



Middlebury

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CALL FOR PAPERS International Conference

The Politics of Freshwater: Access and Identity in a Changing Environment
March 14-16, 2013
Middlebury College, Vermont, USA

Water is life and yet it is capricious. In our changing environment, water is problem and solution, destroyer and healer, divider and uniter. Water is not always available where and when it is needed. At times, too much water wreaks havoc on our efforts to control it. Pollution, pricing, distance, water management, climate change, discrimination and availability of technology limit the fair and wise use of water. However, through conscious choice we can do better. We must solve the riddle of sustainable development in the 21st century.

Papers in this interdisciplinary conference will focus on different processes contributing to water scarcity, such as land use decisions, privatization, pricing, damming, commoditization and climate change, and on ways to improve peoples' relationships to the freshwater systems they depend on. In addition, we hope to have one session on themes of water in the humanities (philosophy, religion and literature). Papers presented at the conference will provide international perspectives on these issues. They will analyze lessons from the past and present and consider opportunities for the future. Ample time will be reserved for discussing the papers and overarching conference themes.

People interested in presenting a paper at the conference should send an abstract (no more than 250 words) by November 10, 2012, to the organizers listed below.

Limited funds are available to support travel and lodging for people from developing countries.

Organizers:

Prof. Tamar Mayer
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Director of International Studies
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Prof. Cat Ashcraft
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