RELIGION AND CLIMATE CHANGE IN CROSS-REGIONAL PERSPECTIVE

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

May 11, 2018

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 resource wars over water and extractive resources. Much of this work is presented in his book, Roosters at Midnight: Indigenous Signs and Stigma in Local Bolivian Politics (SAR Press, 2010). More recently his work has engaged diverse arenas of cultural policy. His research and writing have been supported by the National Science Foundation, Mellon and Rockefeller foundations, and the American Council for Learned Societies, among others. He has been a Fulbright scholar, and held fellowships at the Carnegie Council, Kluge Center of the Library of Congress, and Smithsonian Institution. Dr. Albro currently serves as co-PI on the Henry Luce Foundation-funded project, "Religion and Climate Change in Cross-Regional Perspective." Email: robert.d.albro@gmail.com

Ana Mariella Bacigalupo is a Professor of Anthropology at the State University of New York-Buffalo. She received her Ph.D. in Anthropology from UCLA. Her research and writing have been concerned with relations and discourses of power through the practice of shamans and mediums, gender and sexuality, ethnicity and identity, history and memory, literacy and the written word, colonial and post-colonial relations. She has also focus on the relationship between sacred spaces, moral crisis, collective ethics, cosmopolitics and environmental justice. Her work has been conducted in Latin America, specifically among Mapuche in Chile and Argentina, and among indigenous descendants in Northern Peru. She is the author of numerous peer-reviewed articles and five books and monographs, the most recent titled Thunder Shaman: Making History with Mapuche Spirits in Chile and Patagonia (University of Texas Press, 2016). Dr. Bacigalupo has received multiple awards and fellowships, most recently at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity in 2015-16. Email: anab@buffalo.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. His recent book, Devoted to Nature: The Religious Roots of American Environmentalism (University of California Press, 2015) explores the religious sources of the environmental imagination in the United States. His current work combines ethnographic research with philosophical reflection to address the study of religious civil society groups actively engaged with the challenge of climate change. He currently serves as Principal Investigator on the Henry Luce Foundation funded project, "Religion and Climate Change in Cross-Regional Perspective." Email: berry@american.edu

Amanda Bertana is a Postdoctoral Fellow for the Scholars Strategy Network, Maine Chapter. She recently received her Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Utah. Her research and writing examine contemporary environmental degradation by integrating political, economic, and ecological issues, with particular attention to the South Pacific. Her dissertation, Environmentally Induced Migration in Fiji, is an ethnographic account of three Fijian villages that were in various stages of relocating inland due to coastal erosion. Email: amanda@scholars.org
Ken Conca is Professor of International Relations in the School of International Service at American University. He received his PhD from the Energy and Resources Group at the University of California, Berkeley. His research and teaching are concerned with global environmental governance, environmental peacebuilding in war-torn societies, environmental politics and policy in the UN system, and water governance. Dr. Conca is author or editor of several books, including *An Unfinished Foundation: The United Nations and Global Environmental Governance* (Oxford University Press, 2015). Dr. Conca is a member of the United Nations Environment Programme’s Expert Advisory Group on Conflict and Peacebuilding. He is a two-time recipient of the International Studies Association’s Harold and Margaret Sprout Award for best book on international environmental affairs and a recipient of the Chadwick Alger Prize for best book in the field of International Organization. He was also recently honored with the prestigious Al-Moumin Award and Distinguished Lecture on Environmental Peacebuilding. Email: conca@american.edu

J. Brent Crosson is an Assistant Professor in Religious Studies at the University of Texas-Austin. He received his Ph.D. in Anthropology from the University of California-Santa Cruz. His research has focused on religion and secularism in the Caribbean, and contestations over the limits of legal power, science, and religion in the Americas. Prior to joining the faculty at UT Austin, he was an ACLS/Mellon Dissertation Completion Fellow at UC Santa Cruz and a Ruth Landes Memorial postdoctoral fellow in cultural anthropology at NYU. His research on Caribbean practices of healing and legal intervention – known as obeah, spiritual work, or science – has been published in *The Journal of Africana Religions* and *Cultural Anthropology's Fieldnotes*. His work on race relations and solidarities has appeared in the Duke University Press journal *Small Axe*. His current research compares the ethics of spiritual healers' and petroleum geologists' relations to subterranean energy in Trinidad. Email: brent.crosson@utexas.edu

