

Political Geography Specialty Group



2023 PGSG PRECONFERENCE

Updated 3/7/23

[Institute of Behavioral Science](#)

**University of Colorado at
Boulder**

Wednesday, March 22, 2023

Overview

All times are Mountain Time (UTC-07:00)

- 8:40–9:00 Check-In/Registration & Light Refreshments
- 9:00–9:10 Opening Comments/Welcome [Room 155A]
- 9:20–10:35 Sessions I, II, & III**
- 10:35–10:50 Break
- 10:50–12:05 Sessions IV, V, & VI**
- 12:05–1:30 Lunch Break (on your own in Boulder’s “The Hill” district—see map)
- 1:30–2:30 Plenary**
- 2:30–2:45 Break
- 2:45–4:00 Sessions VII & VIII**
- 4:00–4:10 Break
- 4:10–5:40 Sessions IX & X**
- 5:40–5:50 Closing Comments [155A]
- 6:00–9:00 PGSG Dinner [Please bring cash]: [Khow Thai](#)—1600 Broadway, Boulder

ADDITIONAL EVENTS

- **Tuesday, 3/21, 6-9pm:** Informal PGSG Happy Hour—[Rio Grande](#)—1101 Walnut St., Boulder
- **Friday, 3/24, 11:45am-12:45pm:** [PGSG Business Meeting](#): Centennial Ballroom H, Hyatt Regency, Third Floor

Cost, Contact Information, & Directions

COST

There is a \$30 fee for tenure-track faculty only. There are two payment options:

- **Electronic (preferred)—on site or in advance:** click “Buy Now” at the bottom of the [PGSG Preconference webpage](#) to pay using credit card or PayPal. If you pay in advance, please bring an electronic or printed receipt copy.
- **Cash—on site:** Please bring exact change.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Organizers (contact with any questions)

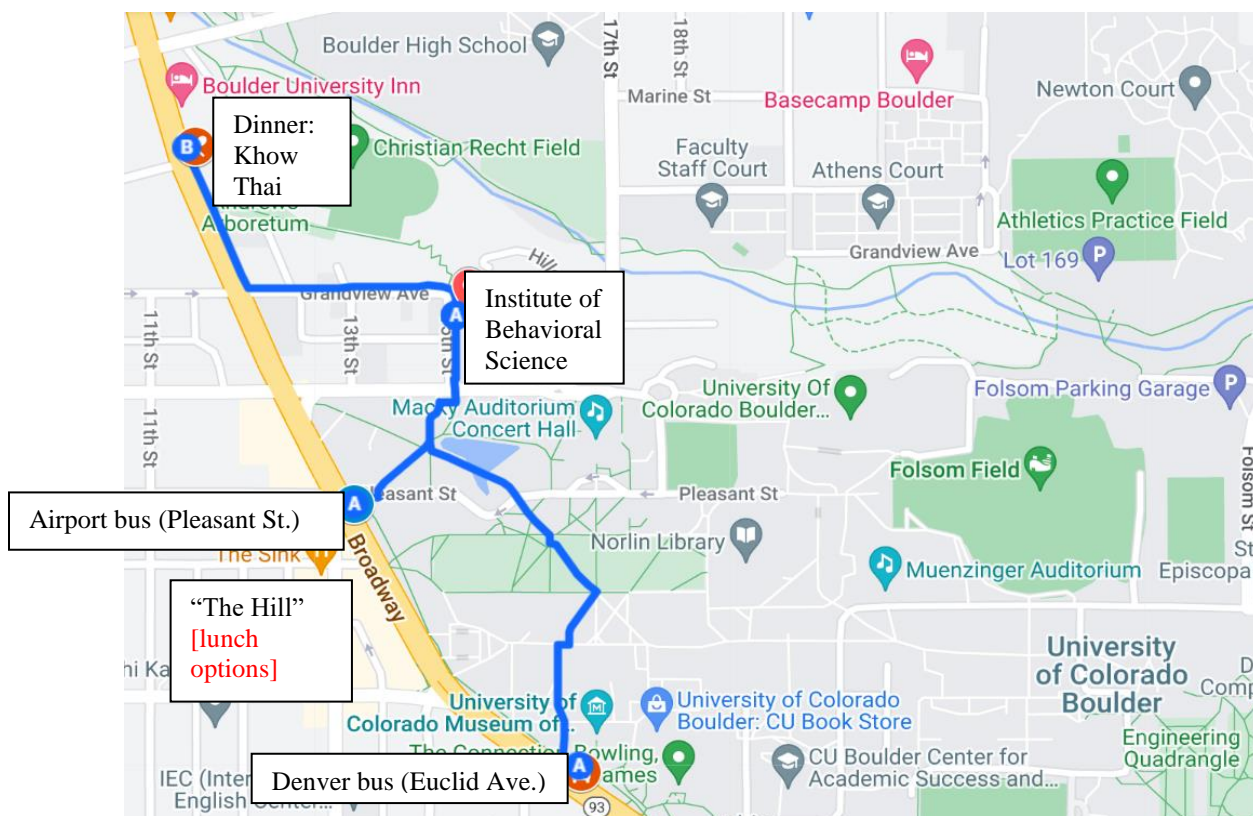
- Kara Dempsey, PGSG President (Appalachian State University): dempseyke@appstate.edu
- Meredith DeBoom, PGSG Vice President (University of South Carolina): deboom@mailbox.sc.edu

