



Poles Apart, Melting Together: Science and the Humanities Confront the Anthropocene

Hosted by Center for Interdisciplinary Teaching & Learning at
Boston University's College of General Studies
871 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, MA 02215
June 27, 2015

College of General Studies (CGS) - Lobby

8:00 am to 9:00 am

Continental Breakfast & Registration

Wi-Fi access: www.bu.edu/tech/services/support/networks/wireless/guest

Keynote Address - Katzenberg Center, Room 300

9:00 am to 9:50 am

Keynote Address

"No Going Back: The Environmental Ethics of the Anthropocene"

Paul Robbins, Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Session One - Katzenberg Center, Room 300

10:00 am to 11:50 am

"Gentle Now, Developing a Design Vocabulary for the Anthropocene"

Anita Bakshi, Rutgers University

"On the New Extinction Memorials"

Dan Hudon, Boston University

"Assisting the Storm: The Productive Consequences of the Tempest in Performance"

Will Steffen, University of Massachusetts-Amherst

"Metaverses/Seecular" (augmented reality to reduce stresses of screen time)

Hannes Bend, University of Oregon

Colloquium A - Room 330A

10:00 am to 11:50 am

"From Human Scriptures to Natural Scriptures, and Back?"

Pierre de Jouvancourt, Panthéon-Sorbonne University, Paris

"Back to the Future: A Platonic Critique of AI Transhumanism"

Susan Levin, Smith College

"Pedagogy of the Anthropocene: Plato's Allegory of the Cave after the 'End of Nature'"

Max Woods, University of Wisconsin-Madison

"It's the End of the World as We Know It, And We Feel Fantastic: Examining the End of Suffering"

Joelle Renstrom, Boston University

Colloquium B - Room 323

10:00 am to 11:50 am

"Interdisciplinary Narrative and the Climate Crisis"

Larry Winters, Fairleigh Dickinson University

"The Biophysical Limits of Capitalist Governance in the Anthropocene"

Robert King, Sierra Nevada College

"The Carbon Tap in the Age of the Anthropocene"

Philip Wight, Brandeis University

Lunch - CGS Lobby

12:00 pm to 1:00 pm

Lunch break

Session Two - Katzenberg Center, Room 300

1:00 pm to 2:50 pm

"Archaeology in, of and for the Anthropocene: Categorical distinctions, conceptual frameworks and new research horizons" Paul Lane, Uppsala University

"Cities of the Mind: Paul Otlet, Hendrik Anderson and the World City"
Alex Wright, School of Visual Arts, New York City

"Conceptualizing Community, Community Building, and Community Engagement in the Digital and Globalization Age" Alison Diefenderfer, University of Pennsylvania

"Our Spherical Oasis: Cosmopolitan Democracy and the Global Commons"
Richard Samuel Deese, Boston University

Colloquium C - Room 330A

1:00 pm to 2:50 pm

"From Silent Spring to Silent Running: Conceptualizing the End of Nature in the Wake of Rachel Carson" Charles Henebry, Boston University

"Animating an Arts-Based Ecopedagogy in a Post-Natural Age"
Sarah Giragosian, Bridgewater State University

"Bone-dust and River Meat: Living Waste in Our Mutual Friend"
Kate Neilsen, Boston University

Coffee Break - CGS Lobby

2:50 pm to 3:10 pm

Coffee Break

Summary Panel - Katzenberg Center, Room 300

3:10 pm to 5:00 pm

Understanding the Shape of Things to Come

Anthony Janetos, Pardee Center for the Study of the Longer-Range Future,
Boston University

Nicolas Mialhe, The Future Society, Harvard Kennedy School

Seth Baum, Global Catastrophic Risk Institute

Richard Mallah, Future of Life Institute

Post-Conference Mixer - Sunset Cantina

5:30 pm to 7:30 pm

All are invited to meet at the Sunset Cantina (916 Commonwealth Ave.) for an informal mixer with conference organizers and participants.