VAMPIRES:
Myths and Metaphors of Enduring Evil
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Date: May 22-24, 2003.
Place: Budapest.

Deadline: 300 word abstracts should be submitted by Friday January 10, 2003.
Full draft papers should be submitted by April 15, 2003.

Please send proposals via e-mail to:
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Inquiries about booking, conference accommodation, fees etc, should be directed to Rob Fisher
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This inter-disciplinary and multi-disciplinary conference seeks to investigate and explore the vampire legend and its enduring influence on human culture throughout history.

Perspectives are sought from those engaged in the fields of literature, media studies, cultural studies, history, anthropology, philosophy, psychology, sociology, health and theology. Ideas are welcomed from those involved in academic study, fictional explorations, and applied areas (e.g. youth work, criminology and medicine).

Papers, reports, work-in-progress and workshops are invited on issues related to any of the following themes:

- The popularity of the modern vampire (Buffy, Blade, Lestat and co.)
- The vampire in literature
- The vampire in media (TV, cinema, radio)
- The gothic vampire and the legacy of Dracula
- Ancient and medieval myths surrounding the dead and undead
- The vampire through history
- Religious depictions of vampires and vampire gods
- Vampires across cultures
- Vampires, bodies and death
- Vampires, illness and addiction
- Vampires, gender and sexuality
- Relationships between vampires and other evils (e.g. ghosts, witches, demons and shape-shifters)
- Modern vampire subculture (blood fetishists, role-players and vampyres)
- Biological, medical, historical and sociological bases of vampire legends
- Vampires, metaphors and the monstrous
- Approaches to studying vampires (from psycho-analysis to post-modernity)
- Vampire-related disorders and their treatment
- Vampire-related crimes and appropriate responses

Papers will be considered on any related theme.

The conference is part of a larger series of ongoing conferences entitled At the Interface, and runs as a project under the auspices of Wickedness.Net. It aims to bring together people from different areas and interests to share ideas and explore various discussions which are innovative and exciting. All papers accepted for and presented at the conference will be published as an ISBN e-Book. Selected papers accepted for and presented at this conference will be published in a hard copy themed volume.
Vampires: Immortal, blood-sucking demons. Vampires are real, they exist in every city and every state, on the continents. These creatures are of the darkest parts of hell. They have the power and ability to control your mind, seduce your spirit, adapt to sunlight, and render themselves invisible. They are deadly, they must be destroyed. A cross however won’t repel them. But sunlight will kill them and so will a stake to the heart. But what’s the worst about them is the bloodlust -- they need Recovering from an ambush that killed his entire team, a vengeful vampire slayer must retrieve an ancient Catholic relic that, should it be acquired by vampires, will allow them to walk in sunlight. Recovering from an ambush that killed his entire team, a vengeful vampire slayer must retrieve an ancient Catholic relic that, should it be acquired by vampires, will allow them to walk in sunlight. Director: John Carpenter. Next (Van Allen radiation belt). The modern day term, Vampire (derivative of the German vampir), usually refers to mythological or folkloric beings that subsist on the life force of a human being and/or animal. In most cases, vampires are represented as reanimated corpses who feed by draining and consuming the blood of living beings. The word vampire is mentioned in Babylonian demonology, and the even more ancient bloodsucking Akkhharu is mentioned in Sumerian mythology. Bram Stoker’s Dracula Vampire, in popular legend, a creature, often fanged, that preys upon humans, generally by consuming their blood. Vampires have been featured in folklore and fiction of various cultures for hundreds of years, predominantly in Europe, although belief in them has waned in modern times. Bela Lugosi with Frances Dade in Dracula (1931). Courtesy of Universal Pictures; photograph, The Bettmann Archive. Top Questions. What is a vampire? Vampires walk among us. But these people aren’t the stuff of nightmares — far from it actually. Just sit down for a drink with one of them and ask for yourself. That’s if you can find one. They aren’t necessarily looking to be found. Real vampires is the collective term by which these people are known. They’re not in the sense that they turn into bats and live forever but many do sport fangs and just as many live a primarily nocturnal existence.