I. Research Working Groups

Trio of Research Working Groups on "Crisis in the World-System: Options and Possibilities".

The three groups are nearing the end of their research phase and entering into the writing phase. They have continued their links with the three collaborating institutions, the Globalization and World Cities Research Group and Network (GaWC), whose headquarters is at the Department of Geography, Loughborough University (U.K.), and whose principal investigator in this project is Peter J. Taylor, Co-Director of GaWC; the Centro de Estudios de Desarollo of the Universidad Central de Venezuela (CENDES), whose principal investigator is Heinz R. Sonntag, former Director of CENDES; and the Centre d'Analyse et d'Intervention Sociologique (CADIS) at the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales in Paris, whose principal investigator is Michel Wieviorka, Director of CADIS. They are the partners respectively of the RWGs on STCWE, CSK, and WAM (see below). The next meeting of the FBC groups coordinators with the leaders of the three collaborating group will be in Paris on Dec. 17-18, 2004.

a) RWG Structural Trends in the Capitalist World-Economy (STCWE).

This group has been comparing the rates of profit of leading industries at precisely the moment when they are at their apogee. The hypothesis of the group is that recent levels are below those of earlier levels. The leading industries we have chosen are: shipbuilding, textiles, steel, petrochemicals, automobiles, and computers. The GaWC group is doing a parallel study on financial and business services in the recent era, to see whether the situation in a service industry is different from that in an industrial product. For each we are determining the period during which it was a leading product, and analyzing decade by decade the costs of labor, inputs, and taxation, in order to calculate profit levels.

b) Categories of Social Knowledge.

This group amplified its division of labor by adding India, Russia, the German-speaking world, and the Kurdish cultural community to the geographic/linguistic regions under investigation, which already included France, the English-speaking world, southern Africa, the Ottoman Empire/Turkey, and the Arab world. The project remains that of charting the reciprocal influences, resistances and facilitations that were manifested in articulation with the structures of governance and accumulation when the general forms of Western knowledge production were introduced in particular Western and non-Western contexts. The group plans to have individual drafts completed for the upcoming academic year.

c) RWG Waves of Antisystemic Movements (WAM).

The group has been completing final drafts of its analysis of radical movements since 1760. This work has been considerably assisted by a grant from the World Society Foundation that allowed us to accelerate our work, particularly during June, July, and August. Bi-weekly meetings on completed drafts in the fall semester produced full drafts that chart world movement patterns in four key epochs: 1760-1848, 1848-1917, 1917-1968, 1968-2001. Small groups of faculty and graduate student researchers, drawn from multiple departments, have presented to the group successive drafts for each epoch, with discussions focusing upon both advancing conceptions and indicators within each epoch and across epochs. A workshop with external evaluators took place in March and evaluated all the completed drafts as a group, preparing for submission to a publisher.

II. Coloniality

The Binghamton members of the Coloniarity Working Group continued the process of refocusing our collective research so as to address particular recurring "gaps and tensions" in our individual deployments of the
concepts of coloniality and racial-colonial difference. We have reframed these as collaborative research questions and themes which we reorganized in order to generate working papers over the course of the next 3-4 years. Among other things, our goal is still to determine whether this initial effort at collaborative research substantiates or not a thematically heterogeneous, yet conceptually cogent and sufficiently alternative perspective on world-historical racial-colonial difference (in terms of concerns and problematiques, though not necessarily with respect to conclusions) which could be eventually published as an edited anthology in an academic press. Finally, the special issue of *The New Centennial Review*, edited by Prof. Greg Thomas (Syracuse) and Scott Michaelson (MSU) and containing 10 of the discussion papers presented at our colloquia and conferences, is scheduled to come out in December of 2003.

