

Curriculum Vitae

Dr Fiona Williamson, Ba Hons, MA, MAEdu, PhD

Research Fellow, National University of Singapore

Visiting Research Fellow, United Nations University International Institute for Global Health (UNU-IIGH)

Fellow of the School of History, University of East Anglia (UEA)

Associate Fellow of the Climatic Research Unit (UEA)

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Current Research:

Climate history and urban history, especially in Southeast Asia. Current projects include:

- With the Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore: Nature-induced disasters, the flood histories of colonial urban Malaya and Singapore. Extreme weather of the China Seas region, especially Hong Kong.
- The history of British colonial meteorology in Southeast and East Asia.
- With ACRE Southeast Asia (UK Meteorological Office). Research involves working with regional meteorological services across Southeast Asia and beyond (inc. Vietnam, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand, Taiwan, Myanmar, Malaysia, Singapore, Macau); locating and researching sources of information on the historic climate in meteorological service archives and public archives (in the native country as well as in former colonial archives and repositories); restoring such information to native countries; developing projects on behalf of regional meteorological services in the poorest developing countries to recover and digitize extant historic weather observations to become part of an international climate data portal (supported by World Meteorological Organisation).
- With UNU-IIGH: Wellcome Trust funded interdisciplinary project on public health, climate and urban sustainable development in colonial Penang. It examines processes of governmental, social and civil transformation related to urban planning and public health over time, applying the historic narrative to systems dynamics modeling, with an eye to relevance to contemporary policy.
- With Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy (NUS), a reconstruction of significant historic floods using documentary and paleoflood evidence, with 1830-2 as a case study.

Networks and International Projects:

Environment, Space and Place (ESP) Research Group, University of East Anglia, UK (2015-active)

Atmospheric Reconstruction Circulations over the Earth (ACRE) international initiative, Hadley Centre, UK Meteorological Office from 2012 (active)

Botanical and Meteorological History of the Indian Ocean 1600-1900 network, Centre for World Environmental History, University of Sussex (2012-2014)

Historic Weather Network, King's College London (2010-11)

Academic Qualifications:

- 2005-2009 UEA: PhD in early-modern History.
- 2008-11 UEA/Higher Education Academy: MA in Higher Education.
- 2005-6 UEA: Postgraduate Certificate in Teaching.
- 2002-2003 UEA: MA in History.
- 1997-2000 UEA: BA Hons in History and Politics (Joint award).

Relevant Employment History:

1. July 2016-present: *Research Fellow, Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore (NUS)*
2. January 2016-December 2016: *Research Fellow, United Nations University – International Institute for Global Health (UNU-IIGH)*
3. July 2012-January 2016: *Senior Lecturer, National University of Malaysia (UKM).*
4. April 2011-Present: *Regional Project Lead ACRE South East Asia*
The project involves research on the historic climate of Southeast Asia for climate reanalyses and regional networking and coordination with meteorological services and archives for the international ACRE initiative.
5. April 2012-July 2012: *Meteorological Data Analyst and Quality Controller, Justus-Liebig University, Giessen, Germany.*
6. Sept 2010-Dec 2011: *Researcher in the Historical Environment, UEA/Leverhulme.*
7. Sept 2006-Dec 2011: *Lecturer in Early Modern History, UEA.*
8. November 2007-July 2009: *University of Sunderland, Researcher in Historical Climatology c.17th-20th Centuries.*
9. Sept 2006-Sept 2008: *Associate Tutor, School of Education and Lifelong Learning, UEA*

Recent International Conferences (major-others available on request):

