

# **Empire and Identity**

## **in the early modern world, 1350-1850**

**Seventh FEEGI Biennial Conference**  
**Georgetown University, Washington DC**  
**21-23 February, 2008**

You can [download the final program](#), which includes abstracts of the papers (PDF, 428K). The [conference flyer](#) and details of [registration and local information](#) may be of historical interest, although the conference is now passed.

### **Thursday, 21 February 2008**

*Informal no-host gathering to meet officers and other attendees at [Martin's Tavern](#) in Georgetown.*

### **Friday, 22 February 2008**

*On Friday, registration and all panels and breaks will be in the Leavey Program Room in Leavey Center, Georgetown University. The evening reception is in the historic Riggs Library.*

**8:30am–9:00am—Registration**

**9:00am—Welcome from the President of FEEGI**

Kris Lane, College of William and Mary

**People in Motion**

**9:15am–10:45am—Session One**

Chair: Kris Lane, College of William and Mary and President of FEEGI  
**Mary Jane Maxwell, Western Kentucky University**—“Journeys of Faith and Fortune: Christian Merchants in the Dar al-Islam”

**Richard Bond, Virginia Wesleyan College**—“Most Villainously Detaining’: English and Spanish Captives in the Eighteenth-Century

Atlantic”

**Jeff Fortin, State University of New York at Oneonta—**  
“African-American Imperialism: Creating the Black Atlantic World,  
1795–1817”

**10:45am–11:15am—Coffee Break**

### **Imperial Strategies**

**11:15am–12:30pm—Session Two**

Chair: Carla Gardina Pestana, Miami University

**Mark Meuwese, University of Winnipeg—**“Underestimating the  
Natives: Revisiting the Dutch West India Company's Failure to Capture  
the Portuguese Empire in the Southern Atlantic, 1623–1626”

**Lauren Benton, New York University—**“Island Chains: Penal  
Colonies and Imperial Sovereignty, 1780-1840”

**12:30pm–2:30pm—Lunch**

Lunch independently—a list of local restaurants will be provided.

### **Transforming Local Identities**

**2:30pm–4:00pm—Session Three**

Chair: Willem Klooster, Clark University

**Sebastian Marc Barreveld, Stanford University—**“Can  
Leopards lose their spots?’ The education of Ambonese children in the  
United Provinces, 1621–1629”

**Zoltán Biedermann, Center for Overseas History, Lisbon—**  
“Manipulating Identities: Princely Conversions in Early Colonial Sri  
Lanka (1500–1650)”

**Poppy Fry, Saint Anselm College—**“The ‘Fingo Emancipation’ of  
1835 and the Development of Cape Liberalism”

**4:00pm–4:30pm—Coffee Break**

### **Framing Empire**

**4:30pm–6:00pm—Session Four**

Chair: Daniel K. Richter, University of Pennsylvania

**Anya Zilberstein, Concordia University**—“England is Like this a Cold Northern Country’: Natural History, Climate, and the Idea of Regions in the British Empire”

**Giancarlo L. Casale, University of Minnesota**—“Empires of the Mind in Tunuslu Hajji Ahmed’s World Map”

### **6:15pm–7:15pm—Reception**

Riggs Library, Georgetown University

## **Saturday, 23 February 2008**

*On Saturday, our base is the Intercultural Center (ICC), home of the GU History Department. For lunch, we return to the Leavey Program Room. For the banquet, we head to Adams-Morgan.*

### **8:30am–9:00am—Registration**

History Department, ICC 600

### **Trades and Traders**

### **9:00am–10:30am—Session Five**

Chair: Marcy Norton, George Washington University

Location: ICC 103

**Peter Mark, Wesleyan University** and **Jose da Silva Horta, Universidade de Lisboa**—“New Christian and Jewish Weapons Traders in 17th-century West Africa: From Lisbon to Amsterdam to Marrakesh to Senegal”

**George Bryan Souza, University of Texas at San Antonio**—“Sri Lankan Cinnamon, the Mahabadda, the Portuguese and the Company: Commerce and Communal Relations, c. 1590–c. 1690”

**Henriette de Bruyn Kops, Georgetown University**—“Seaborne Imperialists or Tightfisted Opportunists? Conflicting Images of the Dutch in the 17th Century”

**10:30am–11:00am—Coffee Break (ICC 600)**

## **Views of Empire**

### **11:00am–12:30pm—Session Six**

Chair: Philip J. Stern, American University

Location: ICC 103

**Eleanor Hughes, Yale Center for British Art**—“Classical Orient, Romantic Orient: 18th-Century British Visual Culture and the Levant”

**Phyllis Hunter, University of North Carolina Greensboro**—  
“From Massachusetts to Madras: Renegotiating Identity in the First British Empire”

**Amélia Polónia, University of Porto**—“Global and Local Interactions in the Portuguese Overseas Empire: Networks and Cooperation Patterns in the Construction of Social Identities of Seafaring Communities”

### **12:30pm–2:00pm—Business Meeting and Lunch**

Leavey Program Room, Leavey Center.

All FEEGI members are welcome.

On the Agenda: Elections and other discussion of FEEGI business.

Sandwiches and drinks will be provided.

## **Commodities and Objects**

### **2:00pm–3:30pm—Session Seven**

Chair: David Hancock, University of Michigan

Location: ICC 103

**Elizabeth Sutton, University of Iowa**—“Natural History and Ethnography: Classifying Animals, Plants, and Africans in Early Modern Dutch Travel Accounts”

**Michelle Craig McDonald, Stockton College**—“From Imperial to National Commodity: How Coffee’s Identity Was Repackaged”

**Christina Folke Ax, University of Copenhagen**—“Objects of Empire and the Construction of Identity in 18th-century Colonial Iceland”

**3:30pm–4:00pm—Coffee Break (ICC 600)**

## **Conflict on the Margins**

**4:00pm–5:30pm—Session Eight**

Chair: Linda Rupert, University of North Carolina Greensboro

Location: ICC 103

**Matthew Restall, Pennsylvania State University**—“Yucatan and Belize: A New History of a Forgotten Frontier”

**John Savage, Lehigh University**—“Sacred Science in Slave Society: ‘Poison’ and Identity in Martinique”

**Allan Dwyer, Memorial University of Newfoundland**—“‘The most outrageous Set of People’: British Imperial Identity and the Newfoundland Irish Threat, 1740–1800”

## **Banquet and Keynote Address**

**6:30pm–8:30pm**

Kris Lane, President of FEEGI, College of William and Mary:

**“Everybody Must Get Stoned:  
Rock Medicine in the Early Modern World”**