

176.6.08

Program for an International and Interdisciplinary Conference sponsored by the University of Kentucky 21-23 July 2008. To be held at the Hilton Suites of Lexington Green, Lexington, KY (859) 271-4000.

ENGINEERING EARTH: THE IMPACTS OF MEGAENGINEERING PROJECTS

In honor of

Gilbert F. White
pioneering scholar in technology, hazards,
and social policy research

Co-Organizers:

Stanley D. Brunn and Andrew Wood
Department of Geography
University of Kentucky
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20 July: Sunday

7:00-9:00 PM

Reception and opening of the conference: music by Reel World String Band and food

21 July: Monday

Morning

**Welcome from the University: Dr. Kumble Subbaswamy,
Provost, University of Kentucky**

Introduction: Co-organizers: Brunn and Wood “The Concept of Engineering Earth”

First Session: 8:30-10:00

**Transformations of Nature: Transdisciplinary
Knowledge, Planetary Divides, and the Military**

Joni Seager (Hunter College) “Comprehending the Incomprehensible: Military Environmental Agency”

Philip Steinberg (Florida State University) “Engineering Beyond the Land-Sea Divide: Three Case Studies from the Outer Limits of the Possible”

Maria Paradiso (University of Sannio, Italy) “Earth Engineering and the Impacts of Megaprojects: Information Geography as an Interface Between Engineering and Geography”

Break 10:00-10:30

Second Session: 10:30-Noon

Transformations of Nature: Touristscapes, Greening, and Global Warming

Joseph Scarpaci, Korine Kolivras, and William Galloway (Virginia Tech University) “Engineering Paradise: Making Claim in the Dominican Republic’s Last Tourist Frontier”

Pernilla Ouis (Malmo University, Sweden) “Engineering the Emirates: The Evolution of a New Environment (United Arab Emirates)”

Ernest Yanarella and Christopher Rice (University of Kentucky) “Modernist Hubris, Ecological Apocalypse and Scientific- Technological Salvation in Kim Stanley Robinson’s Global Warming Trilogy: The Specter of Terraforming”

Lunch: Noon- 1:30

Afternoon

First Session: 1:30-3:00

Transformations of Nature: Parks, Fairs,

Ray Bromley (SUNY Albany) “Linking Local Projects into Regional Schemes: The Grand-Scale Landscape Architecture of Fredrick Law Olmsted, Sr. and Benton MacKaye”

Mark Wilson (Michigan State University) “Event Engineering: Urban Planning for Olympics and World’s Fairs”

Peter J. Hugill (Texas A and M University) “Re-Making America, Soil Science, Earth Moving, Highways and Dams,”

Break: 3:00-3:30

Second Session: 3:30-5:00

New Capital Locations

Shonin Anacker (U.S. Bureau of the Census) “Hiding the Public in Plain Sight: State Construction and the Astana [Kazakhstan] Project”

Kenneth Corey (Michigan State University) “Planning and Implementing Capital Cities: Lessons and Prospects for Intelligent Development” (Korea)

Dinner and Evening: On Your Own

Evening Presentation: Video and Discussion by film producer and citizen activist Michael O’Connell on “Mountain Top Removal” in Kentucky.

22 July: Tuesday

Morning

First Session: 8:30-10:00

Megaprojects: Development Projects, Highways etc.

Edward Malecki and Michael Ewers (Ohio State University) “Megaproject: A Four Decade Perspective on the Arab Gulf Development Model”

Izhak Schnell (Tel Aviv University) “We Shall Dress You in a Robe of Cement and Concrete: Comparisons Between Environmental Discourses in Israel on the National Water Carrier (1950s) and the Cross-Israel Highway (1990s)”

Alexander Diener (Pepperdine University) “Trans-State Road Construction as a Catalyst of Ecological and Social Change: The Case of Mongolia”

Anton Gosar (University of Primorska, Slovenia) “National and Transnational Development Projects in South Central Europe: Implications in EU’s Slovenia and the Western Balkans”

