

WORKING PROGRAM FOR ST. PETE, MAY 23-26, 2018

Updated May 4, 2018

Wednesday, May 23rd

9:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Graduate Workshop
Hilton Training Center Room 2

2:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. Registration
Lobby III

3:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m. AHS Executive Committee Meeting
Bayboro

5:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Opening Reception
Lobby III

Thursday, May 24th

7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Registration
Lobby III

8:20 a.m.-8:30 a.m. Welcome to St. Petersburg, Sterling Evans, AHS President, and James Giesen, AHS Executive Secretary
Williams/Demens Room

8:30 a.m.-10:00 a.m. Opening Plenary Session, "Making Knowledge on the Land: A Roundtable on Histories of Agriculture, Science, and Environment"
Williams/Demens Room

Chair: Mark Hersey, Mississippi State University

"Fruit: Science, Land, and the United Fruit Company," Megan Raby, University of Texas at Austin

"What Kind of Knowledge is a Pig?" Amrys O. Williams, Hagley Museum & Library

"Coffee: Research, Environment, and the Public," Stuart McCook, University of Guelph

10:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m. Break
Lobby III

10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Session I

I A “Agricultural Chemicals across Borders and Boundaries: New Perspectives on the Global Rise of Chemical-Powered Farming”

Williams Room

Chair/Comment: Kendra Smith-Howard, University at Albany, SUNY

“Chemical Crossings: The Grasslands Chemical Exchange and the International Conference of Agricultural Aviation,” David D. Vail, University of Nebraska at Kearny

“Pesticides and Environmental Policy in the United States and China,” Frederick Rowe Davis, Purdue University

“The Ziggurats of Bone Valley: The Postwar Production of High-Analysis Phosphate Fertilizers and their Radioactive Waste,” Zachary Caple, University of South Florida

“Agro-Chemical Explosion: A Material Microhistory of the 1947 Texas City Disaster,” Timothy Johnson, Georgia State University

I B “The Carceral Countryside: Police, Prisons, Labor, and Land in the Rural South”

Demens Room

Chair/Comment: Evan P. Bennett, Florida Atlantic University

“Charles Herty and Florida’s Convict Lease System: Prisoners, Pines, and the Making of Modern Forestry in the Rural South,” Fraser Livingston, Mississippi State University

“‘An Alien Concentration Camp:’ Prisoners of War, Agriculture, and Landscaping in Aliceville, Alabama,” Emily Moses, Mississippi State University

“Beefing Up the Patrol: The Mississippi Livestock Theft Bureau and Rural Life after Cotton,” Justin M. Randolph, Yale University

I C “Local and Global Histories of Cattle Ranching”

Hilton Training Center 3

Chair/Comment: Brian Cannon, Brigham Young University

“Making Beef: Northern Colorado and the Origins of the Commercial Cattle Feedlot,” Michael Weeks, Utah Valley University

“What Land Stewards Know: Colorado Social History of Farmers and Ranchers,” Joanne S. Littlefield, Colorado State University

“The Texas Nexus: Global Migration and Diffusion of Tropical Cattle Breeds,” Leland Turner, Midwestern State University

I D “Diplomacy, Labor, and Agribusiness during the Global Cold War”
Hilton Training Center 4

Chair/Comment: David Hamilton, University of Kentucky

“‘It’s all Work and Happiness on the Farms:’ Agricultural Development Between the Blocs in Nkrumah’s Ghana, 1957-66,” Keri Lambert, Yale University

“‘Chac-Mool’ Wants You! American Expertise and Civilian Diplomacy in Cold War Yucatán,” Katherine Warming, Iowa State University

“Peace through Plenty: Food Diplomacy and Agribusiness in Postwar America,” Maggie Weber, Iowa State University

12:00 p.m.-1:45 p.m. Luncheon and Presidential Address (Ticketed Event, Pre-registration Required)
Hilton Training Center 1 and 2

AHS President Sterling Evans, University of Oklahoma

2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m. Session II

II A “Growing Community: ‘The Asparagus Capital of the Nation’”
Williams

Chair: Kristin Moretto, Grand Valley State University

“Lugging Cherries and Snapping Asparagus: The Role of the State, Farmers, and Markets in Farm Workers’ Lives,” Nora Salas, Grand Valley State University

