

I valtakunnalliset nuorten tutkijoiden Oppihistorian päivät

IX Jaakko Suolahti -luento

26.1.2023, Tieteiden talo, Kirkkokatu 6, Helsinki

- 10.00–10.15** **Opening words** (Lecture Hall 505)
Elise Garritzen, President of the Finnish Society for the
History of Science and Learning
- 10.15–11.45** **Session 1: Perspectives on Knowledge** (Lecture Hall 505)
- 11.45–13.00** **Lunch**
- 13.00–14.30** **Parallel Sessions 2 (504) & 3 (505):**
Session 2: New Approaches to Disciplinary Histories
Session 3: Authoring and Communicating Knowledge
- 14.30–15.00** **Coffee**
- 15.00–16.30** **Parallel Sessions 4 (504) & 5 (505):**
Session 4: Actors and Networks
Session 5: Conceptual Approaches
- 17.00–18.00** **IX Jaakko Suolahti -lecture** (Lecture Hall 104)
- Professor **Johan Östling**, University of Lund, Lund Centre
for the History of Knowledge (LUCK):
- Approaches to the History of Knowledge: Arenas, Actors
and Circulation

Abstracts

10.15–11.45

Session 1: Perspectives on Knowledge (Lecture Hall 505)

Chair: **Johan Östling**, University of Lund

10.15–10.45 **Anita Geritz-Zhuang**: Drawing the Borders of Legitimate Knowledge in Early Modern Wonder Book Translations

10.45–11.15 **Mikko Myllyntausta**: Institutional and Other Knowledge – Parallel Forms of Knowing New Zealand in Early-19th-Century Britain

11.15–11.45 **Julia Dahlberg**: Newspapers as mediators of scientific knowledge: Darwinism and the (digitalized) Finnish Press 1859–1879

Anita Geritz-Zhuang, University of Helsinki:

Drawing the Borders of Legitimate Knowledge in Early Modern Wonder Book Translations

Following the Reformation, Europe saw considerable interest in wonders and portents. Various unusual and singular events in nature, the exact causes of which were often debated, were seen by many to foreshow future events and reflect divine wrath. However, such interpretations did not go without their critics, and the question of what kinds of knowledge about these phenomena should be considered legitimate and relevant is often implicitly present in learned wonder books. Previous scholarship suggests that interest in portents diverged along confessional lines after the Reformation, though the extent and causes of this are not yet fully understood – differences in drawing the borders of legitimate knowledge may have played their part.

In my PhD project “Translating Portentous Knowledge in Reformation Europe” (2022-), I investigate the work by early modern translators of wonder books, especially when these translations crossed or skirted confessional borders. In this paper, I consider how different views on legitimate knowledge about portents appear in these works, and specifically how their translators could actively contribute to this discussion. I suggest that the application of approaches of the history of knowledge and paying attention to the “boundary work” around legitimate and illegitimate knowledge may benefit our understanding of early modern discussions on portents in transconfessional contexts, while also highlighting the challenges of defining knowledge in the early modern period.

Mikko Myllyntausta, University of Turku:

Institutional and Other Knowledge – Parallel Forms of Knowing New Zealand in Early-19th-Century Britain

In the early decades of the 19th century, New Zealand started to become slowly 'known' in Europe. The historian James Belich has called this time "the scientific exploration phase of New Zealand's contact with Europe". In my presentation, I will delve deeper into this early European construction of knowledge concerning New Zealand. I will discuss the role various and diverse travellers played in contrast to and alongside scientific institutions in the early knowing of New Zealand.

After James Cook's journeys in the late 18th century and before the official colonisation of the islands in 1840, scientifically inclined and institutionally supported exploration was undertaken by Europeans in New Zealand. Yet, the Royal Geographical Society, for example, published only two texts concerning New Zealand during this time. The most prominent and used sources of knowledge concerning the islands were various forms of travel writing by travellers with little connections to scientific institutions.

