



**BOSTON
UNIVERSITY**

**American Political History Institute
12th Annual Graduate Student Conference
presents**

Making the American City

**April 8th-9th, 2022
Boston, MA**

Welcome!

Hello and welcome to the 12th Annual APhi Graduate Student Conference. We're glad you could join us and are looking forward to a great meeting!

We ask that all attendees keep their masks on at all times indoors when not eating or presenting.

Thank you for helping keep everyone safe.

Special Thanks to:

The BU History Department, the BU Initiative on Cities, Professor Robert O. Self, our Commenters, and our Student Organizing Committee.

Wi-Fi Connection Info:

1. Select network "BU Guest (unencrypted)"
2. Open your browser to sign in
3. Follow the registration instructions on-screen

Friday, April 8th

BU Hillel | Charles River Room

213 Bay State Road, Boston, MA 02215

4th Floor

Breakfast: 8.00am

Welcome: 8:45am

Panel One: 9.00am – 10.15am

Contesting Identities in 19th Century Urban America

CHAIR: Meredith Barber, Boston University

Anthony Guidone, George Mason University

“Merchant Explorers: Global Trade and Political Identities in Salem, Massachusetts, 1799-1812”

Thomas L. Cragg, Wayne State University

“In Gilded Age Detroit, Hysteresis Was the Norm and Not the Exception”

Justin Greenman, New York University

“Loyalty and Disloyalty in Urban America: A Comparative Study of New York City and Philadelphia Politics During the Civil War”

COMMENT: Andrew Robichaud, Boston University

BREAK: 10.15am – 10.30am

Panel Two: 10.30am – 11.45am

Early American Cities

CHAIR: Sean Case, Boston University

Isaac Lee, University of Wisconsin-Madison

“In Boston’s Ways: Public Labor and Infrastructure in Colonial Boston”

Donovan Fifield, University of Virginia

“Finance, War, and Political Crisis in the British-American City, 1739 – 1768”

Courtland Ingraham, The George Washington University

“The First American City”

COMMENT: Brendan McConville, Boston University

LUNCH: 11.45am – 12.30pm

Panel Three: 12.30pm – 1.45pm

Resistance and Community

CHAIR: Cole Parker, Boston University

Ian Gavigan, Rutgers University

“Municipal Socialists Against the New Deal: Struggles Over the City in Reading, Pennsylvania, 1927 – 1939”

Kenneth Wohl, Stony Brook University

“Race and Suffrage in Depression-Era Washington D.C.”

Jacqueline Sahagian, University of Virginia

“Soul Music of the Suburbs’: Embracing the Deindustrialized City in Detroit Hardcore”

COMMENT: Katherine Jewell, Fitchburg State University

BREAK: 1.45pm – 2.00pm

Panel Four: 2.00pm – 3.15pm

Building and Managing the American City

CHAIR: Henry Tonks, Boston University

Madeline Webster, Boston University

“One of the Nicest and Prettiest Sections of the City’: Recontextualizing the Washington Park Urban Renewal Program”

Kelley Goodman, Yale University

“The Detroit Cases: Urban Fiscal Crisis and State School Finance Reform”

Hunter Holt, University of Virginia

“‘I remember it was just farms’: The Impact of Growth and Wealth in Williamson County, TN”

COMMENT: Sarah T. Phillips, Boston University

BREAK: 3.15pm – 3.30pm

Panel Five: 3.30pm – 4.45pm

Organizing for Power in American Cities

CHAIR: Tyler J. Quebedeaux, Boston University

Richard Brust, University of Florida

“Sweet Home Jacksonville: How a Florida City Produced a Generation of African American Civil Rights Lawyers”

Andrew Olden, University of Missouri-Columbia

“Paying the Price: The Food Desert in the Pruitt-Igoe Housing Complex”

Eshe Sherley, University of Michigan

“‘We’re Important Too’: Black Feminist Organizing for Rapid Transit in 1970s Atlanta”

COMMENT: Robert O. Self, Brown University

BREAK: 4.45pm – 5.00pm

KEYNOTE: 5.00pm – 6.00pm

Robert O. Self, Brown University

“The Unhappiest Place on Earth: The Family Economy in the American Century”

RECEPTION: 6.00pm

Immediately following the conclusion of the keynote address, you are invited to join us at a reception hosted by the Boston University Initiative on Cities.



Initiative on Cities

75 Bay State Road, Boston MA 02215

Saturday, April 9th

**Rajen Kilachand Center for Integrated
Life Sciences and Engineering**

775 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, MA 02215

Breakfast: 9.00am

Panel Six: 9.30am – 10.45am

Crime and Punishment

CHAIR: Cari Babitzke, Boston University

Charley Binkow, Boston University

“A Crime for ‘Spartans and Romans’: Protestant Responses to
Abortion in Nineteenth Century American Cities”

Marc Arenberg, The Ohio State University

“The Murder of Richard Heakin: Antigay Violence and Queer
Community in Tucson, Arizona”

Kenneth Alyass, Harvard University

“Suburban Law and Order: L. Brooks Patterson and the Politics of
Crime Control in Suburban Detroit, 1972 – 1992 ”

COMMENT: Paula Austin, Boston University

BREAK: 10.45am – 11.00am

Panel Seven: 11.00am – 12.15pm

(Re)Claiming the City

CHAIR: Elizabeth Grumer, Boston University

Kerry Jo Green, Brandeis University

“‘Tread Softly, this is Consecrated Dust’: Space, Gender, and Politics at Pittsburgh’s Allegheny Arsenal”

Vincent Femia, Princeton University

“The Disciples of Minerva: Bethel Literary and the Politics of Science in the Nation’s Capital”

Jamie Marsella, Harvard University

“‘Better Babies, Better Mothers, Better City’: Eugenic Maternalism and the Progressive Era Urban Better Baby Contest”

COMMENT: Ella Howard, Wentworth Institute of Technology

LUNCH: 12.15pm – 1.00pm

PAPER AWARD AND FAREWELL: 1.00pm — 1.15pm

NOTES

