

RELIGION AND CLIMATE CHANGE IN COMPARATIVE REGIONAL PERSPECTIVE

A workshop organized by American University's Center for Latin American and Latino Studies (CLALS) with generous support from the Henry Luce Foundation
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WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS

Robert Albro is Research Associate Professor at American University's Center for Latin American & Latino Studies. He received his PhD in Sociocultural Anthropology from the University of Chicago, and has conducted ethnographic research and published widely on popular and indigenous politics along Bolivia's urban periphery, including the onset of resource wars over water and extractive resources as part of grassroots-driven change in this country. Dr. Albro's research and writing have been supported by the National Science Foundation, Mellon Foundation, Rockefeller Foundation, and the American Council for Learned Societies, among others. He has been a Fulbright scholar, and held fellowships at the Carnegie Council, the Kluge Center of the Library of Congress, and the Smithsonian Institution. Dr. Albro currently serves as Co-PI of the CLALS initiative on Religion and Democratic Contestation in Latin America.
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Kelly D. Alley is Professor of Anthropology at Auburn University. She received her PhD in Anthropology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1990. Dr. Alley has carried out research in northern India for over twenty years, focusing on public culture and environmental issues. Her book, *On the Banks of the Ganga: When Wastewater Meets a Sacred River* (University of Michigan Press, 2002), explores Hindu interpretations of the sacred river Ganga in light of current environmental problems. Dr. Alley has also worked with the World Water Forum and UNESCO to incorporate understanding of cultural diversity into water management. With support from the Center for Forest Sustainability and the College of Liberal Arts at Auburn, she is currently working on water governance in the Ganges-Brahmaputra-Meghna basin and has produced, in collaboration with colleagues and students, an interactive website featuring hydropower projects and wastewater management infrastructure. Email: alleykd@auburn.edu

Evan Berry is Associate Professor of Philosophy and Religion at American University and Co-Director of the Ethics, Peace, and Global Affairs master's program. He received his PhD in Religious Studies from the University of California, Santa Barbara. His research examines the intersections among religion, globalization, and climate change, and seeks to advance knowledge about the role of religious actors in contemporary environmental contestations. Pursuing these questions through both ethnographic research and philosophical reflection, his most recent work includes a study of religious civil society groups actively engaged with the challenge of climate change. His book, *Devoted to Nature: The Religious Roots of American Environmentalism*, was published by the University of California Press in July 2015. He currently serves as Co-PI of the CLALS initiative on Religion and Democratic Contestation in Latin America.
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Susan Crate is Associate Professor of Anthropology in the Department of Environmental Science and Policy at George Mason University. She received her PhD in Ecology in 2002 from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. As an applied social scientist trained in cultural anthropology and human ecology, she focuses on issues of human-environment interactions. Since 1988, she has conducted research in Siberia, with an increasing focus on collaborations across the eight circumpolar countries. Her current research focuses on understanding local perceptions, adaptations, and resilience of Viliui Sakha communities in the face of unprecedented climate change. Crate is the author of numerous peer-reviewed articles, one monograph, *Cows, Kin and Globalization: An Ethnography of Sustainability* (Alta Mira Press, 2006), and senior editor of the 2009 volume, *Anthropology and Climate Change: From Encounters to Actions* (Left Coast Press). Email: scrate1@gmu.edu

Chris Crews is a PhD candidate in the Department of Politics at The New School. His dissertation, titled “Monsters in the Greenhouse: Risk, Faith and Science in the Anthropocene,” focuses on the intersection of ecology, politics and spirituality and explores models for how society might rethink personal responsibility and alternative lifestyles inspired by animism and indigenous communities. Mr. Crews’ work is both theoretical and comparative, including issues in the Himalaya based on work in India and China, as well as the Andes, particularly in relation to the rights of nature, indigenous political struggles, and the politics of Pachamama in Ecuador and Bolivia. Past experiences include working as a community organizer, coordinating student activism around globalization and fair trade, and teaching in rural Appalachia. Email: me@chriscrews.org

John Grim is Senior Lecturer and Senior Research Scholar at Yale University. He received his PhD in History of Religions from Fordham University and currently serves as Coordinator of the Forum on Religion and Ecology with Mary Evelyn Tucker, and series editor of “World Religions and Ecology,” from Harvard Divinity School's Center for the Study of World Religions. With Tucker, he is also the co-author of *Ecology and Religion* (Island Press, 2014). Dr. Grim teaches students from the School of Forestry & Environmental Studies, Department of Religious Studies, Institution for Social and Policy Studies, Yale Divinity School and Yale College. He has been a Professor of Religion at Bucknell University and at Sarah Lawrence College, where he taught courses in Native American and indigenous religions, world religions, and religion and ecology. Dr. Grim is also President of the American Teilhard Association. Email: john.grim@yale.edu

