

# Teaching and Researching Big History:

Exploring a New Scholarly Field



August 2 – 5, 2012

Grand Valley  
State University



## The Reshaping of Planet Earth:

Connections Between Humans and  
the Environment in World History



Welcome to the Inaugural Conference of the International Big History Association! The members of the IBHA Board have been exchanging a blizzard of emails over the last year; we are excited to be underway here in Grand Rapids!

*“Teaching and Researching Big History: Exploring a New Scholarly Field”* is the first ever International Big History Association conference. We are pleased to be joined by the Midwest World History Association for their 3rd Annual conference entitled, *“The Reshaping of Planet Earth: Connections between Humans and the Environment in World History.”* Together, Big Historians and World Historians, professors and grad students, scientists and scholars, are exploring the past and the future of the new scholarly field of Big History and the connections between humans and the environment in World History.

We appreciate the untiring work and generous support of our hosts here at Grand Valley State University, which is also the home of the Global Institute for Big History, the current headquarters of the IBHA.

Many people have worked very hard and contributed generously to the work of organizing this conference. We want to thank our wonderful Office Administrator, Leslye Allen, and also Craig and Pamela Benjamin, who have worked very closely with Leslye over the last year. We also want to acknowledge the very generous financial support we have received from Microsoft Research and the ChronoZoom Project, which has allowed us to subsidize the travel costs of several of our overseas delegates; and also from the Big History Project, which has sponsored the opening reception and other programmed events. We are delighted by the close association between the IBHA and both ChronoZoom and the Big History Project.

We are very pleased to be in Grand Rapids for our conference. This is a beautiful city with a rich history and many unique characteristics that make it an attractive place to live and visit. For more information on restaurants you might wish to visit during your stay here, please check <http://www.experiencegr.com/things-to-do/restaurants/>.

The Opening Reception will be held on Thursday evening at the Grand Rapids Public Museum. This museum offers world-class exhibits on history, nature, cultural heritage, and more. Attendees will have the opportunity to see the 1928 carousel, and catch one of the special Big History shows in the planetarium during the reception festivities.

This is a very exciting event for anyone interested in Big History and World History. The conference will give us all a chance to see some of the many different ways in which Big History is flourishing, and to showcase the many different kinds of research, teaching and creativity that the field is generating. We hope it will also provide many opportunities, both in the formal sessions and in the informal networking, for attendees to discuss where Big History is going, what we need to be working on in the next year or two, what have been our major successes (there are many!), and what are our major challenges. But above all, we hope you will enjoy the conference. Have fun!



*David Christian, Fred Spier,  
Craig Benjamin, Cynthia Brown  
IBHA Program Committee*

*“The IBHA 2012 conference is intended to be a forum for open, honest, and wide-ranging academic discussions. All views and opinions expressed by participants during the IBHA conference are their sole responsibility. The IBHA does not assume any responsibility and/or liability for facilitating the expression of any views and opinions.”*

## **THURSDAY, AUGUST 2**

*Welcome to Grand Rapids!*

2:00 pm – 5:00 pm | **REGISTRATION** | Holiday Inn, 310 Pearl Street NW (*Lobby*)

Registration will be also be available at the Grand Rapids Public Museum lobby from 5:30 pm - 8:00 pm during the Opening Reception, and then continue on Friday at the DeVos Center, Exhibition Hall from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm.

6:00 pm – 8:30 pm | **OPENING RECEPTION** | *Sponsored by the Big History Project*  
Grand Rapids Public Museum, 272 Pearl Street NW

*Welcome! The Grand Rapids Public Museum lobby opens at 5:30 for continued registration. The museum doors will open at 6:00 pm for museum viewing or first Planetarium presentation, followed by the Opening Reception that begins at 6:45 pm. After the reception, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Planetarium presentation will be shown. Please enjoy one of the many restaurants that Grand Rapids has to offer for a wonderful dinner on your own with friends and colleagues.*

5:30 pm – 6:00 pm | Welcome and Continued Registration

6:00 pm – 6:45 pm | *“Visualizing the Limits of Knowledge”* | Robert B. Chaffee Planetarium

6:00 pm – 6:45 pm | Enjoy the Grand Rapids Public Museum

6:45 pm – 8:00 pm | *“Reception”* (drinks and light passed appetizers)

7:15 pm | *“Remarks”*

**Thomas Haas**, President, Grand Valley State University

**David Christian**, President, International Big History Association

**Craig Benjamin**, Treasurer, International Big History Association and representative of conference organizing team

**Tammy Proctor**, President, Midwest World History Association

**Andy Cook**, Director, Big History Project

8:00 pm – 8:45 pm | *“Visualizing the Limits of Knowledge”* | Robert B. Chaffee Planetarium

### **Planetarium Presentation**

*“Visualizing the Limits of Knowledge”* | Interactive tour of NASA’s Digital Universe

Presented by: **David McConville**, PhD Candidate, University of Plymouth,  
Planetary Collegium and President, Buckminster Fuller Institute

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 3**  
**(Breakfast On Your Own)**

8:00 am – 12:00 pm | **Registration** | Exhibition Hall  
DeVos Center, GVSU Campus, 401 West Fulton Street, Grand Rapids

9:00 am – 10:30 am | **IBHA Session I** | DeVos Center

<b>IBHA Panel 1   Complexity in Big History</b>  Chair: <b>David Christian</b> , Professor, Macquarie University, Sydney / WCU Distinguished Professor, Ewha University, Seoul  Presenter 1: “ <i>Discovery of the Cosmos</i> ”   <b>Russell M. Genet</b> , Research Scholar in Residence at California Polytechnic State University, and Adjunct Professor of Astronomy at Cuesta College / San Luis Obispo  Presenter 2: “ <i>The Nature and Nurture of Complexity</i> ”   <b>William Grassie</b> , Metanexus Institute  Presenter 3: “ <i>On the Diversity and Fragility of Complexity in Big History</i> ”   <b>Fred Spier</b> , University of Amsterdam / The Netherlands	<b>IBHA Panel 1</b>  Friday, August 3 9:00 am – 10:30 am  <i>Room</i> <b>DEV 109D</b>
<b>IBHA Panel 2   On Pedagogy: Approaches to Constructing and Teaching the Big History Survey Course</b>  Chair: <b>Mojgan Behmand</b> , Dominican University of California  Presenter 1: “ <i>Constructing a Survey Big History Course</i> ”   <b>Cynthia Brown</b> , Dominican University of California  Presenter 2: “ <i>The Case for Awe in Teaching Big History</i> ”   <b>Neal Wolfe</b> , Dominican University of California  Presenter 3: “ <i>Reflective Writing in the Big History Classroom</i> ”   <b>Jaime Castner</b> , Dominican University of California	<b>IBHA Panel 2</b>  Friday, August 3 9:00 am – 10:30 am  <i>Room</i> <b>DEV 111D</b>



<p><b>IBHA Panel 3   Little Big Histories</b></p> <p>Chair: <b>Craig Benjamin</b>, Grand Valley State University</p> <p>Presenter 1: “<i>A(nother) Little Big History of Tiananmen</i>”   <b>Esther Quaedackers</b>, M.Sc., University of Amsterdam / The Netherlands</p> <p>Presenter 2: “<i>The Surfer’s Guide to the Universe: In the Domain of Waves</i>”   <b>Rich Blundell</b>, PhD Candidate, Macquarie University and Founder omniscopic.com</p> <p>Presenter 3: “<i>Wandering in Search of the Truth – The Importance of Ignorance in Big History</i>”   <b>Jonathan Markley</b>, Associate Professor, California State University Fullerton</p>	<p>IBHA Panel 3</p> <p>Friday, August 3 9:00 am – 10:30 am</p> <p>Room <b>DEV 117E</b></p>
<p><b>IBHA Panel 4   But Where’s God in the Story? Big Religion, Models of God and Religious Education</b></p> <p>Chair: <b>Cynthia Taylor</b>, Dominican University of California</p> <p>Presenter 1: “<i>Big Religion</i>”   <b>Lowell Gustafson</b>, Professor of Political Science, Villanova University, Villanova, PA</p> <p>Presenter 2: “<i>Teaching and Religious Education in the Light of Big History</i>”   <b>Orla O’Reilly Hazra</b>, PhD Sr. Research Fellow, Xavier Institute for Social Research, St. Xavier’s College / Mumbai, India</p> <p>Presenter 3: “<i>Big History and Models of God</i>”   <b>Jennifer Morgan</b>, UniverseStories.com</p>	<p>IBHA Panel 4</p> <p>Friday, August 3 9:00 am – 10:30 am</p> <p>Room <b>DEV 119E</b></p>
<p>9:00 am – 10:30 am   <b>MWWHA Session I</b>   DeVos Center</p>	
<p><b>MWWHA Panel 1   Teaching Environmental History</b></p> <p>Presenter 1: “<i>Teaching the Environmental History of Japan</i>”   <b>Tanya S. Maus</b>, Wittenberg University</p> <p>Presenter 2: “<i>Using Recent Environmental World History Publications in the Classroom</i>”   <b>Nikki Magie</b>, Michigan State University (Recipient of MWWHA Graduate Student Award)</p> <p>Presenter 3: “<i>Changing the Land: Different People, Different Views, Different Uses</i>”   <b>Cynthia Noyes</b>, Olivet College</p>	<p>MWWHA Panel 1</p> <p>Friday, August 3 9:00 am – 10:30 am</p> <p>Room <b>DEV 121E</b></p>

