

Fernand Braudel Center Newsletter

No. 24

Activities, 1999-2000

September 2000

I. More changes at the Fernand Braudel Center

Immanuel Wallerstein retired from teaching at Binghamton University in December, 1999 and is now Distinguished Professor Emeritus. He is nonetheless continuing as Director of the Fernand Braudel Center. He has also accepted a position as Senior Research Scholar at Yale University. Ravi Palat has returned to Binghamton from Auckland, New Zealand. He will be teaching sociology and will be a Senior Research Associate of the Center.

II. Research Working Groups

a) **Structures of Knowledge.** This group is writing up its project.

b) **Crisis in the World-System: Options and Possibilities.**

This project was launched in the fall of 1999. It is an attempt to assess the overall situation in the world-system at the present moment in the light of historical trends and current options. It is seeking to evaluate the issues that are popularly lumped under the heading of "globalization."

The Center has constituted three Research Working Groups on three major aspects of the contemporary world, in the expectation that it can eventually be demonstrated that the three are interlinked. Organizationally, they are linked by the fact that the coordinators of the three groups all attend the meetings of all three groups. The names of the three groups are: 1) **Structural Trends of the Capitalist World-Economy (STCWE)**; 2) **The Categories of Social Knowledge (CSK)**; and 3) **Waves of Antisystemic Movements (WAM)**. The Coordinators are Immanuel Wallerstein for STCWE, Richard Lee for CSK, and William G. Martin for WAM. Each group has defined in this first year of work a strategy of research.

1) **STCWE.** This group seeks to measure and evaluate long-term trends of the capitalist world-economy that affect the average rate of profit. Since prices are not infinitely expansible, the level of profits is ultimately determined by three costs: remuneration of employees; costs of inputs and infrastructure; taxation levels. It intends to measure, over as long a time span as possible and for the world-economy as a whole, whether or not the three categories of costs have been rising as a percentage of total value of sales

prices of production. The problems of this measurement exercise are multiple, and the enormity of the task is clear. On the other hand, the data, once acquired, speak to one of the most central questions of the historical evolution of the capitalist world-economy - what is happening to the rate of profit, enabling us to evaluate contrasting theses of increasing efficiency and profit squeeze. The project is exploratory and conceptual, and will start with an assessment of existing statistics.

2) CSK. Increasingly strident "culture wars" and "science wars" have erupted in response to movements towards new epistemologies challenging the historic divisions between the humanities, the social sciences, and the sciences. Do these efforts prefigure, in historical terms, a new synthesis or redivisioning of how we produce knowledge and scholars, and do they do so on a world scale? The group shall investigate how knowledge structures have been established and institutionalized in particular social settings. The settings so far selected include the US/UK, France, the Ottoman Empire/Turkey, southern Africa, and Latin America. Other sites may be added. In each of these locations the group will analyze four interlocking vectors defining the direction in which pressure or influence has been exerted: the impact of both the global structures of accumulation and the antisystemic movements on the world of knowledge, and, conversely, the impact of the world of knowledge on the structures of accumulation and on the antisystemic movements.

3) WAM. This group is seeking to analyze the long-term, world-historical formation of antisystemic movements of all kinds over the last four centuries. It will emphasize the world-relational character of movements and protest, how they form in relation to each other and across the temporalities and spaces of the capitalist world-economy. Initial work is concentrating on establishing the successive waves and types of movements, and relating these phenomena to processes of accumulation, the interstate system, and class and status formation--particularly race and gender. Study of failures and successes of movements, in different world epochs, will be used to analyze current trends in antisystemic movements.

III. Working Group

a) Coloniality - This large and active group sponsored a Deans Workshop in October 1999 and a conference in April 2000; see information in co-sponsored conferences.

IV. Conferences Co-Sponsored

A. Coloniality

a) Rethinking Area Studies, Rethinking Dominant Knowledges, Oct. 16, 1999. The program was as follows:

Panel 1:

Facilitator: Vandana Swami

Vincent L. Rafael, "Area Studies and the Accidents of Agency"

William G. Martin, "African Studies and the Struggle for Africa: Africanists vs. Africans vs. African-Americanists?"

