

## Erik R. Seeman

Department of History  
University at Buffalo  
Buffalo, NY 14260  
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Williamsville, NY 14221  
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### Education:

Ph.D. University of Michigan, Department of History, 1995  
Dissertation: "Laity, Clergy, and the Shaping of Popular Religious Culture in New England, 1700-1775"

A.B. Harvard University, 1989, *magna cum laude*

### Publications:

#### *Current Projects:*

"The Pox of 1721: Boston's Deadliest Epidemic" (book in progress)

"Shakers and the Protestant Cult of the Dead" (chapter for *The Shaker Era of Manifestations*, edited by Douglas Winiarski and Joshua Guthman)

"Corpses and the Protestant Cult of the Dead" (article solicited for a special issue of *Body and Religion*; under review)

#### *Books:*

*Speaking with the Dead in Early America* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2019), x + 329pp.

- 2020 Lawrence W. Levine Award from the Organization of American Historians for the best book in American cultural history

*The Atlantic in Global History, 1500-2000*, second expanded edition (London: Routledge, 2018), xlv + 267pp. (co-edited with Jorge Cañizares-Esguerra)

- First edition published by Prentice-Hall in 2007

*The Huron-Wendat Feast of the Dead: Indian-European Encounters in Early North America* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2011), viii + 163pp.

*Death in the New World: Cross-Cultural Encounters, 1492-1800* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2010), xii + 370pp.

*Pious Persuasions: Laity and Clergy in Eighteenth-Century New England* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1999), xvi + 263pp.

*Articles and Chapters:*

*Refereed Journals*

“The Presence of the Dead among U.S. Protestants, 1800-1848,” *Church History*, vol. 88 (June 2019): 381-408.

“Death in Early America,” *History Compass*, vol. 17 (June 2019): 1-11.

“Native Spirits, Shaker Visions: Speaking with the Dead in the Early Republic,” *Journal of the Early Republic*, vol. 35 (Fall 2015): 347-73.

“Reassessing the ‘Sankofa Symbol’ in New York’s African Burial Ground,” *William and Mary Quarterly*, vol. 67 (January 2010): 101-22.

- Herbert H. Lehman Prize for Distinguished Scholarship in New York History, New York Academy of History

“Desire and Distrust: The Paradox of Women at Old Fort Niagara,” *New York History*, vol. 85 (Winter 2004): 5-21 (co-authored with Elizabeth S. Peña).

“Reading Indians’ Deathbed Scenes: Ethnohistorical and Representational Approaches,” *Journal of American History*, vol. 88 (June 2001): 17-47.

“‘It Is Better To Marry Than To Burn’: Anglo-American Attitudes Toward Celibacy, 1600-1800,” *Journal of Family History*, vol. 24 (October 1999): 397-419.

“‘Justise Must Take Plase’: Three African Americans Speak of Religion in Eighteenth-Century New England,” *William and Mary Quarterly*, vol. 56 (April 1999): 395-416.

“Lay Conversion Narratives: Investigating Ministerial Intervention,” *New England Quarterly*, vol. 71 (December 1998): 629-34.

“The Spiritual Labour of John Barnard: An Eighteenth-Century Artisan Constructs His Piety,” *Religion and American Culture*, vol. 5 (Summer 1995): 181-215.

“‘She Died Like Good Old Jacob’: Deathbed Scenes and Inversions of Power in New England, 1675-1775,” *Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society*, vol. 104, part 2 (October 1994): 285-314.

*Non-Refereed Journals and Websites*

“The Boston Smallpox Epidemic of 1721,” in [“21 Lessons from America’s Worst Moments,”](#) *Time Magazine* (June 25, 2020).

[“The Feast of the Dead,”](#) *Berfrois: Intellectual Jousting in the Republic of Letters*, August 2, 2011.

“Teaching the History of Death in Colonial North America,” *OAH Magazine of History*, vol. 25 (January 2011): 31-34.

“Spooky Streets: Spirits of the Past Haunt Ghost Tours,” [Common-Place: The Interactive Journal of Early American Life](#), vol. 3, no. 1 (October 2002).

#### *Contributions to Books*

“Graveyards as Landscapes of Power in the Early Modern Atlantic World,” in *Power, Political Economy, and Historical Landscapes of the Modern World*, edited by Christopher R. DeCorse (Albany: SUNY Press, 2019), 177-201.

“The Huron-Wendat Feast of the Dead,” *Encyclopedia of the Atlantic World*, edited by David Head (Santa Barbara, Calif.: ABC-Clio, 2018), 302-5.

“The Atlantic Paradigm Matures,” in *The Atlantic in Global History, 1500-2000*, 2d ed., edited by Jorge Cañizares-Esguerra and Erik R. Seeman (London: Routledge, 2017), xxiv-xliii (co-authored with Cañizares-Esguerra).

