

December 2023

Lawrence Culver

Fields: U.S. Environmental, Cultural, and Urban History; U.S.-Mexico Borderlands, U.S. West

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Employment

Associate Professor, Department of History, Utah State University. March 2010 – Present.

Assistant Professor, Department of History, Utah State University. Appointed August 2004.

Benjamin H. and Louise L. Carroll Visiting Professor in Urbanization, Department of History, University of Oregon, Fall 2017.

Visiting Faculty, Global Environments Summer Academy, University of Munich, Summer 2011.

Education

2004 Ph.D. in History, University of California, Los Angeles

1997 M.A. in History, Utah State University

1994 B.A. in History and English, University of Montevallo

Publications

Book:

The Frontier of Leisure: Southern California and the Shaping of Modern America. New York: Oxford University Press, August 2010. Revised paperback edition released March 2012.

Peer-Reviewed Publications: Journal Articles and Book Anthology Chapters

“In Memoriam: Mike Davis, Historian of Los Angeles.” *Southern California Quarterly*, 104 (Winter 2023), 402-423. Roundtable Author and Editor, with Genevieve Carpio, William Deverell, and Mike Sonksen.

“Mike Davis and the Past and Future of Los Angeles History.” *Southern California Quarterly*, 104 (Winter 2023), 408-412.

“The Significance of Climate in American History: Inventing, Imagining, and Erasing Regions.” In *Reconsidering Regions in an Era of New Nationalism*. Eds. Anne Hyde and Alex Finkelstein. Lincoln, Nebraska: University of Nebraska Press, 2023, 111-132.

“Excavating Transatlantic Climates: An Archeology of Climate Discourse between Germany and the United States.” With Doris McGonagill. In *Climate Cultures in Europe and North America: New Formations of Environmental Knowledge and Action*. Eds. Thorsten Heimann, Jamie Sommer, Margarethe Kusenbach, and Gabriela Christmann. London: Routledge, “Advances in Climate Change Research” Series, 2022, 25-45.

“Seeing Climate through Culture.” Reprint. *Climates and Cultures*. Ed. Mike Hulme. London: Sage, 2015.

“Seeing Climate through Culture.” *Environmental History* Climate Change and Environmental History Forum Issue. (Volume 19, April 2014, 311-318).

“Confluences of Nature and Culture: Cities in Environmental History.” In the *Oxford Handbook of Environmental History*. Ed. Andrew C. Isenberg. New York City: Oxford University Press, 2014, 553-572.

“Making Tracks: Human and Environmental Histories.” *Rachel Carson Center Perspectives*. Co-edited with Christof Mauch, Helmuth Trischler, Shen Hou, and Katie Ritson. (Issue 5, 2013).

“From the English Garden to LA.” “Making Tracks: Human and Environmental Histories.” *Rachel Carson Center Perspectives*. (Issue 5, 2013, 59-63).

“The Desert and the Garden: Climate as Attractor and Obstacle in the Settlement History of the Western United States.” *Global Environment: A Journal of History and Natural and Social Sciences* (Volume 9, 2012, 130-160).

“Rachel Carson’s *Silent Spring*: Encounters and Legacies.” *Rachel Carson Center Perspectives* Special Issue. Co-edited with Christof Mauch and Katie Ritson. (Issue 7, 2012).

“Reading *Silent Spring* as a Challenge for Contemporary Environmentalism.” *Rachel Carson Center Perspectives* Special Issue, “Rachel Carson’s *Silent Spring*: Encounters and Legacies.” (Issue 7, 2012, 31-34).

“Manifest Destiny and Manifest Disaster: Climate Perceptions and Realities in United States Territorial Expansion.” In *American Environments: Climate—Cultures—Catastrophe*. Eds. Christof Mauch and Sylvia Mayer. Heidelberg, Germany: Universitätsverlag Winter Heidelberg. Publications of the Bavarian American Academy Series, 2012, 7-30.

“Revisiting Risk Society: A Conversation with Ulrich Beck.” By Lawrence Culver, Heike Egner, Stefania Gallini, Agnes Kneitz, Cheryl Lousley, Uwe Lübken, Diana Mincyte, Gijs Mom, and Gordon Winder. *Rachel Carson Center Perspectives*, (Issue 6, 2011, 5-31).

“From Public to Private Nature in Twentieth-Century Los Angeles.” In *Greening the City: Urban Landscapes in the Twentieth Century*. Eds. Dorothee Brantz and Sonja Duempelmann. Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 2011, 95-111.

“America’s Playground: Recreation and Race.” In *A Companion to Los Angeles*. Blackwell Companions to American History Series. Eds. William Devereell and Greg Hise. Malden, Mass: Wiley-Blackwell, 2010, 421-437.

“Sin City or Suburban Crucible?: Searching for Meanings in the New Las Vegas.” *Journal of Urban History*. (November 2009, 1052-1058.)

“Promoting the Pacific Borderlands: Leisure and Labor in Southern California, 1870-1950.” In *Land of Necessity: Consumption in the United States-Mexico Borderlands*. Ed. Alexis McCrossen. Durham: Duke University Press, 2009, 168-195.

