

Workshop

# Knowledge, Materiality, and Environment in Transpacific Histories of Oceanic Transformation



## Berlin, 11–12 April 2019

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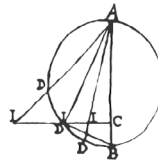
Venue	Re:Work, Humboldt University	
Organizers	Nadin Heé Stefan Hübner Ian Miller William Tsutsui	FU Berlin & Max Planck for the History of Science National University of Singapore Harvard University Hendrix College

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Freie Universität



Berlin



MAX-PLANCK-INSTITUT FÜR WISSENSCHAFTSGESCHICHTE  
Max Planck Institute for the History of Science

# 11 April 2019

9.00

## Welcome

9:15

## Conquest and Cultivation of the Ocean

Chair	Ian Miller	Harvard University	
Discussants	Lisa Onaga	Max Planck Institute for the History of Science	
	Franziska Torma	Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society	
	Kjell Ericson	Kyoto University	In a State of Excess: “Reckless Gathering” and the Meiji Cultivation of Ago Bay
	Lijing Jiang	Colby College	Three Views of the Goldfish: Genetics, Aquaculture, and the Nation in Japan and China, 1928–1963
	Lisa Yoshikawa	Hobart and William Smith Colleges	Fishing for Intangible Bounty: Knowledge, Pacific Fauna, and Japan’s Oceanic Empire

11:15

## Tea and Coffee Break

11:45

## Maritime Species as Resource and Commodity

Chair	William Tsutsui	Hendrix College	
Discussants	Corey Ross	University of Birmingham	
	Ian Miller	Harvard University	
	Akamine Jun	Hitotsubashi University	Sea Cucumbers in Asian History and the Contemporary World
	Nadin Heé	FU Berlin & Max Planck for History of Science	Following Migrating Species across Oceans and Empires: How Tuna became a Global Commons

13:05

## Lunch

14:00

## Ecologies and Economies of Whales

Chair	Stefan Hübner	National University of Singapore	
Discussants	Miranda Schreurs	Ludwig Maximilians University Munich	
	Benjamin Beuerle	German Historical Institute Moscow	
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	Fynn Holm	University of Zurich	The Coastal Frontier: Constructing Whaling Stations for the Japanese Pelagic Empire
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	Noell Wilson	University of Mississippi	1870s Hokkaido Whaling and the North Pacific Maritime Ecosystem
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	Ryan Tucker Jones	University of Oregon	Leviathan's Body: A Deep History of People and Whales in the Pacific
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16:00

## Tea and Coffee Break

16:30 – 17:45

## Keynote: Placing the Anthropocene: The Pacific Ocean in Planetary History

Gregory Cushman University of Kansas, USA



In its conventional form, the Anthropocene is a Eurocentric and terracentric concept that needs to be provincialized. What might a history of the Anthropocene look like if we place the Pacific Ocean and its surrounding territories at its center? This keynote presentation will examine each of the major proposed starting points for the Anthropocene and their purported causes from the perspective of the Pacific Ocean and its surrounding territories—from late Pleistocene overkill to the atoll nuclear tests of the twentieth century. East Asia, Australia, and the Americas and Pacific Islands have all played unheralded roles in several historical trends typically associated with European-driven expansion. In any case, we need to give careful attention to regional histories and their potential contribution to decentered global histories before making any firm decisions about the starting point, root causes, and potential meanings of this proposed “human epoch” of planetary history.

18:15

## Conference Dinner

# 12 April 2019

9:15

## Fear and Reclamation of the Sea

Chair	Nadin Heé	FU Berlin & Max Planck for History of Science	
Discussants	Wilko von Hardenberg	Max Planck Institute for the History of Science	
	Gregory Cushman	University of Kansas	
	Mariko Jacoby	University of Freiburg	Tsunami Research and Preparedness in the Pacific 1877–1965
	Hannah Shepherd	Trinity College, Cambridge	The Urbanization of the Tsushima Strait 1905–1953
	Stefan Hübner	National University of Singapore	Carbon Fuels of the Oceanic Anthropocene: How Offshore Oil-Driven Ocean Colonization Transformed what was once Japan's Global Common (c. 1960s–1980s)

11:15

## Tea and Coffee Break

11:45

## Entrepôts, Harbors, and Ports Between Land and Ocean

Chair	Nadin Heé	FU Berlin & Max Planck for History of Science	
Discussants	Amanda Crompton	Max Planck Institute for the History of Science	
	William Tsutsui	Hendrix College	
	Michelle Damian	Monmouth College	What Makes a Port? An Exploration of Port Types in the Medieval Seto Inland Sea Region
	Catherine Phipps	University of Memphis	Second Nature and Japan's Port System: Navigational Hazards, Coastal Infrastructure, and Commercial Opportunity in the Late 19th and Early 20th Centuries

13:05

## Lunch

14:00 – 15:00

## Wrap-Up and General Discussion