Global History Seminar Series 2015

by the Institute of Historical Research and the University of Notre Dame, with the collaboration of the Centre for Global History, University of Oxford

The History of Trust

with Geoffrey Hosking (Emeritus Professor of Russian History, UCL School of Slavonic and East European Studies), Warren von Eschenbach (Director of the University of Notre Dame London Global Gateway where he also lectures in Philosophy, and Assistant Provost for Europe, University of Notre Dame), Anthony Seldon (co-founder of the Institute of Contemporary British History, author of *Trust: How We Lost it and How to Get it Back*), and Kieron O'Hara (senior research fellow in Electronics and Computer Science at the University of Southampton, author of *Trust: from Socrates to Spin*).

Thursday, March 5, 2015 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

An interdisciplinary panel inspired by *Trust: a History* by Geoffrey Hosking, who believes that historians have seriously underestimated the importance of forms of social solidarity, which do not depend wholly on political structures or rational choice. He will argue the need to complement political science with a kind of 'trust science' - using 'trust' as the focus of a cluster of concepts, such as confidence, reliance, faith, belief etc. Hosking also views trust as mediated through symbolic systems and the institutions associated with them. Such systems and institutions change greatly over time and differ from one society to another. In European-North American societies we are currently experiencing a 'crisis of trust' which we understand poorly because we do not appreciate how our trust structures have changed in the last 50-70 years.

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