“Economic Aspirations and the Politics of National Park Creation in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, 1919-1929.” In *People and Place: The Human Experience in Greater Yellowstone*. Eds. Paul Schullery and Sarah Stevenson. Yellowstone National Park, Wyo.: National Park Service and Yellowstone Center for Resources, 2005, 180-194.

“From Last of the Old West to First of the New West: Tourism and Transformation in Jackson Hole, Wyoming.” In *Imagining the Big Open: Nature, Identity, and Play in the New West*. Eds. Liza Nicholas, Elaine P. Bapis, and Thomas J. Harvey. Salt Lake City: University of Utah Press, 2003, 163-180.

“The Literature of Tourism and Its Discontents: Auto Tourist Travel Narratives, 1915-1940.” In *Reading Under the Sign of Nature: New Essays in Ecocriticism*. Eds. John Tallmadge and Henry Harrington. Salt Lake City: University of Utah Press, 2000, 36-48.

“Connecting Myth to History: Interpreting the Western Past at the Buffalo Bill Historical Center.” *Western Historical Quarterly*. (Winter 1998, 515-519.)

Recent Book Reviews:

“*The Palgrave Handbook of Climate History*, Edited by Sam White, Christian Pfister, and Franz Mauelshagen.” *Isis* Vol. 113 No. 3 (September 2022), 648-49.

“*Imperial Metropolis: Los Angeles, Mexico, and the Borderlands of American Empire, 1865–1941*, by Jessica M. Kim.” *Business History Review* Vol. 96 No. 2 (June 2022), 451-453.

Public History, Public Policy, and Public Audience Publications:

“Researching *The Frontier of Leisure* at the Libraries and Archives of the Autry.” Autry Libraries Blog, Autry National Center (April 2012).

“Privatized Leisure: L.A. as Ode to Perfect Climate, for Some.” *Zócalo Public Square* (July 2011).

“Closing America’s Playground: Los Angeles and the History of Our Parks and Recreation Crisis.” *History News Network* (April 2011).

“The Garden and the Grid: A History of Race, Recreation, and Parks in the City and County of Los Angeles.” Public Policy Report Published by the Center for Law in the Public Interest, Los Angeles, California, (November 2010).

“Are We There Yet?: Historians and the History of Tourism.” *History News Network* (June 2007).

“From Paradise to Parking Lot: The History of Parks in Los Angeles.” *Los Angeles Forum for Architecture and Urban Design* (Spring 2003).

“Exploring the Frontiers of Leisure: Tourism in the American West.” *Spur: Magazine of the Autry Museum of Western Heritage* (Spring 2002).

“Tourism in Yellowstone.” *Points West: Magazine of the Buffalo Bill Historical Center* (Spring 1998).

Current Research

“Manifest Disaster: Climate and the Making of America.” My second book will examine how Americans have perceived – and often misperceived – the climates and ecosystems of North America. In this new book, I aim to connect the current debate over climate change to a much longer history of how Americans have thought about climate, from the continent they imagined from early exploration and settlement, to the ideology of Manifest Destiny, to the climatic myths that spurred development on the high plains and in the arid Southwest in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. By combining environmental history with cultural and intellectual history, geography, and the history of environmental science, “Manifest Disaster” will help illuminate the longer and little-known history of the most contentious environmental debate of our time.

Research and Teaching Awards

- 2011 Spur Award for Best Western Nonfiction Contemporary Book, Western Writers of America
- 2007 Excellence in Instruction for First-Year Students Award, Utah State University
- 2005 Rachel Carson Prize for Best Dissertation in Environmental History (U.S. or World), American Society for Environmental History

Selected Fellowships and Grants

- 2023 “Cultural and Historical Resources of Bear Lake: A Bibliography and Digital Collection From U.S.U. Special Collections.” Janet Quinney Lawson Institute for Land, Water, and Air Bear Lake Needs Assessment Project.
\$2,012 – Class Cohort Grant for History 3950: Environmental History

- 2022-2023 Visiting Fellowship, Tanner Humanities Center, University of Utah
\$60,000 – Research Funding for Book Project, *Manifest Disaster: Climate, Catastrophe, and the Making of America*
- 2022 Utah State University CHaSS Faculty Conference Grant
\$1,000 – Conference Presentation Travel Funding
- 2019 Fellowship Award in Western American History, Charles Redd Center for Western Studies, Brigham Young University
\$1,200 – Research Funding for Second Book Project
- 2019 Utah State University Faculty Travel and Data Gathering Award
\$1,100 – Travel and Research Funding for Conference Presentation and Research
- 2018 Utah State University Faculty Travel and Data Gathering Award
\$1,000 – Travel and Research Funding for Conference Presentation and Research
- 2016 National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Seminar Fellowship, “Mapping, Text, and Travel.” Newberry Library, Chicago.
\$4,000 – Housing and Travel Funding for Newbery Seminar and Second and Third Book Projects
- 2016 Utah State University Faculty Travel and Data Gathering Award
\$1,000 – Travel and Research Funding for Second and Third Book Projects
- 2016 Sustainability in the Curriculum Course Development Grant, Utah State University Sustainability Council.
\$1,000 – Support for Developing New Course, “The History of the Built Environment.”
- 2013 Carson Fellowship, Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich and the Deutsches Museum, Munich, Germany.
\$50,000 – Six Months of Replacement Salary and Benefits and Supplemental Support for Second Book Project.
- 2012 Utah State University Faculty Travel and Data Gathering Grant
\$1,000 – Travel and Research Funding for Second Book Project
- 2011 Giles W. and Elise G. Mead Foundation and Michael J. Connell Foundation Fellowship, Huntington Library
\$7,500 – Research Funding for Second Book Project
- 2010 Carson Fellowship, Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich and the Deutsches Museum, Munich, Germany.
\$15,000 – Six Months of Supplemental Sabbatical Salary and Support for Second Book Project.

