Fernand Braudel Center Newsletter No. 42 September 2018

I. Scheduled Events, 2018–2019:

Fernand Braudel Center Colloquium
Organized by Dale Tomich and Richard E. Lee

Directions in Historical Social Science: A Workshop

Fernand Braudel Center, Binghamton University
April 5–6, 2019

II. Activities, 2017–2018:

Fernand Braudel Center Colloquium
Organized by Dale Tomich, Sven Beckert, Paul Lovejoy, and Michael Zeuske

Slaveries and Capitalism: The Atlantic, Africa, and Beyond
Colloquium in Honor of Catherine Coquery-Vidrovitch
Fernand Braudel Center, Binghamton University
March 23–24, 2018
Featured Speakers:

Catherine Coquery-Vidrovitch, Professor Emerita of African History, Diderot Paris-VII University, “L’esclavage africain au XIXe siècle, partenaire indissociable de la traite atlantique”

Pepijn Brandon, Senior Researcher, International Institute of Social History, Amsterdam, “Capitalism and Slavery in the Very Long Run: The Changing Functions of Slavery in the Dutch Empire (Sixteenth–Nineteenth Centuries)”

Tâmis Parron, Professor, Department of History, Universidade Federal Fluminense, Brazil, “The Global Space-Time of the World-Economy: Slavery and (the New History of) Capitalism”

Christopher R. DeCorse, Professor, Department of Anthropology, Syracuse University, “Slavery, Africa, and Political Economies of the Atlantic World”

Paul E. Lovejoy, Professor, Department of History, York University, Toronto, “The Jihad Movement and the Development of Second Slavery in West Africa in the Nineteenth Century”

Richard B. Allen, Professor, Department of History, Framingham State University, “Merchant Capital and Slave Trading in the Western Indian Ocean, 1770–1830”

Mariana Candido, Associate Professor, Department of History, University of Notre Dame, “African Business Women in the Age of Second Slavery in Angola”

Henry Lovejoy, Assistant Professor, Department of History, University of Colorado, Boulder, “The Commodification of Freedom in Colonial Cuba during the Nineteenth Century”
Janet Ewald, Associate Professor, Department of History, Duke University, “Captive Labor and Semi-Captive Labor: The Second Slavery and Maritime Contract Labor in the Indian Ocean, c. 1770–1900”

Patrick Manning, Andrew W. Mellon Professor of World History, Emeritus, University of Pittsburgh, “The Second Slavery in Africa: Migration and Political Economy in the Nineteenth Century”

Joseph C. Miller, Professor Emeritus, Department of History, University of Virginia, “Slaving as an Engine of Historical Change: Two Millennia in Bantu-Speaking Africa”

Sven Beckert, Professor, Department of History, Harvard University, “Round Table”

III. Review

XXXVIII, 1/2, 2015

MANFRED KOSSOK: TOWARD A HISTORICAL SOCIAL SCIENCE
Christian Zwik, Dale Tomich, and Michael Zeuske, Special Editors

Dale Tomich, “Preface”

Christian Cwik & Michael Zeuske, “Introduction: Manfred Kossok, Toward a Historical Social Science”

David Mayer, “Coming to Terms with the Past, Getting a Grip on the Future: Manfred Kossok’s Interventions into Historiographical Debates about Latin America during the Radicalized 1960s”

Matthias Middell, “Manfred Kossok: Writing World History in East Germany”

Sergio Guerra Vilaboy, “Revolution in Latin America’s Historiography: Manfred Kossok’s Contributions”

Oscar Zanetti, “History of Comparison: Manfred Kossok and a Comparative Study of Bourgeois Revolutions”


Ulrike Schmieder, “Spain and Spanish America in the System of the Holy Alliance: The Importance of Interconnected Historical Events on the Congresses of the Holy Alliance”
XXXVIII, 3, 2015


Ignacio Muñoz Cristi, “Popular Self-Management, Social Intervention, and Utopistics in the Capitalist World-System”


XXXVIII, 4, 2015

CAPITALISM AND TEMPORALITY: THEORIES AND HISTORIES
Dale Tomich, Special Editor

Massimiliano Tomba, “On the Capitalist and Emancipatory Use of Asynchronies in Formal Subsumption”

Philip McMichael, “Value Theory and Food Regime Temporalities”

Dale Tomich, “The Limits of Theory: Capital, Temporality, and History”

