

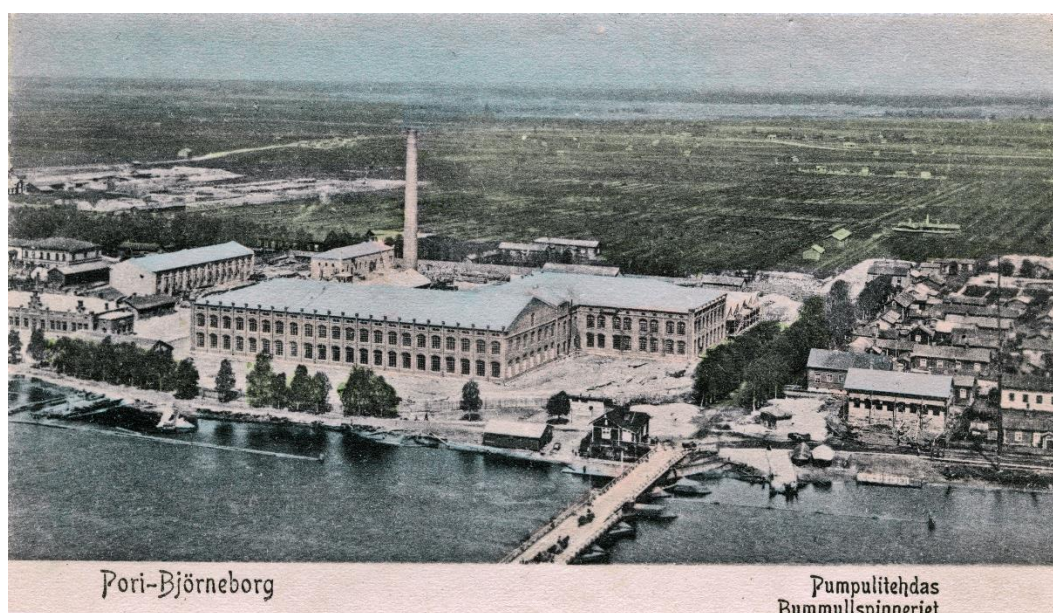
The Great Regional Awakening: New Directions

4th – 7th June 2017

Trinity College Dublin, Ireland

(Excursion, walking tour and evening drinks reception Sunday 4th June)

From Cotton Mill to Research and Innovation Platform - the case of University Consortium of Pori in regional development



Session Organiser: University Consortium of Pori, Finland

Open session

This Special Session from Finland introduces many city and regional level development and research initiatives. City of Pori used to be dependent of heavy industry and thus there have been many pursuits for structural changes in the city and the whole region in order to survive in the national and global competition. We have combined a group of practitioners and researchers whose concrete workplace is an old cotton mill building, converted to the site of University Consortium of Pori (UCPori), regional newspaper, small enterprises and the Regional Council of Satakunta.



University Consortium of Pori and Tampere University of Technology, Pori Department

PhD (Educational Technology) Director, Professor, Jari Multisilta

The University Consortium: Local Networking Contributing to Global Research

The unique partnership of four universities (Aalto University, Tampere University of Technology, the University of Tampere and University of Turku) is presented in the framework of objectives, cooperation and practices. The presentation will shed light on effective education partnerships and discusses the needs of regional universities and research groups to do international research collaboration.

Regional Council of Satakunta

MSc (Econ), Regional Advisor, Saku Vähäsantanen

Does regional competitiveness matter?

The presentation introduces the tasks of Regional Councils in Finland and proceeds towards research results on regional competitiveness as a basis for new development initiatives. Measures presented are productivity, employment rates, innovativeness, level of education of the populations and the dynamics of enterprises. The perspective is that of a practitioner and a researcher who utilizes research data in the issues of regional change.



Pori Urban Platform of Aalto University (PUPA)



D.Pol.Sci Senior Lecturer of Visual Culture Taina Rajanti and Doctoral Student and Researcher Anna Jensen

Elävä Pori – Pori Live -innovative collaborative inquiry as a resource for sustainable development of urban space.

Our joint project with University of Turku, Degree Program in Cultural Production and Landscape Studies aims at creating an innovation platform for urban development founded on collaborative inquiry. We focus on innovations that do not need massive investments, but that are based on knowledge stemming from the experience of different urban stakeholders. To make this experiential knowledge visible and sharable the project realizes experimental artistic and cultural workshops and events.



From left to right: 1. *"The Art of the Suburb", a course open for doctoral students and interested residents in the suburb of Sampola October 2015.* 2. *Our experimental "Toimisto/Office" space in Pori centre. In the window by Ville Lampi "It's not you it's my insecurities" December 2015.* 3. *Materials from a collaborative workshop on developing the coastal area of Yyterinniemi May 2016.*

University of Tampere, Pori Unit

Three perspectives on spaces and regions

Doctoral Student (sociology) Antti Wallin presents his research on the many ways how the aging of the population and the increasing number of pensioners change the perceived, conceived and lived spaces in the city of Pori. His presentation is a summary of his PhD project in which he utilizes theories of the spatial turn and qualitative fieldwork. Cases presented deals with retirees whom construct their daily lives through collective participation, and by the same process produce space that reflects their own image.



Doctoral student (social policy) Ronja Kuokkanen presents a case of a rural municipality in the Satakunta region. The focus is on local providers of social and health services and citizens practicing liberation (knowledge sharing and dialogue) in their pursuits to improve the delivery and quality of the services in the regional periphery. The context is the ongoing Health, social services and regional government reform and a new mix of public and private services. The research is conducted in collaboration with University of Turku, Degree Programme in Cultural Production and Landscape Studies.

DSocSc (social work), Postdoctoral Researcher Riikka Korkiamäki (Visiting Research fellow at Trinity College Dublin, School of Social Work and Social Policy) presents her research on the rapidly grown child and youth immigration population, including unaccompanied minors, in the city of Pori. The presentation deals with their perceived social support networks and asks how the professional service

providers in Pori recognize their prevailing social relationships and sources of support, on one hand, and the lack of and need for support, on the other hand.

University of Turku, Degree Programme in Cultural Production and Landscape Studies

Cultural Heritage Community of “Puuvilla” and Use of History

PhD (General history), Professor of Cultural Heritage Studies Anna Sivula discusses the material, social and local cultural heritage. The heritageisation of the industrial landscapes of Pori have been going on for 50 years. The multiple identity work with an old cotton mill is mostly conducted by the re-users of these historical buildings. In my presentation I will summarize the monumentalizing, possessive and historicizing identity work that have transformed the old cotton mill from an immanent remnant of the industrial past to a living combination of tangible and intangible cultural heritage.





A worker and a spinning machine in Porin Puuvilla, 1937.

Anyone interested in participating in the session should register for the conference before 24th February 2017 by visiting <http://www.regionalstudies.org/conferences>