

An aerial photograph of a large crowd of people, many wearing white shirts, gathered in a green field. The image is slightly blurred, giving it a sense of movement and scale.

# DOPE 6

***Sixth Annual  
Dimensions of  
Political Ecology  
Conference***

*February 25-27, 2016  
Lexington, KY  
[politicalecology.org](http://politicalecology.org)  
[#dope2016](https://twitter.com/dope2016)*

# WELCOME TO DOPE

The Dimensions of Political Ecology Conference is organized by an interdisciplinary group of graduate student volunteers at the University of Kentucky through the Political Ecology Working Group (UKPEWG). The conference organizing committee works throughout the year to make this conference possible.

## Organizing Collective

### Co-Chairs

Chhaya Kolavalli    Lauren Renée Moore  
*Anthropology    Anthropology*

### Core Organizers

M. Ruth Dike    Thomas Grubbs  
*Anthropology    Geography*

Eric M. Huntley    Karen Stevens  
*Geography    Anthropology*

### Organizers

Hugh Deaner    Clay Graham  
*Geography    Philosophy*

Virginia Salisbury Smith    Dayton Starnes  
*Anthropology    Anthropology*

A. Lee Sutton    Lila Wakeman  
*Anthropology    Philosophy*

Kaitlin Zapel  
*Anthropology*

## Sponsors

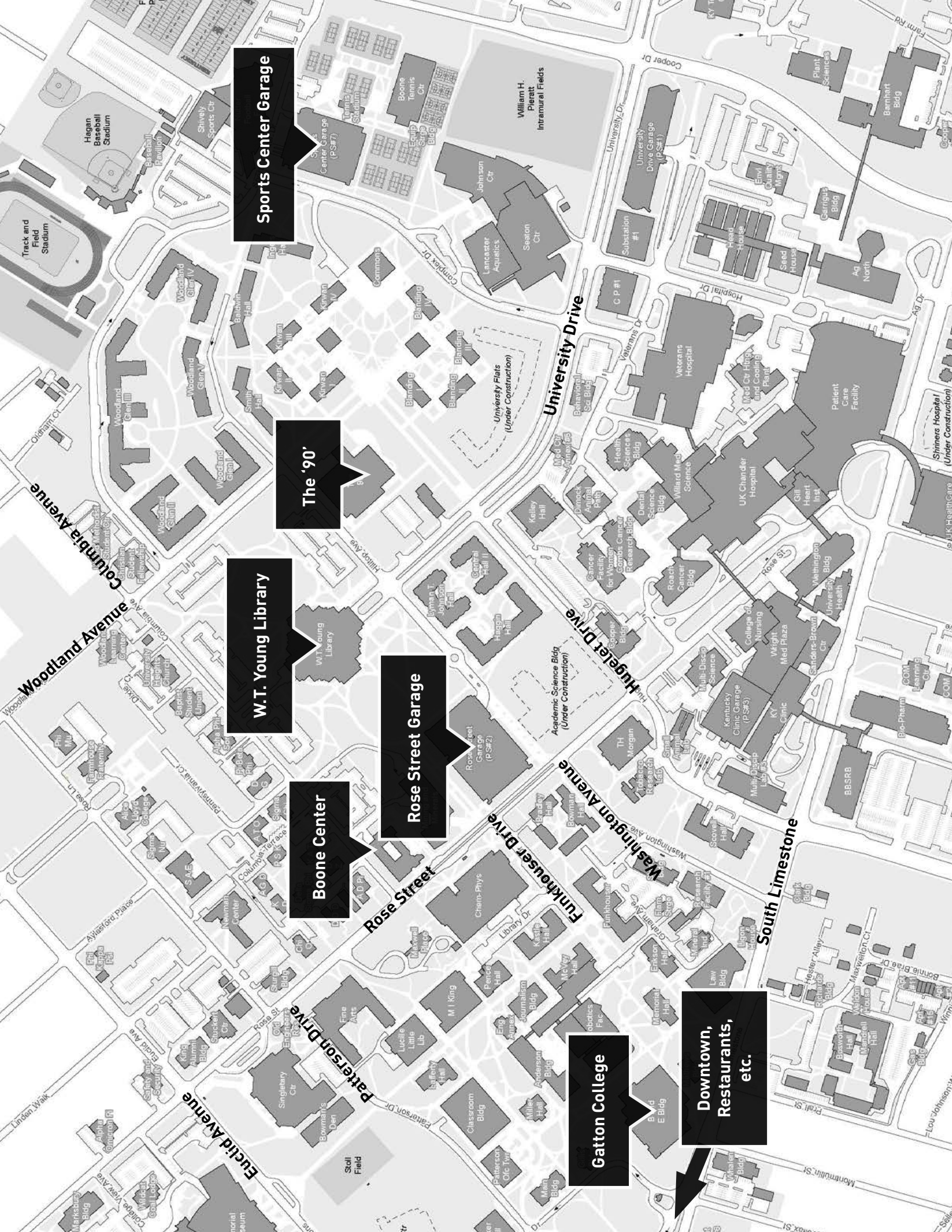
The Food Connection @ UK    Student Sustainability Council

Office of the Vice President for Research    The Student Government Association

The Appalachian Center    Department of Geography

Department of Anthropology    Department of Philosophy





**Sports Center Garage**

**The '90'**

**W.T. Young Library**

**Boone Center**

**Rose Street Garage**

**Gatton College**

**Downtown,  
Restaurants,  
etc.**

# LOCATIONS & RESOURCES

## Registration and Information Desk

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Floor of the '90'**

*Check in, grab your nametag, and say hello. A friendly volunteer will be available all day on Friday and Saturday to answer questions and welcome you to DOPE 2016.*

## Parking

### **Sports Center Garage**

*Discounted parking passes for this garage can be purchased for \$10 at the registration desk, and can be used when leaving the structure.*

### **Rose Street Garage**

*Free parking, for Saturday only*

## Lactation and Nursing Room

### **William T. Young Library**

*Conference participants can request a key for this private room at the library circulation desk, just inside the building entrance.*

## Internet Access

### **ukyedu**

*After connecting to the network open your web browser and you will be able to log-on as a guest.*

## Printing

### **Ricoh Document Service Center**

*Young Library Room 156A*

*Phone: (859) 257-9376*

*Mon-Fri 8:00am – 5:00pm*

### **Kinko's**

*E. Main St., Suite 130*

*Mon-Fri 7:00am – 11:00pm*

*Saturday 9:00am – 9:00pm*

## **Workspaces**

### **The 90**

*Ample seating on the ground floor*

### **Starbucks Coffee, W.T. Young Library**

*Fri-Sat: 7:00am-12:00am*

## **Public Transportation**

### **LexTran**

*Information on Lexington Public Transportation can be found at <http://lextran.com/>*

## **Taxi Services**

### **Bluegrass Cab**

*(859) 231-8888*

### **Yellow Cab**

*(859) 231-8294*

*Uber and Lyft are also available.*

# FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26<sup>TH</sup>

Room No.	211	215	217	219	231	202	203
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<b>Block 1</b> 9:00 – 10:40 p. 9	Exploring 'Dynamic Sustainabilities' in the Anthropocene	The Politics of Land Tenure and Governance	Ideologies of Technology	Political Ecologies of Development in Transitional Landscapes I	In Value's Shadows: Degradation as Accumulation Frontier	Hybrid Cultural Landscapes: Race and Power in Community Based Food Systems	Political Ecologies of University Space- Times <i>Located in B-108C, W.T. Young Library.</i>
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## Welcome

11:00 – 12:00  
p. 13

Rebecca Lave, *Geography, Indiana University*

*William T. Young Library Auditorium*

**Lunch**  
12:00 – 1:30

*On your own.*

**Block 2**  
1:30 – 3:10  
p. 13

Bringing STS to the  
Table I

Comedy of the  
Commons I

The Killing Fields:  
Political Ecologies  
of Police Violence

Political Ecologies  
of Development in  
Transitional  
Landscapes II

Conservation and  
Conflict in  
Ecosystem  
Management

**Scholar-Activist  
Panel**  
Consuming and  
Critiquing  
Gentrification

**Workshop**  
Subconferences:  
For Minor Spaces

**Block 3**  
3:30 – 5:10  
p. 18

Bringing STS to the  
Table II

**Practitioner-  
Activist Panel**  
Comedy of the  
Commons II

Governing the  
commons in  
agriculture

The Political  
Ecology of  
Urbanization: UPE  
Beyond the City? I

Situating the Herd:  
Historical  
Ontologies of  
Livestock and  
Cultural Meaning

Murky Marginality:  
Uncertainty,  
Liminality, and  
Long-Term Cycles  
in Conservation

**Panel**  
Environments at the  
Cusp of Wonder

**Plenary Panel**  
5:30 – 7:00  
p. 22

## 'The Rose That Grew From Concrete': Nature, Divergence, and the Politics of Urban Transformation

Sapana Doshi (*Geography and Development, University of Arizona*)

Nik Heynan (*Geography, University of Georgia*)

Nathan McClintock (*Urban Studies and Planning, Portland State University*)


Moderated by Carolyn Finney (*Geography, University of Kentucky*)

*Gatton College Auditorium*

**Reception**  
7:00 – 11:00  
p. 22

## Opening Reception

*Hilary J. Boone Center  
500 Rose Street*

 Part of the Political Ecologies of Food, Agriculture and Justice Track.



# SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27<sup>TH</sup>

Room No.	211	215	217	219	231	202	203
<b>Block 1</b> 8:30-10:10 p. 23	Political Ecologies of Technology I	Soil as Infrastructure I	Political Ecologies of Land and Market-Making I	The Political Ecology of Urbanization: UPE Beyond the City? II	How Cultures of Agriculture are Articulated and Contested	Pan-Latino: People, Urban Space and Global Community Engagements	<b>Workshop</b> Biopolitics and Environmental Justice I
<b>Block 2</b> 10:30-12:10 p. 28	Political Ecologies of Technology II	Soil as Infrastructure II	Political Ecologies of Land and Market-Making II	Diverse Agro-food Economies	Waste, Residuals, and Ruins: A Political Ecology of Excess I	Environmental statecraft I: Water, Climate, Population	<b>Workshop</b> Biopolitics and Environmental Justice II
<b>Lunch</b> 12:10 – 1:30	<i>On your own.</i>						
<b>Block 3</b> 1:30 – 3:10 p. 32	Race and Greenspace in the Urban Context	The Political Ecology of Outer Space	Land Use, Nature, and Governance I	Power and Control: Knowledge in a More-Than-Human Agro-Food System	Waste, Residuals, and Ruins: A Political Ecology of Excess II	Environmental statecraft II: Forests, Energy, Infrastructure	<b>Panel</b> Political Ecologies of Climate Justice
<b>Block 4</b> 3:30 – 5:10 p. 37	Considering Consumption	Facets of Waste	Land Use, Nature, and Governance II	The Racial Politics of Agriculture	Sovereignty, Justice, and Change in Food Systems	Modeling Pastoralism in Northern Tanzania	<b>Panel</b> Political Ecology in Hostile Spaces
<b>Keynote</b> 5:30-7:00 p. 42	<b>Public Political Ecology: A Philosophy of Praxis in the Age of the Anthropocene</b> Tracey Osborne <i>School of Geography and Development</i> <i>Director of the Public Political Ecology Lab</i> University of Arizona Gatton College Auditorium						
<b>Party</b> 8:00 – Late p. 42	<b>After Party</b> Soundbar 208 S Limestone						

 *Part of the Political Ecologies of Food, Agriculture and Justice Track.*

# THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25<sup>TH</sup>

## Field Trips

### **Spirit of Kentucky Bourbon Tour**

*12:00pm – 5:00pm*

### **Lexington Walking Tour**

*3:00pm – 4:15pm*

### **Local Agriculture Tour**

*10:00am – 2:30pm*

*Sponsored by the University of Kentucky Appalachian Center.*

*Sponsored by The Food Connection @ UK*

### **Mountaintop Removal Witness Tour**

*8:00am – 5:00pm*

*Sponsored by the University of Kentucky Appalachian Center*

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## **Informal Conference Welcome and FoodChain Tour**

*7:00pm – 10:00pm*

FoodChain is a nonprofit that operates Kentucky's first indoor commercial Aquaponics Farm. It will soon expand to include a Teaching and Processing Kitchen and a Neighborhood Grocery. They aim to give people the means to access and contribute to healthy, local, and diverse food systems. *Sponsored by The Food Connection @ UK*

### **West Sixth Brewing and FoodChain (Suite 105)**

501 West Sixth St.

Lexington KY 40508

#### **Guided Tour**

*7:15pm – 7:30pm*

#### **Open House**

*7:30pm – 8:30pm*



**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26<sup>TH</sup>**

## **Political Ecology 101**

### **What *Is* Political Ecology?**

The Political Ecology Working Group invites all University of Kentucky Undergraduates and Graduate Students to participate in Political Ecology 101, a series of two introductory seminars to be held on Friday February 26, 2015 in the 90's private dining room on the UK Campus. This event consists of two casual seminars, each introducing the field of political ecology from a different disciplinary perspective. Both are open to all University of Kentucky Undergraduate and Graduate Students; participants are not required to register for the DOPE conference.

#### **What *Is* Political Ecology? Perspectives from Development**

Betsy Beymer-Farris, PhD

10:00am – 11:00am

Private Dining Room, The '90'

#### **What *Is* Political Ecology? Perspectives from Food and Agriculture**

Ali Meyer-Rossi, PhD

12:00pm – 1:00pm

Private Dining Room, The '90'

# FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26<sup>TH</sup>

## Breakfast

7:30am – 11:00am

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## Block 1

9:00am – 10:40am

### 1. Exploring 'Dynamic Sustainabilities' in the Anthropocene

Room 211, The '90'

#### **Organizers**

*Mathew Bukhi Mabele (Geography, University of Zurich)*

*Jacob Weger (Anthropology, University of Georgia)*

#### **Chair**

*Eric Huntley (Geography, University of Kentucky)*

#### **Discussant**

*Amber Huff (Anthropology, Institute of Development Studies and the ESRC STEPS Centre, University of Sussex)*

The Contribution of the Concept of Landesque Capital to a Political Ecology of the Anthropocene

*Nils Thomas Håkansson (Anthropology, University of Kentucky)*

The Omelette Paradox: On Using Fear and Urgency As Strategies to Stop Environmental Challenges

*Ehsan Nabavi (Politics and International Relations, Australian National University)*

'This land has energy': Power and sustainability in Yukon First Nations' environmental governance

*Julia Duchesne (Renewable energy and Environment, Yukon Conservation Society)*

Anthropocene and Wicked Systems

*Claes Andersson (Energy and Environment, Chalmers University of Technology)*

*Petter Törnberg (Energy and Environment, Chalmers University of Technology)*

### 2. The Politics of Land Tenure and Governance

Room 215, The '90'

#### **Organizers**

*University of Kentucky Political Ecology Working Group*

**Chair**

*Karen Stevens (Anthropology, University of Kentucky)*

Landscapes of Debt: Microfinance, Morality, and Land Tenure in Cambodia

*Jennifer Estes (Anthropology, University of Wisconsin-Madison)*

*W. Nathan Green (Geography, University of Wisconsin-Madison)*

Who wants to buy a piece of paradise?: The Integrated Resorts Scheme and Accumulation by Regulation in Mauritius

*Poonam Jusrut (Geography, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)*

**3. Ideologies of Technology**

*Room 217, The '90'*

**Organizer**

*Lila Wakeman (Philosophy, University of Kentucky)*

*Bob Sandmeyer (Philosophy, University of Kentucky)*

*Clay Graham (Philosophy, University of Kentucky)*

Marcuse's Hegelian Rejection of the Ideology of "Fact"

*Lila Wakeman (Philosophy, University of Kentucky)*

Wendell Berry's Critique of the Ideology of Technology in Modern Agriculture

*Bob Sandmeyer (Philosophy, University of Kentucky)*

Technology and the Mesh

*Clay Graham (Philosophy, University of Kentucky)*

**4. Political Ecologies of Development in Transitional Landscapes: Reconsidering Central Actors and Processes I**

*Room 219, The '90'*

**Organizer**

*Patrick Hurley (Environmental Studies, Ursinus College)*

**Chair**

*Patrick Hurley (Environmental Studies, Ursinus College)*

*Michael Classens (Geography, University of Western Ontario)*

Imagining Commodification of Future Knowledge Systems: "Free-markets" and "Bioeconomies"

*Tess Doezema (Social Dimensions of Science and Technology, Arizona State University)*

Saying "no" to the Oxygen Capital? Resistance to amenity development in the Ida Mountains of western Turkey  
*Patrick Hurley (Environmental Studies, Ursinus College)*  
*Yılmaz Arı (Balıkesir University)*

## 5. In Value's Shadows: Degradation as Accumulation Frontier

*Room 231, The '90'*

### **Organizers**

*Sarah Knuth (Urban Planning, University of Michigan)*  
*Jenny Goldstein (Science & Technology Studies, Cornell University)*

