The Southern African Historical Society
The 25th Biennial Conference,
hosted by the Department of History, University of Stellenbosch, 1-3 July 2015.

“Unsettling Stories and Unstable Subjects”
Venue: STIAS, Wallenberg Research Centre, Marais Street
Preliminary Programme

TUESDAY 30 JUNE

15:30-17:30 Registration: STIAS, Wallenberg Research Centre, Marais Street
Welcome tea/coffee

WEDNESDAY 1 JULY

7:30-16:00 Registration: STIAS, Wallenberg Research Centre, Marais Street
7:30 Arrival coffee/tea

8:30-9:00 Welcome
• SAHS President
• Vice-Rector Research: Eugene Cloete
• Departmental Chair’s Welcome
• House rules

9:00-10:00 Keynote address: Jonathan Hyslop (Colgate University) “African Independence, the New Left and the Rebirth of Social History: 1956-1964.”

10:00-10:30 Coffee/Tea

10:30-12:00 CONCURRENT SESSION 1

1A: Historiography: Beyond Pre- and Post: Periodization in African History

Chair: David M. Gordon (Bowdoin College)

Stacey Sommerdyk (Wits), “Periodization and Africa’s Past: Unpacking “Pre-Colonial.”

Amanda Esterhuysen (Wits), “Our Time is not your Time: the chronopolitics of archaeological impact assessments.”


Joel Quirk (Wits), “Global History, the Great Divergence, and Periodization in African History.”
**1B: Close relations: Intimacy, race and power in South Africa**

Chair: Marijke Du Toit (UWC)


Prinisha Badassy (Wits), “Yes, I love her but the authorities will not allow it!” – Incest, Infanticide, Intimacy: The Story of Florence Maud Harrison, Newcastle, 1914.”


Jean Smith (Leeds), “‘The colour bar is all bunk’: Race and hospitality in South Africa during the Second World War.”

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**1C: Thirsting for the truth: water histories and watering history (I)**

Chair: Johann Tempelhoff (North-West University, Vaal Triangle Campus)


Meredith McKittrick (Georgetown University), “Talking about the weather: White vernaculars and agrarian crisis, 1920-1945.”


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**1D: Destabilizing white society in southern Africa**

Chair: Kate Law (University of the Free State)


Ushehwedu Kufakurinani (University of Zimbabwe), “Unsettling stories: White women, violence and terror in the colonial homes of Southern Rhodesia.”
1E: Memory Wars, myth-making and materiality (I)

Chair: Sean Field (University of Cape Town)

Koni Benson (UCT), “I was never a witdoeke’: Living Legacies of Vigilante Activity in the Largest Apartheid Era Forced Removal.”

Neroli Price (UCT), “Politics and Prosthesis: Disability and the Emergence of the Postapartheid State in South Africa.”


Rehana Odendaal (UCT), “You Never Hear People Talk About It You Know’: Remembering and Forgetting the Trojan Horse Shootings, 1985 -2014.”

12:00-13:00 Lunch

13:00-14:30 CONCURRENT SESSION 2

2A: Remembering the work of Jeff Guy: A critical reflection (I)

Chair: Jeremy Martens (University of Western Australia)

Eulogy: Cathy Burns (Wits)


Keith Breckenridge (WISER, WITS), “The burdens of Apartheid, Empire, and provincialism: Guy’s Shepstone.”

2B: Wither (or whither) Political History (I)

Chair: Laura Evans (Sheffield Hallam University)


Ofentse Mboweni (Wits), “Divided We Rise: The Dismantling of Apartheid Through Ideological Antagonism.”

Laura Evans (Sheffield Hallam University), “The Bisho Massacre and the Politics of the Transition.”

Jeremy Martens (University of Western Australia), “Between two fires’: Racial populism, Indian resistance and the beginnings of satyagraha in the Transvaal, 1902-1906.”

2C: Knowledge, Texts and Power (I)

Chair: Vashna Jagarnath (Rhodes University)
Fiona Bell (UKZN), “‘To promote the advancement and diffusion of knowledge…’: the Carnegie Corporation of New York and public library services in South Africa, 1906-1941.”