“Death in the Atlantic World,” in *Oxford Bibliographies in Atlantic History*, edited by Trevor Burnard. Revised and expanded version of 2013 original (New York: Oxford University Press, 2017). (9,000-word online publication)

“Death in Colonial North America: Cross-Cultural Encounters,” *Oxford Reference Encyclopedia in American History*, edited by Jon Butler (Oxford University Press, September 2015). (8,500-word online publication)

“Diseases,” *The Princeton Companion to Atlantic History*, edited by Joseph C. Miller (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2015): 134-36.

“Piety and Practice in North America to 1800,” *Cambridge History of Religions in America*, edited by Stephen J. Stein, 3 vols. (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2012): 1:686-707.

“North and South Atlantic Core Seminar Syllabus,” in *Teaching American History in a Global Context*, edited by Carl Guarneri and Jim Davis (Armonk, N.Y.: M.E. Sharpe, 2008): 158-64.

“Beyond the Line: Nations, Oceans, Hemispheres,” in *The Atlantic in Global History, 1500-2000*, edited by Jorge Cañizares-Esguerra and Erik R. Seeman (Upper Saddle River, N.J.: Prentice-Hall, 2007): xxiii-xxviii.

“Jews in the Early Modern Atlantic: Crossing Boundaries, Keeping Faith,” in *The Atlantic in Global History, 1500-2000*, edited by Jorge Cañizares-Esguerra and Erik R. Seeman (Upper Saddle River, N.J.: Prentice-Hall, 2007): 39-59.

“Millennialism,” in *Encyclopedia of the New American Nation: The Emergence of the United States, 1754-1829*, ed. Paul Finkelman, 3 vols. (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 2005), 2: 382-83.

“Sarah Prentice and the Immortalists: Sexuality, Piety, and the Body in Eighteenth-Century New England,” in *Sex and Sexuality in Early America*, edited by Merrill D. Smith (New York: New York University Press, 1998): 116-31.

#### *Interviews, Podcasts, Blogs*

“Speaking with the Dead,” “Common Threads” radio show on WGVU-FM, two 30-minute episodes, September 2020.

“Speaking with the Dead,” interviewed by John G. Turner, [Anxious Bench](#), February 13, 2020.

“Q&A with Erik R. Seeman,” interviewed by Mark Boonshoft, [The Junto](#), December 9, 2019.

“[The Page 99 Test](#),” *Campaign for the American Reader*, November 20, 2019.

“Cult of the Dead: Anglo-American Death Practices, Spiritualism, and Speaking with the Dead,” [Dig Podcast](#), November 17, 2019, 40 minutes.

“The Author’s Corner with Erik Seeman,” interviewed by Annie Thorn, [The Way of Improvement Leads Home](#), November 7, 2019.

“‘How Do They Bury Their Dead?’ An Interview about Death and Culture,” interviewed by Jeremy Jenkins, [All Things All People](#), September 28, 2019.

“Huron-Wendat Feast of the Dead: Death, Religion, and Euro-Native Encounters,” [Dig Podcast](#), November 12, 2017, 70 minutes.

#### *Book Reviews:*

John L. Steckley, *Instructions to a Dying Infidel: Translating Jesuit Missionary Attempts to Convert Huron-Wendat in New France*. In *Northeast Anthropology*, vol. 85/86 (2017): 89-90.

Douglas L. Winiarski, *Darkness Falls in the Land of Light: Experiencing Religious Awakenings in Eighteenth-Century New England*. In *New England Quarterly*, vol. 90 (December 2017): 607-10.

Lisa J. M. Poirier, *Religion, Gender, and Kinship in Colonial New France*. In *American Historical Review*, vol. 122 (December 2017): 1601.

Mary Riso, *The Narrative of the Good Death: The Evangelical Deathbed in Victorian England*. In *Church History*, vol. 86 (September 2017): 935-37.

Emily Conroy-Krutz, *Christian Imperialism: Converting the World in the Early American Republic*. In *Journal of American History*, vol. 103 (December 2016): 36.

Ann Marie Plane, *Dreams and the Invisible World in Colonial New England*, and Ann Marie Plane and Leslie Tuttle., eds., *Dreams, Dreamers, and Visions: The Early Modern Atlantic World*. In *Reviews in American History*, vol. 43 (September 2015): 427-33.

Julius H. Rubin, *Tears of Repentance: Christian Indian Identity and Community in Colonial Southern New England*. In *Journal of American History*, vol. 101 (June 2014): 239.

Richard Bell, *We Shall Be No More: Suicide and Self-Government in the Newly United States*. In *American Historical Review*, vol. 118 (June 2013): 846-47.