### **Chair**

*Sarah Knuth (Urban Planning, University of Michigan)*

### **Discussant**

*Sarah Knuth (Urban Planning, University of Michigan)*

Re-valuation through devolution: burned peatland and scalar politics in Indonesia  
*Jenny Goldstein (Science & Technology Studies, Cornell University)*

In search of a silver bullet: Renewable energy generation and infrastructure financing districts at the Salton Sea  
*Alida Cantor (Geography, Clark University)*

Trash as Cash: Informal waste collection in the Global South, a case from South Africa  
*Anesu Makina (Geography, Florida State University)*

Opportunity/Crisis: Climate Change, Development, and the Politics of Uncertainty in Bangladesh  
*Kasia Paprocki (Development Sociology, Cornell University)*

## 6. Hybrid Cultural Landscapes: Race and Power in Community-Based Food Systems *Part of the Political Ecologies of Food, Agriculture and Justice Track*

*Room 202, The '90'*



### **Organizers**

*Lilian Brislen (University of Kentucky)*

New Imaginations for Food Justice Movements: A Case Study of a Community Organized Cooperative Buying Club  
*Heather Hyden (Community and Leadership Development, University of Kentucky)*

Hybrid Landscapes of Power and Knowledge in a Refugee Urban Farming Program  
*Melissa Jean (Ecosystem Science and Management, Independent Researcher)*

Exploring the Cultural Landscape of Social Justice and Food Security at the World Expo

*Sara Alana Stein (Food Security, University of Tennessee-Knoxville)*

Seeing Like a Peasant: The Social Production of Meaningful Places and Economic Relationships Among Immigrants and Native-Citizen Agricultural Producers in Louisville, KY

*Tyler Short (Cultural Anthropology, University of Louisville)*

## **7. Political Ecologies of University Space-Times**

*Room B-108C, W.T. Young Library Basement*

### **Organizers**

*Jack Braunstein (Geography, University of Vermont)*

*Caroline DeCunzo (Geography, University of Vermont)*

*Sammie Ibrahim (Geography, University of Vermont)*

*Eli Meyerhoff (Education, Duke University)*

*Elsa Noterman (Geography, University of Wisconsin-Madison)*

### **Chair**

*Ingrid L. Nelson (Geography, University of Vermont)*

Revolutionary Scholarship by Any Speed Necessary: Slow or Fast but for the End of This World

*Eli Meyerhoff (Education, Duke University)*

*Elsa Noterman (Geography, University of Wisconsin – Madison)*

Building certain futures: the politics of transforming a university campus landscape in Vermont

*Jack Braunstein (Geography, University of Vermont)*

#UVMTrees: The politics of making a 'Tree Campus' in Vermont

*Caroline DeCunzo (Geography, University of Vermont)*

Becoming Data: Narrating Sustainable Campus Landscapes in an Era of Many 'Green' Rating Practices

*Ingrid L. Nelson (Geography, University of Vermont)*

The internationalization of campus greening: A case study of Kazakhstan's Nazarbayev University and Qatar's Education City

*Sammie Ibrahim (Geography, University of Vermont)*



## WELCOME ADDRESS

11:00am – 12:00pm

### **Changing the Field: Constructing Authority Outside and Inside the Academy**

*Rebecca Lave (Geography, Indiana University)*

*William T. Young Library Auditorium*

The current upheaval in science policy, funding, and authority is having profound consequences outside and inside the academy. In this talk, I analyze the causes of this upheaval, its impacts on knowledge production, and the political consequences of those impacts. I argue that as scholars and activists we have a central role to play in shaping the outcome of these shifts, and giving an emancipatory tilt to the evolving science regime outside and inside the university.

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## Lunch on your Own

12:00pm – 1:30pm

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## Block 2

1:30pm – 3:10pm

### **1. Bringing STS to the Table I**

#### ***Part of the Political Ecologies of Food, Agriculture and Justice Track***

*Room 211, The '90'*



#### **Organizers**

*Gretchen Sneegas (Geography, University of Georgia)*

*June Brawner (Anthropology, University of Georgia)*

*Hannah Burnett (Anthropology, University of Chicago)*

#### **Chair**

*June Brawner (Anthropology, University of Georgia)*

**Producing/consuming food and knowledge: Fertile ground at the intersection of STS and food studies**

*Gretchen Sneegas (Geography, University of Georgia)*

**'Modernizing' Agriculture in Fiji: Knowledge, power & visibility in climate-smart agriculture**

*Delilah Griswold (Forestry & Environmental Studies, Yale University)*

**When More is Not Enough: Science Making and Science Taking in Agrarian India**

*Natasha Susan Koshy (Social Science, Syracuse University)*

**From vacuum-sealed veggies to worms in apples: How Farm to School is disrupting existing knowledge structures that govern schools**

*Jennifer Thompson (Crop and Soil Sciences/Anthropology, University of Georgia)*

## **2. Comedy of the Commons I**

*Room 215, The '90'*

### **Organizers**

*Tad Mutersbaugh (Geography, University of Kentucky)*

*Karen Rignall (University of Kentucky)*

### **Jaguar Lunch**

*Tad Mutersbaugh (Geography, University of Kentucky)*

**Spectres of localism in struggles to reclaim Commons and the State: public revenues, reclamation, and regenerative economies in Appalachia**

*Betsy Taylor (Anthropology, Virginia Tech)*

*Garrett Grady-Lovelace (Geography, American University)*

**Reincarnating Commons: Laughter as Spatial Practice in the Kingdom of Coal**

*Mary Hufford (Folklore, Virginia Tech)*

## **3. The Killing Fields: Political Ecologies of Police Violence**

*Room 217, The '90'*

### **Organizers**

*Tyler Wall (Justice Studies, Eastern Kentucky University)*

### **Chair**

*Tyler Wall (Justice Studies, Eastern Kentucky University)*

**Police Violence as Environmental Racism**

*David Correia (American Studies, University of New Mexico)*

**Bio-Spatial Profiling In New York City: Policing Mobilities Through Fear**

*Emily Kaufman (Geography, University of Kentucky)*

**Sensing the Police: Toward an Affective Strategy for Naming Police Violence**

*Dugan Meyer (Geography, University of Kentucky)*

**Eating the Poor: Police Dogs and the Weaponization of Nature**

*Tyler Wall (Justice Studies, Eastern Kentucky University)*

## **4. Political Ecologies of Development in Transitional Landscapes: Reconsidering Central Actors and Processes II**

*Room 219, The '90'*

### **Organizers**

*Patrick Hurley (Environmental Studies, Ursinus College)*

**Chair**

*Jeffrey Wall (Natural Resources, Cornell University)*

Complexity, modernity, and resistance in an Afro-Brazilian landscape  
*Case Watkins (Geography & Anthropology, Louisiana State University)*

Gender, Race and Property in Rural Ayacucho  
*Ella Wilhoit (Anthropology, Northwestern University)*

**5. Conservation and Conflict in Ecosystem Management**

*Room 231, The '90'*

**Organizers**

*University of Kentucky Political Ecology Working Group*

**Chair**

*Dayton Starnes (Anthropology, University of Kentucky)*

"Ecological Fix": Solving Environmental Crisis and Financial Crisis  
Simultaneously?

*Yuxi Zhao (Geography, The Ohio State University)*

Poachers-As-Terrorists in East African Landscapes: Who Buys into the Dominant  
Narrative?

*Alexandra Clayton (Conservation Ecology, University of Michigan)*

Past and Present of Human-Animal Conflicts in the Sundarban Biosphere  
Reserve, West Bengal, India

*Priyanka Ghosh (Geography, University of Kentucky)*

Of Whales and Dugongs: examining Madagascar's colonial marine conservation  
as development practice

*Mez Baker-Médard (Environmental Studies, Middlebury College)*

The hydrosocial Everglades: From wetland drainage to restoration

*Landon Yoder (Geography, Indiana University)*

**6. Scholar-Activist Panel: Consuming & Critiquing Gentrification**

*Room 202, The '90'*

**Organizers**

*University of Kentucky Political Ecology Working Group*

**Chair**

*Kaitlin Zapel (Anthropology, University of Kentucky)*

**Panelists**

*Matthew W. Wilson (Geography, University of Kentucky)*

*Tanya Torp (Step by Step and Be Bold, Lexington, KY)*

*Laura Greenfield (Lexington Housing Studies and Geography, University of Kentucky)*

**Facilitator**

*Kristin Monroe (Anthropology, University of Kentucky)*

**7. Workshop: For Minor Spaces of Political Ecology, Geography, and Beyond**

*Room 203, The '90'*

**Organizers**

*Elsa Noterman (Geography, University of Wisconsin)*

*Eli Meyerhoff (Political Science, Duke University)*

**Chair**

*Elsa Noterman (Geography, University of Wisconsin)*

*Eli Meyerhoff (Political Science, Duke University)*

For the past six years, radical subconferences have emerged in the cracks of the annual Association of American Geographers (AAG) conference. Dissident geographers and others have sought to create minor spaces for subversive experimentation within/against/beyond the major conference. They have hosted workshops featuring local activists, discussion of scholar-activist praxis, organizing around precarious labor in the university, building mutual aid networks, working for change within the AAG such as for supporting childcare, and more. Partly in response to these interventions, the AAG itself has taken on more radical aspects over the years. This raises questions about what role(s) the subconference - and minor experimentation more generally - should play going forward. DOPE, as a grad student organized space with radical aims, has similarly opened up new lines of thinking/practicing in political ecology, geography, and beyond.