Panel 2:

Facilitator: Rafael Landrón

Vik Chaubey, "The Historical Construction of Identity Formation in the United States, 1880-1920"

Agustín Lao, "Latin/o Americanism: Crossing Genealogies and Transpassing Borders"

Catherine John, "Maybe It's a Big Momma Thing: Reclaiming the 'Power of the Erotic' from the 'Demoniac Ground' of Black Female Sexuality"

Panel 3:

Facilitator: Ruben R. Chandrasekar

Eda Henao, "(Re) (De)Forming Maroonage in the Works of Julia Alvarez, Rosario Ferré, and Ana Lydia Vega"

Biray Kirli, "From Orientalism to Area Studies: The Dynamics of the Transformation"

Panel 4:

Facilitator: Tu Huynh

Donald Pease, "C.L.R. James, Moby Dick and the Emergence of Transnational American Studies"

Greg Thomas, "Sounds Like Mass Black Music Been All Up N Ya Area: Seeing 'Gender & Sexuality' Studies in its Neo-Colonial Context"

Closing Plenary

Facilitator: Kelvin Santiago-Valles

b) 3rd Annual Conference of the Coloniality Working Group "Unsettling the Coloniality of Power: Comparative Colonialisms and the Production of 'Knowledge,'" April 27-29, 2000. The program was as follows:

Opening Remarks - Gladys Jiménez-Muñoz

Keynote Paper

Facilitator: Vandana Swami

Sylvia Wynter, *Un-Settling the Coloniality of Power/Being/Truth/
Freedom: Towards the Human Millennium, After Man-s*

Roundtable Discussion I: *What-s Coloniality Got to do with It?*

Facilitator: Carole Boyce Davies

(Carole Boyce Davies, Monica Jardine, Agustín Lao, Kelvin Santiago-Valles)

Panel 1:

Facilitator: Kelvin Santiago Valles

Biray Kirli, *From Empire to Nation: The Great Fire and the Recreation of Izmir*

Miriam Muñiz Varela, *An Approach to Colonial Difference: The Surplus Citizenship*

Panel 2:

Facilitator: Israel Silva Merced

Rekha Menon, *Interpretation and Self-Suppression*

Greg Thomas, *Sexual Madness and Slaveocratic Empire: Black Thoughts on Woman Reconstruction and Male-to-Male Rape in U.S. Bondage*

Plenary I

Facilitator: Carole Boyce Davies

Panel 3:

Facilitator: Anna Beckwith

Gaurav Desai, *Subject to Colonialism: African Self-Fashioning and the Colonial Library*

Catherine John, *Getting Down to Get Over: Visionary Groundings with the Imperialist Institution*

Panel 4:

Facilitator: Gladys Jiménez Muñoz

Melanie A. Pérez Ortiz, *Knowledge, Power, and the Act of Writing as Colonial Subjects*

Peter Carlo, *Notes on the Color-Line, Maneuvers towards Whiteness and Native Accommodations: Porto-Rican Activists and Mezzogiorno Intellectuals in Greater New York, 1925-1936*

Panel 5:

Facilitator: Greg Thomas

Jesse Benjamin, *The Relationship of Knowledge to Power in the Writing of History at the Coast of Kenya*

Abye Assefa, *The Ocean vs. the Landmass: Class, Race, Gender and*

the Fallacy of a Reified Trinity@
Darryl C. Thomas, AGlobalization, Africana Studies, and Interdisciplinary Approaches to Knowledge@

Roundtable II:

Facilitator: William G. Martin

(William G. Martin, Ifi Amadiume, Walter Mignolo, Fernando Coronil)

Panel 6:

Facilitator: Abye Assefa

William F. Santiago Valles, ALessons of Self-Emancipation for Present Decolonization: A Critique of the U.S. Civil Rights Movement from a Caribbean Perspective@

Ruben R. Chandrasekar, AThe Coloniality of Power and Black Labor: Analyzing the Reproduction and Trajectories of the Enterprise in Post-Emancipation Alabama (with special emphasis on the Convict-Lease System)@

Plenary Session II

Facilitator: Greg Thomas

B. *The Rise of East Asia: 500, 150, & 50 Year Perspective*, co-sponsored by the Fernand Braudel Center (Binghamton Univ.) and the Institute for Global Studies in Culture, Power, and History, the Depts. of Anthropology, History, Sociology, History of Science, Medicine and Technology, and Comparative American Cultures (Johns Hopkins Univ.), and held at Johns Hopkins University, Dec. 4-5, 1999. The program was as follows:

Giovanni Arrighi, Po-Keung Hui & Ho-Fung Hung, AHistorical Capitalism: East and West@

Discussants: R. Bin Wong & David Harvey

Ho-Fung Hung & Mark Selden, ASocial Movements, System Transformation and the Political Economy of East Asia, 1200-2000"

