



**Northern Illinois  
University**

History Graduate Student Association  
13th Annual Conference (Virtual)  
April 9, 2021

## **Constructing History Through the Prism of Perspective, Identity, and Memory**



2021 Virtual HGSA Conference Co-organizers:  
Isabelle Squires, HGSA President  
Dan McCoy, HGSA Vice-President

## **ABOUT:**

In previous years, the annual HGSA Conference at NIU was held in-person on the campus of Northern Illinois University. In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, however, the NIU HGSA and the NIU history department chose to move this year's conference to a virtual platform. Therefore, conference panelists, panel chairs, and audience members alike will navigate the synchronous event by using Zoom links provided by the conference organizers. As each session will consist of two separate panels, the attendee will be able to navigate between breakout rooms at their leisure.

We thank everyone who submitted papers, professors who agreed to moderate a panel or participate in the roundtable discussion, and our keynote speaker, Dr. Vann. While this year's conference looks different from previous incarnations, we know it will continue to exude as much professionalism, excitement, and scholarly collaboration as the traditional in-person format. We thank you for your participation, presence, and ongoing support for the NIU HGSA conference.

The Zoom links are as follows:

### **Zoom Room #1:**

<https://niu-edu.zoom.us/j/86036191894?pwd=R1hRaFdOZEtFVnVINzFqVHByd2NKUT09>

(Opening Remarks); (Session I, Panel I); (Session II, Panel III); (Session III, Panel VI); (Roundtable Discussion); (Closing Remarks)

### **Link for Keynote Address:**

<https://niu-edu.zoom.us/j/86752701588?pwd=MkVtU0tIRHBaaUxVQ2hueGwwOWI1UT09>

### **Zoom Room #2 (Passcode: 031421):**

<https://niu-edu.zoom.us/j/84334462071?pwd=SDVTb0o0bTZncVIMQ2NuVFN5R0pyZz09>

(Session I, Panel II); (Session II, Panel IV); (Session III, Panel V)

## Keynote Speaker



Michael Vann, Ph.D.  
California State University, Sacramento

### **“Memory Holes and Crocodile Holes: Representing and Silencing Cold War Era Mass Violence in Southeast Asian Museums”**

Professor Michael G. Vann is a historian of modern Southeast Asia currently at California State University, Sacramento. Vann's research interests include Southeast Asian Studies, political violence and terrorism, colonial administration, colonial public health, film and cinema history, and cultural and artistic aesthetics of the Cold War. Vann's research and temporal purview extend across mainland and maritime Southeast Asia, ranging from conceptions of sexuality and masculinity in French Indochina to Cold War-era genocide in Cambodia and East Timor. Among his list of academic accomplishments, Vann has won three Fulbright awards; served as a visiting scholar of History and American Studies at Universitas Gadjah Mada in Yogyakarta, Java, Indonesia; and served as President of the French Colonial Historical Society from 2008 to 2010. Vann has three published books: *The Colonial Good Life: A Commentary on André Joyeux's Vision of French Indochina*, *20th Century Voices: Selected Readings in World History*, and *The Great Hanoi Rat Hunt: Empire, Disease and Modernity in French Colonial Vietnam*.

After presenting his imaginative and impressively unorthodox graphic history, *The Great Hanoi Rat Hunt*, in front of a packed crowd at an NIU Center for Southeast Asian Studies' brown bag lecture series in 2019, the NIU HGSA is pleased to welcome Professor Vann once more at our 2021 virtual conference. Vann's keynote lecture, centered around the presentation of Cold War-era violence in Southeast Asian museums, is titled “Memory Holes and Crocodile Holes: Representing and Silencing Cold War Era Mass Violence in Southeast Asian Museums.”

## **Opening Remarks (8:45-9:00 am)**

Isabelle Squires, Conference Co-organizer

## **Session I (9:15-10:30 AM)**

### **Panel I: “Conceptions of Statecraft, War, and Image”**

*Chair: Professor Eric Jones (Northern Illinois University)*

Chris Hulshof (PhD Student, University of Wisconsin-Madison)

“A Simulacrum of Change: An Analysis of Crisis Points in the Proliferation of U.S. Global Hegemony Through the Foreign Relations of the United States”

Jinniu Zhang (MA Student, Tsinghua University)

“Media Diplomacy: Zeng Jize’s Strategic Engagement of Western Newspapers”

Stephen Boutwell (MA Student, University of Alabama-Tuscaloosa)

“Constantinople and Jerusalem: Imperial Legitimacy in Christendom During the Tenth and Eleventh Centuries”

### **Panel II: “The Trajectory and Minutia of Knowledge Production”**

*Chair: Professor Anne Hanley (Northern Illinois University)*

Abigail Fer (MA Student, Minnesota State University-Mankato)

“Armadas and Reformers: Spanish and English Travel Narratives in Ireland”

Lokesh Kumar Durga (PhD Candidate, University of Delhi, India)

“Historians and Interpretations: Construction of Sub-regional History in Pre-modern Odisha, India”

Alex Lundberg (PhD Student, Northern Illinois University)

“‘With Fire and Blood’: Paternalism, Violence, and the Moral Economy of Brazilian Slavery in the Nineteenth Century”