How should we think of the tensions that minor projects face in relation to shifting disciplinary agendas? How can projects like the subconference, DOPE, and critical geography conferences better highlight and push the limits of the geography discipline and of academia as a whole? How can such minor projects create spaces for building relationships of subversion and resistance while avoiding marginalization and co-optation? How can the lenses of political-ecological theories help us grapple with these questions, such as by using minor spaces to think through the environmental (carbon footprint), social (professionalization, alienation) and political (exclusions and marginalizations) impacts of conferences themselves? Considering the proliferation of subconferences at other disciplinary conferences (such as the Modern Language Association, or MLA, and the Western Political Science Association), how can we build relationships across disciplines and for a minor academic movement?

This workshop will create a space for facilitating discussions around these questions and for building relationships.

**Workshop Participants**

*Jess Linz (Geography, University of Kentucky)*

*Eli Meyerhoff (Political Science, Duke University)*

*Carrie Mott (Geography, University of Kentucky)*

*Elsa Noterman (Geography, University of Wisconsin)*

*Carrie Welsh (Geography, University of Wisconsin)*

*Christine Woodward (Geography, University of Kentucky)*



## Block 3

3:30pm – 5:10pm

### 1. Bringing STS to the Table II

**Part of the Political Ecologies of Food, Agriculture and Justice Track**

Room 211, The '90'



#### **Organizers**

*Gretchen Sneegas (Geography, University of Georgia)*

*June Brawner (Anthropology, University of Georgia)*

*Hannah Burnett (Anthropology, University of Chicago)*

#### **Chair**

*Gretchen Sneegas (Geography, University of Georgia)*

Reverse-engineering the 'taste of place': Terroir at the interface of science, tradition, and power

*June Brawner (Anthropology, University of Georgia)*

Indexing Locality, Tasting Toxicity: Triploid oysters in Louisiana

*Hannah Burnett (Anthropology, University of Chicago)*

From the cut n' wrap to the fabrication floor: Heritage butcher discourse in a shifting meat industry

*Ashley Stinnett (Anthropology, University of Western Kentucky)*

Managing Perishability and Contamination: Conflicts and Convergences in Bangalore's Shifting Food System

*Camille Frazier (Anthropology, University of California, Los Angeles)*

### 2. Comedy of the Commons II: Practitioner-Activist Panel

Room 215, The '90'

#### **Organizers**

*Tad Mutersbaugh (Geography, University of Kentucky)*

*Karen Rignall (University of Kentucky)*

#### **Panel will be comprised of representatives from...**

*La Minga Cooperative*

*Burley Tobacco Cooperative*

*New Roots*

*Alliance for Appalachia*

### **3. Governing the Commons in Agriculture**

#### ***Part of the Political Ecologies of Food, Agriculture and Justice Track***

*Room 217, The '90'*

#### **Organizers**

*Federica Bono (Geography, KU Leuven)*

*Maarten Loopmans (Geography, KU Leuven)*

#### **Chair**

*Maarten Loopmans (Geography, KU Leuven)*

**Radical Reallocation in the Sri Lankan Dry Zone**

*Emily Burchfield (Environmental Engineering, Vanderbilt University)*

**Urban Agriculture and Land Tenure in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso**

*Federica Bono (Geography, KU Leuven)*

*Maarten Loopmans (Geography, KU Leuven)*

**Variegated solidarities in Cuban agricultural cooperative systems**

*Federica Bono (Geography, KU Leuven)*

**Rural (De)Construction: Where is the Community?**

*Elena Kaye-Schiss (Rural Land Use, Zhejiang University)*

### **4. The Political Ecology of Urbanization: UPE Beyond the City? I**

*Room 219, The '90'*

#### **Organizers**

*Graham Pickren (Sustainability Studies, Roosevelt University)*

*Jay Bowen (Geography, University of Kentucky)*

#### **Chair**

*Graham Pickren (Sustainability Studies, Roosevelt University)*

#### **Discussant**

*Nik Heynen (Geography, University of Georgia)*

**Bounding and Grounding Territory: Combining materialist and constructivist ontologies for a political ecology of urbanization**

*Ingrid Behrsin (Geography, UC Davis)*

**Situated urban political ecology and the injustice of watershed-based stormwater management**

*Mike Finewood (Environmental Studies and Science, Pace University)*

**Urbanization, Sustainable Cities and the Electrical Grid**

*Jason Morris (Global Affairs, George Mason University)*

Island city: Water, renovation, and disconnection in Colon, Panama  
*Ashley Carse (Human and Organizational Development, Vanderbilt)*

## **5. Situating the Herd: Historical Ontologies of Livestock and Cultural Meaning**

*Room 231, The '90'*

### **Organizers**

*Aimee Leon (Community Sustainability, Michigan State University)*

### **Chair**

*Aimee Leon (Community Sustainability, Michigan State University)*

Buzkashi and Sheep Shearing: Projecting place and politics through animal bodies in sport.

*Aimee Leon (Community Sustainability, Michigan State University)*

Controlling Wildness: Horses, Biopolitics, and Embodiment

*Kelly O'Brien (Sociology, Michigan State University)*

Access, Vulnerability, and Landscape-level Vegetation Change in Laikipia, Kenya

*Ryan Unks (Interdisciplinary Ecology, University of Georgia)*

Separating the cow from the herd: The 1993 rbST approval in neoliberal America

*Nicole Welk-Joerger (History and Sociology of Science, University of Pennsylvania)*

## **6. Murky Marginality: Uncertainty, Liminality, and Long-term Cycles in Conservation**

*Room 202, The '90'*

### **Organizer**

*Jessica Pouchet (Anthropology, Northwestern University)*

### **Chair**

*Jessica Pouchet (Anthropology, Northwestern University)*

### **Discussant**

*Jim Igoe (Anthropology, University of Virginia)*

Chronic Liminality or Neoliberal Trajectories? Land, Forests and Marine Resources at Dwesa-Cwebe, South Africa, 1970-2015

*Derick A. Fay (Anthropology, University of California, Riverside)*

Chronic Liminality: framing longitudinal political-ecological uncertainty

*Lisa Cliggett (Anthropology, University of Kentucky)*

Ambiguity, Uncertainty, and Power in Participatory Forest Management: A Case from Tanzania

*Jessica Pouchet (Anthropology, Northwestern University)*

Contested Spaces for Orang Utans, Oil Palm and Indigenous Communities: Can conflicting landscape values in Malaysian Borneo  
*June Rubis (Geography & Environment, University of Oxford)*

**7. Panel: Environments at the Cusp of Wonder: New Environments in a New World**

*Room 203, The '90'*

**Organizers**

*Janae Davis (Geography, Clark University)*

*Dylan Harris (Geography, Clark University)*

**Chair**

*Janae Davis (Geography, Clark University)*

**Discussant**

*Dylan Harris (Geography, Clark University)*

Resilience, Political Ecology, and the Possibility for Life Otherwise

*Joshua Mullenite (Global and Sociocultural Studies, Florida International University)*

The Vision Fast Ceremony: an experiment in enchantment

*Charles Carlin (Geography, University of Wisconsin-Madison)*

La economía armónica: accounting for Mother Nature, non-humans, and the more-than-human in economies

*Nicholas Padilla (Geography, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee)*

## PLENARY PANEL

### Light Snacks

5:00pm – 5:30pm

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### **‘The Rose That Grew From Concrete’: Nature, Divergence, and the Politics of Urban Transformation**

5:30pm – 7:00pm

*Gatton College Auditorium*

#### **Panelists**

*Sapana Doshi (Geography and Development, University of Arizona)*

*Nik Heynen (Geography, University of Georgia)*

*Nathan McClintock (Urban Studies and Planning, Portland State University)*

#### **Moderator**

*Carolyn Finney (Geography, University of Kentucky)*

Tupac’s poem, “The Rose That Grew From Concrete,” points to the unexpected, how those at a “disadvantage” within a larger set up systems thrive and survive, in spite of and despite of, well, everything. It points to resilience, creativity, struggle, tensions between people, and tensions between people and the place they live in (land, soil, nature). Divergence points to the difference between people (be it ethnic, racial, economic, etc.), their relationship to the “norm”, and what those social and cultural differences imply and demand, in terms of practice and praxis by those living in the city. Expressions of practice and praxis – urban ag, community gardens, food security, spiritual solace, recreation, social gatherings, community building – also reveal how people make it work, often with limited space, mobility, and options. At another scale, there is policy and perception – how the experiences of those living in the urban/city get framed, articulated, prescribed and (mis) understood. And there’s a bigger question: Whose city? And where are the boundaries drawn? In the same way that we ask, “what is nature?” what is “urban” in the 21st century? How is that changing? How do we better understand a changing urban and changing nature? Are we flexible in our thinking, prescriptions and engagements? Whose lives matter?