10:30 am – 11:00 am | **Coffee Break** | Exhibition Hall

**Artistic Presentation** | Loosemore Auditorium

*“And Then There Was You...”* | **Erika Gronek**, M.A., Educational Technologist, Arizona State University

*Overview: Erika will discuss the inspiration for and reactions to her children’s book “And Then There Was You...,” and describe the processes used to create it, explore its interpretations and subtext, and discuss potential applications in education.*

11:00 am – 12:30 pm | **IBHA Session II** | DeVos Center

**IBHA Panel 5 | On Pedagogy: Approaches to Thresholds, 5, 6, and 7**

Chair: **Mojgan Behmand**, Dominican University of California

Presenter 1: *“Pedagogical Consideration in Teaching Threshold 7: The Agrarian Revolution”* | **Martin Anderson**, Dominican University of California

Presenter 2: *“Complexity and the Teaching of the 5<sup>th</sup> Threshold: The Origin and Evolution of Life”* | **James Cunningham**, Dominican University of California

Presenter 3: *“Pedagogical Issues and the Teaching of Threshold 6: The Paleolithic Era”* | **Cynthia Taylor**, Dominican University of California

IBHA Panel 5

Friday, August 3  
11:00 am – 12:30 pm

*Room*  
**DEV 109D**

**IBHA Panel 6 | Big History and Ancient World Studies**

Chair: **Lowell Gustafson**, Professor of Political Science, Villanova University, Villanova, PA

Presenter 1: *“The Silk Roads and Big History”* | **Craig Benjamin**, Grand Valley State University

Presenter 2: *“Evidence and Big History: Classics, Archaeology and Big History”* | **Peter Edwell**, Macquarie University / Sydney, Australia

Presenter 3: *“Magic in the Era of Agrarian Civilizations”* | **Elizabeth Pollard**, San Diego State University

IBHA Panel 6

Friday, August 3  
11:00 am – 12:30 pm

*Room*  
**DEV 111D**

<p><b>IBHA Panel 7   Thinking on Cosmological Scales</b></p> <p>Chair: <b>Kathy Schick</b> and <b>Nick Toth</b> (co-chairs), Co-Directors, Stone Age Institute, Indiana University, Bloomington</p> <p>Presenter 1: <i>“Beyond Big History”</i>   <b>Todd Duncan</b>, Director of Science Integration Institute / Physics Instructor, Portland Community College</p> <p>Presenter 2: <i>“Galactic-scale Macro-engineering: Looking for Signs of Other Intelligent Humanoid Species, as an Exercise in Hope for our own”</i>   <b>Joseph Voros</b>, Senior Lecturer in Strategic Foresight, Swinburne University of Technology / Melbourne, Australia</p> <p>Presenter 3: <i>“An Experience in Perceiving Cosmological Scales”</i>   <b>Kevin W. Kelley</b>, Infinitaas Creator, Co-Founder, Metanoiaa</p>	<p>IBHA Panel 7</p> <p>Friday, August 3 11:00 am – 12:30 pm</p> <p><i>Room</i> <b>DEV 117E</b></p>
<p><b>IBHA Panel 8   Big History Perspectives: Learning, Teaching and Experiencing Big History   Roundtable</b></p> <p>Chair: <b>Tracy Sullivan</b>, Macquarie University / Sydney, Australia</p> <p>Presenter 1: <i>“Flying above the Radar: A PhD Student’s Perspective”</i>   <b>Rich Blundell</b>, PhD Candidate, Macquarie University and Founder omniscopic.com</p> <p>Presenter 2: <i>“The Explanatory Power of Big History: A Holistic Approach for the University Undergraduate Student”</i>   <b>Ryan Boland</b>, Undergraduate Student, Grand Valley State University</p> <p>Presenter 3: <i>“A Country Girl Finds Big History”</i>   <b>Cynthia Brown</b>, Dominican University of California</p> <p>Presenter 4: <i>“Big History, Down Under: An Australian High School Perspective”</i>   <b>Angus Clark</b>, Nossal High School</p> <p>Presenter 5: <i>“Thinking Big”</i>   <b>Derek Heitman</b>, Green Hills School, Ann Arbor, Michigan</p>	<p>IBHA Panel 8</p> <p>Friday, August 3 11:00 am – 12:30 pm</p> <p><i>Room</i> <b>DEV 119E</b></p>
<p>11:00 am – 12:30 pm   <b>MWWHA Session II</b>   DeVos Center</p>	
<p><b>MWWHA Panel 2   Engaging Students in the World History Classroom: Some Reflections   Roundtable</b></p> <p>Presenter 1: <b>Kate Lang</b>, Instructor          Presenter 2: <b>Louisa Rice</b>, Instructor          Presenter 3: <b>Jessica Ryall</b>, Undergraduate Student Assistant          Presenter 4: <b>Derek Schneider</b>, Undergraduate Student Assistant</p> <p><i>All presenters from University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire</i></p>	<p>MWWHA Panel 2</p> <p>Friday, August 3 11:00 am – 12:30 pm</p> <p><i>Room</i> <b>DEV 121E</b></p>



12:30 pm – 1:30 pm | **Lunch Break** | Exhibition Hall

12:45 pm – 1:15 pm | **Artistic Presentation** | Loosemore Auditorium

*“We Belong” – Time and Place Through the Eyes of Big History*

**Karen Kudebeh**, Designer and Producer of Timespirals, Founder of TimeTrace, Inc.

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm | **IBHA Session III** | DeVos Center

**IBHA Panel 9 | Big History and Human Evolution I**

Chair: **Kathy Schick**, Co-Director, Stone Age Institute, Indiana University, Bloomington

Presenter 1: *“The Tyranny of the Prefrontal Cortex”* | **Jeremy Lent**, Independent Scholar

Presenter 2: *“Integrating Hominid Evolution into a Big History Perspective on Humanity’s Common Past”* | **John Mears**, Professor of History, Southern Methodist University

Presenter 3: *“Big History and Human Evolutionary Studies: New Developments, Discoveries, and Paradigm Shifts”* | **Nick Toth**, Co-Director, Stone Age Institute, Indiana University, Bloomington

IBHA Panel 9

Friday, August 3  
1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

Room  
**DEV 109D**



**IBHA Panel 10 | Big History and Education (Session 1)**

Chair: **Neal Wolfe**, Dominican University of California

Presenter 1: *“The Big History Account as Support for Behavioral Change toward Sustainability”* | **Dwight Collins**, President, Collins Educational Foundation / Core Faculty, Presidio Graduate School

Presenter 2: *“Big History and Convergence Education”* | **Seohyung Kim**, Ewha Womans University / Seoul, Korea

Presenter 3: *“Focusing - Where do we go from here?”* | **James Tierney**, Social Worker (retired)

