

Joseph L. Anderson

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Education

2005 Ph.D. Agricultural History and Rural Studies, Iowa State University
1997 M.A. History, University of Kansas
1989 B.A. with Distinction, History and Philosophy, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Academic Employment

2018-present Professor of History, Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta.

2018-2021 Associate Dean-Research, Scholarship, and Community Engagement, Faculty of Arts, Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta.

2011-2018 Associate Professor of History, Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta.

2008-2011 Assistant Professor of History, Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta.

2006-2008 Assistant Professor of History and Assistant Director of the Center for Public History, University of West Georgia, Carrollton, Georgia.

2001-2006 Lecturer and Teaching Assistant, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa.

Public History Employment

1995-2001 Director of History and Interpretation, Living History Farms, Urbandale, Iowa.

1994-1995 Director of Interpretation, Living History Farms, Urbandale, Iowa.

1990 Lead Interpreter and Agricultural Specialist, Missouri Town-1855, Jackson County Parks and Recreation, Jackson County, Missouri.

1989-1990 Site Supervisor, 1850 Farm, Living History Farms, Urbandale, Iowa.

1988, 1987 Museum Interpreter, Living History Farms, Urbandale, Iowa.

Research and Teaching Interests

Food and Culture	History of Technology
Public History	American Midwest
Agriculture and Rural Life	Environmental History

Books-Single Author, Peer-Reviewed

2019 *Capitalist Pigs: Pigs, Pork, and Power in America*. West Virginia University Press.

Reviewed: *Agriculture and Human Values*; *Agricultural History*; *American Historical Review*; *Annals of Iowa*; *Climate and Capitalism*; *Des Moines Register*; *Environmental History*; *Gastronomica*; *H-Environment*; *Journal of American History*; *Journal of Historical Geography*; *Journal of Social History*

2016, 2009 *Industrializing the Corn Belt: Agriculture, Technology, and Environment, 1945-1972*. Northern Illinois University Press. Cloth 2009, Paper 2016.

Reviewed: *Agricultural History*; *American Historical Review*; *Annals of Iowa*; EH.NET; *Food, Culture, and Society*; *Historia Agraria*; *Indiana Magazine of History*; *Journal of American History*; *Journal of Illinois History*; *Ohio Valley History*; *The Social Science Journal*; *Technology and Culture*

Books-Edited, Peer-Reviewed

2014 *The Rural Midwest since World War II*. Northern Illinois University Press.

2013 Co-editor with Ginette Aley, *Union Heartland: The Midwestern Home Front during the Civil War*. Southern Illinois University Press.

Journal Articles and Book Chapters, Peer-Reviewed

2018 “Of Conformity and Cosmopolitanism: Midwestern Identity since World War II,” in *Finding a New Midwestern History*, edited by Jon K. Lauck, Gleaves Whitney, and Joe Hogan, University of Nebraska Press.

2014 “Uneasy Dependency: Rural and Farm Policy and the Midwest since 1945,” in *The Rural Midwest since World War II*. Northern Illinois University Press.

2014 “Introduction” to *The Rural Midwest since World War II*. Northern Illinois University Press.

2013 Co-author with Ginette Aley, “The Great National Struggle in the Heart of the Union: An Introduction,” *Union Heartland: The Midwestern Home Front during the Civil War*. Southern Illinois University Press.

2008 “Lard to Lean: Making the Meat-Type Hog in Post-World War II America,” in *Food Chains: From Farm Yard to Shopping Cart*, edited by Roger Horowitz and Warren Belasco. Hagley Perspectives on Business and Culture Series, University of Pennsylvania Press.

2007 “The Vacant Chair on the Farm: Soldier Husbands, Farm Wives, and the Iowa Home Front, 1861-1865,” *Annals of Iowa*, 66 (3&4) (Summer/Fall 2007): 241-265.

2005 “War on Weeds: Iowa Farmers and Growth Regulator Herbicides,” *Technology and Culture*, 46 (October 2005): 719-744.

2002 “‘The quickest way possible’: Iowa Farm Families and Tractor-drawn Combines, 1940-1960,” *Agricultural History*, 76 (Fall 2002): 669-688.

Invited Publications

Forthcoming: “Making the Rural Midwest: Commodities and Communities,” in *A Companion to American Agricultural History*, edited by R. Douglas Hurt, Wiley-Blackwell.

Forthcoming: “Agricultural Science,” in *Oxford Handbook of Agriculture*, edited by Jeannie Whayne, Oxford.

2020 “‘You’re a Bigger Man’: Technology and Agrarian Masculinity in Postwar America,” *Agricultural History* 94(1) (Winter 2020): 4-23.

- 2016 “Technological Change,” in *The Routledge History of Rural America*, edited by Pamela Riney-Kehrberg, Routledge.
- 2007 “The People’s University: Cooperative Extension and Outreach,” chapter in the official sesquicentennial history of Iowa State University, *Iowa State University: Tradition and Transformation*, Dorothy Schwieder and Gretchen Van Houten, editors. Iowa State University and Wiley-Blackwell.
- 2007 “The Dutch and Tiny Show,” short essay/vignette for the official sesquicentennial history of Iowa State University, *Iowa State University: Tradition and Transformation*, Dorothy Schwieder and Gretchen Van Houten, editors. Iowa State University and Wiley-Blackwell.

