

Empires of Science in the Long Nineteenth Century

This international conference explores the relationship during the long nineteenth century between rapidly developing science and technology and the expansion of territorial empires, exploring issues such as: How was science actually practiced on national and imperial frontiers? What role did science and technology play in the development of political and intellectual empires? What influence did governments and scientific institutions have in creating, regulating, and disseminating scientific research and practice within empire?

FRIDAY, APRIL 9, 2010

8:30 Registration & Coffee

9:30 Welcome Robert C. Ritchie (The Huntington)

Remarks Nigel Rigby (National Maritime Museum)

Session 1 Networks of Empire

Moderator: Nigel Rigby

Crosbie Smith (University of Kent)
 “Energies of Empire: The Making of Long Distance Ocean Steamships in the mid-Nineteenth Century”

John McAleer (National Maritime Museum)
 “Stargazers at the World’s End: Observatories, Telescopes, and Views of Empire in the Nineteenth-Century British World”

12:00 Lunch

1:00 Session 2 Mapping Space

Moderator: Kathryn Olesko (Georgetown University)

John Rennie Short (University of Maryland, Baltimore County)
 “Cartographic Encounters on the Nineteenth-Century United States Western Frontier”

Michael Reidy (Montana State University)
 “From Oceans to Mountains: The Spatial Construction of Empire”

Session 3 Natural History

Moderator: Robert C. Ritchie

Janet Browne (Harvard University)
 “Nature on Display: Collecting and Showing Natural History Specimens in the Age of Empire”

Daniel Headrick (Roosevelt University)
 “Botany in the Dutch and British Colonial Empires”



Charles Piazz Smyth, *Moonlight View over Table Bay showing Halley's Comet* (1843); courtesy of National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London.

SATURDAY, APRIL 10, 2010

9:00 Registration & Coffee

9:30 Session 4 Imperial Spaces

Moderator: Adam R. Shapiro (University of Wisconsin, Madison)

Daniela Bleichmar (University of Southern California)
 “Rediscovering the New World: Spanish Imperial Science, ca. 1780-1810”

Lewis Pyenson (Western Michigan University)
 “Two Incarnations of Athena: Scientists in the Service of *lebensraum* in the Nineteenth Century in the United States, Argentina, and Russia”

12:00 Lunch

1:00 Session 5 Science and Colonial Identities

Moderator: Warren Dym (Bucknell University)

Saul Dubow (University of Sussex)
 “British Imperialism, Settler Colonialism, and Scientific Thought in the Nineteenth-Century Cape”

Lina del Castillo (Iowa State University)
 “The Gran Colombian Cartography Project, 1821-1830”

Session 6 Institutions and Imperial Science

Moderator: Daniel Headrick

Rebekah Higgitt (National Maritime Museum)
 “Exporting Greenwich: The Royal Observatory as a Model for Imperial Observatories”

Max Jones (University of Manchester)
 “Heroes of Empire? Geographical Societies, the Media, and the Promotion of Exploration”

*This conference is funded by
 The Dibner History of Science Program at The Huntington*

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Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Email/Phone: _____

Affiliation: _____

Conference registration and meals by reservation only. No confirmation will be sent.

Conference registration fee.....\$25.00
 (graduate students free)

Buffet lunch (April 9)..... \$ 16.50

Buffet lunch (April 10)..... \$ 16.50

Vegetarian (check one) Yes No

TOTAL \$

Please return form and check payable to “The Huntington” by April 2, 2010.

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