Discussants: William Rowe & Beverly Silver

Takeshi Hamashita, AEast Asia: Historical Perspectives on the Sino-centric Tributary Trade System@

Discussants: Peter Purdue, Paul Kramer & Hui Wang

Kaoru Sugihara, AThe East Asian Path of Economic Development: A Long-term Perspective@

Discussants: Keith Schoppa & M. Ali Khan

Gary Hamilton, AThe Influence of Commercial Organization on Commodity Production: Cotton Textiles in 19th and Early 20th Century

China@

Discussants: Aihwa Ong & Christopher Chase-Dunn

Kenneth Pomeranz, *Women's Work, Family and Economic Development in Europe and East Asia: Long-term Trajectories and Contemporary Comparisons*@

Discussants: Francesca Bray & Sonia Ryang

Peter J. Katzenstein, *Technology and Asian Regionalism in Comparative Perspective*@

Discussants: Thomas Berger & Stuart W. Leslie

C. *Global Studies and World History* co-sponsored by the History Dept. (Binghamton Univ.), Broome Community College, and Fernand Braudel Center, March 3-4, 2000. The conference was made possible by a grant from Conversations in the Discipline. The program was as follows:

1A. Environment, Population, and World History

Chair: Lorenz Firsching

W. Warren Wagar, *Green History, Red History, Global History*@

1B. Regional Studies and World History/Global Studies

Chair: Anne Macpherson

Zenon Wasyliw, *East and Central Europe in World History*@

Thomas Hall, *Comparing Frontiers: Approaches from World-Systems Analysis*@

John Chaffee, *Placing China in World History*@

1C. The Arts and World History

Chair: Donald Quataert

Anthony King, *Worlds in the City: Thinking about Places in Spaces*@

Charles Burroughs, *The World As One: Premodern Perspectives*@

Bruce Mazlish, *The New Global History*@

Session 2

2A. Cases, Contexts and Comparisons in the Presentation of World History

Chair: Harold C. Koster

Robert W. Strayer, *Beyond Inclusion: Context and Juxtaposition in the Presentation of World History*@

2B. Comparative Diasporas: Migration and World History

Chair: Nayan Shah

Eric Mielants, *Mass Migration and Race Discrimination in 20th Century Netherlands*@

Carina Bandhauer, *Current Trends in Anti-Immigrant Sentiment: The Case of Southern California*@

Ricardo Laremont, *The Political Economy of Slavery: African Slaves*

& Chinese Coolies in 19th Century Cuba@

2C. Post-Colonialism and World History/Global Studies

Laura Adams, ANational Culture in Post-Colonial Uzbekistan@

Melson Nelson-Richards, AThe Impact of Globalization and Education
on Developing Countries@

Keynote Address:

Christopher Chase-Dunn, AWaves of Globalization and Anti-Globaliza-
tion@

Session 3

3A. World History Texts

Chair: Douglas Garnar

Kevin Reilly, AConceptualizing World History Texts and Materials@

3B. Gendering World History

Chair: Jean Quataert

Anne Macpherson, AWomen=s History as World History: Gender and Na-
tionalism in the Caribbean and Beyond@

Tiffany Patterson, AGendering the African Diaspora@

Patricia Wasyliv, AWomen=s Issues in World History: Connecting
Themes@

3C. Religion and World History

Chair: Lance Sussman

Gordon Thommasson, ABeyond Inclusion=: Conflict and War in World
History@

Lance Sussman, ATeaching World Religions, Finding a Common Human-
ity?@

Plenary Panel Discussion

Moderator: W. Warren Wagar

(Christopher Chase-Dunn, Bruce Mazlish, Kevin Reilly & Robert Stra-
yer)

VI. PEWS

A. XXIV: Boston College, March 24-25, 2000

The Conference was organized by Ramón Grosfoguel. The theme
was AThe Modern World-System in the 20th Century.@ The program was
as follows:

Keynote Speaker: Immanuel Wallerstein, "The Twentieth Century:
Darkness at Noon?"