Anthologized Essays/Chapters

- 2017 “Changes in Corn-Belt Crop Culture: Iowa, 1945-1972” (originally published as chapter 8 in *Industrializing the Corn Belt: Agriculture, Technology, and Environment, 1945-1972*) in *Interpreting Agriculture at Museums and Historic Sites*, edited by Debra A. Reid. Rowman and Littlefield.
- 2013 “The Vacant Chair on the Farm: Soldier Husbands, Farm Wives, and the Iowa Home Front, 1861-1865,” in *Union Heartland: The Midwestern Home Front during the Civil War*. Southern Illinois University Press.

Other Publications, Non-Peer-Reviewed

- Forthcoming:* “Iowa Agricultural History: Old Perspectives and New Directions,” *Annals of Iowa* 80(4) (Fall 2021): 371-377.
- 2019 “Pink Pork and the ‘housewife’s most wholesome sink’: Waste and Taste in American History,” Booktimist Blog Post, West Virginia University Press, January 10, 2019.
- 2018 “How Crop Circles Saved the Great Plains,” *What it Means to be an American*, a project of the Smithsonian Institution and Arizona State University, produced by Zócalo Public Square, September 10, 2018.
- 2017 “Introduction,” Roundtable Review of Debra A. Reid’s *Interpreting Agriculture at Museums and Historic Sites*, in *Agricultural History* 91(4) (Fall 2017): 554-556.
- 2015 Editor, Association for Living History, Farm and Agricultural Museums, *Proceedings of the 2014 Conference and Annual Meeting*, Volume 37, 2015.
- 2014 “Memorial: Mark R. Finlay, 15 September 1960-6 October 2013,” *Technology and Culture* 55(1) (January 2014): 223-226.
- 1999 Co-author with Leo E. Landis and David A. Miles, “Daily Lessons and Lasting Memories: Blending Agricultural Education and Living History,” Association for Living History, Farm and Agricultural Museums, *Proceedings of the 1998 Conference and Annual Meeting*, Volume 21, 1999: 252-255.
- 1995 Co-author with Tom Morain, “Agricultural Education and Living History,” *The Agricultural Education Magazine*, 67 (April 1995): 17-18.

Courses Taught

Mount Royal University

- History 4732 Topics in the History of the Americas
 - The United States and Latin America during the Cold War
- History 4731 Topics in American History
 - Technology in America
- History 4411 American Civil War and Reconstruction
- History 4405 Special Topics in Public History
- History 3802 Public History Field Experience
- History 3358 American Environmental History
- History 3357 Special Topics in American Culture
 - Farm to Fork: Making the American Food System
 - History of the American Family
- History 3199 Directed Readings
 - The American Civil War Era
 - The African American Freedom Struggle
- History 2291 Film and History
 - Race on Film
- History 2220 The U.S. as a World Power, 1898-1991
- History 2216 American Revolutionary Era, 1763-1800
- History 2213 Travel Study in European History
 - The Canadian Corps on the Western Front
- History 2212 Travel Study in American History
 - The American Civil War in History and Memory
 - Slavery, Freedom, and Civil Rights
- History 1119 The United States, 1865-Present
- History 1117 America to 1865
- History 1100 Introduction to History
- Humanities 2201 Outstanding Lives
 - Abraham Lincoln and Jefferson Davis
 - From Abolition to Civil Rights

University of West Georgia

- History 6687 Southern Agricultural and Rural History (Graduate)
- History 6685 Research Seminar in State and Local History (Graduate)
- History 6303 Museum Education and Interpretation (Graduate)
- History 6302 Collections Management in Museums (Graduate)
- History 4400/5400 Introduction to Public History (Undergrad/Graduate)
- History 4486 Public History Internship
- History 2112 United States since 1865

Iowa State University

- History 366 History of American Agriculture II
- History 365 History of American Agriculture I
- History 352 Social and Cultural History of the American People since 1900
- History 222 Survey of United States History since 1865
- History 221 Survey of United States History to 1877

Simpson College

History 290 History of the American Farmer

Teaching Assistant, Iowa State University
History 222 Survey of United States History since 1865
History 221 Survey of United States History to 1877
History 202 Western Civilization since 1500

Manuscript Referee, Double Blind or Blind

2021 *Journal of Global History, Middle West Review*

2020 *Agricultural History, Annals of Iowa, Journal of Global History, McGill-Queen's University Press, University of Nebraska Press*

2019 *Enterprise and Society, Johns Hopkins University Press (book proposal), University Press of Kansas*

2018 *University Press of Kansas*

2017 *Indiana University Press, University of Nebraska Press, University Press of Kansas (book proposal), Mount Royal Undergraduate Humanities Review (2), Technology and Culture*

2016 *Agricultural History; University of Alabama Press (NEXUS New Histories of Science, Technology, the Environment, Agriculture, and Medicine); Technology and Culture*

2015 *Technology and Culture (2), Mount Royal Undergraduate Humanities Review (2), Rural Sociology*

2014 *Technology and Culture, Mount Royal Undergraduate Humanities Review (2)*

2013 *The Journal of American History, Annals of Iowa, McGill-Queen's University Press, Kansas History, Bulletin for the History of Chemistry, Mount Royal Undergraduate Humanities Review*

2012 *Agricultural History*

2011 *Business History Review, Kansas History*

2010 *The Journal of American History*

2007 *Technology and Culture*

Grants, Honours, and Awards

2020 Dorothy Schwieder Excellence in Research Award, State Historical Society of Iowa.

2018-2019 President, Agricultural History Society.