My presentation is based on my recently completed PhD work and my planned post-doctoral research. I will focus on how the historical analysis of scientific and less-scientifically inclined forms of knowledge can complement each other in creating multifaceted and nuanced views of how something was 'known'. My topic relates to the recent approaches to the history of knowledge and the expanding of the perspectives of the history of science. It illustrates how questions of credibility and formation of knowledge theorised in the field of the history of science can be applied and developed further to interrogate the formation of knowledge alongside and beyond scientific institutions.

Julia Dahlberg, University of Oulu:

Newspapers as mediators of scientific knowledge: Darwinism and the (digitalized) Finnish Press 1859–1879

The presentation is related to my research project *The Authority of Science? The Circulation of Evolutionary Ideas in Public Discourse in Finland 1860–1910* (2021–2023, Svenska litteratursällskapet i Finland). In the project I study the variety of knowledge about evolutionary theory that was available to people from different levels of society in 19th Century Finland through non-specialist forms of media, such as newspapers, art, literature, and curriculums in schools, and how this knowledge circulated through public debate.

My project is inspired by the ongoing discussion about the history of knowledge and its relation to the history of science. Asking how knowledge about evolution evolved and changed as it was circulated between different forms of media, literary genres and contexts, my primary focus is with questions concerning the mediality of popular knowledge about evolution.

As part of the research project, I have studied how newspapers in Finland reported on Charles Darwin's scientific work, and especially on his theory on natural and sexual selection (Darwinism). In the paper I will discuss newspapers as mediators of scientific knowledge, and different ways to study the circulation of scientific knowledge in the press through digital methods.

13.00–14.30

Session 2: New Approaches to Disciplinary Histories (Lecture Hall 504)

Chair: **Maija Kallinen**, University of Oulu

13.00–13.30 **Liisa Kunnas-Pusa**: Colonialism, Finnish archaeology, and the interpretations of Stone Age

13.30–14.00 **Petteri Norring**: Normativity and historians – the case of Nordic historiography

14.00–14.30 **Janne Mäkiranta**: Animal Agency and the History of Veterinary Medicine

Liisa Kunnas-Pusa, University of Helsinki:

Colonialism, Finnish archaeology, and the interpretations of Stone Age

Several studies have been published recently on the history of colonialism in Finland, especially of Finns as perpetrators and inflictors of colonialism. In contradiction, in the nationalistic narratives Finns have often presented themselves more as victims of colonialism.

Notably, there is a close historical relationship between colonialism and archaeology. Besides the appropriation of archaeological heritage from colonized areas, colonialism also affected the archaeological research conducted within the borders of European states and the interpretations of past ethnicities. In Finland, Sweden, and Norway, postcolonial approaches have been applied to re-examine the study of history and archaeology of the Sámi. The issues related to the past and present relationship between the Sámi, Finns and Swedes have had multifaceted reflections to the way prehistoric past has been viewed in Finland.

In my presentation, I will examine the traces of colonial thought in the interpretations and narratives of Stone Age in the writings of Finnish archaeologists during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. How did colonialism affect the construction of Finnish identity and national pride, when viewed through the descriptions of prehistoric past? My presentation is based on the last research article included in my upcoming doctoral dissertation *Historiography and Conceptual History of Stone Age Archaeology in Finland c. 1700–1940*.

Petteri Norring, University of Helsinki:

Normativity and historians – the case of Nordic historiography

My research project, “The Free Peasant and the Nordic Historiography 1800–2000”, analyses Nordic historians from the 19th and 20th centuries and their accounts about the histories of the Nordic peasantry. The figure of the “free peasant” refers to the group of agrarian common people that got by relatively well because of their personal freedom, freeholding status, and the political rights they were entitled to. This concept has held considerable weight in Nordic societies, and it is one of the key concepts with which the past political and social order has been made, in various ways, intelligible for the contemporary societies.

