

Conviviality as a remedy for segregation

City-dwellers have further opportunities for making societies civil. For Dr Jonas Alwall (Malmö University), conviviality in the city refers to the “vernacular and everyday forms of cosmopolitanism”. For Catney et al. (2011), it is about the ordinariness of mixing. In places like London, for instance, such things could well be a reality. Malmö aspires to be a cosmopolitan city of this kind as well, although it might not be there just yet. For Finnish cities, it seems, the journey has only just begun.

In a civil society, humanity is diverse

The further the conference proceeded, the more clearly it was articulated that the core issues about civil society are really about basic humanity, and that humanity is diverse. A question was posed, for instance, as to whether multiple voices within any one ethnic community are being heard where integration/incorporation is practiced. Petr Potchinchchikov replied that there are a lot of diverse voices and one just has to live in the situation and somehow deal with it. One cannot expect that all the 50 000 Russians living in Finland are the same.

Diversity also applies to simply gender. For Tuori, women’s feelings and experiences do not count as knowledge as ‘knowledge’ is defined as something other than ‘personal’. In this respect, among other things, Professor Alexander’s call for more cultural studies instead of merely demographic approaches on immigration makes sense. Hear hear.



From left Petr Potchinchchikov, Merja Pentikäinen, Hannu-Pekka Huttunen and Peter Kariuki. Photo: Sirkka Komulainen.

References:

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Komulainen, S (2007) The ambiguity of the child’s ‘voice’ in social research. *Childhood*, 14(1): 11-28.

The Institute of Migration was one of the organizers for the ‘Immigrants and Civil Society’, the 16th Nordic Migration Research Conference & 9th ETMU Days, 13-15th August 2012, University of Turku, Finland. Website: <http://www.etmu.fi/etmudays/nmrc2012/>

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ETMU:n tunnustuspalkinto Siirtolaisuusinstituuttiin

Etnisten suhteiden ja kansainvälisen muuttoliikkeen tutkimuksen seura ETMU:n tunnustuspalkinto myönnetään vuosittain ETMU-päivien yhteydessä henkilölle, joka on tehnyt erittäin merkittävää työtä etnisten suhteiden ja kansainvälisen muuttoliikkeen tutkimuksen edistämiseksi Suomessa. Vuoden 2012 tunnustuspalkinto myönnettiin Pohjoismaisen muuttoliikekonferenssin yhteydessä Turussa järjestetyillä yhdeksänsillä ETMU-päivillä

13.8.2012 Siirtolaisuusinstituutin johtajalle, dosentti **Ismo Söderlingille**.

Etnisten suhteiden ja kansainvälisen muuttoliikkeen tutkimuksen seura ETMU ry. on tutkijoiden monitieteellinen yhteenliittymä, jonka tarkoituksena on edistää aihepiiriin liittyvää tutkimusta Suomessa. Seura on perustettu kesäkuussa 2003. Sen jäsenyys on avoinna kaikille aihepiiristä kiinnostuneille, jotka haluavat edistää yhdistyksen tarkoitusta.

Yhdistyksen näkyvimpiä toimintoja ovat vuosittain järjestettävät *ETMU-päivät* ja neljä kertaa vuodessa ilmestyvä pohjoismainen tieteellinen aikakauslehti *Nordic Journal of Migration Research*.

Kiitokset

Kuten lehdestämme ilmenee, myönnettiin minulle ETMU:n tunnustuspalkinto erittäin merkittävästä

työstä etnisten suhteiden ja kansainvälisen muutoliikkeen tutkimuksen edistämiseksi Suomessa. Nöyränä ja kiitollisena otan tunnustuksen vastaan. Ison siivun palkinnosta annan kollegoilleni Siirtolaisuusinstituutissa, jotka ovat todella olleet innolla ja ammattitaidolla edesauttamassa siirtolaisuutta ja etnisiä kysymyksiä koskevien asioiden työstämisessä.

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FinnThunder 2012, July 27th–29th, 2012 in Thunder Bay, Canada-

FinnThunder 2012 represented many-sided Finnish culture in Canada



FinnThunder 2012, held July 27th–29th, 2012 in Thunder Bay, Canada, marked the 73rd Finnish Canadian Grand Festival since the event was started in Sudbury in 1940. It was already 11th time that Thunder Bay and, prior, to 1970, Port Arthur had hosted this celebration of Finnish culture in Canada, according to Ulla Ahokas, Chair of the Organizing Committee. Thunder Bay is home to approximately 13,000 Finns and has the highest concentration of Finns per capita in Canada. Thunder Bay's sister city in Finland is Seinäjoki and there was a delegation from Seinäjoki in the festival. This sister city activity is already established in 1974.

The cultural programme was many-sided with for example lectures, workshops, Marketplace with wide variety of booths, dance, films, sports, food, art exhibition, children programme, and live music. There were such performers like jazz pianist Danny Johnson, guitarist Wayne Faulconer, Thunder Bay Pelimanni Orchestra, Pat and Bill Towell, Doc Jerry, and Billy Manzik and Lisa Edberg, who are coming to tour in Finland in 2013.

There were participants around Canada, Finland and also from the USA. Thunder Bay is located close to northern states of the USA. It is even easier access from there than for example from Vancouver, Canada, which is located almost 2,500 kilometres away from Thunder Bay. Canada is the country with long distances! All participants were not Canadian

Finns or Finns, but there were also Canadians who were married to an ethnic Finnish person. Or just Canadian persons, who were interested in Finnish language and culture, like Elaine McLean with whom I had lunch discussions one day and she had no roots to Finland.

The Institute of Migration had own booth at Marketplace in Hammarskjöld High School. There were lots of visitors who were interested in the institute's activities. Some of them were first generation Canadian Finns who had emigrated themselves to Canada. Quite many visitors were, however, born themselves in Canada and were representing second- or third-generation Finns in Canada. The interest towards Finnish culture has not diminished among them but it is flourishing in many forms.

The booths at Marketplace were showing this variety of Finnish culture. There were persons who were selling kantele -music instruments, Carelia pies, rye bread, pulla -coffee bread, Finnish lures, wood products, himmeli, and so on. On Friday, July 27th, 2012 at 6 pm, Thunder Bay was attempting to break the Guinness Book of World Records for the most people simultaneously participating in a Nordic Walk. There were much over 700 persons par-