

**SARAH T. PHILLIPS**

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**Academic Employment**

Boston University, History Department, Associate Professor, September 2012-  
Boston University, History Department, Assistant Professor, 2009-2012  
Columbia University, History Department, Assistant Professor, 2004–2009  
Boston University, History Department, Lecturer, 2003–2004  
Boston University, College of Arts and Sciences Writing Program, Instructor, 2002–2003

**Education**

Ph.D. 2004, Boston University  
B.A. 1996, Florida State University (Music, *summa cum laude*)

**Areas of Research**

Twentieth-Century U.S. History, Political History, Environmental and Agricultural History

**Editorial Position**

Founding co-editor, with Brooke Blower, of *Modern American History* (Cambridge Univ. Press), 2016-

**Honors, Fellowships, and Awards**

Neu Family Award for Excellence in Teaching, Boston University College of Arts & Sciences, 2016  
Gitner Family Undergraduate Teaching Prize, Boston University Department of History, 2016  
Organization of American Historians (OAH) Distinguished Lecturer, 2015-[2018]  
Fellowship, Charles Warren Center, Harvard University, "North America in Global Context," 2010  
Awarded for book project *The Price of Plenty*  
Gilbert C. Fite Dissertation Award, Agricultural History Society, 2004  
Miller Center of Public Affairs, University of Virginia, Fellow in History, Public Policy, and American Politics, 2000–01  
Grants: Lyndon B. Johnson Foundation (2000), Hoover Presidential Library (2001),  
Harry S. Truman Library (2001), Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute (2001)  
Boston University Humanities Foundation Award, 2000  
Outstanding Teaching Fellow Award, History Department, Boston University, 1999-2000  
Edwards Memorial Article Prize, Agricultural History Society, 1999  
Presidential University Graduate Fellowship, Boston University, 1996–2000

**Publications**

Books: *This Land, This Nation: Conservation, Rural America, and the New Deal* (Cambridge Univ. Press, 2007)

*The Kitchen Debate and Cold War Consumer Politics: A Brief History with Documents*, with Shane Hamilton. (Bedford/St. Martins, 2014)

Current Project: *The Price of Plenty: From Farm to Food Politics in Postwar America* (under contract with Oxford Univ. Press)

Chapters in collected volumes:

- "Environmental History," in *American History Now*, edited for the American Historical Association by Eric Foner and Lisa McGirr (Temple University Press, 2011)
- "Resourceful Leaders: State Governors and the Politics of the American Environment," in *A Legacy of Innovation: Governors and Public Policy*, ed. Ethan Sribnick (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2008)
- "FDR, Hoover, and the New Rural Conservation, 1920-1932," in *FDR and the Environment*, ed. David Woolner and Henry Henderson (Palgrave, 2005)
- "Drylands, Dustbowl, and Agro-Technical Internationalism in Southern Africa," in *Transatlantic Rebels: Agrarian Radicalism in Comparative Context*, ed. James Scott and Thomas Summerhill (Michigan State University Press, 2004)

Journal Articles:

- "What Next? The USDA at One Hundred and One Hundred Fifty Years Old," *Agricultural History* (Summer 2013)
- "Antebellum Agricultural Reform, Republican Ideology, and Sectional Tension," *Agricultural History* 74 (Fall 2000)
- "Lessons From the Dust Bowl: Dryland Agriculture and Soil Erosion in the United States and South Africa, 1900–1950," *Environmental History* 4 (April 1999)

Short Pieces:

- H-Environment Roundtable Review: *Crisis of the Wasteful Nation: Empire and Conservation in Theodore Roosevelt's America* (Ian Tyrrell, 2015), (March 2016)
- H-Environment Roundtable Review: *The Bet: Paul Ehrlich, Julian Simon, and Our Gamble over Earth's Future* (Paul Sabin, 2013), (September 2014)
- "Histories of Place: Environmental and Landscape Histories of the Northeast," *The Massachusetts Historical Review* 14 (2012). [Review essay of Blake Harrison and Richard W. Judd, eds., *A Landscape History of New England* (2011), and David Stradling, *The Nature of New York: An Environmental History of the Empire State* (2010)]
- "Dust Bowl" and "Lyndon B. Johnson," in Kathleen A. Brosnan, ed., *Encyclopedia of American Environmental History* (Facts on File, 2010)
- "Economy and Politics, 1920-1945," in Michael Kazin, ed., *Princeton Encyclopedia of American Political History* (Princeton University Press, 2009)

Book Reviews:

