

# Guntis Šmidchens

## Curriculum Vitae

Department of Scandinavian Studies, University of Washington  
Box 353420, Seattle WA 98195-3420

### I. Education

PhD, Indiana University, Folklore Department, 1996.

### II. Academic Employment

University of Washington Department of Scandinavian Studies, 1993 to present:

Kazickas Family Endowed Professor in Baltic Studies (2013-present)  
Associate Professor of Baltic Studies (2012-present)  
Assistant Professor (2006-2012); Senior Lecturer (2003-2006), Lecturer (1998-2003), Visiting Lecturer (1993-1998)

Adjunct Associate Professor/ Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Slavic Languages and Literature, 2006-present

### III. Grants

2012-present. Annual joint funding for Lithuanian Language Lectureship at the University of Washington, Vilnius University, "Project: Lithuania Here and There," 2012-2023; Republic of Lithuania Ministry of Science, Education and Sport (administered by Vilnius University) 2023-present.

2007-present. Annual joint funding for Latvian Language Lectureship at the University of Washington, Republic of Latvia, Secretariat for Social Integration Affairs, 2005-2007, Ministry of Education (administered by Latvian Language Agency) 2007-present.

### IV. Professional Awards

Cross of the Knight of the Order for Merits to Lithuania, Fourth Class. 2020.

Association for the Advancement of Baltic Studies 2016 Book Prize, for *Power of Song*.

National Award, World Federation of Free Latvians. 2014

Cross of Recognition, Fourth Class. For contributions to Latvian studies at the UW Baltic Studies Program, and for advancement of relations between Republic of Latvia and the United States. 2014

Order of the Cross of Terra Mariana, Fourth Class. For Service to the Republic of Estonia. 2012

Certificate of Recognition, Ministry of Science and Education, Republic of Latvia, 2007

## **V. Professional Offices and Service**

### **a. University of Washington Committees / Duties / Service**

2024- Director, Center for European, Russian and Eurasian Studies, UW Jackson School of International Studies, 2024-

2024- Less Commonly Taught Language Course Enrollment Working Group, UW Language Learning Center

2023 Chair, Subcommittee to Report on Promotion to Associate Professor with Tenure, UW Department of Scandinavian Studies, Autumn 2023

2022 Ten-Year Review Committee, UW Department of Linguistics, Winter 2022

2012-2019 Executive Committee, Ellison Center for Russian, East European and Central Asian Studies, University of Washington, 2012-2014, 2017-2019

2018 Acting Chair, Department of Scandinavian Studies, Spring Quarter 2018.

2018 Chair of Search Committee, Department of Scandinavian Studies Lecturer in Swedish or Norwegian Studies (2018)

2017 Chair of Search Committee, Department of Scandinavian Studies Assistant Professor of Scandinavian Studies specializing in Swedish Studies

2015-2017 UW Faculty Senator representing departments of Classics, Germanics, Scandinavian Studies, Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, and Slavic Languages and Literatures.

### **b. International / National Offices and Service**

National Screening Committee, Fulbright U.S. Student Program, November 2023, November 2024

Chair, Subcommittee to report on promotion to associate professor with tenure, Department of Scandinavian Studies

External Reviewer, Tenure Review, Department of Curriculum Studies, University of Saskatchewan, Canada, September 2023

External Reviewer, Search Committee, Senior Lecturer in Baltic Languages, Department of Slavic and Baltic Languages, Finnish, Dutch, and German, Stockholm University, Sweden, Autumn 2023

External Reviewer for the assessment of the applicants for the position of Professor of Estonian Literature and Literary Theory, Tallinn University School of Humanities (2018)

International Peer Review of Area Studies Programmes in Lithuania (assessment of programs at Vilnius University, Vytautas Magnus University, and Šiauliai College), Centre for Quality Assessment in Higher Education, Lithuania, May 20-25, 2013.

President, Association for the Advancement of Baltic Studies, 2008-2010

Article manuscript evaluations solicited by Ethnohistory, Ethnologia Europaea, Europe-Asia Studies, Journal of Baltic Studies, Journal of Folklore Research, Lituanus, Slavic and East European Journal.