The concept and its historiographic relevance have not, however, been studied systematically in the research tradition of Nordic historiography. Thus, in my study, I analyse the historiography of “the free Nordic peasant” with comparative approach that cover conceptual changes, geographic variations, historiographic trends, and normative implications of the concept.

In recent years, the ethics of studying past has sparked special interest and it is to this discussion my case-study also contributes. In forthcoming symposium, my paper focuses on two methodological points and both deal with close relationship between normativity and historical scholarship. Firstly, I discuss the advantages of comparative method in observing the interaction between historical research and the contemporary society. Secondly, the challenging task of analysing the normative implications of scholarly texts by historians will be considered.

Janne Mäkiranta, University of Turku:

Animal Agency and the History of Veterinary Medicine

History of veterinary medicine has been a growing field of study for the past decade. With the timely topics of animal welfare, intensive farming and human-animal relationship in general, veterinary medicine has been slowly rising from the margins of historical scholarship. At the same time the focus of research has shifted from the traditional narratives of progress to the diverse topics inspired by recent research in history of science, medicine and knowledge.

The multidisciplinary field of human-animal studies has also challenged history of veterinary medicine to revise its view on animals as part of veterinary practice and research. With the question of animal agency at its core, veterinary medicine provides an important point of view on the broader question about animal or non-human agency in the production and use of knowledge.

In this presentation I will examine animal agency in veterinary medicine from the point of view of my current research on the relationship between veterinary knowledge and intensive farming in twentieth century Finland. In my research I examine how veterinary knowledge about pain and suffering of animals was co-developed with the animals in the so called factory farms. In my presentation I will examine potential ways to make animal agency visible and the significance these approaches may hold for our understanding of how knowledge about animals or with animals is produced.

13.00–14.30

Session 3: Authoring and Communicating Knowledge (Lecture Hall 505)

Chair: **Janne Tunturi**, University of Turku

13.00–13.30 **Sara Norja**: Roger Bacon's alchemical legacy: Tracing the work of a 'pseudo-author'

13.30–14.00 **Aino Liira**: Making Time Visible: Visual chronologies in Early Modern English books

14.00–14.30 **Ahto Apajalahti**: Cold War nuclear culture in Finland and beyond

Sara Norja, University of Turku:

Roger Bacon's alchemical legacy: Tracing the work of a 'pseudo-author'

Alchemy was mostly seen as a pseudoscience in 20th-century scholarship, but current views emphasise its position as an early science (cf. Newman & Principe 2001, a seminal article; Rampling 2020). In addition to practical work, European alchemy was a scholarly occupation distributed through treatises, recipes, and other texts. Much of our evidence of e.g. English alchemy is thus in textual form, but irregular cataloguing and the relative lack of previous scholarship make exploring alchemical textual histories challenging. Alchemical texts are an underexplored source for studying scientific language; as a philologist, I focus on alchemy through book history and linguistics.

My paper chronicles one approach for mapping alchemical texts, focusing on a single 'pseudo-author' in a single language: English-language alchemical texts spuriously attributed to the 13th-century scholar Roger Bacon. Bacon himself wrote on alchemy, but it was his post-mortem reputation as an alchemist that became legendary, and his actual alchemical material is overwhelmed by the texts falsely attributed to him.

In this paper, I present the preliminary results of a survey mapping English-language 'Pseudo-Baconian' alchemical texts. This information has previously been scattered and forming a coherent picture of the material was a long process. The paper springs from research done for my dissertation (Norja 2021: 63–81). I show that there are great benefits to detailed bibliographical research into a specific area of the understudied textual domain of alchemy. My survey sketches English alchemical textual practices from the 15th to 17th centuries and enables further research on Pseudo-Baconian alchemy.

References:

Newman, William R. & Lawrence M. Principe. 2001. 'Some problems with the historiography of alchemy'. In William R. Newman & Anthony Grafton, *Secrets of Nature: Astrology and Alchemy in Early Modern Europe*. Cambridge, Massachusetts: MIT Press, 385–431.

