THE NATION-STATE & THE TRANSNATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

THE HISTORY AND FUTURE OF ENVIRONMENTAL DIPLOMACY

APRIL 16-18 2009

AT&T CENTER ON THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN CAMPUS

EVENT PROGRAM
Founded in 2007, the Institute provides a dynamic and multi-faceted intellectual community. It fosters creative and productive conversations within our department, between the Department of History and other UT-Austin departments and centers, between our faculty and colleagues nationwide, and between the department and our community of alumni and neighbors. The Institute offers year long visiting fellowships at full salary replacement, and hosts regular workshops, lectures, and conferences. For full details of all our programs, see www.utexas.edu/cola/insts/historicalstudies/
THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 2009

2:30-4:30 PM GRADUATE STUDENT PANEL: CONSERVATION AND PRESERVATION IN AN INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT
AT&T Center, Level Three, Salon AB

MARC CIIOC (Chair), University of California–Santa Cruz and editor of Environmental History

NEEL BAUMGARDNER, University of Texas at Austin, “Bordering the North American Borderlands: Designating Wilderness Along the Periphery of Canada, Mexico, and the United States”

EMILY BROWNELL, University of Texas at Austin, “Historicizing International Waste Trading: The Nation State and the Politics of Poverty”

BRETT BENNETT, University of Texas at Austin, “Visualizing Transnational and Imperial Conservation: H.S. Blunt’s ‘Vast Sudan’ Lantern Slideshow and the Education of Conservation Values in Britain, 1930–1950”

JONATHAN HUNT, University of Texas at Austin, “Irradiated Ally: The United States, Japan, and Nuclear Testing, 1954–1963”

Comment: Audience

7:30-9 PM WELCOME AND KEYNOTE ADDRESS
AT&T Center, Level Three, Salon AB

WELCOME: TERRI GIVENS, Vice Provost, University of Texas at Austin, and ALAN TULLY, Chair, Department of History, University of Texas at Austin

KEYNOTE: JOHN MCNEILL, Georgetown University, “The Environmental History of the Cold War, 1945–?”

9-10 PM RECEPTION FOR AUDIENCE AND PARTICIPANTS
AT&T Center Interior Courtyard

FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 2009

9:30-11:30 AM PANEL I: NATIONAL BORDERS AND THE MASTERY OF THE ENVIRONMENT
AT&T Center, Level Two, Amphitheater 204

MARK LAWRENCE (Chair), University of Texas at Austin

JUDITH SHAPIRO, American University, “Nation-Building through Nature-Conquest: Resource Capture and Identity on China’s Frontiers”

SETH GARFIELD, University of Texas at Austin, “Crave the Rain Forest: Transnational Actors, Traditional Peoples, and the Remaking of the Brazilian Amazon, 1940–1990”

GREGORY CUSHMAN, University of Kansas, “The Ecology of Liberation: Humboldtian Science and South America’s First Postcolonial States”

Comment: FRANK DE LA TEJA, Texas State University

1-3 PM PANEL II: THE NATION-STATE AND MIGRATORY WILDLIFE
AT&T Center, Level Two, Amphitheater 204

JOHN MCKIERNAN–GONZALEZ (Chair), University of Texas at Austin

KURK DORSEY, University of New Hampshire, “National Sovereignty, an International Agency, and a Transnational Movement”


JANET DAVIS, University of Texas at Austin, “Bird Day: Promoting the Gospel of Kindness in the U.S. Empire, 1898–1940”

Comment: KAIRN KLIEMAN, University of Houston

3:30–5:30 PM PANEL III: INTERNATIONAL MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL TOXINS
AT&T Center, Level Two, Amphitheater 204

WILLIAM DOOLITTLE (Chair), University of Texas at Austin


DAVID ZIERLER, Office of the Historian, U.S. Department of State, “The End of Agent Orange: Transnational Environmentalism and the Vietnam War”

