

Local People: Exploring Identity, Economy, and Place
The Seventh Annual Graduate Conference
Hosted by the Future Professoriate Program of Syracuse University, Department of
History
Friday, March 20th, 2015

The Future Professoriate Program of the Department of History at Syracuse University will hold its seventh annual interdisciplinary Graduate Conference on Friday, March 20th, 2015. We are delighted to invite proposals from graduate students of all disciplines on topics related to the conference's theme:

Local People:
Exploring Identity, Economy, and Place

Graduate students throughout the northeast region are welcome to submit proposals for either panels or individual papers. The conference theme should be interpreted broadly. Possible topics may relate to the impact of place, 'ordinary people' as historical actors, localism, grassroots movements, political economy, environment, federalism, regional identity, nativism, customs, and community.

Some questions the conference hopes to discuss will include but are not limited to:

- How might concepts such as representativeness, scale, 'case study' and 'microcosm' enhance or distort scholarly analyses?
- What is the relationship between the 'local,' the 'regional,' the 'national,' and the 'international'?
- How might scholars of the local make use of ethnographic, anthropological and oral history methods in the construction of their narratives?
- How do local studies deal with cause and historical agency? What about theory?
- How do local studies deal with questions of identity and the individual? How do local studies fit within the context of network analyses?
- Are there instances in which local studies are more or less valuable? How does the local study age as a piece of scholarship?
- How do local studies contend with the 'big' questions? How are local studies empowering?

Each proposal should include a maximum 300-word abstract along with a C.V. for each panelist. For panel proposals, please also submit a 200-word panel abstract. Deadline for proposals is Friday, December 19th, 2014. Please submit all materials to suhistoryfpp@gmail.com. Applicants will be notified by early January whether the abstract has been accepted.

Our keynote speaker will be Catherine Tumber, author of *Small, Gritty, and Green: The Promise of America's Smaller Industrial Cities in a Low Carbon World*. The keynote address is titled, "Big Questions about Small Cities: Personal and Historical Narrative in the Mega Age."

Participants will be responsible for their own travel and meal expenses, but some refreshments will be provided. A reception will be held for all participants after the conference.

Queries may also be sent to: suhistoryfpp@gmail.com. More information can be found at <http://historyfpp.syr.edu>.