

# KEVIN T. BAKER

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**Education** Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois  
*Ph.D.*, History (in progress) 2011–Present  
- Dissertation: “World Processors: Computer Modeling, Global Environmentalism, and the Birth of Sustainable Development”  
- Committee: Ken Alder (Chair), Daniel Immerwahr, Helen Tilley, Bruce Carruthers

Georgia State University, Atlanta, Georgia  
*M.A.*, German History 2008–2011  
*B.A.*, History & Political Science 2003–2007

**Publications** *Book Chapters*  
- “Virtually Nigeria: USAID, Simulated Futures, and the Politics of Postcolonial Expertise, 1964-1980” in *The Struggle for the Long-term in Science and Politics: Forging the Future* edited by Jenny Andersson and Egle Rindzeviciute (2015)

*Articles*  
- “Simulation and ‘Seduction’ at the Policy Interface” in *IEEE Annals of the History of Computing* 39 (3)

*Book Reviews*  
- Review of Matthew H. Wisnioski, *Engineers for Change: Competing Visions of Technology in 1960s America* in *The Sixties*, 6:2, (Feb 2014) p.229-231

*Digital Publications*  
- “Why German Economic Thought Made the Greek Crisis Inevitable” *Tropics of Meta*, July 10, 2015 (Republished by the Washington Center for Equitable Growth and several other outlets.)

*In Preparation*  
- “SimCity Classic: Jay Forrester, Computer Simulation, and the War on Urban Welfare”  
- “Modeling without Facts: Industrial Dynamics, Intuition, and Early Computer Simulation” (Completed)

**Honors & Awards** *Fellowships*  
- **T.H. Breen Graduate Fellow**, Nicholas D. Chabraja Center for Historical Studies 2018-2019.  
- **Dissertation Fellow**, Consortium for the History of Science, Technology, and Medicine (CHSTM), 2017-2018.  
- **Fellow**, Adelle and Erwin Tomash Fellowship in the History of Information Technology, Charles Babbage Institute, 2016-2017.  
- **Teaching Fellow**, Teagle Foundation, 2013-2014.

- **HASTAC Fellow**, Northwestern University Digital Humanities Laboratory, 2012-2013.
- **THATCamp Fellow**, Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, 2011.
- **Science Studies Research Fellow**, Northwestern University, 2011-2016.
- **Graduate Research Assistant**, Georgia State University, 2008-2010.

#### *Grants*

- **Graduate Student Organized Conference Grant**, Buffett Institute for Global Studies, Northwestern University, 2016.
- **Research Grant**, Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, 2015.
- **Travel Grant**, Association of Georgia State Historians, 2010.

#### *Honors*

- **Distinction**, Qualifying Exam, “Modern European History,” Northwestern University, 2014.
- **Distinction**, Qualifying Exam, “The Cold War and Decolonization,” Northwestern University, 2014.

#### **Talks & Lectures**

##### *Invited Talks*

- “Hacktivism and World Politics,” Invited Speaker, Northwestern University History Department (Evanston, IL) OCT. 2016.
- “Science Studies and the Digital Humanities,” Invited Speaker, Digital Humanities Speaker Series, Illinois Institute of Technology (Chicago, IL) OCT. 2015.
- “Too Much Information: Text Mining for Twentieth Century Historians” Invited Speaker, Digital History Working Group, Northwestern University Library (Evanston, IL) APR. 2015.
- “How to Navigate the Archive,” Invited Discussant, Northwestern University History Department (Evanston, IL) NOV. 2012.
- “Digital Tools for Historical Research,” Invited Speaker, Northwestern University History Department (Evanston, IL) FEB. 2012.

#### **Conference Participation**

##### *Conferences Organized:*

- Science, Technology, and the Politics of Knowledge in Global Affairs, Northwestern University MAR. 2017. A two-day conference on the relationship between Science and Technology Studies and international politics, featuring Sheila Jasanoff. (Co-organized with Savina Balasubramanian Omri Tubi)

##### *On Global Simulation Modeling:*

- “Future Shocks: Limits to Growth, NIEO, and the Birth of Sustainable Development” in the session “Mathematical Diplomacy between War and Peace, Theory and Application” at the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations (Philadelphia) JUN. 2018.

