

# Knowing global environments: New historical perspectives on the field sciences

*A conference in honor of Robert E. Kohler  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (10-12 May 2007)*

**Thursday, May 10**

**Meeting at American Philosophical Society (Center City Philadelphia)**

3:30-5:00pm Opening reception, American Philosophical Society

5:00 Welcoming Comments:

Susan Lindee, University of Pennsylvania

Jeremy Vetter, Dickinson College

Martin Levitt, American Philosophical Society

Babak Ashrafi, Philadelphia Area Center for the History of Science

5:30-7:00 Opening keynote lecture:

“The Controlled Experiment That Wasn't: Acoustic Tomography of Ocean Climate”

Naomi Oreskes, University of California, San Diego

**Friday, May 11**

**Meeting at the University of Pennsylvania (36th & Spruce, Logan Hall Rm. 402)**

Program Note: The conference has been organized so as to maximize opportunities for discussion, both formal and informal. Papers will be pre-circulated; presentations will be relatively brief; and wide-ranging panel discussions will end each day. Our goal is to provide a stimulating and rich setting that will facilitate productive, creative interaction.

8:30-9:00 Coffee and pastries, informal discussion

*Session 1: Regional Science—Field Stations*

9:00-9:45 Michael Bravo, University of Cambridge, “Mediating Field Station Histories: Voices from Igloolik”

9:45-10:30 Jeremy Vetter, Dickinson College, “Rocky Mountain High Science: Teaching, Research, and Nature at Field Stations”

10:30-11:00 Tea break with snacks

*Session 2: Regional Science—Economic Contexts*

11:00-11:45 Conor Burns, University of Toronto, “Negotiating the Agricultural Frontier in Nineteenth Century Southern Ohio Archaeology”

11:45-12:30 Emily Brock, Stanford University, “Creating Real Forestry: Industry, Science, and Economics in the Pacific Northwest, 1910-1950”

12:30-2:00 Break for lunch

*Session 3: Changing American Landscapes*

2:00-2:45 Mark Barrow, Virginia Tech, “On the Trail of the Ivory-bill: Science and the Struggle to Save Endangered Species”

2:45-3:30 Alex Checkovich, University of Virginia, “Long Lines, Big Boundaries: Toward a Historical Geography of American Aerial Infrastructure”

3:30-4:30 Tea break with snacks

4:30-6:30 Round Table Discussion, informal  
Moderator: Susan Lindee, University of Pennsylvania  
Tom Gieryn, Indiana University  
Scott Kirsch, University of North Carolina  
Henrika Kuklick, University of Pennsylvania

***Saturday, May 12***

***Meeting at the University of Pennsylvania (36th & Spruce, Logan Hall Rm. 402)***

8:30-9:00 Coffee, pastries, informal discussion

*Session 4: Field Scientists without Borders*

9:00-9:45 Michael Reidy, Montana State University, “From the Ocean to the Mountains: Spatial Science in an Age of Empire”

9:45-10:30 Helen Rozwadowski, University of Connecticut, “Playing by – and on and under – the Sea: The Importance of Play for Knowing the Ocean”

10:30-11:00 Tea break with snacks

*Session 5: Migrations*

11:00-11:45 Graham Burnett, Princeton University, “‘The Prince of Whales’: A. Remington Kellogg and American Cetology, 1919-1940”

11:45-12:30 Lynn Nyhart, University of Wisconsin, “Emigrants and Pioneers: Moritz Wagner’s ‘Law of Migration’ in Context”

12:30-2:00 Break for lunch

*Session 6: Global Science*

2:00-2:45 Stuart McCook, University of Guelph, "Global Disease, Global Knowledge: The Agricultural Sciences and the Coffee Rust Epidemic, 1870-1990"

2:45-3:30 James Fleming, Colby College, "Planetary-Scale Field Work: Harry Wexler on the Possibilities of Ozone Depletion and Climate Control "

3:30-4:30 Tea break with snacks

4:30-6:30 Round Table Discussion, informal  
Moderator: Rob Kohler, University of Pennsylvania  
Philip Pauly, Rutgers University  
Christine Keiner, Rochester Institute of Technology  
Eve Buckley, University of Delaware  
Drew Isenberg, Temple University

**Registration**

To register for the conference (no fee), send your name, address, affiliation, and e-mail address to Patricia Johnson by **1 May 2007**:

pjohnson@sas.upenn.edu

**Conference Organizers**

Jeremy Vetter, Dickinson College  
Susan Lindee, University of Pennsylvania

**Institutional Sponsors**

Philadelphia Area Consortium for the History of Science  
American Philosophical Society  
Chemical Heritage Foundation  
Academy of Natural Sciences  
University of Pennsylvania  
Princeton University

**\*\*IMPORTANT NOTE\*\***

The twelve papers listed in the six numbered sessions will be **pre-circulated** via a password-protected website. To gain access to the papers after they are posted, send an e-mail request to Jeremy Vetter, who will send the website location and password once they become available:

vetterj@dickinson.edu