

THE 2011 EATON SCIENCE FICTION CONFERENCE

GLOBAL SCIENCE FICTION

FEBRUARY 11-13, 2011

CALL FOR PAPERS

MISSION INN HOTEL & SPA
RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA

This three-day conference—sponsored by the Eaton Collection of Science Fiction, Fantasy, Horror, and Utopian Literature at the University of California, Riverside—proposes to examine the ways in which science fiction (SF) is a truly global phenomenon, crossing territorial, linguistic, and ideological boundaries in its imaginative engagement with the possibilities of the future. We are interested in papers that explore historical and contemporary SF in relation to processes of globalization, international social movements, universalist ideologies, multinational cultures, technoscientific networks, philosophies of cosmopolitanism, neo- and postcolonial politics, separatist and sovereignty movements, and more. We invite paper and panel proposals that focus on all forms of SF, including prose fiction, film, television, comics, and digital culture, and that address (but are not limited to) the following questions:

- How is SF, as a form of multimedia production and a mode of visionary speculation, linked to the structures and world-views of an emerging global marketplace of ideas, commodities, and lifestyles?
- How have SF cultures around the world evolved and adapted in relation to the processes of globalization, internationalization, and multinationality?
- How do the legacies of colonialism and imperialism continue to inform global SF, and how have various local SF cultures negotiated their relationship with an Anglophone hegemony?
- How have the relative paucity or poor quality of English-language translations served to obscure the fact that SF, throughout its history, has always been a global phenomenon?
- What has been the impact of the collapse of the Soviet Union and the emergence of new forms of sociopolitical collectivity such as the European Union on the development of local SF cultures?
- How has “hard SF” responded to a globalized world of corporate technoscience, multinational research ventures, and international scientific accords?
- Has the growth of the Internet, the World Wide Web, and other information networks served to further “globalize” SF as a mode of production and a subcultural formation?
- In what ways does SF foster outlooks that promote or critique the processes of globalization?

The keynote speaker will be Mike Davis, UCR Professor of Creative Writing and author of *City of Quartz*, *The Ecology of Fear*, *Planet of Slums*, and many other works exploring the linkages among social history, political economy, popular culture, and the processes of globalization. SF author guests will be announced as they are confirmed; see the conference website at <<http://eatonconference.ucr.edu>> for periodic updates.

The conference will be held in the historic Mission Inn Hotel & Spa in downtown Riverside (see their website at <<http://missioninn.com/>> for more information).

Abstracts of 500 words (for papers of 20-minutes in length) should be submitted by July 6, 2010 to Melissa Conway, Head of Special Collections and Archives, Rivera Library, UC-Riverside. Electronic submission is preferred via email at <melissa.conway@ucr.edu>.