups** to generate interests and involvement between conferences. Alan Dobson agreed to consider this suggestion.

AGM ENDED 4.08 pm.

Member News

Dimitrios Konstadakopoulos (Centre of European Studies, University of the West of England, Bristol) undertook a two months fieldwork visit in Atlantic Canada during May-June 2004. He researched the topic of '*Good Practice in Environmentally Competent Regional Governance: A Transatlantic Perspective*'. The study was supported by the *Faculty Research Program* of the Government of Canada, through its High Commission in London. Dimitrios examined the institutional framework and main policies for the promotion of sustainable development by the Canadian Atlantic provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. He also identified a number of promising approaches and best practice in ecological modernisation and discusses their applicability in the South West of England.

David Ryan has moved to the Department of History, University College, Cork, Ireland. All future correspondence concerning the Newsletter should be sent to him there on david.ryan@ucc.ie