

Overview

2014/15 has been a superb consolidating year for the Centre. We have now deepened our networks in the UK and with related projects at Leiden through the FEEGI in Europe conference. In particular we look forward to strengthening ties with Catia Antunes and her team at Leiden (we will co-host a workshop in London in March 2016). These networks are now running alongside the relation-

ships we have had with academics in the United States. The coming year will see us shift from the exploratory and historiographical stages of our project to outputs and impacts.

We welcome Edmond Smith as a Research Fellow in Corporate History who has just completed his Cambridge Dissertation (*Networks of the East India Company, c. 1600-1625*) and will bring his exper-

tise on the East India Company and his public relations skills to the team. We also welcome Michael Bennett as a further MA-Res student from KCL who will write on the global history of migration. We congratulate Liam Horrigan on a superb MA-Res thesis and wish him well for the future.

Publications

The Project Manifesto, entitled "Corporate Constitutionalism and the Dialogue between the Global and Local in Seventeenth Century English History" is forthcoming in *Itinerario*. This includes responses from David Armitage ('Wider Still and Wider: Corporate Constitutionalism Unbounded'), Paul Halliday ('Speaking Law to the Corporate Person'), Vicki Hsueh ('Constitutional Turns and Corporate Responses to the Empire of Uniformity') and Tom Leng ('Corporate Constitutionalism', the Merchant Adventurers, and Anglo-European interaction')

An edited collection, will appear next year with Routledge, containing chapters from the team members: Dr Pettigrew (The Failure of the Cloth Trade to Surat and the Internationalisation of English Mercantilist Thought, 1614–1621), Dr Stein (Indian Merchants, Company Protection, and the Development of the Bombay Shipping Pass Regime, c. 1680–1740), Dr Haydon (Jahangir's Paintings), Aske Brock (Asian Influences on the Commercial Strategies of the English

East India Company), and Haig Smith (The Changing Face of Religious Governance and Religious Sufferance in the East India Company, 1610–1670).

Dr Pettigrew and Dr Stein have a joint article forthcoming in *Historical Research*: "The Public Rivalry between Regulated and Joint Stock Companies and the Development of Seventeenth-Century Corporate Constitutions"

Dr Stein also published "Passes and Protection in the Making of a British Mediterranean," *Journal of British Studies* 54, no. 3 (July 2015): 602-631

Edmond Smith comes to the project with two related publications

'Canaanising Madagascar': Africa in the English imperial imagination, 1635-1650' in *Itinerario*, 39, 2 (2015) pp. 277-298

'The Economic World of the Early Dutch and English Atlantic' in D'Maris Coffman, Adrian Leonard and William O'Reilly (eds.), *The Atlantic World* (Routledge: 2015)



The Leverhulme Trust

Events

Delhi

In January, the PEIC team flew to Delhi for a conference hosted by the University of Delhi, covering Anglo-Indian corporate connections from the earliest days of the East India Company to the Rebellion in 1857. Held at the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, speakers included students and academics from the Universities of Delhi, Oxford and Visva-Bharati (West Bengal). The event culminated with an evening reception in the Gymkhana Club in Delhi.

Many of the participants in the conference have submitted chapters for the edited collection.

Sheffield Conference

In February, the team were hosted by Tom Leng and the University of Sheffield history department. The event was an opportunity to make connections with a number of high-profile figures in the field (including Phil Withington and Michael Braddick), and to get input into the ongoing research of the Centre. To that end, each team member presented a paper on their work in progress, prompting much useful discussion. We are delighted to continue the association by welcoming Tom Leng to the IHR seminar series this year.

IHR Seminar Series

Our IHR series has helped us to offer focus to the burgeoning field of corporate history and has enabled us to engage constructively with scholars at all career stages. The series is running again in 2015-6, and details of the speakers can be found on the project website.

Impact

The Centre has begun to develop momentum as a focal point for impact with the non-academic world. We have co-hosted events on the history of civil liberties and race equality. Dr Pettigrew contributed to a corporate governance discussion at Hakluyt consultants, and offered consultancy services to a successful local museum exhibition.

FEEGI Conference

From the 2nd to the 5th June FEEGI held its first conference in Europe, more precisely in the Dutch town of Leiden. A delegation from the project attended the conference, and offered papers. Dr Stein's was titled "A Merchant Society between King and Sultan", Dr Pettigrew's "The Seventeenth Century English Trading Corporation as Agent, Network, and Institution" and Edmond Smith's "Decision making in an early modern institution: using networks to explore East India Company policy, 1610-1620". Overall, the conference questioned the relationship between agents, institutions and Empires in a global setting and illuminated a series of studies and new venues of research for global history.

