

APRIL 24-26, 2003



Origins,

C a l i f o r n i a

S t o r i e s

New Starts,

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS

Coming

THE 15TH ANNUAL
CALIFORNIA STUDIES CONFERENCE

of Age

THE CALIFORNIA STUDIES CONFERENCE 2003 PROGRAM
(updated 4/4/03)

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION will take place at staffed tables **Thursday 4:00-6:00pm and 8:30-9:30pm at the University Club (adjacent Wyatt Pavilion); Friday 8:00-10:00am and 1:00-3:00pm at MU II; and Saturday 8:00-10:00am at MU II.** While all Thursday events and Friday evening are open to the public, the California Studies Association is a self-supporting scholarly organization and registration is recommended.

Proceedings take place at the UC Davis Memorial Union II (MU II) unless otherwise noted.

Panels are indicated by PF (Friday) or PS (Saturday);
Solo Presentations are indicated by SF (Friday) or SS (Saturday)

THURSDAY, APRIL 24

- 1:30-3:00 **TALK WITH DAVID MAS MASUMOTO**, *Central Valley peach farmer and author of Epitaph For A Peach*
202 Wellman Hall
- 4:00-6:00 **THE ROYAL CHICANO AIR FORCE**
Chair: FRANCISCO ALARCÓN, *UC Davis Spanish & Classics*
Wyatt Pavilion Theater
- 7:30-8:30 **OPENING KEYNOTE: GARY SNYDER**, *Pulitzer Prize-winning poet and UC Davis Emeritus*
Wyatt Pavilion Theater (public reception to follow)

FRIDAY, APRIL 25

- 9:00-10:20 **PF1. THE CALIFORNIA WATER CRISIS**

From Wallace Stegner to Marc Reisner, the informed have pointed out the folly of making a complex civilization in arid territory. The usual anxiety of depending on nature to bank water in Sierra snows combines with recent uncertainties over CalFed and access to the Colorado River to suggest a water crisis looms for California and the larger West. Leaders from the state's

foremost educator on water issues talk about how we got into such a mess, where we are right now and how we might solve the problems.

Chair: RITA SUDMAN, *Executive Director, Water Education Foundation*

Panel: RITA SUDMAN; S. JOSHUA NEWCOM, *Director, Colorado River Project*

PF2. CALIFORNIA'S BOOM 'N BUST ECONOMY & BUDGET

"We're busted." Pa Joad says in The Grapes of Wrath. "We're headed for California!" California itself is apparently busted (again), and we ask our panel for observations on how we got here so quickly (again) and what structural changes in the tax and budget processes might correct matters.

Chair: ALVIN SOKOLOW, *UC Davis Cooperative Extension (Public Policy and Governance)*

Panel: STEVEN SHEFFRIN, *Dean of Social Sciences, College of Letters & Sciences, UC Davis and Director, Center for State and Local Taxation*; PETER SCHRAG, *author of Paradise Lost*; JEAN ROSS, *Executive Director, California Budget Project*

9:00-9:50

SF15. THE CA QUARTER: A STUDY IN ICONOGRAPHY

GARY KURUTZ, *Curator of Special Collections, California State Library*; SARAH DALTON, *Information Officer, California State Library*

Gary Kurutz is author of California Calls You, a stunning study of California commercial iconography in early 20th century. Sarah Dalton oversees the continuing process of selecting five final designs (from 8,000 entries) for the California quarter, to be released by the U.S. Mint in 2005. They provide insights on the recent challenges in agreeing on appropriate icons for a huge and complex state.

10:00-10:50

SF16. THE CA DIGITAL LEGISLATURE: SENATOR DEBRA BOWEN

DEBRA BOWEN, *CA State Senator (D., Redondo Beach) and Chair, Senate Committee on Energy, Utilities and Communication*

The first California legislator to be available via email in 1995, Debra Bowen has been a continuing voice for the use of digital information technology to make the legislature more accessible and the state run more efficiently. She recently introduced two controversial pieces of prospective legislation: one banning email spam and another proposing state tax on all internet commerce

in California. She explores the prickly relationship between state policies and the hitherto fiercely protected internet.

10:30-11:50 **PF3. CALIFORNIA’S 1960S ANTI-WAR MOVEMENT: KILLING FIELDS OR STRAWBERRY FIELDS FOREVER? LESSONS FOR TODAY**

The Bay Area was a hotbed of counter cultural and anti-war activism c. 1965-1970. Thirty-five years later, we find ourselves again in a martial phase that divides the country. Looking back, how successful was “The Movement” and what lessons can we apply today?

