After Capitalism

Hefter Center
University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee
April 25-26, 2014

Even though debate continues over the precise time and place capitalism began, the abstraction of capital in a market economy clearly has a human beginning, one tied to modern historical and global forms and networks of production. But what are the parameters and limits of this human, global, economic/social system? This spring, the Center for International Education’s annual conference investigates questions about capitalism’s history, utility, transformations, and possible end.

For more information about the conference, please contact Eric Herhuth at eherhuth@uwm.edu

For more information about the Center for International Education, its annual conferences, and related CIE-sponsored events please visit the CIE Website.
Conference Program

Friday, April 25

9:00-9:30 am
Introduction and Welcome:
Johannes Britz, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
Patrice Petro, Vice Provost for International Education

9:30-10:45 am
Panel: Crediting the Future
Moderator: Patrice Petro

- Andrew Ross
  "Taking Down the Creditocracy"
- Ivan Ascher
  "Speculative Finance and the Capitalist Mode of Prediction"

10:45 – 11:00 AM
Break

11:00 – 12:15 PM
Panel: Materialities
Moderator: Andrew Kincaid

- Esther Leslie
  "Liquid, Crystal, Vaporous: The Natural Forms of Capitalism"
- Marcus Bullock
  "Capitalism as Religion: From Walter Benjamin to the End of Eternity"

12:15 – 1:30 PM
Lunch

1:30 – 2:45 PM
Panel: Impoverished Imaginaries
Moderator: Theodore Martin

- Rachel I. Buff
  "Anti-Capitalist Imaginings during the Deportation Drives of the 1950s"
- Patrice Petro
  "Televisuality, Austerity, and Hoarding"
2:45 – 3:00 PM
Break

3:00 – 4:15 PM
Panel: Modes of Production
Moderator: Philip Minehan

- S. Scott Graham
  "The Vertical Integration of Global Pharmaceuticals Policy"
- Ajume H. Wingo
  "In the Beginning was the Initiative: The Zero-Factor of Production after Capitalism in African States."

4:15 – 4:30 PM
Closing Remarks: Kennan Ferguson

Saturday, April 26

9:00 – 10:15 AM
Panel: Other Worlds
Moderator: Kennan Ferguson

- Bernard C. Perley
  "Uncanny Capital: Imperial Discomfort and the Emergence of Coyote Capital"
- Eric Herhuth
  "The Future is Animated: Cultural Programming and Pixar’s WALL-E"

10:15-10:30 am
Break

10:30 – 11:45 AM
Panel: Care of the Self
Moderator: Nigel Rothfels

- Bhaskar Sunkara
  "Beyond the Welfare State"
- Carolyn J. Eichner
  "Unity Through Anarchy: Challenging Hierarchy from a French South Pacific Penal Colony"

12:00 – 1:00 PM
Lunch

1:00 – 2:15 PM
Panel: Mediations
Moderator: Lane Hall

- Cristina Venegas
  "Media Ecologies of Invention"
- Niki Akhavan
  "Foundations and Shadows of a Mixed Economy: Self-Sufficiency and Strife in Post-Revolutionary Iran"

2:15 – 2:30 PM
Break

2:30 – 3:45 PM
Panel: Non/citizenship
Moderator: Annie McClanahan
- A. Aneesh
  "Transforming Citizenship: Beyond Blood, Soil, and Capital"
- Edward Ball
  "Slavery and Capitalism: Pasts and Futures"

3:45 – 4:00 PM
Break

4:00 – 5:15 PM
Panel: Ends of Capitalism
Moderator: Kumkum Sangari

- Geoff Mann
  "Post-capitalist Capitalism?"
- Sherryl Vint
  "Bad Seeds: The End of Capital in Recent Science Fiction Film"

5:15 – 5:30 PM
Closing Remarks: Kennan Ferguson and Patrice Petro
Participants

Conference Organizers

Patrice Petro  
Vice Provost for International Education  
Professor of English, Film, and Global Studies,  
University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee

Kennan Ferguson  
Associate Professor of Political Science,  
University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee

Moderators

Lane Hall  
Professor of English,  
University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee

Andrew Kincaid  
Associate Professor of English,  
University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee

Theodore Martin  
Assistant Professor of English,  
University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee

Annie McClanahan  
Assistant Professor of English,  
University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee

Philip Minehan  
Visiting Assistant Professor of History,  
University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee

Nigel Rothfels  
Director of the Office of Undergraduate Research,  
University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee

Kumkum Sangari  
Vilas Professor of English and the Humanities,  
University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee

Speakers

Niki Akhavan  
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