

# **Institutions of Empire**

## **Comparative Perspectives on Ancient Chinese and Mediterranean History**

An International Conference of the Stanford Ancient Chinese and Mediterranean Empires  
Comparative History Project

Sponsored by The Social Science History Institute – The Department of Classics –  
The School of Humanities and Sciences – The Stanford Institute for International Studies

Organized by Walter Scheidel, Joe Manning and Mark Lewis

Conference Room, Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research  
Landau Economics Building, 579 Serra Mall, Stanford University

### **Program**

Friday, May 13, 2005

Session 1: 9.30-12.30

Walter Scheidel (Stanford University): Introduction

#### Governance and economic performance I

Peter Bang (University of Copenhagen): Universal empire, archaic consumption, and tributary extraction

Mark Lewis (Stanford University): Gift exchange and charity in ancient China and the Roman empire

Session 2: 2-5.30

#### Governance and economic performance II

Lai Ming Chiu (Chinese University of Hong Kong): Local elites in the Han period

Walter Scheidel (Stanford University): The monetary systems of the Han and Roman empires

#### Culture

David Schaberg (UCLA): The imperial audience and the births of literature

Saturday, May 14, 2005

Session 3: 9.30-1

#### Military institutions

Dingxin Zhao (University of Chicago): War and political development in Pre-Qin China

Robin Yates (McGill University): Chinese military

Nathan Rosenstein (Ohio State University): Roman military

Session 4: 2-5.30

#### Legal institutions

Karen Turner (College of the Holy Cross): Chinese law and empire

Luuk de Ligt (University of Leiden): Roman law and economy

Joe Manning (Stanford University): Codification and empire