Norja, Sara. 2021. *Alchemy in the Vernacular: An Edition and Study of Early English Witnesses of The Mirror of Alchemy*. Doctoral dissertation, University of Turku. <https://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-951-29-8448-0>.

Rampling, Jennifer M. 2020. *The Experimental Fire: Inventing English Alchemy, 1300–1700*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Aino Liira, University of Turku:

Making Time Visible: Visual chronologies in Early Modern English books

This paper focuses on the different kinds of ‘graphic devices’ which were used to convey chronological information in English printed books up to 1700. Situated between textual and visual modes of communication, graphic devices such as tables and diagrams have typically fallen outside the main focus of historical linguists and literary scholars on the one hand, and art historians on the other hand. However, graphic devices play an important part in constructing and transmitting knowledge, and their use, particularly in vernacular books, is still under-researched.

What kinds of visualisations were used in books addressing chronology, and how did book producers communicate their use or value to the reader? The present paper answers these questions and aims to shed light on book producers’ understanding of graphic devices by focusing on a specific branch of knowledge, chronology. Chronology began to emerge as a separate field in the Renaissance period, and we expect it to be a fruitful source for potentially innovative solutions made by book producers. Our approach is philological: we examine the texts in their material and cultural, communicative contexts. Relevant primary materials in the domains of historiography and chronology were identified using the *Early English Books Online (EEBO)* database and the *English Short-Title Catalogue (ESTC)*.

The research reported in this paper has been conducted by Aino Liira, Matti Peikola and Marjo Kaartinen as part of the *Early Modern Graphic Literacies (EModGraL)* project, funded by the Academy of Finland and the University of Turku, 2021–2025.

Ahto Apajalahti, University of Helsinki:

Cold War nuclear culture in Finland and beyond

In recent years, researchers have employed the idea of *nuclear culture* to describe a set of activities, attitudes, beliefs, networks, policies and cultural products centered around both the peaceful and the military use of nuclear energy, as well as other fields of nuclear research and technology. Most often nuclear culture has been explored in the context of the Cold War, though not exclusively. Much of the relevant research has explored the internationality and locality of nuclear cultures.

I'll present some findings of my ongoing PhD research on the popularisation of science in Finland during the Cold War. Using sources such as popular science literature and media articles, I'll identify persons who can be said to have been deliberately attempting to create a certain kind of nuclear culture in Finland. I'll consider how they, and foreign authors whose works they translated, used the idea of nuclear energy - both military and civilian - to advance goals related to science literacy, ethics, science policy, energy policy, and national economic development.

I'll consider whether the framework of nuclear culture is enough to explain why nuclear themes were so compelling and widely used during the Cold War. In addition, one might consider a wider framework of science culture. I'll also propose that a technocentrist view of nuclear culture should be augmented with a wider understanding of the ethical and philosophical context of the Cold War era.

15.00–16.30

Session 4: Actors and Networks (Lecture Hall 504)

Chair: Laura Hollsten

15.00–15.30 **Mari Välimäki, Minna Vesa, & Robin Engblom:** Professor's Household – The Royal Academy of Turku as a Family Network in the 17th Century

15.30–16.00 **Ari J. Tervashonka:** Nikola Teslan universaaln sähkön tiedepohja

16.00–16.30 **Marko Piipponen:** Bureau for Criminal Investigation – Pioneer of Finnish forensic science 1926–1954

Mari Välimäki, University of Tampere
Minna Vesa, University of Helsinki
Robin Engblom, Åbo Akademi:

Professor's Household – The Royal Academy of Turku as a Family Network in the 17th Century

Professor's Household is an ongoing project in the Tampere University lasting three years (March 2022 – July 2024). In the project, we study the professoriate of the Royal Academy of Turku as a family network during the 17th century. We are proposing a presentation in which the members of the project would tell about the main premises of the project as well as some preliminary results.

