Neoliberalism
Spaces of Contention

April 14–15, 2017
Ruth Dill Johnson Crockett Building
Conference Room
162 Ryders Lane
New Brunswick NJ 08901

Parking is available in Lot 71A on Ryders Lane
near Labor Center Way

Sponsored by Sociology, the School of Arts
and Sciences, Women’s and Gender Studies,
the Institute for Research on Women, the
Institute for Women’s Leadership and
Douglass Residential College

Conference Organizer: Prof. Zakia Salime Sociology Graduate Students: Alex Demshock and Jomaira Salas
Contact: ald166@scarletmail.rutgers.edu with questions
9:00 am  Introductions
Zakia Salime  Associate Professor of Sociology and Women's and Gender Studies
Welcoming Remarks: Rick Schroeder  Dean of Social and Behavioral Sciences

9:30 am  Panel 1: Community Organizing
Hadiya Abdelrahman  Refugee Resettlement
New realities of resettled refugees in the US: difficulties and hope
Carolina Alonso Bejarano  Rutgers University
‘Antonia Roberta’: A Grassroots Approach to Ethnography
Nadir Bouhmouch  Film Maker
Peasant’s Environmental and Land Rights in the Face of Neoliberal Development
Rapheal Randall and Kat Engelman  Youth United for Change
Community Control: Revitalization & Reuse of Human Potential Through Schools
Chair: Jomaira Salas  Rutgers University

12:00 pm  Break

12:15 pm  Lunch

1:15 pm  Panel 2: Sexuality, Embodiment, and Securitization
Debanuj DasGupta  University of Connecticut
Transgender Detention & the Geography of Human Rights
Michael Ralph  New York University
The Esthetics of Sexuality in Dakar
Barbara Sutton  University of Albany at SUNY
Fashion of fear: Neoliberalism, Security and the Body
Chair: Kyla Schuller  Rutgers University

2:45 pm  Break

3:00 pm  Panel 3: The Racialized Ecologies of Neoliberal Urbanism
Jaime Alves  College of Staten Island, City University of New York
Hay que ser Malo para no Sufrrir: Neoliberal Governmentality, Racial Violence and the Politics of Radical Refusal in a Colombian Shantytown
Alex Demshock  Rutgers University
Urban Invention: University City and the Death and Life of Black Place
Sam Hege  Rutgers University
The History of a Food Desert: The South Bronx and its Relationship to Fast Food
Chair: Judith Gerson  Rutgers University

4:45 pm  Break

5:00 pm  Film: Landless Moroccans  by Soraya El Kahloufi  (Film Director)

6:30 pm  Dinner
8:30 am  Breakfast
9:00 am  Panel 1: Disruptive Communities, Geographies of Struggle

**Manisha Desai** University of Connecticut  
*The Gendered Geographies of Subaltern Struggles Against Neoliberal Development in India*

**Asher Gherman** Rutgers University  
*Neoliberalism in the air? Segregating the atmosphere in ‘the world’s most polluted city’*

**Karen Rignall** University of Kentucky  
*The Aporias of Rights in Contested Energy Landscapes: What it Means to Claim a Rightful Share in Southern Morocco*

**Mi Shih** Bloustein School, Rutgers University  
*Rethinking Displacement in Peri-Urban Transformation in China*

Chair: **Ali Chaudhary** Rutgers University

11:00 am  Break

11:15 am  Panel 2: New Ecologies of Accumulation: Leisure, faith, tourism

**Attiya Ahmad** George Washington University  
*Halal Tourism and the Spoils of War in the Middle East*

**Aghil Daghagheleh** Rutgers University  
*Oil, Sugarcane and Dust storms: Spatial Politics and Ethnic Resistance Among Arab People of Iran*

**Scott Salmon** The New School  
*Re-Imagining Rio: Competitive Urbanism, Spaces of Exception, and the Olympic Project*

**Genese Marie Sodikoff** Rutgers University  
*Laissez-Faire in the Sixth Extinction: The Madagascar Case*

Chair: **Zaire Dinzey-Flores** Rutgers University

12:45 pm  End
Dania Z. Beheshti is a PhD candidate in Comparative Literature at the University of New York and Researcher Affliate at the Centro de Estudios de América Latina. Her research focuses on queer politics, queer sexualities, and queer migration. Email: dania.zadeh@nyu.edu

Soraya El Kahlaoui is a young Moroccan filmmaker, photographer and environmental/social justice activist, with a bachelor’s degree in both film production and international political science from San Diego State University. His first film, Mekashên & Méjda à la Karan, a documentary about Morocco’s Arab Spring protests: The February 20th Movement. His second film “475” (2013), a documentary feature about Morocco’s rape-to-marry law, went on to win awards at several film festivals, notably one from Deutsche Welle. Nadir Bouhmouch is also a published photojournalist. His photojournalistic and documentary work has appeared on Aljazeera, Le Monde, and the Middle East Eye. Nadir’s photojournalism focuses largely on environmental, rural, and land rights issues in Morocco’s marginalized interior regions. Email: nadirbouhmouch@gmail.com

