# Community & Natural Resources Institute

Fall 2023 Newsletter





College of Humanities & Social Sciences
Community & Natural Resources Institute
UtahStateUniversity

### **Happy Holidays!**

Thank you to everyone who supported and joined us this fall for our wide variety of events. It has been especially exciting to welcome new faculty and graduate students as affiliates, see coverage over time of the 2023 Utah People and Environment Poll by the Herald Journal, and to have our new Steering Committee (see the next page) providing important new ideas and essential feedback into our planning. We have a variety of great events planned for the spring, so stay tuned for details. As always, my door is open if you have ideas for new ways to engage or feedback on what we are doing. Have a great winter break!



#### **Jessica Schad**

**CANRI** Director



The Community and Natural Resources Institute (CANRI) is committed to interdisciplinary research and community engagement centered on natural resource issues and environmental problems in the Intermountain West and beyond. CANRI is housed in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences (CHaSS) and brings together faculty and students from across campus in the social sciences, humanities, and sciences to foster meaningful dialogue, cultivate academic and community collaborations, and share data and resources to affect social-environmental change.

### The CANRI Steering Committee



**Dr. Jessica Schad**Sociology
Director



**Dr. Gustavo Ovando- Montejo**Environment & Society



**Dr. Courtney Flint**Environment & Society
Associate Director



**Dr. Stacia Ryder** Sociology



**Dr. Betsy Brunner**Communication Studies
Fellow



**Dr. Charles Waugh**English



**Dr. Chris Conte**History



**Zubair Barkat**Sociology
PhD Student



**Dr. Jacob Freeman**Anthropology



Bailey Holdaway
Environment & Society
MS Student

### **New CANRI Affiliates**

We would like to welcome the following faculty and graduate students who have joined CANRI in the last year! Check out our newly updated website to learn a bit more about them and how their work connects to CANRI: <u>link</u>. If you know of others who might have an interest in joining in some way, please feel free to put us in contact with them.

- Dr. Rebecca Anderson (History)
- Dr. Seth Archer (History)

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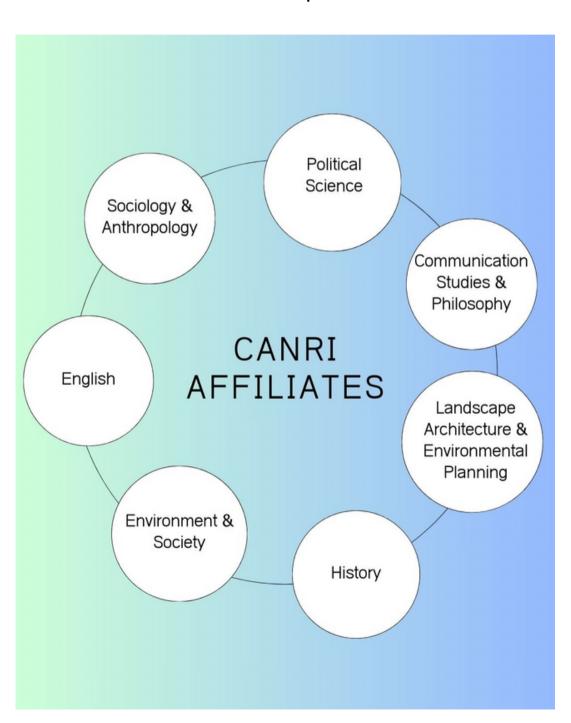
- Dr. Amber Caron (English)
- Dr. Susan Cogan (History)
- Dr. Chris Conte (History)
- Dr. Lawrence Culver (History)
- Dr. Nichelle Frank (History)
- Dr. Lisa Gabbert (English)
- Dr. Amanda Katz (History)
- o Dr. Michael Lyons (Political Science)
- Dr. Mollie Murphy (Communication Studies)
- Dr. Michaelann Nelson (English)
- Dr. Sydney O'Shay (Communication Studies)
- o Dr. Shannon Peterson (Political Science)
- o Dr. Charles Waugh (English)
- Ashley Wells (English)
- Dr. Matthew Whitaker (English)
- Emma Epperson, MS Student (Environment & Society)
- Bailey Guinn, MLA Student (Landscape & Environmental Planning)
- Bailey Holdaway, MS Student (Environment & Society)
- Jordan Rowley, PhD Student (Sociology)
- Nowrin Fatema, MA Student (Sociology)
- Sarah Woodbury, MS Student (Environment & Society)



#### **CANRI Affiliates**

Current CANRI affiliates come from three colleges and seven departments!