- 2009 Visiting Scholar Fellowship, Autry National Center Institute for the Study of the American West
\$1,250 – Research Funding for Second Book Project
- 2008 Utah Humanities Council Grant
\$500 – Campus Programming; New Directions in Western History Symposium
- 2007 Historical Society of Southern California Haynes Foundation Research Award
\$1,200 – Research Funding for First Book
- 2007-2008 John Topham and Susan Redd Butler Faculty Fellowship, Charles Redd Center for Western Studies, Brigham Young University
\$1,200 – Research Funding for First Book
- 2007 Utah Humanities Council Grant
\$500 – Campus Programming; “A Literary History of Mexican America,” by Visiting Lecturer José Aranda
- 2006 Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Fellowship, Huntington Library
\$2,000 – Research Funding for First Book
- 2006 Historical Society of Southern California Haynes Foundation Research Award
\$300 – Research Funding for First Book
- 2005 Utah State University New Faculty Research Grant
\$11,234 (including supplemental salary and calculated benefits) – Research Funding for First Book
- 2005 Western History Association – Martin Ridge Fellowship, Huntington Library
\$2,000 – Research Funding for First Book

Selected Presentations

Refereed Conference Presentations:

- August 2023 “Mike Davis and the Past and Future of L.A. History.” Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, California.
- March 2023 “The Newlands Reclamation Act, Roosevelt Dam, and Agrarian and Urban Aspirations in Southern Arizona,” American Society for Environmental History Annual Conference, Boston, Massachusetts.
- July 2022 “Disaster Made Manifest: The Federal Role in U.S. Natural Catastrophes,” Natural Catastrophes in the United States – Making Sense of Risks and Vulnerability Conference, Heidelberg Center for American Studies, University of Heidelberg, Heidelberg, Germany.

- March 2022 “Interdisciplinary Approaches in Environmental History” in “Prompting Awareness/Inspiring Hope: Strategies for Teaching Climate Change,” American Society for Environmental History Annual Conference, Eugene, Oregon.
- July 2021 “Teaching Global Environmental History in the Shadow and Smoke of Climate Change.” World History Association Annual Meeting. Virtual.
- October 2020 “Surveying Weather and the West: Climate and the Federal Surveys.” Western History Association Annual Conference. Virtual.
- March 2020 “From Civil Rights to Climate Change: Reparative Environmental history at the Beach.” American Society for Environmental History Annual Conference, Ottawa, Canada. (Conference canceled due to COVID-19 pandemic.)
- April 2019 “The Anthropocene and Imagined Climate Futures Past.” Future Memory: Mapping the Anthropocene Conference. Utah State University, Logan, Utah.
- April 2019 “Climate Control.” Roundtable Co-Organizer, “Seasons in the City: Climate in Urban Spaces.” American Society for Environmental History Annual Conference. Columbus, Ohio.
- March 2018 “Climate for Health, Wealth, and Residence: Climatic Thinking and Region-Making in Southern California.” American Society for Environmental History Annual Conference. Riverside, California.
- November 2017 “Climates of Recreation and Residence in California.” Western History Association Annual Conference, San Diego, California.
- September 2016 “Misreading Western Skies: Climate, Water, and the Creation and Erasure of the ‘Great American Desert.’” Under Western Skies Conference. Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta, Canada.
- April 2016 “King Climate: Debating Climate, Cotton, and Westward Expansion in Antebellum America.” Southern Forum for Agricultural, Rural, and Environmental History. Samford University, Birmingham, Alabama.
- April 2016 “Developing a Sustainability Curriculum at Utah State University.” American Society for Environmental History. Seattle, Washington.

- August 2013 “Reclamation: Dreams and Designs of Transforming Arid Lands in North America.” Organized Session, “Renewal, Reclamation, and Perception: Understanding how Humans Perceive and Transform Landscapes.” European Society for Environmental History Biennial Conference. Munich, Germany.
- June 2013 “King Climate: Debating Cotton and Climate in Antebellum America.” Colonialism and Climate History Workshop. Georgetown University, Washington, D.C. Sponsored by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research, the Mortara Center for International Studies at Georgetown University, and the German Historical Institute.
- June 2013 “Tourism, Leisure, and the Transformation of Rural Landscapes in Southern California.” Deutschen Gesellschaft für Amerikastudien (German Society for American Studies) Annual Conference. Friedrich-Alexander Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg, Erlangen, Germany.
- April 2013 “Debating Climate and Climate Change in Nineteenth-Century America.” American Society for Environmental History Annual Conference, Toronto, Canada.
- January 2013 “Following the Plow: Climate Misperception, Myth, and Catastrophe.” Organized Session, “What Is Climate History? Thinking about Climate and People across Time and Place.” American Historical Association Annual Conference. New Orleans, Louisiana.
- October 2012 “Finding – and Losing – the Great American Desert.” Western History Association Annual Conference, Denver, Colorado.
- October 2011 “ASA Students’ Committee Forum: Graduate Student and Junior Faculty Research, Publishing and Professionalization.” American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Baltimore, Maryland.
- August 2011 “The Desert and the Garden: Climate as an Attractor and Obstacle in the Settlement History of North America.” Environmental Change and Migration Conference. Rachel Carson Center and Kulturwissenschaftliches Institut, Essen. Munich, Germany.
- July 2010 “Manifest Disaster: Climate and the Making of America.” Green Cultures: Environmental Knowledge, Climate, and Catastrophe Conference. Bavarian American Academy and Rachel Carson Center. Munich, Germany.
- March 2010 “Publishing *The Frontier of Leisure*.” American Society for Environmental History Annual Conference. Portland, Oregon.

Invited Presentations:

- April 2023 “Manifest Disaster: Climate and the Making of America,” Tanner Fellows Works in Progress Talk, Tanner Humanities Center, University of Utah, Salt Lake City Utah.
- February 2020 “The Uses (and Misuses) of U.S. Census Data in Historical Research.” Research and the Census: USU Perspectives. Merrill-Cazier Library, Utah State University. Logan, Utah.
- October 2019 “Are We There Yet? Tourism and the American West.” Park County Library Foundation Lecture Series, Park County Library, Cody, Wyoming.
- March 2018 “A Contentious and Contingent Republic: The Election of 2016 and Contemporary U.S. Politics in Historical Perspective.” Annual Language Conference, Utah National Guard. Draper, Utah.
- June 2014 “Climate in U.S. History, From Manifest Destiny to Manifest Disaster.” New Horizons Program, University of Alabama at Birmingham.
- December 2012 “Manifest Destiny or Manifest Disaster?: The Territorial Aspirations and Environmental Misapprehensions of Westward Expansion.” Rowland Hall School. Salt Lake City, Utah.
- November 2012 “The Demography of Manifest Destiny: Regional Perceptions of Climate in the Era of U.S. Westward Expansion.” Utah State University Demography Research Seminar. Logan, Utah.
- June 2012 Discussant, Western History Dissertation Workshop. Sponsored by the Institute for the Study of the American West at the Autry National Center, the Huntington-USC Institute on California and the West, the Research Division of the Huntington Library, the Hemispheric Institute of the Americas at the University of California, Davis, the Howard R. Lamar Center for the Study of Frontiers and Borders at Yale University, the Bill Lane Center for the Study of the North American West at Stanford University, the Clements Center for Southwest Studies at Southern Methodist University, and the Center for the Study of the Pacific Northwest at the University of Washington. Autry National Center, Los Angeles.
- May 2012 “The Frontier of Leisure.” Life Insurance Company of Alabama Conference. Beverly Hills, California.
- April 2012 “The Frontier of Leisure: Recreation, Resorts, and Southern California’s Architectural and Urban Forms.” Society of Architectural Historians, Southern California Chapter. Santa Monica Central Public Library. Santa Monica, California.

- April 2012 “Los Angeles – Land of Leisure.” Los Angeles City Historical Society Marie Northrup Lecture Series, Los Angeles Richard Riordan Central Public Library. Los Angeles, California.
- April 2012 “The Frontier of Leisure: Southern California and the Shaping of Modern America.” Rowland Hall School. Salt Lake City, Utah.
- March 2012 “Manifest Destiny or Manifest Disaster?: Climate and the History of America’s Westward Expansion.” Scholars Day Research Lecture, Utah State University, Logan, Utah.
- November 2011 “The Frontier of Leisure: Southern California and the Shaping of Modern America.” University of California, Santa Barbara. Santa Barbara, California.
- November 2011 “From Resorts to the Ranch House: Southern California’s Frontier of Leisure and the Shaping of Modern America.” Valley Pioneer Annual Lecture Series in California History. California State University, Northridge. Los Angeles, California.
- July 2011 “The Frontier of Leisure: Southern California and the Nation from 1890 through the 1920s.” Places and Time: Los Angeles History and Geography Institute. UCLA Department of Geography and the Automobile Club of Southern California. Los Angeles, California.
- June 2011 The Frontier of Leisure: Southern California and the Shaping of Modern America. Spur Award Nonfiction Winners Panel. Western Writers of America Conference. Bismarck, North Dakota.
- May 2011 “The Frontier of Leisure: Southern California and the Shaping of Modern America.” “In Conversation” Lecture Series, Huntington Library, San Marino, California.
- May 2011 “Manifest Destiny and Manifest Disaster: Climate and U.S. Expansion in the Nineteenth Century.” Western History Workshop, Autry National Center, Los Angeles.
- February 2011 “The Frontier of Leisure: Southern California and the Shaping of Modern America.” The Wide World of Sports and Leisure in American History: The F. Kevin Simon Symposium, Sayre School. Lexington, Kentucky.
- November 2010 “The City in Contemporary Environmentalist Thought.” Bielefeld Graduate School in History and Sociology, University of Bielefeld. Bielefeld, Germany.

