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Eating, Cooking, Culture: The Politics and History of Food

Hefter Center

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

April 15-16 2011

"Cooking is even more uniquely characteristic of our species than language. Animals do at least bark, roar, chirp, do at least signal by sound; only we bake, boil, roast, and fry" (52, Hungry Planet). Food, along with its ancillary activities of eating and cooking, lies at the heart of understanding culture. This interdisciplinary conference seeks to examine the ties between food and culture, in historical and contemporary contexts, with respect to global and local politics, economies, health, ethics and media.

For more information, please contact Eric Herhuth at ehherhuth@uwm.edu or 414-229-3033.

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Conference Program

Friday, April 15

9:00-9:15 am

Introduction and Welcome

- Patrice Petro, Vice Provost for International Education

9:15-10:30 am

Panel: Theoretical Take Aways

Moderator: Patrice Petro, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee

- Ihab Hassan, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee
"Manna in Academe"
- Kennan Ferguson, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee
"The Fastest Food: The Ideology and Flavor of Futurism"

10:30-10:45 am

Break

10:45-12:00 pm

Panel: Taking It To The Streets

Moderator: Kris Ruggiero, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee

- Jessica B. Harris, Queens College, CUNY
"I'm Talkin' 'bout the Food I Sells!: Street Vending in the African Atlantic World"
- Jeffrey Pilcher, University of Minnesota
"How to Sell a Tamale for a Thousand Dollars: The Transnational Origins of the Nueva Cocina Mexicana"

12:00-1:15 pm

Lunch [Pre-register to attend](#)

1:15-2:30 pm

Panel: Media Matters

Moderator: Lane Hall, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee

- Anne Bramley, Food Scholar, Cookbook Writer
"Caxton, Cuisinavision, and Podcasting: Experiencing Food Through New Media"
- Tasha Oren, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee
"Judge's Table: on Cooking Shows, Food Culture, and (not) Eating"

2:30-2:45 pm

Break

2:45-4:00 pm

Panel: Global Food

Moderator: Jennifer Jordan, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee

- Manu Sobti, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee
"The Last Apples of Kazakhstan: Modernity, Geo-Politics and Globalization in Central Asia"
- Randel Hanson, University of Minnesota-Duluth
"Anchoring Regeneration: Leveraging Eds and Meds in Rebuilding Local Food Infrastructures"

4:00-4:15 pm

Break

4:15-5:30 pm

Panel: Food and Memory

Moderator: Gabrielle Verdier, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee

- Hasia Diner, New York University
"Food, Immigration and the Construction of Ethnicity in America"
- Cara De Silva, Journalist and Food Historian
"In Memory's Kitchen/In Memory's Kitchens: War and the Food of Dreams"

Saturday, April 16

9:00-10:15 am

Panel: Biopolitics

Moderator: Margaret Duncan, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

- Ellen Amster, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee
"Articulate Bodies: Colonial Obstetrics and Birthing Modern Famine in Morocco"
- Paul Apostolidis, Whitman College
"Immigrant Workers and Biopolitics of Meat Production"

10:15-10:45 am

Coffee Break

10:45-12:00 pm

Panel: Food Harvests

Moderator: Aims McGuinness, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

- Martha Carlin, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee
"Garden and Cuisine in Medieval Europe"
- Kristin Pitt, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee
"Representing the Harvest: Food and Farm Workers in the Contemporary United States"

12:00-1:15 pm

Lunch: [Pre-register to attend](#)

Installation by Heather Warren-Crow's Class

1:15-2:30 pm

Panel: Politics of Meat

Moderator: Jeffrey Merrick, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee

- Susan M. Squier, Pennsylvania State University
"The Art and Politics of Poultry"
- Pamela Robertson Wojcik, University of Notre Dame
"What to Do With a Tough Piece of Meat, or What Makes Corned Beef Hash Gay?"

2:30-2:45 pm

Break

2:45-4:00 pm

Panel: Frames and Canvases

Moderator: Peter Paik, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee

- **Sally Hassan**, Independent Journalist
"Dinner on Canvas"
- **Larry Kuiper**, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee
"Framing the Table: A Cross-linguistic Perspective on the Language of Eating"

4:00-4:15 pm

Break

4:15-5:30 pm

Panel: Capitalist Dis/Orders

Moderator: Timothy Ehlinger, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

- **Erik Lindberg**, Owner of Community Building and Restoration
"Peak Oil, Peak Food"
- **A. Aneesh**, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee
"Plants and Patents: The legal order of life"

5:30-5:45 pm

Closing Remarks

Gabrielle Verdier

Participants

Conference Organizers

Gabrielle Verdier (Bio)

Larry Kuiper(Bio)

Center for International Education

Patrice Petro (Bio)

Senior Director

Vice Provost for International Education

Speaker Bios

Ellen Amster(Bio)

*"Articulate Bodies: Colonial Obstetrics and Birthing
Modern Famine in Morocco"*

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Jeffrey Pilcher(Bio)

*"How to Sell a Tamale for a Thousand Dollars: The
Transnational Origins of the Nueva Cocina Mexicana"*

Hasia Diner(Bio)

*"International Law during Global Crises: Why Rules are
More Important than Ever"*

Kristin Pitt(Bio)

*"Representing the Harvest: Food and Farm Workers in the
Contemporary United States"*

Kennan Ferguson(Bio)

"The Fastest Food: The Ideology and Flavor of Futurism."

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