

CALL FOR PAPERS

The 2018 International Symposium of *Routes towards Sustainability*

CULTURES AND LOCAL PRACTICES OF SUSTAINABILITY. Intersecting Multiple Footprints and the Environmental Humanities

Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile - PUC and *Routes towards Sustainability* announce the Symposium *Cultures and Local Practices of Sustainability: Intersecting Multiple Footprints and the Environmental Humanities*, to be held from Monday the 10th to Friday the 14th of December 2018 in Chile.

The programme includes two venues:

- the Seminar of the *Routes towards Sustainability* University Network will be held at Campus San Joaquín in Santiago on Monday the 10th;
- the Symposium and the Fifth General Meeting will be held in the town of Villarrica, Campus Villarrica UC, from Wednesday the 12th to Friday the 14th.

The aim of the Seminar and the Symposium is to build up an international and interdisciplinary academic environment in which Cultures of Sustainability are discussed as a paramount goal to be achieved across the world.

The Symposium will focus on three main topics:

- The Environmental Humanities
- Changes in Socio-ecological Systems
- Local Practices of Sustainability

While global economy has thrived and material wellbeing has had an unprecedented growth since the second half of the 20th century, the proliferation of human activities has consumed vast quantities of resources, generating massive amounts of waste and triggering environmental crisis.

Between the second half of the 20th century and the first two decades of the 21st century the notion of SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT has acquired a wide assortment of meanings. Mentioned as the primary goal for ensuring the future of humankind, sustainability has become ubiquitous, high-sounding, and formulaic, serving rhetorical and instrumental purposes. Sustainability has often been defined according to a tripartite model, in which economics stands out as the chief domain, while the environment and society are forever engaged in confrontation.

After thirty years of good practices and disappointing results in terms of sustainable development, we are confronted with Planetary Boundaries, showing that we have already surpassed hazard levels of contamination.

In responding to the ecological crisis and pursuing sustainable development goals, the sciences have produced innumerable hyper-specialized data and models, while the humanities have delivered an overabundance of interpretations and representations. Nowadays, it is essential to identify new forms and models of ecological thought from which multifaceted cultures of sustainability can develop, incorporating specialized as well as multidisciplinary research, technical representations as well as popularization, global scope and local diversities, universal speculations and historical contextualization.

Thanks to the definition of ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT the debate on sustainability has achieved greater resonance and circulation. However, while the ecological footprint model offers a user-friendly representation of un/sustainability, its figurative impact exceeds scientific soundness.

The concept of Multiple Footprints, based on but also different from the analysis of Ecological Footprints, is a pretext for stimulating broader inquiries into sustainable development, involving the social sciences and the humanities, and producing innovative ecological criticism.

The aim of the Seminar and the Symposium is to address questions and elaborate ideas able to inspire new research and teaching projects, while promoting diverse local practices for sustainable habitats and communities. It is an ambitious goal, arising from the acknowledgement that cultures and policies of sustainability require integrated contributions from the social sciences, the humanities, the arts, and the inclusion of non-academic forms of critical thinking and commitment. After thirty years in which solutions revolving around the hard sciences and technologies have proved impossible to accomplish, the pursuit of sustainability encompassing ecology, economics, politics, and culture requires diverse understandings of social changes that can be inspired by narratives and artistic expressions, and can be achieved through community empowerment and creativity. The environmental humanities must take up the challenge of spreading awareness that habitats are physical as well as ontological, ethical, and psychological, because they infiltrate human and nonhuman life in everyday reality.

The main question the Seminar and the Symposium will address is how multiple footprints can be utilised in different disciplines, enriched by interdisciplinary methodologies sharing the aim to produce new cultures and practices of sustainability.

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

Monday 10 Santiago Centro de Innovación Anacleto Angelini, Campus San Joaquín Universidad Católica	<i>CULTURES AND LOCAL PRACTICES OF SUSTAINABILITY.</i> <i>Intersecting Multiple Footprints and the Environmental Humanities</i>
9:00-9:30	Opening ceremony
9:30-11:00	From Multiple Footprints to the Environmental Humanities
1 st panel	Gianfranco Franz, Università di Ferrara, <i>Close to the limits for a New Ecological Thought</i> Fátima Vieira, Universidade do Porto, <i>Provisional title: Utopian and Food Studies</i> Andrea Casals, UC Grupo Letras, <i>Provisional Title: The Environmental Humanities</i>
11:30-13:00	Cultures and Practices of Sustainability
2 nd panel	Louise Crabtree, Western Sydney University, <i>Provisional title: Affordable Housing and Urban Sustainability</i> René Kemp, Universitet Maastricht, <i>Title to be defined</i> Antonio Hargreaves, <i>Sustainability at PUC Chile</i>
Huerto San Francisco 13:00-14:30	Lunch
Centro de Innovación Anacleto Angelini, Campus San Joaquín 14:30-16:30	Interdisciplinary PhD programmes on Sustainability Studies: Challenges and Opportunities
3 rd panel	Paola Spinozzi, Università di Ferrara, Presentation of the PhD programme on <i>Ecological Minds. Biocultural Diversity for Sustainable Wellbeing</i> Andres Hayes, Presentation of the PhD programme on <i>Sustentabilidad y Sociedad</i>
Centro de Extensión Universidad Católica 17:30-19:00	Book presentation <i>Cultures of Sustainability and Wellbeing: Theories, Histories and Policies</i> , editors Paola Spinozzi and Massimiliano Mazzanti (New York and London: Routledge, 2018).
Tuesday 11	Transfer from Santiago to Villarrica (flight from Santiago to Temuco, shuttle bus from Temuco airport to Villarrica)
Wednesday 12 9:30-13:00	The Environmental Humanities
First thematic module	Paola Spinozzi, <i>Ecological Minds and Ecological Humanities: Theories, Methods, Materials</i>
14:30-18:00	CALL FOR PAPERS
Second thematic module	Changes in Socio-Ecological Systems Massimiliano Mazzanti, <i>keynote presentation</i>
Thursday 13 9:30-13:00	CALL FOR PAPERS
Third thematic module	Local Practices of Sustainability Gonzalo Valdivieso, <i>keynote presentation</i>
14:30-18:00	CALL FOR PAPERS Parallel Workshops on each of the 3 topics Strategies for implementing research agendas and international projects on each theme
Friday 14 9.30-12:30	Fifth General Meeting of Routes towards Sustainability
14:30-20:00	Trip to national park or hot springs