Douglas Herman is Senior Geographer at the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian and Adjunct Associate Professor at Towson University in Maryland. He earned his PhD in Geography from the University of Hawai’i at Manoa in 1995. His research interests include Indigenous geography, native science, spiritual ecology, environmental issues, and the Pacific Islands. He was an early architect of NMAI’s Indigenous Geography Project and is the creator of Pacific Worlds, a web-based education project for Hawai’i and the American Pacific that focuses on Indigenous cultural knowledge and understandings. Dr. Herman has published several articles and given numerous scholarly presentations regarding the representation of Indigenous cultures and the importance of Indigenous epistemologies and ontologies in responses to climate change. Email: hermand@si.edu

Eric Hershberg is Director of the Center for Latin American & Latino Studies and Professor of Government at American University. He received his PhD in Political Science from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Dr. Hershberg has taught at New York University, Southern Illinois University, Columbia, Princeton, and The New School. He also served for fifteen years as a Program Director at the Social Science Research Council in New York City. His most recent publications include two co-edited volumes, one with Maxwell A. Cameron, entitled *Latin American Left Turns: Politics, Policies, and Trajectories of Change* (Lynne Rienner, 2010) and the second, *New Institutions for Participatory Democracy in Latin America: Voice and Consequence* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2012), with Maxwell A. Cameron and Kenneth E. Sharpe. Dr. Hershberg also co-directed the CLALS project on religious responses to violence in Latin America, a two-year initiative funded by the Henry Luce Foundation.
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Barbara Rose Johnston is Senior Research Fellow at the Center for Political Ecology in Santa Cruz, California and an affiliated member of the faculty at Michigan State and the University of California Santa Cruz. She received her PhD in Anthropology from the University of Massachusetts. Her research explores intersections between the environment, health, and human rights. She is the editor of *Life and Death Matters: Human Rights, Environment, and Social Justice* (Left Coast Press, 2011). Dr. Johnston previously served as an advisor to UNESCO on water and cultural diversity and to the Marshall Islands Nuclear Claims Tribunal on the impacts of nuclear fallout. Her recent research has also documented the human and environmental impact of the Chixoy Dam on indigenous communities in Guatemala. She has had multiple leadership roles in the American Anthropological Association, including on the Environmental Task Force and as a founding member of the section on Anthropology and Environment, among others.
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Naveeda Khan is Associate Professor and Director of Graduate Studies in the Department of Anthropology at Johns Hopkins University. She earned her PhD in Anthropology from Columbia University, where her work focused on spaces of religious crisis and conflict in urban Pakistan. She is the author of *Muslim Becoming: Aspiration and Skepticism in Pakistan* (Duke University Press, 2012). Dr. Khan's current research shifts location and focus to examine rural and riverine environments in Bangladesh as they intersect with multiple possible futures, including the temporalities of everyday life, those of material substances such as riverine flows and silt sedimentation, and the crisis-inflected future of climate change. She has recently served as a research fellow for the American Institute for Bangladesh Studies and the Wenner-Gren Foundation. Email: nkhan5@jhu.edu

Karsten Paerregaard is Professor in the School of Global Studies at the University of Gothenburg, Sweden. He received his PhD in Anthropology from the University of Copenhagen. Dr. Paerregaard's long-term research has focused on rural-urban migration and transnational migration in Peru. His current research is concerned with the effects of climate change on Peru's rural and urban populations, including how growing water scarcity is leading to new conflicts, and the local, regional, and national responses to these conflicts. Dr. Paerregaard's work also explores the development of new strategies and alliances to adapt to the changing environment. Plans for future research include work on a comparative anthropology of adaptation and mobility of mountain peoples to climate change. Email: karsten.paerregaard@globalstudies.gu.se

Lucia Ann Silecchia is Professor of Law at Catholic University's Columbus School of Law. She received her JD from Yale Law School where she was a Francis Coker Teaching Fellow, senior editor of *The Yale Law Journal*, and current topics editor of *The Yale Law & Policy Review*. Before joining The Catholic University of America, she was a litigation associate at Rogers & Wells (now Clifford, Chance) in New York City. Prof. Silecchia has conducted extensive research on environmental law and ethics issues from the perspective of Catholic social thought, and in April 2007 was one of nine Americans to participate in a Vatican conference on Climate Change and Development. She has also participated in projects of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace and the Environmental Justice Project of the U.S. Catholic Conference.
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