2018 Distinguished Faculty Award Nominee, Mount Royal University.

2018 Teaching Excellence Award, Students' Association of Mount Royal University.

2017-2018 Vice President/President Elect, Agricultural History Society.

- 2017 MRU Undergraduate Assistance Fund Grant Award for “Picturing the American Farmer: Masculinity, Technology, and Agrarian Modernity.”
- 2017 Faculty of Arts Outstanding Scholar Award, Mount Royal University.
- 2010 Co-author with Robert Boschman, NiCHE (Network in Canadian History and Environment) Grant for Mount Royal University Conference, Under Western Skies 2: Environment, Community, and Culture, in North America, October, 2012.
- 2012 Champion Award for enhancing the quality of student life at MRU, Students’ Association of Mount Royal University.
- 2010 Honorable Mention, Benjamin F. Shambaugh Award for the most significant book published in Iowa history, State Historical Society of Iowa.
- 2009 NiCHE (Network in Canadian History and Environment) Grant for Mount Royal University Conference, Under Western Skies: Climate, Culture, and Change in Western North America, October, 2010.
- 2009 Research Reserve Grant, Mount Royal University.
- 2007 Joel A. Tarr Envirotech Prize, awarded annually by the Society for the History of Technology for best article on the intersection of environmental history and history of technology. “War on Weeds: Iowa Farmers and Growth Regulator Herbicides,” *Technology and Culture*, 46 (October 2005): 719-744.
- 2007 Faculty Research Grant, University of West Georgia. “Profits and Problems: The Hybrid Seed Industry and the Southern Corn Leaf Blight Outbreak of 1970.”
- 2005 Research Excellence Award, in recognition of outstanding research accomplishments in a graduate program, Graduate College, Iowa State University.
- 2005 Research Grant, State Historical Society of Iowa. “Farming While He Is Away: Iowa Farm Wives and Soldier Husbands during the Civil War, 1861-1865.”
- 2003 Dissertation Research Fellowship, The State Historical Society, Inc., a private foundation supporting research and writing Iowa history, Iowa City, Iowa.
- 2002 Teaching Excellence Award, in recognition of outstanding contributions in the teaching of undergraduate students while working toward a degree, Graduate College, Iowa State University.
- 2001 Everett E. Edwards Award, Agricultural History Society, for the best manuscript by a graduate student in agricultural history, “Mechanizing the Harvest: Tractor-drawn Combines on Iowa Farms, 1940-1960.”
- 1995 Certificate of Merit, American Association for State and Local History, for the development and installation of the Tangen Implement Warehouse and Home, Living History Farms, team member.

1988 Glenn Gray Award for outstanding undergraduate study in history, University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Book Reviews

- Forthcoming:* Thomas Robertson, Richard P. Tucker, Nicholas Breyfogle, and Peter Mansoor, eds., *Nature at War: American Environments and World War II* in *Journal of American History*.
- 2020 Andrew Robichaud, *Animal City: The Domestication of America* in *Pacific Historical Review* 89(4) (Fall 2020): 632-633.
- 2020 Kristin L. Hoganson, *The Heartland: An American History* in *American Historical Review* 125(2) (April 2020): 661-662.
- 2020 Timothy H. H. Thoresen, *River, Reaper, Rail: Agriculture and Identity in Ohio's Mad River Valley, 1795-1885* in *Indiana Magazine of History* 116(1) (March 2020): 84-85.
- 2019 Matthew Roth, *Magic Bean: The Rise of Soy in America* in *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 50(2) (Autumn 2019): 299-300.
- 2019 Jonathan Coppess, *The Fault Lines of Farm Policy: A Legislative and Political History of the Farm Bill* in *South Dakota History* 49(4) (Winter 2019): 334-335.
- 2019 Joshua MacFadyen, *Flax Americana: A History of the Fibre and Oil That Covered a Continent* in *The Otter/La Loutre*, NiCHE Blog, March 14, 2019.
- 2018 David B. Danbom, editor, *Bridging the Distance: Common Issues of the Rural West* in *Middle West Review* 5(1) (Fall 2018): 89-90.
- 2018 Timothy Mason Roberts, editor, "This Infernal War": *The Civil War Letters of William and Jane Standard* in *Annals of Iowa* 77(3) (Summer 2018): 311-312.
- 2018 Claire Elizabeth Campbell, *Nature, Place, and Story: Rethinking Historic Sites in Canada* in *The Public Historian* 40(1) (February 2018): 163-165.
- 2017 Douglas McCalla, *Consumers in the Bush: Shopping in Rural Upper Canada* in *Canadian Journal of History/Annales canadienne d'histoire* 52(3) (Winter 2017): 611-613.
- 2017 Nancy K. Berlage, *Farmers Helping Farmers: The Rise of the Farm and Home Bureaus, 1914-1935* in *The Journal of American History* 104(2) (September 2017): 524.
- 2017 Jason Weems, *Barnstorming the Prairies: How Aerial Vision Shaped the Midwest* in *Michigan Historical Review* 43(1) (Spring 2017): 125-126.
- 2016 Michelle Mart, *Pesticides, A Love Story: America's Enduring Embrace of Dangerous Chemicals* in *The American Historical Review* 121(5) (December 2016): 1693-1694.
- 2016 Cynthia Clampitt, *Midwest Maize: How Corn Shaped the U.S. Heartland* in *Canadian Journal of History/Annales canadienne d'histoire* 51(1) (Spring-Summer/printemps-été 2016): 163-165.