We welcome proposals on **1. The Environmental Humanities; 2. Changes in Socio-Ecological Systems; 3. Local Practices of Sustainability** from all members of the Network as well as other university scholars interested in these topics. After the Seminar and the Symposium, the Scientific Committee will select a number of papers for publication.

1. The Environmental Humanities

Life as we know it can be sustained only if we understand and significantly mitigate the forms of pressure relentlessly exerted on our planet. Although innumerable scientific measurements and alarming reports have been produced, the impact of humans on Earth remains massive. Scientific reports per se fail if they remain disconnected from rhetorical, political, social, cultural, and affective forms through which climate change is experienced and figured by diverse communities.

At the Puerto de Ideas Festival in 2014 Bruno Latour proposed that scientists, artists, and social agents bring together a “composition”, the only feasible mode of conveying a message that can reach our imaginaries, help us introduce the cultural changes and develop creative and assertive relationships with the environment while taking responsibility for the global crisis. Such composition can only be achieved by means of interdisciplinary collaborations. Latour’s metaphor of composition is one that suggests how the environmental humanities can go forward.

This panel, dedicated to innovative dialogues among the humanities, the arts, and ecological sciences, will serve as a platform for creative and critical thinking that can inspire cultural changes.

2. Changes in Socio-Ecological Systems

The interconnected challenge of building resilience and generating sustainable societies demands a holistic appreciation of social-ecological systems, which can be achieved by overcoming disciplinary boundaries. Since the early '90s there have been profitable experiences of interdisciplinary collaborations, including new educational programmes aimed at developing methodologies from the intersection of disciplines such as biology, ecology, economics, management, and the social sciences. Unfortunately, despite such awareness, educational systems – obsessed as they are with specialisation and professionalisation – have made no convincing steps forward in terms of interdisciplinarity and even less in terms of multidisciplinary.

The aim of this panel is to promote holistic approaches to nature and culture by bringing together natural and social scientists, in order to investigate the conservation of biodiversities, ecosystem management, interculturality, and policy making for sustainable development.

3. Local Practices of Sustainability

The belief that it would be possible to find scientific and technological solutions to the problem of unsustainability has undermined the paradigm of sustainable development elaborated in the 1980's. People need diverse cultures of sustainability, thriving on innovative contributions from ecological criticism, applied disciplines and practices, which can lead to more sustainable individual and collective behaviours.

Focusing on the cultural dimensions of development can provide outlets for the tensions caused by globalisation itself as well as promote diverse local practices of sustainability, focused on technological and creative innovations.

This panel welcomes interdisciplinary and broad perspectives on the practices of sustainability applied to local, regional, national, and international contexts. Scholars are invited to submit papers on theoretical and applied topics or practices related to: environmental and collaborative economy; urban planning processes; social changes; innovation; production and consumption policies; public policies for sustainability.

Details

Abstracts and papers can be in English or Spanish.

Abstracts should not exceed 250 words.

Deadline for submission of abstracts: Friday the 29th of June.

Deadline for receiving notification of acceptance or rejection of abstracts: Friday the 27th of July.

Papers delivered at the PUC Campus in Villarrica on Wednesday the 12th or Thursday the 13th December in Villarrica should not exceed 30 minutes.

Accommodation and Transfer

PUC will offer accommodation for up to two members of the *Routes* Network per partner university. The Organizing Committee will provide detailed information about accommodation in Santiago and Villarrica to all the other participants.

The Seminar will be held in Santiago on Monday the 10th of December and the Symposium will take place in Villarrica from Wednesday the 12th to Friday the 14th of December.

Participants will have to arrange flights from Santiago to Villarrica on Tuesday the 11th. Bookings can be made directly at Latam, www.latam.com, or Sky Airlines, www.skyairlines.cl.

Scientific Committee

Antonio Hargreaves, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile (RCH)

Takashi Ariga, Waseda University, (J)

Elena Borin, Université Bourgogne France Comté (FR)

Ana Elena Builes Vélez, Universidad Pontificia Bolivariana (CO)

Andrea Casals, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile (RCH)

Gianfranco Franz, Università degli Studi di Ferrara (IT)

Nicolás Galvez, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile (RCH)

Florencia Guidobono, Universidad Católica de Córdoba (AR)

Ding Huanfeng, South China University of Technology, (RC)

Tomás Ibarra, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile (RCH)

Paul James, Western Sydney University, (AUS)

Massimiliano Mazzanti, Università degli Studi di Ferrara (IT)

Marcelo Mira, PUCPR, (BR)

Gonzalo Salazar, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile (RCH)

Paola Spinozzi, Università degli Studi di Ferrara (IT)

Gonzalo Valdivieso, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile (RCH)

Fatima Vieira, Universidade do Porto (P)

For further details on abstract submission, travel, and accommodation please contact:

Dr. Gonzalo Valdivieso

UC Campus of Villarrica

E-mail: gonzalovaldivieso@uc.cl

Gianfranco Franz and Paola Spinozzi

Università di Ferrara

Co-Coordinator of *Routes towards Sustainability*

E-mail: routes@unife.it