Chair: JEFF LUSTIG, *CSA Founding Chair, activist in the Free Speech and anti-Vietnam War campaigns, founder of the Free University of Berkeley; and Department of Government, CSU Sacramento*

Panel: PETER COYOTE, *San Francisco alternative cultural activist and Founder of “The Diggers” in 1967; FRANK BARDACHE, major figure in anti-Vietnam War activism in the late 1960s and indicted as one of “The Oakland Seven” in 1968; KAREN JO KOONAN, 1960s SNCC “Movement” San Francisco staff and organizer for Stop the Draft Week in Oakland, 1967*

PF4. THE FUTURE OF FARMING: THE NEW CULTURE OF AGRICULTURE

Questions of California farming long revolved around ingenious solutions to the same problems—water, land, and labor. Recent new issues—global markets, genetically altered crops, and open space policies—have forced agriculture to redefine its roles and modes of operation. Join four specialists as they map their visions of where agriculture is headed.

Chair: JAN GOGGANS, *UC Davis*

Panel: NEAL VAN ALFEN, *Dean of the College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences, UC Davis; JULIE GUTHMAN, Community Development Program, UC Santa Cruz; RICHARD MOLINAR, UC Small Farm Program Advisor, Fresno; KENT BRADFORD, Director, Seed Biotechnology Center, UC Davis*

11:00-11:50 **SF17. GUNFIGHT HISTORY: 19TH CENTURY CALIFORNIA IN THE HOLLYWOOD WESTERN**

SCOTT SIMMON, *Director of Film Studies, UC Davis and author of The Invention of the Western Film*

Former Curator of Film Programs at the Library of Congress, Scott Simmon edited the multi-DVD set Treasures from American Film Archives: 50 Preserved Films. Author of books on King Vidor and D. W. Griffith, his observations come from work on The Invention of the Western Film (Cambridge) out later in 2003.

12:00-1:20

LUNCH

Reading by DAVID MAS MASUMOTO & California Commonweal Award, honoring DOLORES HUERTA, co-founder of United Farm Workers
International House

1:30-2:20

SF18. CALIFORNIA AND THE NEW MEDIA

ANDREW LAM & EDUARDO STANLEY, *Pacific News Service & New California Media*

Founded by Pacific News Service in 1996, New California Media is a network of 400+ ethnic news organizations and media outlets, charged with raising the visibility of California's ethnic media as a major source of information for and about the state's 17 million ethnic residents. Andrew Lam specializes in global Asian and Asian-American issues; Eduardo Stanley's beat is the Central Valley and Latino culture.

1:30-2:50

PF5. THE CALIFORNIA TABLE: WINE, FOOD & CULTURE

California cuisine classics Chez Panisse and Greens Restaurant opened in the 1970s, as did the first farmer's markets (15 in 1978, to grow 20-fold by 2000), and Stag's Leap Cabernet shocked the wine world in 1976 by winning a blind tasting in Paris, thereby triggering the Great California Wine Rush. What unique contributions has the California table made in the ensuing 30 years?

Chair: KIRA O'DONNELL, *Communications Director, Department of Enology and Viticulture, UC Davis*

Panel: DEBORAH MADISON, *founding chef, Greens Restaurant and author of best-selling cookbooks The Greens Cookbook and Local Flavors*; JAMES LAPSLEY, *UCD Extension (Wine) and author of Bottled Poetry*; DAVID M. MASUMOTO, *peach farmer and author of Epitaph For A Peach*; ALICE MCLEAN, *M.F.K Fisher scholar, UC Davis*

PF6. GLOBAL/LOCAL: MAPPING CALIFORNIA'S ENVIRONMENTALISM

Regional and Bioregional movements have changed our sense of California ecosystems, urging us to richer connections between the environment and its inhabitants. As our understanding of wilderness grows to accommodate both natural and constructed landscapes and systems, environmental thinkers and

agencies incorporate urban life rather than reject it. Four panelists describe their efforts to explore changing relationships between our culture and the places we inhabit.