- November 2010 “The Frontier of Leisure: Californian Environments.” Colloquium, Rachel Carson Center, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München/LMU Munich. Munich, Germany.
- July 2010 “California Dreams and Disasters: Environmental Hazards in America’s Golden State.” “Still the Golden State? *Kalifornien Heute* (California Today) Lecture Series.” Bavarian American Academy, Rachel Carson Center, and Amerika Haus Association. Munich, Germany.
- Conference Chair, Commentator, Moderator, or Organizer:**
- August 2023 Session Organizer, “Facing the Past and Doing Public-Facing History: A Roundtable on Public History in L.A.,” Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, California.
- August 2023 Session Organizer and Moderator, “In Memoriam: Mike Davis, Historian of Los Angeles,” Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, California.
- June 2023 Commentator, “Klimawissen im Zeitalter des Kolonialismus/Climate Knowledge and Colonialism,” Reporting Climate Change: Wissen, Medialität und Praktiken des Klimawandeldiskurses, 1800-2023 Conference. Georg August University, Göttingen, Germany, and Johannes Kepler University, Linz, Austria, Göttingen, Germany/Virtual.
- August 2022 Chair, “Showcasing New Scholarship: Natalie Lira’s *Laboratory of Deficiency: Sterilization and Confinement in California, 1900-1950s*,” Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Portland, Oregon.
- March 2022 Commentator, “The Promises of Outdoor Recreation as Environmental Renewal in New York City,” American Society for Environmental History Annual Conference, Eugene, Oregon.
- March 2022 Chair, “Tourism, Place, and Narratives of Contested Space,” American Society for Environmental History Annual Conference, Eugene, Oregon.
- July 2021 Chair, “Violence, Militarization, and Their Legacies,” World History Association Annual Meeting, Virtual.
- April 2021 Session Co-Organizer and Moderator, “Promoting Your Book in a Pandemic: A Roundtable with Writers and Publishers,” American Society for Environmental History Environmental History Week. Virtual.

- April 2019 Comment, “Environmental History and Mass Tourism.” American Society for Environmental History Annual Conference. Columbus, Ohio.
- March 2018 Chair, “Environmental Values, Identities, and Narratives.” American Society for Environmental History Annual Conference. Riverside, California.
- March 2018 Chair, “Changing Climates and Restoring Landscapes, People, and the Nation in Modern America.” American Society for Environmental History Annual Conference. Riverside, California.
- August 2017 Chair and Comment, “Reading the Land: Geographies of the American West through Space and Time.” American Historical Association, Pacific Coast Branch. Northridge, California.
- January 2017 Comment, “New Directions in Environmental History, Part Two: Drought and Deluge in History.” American Historical Association. Denver, Colorado.
- August 2013 Chair, “Envisioning Energy: Visual Representations of Coal, Oil, and Solar Resources.” European Society for Environmental History Biennial Conference. Munich, Germany.
- August 2013 Comment, “Mobility and Environment: Why Is It so Hard to Bring Transport History into Issues of Sustainability?” European Society for Environmental History Biennial Conference. Munich, Germany.
- August 2013 Chair, “Drought and Food Shortages.” European Society for Environmental History Biennial Conference. Munich, Germany.
- March 2012 Moderator and Session Organizer, “Stop Saving the Planet, Already! – and Other Tips from Rachel Carson for 21st-Century Environmentalists.” Conference Plenary Session with Keynote and Roundtable Marking the Fiftieth Anniversary of *Silent Spring*. American Society for Environmental History Annual Conference. Madison, Wisconsin.
- March 2012 Chair, “London’s West Ham, Montreal, and Vienna: River Cities as Sites of Environmental Extraction, Trade and Transformation.” American Society for Environmental History Annual Conference. Madison, Wisconsin.
- August 2011 Chair and Comment, “Unforgettable Performances, Unexpected California: Historical Pageantry and Festival in the Golden State.” American Historical Association – Pacific Coast Branch Annual Conference. Seattle, Washington.

