# BRENDEN W. RENSINK, PH.D.

#### **BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY**

- <u>Associate Professor</u>, Department of History
- Associate Director, Charles Redd Center for Western Studies
- Marjorie Pay Hinckley Young Scholar, FHSS College

#### PUBLIC HISTORY PROJECTS

- Project Manager & General Editor, Intermountain Histories
- Host and Producer, Writing Westward Podcast

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#### **PREVIOUS APPOINTMENTS:**

2015-19 - Assistant Professor, Department of History, Brigham Young University

Assistant Director, Charles Redd Center for Western Studies, Brigham Young University

2013-15 - Historian and Documentary Editor, Joseph Smith Papers, LDS Church History Department

- Instructor, Department of History, Weber State University

2011-13 - <u>Visiting Assistant Professor</u>, Department of History, University of Nebraska at Kearney

2011-12 - Adjunct Instructor, Nebraska Wesleyan University

2008-11 - Lecturer, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

2003-07 - Research Assistant and Teaching Assistant, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

#### **EDUCATION:**

2010, 06 - Ph.D. and M.A. in History, University of Nebraska - Lincoln

2004 – B.A. in History, Brigham Young University

#### AWARDS:

2021 - Karl G. Maeser Professional Faculty Excellence Award, Brigham Young University

2020-22 - Marjorie Pay Hinckley Young Scholar Award, Brigham Young University
2020 - Metcalfe Best Anthology Book Award, John Whitmer Historical Association
2019 - Spur Award for Best Historical Nonfiction Book, Western Writers of America
2009 - Walter Rundell Graduate Student Award, Western History Association.

- Best Graduate Student Paper Prize, Northern Great Plains History Conference.

- University Libraries Influence Award, University of Nebraska-Lincoln Libraries.

2008 - Certificate of Recognition for Contributions to Students, UNL Teaching Council and Parents

Association.

# SCHOLARSHIP AND PUBLICATIONS

#### **BOOKS:**

2022 – The North American West in the 21st Century. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2022. Editor.

2019 – <u>Essays on American Indian and Mormon History</u>. Salt Lake City: University of Utah Press, 2019. Co-editor, P. Jane Hafen.

2020 Metcalfe Best Anthology Book Award, John Whitmer Historical Association

- Reviewed in Western Historical Quarterly, Nova Religio, Journal of Arizona History, and Association for Mormon Letters
- 2018 Native but Foreign: Indigenous Immigrants and Refugees in the North American Borderlands. Connecting the Greater West Series. College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 2018.
  - 2019 Spur Award, Best Historical Nonfiction Book, Western Writers of America
  - Reviewed in American Historical Review, Journal of American History, Western Historical Quarterly, Native American and Indigenous Studies, Pacific Historical Review, American Indian Culture and Research Journal, Journal of Arizona History, Montana: The Magazine of Western History, Journal of Borderlands Studies, Southwestern Historical Review, The Historian, Roundup Magazine, Borderlands History Blog, and H-Borderlands.
- 2017 The Joseph Smith Papers: Documents, Vol. 6: February 1838 - August 1839. Salt Lake City: The Church Historian's Press, 2017. Co-editors, Mark Ashurst-McGee, David Grua, and Elizabeth Kuehn.
- 2016 The Joseph Smith Papers: Documents, Vol. 4: April 1834 - October 1835. Salt Lake City: The Church Historian's Press, 2016. Co-editor, Matthew Godfrey.
- 2015 Historical Dictionary of the American Frontier. Lanham, Md.: Rowman and Littlefield, 2015. Coauthor, Jay H. Buckley.

## PUBLIC HISTORY PROJECTS AND CONSULTING:

- 2021-22 Historical Consultant, Mazamas
  - Digitization project of 120+ years of Mazamas annual journal reports
- 2018-Host and Producer, Writing Westward Podcast
  - 40 Episodes, as of April 2022
- 2016-Project Manager and General Editor, Intermountain Histories digital public history project
  - 550 stories, 50 tours, 15 collaborating professors, and 350 students from 9 universities as of April 2022
- 2018-19 Historical Consultant, Native American Rights Fund
  - Historical research and writing, totaling appx. 25,000 words, or 75 pages

#### **BOOK CHAPTERS, ANTHOLOGY CONTRIBUTIONS:**

- 2022 "Introduction: Updating "Modern West" Histories for the 21st Century," in Brenden W. Rensink, ed. The North American West in the 21st Century. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2022.
- 2019 "A Candid Investigation': Concluding Observations and Future Directions," in P. Jane Hafen and Brenden W. Rensink, eds., Essays on American Indian and Mormon History, 246-254. Salt Lake City: University of Utah Press, 2019.
  - "Introduction," co-authored with P. Jane Hafen, in P. Jane Hafen and Brenden W. Rensink, eds., Essays on American Indian and Mormon History, xi-xx. Salt Lake City: University of Utah Press, 2019.
- 2011 "Cree Contraband or Contraband Crees: Early Montanan Experiences with Transnational Natives and the Formation of Lasting Prejudice, 1880-1885." In Smugglers, Brothels, and Twine: Historical Perspectives on Contraband and Vice in North America's Borderlands, Andrae Marak and Elaine Carey, eds., 24-43. Tucson: University of Arizona Press, 2011.
  - "Genocide of Native Americans: Historical Facts and Historiographic Debates." In Genocide of Indigenous Peoples, Vol. 8 in Genocide: A Critical Bibliographic Series, Samuel Totten and Robert Hitchcock, eds., 15-36. New Brunswick, New Jersey: Transaction Publishers, 2011.
- 2008 "Nebraska and Kansas Territories in American Legal Culture: Territorial Statutory Context." In The Nebraska-Kansas Act of 1854, John R. Wunder and Joann E. Ross, eds, 47-66. Lincoln, Nebraska: University of Nebraska Press, 2008.