Chair: DAVID B. KELLEY, *President, Kelley and Associates Environmental Sciences*

Panel: MELISSA NELSON, *Executive Director, The Cultural Conservancy, a foundation preserving Native American culture and lands*; ROB THAYER, *UC Davis Emeritus (Landscape Architecture) and author of LifePlace: Bioregional Thought and Practice*; MATT COOLIDGE, *Director, Center for Land Use Interpretation*; MELANIE WINTER, *Director, The River Project, Los Angeles*

2:30-3:20 **SF19. RETHINKING REGIONALISM**

NICK BOLLMAN, *President, California Center for Regional Leadership & Chair, California Legislature Speaker's Committee on Regionalism*

Nick Bollman is a leading authority on collaborative decision-making as the basis for regional policy in California. He is introduced by Elisa Barbour, Research Associate in Regional Planning at the Public Policy Institute of California.

3:00-4:20 **PF7. PHOTOGRAPHING WATER IN THE WEST**

Photographers from the "Water in the West" project review their ten-year collaboration documenting the power of water in the west in a slide presentation and discussion.

Chair: RALPH LEWIN, *Associate Director, California Council for The Humanities*

Panel:

The panel includes photographers ROBERT DAWSON (author of Farewell, Promised Land), GEOFFREY FRICKER, WANDA HAMMERBECK and SANT KHALSA and photohistorian/curator ELLEN MANCHESTER.

PF8. THE ROLE OF FOUNDATIONS IN SHAPING OUR POLICIES AND POLITICS

Foundations play an increasing role in funding state community groups and organizations, providing services and often stimulating social change. What are the changing roles of civil society and the nonprofit sector as state government and its politics and policies have increasing difficulty engaging our most vital issues?

Chair: STEPHANIE PINCETL, *University of Southern California and author of Transforming California: A Political History of Land Use and Development*

Panel: KIRKE WILSON, *Director, Rosenberg Foundation;* RUTH HOLTON, *Director of Public Policy, California Wellness Foundation;* BRUCE SIEVERS, *Visiting Scholar, Stanford University and Executive Director, Walter and Elise Haas Foundation (1983-2002)*

3:30-4:20 **SF20. LIFE AND WAR**

ANTHONY SWOFFORD, *UC Davis grad, Marine sharpshooter in Desert Storm and author of the best-selling memoir, Jarhead.*

Jarhead was recently described by New York Times Book Review Editor Michiko Kakutani as “by turns profane and lyrical, swaggering and ruminative, it is not only the most powerful memoir to emerge thus far from the last gulf war, but also a searing contribution to the literature of combat, a book that combines the black humor of Catch-22 with the savagery of Full Metal Jacket and the visceral detail of The Things They Carried.”

7:30-8:30

FRIDAY KEYNOTE: DANA GIOIA, *Chair of the National Endowment for the Arts, award-winning poet and author of numerous libretti, including Nosferatu*
Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento (reception to follow)

SATURDAY, APRIL 26

9:00-10:20 **PS9. NATURE, MEMORY AND HISTORY IN CALIFORNIA**

Observations on recent developments in the field of Western Environmental History by three prominent scholars

Chair: LOUIS WARREN, *W. Turrentine Jackson Chair of Western History, UC Davis*

Panel: JOHN WALTON, *“Storied Land: Community and Memory in Monterey,” UC Davis and author of Storied Land;* ANDREW ISENBERG, *“The Environment and the California Gold Rush,” Princeton University and author of The Destruction of the Buffalo: An Environmental History 1750-1920*

PS10. THE HMONG: CURRENT CHALLENGES

Since the late 1970s, more than 100,000 Hmong have migrated from Laos, Kampuchea and Vietnam to the U.S. Many have settled in California, especially in the Fresno and Merced areas. As a refugee people, they are unique among immigrant communities, and this panel explores the challenges of assimilating while maintaining traditional cultural practices.

Chair: EVA MO, Modesto Junior College

Panel: GE MOUA, Associate Consultant, Soderquist O'Donnell; KOU HER, Academic Advisor, College of Letters and Science, UC Davis; STEVE MAGAGNINI, reporter *Sacramento Bee* and author of the award-winning "Orphans Of History," a multi-part account of Central Valley Hmong torn between the old and new

9:00-9:50 **SS21. THE CURIOUS FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN NOVELIST JOHN STEINBECK AND MARINE BIOLOGIST ED RICKETTS**
KATHARINE RODGER, UC Davis and editor of *Renaissance*
Man of Cannery Row: The Life and Letters of Edward F. Ricketts

Working in conjunction with Rickett's son and literary heir, editor Rodger employs numerous unpublished notebooks, manuscripts and letters to depict a fascinating and influential literary friendship between California's most esteemed novelist and his Cannery Row scientific mentor and friend.