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### **Notable Publications**

While faculty and students have been busy publishing in a wide variety of outlets, we would like to highlight a few particularly notable recent publications:

Dr. Amber Caron published her collection of short stories, Call Up the Waters.

https://milkweed.org/book/call-up-the-waters

Professor Charles Waugh recently published the novel The Termite Queen with Penguin Random House Southeast Asia. Waugh co-translated the 2017 novel by Ta Duy Anh with University of Montana Professor Quan Manh Ha. The novel is about land development policies in Vietnam and how communities respond to dramatic social, environmental, and economic changes caused by big tourism projects. Because the novel also addresses how corruption plays a role in those projects, the book was banned in Vietnam in 2018. Narrated by a young Vietnamese man who must uncover the

by a young Vietnamese man who must uncover the connections between his father's development company and powerful hidden partners, the story gives readers a glimpse into the murky business practices that led the Vietnamese National Assembly to place a moratorium on all golf course projects in 2013. And of course, it's a love story too, as the narrator finds his moral compass with the help of a beautiful young law student. The book is available in North America through Amazon.

Martinez, D. J., Seraphin, B., Marks-Block, T., Nelson, P., & Vinyeta, K. (2023). Indigenous Fire Futures: Anticolonial Approaches to Shifting Fire Relations in California. Environment and Society, 14(1), 142-161.







#### Fall 2023 Events





Zubair Barkat & Dr. Kirsten Vinyeta shared a publication emerging from the Multispecies Justice class Dr. Vinyeta taught in spring of 2023 at the fall social.



Dr. Tim Walsworth taught some of us about local fish histories, challenges, and conservation and then we enjoyed a happy hour at Prodigy.



We shared about what CANRI is and does at various campus events.



### Fall 2023 Events, Continued



In September, Dr. Chris Conte gave a Lunch & Learn on Ecological Health in East Africa's Mountains.



Dr. Mark Brunson shared "On the Road with Heraclitus & Charlie Flagg: An Academic Journey" during a Lunch & Learn in November.



Dr. Jessica Schad, Dr. Courtney Flint, Dr. Jordan Smith, & Jake Powell gave a Lunch & Learn in November on Natural Amenity Development & Rural Community Wellbeing.



Dr. Tracy Onega from the Huntsman
Cancer Institute shared some of their work
on Rural Health & Cancer care in the
Mountain West in November.

### **CANRI** Highlights

Here are a few highlights of recent accomplishments - academic and community-based - involving CANRI faculty and students:



Sociology graduate student Nowrin Fatema, and faculty members Mehmet Soyer and Kirsten Vinyeta were among 400 volunteers that participated in the Northwestern Band of Shoshone Tribe's tree planting event at Wuda Ogwa on November 4, during which volunteers planted 8500 trees!



Dr. Seth Archer has been awarded the 2024 Aspinall Lectureship in History and Political Science, which is awarded to those recognized as national authorities in their fields. As a cultural and environmental historian of North America, he is the author of Sharks upon the Land: Colonialism, Indigenous Health, and Culture in Hawai'i, 1778–1855 (Cambridge University Press, 2018), which won the President's Book Award from the Social Science History Association. A recent article on the 1830s federal vaccination campaign in Indian Country appeared in the Bulletin of the History of Medicine. His new research concerns captivity in the nineteenth-century Intermountain West.



In December, Sociology PhD student Kristen Koci, coadvised by Dr. Jessica Schad and Courtney Flint defended her dissertation titled "Wellbeing, Mental Health, & Natural Resource Dependence in Rural Utah. Some of this work has already been published by <u>USU Extension</u>. Congrats Dr. Koci!