- 2015 Jon K. Lauck, *The Lost Region: Toward a Revival of Midwestern History* in *The Journal of American History* 101(4) (March 2015): 1232-1233.
- 2014 Kendra Smith-Howard, *Pure and Modern Milk: An Environmental History since 1900* in *The American Historical Review* 119(5) (December 2014): 1716-1717.
- 2013 Gordon M. Winder, *The American Reaper: Harvesting Networks and Technology, 1830-1910* in *Business History Review* 87(1) (Spring 2013): 175-176.
- 2013 John A. Fliter and Derek S. Hoff, *Fighting Foreclosure: The Blaisdell Case, the Contract Clause, and the Great Depression* in *Kansas History* 36(1) (Spring 2013): 59.
- 2012 John Clarke, *The Ordinary People of Essex: Environment, Culture, and Economy on the Frontier of Upper Canada* in *Labour/Le Travail* 70 (Fall/l'automne 2012): 261-263.
- 2012 Brett Mizelle, *Pig in Agricultural History* 86(3) (Summer 2012): 134-135.
- 2012 Robert Wuthnow, *Remaking the Heartland: Middle America since the 1950s* in *The American Historical Review* 117(2) (April 2012): 557-558.
- 2011 Teresa S. Moyer and Paul A. Shackel, *The Making of Harpers Ferry National Historic Park: A Devil, Two Rivers, and A Dream* in *Material Culture* 43(2) (2011): 82-84.
- 2010 Mark R. Finlay, *Growing American Rubber: Strategic Plants and the Politics of National Security* in *Technology and Culture* 51(4): 1033-1034.
- 2010 Sterling Evans, *Bound in Twine: The History and Ecology of the Henequen-Wheat Complex for Mexico and the American and Canadian Plains, 1880-1950* in *North Dakota History* 75(3&4): 54-55.
- 2010 Carroll Pursell, *Technology in Postwar America* in *The Historian* 72(1) (Spring 2010): 182-183.
- 2010 Steve Turner, *Amber Waves and Undertow: Peril, Hope, and Downright Nonchalance in Dry Wheat Country* in *South Dakota History* 40(1) (Spring 2010): 88-90.
- 2009 Paul K. Conkin, *Revolution Down on the Farm: American Agriculture Since 1929* in *Technology and Culture* 50(4) (October 2009): 927-929.
- 2009 George B. Ellenberg, *Mule South to Tractor South: Mules, Machines, and the Transformation of the Cotton South* in *Journal of Southern History* 75(3) (August 2009): 795-796.
- 2009 Dwight W. Hoover, *A Good Day's Work: An Iowa Farm in the Great Depression* in *Agricultural History* 83(2) (Spring 2009): 247-248.
- 2008 Sarah T. Phillips, *This Land, This Nation: Conservation, Rural America, and the New Deal* in *Enterprise and Society* 9(4) (December 2008): 843-845.
- 2008 Paul Salstrom, *From Pioneering to Persevering: Indiana Agriculture to 1880* in *Ohio Valley History* 8 (Spring 2008): 92-93.

- 2008 Marilyn Irvin Holt, *Linoleum, Better Babies, and the Modern Farm Woman, 1890-1930* in *Material Culture* 41(1): 149-150.
- 2008 Carrie A. Meyer, *Days on the Family Farm: From the Golden Age through the Great Depression* in *Journal of Illinois History* 11(1) (Spring 2008): 66-67.
- 2008 Wilson J. Warren, *Tied to the Great Packing Machine: The Midwest and Meatpacking in Ohio History* (Spring 2008): 149-150
- 2008 David B. Danbom, *Born in the Country: A History of Rural America, Second Edition* in *The Historian* 70(1) (Spring 2008): 102-103.
- 2007 Eric W. Mogren, *Native Soil: A History of the DeKalb County Farm Bureau* in *Indiana Magazine of History* 103(4) (December 2007): 443-444.
- 2007 Paul Robbins, *Lawn People: How Grasses, Weeds, and Chemicals Make Us Who We Are*, H-Environment, December, 2007.
- 2006 Virgil W. Dean, *An Opportunity Lost: The Truman Administration and the Farm Policy Debate* in *Journal of the West* 45(4) (2006): 83-84.
- 2006 Gordon Patterson, *The Mosquito Wars: A History of Mosquito Control in Florida* in *Agricultural History* 80(3) (2006): 373-375.
- 2006 Pete Daniel, *Toxic Drift: Pesticides and Health in the Post-World War II South* in *Technology and Culture* 47(2) (2006): 452-454.
- 2006 Dennis S. Nordin and Roy V. Scott, *From Prairie Farmer to Entrepreneur: The Transformation of Midwestern Agriculture* in *Technology and Culture* 47(1) (2006): 205-206.
- 2006 James A. Vlasich, *Pueblo Indian Agriculture* in *Journal of the West* 45(1) (Winter 2006): 103.
- 2005 Neil and Jeremy Dahlstrom, *The John Deere Story: A Biography of Plowmakers John and Charles Deere* in *Enterprise and Society* 6(4) (2005): 751-753.
- 2005 Jerry Apps, *Every Farm Tells a Story: A Tale of Family Farm Values* in *Annals of Iowa* 64(3) (Summer 2005): 291.
- 2003 Carolyn Johnsen, *Raising a Stink: The Struggle over Factory Hog Farms in Nebraska* in *Annals of Iowa* 62(4) (Fall 2003): 502-503.
- 2003 Bruce L. Gardner, *American Agriculture in the Twentieth Century: How it Flourished and What it Cost* in *Enterprise and Society* 4 (June 2003): 390-392.
- 2003 Douglas Harper, *Changing Works: Visions of a Lost Agriculture* in *New York History* (Winter 2003): 113-115.