Brian Willan (Rhodes), “What other Devils? The texts of Sol Plaatje’s Mhudi revisited.”

2D: Political mobilisation in historical perspective: understanding resistance and the politics of activism

Chair: Arianna Lissoni (Wits)

Noor Nieftagodien (Wits), “The 1960 anti-pass campaign in the Vaal: Evaton, the epicentre of radical mobilisation.”

Arianna Lissoni (Wits), “Democratic centralism in action: the East Africa Regional Political Committee of the ANC in the late 1980s.”

Itumeleng Mafatshe (Wits), “Gender Politics and Activism: Women’s activism in the ANC YL in post-apartheid South Africa.”


2E: The Body Politic (I)

Chair: Thembisa Waetjen (Durban University of Technology)

Vanessa Noble (UKZN) and Marcel Dreier (Independent), “‘I treated patients at the side of the road’: Maria Kunz and the Practice of Itinerant Missionary Medicine in Rural South Africa, 1930s to 1970s.”

Ismail Larney (Independent), “Cape Flats Smile?”


Phuthego Molosiwa (UMN), “‘The Big Cough’: Migrant Labour and the Cultural Politics of Tuberculosis in the Bechuanaland Protectorate, 1930s-1960s.”

2F: Thirsting for the truth: water histories and watering history (II)

Chair: Gift Wasambo Kayira (University of Malawi, Chancellor College)

Estella Musiwa (University of Swaziland), “Gendered Hydropolitics and the Scourge that Took People by Storm: Cholera Victims at the Budiriro Epicentre (Zimbabwe) 2008-2009.”

Wessel Visser (Stellenbosch University), “Water contestations in the Little Karoo. Liaisons between the Calitzdorp Irrigation Board and the Kannaland Municipality, 1913-1999.”

14:30-15:00 Coffee/Tea

15:00-16:30 CONCURRENT SESSION 3

3A: Remembering the work of Jeff Guy: A critical reflection (II)

Chair: Shula Marks (School of Oriental and African Studies)

Nafisa Sheik (University of Johannesburg), “Entangled Patriarchies: Gender and Relationality in the Forging of Natal.”

Jeremy Martens (University of Western Australia), “Decentring Shepstone: The eastern Cape frontier and the establishment of native administration in Natal, 1842-1849.”

Vukile Khumalo (UKZN), “History as a social force in Jeff Guy’s *Theophilus Shepstone and the Forging of Natal*.”

3B: Wither (or whither) Political History (II)

Chair: Jon Hyslop (Colgate University)

Patrick Furlong (Alma College), “For Neither Crown Nor Swastika? ‘Mainstream’ Afrikaner and Irish Nationalism in the 1930s and 1940s.”


3C: Reluctant Doubles Partners: Exploring the Relationship between Sport and Politics in Twentieth Century South Africa

Chair: Gustav Venter (Stellenbosch University)

Francois Cleophas (Stellenbosch University), “Moving outside in the Olympic movement.”

Jan Hangebrauck (German Sport University in Cologne), “No normal sport in an abnormal society: Perceptions, effects and interrelations of protests in sport against apartheid in South Africa between 1956 and 1992.”


3D: The Nature of Power and the Power of Nature? Environmental History, science and politics

Chair: Godfrey Hove (University of Zimbabwe)

Norman Etherington (University of Western Australia), “Frederick Courteney Selous, Theodore Roosevelt and the Expectation of African Extinctions in the Late Victorian Era.”


Kundai Manamere (UFS), “‘Revisiting colonial science’ – Anti-malaria campaigns in Southern Rhodesia, 1890s to early 1950s.”

3E: Gendering the Past (I)

Chair: Shireen Hassim (Wits)

Paul Chiudza Banda (Chancellor College, University of Malawi) and Gift Kayira (Chancellor College, University of Malawi), “Women’s Political Representation in Sub-Saharan Africa: Lessons from Malawi.”

Danielle Dunbar (Oxford), “Gender and the politics of sociability in imperial South Africa.”


Palesa Nzuza (UKZN), “Gender politics of love, marriage and modernity in Ilanga Lase Natal.”

