

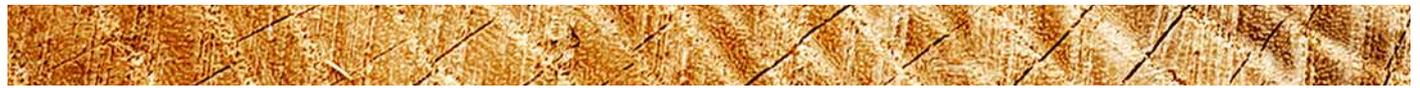
AHA2018 THE SCALE OF HISTORY

THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY, CANBERRA 2-6 JULY

OPEN SESSIONS

The Australian Historical Association Annual Conference will be held at ANU on 2-6 July 2018. Although most conference events are open to registered delegates only, the following sessions (all in the **Copland Theatre**) are open to the wider ANU community.

- TUESDAY 3 JULY, 11.00AM** **Writing a national history on a global scale: a preliminary evaluation of A.G. Hopkins' *American Empire* (2018)**
Chair: Tim Rowse • Panel: John Gascoigne, Ian Tyrrell
- TUESDAY 3 JULY 1.30PM** **Rescaling the Australian Dictionary of Biography**
Chair: Samuel Furphy • Panel: Melanie Nolan, Malcolm Allbrook, Karen Fox, Nicole McLennan
- TUESDAY 3 JULY, 3.30PM** **Understorey – the campaigns to protect the south-east forests**
Film screening and discussion
Chair: Tom Griffiths • Panel: Mark McKenna, John Blay, Fiona Firth
- WEDNESDAY 4 JULY, 9.00AM** **Knowledges of the Deep Human Past**
Chair: Lynette Russell • Panel: Ann McGrath, Laura Rademaker, Ben Silverstein, Aileen Walsh
- WEDNESDAY 4 JULY, 11.00AM** **Discovering history at scale through Trove**
Chair: Hilary Berthon • Panel: Katherine Bode, Garrick Hitchcock, Mark Finnane, Helen Morgan
- WEDNESDAY 4 JULY, 1.30PM** **Museums and the Anthropocene**
Chair: Andrea Gaynor • Panel: Martha Sear, Leah Lui-Chivizhe, George Main, Cameron Muir, Jenny Newell, Libby Robin
- THURSDAY 5 JULY, 11.00AM** **Object Lessons: Australian Journey – The Story of a Nation in Twelve Objects**
Chair: Rae Frances • Panel: David Arnold, Frank Bongiorno, Katrina Grant, Peter Read, Jayne Regan, Bruce Scates
- THURSDAY 5 JULY, 1.30PM** **The Future of Migration History in Australia**
Chair: Joy Damousi • Panel: Jayne Persian, Andonis Piperoglou, Alexandra Delliios, Karen Schamberger
- THURSDAY 5 JULY, 3.30PM** **What Is International History Now?**
Chair: Glenda Sluga • Panel: Sarah Dunstan, Beatrice Wayne, Claire Wright, Ben Huf
- FRIDAY 6 JULY, 11.00AM** **Animals Count**
Chair: Libby Robin • Panel members: Nancy Cushing, Andrea Gaynor, David Harris, Rohan Lloyd, Julie McIntyre, Ruth Morgan, Emily O'Gorman



Writing a national history on a global scale: a preliminary evaluation of A.G. Hopkins' *American Empire* (2018)

American Empire is a recently published history of the United States from a global perspective, written by one of the foremost contemporary practitioners of 'global scale' history. In a narrative over three centuries, A.G. Hopkins interprets the United States' history from the perspective of the new nation's economic relationships with the Old World, the Caribbean and the Pacific. At the same time, it compares the formation of the American Empire with the trajectories of European empires. This panel will first lay out the book's principal arguments before answering the questions: how does Hopkins' global framing change the way that we tell the United States' story? And in ways has US imperialism been like and unlike other imperialisms?