IV. Visiting Research Associates

Jose da Mota Lopes, May 2018–September 2020
Manuel Varo Lopez, September 2018–May 2019
Sophia Givre, May 2018–May 2021
Ryan Mead, June 2018–June 2021
Guido Pezzarossi, June 2018–June 2021
Azat Zana Gundogan, September 2016–September 2021

V. ASA Political Economy of the World-System Section Annual Conferences

A) Call for Papers

43rd Annual Conference on the Political Economy of the World-System (PEWS)
Albert-Ludwigs-University of Freiburg, Germany
April 11–14, 2019
Conference Theme

De-Linking: Critical Thought and Radical Politics

Delinking as a counterstrategy in a structurally unequal world-system has featured prominently in different social science approaches to radical emancipatory politics, from dependency theory and world-systems analysis to decolonial thought. Understood as self-reliance or autonomous development of the peripheries (Amin 1992), as anti- or deglobalization (Bello 2004), as a choice between dewesternization and decolonization (Mignolo 2007) or, more recently, as a comprehensive move to “depatriarchalise, de-racialise, de-tribalise, decolonise, de-imperialise and democratise” (Ndlovu-Gatsheni 2017), the notion of delinking has mobilized critical thought and political imaginations alike. At the same time, an overemphasis on delinking entails the risk of overlooking linkages and multi-directional interactions beyond the modern world-system, or the uneven dynamics of inter-imperiality (Doyle 2014). The 43rd annual conference on the Political Economy of the World-System revisits approaches to (de)linking and the concept’s past and present (re)formulations as economic, sociopolitical, epistemic and cultural paths to pluriversality and a polycentric world. It welcomes both theoretical and empirical treatments of processes of linking and delinking as well as methodological reflections on the terms’ potential for the political economy of the world-system.

1) The Caribbean as a Space of (De)Linking
The Caribbean has been the site of the most radical acts of delinking from the capitalist world-economy, the Haitian and the Cuban revolutions, both of which have been central to the political imaginary of dependency theorists and decolonial scholars alike. At the same time, more than half of today’s remaining colonies of Western Europe and the United States are located in the Caribbean, making the region the one with the longest colonial linkages in the history of the world-system. We invite papers that take Caribbean experiences as a starting point for exploring the tension between processes of linking and delinking at the level of political structures, epistemic projects, and socioeconomic transformation.

2) The Balkans’ Inter-Imperial Linkages
Since the breakdown of Yugoslavia, the term “Balkanization” has gained currency as a synonym for fragmentation and disaggregation, particularly of state structures, but also of social, economic, and religious orders. However, the longue durée of the region commonly stereotyped as “the Balkans” is one in which inter-imperial linkages, economic and political position as buffer zones between pre-modern and modern empires, and the semiperipheral status of most of its economies have provided important nodes in the structure of the world-economy. We are interested in papers that zoom in on the experience of inter-imperial dynamics and their impact on the Balkans as well as on the empires competing for dominance in the region.

3) Past and Present of (De)Linking in Africa
The notion of delinking was initially formulated against the background of the administrative decolonization of Europe’s colonies in the wake of World War II, of which the emergence of independent African states was an important dimension. Parallel to processes of delinking through independence movements and state socialist governments in the latter half of the twentieth century, the African continent was being periodically and mostly forcefully (re)linked...
to former and emerging powers through projects such as Eurafrica in the 1950s and its discursive revival by the Sarkozy regime in the late 2000s, French military interventions, currency control, and political influence in its former and remaining African colonies, epitomized by the notion of Françafrique, and, more recently, massive Chinese loans, land purchases, and resource extraction from a growing number of African states. We invite papers that deal with the history, present, and prospects of (de)linking processes from an African perspective.

4) Migration as (De)Linking
Forced or voluntary migration, particularly colonized and enslaved labor, has provided important material dynamics to inter-imperial and world-systemic linkages by transferring technology, innovation capacity and labor-power to emerging empires or upwardly mobile regions in the world-system at the expense of others. In turn, attempts at delinking such as the state socialist regimes of the 20th century drastically restrict, reduce, or redirect migration to the territories of political and trade allies, with various consequences in terms of economic, cultural, and educational exchanges. We are interested in papers that address the tension between linking/delinking through migration on the one hand and the potential of system stability vs. the emergence of a polycentric order on the other.

