

**Paul Sabin**

Department of History, Yale University  
New Haven, CT 06520-8324  
Telephone: (203) 436-2516  
Email: paul.sabin at yale.edu  
Websites: [www.paulsabin.com](http://www.paulsabin.com), [www.yale.edu/environmentalhistory](http://www.yale.edu/environmentalhistory)

***Curriculum Vitae*****Education**

Ph.D., History, University of California, Berkeley (2000)

Dissertation: "Petroleum Polity: Law and Politics in the California Oil Economy, 1900-1940"  
*Winner of the 2001 W. Turrentine Jackson Award for most outstanding dissertation on the twentieth-century American West, awarded by the American Historical Association-Pacific Coast Branch.*

M.A., History, University of California, Berkeley (1994)

B. A., History & Studies in the Environment, Yale College (1992)

**Academic Positions**

Assistant Professor, Department of History, Yale University (2008- )

Courses in environmental history, energy history, United States overseas resource frontiers.  
Director of Undergraduate Studies, Environmental Studies Program. Faculty organizer, Yale Environmental History.

Lecturer, Department of History, Yale University (1999-2000, 2002-2004)

Harvard-Newcomen Postdoctoral Fellow, Harvard Business School (2000-2001)

**Other Experience**

Executive Director and Co-Founder, Environmental Leadership Program (1998-2008)

Created national training program and network for more than 500 emerging leaders, raised over \$4 million, supervised staff of eight employees.

**Publications****Books**

*The Rise (and Fall) of Environmental Law* (work in progress)

*The Bet: Paul Ehrlich, Julian Simon, and the Gamble over Earth's Future* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2013).

*Crude Politics: The California Oil Market, 1900-1940* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2005).

### **Journal Articles (peer-reviewed)**

“Crisis and Continuity in United States Oil Politics, 1965-1980,” *Journal of American History* 99:1 (June 2012): 177-186.

“‘The Ultimate Environmental Dilemma’: Making a Place for Historians in the Climate Change and Energy Debates,” *Environmental History* 15:1 (January 2010): 76-93.

“A Dive into Nature’s Great *Grab-bag*: Nature, Gender and Capitalism in the Early Pennsylvania Oil Industry,” *Pennsylvania History* 66:4 (Fall 1999): 472-505.

\* Winner of the 2001 Robert G. Crist *Pennsylvania History* Prize for most outstanding article by a graduate student, awarded by the Pennsylvania Historical Association.

“Searching for Middle Ground: Native Communities and Oil Extraction in the Northern and Central Ecuadorian Amazon, 1967-1993,” *Environmental History* 3 (April 1998): 144-168.

“Home and Abroad: The Two ‘Wests’ of Twentieth-Century United States History,” *Pacific Historical Review* 66 (August 1997): 305-335.

\* Winner of the 1998 Ray Allen Billington Award for best article on Western History, awarded by the Western Historical Association

\* Winner of the 1997 W. Turrentine Jackson Prize for the most outstanding essay by a graduate student, awarded by the American Historical Association-Pacific Coast Branch.

“Voices from the Hydrocarbon Frontier: Canada’s Mackenzie Valley Pipeline Inquiry (1974-1977),” *Environmental History Review* 19 (Spring 1995): 17-48.

### **Book Chapters and Articles (non-peer reviewed)**

“Rooting Around in Search of Causality,” *Environmental History* 10:1 (January 2005): 83-85.

“Beaches versus Oil in Greater Los Angeles,” in William Deverell and Greg Hise, eds., Land of Sunshine: An Environmental History of Los Angeles. Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh, 2005.

“High Tide of Equal Protection: Justice Raymond L. Sullivan’s Opinions in *Serrano* and *Westbrook*,” *The California Supreme Court Historical Society Yearbook* 2 (1995): 133-157.

### **Book Reviews, Encyclopedia Entries, and Reports**

Book Review, “Timothy Cain, Mass Destruction: The Men and Giant Mines that Wired America and Scarred the Planet,” *Western Historical Quarterly*, 42:1 (Spring 2011): 90-91.

“Political Challenges Related to Achieving Emissions Reductions in the State of California: A Historical Perspective,” Policy Brief, California Climate Change Policy Workshop, Woods Institute for the Environment, Stanford University, 2006.

“Global Warming,” in Stanley Kutler, ed., Dictionary of American History, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition. New York: Charles Scribner’s Sons, 2003.

Book Review: “J. Cone and S. Ridlington, eds., The Northwest Salmon Crisis: A Documentary History,” *Western Historical Quarterly* 28 (1996): 95-96.

### **General Interest Essays**

“From King Coal to Carbon Tax: A Historical Perspective on the Energy and Climate-Change Debate,” *Solutions Journal*, v. 2:3 (May 2011).