Encyclopedia Entries

Forthcoming: *Iowa State University Biographical Dictionary*, Roswell Garst, Harold Gunderson, and Erhard Paul Sylwester entries.

- 2014 *Encyclopedia of the American Enlightenment*, Agriculture and Animal Husbandry entry.
- 2010 *Encyclopedia of American Environmental History*, Poultry Industry entry.
- 2008 *The Biographical Dictionary of Iowa*, Roswell Garst entry.
- 2007 *Women in the American Civil War: An Encyclopedia*, Northern Rural Women’s Work entry.
- 2007 *The American Midwest: An Interpretive Encyclopedia*, Stage Vehicles, Wagons, Good Roads Movement, Lincoln Highway, Interstate Highways, Grain Milling and Processing, and Dairy Markets entries.
- 2005 *Encyclopedia of Twentieth Century Technology*, Pesticides entry.
- 2005 *Encyclopedia of the New American Nation*, Dairy Industry and Fairs entries.

Ph.D. Committee

- 2015-2019 Andrew Wiley, History, University of Calgary

M.A. Committee

- 2008 Sue VerHoef, History, University of West Georgia; Anita Carter, Sociology, University of West Georgia; Audrey Cook, History, University of West Georgia
- 2007 Sarah Middlemast, History, University of West Georgia
- 2005 Jacqueline M. Venner, Public Horticulture, University of Delaware

Honours B.A. Supervision, Mount Royal University

- 2019-2020 co-supervisor, John Pittman
- 2017-2018 Sarah Hart, Kenny Reilly
- 2016-2017 Steven F. Lilley
- 2012-2013 Tina Spence
- 2011-2012 Trevor Ford, Ashley Komen

Conference Session Chair/Moderator, Commentator, and Discussant

- 2019 Chair, “Class, Labor, and Work in Agricultural History,” Agricultural History Society Annual Conference, Washington, DC, June 6, 2019.
- 2018 Chair and Commentator, “Heath, Toxins, and Waste,” Agricultural History Society Annual Conference, St. Petersburg, Florida, May 24, 2018.
- 2017 Chair, “Roundtable on Debra A. Reid’s *Interpreting Agriculture at Historic Sites and Museums*,” Agricultural History Society Annual Conference, Grand Rapids, Michigan, June 9, 2017.

- 2015 Moderator, "Rebel States," Remaking North American Sovereignty: Towards a Continental History of State Transformation in the Mid-Nineteenth Century, Banff, Alberta, August 1, 2015.
- 2015 Chair, "Animal Health" Agricultural History Society Annual Conference, Lexington, Kentucky, June 5, 2015.
- 2015 Panelist, "The Future of the History of the Midwest," The Midwest: America's Most Common Ground Summit, Hauenstein Center at Grand Valley State University, Grand Rapids, Michigan, May 1, 2015.
- 2013 Chair and Commentator, "Meeting Buyer Demands," Agricultural History Society Annual Conference, Banff, Alberta, June 14, 2013.
- 2012 Commentator, "Agricultural Panaceas I," Agricultural History Society Annual Conference, Manhattan, Kansas, June 8, 2012.
- 2011 Moderator, "Romanticism, Research, and Visions of Rural Life," Agricultural History Society Annual Conference, Springfield, Illinois, June 17, 2011.
- 2011 Moderator, "Decline and Other Stories: A Roundtable on the Rural Midwest since World War II," Agricultural History Society Annual Conference, Springfield, Illinois, June 18, 2011.
- 2010 Commentator, "Agriculture, Markets, and Landscape," Agricultural History Society Annual Conference, Winter Park, Florida, June 10, 2010.
- 2008 Chair and Commentator, "Science and Reform: Land Use and Management," Agricultural History Society Annual Conference, Reno, Nevada, June 20, 2008.
- 2007 Faculty Discussant, WHEATS 2007 (Workshop for the History of Environment, Agriculture, Technology and Science), University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia, October 13, 2007.
- 2007 Chair, "Reexamining Agricultural Tenancy: Success and Failure in Rural America," Agricultural History Society Annual Conference, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa, June 23, 2007.
- 2006 Chair and Commentator, "Imposed Improvement: Contesting the Scientific Spirit," Agricultural History Society Annual Conference, Boston, Massachusetts, June 17, 2006.
- 2005 Chair and Commentator, "Military History of the Civil War," Missouri Valley History Conference, Omaha, Nebraska, March 4, 2005.
- 2004 Chair and Commentator, "Technology and Markets in Rural Settings," Social Science History Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, Illinois, November 19, 2004.
- 2004 Chair and Commentator, "Rural Environmental History," New Directions in Rural History Conference, Iowa State University, April 24, 2004.