5) (De)Linking as Radical Conservative Politics
While delinking has been commonly envisaged as a strategy of the periphery, it has periodically been adopted by semiperipheral and core states to either stem a decline into peripheral status (as in the case of thesocialisms of the 20th century) or to retain core privileges through protectionism and increased border securitization (as practiced by the world-system’s hegemons in the past and a growing number of states in the present). Throughout the world-system, the result of core and semiperipheral states’ delinking, dewesternizing, or deglobalizing has brought about growing populism, a retreat into nationalism, and a revival of racist, xenophobic, and anti-gender tactics, as current politics in the USA, UK, Brazil, Hungary, or India vividly illustrate. We invite papers that take critical stock of these developments in both the short and the long term.

Conference organization:
Manuela Boatcă, Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg, Germany

Submissions and Support:
Paper proposals (around 500 words) should be sent by November 30, 2018 to pew2019@yahoo.com. Please include institutional affiliations and contact information for all authors.

B) 42nd PEWS Conference
April 26–28, 2018—Fairfield University, Fairfield, Connecticut
Business Cycles and Social Movements: Past, Present and Future
Conference Program

Thursday, April 26

Keynote Speakers
Immanuel Wallerstein, Yale University, “Cycles within Structures versus Structural Crises”
Matías Vernengo, Bucknell University, “From Financial Instability to Secular Stagnation”

Friday, April 27
Panel 1: Theoretical Models and Business Cycles
Daniel H. Neilson, “Minsky, Polanyi, and World System Analysis”
Roberto J. Ortiz, “The Nature and Limits of Endless Accumulation”

Panel 2: Business Cycles Confronting Social and Political Trends I
Tarun Banerjee, “The Great Recession and Corporate Responses to Social Movements in the US”

Panel 3: Commodity Chains and the Role of East Asia in the World System
Juan Pablo Vásquez Bustamante and Luis Claveria, “The Chinese Presence in Latin America”

Panel 4: Business Cycles and Social and Political Trends II
Jaime Coelho and María Jose Haro Sly, “The Third Neoliberal Wave in Argentina and Brazil: Business Cycles and Political Trends”
Rodrigo Luiz Medeiros Silva, “The Brazilian Crisis as a Case of Political Anomie in a Fluid International System”
Jennifer Hudson, “Labor Market Conditions Post-Crisis: An Investigation of Potential Solutions to a.m.eliorate Sources of Post-Crisis Social Unrest”
Hakiem Nankoe, “Economic Cycles and Paradigmatic Innovations”

Saturday, April 28
Panel 5: Migration and Transportation in the World System
Krystyna Iglicka, “The Promised Land Finally? The Case of Ukrainians in Poland.”
Annapurna Neti and Puja Guha, “Globalization, Migration, and the Informal Sector: Street Vendors from Bangalore”

Luis Garrido Soto, “Maritime Transportation and Capital Accumulation in the Capitalist World-System”

VI. Nesar Ahmad Memorial Scholarship

The 2018–2019 Nesar Ahmad Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Amrita De.

Application for 2019–20:

NESAR AHMAD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Syed Nesar Ahmad, a graduate student in sociology at Binghamton University, was killed on September 5, 1986 in the attempted hijacking of Pan Am flight 73 as it stood on the tarmac at Karachi International airport. Nesar was returning from the World Congress of Sociology in New Delhi, India, where he presented a paper on Muslim separatism in India, to the United States to defend his Ph.D. dissertation. He was a student of Immanuel Wallerstein and was affiliated with the Fernand Braudel Center for the Study of Economies, Historical Systems, and Civilizations where he was a member of the Research Working Group on South Asia studying the problem of the partition of British India and the emergence of Pakistan. Wallerstein worked closely with Nesar’s widow, Fareena Sultan, to have the Ph.D. awarded posthumously and to have the dissertation published by Greenwood Press as Origins of Muslim Consciousness in India: A World-System Perspective (1991).

To commemorate the 20th anniversary of Nesar Ahmad’s death, a scholarship was created by Fareena Sultan and his friends and family. The scholarship, a maximum of $4000, will be awarded once a year to a Binghamton University graduate student affiliated with the Fernand Braudel Center who is using world-systems analysis in the study of the Middle East or South Asia.

For application and information, contact:
https://www.binghamton.edu/fbc/nesar-scholarship.html
or
Nesar Ahmad Memorial Scholarship
Fernand Braudel Center
Binghamton University
PO Box 6000
Binghamton NY 13902–6000
email: fbcenter@binghamton.edu
Deadline for completed applications is February 1, 2019