Peripheral Decolonization/Global Coloniality

Roberto Patricio Korzeniewicz, David Consiglio, Timothy P. Moran, and Angela Stach, *AInequality in the World-Economy (1850-2000): Resistance, Markets, and Power*@
Thomas Reifer, *AGlobalization and the National Security State Corporate Complex (NSSCP) in the Twentieth Century*@
Agustín Lao, *APostnationalist Decolonizations? Ireland and Puerto Rico: Undressing Coloniality in the Era of Neo-colonialism*@
Livio Sansone, *AThe Emergence of Global Negritude/Blackness: Old Trend, New Opportunities, Centers and Peripheries in a Transatlantic Exchange of Ideals and Commodities Across the Black Atlantic*@

Gender Inequality

Wilma Dunaway, *ACommodity Chains and Gendered Exploitation: Rescuing Women and Households from the Periphery of World-System Thought*@
Shelley Feldman, *AIntersecting and Contesting Positions: Gender, Space and Time in World Systems Theory*@
Nancy Forsythe, *AREvisioning Social Change: Situated Knowledge and Unit of Analysis in the Modern World-System*@
Sheila Pelizzon, *AWriting on Gender in World-Systems Perspective*@

Geopolitics of Knowledge/Cultural Locations/Knowledge Production
Santiago Castro-Gomez & Oscar Guardiola-Rivera, *APostcolonialism as a Critical Theory of a Globalized Society*@
Nelson Maldonado, *AFive Hundred Years of Solitude: The Lonely Europe and its Others or the Fratricidal Dimension of the Modern/Colonial World-System*@
Fouad Makki, *ADecolonization and Development*@

Antisystemic Movements

Eric Mielants, *AMass Migration in the 21st Century: An Antisystemic Movement in the Long Run?*@
Richard E. Lee, *ABucking the System: The TimeSpace of Antisystemic Movements*@
Satoshi Ikeda, *A20th Century Antisystemic Historical Processes and the Completion of US Hegemonic Design: Free Trade Imperialism, National Economic Development, and Free Enterprise Imperialism*@
Enrique Collazo, *ACuba in the International Geopolitics: From Active Protagonist to Invited Stone. Scenarios for its Reincorporation*@

Utopistics and Anti-capitalist Strategies

Eduardo Mendieta, *AUtopia, Dystopia, Utopistics, or the End of Utopia: On Wallerstein's Critique of Historical Materialism*@
Teivo Teivainen, *AOvercoming Transnational Politics of Economism: Constructing Radical and Cosmopolitan Democratic Alternatives*@

Walter Goldfrank, AThe Future of Revolution@
Heinz Sonntag, ALatin America, xGlobalization= and Utopia@

B. Call for Papers

The 25th Annual Conference of the Political Economy of the World-System Section will be held at Virginia Tech University, April 19-21, 2001.

The Conference Theme is AThe World-System in the 21st Century@

Selected papers must reflect the conference theme, and they must encompass an international or global level of analysis. Priority will be given to those papers which are grounded in the world-system perspective in some way. Virginia Tech University will subsidize the lodging and some meals for most paper presenters. Selected papers from the conference will be published in the annual series edited through Greenwood Press.

Paper proposals are invited about any of these topics:

1. Crises at the Periphery and Semiperiphery (e.g., the debt crisis, future warfare)
2. Crises Facing the World's Women and Children
3. Crises of 21st Century Cities
4. Ecological Crises and Environmental Racism
5. Effective Strategies for Antisystemic Movements and Political Praxis in the 21st Century
6. The Future of the Nation-State and World Governance
7. The Future of Socialist, Communist, and Post-Communist Regions
8. The Future of the World's Indigenous Peoples
9. International Labor Solidarity Movements
10. The Political Economy of World Health
11. The Political Economy of the World-System in the 21st Century [i.e., How will the political economy of the 21st century world-system differ from the past? How is the current phase of Aglobalization@ different from earlier transformations?]
12. Population Crises, Immigration, and Refugees
13. Racism, Ethnic Conflict and Ethnonationalism in the 21st Century
14. Structures of Knowledge, Science and Technology in the 21st Century

The deadline for submission of papers or detailed abstracts is DECEMBER 15, 2000. Include mailing address and e-mail address with your submission.

Please submit materials to:
Prof. Wilma A. Dunaway
Department of Sociology
Virginia Tech University

Blacksburg, VA 24061-0137.

If you have questions, contact wdunaway@vt.edu
Consult the conference website for updated information.
<http://fbox.vt.edu/W/wdunaway/pews2001.htm>

VII. Colloquium on Culture and the World-System

This is a continuing colloquium at Binghamton University, co-sponsored by the Fernand Braudel Center and the Institute of Global Cultural Studies. It is organized by Anthony King and Ali Mazrui. The theme for 1999-2000 was: *The Idiom of Identity: Reformulating the Arts for the New Millennium.* The sessions were:

September 23, 1999: Bill Spanos (English & Comparative Literature, Binghamton Univ.) *Philosophy and Poesis in the Age of the World Picture: Thinking/Imagining the Shadow of Metaphysics*

