**Session 1 Rural Geopolitics Virtual Session**

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| **Faculty Presenter** | **Abstract Title** | **Abstract** |
| Lee Morrissey | "Can Upstate SC germinate a rural creative economy?" (part of Clemson Rural Geopolitics Reading Group, aka "RG2") | With reference to the Clemson Rural Geopolitics Reading Group ("RG2"), an international collaboration, I will discuss the status of the rural in the urbanizing upstate and the question of the creative economy. |
| Rebecca Stoil | Modern Rurality: Considering Liminal Identities in the Countryside (Clemson Rural Geopolitics Reading Group ("RG2") | With reference to the Clemson Rural Geopolitics Reading Group ("RG2"), an international collaboration, I will discuss the challenges posed in defining "rural" and "rurality" in the post-WWII era. In particular, my presentation will examine the aesthetic, institutional, and geographic assumptions manifested through use of the term as a means of critiquing normativity in race, gender, and economic practice both inside and outside of the academy. |
| Archana Venkatesh | Activism and Rurality in 21st century India: A Transnational perspective (Clemson Rural Geopolitics Reading Group ("RG2") | With reference to the Clemson Rural Geopolitics Reading Group ("RG2"), my presentation will examine how movements for social change that are grounded in agricultural contexts are portrayed and analyzed in popular media as well as in scholarly discourse. Focusing on India, I will discuss how these movements negotiate intersecting interests of national institutions, global geopolitical and financial considerations, and local socio-cultural contexts in order to reconstitute the place and role of rurality and rural cultures and economies in the 21st century. |