“Who we are in the World: The Oceana Project in Global Perspective,” Andrew Schlewitz, Grand Valley State University

“Balancing Inclusive Community Engagement in Digital History Work,” Matt Schultz, Grand Valley State University

“A Growing Community: Reflections on the Process of Organizing and Creating a Collaborative Common Heritage Project,” Melanie Shell-Weiss, Grand Valley State University

II B “Breaking Traditions: The Promises and Shortfalls of Agricultural Modernization in Three Developing-World Economies”
Demens

Chair/Comment: Jeremy Vetter, University of Arizona

“An Agreement of Destruction: How Brazilian Planners Eradicated Coffee to Uproot ‘Tradition,’ 1961-1969,” Jonathan Coulis, Emory University

“Drought, Famine, and Blame in Arid East Africa, 1976-1989,” Jenny Leigh Smith, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

“Cotton Science and the (Re)Making of the North China Cotton Economy, 1914-1937,” Spencer Stewart, University of Chicago

II C “Human Capital and the Transnational Experience”
Hilton Training Center 3

Chair: Jeff Bremer, Iowa State University

“Botanic Gardens and ‘Improvement’ in India in the Late Eighteenth and Early Nineteenth Centuries,” J’Nese Williams, Vanderbilt University

“Comparing Slavery’s Absenteeism Across Crops and Borders,” Kelly Houston Jones, Austin Peay State University

“Gangs, Assembly Lines, and Slave Plantation Efficiency,” Alan L. Olmstead, University of California—Davis, and Paul W. Rhode, University of Arizona

II D “Health, Toxins, and Waste”
Hilton Training Center 4

Chair/comment: Joe Anderson, Mount Royal University

“Wild Bodies in Wild Places: Veterinary Science and the Crafting of Wild Disease,” Kathleen Sullivan, Mississippi State University

“‘The White Stones that Yield Poison’ and a Transatlantic Trade of Industrial Waste, (1860-1900),” Adam M. Romero, University of Washington Bothell

“The Fruits of Victory: Fruits, Nuts, Waste, and Gas Mask Manufacture in the United States during World War I,” Gerard J. Fitzgerald, George Mason University

3:30 p.m.-4:15 p.m. Break
Lobby III

4:15 p.m.-5:45 p.m. Session III

III A “Water, Land, and Social Justice in Mexico: A Roundtable on Mikael Wolfe’s *Watering the Revolution: An Environmental and Technological History of Agrarian Reform in Mexico* (Duke University Press, 2017)
Williams

Chair/comment: Tore Olsson, University of Tennessee

Participants:

Mikael Wolfe, Stanford University
Sterling Evans, University of Oklahoma
Eve Buckley, University of Delaware
Chris Boyer, University of Illinois at Chicago

III B “Early Twentieth Century Reform and Consumerism in the Rural Midwest”
Demens

Chair: Carrie Meyer, George Mason University

“Consuming the ‘Modern’ in American Farm Landscaping, 1920-1938,” Nancy K. Berlage, Texas State University

“Urban America Comes to Rural Iowa: Farm Families and the 1920s,” Jeff Bremer, Iowa State University

“Eggs and Egg Plant: Farmers, Implements, and Urban Commodity Chains during the Golden Age,” Debra Reid, The Henry Ford

“To Get Away from it All: Horace Kephart and the Consumer Culture of American Hunting and Hiking,” Drew Swanson, Wright State University

III C “Global Commodities in the U.S. South”
Hilton Training Center 3

Chair: Jeannie Whayne, University of Arkansas

“A Concern for Better Peanuts: The Tom Huston Company, Private Industry, and Public Breeding in the Deep South, 1930-1945,” Tad Brown, University of Queensland

“Japanese Rice and the Making of Southern Agricultural Development,” Megan White, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

“The Catfish Wars: Trade, Inspections, and Labeling in the American and Vietnamese Aquaculture Industries Since 2001,” Karen Aki Senaga, Utah State University

III D “New Research from Emerging Scholars”
Hilton Training Center 4

Chair/comment: Jenny Leigh Smith

“Russian ‘Americans’: Soviet Agricultural Scholars’ Visits to the United States, 1921-1935,” Maria Fedorova, University of California—Santa Barbara

