Conference Convenors: Gary Gerstle, Mellon Professor of American History, and Joel Isaac, Senior Lecturer in the History of Political Thought, University of Cambridge

Friday 15 May

08.00-08.30 – Tea/coffee

08.30-08.45 – Introduction – Joel Isaac, University of Cambridge

08.45-10.45 – Session I: The Political Theory of Emergency

David Dyzenhaus, University of Toronto
*Carl Schmitt in America*

Nomi Claire Lazar, University of Ottawa
*A Pox on Our Institutions? Police Power, Exception, and Epidemic Disease*

Chair and Commentator: Duncan Bell, University of Cambridge

10.45-11.00 – Tea/coffee

11.00-13.00 – Session II: States of Exception in the History of Political Thought

John Fabian Witt, Yale University
*“To Save the Country”: A Lost Theory of Emergency Constitutionalism*

Stephen Sawyer, American University of Paris
*Politics Beyond Representation: Toward a New Genealogy of the Terror in Liberal Democratic Statecraft*

Joel Isaac, University of Cambridge
*Constitutional Dictatorship in Twentieth-Century American Political Thought*

Chair and Commentator: Duncan Kelly, University of Cambridge

13.00-14.30 – Lunch

14.30-16.30 – Session III: Geographies of Exception

Paul A. Kramer, Vanderbilt University
*Black Site Blues: Borders, Bases, War Zones, and Other Spaces of Exception in Modern US History*

Elisabeth S. Clemens, University of Chicago
*Neither Public Nor Private: Delegated Governance as a Structure of Exceptions*

Chair and Commentator: Andrew Preston, University of Cambridge
16.30-18.00 – Free (Pub) Time

18.00-19.30 – Public Lecture

Geoffrey R. Stone, University of Chicago
Perilous Times: The View From Inside the NSA

Introduction: Gary Gerstle, University of Cambridge

Saturday 16 May

08.00-08.30 – Tea/coffee

08.30-10.30 – Session IV: Experiences of Persons Without Rights

Linda K. Kerber, University of Iowa
Stateless in America: Episodes for a History

Heather Ann Thompson, Temple University
The American Carceral State: Rethinking “Exception” and “Rule” in U.S. History

Chair and Commentator: Nicholas Guyatt, University of Cambridge

10.30-11.00 – Tea/coffee

11.00-13.00 – Session V: Exceptions and Theories of State-Building

William J. Novak, University of Michigan; Stephen Sawyer, American University of Paris; and James Sparrow, University of Chicago
Democratic States of Unexception: Towards a New Genealogy of the American Political

Desmond King, University of Oxford, and Robert Lieberman, John Hopkins University
Crisis and Reform: How States of Exception Shape American Federal State Engagement with Civil Rights

Chair and Commentator: Gary Gerstle, University of Cambridge

13.00-14.30 – Lunch

14.30-16.30 – Session VI: Reflections and Future Directions

Ira Katznelson, Columbia University and Social Science Research Council
David Runciman, University of Cambridge

Chair: Gary Gerstle, University of Cambridge

Sponsors: The Past and Present Society
The Mellon Fund for American History, University of Cambridge
The Trevelyan Fund, Faculty of History, University Of Cambridge
The Cambridge Centre for Digital Knowledge: Technology and Democracy, Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities, University of Cambridge

This conference launches the Consortium on the History of State and Society (CHOSAS), a multi-year initiative involving the American University of Paris, University of Cambridge, University of Chicago, and University of Michigan.