

International Conference

*Old and New Worlds:
the Global Challenges of Rural History*

Lisbon, 27-30 January 2016

PANEL DESCRIPTION

S19

Type: Plenary [] Parallel [X]
Working languages: PT [] ES [] EN [X]
Convenor(s): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gerhard Strohmeier, Alps-Adria University Klagenfurt, Institute for Intervention Research and Cultural Sustainability (gerhard.strohmeier@aau.at)
Panel title EN: Oral History and History Re-enactment: Reflections on the Transfer of Agricultural Heritage PT: ES:
Abstract (English) <p>Rapid change in agriculture in the second half of the 20th century brought new industrial systems of machines, tools, and knowledge into the rural world globally. Traditional agricultural practices and local knowledge became obsolete and were left behind under economic pressure to change to industrial modes of production. Most of the traditional practices and knowledge were transferred orally and within local and regional communities. People able to communicate agricultural traditions are aging, few of them still able to transfer knowledge and practices to younger generations. Oral History and History Re-enactment projects connect the aging population of rural regions with young people interested in keeping old agricultural traditions alive. There is a growing interest among historians worldwide to reflect on these projects and their added value for rural history. This panel will bring together historians and others scholars in rural history who are interested in agricultural Oral History and History Re-enactment, broadly defined as exploration and documentation of agricultural tradition, and to put it in use for a living preservation of rural heritage. Living history projects focusing at specific food (grains, bread) or agricultural products (flax, wood) target at the reconstruction of complex agricultural practices and knowledge. They are based on the enduring appeal of agricultural history for both popular and scholarly activities. Along with it comes a critical analysis of these projects, and involves several academic fields (public history, rural sociology, anthropology, archaeology, media studies) all over the world. Questions to be addressed include: What role play Oral History and History Re-enactment projects in Rural History? Do they resemble a new strategy to connect Old and New Worlds of agricultural practices and knowledge? How do they contribute to a cultural sustainable agricultural heritage of rural communities? How do they differ regionally and how do they maintain regional cultural identity?</p>
Abstract in another language (PT or ES) not available
Open to Call for Papers? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• [X] YES – please send proposals to gerhard.strohmeier@aau.at• [] NO