Book manuscript evaluations solicited by Polity Press, Cambridge (2014), SUNY Press (2013), Utah State University Press (2013), McGill-Queen's University Press (2012), Palgrave (2009, 2021), Marshall Cavendish Corp (2007 & 2009), Routledge (2005), Rowman & Littlefield (2001), U of Latvia Press (2017, 2018), U of Tartu Press (2023), U of Washington Press (1999, 2010)

Grant Application Evaluator, American Councils for International Education Title VIII Research Scholar Program (2017); Estonian Science Foundation (2011, 2007); Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (2003); American Councils Title VIII Central and Eastern Europe Research Scholar and Language Study Programs (2003)

World Federation of Free Latvians Culture Fund grant evaluation committee, 2014-present

Editorial Collegium, Mäetagused [journal published by the Estonian Literature Museum, Tartu, <http://haldjas.folklore.ee/tagused/>] (2001-)

Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study 2023 Annual Meeting, Seattle, Organizing Committee.

28<sup>th</sup> Conference on Baltic Studies, Organizing Committee (Seattle, 26-29 May 2022)

### **c. Community Service**

Board Member, Baltic Arts Council Northwest

## **VI. Selected Bibliography**

### **Books**

The Power of Song: Nonviolent National Culture in the Baltic Singing Revolution. Seattle and Copenhagen: University of Washington Press and Museum Tusulanum Press, 2014. Reviewed in Choice; Ethnomusicology; Europe-Asia Studies; Forschungen zur baltischen Geschichte; H-Net Reviews; Jahrbücher für Geschichte Osteuropas; Jaunā Gaita; Journal of Baltic Studies; Journal of Folklore Research Online Reviews; Lietuvos Etnologija: Socialinės Antropologijos ir Etnologijos Studijos; Mäetagused; Region: Peace & Change, A Journal of Peace Research; Regional Studies of Russia, Eastern Europe and Central Asia; Russian Review; Slavic Review; Tautosakos Darbai.

Latvian translation, Dziesmu vara: Nevardarbīga nacionālā kultūra Baltijas Dziesmotajā revolūcijā, Rīga: Apgāds Mansards. 2017

Invited lectures and keynote speeches related to this book:

Museum of Estonian Literature, Tartu, Estonia, June 2014

Vilnius University, Vilnius, Lithuania July 2014

Latvian Culture Academy, Riga, Latvia July 2014

Ziegler Lecture Series, University of British Columbia, December 2015.

University of South Carolina, Columbia SC, March 2016  
Baltic Song Festivals Conference, Latvian Museum of Modern Art, Riga,  
November 2016

Chicago Latvian School and Chicago Latvian Book Club, September 2017  
Latvian Church and Community Center, Minneapolis, MN, October 2017  
Toronto Latvian Centre, Toronto, ON, Canada, 8 April 2018  
Madison-Vilnius Sister Cities Celebration, Madison WI, 12 May 2018  
Baltic Arts Council, Seattle WA, 23 Sept 2018

Editor, English-language translations and summaries, Vana Kannel XIV: Peetri regilaulud. Tartu: Eesti Kirjandusmuuseum. Forthcoming, autumn 2019.

### Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

“A Heritage of Baltic Song Celebration Songs.” Culture Crossroads 9 (2016): 7-19.

“Baltimaade üldlaulupidude laulutraditsioonid ja pärand.” (in Estonian: Traditions and Heritage of Baltic Song Celebrations) Mäetagused 63 (2016): 21-34.

### Book Chapters

“Poetry of Estonia,” in The Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics, 4<sup>th</sup> edition, pp. 459-461. Edited by Roland Greene. Princeton, Princeton University Press, 2012.

“Poetry of Latvia,” in The Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics, 4<sup>th</sup> edition, pp. 793-795. Edited by Roland Greene. Princeton, Princeton University Press, 2012.

“Introduction: Fighting for Liberty in Lithuania,” in The Diary of a Partisan: a year in the life of the postwar Lithuanian resistance fighter Dzūkas, by Lionginas Baliukevičius, 11-24. Vilnius: Genocide and Resistance Research Centre of Lithuania, 2008.