Tom Arne Midtrød, *The Memory of All Ancient Customs: Native American Diplomacy in the Colonial Hudson Valley*. In *Reviews in American History*, vol. 41 (June 2013): 191-96.

Linford D. Fisher, *The Indian Great Awakening: Religion and the Shaping of Native Cultures in Early America*. In *Church History*, vol. 82 (March 2013): 215-18.

Daniel K. Richter, *Before the Revolution: America's Ancient Pasts*. In *American Historical Review*, vol. 117 (April 2012): 513-14.

Bernard Bailyn, ed., *Soundings in Atlantic History: Latent Structures and Intellectual Currents, 1500-1830*. In *Journal of Global History*, vol. 6 (2011): 537-38.

Alan C. Swedlund, *Shadows in the Valley: A Cultural History of Illness, Death, and Loss in New England, 1840-1916*. In *Social History of Medicine* (August 2011): 1-2.

Gabriela Ramos, *Death and Conversion in the Andes: Lima and Cuzco, 1532-1670*. In *Church History*, vol. 80 (March 2011): 175-77.

Jack P. Greene and Philip D. Morgan, eds., *Atlantic History: A Critical Appraisal*. In *Journal of World History*, vol. 21 (June 2010): 329-32.

Emma Anderson, *The Betrayal of Faith: The Tragic Journey of a Colonial Native Convert*. In *American Historical Review*, vol. 113 (December 2008): 1511-12.

Vincent Brown, *The Reaper's Garden: Death and Power in the World of Atlantic Slavery*. In *Journal of Colonialism and Colonial History*, vol. 9 (Fall 2008): 1-4.

Eliga H. Gould and Peter S. Onuf, eds., *Empire and Nation: The American Revolution in the Atlantic World*. In *Journal of British Studies*, vol. 45 (April 2006): 49-51.

Timothy J. Todish, *America's First First World War: The French and Indian War, 1754-1763*. In *New York History*, vol. 86 (Fall 2005): 500-501.

Nancy Isenberg and Andrew Burstein, eds., *Mortal Remains: Death in Early America*. In *Journal of American History*, vol. 90 (December 2003): 990-91.

Richard Archer, *Fissures in the Rock: New England in the Seventeenth Century*. In *William and Mary Quarterly*, vol. 60 (April 2003): 434-36.

Edward Gray, *New World Babel: Languages and Nations in Early America*. In *Journal of American History*, vol. 88 (December 2001): 1050-51.

Dianne Ashton, *Rebecca Gratz: Women and Judaism in Antebellum America*. In *American Jewish History*, vol. 88 (March 2000): 152-54.

Christopher Grasso, *A Speaking Aristocracy: Transforming Public Discourse in Eighteenth-Century Connecticut* and Jane Kamensky, *Governing the Tongue: The Politics of Speech in Early New England*. In *Social History*, vol. 25 (January 2000): 107-109.

Laurie Winn Carlson, *A Fever in Salem: A New Interpretation of the New England Witch Trials*. On H-AmRel, [H-Net](#) discussion list on American religion, September 1999.

Catherine A. Brekus, *Strangers and Pilgrims: Female Preaching in America, 1740-1845*. In *Reviews in American History*, vol. 27 (September 1999): 382-88.

### **Positions Held:**

Chair, History Department, University at Buffalo, August 2019-present

Visiting Professor of History, Capital Normal University, Beijing, July 2019

Professor, History Department, University at Buffalo, July 2011-present

Director, Humanities Institute, University at Buffalo, July 2011-June 2016

Visiting Professor of History, University of the West Indies, Barbados, Jan.-May 2005

Associate Professor, History Department, University at Buffalo, 2001-2011

Assistant Professor, History Department, University at Buffalo, 1996-2001

Visiting Assistant Professor, History Dept., University of California, Irvine, 1995-1996

**Courses Taught:**

U.S. History to 1865 (introductory survey)

U.S. History since 1865 (introductory survey)

History of Ghosts (first-year seminar)

Death in America (large lecture course)

Colonial America to 1763 (upper-level lecture)

Politics and Culture in the Revolutionary Era (upper-level lecture)

Indian-European Encounters in North America (upper-level lecture)

Indians, Africans, and Europeans in Colonial America (upper-level seminar)

Early American Religious Cultures (upper-level seminar)

Readings in Early American History (graduate class)

Culture and Contact: The Atlantic World, 1400-1800 (graduate class)

Radical Religion in the Anglo-Atlantic World (graduate class)

North and South Atlantic Core Seminar (graduate class)

American History Core Seminar I (graduate class)

Early American Research (graduate research seminar)

**Honors and Awards:**

Lawrence W. Levine Award for the best book in American cultural history, Organization of American Historians, for *Speaking with the Dead in Early America*, April 2020