“As Water Flows Through Lowlands and Highlands: Irrigation Systems and Their Management in Early Modern China,” Yōu Wang, University of California—Los Angeles

“Agrarian Modernization in Ecuador, 1964-1994,” Antonio Chamorro, FLACSO and Wageningen University

Friday, May 25th

7:30 a.m.-8:30 a.m. Editorial Board Breakfast
Hilton Training Center 1

7:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Registration
Lobby III

8:30 a.m.-10:00 a.m. Session IV

IV A “Calibrating Commodities in the Twentieth Century American Southeast”
Williams

Chair/Comment: Albert G. Way, Kennesaw State University

“The Farmers’ Federation’s ‘Pioneer Stock:’ The Financial Benefits of Regional Stereotypes,”
Jama Grove, University of Arkansas

“Standardized Landscapes: Golf, Leisure, and Environmental Realities,” Matthew Himel,
Mississippi State University

“Evenly Evergreen: Standardizing Christmas Trees in Postwar America,” Aaron Thomas,
Mississippi State University

IV B “Debating Agriculture and Trade”
Demens

Chair/Comment: Peter Coclanis, University of North Carolina—Chapel Hill

“Save Farming? Resist Autarky? Feed the world? The New Deal Debate over Agriculture and
Global Trade,” David Hamilton, University of Kentucky

“Tracking Linkages, Parallels, and Disconnects: Development of Agriculture and Agricultural
Policy in China and the United States,” Anne Effland, Fred Gale, and Elizabeth Gooch, all of the
U.S. Department of Agriculture

IV C “The Expert Farmer: Encounters between Farming Knowledge and Agricultural Science
in the Eighteenth, Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries”
Hilton Training Center 3

Chair/Comment: Tore Olsson, University of Tennessee

“The Peasant as Authority: Jacob Guyer and the Status of Rural Knowledge-Makers in
Eighteenth-Century Central Europe,” Denise Phillips, University of Tennessee

“Catalog Farmers: Testimonial Advertising and Commercial Hierarchies of Knowledge in
Antebellum U.S. Agriculture,” Emily Pawley, Dickinson College

“How Did (and Didn’t) Agricultural Scientists on the U.S. Great Plains before the Dust Bowl
Appropriate Farmer Knowledge?” Jeremy Vetter, University of Arizona

IV D “The Politics of Livestock across the Plains”
Hilton Training Center 4

Chair/comment: Leland Turner, Midwestern State University

“1904: The Year the West Left Nebraska,” Robert Nickels, University of Nebraska-Kearney

“Wild Bill’s War on Hogs: A Case Study of High Plains Responses to Free Trade, 1985-1988,”
Cory Haala, Marquette University

10:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m. Break
Lobby III

10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Session V

V A “The ‘Granary of Freedom:’ A Roundtable on World War II and Agricultural History”
Williams

Chair: Pete Daniel, Smithsonian National Museum of American History

Participants:

Kellen Backer, Syracuse University

Anastasia Day, University of Delaware

Deborah Fitzgerald, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Katherine Jellison, Ohio University

Jennifer Robin Terry, University of California, Berkeley

V B “Biology, Politics, and Culture across the Americas”
Demens

Chair: Sara E. Morris, University of Kansas

“Segregation and Sugar: The Politics of Trade in the Cold War Caribbean,” Maarten Zwiars,
University of Groningen

“The Rockefeller Foundation’s Mexican Agriculture Program during the 1940s,” Paul Kelly Vieth,
University of Oklahoma

“Imported South American fire ants in the U.S. Southeast during the mid-Twentieth Century,”
Jeremy Montgomery, Mississippi State University

“Drinking the Borderlands: The Margarita and Commodification of Citrus, Tequila, and Cocktails in North America, Denise Holladay Damico, Saint Francis University

V C “Family, Community, and Agriculture across the Globe”
Hilton Training Center 3

Chair: Kelly Houston Jones, Austin Peay State University

“Mennonite Communities in Washington County, Iowa, and Riva Palacio, Bolivia,” Royden Loewen, University of Winnipeg

“Maintenance of Low German Mennonite Identity in Post-World War II Oklahoma,” Chet Horn, University of Oklahoma

“The Search for ‘Childhood:’ Rural Children in 1980s Ghana,” Knut Onaygen, Western Norway University of Applied Sciences

12:30 p.m.-5:00 p.m. Ybor City Tour and Lunch (Pre-registration Required)

The bus departs from entrance of the hotel at 12:30. Pick up your lunch as you board the bus for an exploration of Ybor City. Professor Gary Mormino will be our guide for a historical and architectural walking tour of this immigrant community. We will be outdoors for much of the afternoon, so wear appropriate shoes and attire for walking and the weather. The trip concludes at 5:00 at the hotel.