Local Host

- John O’Loughlin (University of Colorado-Boulder): johno@colorado.edu

DIRECTIONS

The preconference will be held on the first floor of the [Institute of Behavioral Science](#) (1440 15th St., Boulder, CO) at the University of Colorado-Boulder. [RTD](#) offers public transport between the Denver airport and CU-Boulder (route [AB](#)) and between downtown Denver and CU-Boulder (route [Flatiron Flyer 1](#)). You can plan your route here at <https://www.rtd-denver.com/app/plan>. Bus stops, walking routes, dining options, hotels, and the conference location are identified below.



SESSION THEMES AT A GLANCE

Room	150	155A	155B
9:00 - 9:10		Opening Remarks	
9:20 - 10:35	I = Geostrategy & Regions	II = Environmental Politics	III = Spaces of Exclusion & Inclusion
10:50 - 12:05	IV = Imaginaries & Practices of Territory	V = Political Geographic Histories & Institutions	VI = Conflict Research: Methods & Theories
12:05 - 1:30	Lunch Break (on own)		
1:30 - 2:30	PLENARY (155a/b combined)		
2:45 - 4:00	VII = Democracy, Difference, & Polarization	VIII = Imaginaries: Past, Present, & Future	n/a
4:10 - 5:40	IX = Borders, the Carceral State, & Securitization	X = Morrill Panel: Federal River Governance	n/a
5:40 - 5:50	Closing Remarks—155		
6:00 - 9:00	Dinner (Khow Thai, 1600 Broadway)		

NOTES:

- **Paper presenters should limit their presentations to 13 minutes.** An additional 4 min/presentation may be allocated for questions at the session chair’s discretion.
- Abstracts for each paper are available on the [Political Geography Preconference website](#).

9:20-10:35 Session I: Geostrategy & Regions

Chair: Galen Murton (James Madison University)

Rallying to Russia: Milorad Dodik and the Invasion of Ukraine

Emina Muzaferija (Virginia Tech)

Between Land and Sea: Classification and Anatomy of “Amphibious” Powers

Shintaro Hamanaka (Institute of Developing Economies (IDE-JETRO))

A Crisis of Influence: American Sphere of Influence Geopolitics During the Cold War

Jasper Schneider (Virginia Tech)

Northeast Asia in Regional Perspective

Alexander Diener (University of Kansas)

9:20-10:35 Session II: Environmental Politics

Chair: Natalie Koch (Syracuse University)