- The Slain Wood: Papermaking and its Environmental Consequences in the American South* (William Boyd, 2015), *Business History Review* (forthcoming)
- Crisis of the Wasteful Nation: Empire and Conservation in Theodore Roosevelt's America* (Ian Tyrrell, 2015), *Agricultural History* (forthcoming)
- Planning Democracy: Agrarian Intellectuals and the Intended New Deal* (Jess Gilbert, 2015), *Environmental History* (April 2016)
- Breadlines Knee-Deep in Wheat: Food Assistance in the Great Depression* (Janet Poppendieck, 1986, Updated and Expanded, 2014), *Kansas History* (Summer 2015)
- Car Country: An Environmental History* (Christopher W. Wells, 2013), *Business History Review* (Winter 2014)
- Tangled Roots: The Appalachian Trail and American Environmental Politics* (Sarah Mittelfehldt, 2013), *American Historical Review* (Oct. 2014)
- Pesticide Drift and the Pursuit of Environmental Justice* (Jill L. Harrison, 2011), *Review of Policy Research* (May 2013)
- Transplanting the Great Society: Lyndon Johnson and Food for Peace* (Kristin Ahlberg, 2008), *Agricultural History* (Winter 2012)
- Managing the Mountains: Landscape Planning, the New Deal, and the Creation of a Federal Landscape in Appalachia* (Sara Gregg, 2010), *Agricultural History* (Spring 2011)
- A Revolution Down on the Farm* (Paul Conkin, 2007), *Business History Review* (Summer 2010)
- Public Lands and Political Meaning: Ranchers, the Government, and the Property Between Them* (Karen R. Merrill, 2002), *Nevada Historical Society Quarterly* (Fall 2009)
- American Pests: The Losing War on Insects From Colonial Times to DDT* (James E. McWilliams, 2008), *American Historical Review* (Dec. 2009)
- Plowed Under: Agriculture and Environment in the Palouse* (Andrew P. Duffin, 2007), *Business History Review* (Summer 2008)
- Nature's New Deal: The Civilian Conservation Corps and the Roots of the American Environmental Movement* (Neil M. Maher, 2007), *North Carolina Historical Review* (July 2008)
- A Rediscovered Frontier: Land Use and Resource Issues in the New West* (Philip L. Jackson and Robert Kuhlken, 2006), *Environmental History* 13 (Jan. 2008)
- The Defining Moment: FDR's Hundred Days and the Triumph of Hope* (Jonathan Alter, 2006), *Political Science Quarterly* 121 (Winter 2006-07)
- Toxic Drift: Pesticides and Health in the Post-World War II South* (Pete Daniel, 2005), *Journal of Southern History* 73 (Feb. 2007)
- Ecology and Empire: Environmental History of Settler Societies*, (Tom Griffiths and Libby Robin, eds., 1997), *Environmental History* 3 (July 1998)

### **Invited Talks and Lectures**

- "From Farm to Food Politics in the 1960s," German Historical Institute, Washington DC, July 2016
- "The New Muckrakers and the Old Farm Bloc: The Twentieth-Century Politics of Surplus and Abundance," MIT Seminar in Agricultural and Environmental History, April 2016
- "The Price of Plenty: From Farm to Food Politics in the 1960s," Plenary Speaker, Annual Conference of the Historians of the Twentieth-Century United States (HOTCUS), University of Reading, UK, Sept. 2014
- Opening Plenary Panelist, "1862: Agriculture Meets the State," Annual Conference of the Agricultural History Society (AHS), Manhattan, KS, June 2012
- "Could an American Farm Election Change the World?" Charles Warren Center, Harvard University, Nov. 2010
- "Food and American Life," Columbia University, Fall 2010. A series of four invited lectures on the history of food, industrialization, and environmental change for an undergraduate seminar in American Studies.
- Roundtable, "The New Deal Now" with David M. Kennedy and Eric Rauchway, University of California-Davis, Nov. 2008
- "So What Was the TVA Anyway?" Contemporary History Institute, Ohio University, Jan. 2008
- "Lyndon Johnson, Rural America, and the New Deal," Miller Center of Public Affairs, University of Virginia, April 2006
- Historical Roundtable, "Hurricane Katrina and the Past, Present, and Future of New Orleans," Columbia University, Oct. 2005
- "New Deal Conservation," University of Georgia, Nov. 2004
- "FDR, Herbert Hoover, and the New Rural Conservation," Roosevelt Institute, Hyde Park NY, Oct. 2002

### **Conference Papers**

- "Why Keynes Couldn't Solve the American Farm Problem," Policy History Conference (PHC), Nashville, TN, June 2016
- "Political Ideology and American Farm Policy Since WWII," Harvard Business School, Conference on "The Political Economy of Food," June 2015
- "Ideology and Farm Policy in Postwar America," Policy History Conference (PHC), Columbus, OH, June 2014
- "Food and Agriculture in the Cold War World," Roundtable with Nick Cullather, Shane Hamilton, and Daniel Immerwahr, Organization of American Historians (OAH), Atlanta, GA, April 2014
- "Revisiting the Southern Democrats," Agricultural History Society (AHS), Banff, AB, June 2013
- "Agricultural History in the Age of Michael Pollan," Agricultural History Society (AHS), Banff, AB, June 2013
- "From Farm to Food Politics in the Kennedy Era," Agricultural History Society (AHS), Manhattan, KS, June 2012
- "Liberals and the Environment," BU-Cambridge-Princeton Political History Conference, Boston University, April 2009
- "From Food Aid to the FAO: George McGovern's Agricultural Advocacy and the Limits of Liberal Internationalism," Organization of American Historians (OAH), Seattle, WA, March 2009
- "Approaches to Radical Environmental History: Methodologies and Movements," Roundtable, American Historical Association (AHA), New York, Jan. 2009
- "So What Was the TVA Anyway?" Agricultural History Society (AHS), Cambridge, MA, June 2006
- "New Deal Conservation and the Environmental Limitations of Agrarian Policy," American Society of Environmental History (ASEH), Victoria, BC, April 2004
- "Postwar Development and Environmental History: The Overlapping Politics of Conservation and Preservation," Organization of American Historians (OAH), Washington, D.C., April 2002
- "Shirt-Sleeve Diplomacy: American Technical Assistance and World Reconstruction, 1940-1955," Social Science History Association (SSHA), Chicago, IL, Nov. 2001
- "A Political Interpretation of New Deal Conservation," American Society of Environmental History (ASEH), Durham, NC, March 2001
- "Drylands, Dustbowl, and Agro-Technical Internationalism in South Africa," Michigan State University Sweet Symposium, Nov. 2000
- "The New Deal as Crossroads in Federal Resource Management," Social Science History Association (SSHA), Pittsburgh, PA, Oct. 2000.

