

The 17th World Sanskrit Conference

July 9-13, 2018 • The University of British Columbia
Vancouver, Canada • wsc.ubcsanskrit.ca



SECOND CIRCULAR ॥ द्वितीयं परिपत्रम् ॥

With less than one year to go until the **17th World Sanskrit Conference** (Vancouver, Canada, July 9 - 13, 2018), we are pleased to release this update containing important new information about the conference's **academic program, registration and accommodations, travel/visa arrangements** and **excursions**, and the latest **dates and deadlines** for you to keep in mind as you prepare for your visit. We look forward to welcoming you to Vancouver to share your research and ideas, and to celebrate Sanskrit learning and culture together with the local community! As always, please visit the WSC **website** for up-to-date information about the conference (wsc.ubcsanskrit.ca), as the information provided here is subject to change.



भूमिर्यत्र सुशान्तसागरवृता सोष्मप्रवाहैर्युता वृक्षाच्छादितपर्वतैः परिवृता पर्जन्यपूर्णा सदा |
नानादेशजनैः समेत्य नगरं यत्स्थापितं वर्धितं क्रीडास्थानमिदं समस्तजगतो व्हंकुवरं सुन्दरम् ॥

-विद्युल्लेखा अकलूजकर

ACADEMIC PROGRAM

LATEST DATES AND DEADLINES

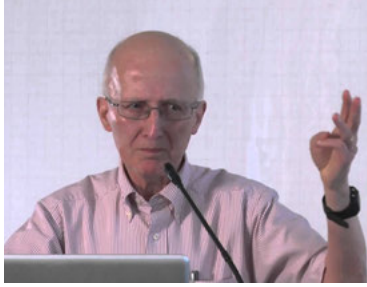
Please note the following important dates and deadlines while planning for the World Sanskrit Conference. Please note that these are subject to change, and the latest and most authoritative information will be found on the WSC conference website.

October 1, 2017	<i>Last day to submit INDIVIDUAL PAPER abstracts</i>
January 2, 2018	<i>Notification of accepted INDIVIDUAL PAPERS</i>
March 7, 2018	<i>Last day for early registration rate</i>
May 9, 2018	<i>Last day for REGISTRATION (for all presenters)</i>

IMPORTANT: All participants who plan to present a paper must pay registration fees by the deadline of **May 9, 2018**, or their paper will be **cancelled**. On-site, last minute registration will be available **only** for non-presenting participants and accompanying guests.

PLENARY SPEAKERS

We are especially pleased to announce three eminent international Sanskrit scholars who will inaugurate WSC 2018 as **plenary speakers**. Each has had a long and distinguished career of scholarship, erudition, and service to the international study of Sanskrit, and will help us establish a firm academic foundation for the conference.



George Cardona
University of Pennsylvania,
Philadelphia



Saroja Bhate
Ānandāśrama, Prajñā
Pāṭhaśālā, Pune University



Arvind Sharma
McGill University,
Montreal

SPECIAL PANEL SESSIONS

The WSC 2018 Academic Advisory Board has approved the following **special panel sessions** for inclusion into the conference. We thank the panel organizers for a particularly strong batch of proposals, and look forward to their thought-provoking discussions. A number of additional special sessions in French, English, and Sanskrit are still being planned, and will be announced in future communications.

PANEL TITLE	PARTICIPANTS
<i>Ādikāvya</i> ni: Regional Kāvya Rāmāyaṇas in Early Medieval South and Southeast Asia	Jesse Ross Knutson (University of Hawaii), Robert Goldman (UC Berkeley), Sally Sutherland-Goldman (UC Berkeley), Thomas Hunter (UBC, Vancouver)
Binding Liberation: A Roundtable around the idea of Liberation in Sanskrit Culture	Harunaga Isaacson (Universität Hamburg), Daniele Cuneo (Leiden University), Kengo Harimoto (Mahidol University, Thailand), Alex Watson (Ashoka University), Yuko Yokochi (Kyoto University), Kei Kataoka (Kyushu University)
Literary Commentaries and the Intellectual Life of South Asia	Andrey Klebanov (Kyoto University), Chiara Livio (La Sapienza, Rome), Csaba Desző (Eötvös Loránd University), Brocquet Sylvain (Université d'Aix-Marseille), Daniele Cuneo (Leiden University), Elisa Ganser (University of Zurich), Margi Madhu Chakraborty, (Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit, Kalady)