One Railway, Many Environmental Problems: Scalar Politics of a Belt and Road Infrastructure Project

Xiaofeng Liu (The University of Hong Kong)

Camels Without Borders: Evaluating the Mediating Role of Livestock in the Climate-Conflict Nexus

Sarah Posner (University of Colorado Boulder)

Opening the black box of urban climate planning: Embedded autonomy and city diplomacy in Los Angeles

Benjamin Weinger (University of California-Los Angeles)

Youth Climate Activism in the MENA Region and Global Climate Governance

Mark Ortiz (Pennsylvania State University)

9:20-10:35 Session III: Spaces of Exclusion & Inclusion

Chair: Austin Kocher (Syracuse University)

Left Behind by the State: The Politics, Narratives, and Meaning of Industrial Decline in Zonguldak, Turkey

Mehmet Eroglu (Michigan State University)

The Multiple Social Realities of a Refugee Camp System: Reflections from the Serbian Archipelago

Jessica Collins (Macquarie University)

A Welcoming City and Hospitable Residents? An Analysis of Private Hospitality in Bologna, Italy

Elisa Sperandio (University of Arizona)

On “Exception” and “Example”: From Inclusive Exclusion to Exclusive Inclusion

Md Azmeary Ferdoush (University of Eastern Finland)

10:50-12:05 Session IV: Imaginaries & Practices of Territory

Chair: Kate Coddington (University at Albany)

Infrastructural Affects: Making Territories with Roads and Towns across Himalayan Frontiers

Galen Murton (James Madison University)

“Russia’s Border Doesn’t End Anywhere”: The Ever-Changing Manifestations of Territory in the Nationalist Rhetoric of Vladimir Putin

Fedor Popov (University of Colorado Boulder)

Denmark’s a Prism: Geographic Perceptions of the Danish Realm

Erik Breidinger (University of Arkansas)

The War in Ukraine: Challenge or Affirmation of the Territorial Norms of the Modern State System?

Alec Murphy (University of Oregon)

10:50-12:05 Session V: Political Geographic Histories & Institutions

Chair: Lindsay Naylor (University of Delaware)

Geopolitics of Decolonization: Carnegie Endowment’s Diplomatic Training Program 1960-73

Jonathan Harris (King’s College London), Ruth Craggs (King’s College London), & Fiona McConnell (University of Oxford)

Political Geographies of the Construction of Colonial Knowledge of Space and Place in Mengjiang: In the Field with Keijō Imperial University’s Man-Mong Research Group and Tada Fumio

Robert Winstanley-Chesters (University of Edinburgh) and Adam Cathcart (University of Leeds)

Letters from the Ashes: Nationalist Symbolism on Post-Yugoslav Postage Stamps

Anton Gosar (University of Primorska)

Recording and Preserving the History of the PGSG

Kenneth Madsen (The Ohio State University at Newark)

10:50-12:05 Session VI: Conflict Research: Methods & Theories

Chair: Ted Holland (University of Arkansas)

Geo-Setting Research in China: Idea, Agenda and Approaches

Zhe Zhang (East China Normal University) and Zhiding Hu (East China Normal University)

Rebel Regions: The Spatial Effects of Civil War Fighting on Political Party Formation and Election Performance in Kosovo, 2001-2021

Carl Dahlman (University of South Carolina)

Using CubeSat Imagery to Monitor Internally Displaced Person (IDP) Camps in Cabo Delgado, Mozambique

Lauren Herwehe Kim (University of Colorado Boulder)

No Alternative: A Taxonomic Explanation for the Increasing Commonality of Negotiated Settlements to Civil Wars

Francis Naylor (University of Colorado Boulder)

1:30-2:30 Plenary: Ukraine

Chair: John O'Loughlin, University of Colorado Boulder

Panelists

Erin Hutchinson, Dept. of History, University of Colorado Boulder

Volodymyr Ischenko, Institute of East European Studies, Free University (Berlin)