“Before the Big Spill,” *Slate*, 7 May 2010.

“Earth Day: The environmental movement’s midlife crisis,” *Slate*, 21 April 2005.

“Playing the Market: Free markets don’t exist and they never could.” *Legal Affairs*, November/December 2004, 25-27.

“For the Budget Conscious: Cheap Oil isn’t worth the price,” *Chicago Tribune*, 27 May 2004, 29.

“Yes, oil is too expensive - for security, environment,” *Sacramento Bee*, 4 April 2004.

“Keep those gas prices high,” *Boston Globe*, 27 June 2000, A15.

### **Grants and Fellowships**

Morse Fellowship in the Humanities, Yale University (2010-2011)

Griswold Fund Award, Whitney Humanities Center, Yale University (2010)

Edward J. and Dorothy Clarke Kempf Fund, MacMillan Center, Yale University (2009-2010)

Senior Research Scholar, Yale Law School (non-salary), and Visiting Fellow, Whitney Humanities Center (non-salary), Yale University, 2001-2002

Harvard-Newcomen Postdoctoral Fellowship, Harvard Business School (2000-2001)

Mellon Foundation Dissertation Fellowship, University of California, Berkeley (1998-1999)

Minerals Management Service- U. C. Southern California Educational Initiative (3-year grant for dissertation research) (1996-1999)

U.C. Energy Institute: California Energy Studies Program (1-year grant for dissertation research) (1996-1997)

W.M. Keck and Fletcher Jones Foundation Fellowship, Huntington Library (1996-1997)

Historical Society of Southern California/Hayes Foundation Research Stipend (1998)

Jacob K. Javits Fellowship, U.S. Department of Education (1995-1996)

Charles P. Howland Fellowship (based in Quito, Ecuador), Yale University (1992- 1993)

*Additional grants raised for the non-profit Environmental Leadership Program (1999-2008)*

### **Conferences Co-organized**

“Two Kingdoms: New Perspectives on Flora and Fauna in Environmental History,” Northeast Environmental History Conference, New Haven, CT, 14 April 2012.

“Resources: Endowment or Curse, Better or Worse?,” Economic History Program and Environmental History at Yale, New Haven, CT, 24-25 February 2012.

“Creating Healthy Landscapes: Human and Environmental Well-being in Comparative and Historical Perspective,” Northeast Environmental History Conference, New Haven, CT, 26 March 2011.

“Social Conflict and Environmental Change in Comparative and Historical Perspective,” Northeast Environmental History Conference, New Haven, CT, 17 April 2010.

“Emerging Leaders, Emerging Solutions: Taking Action on Climate Change and Global Warming,” Environmental Leadership Program, Newark, NJ, 10-12 July 2007.

“Food vs. Fuel: Is Biofuels Production from Farms Jeopardizing Our Food Security,” Environmental Leadership Program, Tufts University, Medford, MA, 13 October 2007.

“Conservation, Environmental Justice and Resource Rights: Tensions and Overlaps,” Environmental Leadership Program, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, 21 October 2006.

*Additional educational workshops, meetings, and conferences with the Environmental Leadership Program between 2000-2008.*

### **Public Presentations**

*2008 - 2013:*

“State of the Field: Environmental History,” Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, 12 April 2013.

“The Bet: Paul Ehrlich, Julian Simon, and the Gamble Over Earth’s Future,” American Historical Association Annual Meeting, 4 January 2013.

“The Conservative Response to Limits to Growth and 1970s Environmentalism” American Society for Environmental History Conference, Madison, WI, 30 March 2012.

“Betting the Future: Population Growth and Resource Scarcity Debates in the 1970s,” MIT Seminar on Environmental and Agricultural History, Cambridge, MA, 29 April 2011.

“Energy Politics,” Boston University Seminar on Energy Transitions, 28 January 2011

“Oil in America,” Modern America Workshop, Princeton University, 20 October 2010.

“The Ultimate Environmental Dilemma: Historians and Climate Change,” *History for the Future*, 23 July 2010.

“Climate Change and the Energy Crisis,” American Society for Environmental History, Portland, OR, 13 April 2010.

“Climate and Energy Policy: Lessons from History,” West Campus Energy Symposium, Yale Climate and Energy Institute, Yale University, 27 February 2010.

“Climate Change and Energy Policy,” Hopkins High School, 4 February 2010.

“Climate Change and Environmental History,” Heyburn Lecture, Milton Academy, Milton, MA, 16 December 2009.

“The Climate Crisis and Energy Transition: Lessons From History,” Yale Institute for Biospheric Studies, Yale University, 23 October 2009.

“Climate Change and the Energy Crisis: Lessons From History,” *Macmillan Report*, 20 May 2009.

“Climate Crisis and Energy Transition,” League of Women Voters of New Haven, 7 May 2009.