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### Opening Reception

7:00pm-11:00pm

#### **University of Kentucky Boone Center**

*500 Rose Street*

*Lexington, KY 40508*

*Appetizers will be provided along with live bluegrass music and a cash bar.*



# SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27<sup>TH</sup>

## Breakfast

7:30am – 11:00am

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## Block 1

8:30am – 10:10am

### 1. Political Ecologies of Technology I

*Room 211, The '90'*

#### **Organizers**

*Anthony Levenda (Urban Studies, Portland State University)*

*Dillon Mahmoudi (Urban Studies, Portland State University)*

*Eric Nost (Geography, University of Wisconsin - Madison)*

*Heather Rosenfeld (Geography, University of Wisconsin - Madison)*

*Ashton Wesner (Env. Science, Policy and Management, University of California, Berkeley)*

#### **Chair**

*Dillon Mahmoudi (Urban Studies, Portland State University)*

#### **Discussant**

*Dillon Mahmoudi (Urban Studies, Portland State University)*

Compute With Nature: Ian McHarg and the Computerization of Ecological Planning

*Eric M. Huntley (Geography, University of Kentucky)*

The limits and value of big data: towards a political ecology approach

*Eric Nost (Geography, University of Wisconsin - Madison)*

Enframing Bodies: Historicizing Political Ecological Critiques of Technology

*Kendra Sanders (Philosophy, University of Kentucky)*

Predictive technologies for climate resilient urban infrastructure

*Sophie Webber (Geography, University of California, Los Angeles)*

### 2. Soil as Infrastructure I

*Room 215, The '90'*

#### **Organizers**

*Elise Lewison (Geography, University of Toronto)*

*Joshua Mullenite (Global and Sociocultural Studies, Florida International University)*

**Chair**

*Joshua Mullenite (Global and Sociocultural Studies, Florida International University)*

Cultivating Insecurity: Forest conservation, agrarian change, and in situ displacement in upland northern Thailand

*Daniel B. Ahlquist (Development Sociology, Duke University)*

The Soil health as integrative concept: Farmer adaptation to climate change and on-farm resiliency

*Gabrielle Roesch-McNally (Sustainable Agriculture and Sociology, Iowa State University)*

Cultural identity, environmental ethics, and farmer decision-making about soil conservation

*Marnie Riddle (Environmental Studies, University of California - Santa Cruz)*

Forests and Soils as the Truffle Infrastructure

*Eric Van Vleet (Global and Sociocultural Studies, Florida International University)*

Dirt flows between city and countryside: Institutions, actors and nature

*Gerda R. Wekerle (Environmental Studies, York University)*

*Dena Farsad*

*Michael Classens*

**3. Political Ecologies of Land and Market-Making I**

*Room 217, The '90'*

**Organizers**

*Ewan Robinson (Development Sociology, Cornell University)*

*Hilary Faxon (Development Sociology, Cornell University)*

*Daniel Bornstein (Sociology, University of Wisconsin)*

**Chair**

*Ewan Robinson (Development Sociology, Cornell University)*

**Discussant**

*Garrett Graddy-Lovelace (School of International Service, American University)*

Planning algorithms as epistemological violence: Redlining in the twenty-first century American city

*Sara Safransky (Human and Organizational Development, Vanderbilt University)*

Certifying Unused Land: Biofuel Sustainability or Land Grabbing?

*Daniel Bornstein (Sociology, University of Wisconsin)*

Landscapes of Debt: Microfinance, Morality, and Land Tenure in Cambodia

*Nathan Green (Geography, University of Wisconsin)*

Reading between the lines: The everyday politics of contract farming in Ghana and Senegal  
*Ewan Robinson (Development Sociology, Cornell University)*

#### **4. The Political Ecology of Urbanization: UPE Beyond the City? II**

*Room 219, The '90'*

##### **Organizers**

*Graham Pickren (Sustainability Studies, Roosevelt University)*

*Jay Bowen (Geography, University of Kentucky)*

##### **Chair**

*Graham Pickren (Sustainability Studies, Roosevelt University)*

##### **Discussant**

*Nik Heynen (Geography, University of Georgia)*

Urban outcasts: environmental cleanup and forced migration in north China  
*Sam Kay (Geography, Ohio State University)*

Spatially selective liberalization, greenbelt deregulation, and the neoliberalization of nature in the Seoul Capital Area  
*Jay Bowen (Geography, University of Kentucky)*

Ethnographies of Infrastructure: Adaptive Reuse, Railroads, and Fiber-Optics  
*Graham Pickren (Sustainability Studies, Roosevelt University)*

The Third-Wave Urbanization of Nature  
*Anthony Levenda (Urban Studies, Portland State University)*

#### **5. Lightning Talks: How Cultures of Agriculture are Articulated and Contested Across Landscapes**



**Part of the Political Ecologies of Food, Agriculture and Justice Track**

*Room 231, The '90'*

##### **Organizers**

*Emily Reisman (Environmental Studies, University of California Santa Cruz)*

*Monika Egerer (Environmental Studies, University of California Santa Cruz)*

*Rachel Voss (Environmental Studies, University of California Santa Cruz)*

*Rachel Shellabarger (Environmental Studies, University of California Santa Cruz)*

Many alternative food movements invoke the intriguing and somewhat troubling rhetoric of “bringing the culture back to agriculture.” This session seeks to explore the political dimensions of narratives surrounding the cultures, cultural qualities, and even the perceived presence or absence of culture across agriculture’s many forms. Culture claims are embedded in the politics of agricultural landscapes as viewed from both rural

and urban perspectives. Narratives of a homogeneous, discrete, and static rural culture persist in shaping agricultural movements and development policies despite the global growth of unique peri-urban landscapes and expansion of in- and out-migration (Allen 2003; Woods 2006). In rural landscapes, “back to the farm” movements have capitalized on the traditional, homegrown culture of ‘localism’ as a resistance and alternative to conventional agricultural systems and a preservation of rural culture in America (Kloppenburg et al. 2000; Allen et al. 2003). In urban landscapes, the revitalization of urban agriculture and community gardens has stressed the multi-cultural benefits that an urban garden can provide, with garden agro-biodiversity a form of cultural engagement and representation of its constituents (Corlett et al. 2003; Baker 2004). Thus various forms of culture are enacted and practiced across an urban to rural gradient in these agri-cultural landscapes. In this session, we ask: How are the cultures of agriculture being represented, resisted, or renewed by producers and consumers? What are the roles of cultural assertions in agriculture at times of rapid socio-ecological change? What kind of discursive work is done by these culture claims? Where are cultural representations of agriculture creating frictions and to what effect? What is the interplay between cultural and ecological narratives in agriculture? This session emphasizes culture as an essential focus for interdisciplinary dialogue in political ecology. Our goal is to spark discussion and interaction on the theoretical and/or empirical aspects of cultural representation in agriculture across diverse geographies.