## JOURNAL ARTICLES:

- 2021 "Indigenous Peoples and Euro-American Frontiers, Borderlands, and Borders in North America." Oxford Research Encyclopedia of American History, Oxford University Press, 2021. 8,000 words. https://doi.org/10.1093/acrefore/9780199329175.013.772
- 2020 "Indigenous Peoples and North American Immigration History: A Historiographical Essay." The Immigration and Ethnic History Newsletter LII, no. 1 (Summer 2020): 1, 6-7, 2,000 words.
- 2010 "If a Passage Could be Found': The Power of Myth (and Money) in North American Exploration." We Proceeded On (May 2010): 8-17.
- 2009 "Pursuing Wicozani (the Good Way of Life): Functional Adaptations through Dakota Lifeways," coauthors Matthew Garrett, Joseph M. White, Sr., Adam Galovan and Kathryn Akipa. AlterNative: An International Journal of Indigenous Peoples 5 (Fall 2009): 108-125.
  - "The Transnational Immigrant-Refugee Experience of Mexican Yaquis and Canadian Chippewa-Crees in Arizona and Montana." Journal of the West 48 (Summer 2009): 12-19.
  - "The Sand Creek Phenomenon: The Complexity and Difficulty of Undertaking a Comparative Study of Genocide vis-à-vis the North American West." Genocide Studies and Prevention: An International Journal 4:1 (Spring 2009): 9-27.
- 2004 "The Myth of an Easy Passage to the Far East." The Thetean 32 (2004): 111-130. 6,200 words.

#### **BOOK REVIEWS:**

- 2022 Making a Modern U.S. West: The Contested Terrain of a Region and its Borders, 1898-1940," by Sarah Deutsch. Annals of Wyoming, forthcoming.
  - Violence and Indigenous Communities: Confronting the Past and Engaging the Preset, by Susan Sleeper Smith, Jeffrey Ostler, and Joshua L. Reid, eds. Journal of American History, forthcoming.
- 2021 A Line of Blood and Dirt: Creating the Canada-United States Border across Indigenous Lands, by Benjamin Hoy. Canadian Journal of History / Annales Canadiennes d'Histoire 56 (Winter 2021): 420-422.
- 2019 Empire's Tracks: Indigenous Nations, Chinese Workers, and the Transcontinental Railroad, by Manu Karuka. H-Diplomatic, November, 2019. https://www.hnet.org/reviews/showpdf.php?id=54313
  - Are We Not Foreigners Here? Indigenous Nationalism in the U.S.-Mexico Borderlands, Journal of American Ethnic History 38 (Summer 2019): 91-92.
- 2018 Why You Can't Teach U.S. History without American Indians, Susan Sleeper-Smith, et. al, eds, Native American and Indigenous Studies 5 (Spring 2018): 269-270.
- 2017 So Far and yet So Close: Frontier Cattle Ranching in Western Prairie Canada and the Northern Territory of Australia, by Warren M. Elofson. Journal of the West 54 (Fall 2017): 111-112.
  - Food Control and Resistance, by Tamara Levi, Journal of American History 104 (3): 775-776.
- 2016 Territories of Empire: U.S. Writing form the Louisiana Purchase to Mexican Independence, by Andy Doolen, Journal of American History 103 (September 2016): 471-472.
  - The Memory of Stone: Meditations on the Canyons of the West, by Erv Schroeder, Bill McKibben, Marcia Bjornerud, and Simon J. Ortiz, Journal of the West 55 (Summer 2016): 85.
  - Native Diasporas: Indigenous Identities and Settler Colonialism in the Americas, edited by Gregory D. Smithers & Brooke N. Newman, Journal of the West 55 (Summer 2016): 85.