IBHA Panel 10

Friday, August 3  
1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

Room  
**DEV 111D**



<p><b>IBHA Panel 11   Big History Journeywork: Professional and Personal Paths   Roundtable</b></p> <p>Chair: <b>Rich Blundell</b>, PhD Candidate, Macquarie University and Founder omniscopic.com</p> <p>Presenter 1: “<i>Iranians Are the New Victorians!</i>”   <b>Mojgan Behmand</b>, Dominican University of California</p> <p>Presenter 2: “<i>Looking Back at Fragile Spaceship Earth</i>”   <b>Fred Spier</b>, University of Amsterdam / The Netherlands</p> <p>Presenter 3: “<i>Cosmic Archipelago</i>”   <b>Barry Rodrigue</b>, The Collaborative of Global and Big History, University of Southern Maine</p> <p>Presenter 4: “<i>Visualizing the Transcalar Imaginary</i>”   <b>David McConville</b>, PhD Candidate, University of Plymouth, Planetary Collegium and President, Buckminster Fuller Institute</p> <p>Presenter 5: “<i>Crossing a Snowy Divide</i>”   <b>Rich Blundell</b>, PhD Candidate, Macquarie University and Founder omniscopic.com</p>	<p>IBHA Panel 11</p> <p>Friday, August 3 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm</p> <p><i>Room</i> <b>DEV 117E</b></p>
<p><b>IBHA Panel 12   Graduate Students about the Future of Big History   Roundtable</b></p> <p>Chair: <b>Esther Quaedackers</b>, M.Sc., University of Amsterdam / The Netherlands</p> <p>Participant: <b>David Baker</b>, PhD Candidate, Macquarie University / Sydney, Australia</p> <p>Participant: <b>Isaiah Moose</b>, PhD Candidate, Macquarie University / Sydney, Australia</p> <p>Participant: <b>Tracy Sullivan</b>, Macquarie University / Sydney, Australia</p> <p>Participant: <b>Marcel Koonen</b>, M.Sc. – Software Designer Imaging Systems – Philips Healthcare</p>	<p>IBHA Panel 12</p> <p>Friday, August 3 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm</p> <p><i>Room</i> <b>DEV 119E</b></p>
<p>1:30 pm – 3:00 pm   <b>MWWHA Session III</b>   DeVos Center</p>	
<p><b>MWWHA Panel 3   The Environment and Human Developments in World History: Three Teaching Ideas</b></p> <p>Presenter 1: “<i>Comparative Coastal Cities</i>”   <b>Jodi Eastberg</b>, Alverno College</p> <p>Presenter 2: “<i>Death Practices and Landscapes</i>”   <b>Jeanne E. Grant</b>, Metropolitan State University</p> <p>Presenter 3: “<i>Industrial Landscapes and World History</i>”   <b>Tammy M. Proctor</b>, Wittenberg University</p>	<p>MWWHA Panel 3</p> <p>Friday, August 3 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm</p> <p><i>Room</i> <b>DEV 121E</b></p>

3:00 pm – 3:30 pm | **Coffee Break** | Exhibition Hall

10 minute Introduction Presentation

*“The Infinitaas Dynamic Visual Timeline: Educating Big Historians to See and Think in Flowing Time”*  
**Kevin W. Kelley**, Infinitaas Creator, Co-Founder, Metanoiaa / **Rachel Bagby**, Co-Founder, Metanoiaa

3:30 pm – 5:00 pm | **IBHA Session IV** | DeVos Center

**IBHA Panel 13 | From Visualizing Big History and Complexity to Forming a Global Ethics**

Chair: **Mojgan Behmand**, Dominican University of California

Presenter 1: *“Big History, Big Questions: The Role of the Modern Creation Myth in Forming a Global Ethics”* | **Lindsey Dean**, Dominican University of California

Presenter 2: *“Visualizing Complexity: Teaching Industrialization with Charlie Chaplin”* | **Richard B. Simon**, Dominican University of California

Presenter 3: *“Visualizing and Creating: Teaching Big History Through Creative Disciplines”* | **Lynn Sondag**, Dominican University of California

IBHA Panel 13

Friday, August 3  
3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

Room  
**DEV 109D**

**IBHA Panel 14 | Mathematics Systems and Complexity in Big History**

Chair: **Russell M. Genet**, Research Scholar in Residence at California Polytechnic State University, and Adjunct Professor of Astronomy at Cuesta College / San Luis Obispo

Presenter 1: *“Mathematical Modeling of Biological and Social Phases of Big History”* | **Andrey Korotayev** (presenter), Leonid Grinin, and Alexander Markov (co-authors), Eurasian Center for Big History and System Forecasting, Institute of Oriental Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences

Presenter 2: *“An Exploration of Historical Transitions with Simple System Dynamics Models”* | **David LePoire**, Argonne National Laboratory, Environmental Science Division

Presenter 3: *“Life Cycle of an Attractor as a Near-Universal Pattern of Natural and Social Evolution”* | **Ken Baskin**, Fellow, Institute for the Study of Coherence and Emergence

IBHA Panel 14

Friday, August 3  
3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

Room  
**DEV 111D**

<p><b>IBHA Panel 15   Defining Big History Post-Graduate Research   Roundtable</b></p> <p>Chair: <b>David Christian</b>, Professor, Macquarie University, Sydney / WCU Distinguished Professor, Ewha University, Seoul</p> <p>Participant: <b>David Baker</b>, PhD Candidate, Macquarie University / Sydney, Australia Participant: <b>Isaiah Moose</b>, PhD Candidate, Macquarie University / Sydney, Australia Participant: <b>Rich Blundell</b>, PhD Candidate, Macquarie University and Founder omniscopic.com Participant: <b>Esther Quaedackers</b>, M.Sc., University of Amsterdam / The Netherlands Participant: <b>Shanshan Liu</b>, PhD Candidate, Tsinghua University, China   (<i>presenting via Skype</i>) “Centers and Boundaries from Ancient Times to Modern China: an Analysis from a Big Bang Perspective”</p>	<p>IBHA Panel 15</p> <p>Friday, August 3 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm</p> <p><i>Room</i> <b>DEV 117E</b></p>
<p><b>IBHA Panel 16   Big History and Human Evolution II</b></p> <p>Co-Chairs: <b>Kathy Schick</b> and <b>Nick Toth</b>, Co-Directors, Stone Age Institute, Indiana University, Bloomington</p> <p>Presenter 1: “<i>Big Evolution: Two Faces of Humanity’s Shift from the Given to the Made</i>”   <b>Walter Truett Anderson</b>, Past-President World Academy of Art and Science, Author, Independent Political Scientist and Social Psychologist</p> <p>Presenter 2: “<i>Mechanoevolution: An Examination of the Coevolution of Humans and Technology</i>”   <b>Bradley Layton</b>, University of Montana College of Technology</p> <p>Presenter 3: “<i>Economics as a Physical Science</i>”   <b>Dennis O. Flynn</b>, University of the Pacific and Jeannette Graulau, Lehman College</p>	<p>IBHA Panel 16</p> <p>Friday, August 3 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm</p> <p><i>Room</i> <b>DEV 119E</b></p>
<p><b>IBHA Panel 17   Big History and Religion (1)</b></p> <p>Chair: <b>Cheryl Genet</b>, Managing Editor of the Collins Foundation Press and Adjunct Professor of Philosophy at Cuesta College / San Luis Obispo</p> <p>Presenter 1: “<i>Religion in Big History Courses</i>”   <b>Scott G. Sinclair</b>, Dominican University of California</p> <p>Presenter 2: “<i>The Rise of the Concepts of Personhood and Social Justice in the 1st Axial Era, and the Changes to the Concepts in Axial II</i>”   <b>Archbishop Lazar (Puhalo)</b>, Orthodox Church in America (OCA), Archdiocese of Canada</p>	<p>IBHA Panel 17</p> <p>Friday, August 3 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm</p> <p><i>Room</i> <b>DEV 107D</b></p>



3:30 pm – 5:00 pm | **MWWHA Session IV** | DeVos Center

**MWWHA Panel 4 | Incorporating “Borderlands” and “Transnational” Themes into World History Survey Courses | Roundtable**

Chair: **William Katerberg**, Calvin College

Presenter 1: **Raúl Galván**, Milwaukee Public Television and Milwaukee Area Technical College

Presenter 2: **William Katerberg**, Calvin College

Presenter 3: **Andrae Marak**, Indiana University — Purdue University, Columbus

Presenter 4: **Bill Schell**, Murray State University

MWWHA Panel 4

Friday, August 3  
3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

*Room*  
**DEV 121E**

5:00 pm – 5:30 pm | **Artistic Presentation** | Loosemore Auditorium

*“The Infinitaas Dynamic Visual Timeline: Educating Big Historians to See and Think in Flowing Time”*

**Kevin W. Kelley**, Infinitaas Creator, Co-Founder, Metanoiaa / **Rachel Bagby**, Co-Founder, Metanoiaa

*Infinitaas* is a 4-dimensional visualization platform that takes viewers on a journey through inter-related movements of the Earth, moon, sun, solar system, Milky Way and neighboring galaxies as they move through time. The experience not only allows users to explore and comprehend vast amounts of information and data regarding the human existence, it is an extraordinary tool for visualizing and integrating interdisciplinary scientific information and data, while facilitating an experiential understanding of the history of the cosmos, Earth, life and humanity.