### III. Questioning Nineteenth Century Assumptions About Knowledge

The Fernand Braudel Center, in collaboration with the Center for Integrative Research in Science and Humanities, Aviv Bergman, director (Stanford University) and Grisé, Jean-Pierre Dupuy, director (Ecole Polytechnique, Paris), has launched a 3-year project to consist of three colloquia. They will bring together scholars from the natural sciences, the social sciences, and the humanities to discuss the degree to which questioning about nineteenth-century assumptions about knowledge in each of these arenas has been congruent, if expressed in different language. The colloquia will successively discuss determinism, reductionism, and dualism. We have received a grant from the Gulbenkian Foundation to enable the meetings to be held, successively at Stanford, Paris, and Binghamton. Richard E. Lee, Deputy Director of the FBC will act as Scientific Secretary. The first meeting on determinism will take place at Stanford on Nov. 20-21, 2004.

### IV. Fernand Braudel Center Distinguished Lecture Series

The first lecture was given on September 29, 2003 by Prof. Franco Moretti, Danily C. and Laura Louise Bell Professor of English Literature, Stanford University. His presentation was entitled "Literature through a Long-Distance Lens: Evolutionary Theory and World Systems Analysis." On September 20, 2004 the second lecture will be given by Michael Bérubé, Paterno Family Professor in Literature, Pennsylvania State University, "The Left at War: Cultural Studies and Cultural Crisis After September 11."

### V. Paradigm Press

The Center has launched a Fernand Braudel Center series with Paradigm Press. The first three books will appear in 2004. They are:

1. **Immanuel Wallerstein, ed., *The Modern World-System in the Longue Durée***. This is the fruit of the 25th Anniversary Conference of the FBC. The table of contents follows:

   **Introduction**: Immanuel Wallerstein: "Scholarship and Reality"

   **Part I. The Capitalist World-Economy: From Past to Future**

   - Samir Amin: "Globalism or Apartheid on a Global Scale?"
   - Christopher Chase-Dunn: "Through the Obstacle(s) and on to Global Socialism"
   - Bart Tromp: "Europe: The Asymptote of Political Integration"
   - Claudia von Werlhof: "Using, Producing, and Replacing Life? Alchemy as Theory and Practice in Capitalism"
   - Giovanni Arrighi: "Hegemony and Antisystemic Movements"
   - Pablo González Casanova: "Present Systemic Trends and Antisystemic Movements"
   - Marcel van der Linden: "Proletarian Internationalism: A Long View and Some Speculations"

   **Part II. Structures of Knowledge and Constructed Knowledge in the Modern World**

   - Randall Collins: "Commonality and Divergence of World Intellectual Structures in the Second Millennium CE"
   - Mahmood Mamdani: "Africa and African Studies"
   - Boaventura de Sousa Santos: "A Critique of Lazy Reason: Against the Waste of Experience"
Janet L. Abu-Lughod: "Continuing American Provincialism and the Rest of the World"
Maurice Aymard: "Does One Represent Reality or Does One Explain It?"
Immanuel Wallerstein: "The Scholarly Mainstream and Reality: Are We at a Turning-Point?"
Michel-Rolph Trouillot: "The North Atlantic Universals"

(2) Richard Lee & Immanuel Wallerstein, coords., *Overcoming the "Two Cultures"*. This is the fruit of the Research Working Group on the Structures of Knowledge. The table of contents follows:

1) Richard E. Lee & Immanuel Wallerstein, "Introduction: The Two Cultures"

Part I: *The Historical Construction of the Two Cultures*

2) Boris Stremlin, "Constructing Authority: The Rise of Science in the Modern World"
3) Eric Mielants, "Reaction and Resistance: The Natural Sciences and the Humanities, 1789-1945"
4) Mauro Di Meglio, "The Social Sciences and Alternative Disciplinary Models"
5) Mark Frezzo, "The Ambivalent Role of Psychology and Psychoanalysis"
6) Ho-fung Hung, "Orientalism and Area Studies: The Case of Sinology"

Part II: *Contemporary Challenges in and to the Structures of Knowledge*

7) Richard E. Lee, "Complexity Studies"
8) Norihisa Yamashita, "Science Studies"
9) Biray Kolluoglu Kirli & Deniz Yükseler, "The Cultural Turn in the Social Sciences and Humanities"
10) Volkan Aytar & Ayse Betül Çelik, "Gender: Feminisms and Women's Studies"
11) Agustin Lao-Montes, "Regional Categories of Knowledge: Latin/o Americanisms"
12) Sunaryo, "Environment and Ecology: Concepts and Movements"
13) Richard E. Lee. "The 'Culture Wars' and the 'Science Wars"
14) Immanuel Wallerstein, "Conclusion?"