3F: Representations of the past: to sanctify or bury?

Chair: Louis Grundlingh (University of Johannesburg)


Sean Field (UCT), “Illuminating intersubjectivity: Memory and trauma in oral historiography.”
16:30-17:30 Venue A: SAHS Business Meeting (President’s and Treasurer’s reports, South African Historical Journal Editorial Report)

16:30 – 17:30 Venue B: Free yoga session with Carla Tsampiras (UCT)

16:30-17:30 Free walking tour of Stellenbosch, hosted by Wessel Visser (Stellenbosch). Gathering point: STIAS parking area

18:00-20:00
Book launches: Harvey Feinberg Our land, our life, our future- Black South African challenges to territorial segregation, 1913—1948 (UNISA); Foyer, Wilcocks Building, Ryneveld Street opposite the “Ou Hoofgebou”. Snacks and wine provided!

THURSDAY 2 JULY

Registration 8:00-16:00 STIAS, Wallenberg Research Centre, Marais Street
8:00 Arrival coffee/tea

8:30-10:00 CONCURRENT SESSION 4

4A: Wither (or whither) Political History (III)
Reconsidering Afrikaner leadership – from the mythical to the self-appointed
Chair: Keith Breckenridge (WISER, Wits)
Hermann Giliomee (Stellenbosch University), “How well do you know your Verwoerd?”
Danelle van Zyl-Hermann (University of the Free State), “We protect our people’: Solidarity’s self-representation as the voice of the Afrikaner minority in post-apartheid South Africa.”
Lindie Koorts (University of the Free State), “Palatable and unpalatable leaders: Apartheid and post-apartheid Afrikaner biography.”

4B: The Body Politic (II)
Chair: Sarah Duff (Wits)
Susanne M. Klausen (Carleton University, Ottawa), “Sex, Shame and Suicide: Policing White Male Heterosexuality in Apartheid South Africa.”
Rebecca Hodes (UCT), “Kink and the colony: sexual deviance in the medical history of South Africa, c. 1893–1939.”
Catherine Burns (Wits), “Medicine, the Body and Science in South African History: The Invention of the Birthsuit in Apartheid South Africa.”

**4C: Thirsting for the truth: water histories and watering history (III)**

Chair: Motlatsi Thabane (National University of Lesotho)

Debbie Whelan (Durban University of Technology), “Diluted by history: the extraordinary endeavour of the Winterton Irrigation Settlement.”

Karen Visser (University of the North West), “The domino effect of the state’s self-help approach on poverty alleviation on the Skanskop Island irrigation settlement.”

Claudia Gouws (NWU Vaal Triangle Campus), “Historical evidence of water management in the Vredefort Dome area.”

**4D: War and society (I)**

Chair: Bill Nasson (Stellenbosch University)

Jonathan Fennell, (King’s College London), “Undermined by the Home Front?: The Union Defence Force (UDF) and Disaster in the Desert in the Summer of 1942.”

Evert Kleynhans (Department of Defence Documentation Centre), “Across the Wire: An Account of the South Africans who Escaped and Evaded in Italy, 1942-1945.”

Fankie Monama, (Stellenbosch University) “Alien Springboks: Foreign Volunteers in the South African Armed Forces during the Second World War, 1939-1945.”

Ian van der Waag (Stellenbosch University), “Hitler’s Springboks: South African soldiers and collaboration with the Third Reich, 1939-1948.”

**4E: Sources and Social Identities: The Establishment and Uses of the amaLala Category**

Chair: Vanessa Noble (UKZN)

Jill Kelly (Southern Methodist University), “Nomsimekwana’s Tale: An Amalala Oral Tradition in 20th Century Claims on Land & Zuluness.”

Jochen Arndt (University of Illinois), “The Zulu Conquest-State and the Emergence of Language-Based Discourses of Identity in Pre-colonial Southeast Africa, 1780-1850.”

John Wright (Wits) and Carolyn Hamilton (UCT), “The amaLala as Featured by James Stuart’s Interlocutors.”
4F: #Must Smuts Fall?

Chair: Neil Roos (UFS)

Fransjohan Pretorius (University of Pretoria), “General Jan Smuts’ role in the Anglo-Boer War, 1899-1902.”


