Breaking the Apocalyptic Frame: Constantinian Propoganda and the Longue Durée

featuring **Professor Elizabeth DePalma Digeser**

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Ancient historians like to think that we view antiquity from a distance, that our view of the period—while perhaps shaped by our own context—is not especially in thrall to the biases or propaganda of those whom we study. But is this true? As this talk will suggest, perhaps the accepted narrative of early Christian history and the rise of the emperor Constantine have been shaped more by imperial court propaganda than we have recognized up to now.

Elizabeth DePalma Digeser is Professor of Roman History and Late Antiquity at the University of California, Santa Barbara. The founding editor of *Studies in Late Antiquity*, she is the author of *The Making of a Christian Empire: Lactantius and Rome* (Cornell, 2000) and *A Threat to Public Piety: Christians, Platonists, and the Great Persecution*.

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