



*A great conference at the TU Dublin and even the ambassador of Portugal graced us with a visit.*

## Dear ACIS- Members!

Dear ACIS Members,

We hope you had a great start into 2025. We happily remember our successful 2024 conference in Dublin.

You'll find an account of it in our Flashback written by Scott Lancaster, one of our new PGRs. Our other new PGR member, Irina Malyuchenko, will tell you all about our first institutional Member from Galicia.

We can also announce our next conference location and also our Call for Papers for our next annual conference.

Furthermore, we are looking for a new Co-Editor for our Journal International Journal of Iberian Studies. Find all about this great position. We are looking forward to seeing you all at our next annual conference in Galicia later this year.

Happy reading wish your PGRs:



Sarah-Therese Mann



Scott Lancaster



Irina Malyuchenko

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## Flashback: Annual Conference in Dublin

The 45th annual ACIS conference, organized by Drs. Deirdre Kelly, Pilar Molina, and Mirna Vohnsen of the Technological University, Dublin, took place between 4-6 September.

In Ireland, for the first time in fifteen years, the 2024 conference brought together an array of Iberia-focused academics, graduate students, and independent researchers from around the globe, constituting further testament to ACIS's commitment to reaching into academic communities beyond the U.K. and Ireland.

In attendance this year were scholars not only from universities throughout Spain and Portugal but from varying parts of Europe as well as Brazil, India, and the United States. With close to seventy presentations spread across twenty-five panels, organizers struck a healthy balance between Spanish and Portuguese topics while highlighting Inter-Iberian perspectives and dialogic relationships concerning forms of cultural production, literary and visual elements, identity and migration.

Topics discussed in Dublin ranged from ways recent Spanish cinema and theatrical performances have tackled current societal concerns, such as notions of political crisis and corruption, violence, and deforestation, along with a host of literary explorations, such as probing the ecological overtones of the poetry of Aníbal Núñez. Numerous intersectional approaches also stood out, such as the study of language and tourism through an analysis of multilingual street signage in Palma de Mallorca.

Regional and transnational viewpoints also constituted a prominent point of analysis and commentary. Of particular note, multiple panels examined Portuguese-Brazilian relations whereas the interconnections linking Galicia and northern Portugal, indicating a heavily intertwined, connective space, emerged as a recurrent Intra-Iberian theme.



*Dublin welcomed its visitor with sunny weather.*



*The social programme included a Celtic night to dive into local history and culture.*

## Flashback: Annual Conference in Dublin

The 2024 conference featured a trio of keynote addresses and a pair of professionalization workshops, the latter touching on strategies for teaching Spanish to non-native students and a roundtable discussion on publishing in an academic journal.

Over the course of this most recent conference, identity and memory — and the ways in which these are formulated, expressed, contested and denied among groups as well as individuals — emerged as a central point of scholarly reflection. Given 2024 marked the fiftieth anniversary of the Carnation Revolution, Portugal garnered much attention.

In her keynote address, Dr. Teresa Pinheiro, of Chemnitz University of Technology, spoke of the need to engage with memories typically left out of how Portugal thinks about the Carnation Revolution—namely those of the ‘Retornados,’ the settler populations who inhabited, and supported, Portugal’s African colonies and for whom the revolution meant migration back to Iberia more so than liberation from dictatorship. In recognition of these contrasting and competing narratives, Pinheiro advocated the decolonization of Portugal’s memories surrounding 1974, specifically the need to deconstruct Portugal’s widespread belief in the exceptional nature of its imperial-colonial history.



*The picturesque old town of Dublin invites to stroll.*



*A tour of Trinity College was the highlight of the sightseeing tour with interesting facts like that this tree proves the great air quality on campus.*

