INTRODUCTION

In a world of super-diversity, of migratory movements and social, political, economic, and technological upheavals, the Portuguese language has taken on a global position. This reality is clearly manifested on the internet, in large part due to the constant growth of the Lusophone communities around the world and the intensification of local and diasporic relationships. Today, perhaps more than ever, Portuguese language is a unifying factor and a predominant source of identity in those countries where it is an official language, as well as their expatriate communities. In addition, the interest in the Portuguese language is visible in its value as a transnational language in the global economy, a value evidenced in the growing demand in Asia and Latin America.

The Lusophone world has created several congregational structures at various levels (The International Institute of Portuguese Language, the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries, the Observatory of the Portuguese Language, to name a few), which have produced
synergies and movements between its transnational communities, thus contributing to Lusofonia’s rising international visibility.

This international conference seeks to gather researchers from various fields interested in the Lusophone world, whose research falls within York University’s Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies mission - namely, within the disciplines of Social Sciences and Humanities, though not exclusively.

This conference will take place in one of the world’s most multicultural cities, where several communities from Lusophone countries and regions, such as Portugal, Brazil, Angola, Cape Verde, Mozambique, Macau, and Goa, co-exist harmoniously within the Toronto’s cultural fabric. York University’s iconic Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies is the largest in Canada. This is one of the two Canadian universities that offer a degree in Portuguese & Luso-Brazilian Studies (BA or Honours Minor), which will celebrate ten years of existence in 2018. York University also hosts the Canadian Centre for Azorean Research and Studies (CCARS), the Associação de Estudos Lusófonos/Lusophone Studies Association and Projeto de História Luso-canadiana/Portuguese Canadian History project.

This conference aims to promote interdisciplinary dialogue about the following themes: 1) the revaluation of the status and role of the Social Sciences and Humanities in university curricula; ii) the internationalization of Lusophone studies; iii) the presence of language and Lusophone cultures in various professional/disciplinary areas; iv) the teaching of foreign languages in higher education, especially Portuguese; v) the relationship between universities and local communities; vi) the interaction between businesses and universities as creators of professional opportunities within the Lusophone world; vii) experiential education and its role as promoter of synergies among surrounding communities; viii) new methods of teaching and learning, and pedagogical projects (flipped classroom, active, collaborative and meaningful learning/teaching; inter-comprehension); ix) teaching of culture, history, and Lusophone literatures; x) youth/student involvement and/or engagement in academic and social initiatives.

We hope that this conference tackles broad topics such as:

- What synergies have been established between researchers of the Lusophone world?
- What is the status of Lusophone studies internationally?
- What has been the development of Portuguese language within the contexts of second and third language learning?
- Which Lusophone literary, cultural, and artistic expressions have found a place among different publics?

**FORMAT AND NORMS FOR THE PROPOSALS**

There will be three format options:

- **Poster** - dimensions - Width and Height: 24” x 36” or 60.96 cm x 91.44 cm; printing at author’s expense; summary of 250 words maximum; key-words (max of 5)
- **Presentation** - summary of 250 words maximum; key-words (max of 5)
- **Panel** - summary of 300 words maximum; key-words (max of 7) - in this case, it is up to the panel coordinator to collect all contributions and present a collaborative group proposal; the text of the proposal must include a brief of the individual proposals as well as the institutional information of all participants.

**Conference languages:** Portuguese, English, French and Spanish

Proposals must be sent electronically to lusoconf@yorku.ca and include the following information:

- Authors; institutional affiliation; email contacts; title of proposal; scientific domain/theme; format of proposal (poster, presentation or panel); summary; key-words

**NOTE:** Undergraduate students may submit proposals, but only in co-authorship with their professors/supervisors.

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS IS NOVEMBER 30, 2017**

All proposals will be assessed by the scientific committee (TBA).

**AUTHORS WILL BE NOTIFIED BY JANUARY 15, 2018**

**EVALUATION CRITERIA FOR PROPOSALS:**

- Aligned with the conference’s objectives
- Aligned with the objectives of each type of contribution (poster, presentation, panel)
- Scientific relevance
- Originality
- Structure and rigor of the proposal
WE ENCOURAGE THE SUBMISSION OF THE FOLLOWING:

- Inter-institutional and/or inter-disciplinary collaborations
- Proposals from doctoral students and young researchers who have received doctoral degrees within the last 10 years

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE:

- Mónica Bastos (Camões, I.P./Coordenação EPE, Luxembourg & CIDTFF/Universidade de Aveiro, Portugal)
- Inês Cardoso (York University, Canada; Camões, I.P. & CIDTFF/Universidade de Aveiro, Portugal)
- José C. Curto (York University, Canada)
- Nivedita Das Kundu (York University, Canada)
- Maria João Dodman (York University, Canada)
- Gilberto Fernandes (York University, Canada)
- Luciana Graça (University of Toronto, Canada; Camões, I.P. - Portugal)
- Robert A. Kenedy (York University, Canada)
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- Anabela Rato (University of Toronto, Canada)
- Fleide Daniel Santos de Albuquerque (UFRN - Brazil)
- Conceição Siopa (UEM – Maputo, Mozambique; Camões, I.P. – Portugal)