Herbert H. Lehman Prize for Distinguished Scholarship in New York History, New York Academy of History, for “Reassessing the ‘Sankofa Symbol’ in New York’s African Burial Ground,” *William and Mary Quarterly* (awarded April 2014)

Humanities Institute Research Fellowship, University at Buffalo, August to December 2008

Fulbright Research and Teaching Fellowship, University of the West Indies, Cave Hill, Barbados, January to May 2005

National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship for University Teachers, August 2001 to July 2002

Interdisciplinary Research Grant, Institute for Research and Education on Women and Gender, State University of New York at Buffalo, Summer 2001

Julian Park Publication Fund award, State University of New York at Buffalo, January 1999

National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship to attend NEH Summer Institute, "The History of Death in America," Columbia University, New York, June 1998

Faculty of Social Science Research Development Funds Grant, State University of New York at Buffalo, Summer 1998

Interfraternity Council Outstanding Teaching Award, University of California, Irvine, May 1996

Mellon Dissertation Fellowship, University of Michigan, July 1994 to June 1995

### **Presentations:**

#### *Invited Lectures and Presentations:*

"Deathbed Scenes in Cross-Cultural Perspective," keynote lecture, conference on "The Last Hour: The Moment of Death in Early Modern Europe," Erfurt, Germany, August 2021

"Speaking with the Dead in Early America," invited Zoom lecture, Morbid Anatomy speakers series, October 2020

"Speaking with the Dead in Early America," invited lecture, Providence College, Providence, Rhode Island, September 2020

"The Prehistory of Spiritualism," invited lecture, Spiritualism Today Series, Lily Dale, New York, July 2020

"Shakers and the Protestant Cult of the Dead," invited presentation, Shaker Era of Manifestations Conference, Pleasant Hill, Kentucky, April 2020 [coronavirus cancellation]



“Speaking with the Dead in Early America,” keynote lecture, Syracuse University Graduate History Conference on “Belief and Identity,” Syracuse, March 2020 [coronavirus cancellation]

“Women and the Protestant Cult of the Dead in Antebellum America,” invited lecture, University at Buffalo Gender Institute, Buffalo, February 2020

“Speaking with the Dead in Early America,” invited lecture, Canisius College, Buffalo, February 2020

“The Fox Sisters: Speaking with the Dead in Early America,” invited classroom presentation, Rochester Institute of Technology, January 2020

“Shaker Visions of Heaven,” invited presentation, workshop on “The Shaker Era of Manifestations,” Richmond, March 2019

“The Protestant Cult of the Dead in New England, 1800-1848,” invited presentation, Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston, October 2018

“Graveyards as Landscapes of Power in the Early Modern Atlantic World,” invited presentation, colloquium on “Power, Political Economy, and Historical Landscapes of the Modern World: Interdisciplinary Perspectives,” Binghamton, New York, April 2017

Invited commentator, McNeil Center for Early American Studies Book Manuscript Workshop, on Christopher Heaney, “The Pre-Columbian Exchange: The Circulation of the Ancient Peruvian Dead in the Americas and Atlantic World,” Philadelphia, November 2016

“‘Conversation with the Departed’: Talking Gravestones and the Materiality of Speaking with the Dead in New England,” invited presentation, *William and Mary Quarterly*-Early Modern Studies Institute Workshop on “Religions in the Early Americas,” Pasadena, California, May 2016

“Death in the New World,” invited Skype lecture, Colorado State University History Research Seminar, April 2016

“Talking Gravestones: Speaking with the Dead in Early New England,” invited lecture, University of Richmond, February 2016

“Sir William Johnson’s Death Diplomacy,” invited lecture, Johnson Hall State Historic Site, Johnstown, New York, August 2014

“Death in the New World,” invited Skype lecture, Colorado State University History Research Seminar, February 2013

“The Huron-Wendat Feast of the Dead,” invited lecture, New York Archaeological Association, Buffalo, September 2012

“The Huron-Wendat Feast of the Dead: Bones, Blood, and the Colonial Encounter,” invited lecture, Anthropology Department, University of Toronto, October 2011

“The Huron-Wendat Feast of the Dead,” invited lecture, Ontario Archaeological Society, Toronto, September 2011

“Death in the Seven Years’ War: Cross-Cultural Encounters,” invited lecture, David Library of the American Revolution, Washington Crossing, Pa., April 2011

Invited commentator, “Dying, Mourning, and Memory in the American South” conference, Raleigh, North Carolina, April 2011

“Burial and Condolence in the Seven Years’ War,” invited lecture, University of Rochester, Rochester, N.Y., March 2011

“Death in the New World: Cross-Cultural Encounters,” Scholars at Muse series, Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, October 2008

“Across the Waters: African-American Deathways in the Eighteenth Century,” invited presentation, Cornell University Colloquium on the Americas, Ithaca, New York, March 2008.