The Royal Academy was established in 1640 in Turku on the southeastern coast of what is now Finland. Turku was one of Sweden's largest and most significant towns in the 17th century. It engaged in international trade and was the centre of ecclesiastical, judicial, and secular power in the eastern part of the Swedish realm.

The Academy's founding also led to a new group emerging within the town's clergy: the professoriate. During the 17th century, the Academy's disciples and those linked to the academic community by family ties dominated the professoriate. The Royal Academy of Turku was not an anomaly, for nepotism was common in early modern academic communities.

The project focuses on the concepts of family and family life that prevailed among the professoriate and familial networks within the Academy. We also study the role(s) of the professors' spouses within the household, family networks, and, more generally, in the university town and prebend congregations the professors held not far from Turku. This project examines the academic community from the perspective of family history, while previous research has primarily focused on the history of sciences and ideas.

Project members:

PhD, Postdoctoral Researcher Mari Välimäki, Leader of the Project

MA, Doctoral Researcher Minna Vesa

MA, Doctoral Researcher Robin Engblom

Ari J. Tervashonka, University of Eastern Finland:

Nikola Teslan universaalin sähkön tiedepohja

Nikola Tesla (1856–1943) tunnetaan erityisesti elektroniikan, sähkön ja tieteen historiassa monien keksintöjen kuten vaihtovirran (AC) ja induktiomoottorin kehittäjänä. Hänen erikoinen luonteenlaatunsa, pitkälle viedyt eteeriset sähkökokeet, suhteet julkisuuden hahmoihin sekä lähes myyttisen maineen saaneet koelaitteet ovat taanneet Teslalle historiallista ja populaarikulttuurillista kohumainetta. Suurimpia kohun lähteitä oli hänen pyrkimyksensä tuottaa langattomasti siirtyvää loputonta energiaa (universal energy), sekä langatonta kommunikointia. Koska kokeet tältä osin eivät edenneet halutulla tavalla ja kilpailevan projektin onnistuttua langattomassa kommunikoinnissa Teslan maine ja rahoitus kärsi merkittävästi JP Morganin vetäytyessä kokonaan Teslan rahoittamisesta.

Teslan universaali sähkö ei kuitenkaan omana aikanaan perustunut täyteen huuhaaseen vaan sillä oli historiallisesti 1800-luvun tieteen näkökulmasta järkevä tausta. Huolimatta Teslaa koskevasta laajasta kirjallisuudesta, julkaisuista sekä sadoista eri puolilla maailmaa rekisteröidyistä patenteista meillä on hyvin vähän jäsenettyä tietoa Teslan järkeilystä loputtoman sähkön suhteen. Analysoimme sen vuoksi syitä mihin Nikola Teslan loputon sähkö perustui. Jotta teema tulee ymmärretyksi sen historiallisessa kontekstissa, käymme läpi Teslan kontribuutioita 1800-luvun tieteellisen viitekehyksen näkökulmasta, joka poikkeaa suurelta osalta 2000-luvun maailman ja sähkön ymmärryksestä. Tutkimus on toteutettu osana laajempaa 1800 ja 1900 lukujen taitteen teoreettisen fysiikan tutkimusta James Clerk Maxwellin sähkömagneettisen teorian eetteristä.