6:00 pm – 8:30 pm | **MWWHA Keynote Reception** | Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum

6:00 pm – 7:00 pm | *Reception* | Cocktails and Light Appetizers

7:00 pm – 7:05 pm | *Introduction* | **Tammy Proctor**, President, Midwest World History Association

7:05 pm – 7:50 pm | *“The Nexus of Incorporating Information and Teaching About the Environment in History”* | **Lawrence Gundersen** (Environmental Historian and Professor, Jackson State Community College, Tennessee)

7:50 pm – 8:10 pm | *Q & A Session*

8:10 pm – 8:30 pm | *“Gerald R. Ford: The Presidency Restored”* | Film Viewing

*The Gerald R. Ford Museum Exhibits and Gravesite Viewing will be open from 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm*

## SATURDAY, AUGUST 4

(BREAKFAST ON YOUR OWN)

### The Rapid Bus Service to Allendale Campus - 8:00 am sharp

Meet at Bus Stop on Front Ave under the US 131 overpass between DeVos and Eberhard Center ([Map Link](#)). Buses will arrive at 7:40 am and leave for Allendale at 8:00 am. Buses will arrive at the bus stop on the circle drive (Campus Drive) at the front steps of the Kirkhof Center at approximately 8:30 am ([Map Link](#)).

9:00 am – 10:30 am | **IBHA Plenary Session I** | Kirkhof Center

#### Big History Project

Presenter: **Andy Cook**, Director, Big History Project

Presenter: **Bob Bain**, Associate Professor, Department of History & School of Education, University of Michigan / Big History Project

Presenter: **Deborah Smith Johnston**, History Department, Lakeside School

Presenter: **Jim Stephens**, Big History Coordinator, Denver School of Science and Technology

**Big History Project Session Description:** *The Big History Project course is an introductory social studies course in big history targeting high school students. The course is the “brain child” of Microsoft founder Bill Gates, who assembled an outstanding team of technology and education experts to design the course. In this session we will hear about results of the current pilot, which will be expanded to some 50 schools in 2012/13, and to several hundred schools the year after.*

Room  
**KC 2250**  
Grand River  
Room

10:30 am – 11:00 am | **Tea and Coffee Break w/Assorted Pastries** | Grand River Room  
*Sponsored by the Big History Project*

11:00 am – 12:30 pm | **IBHA Plenary Session II** | Kirkhof Center

#### ChronoZoom | “Making Sense of the Timescales of Big History”

Presenters: **Roland Saekow**, **David Shimabukuro**, **Walter Alvarez**, ChronoZoom Lab, University of California, Berkley | **Rane Johnson**, Microsoft Research Connections |

**Session Description:** *Zoom through time and learn about different techniques and tools for exploring the timescales of Big History with ChronoZoom. ChronoZoom is a free online timeline tool currently being developed by UC Berkeley, Moscow State University in Russia and Microsoft Research. It is available online at <http://www.ChronoZoomProject.org>. In this session, we will demonstrate the latest features, and ask for your input and ideas. As an open source project, our goal is to make ChronoZoom a great tool for students, teachers and researchers.*

Room  
**KC 2250**  
Grand River  
Room

12:30 pm – 1:30 pm | **Lunch Break** | Kirkhof Center / Grand River Room

12:45 pm – 1:15 pm | **Artistic Presentation** | Grand River Room

*“Enfleshing Big History Through Songs, Parables, and Pilgrimages”* | **Connie Barlow**, TheGreatStory.org

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm | **IBHA Session IV** | Honors College and Lake Ontario Hall

**IBHA Panel 18 | Big History in Human History**

Chair: **Elizabeth Pollard**, San Diego State University

Presenter 1: *“Big Politics”* | **Lowell Gustafson**, Professor of Political Science, Villanova University, Villanova, PA

Presenter 2: *“On Power: George Lucas, Jerry Garcia, and Barack Obama’s Big Black Helicopters”* | **Richard B. Simon**, Dominican University of California

Presenter 3: *“‘Non-Humans’ Influence on Human History”* | **Paul Von Ward**, Independent Scholar

IBHA Panel 18

Saturday, August 4  
1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

**Room**  
**HON 218**  
**Honors College**

**IBHA Panel 19 | Big History and Education (Session 2)**

Chair: **Bob Bain**, Associate Professor, Department of History & School of Education, University of Michigan / Big History Project

Presenter 1: *“First Year Experience “Big History” as the Cornerstone of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Liberal Education”* | **Mojgan Behmand**, Dominican University of California

Presenter 2: *“Big History and Big Teaching: Desegregating Content in the College Curriculum”* | **Kevin Fernlund**, University of Missouri, St. Louis

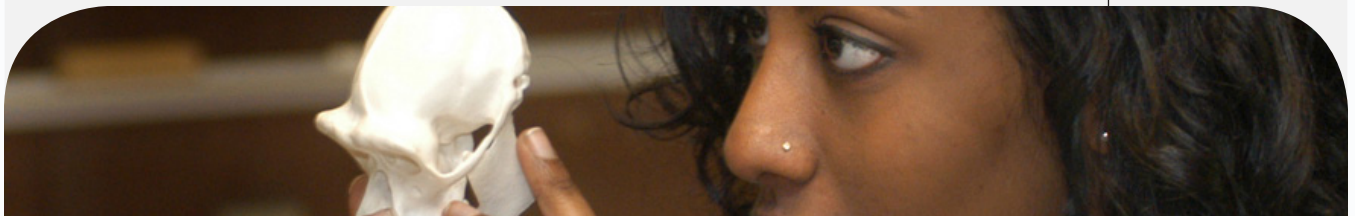
Presenter 3: *“Being Schooled in the Big Picture: Big History as the Framework for the K-12 Social Studies Curriculum”* | **Brandon Hendrickson**, University of Washington

Presenter 4: *“Big History and the Secondary Classroom: A 21<sup>st</sup> Century Approach to Interdisciplinarity?”* | **Tracy Sullivan**, Macquarie University / Sydney, Australia

IBHA Panel 19

Saturday, August 4  
1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

**Room**  
**HON 148**  
**Honors College**





<p><b>IBHA Panel 20   Information in Big History</b></p> <p>Chair: <b>Joseph Voros</b>, Senior Lecturer in Strategic Foresight, Swinburne University of Technology / Melbourne, Australia</p> <p>Presenter 1: <i>“Information as a Trans-Disciplinary Concept”</i>   <b>Cameron Gibelyou</b>, Coordinator of Teaching, Programming, and Innovation, University of Michigan / Multidisciplinary Lecturer and Instructional Consultant</p> <p>Presenter 2: <i>“Fishing for Aristotle: Artisans, Patrons, and Collective Learning in the Ancient Mediterranean”</i>   <b>Christian Jennings</b>, Assistant Professor of History, Washington and Lee University</p> <p>Presenter 3: <i>“A Software Designer’s Perspective on Information”</i>   <b>Marcel Koonen</b>, M.Sc. – Software Designer Imaging Systems – Philips Healthcare</p>	<p>IBHA Panel 20</p> <p>Saturday, August 4 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm</p> <p>Room <b>LOH 174</b> <i>Lake Ontario Hall</i></p>
<p><b>IBHA Panel 21   Big History and Human Evolution III</b></p> <p>Chair: <b>James Cunningham</b>, Dominican University of California</p> <p>Presenter 1: <i>“The Animals of the Spanish Empire: Humans and Other Animals in Big History”</i>   <b>Abel A. Alves</b>, Ball State University</p> <p>Presenter 2: <i>“Natural Disasters and Big History”</i>   <b>Karl Benne</b>, Independent Scholar</p> <p>Presenter 3: <i>“Little Big History and Popular Culture Studies”</i>   <b>Bob Batchelor</b>, School of Journalism, Kent State University</p>	<p>IBHA Panel 21</p> <p>Saturday, August 4 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm</p> <p>Room <b>HON 220</b> <i>Honors College</i></p>
<p><b>IBHA Panel 22   Understanding Big History</b></p> <p>Chair: <b>Barry Rodrigue</b>, The Collaborative of Global and Big History, University of Southern Maine</p> <p>Presenter 1: <i>“Laws &amp; Rules of Big History Biological and Social Phases”</i>   <b>Leonid Grinin</b> (presenter), Andrey Korotayev, and Alexander Markov (co-authors), Eurasian Center for Big History and System Forecasting, Institute of Oriental Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences</p> <p>Presenter 2: <i>“Understanding Directionality”</i>   <b>Martin Hewson</b>, University of Regina / Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada</p> <p>Presenter 3: <i>“On Periodization of the Humankind History”</i>   <b>Sergey N. Grinchenko</b>, Dr. of Technical Sciences, and <b>Julia L. Shchapova</b>, Dr. of Historical Sciences, both of Moscow State M.V. Lomonosov University (MSU) / Moscow, Russia (<i>co-presenting via Skype</i>)</p>	<p>IBHA Panel 22</p> <p>Saturday, August 4 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm</p> <p>Room <b>LOH 164</b> <i>Lake Ontario Hall</i></p>

1:30 pm –3:00 pm | **MWWHA Session V** | Lake Ontario Hall

**MWWHA Panel 5 | Humans and the Rest of Nature**

Presenter 1: “*Modern Kashmir History and Environment: Water After Partition*” | **Lawrence G. Gundersen**, Jackson State Community College, University of Memphis, Lambuth, and University of Tennessee, Martin

