

**Grand Valley State University's Department of History  
The 34th Annual Great Lakes History Conference**

**Indigenous Peoples of the Globe: Colonization and Adaptation  
November 13 & 14, 2009**

**Coordinators: Matthew Daley & Scott Stabler**

The 34th annual Great Lakes History Conference will be held in Grand Rapids, Michigan, on November 13 & 14, 2009. The theme is "Indigenous Peoples of the Globe: Colonization and Adaptation."

**Friday, November 13, 2009 – 7:00 p.m., L.V. Eberhard Center, Robert C. Pew Campus  
Special Guest: Mr. Sherman Alexie**

*Without Reservations: An Urban Indian's Comic, Poetic & Highly Irreverent Look at the World*  
Introduction by GVSU President Thomas Haas

Mr. Alexie is an author, poet and screenwriter. He was named one of *The New Yorker's* 20 Top Writers for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. *The New York Times Book Review* described him as "one of the major lyric voices of our time." He has written several books including *Reservation Blues*, *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-time Indian*, and *The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven*. He wrote and co-produced the film, *Smoke Signals*.

A book signing will follow the lecture. Books will be available for purchase.

Seating is limited. Additional seating will be available in the Eberhard Auditorium, the Loosemore Auditorium, and Classrooms 136C and 138C at the Richard M. DeVos Center.

This event is free of charge and open to the public.

**Saturday, November 14, 2009 – 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Great Lakes History Conference**  
L.V. Eberhard Center, Robert C. Pew Campus, Grand Rapids  
**8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

NOTE: Registration information for the Saturday conference can be found at [www.gvsu.edu/history](http://www.gvsu.edu/history) under the Great Lakes History Conference link.

**AGENDA:**

8 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. Registration & Welcome

**SESSIONS/TIMES:**

**8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.**

**PANEL 1:** Identity and Profession in Grand Rapids  
Room 201

Paper Title/Participants:

1. Etta Smith Wilson: The Successful Integration of the Life and Career of a Native American/White Woman  
Cindy Laug, Grand Valley State University  
Connie Ingham, Grand Valley State University

Chair & Commentator: Diana Barrett, Grand Rapids Historical Commission

**PANEL 2:** Creating and Challenging Traditional Narratives  
Room 310

Paper Titles/Participants:

1. Frontier Women: Two Views of the Nineteenth Century American West  
Kathy S. Mason, University of Findlay
2. "A Living, Moving Population": Textual Tourism and American Indian Appropriation in Iowa's Great Lakes Region  
Jennifer McGovern, University of Iowa
3. Colonization and Adaptation: An Indigenous Perspective from the Journals of Ezhaaswe (William A. Elias), 1851-1929  
David T. McNab, York University
4. The Truth About Colonization: Teaching Indigenous Studies Courses  
Phil Bellfy, Michigan State University

Chair & Commentator: George Milne, Oakland University

**PANEL 3:** A Broader View: Indigenous Peoples in Transnational Perspective  
Room 314

Paper Titles/Participants:

1. Constructing Identity in Transnational Contexts: Aboriginal Peoples as Indigenous Transnationals  
Christopher Wright, Trent University
2. Perspectives on the Impact of Historical and Contemporary Terrorism on the World's Indigenous Peoples  
Ken DeLong, Montcalm Community College

Chair & Commentator: Brad Jarvis, Saginaw Valley State University

**PANEL 4:** Parliaments, Wealth, and Religion in the Spanish Colonies  
Room 317

Paper Titles/Participants:

1. A Stage for Two Worlds: Origins and Dynamics of Spanish-Mapuche Parliaments, 1536-1683  
Francis Goicovich, University of Texas, Austin and Universidad de Chile
2. Command Decisions: The Conquest of Mexico and the Friedman-Savage Utility Function

- Scott Martin, Independent Researcher
3. Baptizing the Mexica: The Migration of Catholicism in Colonial Mexico  
Annmarie Valdes, Oakton Community College

Chair & Commentator: Jonathan Hagood, Hope College

**10:15 am – 11:45 am**

**PANEL 5:** Grand Rapids On Wheels  
Room 310

Papers/Participants:

1. Bold Riders of the Iron Steed: The Bicycle and Grand Rapids  
Jim Schuyler, Grand Rapids Public Library
2. The GM Fisher Body Plant: John Cassleman's Christmas Gift to Grand Rapids  
John Cassleman, Independent Researcher

Chair & Commentator: Veronica Kandl, Grand Rapids Public Museum

**PANEL 6:** Boarding Schools, the AIM and Grand Rapids, Michigan  
Room 201

Chair & Commentator: Dennis Banks

**PANEL 7:** Negotiating Social and Legal Relationships in the Great Lakes Region  
Room 314

Paper Titles/Participants:

1. Contesting Meanings of Landscape: Ottawa Responses to U.S. Colonialism in the Maumee Valley, 1820-1839  
Steven Littleton, Northern Arizona University
2. "We wish to stay among the whites": Michigan Native American resistance and accommodation to the government removal program of 1839  
Cameron Wood, Oakland University
3. A Legal History of Anishinaabe Tribal Property  
Matthew L.M. Fletcher, Michigan State University, College of Law
4. The Unintended Consequences of the Dawes Act on Native American Communities in Michigan  
Patricia Shackleton, Independent Researcher

Chair & Commentator: Bradley Gills, Grand Valley State University

**PANEL 8:** Native American Identity and the Visual Arts  
Room 317

Paper Titles/Participants:

1. "Fine Ponies": Cars in American Indian Film and Literature

- Julie Tharp, University of Wisconsin, Marshfield/Wood County
2. Native Voices, Native Visions: Indigenous Peoples and the Challenges of Self-Representation  
Jennifer L. Gauthier, Randolph College
  3. Turtle Island and University of California, Berkeley  
Lee Sprague (Former Ogema, Little River Band of Ottawa Indians), Consultant,  
University of Berkeley
- Chair & Commentator: Jeff Smith, Grand Rapids Institute for Information Democracy

**PANEL 9:** Breathing Fire at Stones: Awakening Indigenous Knowledge through Language Revitalization  
Room 423

Paper Titles/Participants:

1. Post-Contact Colonization Chippeway/Ojibwe Language Adaptation and Evolution in the Great Lakes Area  
Janis Fairbanks, Michigan State University
2. Land, Language and Removal: The Effect of Removal on Language Loss and Maintenance in Anishinaabek Communities  
Adam Haviland, Michigan State University

Chair & Commentator: Dawn Marsh, Purdue University

**PANEL 10:** Challenging the European Empires in Africa and the Middle East  
Room 515

Paper Titles/Participants:

1. Ties to Home? Distant Schooling Experiences of Dahomeyan Youth  
Farina King, University of Wisconsin, Madison
2. Figurative Dialogues: Aimé Mpane, Post-Colonial Theory, and the Limits of Representation  
Steven Cody, University of Maryland
3. Colonial Anxiety and the Origins of the Native Baptist Church in German Cameroon, 1885-1914  
Kenneth J. Orosz, Buffalo State College
4. Singing Imperialism, Sigmund Romberg's 'The Desert Song'  
James Wright, Triton College

Chair & Commentator: Joseph Bangura, Kalamazoo College

**LUNCHEON – 12 Noon – Grand River Room, L.V. Eberhard Center – Room 215**

**Keynote Address – 12:45 pm**

**Special Guest: Dr. Ned Blackhawk, Yale University**

*Surviving The American Conquest: Themes in Contemporary American History*

Introduction by GVSU Dr. Simone Jonaitis

Dr. Ned Blackhawk is a professor of History and American Studies at Yale University. He holds graduate degrees in history from the University of Washington and the University of California,

Los Angeles. He is the author of the award-winning study “Violence over the Land: Indians and Empires in the early American West”. Professor Blackhawk has written and lectured widely on issues regarding American Indian history. An enrolled member of the Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone Indians of Nevada, he taught for ten years at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, before joining the faculty at Yale.

Dr. Blackhawk has won the following awards:

2006 William P. Clements Prize for the Best Non-Fiction Book on Southwestern America  
2007 Frederick Jackson Turner Award, Organization of American Historians  
2007 Robert M. Utley Award, sponsored by the Western History Association  
2007 Erminie Wheeler-Voegelin Book Award, American Society of Ethnohistory  
2007 Lora Romero First Book Publication Prize, American Studies Association  
2008 John C. Ewers Western History Association Prize

**SESSIONS/TIMES:**

**1:45 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.**

**PANEL 11:** Uncovering Stories of People and Places – Public and Private  
Room 201

Papers/Participants:

1. Indispensable Legal Mind: Ella Mae Backus, Assistant United States Attorney, Western District of Michigan, 1895-1938  
Ruth Stevens, Grand Valley State University
2. From Reed’s to Ramona  
Gail Snow, Independent Researcher

Chair/Commentator: Shirley DeBoer, Grand Rapids Historical Commission

**PANEL 12:** Whose Museum Is It Really? The Public Museum, Scientific Study and Human Rights  
Room 203

Paper Titles/Participants:

1. Christian G. Carron, Director of Education, Interpretation and Research, Grand Rapids Public Museum
2. Eric Hemenway, National NAGPRA Review Committee Member and Research and Repatriation Assistant with Little Traverse Bay Band of Ottawa Indians
3. Marilyn Merdzinski, Director of Collections and Preservation, Grand Rapids Public Museum

Chair/Commentator: Debra Muller, Planner and Norton Mounds Project Manager,  
Grand Rapids Public Museum

**PANEL 13:** Urban Anishinaabe Oral History Project  
Room 215A

Paper Titles/Participants:

1. Anishnaabemowin-speaking elders - TBA
2. Don Lyons (Leech Lake Ojibwe), Michigan State University
3. Allard Teeple, Jr. (Bay Mills Anishnaabe/Dinè), Michigan State University
4. Dylan Miner, Michigan State University

