Beyond Collapse: Archaeological Perspectives on Resilience, Revitalization & Reorganization in Complex Societies

In 1988, while the Soviet Union was experiencing a crisis that ultimately led to its dissolution and the reconfiguration of its once vast political and geographic territory, two important volumes on collapse were published: Yoffee and Cowgill’s *The Collapse of Ancient States and Civilizations* and Tainter’s *The Collapse of Complex Societies*. This year marks the 25th anniversary of these seminal works, a quarter century that has seen new scholarly treatment of the subject and the publication of a fair amount of comparative data and hypotheses. At the same time, a few archaeologists have turned their attention to what happens after collapse, yielding important information on post-collapse environments once considered “dark ages,” identifying factors that contribute to the “regeneration” of complexity, and challenging traditional ideas on collapse altogether. General theoretical approaches have transformed as well, and recent framework reconsider collapse and reorganization not as unrelated phenomena but as integral components of a cyclical understanding of the evolution of complex societies. In light of these developments, the aim of this conference and subsequent volume is to encourage scholars with diverse regional specializations and theoretical perspectives to present and synthesize new data and approaches to understanding the collapse and reorganization of complex societies.

Where: The conference will take place at the SIU Carbondale Morris Library Auditorium, 605 Agriculture Drive, Carbondale, IL. For location information and directions to Morris Library, see http://www.siuc.edu/maps/

When: Friday and Saturday, March 1-2, 2013. The conference will run all day, both days. There will be an optional excursion to Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site on Sunday, March 3.

Transportation - Ground transportation from St. Louis to Carbondale is available through two shuttle services. Advance reservations are required. Reservations can be made by calling BART at (800) 284-2278 or AA Blue Star Line at (618) 457-5466.

Car: Three interstate highways, I-57, I-64, and I-24 pass through Southern Illinois, making Carbondale accessible by highway from all parts of the United States. Maps and additional information on transportation will be sent upon receipt of your registration.

Lodging: Please call the hotel directly to make your reservation. Hotels in the area are listed for your convenience.

Confort Inn
2400 N. Reed Station Rd.
(618) 529-2720
Hampton Inn
2175 Reed Station Pkwy.
(618) 549-6900
Holiday Inn
2300 Reed Station Pkwy.
(618) 549-2600
America’s Best Value Inn
700 E. Main
(618) 457-5566

The conference organizer will provide a free shuttle service between the local hotels and the SIUC Morris Library. Please contact Robin Adams (rchild@siu.edu) or call (618) 453-5031 (mornings only) to sign up for the shuttle.

Registration: Advance registration is $50 for participants and $20 for students. After February 20, a $10 late fee will be charged. This charge also applies to on-site registration at the conference, so advance registration is advised. Please return the registration form (attached) with your payment or call (618) 536-7751 to register by phone with a credit card. If you wish to register by FAX with a credit card, the number is (618) 453-5680. You may register online with a credit card at www.dce.siu.edu. Enrollment is limited, register early.

Refund and Cancellation Policy: Cancellations received in writing before February 20 entitle the registrant to a $15 cancellation fee. No refund will be made after that date. The University reserves the right to cancel any program deemed necessary. In the event of program cancellation, only those preregistered will be notified.

Sponsored by:
Center for Archaeological Investigations

In cooperation with:
Continuing Education and Outreach
Southern Illinois University
Carbondale, IL
Beyond Collapse: Archaeological Perspectives on Resilience, Revitalization & Reorganization in Complex Societies

Preliminary Program

All sessions on Friday and Saturday will be at the SIUC Morris Library Auditorium.

Friday, March 1
8:00-8:30 Registration

Session 1: Reconsidering the Collapse of Complex Societies
8:30-8:55 Rebecca Story (University of Houston) 
Questioning the Maya Collapse

9:05-9:30 Jacob Sedig (University of Colorado, Boulder) 
The Decline and Reorganization of Southwestern Complexity: Using Resilience Theory to Examine the Collapse of Chaco Canyon

9:30-9:55 Andrea Trovien et al. (Arizona State University) 
Transformation without Collapse: Three Cases from the US Southwest

10:10-10:25 Break

Session 2: Persistence/Perseverance During Sociopolitical Transformation
10:35-11:00 Christopher Pool (University of Kentucky) 
Trez Zapotes: The Evolution of a Resilient Polity in the Olmec Heartland of Mexico

11:00-11:25 Scott Hutton (University of Kentucky) 
Willem vanessendelft (University of Illinois-Urbana) 
Miguel Covarrubias (Instituto Nacional de Antropologí.a e Historia) 
Reorganization and Resiliency in Three Acts: A Case Study from the Northern Maya Lowlands

11:25-11:50 Geoffrey McCafferty & Meaghan Peuramaki-Brown (University of Calgary) 
Surfing the Classic Collapse in Central Mexico: Cholula through the Classic to Postclassic Transition (400-1200 CE)

Saturday, March 2
8:00-8:15 Coffee

Session 3: Socioecological Crisis and Resilience Theory
8:40-9:05 Julie Hoggarth & Jaune Awe (Vanderbilt University) 
Social Resilience and Household Adaptation in the Aftermath of the Classic Maya Collapse

9:05-9:30 Heath Anderson (Wooster College), Robert Cobean (Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia) and Dan Healan (Tulane University) 
Collapse, Regeneration, and the Origins of Tula and the Toltec Society

9:30-9:55 David Smith (Lehigh University) 
Using Complex Adaptive Systems as a Heuristic Model for Understanding the Rise of Complexity Community in Iron Age Crete

10:10-10:25 Break

Session 6: Revitalization in the Aftermath of Collapse
10:25-10:45 Matthew Spigelman (New York University) 
Reconsidering the Maya Collapse

10:45-11:00 Victor Thompson (University of Georgia) 
Finding Resilience in Ritual and History in South Florida

11:00-11:25 Thomas Emerson and Kristin Hedman (Lehigh University) 
The Decline and Reorganization of Southwestern Complexity: Using Resilience Theory to Examine the Collapse of Chaco Canyon

11:25-11:50 Session 6 Q&A

11:55-12:10 Lunch

Session 7: Socioeconomic Resilience and Adaptation After Collapse
12:10-12:35 Break

12:35-12:50 Reconsidering the Maya Collapse

12:50-1:05 Kari Zobler & Richard C. Sutter (University of Illinois-Urbana) 
A Tale of Two Cities: Continuity and Change Following the Moche Collapse in the Jatapacape Valley, Peru

1:05-1:20 Maureen Meyers (University of Kentucky) 
The House that Trade Built: Exchange Before and After the Collapse of Mississippian Chiefdoms

1:20-1:35 Nicola Sharratt (American Museum of Natural History) 
Crafting a Response to Collapse: Ceramic and Textile Production in the Wake of Tiwanaku State Breakdown

1:35-1:50 Break

1:50-2:05 Joseph Tainter (Tulane University) 
The Roots of Complexity: Why Collapse is So Difficult to Understand

2:05-2:20 Andrea Trovien et al. (Arizona State University) 
Transformation without Collapse: Three Cases from the US Southwest

2:20-2:35 Session 3 Q&A

3:00–4:00 Session 7 Q&A, Break, Poster Discussions

Book Exhibit: March 1-2, 2013
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Morris Library - 1st Floor Rotunda

For Program Information:
http://www.cai.siuc.edu/vspages/FAulseit/vsconf.html

For Additional Information:
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