Presenter 2: “*Pleistocene Overkill? New Findings From Quantitative Global Analysis*” | **Paul Jentz**, North Hennepin Community College

Presenter 3: “*Betrayal of Natural Resources: The Fall of the Angkor and Mayan Civilizations*” | **Cay Leytham-Powell**, Grand View University

MWWHA Panel 5

Saturday, August 4  
1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

Room  
**LOH 178**  
Lake Ontario Hall



3:00 pm - 4:00 pm | **IBHA Member’s Meeting** | Honors College  
*PM Coffee Served*

Room **HON 150**  
*Multi-purpose Room*

4:00 pm - 5:30 pm | **IBHA Session VI** | Honors College and Lake Ontario Hall

**IBHA Panel 23 | Big History and Education (Session 3)**

Chair: **Kevin Fernlund**, University of Missouri, St. Louis

Presenter 1: “*Doing, Learning, Living: The Scope, Value & Potential of Big History*” | **Rich Blundell**, PhD Candidate, Macquarie University and Founder omniscopic.com

Presenter 2: “*Thresholds of Time*” (includes short documentary “and then there were Humans”) | **Bree Faulkenberg**, History Graduate Student, California State University / San Marcos

Presenter 3: “*Big History Briefly, Excerpts at the Public Library*” | **John Hostettler**, Mountain View Public Library / Mountain View, CA

IBHA Panel 23

Saturday, August 4  
4:00 pm – 5:30 pm

Room  
**HON 220**  
Honors College

<p><b>IBHA Panel 24   Big History and the Future</b></p> <p>Chair: <b>William Grassie</b>, Metanexus Institute</p> <p>Presenter 1: “<i>Retrofitting the Future</i>”   <b>Barry Rodrigue</b>, The Collaborative of Global and Big History, University of Southern Maine</p> <p>Presenter 2: “<i>Complexity and Consciousness: A Model of Big History Based on Self-organizing Complexity, Incorporating Interiority</i>”   <b>Joseph Voros</b>, Senior Lecturer in Strategic Foresight, Swinburne University of Technology / Melbourne, Australia</p> <p>Presenter 3: “<i>Beyond Teaching and Research: A Big History Agenda</i>”   <b>Barry Wood</b>, Professor of English, University of Houston</p>	<p>IBHA Panel 24</p> <p>Saturday, August 4 4:00 pm – 5:30 pm</p> <p>Room <b>HON 148</b> <i>Honors College</i></p>
<p><b>IBHA Panel 25   Big History and Religion (2)</b></p> <p>Chair: <b>Jennifer Morgan</b>, UniverseStories.com</p> <p>Presenter 1: “<i>Evidential Inspiration: The Big Picture on Big History</i>”   <b>Michael Dowd</b>, “The Great Story” Evangelist</p> <p>Presenter 2: “<i>Placing Homo Religiosus in Big History</i>”   <b>Philip Novak</b>, Dominican University of California</p> <p>Presenter 3: “<i>Religion in Big History</i>”   <b>Fred Spier</b>, University of Amsterdam / The Netherlands</p>	<p>IBHA Panel 25</p> <p>Saturday, August 4 4:00 pm – 5:30 pm</p> <p>Room <b>LOH 164</b> <i>Lake Ontario Hall</i></p>
<p><b>IBHA Panel 26   Collective Learning</b></p> <p>Chair: <b>Martin Anderson</b>, Dominican University of California</p> <p>Presenter 1: “<i>Collective Learning as a Paradigm Idea for Human History</i>”   <b>David Christian</b>, Professor, Macquarie University, Sydney / WCU Distinguished Professor, Ewha University, Seoul</p> <p>Presenter 2: “<i>The Sogdian Connection: Using Network Science to Understand the Silk Roads</i>”   <b>Isaiah Moose</b>, Macquarie University / Sydney, Australia</p> <p>Presenter 3: “<i>Questions, Dynamics, and Future Research Agendas in Collective Learning</i>”   <b>David Baker</b>, PhD Candidate, Macquarie University / Sydney, Australia</p>	<p>IBHA Panel 26</p> <p>Saturday, August 4 4:00 pm – 5:30 pm</p> <p>Room <b>LOH 168</b> <i>Lake Ontario Hall</i></p>



<p><b>IBHA Panel 27   Walk Through Time   Exhibit to Book to iPhone App</b></p> <p>Chair: <b>Michael Babel</b></p> <p>Presenter 1: <i>“History of the Walk Through Time”</i>   <b>Geoff Ainscow</b>          Presenter 2: <i>“Walking Big History Through Locative Media”</i>   <b>Fred Adam</b>          Presenter 3: <i>“Big History: a Worldview Revolution”</i>   <b>Michael Babel</b>          Presenter 4: <i>“Big History: a Worldview Revolution”</i>   <b>Lawrence Edwards</b>          Presenter 5: <i>“Deep Time Walk: Transformative Integral Education Goes Hiking”</i>   <b>Kat Snow</b></p> <p><i>All presenters are from the Walk Through Time Project</i></p>	<p>IBHA Panel 27</p> <p>Saturday, August 4 4:00 pm – 5:30 pm</p> <p>Room <b>LOH 174</b> Lake Ontario Hall</p>
	
<p>4:00 pm - 5:30 pm   <b>MWWHA Session VI</b>   Lake Ontario Hall</p>	
<p><b>MWWHA Panel 6   Empires and Globalization: Social and Environmental Impacts</b></p> <p>Chair: <b>Pamela Sayre</b>, Henry Ford Community College, Michigan</p> <p>Presenter 1: <i>“Globalization’s 16<sup>th</sup> Century Birth”</i>   <b>Dennis O. Flynn</b>, Pacific World History Institute</p> <p>Presenter 2: <i>“Energy, Environment and Social Organization in Major Historical Transitions”</i>   <b>David LePoire</b>, Argonne National Laboratory, Environmental Science Division</p> <p>Presenter 3: <i>“Comparative Assimilation on the Periphery of Empires: The Tohono O’odham and the U.S.-Mexico Borderlands”</i>   <b>Andrae Marak</b>, Indiana University — Purdue University Columbus</p> <p>Presenter 4: <i>“Future Designs for Global Environmental Management: What Has Been Done? What Can be Done?”</i>   <b>Ayse Ozcan &amp; Wayne R. Beyea</b>, Michigan State University</p>	<p>MWWHA Panel 6</p> <p>Saturday, August 4 4:00 pm – 5:30 pm</p> <p>Room <b>LOH 178</b> Lake Ontario Hall</p>

5:45 pm – 6:45 pm | **Social Hour** | *The Arboretum (Opportunity to visit the Walk Through Time Exhibit)*

7:00 pm – 9:30 pm | **Conference Dinner** | Kirkhof Center, *Grand River Room*

7:00 pm | “Remarks” **Gayle R. Davis**, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Grand Valley State University

7:15 pm | “Dinner Served”

8:15 pm | “Big History: A Bridge between Humanities and Sciences” | **Walter Alvarez**, Professor of Geology, University of California Berkley

9:30 pm | The Rapid - Buses depart for Grand Rapids

*Note: Buses will arrive at the bus stop on the circle drive (Campus Drive) at the front steps of the Kirkhof Center ([Map Link](#)) at 9:10 pm and depart around 9:30 pm. Buses will arrive at the bus stop on Front Ave under the US 131 overpass between DeVos and Eberhard Center at approximately 10:00 pm.*

## SUNDAY, AUGUST 5

(BREAKFAST ON YOUR OWN)

DeVos Center, GVSU Campus, 401 West Fulton Street, Grand Rapids

9:00 am – 10:30 am | **IBHA Session VII** | DeVos Center

### IBHA Panel 28 | Coping with the Learning Curve | Roundtable

Chair: **Barry Wood**, Professor of English, University of Houston

Participant 1: **Cameron Gibelyou**, Coordinator of Teaching, Programming, and Innovation, University of Michigan / Multidisciplinary Lecturer and Instructional Consultant

Participant 2: **Barry Rodrigue**, The Collaborative of Global and Big History, University of Southern Maine

Participant 3: **Kathy Schick**, Co-Director, Stone Age Institute, Indiana University, Bloomington

Participant 4: **David Shimabukuro**, Dept. of Earth and Planetary Science, University of California, Berkley

