

The Society for American Archaeology 83rd Annual Meeting
April 11-15, 2018 Washington, D.C.



Ecological Justice and the *Longue Durée*

Expanding Activism, Advocacy, & the Historical Ecological Approach

CHAIRS

Megan T. Hicks (CUNY Graduate Center) – meganthicks@gmail.com

Kevin S. Gibbons (University of Maryland) – gibbonsk@umd.edu

ABSTRACT

This session explores how archaeologists are using the historical ecology research program to guide their research design, praxis, and ontologies with a focus on improving our ability to contribute to social justice initiatives. It is clear that ecological degradation, including climate change, has not and will not effect all people equally due to structurally uneven access to social safety nets, mobility, knowledge, and political representation. Furthermore, sites of deleterious resource extraction are loci at which inequalities (in shared risk, representation, and benefit) are starkly experienced. In the spirit of the historical ecology framework, we call for papers that deal with the long-term roots and intersectional character of resource justice issues. We encourage contributors to share models for activism, advocacy, and improved collaboration demonstrated through social organizing, policy work, and knowledge production partnerships. Finally, we welcome critical challenges for academic structures and traditions of thought. The ultimate goal is to generously share and absorb perspectives that will improve archaeologists' abilities in advocacy and activism across the academic divide.