Saturday, May 26th

7:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Registration
Lobby III

8:30 a.m.-10:00 a.m. Session VI

VI A “Indigenous and Settler History: Commodities across Borders”
Williams

Chair/comment: Andrew K. Frank, Florida State University

“Bovine Diplomacy: The Seminole Cattle Trade in the Atlantic World, 1750-1842,” Jason Herbert, University of Minnesota

“Uprooting Plants and Moving Earth:’ Yamasee Indian Agriculture and Sovereignty in South Carolina and Florida,” Denise Bossy, University of North Florida

“Pocahontas and the Indian River Farm Company: Memory, Boosters, and Citrus Dreams,” Kristalyn Marie Shefveld, University of Southern Indiana

VI B “Puerto Rico: Plants and Territoriality”
Demens

Chair/comment: Stuart McCook, University of Guelph

“A Historic Geostatistical Analysis of the Sugarcane Industry in 20th Century Puerto Rico,” Francisco J. Pesante-González, Center for Advanced Studies of Puerto Rico and the Caribbean

“The Quest for an International Research Institute(s) for the Tropical Americas, 1919-1967,” Derek Byerlee, Georgetown University

“Our Peons love rural life:’ The State of Tropical Agriculture and the Views of the Landowning Sector in an American Territory—Puerto Rico in 1912,” José Solá, Cleveland State University

VI C “Gender, Religion, Land, and Reform”
Hilton Training Center 3

Chair: Nancy Berlage, Texas State University

“Betterton’s Barter Lady: The Aberrant Life of Eveyln Harris,” Sara E. Morris, University of Kansas

“The People, the Land, and the Church in the Rural South: The Farm Foundation, the Federal Council of Churches, and Reform in the Rural South, 1940-1945,” Larsen B. Plyler, Mississippi State University

“The Light of Science and Religion:’ Women, Education, and Institution Building on the Illinois Frontier,” Jenny Barker-Devine, Illinois College

“Dairy and Dependency: The Children’s Aid Society’s Emigration Efforts in Upstate New York, 1853-1940,” Amy E. Traver, City University of New York, Queensborough Community College

10:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m. Break
Lobby III

10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Session VII

VII A “Crossroads: Change in Rural America”

Williams

Participants:

Debra Reid, The Henry Ford

Arden Williams, Georgia Humanities

Virgil W. Dean, Humanities Scholar, Lawrence, Kansas

Alex Buell, Florida Humanities Council

VII B “Cultivating Colonialism: Race, Labor, and Agriculture in the Atlantic World”

Demens

Chair: Thomas Hallock, University of South Florida—St. Petersburg

“Managing Trans-Colonial Agricultural Ventures: Josiah Martin’s New York-Antiguan Estates, 1730s-1770s,” Jennifer L. Anderson, Stony Brook University

“Conditioning Plantation Nerves and Sinews: Enslaved People and Livestock in the British Atlantic World, 1750-1793,” Christopher Blakley, Rutgers University

“What Counts as Commercial? Indigenous Tobacco Cultivation in Northeastern North America in the Seventeenth-Century,” Christopher M. Parsons, Northeastern University

“Race, Class, and ‘Bibby’-Making in Early Bermuda,” Keith Pluymers, California Institute of Technology

VII C “Economics of Latin American Agricultural Technologies”

Hilton Training Center 3

Chair: Megan Raby, University of Texas

“The Road to a More Diversified Agricultural Export Sector in the Dominican Republic,” Carrie A. Meyer, George Mason University

“Technological Transfer by the Institute of Agro-Livestock Research in Ecuador during the Agrarian Modernization,” Antonio Chamorro, FLACSO-Ecuador