### **Conference Participation**

- Chair and Comment, "Building the Rural Great Society," PHC, Nashville, TN, June 2016
- Comment, BU Graduate Student American Political History Conference, April 2016
- Chair and Comment, "Agrarian Intellectuals," AHS, Lexington KY, June 2015
- Concluding Faculty Panel, Northeast Environmental History Conference, Yale University, April 2015
- Comment, "Country Nation: Politics, Rural Cultures, and Landscapes of Normalcy," AHA, New Orleans, LA, Jan. 2013
- Comment, "The Green Revolution and Beyond," AHA, New Orleans, LA, Jan. 2013
- Chair and Comment, "Farmers, Experts, and Governments," AHS, Manhattan, KS, June 2012
- Comment, "Scientific Experimentation and Technology," Yale Environmental History Conference, New Haven, CT, April 2012

Chair and Comment, "The New Deal and Global Environmental Politics," ASEH, Madison, WI, March 2012  
 Chair and Comment, "Seeing Like a New Dealer," AHS, Springfield, IL, June 2011  
 Comment, BU Graduate Student American Political History Conference, April 2011  
 Chair, "Finding Rejuvenation in Nature," Yale Environmental History Conference, New Haven, CT, March 2011  
 Chair, "Agriculture and the State: New Directions," AHS, Winter Park, FL, June 2010  
 Comment, BU-Cambridge-Princeton Political History Conference, Princeton, April 2010  
 Chair and Comment, "Food, Aesthetics, and Cuisine in the Atlantic-African World," AHS, Cambridge, MA, June 2006

#### **Courses Taught at Boston University (starting Fall 2009)**

HI 152 The United States Since 1865  
 HI 291 Politics of the American Environment  
 HI 315 The American West  
 HI 337 America in Depression and War: 1890-1945  
 HI 338 Cold War America: 1945-1968  
 HI 401/402 Senior Honors Seminar  
 HI 467 Postwar America, 1945-1968  
 HI 502 Development of Historical Thinking  
 HI 589 Nature's Past: Histories of Environment and Society  
 HI 801 Historian's Craft  
 HI 852 Readings in American Political History  
 ML 713 Agricultural History (for MET Gastronomy Program)

#### **BU Guest Lectures and Presentations**

"Liquid Boston: Water, Sludge, and the City's Political Pipes," Guest Lecture for Daniel Bluestone's "What's Boston?" American Studies (AM) 202, Feb. 2015.  
 "Environment and Conquest," Guest Lecture for James Johnson and Bruce Schulman, HI 191, Sept. 2013, Sept. 2014  
 "The Dust Bowl: New Arguments and New Data," Guest Lecture for Catherine West, AR (Archaeology) 290, March 2014.  
 Panelist, "The Global Land Rush: The Future of Food, Fuel, and Agricultural Development," Pardee House Seminar, Nov. 2011.

#### **Affiliations**

American Historical Association  
 Organization of American Historians  
 American Society of Environmental History  
 Agricultural History Society (elected member, Executive Board 2009-2012)

#### **University Service, Boston University (beginning 2009)**

Graduate Academic Affairs Committee, 2014-2016.  
 Reviewer, Moorman-Simon Fellowship for Civic Engagement, 2014, 2015.  
 Trustee Scholarship Selection Committee, 2013-2014.  
 University Committee on Scholarly Activities and Libraries, 2013-2014.  
 University Council Committee on Curriculum and Degrees, 2012-2013.  
 CAS Representative, Faculty Council Committee on Teaching, Learning, and Instructional Resources, 2009-2010.

#### **Departmental Service, Boston University (beginning 2009)**

Director of Graduate Studies, 2014-2016.  
 Director of Undergraduate Studies, 2011-2014.  
 Graduate Admissions Committee, 2014.  
 AMNESP (American and New England Studies Program) program committee, 2013-2014.  
 Pilot Instructor and Coordinator, History Honors Program (HI 401/402), 2012-2014.  
 Lead Faculty Member, Provost's RULE grant to the History Department (HI 190 course planning), 2011-2012.