- From Treaty Peoples to Treaty Nation: A Road Map for All Canadians, by Greg Poelzer and Ken S. Coates, Great Plains Research 26 (Fall 2016): 141.
- Bootleggers and Borders: The Paradox of Prohibition on a Canada-U.S. Borderlands, by Stephen T. Moore, Montana: The Magazine of Western History 66 (Spring 2016): 77-78.
- The Mapmakers of New Zion: A Cartographic History of Mormonism, by Richard Francaviglia, Journal of Arizona History 57 (Spring 2016): 98-99.
- Colonial Genocide in Indigenous North America, edited by Andrew Woolford, Jeff Benvenuto, and Alexander Laban Hinton, Ethnohistory, 63 (Spring 2016): 415-416.
- Trout Culture: How Fly Fishing Forever Changed the Rocky Mountain West, by Jen Corrinne Brown, Journal of the West 55 (Winter 2016): 113-14.
- Showdown in the Big Quiet: Land, Myth, and Government in the American West, by John P. Bieter, Jr., Journal of the West 55 (Winter 2016): 113.
- 2015 Clearing the Plains: Disease, Politics of Starvation, and the Loss of Aboriginal Life, by James Daschuk. Historical Geography 43 (2015): 7-9.
  - Theodore Roosevelt Digital Library, website review, Western Historical Quarterly 46 (Autumn 2015): 399-400.
  - Framing Chief Leschi: Narratives and the Politics of Historical Justice, by Lisa Blee. Journal of American History 101 (March 2015): 1228-1229.
  - The Sea is Our Country, by Joshua Reid. Pacific Northwest Quarterly 106 (3): 140.
- 2014 Recognition, Sovereignty Struggles, and Indigenous Rights in the United States: A Sourcebook, edited by Amy E Den Ouden and Jean M. O'Brien. Journal of the West 53 (Spring 2014): 84.
  - Mapping Wonderlands: Illustrated Cartography of Arizona, 1912-1962, by Dori Griffin. Journal of the West 53 (Winter 2014): 95.
  - Warrior Nations: The United States and Indian Peoples, by Roger L. Nichols. The Journal of Arizona History 55 (Winter 2014): 507-508.
  - Blackfoot Redemption: A Blood Indian's Story of Murder, Confinement, and Imperfect Justice, by William Farr. Ethnohistory 61 (Spring 2014): 370-372.
  - At the Border of Empires, by Andrae M. Marak and Laura Tuennerman. The Catholic Historical Review 100 (Spring 2014): 383-384.
  - Comparative Indigeneities of the Américas: Toward a Hemispheric Approach, edited by M. Bianet Castellanos, Lourdes Gutiérrez Nájera, and Arturo J. Aldama. American Indian Quarterly 38 (Spring 2014): 277-280.
- 2013 Kearny's March: The Epic Creation of the American West, 1846-1847, by Winston Groom. Military History of the West 42 (2013): 41-42.
  - Pacific Connections: The Making of the U.S.-Canadian Borderlands, by Kornel Chang. Journal of American Ethnic History 33, no. 1 (Fall 2013): 94-95.
  - Murder State: California's Native American Genocide, 1846-1873, by Brendan C. Lindsay. Western Historical Quarterly 44 (Autumn 2013): 339.
  - The Invasion of Indian Country in the Twentieth Century: American Capitalism and Tribal Natural Resources, Second Edition, by Donald L. Fixico. New Mexico Historical Review 88 (Spring 2013): 236-237.
  - Migrants and Migration in Modern North America: Cross-Border Lives, Labor Markets, and Politics, edited by Dirk Hoerder and Nora Faires. Canadian Journal of History / Annales Canadiennes d'Histoire 47 (Spring 2013): 676-679.

- 2012 Storied Landscapes: Ethno-Religious Identity and the Canadian Prairies, by Frances Swyripa. Journal of the West 50 (Fall 2011): 83-84.
  - Troubled Trails: The Meeker Affair and the Expulsion of Utes from Colorado, by Robert Silbernagel. Montana: The Magazine of Western History (Spring 2012): 81-82.
- 2010 Undermining Race: Ethnic Identities in Arizona Copper Camps, 1880-1920, by Phylis Cancilla Martinelli. Journal of the West 49 (Fall 2010): 88.
  - A Gift of Angels: The Art of Mission San Xavier del Bac, by Bernard L. Fontana. Journal of the West 49 (Fall 2010): 85.

## Non-Refereed Publications:

- 2020 "Introducing 'Essays on American Indian and Mormon History." The Juvenile Instructor, June 22, 2020. https://juvenileinstructor.org/guest-post-introducing-essays-on-american-indian-and-mormonhistory/
- 2019 "Ignored and deported, Cree 'refugees' echo the crisis of today." Public Radio International, Global Nation, 31 January 2019. https://www.pri.org/stories/2019-01-31/ignored-and-deported-creerefugees-echo-crises-today
- 2012 WHA Past Presidents Biographies for John R. Wunder and T.A. Larson. Western History Association. Available at http://www.westernhistoryassociation.wildapricot.org/archives
- 2008 "Addendum: Chippewa Cree Research Archives at Rocky Boy School." In Ed Stamper, Helen Windy Boy and Ken Morsette, Jr., eds, The History of the Chippewa Cree of Rocky Boy's Indian Reservation, 223-234. Box Elder, Montana: Stone Child College Press, 2008.
  - Historical Biographies of the Cherry County Independent (Valentine, NE), Valentine Democrat (NE), Western News-Democrat (Valentine, NE), Norfolk Weekly News and News-Journal (NE), Custer County Republican (Broken Bow, NE). McCook Tribune and Weekly-Tribune (NE), Omaha Daily Bee (NE), and Falls City Tribune (NE). Nebraska Newspapers: Digitizing Nebraska's History site. Available at http://nebnewspapers.unl.edu/.
  - "The Omaha Daily Bee." JNews, University of Nebraska-Lincoln College of Journalism and Mass Communications Alumni Magazine (Summer 2008): 20-21.

#### **BLOG CONTRIBUTIONS:**

- 2013-Blog owner and author @ http://www.bwrensink.org and http://www.nativebutforeign.org.
  - Topics cover U.S. West, Modern West, Borderlands, and Indigenous History.
- 2012-Blog contributor @ http://www.borderlandshistory.org.
  - See http://borderlandshistory.org/author/brensink/

## **CONFERENCE AND SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS:**

- 2021 "Podcasting in the West." Roundtable panelist, Western History Association 61st Annual Conference, Portland, OR, October 2021.
  - "New Directions and Questions for American Indian and Mormon Histories." Roundtable panelists, Mormon History Association, Rochester, NY, June 2021
- 2020 Featured author and discussant for WHA Committee on Teaching and Public Education K-12 Workshop, Western History Association 60th Annual Conference, Albuquerque, NM, October 2020.

