

WHEATS 2018, Oct. 5-7
University of California, Riverside

The fifteenth edition of the Workshop for the History of the Environment, Agriculture, Technology, and Science was hosted at UC Riverside. The weekend opened with a keynote address Friday evening from UCR's Dr. David Biggs on the long term environmental and social effects of the Vietnam War and subsequent demilitarization. This event was open to the public, and we were pleased to have a group of UCR's international students join us for the evening. This was a chance for the workshop participants to get to know each other, and to encourage the campus community to come see what history can offer.

The workshop itself was held Saturday, and based on the submissions received this year's organizing committee chose a theme of Borders & Sovereignty. The morning session was concerned with water rights, both salt and fresh, and areas in which neighboring polities do not recognize a shared border. We started in South America with the Tuna Wars, discussed by Shaine Scarminach (University of Connecticut, History), centered on Ecuador; and then Sierra Standish (University of Colorado, Boulder, History) on the 1965-1978 University of Chile-University of California Convenio Exchange of agricultural science. We then moved north, with Daniel Grant (University of Wisconsin-Madison), on Stateless Cocopah Farmers, the Colorado River, and the Fluidity of the United States-Mexico Boundary 1900-1936 and Julia Sizek (UC Berkeley) on the Ecological Limits of the Joshua Tree in the Mojave Desert. The afternoon session reflect the animal turn in the history of science. This panel considered equids, bovids, humans, and zoonotic pests, with a focus again on borders, their maintenance, and their transgression, as well as the integration of genetics into history. Caroline Tracey (UC Berkeley) considered the ways fears of contagion effect the management of wildlife and domestic stock, and how these fears fed into U.S.-Mexico border disputes. Kit Heintzman (Science History Institute) tackled similar fears— and border disputes— regarding cattle plague in 18th century France. Finally, Frank Whitehead (University of Arizona, History) and Katrin Boniface (UC Riverside) both discussed equine breeding practices, in very different contexts: the former of roughstock for rodeos, and the development of international traveling Wild West shows; the latter on horses produced in Hanover and exported to England and later the U.S. through the 18th and 19th centuries. Commentators included, in addition to a selection of UCR students with history of science projects, UCR's Dr. Dana Simmons (author of *Vital Minimum: Need, Science and Politics in Modern France*), Dr. Kathryn Renton (Equine History Collective), and Bonnie Griffin (Natural History Museum LA, formerly Bristol Museum and Art Gallery, Bristol, England).

The workshop closed Sunday morning with a visit to Citrus State Historic Park. Along with a tour of the museum and historic orchards, we held a Public History panel. The speakers included WHEATS co-organizer Audrey Maier, speaking on the development of the Citrus State Historic Park museum exhibit on migrant citrus labor; Kanani Hoopai of the Mission Inn Foundation speaking about the Hands on History program, with introduces middle school kids to their local history; and Jeff Houlihan of March Air Field Museum on exhibit design and making historical experiences tangible. Workshop participants, and the Citrus Park staff, then had an opportunity to discuss with these professionals how they might make their research available and meaningful to the broader public.



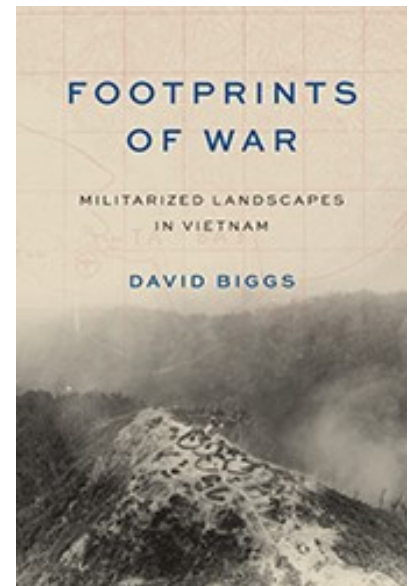
Please join the **UCR History Department** in celebrating the first day of the Workshop for the History of the Environment, Agriculture, Technology and Science with a keynote address by:

David A. Biggs Associate Professor of History

Dr. Biggs will speak about his research on militarized landscapes and space in Vietnam out of his upcoming book *Footprints of War: Militarized Landscapes in Vietnam*.

"Footprints of War traces the long history of conflict-produced spaces in Vietnam, beginning with early modern wars and the French colonial invasion in 1885 and continuing through the collapse of the Saigon government in 1975. The result is a richly textured history of militarized landscapes that reveals the spatial logic of key battles such as the Tet Offensive."

- University of Washington Press



Friday, October 5th
5:00 pm in the History Library
HSS 1303

Light refreshments provided

Funding for the WHEATS Conference is generously provided by the following organizations and departments:





Please join the **UCR History Department** in celebrating the conclusion of the Workshop for the History of the Environment, Agriculture, Technology and Science.

Beyond Publication: Adapting Historical Research for a Public Audience

Join us for a lively morning panel discussion about the intersection between public history and environmental, agricultural, technological and scientific history featuring:

Kanani Hoopai, Director of Education, Mission Inn Museum

Jeff Houlihan, Director, Collections, Exhibits & Restoration, March Field Air Museum

Audrey Maier, UCR Public History Graduate Student

Sunday, October 7th
8:30 am
California Citrus State Historic Park
9400 Dufferin Ave, Riverside, CA

Light refreshments provided

Funding for the WHEATS Conference is generously provided by the following organizations and departments:

