MIMESIS AND THE GOVERNMENT OF DIFFERENCE

New Perspectives on the Portuguese Colonial Empire

31 May & 1 June 2013

Birkbeck College, University of London

CONVENORS: Zoltán Biedermann (Birkbeck College), Ricardo Roque (ICS-UL/Sydney), Ângela Barreto Xavier (ICS-UL)

VENUE: Birkbeck College, University of London – Keynes Library, School of Arts, Birkbeck College, 43 Gordon Square, London WC1H 0PD

SPONSORS:

FCT Research projects
PROGRAMME

Friday, 31 May
10.00 – Welcome remarks, Zoltán Biedermann, Ricardo Roque & Ângela Barreto Xavier

PANEL I – REPRESENTATIONS
Chair: Francisco Bethencourt (King’s College, University of London)
10.15-10.45: Alan Strathern (University of Cambridge)
“The dog that didn’t bark in the night-time”: European apotheosis in first encounters and the puzzling case of its absence in Portuguese expansion literature
10.45-11.15: Debate
11.15-11.30: Coffee-break
11.30-12.00: Pedro Cardim (Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, New University of Lisbon)
To obey from afar: Salvador da Bahia’s city council and the governance of the Portuguese Atlantic during the second half of the 17th century
12.00-12.30: Debate
12.30-14.30: LUNCH

PANEL II – GOVERNMENT
Chair: William Gervase Clarence-Smith (SOAS)
14.30-15.00: Zoltán Biedermann (Birkbeck College, University of London)
The government of difference, or different ways of governing? Reflections from the margins of Empire
15.00-15.30: Debate
15.30-16.00: Ricardo Roque (Institute of Social Sciences, University of Lisbon, and University of Sydney)
Mimesis as an art of government: colonial justice and indigenous customs in the late Portuguese colonial empire
16.00-16.30: Debate
16.30-16.45: Coffee-break
16.45-17.15: Cristiana Bastos (Institute of Social Sciences, University of Lisbon)
Marble stairways and straw roofs: variations in hospital styles under Portuguese colonial rule
17.15-17.45: Debate
Saturday, 1 June

PANEL III – ASSIMILATION(S)

Chair: Catarina Fouto (King’s College, University of London)

9.30-10.00: Ângela Barreto Xavier (Institute of Social Sciences, University of Lisbon)
   The politics of difference in the early-modern Portuguese empire: going Native vs. going Portuguese

10.00-10.30: Debate

10.30-11.00: Luís Cabral & Manuel Magalhães (Faculty of Law, New University of Lisbon)
   Judging others and others as judges: three magistrates between Angola, Brazil, Portugal and Goa

11.00-11.30: Debate

11.30-11.45: Coffee-break

11.45-12.15: Cristina Nogueira da Silva (Faculty of Law, New University of Lisbon) and Pedro Ferreira (Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, New University of Lisbon)
   Between imitation and assimilation: controlling difference and similarity in the Portuguese colonial administration

12.15-12.45: Debate

End of conference