International Conference:

Currencies of Commerce in the Greater Indian Ocean World

23 and 24 April 2015

23 April 2015

Location: Peterson Hall, room 116

8:45 – 9:30 – Registration

9:30 – 9:45 – Introduction
Steven Serels

9:45 – 10:00 – Welcome Address
Gwyn Campbell, Director of the Indian Ocean World Centre

10:00 – 11:30 – First Keynote Address

Bronze Coins and Silver Ingots – The Major Currencies across the East Asian Mediterranean
Angela Schottenhammer (University of Salzburg)

11:30 – 12:00 – Coffee Break
12:00 – 1:15 Panel 1: Regional Currency Systems

Chair: Rebecca Spang (Indiana University)

Specie, Speculation and the Sterling Area
Johan Mathew (University of Massachusetts, Amherst)

A Case of Colonial Design: India’s Engagement with the Maria Theresa Thaler
Priyamvada Ankush Sawant (University of Mumbai)

1:15 – 2:15 Lunch

2:15 – 3:30 – Panel 2: Inter and Intra-Regional Monetary Union

Chair: Burkhard Schnepel (Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg)

Asian Monetary Union: Is it Beneficial for the Region?
Feridul Islam (Morgan State University)

Poverty and the Circulation of Modern Currencies in the Red Sea World, 1882-2010
Steven Serels (Zentrum Moderner Orient)

3:30 – 4:00 Coffee Break

4:00 – 5:30 – Second Keynote Address

The Indian coinage and monetary system in the early modern period
Om Prakash (Delhi School of Economics)

5:30 – Wine Reception

24 April 2015
Location: Leacock Building, room 808

9:30 – 11:00 – Panel 3: Local Values of Foreign Currencies

Chair: Sarah Fee (Royal Ontario Museum)

Currency and Currency Problems in Imperial Madagascar, 1790-1895
Gwyn Campbell (McGill University)

Between Money and Material: Old Chinese Coins Dominated Medieval Japan
Akinobu Kuroda (Harvard University / University of Tokyo)
The Spanish Dollar’s Singular Career in Mauritius
Amenah Jahangeer Chojoo (Mahatma Gandhi Institute)

11:00 – 11:30 – Coffee Break

11:30 – 12:45 – Panel 4: Commodity Currencies
Chair: Elizabeth Elbourne (McGill University)

What East Africans got for their Ivory and Slaves (c.1840-c.1900)
Karin Pallaver (University of Bologna)

Current, Winds, Metals and Shells: Indian Sultanates 120-1600 and the
Great Indian Ocean Trade in Monetary Commodities
John S. Deyell (Independent Researcher)

1:00 – 2:00 – Lunch

2:00 – 3:30 – Panel 5: Official Regulation of Currency Systems
Chair: John Galaty (McGill University)

Currency as Commodity, as Symbol of Sovereignty and as Subject of
Legal Dispute: Henri Gerffulhe and the Coinage of Zanzibar in the late 19th
Century
Catherine Eagleton (British Library)

Free Coinage in Early Imperial China
Daniel Friedman (School of Oriental and African Studies,
University of London)

The ‘Great Debasement’ in the Ottoman Empire, 1821-1841
Veysel Simsek (McGill University)

3:30 – 4:00 – Coffee Break

4:00 – 5:00 - Closing Discussion

6:30 – Conference Dinner

Gado Gado (1242 Rue Mackay, Montréal, QC H3G 2H5)