

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

WATER, FORESTS AND PEOPLE: TOWARDS INTEGRATIVE RESEARCH ON DAMS, NATURAL RESOURCES AND SOCIETY IN THE AMAZON



Co-sponsored by:

Center for Latin American Studies

Tropical Conservation and Development Program - TCD

Amazon Conservation Leadership Initiative - ACLI

University of Florida Water Institute

Florida Climate Institute – FCI



<http://www.tcd.ufl.edu/conferences.shtml>

Date: January 23 to 25, 2012

John Wayne Reitz Union, Room 361-363

Gainesville, FL, US

The Need for Integrative Research on Dams in the Amazon

The Brazilian Amazon is one of the most important natural environments in the world, playing a key role in global climate dynamics. In that regard, understanding the role of the Brazilian Amazon in hemispheric and global climate conditions will be essential if appropriate mitigation and adaptation policies are to be developed. Currently, the Brazilian government has over 80 large dams planned which will impact water resources, forests and land cover, and resident populations, many of whom are indigenous. Considerable research has been done on dams in Brazil, but very little of it has attempted to integrate climate, hydrology, forests and people in the assessment of their effects. Although dams have recently been touted as a carbon neutral energy source, there is considerable evidence to the contrary. With the dynamics of increasing climate change, the need for this kind of integrative research becomes urgent.

This 3 day Symposium will include the participation of UF and Brazilian Scholars, as well as invited guests. There will be one day of presentations and roundtables, one day of integrative research exercises and one day for group work on the proposal, with research team participants.

This Symposium is part of the *Amazon Dams Program Initiative*, an effort to build a bi-national research program on the multiple social and environmental effects of dams involving, , four rivers and three Universities in the Brazilian Amazon, working collaboratively with UF and other US faculty, students and researchers. Currently, this effort includes 14 UF faculty, post-docs and PhD students; 14 professors and professionals from Brazil, and 2 collaborators from other American institutions.

For this Symposium, we will explore three main themes:

- **Dams and River Systems** – including hydrology, geomorphology, fish and fisheries.
- **Dams and Social Systems** – including political ecology, indigenous peoples and struggles against dams in the Amazon, long-term effects of Dams on social groups in Costa Rica, and socio-economic benefits of electrification.
- **Dams and Climate Change** – including land-use and land-cover change, with a focus on the Brazilian Amazon.

The main outcomes to be achieved from this Symposium are sharing knowledge within and across disciplines, formation of the research team and advance proposal development.

January 23, day 1	Open to the public, no registration required Presentations and Discussion
January 24, day 2	Workshop format
January 25, day 3	Program development and proposal writing

Program:

JANUARY 23, 2012 - FIRST DAY		
CONTEXT		
Time	Theme	Speaker
AM 9:00 – 9:15 Welcome	Welcome and Opening	Dr. Philip J. Williams - Director, Center for Latin American Studies/UF Dr. Bette Loiseau - Director, Tropical Conservation and Development Program /UF Dr. Wendy Graham – Director, Water Institute /UF
9:15-9:20 Objectives and Agenda	Symposium Coordinator	Dr. Anthony Oliver-Smith , Department of Anthropology/UF
9:20-10:15 Keynote Speaker	The context of Dams and Climate Change in Brazilian Amazon	Dr. Philip Fearnside , Professor and Researcher, Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas da Amazônia – INPA/Brazil
10:15-10:30	Break	

Time	Theme	Speaker
AM 10:30-12:00	SOCIAL SCIENCE CLUSTER	
10:30-11:00	Dams and Population Displacement and Resettlement	Dr. Anthony Oliver-Smith , Department of Anthropology/UF
11:00-11:30	Politics of Water and Social Movements	Dr. Katrina Schwartz , Department of Political Science, UF
11:30- 12:00	Linking Short-Term and Long-Term Models to Evaluate Success in Dam-Induced Resettlement Projects	MS Gabriela Stocks , Department of Anthropology, UF
12:00 – 1:30 PM	Lunch	

JANUARY 23, 2012 - FIRST DAY		
CONTEXT		
Time	Theme	Speaker
PM 1:30 – 3:30	NATURAL SCIENCE CLUSTER	
1:30-2:00	Long Term Multidisciplinary Research on Dams: Lessons Learned From The Glen Canyon Dam, Colorado River, US	Dr. Theodore Melis – USGS Glen Canyon Program and Dr. William (Bill) Pine - Wildlife Ecology and Conservation – UF
2:00-2:30	Effects of Dams in River Geomorphology	Dr. Joann Mossa , Department of Geography, UF
2:30-3:00	Dams and Fisheries in the Amazon: State of Art, Gaps of Knowledge and Integration Across Tocantins and Madeira Watersheds	Dr. Elineide Marques , Federal University of Tocantins (UFT), Brazil and Dr. Carolina Doria , Federal University of Rondônia (UNIR), Brazil
3:00-3:30	Forests, Land Use and Land Cover Change Processes Related to Dams	Dr. Michael Binford , Chair, Department of Geography, UF, and Dr. Stephanie Bohlman , School of Forest Resources and Conservation - UF
3:30-3:45	Break	

Time	Theme	Speaker
PM 3:45-5:00	POLICY CLUSTER	
3:45-4:15	Environmental and Social Impact Analysis on Dams in Brazil: a Need for New Paradigms	Dr. Mary Allegretti , President, Chico Mendes Memorial, Brazil
4:15-4:45	Public Utilities and Benchmarking for Water and Energy Sectors	Dr. Sanford Berg , Director of Water Studies for the Public Utility Research Center (PURC) at UF
4:45-5:15	Dam Licensing in the United States	Dr. Christine A. Klein , Chesterfield Smith Professor of Law and Director, LL.M. Program in Environmental & Land Use Law University of Florida Levin College of Law
5:15-5:30	Day wrap-up	Dr. Anthony Oliver-Smith

JANUARY 24, 2012 - SECOND DAY WORKSHOP FORMAT		
Time	Theme	Format
AM 8:30-9:00	Self-introductions of participants	Map and circle
9:00 -9:45 Interactive presentation	Stages of Dams Implementation: Stakeholders and Decision-making	Dr. Simone Athayde , Center for Latin American Studies/UF, Dr. Walterlina Brasil , Federal University of Rondônia (UNIR), and Dr. Elineide Marques , Federal University of Tocantins (UFT)
09:45 – 10:45	Disciplinary break out groups to develop framework and research questions	Groups formed within social and natural sciences disciplines
10:45 -11:00	Break	
11:00 -12:00	Report and discussion of break out groups results	Plenary
12:00 – 1:30 PM	Lunch	
PM 1:30-2:30 Integrative research on dams	The Challenge of Integrative Research on Dams	Dr. Anthony Oliver-Smith Presentation and discussion
2:30 – 4:00	Interdisciplinary break out groups for developing integrative research questions, frameworks and methods	Groups formed according to previously defined integrative themes
4:00 – 4:15	Break	
4:15- 5:15	Sharing and discussion of break out groups results	Plenary
5:15 – 5:30	Day wrap-up	
January 25, 2012 THIRD DAY	This day is closed for public participation, and reserved for group work on project development.	Program participants, Brazilian collaborators and guests

Symposium Organizers: Dr. Anthony Oliver-Smith (Dep. Anthropology/LAS); Dr. Simone Athayde (LAS/TCD), Dr. Stephanie Bohlman (SFRC) and MS [Kathleen McKee](#) (Water Institute).

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