Conference Presentations

- 2018 "Place as Palimpsest: U.S. Slavery, Freedom, and Civil Rights Field School," Prairie Political Science Association Conference, Banff, Alberta, September 15, 2018.
- 2015 "Rethinking the American Hog Cholera Epizootic of the Nineteenth Century: Origins, Diffusion, and Coexistence," Agricultural History Society Annual Conference, Lexington, Kentucky, June 4, 2015.
- 2015 "Midwestern Identity since World War II," The Midwest: America's Most Common Ground Summit, Hauenstein Center at Grand Valley State University, Grand Rapids, Michigan, May 1, 2015.
- 2011 "Eradication 'Rules': The Rhetoric and Reality of the European corn borer Control Campaign," Agricultural History Society Annual Conference, Springfield Illinois, June 17, 2011.
- 2009 "Material Evidence in Historical Research: Barns of the West Georgia Piedmont," Plenary Session Panelist, Agricultural History Society Annual Conference, Little Rock, Arkansas, June 19, 2009.
- 2009 "Facilitating Monoculture: Cytoplasmic Male Sterility and the Hybrid Seed Industry," Agricultural History Society Annual Conference, Little Rock, Arkansas, June 18, 2009.
- 2008 "The 1970 Southern Corn Leaf Blight Epidemic and the Hybrid Seed Industry," Society for the History of Technology Conference, Lisbon, Portugal, October 14, 2008.
- 2008 "Drugs, Manure, and Pesticides: Regulating Agriculture in the Postwar Midwest," Business History Conference, Sacramento, California, April 11, 2008.
- 2007 "From Remodeling to Ranch Houses: Iowa Farm Housing, 1945-1960," Agricultural History Society Annual Conference, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa, June 22, 2007.
- 2006 "Lard to Lean: Making the Meat-Type Hog in Post-World War II America," "Food Chains: Provisioning, Technology, and Science Conference," Center for the History of Business, Technology, and Science, Hagley Museum and Library, Wilmington, Delaware, November 4, 2006.
- 2006 "The Vacant Chair': Women's Roles and Farm Management on Iowa Farms during the Civil War," Organization of American Historians Midwest Regional Conference, Lincoln, Nebraska, July 7, 2006.
- 2004 "Making the Chemical Corn Belt: Pesticide and Fertilizer in the Rural Imagination and Reality, 1945-1970," International Committee for the History of Technology 31st Symposium, Bochum, Germany, August 19, 2004.
- 2003 "I can't afford not to spray': Iowa Farmers and Chemical Insecticide, 1945-1970," Society for the History of Technology Annual Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia, October 17, 2003
- 2003 "Declare War on Flies: Iowa Farmers and Fly Control, 1945-1970," Northern Great Plains History Conference, Fargo, North Dakota, October 3, 2003.

2003 “War on Weeds: Corn Belt Farmers and Growth Regulator Herbicides, 1945-1970,” Missouri Valley History Conference, Omaha, Nebraska, March 7, 2003.

Invited Lectures, Public History Presentations, and Media

- 2020 Episode 55, “Capitalist Pigs,” Oats for Breakfast Podcast, September 15, 2020.
- 2020 “American GeHographies,” The Hedgehog and the Fox Podcast, March 9, 2020.
- 2020 “New Books in Food,” New Books Network Podcast, January 21, 2020.
- 2019 “Game Changing Books: C. Vann Woodward’s *The Strange Career of Jim Crow*,” Calgary Public Library and Mount Royal University’s Game Changing Books Series, October 10, 2019.
- 2019 “‘You’re a Bigger Man’: ‘Technology, Modernity, and Agrarian Masculinity in Postwar America,’” Agricultural History Society Presidential Address, Washington, DC, June 7, 2019.
- 2019 “Technology, Modernity, and Agrarian Masculinity in Postwar America,” Center for the History of Agriculture, Science, and Environment of the South (CHASES) Lecture Series, Mississippi State University, January 25, 2019.
- 2017 Invited Speaker, “Living on the Land: Southern Alberta Agriculture, 1910-1920,” Speaking of the Past Lecture Series, Heritage Park, Calgary, Alberta, September 28, 2017.
- 2017 Keynote Speaker, “White on Black: The Deep Roots of How White America Talks About Race and Politics,” Thompson Rivers University Philosophy, History, and Politics Undergraduate Conference, Kamloops, British Columbia, January 20, 2017.
- 2016 Guest Discussion of U.S. Presidential Election, CTV Morning Live, Calgary, Alberta November 9, 2016.
- 2016 Plenary Speaker, “America’s Racial Past in the ‘Post Racial’ Present: Notes from an Unsettled Historian,” Foothills Colloquium in Undergraduate History, Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta, May 2, 2016.
- 2016 Keynote Speaker, “America’s Racial Past in the ‘Post Racial’ Present: Notes from an Unsettled Historian,” Bow River Graduate History Conference, University of Calgary, Alberta, February 19, 2016.
- 2016 Moderator, “Practice of Public History Plenary Panel,” Bow River Graduate History Conference, University of Calgary, Alberta, February 18, 2016.
- 2014 Invited Speaker, “The Vacant Chair on the Farm: Marriage, Farm Management, and Soldiering in the Midwest during the American Civil War,” Sauder Village Agricultural History Lecture Series, Archbold, Ohio, October 6, 2014.
- 2014 Co-presenter with Dr. Debra A. Reid, “From Pigs to Pork Bellies: Making Hogs into Teachable Moments,” Association for Living History, Farm, and Agricultural Museums, Calgary, Alberta, June 22, 2014.

