

## Programme

### Climate and beyond: Knowledge Production about Planet Earth and the Global Environment as Indicators of Social Change

23–25 January 2013, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland

#### Wednesday, 23 January 2013

14:00–14:20            Opening (OCCR member)  
Christian Rohr (Univ. Bern, CH) and Andrea Westermann (Univ. Zurich, CH): Introduction

#### Session 1                    **Coping with Tectonic and Climatic Hazards**

Chair: Stefan Brönnimann (Univ. Bern, CH)

14:20–14:55            Erhard Oeser (Univ. Vienna, AT):  
The Development of the Wave Theory and its Application to Earthquakes. The Paradigm Shift at the end of the 19th century

14:55–15:30            Kerry Smith (Brown Univ., Providence, USA):  
Making Disasters Natural: Seismology and Prediction Regimes in Modern Japan

15:30–16:05            Conevery Bolton Valencius (Univ. Massachusetts, Boston, USA):  
Fracking and Seismic History in the Contemporary United States

#### Coffee break

16:20–16:55            Brian Rumsey (Univ. Kansas, Lawrence, USA):  
The Application of Methods of Probability to the Prediction of Floods in the USA (late 19th c. to the 1970s)

19:00                    Public keynote lecture and Apéro (Main building, Univ. Bern)  
Naomi Oreskes (University of California, San Diego, USA):  
When Knowledge Isn't Power: Science, Technology, and the Environment in the 21st Century  
Apéro

#### Thursday, 24 January 2013

#### Session 2                    **Global Resources and Knowledge Production**

Chair: Gunter Stephan (Univ. Bern, CH)

09:00–09:35            Andrea Westermann (Univ. Zurich, CH):  
Supplying the 20th century: How a steady flow of industrial raw materials was developed and how geologists helped create it

09:35–10:10            Perrin Selcer (Univ. Texas, Austin, USA):  
Fabricating Unity: The FAO-UNESCO Soil Map of the World

10:10–10:45            Christian Kehrt (Helmut Schmidt Univ., Hamburg, DE):  
Gondwana's Promises. German Geologists in Antarctica between Basic Science and Resource Exploration in the Late 1970s

#### Coffee Break

### Session 3

#### **Arctic Research: Scientific, Economic and Social impact**

Chair: Christian Pfister (Univ. Bern, CH)

- 11:00–11:35 Ronald E. Doel (Florida State Univ., Tallahassee, USA):  
What Really Mattered in the Arctic? Military Patronage and the Pursuit of Environmental Knowledge during the Early Cold War
- 11:35–12:10 Lecture of Matthias Heymann (Aarhus Univ., DK):  
Investigating Arctic Environments: The Role of Greenland in the Early Cold War
- 12:10–12:45 Anna Carlsson-Hyslop (Lancaster Univ., UK):  
Knowledge Production about Coastal Flooding in Britain, 1919-1959: How and why

### Lunch

### Session 4

#### **Earth and Climate Governance**

Chair: Andrea Westermann (Univ. Zurich, CH)

- 14:15–14:50 Naomi Oreskes (Univ. California, San Diego, USA):  
How the Earth Sciences Became a Social Science (and Why It Matters)
- 14:50–15:25 Ola Uhrqvist (Linköping Univ., SE):  
Mentalities enabling Earth System modelling in GAIM and AIMES
- 15:25–16:00 Elena Aronova (MPI for History of Science, Berlin, DE):  
Knowledge of the Globe and Global Politics: The “Global Network for Environmental Monitoring” Project in the 1960s-1970s

### Coffee Break

**Chair: Monika Gisler (ETH Zurich, CH)**

- 16:15–16:50 Matthias Dörries (Univ. Strasbourg, FR):  
Politics, deep time, and the future
- 16:50–17:25 Christoph Rosol (MPI for History of Science, Berlin, DE):  
Extremely Noisy and Incredibly Close. Reconstructing Deep-time Climate Change as a Means to Define the Present
- 17:25–18:00 Geoffrey I. Nwaka (Abia State Univ., NG):  
Indigenous Knowledge as Local Response to Globalization and Climate Change in Nigeria

### 19:30

#### **Conference Dinner**

### Friday, 25 January 2013

### Session 5

#### **Empires, European Experts and the Sciences of the Earth**

Chair: Iris Schröder (TU Braunschweig, DE)

- 09:00–09:35 Ryan Tucker Jones (Idaho State Univ., Pocatello, USA):  
Empire and Revolution in Peter Simon Pallas’s *Betrachtungen über die Beschaffenheit der Gebürge*
- 09:35–10:10 Lorena B. Valderrama (Univ. Valencia, ES):  
European Experts, Earthquake Knowledge Transfer and the Institutionalization of Seismology. The Case of Chile

### Coffee Break

10:25–11:00	Bernhard C. Schär (ETH Zurich, CH): Earth Scientists as Time Travellers and Agents of Social Change in the Colonial Era: An Example from Basel
11:00–11:35	Philipp N. Lehmann (Harvard Univ., Cambridge, USA): The Threat of the Desert: Debates on Climate Change in the Late Nineteenth Century
<b>Conclusions</b>	
11:35–12:05	Christian Rohr (Univ. Bern, CH): Synthesis
12:05–13:00	Final discussion
13:00	Snack buffet
14:30	City of Bern guided tour