Before and Beyond Europe: Economic Change in Historical Perspective
HARKNESS HALL 119

Friday, February 25

1:15 pm: Opening Remarks
Naomi Lamoreaux
Economics and History, Yale University

1:30 – 3 pm: Islamic Law and Economic Development
Chair: Timothy Guinnane
Economics, Yale University
Baber Johansen
Law School and Divinity School, Harvard University
The Legal Personality (dhimma) in Islamic Law: How to Separate Obligations from Goods and Secure Credit for the Insolvent
Timur Kuran
Economics and Political Science, Duke University
Economic Modernization in Late British India: Hindu-Muslim Differences

Coffee break

3:30 – 5 pm: Indigenous and Foreign Economic Institutions in Africa
Chair: Steven Nafziger
Economics, Williams College
Ghislaine Lydon
History, UCLA Contracting Trust: Legal Institutions and Enforcement Mechanisms in Early-Modern Saharan Trade
Nathan Nunn
Economics, Harvard University Christians in Colonial Africa

Saturday, February 26

8:40 am: Coffee and light breakfast

9 – 10:30 am: Europe and China Compared
Chair: Peter Perdue
History, Yale University
Jean-Laurent Rosenthal
Economics, California Institute of Technology
R. Bin Wong
History, UCLA
will present a preview of their new book: Before and Beyond Divergence: The Politics of Economic Change in China and Europe (Harvard University Press, 2011)

Coffee break

11am – 12:30 pm: Ancient Economies
Chair: Joseph Manning
Classics and History, Yale University
Ulrike Malmendier
Economics, University of California-Berkeley
Disentangling the Effects of Legal and Political Development on Economic Growth: An Example From Entrepreneurship in Ancient Rome
Nicholas K. Rauh
Classics, Purdue University
Landscape Ecology and the End of Antiquity: The Archaeology of Deforestation in South Coastal Turkey

Buffet Lunch

1:30 – 3:00 pm: Medieval Trade
Chair: Francesca Trivellato
History, Yale University
Jessica Goldberg
History, University of Pennsylvania
Making Reputation Work: A New Look at the Maghribi Merchants’ Coalition and the Role of Reputation
Quentin Van Doosselaere
Paul Lazarsfeld Center for the Social Sciences, Columbia University Dynamic of Social Ties in the Medieval Genoese Commenda (1154 – 1400)

The conference is free and open to the public
Please register and consult the papers online at http://www.econ.yale.edu/~egcenter/EHindex.htm

Access Harkness Hall (WLH) 119 either from Cross Campus or from 100 Wall Street