- 2013 Co-presenter with Dr. Jennifer Pettit, "Historical Significance and Public Engagement with History: Inquiry-Based Learning Projects," Connect Charter School Symposium and Showcase at Mount Royal University, December 13, 2013.
- 2013 Keynote Speaker and Guest Faculty Member, Reading Artifacts Summer Institute, Canada Science and Technology Museums Corporation, Ottawa, Ontario, August 19-23, 2013.
- 2013 "Engaging Visitors, Engaging Yourself: Free Choice Learning in the Museum Setting," Heritage Park, Calgary, Alberta, May 13 and June 27, 2013.
- 2012 "Technological Determinism in the Social Studies Classroom," Perspectives, Past and Present, in the Social Studies Classroom, Mount Royal University, February 16, 2012.
- 2011 Invited Speaker, "Southern Alberta Agriculture, 1910-1920: Questions Asked, Answered, and Unanswered," Heritage Park, Calgary, Alberta, May 11, 2011.
- 2010 Invited Speaker, "'Now I See!': Making Memorable Connections with Museum Visitors," Heritage Park, Calgary, Alberta, May 13, 2010.
- 2009 Keynote Speaker, "Midwestern Agriculture Transformed: A Grassroots View of Agricultural, Environmental, and Technological Change, 1945-1972," Midwest Open-Air Museums Coordinating Council Fall Conference, Archbold, Ohio, November 13, 2009.
- 2009 Panelist, "Agricultural Technology and the Production Revolution," Midwest Open-Air Museums Coordinating Council Fall Conference, Archbold, Ohio, November 13, 2009.
- 2009 Book Talk, "Industrializing the Corn Belt," Eldora Public Library, Eldora, Iowa, July 27, 2009.
- 2009 Book Talk, "Industrializing the Corn Belt," Living History Farms, Urbandale, Iowa, July 23, 2009.
- 2008 Guest, Talk@12, Iowa Public Radio, "Industrializing the Corn Belt," December 4, 2008.
- 2007 Address to faculty and staff of Irvine Sullivan Ingram Library on the Center for Public History and its role in the Department of History, University, and Community, August 1, 2007.
- 2007 "Veterans History at the University of West Georgia," Casimir Pulaski Chapter of the Sons of American Revolution, Carrollton, Georgia, May, 2007.
- 2007 Commentator, "Community and Memory in Historic Site Research and Development: Emerging Methodologies," American Historical Association Conference, Atlanta, Georgia, January 5, 2007.
- 2005 "Making the Industrial Corn Belt: Material Culture of Midwestern Agriculture, 1945-1972," Association for Living History, Farm, and Agricultural Museums 2005 Annual Meeting, Des Moines, Iowa, June 13, 2005.
- 2005 Panelist, "How'd They Do That?-Living History Farms 'Get Your Grip on History' Interpretive Program," Association for Living History, Farm and Agricultural Museums 2005 Annual Meeting, Des Moines, Iowa, June 15, 2005.

- 2005 Invited Speaker, "Farming on the Iowa Prairie, 1840-1860," Amana Colonies Sesquicentennial Symposium, "Building Community in 19th Century Iowa: The Amana Experience," Amana, Iowa, April 2, 2005.
- 2003 Panelist, "Using a Museum Site Visit and Programs in Daily Teaching," Agricultural History Society Symposium, Las Cruces, New Mexico, May 30, 2003.
- 2002 "Threshing Machines and the Men (and Women) Who Loved Them: A Social History of Midwestern Threshing," Midwest Open-Air Museums Coordinating Council Conference, Galena, Illinois, November 9, 2002.
- 2002 Panelist, "Interpreting Agricultural Change in a Museum Setting," Rural History Project Symposium, Conner Prairie, Fishers, Indiana, April 27, 2002.
- 2000 Invited Speaker, "Guerilla War in Western Missouri, 1862-1865," Des Moines Civil War Round Table, November 1, 2000.
- 2000 Invited Speaker, "African Americans in Missouri's Civil War, 1861-1865," Tuesday Night Talks at the Pony Express Museum, St. Joseph, Missouri, February 8, 2000.

Mount Royal University Service

- 2019-2020 Councilor, General Faculties Council (Academic Standards Standing Committee)
- 2019-2020 Member, Research and Scholarship Days Working Group
- 2019-2020 Chair, Hiring Committee, Canada Research Chair Tier II in Indigenous Studies
- 2018-2019 Chair, Hiring Committee, Canada Research Chair Tier II in Community Disaster Research
- 2017-2018 Member, Mount Royal Library Awards for Excellence in Scholarly Endeavors Committee
- 2015-2018 Mount Royal Faculty Association Member, University Tenure and Promotion Committee
- 2015-2016 Member, "Under Western Skies 4: Water," 2016 Conference Planning Committee
- 2015-2016 Member, "Historians Teaching History: What Works and What Needs Work in Post-secondary History Education," 2016 Conference Planning Committee, Mount Royal University, May 28, 2016
- 2015 Member, Hiring Committee, Tenure-Track Indigenous Studies Librarian
- 2015 Member, Hiring Committee, Tenure-Track Archivist and Special Collections Librarian
- 2014-present Member, History Program Review Committee
- 2014-2017 Member, Department of Humanities Tenure Committee

