

Maura Dykstra (戴史翠), Ph. D.

www.polyphemus.net

*Caltech Division of the Humanities and Social Sciences
1200 East California Boulevard • Dabney Hall
Pasadena, CA 91125*

maura@caltech.edu

University Affiliation:

Assistant Professor, Caltech – from 2016

Research Assistant Professor, Caltech – 2015-2016 Academic Year

Postdoctoral Fellowships:

Luce/ACLS Program in China Studies – 2015-2016 Academic Year

Harvard Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies – 2014-2015 Academic Year

Graduate Education:

University of California, Los Angeles; History Department

- Ph. D. History awarded September, 2014
- C. Phil. History awarded March, 2010
- M.A. in History awarded June, 2008

Dissertation:

[“Complicated Matters: Commercial Dispute Resolution in Chongqing, 1750-1911”](#)

Winner of the UCLA History Department Thomas Lifka prize for best dissertation (2013-2014)

Honorable Mention: Law and Society Association Dissertation Prize (2015)

Resident Fellowships:

Max Planck Institute for European Legal History – Spring 2016

Max Planck Institute for European Legal History – Spring 2014

Taiwan Center for Chinese Studies – Winter 2013

Eastern China Normal University Graduate Exchange – Summer and fall 2008

Publications:*Articles in peer-reviewed journals:*

[“Beyond the Shadow of the Law: Firm Insolvency, State-building, and the New Policy Bankruptcy Reform in Late Qing Chongqing,”](#) *Frontiers of History in China* Vol. 8, no. 3 (September, 2013): 406-432.

Chapters in edited volumes:

“Liability, Fraud, Litigation, and Everyday Injustice in the Hu Wan Chang Remittance House Bankruptcy,” in Pierre-Etienne Will, ed. *La Justice au Quotidien*, forthcoming.

“Did China Have a *Fin-de-Siècle*?” with Jeffrey Wasserstrom in Michael Saler, ed. *The Fin-de-Siècle World*, London: Routledge, 2014.

“帝国、知縣、商人以及連繫彼此的紐帶：清代重庆的商业诉讼” [Empire, Magistrates, Merchants, and the Ties that Bind: Commercial Litigation in Late Imperial Chongqing] in Wang Xi, ed. *中国和世界历史中的重庆——重庆史研究国际会议（2012）论文选编* [Chongqing in Historical China and the World: Selected Papers from the 2012 International Conference on Chongqing History], Chongqing: Chongqing daxue chubanshe, 2013, pp. 166-180.

Information about online writings, translations, book reviews, and ongoing projects available upon request

Professional Experience:

<i>Organizer</i>	“Organizing Justice” workshop in Comparative Chinese Legal History (Jun., 2016)
<i>Organizer</i>	Introduction to Chinese Legal History Workshop, MPI Frankfurt (Apr., 2016)
<i>Organizer</i>	Harvard/LSC translation workshop on “Households and Obligations” (Dec., 2014)
<i>Curator</i>	“Code to Code: Digitizing and Re-envisioning the Ming and Qing Legal Corpus” exhibit, Center for Government and International Studies, Harvard (Winter, 2014)
<i>Editor</i>	Chinese Legal Documents Series (2014-present)
<i>Chair</i>	Committee on Development, Int’l Society for Chinese Law & History (2014-2016)
<i>Contributor</i>	Legalizing Space in China research group, endowed by the Agence Nationale de la Recherche (September 2012 – September 2015)
<i>Teaching Fellow</i>	UCLA History Department (September 2011 – May 2012)
<i>Teaching Assistant</i>	UCLA History Department (September 2007 – May 2009)
<i>Co-organizer</i>	“China Undisciplined: Transformations,” UCLA, May 22 and 23, 2009
<i>Lead organizer</i>	“China Undisciplined” UCLA, May 30 and 31, 2008
<i>Co-organizer</i>	“All-California Graduate Conference in Chinese History,” UCLA, June 1, 2008
<i>Founder, Organizer</i>	UCLA China Studies Colloquium (May 2007 – May 2008)