- Co-organiser, Disastrous Pasts: New Directions in Asian Disaster History, 21-22 November 2016, Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore.
- Invited speaker at Historic Forecasting workshop 21-22 September 2016, Ecole Normale Supérieure, Cachan, Paris.
- Invited speaker at 9th Annual ACRE International Conference, 23-25 August 2016, National Climate Centre (NCC/BCC) of China Meteorological Administration (CMA).
- Invited Distinguished Lecture, 13th Annual Meeting Asia Oceania Geosciences Society, 31 July – 5 August, 2016, Beijing.
- Speaker at Anthropology and Climate Change Conference, 27-29 May 2016, British Museum, London.
- Speaker at Crossing Borders: Governing Environmental Disasters in a Global Urban Age in Asia and the Pacific, 5-6 November 2015 at the Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore
- Speaker at the 3rd International Conference of East Asian Environmental History (EAEH), 22-25 October 2015, Takamatsu, Japan.
- Speaker at the 8th Annual ACRE International Conference held at University of Chile, Santiago, 12-14 October 2015.
- Chair and speaker at Asia-Oceania Geosciences Society 12th Annual Meeting, Suntec, Singapore 2-7 August 2015
- Delegate and speaker at Future Floods: An Exploration of a Cross-Disciplinary Approach to Flood Risk Forecasting, 26-27 February 2015, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, National University of Singapore.
- Conference organiser ‘Towards New Weather and Climate Baselines for Assessing Weather and Climate Extremes, Impacts and Risks over Southeast Asia’, 27-8 May 2014, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Keynote address KNMI-BKMG DiDah Conference, 19-22 May 2014, Jakarta, Indonesia
- Speaker at the 4th International Habitats Conference, 5-6 May 2014, UKM, Selangor.
- Speaker at the 6th Annual ACRE International Conference held at FFCUL/IDL, Lisbon, Portugal, 18-20 November 2013.
- Delegate and speaker at the Collaborative research on the meteorological and botanical history of the Indian Ocean, 1600-1900 workshop held at Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi, 30 - 31 August 2013.

- Speaker at the 5th Annual ACRE International Conference held in Toulouse, France, 28 November 2012.
- Delegate and speaker at the 4th Annual ACRE International Conference held at KMNI, Utrecht, 21-23 September 2011.
- Delegate and speaker at Arts and Humanities Research Council, Historic Weather Workshop, UK Meteorological Office, June 2011.
- Delegate and speaker at the Arts and Humanities Research Council/British Library South Asian Historical Records and Climate workshop at the Divecha Centre for Climate Change, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, 4 -5 March 2011.
- Conference organiser for 'Women's Voices: The Power of Words in Medieval and Early-Modern England', UEA, 10/10 (Royal Historical Society, CEAS, NRO, UEA)
- Conference organiser for 'Early Modern English Towns', IHR, London, 09/10 (BALH, CEAS)
- Conference organiser for 'Reconceptualising Politics: Power, Resources and Space', UEA, 03/08 (Leverhulme)

Funding:

- Wellcome Trust Seed Award in Humanities and Social Science, 'Historical Perspectives on the Interplay between Public Health and Urban Planning in Penang, Malaysia' in conjunction with UNU-IIGH, for 2016.
- Atmospheric Circulation Reconstructions over the Earth, Southeast Asia funded by the UK Newton Fund, via the Climate Science for Service Partnership: China (CSSP China), MET Office Hadley Centre, UK. Monies awarded to develop the regional project, now extended until 2018.
- Fundamental Research Grant (FRGS), awarded by the Malaysian government. PI \$23,620 for 2014 and 2015. Project seeks to undertake initial research into the climatic and environmental history of British Malaya c. 1800-1930.
- Asia Pacific Network for Global Change Research CAPaBLE Scheme 2013-15 Atmospheric Circulation Reconstructions over the Earth: Southeast Asia (ACRE SEA) – towards new weather and climate baselines for assessing weather and climate extremes, impacts and risks over Southeast Asia, \$36,000
- UK-ASEAN Mobility Fund 2013 £2000 for networking between Malaysia and UK.
- Marc Fitch Fund 2009/10 £1000 awarded for research costs
- Funds for Women Graduates 2007/08 main foundation grant for PhD final year £1500
- Royal Historical Society, Centre for East Anglian Studies, Leverhulme, UEA, BALH, NRO 2008/9 £2500
- UEA Annual Fund 2010/11 £3000 to support heritage projects
- CUE East 2009/10 £2000 to support heritage projects

Published Work:

Monographs and Edited Collections:

- *Social Relations and Urban Space: Norwich, 1600-1700* (Boydell and Brewer, October 2014).
- With Bronach Kane, eds, *Women, Agency and the Law, c. 1300-1700* (Pickering and Chatto, 2013).
- F. Williamson, ed., *Locating Agency: Space, Power and Popular Politics* (Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2010).