- August 2011 Comment, “Missions and Miners: Creating Place, Memory, and Community in the American Southwest.” American Historical Association – Pacific Coast Branch Annual Conference. Seattle, Washington.
- March 2008 Comment, “‘Marketing the Sublime?’: Global Tourism, Outdoor Recreation, and Commercial Imagination.” American Society for Environmental History Annual Conference. Boise, Idaho.
- October 2006 Chair, “Urban Infrastructure.” Urban History Association Biennial Conference. Tempe, Arizona.
- December 2005 Chair, “(Re)constructing Nature.” The Place of Nature in the City in Twentieth-Century Europe and North America, German Historical Institute. Washington, D.C.

Public History Experience

- 2023-2024 “Cultural and Historical Resources of Bear Lake: A Bibliography and Digital Collection From USU Special Collections.” P.I. for Class Cohort Archival Grant Project, Janet Quinney Lawson Institute for Land, Water, and Air Bear Lake Needs Assessment Project.
- 2021 Consultant, “Steam, Snow, Sweat: Engineering Water on the Transcontinental Railroad.” Exhibit for Golden Spike National Historical Park Museum.
- 2014-2015 Director, Utah State University Department of History Public History Program Initiative
- 2007-2010 Member, Steering Committee, Utah State University American Odysseys Multicultural Literature Curriculum Project, Cache County Schools, Utah
- 2004-2010 Member, Advisory Council, Museum of Utah Art and History, Salt Lake City
- 2004-2007 Member, Programming Committee, American West Heritage Foundation and American West Heritage Center, Logan, Utah
- 2003-2004 Research Associate, Southwest Museum of the American Indian and Museum of the American West, Autry National Center, Los Angeles
- 2002 Historian, Center for Law in the Public Interest and Natural Resources Defense Council Project, “The Garden and the Grid: A History of Race, Recreation, and Parks in the City and County of Los Angeles”
- 2000-2002 Research Assistant, Institute for the Study of the American West, Autry National Center, Los Angeles

1997 Archival Intern, McCracken Research Library, Buffalo Bill Historical Center, Cody, Wyoming

1996 Editorial Intern, *Western Historical Quarterly*, Utah State University

Public Engagement and Recognition

“The History of ‘Fiscal Responsibility’ in U.S. Political Discourse.” KUER, University of Utah National Public Radio, January 12, 2023

<https://www.kuer.org/politics-government/2023-01-12/what-does-fiscal-responsibility-mean-to-you-and-to-utah>

“Environmental Racism and Environmental Justice.” USU Anti-Oppression Toolkit Video Lecturette, March 1, 2021

<https://youtu.be/6NxIyJYfOG0>

“Tourists, Tuberculosis, and Sickness in the Land of Sunshine.” Utah State University Department of History Disease in History Series, 18 April 2020.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vonbv7n5jzg>

“Utah’s Urban History.” USU Research Landscapes “Instead” Podcast. 16 March 2020.

<https://research.usu.edu/instead/blog/lawrence-culver/>

“Election 2016: Opportunities and Challenges for a New Era.” Interview on “Access Utah.” Utah Public Radio. 31 January, 2017.

<http://upr.org/post/election-2016-opportunities-and-challenges-new-era-tuesdays-access-utah>

“California Wants to Improve Its Golf Game: The Leisure Sport’s Subpar Performance Prompts the State to Rethink How It Uses Its Greens.” Zocalo Public Square. May 12, 2016.

<http://www.zocalopublicsquare.org/2016/05/12/california-wants-to-improve-its-golf-game/inquiries/connecting-california/>

“In Pursuit of Leisure: The Southern California Experience.” Interview on *The Frontier of Leisure* for The Urbanologist website by Max Grinnell. 20 August 2012.

<http://theurbanologist.com/post/29832887741/in-pursuit-of-leisure-the-southern-california>

“Are We There Yet?: Travel, Tourism, and the American West.” Public Lecture at Brigham City Utah Museum, in Conjunction with the NEH-Sponsored Exhibit, “Going Places,” examining transportation in U.S. History. 12 November 2011.

“History for the Future,” WRCT Radio Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Interview on *The Frontier of Leisure*, 12 September 2011.

<http://www.remappingdebate.org/audio/%E2%80%9C-frontier-leisure%E2%80%9D>

“Environmental Directions,” National Public Radio, Los Angeles, California. Interview on *The Frontier of Leisure*, 19 July 2011.

“Theory of the Leisure Class in Southern California,” *Pasadena Star-News*, 15 May 2011.
 Article about *The Frontier of Leisure*.
 Los Angeles: Myth and Memory.” Author panel at *Los Angeles Times* Festival of Books, 1 May 2011.

“Book TV,” C-SPAN 2 Broadcast of “Los Angeles: Myth and Memory” panel at Los Angeles Times Festival of Books, 1 May 2011.

“The Myths and Realities of an Idyllic City,” article on *Los Angeles Times* Festival of Books panel, *Los Angeles Times*, 1 May 2011.

“KNews Conversations,” KNews Radio, Palm Springs, California. Interview on *The Frontier of Leisure*, 19 April 2011.

“Late Mornings with Jeff Schechtman,” KVON Radio, Napa, California. Interview on *The Frontier of Leisure*, 26 October 2010.

