

RACHEL STEELY

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CURRENT POSITIONS

Harvard University, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs Raphael Morrison Dorman Memorial Postdoctoral Fellow	August 2023-present
Hugo Mentors Mentor	May 2023-present

PREVIOUS POSITIONS

Harvard University, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Postdoctoral Fellow, Fellowships & Writing Center	September 2022-August 2023
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EDUCATION

Harvard University , Cambridge, MA PhD , History Dissertation: "Invisible Giant: The Global Rise of Soy in the Twentieth Century" Committee: Profs. Sven Beckert, Erez Manela, Sarah Phillips	May 2022
Purdue University , West Lafayette, IN MA , History	May 2013
Baylor University , Waco, TX BA , Political Science; Minor: Anthropology	May 2008

SELECTED GRANTS AND HONORS

Plett Research Grant, D. F. Plett Historical Research Foundation, Winnipeg, Canada	2024
Gilbert C. Fite Dissertation Award, best dissertation on agricultural history	2023
Weatherhead Center for International Affairs Graduate Student Associate Research Grant	2021
Othmer Library of Chemical History Travel Grant, Philadelphia, PA	2020
Rockefeller Archive Center Grant-in-Aid, Sleepy Hollow, NY	2020
Arthur D. Chandler Jr. Travel Fellowship, Harvard Business School	2020
Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Harvard University	2019
Thomas Cochran Dissertation Fellowship in Economic and Business History	2018
David S. Howe Fund for the Study of American Economic and Business History	2018
Clive Research Fellowship, Harvard University	2018
Weatherhead Center Canada Program Dissertation Research Fellowship	2018
John H. Coatsworth Latin American History Fellowship, Harvard University	2017
State Historical Society of Iowa Research Grant, <i>declined</i>	2017
Jens Aubrey Westengard Scholarship for Research in Britain and South America	2017
David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies Summer Research Grant	2017
Center for American Political Studies Seed Grant, Harvard University	2017
Rockefeller Archive Center Grant-in-Aid, <i>declined</i>	2017
Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations Lawrence Gelfand-Armin Rappaport-Walter Lafeber Dissertation Fellowship	2017
Jorge Paulo Lemann Fellowship, Harvard University	2017
Charles Warren Center Dissertation Research Grant, Harvard University	2016
College of Liberal Arts Distinguished Master's Thesis Award, Purdue University	2013

PUBLICATIONS

Review, "Magic Bean: The Rise of Soy in America." By Matthew Roth. Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 2018. *Annals of Iowa* 78, no.1 (Winter 2019): 109-111.

Review, "A History of Global Consumption, 1500-1800." By Ina Baghdiantz McCabe. New York: Routledge, 2015. *Journal of Global History* 13, no.2 (2018): 299-301.

Conference review, "Empires: Towards a Global History." *H-Soz-Kult*, June 6, 2018. <https://www.hsozkult.de/conferencereport/id/tagungsberichte-7733>.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE**Harvard University**

Course Fellow, Mindich Center for Engaged Scholarship, Harvard University	Fall 2021
Administrative Teaching Fellow, "The American Revolution"	Fall 2021
Teaching Fellow, "The United States and World Order Since 1900" (online)	Fall 2020
Teaching Fellow, "History of American Capitalism"	Spring 2018
Administrative Teaching Fellow, Sophomore Tutorial for History Concentrators	Fall 2017-Spring 2018
Teaching Fellow, "What is Intellectual History?"	Spring 2016
Teaching Fellow, "American Families, 1600-Present"	Fall 2015

Harvard University, Advising

Academic Coach, Graduate Affiliates of the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs	2023-present
Advisor, Undergraduate Senior Thesis in History, Harvard College	2021-2022
Advisor, Undergraduate Senior Thesis, Committee on Degrees in Social Studies, Harvard College	2020-2022
Mentor for undergraduate thesis writers, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs	2019-2021

Purdue University

Teaching Assistant, "Latin American History from 1824"	Spring 2013
Teaching Assistant, "The U.S. in the World"	Fall 2012
Teaching Assistant, "Introduction to the Modern World" (online)	Spring 2012
Teaching Assistant, "The U.S. in the World"	Fall 2011

TEACHING AWARDS

Derek Bok Center Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, Harvard University	2021, 2018, 2015
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INVITED TALKS

"Invisible Giant: The Global Rise of Soy in the Twentieth Century," presentation for the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs Advisory Committee, November 10, 2023.

"Invisible Giant: The Global Rise of Soy in the Twentieth Century," Duke Kunshan Seminar Series on Environment and History, Duke Kunshan University, Kunshan, China, March 30, 2023.

"Inflated Expectations": The First Soy Export Boom and the Internalization of Soy Frontiers," Seminar on Global History, Harvard University, April 6, 2020.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

"Manna from Manchuria: Agricultural Experiment Stations and the Territorialization of Commodity Chains," The Newberry Library, Chicago, March 19, 2021.

"Silent Partner: Soy Frontiers in Brazil and India," Weatherhead Center for International Affairs Graduate Student Associates Workshop, Harvard University, October 2, 2020.