Articles and Reports:

- F. Williamson, 'The Great Flood of 1926: Environmental Change and Disaster Governance in British Malaya', *Journal Ecosystem Health and Sustainability*, Environmental Impact of Disasters - special issue, 2:11 (2016).
- F. Williamson, Cross-Disciplinary Working in the Sciences and Humanities: Historical Data Rescue Activities in Southeast Asia and Beyond, *Geoscience Letters* 3:31 (2016).
- F. Williamson, 'A Milestone on the Road to Independence? Singapore's Catastrophic 1954 Floods', *Arcadia: Explorations in Environmental History* (October, 2016).
- R. Allan, F. Williamson, et al., 'Toward Integrated Historical Climate Research: the example of Atmospheric Circulation Reconstructions over the Earth', *WIREs Climate Change* 7:2 (2016): 164-174. DOI: 10.1002/wcc.379.
- F. Williamson, 'Weathering the British Empire: meteorological research in the early nineteenth-century Straits Settlements', *The British Journal for the History of Science* 48:3 (2015), 475-492.
- F. Williamson, 'Public Engagement, Historians and Higher Education: A Retrospective UK Case Study', *Pertanika Journal of Social Sciences and Humanities* 23:3 (2015).
- F. Williamson, R. Allan, A. D. Switzer, J. C. L. Chan, R. J. Wasson, R. D'Arrigo, R. Gartner, 'New Directions in Hydro-Climatic Histories: Observational Data Recovery, Proxy Records and the Atmospheric Circulation Reconstructions over the Earth (ACRE) Initiative in Southeast Asia', *Geoscience Letters* 2:2 (2015), 1-12
- F. Williamson, History and Climate Science: A Collaborative Relationship for the Twenty-First Century, *E-Bangi Journal of Social Sciences and Humanities*, Special Issue 1 (2015), pp. 1-7.
- F. Williamson & E. Southard, Drinking Houses, Popular Politics and the Middling Sorts in Early-Seventeenth Century Norwich, *Journal of Cultural and Social History* 12:1 (2015), 9-26.
- F. Williamson, 'When "Comoners were made slaves by the magistrates": Political Culture and Electioneering in the 1620s', *Urban History Journal* 42:2 (2015), 1-15.
- F. Williamson, 'The Spatial Turn in Social History: A Review of Recent Research Trends', *European History Quarterly* 44: 4 (2014), 703-17.
- F. Williamson, 'Recovering Historic Weather Data in Southeast Asia', *Asia Pacific Network Science Bulletin* (March, 2014).
- F. Williamson, 'Public and Private Worlds? Social History, Gender and Space', *History Compass Journal* (Special Issue) 10: 9 (2012), pp. 633-643.
- P. Brohan, R. Allan, E. Freeman, D. Wheeler, C. Wilkinson and F. Williamson, eds, 'Constraining the temperature history of the past millennium using early instrumental observations', *Climate of the Past Journal*, 8 (2012), pp. 1653-1685.
- F. Williamson, 'Space and the City: Gender Identities in the Seventeenth Century', *Journal of Cultural and Social History* 9:2 (2012), 169-85.
- Fiona Williamson & Christopher Bonfield, 'History, Heritage and Public Engagement: How Can Universities and Communities Work Together?' *Public History in Higher Education* (Higher Education Academy, 2010).
- C.W. Wilkinson, C. Ward and F. Williamson, eds, *Royal Navy Remark Books held at the UK Hydrographic Office* (National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration, 2008).

In Press:

- F. Williamson, Rob Allan & Guoyu Ren, 'The Atmospheric Circulation Reconstructions over the Earth (ACRE) initiative ACRE China workshop: Recovery, Digitization and Analysis of Pre-mid-20th Century Climate Observational Data in East Asia workshop 23-24th August, Beijing, China', *Earth and Space Science* (Forthcoming, 2016).