10:00-10:50 **SS22. CENTRAL VALLEY PARTNERSHIP FOR CITIZENS**
ISAO FUJIMOTO, Project Facilitator, CVPC

The CVPC is a collaboration of 12 grassroots community organizations (each funded separately by the James. M. Irvine Foundation), with the shared goal to "build throughout the Central Valley the voluntary, self-perpetuating capacity for naturalization and full civic participation."

10:30-11:50 **PS11. THE YUBA WATERSHED INSTITUTE**

In 1991, a handful of citizen residing on Nevada County's remote San Juan Ridge in the Sierra foothills founded the Yuba Watershed Institute, now considered a national model for sophisticated, community-based bioregional/watershed activism. They tell the story of how they began, their battles and achievements, and what the future holds.

Chair: BOB ERICKSON, President, Yuba Watershed Institute

Panel: TBA

PS12. SILICON VALLEY STORIES: WOMEN, ENGINEERS AND IMMIGRANTS IN THE HIGH TECH HOTHOUSE

A candid discussion of the rarely considered social dimensions, implications, and hidden cost of California's most famous venture in entrepreneurship, the Silicon Valley.

Chair: RICHARD WALKER, *UC Berkeley, CSA Chair and author of the coming Silicon City: The Urbanization of the Electronics Mecca*

Panel: MARTIN KENNEY, *UC Davis, editor of Understanding Silicon Valley: The Anatomy of an Entrepreneurial Region, and author of many studies of digital technology and venture capital;* GLENNA MATTHEWS, *author of Silicon Valley Women and the California Dream;* RAFIQ DOSSANI, *Senior Research Scholar, Asia Pacific Center, Stanford University, and co-author of papers on immigrant entrepreneurs with Annalee Saxenian & Martin Kenney;* WILLIAM MILLER, *Provost Emeritus Stanford University and former President/CEO of SRI Development International*

11:00-11:50 **SS23. WOMAN'S BUILDING L.A. (1973-1991)**

TERRY WOLVERTON, *author of Insurgent Muse: Life and Art at the Woman's Building*

In 1973, artist Judy Chicago founded the Woman's Building in Los Angeles, a public center for women's culture. Before it closed in 1991, it was the backdrop for "a collision of history and politics and art," serving as a home for galleries, theater companies, a bookstore, travel agency, coffeehouse and thrift shop, and offices for NOW LA. Wolverton came in 1976 as a troubled 22-year-old student and worked her way up to be executive director and a leading figure in L.A. lesbian and feminist culture. She looks back on an important California cultural phenomenon and her role in it in an illustrated commentary based on her 2002 City Lights book.

12:00-1:20

LUNCH

Carey McWilliams Award, honoring KEVIN STARR, California State Librarian

Silo Pub

1:30-2:50

PS13. TEACHING CALIFORNIA HISTORY: WHAT HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES SHOULD BE HEARD?

California history does not begin and, for some, end with either the missions or the gold rush. Nor should the perspective taught be that of predominantly Anglo Americans with sidebars set up for everyone else. On the contrary, what California represents is a case study of the best and worst of human behavior acted out in US history: conquest, genocide, racialization, and destruction of the environment on a grand scale, balanced by the development of sustainable resources, shift of minority demographics to majority status, and inclusiveness of cross-culturalization. A panel of educators discusses how these legacies are brought to the 21st century classroom.

Chair: ELIZABETH LAY, *California Studies Teacher, Oakland Technical High School*

Panel: CHARLES WOLLENBERG, *Vista College and Historical Consultant, Oakland Museum of California*; NANCY MCTYGUE, *Director of Area 3 History and Cultures Project, UC Davis*; RACHEL DAVIDMAN, *Special Projects Coordinator, Oakland Museum of California*; CAMILLE LEONHARDT, *Women's History, Sierra College*

PS14. NEW CALIFORNIA RESEARCH: 2002-2003 STARR FELLOWS

A commentary on the recent historical research by the 2002-2003 Kevin Starr Post-Doctoral Fellows

Chair: KEVIN STARR, *California State Librarian*

Panel: KATE DAVIS, *University of California, Berkeley*; VIVIAN DENO, *University of California, Irvine*; JAN GOGGANS, *University of California, Davis*; RENEE VAN VECHTEN, *University of California, San Diego*

3:00-4:00

PLENARY SPEAKER

S. DAVID FREEMAN, *Director, California Energy Authority*

4:15-5:30

CSA BUSINESS MEETING