

# **Exercising Power in Early Empires: A Comparative Perspective**

University of Notre Dame  
McKenna Hall (room 200)  
October 25-26, 2018

**Thurs. Oct 25: Day One**

*8:00-12:00: Continental Breakfast, Registration for Speakers*

*9:00-10:45: Panel 1*

## **Power of Ideas**

### **Akhenaten, Wang Mang, and The Limits of Reform**

Anthony Barbieri-Low (UCSB)

### **Tutor to the Crown Prince and Chancellor of the Empire: Confucian Dream and Political Reality in Western Han China (206 BCE-8 CE)**

Liang Cai (Notre Dame)

### **Classical Chinese Words for “Power”**

Paul R. Goldin (UPenn)

- Panel Chair: Felipe Fernandez-Armesto (Notre Dame)

*10:45-11:00: Coffee Break*

*11:00-12:10: Panel 2*

## **Power of the Dead**

### **Evoking the Power of the (Roman) Dead**

W. Martin Bloomer (Notre Dame)

### **The Dead of the Empire: Appropriating and Negotiating State Authority seen in the Funeral “Relocation Document” from the Western Han**

Guo Jue (Barnard College)

- Panel Chair: Hildegund Müller (Notre Dame)

*12:30: Lunch and Public Talk at Jenkins Nanovic Halls, 1050*

### **Work, Wealth and Want: A View from Ancient China**

Roel Sterckx

*3:00- 4:10: Panel 3*

**Power of Narratives and Power of Urban Space**

**Translating Empire: Herodotus' Histories, Persia, and the Greeks**

Christopher A. Baron (Notre Dame)

**Elite Mobility and the Creation of Western Han Chang'an**

Griet Vankeerberghen (McGill)

- Panel Chair: Elisabeth Koll (Notre Dame)

*6:00: Dinner at Morris Inn*

.....

**Fri. October 26: Day Two**

*8:00-12:00: Continental Breakfast*

*9:00-10:45: Panel 4*

**Power of Wealth**

**“Look gracious on thy prostrate thrall”: Wealth and Absolute Power; a Re-Examination of Islamic Elite Slavery in the Classical Islamic Empire**

Deborah Tor (Notre Dame)

**Markets and Morals in Warring States and Han China**

Roel Sterckx (Cambridge)

**Tributary Empire, Universal Order and the Formation of a Ruling Class of Prestige and Honour: Rome and Han Dynasty China in Global History**

Peter Fibiger Bang (Copenhagen)

- Panel Chair: Michel Hockx

*10:45-11:00: Coffee Break*

*11:00-12:45: Panel 5*

**Power of Nomads**

**Enemies of Order or Noble Savages?: Steppe Nomads in the Greco-Roman and Chinese Imagination**

Randolph Ford (Notre Dame)

**Byzantine-Turkish Encounter, State Building, and Political Transformation in Asia Minor**

Alex Beihammer (Notre Dame)

**Heartland of Empires? Some Observations on the so-called 'Orkhon Tradition' among the Turks and other Inner Asian Polities**

Sören Stark (NYU)

- Panel Chair: Margaret Meserve

*1:00: Lunch at Morris Inn*