Roger Anstey Lecture

The centre was delighted to welcome Professor Richard Cawardine, President of Corpus Christi Oxford, to deliver the annual Anstey memorial lecture on 2nd April 2015, entitled "'The judgments of the Lord, are true and righteous altogether": The religion and politics of Abraham Lincoln's Second Inaugural Address'.

THE CENTRAL
EVENT OF THE
YEAR WAS THE
CONFERENCE AT
DELHI



THE TEAM VISITING A
VERY MISTY TAJ MAHAL



Talks, Lectures and Papers

On 29 July the Centre co-hosted an event with the Runnymede Trust – Britain’s leading independent race equality think tank – titled ‘Equal Rights for All: Magna Carta and the first Race Relations Act’. The event brought lawyers, policy makers, civil servants, and academics together to reflect on the relationships between the liberal civil rights traditions so often branded by the timeless catch-all ‘Magna Carta’ and the debates and actions relating to the campaigns for racial equality.

Dr Pettigrew also offered papers at the African Studies Department at Wellesley, 25 October, 2014 (‘Britain’s Involvement in Slavery: Computing Freedom’s Debt’); the American Studies Colloquium at the University of Warsaw, 18 December, 2014 (‘American and English Exceptionalism in the Development of American Slavery’); and the *University of Paris conference on Slave Ownership and Reparations*, 6 March 2015 (‘Britain and the Legacies of Slavery’).

Dr Pettigrew gave the inaugural, sold-out, lecture in the Conway Hall Ethical Society’s British Business of Slavery Series, 6 October, 2015.

Dr Stein took part in the “Empire and the Hanoverian Succession,” Roundtable Presentation, *North American Conference on British Studies*, Minneapolis, MN, 7 November 2014.

Dr Stein also presented “Articles of Peace and Mediterranean Passes: England and North Africa, c. 1660–1682,” at the University of Kent School of History Research Seminar, Canterbury, UK, 22 October 2014.

Dr Haydon, Aske Brock and Haig Smith offered a panel entitled ‘The Corporation as Agent of Exchange’ at *Movable Types*, Kent, November 2014.

Aske Brock also gave papers at *Social Networks 1450-1850*, University of Sheffield, July 2015 (‘The incorporated early modern merchant: Thomas Papillon and his network’) and *Travel and Conflict*, University of Bangor, September 2015 (“the English name utterly dishonoured’: the influence of Indian conflicts on English trade strategies”)



DR PETTIGREW TAKING PART IN THE RUNNYMEDE EVENT

THE TEAM
OFFERED A
NUMBER OF TALKS
AND LECTURES,
BOTH ACADEMIC
AND PUBLIC

Visiting Experts



PROF. ROBIN LAW

This year, the Centre was delighted to welcome Professor Robin Law, the Emeritus professor of African history at the University of Stirling.

Professor Law’s work focuses on the peoples of West Africa and their relationship with the nations and trading companies

involved in the slave trade. Prof. Law gave a paper on this topic to the History Department.

Prof. Philip Stern of Duke University, a leading force in Early Modern Corporate history will be hosted by the Centre in February 2016.

Rotman School of Business

The central aim for the centre's next year is to develop its presence in the world of business schools and management studies. To do this, we will co-host a two day interdisciplinary workshop at the Rotman School of Business in Toronto.

This meeting will bring historians of the corporation and south east Asia together with academics from the business school and the Association of Canadian Business Historians.

It seeks to inform present day businesses about the development of the corporate entity, and also shed light on its relationships with state authority and public society, offer new insights into the corporation's broader historical significance, and suggest how its current social and economic roles and responsibilities might develop in the future.

Planned Events

In March 2016 the project will co-host a knowledge exchange event with Dr Catia Antunes and her team on the ERC funded "Fighting Monopolies" project at Leiden.



DR STEIN, ASKE BROCK AND HAIG SMITH IN FRONT OF HUMAYUN'S TOMB, NEW DELHI

Edmond Smith and Dr Haydon are planning a conference in London in summer 2016 on the theme of 'Corporate Cultures'

Aske Brock will speak at the *European Social Science History Conference*, Valencia, March 30 - April 2, 2016 ("Directorate Interlocks in the Formation of Networks in the EIC").