Conferences and Invited Talks:

- Invited Talk “Cross-Jurisdictional Trade, Intermediaries, and Transitive Responsibility in Late Imperial China”
 Yale University Economic History Workshop, November 14, 2016
- Invited Talk “The Case against Law: A Historical and Institutional Approach to Local Disputes in the Qing Dynasty”
 Brown University East Asia Colloquium, September 14, 2016
- Invited Talk “Local State Finance, Trade Organizations, and the Nineteenth-century State-building Turn in an Urban Center on Qing China’s Southwestern Frontier”
 Utrecht University Financial History Group, June 15, 2016
- Invited Talk “The Making of Merchants: War, Local Government, and Commercial Organization in Chongqing from 1750 to 1950”
 Universität Göttingen, Germany, June 8, 2016
- Presenter *Rethinking World History: Empires, Networks and Trade, Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries*
Paper: “Governing the Local Archive: Bureaucratic Discipline in the Early Qing”
 Swedish Collegium for Advanced Study, Uppsala, May 19-21, 2016
- Presenter *Governance Theory and Legal History*
Lecture: “Governance, Law, and the State in Late Imperial and Modern China”
 Max Planck Inst. for European Legal History, Frankfurt, May 13, 2016
- Presenter *Introduction to Chinese Legal History*
Lecture: “Research, Resources, and Issues in Chinese Legal History (English)”
 Max Planck Inst. for European Legal History, Frankfurt, April 28, 2016
- Presenter *Fate and Fortune in Enterprises*
Paper: “Contract, Partnership, and the Firm in Late Imperial Long-Distance Commerce”
 Caltech, Pasadena, April 8, 2016
- Panelist *Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference*
Roundtable: “The Field of the State”
 Seattle, March 31-April 3, 2016
- Presenter *Financial Markets, Payment Systems and Geography*
Paper: “Cross-Jurisdictional Trade, Intermediaries, and Transitive Responsibility in Late Imperial China”
 Radboud University, Nijmegen, January 29-30, 2016
- Invited Talk Lecture (in Chinese): “從清代的案件概念開始談比較史和法律學的關係 [Law, Comparative History, and the "Case" of the Qing Dynasty]”
 Sichuan University, Chengdu, December 7, 2015

- Invited Talk Lecture (in Chinese): “從清代的案件概念開始談比較史和法律學的關係 [Law, Comparative History, and the "Case" of the Qing Dynasty]”
Southwestern Finance and Economic University, Chengdu, Dec. 1, 2015
- Presenter *American Society for Legal History*
Paper: “Never the Twain Shall Meet: The History and Practice of Local Litigation in the Qing Empire”
Washington DC, Oct. 29-31, 2015
- Invited Talk Lecture (in Chinese): “清代司法制度中的地方案件 [The Local Case in the Qing Legal System]”
Shanghai Communications University, Shanghai, Oct. 14, 2015
- Presenter *World Economic History Congress, “Diversity in Development”*
Paper: “‘Bankrupt’ Reform in the Late Chinese Empire”
Kyoto, August 3-7, 2015
- Presenter *World Economic History Congress, “Diversity in Development”*
Paper: “‘Anonymity, Place, Authority, and the Court of Chongqing: Exploring the Relationship between Qing Long-distance Commercial Practices and Imperial Jurisdiction from 1750 to 1911”
Kyoto, August 3-7, 2015
- Invited Talk Lecture (in Chinese): “巴縣檔案中的契約、中介、調解、執行 [Contracts, Mediation, and Enforcement in the Qing Court of Chongqing]”
Henan University Grad Student Summer School, Kaifeng, July 28, 2015
- Presenter *契約、信用与法律：欧洲与中国历史经验比较” 国际学术论坛 [International Symposium on Contract, Credit, and Law]*
Paper: “法律中較踏實的一個“地方”——從法律和制度的角度考慮“地方案”初步的探討 [Finding the Local in the Law: A Legal and Institutional Approach to Defining a ‘Local Case’ in the Qing Dynasty]”
Henan University, Kaifeng, July 29, 2015
- Invited Talk Talk (in Chinese): 巴縣檔案中的商事糾紛：經濟制度和地方官之間的互動 [Economic Disputes, Market Institutions, and the Magistrate in the Ba xian Archives]”
Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Beijing, June 21, 2015
- Presenter *《大清律例》国际学术研究会 [The Great Qing Legal Code International Seminar]*
Paper (in Chinese): “‘正式’和‘非正式’之間的問題 [Contract in Qing China: Problems within the Formal/Informal Divide]”
Tsinghua University, Beijing, June 27-28, 2015
- Contributor *The Statecraft Tradition in Ming China*
Translation and Comments (with Jérôme Bourgon): “慎刑憲：總論制刑之義”
Hong Kong Polytechnic, June 26-28, 2015