“Sentimental Journeys: Victorian and Neo-Victorian Deathways in America,” keynote address, Strong Museum A.P. History Conference, Rochester, New York, March 2003

“Religion and Sexuality in the Burned-Over District,” invited speaker, plenary session, Groves Conference on Marriage and Families, 2002: Families, Religions, and Spirituality in the Postmodern Era, Chautauqua, New York, June 2002

“Magic and Religion in Enlightenment New England,” invited speaker, conference on “Magic Meets Enlightenment? New Types of Discourses in America and Germany in the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries,” German Historical Institute, Washington, D.C., October 2000

“‘It Is Better To Marry Than To Burn’: The Threat of Celibacy in Colonial New England,” invited speaker, St. Bonaventure University’s annual humanities lecture, Olean, New York, November 1998

*Conference Papers:*

“Women and the Protestant Cult of the Dead, 1800-1848,” Organization of American Historians, Philadelphia, April 2019

“Founding the Buffalo Humanities Festival,” Federation of State Humanities Councils, New Orleans, November 2018

“The Protestant Cult of the Dead, 1800-1848,” Society of Early Americanists, St. Louis, March 2018

“‘I Am Still In Your Midst’: Shaker Visions and the Antebellum Culture of Death,” Organization of American Historians, New Orleans, April 2017

“‘I Am Still In Your Midst’: Shaker Visions and the Antebellum Culture of Death,” American Academy of Religion, San Antonio, November 2016

“‘Conversation with the Departed’: Talking Gravestones and the Materiality of Speaking with the Dead in New England,” Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture – Society of Early Americanists, Chicago, June 2015

“Native Spirits, Shaker Visions: Speaking with the Dead in the Early Republic,” Society for Historians of the Early American Republic, Philadelphia, July 2014

“Speaking with the Dead in the American Enlightenment,” Northeast American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, Hamilton, Ont., October 2011

“‘Not One of his Bones Should be Buried’: Corpses and Cross-Cultural Encounters,” Society of Early Americanists – Early American Borderlands, St. Augustine, Fla., May 2010

“‘This Our Earth Is Truly English’: Protestant Martyrs in Seventeenth-Century Virginia,” American Historical Association and American Society of Church History, San Diego, January 2010

“Hearts and Souls: African American Deathways in the Urban North,” Society for Historians of the Early American Republic, Philadelphia, July 2008

“Cross-Cultural Encounters with Death in the Colonial Caribbean: Jews, Christians, and Africans,” Society of Caribbean Studies, Edinburgh, Scotland, July 2008

“Hearts and Souls: African-American Deathways in Eighteenth-Century Northern Cities,” Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture, Boston, June 2008.

“‘Not One of his Bones Should be Buried’: Corpses and Cross-Cultural Religious Violence,” Yale University Religion and Violence in Early America Conference, New Haven, April 2008

“Holy Bones in Colonial New France: Cross-Cultural Encounters with Death,” Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture, Quebec City, June 2006

“Cross-Cultural Encounters with Death in the Colonial Caribbean: Jews, Christians, and Africans,” Organization of American Historians, Washington, D.C., April 2006

“Before Roanoke: Spanish and Indian Deathways Collide in Ajacán (Virginia),” Mid-Atlantic Popular/American Culture Association, Buffalo, November 2004

“Jews in the Early Modern Atlantic: Crossing Boundaries, Keeping Faith,” Beyond the Line: The North and South Atlantic in Global History, Buffalo, October 2004

“Corrupting Corpses: Burial and Disinterment in the Seventeenth-Century Chesapeake,” Organization of American Historians, Boston, March 2004

“Death and Burial in the Seven Years’ War: Cross-Cultural Encounters,” Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture, College Park, Maryland, June 2002

“Spirits in White Raiment: Indians’ Deathbed Scenes in Colonial New France and New England,” American Historical Association, Chicago, January 2000

“‘Justise Must Take Plase’: African Americans Speak of Religion in Eighteenth-Century New England,” American Historical Association and American Society of Church History, Seattle, January 1998

“The Patriarchal Family and the Threat of Celibacy in Eighteenth-Century New England,” Third Carleton Conference on the History of the Family, Ottawa, Ontario, May 1997

“Sarah Prentice and the Immortalists: Sexuality, Piety, and the Body in Eighteenth-Century New England,” Institute of Early American History and Culture, Boulder, Colorado, June 1996

“From the Baptismal Font to the Deathbed: Sites of Ritualized Gender Contestation in Eighteenth-Century New England,” American Society for Church History, Chicago, January 1995

“Reading Religion: An Eighteenth-Century Artisan Constructs His Piety,” New England Historical Association, Providence, Rhode Island, October 1992