PANEL TITLE	PARTICIPANTS
Mīmāṃsā Beyond the Yāgaśālā	Andrew Ollett (Harvard University), Patrick Cummins (Cornell University), Manasicha Akepiyapornchai (Cornell University), Lawrence McCrea (Cornell University)
Research on the <i>Gārgīyajyotiṣa</i> - Composition and Transmission	Bill Mak (Kyoto University, Japan), Kenneth Zysk (Copenhagen University), Marko Geslani (Emory University), Koji Kumagai (Int'l. College for Postgraduate Buddhist Studies, Japan)
Śaiva Philosophy	Lyne Reine Bansat-Boudon (Ecole pratique des hautes études, Paris), Isabelle Ratié (Paris III, Paris), John Nemeč (Univ. of Virginia), Raffaele Torella (La Sapienza, Rome), Gavin Flood (Oxford, NUS Singapore), Alex Watson (Ashoka Univ., India), Bettina Baumer (Abhinavagupta Research Center, Benares)
Sanskrit and Tamil Maṅgīpravāla	Suganya Anandakichenin (Ecole Francaise d'Extreme Orient), Erin McCann (University of Hamburg), Giovanni Ciotti (University of Hamburg), Marcus Schmücker (Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna)
Sanskrit Buddhist Manuscripts: Texts, Techniques, and Traditions	Charles DiSimone (LMU, Munich), Kazunobu Matsuda (Bukkyo University, Japan), Gergely Hidas (The British Museum), David V. Fiordalis (Linfield College), Jinkyong Choi (LMU, Munich), Kazuo Kano (Komazawa University, Japan), Jowita Kramer (LMU, Munich), Youngjin Lee (Geumgang University, Korea)
The History and Education of the Female in the Ancient Sanskrit Literature: A Feminist Deconstructive Study	Debasree Sadhu, Arghadip Paul, Ashis Biswas (West Bengal State University)
The <i>Vedas</i> Out Loud: New Approaches to Vedic Recitation	Finnian Gerety (Yale Univ.), Michael Witzel (Harvard Univ.), Thennilapuram Mahadevan (Howard University), Cezary Galewicz (Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland)
The <i>Viṣṇu</i> - and <i>Śivadharmā</i> : Early Medieval Lay Religion in a Socio-religious and Historical Perspective	Florinda De Simini (University L'Orientale, Naples), Yuko Yokochi (Kyoto University), Marion Rastelli (Austrian Academy of Sciences), Tim Lubin (Washington & Lee University), Nirajan Kafle (Leiden University), Peter Bisschop (University of Leiden), Nina Mirnig (Austrian Academy of Sciences)
The <i>Yuktidīpikā</i> : Forging a Place for Sāṅkhya in Indian Intellectual History	Hyoung Seok Ham (Kyushu University, Japan), Edeltraud Harzer (University of Texas, Austin), Ołena Łucyszyna (University of Humanities and Economics, Lodz, Poland), Noemie Verdon (Nalanda University, India)
<i>vāg evedaṃ sarvaṃ</i>	Caley Smith (Harvard Univ.), Lauren Bausch (Dharma Realm Buddhist Univ.), Stephanie Majcher (Univ. of Sydney, Australia), Steven Lindquist (Southern Methodist Univ.)
Vedānta's Polyglot Lives: Querying Vedānta in the Vernacular, 1650-1900	Jonathan Peterson (Univ. of Toronto), Puninder Singh (Univ. of Michigan), Michael Allen (Univ. of Virginia), Eric Steinschneider (Univ. of Arizona)