Rescaling the Australian Dictionary of Biography

The Australian Dictionary of Biography (ADB) is a product of the Australian historical community, a national collaborative project spanning nearly six decades. The ADB's foundational volumes (1 to 12) featured concise lives of Australians from 1788 which were disproportionately about male, European-Australians and the socially prominent. This panel will discuss far-reaching changes at the ADB in the last decade or so, starting with the 2005 'missing persons' volume and the digitisation of all volumes in 2007, which are leading to the rescaling of the ADB.

Knowledges of the deep human past

What is the deep past and how can we know it? The discipline of history traditionally has depended on the written archive but historians now recognise the potential of non-written sources to reveal the past. Our project pushes the boundaries of history further still, drawing on interdisciplinary, scientific and Indigenous knowledges of the deep past, refusing to categorize that deep past as 'pre' history. But what are the methodological and epistemological challenges of such an approach?

Discovering history at scale through Trove

Trove, the National Library of Australia's free digital library service, has grown

rapidly to become an indispensable tool for undertaking historical research allowing researchers to engage with its digital resources—researching, building and creating as well as enriching them. Amongst its 560+ million resources contributed by around 800 research, cultural heritage and community organisations, are the National Library's digital collections—digitised newspapers, journals, books, pictures, manuscripts, maps and music as well as a rapidly growing born digital collection.

Museums and the Anthropocene

How are museums uniquely placed to grapple with the scale of the Anthropocene and its demands on the imagination for thinking about the deep past and deep futures? How can museums bring history and lived human experience to a narrative defined by material flows and technological change? How does the concept of the Anthropocene challenge traditional museum modes and practices?

'Object Lessons: Australian Journey – The Story of a Nation in Twelve Objects'

'The History of the World in One Hundred Objects' was one of the National Museum of Australia's most successful exhibitions. How can historians use objects to materialise the past? What can we learn from the insights of archaeologists and cultural anthropologists? How might working with objects lead to deeper engagement with museums, libraries and archives? What role might the digital humanities play in interpreting objects in new and challenging ways? Finally, how do objects help us navigate scale in history, spanning past and present, the local and the global?

The Future of Migration History in Australia

Histories of migration are integral to local, national, regional, and global historical perspectives. Broader considerations of 'mobility', particularly under the disciplines of political science and legal studies, are booming in Europe, driven by societal concerns over refugee flows and issues of 'integration'. This necessitates historical approaches that can add nuance and reveal continuities and discontinuities in the structures of power that have shaped the movement of individuals across (and within) borders. This roundtable will reflect on methodological perspectives that have

influenced the writing of migration history since the 1970s, and offer suggestions for future practice and potential research directions.

What Is International History Now?

The origins of history as a discipline are inextricable from the scale of the international. History's earliest aims were defined as the study of the primacy of foreign policy and diplomacy. Yet we live in a moment where there are only a few historians who name themselves international, and few departments, courses, or chairs that announce this sub-field in history departments in Australia, or in the world. This round table will discuss the state of international history, from its 'new' foci on international organizations and ideas, its new archives and new methodologies to its connections to the ongoing discussions on globalizing historiography. Historians from the International History Laureate at the University of Sydney will also reflect upon potential future avenues of research.

Animals Count

Whether perceived as excessive, just right or too small, animal numbers matter to the humans with whom they share environments. Animals in the right numbers are accepted and even welcomed, but as they are seen to deviate from the human-declared set point, they become enemies upon whom to declare war or victims to be protected. In a new collection, *Animals Count*, edited by Nancy Cushing and Jodi Frawley, leading and emerging scholars investigate the ways in which the size of an animal population impacts on how they are viewed by humans and, conversely, how animals are affected by human perceptions of the correctness of their numbers.

In this fast-paced roundtable, contributors to the collection will be allotted five minutes in which to make the case for why their animal subject "counts" in history. From cane toads to silver eyes, and from beche-de-mer to mosquitoes, claims that particular animals were excessive or abundant, in equilibrium or scarce will be examined and contested. Ruth Morgan will provide her response to the book, followed by a general discussion.