Kobus du Pisani (North-West University), “Jan Smuts and historiography: Greatest Afrikaner or volksverraaier?”

10:00-10:30 Coffee/Tea

10:30-11:10 Presidential address: “Dangerous People” – Sandra Swart (Stellenbosch)

11:10-11:30 Short intermission – go look at the book display!

11:30-13:00 CONCURRENT SESSION 5

5A: Power Interruptions? Chiefs, the law, and textual reconstructions

Chair: Norman Etherington (University of Western Australia)

David M. Gordon (Bowdoin College), “(Dis)embodied Power: Divine Kings Deconstructed and Reconstructed.”


5B: Unsettling Decolonization: shifting historical perspectives and unstable subjects

Chair: Sekibakiba Peter Lekgoathi (Wits)

Caio Simoes de Araujo (Graduate Institute, Geneva), “No exceptional place: Portuguese decolonization and the politics of comparison, ca. 1955-1965.”


Pamila Gupta (Wits), “Decolonization and (Dis)Possession in Portuguese Africa.”

Christian Claassen (UCT), “Motivation for Participation of Former MPLA, UNITA and FNLA Combatants during Angola’s War for Independence and the Angolan Civil War.”
5C: The State, the struggle and the community

Chair: Noor Nieftagodien (Wits)


Bheki R. Mngomezulu (UKZN), “MK activities at Ingwavuma during apartheid: A political history less told.”


5D: The history and politics of infrastructure in South Africa

Chair: Christian John Makgala (University of Botswana)


Stephen Sparks (University of Johannesburg), “A modern town or just another backveld dorp? Max Kirchhofer and the planning of Sasolburg.”


Chair: Pius Nyambara (University of Zimbabwe)

Christie Swanepoel (Stellenbosch University), “Credit in the Cape Colony: new evidence from probate inventories.”

Johan Fourie (Stellenbosch University) and Martine Mariotti (Australian National University), “Living standards during South Africa’s early industrialisation.”

Jeanne Cilliers (Stellenbosch University), “From farms to factories? Intergenerational mobility in nineteenth-century South Africa.”


5F: Rebelling subjects?

Chair: André Wessels (UFS)

Antonio Garcia (Stellenbosch University) and Evert Kleynhans (Department of Defence Documentation Centre), “A Critical Analysis of Union Defence Force Operations during the Afrikaner Rebellion, 1914-1915.”
Ian van der Waag (Stellenbosch University) and David Katz (South African Irish Regiment), “The Profile of the Afrikaner Rebel of 1914-1915.”

Kent Fedorowich (UWE, Bristol), “‘Special Guardians of the British Connection in South Africa: The Unionist Party and the Great War.”

13:00-14:00 Lunch

*13:15-14:00 Special Event: “Memo for Mthethwa: the SAHS calls on the Minister of Arts and Culture to address challenges in the archives: Have your say”. With Jo-Anne Duggan (Director, Archival Platform) in conversation with Julie Parle (UKZN), chaired by Sandra Swart (Stellenbosch).

14:00-15:30 CONCURRENT SESSION 6

6A: Let a hundred flowers bloom? Reflections on southern African historiography (I)

Chair: Karen Harris (Pretoria University)

John Wright (Wits) and Cynthia Kros (Independent), “Working with South Africa’s Past 1500-1880: Issues and Engagements.”

Baxter Tavuyanago (Great Zimbabwe University), “Catching up with the 21st century: A critical review of the burgeoning historiography.”

Siobhan Glanvill-Miller (Wits), “‘Teaching Maths is easier than this...’ Pre-service educators confront the challenges and opportunities of teaching emotive and contested pasts in post-apartheid History and Social Science classrooms.”

6B: The Body Politic (III)

Chair: Rebecca Hodes (UCT)


Anri Delport (Stellenbosch University), “‘Fit for Duty’ Recruitment, training and medical examination of South African Great War volunteers.”

Thembisa Waetjen (Durban University of Technology), “Deviant Doctors and Drug-Seeking Subjects: Opium, Medical Authority and Race in the Cape Colony, 1894-1910.”