In October 2023, ENVS Master's student Sarah Woodbury co-led a session with cultural ecologist and philosopher David Abram at the More-Than-Human (MOTH) Rights Gathering in Curarrehue, Chile. Facilitated by NYU Law, this global, interdisciplinary conference convened a small group of international leaders in rights of nature. There, Indigenous elders, artists, scientists, journalists, lawyers, writers, and more-than-human beings learned from one another in the work protecting sentient ecologies. Woodbury and Abram presented "Language and the Ecology of Sensory Experience," which wove philosophical and phenomenological teaching with poetry, storytelling, performance, and practice to illuminate the "interbreathing" of beings in the depths of a sentient Earth. Pictured: Leaning into a translation device, Woodbury learns from Davi Kopenawa, Yanomami elder, shaman, and author of The Falling Sky. Link: www.mothrights.org



Many CANRI affiliates have been busy publishing research and policy briefs with the 2023 Utah People & Environment Poll data. Check them out <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a> as well as the coverage of them by the Herald Journal!

### **Connections with ILWA**

We have been working to increase the collaboration between CANRI affiliates and ILWA - the Institute for Land, Water, & Air. Below are a few examples of ways this is happening. Stay tuned for more!



Using 2023 UPEP data on residents views of environmental issues and how policymakers are doing addressing them, Dr. Jessica Schad & Jennifer Givens wrote the <u>introduction</u> for the 2023 ILWA Report which is presented to the Governor and Legislature. The report highlights key environmental challenges in Utah and offers expert insights into land, water, and air issues, guiding informed policy decisions for the state's future.

Betsy Brunner (CSPH), Jessica Schad (SOC), and Stacia Ryder (SOC) were awarded a grant from ILWA to work on one of 11 Bear Lake grants to conduct historical research as well as interview scientists, nonprofits, community members, and community leaders about the most salient issues facing the Bear Lake valley. The results will inform future communication and outreach initiatives.

Lawrence Culver (HIST) also received a grant to collect Bear Lake resources at USU and make them more visible, accessible, and organized to facilitate their use for research, public outreach and awareness, and longer-term research and lake management.



### Spring 2024 CANRI Events

We have some exciting events planned - we will provide more information on the listserv as it is available.



#### **January**

- Workshop on opportunities for increasing representation of social sciences and humanities in ILWA annual report
- Social @ Ruby's
- Bear Lake Project Fall 2023 Class Research Presentations



#### **February**

- Economic Growth & Sustainability Campus Dialogue
   Series (February 2, 9, 16 from 1-3:30)
- Outdoor Explorations: Snowshoe & Hot Cocoa in Green Canyon



#### **March**

- Kickoff Series on "Growth & Balance: Exploring Environmental & Cultural Change in Utah"
- Spring Runoff Conference UPEP and Bear Lake Projects



#### **April/May**

- CANRI Sessions at USU Research Symposium (April 11-12)
- Lunch & Learn TBD

#### Other Events of Interest

Affiliates shared some upcoming events that may be of interest to you! Please feel free to share these on our listserv as they come up.



Sociology PhD Student Leonard Henderson passed his comprehensive exam in May 2023 and will be defending his dissertation proposal on January 25, at 10 AM in the Sociology Conference Room. Open to all!

## Save the Date!

GREAT SALT LAKE VIGIL 2024 OPENING DAY



350 State St, Salt Lake City, Utah 84103

#### **JANUARY 16, 2024**

MORNING WALK OF THE WAVES 8-9 AM

EVENING CELEBRATION OF LAKE SPECIES 5-6 PM



river writing

up soon. This year, lake lovers will gather morning and night every weekday of the legislative session to bring the lake to Salt Lake City's capitol. One of the organizers, CANRI affiliate Sarah Woodbury is looking for lake-facing poets and performers to represent Cache Valley in the "Great Salt Lake Irreplaceable Poetry Filibuster," as well as participants to join weekly Bear River Delegations to drive down in solidarity with the lake.

The Great Salt Lake Vigil is coming

Email sarah.woodbury@usu.edu to get involved. Visit <a href="https://nanseymour.com/vigil2024">https://nanseymour.com/vigil2024</a> for more information.



We thank everyone for continued involvement and support of CANRI efforts!



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