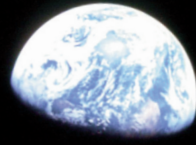


NJIT TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIETY FORUM

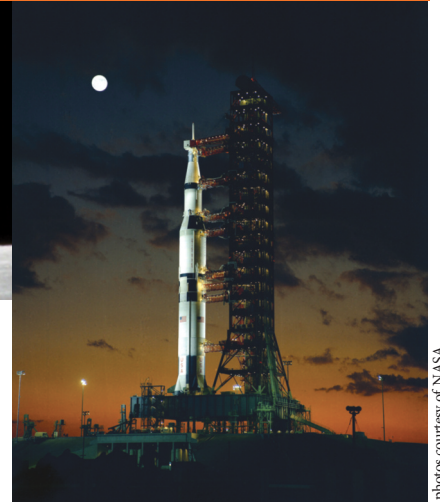
GROUND CONTROL: BEYOND AN ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY OF THE SPACE RACE



SPEAKER NEIL MAHER

Federated History Department – NJIT

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 3 3:00 – 4:30 P.M.
CAMPUS CENTER ATRIUM



photos courtesy of NASA

Historians usually depict the space race of the 1960s and 1970s as a pitched technological battle between Cold War political rivals. Yet while U.S. and Soviet spacecraft forced the world to look upward towards the Moon, they also, quite ironically, encouraged citizens across the globe to gaze back down at “spaceship Earth” with a newfound environmental awareness.

In his Technology and Society Forum presentation, historian Neil Maher will not only explore this environmental history of the space race, but perhaps more importantly, argue that it influenced, and ultimately co-opted, the divisive politics of the “long 1960s,” including those of the Civil Rights, Women’s, Environmental, and anti-Vietnam War movements. The ultimate goal of Maher’s current research in this area is to focus attention not only on the historic significance of NASA, but more importantly on how the space race and nature’s role within it shaped the politics and culture of post-World War II America.

An associate professor in the Federated History Department, Maher teaches environmental and political history. He has published articles in journals that include the *Western Historical Quarterly*, *Environmental History* and the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, edited a collection of essays by historians, scientists, and policy analysts titled *New Jersey’s Environments: Past, Present, and Future* (Rutgers University Press, 2006), and co-edited a special issue of the *Radical History Review* titled “Transnational Environments: Rethinking the Political Economy of Nature in a Global Age” (Duke University Press, 2010). In January of 2008, Oxford University Press published his book, *Nature’s New Deal: The Civilian Conservation Corps and the Roots of the American Environmental Movement*, which received the Charles A. Weyerhaeuser Book Award for the best monograph in conservation history.

For More Information: Contact Jay Kappraff, kappraff@adm.njit.edu or 973-596-3490

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NJIT welcomes attendees from Essex County College, Rutgers-Newark, and the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey.

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Previous Forum presentations are available at <http://itunes.njit.edu>; search for “Technology and Society Forum.”

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