

UC SANTA BARBARA

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## **UCSB ENGLISH PROFESSOR LECTURES IN FINLAND**

UC Santa Barbara English Professor Robert Erickson gave four lectures during a recent visit to Finland and the Graduate School of Theology at the University of Helsinki.

Erickson was one of four eminent scholars invited to speak at the university's annual seminar for doctoral fellows.

His first talk was called "The Language of the Heart," based on his recent book of the same name which discusses use of the heart as a metaphor in world literature.

He also gave presentations titled "Paradise Lost, Shamanism and the Kalevala" and "Is Paradise Lost a Shamanic Epic?" Later, at the Tampere Public Library in Tampere, Finland, Erickson spoke at an exhibition devoted to arctic shamanism and compared the works of John Milton to shamanism.

"This lecture was given in conjunction with the exhibition, 'Samaanit,' the most important exhibition devoted to Arctic shamanism ever assembled and one which will soon be on tour in this country," Erickson said.

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**About UC Santa Barbara**

The University of California, Santa Barbara is a leading research institution that also provides a comprehensive liberal arts learning experience. Our academic community of faculty, students, and staff is characterized by a culture of interdisciplinary collaboration that is responsive to the needs of our multicultural and global society. All of this takes place within a living and learning environment like no other, as we draw inspiration from the beauty and resources of our extraordinary location at the edge of the Pacific Ocean.