- "Multiculturalism, Museums, and Academic Centers in the Twenty-First Century West." Roundtable panelists, Western History Association 60<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Albuquerque, NM, October 2020.
- "New Directions and Questions for American Indian and Mormon Histories." Roundtable panelists, Mormon History Association, Rochester, NY, June 2020. POSTPONED due to COVID19.
- "The Nation-State, Its Histories and Archives, and Native Biographies that Transgress Them." American Historical Association Annual Conference, New York City, NY, January 2020.
- 2019 "Tips for the Academic Career, Part One: Service, Institutional Isolation, and the Importance of Networks," Western History Association 59th Annual Conference, November 2019, Las Vegas, NV.
  - "Indigenous North Americans, International Borders, and Seeking Overlooked Transnational Populations." Colloque Frontières dans les Amériques, Université Grenoble Alpes, June 2019, Grenoble, France.
- 2018 "Intermountain Histories," Digital Sixshooter Panel. Western History Association 58th Annual Conference, November 2018, San Antonio, TX.
  - "When Indigenous Peoples Cross Borders as Refugees." Association for Borderlands Studies 2nd World Conference, July 2018, Vienna, Austria, and Budapest, Hungary.
  - "Progreso y Orden": The Porfirian Rhetoric and Campaigns of Extermination, Deportation, and Enslavement of Yaquis in the late-19th and early-20th Century Mexico." Native American and Indigenous Studies Association Conference, May 2018, Los Angeles, CA.
  - "Progreso y Orden": The Porfirian Rhetoric and Campaigns of Extermination, Deportation, and Enslavement of Yaquis in the late-19th and early-20th Century Mexico." Words That Kill Conference, George and Irina Schaeffer Center for the Study of Genocide, Human Rights and Conflict Prevention, American University of Paris, May 2018.
- 2017 "Comparing Borders and Indigenous Peoples: What the U.S.-Canadian and U.S.-Mexican Borderlands Teach Us about One Another." Western History Association 57th Annual Conference, November 2017, San Diego, CA.
  - "Intermountain Histories." Utah State History Conference, October 2017, Salt Lake City, UT.
  - "Falling Through Transnational Cracks: Lost Indigenous Biographies in the U.S.-Canadian Borderlands." Native American and Indigenous Studies Association Conference, June 2017, Vancouver, BC.
- 2016 "The Paradox of Border, Boundaries, and Frontiers: How the Edges of Empire Can Encourage and Obstruct Mobility." Ethnohistory Annual Conference, November 2016, Nashville, TN.
  - "The Role, Relevance, and Future of Regional Studies Centers in a Global Environment." Western History Association 56th Annual Conference, October 2016, St. Paul, MN.
  - "To Conform to Fundamental Purpose: The National Parks and the American West, a Lightning Panel." Western History Association 56th Annual Conference, October 2016, St. Paul, MN.
- 2015 "Howard Egan's Place in Western History." Symposium on the Life and Time of Howard Egan, Salt Lake City, UT, June 2015.
- 2014 "Publishing as Public History." Roundtable with Steven Danver, David Rich Lewis, Jeff Nichols, Paul Reeve, and Holly George. Western Lands, Western Voices: The American West Center at Fifty Symposium, University of Utah, September 2014.
- 2012 "The Indigenous Immigrant: Comparing Native Canadian and Mexican Immigration to the U.S. Borderlands." Newberry Seminar in Borderlands and Latino Studies. Center for American History and Culture Programs, Newberry Library, December 2012. Chicago, IL.

- 2010 "Receiving "Canadian" versus "Mexican" Indian Migrants and Refugees in Montana and Arizona: Perceived Ethnicity and Native Labor in the U.S. Borderlands." Western History Association 50th Annual Conference, October 2010. Incline Village, NV.
- 2009 "Transborder Indigenous Migration and Refugee Experiences." Roundtable Panel title: "Both Borders: A Roundtable on Researching and Writing on the West's Mexican and Canadian Borderlands," chaired by Dr. Ben Johnson. Western History Association 49th Annual Conference, October 2009. Denver, CO.
  - "I Never Was Tired of a Tribe as I am of This One': Montanan Efforts to Deport Foreign Indians, 1880-1916." Northern Great Plains History Conference, October 2009. St. Cloud, MN.
  - "Creating Illegals out of Natives: U.S., Mexican and Canadian Borderlands and the Politics of Indigenous Migration." The James A. Rawley Conference in the Humanities, March 2009. Lincoln,
- 2008 "Mexican Borderlands, Indigenous Ethnogenesis and Community Identity, 1500-Present." The James A. Rawley Conference in the Humanities, April 2008. Lincoln, NE.
  - "Yaqui and Rocky Boy Cree Refugees in Arizona and Montana: Borderland Peripheries and the Formation of Federal Borderlands Indian Policy." Missouri Valley History Conference, March 2008. Omaha, NE.
- 2007 "Justifying Autonomy through Regional Distinction: Identity Construction and Rhetorical Fallacy in Separatist Transnistria and the Republic of Moldova." The James A. Rawley Conference in the Humanities, April 2007. Lincoln, NE.