### **Participants**

*Rachel Shellabarger (Environmental Studies, University of California, Santa Cruz)*

*Ashley Colby (Washington State University)*

*Monika Egerer (Environmental Studies, University of California, Santa Cruz)*

*Nils McCune (El Colegio de la Frontera Sur)*

*Emily Reisman (Environmental Studies, University of California, Santa Cruz)*

*Marnie Riddle (Environmental Studies, University of California, Santa Cruz)*

*Rachel Voss (Environmental Studies, University of California, Santa Cruz)*

## **6. Pan-Latino: People, Urban Space, and Glocal Community Engagements**

*Room 202, The '90'*

### **Organizers**

*Lilian Milanés (Anthropology, University of Kentucky)*

*Dr. Steven Alvarez (Writing, Rhetoric and Digital Studies, University of Kentucky)*

*Sheryl Felicia Means (Education Sciences, University of Kentucky)*

*Marisol Becerra (Environmental Social Sciences, Ohio State University)*

### **Chair**

*Lilian Milanés (Anthropology, University of Kentucky)*

**The Shared Commitment of Linguaging: Literacy Ecologies and Community Resiliency**

*Dr. Steven Alvarez (Writing, Rhetoric and Digital Studies, University of Kentucky)*

Environmental Justice for Whom: Brownfield Redevelopment and Gentrification in the United States from 1990-2013

*Marisol Becerra (Environmental Social Sciences, Ohio State University)*

Operationalizing Blackness

*Sheryl Felicia Means (Education Sciences, University of Kentucky)*

Community Based Programming and Narratives of Resistance: Strategies for Managing Type Two Diabetes in a Latino Community

*Lilian Milanes (Anthropology, University of Kentucky)*

## **7. Workshop: Biopolitics and Environmental Justice I**

*Room 203, The '90'*

### **Organizers**

*Alida Cantor (Geography, Clark University)*

*Catherine Jampel (Geography, Clark University)*

### **Chair**

*Alida Cantor (Geography, Clark University)*

In this workshop, scholars at multiple stages will share work in progress that brings conversations about biopolitics and environmental justice together and under the umbrella of political ecology. We seek to share feedback to bring our work to the next level and to create a forum for discussion, collaboration, and building relationships. Each presenter's work will be briefly presented by another member, and then we will discuss the work and provide feedback and ideas. Finally, we'll have a group discussion, and/or open-room networking (go grab that one person you wanted to talk more with and meet your future co-author!). Please email the organizers if you would like to receive any advance materials for participation, since we will have some articles we have circulated to ensure a common background and framework.

### **Panelists**

*Brian Williams (Geography, University of Georgia)*

*Sarah Knuth (Geography, University of Michigan)*

*Melina Packer (ESPM, University of California, Berkeley)*

*Catherine Jampel (Geography, Clark University)*

*Anna Davidson (Geography, University of Oxford)*



## Block 2

10:30am – 12:10pm

### 1. Political Ecologies of Technology II

Room 211, The '90'

#### **Organizers**

Anthony Levenda (Urban Studies, Portland State University)

Dillon Mahmoudi (Urban Studies, Portland State University)

Eric Nost (Geography, University of Wisconsin - Madison)

Heather Rosenfeld (Geography, University of Wisconsin - Madison)

Ashton Wesner (Env. Science, Policy and Management, University of California, Berkeley)

#### **Chair**

Anthony Levenda (Urban Studies, Portland State University)

#### **Discussant**

Jenny Goldstein (Geography/STS, Cornell University)

Alex Peimer (Geography, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)

Count your blessings: ecosystem services and the tyranny of quantification

Katinka Wijsman (Politics, The New School)

"Agnostic" infrastructure? The political ecology of urban district energy systems

Laura Tozer (Geography, University of Toronto)

Assisted Migration: Stabilizing Genetic-Ecological Spaces within Changing Environments

Jairus Rossi (Geography/Agricultural Economics, University of Kentucky)

### 2. Soil as Infrastructure II

Room 215, The '90'

#### **Organizers**

Elise Lewison (Geography, University of Toronto)

Joshua Mullenite (Global and Sociocultural Studies, Florida International University)

#### **Chair**

Joshua Mullenite (Global and Sociocultural Studies, Florida International University)

#### **Discussant**

Ashley Carse (Human and Organizational Development, Vanderbilt University)

The Farm and the Soil: Digging the Infrastructure of Everyday Life in Medieval Iceland

Kat Catlin (Anthropology, Northwestern University)

Detroit Dirt City: Resource Environments of Demolition  
*Michael Koscielniak (Urban and Regional Planning, University of Michigan)*

Infrastructures of Fear: The Weaponized Landscapes of Improvised Explosive Devices  
*Erin Parish (Cultural Anthropology, Duke University)*

Sibling Soil  
*Pat Farrell (Geography, University of Minnesota, Duluth)*

### **3. Political Ecologies of Land and Market-Making II**

*Room 217, The '90'*

#### **Organizers**

*Ewan Robinson (Development Sociology, Cornell University)*  
*Hilary Faxon (Development Sociology, Cornell University)*  
*Daniel Bornstein (Sociology, University of Wisconsin)*

#### **Chair**

*Hilary Faxon (Development Sociology, Cornell University)*

#### **Discussant**

*Garrett Graddy-Lovelace (School of International Service, American University)*

The Failures of Form 7: Farmland Registration in Myanmar's Kachin State  
*Hilary Faxon (Development Sociology, Cornell University)*

Marketization of agricultural land use rights and agrarian transformation in contemporary China  
*Wenjing Jiang (Geography, Clark University)*

Expanding the Metropolis: Popular Land Occupations and the Expropriation of Protected Agricultural Land in Mexico City's Periphe  
*Sarah Farr (Sociology, University of Wisconsin)*

The End of Cheap Water and the Emancipatory Place-making State in California  
*Alejo Kraus-Polk (Geography, University of California, Davis)*

### **4. Diverse Agro-Food Economies: New Subjectivities in a Post-Capitalist Food System**

**Part of the Political Ecologies of Food, Agriculture and Justice Track**

*Room 219, The '90'*



#### **Organizer**

*Lilian Brislen (University of Kentucky)*

#### **Chair**

*Lilian Brislen (University of Kentucky)*

Assembling New Subjectivities of Resistance: The Diverse Economy of Food Hubs  
*Lilian Brislen (Sociology, University of Kentucky)*

Constructing and Contesting 'Good' Entrepreneurs and Farmers in Refugee  
Resettlement in the US  
*Laura Lawler (Geography, University of Wisconsin – Madison)*

Alternatives within a capitalist context: Shifting the food regime in Doña Ana  
County, New Mexico  
*Cathy Day (Geography, University of Wisconsin – Madison)*

## **5. Waste, Residuals, and Ruins: A Political Ecology of Excess I**

*Room 231, The '90'*

### **Organizer**

*Nicholas C. Kawa (Anthropology, The Ohio State University)*

*Shreyas Sreenath (Anthropology, Emory University)*

### **Chair**

*Shreyas Sreenath (Anthropology, Emory University)*

A Political Ecology of Waste and Recycling in Kunming, China  
*Adam Liebman (Anthropology, University of California, Davis)*

An anthropology of wasted things and wasted people  
*Angela Cunliffe (Anthropology, James Cook University)*

The Purdue Electronic Life Histories Project: A Preliminary Ethnographic  
Investigation of Indiana's E-Waste Landscape  
*Gideon Singer (Anthropology, Purdue University)*

Dusty Remains: Building Removal and Toxic Matter in Detroit  
*Nick Caverly (Anthropology, University of Michigan)*

Garden City, IT City, Garbage City: Urban Waste, Untouchability, and Materiality of  
Power in Bangalore, India  
*Shreyas Sreenath (Anthropology, Emory University)*

## **6. Environmental Statecraft: Situating the State in Environmental Governance II (Water, Climate, Population)**

*Room 202, The '90'*

### **Organizers**

*Colin Higgins (Public Affairs, University of Wisconsin – Madison)*

*Eric Nost (University of Wisconsin – Madison)*

**Chair**

*Eric Nost (Geography, UW–Madison)*

*Colin Higgins (Public Affairs, University of Wisconsin – Madison)*

“Put in boxes”: conservation and crisis in New England’s groundfishery

*Apollonya Porcelli (Sociology, Brown University)*

More Trouble with Wilderness: Exploring Alienation and Non-visitation Among  
Local African American Fishers at Congaree National

*Janae Davis (Geography, Clark University)*

Flows of power: water, crisis and transition in the republic of Georgia

*Ryan Wyeth (Geography, Indiana University)*

**6. Workshop: Biopolitics and Environmental Justice II**

*Room 203, The ‘90’*

**Organizers**

*Alida Cantor (Geography, Clark University)*

*Catherine Jampel (Geography, Clark University)*

**Chair**

*Catherine Jampel (Geography, Clark University)*

In this workshop, scholars at multiple stages will share work in progress that brings conversations about biopolitics and environmental justice together and under the umbrella of political ecology. We seek to share feedback to bring our work to the next level and to create a forum for discussion, collaboration, and building relationships. Each presenter's work will be briefly presented by another member, and then we will discuss the work and provide feedback and ideas. Finally, we'll have a group discussion, and/or open-room networking (go grab that one person you wanted to talk more with and meet your future co-author!). Please email the organizers if you would like to receive any advance materials for participation, since we will have some articles we have circulated to ensure a common background and framework.