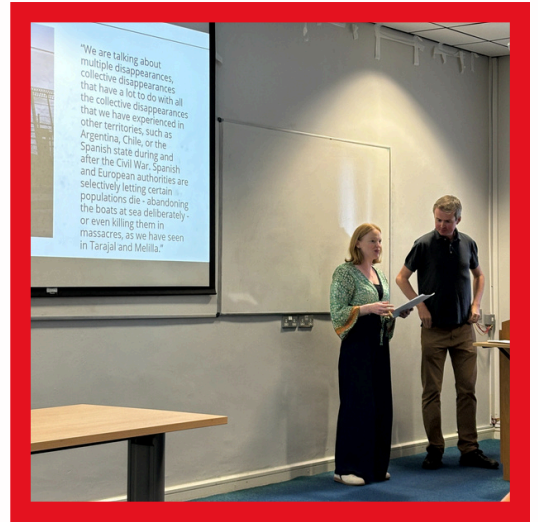
To this day, a not so insignificant portion of the Portuguese national discourse remains ensnared in the tentacles of Lusotropicalism, or the idea that the Portuguese exhibited tolerance toward native peoples and did not engage in the brutal oppression and exploitation considered characteristic of European empires. In this, one detects a clear example of the ongoing interplay between history, memory, and identity.



*Incredible Architecture could be witnessed too.*

## Flashback: Annual Conference in Dublin

When it comes to the memorialization of democratic transitions, Spain also comes to mind. Given the historical memory campaign there, and the challenges to it—as witnessed in outward nostalgia, on the political far-right, for the Franco years, efforts to instill increased pride in Spanish imperialism by claiming Spain did not have colonies—it is vital that scholars do not detach themselves from these debates but engage with public conversations, so as to help non-academic audiences break down the mythologies in order to better understand the particularities of Spain’s transition to democracy.



*Journalist Eoghan Gilmartin talked about unidentified graves in Spain.*

The 2024 ACIS conference also incorporated local fanfare, from a walking tour of Trinity College, a three-course meal accompanied by an evening of Irish song and dance, to a Harp-Flamenco crossover at the Instituto Cervantes. The latter combined Andalusian rhythms and the lyrical sounds of Ireland to produce a transcendent musical blend. The performance included sounds from the Caribbean in the form of Cuban group Buenavista Social Club in addition to the theme song from Almodóvar’s ‘Volver’ and ‘Hijo de la luna’ set to the harp. The harp concert offered an innovative experience, a take meant to challenge the listener to reconsider their notions about the instrument and its uses.



*The Flamenco-Harp crossover at the Instituto Cervantes brought together sounds of Ireland and Spain.*

## Upcoming Annual Conference in Santiago de Compostela

We are delighted to announce that the **46th annual ACIS Conference** will take place from **3 – 5 September 2025**, and will be hosted by the **Rede Galabra at the Universidade de Santiago de Compostela, Galicia**. The conference will be coordinated by **Prof Elias Torres Feijó** in a hybrid format, in person and online.



If you wish to offer a paper, please see the [Guidelines for Papers](#) and send your proposal to the ACIS 2025 Programme Convenor Prof. Elias Torres Feijó, at the email address: [46acis@usc.gal](mailto:46acis@usc.gal) by **FRIDAY, 16th MAY 2025**.

Informal enquiries concerning papers and topics are welcome before the deadlines. Conference booking can be made by accessing the conference webpage (available soon) and there is more information about the Association at: <https://www.iberianstudies.net/conferences>

Proposals for individual papers as well as panels on specific themes (max. four papers per panel) are encouraged. Any proposed panel should be organised by one convenor, who will be responsible for inviting the speakers and chairing the session. You are also invited to suggest any speakers you think would be willing to offer a paper, but please note that ACIS does not normally offer a fee or expenses for speakers.

ACIS encourages proposals from postgraduate students and a small number of partial conference fee bursaries are available – please see application process details below and encourage your students to consider this.

Below are the suggested thematic areas for papers and panels, which must advance understanding of nineteenth, twentieth and twenty-first century socio-cultural, economic and political issues and realities and relate primarily to Spain and/or Portugal and transnational issues and processes relating to the Iberian Peninsula within the wider Lusophone and Hispanic worlds. Both single-disciplinary and interdisciplinary perspectives are encouraged and the themes listed below are not exclusive.

**Politics, Government, International Relations, the EU, Nationalism, Regionalisms, Transnational issues and processes Economics, Business, Labour, Social and Welfare issues Cultural Production in all its forms (e.g. film, television, journalism, literature, media, advertising, digital communication & social networking), Social and Cultural Studies (e.g. identity, gender, ethnicity, popular culture) Leisure, Tourism, Sport, Contemporary, History, Language, Linguistics, Language Policy, Education and Pedagogy, Relationships between narratives, communities, territories.**

The selection of panels/papers will be made by the Conference programme convenors in consultation with the Executive Committee and these decisions will be final. Papers will be allocated 30 minutes on the programme (20 mins for the paper and 10 mins for discussion).

