PUBLIC LECTURE BY JAMES MCCANN
MARCH 28 • 5-7PM

DEPOSITING THE MALEVOLENT BORDER: MALARIA AND THE BLUE NILE BASIN

James McCann is professor of history and interim director of the Pardee Center for the Study of the Longer-Range Future at Boston University. His research interests include agricultural and ecological history of Africa, Ethiopia, and the Horn of Africa, field research methods in African studies, the agro-ecology of tropical disease, and the history of food/cuisine in Africa and the Atlantic world.

In this presentation, McCann will discuss the concept of border as a historical watershed, an ecological unit that integrates place and historical process over time. He will describe one of the world’s great watersheds, the Blue Nile Basin, in terms of its dynamic ecology and the human ecology of a disease (malaria) over time. Malaria is a clever and adaptive force that confounds humanity’s attempts to control it or to set it within boundaries. Ecological history provides an approach to understanding disease and human responses.

For more information, visit
http://international.uiowa.edu/crossing-borders/convocations.

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