IBHA Panel 28

Sunday, August 5  
9:00 am – 10:30 am

*Room*  
**DEV 109D**

<p><b>IBHA Panel 29   Anthropocene</b></p> <p>Chair: <b>John McNeill</b>, Georgetown University</p> <p>Presenter 1: <i>“Why the Anthropocene Matters on the Scale of Big History”</i>   <b>David Christian</b>, Professor, Macquarie University, Sydney / WCU Distinguished Professor, Ewha University, Seoul</p> <p>Presenter 2: <i>“The Big History of Climate Change”</i>   <b>Dr. Franz Mauelshagen</b>, Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities / Essen, Germany</p> <p>Presenter 3: <i>“The Anthropocene and the Little Ice Age”</i>   <b>Professor Ji-Hyung Cho</b>, Ewha Womans University / Seoul, Korea</p>	<p>IBHA Panel 29</p> <p>Sunday, August 5 9:00 am – 10:30 am</p> <p>Room <b>DEV 111D</b></p>
	
<p><b>IBHA Panel 30   Cosmic Education: Big History for the Elementary Child</b></p> <p>Chair: <b>Cynthia Brown</b>, Dominican University of California</p> <p>Presenter 1: <i>“The Match Between Montessori’s Cosmic Education and Big History: A General Introduction”</i>   <b>Michael Duffy</b> and <b>D’Neil Duffy</b> (both), M.Ed., Montessori Author, Consultant, Teacher/Trainer, Center for Montessori Teacher Education, New York / Instituto Nueva Escuela, Puerto Rico</p> <p>Presenter 2: <i>“The Timelines of Light, Life and Humans” Traditional Montessori Keys for the Elementary Aged Child</i>”   <b>Dr. John Fowler</b>, Denison Montessori, Denver, Colorado; Adjunct Professor TIES/Endicott Graduate Programs</p> <p>Presenter 3: <i>“Teaching Big History to the Elementary Age Child Through Storytelling”</i>   <b>Jennifer Morgan</b>, UniverseStories.com</p> <p>Presenter 4: <i>“Once Upon a Time...There was a Story to be Told”</i>   <b>Jos Werkhoven</b>, (former) Montessori Teacher, Director, Trainer, Developer Educational Material, Publisher</p>	<p>IBHA Panel 30</p> <p>Sunday, August 5 9:00 am – 10:30 am</p> <p>Room <b>DEV 117E</b></p>

<p><b>IBHA Panel 31   Big History and Education (Session 4)</b></p> <p>Chair: <b>Bob Bain</b>, Associate Professor, Department of History &amp; School of Education, University of Michigan / Big History Project</p> <p>Presenter 1: “<i>The 3C’s and the 3E’s: Teaching the Themes of Communication and Energy in Big History to Secondary School Students</i>”   <b>Deborah Smith Johnston</b>, History Department, Lakeside School</p> <p>Presenter 2: “<i>Ending the Squeeze: Big History, the STEM Initiative, the Common Core, and the Revival of Elementary and Middle School Social Studies in Maryland Public Schools</i>”   <b>Todd Anthony Rosa</b>, Assistant Professor of Education, Coordinator, Secondary &amp; P-12 Teacher Preparation Programs, Coordinator, Social Science Major, Frostburg State University</p> <p>Presenter 3: “<i>Transdisciplinary Learning System “EVOLSH”</i>”   <b>Julia Scherbina</b>, Coordinator of Project “EVOLSH”</p> <p>Presenter 4: “<i>Big History: Problems of Teaching</i>”   <b>Sergey N. Grinchenko</b>, Dr. of Technical Sciences, Moscow State M.V. Lomonosov University (MSU) / Moscow, Russia (<i>presenting via Skype</i>)</p>	<p>IBHA Panel 31</p> <p>Sunday, August 5 9:00 am – 10:30 am</p> <p><i>Room</i> <b>DEV 119E</b></p>
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9:00 am – 10:30 am | **MWWHA Session VII** | DeVos Center

<p><b>MWWHA Panel 7   Primary Sources and Secondary World History Standards: An Oxymoron?</b></p> <p>Presenter 1: “<i>Primary Sources and Secondary World History Standards: An Oxymoron?</i>”   <b>Thomas W. Barker</b>, University of Kansas</p>	<p>MWWHA Panel 7</p> <p>Sunday, August 5 9:00 am – 10:30 am</p> <p><i>Room</i> <b>DEV 121E</b></p>
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10:30 am – 10:45 am | **Coffee Break** | Exhibition Hall

10:45 – 11:15 am | **Artistic Presentation** | Loosemore Auditorium

“*The Infinitaas Dynamic Visual Timeline: Educating Big Historians to See and Think in Flowing Time*”  
**Kevin W. Kelley**, Infinitaas Creator, Co-Founder, Metanoiaa / **Rachel Bagby**, Co-Founder, Metanoiaa



<p><b>IBHA Panel 32   Big History and Education (Session 5)</b></p> <p>Chair: <b>Lowell Gustafson</b>, Professor of Political Science, Villanova University, Villanova, PA</p> <p>Presenter 1: “<i>Big History and Multidisciplinary Education</i>”   <b>Cameron Gibelyou</b>, Coordinator of Teaching, Programming, and Innovation, University of Michigan / Multidisciplinary Lecturer and Instructional Consultant</p> <p>Presenter 2: “<i>The Universal Breakthroughs of Big History: Developing a Unified Theory for Integrative Research and Global Education</i>”   <b>Ken Gilbert</b>, Independent Scholar</p> <p>Presenter 3: “<i>An ‘Expanding Text-iverse’ Approach to Big History Learning and Teaching Materials</i>”   <b>Joseph Voros</b>, Senior Lecturer in Strategic Foresight, Swinburne University of Technology / Melbourne, Australia</p>	<p>IBHA Panel 32</p> <p>Sunday, August 5 11:15 am – 12:45 pm</p> <p><i>Room</i> <b>DEV 109D</b></p>
<p><b>IBHA Panel 33   Regional Perspectives on Big History</b></p> <p>Chair: <b>Barry Rodrigue</b>, The Collaborative of Global and Big History, University of Southern Maine</p> <p>Presenter 1: “<i>Big History and Americanists: A Needed Conversation</i>”   <b>Ian Carr McPherson</b>, Saint Louis University</p> <p>Presenter 2: “<i>The Educative and Prognostic Implications of Big History</i>”   <b>Akop Nazaretyan</b>, Director, Eurasian Center for Big History and System Forecasting / Moscow, Russia</p> <p>Presenter 3: “<i>The Prospects of Big History in China</i>”   <b>Sun Yue</b>, Global History Center, School of History, Capital Normal University / Beijing, China</p>	<p>IBHA Panel 33</p> <p>Sunday, August 5 11:15 am – 12:45 pm</p> <p><i>Room</i> <b>DEV 111D</b></p>





<p><b>IBHA Panel 34   Big History and Human Evolution IV</b></p> <p>Chair: <b>Russell M. Genet</b>, Research Scholar in Residence at California Polytechnic State University, and Adjunct Professor of Astronomy at Cuesta College   San Luis Obispo</p> <p>Presenter 1: <i>“Peacemaking in Big History: Tracing Humanity’s Efforts for Peace”</i>   <b>Hope Benne</b>, Adjunct Professor of History, Salem State University</p> <p>Presenter 2: <i>“Homo Sapiens as Homo Symbolicus: Ruminations on the Transformative Powers of Symbolic Inheritance and Symbolization”</i>   <b>Jess Hollenback</b>, Associate Professor of History, University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse</p> <p>Presenter 3: <i>“Our Own Best Enemy: How Humans Energize Their Evolution”</i>   <b>Eelco Runia</b>, Department of History, University of Groningen / The Netherlands</p>	<p>IBHA Panel 34</p> <p>Sunday, August 5 11:15 am – 12:45 pm</p> <p><i>Room</i> <b>DEV 117E</b></p>
<p><b>IBHA Panel 35   Big History and Religion (3)</b></p> <p>Chair: <b>Fred Spier</b>, University of Amsterdam / The Netherlands</p> <p>Presenter 1: <i>“Religion and the Religious Temperament in Scientific History”</i>   <b>David Blanks</b>, Associate Professor, The American University in Cairo / Cairo, Egypt</p> <p>Presenter 2: <i>“Teaching Big History at a Jesuit University”</i>   <b>Paul Harris</b>, Loyola Marymount University</p> <p>Presenter 3: <i>“Big History and the Religious Perspective”</i>   <b>Stephen Satkiewicz</b>, National Coalition of Independent Scholars (NCIS)</p>	<p>IBHA Panel 35</p> <p>Sunday, August 5 11:15 am – 12:45 pm</p> <p><i>Room</i> <b>DEV 119E</b></p>



**MWWHA Panel 8 | Metaphors, Theology, and Philosophy in Environmental History**

Presenter 1: “*Reflections About Tasks We Are Facing for Understanding and Explaining the Mokken Success and Our Failure*” | **Karl Benne**, Independent Scholar

Presenter 2: “*Vengeance or Justice: How Poseidon and Zeus’ Responses to Odysseus’ Violation of Xenia Demonstrates a New Worldview*” | **Jason J. Hansen**, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire

Presenter 3: “*Humanity’s Changing Metaphors of Nature*” | **Jeremy Lent**, Independent Scholar

Presenter 4: “*France and Late Joseon Korea: Religion and Imperialism*” | **Carl H. Sobocinski**, Yonsei University / Republic of Korea

MWWHA Panel 8

Sunday, August 5  
11:15 am – 12:45 pm

Room  
**DEV 121E**

12:45 pm - 1:45 pm | **Lunch Break** | Exhibition Hall

1:00 pm – 1:30 pm | **Artistic Presentation** | Loosemore Auditorium

“The Poetry of Big History: Readings and Classroom Lessons from *The Holy Universe*” | **David Christopher**,  
Author of *The Holy Universe* (forthcoming, 2013)

Overview: David will use excerpts from his book and introduce the  
Big History narrative through the literary and poetic lens of the storyteller.