### **CONFERENCE SERVICE AND ORGANIZING:**

- 2021 "New Directions and Questions for American Indian and Mormon Histories." Roundtable Organizer and Chair. Mormon History Association, Park City, UT, June 2021.
  - "Settlement on the San Juan: Pioneers, Personalities, and Persistence." Conference chair and moderator. Hole-in-the-Rock Foundation, 22 May 2021.
- 2020 "New Directions and Questions for American Indian and Mormon Histories." Roundtable Organizer and Chair. Mormon History Association, Rochester, NY, June 2020. POSTPONED due to COVID19.
- 2018 "Indigenous Peoples in Imposed Colonial and Post-Colonial Borderlands." Panel Organizer and Chair. Association for Borderlands Studies 2nd World Conference, July 2018, Vienna, Austria, and Budapest, Hungary.
  - "The Rhetoric of Indigenous Extermination and Genocide in Colonial and Postcolonial North American." Panel Organizer and Chair. Native American and Indigenous Studies Association Conference, May 2018, Los Angeles, CA.
  - "The Rhetoric of Indigenous Extermination and Genocide in Colonial and Postcolonial North American." Words That Kill Conference, George and Irina Schaeffer Center for the Study of Genocide, Human Rights and Conflict Prevention, American University of Paris, May 2018.
- 2016 "Engaging with Empire: Mapping Cosmopolitan Lives and Visions." Panel Chair. Ethnohistory Annual Conference, November 2016, Nashville, TN.
- "Bridging the Divide: Race, Violence, and Memory in the U.S.-Mexico Borderlands." Panel Chair 2015 and Commenter, Western History Association 55th Annual Conference, October 2015, Portland, OR.

- 2014 "Indigenous Genocide Studies in the West and the World." Roundtable organizer and chair, Western History Association 54th Annual Conference, October 2014, Newport Beach, CA.
  - "Disrupting and Considering New Directions for Indigenous Mormon and Mormon-Indigenous" Studies." Roundtable/Panel organizer and chair. Mormon History Association Conference. June 2014. San Antonio, TX.
  - "New Directions in Indigenous Mormon and Mormon-Indigenous Studies." Roundtable/Panel organizer and chair. Native American and Indigenous Studies Association Conference, May 2014. Austin, TX.
- 2012 "Indigenous-Defined Borderlands, Boundaries and Landscapes: A Two-Session Panel and Roundtable." Panel and Roundtable organizer and chair, Western History Association 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference, October 2012. Denver, CO.
  - "The Shifting Composition of the Great Plains." Panel Chair and commenter. The James A. Rawley Conference in the Humanities, March 2012. Homestead National Monument, Beatrice, NE.
  - "Future Directions in Western History: a Roundtable Discussion with Sarah Carter, Elliott West and John Wunder." Roundtable Chair and Moderator. The James A. Rawley Conference in the Humanities, March 2012. Homestead National Monument, Beatrice, NE.
  - "America: 1770-1945." Panel Chair. Missouri Valley History Conference, March 2012. Omaha,
- 2010 "Transnational Natives in International Landscapes: Comparing Indigenous Migrations, Federal Policies and International Boundaries across the Borderlands of Canada, Mexico and the United States." Panel Organizer, Western History Association 50th Annual Conference, October 2010. Incline Village, NV.
- 2008 "A Community of Consumption: Food and Music in the Twentieth Century." Panel Chair and Commenter. The James A. Rawley Conference in the Humanities, April 2008. Lincoln, NE.

#### **ACADEMIC SEMINARS:**

- 2022 Mapping Tallequah History, Workshop Participant, Northeastern State University, April 2022. Tallequah, OK.
- 2019 The American West in the 21st Century. Seminar Host and Organizer. Brigham Young University, June 2019. Provo, UT.
- 2016 American Indians and Mormons. Seminar Co-Host and Co-Organizer. Brigham Young University, June 2016. Provo, UT.
- 2015 Mormons and the Environment. Seminar Moderator. Brigham Young University, November 2015. Provo, UT.
- 2013 "Plains Metis as Tribe?: Geography, Economy, and Society in the 19th Century." Workshop, University of Ottawa, March 2013. Ottawa, Ontario.
- 2011 Triennial Charles Redd Seminar on Immigration in the Far West, Brigham Young University, August 2011. Provo, UT.

#### **INVITED TALKS:**

- 2022 "Reconnecting the Public with their Pasts Through Digital History." Keynote address, Mapping Tahlequah History Workshop, Northeastern State University, 4 April 2022.
  - "Refugees Past and Present: Training our Eyes to Find the Overlooked." Sons of the Utah Pioneers, 3 March 2022, Centerville, UT.

