The Caribbean played a central role in the global transformations that began in the fifteenth century, and it is a part of the world well-suited to a study of that dynamic process. This conference is designed to explore the regional, Atlantic and World approaches to the Caribbean, and what they each mean for thinking about the transformations within and beyond the Caribbean in the period, c. 1500 to 1800.

9:00 Welcome and Introduction

Steve Hindle, The Huntington
Carla Pestana, UCLA (Convener)
Molly Warsh, University of Pittsburgh (Convener)

9:15 Session 1 Geographies of Exchange

David Wheat, Michigan State University
“Catalina de los Santos: Caribbean Widow and Shipowner of African Descent in Terceira, Seville, and Tenerife (1592-1593)”

Justin Roberts, Dalhousie University
“Mosquitos and Slaves: Disease, Migration, and Labor in the Seventeenth-Century Global Tropics”

Shantel George, Marist College
“The Kola Nut in Caribbean History: Local and Global Circulations”

10:30 Break

10:45 Session 2 Circulating Bodies and Knowledge

Melissa N. Morris, University of Wyoming
“The Influence of the Environment and Peoples of the Caribbean on Later Colonization Efforts”

Jesse Cromwell, University of Mississippi
“Scattered to the Winds: Canary Islanders, The Bourbon Reforms, and the Repopulation of the Spanish circum-Caribbean”

Sasha Turner, Johns Hopkins University
“Domesticated, Commodified, and Cultivated: The (In)visible and the (In)alienable in Care and Medical Work”

12:00 Lunch Break

1:00 Session 3 Self-Liberation in the Caribbean

Rob Schwaller, University of Kansas
“Undoing Spanish Conquests: The Territoriality of African and Indigenous Maroons in Sixteenth Century Hispaniola and Panama”

Gabriel Rocha, Brown University
“Runaway Ecologies: Between the Matos of São Tomé and the Montes of the Caribbean in the Early Sixteenth Century”
Elena Schneider, UC Berkeley
“Escaping Slavery by Sea: Knowledge Networks and Self-Liberation in the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries”

2:15 Break

2:30 Session 4 Logics of Profit

Pablo Gomez, University of Wisconsin
“Early Modern Caribbean Slavery and the Imagination of Universal Quantifiable Bodies and Diseases”

Pernille Roege, University of Pittsburgh
“Foreigners and Foreign Capital in the Danish West Indies, ca. 1750-1800”

Brett Rushforth, University of Oregon
“Marronage and Informal Economies in the French Caribbean”

3:45 Closing Discussion

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