PUBLIC EVENTS

We are arranging a series of **public events** that will allow WSC participants to engage meaningfully with South Asian Canadians, practitioners of yoga and alternative medicine, connoisseurs of world literature, music and dance, and other local communities in the Vancouver area who are impacted by Sanskrit learning and culture. We are pleased to announce two WSC public events at this time:



Kutiyattam Performance
by **Nepathya (koodiyattam.org)**,
introduced by David Shulman
(Hebrew University, Jerusalem)



This gala event at the Chan Centre will mark the first time that the ancient Sanskrit theatrical tradition of **Kutiyattam**, a UNESCO Oral and Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, will be performed in Canada.

Public Lecture by **James Mallinson** (SOAS, London):
"Yoga: To Mortify or Cultivate the Body?"

In this public lecture, Mallinson will trace developments within the textual history of haṭha yoga to ask how this tradition changed from being a practice meant for world-renouncing, self-mortifying ascetics to one for people in the world who wish to cultivate their bodies while pursuing yoga's religious ends.



वनकुहरगिरिश्रीः शोभते चित्रवर्णा
हरिणशशकशावाः शाद्वले केलिमग्नाः |
द्विजकुलकलनादैर्वृक्षराजिः सचेता
बहुविधजनशब्दैर्वीथयो नादपूर्णाः ||

-विद्युल्लेखा अकलूजकर

CALL for PAPERS

Scholars interested in presenting an individual paper within one of the 21 regular sections and three special sections at WSC 2018 are encouraged to submit an abstract in Sanskrit, English, or French through the **WSC submissions portal** by visiting wsc.ubcsanskrit.ca and clicking on **"Submit Proposal."** Proposals sent by email, post, or other alternative means will NOT be accepted. Please note: Due to restrictions of space and time, each scholar wishing to present his/her work at WSC 2018 may submit **only one paper proposal** for consideration.

The last day to submit an abstract is **October 1, 2017**. Speakers and titles of papers that have been accepted for presentation at WSC 2018 will be announced through the conference website on **January 2, 2018**. To provide extra time to make travel/visa arrangements, applicants from South or Southeast Asian countries will receive **EARLY NOTIFICATION** in November 2017.

Each paper will be allotted a time of 20 minutes, with an additional 10 minutes for discussion. Papers may be delivered in **Sanskrit**, or in **English** or **French** (the national languages of Canada).

A full list of the conference **sections** and their **convenors** is found on the WSC 2018 website. Please note that there is a special call for **full papers** for Section 19: "Computational Sanskrit and Digital Humanities." Please consult the support page (<https://wsc.ubcsanskrit.ca/section-19/>) for more detailed guidance on preparing submissions for this section.

Selected papers will be published in **WSC 2018 Proceedings** volumes, and further details will be announced in the third circular.

कविसमवायः शास्त्रचर्चा च ।

As has been the tradition at previous conferences, WSC 2018 will feature a **कविसमवायः** [Poets' Forum] as well as a **शास्त्रचर्चा** [Śāstra Debate]. If you are interested in participating in either of these events, please contact the Organizing Committee at wsc2018@ubcsanskrit.ca.



वनकुहरनिवासी प्रायशः शान्तिशीलः

स्मितवदनसमेतः पान्थसेवाप्रवीणः |

पदपथगमने स्याद् यानमार्गे भवेद्वा

सकलजनसुखार्थ्याक्रीडते कर्मयोगी ||

-विद्युल्लेखा अकलूजकर

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

REGISTRATION FEES

The Organizing Committee continues to be actively engaged in fundraising efforts so that registration fees can be kept to a minimum for the 17th World Sanskrit Conference. Furthermore, because we have not yet received the 2018 rates for facilities, catering, or other costs, we are as yet unable to establish a precise fee scale. However, to help participants anticipate their travel costs, we would like to offer the following **ESTIMATED registration fees** in **Canadian Dollars**, based upon current budget models:

- **\$350 CAD** for members of the **International Association for Sanskrit Studies (IASS)**.
- **\$400 CAD** for participants who are not members of the IASS.
- **\$250 CAD** for students (with valid proof of current student status).

