Beyond Flanders Fields

The Great War in Belgium and the Netherlands
At the centenary of the First World War, many events have been organized in the United Kingdom to commemorate its military events, its socio-political consequences and its cultural legacy. Of these events, very few have paid attention to the fates of Belgium and the Netherlands. Although it was Belgium which was the first goal of German troops in August 1914, and its occupation had long-term consequences for its people, much of the study of the military and social history of the Western Front concentrates on northern France. The Netherlands is largely forgotten as a nation affected by the First World War.

This conference intends to address some opportunities that are still left unexplored regarding the First World War in Belgium and the Netherlands. By opening the field beyond the military and beyond the front, the organisers of the conference Beyond Flanders Fields offer a platform from which the interdisciplinary and international nature of First World War scholarship will be extended. The scholars who present at the conference will do so with the aim of collaborating on a peer-reviewed collection of essays, to be published by Palgrave MacMillan and part of the conference will be dedicated to a workshop with a joint publication in mind.

The two key note speakers are internationally renowned scholars on the First World War in the Low Countries:

- **Professor Sophie De Schaepdrijver** (The Pennsylvania State University)
- **Professor Hubert van Tuyll** (Georgia Regents University)

The School of Languages, Linguistics and Film (SLLF) is proud to support Beyond Flanders Fields.

Its cross-disciplinary and cross-border perspective reflects our values in both research and teaching: comparative and multilingual topics occupy an important position in our work, whether in cinema, linguistics, or literary and cultural studies. More specifically, aspects of the Low Countries - dating back to the Middle Ages in some cases - figure directly or indirectly among the research specialisms of several of our staff. Making unexpected connections is what SLLF is all about, for students as well as staff. I'm confident that this exciting conference will catalyse new exchanges and collaborations in just that spirit.

**Adrian Armstrong**
Centenary Professor of French / Head of School, SLLF
### Saturday at a glance

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Beyond Flanders Fields
The Great War in Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg

Saturday 4th June 2016
Programme

Arts One Lecture Theatre

10.30:

John Williams
The Flames of Louvain: A Tale of Total War and Destruction of European High Culture in Belgium by German Occupying Forces in August 1914.

11.00:

Tessa Lobbes
‘Those, whom we used to call our beloved Flemish friends, are becoming our German enemies’: The confrontation between Dutch intellectuals, Flemish activism and the German Flamenpolitik during the First World War.

11.30: Break

12.00:

Sebastian Bischoff
Furies, spies and fallen women: Gender in the German public discourse about Belgium, 1914-1918.

12.30:

Geneviève Warland
Post-war plans for Belgium? German academics dealing with the First World War and its Aftermath.

1.00: Lunch

2.30:

Sophie De Schaepdrijver
“A Less-than Total Total War”: Neutrality, Invasion, and the Stakes of War, 1914-1918.

3.30: Break
Beyond Flanders Fields
The Great War in Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg

Saturday 4th June 2016
Programme continued

4.00:

Christophe Declercq
Emerging from a forgotten past: Belgian refugees in Britain during the First World War.

4.30:

Rolf ter Sluis
**Beyond Flanders Fields**
*The Great War in Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg*

**Sunday 5th June 2016**

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**Sunday at a glance**

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**Arts One Lecture Theatre**

**10.30:**

Mathijs Sanders  
*Bilateral Societies in the Netherlands, 1916-1921.*

**11.00:**

Bernhard Liemann  
*Contact Zones beyond the “Iron Curtain”? Belgo-Dutch-German Border crossings 1914-1918.*

**11.30:** Break
Beyond Flanders Fields
The Great War in Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg

Sunday 5th June 2016
Programme continued

12.00:

Hugh Dunthorne
A Cambro-Belgian in the Great War: Frank Brangwyn as Artist and Activist

12.30:

Maria Inés Tato
Witnessing the German Occupation of Belgium: Roberto J. Payró’s War Chronicles.

1.00: Lunch

2.30:

Hubert van Tuyll
The Low Countries as Enemies, 1918-1920.

3.30: Break

4.00:

Karen Shelby
The Guard on the IJzer: The Memory of the Belgian Front.

4.30: Workshop and Drinks
The School of Languages, Linguistics and Film (SLLF) is proud to support Beyond Flanders Fields.

With the support of the Embassy of Belgium in the United Kingdom.

General Representation of the Government of Flanders.

The forthcoming publication, ‘The Great War in Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg’, should publish in Spring 2018.

UCL’s Centre for Translation Studies (CenTraS) offers a range of mainly technology-based taught postgraduate specialised translation courses, as well as a platform for interdisciplinary research on the role and position of language usage in cross-cultural and/or transnational contexts.
We would like to thank you for participating in this conference and hope that you have both enjoyed it and profited from it.

We would like to thank Beth Prescott and her team in the Events Office of Queen Mary University of London as well as the catering staff.

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