Break: 10:00-10:30

Second Session: 10:30-Noon

Megaprojects: Hotels, Fiber Optics and Airports

Ben Smith (Florida International University) “Engineering New Geographies with Burj Dubai”

Barney Warf (University of Kansas) “Engineering Time and Space with the Global Fiber Optics Network”

Aharon Kellerman (University of Haifa, Israel) “Geographical Aspects of International Airports: Passengers in an Authoritative Environment”

Lunch Break: Noon - 1:30

Afternoon

First Session: 1:30 – 3:00

Megaprojects: Water Diversion and Irrigation

Philip Micklin (Western Michigan University) “Siberian Water Transfers: Project of the Century”

Adamu Tanko (Bayero University, Nigeria) “Mega Dams for Irrigation in Nigeria: Nature, Dimensions and Geographies of Impacts”

Mohammad Eskandari (Clark University) “Sweet for Whom: Sugar Cane Plantation in Southern Iran and the Experience of Development from Above”

Break: 3:00- 3:30

Second Session: 3:30-5:00

River Diversion and Resource Extraction

Alina Newkirk (Moscow State University) “Character and Scale of the Violations of the Environment as a Result of Man-Caused Influence of a Mining Complex of the Largest Iron Ore Deposition of Russia”

Markku Tykkylianen and Olli Lehtonen (University of Joensuu, Finland)

“Transition to High-End Wood Processing and Wood Energy Production and Its Socio-spatial Implications in Rural Resource Based Economics”

Martin Reuss (Army Corps of Engineers, Retired Senior Historian) “The Lower Mississippi as a Technological System”

Dinner: 5:00- 7:00

23 July: Wednesday

Morning

First Session: 8:30-10:00

Construction and Management Decisions

Jian Zao and George Zellante (University of South Australia) “Chinese Construction Industry: Governance Structure, Procurement Systems and Culture”

Daniel J. Brass, Joe Labianca, and Ajay Mehra (University of Kentucky) “A Network Approach to Mega Engineering Projects”

Break: 10:00-10:30

Second Session: 10:30-Noon

Sustainability and Conservation Issues

Richard S. Levine, Michael Hughes, and Casey Ryan Mather

(University of Kentucky) “Sustainable City-Regions: MegaProjects in a Balance with the Earth’s Carrying Capacity”

Ganesan Raghuram (Indian Institute of Management) “Infrastructure Development in India: Environmental Issues”

Robert Dahlstrom (University of Kentucky) “On the Marketing of Sustainability”

Stanley Trimble (University of California, Los Angeles) “Megaengineering of the Environment: Effects of Modern Soil Conservation Measures on Two Regions of the Humid United States”

Lunch: Noon – 1:30

Afternoon: First Session: 1:30-3:00

Social Impacts of Megaengineering

Kuntala Lahiri-Dutt (Australian National University, Canberra) “The Mega-project of Mining: A Feminist Critique”

Graeme Hugo (University of Adelaide, Australia), Yan Tan (Flinders University, Australia), and Yong Chen (Sichuan University, Samuel Otterstrom and Richard Jackson (Brigham Young University) “The State of Deseret: The Creation of the Mormon Landscape in the Western United States”

Milan Bufon (University of Primorska, Slovenia) and Rado Genorio (Government of Slovenia) “Engineering Borders and Border Landscapes: Effects of the Introduction of the Schengen Regime on the Slovenian Internal and External Boundaries”

Break: 3:00-3:30

Afternoon: Second Session: 3:30-5:00

Social Impacts, cont.

Derek Alderman (East Carolina University) and Robert Brown (Appalachian State University) “When a New Deal Is Actually an Old Deal: The Role of the TVA in Engineering a Jim Crow Southern Landscape”

William Holden and Dan Jacobson (University of Calgary) “Ecclesial Opposition to Nonferrous Metals Mining in Guatemala and the Philippines: Neoliberalism Encounters the Church of the Poor”

Stanley D. Brunn (University of Kentucky) “Soviet Nuclear Testing in Semipalatinsk, Kazakhstan: Being Blind-Sited and Blind-sided”

Final Remarks: Conference Co-Organizers