(3) *Alternatives; The United States Confronts the World, Immanuel Wallerstein*, groups together some Commentaries from our web site from 2001-2004 concerning Bush and the world-system by Immanuel Wallerstein, with additional text.

*VI. PEWS*

PEWS XXIX, April 28-30, 2005, Univ. of Massachusetts, Amherst, World-Systemic Crisis and Contending Political Scenarios. Call for papers:

The current global condition of widespread violence, enduring economic difficulties for both capital and labor, and a vacuum of hegemony that is expressed in the adventurist war initiatives of the U.S. imperial state, together indicate a secular crisis of the modern world-system. Arguably, such crisis reveals the ultimate limits of the modern world-system and points to the possibility of collective agency toward constructing an entirely different global economic, political, and cultural order of things. PEWS XXIX conference will be dedicated to analyze the political dynamics of the current world-system and to explore the potential for systemic change embedded in its political forms. With this goal in mind, the specificity of the political in the late modern world-system will be discussed in relation to its institutional settings and political fields (inter-state system, state formations, imperialisms), and in terms of its main political battles as well as forms of resistance (struggles and anti-systemic movements). This examination of the politics of the late modern world-system from above and from below will serve as a way of identifying and imagining the possible scenarios for change embodied in the current condition of the world. This theoretical practice of creating goals and conceiving alternative futures on the basis of a careful analysis of the present is what Immanuel Wallerstein had called *Utopistics*. The conference will begin with a plenary giving an overview of the politics of the late modern world-system focusing on questions such as: the articulation of the
capitalist world-economy, institutions of global governance, and the inter-state system; the crisis of U.S. hegemony and the drive to empire-building; how systemic crisis relates to the rise of global violence and the proliferation of religious and racial/ethnic strife; and how the relative power (in relation to world-systemic forms of domination) of the subaltern struggles and movements that are emerging as a new wave of antisystemic movements can possibly build a more egalitarian, democratic, and decolonized world-system. The opening plenary will be followed by panel discussions organized around interconnected themes. The conference is open to a variety of papers addressing its main subject, global crisis and the political scenarios of the late modern world-system. Given the main theme we intend to focus on various questions including: the relationship between world-hegemony, global governance, and empire; comparing state formations in different world-regions (Latin America, Africa, Middle East, Europe, East Asia) to get a clear picture of the systemic patterns and local contradictions of the political institutions of the late modern world-system; and analyzing if there exists a new wave of antisystemic movements and what are their potential and possibilities for systemic change. The conference will close with another plenary session in which the question of the politics of the late modern world-system and the possible scenarios for systemic change will be discuss in light of the dialogue that occurred.

Send your proposals to Agustin Lao-Montes <lao@soc.umass.edu> and/or Joya Misra <misra@soc.umass.edu> or to either at the Sociology Department, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003. The deadline to submit abstracts is December 15, 2004.

PEWS XXVIII

PEWS XXVIII, "Latin@s in the World-System," was organized by Ramón Grosfoguel, Nelson Maldonado Torres, University of California, Berkeley. It was held on April 22-24, 2004. The program follows:

Keynote Speakers

Aníbal Quijano, Peru
Enrique Dussel, Mexico
Immanuel Wallerstein, USA

Session I: Democracy, the U.S. Empire and Racial/Ethnic Relations in the 21st Century: Apartheid or Diversity?

