

The 49th SSA Annual Conference

Prague, September 24–28, 2025



Program Schedule

Wednesday, September 24			
TIME	EVENT	PLACE	SPEAKERS
1:00-2:30 pm	Conference preludium (BIP meeting)	Hybernská 3 (room 206)	
3:00-5:00 pm	Registration	Hybernská 3, registration desk (next to room 205)	
5:00-6:30 pm	Opening of the Conference	Hybernská 3 (room 206)	• Věra Sokolová (Dean, Faculty of Humanities, Charles University) • Joseph DeChicchis (SSA Executive Director) • Martin Švantner (local host)
7:00 pm	Welcome party	Café Na Boršově	
Thursday, September 25			
TIME	EVENT	PLACE	SPEAKERS
9:00-10:00 am	Plenary	Hybernská 3 (room 206)	Anton Markoš (introduction: Jana Švorcová)
10:00-10:30 am	Coffee Break		
10:30 am -12:30 pm	Concurrent Session 1[A] – Panel 1 <i>Rethinking Friendship Across Humans, Non-Humans, and AI</i>	Hybernská 3 (room 206)	• Massimo Leone • Daria Arkhipova • Nicola Zengiaro
	Concurrent Session 1[B] – Panel 2 <i>Rhetorics of Friendships</i>	Hybernská 3 (room 205)	• Paulius Jevsejevas • Taisija Oral • Mao Chen • Susanna Silicati
12:30-2:00 pm	Lunch Break		
2:00-3:30 pm	Concurrent Session 2[A] – Panel 3 <i>Biosemiotics of Friendships I</i>	Hybernská 3 (room 206)	• Kalevi Kull • Fatima Cvrčková • Martin Macháček
	Concurrent Session 2[B] – Panel 4 <i>Semiotics, Friendship and Social Interactions</i>	Hybernská 3 (room 205)	• Massimo Leone • Gabriel Matthew Bergman • Aspasia Papadima
3:30-4:00 pm	Coffee Break		

4:00-5:00 pm	Plenary	Hybernská 3 (room 206)	Elize Bisanz (introduction: Ľudmila Lacková Bennett)
5:00-6:30 pm	Reception	Hybernská 3 (room 206)	
6:30-8:30 pm	Executive Board Meeting	Hybernská 3 (room 206)	
Friday, September 26			
TIME	EVENT	PLACE	SPEAKERS
9:00-10:00 am	Keynote	Karolinum (Blue Hall)	Claus Emmeche (introduction: Kalevi Kull)
10:00-10:30 am	Coffee Break		
10:30-12:30 pm	Concurrent Session 3[A] – Panel 5 <i>Biosemiotics of Friendships II</i>	Karolinum (Blue hall)	• Susanne Kass • Andrew Mark Creighton • Peter Lang • Ľudmila Lacková Bennett
	Concurrent Session 3[B] – Panel 6 <i>Networking Friendships: Semiotics of Social Media and Arts</i>	Hybernská 3 (room 205)	• Eviprides Zantides • Stanul Grozev • Gilmar Hermes • Lian Duan
	Concurrent Session 3[C] – Panel 7 <i>Urban Semiotics</i>	Hybernská 3 (room 206)	• Shannon Landers • Tiit Remm • Samaneh Eshraghi Ivori & Torkild Thellefsen • Jake Jansen
12:30-2:00 pm	Lunch Break		
2:00-4:00 pm	Concurrent Session 4[A] – Panel 8 <i>Concern, Schizoid Semiotic Coding, Making the Unconscious Conscious, AI Memory, and Signs of Personhood in Anthony Wilden's Theory of Communication</i>	Karolinum (Blue Hall)	• Thaddeus Martin • Richard Lanigan • Frank Macke • Garnet Butchart • Igor Klyukanov
	Concurrent Session 4[B] – Panel 9 <i>Semiotics of Religions</i>	Hybernská 3 (room 206)	• Evelyn Smrčková • Alina Therese Lettner • Michael L. Raposa • Ondřej Váša
	Concurrent Session 4[C] – Panel 10 <i>Semiotics of Education and Cogniton</i>	Hybernská 3 (room 205)	• Peter Mantello and Alin Olteanu • Tala Michelle Karkar-Esperat • Hongbing Yu • Jamila Farajova
4:00-5:00 pm	Plenary	Karolinum (Blue Hall)	Daniel L. Everett (introduction: Joseph DeChicchis)
5:30-6:00 pm	Coffee Break		
6:00-7:00 pm	Sebeok Fellow Award Address	Karolinum (Blue Hall)	Lucia Santaella (introduction: Tiago da Costa e Silva)
7:30 pm	Social and Entertainment Event	Café na Boršově	Live music: Jazzifier and Jazzified

