

# STaC event

Thursday 21st May 2015



## Eben Kirksey

**Author of the Multispecies Salon  
Talk and Roundtable Discussion**

**11:00 - 12:30 Seminar talk “Species: A Praxiographic Study”**

**13:00 - 15:00 Roundtable Discussion on Multispecies Ethnography**  
(For the roundtable discussion please register with [A.Schrader@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:A.Schrader@exeter.ac.uk))

Abstract: **“Species: A Praxiographic Study”**

Taxonomists, who describe new species, are acutely aware of how political, economic, and ecological forces bring new forms of life into being. Conducting ethnographic research among taxonomic specialists—experts who bring order to categories of animals, plants, fungi, and microbes—I found that they pay careful attention to the ebb and flow of agency in multispecies worlds. Emergent findings from genomics and information technologies are transforming existing categories and bringing new ones into being. This talk will argue that the concept of species remains a valuable Sensemaking tool despite recent attacks from cultural critics.