



The American Political History Institute Presents  
The 14th Annual Graduate Student Conference

# *Secret Histories*

Uncovering New Stories, Centering New Arguments

March 22-23, 2024  
Boston, MA

BOSTON  
UNIVERSITY

## **Welcome!**

Hello and welcome to the 14th APhi Graduate Student Conference. We're glad you could join us and are looking forward to a great meeting!

## **Special Thanks to:**

The BU History Department, Professor Kidada E. Williams, Cady Steinberg, Molly German, 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, March 22nd**

**John and Kathryn Silber Administrative Center  
Kenmore Room**

**1 Silber Way, Boston, MA 02215**

**9th Floor**

**Breakfast:** 8.00am

**Panel One:** 9.00am – 10.15am

Land, Place and Community

**CHAIR:** Abigail Strayer, Boston University

**Scotty Beland, University of Maryland, College Park**

“Lack Acknowledgments: Moving Beyond Moral Exhibitionism  
and Rhetorical Removal”

**Baruch Gilinsky, University of Oxford**

“Hills of Eternity?: Cemeteries and Urban Political History in 19th-  
Century San Francisco”

**Christopher C. Pascale, Stony Brook University**

“The Mythology of Charles Curtis, and How He ‘Saved the Tribe’”

**COMMENT:** Andrew Robichaud, Boston University

**BREAK:** 10.15am – 10.30am

**Panel Two:** 10.30am – 11.45pm

Making and Unmaking Identities Before the Civil War

**CHAIR:** Meredith Barber, Boston University

**Theodore Fawcett, University of Oxford**

“The Lincoln or Douglas Generation?: Young Americans and the Coming of the American Civil War”

**Hope McCaffrey, Northwestern University**

“‘White Husbands or None’: White Women and Democratic Politics in the Free States”

**Sarah Wack, University at Buffalo**

“Decoding the Classics: William Sanders Scarborough, the American Intellectual Landscape, and Black Education in the 19th Century”

**COMMENT:** Nina Silber, Boston University

**LUNCH:** 11.45pm – 12.45pm

Roundtable: The Past and Present of Graduate Organizing

**Panel Three:** 12.45pm – 2.15pm

## Atlantic Politics and Identity in Early America

**CHAIR:** Henry M. J. Tonks, Boston University

**Pat Flood, University of Oxford**

"An Enlightened Scot Abroad: Robert Liston and the Expansion of British Diplomacy in the Early American Republic"

**Tali Gorodetsky, Tulane University**

"Domestic Dutchness: Material Expressions of Identity During the Colonial Transition from New Netherland to New York."

**Shea Hendry, University of Cambridge**

"'One half Englishman and the other Half American': Exiled Children after American Independence"

**Hannah Nolan, University of Maryland, College Park**

"The Scottish Daughter: Jane Erin Emmet, Republicanism, and Identity in Early (Irish) America"

**COMMENT:** Abigail Chandler, University of Massachusetts Lowell

**BREAK:** 2.15pm – 2.30pm

**Panel Four:** 2.30pm – 3.45pm

## Displays of Identity

**CHAIR:** Meghan Townes, Boston University

**Nilanjana Dutta, University of Oxford**

“Secret Histories Uncovered: Anatomy Trade Between India and the United States, 1930-1985”

**Alejandra Núñez Piñero, Western Colorado University**

“Museums in Puerto Rico Exhibiting Human Remains of Their Own Culture: An Analysis of Three Institutions”

**Jackie Wu, Yale University**

“Defending Lum Ah Gue: Migrant Labor and Chinese Exclusion at the 1895 Atlanta Exposition”

**COMMENT:** Brooke L. Blower, Boston University

**BREAK:** 3.45pm – 4.00pm

**Panel Five:** 4.00pm – 5.15pm

## Hidden Histories of the American State

**CHAIR:** Tyler J. Quebedeaux, Boston University

**Martha Guerrero, Yale University**

“The Untold Story of the Hesburgh Commission: A Bipartisan Road to Immigration Restriction”

**Eric Ross, University of Massachusetts Amherst**

“Do (No) Harm: Science, Ethics, and the Manhattan Project”

**Caleb Woodall, University of Cambridge**

“The Defeat of Civilian Public Service Foreign Relief: Gender, Veterans, and the Starnes Amendment, 1942-1943”

**COMMENT:** Sarah T. Phillips, Boston University

**BREAK:** 5.15pm – 5.30pm

**KEYNOTE:** 5.30pm – 6.30pm

**Kidada E. Williams, Wayne State University**

“Lessons from Black Studies for Public Facing Work and a Fulfilling Academic Life”

**RECEPTION:** 6.30pm

Immediately following the conclusion of the keynote address, you are invited to join us at a reception in the Metcalf Trustee Center Lounge at 1 Silber Way.

**Saturday, March 23rd**



**John and Kathryn Silber Administrative Center  
Kenmore Room**

**1 Silber Way, Boston, MA 02215**

**9th Floor**

**Breakfast:** 9.00am

**Panel Six:** 9.30am – 10.45am

**New Perspectives on the Carceral State**

**CHAIR:** Germaine Eaton, Boston University

**Andrea Ho, Yale University**

“Navajo Thinking on Carcerality in the 1980s: A Challenge to  
Carceral Power in Indian Country”

**Conor Hodges, Yale University**

“‘Paradise Lost’: South Florida Elite Politics and the Militarized  
War on Drugs”

**Keara Seabold, Boston University**

“‘She Is Not of Sound Mind’: The Use of the Insanity Plea in  
Queer Murder Trials”

**COMMENT:** Bruce Schulman, Boston University

**BREAK:** 10.45am – 11.00am

**Panel Seven:** 11.00am – 12.15pm

## Reimagining Liberation Movements

**CHAIR:** Jenna Hagan, Boston University

**Cat Rosch, Brandeis University**

“Consciousness About Ourselves as Women: Reproductive Health and Boston-area Campus Movements”

**Kieran Stigant, Queen Mary University of London**

“Reframing Gay Activism: The Transition to a Movement for Emotional Liberty”

**Filippos Toskas, University of Oxford**

“Mary Whitehouse, Anita Bryant, and Discussing the Rise of Conservatism across the Atlantic in the Queer Press of the 1970s”

**COMMENT:** Jeanna Kinnebrew, Tufts University

**LUNCH:** 12.15pm – 1.00pm

**Panel Eight:** 1.00pm – 2.15pm

American Politics and Culture Since the 1960s

**CHAIR:** Cole Parker, Boston University

**Aaron Freedman, Columbia University**

“A Creditor’s Market: How the Volcker Shock Changed the Political Economy of American Home Ownership”

**Marla Janssens, University of Virginia**

“U.S.-Cuba Relations: The Forgotten Role of Switzerland”

**Julian Polanski, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign**

“New Right, Same Old Racism?: National Review Magazine and the Decolonization of Southern Africa, 1975-1988”

**COMMENT:** Katherine Jewell, Fitchburg State University

**PAPER AWARD AND FAREWELL:** 2.30pm — 2.45pm



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