- 2014-2016 Councilor, General Faculties Council (Teaching and Learning Standing Committee; Distinguished Faculty Awards and Teaching and Learning Strategic Plan Framework Subcommittees)
- 2014-2015 Co-chair and Faculty of Arts Representative, Undergraduate Research Committee
- 2013-2014 Member, "Under Western Skies 3: Environmental Technologies," 2014 Conference Planning Committee
- 2012-2014 Member, Department of Humanities Tenure and Promotion Committee
- 2012-2013 Member, Hiring Committee, Tenure-Track Canadian History
- 2012-2013 Member, Department of Humanities War of 1812 Public Event Planning Committee
- 2011-2012 Member, "Under Western Skies 2: Climate, Culture, and Community," 2012 Conference Planning Committee. Subcommittees on Program and Exhibitors
- 2010-2012 Member, Educational Grants Committee, Mount Royal Faculty Association
- 2009-2010 History Major Advisor
- 2009-2010 Member, Arts Advisors Committee
- 2008-2010 Member, "Under Western Skies: Climate, Culture, Change," 2010 Conference Planning Committee. Subcommittees on Finance, Accommodations, Program, Exhibitors, and Call for Proposals
- 2008-2009 Member, Faculty of Arts Scholarly Events Committee

University of West Georgia Service

- 2007-2008 Member, Georgia House Speaker Tom Murphy Exhibit Committee
- 2007-2008 Member, Awards Committee, Department of History
- 2006-2008 Member, Environmental Studies Committee

Service to Scholarly, Public History, and Educational Organizations

- 2020 Heritage Calgary, Programs and Services Ad-Hoc Committee Member
- 2019-present Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, Alberta Representative
- 2019-present Executive Secretary, Agricultural History Society
- 2019-present Member, Board of Directors, Heritage Park Foundation and Society, Calgary, Alberta
- 2018 Letter of Support for South Dakota State University Archives and Special Collections Recordings at Risk project, Council on Library and Information Resources Grant

2018 Assessor, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Insight Grant, Government of Canada

2018-2019 Member, Board of Directors, Heritage Park Society, Calgary, Alberta

2016-2018 Chair, Board of Directors, Heritage Park Society, Calgary, Alberta

2014-2019 Annual Meetings Advisor, Agricultural History Society

2014-2017 Member, Executive Board of the Agricultural History Society

2014-2016 Vice Chair, Board of Directors, Heritage Park Society, Calgary, Alberta (Chair, Historical, Interpretation, and Education Committee, 2014-2016)

2013-2014 Member, Board of Directors, Heritage Park Society, Calgary, Alberta (Chair, Historical, Interpretation, and Education Committee, 2013-2014)

2010-2013 Member, Historical, Interpretation, and Education Committee, Heritage Park, Calgary, Alberta

2009-2013 Member, Peterson Fund Committee, Agricultural History Society

2014-2015 Member, Dorothy Schwieder Prize Committee for the Best Article on Midwestern History, Midwestern History Association

2014-2015 Member, Program Committee, 2015 Agricultural History Society Annual Conference

2013 Assessor, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Insight Grant, Government of Canada

2011-2013 Conference Organizer and Local Arrangements Chair, 2013 Agricultural History Society Conference, Banff, Alberta

2010-2013 Member and Chair (2012-2013), Nominating Committee, Agricultural History Society

2010-2011 Chair, Program Committee, 2011 Agricultural History Society Annual Conference

2009-2010 Member, Program Committee, 2010 Agricultural History Society Annual Conference

2006-2007 Member, Local Arrangements Committee, 2007 Agricultural History Society Annual Conference, Ames, Iowa

2004-2006 Member, State National Register Nomination Review Committee, State Historical Society of Iowa, Department of Cultural Affairs

2004-2005 Member, Historical Resource Development and Enhancement Program Grant Committee, State Historical Society of Iowa, Department of Cultural Affairs

2004 Member, Certified Local Government Grant Program Committee, State Historical Society of Iowa, Department of Cultural Affairs

- 2001-2002 Member, Historical Resource Development and Enhancement Program Grant Committee, State Historical Society of Iowa, Department of Cultural Affairs
- 2000-2001 Member, Partnership Panel, Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area, Subcommittees on Grants and Affiliate Membership
- 2000 Member, Advisory Group on American Agriculture after 1945, Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village
- 1999-2000 Member, Museum Advisory Board, Burton Cotton Gin and Museum, Burton, Texas
- 1996-2001 Member, Benjamin F. Shambaugh and Throne-Aldrich Awards Committee, State Historical Society of Iowa awards for outstanding publications in Iowa history

Consulting

- 2008 National Institutes of Environmental Health, Agricultural Health Study
- 2007 Review of interpretive master plan for Historic Brattonsville: A Museum of the Rural South, July, 2007
- 2007 Moreland Historical Society, Moreland, Georgia
- 2003-2004 Exhibit Script Author, “America’s Agricultural Legacy: Families, Farming, and Everyday Life in the Midwest,” Henry A. Wallace Center at Living History Farms, Urbandale, Iowa

Professional Affiliations

- Agricultural History Society
- Association for Living History, Farm and Agricultural Museums
- Midwestern History Association
- Organization of American Historians
- Society for the History of Technology