JAMES MCWILLIAMS, Texas State University, “From Internationalism to Isolationism: Entomology and the Transition from Biological to Chemical Insect Control in the United States, 1850–1920”

Comment: MARTIN MELOSI, University of Houston
SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 2009

8:30-10:30 AM PANEL IV: NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY AND WATER RESOURCES
AT&T Center, Level Three, Conference 301

ERIKA BSUMEK (Chair), University of Texas at Austin

MARY CARMEL FINLEY, University of California–San Diego, “Global Borders and the Fish that Ignore Them”

BENEDICT J. COLOMBI, University of Arizona, “The Economics of Dam Building: The Nez Perce Tribe and Transnational Environments”

MARK CIOC, University of California–Santa Cruz, “Europe’s River: The Rhine as Prelude to Transnational Cooperation and the Common Market”

Comment: KATHLEEN BROSnan, University of Houston

11 AM-1 PM CONCLUDING ROUNDTABLE: LOOKING TOWARDS THE FUTURE
AT&T Center, Level Three, Conference 301

JOSHUA BUSBY (Moderator), Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs, University of Texas at Austin

TZEPORAH BERMAN, Co-Founder and Program Director for ForestEthics

J. ROBERT COX, Professor of Communication Studies, University of North Carolina–Chapel Hill, and former President of the Sierra Club

GREG BANKOFF is Professor of Modern History at the University of Hull. He writes on environmental-society interactions with respect to natural hazards, resources, human-animal relations, and issues of social equity and labor. He is the author of Cultures of Disaster: Society and Natural Hazard in the Philippines (Routledge, 2003), Breeds of Empire: The ‘Invention’ of the Horse in Maritime Southeast Asia and Southern Africa, 1500-1950 (NIAS, 2007) together with Sandra Swart, and A History of Natural Resources in Asia: The Wealth of Nature (Palgrave, 2007), a volume co-edited with Peter Boomgaard.

TZEPORAH BERMAN is co-founder and Program Director of ForestEthics, a non-profit organization responsible for saving more than 12 million acres of endangered forests in Canada, the United States, and Chile. Berman works with massive corporations such as Home Depot, Dell, and Staples to alter their buying habits and reinvigorate their public images through greater environmental consciousness. In 2008, she launched a new citizen initiative called PowerUp Canada-Canadians for Climate Leadership, which has garnered support from five former Canadian prime ministers, prominent business leaders, and policy experts. The Utne Reader named her one of the 50 “Visionaries Changing the World.”

KATHLEEN BROSnan is Associate Professor of History and Associate Director of the Center for Public History at the University of Houston. The author of Uniting Mountain and Plain: Cities, Law and Environmental Change along the Front Range (New Mexico, 2002), she is completing an environmental history of the Napa wine industry. She is editor of the Encyclopedia of American Environmental History (Facts On File, 2010) and co-editor of City Dreams, Country Schemes: Utopian Visions of the Twentieth-Century West (New Mexico, 2010). Her next project is a comparative study of viticulture in Australia, Chile, Canada, and California.

ERIKA BSUMEK is Assistant Professor of History at the University of Texas at Austin. She is the author of Indian-made: Navajo Culture in the Marketplace, 1868-1940 (University Press of Kansas, 2008) as well as a number of articles on Native American history. She is now working on an environmental history of the American West that focuses on the large-scale construction projects and the social visions of the engineers who designed them. It is tentatively titled, “The Concrete West: Engineering Society and Culture in the Arid West, 1900-1970.”

JOSHUA BUSBY is Assistant Professor at the LBJ School of Public Affairs. He recently completed a book manuscript entitled “States of Grace: Moral Movements and Foreign Policy.” In this project, Busby seeks to explain why some countries are willing to take on new international commitments championed by principled advocacy groups and others are not. Substantively, he explores the politics of climate change, developing country debt relief, HIV/AIDS, and the International Criminal Court. Busby has written extensively on climate change and national security and is currently exploring U.S.-China strategic engagement on climate change.