Marko Piipponen, University of Eastern Finland:

Rikostutkimuskeskus – Suomalaisen teknisen rikostutkimuksen pioneeri 1926–1954

Suomessa 1920-luvulla rikollisuutta vastaan haluttiin taistella käyttämällä uusia keinoja erityisesti tieteen kentältä. Tätä tarkoitusta varten vuonna 1926 sisäasiainministeriöön perustettiin Rikostutkimuskeskus, jonka tarkoituksena oli teknisen rikostutkimuksen avulla avustaa poliiseja, syyttäjiä ja tuomioistuimia rikosten selvittämisessä. Rikostutkimuskeskus toimi vuoteen 1954 asti, kunnes se yhdistettiin osaksi vastaperustettua keskusrikospoliisia. Rikostutkimuskeskus edustikin suomalaisen teknisen rikostutkimuksen huippua, koska vastaavaa instituutiota ei ollut ennen Suomessa. Rikostutkimuskeskus ei ollut pelkästään teknisiä rikostutkimuksia tekevä laboratorio. Se esimerkiksi opetti poliiseja teknisen rikostutkimuksen pariin, ylläpiti valtakunnallista sormenjälki- ja tuntomerkkiarkistoa ja pyrki kehittämään teknisen rikostutkimuksen menetelmiä paremmaksi.

Tieteenhistoriassa Rikostutkimuskeskus edustaa suomalaisen teknisen rikostutkimuksen syntyä ja sen vakiintumista. Tämän seurauksena tuomioistuimet joutuivat rikosasioissa ensimmäistä kertaa pohtimaan tieteellä hankitun todisteen todistusarvoa. Tekninen rikostutkimus onkin tämän päivän poliisin toiminnassa täysin korvaamaton asia. Rikostutkimuskeskus teki yhteistyötä Valtion seerumlaboratorion, Teknisen Korkeakoulun ja muiden tiedemiesten kanssa, jos tarvittiin Rikostutkimuskeskuksen ulkopuolista asiantuntijaa jonkun asian selvittämiseksi.

Rikostutkimuskeskuksessa on myös vahva kansainvälinen yhteys, koska 1920-luvulla teknisen rikostutkimuksen opit käytiin hankkimassa Saksasta. Ranskassa ja Saksassa tekninen rikostutkimus olikin 1920-luvulla saavuttanut merkittävän jalansijan muun muassa ranskalaisen kriminologi Edmond Locardin vaikutuksen myötä.

Tutkin väitöskirjassani Rikostutkimuskeskusta ja sen vaikutusta suomalaiseen tekniseen rikostutkimukseen, poliisin tietoon tulleiden rikosten selvitysprosenttiin, sekä teknisiä todisteita koskevaan oikeuskäytäntöön. Aineistolähtöisen tutkimuksen tärkeimpinä aineistoina toimivat Rikostutkimuskeskuksen arkistoaineisto, oikeusministeriön tilastot rikollisuudesta, korkeimman oikeuden ratkaisut, Poliisimies sekä Suomen poliisilehti julkaisut. Esitelmän tavoitteena on esitellä yleisellä tasolla Rikostutkimuksen historiaa ja tutkimuksen lähtökohtia, koska tutkimusprosessi on vasta alussa.

15.00–16.30

Session 5: Conceptual Approaches (Lecture Hall 505)

Chair: **Soile Ylivuori**, University of Helsinki

15.00–15.30 **Salla Tuomivaara**: Can a conceptual history of animal be written?

15.30–16.00 **Olli Rappe**: Combining conceptual history and discourse analysis for studying historical development of a social scientific paradigm – a methodological perspective

16.00–16.30 **Heikki Mikkonen**: The Idea of Economic Growth in Finnish Economic Associations from the Late 19th Century until the Second World War

Salla Tuomivaara, University of Turku:

Can a conceptual history of animal be written?

In my postdoctoral research project, *When Man Ceased to Be an Animal – Animal, Animality and Human-Animal Boundary in Sociology and Anthropology Before and After World War II*, I try to find out how and why animal disappeared from the sociological texts and sociological theory construction. I will analyse sociological and anthropological texts from the period before and after World War II. I'm interested in exploring the separation of these disciplines and I aim to analyse what kind impact this separation had on the attitudes towards animals, animality, and the relationship between (hu)man and animals in both disciplines. This means I will also explore intertwining processes producing both human and animal otherness. Both sociology and anthropology have constructed stories of "modern Europeans" and "Other people" while simultaneously constructing these groups' relationship to animals and these humans' own animality – perceived by themselves and perceived by others.

