SUNDAY, MAY 18

SESSION VII
9:00 – 12:00 pm – Evolution and Revolution in Georgian Political Development.
Chair: Ronald Grigor Suny (University of Michigan).
Stephen F. Jones (Mount Holyoke College): “The Role of Non-Violence in the Rose Revolution.”

SESSION VIII
1:00 – 4:00 pm – Challenges of the Modern Moment: Georgia in the Globalizing World.
Chair: Jirair Libaridian (University of Michigan).
Sergei Markedonov (Institute of Political and Military Analysis, Moscow): “Russian-Georgian Relations: Contemporary Challenges and Tendencies.”

The conference on “Georgia: The Making of a National Culture” is organized by the Armenian Studies Program, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. This conference is sponsored by the Manoogian Simone Foundation, Armenian Studies Program, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor; and co-sponsored by Department of History, Department of Near Eastern Studies, Rackham Graduate School, International Institute, Center for Russian and East European Studies, Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies, Eisenberg Institute for Historical Studies at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and by the American Research Institute of the South Caucasus (ARISC, based at the University of Chicago).
THURSDAY, MAY 15

7:30 – 9:30 pm – Opening Reception (not open to public).

FRIDAY, MAY 16

SESSION I
9:00 – 12:00 pm – Christian Georgia: Culture and Identity in the Middle Ages and Early Modern Period.

Chair: Kevork Bardakjian (University of Michigan).

Stephen H. Rapp, Jr. (Georgia State University): “The Land of Heroes and Giants: Recovering the Iranian Heritage of Medieval Georgia.”


Tamila Mgaloblishvili (Center for Exploration of Georgian Antiquities): “Georgians in the Holy Land.”

Dean Sakel (Bogazici University): “Eighteenth-Century Reflections of Moves Towards a Georgian National Consciousness: The Element of Historiography.”

SESSION II
1:00 – 3:30 pm – The Emergence of Modern Georgian Nationalism.

Chair: Ronald Grigor Suny (University of Michigan).

Hirotake Maeda (Hokaido): “Identity in Aleksandre Orbeliani (1802-1869).”

Paul Manning (Trent University): “Georgians, that is, Readers of droeba.”


SESSION III
4:00 – 5:30 pm – Kalaki: Tbilisi/ Tiflis- Culture and Politics.

Chair: Ronald Grigor Suny (University of Michigan).

David Khoosttaria (National Research Center for Georgian Art History): “Tbilisi in the Nineteenth Century: Cultural Diversity and Urban Identity.”

Mzia Chikhradze (National Center for Georgian Art History, Tbilisi): “Cultural Life of Tbilisi, 1910-1920s.”

SATURDAY, MAY 17

SESSION IV
9:00 – 12:00 pm – Diversity and Unity in the South Caucasus, I: Discourses of Division.

Chair: Kathryn Babayan (University of Michigan).

Medea Badashvili (Center for Social Sciences, Tbilisi): “Muslim Women’s Identity in Post-Soviet Georgia.”


Kevin Tuite (Université de Montréal): “Sacred Sites of the Northeast Georgian Highlands and Representations of Georgianness in the Post-Soviet Period.”

SESSION V
1:00 – 4:00 pm – Diversity and Unity in the South Caucasus, II: Armenians and the Georgian Nation.

Chair: Jirair Libaridian (University of Michigan).


Mariam Chkhartishvili (Tbilisi State University): “Armenians in the Process of Georgian Identity Forging.”


Asbed Kochikian (Florida State University): “Neither Enemies, Nor Friends: Georgian-Armenian Relations Between Old and New.”

SESSION VI
4:30 – 6:00 pm – Expressing the National, Performing the Nation.

Chair: Ronald Grigor Suny (University of Michigan).

Harsha Ram (University of California, Berkeley): “National Mythopoesis: Georgian Modernism, the National Question, and Socialist Realism.”


THURSDAY, MAY 15

7:30 – 9:30 pm – Opening Reception (not open to public).

FRIDAY, MAY 16

SESSION I
9:00 – 12:00 pm – Christian Georgia: Culture and Identity in the Middle Ages and Early Modern Period.

Chair: Kevork Bardakjian (University of Michigan).

Stephen H. Rapp, Jr. (Georgia State University): “The Land of Heroes and Giants: Recovering the Iranian Heritage of Medieval Georgia.”


Tamila Mgaloblishvili (Center for Exploration of Georgian Antiquities): “Georgians in the Holy Land.”

Dean Sakel (Bogazici University): “Eighteenth-Century Reflections of Moves Towards a Georgian National Consciousness: The Element of Historiography.”

SESSION II
1:00 – 3:30 pm – The Emergence of Modern Georgian Nationalism.

Chair: Ronald Grigor Suny (University of Michigan).

Hirotake Maeda (Hokaido): “Identity in Aleksandre Orbeliani (1802-1869).”

Paul Manning (Trent University): “Georgians, that is, Readers of droeba.”


SESSION III
4:00 – 5:30 pm – Kalaki: Tbilisi/ Tiflis- Culture and Politics.

Chair: Ronald Grigor Suny (University of Michigan).

David Khoostaria (National Research Center for Georgian Art History): “Tbilisi in the Nineteenth Century: Cultural Diversity and Urban Identity.”

Mzia Chikhradze (National Center for Georgian Art History, Tbilisi): “Cultural Life of Tbilisi, 1910-1920s.”

SATURDAY, MAY 17

SESSION IV
9:00 – 12:00 pm – Diversity and Unity in the South Caucasus, I: Discourses of Division.

Chair: Kathryn Babayan (University of Michigan).

Medea Badashvili (Center for Social Sciences, Tbilisi): “Muslim Women’s Identity in Post-Soviet Georgia.”


Kevin Tuite (Université de Montréal): “Sacred Sites of the Northeast Georgian Highlands and Representations of Georgianness in the Post-Soviet Period.”

SESSION V
1:00 – 4:00 pm – Diversity and Unity in the South Caucasus, II: Armenians and the Georgian Nation.

Chair: Jirair Libaridian (University of Michigan).


Mariam Chkhartishvili (Tbilisi State University): “Armenians in the Process of Georgian Identity Forging.”


Asbed Kochikian (Florida State University): “Neither Enemies, Nor Friends: Georgian-Armenian Relations Between Old and New.”

SESSION VI
4:30 – 6:00 pm – Expressing the National, Performing the Nation.

Chair: Ronald Grigor Suny (University of Michigan).

Harsha Ram (University of California, Berkeley): “National Mythopoiesis: Georgian Modernism, the National Question, and Socialist Realism.”


SESSION VII
9:00 – 12:00 pm – Evolution and Revolution in Georgian Political Development.

Chair: Ronald Grigor Suny (University of Michigan).


Stephen F. Jones (Mount Holyoke College): “The Role of Non-Violence in the Rose Revolution.”


SESSION VIII
1:00 – 4:00 pm – Challenges of the Modern Moment: Georgia in the Globalizing World.

Chair: Jirair Libaridian (University of Michigan).


Sergei Markedonov (Institute of Political and Military Analysis, Moscow): “Russian-Georgian Relations: Contemporary Challenges and Tendencies.”

The conference on “Georgia: The Making of a National Culture” is organized by the Armenian Studies Program, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. This conference is sponsored by the Manoogian Simone Foundation, Armenian Studies Program, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor; and co-sponsored by Department of History, Department of Near Eastern Studies, Rackham Graduate School, International Institute, Center for Russian and East European Studies, Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies, Eisenberg Institute for Historical Studies at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor and by the American Research Institute of the South Caucasus (ARISC, based at the University of Chicago).