2017
15th Annual International Graduate Student Conference on the Cold War
April 27–29

Santa Barbara Harbor Room, University Center,
& Humanities and Social Sciences Building 6020
University of California, Santa Barbara

This annual conference is sponsored by and rotates among
The Center for Cold War Studies & International History (CCWS) at
the University of California, Santa Barbara
The George Washington Cold War Group (GWCW) of the Institute for European,
Russian, & Eurasian Affairs at the Elliott School of International Affairs at
George Washington University
The LSE IDEAS Cold War Studies Project at
the London School of Economics & Political Science

The organizers of the conference gratefully acknowledge the contributions of
the Interdisciplinary Humanities Center, the Department of History, and
the Graduate Division, all at UCSB
THURSDAY, APRIL 27—SANTA BARBARA HARBOR ROOM, UNIVERSITY CENTER

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm — Orientation, Reception, and Dinner

(Including a presentation on Cold War film by Professors Charles Wolfe and Ross Melnick of the UC Santa Barbara Film & Media Studies Department)

FRIDAY, APRIL 28—HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES BUILDING 6020

8:30 am – 9:00 am — Continental Breakfast

9:00 am – 10:45 am — Session One — Europe

Chair: Salim Yaqub, University of California, Santa Barbara

Andi Shehu, European University Institute, Florence
“A Show of Unity: The G-7 as a Tool for Dealing with East-West Relations in the Late 1970s”

Comment: Piers Ludlow, London School of Economics

Tomasz Blusiewicz, Harvard University
“Détente and its Discontents: How the Case for Supporting the Solidarity Movement in Communist Poland was Made”

Comment: Gregory Domber, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo

Marina Pérez de Arcos, University of Oxford
“How ‘Remain’ Won: Spain’s 1986 In-Out NATO Referendum”

Comment: Piers Ludlow, London School of Economics

11:00 am – 12:45 pm — Session Two — The Seventies

Chair: Piers Ludlow, London School of Economics

Gregory Graves, George Washington University
“Five Days in July: Tilting Toward Taksim in Cyprus”

Comment: Salim Yaqub, UC Santa Barbara

Mattias Fibiger, Cornell University
“Behind the ‘Green Light’: The Credibility Imperative and the Indonesian Invasion of East Timor”

Comment: James Hershberg, George Washington University

Milorad Lazic, George Washington University
“‘Yugoslavia is Proud to be the First Socialist Country that has Supported Your Revolution’: Yugoslav Military Aid to Ethiopia and Josip Tito’s Attempts to Influence the Global Cold War, 1977–1979”

Comment: Gregory Domber, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo
12:45 pm – 1:45 pm—Lunch

1:45 pm – 3:00 pm—Keynote Address by Hugh Wilford, California State University, Long Beach

   “Covert Empire: The CIA and American Power in the Global Cold War”

3:15 pm – 5:00 pm — Session Three — Science, Technology, and the Academy

Chair: Salim Yaqub, University of California, Santa Barbara

Hélène Solot, École des hautes études en sciences sociales (EHESS), Paris


Comment: Elena Aronova, University of California, Santa Barbara

Michelle Grisé, Yale University

   “From Sonmiani into Space: The Origins of the Pakistan Upper Atmosphere and Space Research Commission (SUPARCO) and the Politics of Sounding Rockets in South Asia”

Comment: Patrick McCray, University of California, Santa Barbara

Ekaterina Babintseva, University of Pennsylvania

   “Management of Minds: Soviet Projects in Computer-Based Education”

Comment: Elena Aronova, University of California, Santa Barbara

6:00 pm — Dinner at the home of Salim Yaqub

SATURDAY, APRIL 29 — HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES BUILDING 6020

8:30 – 9:00 am — Continental Breakfast

9:00 am – 10:45 am — Session Four — Economic and Social Engineering

Chair: Donal O’Sullivan, California State University, Northridge

Jesse Halvorsen, UC Santa Barbara

   “To Win a ‘Hunk of the Machine’: Labor, Business, and the State’s Approach to Technological Change During the Cold War, 1948–1964”

Comment: Christopher Endy, California State University, Los Angeles

Sarah Mellors, UC Riverside

   “The Cold War’s Silent Battle: Population Planning in India and China During the Vietnam War”

Comment: Christopher Tang, California State University, Bakersfield

Andrew Elrod, UC Santa Barbara


Comment: Christopher Endy, California State University, Los Angeles
11:00 am – 12:45 pm — Session Five — Civil Society

Chair: Gregory Domber, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo

Connor Sebestyen, University of Toronto
“German War Criminals in American Custody and the Early Cold War: A Reassessment”
Comment: Donal O’Sullivan, California State University, Northridge

Olivier Burtin, Princeton University
“Fighting Communism at Home and Abroad: A Reassessment of the American Legion in the Second Red Scare”
Comment: Hugh Wilford, California State University, Long Beach

Kazushi Minami, University of Texas, Austin
“How Could I Not Love You?: American Women and Sino-American Détente During the Cold War”
Comment: Paul Spickard, University of California, Santa Barbara

12:45 pm – 1:45 pm — Lunch

1:45 pm – 3:30 pm — Socialist Diplomacy

Chair: Henry Maar, University of California, Santa Barbara

Gangzheng She, Brandeis University
“Chinese Policy Toward the Arab-Israeli Conflict, 1963–1975”
Comment: Christopher Tang, California State University, Bakersfield

Eline van Ommen, London School of Economics
“Isolating Nicaragua’s Somoza in the International Arena: Sandinista Diplomacy in Western Europe, 1977–1979”
Comment: Thomas Field, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

Carl Forsberg, University of Texas, Austin
“Iraq, the United States, and the Long Shadow of the Cold War”
Comment: Salim Yaqub, University of California, Santa Barbara

3:30 pm–5:00 pm — Special session on archival research led by James Hershberg, George Washington University, and Thomas Field, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

5:00 pm–5:15 pm — Closing remarks