

## Material and Institutional Aspects of Field and Discipline Formation

Center for Science and Society at Columbia University in the City of New York,  
25-26 September 2017. Organized by Fabian Kraemer (LMU  
Munich/Columbia University). This event is co-sponsored by the  
VolkswagenStiftung and the Center for Science and Society.

<http://scienceandsociety.columbia.edu/cssevent/material-institutional-aspects-field-discipline-formation/>

### Abstract:

How do fields, disciplines, and larger formations such as “the sciences” or “the humanities” come into being? What roles do objects, institutions, and materialized concepts play in these processes?

These are some of the questions addressed by this two-day exploratory workshop. We are going to tackle them from a variety of perspectives and by bringing different recent research strands together: the study of the material culture of science, of institutions, and of ideas. The workshop thus aims at bringing fields into dialogue that are more often than not kept neatly separate: the history of science and of humanities, the history of universities, and intellectual history. The contributions are centered around case studies and methodological reflections.

### Program:

September 25, 2017

2:00-2:30: Welcome (Pamela H. Smith) & Introduction (Fabian Kraemer)

#### Materialized Concepts (Matthew Jones, Columbia University)

2:30-3:30: John Tresch (University of Pennsylvania): Disciplinary Maps as  
Cosmograms  
(commented by Francesca Bordogna)

3:30-4:30: Francesca Bordogna (University of Notre Dame): Unities of Truth  
and Knowledge Spaces  
(commented by John Tresch)

4:30-5:00: *Coffee Break*

### **Objects & Practices (Pamela Smith, Columbia University)**

- 5:00-6:00 Kasper Risbjerg Eskildsen (Roskilde University), *The End of Antiquarianism and the Rise of the Humanities: Interpreting Antiquities in the German Enlightenment*  
(commented by Christian Flow)
- 06:00-7:00 Christian Flow (Princeton University): *Lexicographical Material: The Thesaurus linguae Latinae Zettelarchiv*  
(commented by Kasper Risbjerg Eskildsen)
- 7:30 *Conference Dinner*

### **September 26, 2017**

### **Spaces & Media (Barry Bergdoll, Columbia University)**

- 10:00-11:00 Fabian Kraemer (LMU Munich/Columbia University): *Academic Geographies and the Prehistory of the "Two Cultures"*  
(commented by Reinhold Martin)
- 11:00-12:00 Reinhold Martin (Columbia University): *Greek Lines: The Geometry of Knowledge in America, 1820-1900*  
(commented by Fabian Kraemer)
- 12:00-1:30 *Lunch*

### **Institutes & Labs (Fabian Kraemer, LMU Munich/Columbia University)**

- 1:30-2:30 David Cahan (University of Nebraska-Lincoln): *The Burden of Building Physics in Berlin: Institutional Development of the Sciences in Nineteenth-Century Germany*  
(commented by Chad Wellmon)
- 2:30-3:30 Chad Wellmon (University of Virginia): *The Mandarins of the Lab and the Invention of the Modern Humanities*

(commented by David Cahan)

3:30-4:00     *Coffee Break*

4:00-5:00     Final discussion

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**Workshop Participants:**

**Barry Bergdoll**, Meyer Schapiro Professor of Art History and Archeology,  
Columbia University

**Francesca Bordogna**, Associate Professor of Liberal Studies, University of Notre  
Dame

**David Cahan**, Charles Bessey Professor of History, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

**Kasper Risbjerg Eskildsen**, Associate Professor of Communications and Arts,  
Roskilde University (Denmark)

**Christian Flow**, Graduate Student at Princeton University

**Matthew Jones**, James R. Barker Professor of Contemporary Civilization,  
Columbia University

**Fabian Kraemer**, Assistant Professor for the History of Science, LMU Munich and  
Visiting Scholar, Columbia University

**Reinhold Martin**, Professor of Architecture, Columbia University

**Pamela H Smith**, Seth Low Professor of History and Founding Director of the  
Center for Science and Society, Columbia University

**John Tresch**, Associate Professor of History and Sociology of Science, University of  
Pennsylvania

**Chad Wellmon**, Associate Professor of Germanic Languages and Literatures,  
University of Virginia