- 2021 "Adventures in the Archives: On the Importance and Fun of Working with Primary Sources." L. Tom Perry Special Collections, Brigham Young University, October 21, 2021.
  - "Native but Foreign: Indigenous Immigrants and Refugees in the North American Borderlands." Montana Historical Society, September 30, 2021.
  - "Native but Foreign: Indigenous Immigrants and Refugees in the North American Borderlands." Ivan Doig Center at Montana State University, October 1, 2021.
- 2020 "Reading Indigenous Histories Differently: Comparing Transnational Immigration and Refugee Contexts." University of California, Los Angeles, American Indian Studies Center, May 11, 2020. CANCELED due to COVID19.
  - "Recognition as "American" Indians: Yaqui, Cree, and Chippewa Fights for Belonging in Arizona and Montana." Arizona State Historical Society, and University of Arizona Department of History and American Indian Studies Program, April 9, 2020. CANCELED due to COVID19.
- 2019 "Disrupting Western, Indigenous, and Borderlands Histories." Eastern New Mexico State University, November 5, 2019.
  - "Disrupting Western, Indigenous, and Borderlands Histories." Center for the Study of the American West at West Texas A&M University, November 4, 2019.
  - "Native but Foreign: Indigenous Immigrants and Refugees in the North American Borderlands." Dixie State University and Utah Humanities Book Festival, St. George, UT, September 24, 2019.
  - "Native but Foreign: Indigenous Immigrants and Refugees in the North American Borderlands." Northern Arizona University, September 10, 2019.
  - "Comparing Experience of "Foreign" Yaquis in Arizona and Crees in Montana." Pascua Yaqui Tribe Department of Education, Guadalupe, AZ, September 9, 2019.
  - "Transnational Indigenous Histories in the North American Borderlands." John F. Kennedy Institute, Borders Research Unit of the SCRIPTS Cluster of Excellence, and Department of History, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany, June 17, 2019.
  - "Complicating North American Borderlands with Transnational Indigenous Histories." Savoirs dans l'Espace Anglofine: Représentations, Culture, Histoire (SEARCH) at Université de Strasbourg, France, June 14, 2019.
  - "Remembering Indigenous Peoples and Ethnic Minorities in Migration, Border, and Refugee Debates." La Maison de L'International de Grenoble, France, June 13, 2019.
  - "Transnational Indigenous Histories in the North American Borderlands." Obama Institute for Transnational American Studies at the Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz, Germany, June 11, 2019.
  - "Using Counternarratives to Deconstruct Familiar Histories: A Comparative Indigenous and Western Borderlands Case Study." History Colloquium Series. Weber State University, April 12, 2019.
  - "When Natives Were "Foreign": Complicating North American West, Borderlands, and Indigenous Histories." University of California – Santa Barbara, February 19, 2019.
- 2018 "When Borders Cross Natives and Natives Cross Borders: A Comparative North American Example." UniGR-Border Studies Center, Saarland University and the Université de la Grande Région - Universität der Großregion, Saarbrücken, Germany, May 25, 2018.
  - "Indigenous Migration and Missing Federal Policies in the North American Borderlands." Centre for Migration Studies, Jagiellonian University, Kraków, Poland, 23 May 2018.

- "Natives as Immigrants and Refugees: A Comparative North American Borderlands Example." Borders and Migration Lecture Series, Kennedy Center for International Studies, Brigham Young University, March 21, 2018.
- 2011 "The 'Other' West: Minority Experience in the 19th Century West," "Probing the Progressive Age," and "American Expansion and Imperialism." Consultant, Guest Speaker, Summer 2011 History Alive Seminar, Nebraska Wesleyan University and Omaha Public Schools. Omaha, NE.

## Invited Presentations, Workshops, and Miscellaneous Public Events:

- 2021 "Intermountain Histories Discussion," Public History Seminar Class Visit, Prof. Michael Amundson, Northern Arizona University, March 2021.
  - "Public History Discussion," Fielding History Class Visit, Prof. Jeff Nichols, Westminster College, 10 March 2021.
  - "Native but Foreign Discussion." Immigration History Seminar Class Visit, Prof. Julie Greene, University of Maryland, 9 February 2021.
  - "Thrive 125: 125 Years of Refuge." Host and moderator for Thrive125 panel, Utah Department of Heritage & Arts, 26 January 2021.
- 2020 "Native but Foreign Discussion." Borderlands History Seminar Class Visit, Prof. Chantel Rodríguez, University of Maryland, 14 October 2020.
  - "Native but Foreign Discussion." American Indian History Seminar Class Visit, Prof. Benjamin Madley, University of California, Los Angeles, 4 May 2020.
  - "Public History Discussion." HIST 431, Public History, Brigham Young University, 20 February 2020.
  - "Native But Foreign Discussion." Borderlands and Border Lives Seminar class discussion via video conference, Prof. Rosina Lozano, Princeton University, 18 February 2020.
- 2019 "Native But Foreign Discussion." North American Borderlands Seminar Class Visit, Prof. James F. Brooks, University of California - Santa Barbara, 19 February 2019.
  - "Native But Foreign Discussion." Capstone History Seminar class discussion via Skype, Prof. Robert Voss, Northwestern Missouri State University, February 2019.
  - "How to Organize and Edit an Anthology." North American West Seminar class discussion via Skype, Prof. Max Mueller, University of Nebraska – Lincoln, 6 February 2019.
- 2018 "What is Public History." HIST 392R. Prof. Sarah Loose, Brigham Young University, December 2018.
  - "Native but Foreign and Borderlands History Discussion." Class Discussion in American West Graduate Seminar, University of Utah, Prof. W. Paul Reeve, November 2018.
  - "Native but Foreign Discussion." Class Discussion via Skype. Phillips Academy, Andover, MA, Prof. Miriam Villanueva. October 2018.
- 2016 "What is Public History." Guest presentation, HIST 200, Prof. Leslie Hadfield, Brigham Young University.
- 2010 "Conceptualizing, Organizing and Writing a Comparative History." Guest Speaker, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, U.S. West Research Seminar (History 942), September 1, 2010.
  - "Native Americans in Colonial America." Guest Lecture, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Colonial America (History 334/894), January 28, 2010.