## Upcoming Annual Conference in Santiago de Compostela

We are pleased to announce the keynote speakers for this year's Annual Conference: Prof. Leigh Mercer (University of Washington); Prof. Xerardo Pereiro (Universidade de Trás Os Montes e Alto Douro) and Prof. Domingos Manaça Joaquim (Instituto Superior de Educação de Luanda).

### Conference Fees

In Person:

- Student – ACIS members - EARLY BIRD: 60€
- Student - non-members - EARLY BIRD: 85€
- Members ACIS - EARLY BIRD: 85€
- Non-members - EARLY BIRD: 100€
- Student – ACIS members – STANDARD: 85€
- Student - non-members - STANDARD: 90€
- Members ACIS – STANDARD: 100€
- Non-members – STANDARD: 120€

Online participation:

- Virtual: 70€

For online presenters, a video of the presentation will be requested at the appropriate time. This ensures smooth delivery and technical preparation for the conference.

### Institutional membership

Researchers affiliated with the Galabra Group, an Institutional Member of ACIS, should register based on their status: Student or Member (non-student). They are eligible for all registration modalities, including: Early Bird/ Standard.

### Accommodation

16 double rooms/ 33 single rooms are available at the Student Residences in Santiago de Compostela. These rooms are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis, prioritizing those who register early for the congress.

Features and prices can be found here:

<https://www.usc.gal/en/services/area/residences/access-university-halls-residence-service/accommodation-visitors>

After receiving proposal acceptance, please contact the organizers ([46acis@usc.gal](mailto:46acis@usc.gal)) to secure your accommodation.


Deadlines


- Early bird payments are accepted until the deadline, **SATURDAY, 7th JUNE 2025**
- Standard payments are accepted until the deadline, **SUNDAY, 29th JUNE 2025**


# Job Opportunities

Here are some interesting Job Opportunities:


## Professor (Linguistics)


 Brown University, USA


 <https://apply.interfolio.com/160337>

 01/02/2025

## Professor (Linguistics, Phonetics, Computational Linguistics, English)


 College of Staten Island (CUNY), USA


 <https://www.jobs.ac.uk/job/DHL506/assistant-professor-teacher-education-modern-languages>

 18/02/2025


## PhD position on the theme of linguistic diversity at the Faculty of Languages


 Uppsala University, Sweden


 <https://emerginglinguists.us21.list-manage.com/track/click?u=ca091ab92a1c06c9a2c3b9aa3&id=b5c9c5bf7a8e=54d065a51a>

 03/03/2025

## Doctoral Research Fellowship within language and linguistics

 University of Oslo, Norway

 <https://www.jobbnorge.no/en/available-jobs/job/271069/doctoral-research-fellowship-within-language-and-linguistics>

 28/02/2025

## ACIS Members - Who's Who

We've got two new PGRs as mentioned above. Here is a little greeting from either of them.

**Scott Lancaster (University of California, San Diego):**



Greetings ACIS members! As a first-time attendee at the 2024 conference, I immensely enjoyed getting to know many of you as well as listening to a host of fascinating and insightful presentations at TU Dublin. I am so very excited to continue to form part of this wonderful and engaging academic community.

I am a PhD candidate in contemporary European history at the University of California, San Diego. My dissertation explores the cultural impact of the American military in Spain during the Franco dictatorship. More specifically, I am interested in drawing out the understudied and unintended consequences of the military bases, which became a central feature of the American presence inside Spain. My work looks at local festivities, marriages, and the circulation of American rock albums as some of the ways in which American base personnel interacted with Spaniards, exchanges which aided the socioeconomic and cultural transformations that reshaped Spain prior to and after 1975.

I most recently spent 2024 in Madrid as a visiting researcher at the Faculty of Geography and History, Complutense University. As a new addition to the PG Rep team, I look forward to adding to what is an already robust community of scholars from a rich assortment of fields and diverse corners of the globe. Cannot wait to see you in Santiago!

**Irina Malyuchenko (University of Santiago de Compostela, Spain):**



Dear ACIS members! I am thrilled to join this vibrant community of scholars and to represent postgraduates within the Association for Contemporary Iberian Studies.

