



USC-HUNTINGTON EARLY MODERN STUDIES INSTITUTE

**Linda & Harlan Martens Economic History Forum**  
**“Empire and the Origins of Capitalism”**

University of California, Michelson Center, MCB 101  
Saturday, February 24, 2024

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9:30 AM Coffee and Registration

10:00 AM **Welcome from the Organizers**

**Jacob Soll**, USC

**Steven Pincus**, University of Chicago

10:30 AM **Session One: Money and Value**

**Discussant: Manuel Covo**, University of California, Santa Barbara

**“What was Potosí, Bolivia, worth in the mid-17<sup>th</sup> Century?”**

**Kris Lane**, Tulane University

**“The Dutch Republic Comes to the Harz Mountains: Pieter Hartzing in Clausthal”**

**Andre Wakefield**, Pitzer College

**“The Entangled Origins of Capitalism: Making Money between the English and Ottoman Empires”**

**Ellen Nye**, Harvard University

**“Money and the Origins of Capitalism”**

**Jonathan Levy**, University of Chicago

12:30 PM Lunch provided by EMSI

1:30 PM **Session Two: Concepts of Imperial Capitalism**

**Discussant: Daniel Livesay**, Claremont McKenna College

**“Failure as a Category of Study: Louis XIV and Entrepreneurial Imperialism in Persia and Siam”**

**Junko Takeda**, Syracuse University

**“The Imperial Origins of Consumer Protection Law: The Case of Massachusetts Bay, 1692–1771”**

**Jared Lucky**, Yale University

**“Budgeting India: The Making of a British Imperial State in South Asia”**

**Tiraana Bains**, Brown University

**“Private Trade Finance and Religion in the Catholic Environment”**

**Alejandra Irigoin**, London School of Economics

3:30 PM

**Session Three: Rethinking Early Modern Capitalism**

**Discussants: Steven Pincus, Jacob Soll,**

**and Abigail Swingen**, Texas Tech University and Huntington Fellow

**“The Epic Showdown between Two Political Economies that Shaped both Economics and Capitalism.”**

**Carl Wennerlind**, Barnard College

**“Conceptualizing Difference Before Universal Economics Laws”**

**Asheesh Siddique**, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

4:30 PM

**Closing Discussion**

The USC-Huntington Early Modern Studies Institute thanks the Mellon Foundation, the USC Dana and David Dornsife College of Letters, Arts, and Sciences, Linda and Harlan Martens, Carole Shammass, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Huntington Library for their support. Seminar meetings are free and open to the public.