Dan McCoy (PhD Student, Northern Illinois University)

“From Those Who Laid the Foundation to Those Who Assume the Torch: Southeast Asia Historiographical Field Essay”

## Session II (10:45 AM-12:00 PM)

### **Panel III: “The Optics of Wartime Commemoration”**

*Chair: Professor Stanley Arnold (Northern Illinois University)*

Alexis Wilson (MA Student, Liberty University)

“Preparing for Battle: Kendallville's Forgotten Camp Mitchell”

Thomas W. Piorkowski (Adjunct Faculty & PhD Student, Elmhurst University, Northern Illinois University)

“Doughface: James Buchanan, The Utah War, and a Crumbling Nation”

Gamze Tosun (PhD Student, Kadir Has University, Istanbul, Turkey)

“The Limits of Performing History: Remembering the 1980s Turkish Military Coup in Kurdish Theatre”

Megan VanGorder (PhD Candidate, Northern Illinois University)

“Behind the Pen: Amanuenses’ Hidden Historical Construction in Civil War Era America”

### **Panel IV: “Contested Perceptions of Public Monuments”**

*Chair: Professor Heide Fehrenbach (Northern Illinois University)*

Fernando Alejandro Remache-Vinueza (MA Student, University of Glasgow, LUISS University in Rome, and Autonomous University of Madrid)

“The Official Narrative of National Identity and the Emergence of Silenced Narratives: The Case of Lithuania”

Melissa Newman (MA/MLIS Student, Loyola University/Dominican University)

“Seeing the Stolpersteine: A Story of Holocaust Remembrance”

Emily Davis (PhD Candidate, Loyola University at Chicago)

“The Afterlives of Saints: Memory and American Shrines”

Michael Santana (PhD Student, Kansas State University)

“Living Memories: How the Second World War is Constructed and Perceived in Public History”

## **Lunch (12:00-12:50 PM)**

### **The 8th Annual Alfred F. Young Keynote Address (1:00 PM- 2:15 PM)**

*Keynote Speaker: Professor Michael G. Vann (California State University, Sacramento)*

### **“Memory Holes and Crocodile Holes: Representing and Silencing Cold War Era Mass Violence in Southeast Asian Museums”**

## **Session III (2:30 PM-3:45 PM)**

### **Panel V: “Legacies of Historical Benevolence”**

*Chair: Professor Andy Bruno (Northern Illinois University)*

Hannah Palsa (PhD Student, Kansas State University)

“Writing for the Dogs: Dogs for Defense and the Writer’s War Board”

Bryant MacFarlane (PhD Student, Kansas State University)

“That Looks About Right: Memory and the Success of American Strategic Airpower in World War”

Jeremiah Moore-Moauro (MA Student, Northern Illinois University)

“Mud and Kids Together: Rethinking Soldier Participation within the American Humanitarian Movement of WWII”

Jake McAloon (BA/MA Student, Loyola University at Chicago)

“‘Eighty Acres of Hell’ or ‘A Grand Old Time?’: The War of Words Surrounding Chicago’s Camp Douglas and Historical Memory”

### **Panel VI: “Cracks in the Curtain: Subaltern and Transnational Movements”**

*Chair: Professor Sean Farrell (Northern Illinois University)*

Isabelle Squires (PhD Student, Northern Illinois University)

“‘Bring up your Daughter Dignified and Sociable and Fair’: Nationalism and Postcolonial Resistance to Gender Representation in Philippine Media, 1965-1972”

J. Hollis Harris (MA Student, Northern Illinois University)  
“Clan-na-Gael Goes Public: An Irish American Press Perspective on Early  
Twentieth Century Imperial Conflicts”

McKayla Sluga (PhD Candidate, Michigan State University)  
“A Great School of Struggle and Film Making: The Film and Photo League’s  
Self-Teaching and Self-Documenting in the 1930s”

Jack Vavrinchik (MA Student, Northern Illinois University)  
“‘A Truckload of Stevedores for a Truckload of Vegetables’: Communal Luxury,  
Trans-Local Alliances, and Transnational Solidarities in the Hawaiian Dock Strike  
of 1949”

### **Roundtable Discussion (4:00 PM-5:15 PM)**

#### **“Identifying and Mapping Memory Within Historical Narrative”**

*Roundtable Participants:*

*Professor Michael G. Vann (California State University, Sacramento)*

*Professor Emma Kuby (Northern Illinois University)*

*Professor Taylor Atkins (Northern Illinois University)*

*Professor Beatrix Hoffman (Northern Illinois University)*

### **Closing Remarks (5:15 PM-5:30 PM)**

Isabelle Squires and Dan McCoy, Conference Co-organizers

## **NIU History Graduate Student Association**

### **President**

Isabelle Squires

### **Vice-President**

Dan McCoy

### **Treasurer**

Alex Lundberg

### **Secretary**

J. Hollis Harris

### **Faculty Advisor**

Eric Hall, Ph.D.

### **Chair, Department of History**

Valerie Garver, Ph.D.

### **We would like to thank the following organizations for their support:**

The NIU Student Association

NIU Department of History

NIU History Colloquium Committee