- “The Computer that Printed Out W\*O\*L\*F?: Representations of Computer Simulation and Modeling in the 1970s” in the session “Simulation, Automation, Communication” at Society for the History of Technology, Special Interest Group for Computers, Information and Society (Philadelphia) OCT. 2017.
- “Economists Against Limits” in the session “The Politics of Economics and the Economics of Politics,” at the 42th Annual Meeting of the Society for the Social Study of Science (Boston) SEP. 2017.
- “Living with Limits: Asian Growth, the Club of Rome and the Birth of Sustainable Development” in the session “Oceans and Environment” at University of Hong Kong Spring History Symposium (Hong Kong) MAY. 2017.
- “Computer Looks Ahead and Shudders: Popular Representations of Computers in the Limits to Growth Debate” in the session “Media and Public Understanding” at The Popular and History (Evanston) APR. 2017.
- “Engineering Intuition: From Counterintuitive to Human-Centered Computer Forecasting,” in the session “Histories of Postwar Futures: Forecasts, Simulations and Scenarios” at the History of Science Society, (Atlanta) OCT. 2016.
- “Life after Limits: the First Decade of Global Modeling” paper presented at the seminar “Prediction” at FUTUREPOL, Sciences Po (Paris) APR. 2016.
- “Gaming the System: Computer Policy Simulation at the Practitioner-Expert Interface, 1965-1980” in the session “The Other Experts in Policymaking: Beyond Science and Publics,” at the 40th Annual Meeting of the Society for the Social Study of Science (Denver) Nov. 2015.

*On Simulation and Nigerian Development:*

- “Programming Modernity: Computer Simulation, Modernization Theory and the Creation of a Virtual Nigeria” in the session “Statistics, Technology, and Politics” at the 38th Annual Meeting of the Social Science History Association (Chicago). NOV. 2013.
- “Virtually Modern: Simulating Nigeria’s Path to Capitalist Modernity” at the 10th Annual Loyola University Chicago History Graduate Student Conference. (Chicago) NOV. 2013.
- “Programming a Virtual Nigeria: Systems Simulation, Economic Performativity, and the History of Development” at the 56th Annual Meeting of the Midwest Junto for the History of Science (South Bend). APR. 2013.

*On East German Cybernetics:*

- “Marxist Cybernetics or Cybernetic Marxism? Information, Systems Modeling, and the Boundaries of Orthodoxy in the GDR” at the Third Annual AGSUH Graduate Student Conference (Atlanta). APR. 2011.
- “Visualizing Authority: Cybernetics, Systems Modeling, and the Optics of East German Power” in the session “Beyond Illustration: Visual Culture and the Scopic Regimes of Modernity” at the Fourth Annual Southeast German Studies Workshop (Atlanta). FEB. 2011.

- “Red Helmsman: Dogmatism, Pragmatism, and Negotiation in the Philosophy of Georg Klaus” at the Cold War Cultures Conference (Austin). OCT. 2010.
- “Compass Rising: East German Cybernetics and the ‘New Class’” in the session “Class and Hierarchy: What’s Left?” at the Third Annual Southeast German Studies Workshop (Atlanta). MAR. 2010.

*On Issues in Higher Education:*

- Panelist on “Program Committee Teach-in: Educators Unite!” at the Annual Meeting of the American Studies Association. (Chicago) NOV. 2017.

**Teaching**

**Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois**

- History of Western Science and Medicine (with Ken Alder) Spring 2015
- The Computerized Society (with Michael Kramer) Spring 2014
- Global History II: The Age of Carbon (with Daniel Immerwahr) Winter 2014
- Biomedicine & World History (with Helen Tilley) Spring 2013
- History of Western Science and Medicine (with Ken Alder) Winter 2012

**Georgia State University, Atlanta, Georgia**

- U.S. History Survey: 1492 – Present (with Larry Youngs) Spring 2012
- World History Survey: 1500 – Present (with Jared Poley) Fall 2009

**Service**

*Committees & Administration*

- **Social Media Coordinator**, Special Interest Group for Computers, Information and Society (SIGCIS) 2017-
- **Coordinator**, Science in Human Culture Doctoral Colloquium, 2015-2016
- **Assistant Director**, Northwestern University Digital Humanities Laboratory, 2013-2014
- **President**, Northwestern History Graduate Student Organization, 2014-2015
- **Vice President**, Northwestern History Graduate Student Organization, 2013-2014

*Peer Review*

- **Peer Reviewer**, *IEEE Annals of the History of Computing*, 2013-2014

**Professional Experience**

*Archives and Museums*

**National Archives at Atlanta, Archives Technician, 2008–2011**

- Specialized in Atomic Energy Commission and Manhattan Project records.
- Participated in workshops for K-12 educators.
- Assisted academic researchers.

**Gwinnett History Museum, Museum Attendant, 2003–2007**

- GCPR Attendant of the Year, 2007.

*Information Technology*

**Micromeritics Instrument Corporation, IT Technician, 2006–2008**

- Deployed and maintained a Blackberry Enterprise Server.
- Administered a Microsoft Windows Server 2003 environment.

- Supported a Lotus Notes/Domino 8.0 mail server.

**Language &  
Software  
Proficiencies**

*Research Languages*  
German, Spanish

*Computer Languages and Research Software*

COBOL, Debian Linux, Fortran, Git VCS, HTML/CSS, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, MALLET, MediaWiki, R, SQL, Python, Stanford NLP, WordPress