Julie Parle (UKZN), “Oblivion C: Sedating, soothing, stimulating, and selling pharmaceuticals in mid-twentieth century South Africa.”

6C: Generation, mobility and welfare.

Chair: Liz Thornberry (Hobart and William Smith Colleges)

Marijke du Toit (UWC), “‘Native social welfare’ in South Africa and the provision of child maintenance grants (1921-1948).”

Meghan Healey-Clancy (Bridgewater State University), “‘As Mothers a Child is a Child’: Social Welfare, Anti-Racist Politics, and Public Motherhood in the Federation of South African Women.”

Leslie Hadfield (Brigham Young University), “Nurturing Family and Community: Professional Nurses in the Ciskei, 1960s-1980s”

6D: Gendering the Past (II)

Chair: Natasha Erlank (University of Johannesburg)

Gabriale Payne (University of Minnesota) “Disciplining Gender: The ‘Making’ of ‘Traditional’ Kikuyu Genders.”

Shireen Hassim (Wits), “Historical Contingency or Good Design? Reflections on feminist institutionalism from South Africa.”


6E: War and Society (II)

Chair: Jonathan Fennell, (King’s College London)

Anne Samson (Independent), “Who remembers the ‘Boy’ who carried World War 1 in East Africa?”

Karen Horn (Stellenbosch University), “The story of Carl Werner Mueller-Wilm: Naïve soldier or indoctrinated victim?”

Esté Kotze (Stellenbosch University), “Women’s work and World War One: A Brief History of the roles played by South African women during the First World War.”


6F: Varieties of Capitalism: winners and losers? (I)

Chair: Johan Fourie (Stellenbosch University)

Michelle Sikes (UCT), “Measuring Material Living Standards: Real Wages under Apartheid.”

Hezron Kangalawe (Stellenbosch University), “Forest Plantations in Mufindi, Tanzania, 1930s – onwards.”


15:30-16:00 Coffee/Tea

16:00-17:30 CONCURRENT SESSION 7

7A: Citizenship, identity and belonging (I): ethnicity and the making of colonial subjects

Chair: Carolyn Hamilton (UCT)

Stanley Malindi (Wits), “Who has the authority to decide? The role of state appointed ethnographers in resolving leadership disputes in traditional authorities.”

Sifiso Ndlovu (Wits), “Navigating Ndebele identity in the context of heritage and memory in post-apartheid South Africa.”

Sekibakiba Peter Lekgoathi (Wits), “Heritage Commemoration and Ndebele Ethnicity in Post-apartheid South Africa.”

7B: War and Society (III)

Chair: Ian van der Waag (Stellenbosch University)


Henk de Jong (Nederlandse Defensie Academie), “Wartime experiences: autobiographies by Dutch volunteers from the Anglo-Boer War.”


Cornelis Muller (UFS), “Conspiracy, crisis and coup: policing Johannesburg during a period of rebellion, 1895-96.”

7C: Telling Lives? Biographies and History (I)

Chair: Brian Willan (Rhodes University)

Stephen Volz (Kenyon College), “The Role of Africans in the Founding of the Kuruman Mission.”

Mary Anne Plaatjies Van Huffel (Ecclesiology, Stellenbosch University), “Alan Aubrey Boesak: Unsettling story about his involvement.”
Retief Müller (Ecclesiology, Stellenbosch University), “Beyers Naudé and the unsettling legacy of nationalism discourses.”

Andy Manson (North-West University, Mafikeng) and Mike Lawrence North-West University, Mafikeng, “‘Married to Politics’. Philemon Mathole (1916-1995) and the liberation struggle in South Africa.”

7D: Complex Cattle? Herds and history
Chair: John Wright (Wits)

Bongani G. Gumbo (Botswana University), “Disease, cattle farming and state intervention in Ngamiland after independence.”

Wesley Mwatwara (University of Zimbabwe), “‘If our cattle die, we eat them but these white people bury and burn them!’ – African livestock regimes, veterinary ‘knowledge’, and the emergence of a colonial order in Southern Rhodesia, c.1860-1902.”