Susanne Jonas, UC-Santa Cruz
Jim Cohen, Université de Paris-VIII
Tom Reifer, Univ. of California, Riverside
Francis Pisani, journalist
Estela Rodríguez, Universidad de Barcelona

Session II: Indigenous Peoples and the Decolonization of Land in the Americas

James Fenelon, California State University at San Bernardino & Thomas D. Hall, DePaul University
Tirso Gonzales, Univ. of California, Berkeley
Rufino Domingues, indigenous activist
Aníbal Quijano, Binghamton University
Michelle Tellez, Univ. of California, Davis

Session III: Colonial/Racialized Subjects, Border Zones and Paradigms in Chicano/Latino Studies

Rosa Linda Fregoso, Univ. of California, Santa Cruz
Ramón Grosfoguel, Univ. of California, Berkeley
Jose Palafox, Univ. of California, Berkeley
Walter Mignolo, Duke University
Mario Barrera, Univ. of California, Berkeley

Session IV: Decolonization, Afro-Latinos and the African Diaspora in the Capitalist World-System
Agustin Lao-Montes, Univ. of Massachusetts, Amherst
Lewis Gordon, Brown University
Nelson Maldonado-Torres, Univ. of California, Berkeley
Boaventura de Sousa Santos, Universidade de Portugal at Coimbra
Jean Casimir, University of Haiti

Session V: Decolonizing Spirituality

Roberto Hernandez, Univ. of California, Berkeley
Laura Perez, Univ. of California, Berkeley
Miguel Segovia, Brown University
Santiago Slabodsky, Baylor University
Aisha Beliso, Stanford University

Session VI: Borderlands of Culture in the World-System

Jose David Saldivar, Univ. of California, Berkeley
Ramón Saldivar, Stanford University
Gerald Torres, University of Texas at Austin Law School
Kirsten Silva-Gruesa, Univ. of California, Santa Cruz

Concluding Remarks

Boaventura de Sousa Santos, Universidade de Portugal at Coimbra
Walter Mignolo, Duke University

VII. Harpur College Workshop

Tri-Campus Workshop on Contentious Politics, Benita Roth, coordinator


VIII. Review

XXVII, 1, 2004

Hartmut Elsenhans, "On the Development of World-Systems Studies"
Steven Sherman, "Culture and the Global Emancipatory Project"

XXVII, 2, 2004
Amiya Kumar Bagchi, "The Axial Ages of the Capitalist World-System"
Andrea Komlosy, "State, Regions, and Borders: Single Market Formation and Labor Migration in the Habsburg Monarchy, 1750-1918"

**XXVII, 3, 2004**

*Russia and Siberia in the World-System: German Perspectives*

Martin Aust, "Rossia Siberica: Russian-Siberian History Compared to Medieval Conquest and Modern Colonialism"
Hans-Heinrich Nolte, "The Modern World-System and Area Studies: The Case of Russia"
Eva-Maria Stolberg, "The Siberian Frontier and Russia's Position in World History: A Reply to Aust and Nolte"

**XXVII, 4, 2004**

*The Environment and World History*

Richard Wilk, "The Extractive Economy: An Early Phase of the Globalization of Diet"
Marina Fischer-Kowalski, Fridolin Krausman & Barbara Smetschka, "Modelling Scenarios of Transport Across History from a Socio-Metabolic Perspective"
J. R. McNeill, "Yellow Jack and Geopolitics: Environment, Epidemics, and the Struggles for Empire in the American Tropics, 1640-1830"
Ferruccio Brugnaro, A Poem: "All Acquitted in Trial Over Petrochemical Dead"

**IX. Visiting Research Associates**

Lee Ho-Young (Feb. 2004-Feb. 2005), Economics, Dong-A University, Busan, South Korea
Mellissa Ifill (Dec. 2003), International Relations and Politics, Univ. of Sussex, UK

**X. Public Lectures**

4-part series on “The U.S., the World, and 9-11.” Cosponsored with Sociology, History, Institute of Global Cultural Studies, Harpur College Dean’s Office: Sept. 9, 2003 – Immanuel Wallerstein, Director, FBC; Oct. 28, Herbert Bix, Sociology and History; Nov. 4, Donald Quataert, History; Nov. 20, Ali Mazrui, Institute of Global Cultural Studies.


**XI. Papers on the Web**