“Radicalization to Moderation: The Process of Legitimation Among Essex County New Lights, 1740-1776,” Missouri Valley Historical Conference, Omaha, Nebraska, March 1991

*Chairing and Commenting:*

Chair and commentator on panel, “The Antebellum Politics of Death,” Society for Historians of the Early Republic, Philadelphia, July 2021

Commentator on panel, "Regulating the Dead: Cultural Values in Burial Grounds and Cemeteries," Society for Historians of the Early American Republic, Cleveland, July 2018

Chair of panel, "The Politics of Disease and Death in the Atlantic World," Society of Early Americanists, St. Louis, March 2018

Chair of panel, "Remembering the Dead: Slavery and Mortality through Material Culture," American Historical Association, Washington, D.C., January 2018

Chair and commentator on panel, "Ways of Knowing: Sacred Narratives and the Reformation of Knowledge in Early America," American Historical Association and American Society of Church History, Denver, January 2017

Chair of panel, "Responses of Native Americans and African Slaves to Atlantic Missions," American Historical Association, Boston, January 2011

Commentator on panel, "Mourning in America: Political Funerals in the Early Republic," Society for Historians of the Early American Republic, Rochester, N.Y., July 2010

Chair of panel, "American Indians in the Eighteenth Century: Texts and Contexts," Northeast American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, Geneva, N.Y., October 2008

Chair and commentator on panel, "Transatlantic Geographies: Historical and Literary Encounters," Northeast American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, Hanover, New Hampshire, October 2007

Chair and commentator on panel, "Death in History and Literature," Society of Early Americanists and Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture, Williamsburg, Virginia, June 2007

Chair and commentator on panel, "American Revolution and Republic," Phi Alpha Theta New York Regional Meeting, Fredonia, New York, April 2007

Invited commentator, panel on "Atlantic Transfers," Harvard University International Seminar on the History of the Atlantic World, 1500-1825, Cambridge, Mass., August 2006

Chair and commentator on panel, "Haunting and Historical Memory," American Studies Association, Washington, D.C., November 2005

Chair of panel, "Beyond Denominationalism: Religious Frontiers in Early America," American Society of Church History, San Francisco, January 2002

Chair and commentator on panel, "Not By Bread Alone: Lived Religion in the Early Republic," Society for Historians of the Early American Republic, Baltimore, July 2001

Chair and commentator at conference, "From Rhetoric to Archaeology: Multidisciplinary Approaches to Historical Writing," University at Buffalo, December 2000

Commentator on panel "Women, Discourse, and Religious Community in Early America," Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture, Austin, Texas, June 1999

*Workshops:*

"The Protestant Cult of the Dead in the Northeastern United States," Rochester-area U.S. Historians, Rochester, March 2018

"The Festival Model of Public Engagement," Publics / Intellectuals / Humanities Workshop, University at Buffalo, November 2014

"Native Spirits, Shaker Visions: Speaking with the Dead in the Early Republic," Rochester-area U.S. Historians, Rochester, October 2013

"Jews in the Early Modern Caribbean: Crossing Boundaries, Keeping Faith," History Forum, University of the West Indies, Cave Hill, Barbados, March 2005

"Jewish Deathways in the Eighteenth-Century Atlantic World," Second Annual Bloomington Eighteenth-Century Studies Workshop, Bloomington, Indiana, May 2003

"Jewish Deathways in the Early Modern Atlantic World," Rochester-area U.S. Historians, Rochester, New York, April 2003

"Women and Gender at Old Fort Niagara," Institute for Research and Education on Women and Gender conference, University at Buffalo, April 2002

"The Atlantic World Paradigm," as part of roundtable on "The Futures of American Literatures," Borders of the Americas Conference, University at Buffalo, March 2000

"Spirits in White Raiment: Indians' Deathbed Scenes in Colonial New France and New England," History Department Colloquium, University at Buffalo, February 2000

"'It Is Better To Marry Than To Burn': Anglo-American Attitudes Toward Celibacy, 1600-1800," History Department Colloquium, University at Buffalo, September 1997

"Earthquakes and Great Awakenings: Revivalism and the Rhythms of Lay Piety," Michigan Seminar for Colonial Studies, East Lansing, Michigan, April 1995

### **Public History/Community Service:**

“The Corpse in the Parlor,” Science and Art Cabaret, Buffalo, March 2018

Invited Presenter, “Charles G. Finney and Revivalism,” National Endowment for the Humanities *Landmarks of American History Workshop for School Teachers*, Rochester, N.Y., July 2011, July 2014, July 2015, July 2016, July 2017

Research featured in the *New York Times*: Sewell Chan, “Coffin’s Emblem Defies Certainty,” 27 January 2010, C1