“Skirts for Slacks: Gender Wage Gap and Unionization in the Female Workforce in the Colombian Textile Factories during the First Half of the Twentieth Century, Daniela Santos-Cárdenas, Banco de la República, Colombia

1:45 p.m.-3:15 p.m. Session VIII

VIII A "Sugar and South America"

Williams

Chair: Peter Coclanis, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill

Comment: Audience discussion

"Colombian Cane: The Sugar Industry in the Valle del Cauca, Colombia, and its Transnational Connections," Sterling Evans, University of Oklahoma

"Modeling Modernization: International Aid and Agricultural Transformation in Brazil, 1950-1980," Thomas Rogers, Emory University

"The Rise of the Brazilian California: Environmental Legislation, Rural Labor Changes, and the Expansion of the Sugar-Alcohol Industry in Ribeirão Preto, São Paulo, 1950-1984" Jennifer Eaglin, Ohio State University

VIII B "Labor and Unrest in the Americas and Africa during the Twentieth Century"

Demens

Chair: Tim Bowman, West Texas A&M University

"Another Kind of Slavery: The Braceros on the Lee Wilson Plantation, 1949-1963," Jeannie Whayne, University of Arkansas

"Crossing Borders, Building Walls: Early 20th Century America's Emotional Responses to Immigrant Farm Workers," Amy L. Giroux, University of Central Florida, and Marcy L. Galbreath, University of Central Florida

"A New Labor Question: Latino Strikebreakers in the Iowa Beef Packer Strike of 1969," Michelle Martindale, Purdue University

VIII C "Reform, Ruminaton, and Reality in the United States after 1945"

Hilton Training Center 3

Chair: David Vail, University of Nebraska-Kearney

“The War on Poverty Comes to Rural America, 1964-1971,” Brian Q. Cannon, Brigham Young University

“The Role of Rural Nostalgia in Popular Culture during the 1970s,” Jeffrey Filipiak, University of Wisconsin Colleges

“‘Rain on the Scarecrow, Blood on the Plow:’ Ominous Imagery of the 1980s Farm Crisis,” Wayne Anderson, University of Iowa

VIII D “A Roundtable on Tore Olsson’s *Agrarian Crossings: Reformers and the Remaking of the U.S. and Mexican Countryside* (Princeton University Press, 2017)”
Hilton Training Center 4

Chair: Gabriel Rosenberg, Duke University

Panelists:

Tore Olsson, University of Tennessee

Jess Gilbert, University of Wisconsin

Theresa Ventura, Concordia University

Gabriel Rosenberg, Duke University

3:15 p.m.-3:45 p.m. Break
Lobby III

3:45 p.m.-5:15 p.m. Session IX

IX A “Global Agricultural Commodities from the Earthly to the Ethereal”
Williams

Chair/Comment: Barbara Hahn, Texas Tech University

“Hank Williams in Japan and Other Unlikely Stories: The Global Career of U.S. Country Music in the Twentieth Century,” Tore C. Olsson, University of Tennessee

“The Roundup Story No One is Talking About: Mining the History of Monsanto’s Famous Herbicide,” Bartow J. Elmore, Ohio State University

“Longleaf Pine, From Forest to Fiber: Production, Consumption, and the Cutover on the Southern Coastal Plain, 1865-1900,” Albert G. Way, Kennesaw State University

“Commodities and Markets in Peasant World,” Zarko Lazerevic, Institute of Contemporary History

IX B “Rethinking Tropicana”

Demens

Chair: Connie Lester, University of Central Florida; Audience Comment

“Rebuilt and Remade: The Early Modern Florida Citrus Industry, 1909-1939,” James Andrew Padgett, University of Central Florida

“Punta Rassa: Southwest Florida’s Forgotten Port,” Jeff Dickey, Midwestern State University

“Bringing the Tropics to the Tourists: Bananas and the Exoticism of Tampa’s Docks,” Evan P. Bennett, Florida Atlantic University

5:15 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Cash Bar
Lobby III

5:30 p.m.-6:00 p.m. AHS Business Meeting
Williams

6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Reception (Open to All Registrants)
Lobby III

7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. Awards Banquet (Ticketed Event, Preregistration Required)
St. Pete 1