“Which Way, LA?,” KCRW National Public Radio, Santa Monica, California, Interview on the history of parks and recreation in Los Angeles, 22 July, 2008.

“Access Utah” Utah Public Radio Interview on *The Frontier of Leisure*, 17 January 2008.

“The Good Side of Tourism in America,” article in “The Informed Reader” column, highlighting prior research and publications, *Wall Street Journal*, 29 June, 2007.

Featured as “Top Young Historian” by the History News Network, 3 June 2007.

“Access Utah” Utah Public Radio Interview on Hurricane Katrina and Recovery Efforts in New Orleans, 30 March 2007.

“Access Utah” Utah Public Radio Interview on Japanese American Internment during World War II, 8 September 2005.

Teaching Experience

2004-Present **Assistant and Associate Professor, Utah State University Undergraduate**

Teaching:

- U.S. History Survey, 1492 to Present
- The U.S. since 1877
- American Metropolis: Cities and Suburbs in U.S. History
- Environmental History
- History of Mexican Americans
- History of the Modern American West
- History of the United States, 1900-1945
- History of Natural Disasters
- History of the Southwest Borderlands

- Honors Book Lab: *1493: Uncovering the New World Columbus Created*
- Honors Book Lab: *Acts of God: The Unnatural History of Natural Disaster in America*

Utah State University Graduate Teaching:

- Historical Methods and Practice Introductory Graduate Seminar
- History and Theory Graduate Seminar
- Environmental History Graduate Seminar
- Borderlands Graduate Seminar
- Urban History Graduate Seminar

- 2017 **Visiting Professor, Department of History, University of Oregon**
- American Cities
 - Borderlands Graduate Colloquium
- 2011 **Visiting Faculty, University of Munich and Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society**
- Global Environments Summer Academy
- Chair, Graduate History M.A./M.S. Thesis Committees**
- 2020 Zachary Larsen, “In Defense of the Modern Company Town: Wyoming's Uranium Communities.”
- 2013 Sean Parulian Harvey, “Derailed: Railroads, Social and Economic Change, and Transformations in the Natural and Built Environment in Tucson, Arizona, 1880-1920.”
- 2010 Philip Lockette, “Sex in the Kitchen: The Re-Interpretation of Gendered Space within the post-World War II Suburban Home in the West.”
- 2009 Clint Pumphrey, “From Sagebrush to Subdivisions: Visualizing Tourist Development in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, 1967-2002.”
- 2009 Jami Van Huss, “From Cultural Traditions to National Trend: The Transition of Domestic Mormon Architecture in Cache Valley, Utah, 1860-1915.”
- 2006 David Vail, “‘The Thirsty Places of the Earth’: Politics, Environment, and the Contentious History of Utah’s Cache County Water Conservation District No. 1.”
- Chair, Graduate History M.A./M.S. Plan B Research Project Committees**
- 2017 Valerie Jacobsen, “Nature and Nation: The Civilian Conservation Corps in Zion and Bryce Canyon National Parks.”
- 2017 Ian Keller, “The Historical and Familial Context of Benjamin Franklin Riter, 1859-1925.”

- 2016 Michelle Braden, “The African American Community in Ogden, Utah: Teaching Local History within a National Framework.”
- 2012 Thomas Reese Dubach, “Reinforcements on the Border: The Utah National Guard’s Role in the Punitive Expedition, 1916-1917.”
- 2010 Sierra Robinson Nelson, “Out of Ashes: An Exploration of the Effects of Technology on Firefighting in the Intermountain West.”
- 2007 Ryan Waite, “Marching with the Mormon Battalion: Insights and Observations from the Diary of William Hyde.”

Selected Service

Professional:

- 2022-2026 Editorial Board, *The Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era*
- 2023-2024 Steering Committee, American Society for Environmental History Environmental History Week
- 2021-2024 Sustainability Committee, American Society for Environmental History
- 2020-2023 Program Committee, American Historical Association, Pacific Coast Branch Annual Meeting
- 2020-2021 Program and Steering Committee, American Society for Environmental History Environmental History Week (Series of online and in-person events worldwide replacing the 2021 Annual Conference, cancelled due to COVID-19.)
- 2019 National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowships in American History Selection Committee
- 2016-2017 Book Review Editor, *Environmental History*
- 2011-2015 Co-President, (with Professor Shen Hou, Renmin University of China, Beijing) Rachel Carson Fellows Alumni Association, Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich and the Deutsches Museum, Munich, Germany
- 2012 National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Stipend Selection Committee
- 2010-2012 Chair, Program Committee, American Society for Environmental History, Madison, Wisconsin 2012 Annual Conference
- 2010-2012 Local Arrangements Committee, American Society for Environmental History, Madison, Wisconsin 2012 Annual Conference
- 2009-2010 Chair, Samuel P. Hays Research Fellowship Committee, American Society for Environmental History
- 2008-2010 Program Committee, American Society for Environmental History, Portland, Oregon 2010 Annual Conference
- 2008-2009 George Perkins Marsh Prize Committee for Best Book in Environmental History, American Society for Environmental History
- 2007-2008 Local Arrangements Committee, Western History Association, Salt Lake City, Utah 2008 Annual Conference
- 2007 Journal Article Prize Committee, Urban History Association