Faculty Presenter, Teaching American History Grant, Buffalo Public School System, June 2007, June 2006, and August 2005

Presenter, University and the World Lecture Series. Slide presentation on “Three Centuries of New York Cemeteries,” University at Buffalo, July 2003

Facilitator, book group of U.S. Congressman John LaFalce (D-Buffalo), January 2002

Lecturer, New York Council for the Humanities “Speakers in the Humanities” series. Slide presentation on “Three Centuries of New York Cemeteries”

- Rochester Genealogical Society, Rochester, N.Y., January 2006
- Hamburg Public Library, Hamburg, N.Y., November 2001
- Waterford Historical Museum, Waterford, N.Y., November 2000
- Geneva Historical Society, Geneva, N.Y., October 2000

Participant in University at Buffalo's Faculty Lecture Program in area high schools. Slide presentation on “The Cemeteries of Western New York: A History of Death in America”

- Barker High School, Barker, N.Y., May 2000
- The Nichols School, Buffalo, February 2000

### **Professional Activities:**

Advisory Board, H-Death discussion list on H-Net, June 2010-present

Advisory Board, University of Georgia Press series, “Race in the Atlantic World, 1700-1900,” 2006-present

Editorial Board, University of Alabama Press series, “Atlantic Crossings,” 2007-present

National Endowment for the Humanities external review committee for Summer Seminars and Institutes for School Teachers, April 2017

National Endowment for the Humanities / Omohundro Institute Postdoctoral Fellowship external review committee, January 2011

American Council of Learned Societies national review committee, Dissertation Completion Fellowship Program, 2008 and 2009

Executive Board, Northeast American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, November 2006-November 2009

Fulbright national review committee, faculty applications for the Western Hemisphere, Washington, D.C., October 2007

External evaluator for tenure and promotion:

- Northern Arizona University, August 2020
- University of Minnesota, History, June 2020
- Barnard College, History, June 2019
- University of Kansas, History, January 2019
- UNC Chapel Hill, Religious Studies, December 2018
- Providence College, History, September 2016
- SUNY-Brockport, History, August 2015
- Brown University, History, August 2014
- Providence College, History, November 2013
- DePaul University, History, August 2013
- New York University, History, August 2012
- Simmons College, History, July 2012
- University of Alabama-Birmingham, History, September 2011
- Canisius College, History, September 2011
- Washington University in St. Louis, English, February 2009
- University of Michigan-Dearborn, Social Sciences, April 2007

Book manuscripts evaluated:

- Oxford University Press, October 2020
- University of Pennsylvania Press, January 2019
- Yale University Press, August 2018
- Johns Hopkins University Press, September 2017
- Cornell University Press, January 2014
- Yale University Press, May 2013
- Wilfrid Laurier University Press, March 2013
- University of Chicago Press, December 2012
- New York University Press, June 2012, March 2005
- Harvard University Press, March 2012
- Michigan State University Press, August 2008
- University of Georgia Press, May 2007
- Bedford/St. Martin's, August 2006
- Houghton-Mifflin, April 2002
- McGraw-Hill, January 2000
- Prentice Hall Publishers, May 1996



Article and chapter manuscripts evaluated:

- *Early American Literature*, January 2020
- *Ohio Valley History*, October 2019
- *The Archaeology of New York State Revisited*, January 2019
- *Early American Studies*, October 2017
- *Material and Visual Cultures of Religion*, March 2016
- *Journal of Social History*, March 2016, June 2013
- *Journal of the Bible and its Reception*, February 2016
- Oxford University Press, January 2016
- *William and Mary Quarterly*, November 2015, November 2014, August 2009, November 2007, February 2002, June 1996
- *American Indian Quarterly*, April 2015
- *African American Review*, May 2013
- *World Archaeology*, September 2012
- *Journal of Southern History*, September 2011
- *Journal of the Early Republic*, October 2010
- *Religion and American Culture*, June 2009
- *American Historical Review*, July 2007
- *Journal of American History*, August 2004, October 1999
- *Journal of Religious History*, October 2002
- *Journal of British Studies*, June 2002

Book proposals evaluated:

- Broadview Press, September 2020
- University of Toronto Press, January 2014
- Catholic University Press, November 2011
- University of Georgia Press, June 2011
- University of Chicago Press, April 2011
- Oxford University Press, February 2001

**Conference Planning:**

Co-organizer, “Early Modern Violence: A Symposium,” with seven participants and fifty attendees, Buffalo, September 2018

Chair, Program Committee, Northeast American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies conference, with forty panels and 124 participants, Buffalo, October 2010

Co-organizer, “Beyond the Line: The North and South Atlantic and Global History, 1500-2000,” conference with thirteen outside scholars, six UB presenters, and seventy attendees, October 2004

