

# HISTORICIZING HAZARD

## AN INTERDISCIPLINARY WORKSHOP ON ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING, IGNORANCE & FEAR

**Friday, April 20, 2012**

Sulzberger Parlor, Barnard College

9:15 AM

### **Welcome and introduction**

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9:30 AM–11:00 AM

### **Hazards and Expertise in Pre-Modern Environments**

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Abigail Schade, History and Environmental Studies,  
Davidson College, “Karaji’s Hidden Waters”

Karl Appuhn, History, NYU, “Supernatural disasters or  
Human Misbehavior? Thinking about and planning for  
natural disaster in Renaissance Italy”

**Comment:** Upmanu Lall, Earth and Environmental  
Engineering, Columbia

**Chair:** Pamela Smith, History, Columbia

11:15 AM–12:45 PM

### **The Emergence of Modern Hazards**

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Kavita Sivaramakrishnan, Mailman School of Public  
Health, Columbia, “What’s in a name? From Colonial to  
Post-Colonial Plagues in India”

Linda Nash, History, University of Washington, “Modern  
Bodies, Toxic Environments, and the Rise of ‘Risk’”

**Comment:** John Mutter, Earth and Environmental  
Sciences, Columbia

**Chair:** Samuel Roberts, History, Columbia

2:30 PM–4:00 PM

### **Industrial Anxieties**

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Christopher Sellers, History, SUNY Stony Brook,  
“Dueling Legacies: Local, National and Transnational  
Trajectories of Knowledge about Lead Poisoning in El  
Paso”

Michelle Murphy, History, University of Toronto,  
“Chemical Infrastructure, Reproduction, Sediment,  
Latency”

**Comment:** Ben Orlove, Center for Research on  
Environmental Decisions, Columbia

**Chair:** David Rosner, Mailman School of Public Health,  
Columbia

4:15 PM–5:45 PM

### **Knowledge, Ignorance, Fear**

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Kim Fortun, Science and Technology Studies, RPI,  
“Disaster in Late Industrialism”

Peter Galison, History of Science, Harvard, “Accidents  
and the Changing Contours of the Scientific Self”

**Comment:** Elke Weber, Psychology, Columbia

**Chair:** Deborah Coen, History, Barnard

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