Fred Morton (Botswana University), Stefania Merlo (Wits), and Lokwalo Thabeng (Botswana University), “Killing the Landscape Softly: Cattle, Hills, and Bangwaketse, 1750-1824.”

7E: Memory Wars, myth-making and materiality (II)
Chair: Kate Law (University of the Free State)

Jefferson Ndimande (Solusi University, Zimbabwe), “‘And I will remember my covenant, which is between you and every living creature…’: The Politics of the Memorialisation of Gukurahundi in Bulawayo.”

David Kenrick (Oxford University), “These Colours Don’t Run: Changing the Rhodesian Flag, 1968.”

Albert Grundlingh (Stellenbosch University) and Hilary Sapire (University of London), “Royal Rebuff? Afrikaners and the 1947 royal tour of South Africa.”

7F: The Histories of Unsettlement: Mobilities, Migration and Identity
Chair: Nomalanga Mkhize (Rhodes University)

Joel Quirk (Wits), “Mobility Makes States: Migration and Power in Africa.”

Nomalanga Mkhize (Rhodes University), “‘A Boer’s House is Not a Home’: Historical migration and urbanisation by farm workers in a South African semi-arid district, 1900 – 2010.”


Emery Kalema (Wits), “Space, mobility, and displacement: The Mulele rebellion (D.R. Congo) and the production of suffering.”
19:00-23:00 Conference Dinner  
**Venue:** (Nooitgedacht Estate: R304 Koelenhof Road, Stellenbosch)  
**Dress code:** Smart casual to fabulous!  
**Presentation of Vice-President Post-Graduate Award** by Mucha Musemwa (Wits)  
**After dinner speech:** Bill Nasson (Stellenbosch University), “Two Wars and a Lost Missionary  
Position: Random Recollections of a History Conference Survivor.”

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**FRIDAY 3 JULY**  
**Registration**  
8:00-13:00 STIAS, Wallenberg Research Centre, Marais Street  
8:00 Arrival coffee/tea

**8:30-10:00 CONCURRENT SESSION 8**

**8A: Let a hundred flowers bloom? Reflections on southern African historiography (II)**

Chair: Carla Tsampiras (UCT)


Gary Baines (Rhodes), “Authority and Authenticity in the Writings of SADF Soldier-Authors about the ‘Border War’.”

Carla Tsampiras (UCT), “Where are the Histories of AIDS? Reflections on HIV, History, and Health Humanities.”

**8B: Tracing the History of the Age of Consent in Nineteenth- and Twentieth-Century South Africa**

Chair: Prinisha Badassy (Wits)

Sarah Duff (Wits), “From Juvenile Offenders to Protected Girls: Raising the Age of Consent in Early Twentieth-Century South Africa.”


**8C: The South African Border War: legacies, identities and contexts**

Chair: Evert Kleynhans (Department of Defence Documentation Centre)

André Wessels (UFS), “Revisiting South Africa’s ‘Border War': The struggle for ‘The Truth’ continues.”
Theresa Edlmann (UNISA), “Narrative Inquiry as Theoretical Scaffolding in Interdisciplinary Research.”

Scholtz van Wyk (Stellenbosch University), “From Under Dog to Top Dog… The Militarization of the Platfontein San (IXUN AND KHWE) 1966-1974.”

Will Gordon (Stellenbosch University), “32 Battalion’s struggle for sanctuary, 1975-1993: Refugees twice in one lifetime.”

8D: Legacies of slavery in South Africa – Literature, the arts and schools as tools for discussing legacies of slavery

Chair: Gerald Groenewald (University of Johannesburg)

Nicola Cloete (Wits), “The Politics of ‘unspeakability’.”

Cynthia Kros (Independent), “No Subsidy for Historical Legacies.”

David Wilkins (Wits), “History and historical literature as vehicles of historical truth telling concerning legacies of slavery in South Africa.”


8E: Migration histories: in search of a better life, real and imagined

Chair: Kobus du Pisani (North-West University)

Sally Crompton (Wits), “Marabastad – A Place of Return: Continuing Connections in a Transforming Space.”

Barbara Henkes (University of Groningen), “Unstable subjects: European migrants in South Africa from the 1930s until 1961.”