I am a PhD fellow within the Programme in Literary and Cultural Studies at the Faculty of Philology of the University of Santiago de Compostela (USC), Spain. I hold an Erasmus Mundus Master's degree in the Crossways in Cultural Narratives programme from the University of Sheffield (UK), the University NOVA of Lisbon (Portugal) and the University of Santiago de Compostela (Spain), an MA in Politics and Security (Central Asia) from the OSCE Academy in Bishkek (Kyrgyzstan) and a BA in International Relations from the Eurasian National University in Astana (Kazakhstan). Currently I work on my PhD thesis titled "Sustainable Tourism Policies for Community Wellbeing: the Case of the Camino de Santiago in Galicia and Northern Portugal" which focuses on the various social realities affected by the tourist formula linked to the pilgrims' ways of Camino de Santiago with a particular emphasis on the narratives elaborated by local authorities and reflected in the tourism management policies.



## ACIS Members - Who's Who

It is an honor to be part of this dynamic network of academics, and I am eager to exchange ideas, share insights, and collaborate with you all. As a PhD candidate at the University of Santiago de Compostela, I am especially excited to welcome you all to our next gathering! Let's make the upcoming conference in the historic capital of Galicia a memorable celebration of knowledge and discovery!

### Rede Galabra/USC – Welcoming a New Member to the ACIS:

We are delighted to announce that Rede Galabra, an academic network based at the University of Santiago de Compostela (USC), has officially joined the Association for Contemporary Iberian Studies in 2024.

Rede Galabra is a pioneering research group dedicated to exploring the intersections of culture, language, and society, with a particular focus on the Iberian Peninsula and Lusophone countries. Since its establishment in 1998, the network has been committed to fostering interdisciplinary collaboration in areas such as cultural heritage, sociolinguistics, and sustainability. Directed by Professor Elias J. Torres Feijó, Rede Galabra connects researchers, institutions, and communities from Spain, Portugal, Brazil, Angola, and Mozambique, promoting a deeper understanding of the cultural and social transformations shaping contemporary societies. Central to its research are themes such as social cohesion, identity sustainability, cultural evolution, and community development. Culture, in this context, is understood as the dynamic ways in which people and communities structure their lives, classify their environments, engage in the world, and adapt to change. This holistic approach positions Rede Galabra as a vital contributor to advancing knowledge and fostering meaningful dialogue across diverse cultural and linguistic landscapes.

Galabra's work integrates both theoretical reflection and practical application, emphasizing the importance of knowledge transfer. This is evident in its experience with the creation of spin-off enterprises, the establishment of transfer agreements, and the provision of cultural consultancy services. Furthermore, the network is deeply committed to the principle of Social Research Responsibility, incorporating into its analyses the perspectives and interests of the communities and sectors impacted by its research findings.

We are excited to welcome their proactive community of scholars to the ACIS. Their involvement enriches our association and opens doors to new opportunities for dialogue and collaboration. As we prepare for our next conference in Santiago de Compostela, we look forward to engaging with Rede Galabra's members and learning more about their innovative research projects. Here's to a fruitful partnership and continued academic exchange!

For more information, please visit the Rede Galabra website: <https://redegalabra.org/>

## Closing remarks

Dear ACIS Members and Friends,

The [International Journal of Iberian Studies \(IJIS\)](#) is expanding its editorial board. The Association for Contemporary Iberian Studies is pleased to formally invite applications/expressions of interest for **1 position of Co-Editor for the ACIS Journal**, International Journal of Iberian Studies. Those interested are asked to provide the following:

- A cover letter in which you demonstrate how you meet the person specification criteria and your suitability for the role.
- A current CV.
- A single-page statement in which you describe your vision for the future direction of the Journal.

This should be sent to the ACIS Secretary ([esther.gimeno@upf.edu](mailto:esther.gimeno@upf.edu)) with the subject 'IJIS Editor' by **31 January 2025**.

Applications will be reviewed by the ACIS Executive in coordination with the Journal's Editorial team. The selected candidates will be ratified by the next AGM.

Please see the [IJIS Editor Call](#) for more information about the role, person specification and application process.

We hope you enjoyed this newsletter and found the information useful. Please do not hesitate to write to us if you have any suggestions or comments. Please let us know if you would like to be featured with your research in our newsletter and/or our podcast as we continuously work to strengthen the ACIS network and foster collaborations.

You can reach us via:

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