Again, these are **tentative estimates** in **Canadian Dollars**, and we are working diligently to lower the costs significantly through sponsorships, donations, and grants. Exact amounts will be announced in the coming months.

The registration fees will cover (a) chai/coffee breaks for all five days, (b) conference banquet, (c) conference bag, stationery, and printed program, (d) a book of abstracts (distributed in electronic form), and (e) free admission to all WSC public events, including the gala Kutiyattam performance and the public lecture by James Mallinson. **IMPORTANT:** The registration fee does **NOT** cover accommodation, excursions, transportation, or meals (apart from the all-conference banquet). Attendees are expected to cover these costs on their own.

Attendees will be able to pay fees through an online **registration portal** using credit cards, electronic bank transfers, and other methods to be clarified by the Secretariat when registration opens (estimated: November 2017). All fees must be paid in **Canadian Dollars**, and must be received before the posted deadlines. Due to extensive operating costs, we cannot refund fees once the registration closes on **May 9, 2018**. Before this date, we will be able to provide a **50% refund** for cancellations, with an additional processing fee. You are encouraged to wait to pay for registration until your proposal has been accepted into the conference program.

Please note: All confirmed presenters will be required to pay registration fees before **May 9, 2018**, or their papers will be cancelled. On-site registration will be available for general admission, including individual entry tickets for public events.

MEAL PLANS

Meals are not included in the registration fees, aside from the conference banquet. You may explore a wide variety of excellent restaurants and cafés across the UBC campus and in the city of Vancouver. However, for delegates who wish to arrange their meals in advance, we are offering two optional, low-cost **add-on meal plans** with UBC Hospitality Services. The **ESTIMATED** 2018 prices for these meal plans are as follows:

- **\$68 CAD: Lunch plan** (veg/non-veg): - 6 lunches [July 8-13, 2018].
- **\$136 CAD: Full meal plan** (veg/non-veg): - 6 lunches and 5 dinners [July 8-13, 2018].

Meal plans must be purchased in advance through the registration portal by the regular deadline of **May 9, 2018**. Full refunds on meal plans are available until **May 9, 2018** (with an additional processing fee). These are **estimated** prices, and have been provided to help you better calculate travel expenses. Exact amounts will be announced once the registration portal opens (est. November 2017).

Please note: Breakfast is included with on-campus accommodations (see below). Participants will have a choice between vegetarian and non-vegetarian meal plans, though we may not be able to accommodate more restrictive diets. For your convenience, many of the housing options include kitchen facilities, and groceries are located at a walking distance from residence areas.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Given that Vancouver is a popular international tourist destination, hotel prices in July can range well over \$300 CAD/night. For your convenience, we have secured a wide range of clean, safe, and comfortable residence options at housing facilities on the campus of the University of British Columbia, all within walking distance of the conference



venue. These range from economical single rooms with shared lavatories and kitchen/lounge areas, to upscale, apartment-style suites, many with magnificent ocean/mountain views. They will be available at a variety of price points, ranging roughly from **\$65 CAD/night** (+ taxes) to **\$229 CAD/night** (+ taxes). **Note: Breakfast is included** with all on-campus housing packages.

You will be able to book these directly with **UBC Conferences & Accommodations** once the registration portal is open. More exact details, including finalized prices, will be communicated in future announcements.

EXCURSIONS

We are planning to offer conference participants a number of optional **excursion packages** on **Saturday, July 14, 2018**, ranging from a 3-hour **Boat Cruise and Luncheon** (approximately **\$120 CAD**) to a self-guided tour of museums and attractions on the UBC Campus (approximately **\$35 CAD**). Exact details will be announced in the Third Circular, and conference participants will be asked to purchase excursion packages **in advance** through the registration portal before the regular registration deadline (**May 9, 2018**). Cancellations will be possible until this date (with a processing fee).