Saturday, September 27			
TIME	EVENT	PLACE	SPEAKERS
9:00-10:00 am	Artistic Expressions	Hybernská 3 (room 206)	Silvia Barbotto
10:00-10:30 am	Coffee Break		
10:30-12:30 pm	Concurrent Session 5[A] – Panel 11 <i>Visuality, design and esthetics</i>	Hybernská 3 (room 206)	• Tiago da Costa E Silva • Hong Wang • Alena Ivanova • Sebastian Feil
	Concurrent Session 5[B] – Panel 12 <i>Semiotics, Friendship and AI</i>	Hybernská 3 (room 205)	• Alin Olteanu • Seyedeh Maede Mirsonbol • Taulant Salihi • Róbert Bohát
12:30-2:00 pm	Lunch Break		
2:00-4:00 pm	Concurrent Session Session 6[A] – Panel 13 <i>Anthropology, Science and Linguistics</i>	Hybernská 3 (room 206)	• Geoffrey Owens • Jacques Joseph • Halley Young
	Concurrent Session 6[B] – Panel 14 <i>Muses and Politics</i>	Hybernská 3 (room 205)	• Michael Baker • Vojtěch Volák • Ivan Fomin
4:00-5:00 pm	Coffee Break		
5:00-6:00 pm	Presidential Address	Hybernská 3 (room 206)	Donna West (introduction: Joseph DeChicchis)
6:30 pm	Dinner Banquet	(TBA)	
Sunday, September 28			
TIME	EVENT	PLACE	SPEAKERS
9:00-10:30 am	Special Plenary Discussion: <i>The Future of Friendship</i>	Hybernská 3 (room 206)	• Susan Petrilli • Farouk Y. Seif • Joseph DeChicchis
10:30-12:00 am	General Business Meeting	Hybernská 3 (room 206)	
12:00 pm	Closing remarks	Hybernská 3 (room 206)	
1:00 pm	Sightseeing		

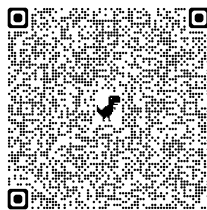
SSA 2025 Program Committee:

Farouk Y. Seif (Chair) – USA
Martin Švantner – Czechia
Ludmila Lacková Bennett – Czechia
Martin Macháček – Czechia
Tiago Da Costa E Silva – Germany/Brazil
Hongbing Yu – Canada/China
Joseph DeChicchis – USA/Japan

Important Addresses

Hybernská 3: Hybernská 1036/3, 110 00 Praha 1

[Hybernská 1036/3 \(https://maps.app.goo.gl/k9hTPPsAFH7kSA2j9\)](https://maps.app.goo.gl/k9hTPPsAFH7kSA2j9)



Karolinum, Blue Hall: Congress Centre UK, Celetná 562/20, Praha 1

[Celetná 562/20 \(https://maps.app.goo.gl/tsLxEB8pDYgvBXY97\)](https://maps.app.goo.gl/tsLxEB8pDYgvBXY97)



Café Na Boršově: Náprstkova 272/10, Praha 1

[Na Boršově \(https://maps.app.goo.gl/5DQc5BVzYkWLE3oY9\)](https://maps.app.goo.gl/5DQc5BVzYkWLE3oY9)