8F: The University is History?

Chair: Howard Phillips (UCT)

Christian John Makgala (University of Botswana), “‘One Beast Betrayal’: Clash between Trendy Corporate Branding and Restoration of the University of Botswana Logo, 1976-2014.”

Juan Klee (University of Johannesburg), “RAU – ‘an expression of an idea’: New teaching methods and architectural design as reflections of philosophical and ideological ideals.”
Janeke Thumbran (University of Minnesota), “Architecture and Expertise at the University of Pretoria.”

Chelsey White (Stellenbosch University), “Bopping to the tune of female students at Stellenbosch University, 1955-1965”.

10:00-10:30 Coffee/Tea

10:30-12:00 CONCURRENT SESSION 9

9A: Memory Wars, myth-making and materiality (III)

Chair: Uma Dhupelia-Mesthrie (University of the Western Cape)

Helen Dampier (Leeds Beckett University), “‘Stories That Find their Place’: Retelling the Protest at Brandfort, 1901–1949.”

Gary Minkley (Fort Hare) and Helena Pohlandt-McCormick (University of Minnesota/UWC), “The Graves of Dimbaza – Dependent Space.”


9B: Legal histories: justice, power and society

Chair: Nafisa Essop Sheik (University of Johannesburg)


Myra Houser (Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia, Arkansas), “Records of the Southern Africa Project of the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law.”

9C: Let a hundred flowers bloom? Reflections on southern African historiography (III)

Chair: Thula Simpson (University of Pretoria)

Glen Ncube (University of Pretoria), “‘Faction Fights’: Intellectual Skirmishes in Zimbabwean Historiography.”

Thula Simpson (University of Pretoria), “Some Paradigms of the History of South Africa.”

Elize van Eeden (North-West University), “Towards redefining History research in and out of the box: A debate for regional history.”

Uma Dhupelia-Mesthrie (University of the Western Cape), “Writing Histories of Indian South Africans in the Twenty-First Century: The Archive, the Historian and the Public.”
9D: Commodifying the Environment

Chair: Fred Morton (Botswana University)

Louis Grundlingh (University of Johannesburg), “For love of nature, fresh air and high morals.’ The aims and philosophy driving urban park development in the 19th century.”

George Jawali (University of Malawi, Chancellor College), “Wise too late, or Wise in time?: Game Commoditization and the Game Reserve Drive in the Lower Tchiri Valley, c.1900–1940.”

Christine Chisholm (Carleton University), “Namib Desert Horses and identity politics of early wildlife conservation in pre-independence Namibia.”

9E: War and Society (IV)

Chair: Karen Horn (Stellenbosch University)


Andrew Stewart (Royal College of Defence Studies), “The ‘Mutiny’ at Gallabat.”


*9F: Special Post-Graduate Event – Shula Marks (School of Oriental and African Studies, details to follow)

12:00-13:00 CONCURRENT SESSION 10 (Notice that this is a shorter session)

10A: Ordinary schooling in the midst of struggle: Education in 1970s and 80s South Africa

Chair: Alan Kirkaldy (Rhodes University)


Heather Jacklin (UCT), “Palimpsests: Continuities and discontinuities from the bantustans to post-apartheid schooling.”


10B: The Body Politic (IV)

Chair: Susanne M. Klausen (Carleton University, Ottawa)
Chet Fransch (Stellenbosch University), “Raping the Archives, Reaping the Rewards?: The Challenges of Constructing a History of Rapists in South Africa.”

Prinisha Badassy (Wits), “Vin Chen and Colonial Pornography.”

Gerald Groenewald (University of Johannesburg), “‘Nothing is more precious’: Honour, morality and sexuality in the eighteenth-century Cape.”

10C: Littoral Histories: Configurations, Contestations and Consumption at the Beach

Chair: Meg Samuelson (UCT)

Paul Weinberg (University of Cape Town Libraries), “Beachwork – ‘surfing the beach with a camera’.”

Meg Samuelson (UCT), “Framing the Beach: reflections from Muizenberg to Mombasa.”