#### **MEDIA INTERVIEWS:**

- 2021
- "BYU project makes those unknown historic sites we just drive by come to life." Interview for Salt Lake Tribune, 27 September 2021. https://www.sltrib.com/religion/2021/09/27/byu-project-makes-
- "Remembering Utah's Other Pioneers," Radio Interview with KSL Radio and Boyd Matheson's Inside Sources program, 22 July 2021. https://omny.fm/shows/inside-sources-with-boydmatheson/remembering-ethnic-immigrant-communities-in-utahs
- "Charting a course: BYU history professor, students building historical map of Intermountain West." Interview for ABC4 News article, 22 July 2021. https://www.abc4.com/news/digitalexclusives/charting-a-course-byu-history-professor-students-building-historical-map-ofintermountain-west/
- "Pioneer Day: Remembering Utah's forgotten immigrant communities." Interview for BYU News, 21 July 2021. https://news.byu.edu/intellect/byu-professor-highlights-unsung-stories-from-utahsrich-pioneer-history-with-intermountain-histories-website
- 2020 "Speak Your Piece/Peace." Podcast Interview, State Division of History, Utah, January 2020.
- 2019 "The Buzz." Arizona Public Media (NPR) Radio Interview for "Yaqui, O'odham history and sovereignty in the borderlands," November 15, 2019. https://radio.azpm.org/p/radiobuzz/2019/11/15/161748-vaqui-oodham-history-and-sovereignty-in-the-borderlands/
  - "Transcontinental Railroad at 150." Interview with BYU Radio's Top of Mind with Julie Rose program, May 11, 2019. https://www.byuradio.org/episode/b85fb1c6-3492-4058-a868-9aa4ec0e506f/
  - "Access Utah with Tom Williams." Utah Pubic Radio Interview, April 4, 2019. https://www.upr.org/post/native-foreign-brenden-rensink-thursdays-access-utah
- 2018 "New Books in Native American Studies." New Books Network podcast interview on 2018 Native but Foreign monograph, December 13, 2018. https://newbooksnetwork.com/brenden-w-rensinknative-but-foreign-indigenous-immigrants-and-refugees-in-the-north-american-borderlands-texasam-up-2018/
  - "Migrant Caravan." Interview with BYU Radio's Top of Mind with Julie Rose program, October 25, 2018. http://www.byuradio.org/episode/5b587e56-d4fc-4340-9847-365a93842599
  - "Myanmar conflict forces mass exodus, claims of genocide." Daily Universe, January 26, 2018. https://universe.bvu.edu/2018/01/26/myanmar-conflict-forces-mass-exodus-claims-of-genocide/
- 2017 "Provo explores renaming Squaw Peak but hasn't agreed on new moniker." Deseret News, October 9, 2017. https://www.deseretnews.com/article/865690632/Provo-explores-renaming-Squaw-Peakbut-hasnt-agreed-on-new-moniker.html
  - "Canada Turns 150." Interview with BYU Radio's Top of Mind with Julie Rose program, September 15, 2017. http://www.byuradio.org/episode/20a982ea-b83c-45d1-8408-de05bdb68853/
- 2016 "Native Americans and the US Borderlands--New Historical Insights." Interview with BYU Radio's Thinking Aloud program, October 6, 2016. http://www.classical89.org/thinkingaloud/archive/episode/?id=10/6/2016

## TEACHING, MENTORING, ADVISING, AND CAMPUS SERVICE

#### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE:**

#### Undergraduate Surveys

American History to 1877 American History since 1877 American Civilization

#### Upper-Division Undergraduate Courses

U.S. West to 1900 U.S. West to the Present Nebraska and the Great Plains Great Plains Indian Western American Studies

## **Undergraduate Seminars**

Senior Capstone Research/Writing Seminar Western American Studies Seminar

#### **Graduate Seminars**

Native American History to the Present 20th Century Native America (Online) U.S. West to 1900 (Online) 20th Century U.S. West (Online) American Historiography (Online) Native American Women's History Native American History to 1900 (Online) North American Borderlands (Online) Comparative Colonial / Indians and Empires

#### **BYU MENTORING AND ADVISING:**

2017-Intermountain Histories Internship Coordinator (Interns supervised below)

- Lindsey Meza (Winter 2022)
- Makoto Hunter (Winter 2021)
- Anna Bailey (Fall 2020)
- Nikki Smith (Fall 2020)
- Ryan Hallstrom (Winter 2020)
- Josie Manwill (Winter 2020)
- Sam Heywood (Fall 2019)
- Ann Johnston (Winter 2019)

- Allison Patterson (Winter 2019)
- Sarah Rounsville (Fall 2018)
- Rachel Hendrickson (Summer 2018)
- Samuel Hauber (Winter 2018)
- Natalie Larsen (Winter 2018)
- Marc Wein (Winter 2018)
- Dani Carmack (Fall 2017)
- Joshua Franzen (Summer 2017)

2015-Redd Center Research Assistant Supervisor (RAs supervised below)

- Makoto Hunter (Fall 2021-Winter 2022)
- Ryan Hallstrom (Fall 2020-Winter 2021)
- Allison Patterson (Fall 2019-Winter 2020)
- Rachel Hendrickson (Winter 2019)
- Emily Cook (Spring 2018)

- Joshua Franzen (Fall 2017-Winter 2018)
- Aubrey Glazier (Summer 2017)
- Tanner Tolman (Summer 2017)
- Addison Blair (Winter 2017)
- Drew Rupard (2016)