### Book Reviews

*Resilient voices: Estonian choirs and song festivals in World War II displaced person camps*. By Ramona Holmes. Abingdon, Oxfordshire: Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group, 2021. Journal of Baltic Studies 2021, Vol.52 (4), p.635-637. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01629778.2021.1990486>

*The Storytelling Human: Lithuanian Folk Tradition Today*. Edited by Lina Būgienė. Boston: Academic Studies Press, 2020. Folklorica: Journal of the Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Folklore Association 2022, Vol.25, p.88-90. <https://journals.ku.edu/folklorica/article/view/18342/16526>

*Folklore in Baltic History: Resistance and Resurgence*. By Sadhana Naithani. Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2019. Journal of Folklore Research Reviews, 14 Nov 2019. <http://www.jfr.indiana.edu/review.php?id=2410>

*Latvian Folkloristics in the Interwar Period*. Edited by Dace Bula. FF Communications 313. Helsinki: Suomalainen Tiedeakatemia, Academia Scientarum Fennica, 2017. Letonica 38 (2018).

*Fin-de-siècle literārā kultūra Latvijā. Apceres par literatūras sociālo vēsturi.* By Benedikts Kalnačs, Pauls Daija, Eva Eglāja-Kristšone, Kārlis Vērđiņš. Rīga: Latvijas Universitātes Literatūras, folkloras un mākslas institūts, 2017. Letonika 37 (2018)

*Kalevipoeg Studies: The Creation and Reception of an Epic.* By Cornelius Hasselblatt. Helsinki: Finnish Literature Society, 2016. Journal of Baltic Studies 47(3), pp.414-416

“Turpinājums sekos.” Review of *Dzelzsgriezēji: Latvijas un Rietumu trimdas rakstnieku kontakti.* By Eva Eglāja-Kristšone. Rīga: Literatūras, folkloras un mākslas institūts, 2013. Jaunā Gaita 284 (Spring 2016), pp. 72-74.

*The Power of Words: Studies on Charms and Charming in Europe.* Edited by James Kapaló, Éva Pócs, and William Ryan. Budapest and New York: Central European University Press, 2013. Lituanus (2015, 1), 85-88.

*Music during the Occupation: Musical Activity and Composition in Latvia, 1940-1945.* Edited by Arnolds Klotiņš. Riga: Latvijas Universitātes Literatūras, folkloras un mākslas institūts, 2011. Journal of Baltic Studies 45,1 (2014), 131-133.

### **Other publications, not peer reviewed**

A Chain of Friendship: Reflections on the Baltic Way and Inspiration for Belarus. FPRI Research Reports, Baltic Bulletin, August 31, 2020. <https://www.fpri.org/article/2020/08/a-chain-of-friendship-reflections-on-the-baltic-way-and-inspiration-for-belarus/>

“Dziesmusvētku gājiena tradīcijas, 1990-2018” [Latvian: Song Celebration Procession Traditions 1990-2018]. Satori, 13 Sept 2018. <https://www.satori.lv/article/dziesmusvetku-gajiena-tradicijas-1990-2018>

“Singing Revolution, Past and Present.” Foreign Policy Research Institute Baltic Bulletin, 12 October 2016. <http://www.fpri.org/article/2016/10/singing-revolution-past-present/>

“Rainis un divas igauņu pasakas” [Latvian: Rainis and Two Estonian Folktales] Jaunā Gaita 286 (Autumn 2016): 26-29.

### **Conference Papers and Public Lectures**

2024 “Baltic States Joining the EU and NATO: Was it a Success?” 2024 EU Policy Forum Educator Workshop. World Affairs Council and UW Center for European Studies. 13 August 2024

2024 “The History and Cultures of the Baltic Countries”; “The Significance of Singing and Songs: Baltic Singing Revolution.” Two online lectures at 1st SFC (A) REC Program unit academic week, 22 July 2024

2024 Presenter, “Past Presidents Roundtable,” Conference on Baltic Studies, Yale University, June 2024.

2024 Presenter, “Baltic Language Instruction Roundtable,” Conference on Baltic Studies, Yale University,

2023 Keynote Speaker, "War, Peace, and a Singer's Mission" Keynote presentation at the 2023 International Conference of the College Music Society, Riga, Latvia, 6 July 2023