- Book Review: Eleanor Hubbard, *City Women: Money, Sex, and the Social Order in Early Modern London*, Oxford, *European History Quarterly* (Forthcoming, 2016).
- Article: M. Delalay, R. J. Wasson, A. D. Ziegler, F. Williamson, H. S. Lim, E. Teo, R. Dahm, V. Vinasandhi, Improving Extreme Flood Estimates for Policy, Planning and Insurance: A South and Southeast Asian Perspective (Forthcoming, 2017).
- Chapter: Crossing Colonial Borders: Governing Environmental Disasters in Historic Context, in M. Miller, M. Douglass, M. Garschagan, eds., *Crossing Borders: Governing Environmental Disasters in a Global Urban Age in Asia and the Pacific* (Singapore: Springer Forthcoming, 2017).
- Chapter: Relationships under Strain: Friends and Neighbours in Seventeenth-Century Norfolk, *The Experience of Neighbourliness, 1100-1700* (Ashgate, 2017).
- Chapter: Floods, Disaster Justice, and Politics in 1950s Singapore in M. Miller and M. Douglass, eds, *Disaster Justice in the Asian Anthropocene* (MIT Press, forthcoming, 2018).

Reviews:

- Paul Stock, ed., *The Uses of Space in Early Modern History* (London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2015), *Cultural and Social History Journal* 13, 2016.
- Sheila Sweetinburgh, ed., Negotiating the Political in Northern European Urban Society, c. 1400-1600, ACMRS and Brepols, *European History Quarterly* 46:2 (2016), pp. 401-3.
- Alexander C. T. Geppert, *Fleeting Cities: Imperial Expositions in fin-de-siècle Europe*, Palgrave MacMillan, *European History Quarterly* 45:3 (2015), pp. 553-4.
- Deborah Simonton et al. eds., *Luxury and Gender in European Towns, 1700-1914* (New York, 2015) for *Women's History Review* (2015), pp. 1-3.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/09612025.2015.1042299>
- Sandra Cavallo and Silvia Evangelisti, eds, *Domestic Institutional Interiors in Early Modern Europe* (Aldershot, 2009), *Journal of Cultural and Social History* 10:2 (2013), pp. 310-12.
- Glenn Clark, Judith Owens, and Greg T. Smith, eds., *City Limits: Perspectives on the Historical European City* (Montreal and Kingston), *European History Quarterly*, 42:1, (2012), pp. 135-7.
- Peter Clark, *European Cities and Towns, 400-2000* (Oxford, 2009), *European History Quarterly* 41:4 (2011), pp. 681-3.
- Cissie Fairchild, *Women in Early Modern Europe, 1500-1700* (London, 2007), *European History Quarterly*, 40:2 (2010), pp. 323-4.
- H. Berry and E. Foyster, eds, *The Family in Early Modern England* (Cambridge, 2007), *Journal of Cultural and Social History* 6:4 (2009), pp. 520-1.
- Scott H. Hendrix and Susan C. Karant-Nunn, eds, *Masculinities in the Reformation Era* (Truman State University Press, 2008), *Gender and History Journal* 22:2 (2010), pp. 473-4.
- S. Brown, ed., *Women, Gender and Radical Religion in Early Modern Europe*, (Brill, 2007) and Andrea Pearson ed. *Women and Portraits in Early Modern Europe: Gender, Identity and Agency* (2008) for *Gender and History Journal*, 21: 2 (2009), pp. 435-7.
- H.R French, *The Middle Sort of People in Provincial England, 1600-1750*, (Oxford, 2007) for *Journal of Cultural and Social History* 6:1 (2009), pp.124-5.
- William Kolbrener and Michal Michelson eds *Mary Astell: Reason Gender and Faith* (Ashgate, 2003) for *English Historical Review*, Vol. CXXIII, 503 (2008).
- Amanda Flather, *Gender and Space in Early Modern England*, (Boydell Press, 2007), for *Gender and History* 20:2 (2008), pp. 430-2.

Publications Under Development:

- R. Wasson, R. Allan & F. Williamson, ‘The 1831 Thai flood disaster – an interdisciplinary approach’ (2017).
- F. Williamson and C. Wilkinson, ‘Asian Extremes: Experience and Exchange in the Development of Meteorological Knowledge c. 1800-1930’, *Journal for the History of Meteorology – special issue “Relocating Meteorology”* (2017).

Other:

- Member of the Asia-Oceania Geosciences Society (2015-2018).
- Volunteer for International Environmental Data Rescue Organisation (IEDRO).
- Member of Working Group 5: Non-instrumental and Documentary Data Atmospheric Circulation Reconstructions over the Earth (ACRE): <http://www.met-acre.org/wg5-non-instrumental-and-documentary-data>
- Beacons Ambassador for Public Engagement (NCHEPE, UK)

Referees:

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