## **BYU CAMPUS SERVICE:**

2022-Student Awards Committee Chair, History Department

2019-BYU Slavery Project Steering Committee Chair

Faculty Internship Coordinator, History Department 2019-20

2018-20 Constitution Day Committee Chair

2017-18 The Theatean Faculty Advisor, History Department

2016-17 Student Recruitment Committee, History Department

2016 Student Awards Committee, History Department

2015-18 Constitution Day Committee Member 2015-20 BYU Western American Studies Minor Director

#### **GRADUATE THESIS AND DISSERTATION COMMITTEE SERVICE:**

- 2018 Brian Bevan. "An Oral History of Refugees in Utah." M.A. Thesis, Department of Religious Education, Brigham Young University.
- 2013 Robert Wilburn Brown Jr. "Unsurpassed Courage and Determination: Pender's Brigade from Richmond to Chancellorsville." M.A. Thesis, Department of History, University of Nebraska at Kearney.
- 2012 Shelley R. Frear. "The Genoa Indian School, A Mixed Legacy: 50 Years of Transformation, survival, and Hope in a United States Government Indian Boarding School on the Nebraska Plains." M.A. Thesis, Department of History, University of Nebraska at Kearney.
  - Freda Bradley, "Evolutionary Response to Federal Programs in the Rural Mid-Ohio Valley of West Virginia: From Economic Collapse to Valuable Wartime Partner." M.A. Thesis, Department of History, University of Nebraska at Kearney.
  - Kaylene Vieselmeyer, "Sacred Soil: The Influence of the Family Farm in Shaping America's Identity." M.A. Thesis, Department of History, University of Nebraska at Kearney.
  - Amber Alexander, "Fighting the War from Home: The Impact of the Fairmont, Harvard, and Bruning Army Air Fields on Rural Nebraska Residents." M.A. Thesis, Department of History, University of Nebraska at Kearney.
  - Brian Chmielewski, "James Wilson: The Forgotten Founding Father," M.A. Thesis, Department of History, University of Nebraska at Kearney.
  - John Stratton, "Des Moines Ordinance Plant: Ankeny, Iowa, on the home Front During World War II." M.A. Thesis, Department of History, University of Nebraska at Kearney.

# PROFESSIONAL SERVICE, AWARDS, HONORS AND MISCELLANEA

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE:		
2021-	_	Book Award Committee Member, Utah State Historical Society
	_	Organizing Committee Member, Biennial Conference of Science & Management of the Colorado
		Plateau
2020	_	Dwight L. Smith Award Committee Chair, Western History Association
2019-	_	Editorial Advisory Board Member, Journal of Arizona History
	_	Membership Committee Chair, Western History Association
	_	Local Arrangements Committee Member, National Council on Public History
2019-20	_	Book Award Committee Chair, Mormon History Association
2018-19	_	Membership Committee Member, Western History Association
2018-19	_	Dwight L. Smith Award Committee Member, Western History Association
2017-19	_	Book Award Committee Member, Utah State Historical Society
	_	Book Award Committee Member, Mormon History Association
2015-	_	Judge, Utah State History Day

2014 Judge, Phi Alpha Theta Wyoming Regional Conference, University of Wyoming 2013-14 Annual Conference Program Committee Member, Western History Association 2013-15 Michael P. Malone Award Committee Member, Western History Association

2013-Affiliate Fellow, Center for Great Plains Studies, University of Nebraska

2012-13 Fellow, Center for Great Plains Studies, University of Nebraska

2008-09 President, UNL History Graduate Student Association

2006-08 Senator, Graduate Student Association, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

## SCHOLARLY MSS REFEREE, AND GRANT, FELLOWSHIP AND EXTERNAL PROGRAM REVIEWS:

Oxford University Press University of Ottawa, Faculty of Arts

University of Oklahoma Press International Indigenous Policy Journal

Texas A&M University Press Wadsworth / Cengage Learning, Higher Education

Western Historical Quarterly Flat World Knowledge

Journal of American History, Organization of Routledge Press, Taylor and Francis Group

American Historians Undergraduate Research Journal, University of Nebraska

University of Utah Press at Kearney

Social Sciences & Humanities Research Council of

Canada

Rowman & Littlefield Publishers

Folklore: Journal of The Folklore Society

### GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS AND ASSISTANTSHIPS:

2009-10 Addison Sheldon Fellowship, UNL Department of History

2008 Grant-in-Aid Research Fellowship, Center for Great Plains Studies

Barnes Fund Research Travel Grant, UNL Department of History

Graduate Studies Research Fellowship, UNL College of Graduate Studies

2006-07 Research Assistantship, UNL Bureau for Sociological Research

2005-06 Teaching Assistantship, UNL Department of History 2005 Fellow, Colonial Williamsburg Summer Teacher Institute 2004-05 Research Assistantship, UNL College of Education

2004 Research Assistantship, UNL Department of History

2004-10 Graduate Nonresident Fellowship, UNL College of Graduate Studies

#### PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIPS:

- Western History Association
- Native American and Indigenous Studies Association
- Mormon History Association
- Ethnohistory
- Association for Borderlands Studies
- National Council on Public History
- American Historical Association

#### **LANGUAGE SKILLS:**

- Romanian: Full proficiency for Reading, Writing and Speech
- Spanish: Standard proficiency for Reading and Document Translation