Co-organizer, “The North and South Atlantic: Comparative Perspectives,” graduate conference with twenty-three presentations, April 2003

**Selected Department and University Service:**

History Department Chair, August 2019-present

Provost's Strategic Financial Management Advisory Group, April 2020-present

College of Arts and Sciences Policy Committee, History Department Representative,  
September 2018-May 2019

Chair, Slavery/African Diaspora Search Committee, Fall 2018

Co-Coordinator, Early Modern Research Workshop, Sept. 2017-August 2019

Director, Humanities Institute, July 2011-June 2016

Affiliate, University at Buffalo Gender Institute, December 2014-present

SUNY Network of Excellence in the Arts and Humanities, SUNY Research Foundation,  
April 2014-June 2016

Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Activities Committee, Office of the Vice  
President for Research, November 2013-December 2014

Provost's Research and Innovation Task Force, August 2013-December 2014

College of Arts and Sciences Strategic Planning Committee, Research Subcommittee,  
October 2012-December 2013

Chair, History Department Speakers Committee, May 2009-May 2010

Organizer, Interdisciplinary Atlantic Studies Workshop, Provost's Office of Strategic  
Initiatives, November 2009

Interdisciplinary Degree Program Advisory Committee, January 2009-August 2011

American Studies Faculty Advisory Group, March 2008-April 2012

Dean's Budget Advisory Committee, College of Arts and Sciences, Fall 2008

Chair, Caribbean/Latin American Search Committee, Fall 2008

Organizer, Early Modern Reading Group's Distinguished Speakers Series, "Slavery and  
Slave Narratives," 2007-2008

College of Arts and Sciences Policy Committee, History Department Representative,  
September 2003-June 2009

Director of Undergraduate Studies, History Department, May 2005-May 2008

Keynote Speaker, National Society of Collegiate Scholars, University at Buffalo chapter  
induction convocation, September 2007

Chair, South Atlantic Search Committee, Fall 2004

“Academics at UB,” presentation to 130 students for Freshman Orientation, July 2003

Member, Faculty Senate, September 2002-May 2003

**Research Supervision (with date degree received or expected):**

*Ph.D. Committees Chaired:*

Patrick Long (2022)  
Andrea Nero (2021)  
Elisabeth Davis (2020)  
Marissa Rhodes (2019) (co-chair)  
Joshua Schroeder (2019)  
Paul Zwirecki (2014)  
Elizabeth Burns (2014)  
Craig Miller (2011)

*Ph.D. Committees Served On:*

Liya Liu (2022)  
Alexandra Prince (2020)  
Steve Peraza (2015)  
Stephen Smith (2015)  
David Head (2010)  
Jonathan Bergman (2008)  
Erik Hadley (2006)  
Ami Pflugrad-Jackisch (2005)  
Ronald Kotlik (2005)  
Charles Lipp (2004)  
Songho Ha (2003)  
Bruce Hall (2003)

*Master's Theses Directed:*

Nathan Ahlstrom (2020)  
Charlee Strangia (2020)

Justin Reisdorf (2020)  
Arranne Paige-Rispoli (2019)  
Michael DeSantis (2017)  
Brian Schmid (2017)  
Reed Jones (2016)  
Joseph Humnicky (2015)  
Shannon Lunney (2015)  
Bridget Pumm (2015)  
David Stehlin (2013)  
Adam Young (2012)  
Andrew DiMartino (2012)  
Joseph Grabianowski (2012)  
Adam Long (2012)  
Katherine Brown (2010)  
Megan Shay (2010)  
Stephen Pitt (2008)  
Andrew Schwach (2008)  
Catherine McPherson (2007)  
Paul Zwirecki (2007)  
Jennifer Lipps (2007)  
Jessica Cunningham (2006)  
Brian Harding (2005)  
Derek Robinson (2005)  
Jennifer Egloff (2004)  
Michelle LaVoie (2002)  
James Werick (1998)

*Undergraduate Honors Theses Directed:*

Joseph Marino (2021)  
Elizabeth Hart (2018)  
Mary Crisafulli (2017)  
Alec Rosati-Hohensee (2015)  
Daniel Massaro (2014)  
Megan McInerney (2013)  
Andrew Abraham (2012)  
Caitlin Bradley (2011)  
Mark Boonshoft (2010)  
Sara Calleri (2010)  
Joseph Grabianowski (2009)  
Jillian Stier (2009)  
Bryan Johnson (2006)  
Alex Jarmusz (2005)

*Undergraduate Research Projects Directed:*

Mirko Vidovic (2015)  
Bridget Pumm (2013)  
Brandon Long (2011)

*Graduate Student Research Projects Directed:*

Marissa Rhodes (2014)  
Joshua Schroeder (2014)  
David Stehlin (2012)