Friday, August 4

10:00 – 10:30  Welcome and Opening Lecture – Arkady Martine (AnnaLinden Weller)

10:30 – 11:30  Panel: The Spectre of Empire Haunting SFF
Panelists: Patrick Nielsen Hayden, Amal el-Mohtar, Max Gladstone, Lydia Spielberg
Moderator: Elizabeth Bear

11:30 – 12:00  Coffee

12:00 – 1:00  Paper Session: From Arrakis to Constantinople: Byzantinism in Frank
Herbert’s Dune.
Moderator/Discussant: Scott Lynch
Brett M Rogers – “(False?) Byzantinisms in Dune”
Maximilian Lau – “Princess-Historians: Interpreting Irulan Corrino and Anna Komnene”

1:00 – 2:00  Panel: Space Empires: Roman or Post-Roman? AKA: Rhomaioi and
Barbaroi in Space
Panelists: Liz Bourke, Ann Leckie, Arkady Martine (AnnaLinden Weller), Max Lau, Lydia Spielberg
Moderator: Teresa Nielsen Hayden

2:00 – 3:00  Lunch

3:00 – 4:00  Paper Session: Science-Fictional Travel and the Legacies of Medieval
Empire.
Moderator/Discussant: Ada Palmer
Julia Unterhinninghofen – “Empires, connected and far-reaching: what the
speeds of travel tell us”
Fran Wilde – “Medieval Dreams of Flight and Their Influence on Science Fiction”
4:00 – 5:00  
**Panel: (Post-Roman) Medieval Literature as a Sourcebook for SFF**
Panelists: Ada Palmer, Teresa Nielsen Hayden, Amal el-Mohtar, Jo Walton
Moderator: Max Gladstone

5:00 – 5:45  
**Guest Lecture: Przemyslaw Marciniak (University of Silesia)** “The icon of decadence. The imagery of Byzantium in the modern Polish speculative fiction.”

**Saturday, August 5**

10:00 – 11:00  
**Panel: Histories of the Future: Apocalypse as a Future-State, Ends of the World, and the Fall of Empires.**
Panelists: Elizabeth Bear, Olof Heilo, Mia Sereno (Likhain), Arkady Martine (AnnaLinden Weller)
Moderator: Amal el-Mohtar

11:00 – 11:30  
**Coffee**

11:30 – 12:30  
**Panel: Byzantiums in Speculative Fiction – Kay, Turtledove and Others**
Panelists: Patrick Nielsen Hayden, Ann Leckie, Tonje Sorensen, Fran Wilde
Moderator: Liz Bourke

12:30 – 1:45  
**Lunch**

1:45 – 3:00  
**Paper Session: Imaginary & Contrafactual Byzantiums.**
Moderator/Discussant: Jo Walton
Ellen Söderblom Saarela – “Fantasies of Female Agency: Partonopeu de Blois and Imaginary Byzantium”

Olof Heilo & Tonje Sorensen – “A Holistic Utopia? Byzantium in Contrafactual Historical Fiction”

Athena Andreadis (as read by Arkady Martine (AnnaLinden Weller)) – “A (Mail)coat of Many Colors – Unsung Songs of the Akritai”
ROUND TABLE & OPEN DISCUSSION: What has Athens to do with Jerusalem – or Byzantium to do with the 21st century? Can we imagine a ‘Byzantine’ future, and if so, ought we?

SUNDAY, AUGUST 6

10:00 – 11:00  PANEL: Empire and its dissidents: reading the speculative fiction of empire and conquest through postcolonial eyes

Panelists: Mia Sereno (Likhain), Aliette de Bodard, Amal el-Mohtar, Max Gladstone

Moderator: Arkady Martine (AnnaLinden Weller)

11:00 – 11:30  Coffee

11:30 – 12:30  Paper session: Dissent, Memory, and the Persistence of Empire in Historiography.

Moderator/Discussant: Brett Rogers

Lydia Spielberg – “Where they blow up a planet, they call it peace: (Outer) spaces of dissent in classicizing historiography and 21st century speculative fiction”

Liz Bourke – “Reconquering Rome: Justinian’s Shadow in Speculative Fiction”

12:30 – 1:30  Panel: After the Decline and Fall: Decadence in SFF

Panelists: Arkady Martine (AnnaLinden Weller), Ada Palmer, Aliette de Bodard, Elizabeth Bear, Teresa Nielsen Hayden

Moderator: Fran Wilde

1:30 – 2:00  Final discussion, wrap-up, future plans

2:30 – 4:00  Lunch for speakers