- Presenter *Les lieux de la loi dans l'empire chinois*
Paper: "Finding the Local in the Law: A Legal and Institutional Approach to Defining a 'Local Case' in the Qing Dynasty"
ENS de Lyon, May 12-13, 2015
- Presenter *Triangle East Asia Colloquium: Memorial symposium in honor of Jonathan Ocko*
Paper: "Law and Contract in Chinese Legal History a Decade after 'The Missing Metaphor'"
Duke University, April 13, 2015
- Presenter *Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference*
Paper: "A Critical History of 'Mediation' in Qing China"
Chicago, March 27, 2015
- Presenter *Revisiting Markets and Institutions in Early Modern East Asia: Beyond Exceptionalism and Generalization*
Paper: "Anonymity, Place, Authority, and the Court of Chongqing: Exploring the Relationship between Qing Long-distance Commercial Practices and Imperial Jurisdiction from 1750 to 1911"
Harvard University, March 6, 2015
- Presenter *Institutions, Credit, and the State*
Paper: "Local State Finance, Trade Organizations, and the Nineteenth-century State-building Turn in an Urban Center on Qing China's Southwestern Frontier"
- Presenter *An Wang Postdoctoral Fellow Lecture Series*
Paper: "Rules, Regulation, Responsibility, and Merchant Organizations in Qing Chongqing: A Revisionist History of the 'Chinese Guild'"
Harvard Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, October 9, 2014
- Presenter *Asian Historical Economics Conference*
Paper: "Local State Finance, Trade Organizations, and the Nineteenth-century State-building Turn in an Urban Center on Qing China's Southwestern Frontier"
Bogaziçi University, September 19-20, 2014
- Presenter *La Justice au Quotidien / Everyday Justice*
Paper: "Judgment, Punishment, and Court Initiative in the Qing Ba xian Legal Archives: A Study of 116 Commercial Cases"
Collège de France, May 22-23, 2014
- Invited Talk *Séminaire de droit chinois*
Lecture: "把持行市"
Collège de France, May 9, 2014
- Invited Talk *Séminaire de L'Institut d'Asie Orientale*
"Market Development on the Chinese Frontier: Merchant Groups and the State in Chongqing from 1750 to 1950"
ENS de Lyon, April 10, 2014