“Climate Change and the Energy Crisis: Lessons From History,” Urban Growth Seminar, School of Policy, Planning, and Development and the Keston Institute, University of Southern California, 10 February 2009.

“Climate Change and the Energy Crisis: Lessons From History,” Boalt Hall, University of California-Berkeley, sponsored by the Environmental Law Society and the Institute for Legal Research, 9 February 2009.

“What History Can Teach Us About The Coming Energy Transition,” World Fellows Hot Issues, Yale University, 19 September 2008.

“Energy Politics,” American Wind Energy Association, 11 July 2008.

*Selected presentations pre-2008:*

“Historical Perspectives on Law, Politics, and Energy,” California Climate Change Policy Workshop, Sacramento, CA, 19 May 2006.

“The Place of Engaged Scholarship in Graduate Education,” Campus Compact 2002 National Summit, Providence, RI, 8 November 2002.

“Environmental Historians and Their Publics,” Environmental Leadership Program Workshop, American Society for Environmental History Conference, Denver, CO, 23 March 2002

“New Voices in Environmental Leadership,” Consultative Group on Biological Diversity, Santa Barbara, CA, June 2001.

“Diversity in Environmental Organizations,” Western Roundup, Walter and Flora Hewlett Foundation, Los Angeles, CA, May 2001.

“Home and Abroad: The Two ‘Wests’ of Twentieth-Century United States History,” Western History Association Conference, St. Paul, MN, 17 October 1997.

“Petroleum Polity: An Environmental History of Government, Politics and the California Oil Economy,” Energy and Resources Group, Environmental History Series, University of California, Berkeley, 29 April 1997.

“‘Transportation by Taxation’: User Financing and the ‘Public’ Highways in California, 1923-1938” American Society for Environmental History Conference, Baltimore, MD, 8 March 1997.

“Conditions of Extraction: Native Responses to the Oil Industry in Ecuador, 1960s-1990s,” American Society for Environmental History Conference, Las Vegas, NV, 10 March 1995.

#### **Chair, Commentator, Roundtable Participant, Moderator (2008-2012)**

Commentator and Chair, “Energy Flows and Social Power,” American Society for Environmental History Conference, Madison, WI, 29 March 2012.

Moderator, “Comparative Perspectives on Resources and Governance,” “Resources: Endowment or Curse, Better or Worse” Conference, Yale University, 25 February 2012.

Roundtable Participant, “Has the Environmental Movement Left the Right?” Yale Environmental Law Association, Yale University, 14 December 2011.

Roundtable Participant, “Petroleum and the Gulf of Mexico: Perspectives from History,” American Society for Environmental History Conference, Phoenix, AZ, 14 April 2011.

Commentator, “The Role of Climate Change in Environmental Restoration,” American Society for Environmental History Conference, Phoenix, AZ, 14 April 2011.

Panelist, “Earth Days,” Environmental Film Festival, Yale University, 18 April 2009.

Moderator, “Leopold's Evolving, Emerging Place in American Environmental History” Aldo Leopold Graduation Centennial Celebration, Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, 3 April 2009.

Discussant, “David Ekbladh: ‘Liberalism’s Spine: ‘Modernization’ to meet the Challenge of Totalitarianism, 1933–1944” Agrarian Studies Colloquium, Yale University, 30 January 2009.

#### **Courses Taught (2008-2013)**

Introduction to Environmental History (undergraduate lecture)

Energy in American History (undergraduate seminar)

United States Global Resource Frontiers (undergraduate seminar)

1970s Environmental Law and Politics (undergraduate seminar)

Environmental Studies Senior Colloquium (undergraduate seminar)

Readings in Environmental History (graduate seminar)

### **University, Professional, and Public Service (2008-2012)**

Director of Undergraduate Studies, Environmental Studies, Yale University (2009-10, 2011-12)

Faculty Coordinator, Environmental History at Yale (2009- )

Affiliated Faculty Member, History of Science and History of Medicine, Yale University (2010- )

Affiliated Faculty Member, American Studies, Yale University (2010- )

Member, Advisory Committee, Environmental Studies Program, Yale University (2008- )

Member, Undergraduate Studies/Curriculum Committee, History, Yale University, (2012-13)

Member, Graduate Admissions Committee, United States History, Yale University (2010)

Member, Graduate Admissions Committee, American Studies, Yale University (2013)

Member, Environmental Studies Summer Internship Committee, Yale University (2009, 2010, 2012)

Member, Advisory Committee, Climate and Energy Initiative, Yale University (2009-2010)

Member, Review Committee, Rice/Howland Fellowship Program, Yale University (2009, 2010)

Member, Board of Trustees, Environmental Leadership Program (2008- )

Manuscript and Proposal Referee or Reviewer: *Journal of American History, Environmental History*, University of Georgia Press, and National Science Foundation