October 21, 1999: David Brackett (Music, Binghamton Univ.) *On the Category of World Music*

December 2, 1999: Nkiru Nzegwu (Art History & Africana Studies, Binghamton Univ.) *From Art to Identity: Constructing Self and Assertiveness with Ikenga*

March 22, 2000: Robert Ostergard (Political Science, Binghamton Univ.) *The Theft of Artistic and Cultural Property*

April 12, 2000: Lisa Yun & Thomas Glave (English, Binghamton Univ.) *Writing Transcultural Histories in Poetry and Fiction: Readings and Conversation*

April 27, 2000: Isidore Okpewho (Africana Studies, Comparative Literature & English, Binghamton Univ.) *Walcott, Homer and the Black Atlantic*

VIII. Review

The contents of vol. XXIII, 2000 were as follows:

XXIII, 1, 2000

Commodity Chains in the World-Economy, 1590-1790
Immanuel Wallerstein, *Introduction*
Y. Eyüp Özveren, *Shipbuilding, 1590-1790*
Sheila Pelizzon, *Grain Flour, 1590-1790*

Immanuel Wallerstein, *ANext Steps*@

XXIII, 2, 2000

Marjolein v Hart, *AWarfare and Capitalism: The Impact of the Economy on State Making in Northwestern Europe, Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries*@

Eric Mielants, *APerspectives on the Origins of Merchant Capitalism in Europe*@

Duccio Sacchi, *AGathering, Organization, and Production of Information in Sixteenth-Century Surveys in Hispanic America*@

XXIII, 3, 2000

Christopher A. McAuley, *AOliver C. Cox's World-System: Insights, Omissions, and Speculations*@

Jason W. Moore, *ASugar and the Expansion of the Early Modern World-Economy: Commodity Frontiers, Ecological Transformation, and Industrialization*@

XXIII, 4, 2000

Development Revisited

Prabirjit Sarkar, *ANorth-South Uneven Development: What the Data Show*@

Hannes Hofbauer & Andrea Komlosy, *ACapital Accumulation and Catching-up Development in Eastern Europe*@

Marcus Faro de Castro, *ALatin America and the Future of International Development Assistance*@

Manfred Bienefeld, *AStructural Adjustment: Debt Collection Device or Development Policy?*@

IX. Visiting Research Associates

Nov.-Dec. 1999 - Carlos Antonio Aguirre Rojas, Instituto de Investigaciones Sociales, UNAM, Mexico City, Mexico

Sept. 1999-May 2000 - Nazim Irem, Faculty of Business, Dokuz Eylul Univ., Izmir, Turkey

Oct.-Dec. 1999 - Sebastian Olma, Institut für Politikwissenschaft, Univ. Leipzig, Germany

July-Aug. 2000 - Zheng Weimin, Senior Research Fellow and Professor, Institute of American Studies, Tsinghua Univ., Beijing, China

X. Public Lectures

May 4, 2000 - Gerard Bouchard, *The Evolution of Quebec as a New Society: A Not So Manifest Destiny*

Visitors to the Fernand Braudel Center

Oct. 12, 1999 - Riccardo Zandonin , University Delegate for International Relations, University of Trento, Italy

June 1-2, 2000 - John Robinson, Research Consultant, New Zealand

XII. Other Activities

The Centre for Developing-Area Studies, McGill University, Montreal organized a four-day workshop, 23-26 September 1999, on *Social Sciences and Trans-Disciplinarity: Latin American and North American Experiences*. It brought together participants from Argentina, Columbia, Canada and the United States. Richard E. Lee was invited to speak to the issues raised in Gulbenkian Report and delivered the final paper, *The Crisis of the Structures of Knowledge: Where Do We Go from Here?* Paper available on FBC website.

The Fernand Braudel Center has joined the research community *Research on the Construction of Integrating Worldviews*.

XII. Papers Available on Fernand Braudel Centers Website:

<http://fbc.binghamton.edu>

[Richard E. Lee](#), *The Crisis of the Structures of Knowledge: Where Do We Go from Here?*

[Immanuel Wallerstein](#), *El fin de las certidumbres y los intelectuales comprometidos*.

[Immanuel Wallerstein](#), *Braudel and Interscience: A Preacher to Empty Pews?*

[Immanuel Wallerstein](#), *Twentieth Century: Darkness at Noon?*

[Immanuel Wallerstein](#), *The Racist Albatross: Social Science, J rg Haider, and *Widerstand**.

[Immanuel Wallerstein](#), ACultures in Conflict? Who are We? Who are the Others?@