1:45 pm – 3:15 pm | **IBHA Session IX** | DeVos Center

**IBHA Panel 36 | Big History and Human History**

Chair: **Jonathan Markley**, Associate Professor, California State University Fullerton

Presenter 1: “*From Hunters to Ranchers, and Beyond: The Experience of Indian and Metis Communities during a Period of Transition in the Northern Borderlands of the American West*” | **Robert R. Foxcurran**, Independent Historian

Presenter 2: “*Researching Big History at the Graduate Level*” | **Alex Moddejonge**

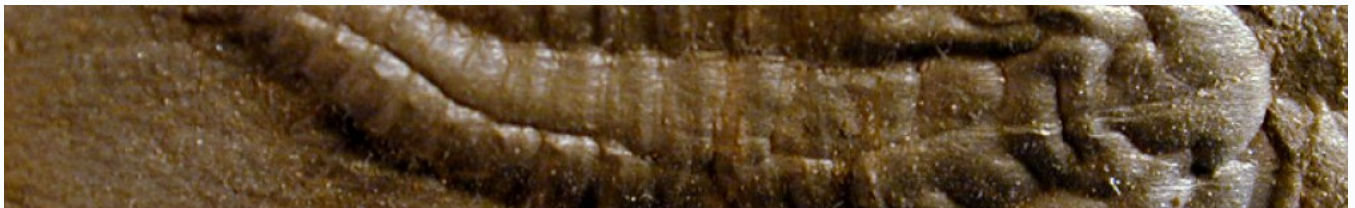
Presenter 3: “*Limiting Understanding: Dogmas, Doctrine, and Big History*” |  
**Jonathan White**, Grand Valley State University

IBHA Panel 36

Sunday, August 5  
1:45 pm – 3:15 pm

Room  
**DEV 109D**

<p><b>IBHA Panel 37   Big History and Education (Session 6)</b></p> <p>Chair: <b>Rich Blundell</b>, PhD Candidate, Macquarie University and Founder omniscopic.com</p> <p>Presenter 1: “<i>Big History Beads: A Flexible Pedagogical Method</i>”   <b>Jonathan Cleland-Host</b>, Materials Scientist (HSC) / Adjunct, Saginaw Valley State University</p> <p>Presenter 2: “<i>Regarding Relations: How to Organize in Relation with Everything</i>”   <b>Anne-Marie Poorthuis</b>, Eigentijdse Verbindingen</p> <p>Presenter 3: “<i>Big History and 3<sup>rd</sup> Culture: A Student’s Perspective</i>”   <b>Duncan Ross</b>, Dominican University of California</p>	<p>IBHA Panel 37</p> <p>Sunday, August 5 1:45 pm – 3:15 pm</p> <p><i>Room</i> <b>DEV 111D</b></p>
<p><b>IBHA Panel 38   Evolutionary Approaches to Big History</b></p> <p>Chair: <b>Andrew Peterson</b>, University of Hawaii</p> <p>Presenter 1: “<i>Empirical Proof of the Continuity and Common Principle of Major Events of Big History</i>”   <b>Richard L. Coren</b>, Emeritus Professor, Drexel University</p> <p>Presenter 2: “<i>Generous Genes and the Tree of Life</i>”   <b>Cathy Russell</b>, Epic of Evolution.com</p> <p>Presenter 3: “<i>From the Big Bang to the World Wide Web: A Framework for Approaching Big History</i>”   <b>Kathy Schick</b>, Co-Director, Stone Age Institute, Indiana University, Bloomington</p>	<p>IBHA Panel 38</p> <p>Sunday, August 5 1:45 pm – 3:15 pm</p> <p><i>Room</i> <b>DEV 117E</b></p>
<p><b>IBHA Panel 39   How a Trilobite Managed Water to Colonize Earth: Undergraduate Students’ Little Big Histories</b></p> <p>Chair: <b>Esther Quaedackers</b>, M.Sc., University of Amsterdam / The Netherlands</p> <p>Presenter 1: “<i>Geology from a Big History Perspective</i>”   <b>Melanie During</b></p> <p>Presenter 2: “<i>Willful Waters</i>”   <b>Hans van Twuiver</b></p> <p>Presenter 3: “<i>Understanding Colonialism</i>”   <b>Annaliese Dempsey</b> (<i>presenting via Skype</i>)</p> <p><i>All presenters are from the University of Amsterdam / The Netherlands</i></p>	<p>IBHA Panel 39</p> <p>Sunday, August 5 1:45 pm – 3:15 pm</p> <p><i>Room</i> <b>DEV 119E</b></p>



**MWWHA Panel 9 | Revolutions and State Politics: Their Influence on Environmental History**

Presenter 1: “*The Brazilian Revolt and the Popular Front: A Case Study in Worldwide Interconnectedness of Soviet Policy*” | **Anthony Fox**, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire

Presenter 2: “*Birds, Rice, and Farming: The Impacts of Transnational Law on Local Rice Farmers in Valencia, Spain, 1980-2000*” | **Sarah R. Hamilton**, University of Michigan (Recipient of MWWHA Graduate Student Award)

Presenter 3: “*Making History: The 2011 Egyptian Uprising and its Historical Antecedents*” | **Lindsey Rindo**, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire

Presenter 4: “*The Asante and the ‘Eight Great Roads’*” | **Benjamin Wendorf**, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

