Religion and Food

A conference arranged by the Donner Institute for Research in Religious and Cultural History, Åbo/Turku, Finland

25-27 June, 2014, Åbo Akademi University
ASA-building B, Fänriksgatan/Vänrikinkatu 2, 20500 Åbo/Turku

www.abo.fi/donnersymposium

Wednesday 25.6

09.00  Registration and coffee

09.45  Words of welcome
        Docent Tore Ahlbäck, Director Emeritus of the Donner Institute

10.00  Keynote
        Prof. Benjamin E. Zeller, Lake Forest College, Chicago, USA
        Totem and taboo in the grocery store

11.00  Music
        Vocal Ensemble Giardino Novo

11.15  Donner Prize Winner 2014
        Dr. Elina Hankela, University of Helsinki/University of Johannesburg
        Challenging Ubuntu: Open doors and exclusionary boundaries in Johannesburg

12.00  Lunch
        Café Arken, Arken-building, Fabriksratan/Tehtaankatu 2

13.30  Paper Session 1 (parallel sessions)
        Session A:
        13.30  Marco Beghelli: “Panis Angelicus”: From St. Thomas Aquinas to Luciano Pavarotti”
        14.00  Michel Desjardins: Imagining Jesus, with food
        14.30  Karl-Gustav Sandelin: Questions of food in early Christianity

        Session B:
        13.30  Ben Kasstan: The taste of trauma: Reflections of ageing Shoah survivors on food and
             how they (re)inscribe it with meaning
        14.00  Adrienne Krone: “A Shmita manifesto”: A radical sabbatical approach to Jewish food
             reform in the United States
        14.30  Aldea Mulhern: There’s Kashrut, and then there’s “eating Jewishly”

15.00  Coffee

15.30  Paper Session 2 (parallel sessions)
        Session A:
        15.30  Samira K. Mehta: A Kosher Christmas dinner: Food, tradition, and the Christian-
             Jewish interfaith household
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<th>Time</th>
<th>Session A:</th>
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<tr>
<td>08.30</td>
<td>Hannah Bacon: Sinful eating: An expression of female domination or female power?</td>
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<td>09.00</td>
<td>Gioia Filocamo: Hungry women: Sin and rebellion through food and music in the early modern era</td>
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<td>09.30</td>
<td>Bindu Malieckal: Spice wars: Trade and religious conflict in 16th century Portuguese India</td>
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<th>Time</th>
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<td>08.30</td>
<td>Andrea Gutierrez: Too much to chew: Ambivalence toward betel leaf consumption in Sanskrit sources</td>
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<td>09.00</td>
<td>Stephen Jacobs: Sattvic foods: Soteriological and therapeutic diets in traditional yoga and contemporary Hindu meditation movements</td>
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<td>09.30</td>
<td>Liia Raippalinnna: Sacred borders in secular talk about food</td>
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11.00  Coffee

10.30  Paper Session 4 (parallel sessions)

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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>10.30</td>
<td>Nana Blomqvist: Consumption and abstention: Alienating food consumption</td>
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<td>11.00</td>
<td>Anna Sofia Salonen: The Christmas celebration and secondary consumers: Observations from food banks in Finland</td>
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<td>11.30</td>
<td>William D. Schanbacher: American exceptionalism, power, and control of the global food system</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.30</td>
<td>Céline Grünhagen: Seeding cosmic harmony: An appraisal of spiritual approaches to food production such as Anthroposophical agriculture</td>
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<td>11.00</td>
<td>Katarina Plank: Sticky rice and karma - Food and gender in Thai Buddhism in Sweden</td>
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<td>11.30</td>
<td>Göran Ståhle: “Food is your medicine”: Ayurvedic dietary advice from the perspective of the psychology of religion</td>
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12.00  Lunch

13.30  Keynote

Prof. Gunnar af Hällström, Åbo Akademi University, Åbo/Turku, Finland

Daily bread or heavenly bread? The meals of the early church, reflections of Christian ideology and search for identity
14.30 Coffee

15.00 **Paper Session 5** (parallel sessions)

**Session A:**
15.00 Anna Haapalainen, Eero Karhu, Aleksi Kauppinen & Benjamin Zeller: *Transatlantic student and teacher collaboration on food and religion: Experiences and ideas*

**Session B:**
15.00 Elena Mazzetto & Natalia Moragas Segura: *Contexts offering and ritual food in the archaeological and pictographic record in central Mexico*
15.30 Patricia Rodrigues de Souza: *Food in African Brazilian Candomblé*
16.00 Joanna Zamorska: *Prestige and alcohol in south Mexican Catholic fiesta*

19.00 **Conference Dinner**
Cruise with the Steamship Ukkopekka in the archipelago outside Åbo
The steamship leaves at 19.00 from the Aura River in the city centre

**Friday 27.6**

08.30 **Paper Session 6** (parallel sessions)

**Session A:**
08.30 Panu Pihkala: *Ecotheology and theology of eating: Convergencies and controversies*
09.00 David Walsh: *The nature of food: Climate change, Caribou, and Dene foodways*
09.30 Laura Wickström: *Implications of Islamic food regulations on the Muslim market*

**Session B:**
08.30 Sara Duppils: *The Wiccan way: Food as a magic and ritual component*
09.00 Pernille Adine Nordby: *Spirituality and conceptions of the body among persons with alternative diets in contemporary Norway*
09.30 Tommy Ramstedt: *Too alternative? Discourses on extreme diets within the Finnish alternative spiritual milieu*

10.00 Coffee

10.30 **Paper Session 7** (parallel sessions)

**Session A:**
10.30 Marja-Liisa Keinänen: *Bread – a gift of God: Ritualisation of bread-related practices in the vernacular religion of Russian Karelia*
11.00 Risto Räty: *The origins of vegetarianism in the SDA church*
11.30 Anna Westman: *Sami sacrificial meals*

**Session B:**
10.30 Miriam Abu Salem: *Religious dietary rules and the protection of religious freedom: Some evidence from practice in Italy*
11.00 Else Marie Øvrebø: *How do kindergarten personnel act regarding food and religion?*
11.30 Karen Swartz: *You are what you eat: an examination of calls for a vegetarian diet on Anthroposophy-related websites*

12.00 Lunch

13.30 **Keynote**
Dr. Graham Harvey, Open University London, UK
*Respectfully eating or not eating horses, pigs, ants or carrots: defining religion as everyday food rules*

14.30 **Closing of the conference**
Docent Ruth Illman, Director of the Donner Institute
Coffee and farewells