- 2005-2006 Rachel Carson Prize Committee for Best Dissertation in Environmental History, American Society for Environmental History
- 2004- Article and Book Manuscript Reader for Oxford University Press, Prentice Hall, Routledge, Rowman & Littlefield, University of Nebraska Press, University of Nevada Press, University of Pittsburgh Press, University Press of Kansas, *California History*, *Eco Rio: A Journal of Environmental Studies*, *Journal of American History*, *Journal of Arizona History*, the *Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era*, *Journal of Urban History*, *Montana: The Magazine of Western History*, *Pacific Historical Review*, *Rangelands*, *Transfers: New Mobility Studies*, *Urban Planning*, *Western American Literature*, *Western Historical Quarterly*, and *World History Connected*.

University:

- 2023- College of Humanities and Social Sciences Tanner Talks Awards Committee
- 2020-2021 College of Humanities and Social Sciences Awards Committee
- 2019- College of Humanities and Social Sciences Sustainability Committee
- 2019- Grant Selection Committee, Mountain West Center for Regional Studies
- 2019 Planning Committee, “Future Memory: Mapping the Anthropocene” Conference
- 2018-2022 Utah State University General Education Curriculum Committee
- 2018-2022 Chair, American Institutions Subcommittee, General Education Curriculum Committee
- 2018-2020 Tenure Committee, Assistant Professor Debra Jenson, Department of Journalism and Communication
- 2018-2019 Anthropocene Working Group
- 2015-2017 Graduate Admissions Committee, American Studies
- 2014-2015 Faculty and Graduate Researcher of the Year Award Committee, College of Humanities and Social Sciences
- 2014-2015 Utah State University General Education Curriculum Committee
- 2014- American Studies Graduate Admissions Committee
- 2013-2016 College of Humanities and Social Sciences Representative, Utah State University Faculty Senate
- 2013-2015 Utah State University New Faculty Teaching Academy Mentor
- 2012-2017 College of Humanities and Social Sciences Representative, Utah State University Sustainability Council
- 2012-2017 Curriculum Committee, Utah State University Sustainability Council
- 2012-2013 Tanner Fund Committee for Campus Programming and Outreach, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Utah State University
- 2012-2013 Utah State University New Faculty Teaching Academy Mentor
- 2009 Utah State University Roads Scholar High School Student Recruitment Program
- 2008-2010 College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Alternate Representative, Utah State University Faculty Senate
- 2007-2008 Planning Committee, 2008 Tanner Symposium, “Celebración: Latinos and U.S. Culture”
- 2007 Planning Committee and Panelist, “Retention Matters: Utah State University Student Retention Symposium”

Department:

2023- Member, Department of History Assessment Committee
2023- Member, Tenure Advisory Committee, Assistant Professor Amanda Katz, USU
Utah Basin
2023-2024 Member, Department of History Graduate Program Advisory Committee
2021-2022 Chair, Department of History Assessment Committee
2020-2021 Member, Search Committee, Postdoctoral Teaching Fellowship in Environmental
History, USU Vernal
2020- Chair, Tenure Advisory Committee, Assistant Professor Nichelle Frank, USU
Eastern-Price
2020-2022 Chair, Tenure Committee, Assistant Professor Seth Archer
2019- Liaison for Department of History, Green Offices Program, USU Sustainability
Council
2019-2020 Chair, Search Committee, Assistant Professor of Environmental and Public
History, USU Statewide Regional Campus, Price
2019-2020 Member, Tenure and Promotion Committee, Associate Professor and Arrington
Chair of Mormon History Patrick Mason
2018-2019 Chair, Tenure Committee, Assistant Professor Jonathan Brunstedt
2018- Member, Tenure Committee, Assistant Professor Angela Diaz
2018-2023 Member, Promotion Committee, Public History Lecturer Rebecca Andersen
2018 Member, History Undergraduate Travel Grant Committee
2016-2022 Member, Tenure Committee, Assistant Professor Susan Cogan
2016-2018 Member, Tenure Committee, Assistant Professor Jonathan Brunstedt
2016-2017 Member, Graduate Admissions Committee
2016 Member, Search Committee, Lecturer in Public History
2016 Chair, Search Committee, Visiting Assistant Professor of Environmental History
2016 Member, Search Committee, Postdoctoral Fellowship in Modern United States
History
2014-2015 Department of History Scholarships and Student Writing Awards Committee
2013-2014 Eastern European History Search Committee
2011-2012 Chair, Modern European History Search
2011-2014 Chair, Tenure Committee, Assistant Professor Kyle Bulthuis
2009-2010 Chair, Department of History Scholarship Committee
2009-2010 Revising and Globalizing U.S. History Curriculum Committee
2008-2009 Graduate Program Director, History

Professional Affiliations

American Historical Association
American Society for Environmental History
Historical Society of Southern California
Organization of American Historians
Western History Association