Global Commodity Flows
Conference Program | April 16th-18th, 2015
College of Liberal Arts Building, CLA 1.302B, in the Julius Glickman Conference Center

Thursday, April 16th

4:30 – 5:20pm: Pre-function reception
Glickman Center patio (weather back-up: CLA 1.302D)

5:30 – 5:45pm: Opening Remarks

Jacqueline Jones, Mastin Gentry White Professor of Southern History; and Walter Prescott Webb Chair in History and Ideas; and Chair, History Department, University of Texas at Austin

Seth Garfield, Professor of History, and Director, Institute for Historical Studies, University of Texas at Austin

Mark Metzler, Professor of History, and Program Coordinator, Institute for Historical Studies, University of Texas at Austin

5:45 – 6:45pm: Keynote

Victoria de Grazia, Moore Collegiate Professor of History, Columbia University
“The Commodity World: Reflections from the Post-American Era”

7:30 – 9:00pm: Conferee Dinner – for Presenters, Chairs, and Selected Invitees
Clay Pit Indian Restaurant | 1601 Guadalupe, corner of Guadalupe and 16th Street

Friday, April 17th

8:15 – 8:45am: Coffee Meet & Greet

9:00 – 10:25am: Panel I “Early Modern Commodity Cultures”

Julie Hardwick, Chair (University of Texas at Austin)

Emma Flatt (University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill)
“Foreign Fragrances: Olfactory Commodities and Connoisseurship in Early Modern India”

Panel continues next page.
Arash Khazeni (Pomona College)
“Of Teak, Elephants, and Rubies: Indo-Persian Encounters with the Forest Worlds of Imperial Burma”

Mary K. Gayne (James Madison University)

10:25 – 10:35am: Break

10:35am – 12:00noon: Panel II “Capital, Energy, and Climate”

William R. Childs, Chair (University of Texas at Austin)

Jason W. Moore (Binghamton University, State University of New York)

Fredrik Albritton Jonnson (The University of Chicago)
“Carbon Society: The Science, Politics, and Culture of Coal in Victorian Britain”

Andrew Needham (New York University)
“The Neverending Age of Coal: The Dream of Energy Transition and Post-Industrialism in Coal-Fired America”

12:00pm – 1:00pm: Break

1:00 – 2:25pm: Panel III “Ecologies of Resource Extraction and Production”

Erika M. Bsumek, Chair (University of Texas at Austin)

Michitake Aso (University at Albany-State University of New York)
“From Planters to Planners: Rubber, Development, and War in Southern Vietnam, 1956 to 1975”

Kristin Wintersteen (University of Houston)
“Economies of putrefaction: Fish proteins and the industrial ecology of animal farming in the Atlantic and Pacific worlds, 1811-1950"

Sayuri Guthrie Shimizu (Rice University)
“The Rise and Transformation of International Fisheries Management Regimes in the North Pacific”
2:25 – 2:45pm: Break

2:45 – 4:10pm: Panel IV  “Agriculture, Globalization, and Crises”

Robyn Metcalfe, Chair (University of Texas at Austin)

Rebecca Tally (The Ohio State University)
“Experimenting with Daylight: Colombia, Photoperiodism, and the Global Wheat Trade”

Marion Dixon (Cornell University)
“Phosphate, Fertilizers, and French North Africa: 1830s through the Interwar Period”

Mark Metzler (University of Texas at Austin)
“Teleconnections: Globalized Wheat Markets, Climatic Fluctuations, and Famine during the Great Depression of the Late 19th Century”

4:10 – 4:30pm: Break

4:30 – 5:15pm: Closing Keynote

Marina Fischer-Kowalski, Founder and Director, Institute of Social Ecology, and Professor of Social Ecology at Alpen Adria University; and Senior Lecturer, the University of Vienna
“Material and Energy Flows and the Anthropocene”

Discussion: 15 minutes

Saturday, April 18th (participants only)

Garrison Hall (GAR), Room 4.100, UT campus

9:00 – 9:30am: Breakfast

9:30am – 12:00noon: Participants-only Workshop

Structured Commentaries - assigned commentators and discussion in break-out sessions

12:00pm – 1:00pm: Break; discussion of publication plans over lunch

1:00pm: Adjourn
2015 Conference: Global Commodity Flows  
Saturday, April 18  
Institute for Historical Studies, 4th Floor, Garrison Hall

Saturday: Workshop (participants only), Garrison Hall, 4.100

8:30–9:00 Continental breakfast  
9:00–12:00 Discussion in break-out sessions, GAR 4.100 and GAR 1.102  
12:00–1:00 Box lunch; discussion of publication plans over lunch  
[1:00 — end of formal program]

Format: 30 minutes (or slightly less) discussion per paper. For each paper, we’ll begin with extremely brief comments by the author, followed by comments from the commentator, followed by general discussion.


10:00  Arash Khazeni, “Of Teak, Elephants, and Rubies: Indo-Persian Encounters with the Forest Worlds of Imperial Burma.” Comment: Emma Jane Flatt.


Session 2 (Garrison 1.102). Chair: Mark Metzler


10:00  Marion Dixon, “Phosphate, Fertilizers, and French North Africa: 1830s through the Interwar Period.” Comment: Kristin Wintersteen.


11:00  Rebecca Tally, “Experimenting with Daylight: Colombia, Photoperiodism, and the Global Wheat Trade.” Comment: Mark Metzler.