Mabel Gergan is the Postdoctoral Fellow in Environmental Humanities at Georgetown University, and will be starting as an Assistant Professor in Fall 2018 at Florida State University’s Department of Geography. She received her Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, with the thesis titled “*Precarity and Possibility at the Margins: Hazards, Infrastructure, and Indigenous Politics in Sikkim, India.*” She is a human geographer whose research broadly considers ecological risk and precarity, environmental justice and injustice in South Asia, along with indigenous youth, the sacred, and postcolonial/decolonial critiques of the Anthropocene. In particular, her research has thus far focused on the relationship between the Indian state and its Himalayan borderlands. Email: mdg109@georgetown.edu

David Haberman is a Professor in the Department of Religious Studies at Indiana University, and received his PhD from University of Chicago. Dr. Haberman’s research and writing have been concerned with: the history of South Asian religions, theories of religion, religion and ecology, as well as ritual and Indian arts and aesthetics. He has published six books, including most recently *People Trees: Worship of Trees in Northern India* (Oxford University Press, 2013) and *River of Love in an Age of Pollution: The Yamuna River of Northern India* (University of California Press, 2006), a study of the identification of the Yamuna River as an aquatic goddess, how the pollution of the river is affecting its religious culture, and the ways in which the religious community associated with the river is marshalling its resources to fight the river’s pollution. Over the years, Dr. Haberman has been a recipient of Guggenheim and Fulbright fellowships, among other awards. Email: dhaberma@indiana.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. 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 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. He currently also serves as co-PI on the Henry Luce Foundation-funded project, “Religion and Climate Change in Cross-Regional Perspective.” Email: hershber@american.edu

**Willis Jenkins** is an Associate Professor of Religion, Ethics and the Environment in the Department of Religious Studies at the University of Virginia, where he also received his PhD in Religious Studies. His academic research and writing address intersections of religious ethics with the environmental humanities. He has written two award-winning books: *The Future of Ethics: Sustainability, Social Justice, and Religious Creativity* (Georgetown, 2013), which won an American Academy of Religion Award for Excellence, and *Ecologies of Grace: Environmental Ethics and Christian Theology* (Oxford, 2008), which won a Templeton Award for Theological Promise. He is also co-editor, with Mary Evelyn Tucker and John Grim, of the *Routledge Handbook of Religion & Ecology* (2017). Email: wjj2c@virginia.edu

**Guillermo Salas Carreño** is a Professor in the Social Sciences Department of the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú, where he teaches Anthropology. He holds a PhD in Anthropology from the University of Michigan, and an M.A. in the Social Sciences from the University of Chicago. Dr. Salas Carreño’s work addresses the following topics: the articulation of narratives of modernity, regionalism, and racial-ethnic ideologies of difference; the effects of the extractive economy on rural society; indigenous practices and relationships with the environment, with particular attention to commensality, pilgrimage, and devotional dance. He is currently coordinating a project analyzing how Andean communal practices attribute agency and intentionality to mountains, in contexts of the emergence and transformation of conflicts between local communities and mining projects. Email: guillermo.salas@pucp.pe

**Marjo De Theije** is Associate professor of Social and Cultural Anthropology at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam. Currently she is at the Research Centre for Responsible Mining (Núcleo de Pesquisa para a Mineração Responsável) of São Paulo where she is collaborating on a national inventory of small scale mining (2016-2017). She received her PhD in Social Sciences at Utrecht University. During 2010–2016 she acted as the research leader of the Wotro (CoCooN) funded GOMIAM project at CEDLA on the cultural, social, economic, and environmental aspects of small-scale gold mining in the Amazon region. She has worked on (transnational) religion, social movements, and migration in Brazil and Suriname and small scale gold mining, borders and identity in the Guianas and Brazil. In addition to peer-reviewed articles and book chapters, her publications include the co-edited volume *Local Battles, Global Stakes. The Globalization of Local Conflicts and the Localization of Global Interests*. Email: Marjo.de.theije@vu.nl