MWWHA Panel 9

Sunday, August 5  
1:45 pm – 3:15 pm

*Room*  
**DEV 121E**

3:15 pm – 3:30 pm | **Coffee Break** | Loosemore Auditorium

3:30 pm – 4:30 pm | **Wrap-Up Session** | Loosemore Auditorium

4:30 pm – 6:00 pm | **After Glow Reception** | Exhibition Hall

**THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING AND MAKING THIS A SUCCESSFUL CONFERENCE!**



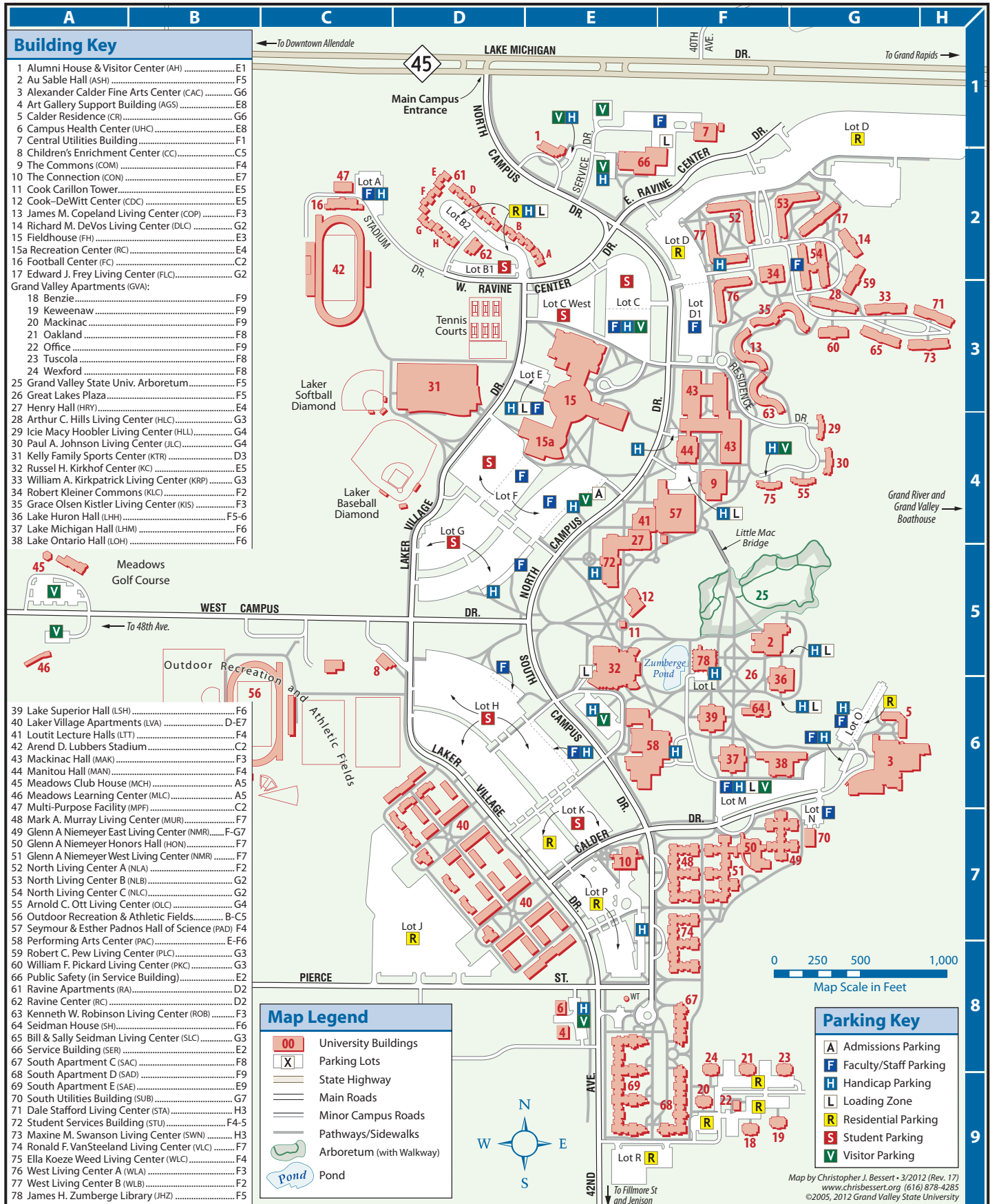
**International  
Big History  
Association**



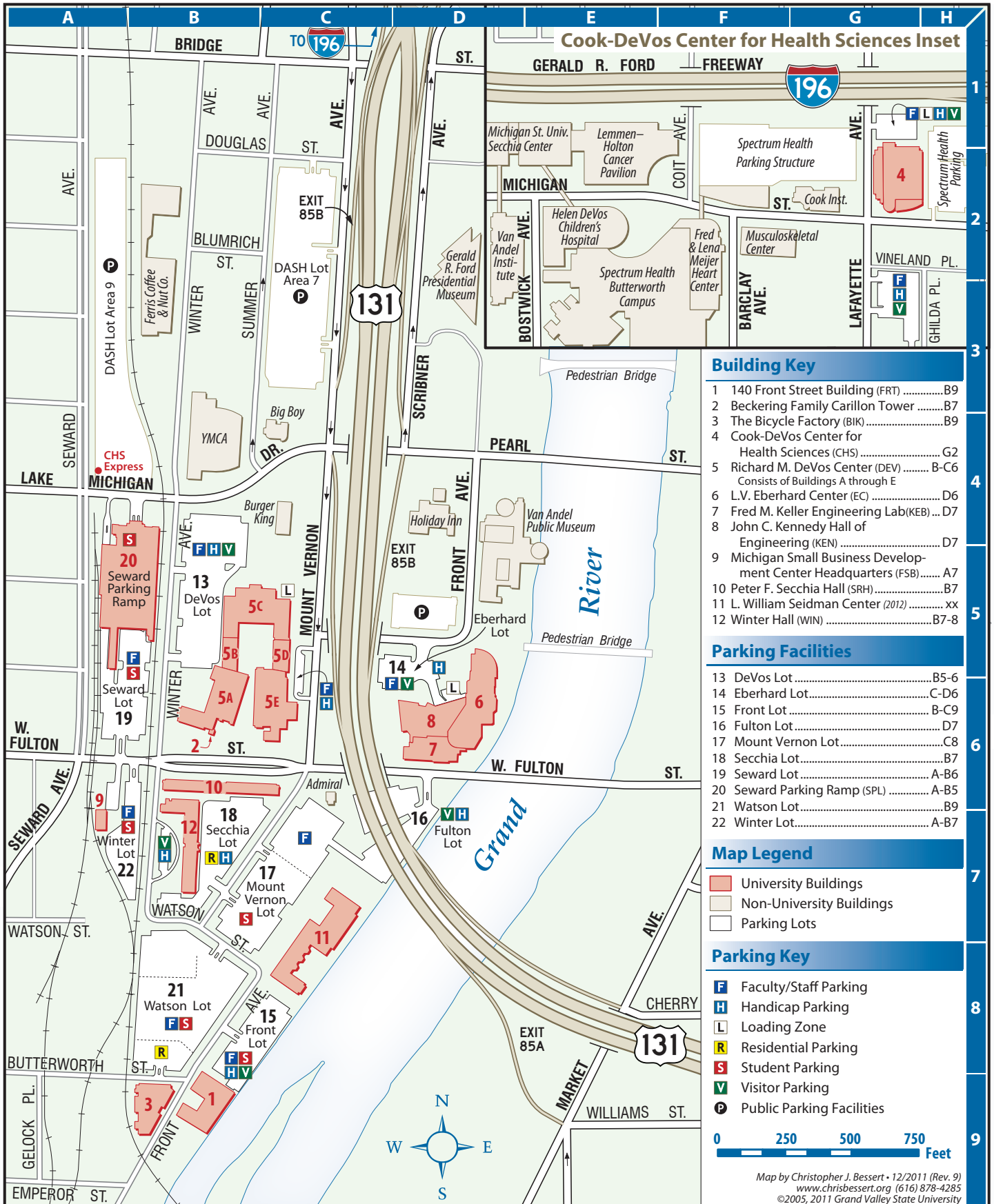
The IBHA would like to thank Nancy Crowe for her design of the IBHA logo and Lowell Gustafson for his work on this program. The MWWHA would like to thank Nay Aung, College of St. Scholastica Class of 2013, for designing the new MWWHA logo.

Note: Presenters are encouraged to submit their papers to Middle Ground Journal, published by the MWWHA, after the conference at <http://www2.css.edu/app/depts/HIS/historyjournal/>.







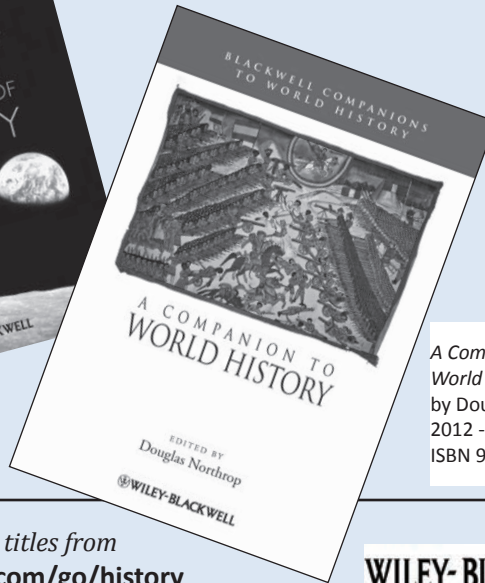


## Explore Big History

with Wiley-Blackwell

by IBHA  
Vice President  
Fred Spier

*Big History and the  
Future of Humanity*  
by Fred Spier  
2011 - \$39.95 - Paper  
ISBN 9781444339437



*A Companion to  
World History*  
by Douglas Northrop  
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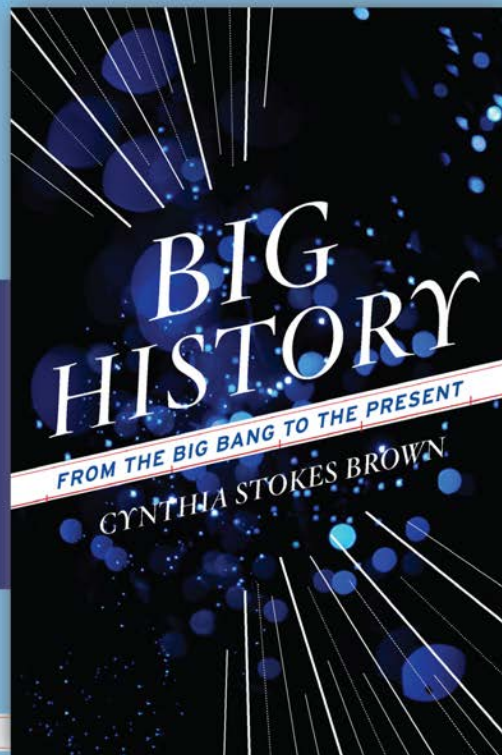
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