PHOTO CREDIT: Fairweather Cruises & Events, Ltd.



PHOTO CREDIT: UBC Public Affairs

गिरिजा शारदा लक्ष्मीः गिरिसागरसंगमे
 क्रीडार्थं मिलिताः भान्ति विदुषां तोषदाः सदा |
 विद्यार्थी लभते विद्यां क्रीडार्थी क्रीडनं तथा
 सर्वे मनोरथाः पूर्णाः व्हंकूवरनिवासिनाम् ||
 -विद्युल्लेखा अकलूजकर

IASS MEMBERSHIP

As a way to increase scholarly involvement in the **International Association for Sanskrit Studies** (<http://www.sanskritassociation.org>), and to make it easier for WSC participants to get the discounted rate for IASS members, we will offer the option of purchasing 1-year or 3-year IASS memberships directly through the WSC **registration portal** as an add-on package. Exact costs and procedures will be explained in future announcements.

TRAVEL / VISA ARRANGEMENTS

Attendees are responsible for making their own travel arrangements and for acquiring the appropriate visas or authorization to visit Canada. We regret that we cannot offer personal travel assistance or advice in securing the appropriate Canadian visitor visa or electronic travel authorization (ETA), since the process differs widely from country to country. For more information and guidance, please consult the Government of Canada's official website (<http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/index.asp>) and to contact your local Canadian Embassy or Consulate for specific instructions as early as possible. Participants may wish to employ a professional travel agent for this purpose.

SPECIAL NOTE: We have recently come to know that due to an increase in visa applications at the Canadian High Commission in Delhi, there may now be long delays in processing visitor visas. As this may impact our delegates from India, Nepal, and other countries of South and Southeast Asia, we will offer **EARLY NOTIFICATION** of acceptance of paper proposals from such participants who might need extra time for visa processing. These participants will be informed of their proposal adjudication in **November 2017**. If your paper is accepted, we will then ask you for specific passport details through the conference **registration portal**, so that we may prepare a formal **letter of confirmation** to assist in your visa application. Please alert the Secretariat (wsc2018@ubcsanskrit.ca) if you encounter difficulties in this matter.

TRAVEL GRANTS

While the WSC currently cannot offer travel assistance due to budgetary limitations, we are actively striving to raise funds for this purpose from governmental and private sources. Participants are encouraged to seek grants or bursaries from their home institutions, or from governmental agencies in their home country. To assist in this process, **letters of confirmation** will be provided for all participants whose papers have been approved for inclusion into the conference program.

*Please be sure to check the conference website (wsc.ubcsanskrit.ca) for up-to-date information, as the details given in this document are subject to change. To receive regular announcements, updates, and news, please join our **WSC 2018 Announcements** email list by filling in the form on the website. All queries may be directed to the WSC 2018 Conference Secretariat at wsc2018@ubcsanskrit.ca.*

॥ शुभमस्तु ॥

WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU TO VANCOUVER!



वनपूर्वकुबेरनामकं पुरमस्त्युत्तरदिग्विभूषणम् ।
गिरिवारिधिसंनिधौ स्थितं सकलानन्दकरं सुविश्रुतम् ॥
रमया रमतेऽत्र भारती सुमनोभिः समुपासिता सदा ।
विदुषामिह सङ्गमोऽस्तु वः सुखदः संस्कृतवाग्विवर्धनः ॥
- माधव देशपांडे

Organizing Committee for the 17th World Sanskrit Conference:

Committee Members/Secretariat:

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Vidyut Aklujkar
Timothy Bellefleur
Mandakranta Bose
Thomas Hunter
Adheesh Sathaye (Chair)
Dominik Wujastyk

International Members:

V. Kutumba Shastry (President, IASS)
Ram Karan Sharma (Past President, IASS)
John Brockington (Honorary Vice President, IASS)
Jayandra Soni (Secretary General, IASS)
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