

Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies

Research Community on Communicating Uncertainty:
Science, Institutions, and Ethics in the Politics of Global Climate Change

**Workshop on Historicizing Climate Change
May 2-3, 2014
219 Aaron Burr Hall, Princeton University**

Organizers:

Melissa Lane, Professor of Politics, Princeton University

Robert Socolow, Professor of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, Emeritus, and
Senior Research Scholar, Princeton University

AGENDA

Friday 2 May

Welcome and Introductions, Melissa Lane and Robert Socolow

2 May, 9:00 AM – 9:15 AM

I. Writing intellectual histories of climate change: perspectives and choices

2 May, 9:15 AM – 10:45 AM

Sverker Sörlin, Professor of Environmental History, KTH Royal Institute of Technology,
Stockholm

“Is there a distinct history of climate change – or to what broader kinds of history does
the history of climate change belong?”

Discussants:

Syukuro Manabe, Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory

John McNeill, University Professor, Georgetown University

II. Coming to terms with the future

2 May, 11:15 AM - 1:00 PM

A. Conceptualization and communication about the future

Deborah Poskanzer, independent scholar: “Environmental Thought and Futurological Literacy: Common Origins of an Idea”

Deborah Coen, Associate Professor of History, Barnard College, Columbia University
“Climates of Empire: Science and the Spatial Imagination in Nineteenth-Century Europe”

Discussants:

James Fleming, Colby College

V. “Ram” Ramaswamy, Director, Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory

B. Normative questions: how can we value the future?

2 May, 2:15 – 4:00 PM

Katrina Forrester, Junior Research Fellow, St John’s College, Cambridge

“From Overpopulation to Intergenerational Justice: Thinking about the Future in Anglo-American Political Philosophy in the 1970s”

Kirsten Hastrup, Prof. Anthropology, University of Copenhagen

“Performing the Future: Agency, Anticipation and Ethics”

Discussants:

Thomas Schelling, University of Maryland

Jonathon Porritt, Director, Forum for the Future

III. Limits of Quantification

A. The distinction between risk and uncertainty

2 May, 4:30 PM – 6:15 PM

Caley D. Horan, Lecturer in History, Princeton University, “Risk and Sustainability”

Jonathan Levy, Assistant Professor of History and John Maclean Jr., Presidential University Preceptor, Princeton University, “Risk and Uncertainty: A Dynamic, not a Distinction”

Discussant:

Richard Somerville, University of California, San Diego

Sivan Kartha, Stockholm Energy Institute

Saturday 3 May

III. Limits of Quantification (continued)

B. Economics of climate change

3 May, 9:00 AM – 10:45 AM

Samuel Randalls, Lecturer in Human Geography, University College London, "Historicizing climate change as if economics mattered"

Peder Anker, Associate Professor, New York University, Gallatin School of Individualized Study & Environmental Studies Program:
"The Economic Fix: The Norwegian Approach to Climate Change".

Francis Dennig, Postdoctoral Fellow, WWS / UCHV, Princeton University, "Cost-benefit analysis and the 'positive' approach"

Discussant:

Marc Fleurbaey, Robert E. Kuenne Professor in Economics and Humanistic Studies, Professor of Public Affairs and the University Center for Human Values, Princeton University

IV. Present-day Equity

3 May, 11:00 AM – 12:45 PM

Sunil Amrith, Reader in Modern Asian History, Department of History, Classics & Archaeology, Birkbeck College, University of London, "The Changing Monsoon and the Intellectual History of Water in South Asia"

Dale Jamieson, Professor of Environmental Studies and Philosophy, New York University, "Climate Change and Global Justice: New Problem, Old Paradigm?"

Discussants:

Jeremy Adelman, Walter Samuel Carpenter III Professor in Spanish Civilization and Culture, Princeton University
Gus Speth, University of Vermont

Final thanks; close of conference: 1:00 PM