

Call for Papers: FIFTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON THE HISTORY OF RECENT SOCIAL SCIENCE
University of Zurich, Switzerland
June 8-9, 2018

This two-day conference of the Society for the History of Recent Social Science (HISRESS) will bring together researchers working on the history of post-World War II social science. It will provide a forum for the latest research on the cross-disciplinary history of the post-war social sciences, including but not limited to anthropology, economics, psychology, political science, and sociology as well as related fields like area studies, communication studies, history, international relations, law and linguistics. We are especially eager to receive submissions that treat themes, topics, and events that span the history of individual disciplines.

The conference aims to build upon the recent emergence of work and conversation on cross-disciplinary themes in the postwar history of the social sciences. While large parts of history of social science scholarship still focus on the 19th and early 20th centuries and are attuned to the histories of individual disciplines, there is also a larger interest now in the developments spanning the social sciences in the early, late, and post-Cold War periods. Though each of the major social science fields has a community of disciplinary historians, research explicitly concerned with cross-disciplinary topics remains comparatively rare. The purpose of the conference is to further encourage fruitful cross-disciplinary conversations of recent years.

Submissions are welcome in areas such as:

- The uptake of social science concepts and figures in wider intellectual and popular discourses
- Comparative institutional histories of departments and programs
- Border disputes and boundary work between disciplines as well as academic cultures
- Themes and concepts developed in the history and sociology of natural and physical science, reconceptualized for the social science context
- Professional and applied training programs and schools, and the quasi-disciplinary fields (like business administration) that typically housed them
- The role of social science in post-colonial state-building governance
- Social science adaptations to the changing media landscape
- The role and prominence of disciplinary memory in a comparative context

The two-day conference will be organized as a series of one-hour, single-paper sessions attended by all participants. Ample time will be set aside for intellectual exchange between presenters and attendees, as all participants are expected to read pre-circulated papers in advance.

Proposals should contain no more than 1000 words, indicating the originality of the paper. The deadline for receipt of abstracts is February 4, 2018. Final notification will be given in early March 2018 after proposals have been reviewed. Completed papers will be expected by May 13, 2018.

The organizing committee consists of

Jamie Cohen-Cole (George Washington University), Philippe Fontaine (École normale supérieure de Cachan), Catherine Herfeld (University of Zurich), and Jeff Pooley (Muhlenberg College).

All proposals and requests for information should be sent to: hisress2018@gmail.com. For more information on the Society for the History of Recent Social Science (HISRESS), see www.hisress.org.