BENEDICT J. COLOMBI is Assistant Professor of American Indian Studies at the University of Arizona, with joint appointments in the Department of Anthropology and the School of Natural Resources. He is also a faculty member in the Institute for Environment and Society, a center for environmental and climate change research at the University of Arizona. He has published several articles and chapters on the relationship between indigenous peoples, large dams, and the development of the world-economy, and he is now working on a book (University of California Press) about the Nez Perce Tribe, large dams, and Pacific salmon in the Columbia River Basin.

ROBERT COX is Professor of Communication Studies and the Curriculum in Environment and Ecology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He is the author of Environmental Communication and the Public Sphere (Sage, 2006, 2010), as well as numerous articles and chapters on rhetorical theory and the discourse of social change agents and movements. Earlier this spring, the European Union’s Environmental Agency invited him to deliver the keynote address at its international conference on media and the environment. He recently served as president of the U.S. Sierra Club (2007-2008).

GREGORY T. CUSHMAN is Assistant Professor of international environmental history at the University of Kansas. He has published in a variety of venues on the global history of environmental understanding and ecological change, focused on climate change and variability, soil fertility, and the marine environment, especially within Latin America and the Pacific Basin. He has a forthcoming book, The Guano Lords: Global Ecology, Peru and Empire in the Pacific.

JANET M. DAVIS is Associate Professor of American Studies and History at the University of Texas at Austin. She is the author of The Circus Age: Culture and Society under the American Big Top (University of North Carolina Press, 2002), and editor of Circus Queen and Tinker Bell: The Memoir of Tiny Kline (University of Illinois Press, 2008), in addition to articles related to U.S. popular culture, social thought, animals, and modern South Asia. She is currently writing a book on the domestic and transnational meanings of the American animal welfare movement from 1866-1940, tentatively titled “The Gospel of Kindness: Animal Welfare and the Making of Modern American Humanitarianism.”

JESÚS F. DE LA TEJA is Professor and Chair of the Department of History at Texas State University. He is currently the State Historian and is a former president of the Texas State Historical Association, of which he is also a Fellow. His area of specialization is early Texas and the Spanish borderlands, and his works include San Antonio de Béxar: A Community on New Spain’s Northern Frontier (University of New Mexico, 1995) and (co-authored) Texas: Crossroads of North America (Houghton Mifflin, 2004). He is editing a collection for Texas A&M University Press titled Tejano Leadership in Mexican and Revolutionary Texas.

WILLIAM E. DOOLITTLE is the Erich W. Zimmermann Regents Professor of Geography in the Department of Geography and the Environment at the University of Texas at Austin. He is the author of four books, including Cultivated Landscapes of Native North America (Oxford, 2000), and scores of journal articles and book chapters. He has received grants from both the National Endowment for the Humanities and the National Science Foundation, distinguished scholarship awards from the Conference of Latin Americanist Geographers, the Association of American Geographers, and was elected Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

KURK DORSEY is Associate Professor of History at the University of New Hampshire. His 1998 book The Dawn of Conservation of Diplomacy: U.S.-Canadian Wildlife Protection Treaties in the Progressive Era (University of Washington Press), was co-winner of the Stuart Bernath Book Prize from the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations. He is also a recipient of SHAHR’s Stuart Bernath Lecture prize and a teaching excellence award from UNH. His current book project is an international history of efforts to regulate whaling in the Antarctic in the 20th century.

CARMEL FINLEY is an instructor in the Department of History at Oregon State University. She is a maritime historian who specializes in the geopolitics around fisheries, primarily in the Pacific, and in the intersection of science and policy around fisheries and whaling issues. She is currently doing final revisions for her first book, All The Fish In The Sea, which deals with the development of institutional frameworks and fisheries science between 1930 and 1960. She is now setting up the Pacific Fisheries History Project, a web-based public history project that will examine the rise and subsequent collapse of West Coast groundfish stocks during the 1990s. This project is tentatively titled, “Global Goals, National Policies, Local Fish.”