My research combines sociology and history of science, and it also utilizes methodological apparatus of conceptual history. Conceptual history has been little used in the rapidly grown field of human–animal studies. The questioning of standard ideas about the human/animal distinction has been at the core of animal studies, but historical conceptual analysis about the concepts of human and animal and humanity and animality has been missing. I have decided to write my first article on challenges and possibilities of writing conceptual history of animal and will present key ideas of this article on my presentation.

Olli Rappe, Aalto University:

Combining conceptual history and discourse analysis for studying historical development of a social scientific paradigm – a methodological perspective

In my doctoral thesis I study the historical development of *neo-institutional theory in sociology and organizational studies*: a social scientific paradigm with its origins in social constructionism that in its contemporary form, according to critique, combines constructionist ontology to neo-positivist epistemology. The theory has been criticised for its onto-epistemological, conceptual and moral-philosophical characteristics, but today it is nevertheless the leading social theory in research carried out in business schools.

To understand institutional theory as a knowledge theoretical historical project, I combine conceptual historical approach, drawing from the work of Reinhart Koselleck, to discourse analysis. By analysing the semantic change of key concepts of the paradigm I offer an interpretation of how its current knowledge theoretical form has come to be.

Discourse analytical means provide a perspective for interpreting historical developments that have both knowledge theoretical and moral-philosophical significance. E.g. studying subject positions in published studies can inform our understanding of the idea of human being within a scientific paradigm. Furthermore, in social theory studying subject positions can tell us which kind of knowledge theoretical view has been carried out in practice. Studying diachronic change of semantic relations around key concepts structuring a paradigm offers a way for understanding dynamic historical developments.

Heikki Mikkonen, University of Tampere:

The Idea of Economic Growth in Finnish Economic Associations from the Late 19th Century until the Second World War

Economic growth and the GDP are deeply embedded in today's economic and political language. Considering how powerful the idea of economic growth has become, it is somewhat surprising that the concepts gained popularity only after the Second World War. During the last two decades, there has emerged a small but vibrant field that examines intellectual, political, and cultural aspects of growth. However, it is noteworthy that most of this research has primarily focused on texts written in English by economists in Anglo-American universities and international organizations.

This paper presents a part of my doctoral dissertation that will be published as a monograph. The study examines how economic growth was conceptualized in Finnish economic associations at the turn of the 20th Century. Before the First World War, Finnish economists and politicians, following ideas of nationalism and romanticism, emphasized intangible national and cultural values as key characteristics of national wealth. During the interwar period, however, national income and national product emerged as quantifiable indicators of material welfare that were adopted by conservatives, social democrats, and communists alike.

The study contributes to history of science and intellectual history of economic growth by showcasing how the idea of economic growth is not synonymous with the idea of capitalism, but rather an idea that was connected to scientization of knowledge and particular forms of state-building.

17.00–18.00

IX Jaakko Suolahti -lecture (Lecture Hall 104)

Chair: **Elise Garritzen**, University of Helsinki

Professor **Johan Östling**, University of Lund and Lund Centre for the History of Knowledge (LUCK):

Approaches to the History of Knowledge: Arenas, Actors and Circulation

In this presentation, Östling starts off by introducing the new field of the history of knowledge. He discusses its main historiographical varieties and presents some of its key concepts – in particular actors, arenas and circulation of knowledge. Drawing on his own research, he demonstrates how a study of the conditions of the circulation of knowledge could look like. He thereby focuses on the public sphere during the 1960s and 1970s, highlighting certain media platforms where circulation of knowledge occurred, such as newspapers, paperback series and early television. His research underlines the importance of the humanities for a kind of public knowledge during these years, thereby challenging a crisis narrative of the humanities of the postwar period that is prevalent in established historiography.