- Presenter *Rethinking the Market in Modern China*
Paper: “Informal State Finance, Official Service, Merchant Group Formation, and Market Regulation in Nineteenth-century Chongqing”
Harvard University, April 3, 2014
- Presenter *Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference*
Paper: “Collective Responsibility and Crime in Qing China: *Baojia* Formation in the Last Empire”
Philadelphia, March 30, 2014
- Presenter *Chinese Civil Law Workshop*
Paper: “More than a Minor Problem: The *xi shi* Category of Disputes in Qing Legal Discourse”
Tokyo, September 26-27, 2013
- Presenter *寰宇漢學講座 [International China Studies Lecture Series]*
Talk (in Chinese): 邊疆、國家與市場：雍正至道光年間重慶商人團體的緣起與歷史 [Frontier, State, and Market: The Origins and Histories of Chongqing Merchant Associations from Yongzheng to Daoguang]”
Taipei Central Library, April 12, 2013
- Invited Talk *中西檔案館藏清代檔案讀書會會議*
Paper (in Chinese): 行，幫，差，規：重慶乾嘉道的行會背景，發展和概念 [Trade Cooperatives, Merchant Associations, Trade Obligations, and Trade Regulations in Qianlong, Jiaqing, and Daoguang Chongqing]”
Academia Sinica Institute for Modern History, March 29, 2013
- Presenter *Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference*
Paper: “The Making of Merchants: War, Municipal Governance, and Commercial Organization in Wartime Chongqing”
San Diego, March 22, 2013
- Presenter *Early Modern Economic History Conference*
Paper: “Agnostic Courts and Extralegal Arbitration: Business as Usual in Qing Chongqing”
California Institute of Technology, February 15, 2013
- Presenter *37th Annual Meeting of the Social Science History Association*
(Presidential Panel on Financial Intermediaries)
Paper: “Firms, Brokers, and Merchant Cliques: The World of Intermediary Exchange and Liability in Late Qing Chongqing”
Vancouver, November 1-4, 2012
- Presenter *7th Annual Conference of the European China Law Studies Association*
Paper: “The Practice, Rhetoric, and Law of Going Broke: Firm Bankruptcy and Insolvency Disputes in Chongqing from the Eighteenth Century to the 1911 Republican Revolution”
Helsinki University, September 24-25, 2012

- Presenter *2012 Asian Historical Economics Conference*
Paper: “The Practice, Rhetoric, and Law of Going Broke: Firm Bankruptcy and Insolvency Disputes in Chongqing from the Eighteenth Century to the 1911 Republican Revolution”
Hitotsubashi University, September 13-15, 2012
- Presenter *国际学术研讨会：重庆史研究的回顾、现状与展望*
Paper (in Chinese): “市场、法律和中介：清末重庆的交易与负债 [Markets, Law, and Intermediation: Exchange and Liability in Late Qing Chongqing]”
Chongqing University, June 3-6, 2012
- Presenter *Chinese Legal History/Culture/Modernity*
Paper: “Going Under: Debt, Liability, and Litigation in the *Hu Wan Chang* Remittance House Bankruptcy”
Columbia University, May 5-8, 2012
- Presenter *Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference*
Paper: “Bankruptcy in Late Qing Chongqing”
Toronto, March 15-18, 2012

Information about workshops, seminars, and presentations from before 2012 available upon request

Grants and Awards:

China Initiative Collaboration Grant, Watson Institute, Brown University – 2015-2016 (\$13,875). With Rebecca Nedostup, Brown University.
Max Planck Research Grant – Spring 2016
The Henry Luce Foundation/ACLS Program in China Studies Grant – 2015-2016
Thomas Lifka Dissertation Prize Winter 2014
An Wang Postdoctoral Fellowship, Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies – 2014-2015
Max Planck Research Grant – Spring 2014
Taiwan Central Library Center for Chinese Studies Fellowship – Winter 2013
Meyer and Renee Luskin Grant – Fall 2012
UCLA Center for Chinese Studies Graduate Fellowship – 2012-2013
UCLA Department of History competitive teaching fellowship – 2011-2012
Millennium Endowed Graduate Fellowship Grant – 2011-2012
Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Funding – 2010-2011
Fulbright-IIE Full Grant for Study/Research– 2010 -2011 (declined)
UCLA Center for Economic History research stipend – 2009-2010
UCLA Center for Economic History Travel Grant – 2009
ECNU Pre-Dissertation Research Grant – 2008
UCLA Five-Year Chancellor’s Prize Fellowship – 2006-2011
Chancellor’s Prize Summer Mentorship – 2007 and 2008