SETH GARFIELD is Associate Professor of History at the University of Texas at Austin. He is the author of Indigenous Struggle at the Heart of Brazil: State Policy, Frontier Expansion, and the Xavante Indians, 1937-1988 (Duke University Press, 2001), as well as numerous articles on the Brazilian Amazon. He is now working on a transnational history of the Brazilian Amazon from World War II through the 1990s.

DAVID KINKELA is Assistant Professor of History at the State University of New York-Fredonia. He is currently a research fellow at the Institute of Historical Studies at the University of Texas-Austin, where he is revising his book manuscript, “Opening Pandora’s Box: DOT and American Environmentalism in a Global Age, 1943-1985.” He is also co-editing a special issue on transnational environmental history for the Radical History Review, which will be published in the spring 2010. He has started working on a new project tentatively titled, “Washing Away Waste: Oceans and the Politics of Garbage Dumping, 1900-1980.”


MARK LAWRENCE is Associate Professor of History at the University of Texas at Austin. He is author of Assuming the Burden: Europe and the American Commitment to War in Vietnam (University of California Press, 2005) and The Vietnam War: A Concise International History (Oxford University Press, 2008), as well as articles and chapters on the international history of the twentieth century. He is now writing a book about U.S. policymaking toward anticolonial nationalism in the 1960s and plans a subsequent study on nuclear testing during the Cold War.
JOHN MCKIERNAN-GONZALEZ is Assistant Professor of History at the University of Texas at Austin. He is fascinated by the ways public health policies and civil rights demands intersect with transnational social movements. His manuscript, Fevered Measures: Connecting Public Health and Race at the Mexican Border, 1848-1942, is under contract at Duke University Press. His next project, “Black Odysseys, American Landscapes,” examines the overlapping ways the Comarca Lagunera (Mexico) and Tuscaloosa County (United States) also participated in the national politics of labor, health, and citizenship.

JOHN MCNEILL is Professor of History and University Professor at Georgetown University in Washington D.C. He is the author of five books, including The Mountains of the Mediterranean World: An Environmental History (Cambridge University Press, 1992) and Something New Under the Sun: An Environmental History of the 20th-century World (Norton 2000). His next book, tentatively entitled Pathogens of the Caribbean: Epidemics and Geopolitics in the American Tropics, 1640-1920, is forthcoming from Cambridge University Press.

JAMES E. MCWILLIAMS is Associate Professor of History at Texas State University and the author of several book on the history of food and agriculture, including American Pests: The Losing War on Insects from Colonial Times to DDT (Columbia University Press, 2008). His work on contemporary environmental issues has appeared in the New York Times, Slate, and the London Times. He is currently researching the production of ecological knowledge in early America by focusing on colonial and early national encounters with ambiguous environments perceived to be neither wild nor cultivated.

MARTIN V. MELOSI is Distinguished University Professor of History and Director of the Center for Public History at the University of Houston. He is author or editor of fifteen books, including The Sanitary City (University of Pittsburgh Press, 2000, 2008) and Garbage in the Cities (Pittsburgh, 1981, 2005). Melosi is past president of the American Society for Environmental History, the Urban History Association, the National Council on Public History, and the Public Works Historical Society.

JUDITH SHAPIRO is Director of Global Environmental Politics Programs at the School of International Service at American University in Washington, DC. She is the author of Mao’s War against Nature (Cambridge University Press, 2001) and co-author, with Liang Heng, of Son of the Revolution (Knopf, 1983) and several other books about freedom of expression in China. She is now working on problems of sustainable development in China and the transnational impact of China’s environmental challenges.

DAVID ZIERLER is a historian in the Office of the Historian at the United States Department of State, where he is currently documenting U.S. foreign relations toward Europe during the Carter administration. He completed his graduate studies at Temple University in July 2008. His forthcoming book, Inventing Ecocide: Agent Orange, Antiwar Protest, and Environmental Destruction in Vietnam, is under contract with the University of Georgia Press.