

ADAM SMITH AND THE MORAL ECONOMY OF MARKET SOCIETY

Thursday, May 14, 2015

7:30 PM

LECTURE

UCLA Royce Hall 314
340 Royce Drive
Los Angeles, CA 90095

Friday, May 15, 2015

10:00 AM - 5:30 PM

PANELS & ROUNDTABLE

UCLA Faculty Center
480 Charles E. Young Drive North
Los Angeles, CA 90095

For more information, contact:

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Or Visit the Events tab of CLAFI's
website: www.clafi.ucla.edu

Funding for this conference is made possible in partnership with the Jack Miller Center and through the support of a grant from the John Templeton Foundation.

UCLA College

Center for Liberal Arts
and Free Institutions
(CLAFI)

SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, MAY 14

Royce Hall 314

7:30 **LECTURE**

"Adam Smith (and his followers) on Discussion, Trade, and the Moral Imagination"
SANDRA PEART, University of Richmond

FRIDAY, MAY 15

UCLA Faculty Center

10-12:00 **PANEL 1: FREEDOM, EQUALITY, AND SYMPATHY IN SMITH'S
THE THEORY OF MORAL SENTIMENTS**

CYPRESS ROOM

"The Theory of Moral Sentiments and the Problem of Freedom"
RYAN HANLEY, Marquette University

"Managing the 'Natural Selfishness and Rapacity' of the Rich:
Adam Smith on Economic Inequality in the Theory of Moral Sentiments"
DAVID LAY WILLIAMS, DePaul University

"The Possibility of Progress: Smith and Rousseau on Pitié, Sympathy, and
the Moral Economy" **MICHELLE SCHWARZE**, University of Wisconsin, Madison

MICHAEL LOCKE McLENDON, California State University, Los Angeles
- CHAIR & DISCUSSANT

12- 2:00 **Lunch**

SEQUOIA ROOM

* To attend the lunch, please RSVP by May 10 to
Julian Fischer, jfischer@humnet.ucla.edu

2-4:00 **PANEL 2: ETHICS AND ECONOMICS FROM SMITH TO TODAY**

CYPRESS ROOM

"Moral Sentiments and Material Interests"
HERBERT GINTIS, Santa Fe Institute

"Do Markets Corrupt Us?"
JASON BRENNAN, Georgetown University

"TMS, We Hardly Knew Ye: Some Notes on Living in Post-Smithian Disciplines"
CHRISTINA McRORIE, University of Virginia

JASON NEIDLEMAN, University of La Verne - CHAIR & DISCUSSANT

4-4:30 **Break**

4:30-5:30 **ROUNDTABLE OF PARTICIPANTS**

CYPRESS ROOM

STEVEN BILAKOVICS, University of California, Los Angeles - CHAIR

In *The Wealth of Nations*, Adam Smith famously argued that commercial societies produce freedom and widespread prosperity. In *The Theory of Moral Sentiments*, Smith held that such societies would unleash and cohere around the moral sentiment of sympathy along with the pursuit of material self-interest. In the commercial city, all may be strangers, even competitors, but none are foreigners. At the same time, Smith was acutely aware of the tendencies toward collusion, monopoly, and factionalism that could undermine individual freedom, equality, prosperity, and sympathetic association.

Our speakers from a range of disciplines will explore these tensions within commercial society. For Smith, does material inequality undermine freedom and the moral imagination's capacity for sympathy? Today, have the benefits of a market-oriented society been undercut by socioeconomic segregation and stratification? Has the ideal of the cosmopolitan commercial city been exposed by the realities of the slum and the gated-community? Or does the commercial republic itself provide the best solutions to these ailments?