10D: Knowledge, Texts and Power (II)

Chair: Stephen Sparks (University of Johannesburg)

Harvey M. Feinberg (Southern Connecticut State University), “‘We met. We talked. But did they listen?’ Black South African leaders' participation in white-African conferences, 1920-1936.”

Holly Y. McGee (University of Cincinnati), “Unbridled Insinuation and Unproven Charges: Banning and the Anatomy of Exile.”


10E: Thirsting for the truth: water histories and watering history (IV)

Chair: Meredith McKittrick (Georgetown University)


Gift Wasambo Kayira (University of Malawi, Chancellor College), “The place of indigenous knowledge in Africa’s development planning: Some experiences from Water Institutions in Northern Malawi.”
10F: Varieties of Capitalism: winners and losers? (II)

Chair: Thomas McClendon (Southwestern University)

Godfrey Hove (University of Zimbabwe), “Dairying is a white man’s industry: the Dairy Produce Act, conditions of production on farms, and the segregation debate in colonial Zimbabwe, 1920s – 1937.”


Maanda Mulaudzi (UCT), “The history of agrarian capitalism in the Limpopo Province.”

Tapiwa Madimu (Stellenbosch University), “Farmers and miners in the era of formal conservation, 1941 to 1960.”

13:00-14:00 Lunch

14:00-15:30 CONCURRENT SESSION 11

11A: Telling Lives? Biographies and History (II)

Chair: Stephen Volz (Kenyon College)


Alan Kirkaldy (Rhodes University), “Very Ordinary Communists – The Life of Ivan and Lesely Schermbrucker.”

Sam North (University of Hull), “Recovering identities of liberated Africans in the Cape.”

Sasha Rai (UKZN), “Muslim women in Kwa-Zulu Natal – A Biographical Approach.”

11B: Medical histories: public health, politics and the people

Chair: Carla Tsampiras (UCT)

Sally Swartz (UCT), “Being all at sea in a settler colony: policing the frontiers of mental health in the Cape, 1890-1910.”


Howard Phillips (UCT), “The Return of the Pholela Experiment: Medical History and Primary Health Care in Post-Apartheid South Africa.”

11C: Citizenship, identity and belonging (II)

Chair: Sue Newton-King (UWC)

Sarah Godsell (Wits), “‘Tswana with a Z’: ‘Becoming’ Tswana: Citizenship and rights discourse in a South African Bantustan.”

Hlengiwe Portia Dlamini (University of Pretoria), “The Coloured Complex as a by-product of Settler Colonialism: the case of Swaziland.”

Schalk D. van der Merwe (Stellenbosch University), “The new laager: White nostalgia and victimhood in 21st century Afrikaans pop music.”

11D: Genocidal Violence in Southern Africa

Chair: Clive Glaser (Wits)

Thierry Rousset (UCT), “Welfare, Destitution and Child Apprenticeship: Legislating Cultural Genocide in the Cape and Australian Colonies.”


Pancras Malani (UCT), “Hutuism vs Tutsism, the Incubator of Genocide and Exile: An Ethnic Ideology Keeping Rwandan refugees in Cape Town in Protracted Asylum?”

11E: Varieties of Capitalism – winners and losers? (III)

Chair: Wesley Mwatwara (University of Zimbabwe)

Timo Särkkä (University of Jyvaskyla), “Natural resource extraction in colonial Zambia and Katanga before 1914: the case of Tanganyika Concessions Limited.”

Duncan Money (Oxford), “‘Even if we are the highest paid workers in the world, the fact remains we are entitled to fight’: White mineworkers on the Zambian Copperbelt, 1930-1950.”

Herbert Ndomba (Stellenbosch University), “Tobacco, Ecological Change and History in Songea District, Southern Tanzania, 1930s-1990s.”

Mark Coghlan (KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Museum Service), “‘A Taste for Life?’ The Spur Steakhouse Franchise Branding in South Africa and the Reality of the Native American Experience.”

15:30-16:00 Coffee/Tea
16:00-17:00 Plenary: Closing remarks: Noor Nieftagodien, Prinisha Badassy and Mucha Musemwa

*The conference will be live-tweeted by Sarah Duff and Lindie Koorts  #SAHS2015