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Moving Communities and Networks in the Era of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade

Chicago, January 6-9, 2012

Moving Communities and Networks in the Era of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade, a multi-session workshop to be convened at American Historical Association Meeting, Chicago, January 6-9, 2012. In the last years scholars have paid attention to the formation of communities and networks across and beyond the Atlantic Ocean during the period of the trans-Atlantic slave trade. In several regions, these communities—often constituted of enslaved and freed men and women who returned from the Americas to Africa, as well as slave merchants—contributed to the development of commercial, cultural, and religious exchanges that sometimes continued after the end of the Atlantic slave trade. All over and beyond the Atlantic basin these networks were supported by individuals such as local chiefs, captains, crewmembers, interpreters, overseers, and other employees, who can hardly be defined only as victims or perpetrators, but rather as in-betweens who played essential roles in the slave trade. The activities and the way these individuals and groups identify themselves changed over time depending on personal ties, and the local and trans-Atlantic contexts. Suitable papers will examine economic activities, traditions, as well as cultural and religious practices developed by these networks and communities during the period of the trans-Atlantic slave trade. Papers developing comparative analysis and/or focusing on the role of in-betweens and other social actors who supported the slave trade are particularly welcomed.

Please send your paper proposal no later than February 1st 2011 to: aaraujo@howard.edu or analucia.araujo@gmail.com. Paper proposals in English must contain: paper's title; abstract (up to 300 words); biographical paragraph (up to 250 words, no curriculum vitae, please); correct mailing and e-mail address; audiovisual needs, if any. Chairs and commentators, please send: biographical paragraph (up to 250 words, no curriculum vitae, please); correct mailing and e-mail addresses. Please note: abstracts of accepted proposals will be posted on the AHA program website; papers must be submitted on December 1st 2011 to be posted on the conference website. Ana Lucia Araujo, Assistant Professor, Howard University, Department of History, Frederick Douglass Memorial Hall, 2441 6th Street N.W., Room 302, Washington D.C., United
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http://www.coas.howard.edu/history/faculty_Araujo.html.