“Feeding Earth, Flesh, and Machine: The Pursuit of Soybean Frontiers in the Early Twentieth Century,” Perugia Food and Sustainability Studies Conference, Umbra Institute, Perugia, Italy, *Postponed due to COVID-19*.

“The Golden Revolution: The Global Advance of Soybean Frontiers,” Agricultural History Society, Knoxville, TN, June 4. *Cancelled due to COVID-19*.

“Making Modern Manna: Soybeans and the Chemical Turn in Agricultural Development,” North American Conference on British Studies, Vancouver, November 16, 2019.

“Soybean Globalization at the Dawn of the Chemical Age,” Weatherhead Center for International Affairs Graduate Student Associates Workshop, Harvard University, October 11, 2019.

“The Failing Frontier: The Globalization of Soybean Cultivation in an Era of Ecological Crisis,” Workshop for History of Environment, Agriculture, Technology, and Science, Lansing, October 6, 2019.

“Finding the Escape Hatch: Early Operationalization of Soy Frontiers in East Asia,” History of Capitalism Dissertation Workshop, Harvard University, April 23, 2019.

“The Golden Revolution: The Global Expansion of Soybean Frontiers in the Twentieth Century,” Weatherhead Center for International Affairs Graduate Student Associates Workshop, Harvard University, December 7, 2018.

“The Scramble for Asia: Imperial Trade Networks and the Birth of Soy as a Global Commodity,” at “Commodity Frontiers and Global Capitalist Expansion: Social Ecological and Resource Policy Implications,” Zayed University, Dubai, December 7, 2017.

“Oiling the Extractive Machine: The Rise of Soy as a Tool of Imperialism in East Asia,” at “Empires: Towards a Global History,” University of Delhi, December 3, 2017.

“Feeding the War Machine: Soy in East Asian Trade Networks and Borderland Conflicts,” Lab-Mundi, University of São Paulo, Brazil, November 29, 2017.

“From Bioprospecting to Biodiesel: Soy Commodity Frontiers in the Twentieth Century,” History of Capitalism Dissertation Workshop, Harvard University, December 7, 2015.

“The Gene Revolution: American Agribusiness, Biopower, and Globalized Governmentality,” Windy City Graduate Student Conference, Chicago, IL, October 13, 2012.

OTHER CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

Panel chair, “Colonialist Ideology and International Development,” Weatherhead Center Undergraduate Associates’ Thesis Conference, Cambridge, MA, February 1-2, 2024.

Outreach Director, “Participation, Inclusion, and Social Responsibility in Global Sports,” Cambridge, MA, May 31-June 2, 2018.

Co-Organizer, Harvard Graduate Conference on the History of Capitalism, “Before the City, Beyond the City: Capitalism in the Countryside,” Cambridge, MA, October 19-20, 2017

Co-Organizer, Harvard University Graduate Student Conference on International History (CON-IH), “Global and International History: The Economic Dimension,” Cambridge, MA, March 10-11, 2016.

Co-Organizer, Purdue University History Graduate Student Association Biennial Conference, “Crooked Lines: Connections and Conflict in History,” West Lafayette, IN, March 30, 2013.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Professor Jane Kamesnky, Schlesinger Library of the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study

- Fact and citation checking book manuscript, *Candida Royalle and the Sexual Revolution: A History from Below*, June 2022-October 2022.

General David H. Petraeus, Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, Harvard University

Research Assistant, 2018-2019

- Researched and co-authored keynote address, “Disrupted: The State of Democracy in America,” Cosmos Club, Washington, D.C., March 2019.

Professor Sven Beckert, Harvard University

Research Assistant, 2015-2016

- Research and organizational support for articles, books, and conference presentations.

Professor R. Douglas Hurt, Purdue University

Research Assistant, 2012-2013

- Research support: *Agriculture and the Confederacy: Policy, Productivity, and Power in the Civil War South*.

LANGUAGES

Portuguese, professional working proficiency

Spanish, limited working proficiency

French, reading knowledge

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Media Coordinator, Commodity Frontiers Initiative	2017-2021
Graduate Coordinator, Workshop on the Political Economy of Capitalism, Harvard University	2018-2019
Senior Thesis Reader, Harvard University History Department	2016, 2018
Course Support Team, Harvard University History Department	2016-2018
Co-President, Harvard University History Graduate Student Organization	2014-2017
Coordinator, Harvard History of Capitalism Reading Group	2015-2016
President, Purdue University History Graduate Student Association	2012-2013
Senator, Purdue University Graduate Student Government	2012-2013

AFFILIATIONS

American Society for Environmental History, 2022-2024

Society for the History of Technology, 2022-2023

Agricultural History Society, 2019-2023

Weatherhead Center for International Affairs Graduate Student Associate, 2018-2021

Economic History Association, 2017-2021

Lemann Fellow, Lemann Fellow Talent Program, Lemann Foundation, 2017

Global Fellow, The Global History Network at the University of São Paulo, Brazil, 2017

Fellow, David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies, Brazil, 2017

Society of Historians of American Foreign Relations, 2016-present

Weatherhead Center for International Affairs Graduate Student Affiliate, 2015-2021

American Historical Association, 2011-2020