Sarah Sokhey, Dept. of Political Science, University of Colorado Boulder

2:45-4:00 Session VII: Democracy, Difference, & Polarization

Chair: Kevin Grove (Florida International University)

Rethinking Democratic Inclusivity and Taking the Boundary Problem Seriously

Chris Lizotte (Oxford Brookes University)

Crooked Lines: Perceptions of Gerrymandering from Public Participation in Colorado Redistricting

Gabriella Subia Smith (University of Colorado Boulder)

Jurisdictional Integration, Equity, and Political Representation: Lessons from South Africa

Stefan Norgaard (Columbia University)

Rethinking Peripherality

Noah Dasanaïke (Harvard University)

2:45-4:00 Session VIII: Imaginaries: Past, Present, & Future

Chair: Md Azmeary Ferdoush (University of Eastern Finland)

The Networked Imaginaries of the Far-Right: Spatializations, Translations, Hybridizations

Jason Luger (Northumbria University) & Max Martin (Northumbria University)

Roads, Political Imaginaries and State Building

Katharine Rankin (University of Toronto) & Nadine Plachta (University of Toronto)

Geography and the Colonial Encounter: World-Writing, Poetic Translation and the Ethics of Elsewhere

Reema Cherian (University of California, Davis)

Future Museums: Narrating Nationalist Techno-Futures in Germany & the UAE

Natalie Koch (Heidelberg University & Syracuse University)

4:10-5:40 Session IX: Borders, the Carceral State, & Securitization

Chair: Kenneth Madsen (The Ohio State University at Newark)

Sub-National Border Closures During Covid-19: Shifting Borderscapes of Governance and Resilience

Andrew Burrridge (Macquarie University, Australia)

Utopia of Hope at Bhasan Char Island: Rohingya Refugees' Political and Ecological Carcerality in the Nation-State's Extension

Sharif Wahab (Indiana University Bloomington)

Waiting All Night Long: Sea, Emotions and Memories from Ordinary Lives of Matsu Islands

Kai-Yang Huang (National Taiwan University)

The Carceral Geographies of Mass Immigrant Surveillance: How SmartLINK is Enabling ICE to Scale Up Its Electronic Monitoring Program

Austin Kocher (Syracuse University)

4:10-5:40 Session X: Morrill Panel: Leveraging Political Geographic Theory for Federal River Water Governance

Panelists:

Srinivas Chokkakula (Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi/University of Massachusetts-Amherst)*

**2023 PGSG Richard Morrill Public Outreach Award Winner*

Eve Vogel (University of Massachusetts-Amherst)

Ellis Adams (University of Notre Dame)

Trevor Birkenholtz (Pennsylvania State University)

Marc Muller (University of Notre Dame)

James Wescoat (MIT)

In federal (interstate) river basins, trans-jurisdictional coordination within countries is crucial for pursuing the goals of water security, infrastructure development, environmental restoration, and social inclusion and justice, and for addressing emerging risks such as climate change. This is most critical for the 28 federal democratic countries including the USA and India. Geographers' political-geographic and political-ecological insights are needed to inform successful governance of these transboundary waters. Existing work on transboundary waters is often dominated by interests about international transboundary water sharing and dominated by the disciplines of International Relations and Law. This literature suffers from the weaknesses associated with 'Territorial Trap' (Agnew 1994, Furlong 2006). Geographers have contributed to highlighting these weaknesses and have offered promising directions for theorizing the problem using critical approaches from political ecology and critical geopolitics (Furlong 2006, 2008). These were acknowledged and welcomed by scholars from International Relations (see Warner and Zeitoun 2008, Warner et al 2017). Yet the geographic scholarship failed to advance theorizing in a consistent manner and there was little application of their ideas to inform praxis about transboundary river water governance. This panel seeks to revisit this problem and opportunity and consider a coherent response from geographers towards robust theorization and its relevance to praxis. How can institutions be built that can endure in a deeply federalized system while also remaining accountable to multi-scalar social and ecological interconnections and impacts?