2023 "Latvia 101: History and Culture" Online lecture at 1st SFC (A) Regional Expertise and Culture Program (REC), Fort Bragg, North Carolina. 27 July 2023

2021 Keynote Speaker, "Trešā Atmoda un latviešu folkloristikas varianti" Keynote lecture at the Latvian Folklore Archives conference, "Folklorā un Atmodā" 28 October 2021

2021 'Variants in American and Estonian Folkloristics', The Walter Anderson Lecture for 2021. University of Tartu, Estonia. 15 December 2021.  
Published by University of Tartu TV, <https://www.utv.ee/naita?id=32300>

Organizer of four panels in the Stream, "Baltic Song and Dance Celebrations," Conference on Baltic Studies, 28-30 May 2020, Charlotte NC.

"Latvian Singing Traditions Global and Local," Pre-Concert Lecture. Latvian Voices Tour, "The Power of Song," 2019. Oct 7 California Institute of the Arts, Oct 7; Oct 12 Western Michigan University; Oct 13 University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee; Oct 20 Nordstrom Auditorium, Seattle. <https://alaua.org/en/aktualitates/power-of-song/>

Organizer of four panels in the Stream, "Baltic Song and Dance Celebrations 150", 13<sup>th</sup> Conference on Baltic Studies in Europe, Gdańsk, Poland, 27 June 2019

"Disunity in Unity: Baltic Song Celebrations 2013-2014" 13<sup>th</sup> Conference on Baltic Studies in Europe, Gdańsk, Poland, 27 June 2019

"Nordic and Baltic: Two Regions or One?" Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study Annual Meeting, Madison WI, 3 May 2019

"Disunity in Unity: Baltic Song Celebrations 2013-2014" REECAS-NW Conference, University of Washington, Seattle WA, 27 April 2019

Invited Panelist, "Humanities in the Contemporary World," 4<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Latvian Scholars, Riga, Latvia, 19 June 2018

Invited Panelist, "The Future of Baltic Studies at Stanford University," Stanford University, 1 June 2018

Invited Participant, Roundtable: "AABS, Future Directions," Conference on Baltic Studies, Stanford University, 2 June 2018

"Looking Back & Forth & Around: Baltic National Song Celebration Repertoires, 2013-2019," Conference on Baltic Studies, Stanford University, 2 June 2018

"Kaip dyvinai man judin širdį" [in Lithuanian: "The Wondrous Lithuanian Language"], Invited Speaker, Ateitininkai Conference, Toronto, 7 April 2018

"Celebrating 100 Years of Baltic Independence, Celebrating the Baltic Singing Revolution" Pre-Concert Lecture, Seattle Choral Company, Baltic Centennial: 100 Years of Statehood. St. Mark's Cathedral, Seattle, 24 March 2018

“Estonian War Songs Today,” Conference on Baltic Studies in Europe, Riga, 20 June 2017; and

“Estonian War Songs Today,” Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study Annual Meeting, Minneapolis MN, 12 May 2017

“Dziesmotas sarunas ar kaimiņiem,” (Singing Conversations with Neighbors) Plenary Session, Culture Crossroads Conference, Riga, 3 November 2016

“Kaimiņu dziesmas” (Neighbors’ Songs) Seminar course about Estonian and Lithuanian songs. “3x3” Latvian Seminar, Three Rivers MI, August 8-13, 2016

“An Old Folktale in New Forms: Rainis, Kalnaellis and the Traditional Tale of the Glass Mountain.” Conference on Baltic Studies, University of Pennsylvania, 28 May 2016.

Respondent, “Learned Societies and Scholarly Publishing” Roundtable, Conference on Baltic Studies, University of Pennsylvania, 27 May 2016.

“What is the Song Festival Tradition?” Conference on Baltic Studies in Europe, Marburg, September 2015

“Baltic States: Culture, Socio-Economic, and Political Trends of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania,” LDESP Seminar, 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, Fort Carson, Colorado, December 3-4, 2014.

Organizer of three paper panels (ten presenters), “Singing Revolution Past and Present,” at the joint meeting of the Association for the Advancement of Baltic Studies and the Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study, March 13-15, 2014, Yale University.