**Panelists**

*John Pitas (Geography and Environmental Systems, University of Maryland Baltimore County)*

*Delia Hollowell (Social Anthropology, University College London)*

*Jennifer L. Lawrence (The Global Forum on Urban & Regional Resilience, Virginia Tech)*

*Angus Curran Lyall (Geography, University of North Carolina)*

*Dawn Biehler (Geography, University of Maryland, Baltimore County)*

*Katinka Wijsman (Politics, The New School)*

## Lunch on your Own

12:10pm – 1:30pm

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### Block 3

1:30pm – 3:10pm

#### 1. Race and Greenspace in the Urban Context

Room 211, The '90'

##### **Organizer**

*Chhaya Kolavalli (Anthropology, University of Kentucky)*

##### **Chair**

*Chhaya Kolavalli (Anthropology, University of Kentucky)*

Rendering Gentrification and Erasing Race in the West Oakland Specific Plan

*Chryl Corbin (Environmental Science, Policy and Management, University of California, Berkeley)*

Marginalized communities' reliance on urban agriculture threatened by a 'sustainable' Medellín

*Collenen Hammelman (Geography and Urban Studies, Temple University)*

"You don't have to explain 'good' food to them": Constructions of Racialized Agrarian Pasts and Futures in the Food Justice Movement

*Chhaya Kolavalli (Anthropology, University of Kentucky)*

Environmental injustice and political ecology of health: the case of south Dallas

*Sima Namin (Urban Planning and Public Policy, University of Texas at Arlington)*

#### 2. The Political Ecology of Outer Space

Room 215, The '90'

##### **Organizers**

*Micha Rahder (Anthropology, Louisiana State University)*

*Joseph Powell (Anthropology & Geography, Louisiana State University)*

##### **Chair**

*Joseph Powell (Geography & Anthropology, Louisiana State University)*

A Space for Democracy

*Michael Bouchey (Science and Technology Studies, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute)*

Political Ecology of Outer Space: Myths, Logic, Materialities  
*Joseph Powell (Geography & Anthropology, Louisiana State University)*

Home and Away: the Politics of Life after Earth  
*Micha Rahder (Anthropology, Louisiana State University)*

### **3. Land Use, Nature, and Governance I**

*Room 217, The '90'*

#### **Organizer**

*Richard H. Schein (Geography, University of Kentucky)*

#### **Chair**

*Richard H. Schein (Geography, University of Kentucky)*

#### **Discussants**

*Laura Taylor (Environmental Studies, York University)*

*Patrick Hurley (Environmental Studies, Ursinus College)*

The Forest Beautiful: The Urban Wilderness Idealism of the Forest Preserve  
District of Cook County

*Eric Mogren (History, Northern Illinois University)*

Planning, Environmental Management, and Landscape Change in Exurbia: A  
Comparative Political Ecology

*Laura Taylor (Environmental Studies, York University)*

*Patrick Hurley (Environmental Studies, Ursinus College)*

Social Energy from Waste: construction of coalitions and contested concepts in  
two waste facility siting conflicts

*Mel Walther (Environmental Studies, York University)*



Nature and the Smart Growth Machine

*Rich Schein (Geography, University of Kentucky)*

### **4. Power and Control: Knowledge in a More-Than-Human Agro-Food System**

***Part of the Political Ecologies of Food, Agriculture and Justice Track***

*Room 219, The '90'*

#### **Organizer**

*Lilian Brislen (University of Kentucky)*

#### **Chair**

*Lilian Brislen (University of Kentucky)*

Well Stories: Alternative understandings on water purity and stewardship

*Kay Westhues (Folk Studies, Western Kentucky University)*

Climate science, farmers' knowledge and agricultural adaptation  
*Rachel R. Odhner (Anthropology, Cornell University)*

Place-based Challenges to the Legitimacy of Pipeline Protests  
*Elisabeth Chaves (Political Science, Vassar College)*

Monsanto and Caribbean Agricultural Politics  
*Mark Chatarpal (University of Toronto)*

## **5. Waste, Residuals, and Ruins: A Political Ecology of Excess II**

*Room 231, The '90'*

### **Organizer**

*Nicholas C. Kawa (Anthropology, The Ohio State University)*

*Shreyas Sreenath (Anthropology, Emory University)*

### **Chair**

*Nicholas C. Kawa (Anthropology, The Ohio State University)*

Wasted Neighborhoods: Narratives and Political Ecologies of Persistent Trash in West Baltimore

*Dawn Biehler (Geography, University of Maryland, Baltimore County)*

*Yinka Bode-George (Environmental Science and Public Health, University of Maryland, Baltimore County)*

Entanglements of Social and Environmental Effluence in Ashtabula County, Ohio

*Richard Bargielski (Anthropology, The Ohio State University)*

Better living through bioremediation? The decomposition of waste, and the creative management of urban woody debris

*Mariya Shcheglovitova (Microbial Ecology, University of Maryland, Baltimore County)*

"On our minds and in our noses": Hog manure and the everyday politics of a changing Iowa landscape

*Christopher Neubert (Anthropology, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill)*

A Resource Turned to Waste: Human Excrement and the Ecological Crisis

*Nicholas C. Kawa (Anthropology, The Ohio State University)*

## **6. Environmental Statecraft: Situating the State in Environmental Governance II (Forests, Energy, Infrastructure)**

*Room 202, The '90'*

### **Organizers**

*Colin Higgins (Public Affairs, University of Wisconsin – Madison)*

*Eric Nost (University of Wisconsin – Madison)*



**Chair**

*Eric Nost (Geography, UW–Madison)*

*Colin Higgins (Public Affairs, University of Wisconsin – Madison)*

**Making and Unmaking the Infrastructure State: Socionatural Relations of Control, Resistance, and Adaptation in the Mekong Delta**

*Timothy Gorman (Sociology, Cornell University)*

**Governing Transitions in Energy Demand**

*Catherine Butler (Geography, University of Exeter)*

**Spotted owl vs. barred owl: A Narrative Policy Framework analysis of the biopolitics of conservation**

*Ashlie Denton (Public Affairs, Portland State University)*

**Making Way for the State in Mindanao: The role of forest tenure & state-sponsored migration in the Filipinization of the south**

*Evangeline McGlynn (Graduate School of Design, Harvard University)*

**The State as Medusa. Environmental land use planning in Colombia**

*Manuela Ruiz Reyes (Geography, Syracuse)*

**7. Panel: Political Ecologies of Climate Justice**

*Room 203, The '90'*

**Organizers**

*Remy Franklin (School of Geography and Development, University of Arizona)*

*Stina Janssen (School of Geography and Development, University of Arizona)*

**Chairs**

*Remy Franklin (School of Geography and Development, University of Arizona)*

*Stina Janssen (School of Geography and Development, University of Arizona)*

**Discussant**

*Tracey Osborne (School of Geography and Development, University of Arizona)*

**Political Ecologies of Climate Justice**

*Remy Franklin (School of Geography and Development, University of Arizona)*

*Stina Janssen (School of Geography and Development, University of Arizona)*

**Thick Climate Justice**

*Nicholas Beuret (Fisher Fellow on Climate, Gender, and the Anthropocene, Hobart & William Smith Colleges)*

**Costa Rica's Carbon Neutral Policy: Panacea or 'False Solution'?**

*Emily Hite (Department of Anthropology, University of Colorado, Boulder)*

Climate Justice and New Zealand's "Fair Share"

*Mark H. Cooper (Department of Environmental Science and Policy, College of William & Mary)*

Putting "Sustainability" in Context: Carbon Offsets in California, Chiapas and Acre

*Tracy Perkins (Sociology, Howard University)*

## **Block 4**

3:30pm – 5:10pm

### **1. Considering Consumption**

*Room 211, The '90'*

#### **Organizer**

*University of Kentucky political Ecology Working Group*

#### **Chair**

*Matthew Rosenblum (Geography, University of Kentucky)*

Tastes of the Sea: Where do fish values come from?