Asher Ghetnert is Associate Professor in the Department of Geography at Rutgers University, where he also directs the South Asian Studies Program. He has published widely on aesthetic governmentality, gentrification, and urban technics and is the author of Rule by Aesthetics: World-Class Architecture and Globalization (Rutgers University Press, 2010). His current research focuses on two new research projects focused on (i) the cultural and aesthetic politics of air pollution in Delhi, recently declared the world’s most polluted city, and (ii) vernacular land markets and flexible law making on India’s urban periphery. Email: a.ghertner@rutgers.edu

Sam Hege is a doctoral candidate in the History Department at Rutgers. His primary interests lie at the intersection of history, urban studies, and environmental history in Latin America. He is currently carrying out two new research projects focused on (i) the cultural and aesthetic politics of air pollution in Delhi, recently declared the world’s most polluted city, and (ii) vernacular land markets and flexible law making on India’s urban periphery. Email: s.hege526@gmail.com

Michael Ralph is Associate Professor in the Department of Social and Cultural Analysis at New York University. He is also Director of the Metropolitan Studies program. Michael’s research and teaching focuses on the production, consumption, and contestation of cultural goods and meanings, as well as economic and political transformation in the Atlantic world, especially Senegal, West Africa, and the US South. Michael is the author of the Forensics of Capital (2015, Chicago Press). He has published in Disability Studies Quarterly, Souls, Social Text, Public Culture, South Atlantic Quarterly, The Journal of the History of Sport, and Transforming Anthropology. He is a member of the Social Text Editorial Collective, the Souls Editorial Working Group, and the Editor-in-Chief of Transforming Anthropology, the flagship journal of the Association of Black Anthropologists. Email: michael.ralph@nyu.edu

Raphael Randall is the Executive Director of Youth United for Change (YUC), a youth-led, democratic organization with a membership comprised primarily of young people from working class communities of color, who utilize organized “people” power to improve the conditions of Philadelphia public schools. He has received both a Bachelor of Science in Design from The Ohio State University, and a Master of City and Regional Planning from the University of Pennsylvania. Before taking the helm at YUC in 2014, he worked on product design for Michael Graves Design Group; and later became an urban planner and designer with Interface Studio, developing community plans for nonprofits and neighborhood groups throughout North Philadelphia. His goal at YUC is to help young people of color develop their own approaches to social justice leadership, as well as embrace their roles as change agents through organizing campaigns rooted in their own needs and experiences. Email: raphael@yucyouth.org

Karen Rignall is a cultural anthropologist and Assistant Professor in the Community and Leadership Development Department at the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment. Her research addresses agrarian transformation, land tenure, rural politics, and environmental change, especially in the oasis valleys of southwestern Morocco. Her current project focuses on the causes and impacts of bubonic plague on biotic and cultural extinction in Madagascar. Her current research is focused on mega-event politics and the contested spaces of neoliberalism in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Email: salmons@newschool.edu

Mi Shih is Assistant Professor at the Bluestone School of Planning and Public Policy, Rutgers University. She conducts research on urbanization, land development and conflict, and social protests in China. She has also recently undertaken comparative work on land use planning in the US and internationally. Email: mi.shih@yale.edu

Genese Marie Sodikoff is Associate Professor of Anthropology at Rutgers-Newark University. Her research focuses on the social and cultural implications of economic and technological practices, particularly in relation to political violence and food insecurity. She is the editor of a special issue on the politics of food security and resistance, which is forthcoming in June 2013. She is the author of Surviving State Terror: Women’s Testimonies of Repression and Resistance in Argentina (Rutgers University Press, 2010), as well as a number of articles on the social and cultural implications of violence and resistance in Argentina. Email: sodikoff@andromeda.rutgers.edu

Barbara Sutton is an Associate Professor of Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at the University of Albany, New York. She is affiliated with the departments of Sociology and of Latin American, Caribbean, and U.S. Latino Studies. In addition to her doctoral dissertation on social movement organizing by young people in the United States, Barbara Sutton earned a law degree in Argentina. She coedited Security Disarmed: Critical Perspectives on Gender, Race, and Militarization (with Sandra Morgen and Julie Novkov; Rutgers University Press, 2008), and is also the editor of Bodies in Crisis: Culture, Violence, and Women’s Resistance in Neoliberal Argentina (Rutgers University Press, 2010), which was a finalist for the 2010 Annual Book Award of the National Women’s Studies Association. Her forthcoming book Surviving State Terror: Women’s Testimonies of Repression and Resistance in Argentina is slated for publication with NYU Press. Email: bsutton@albany.edu

Niharika Banerjea, Rohit DasGupta and Jaime Grant)