

## **BRENDEN W. RENSINK, PH.D.**

### BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY

- Associate Professor, Department of History
- Associate Director, Charles Redd Center for Western Studies
- Director, BYU Western American Studies Minor

### PUBLIC HISTORY PROJECTS

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

954 KMBL  
PROVO, UT 84602  
801.422.9181  
[bwrensink@byu.edu](mailto:bwrensink@byu.edu)

<http://www.bwrensink.org>  
<http://www.nativebutforeign.org>  
@BrendenWRensink

### **ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS:**

- 2019- – Associate Professor, Department of History, Brigham Young University
- Associate Director, Charles Redd Center for Western Studies, Brigham Young University
- 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 – Visiting Assistant Professor, 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 – Ph.D. in History, University of Nebraska – Lincoln
- 2006 – M.A. in History, University of Nebraska – Lincoln
- 2004 – B.A. in History, Brigham Young University

## **SCHOLARSHIP AND PUBLICATIONS**

### **BOOKS:**

- – *Modern Frontiers: The American West in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*. Under review, University of Nebraska Press. Editor.
- 2019 – [\*Essays on American Indian and Mormon History\*](#). 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. Co-author, Jay H. Buckley.

#### **PUBLIC HISTORY PROJECTS AND CONSULTING:**

- 2018-
  - Historical Consultant, *Native American Rights Fund*
  - Historical research and writing, totaling appx. 25,000 words, or 75 pages
  - Host and Producer, [\*Writing Westward Podcast\*](#)
  - 16 Episodes, as of Dec. 2019
- 2016-
  - Project Manager and General Editor, [\*Intermountain Histories\*](#) digital public history project
  - 360 stories, 32 tours, 13 collaborating professors and 201 students from 7 universities as of Dec. 2019

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

- 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:**

- - “Transnational Indians in North America.” *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of American History*, Oxford University Press. 8,000 words. Forthcoming.

- 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:**

- – Real Native Genius: How an Ex-Slave and a White Mormon Became Famous Indians, by Angela Pulley Hudson. *Native American and Indigenous Studies*, forthcoming.
- 2019 – Empire’s Tracks: Indigenous Nations, Chinese Workers, and the Transcontinental Railroad, by Manu Karuka. *H-Diplomatic*, November, 2019. <https://www.h-net.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 from 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-mormon-history/>
- 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-cree-refugees-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:**

- 2020 – Featured author for WHA Committee on Teaching and Public Education K-12 Workshop, Western History Association 60<sup>th</sup> 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.
- “*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 59<sup>th</sup> 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 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, November 2018, San Antonio, TX.
- “*When Indigenous Peoples Cross Borders as Refugees.*” Association for Borderlands Studies 2<sup>nd</sup> 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-19<sup>th</sup> and early-20<sup>th</sup> 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-19<sup>th</sup> and early-20<sup>th</sup> 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 57<sup>th</sup> 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 56<sup>th</sup> 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 56<sup>th</sup> 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 50<sup>th</sup> 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 49<sup>th</sup> 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, NE.
- 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:**

- 2020 – "New Directions and Questions for American Indian and Mormon Histories." Roundtable Organizer and Chair. Mormon History Association, Rochester, NY, November 2020.

- 2018 – *“Indigenous Peoples in Imposed Colonial and Post-Colonial Borderlands.”* Panel Organizer and Chair. Association for Borderlands Studies 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.
- 2015 – *“Bridging the Divide: Race, Violence, and Memory in the U.S.-Mexico Borderlands.”* Panel Chair and Commenter, Western History Association 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, October 2015, Portland, OR.
- 2014 – *“Indigenous Genocide Studies in the West and the World.”* Roundtable organizer and chair, Western History Association 54<sup>th</sup> 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, NE.
- 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 50<sup>th</sup> 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:**



- 2019 – The American West in the 21<sup>st</sup> 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:**

- 2020 – *“Reading Indigenous Histories Differently: Comparing Transnational Immigration and Refugee Contexts.”* University of California, Los Angeles, American Indian Studies Center, May 11, 2020. **POSTPONED 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. **POSTPONED 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 Anglophone: 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 19<sup>th</sup> 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 CLASS PRESENTATIONS, WORKSHOPS, AND MISCELLANEOUS PUBLIC EVENTS:**

- 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:**

- 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/radio-buzz/2019/11/15/161748-yaqui-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-rensink-native-but-foreign-indigenous-immigrants-and-refugees-in-the-north-american-borderlands-texas-am-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.byu.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-Peak-but-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*

#### Graduate Seminars

*Native American History to the Present*  
*20<sup>th</sup> Century Native America (Online)*  
*U.S. West to 1900 (Online)*  
*20<sup>th</sup> 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*

#### Undergraduate Seminars

*Senior Capstone Research/Writing Seminar*  
*Western American Studies Seminar*

### **MENTORING AND ADVISING:**

2018- BYU Western American Studies Minor Director

2017- Intermountain Histories Internship Coordinator

- Interns Supervised:
  - 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:
  - 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:**

- 2019- • BYU Slavery Project Chair
- 2019- • Faculty Internship Coordinator, History Department
- 2018- • Constitution Day Committee Chair
- 2017- • *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

**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:**

- 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*
- 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- – Book Award Committee Member, *Utah State Historical Society*
- 2017-19 – 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   | <i>International Indigenous Policy Journal</i>                            |
| Texas A&M University Press   | Wadsworth / Cengage Learning, Higher Education                            |
| <i>Western Historical Quarterly</i>                                      | Flat World Knowledge  |
| <i>Journal of American History</i> , Organization of American Historians | Routledge Press, Taylor and Francis Group                                 |
| University of Utah Press   | <i>Undergraduate Research Journal</i> , University of Nebraska at Kearney |
| Social Sciences & Humanities Research Council of Canada                  | <i>Folklore: Journal of The Folklore Society</i>                          |
| Rowman & Littlefield Publishers  |   |

**GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS AND ASSISTANTSHIPS:**

- 2020-22 – Marjorie Pay Hinckley Young Scholar Award, Brigham Young University
- 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

**AWARDS AND HONORS:**

- 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.

**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