*Lilian Brown (Anthropology, Indiana University)*

Halal and kosher as ethical food pathways

*Oliver Leaman (Philosophy, University of Kentucky)*

Past on a Plate: Restaurant ethnography and the construction of heirloom food

*Cady Gonzalez (Anthropology, University of Florida)*

### **2. Facets of Waste**

*Room 215*

#### **Organizer**

*University of Kentucky Political Ecology Working Group*

#### **Chair**

*Chhaya Kolavalli (Anthropology, University of Kentucky)*

Micro(bial)-management: Germs, cleanliness and institutionalization of housekeeping labors

*Mike Dimpfl (Geography, University of North Carolina Chapel Hill)*

High Tech Industrialization, Hazardous Waste, and the Anti-Toxics Movement in Silicon Valley County, Ohio

*Travis Williams (Sociology, Independent Researcher)*

Cultural Concepts of Waste and Concealment of Inequalities: Making Tibetan Solid Waste and Han's Sacred Other in Southwest China

*Bo Wang (Anthropology, University of Wisconsin – Madison)*

Carbon accounting: critical analysis of nitrous oxide governance

*Ritwick Ghosh (Natural Resources, Cornell University)*

Ocean Noise in a Key of C

*Max Ritts (Geography, University of British Columbia)*

### 3. Land Use, Nature, and Governance II

Room 217, The '90'

#### **Organizer**

Richard H. Schein (Geography, University of Kentucky)

#### **Chair**

Richard H. Schein (Geography, University of Kentucky)

#### **Discussant**

Nik Heynen (Geography, University of Georgia)

Place-based Challenges to the Legitimacy of Pipeline Protests

Elisabeth Chaves (Political Science, Vassar College)

Grace Lee Boggs: Envisioning And Creating The Conditions Of Our Own Revolution

Rachael Baker (Geography, York University)

On the political economy of crisis-driven metabolic transformations in cities

Vera Smirnova (Urban Planning, Virginia Tech)

Belonging to Action: Fracking in the UK

Frances Drake (Geography, University of Leeds)

### 4. The Racial Politics of Agriculture

**Part of the Political Ecologies of Food, Agriculture and Justice Track**

Room 219, The '90'



#### **Organizer**

Emma Mullaney (International Relations, Bucknell University)

Levi Van Sant (Geography, University of Georgia)

#### **Chair**

Brian Williams (Geography, University of Georgia)

#### **Discussant**

Carolyn Finney (Geography, University of Kentucky)

Plantation Geographies: Agricultural and Racial Governance in the South Carolina Lowcountry

Levi Van Sant (Geography, University of Georgia)

Farms Not Prisons: Building an intersectional movement for food justice and prison abolition in New York's Hudson Valley

Sara Black (Independent Researcher)

The Racist Roots of Neo-Agrarian Rhetorics  
*Hannah Harrison (Rhetoric, University of Texas - Austin)*

Mutant, Creole, Hybrid, Queer: Agro-Eugenics and the Racial Violence of  
Capitalist Ecologies  
*Emma Mullaney (International Relations, Bucknell University)*

## **5. Sovereignty, Justice, and Change in Food Systems**

*Room 231, The '90'*

### **Organizer**

*University of Political Ecology Working Group*

### **Chair**

*Lauren Renée Moore (Anthropology, University of Kentucky)*

Where Will We Turn? Food Sovereignty and Land Reform for Chestnut Growing  
Communities in Formerly Soviet Azerbaijan  
*Jeffrey Wall (Natural Resources, Cornell University)*

The New Shepherd: A Paradigm Shift in an Age-Old Tradition  
*Claire Poelking (Natural Resources and the Environment, University of Michigan)*

Farmer's Markets as Food Justice?: Examining the Traps in Food Policy  
*Abigail Russell (Sociology, University of Tennessee)*

A Troubled Union: Legislation, Smallholders, and Food Sovereignty  
*Virginia Pleasant (American Studies/Anthropology, Purdue University)*

## **6. Modeling Pastoralism in Northern Tanzania: How a Board Game Simulator Contributes to a Political Ecology of 21st Century Maasailand**

*Room 202, The '90'*

### **Organizer**

*Jennifer Coffman (Integrated Science and Technology, James Madison University)*

### **Chair**

*Jennifer Coffman (Integrated Science and Technology, James Madison University)*

ERAMAT ("mind your cattle" in the Maa language) is a culturally anchored eco-game™ that explores dynamics of and individuals' responses to boom-bust cycles among pastoralist communities in East Africa. The phenomena depicted in the game are rooted in increasing population densities and demands in the region, cultural values and evolving pastoralist practices of rural Maasai, and the ebb and flow of the semi-arid environment in which they live. Each player represents a pastoralist household, and the player must manage the cattle herd and other resources in the face of dynamics created

by the interactions of an arid climate, family needs, and other social constraints. ERAMAT functions as a learning tool that uses rules, symbols and language attuned to Maasai culture to allow pastoralist players to explore a variety of strategies for survival in the presence of those dynamics, while engaging in conversations about past experiences and outcomes. ERAMAT also provides a rich environment for U.S. university and high school students to learn about the roles of science, technology, and social context in addressing challenges faced by other cultures. Using a political ecology framework, this presentation will provide the context for the evolution of the game, as well as analyze results from the newest game design's use in northern Tanzania in June and July 2015. Game play with American and East African players have led to conversations about land ownership, wealth management, and the challenges to – and continuity of – gender roles.

### **Presenters**

*Jennifer Coffman (Integrated Science and Technology, James Madison University)*

*Martin Mayiani (Integrated Science and Technology, James Madison University)*

*Rachel Palkovitz (Anthropology, James Madison University)*

*Hunter Hart (Integrated Science and Technology, James Madison University)*

## **7. Panel: Political Ecology in Hostile Spaces: Networks of Tactical Solidarity for the Neoliberal Anthropocene**

*Room 203, The '90'*

### **Organizer**

*Jordan Laney (Cultural Studies, Virginia Tech)*

*Gabriel Piser (Environmental Studies, The Ohio State University)*

### **Chair**

*Jordan Laney (Cultural Studies, Virginia Tech)*

Political ecologists share a commitment to work that benefits the harmed, the dispossessed, and those lacking in institutional power. Unfortunately, as universities increasingly seek investment by the private sector and come under attack as bastions of liberal indoctrination by conservative commentators, the spaces in which we practice grow increasingly hostile. To both interdisciplinary scholars and critical scholars within formal disciplines we ask: How do we thrive in hostile environments?

We hope to look closely at the intersections of scholarship and practice, to address both the theoretical implications of trans/a/multi/inter-disciplinary work as well as the concrete practice of political ecology. Building off of this year's theme examining the practice of a "public political ecology", panelists will address how to ensure that practices of mutual aid thrive beyond the safer spaces of conceptually aligned conferences and working groups. We aim to develop a better understanding methods of tactical solidarity in the uncertain and precarious Anthropocene.

### **Panelists**

*Jordan Laney (Cultural Studies, Virginia Tech)*

*Gabriel Piser (Environmental Studies, The Ohio State University)*

*Tim W. Luke (University Distinguished Professor of Political Science Program Chair,  
Government and International Affairs, School of Public and International Affairs, Virginia Tech)*  
*Adrian Parr (Professor of Environmental Politics, Political Philosophy, and Cultural Criticism  
Chair of Taft Faculty and Director Taft Research Center UNESCO Co-Chair of Water Access  
and Sustainability Associate Professor of Sociology Associate Professor of Architecture and  
Interior Design Department of Political Science & School of Architecture & Interior Design  
University of Cincinnati)*  
*Andrew J. Scerri (Political Science, Virginia Tech)*  
*Christian Matheis (Ethics and Political Philosophy, Virginia Tech)*

## KEYNOTE ADDRESS

### Light Snacks

5:00pm – 5:30pm

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### Public Political Ecology: A Philosophy of Praxis in the Age of the Anthropocene

*Gatton College Auditorium*

5:30pm – 7:00pm

*Dr. Tracey Osborne (School of Geography and Development, Director of the Public Political Ecology Lab, University of Arizona)  
Gatton College Auditorium*

Political ecology is a highly flexible approach for addressing diverse, shifting and interconnected environmental problems that emphasizes political economy and power relations as causal factors. Therefore, with often explicit ethical and normative commitments, the field is well suited for tackling environmental issues constitutive of the Anthropocene, a newly defined geologic era in which humans represent a significant and unsustainable planetary force. While the critical perspective leveled by political ecology is important for understanding the contours, drivers and more equitable solutions to current environmental crises, analyses that remain in the halls of academia will be inadequate to the task at hand. What is required is a public political ecology on a massive scale, one that operates in the realm of praxis and consciousness-raising so that a political ecology perspective becomes part of the public debate on environmental change, shaping discourse and practice. Influenced by the work of Antonio Gramsci, public political ecology as a framework for theoretically-informed engaged scholarship is and must be the next frontier of political ecology. Key components of public political ecology include: 1) Critical pedagogy and engaged scholarship, 2) popular political education in the domain of civil society, and 3) alliance building among and between academics and diverse publics. In addition, innovations from public geographies such as participatory action research and mapping, service learning, and social media offer important methodologies and tools for public political ecology.

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### After Party

8:00pm – late

#### Soundbar

208 South Limestone Street

Cash bar; food available at nearby restaurants.



# **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28<sup>TH</sup>**

## **Field Trips**

*All Day*

### **Mammoth Cave Tour**

*8:30am – 4:00pm*