Chair/Commentator: Audience and Panel

**PANEL 14:** Education in Indigenous Arizona Communities

Room 215G

Paper Titles/Participants:

1. Defining the National Culture and Language: 1970s Bilingual/Bicultural Education Litigation in Guadalupe, Arizona  
Lindsey Passenger, Northern Arizona University
2. Bicultural Education on the Navajo Nation  
Mary Sulek, Grand River Preparatory School

Chair/Commentator: Brian S. Collier, University of Notre Dame

**PANEL 15:** Colonization, Conflict, and Concepts: The Indigenous People of South Africa

Room 310

Paper Titles/Participants:

1. The Anatomy of a South African Genocide: The Extermination of the Cape San Peoples  
Mohamed Adhikari, University of Cape Town
2. Constructing an 'Indigenous' Identity: The Case of Afrikaner Nationalism in Modern South Africa  
Patrick J. Furlong, Alma College
3. Preservation through Civilization: The Locations System of Early British Natal  
Jacob Mckinnon Ivey, University of Central Florida
4. Reclaiming the Sky as a Cultural Resource: Astronomy and Indigenous Knowledge in South Africa  
Keith Snedegar, Utah Valley University

Chair/Commentator: Ahmad Rahman, The University of Michigan, Dearborn

**PANEL 16:** Cross-Cultural Service Learning with the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe: From Fry Bread to Facebook to Forgiveness

Room 314

Paper Titles/Participants:

1. Karen VanderLaan, Grand Valley State University
2. Tammy Shelley, Grand Valley State University
3. Katrina Miller, Grand Valley State University

Chair/Commentator: Patricia Stow Bolea, Grand Valley State University

**PANEL 17:** GVSU Student Panel

Room 317

Paper Titles/Participants:

1. Historic Band of Brothers  
Mike Burns, Grand Valley State University
2. Headdresses, Tonto, and the Tomahawk Chop: Negotiating Stereo-Types and Promoting Tolerance in Elementary Schools  
Colleen Burns, Grand Valley State University
3. Human Rights Violations and Colonial History  
Petra Alsoofy, Grand Valley State University
4. Driving American Foreign Relations: Economics  
Josh Duram, Grand Valley State University
5. From Soldadera to Adelita: The Depiction of Women During the Mexican Revolution  
Delia Fernandez, Grand Valley State University

Chair/Commentator: Alice Chapman & Doug Montagna, Grand Valley State University

**3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

**PANEL 18:** Grief, Loss, and Remembrance in the Furniture City  
Room 201

Papers/Participants:

1. Grand Rapids' Way of Death: Mourning, Burial, and Commemoration in the Modern Way, 1870-1920  
Rory Acker, Grand Valley State University
2. A Mausoleum Tells a Family's and a City's History  
Jennifer Morrison, Grand Rapids Public Library and MI-Stories.com

Chair/Commentator: Candace Chivis, Grand Rapids Historical Commission

**PANEL 19:** Interracial Institution Building in the Nineteenth Century  
Room 203

Paper Titles/Participants:

1. Under One Big Tent: Labor and Defying Racial Boundaries in Midwestern Circus Towns  
Sakina Hughes, Michigan State University
2. Education, Abolition and the Quaker Indian School  
Rebecca Lynn Nutt, Michigan State University
3. "And Devils Dragged Him Off to Hell": Cherokee Cultural Continuity and Resistance  
Stuart Willis, Michigan State University

Chair: Ned Blackhawk, Yale University

Commentator: Kathleen P. Chamberlain, Eastern Michigan University

**PANEL 20:** Tribal Nation Building and Law Enforcement: A Multi-Level Interactive Relationship  
Room 215A

Paper Titles/Participants:

1. Indian Country Law Enforcement in 2009  
Jeff Davis, Assistant United States Attorney
2. Making Connections: Tribal Nation Building  
Derek Bailey, Tribal Chairman, Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians

**PANEL 21:** Religious Belief, Identity, and Missionaries Reconsidering the Narratives  
Room 310

Paper Titles/Participants:

1. The Almighty never designed the earth for a few hordes of wandering murdering savages':  
Army Chaplains & the Indigenous People of the American West  
Alan K. Lamm, Mount Olive College
2. Bringing Civil Society and Christian Religion" to the New World: Religion vs. Self-Interest in  
the English Colonization of North America and Attempted Conversion of Indigenous Peoples,  
1607-1660  
Bryan C. Rindfleisch, University of Oklahoma
3. I Just Call My God 'I'toi: Religious Adaptation Within the Ak-Chin Santo Him Dak  
Diane Meneses, Arizona State University

Chair/Commentator: Sean O'Neill, Grand Valley State University

**PANEL 22:** Strategy, Interest, and Identity: British and American Colonization  
Room 215G

Paper Titles/Participants:

1. Britain's Imperial Strategic Interests and the Kashmir Dispute in 1947  
Yuanmei Yao, Peking University
2. Conquest and Welsh Identity  
Erin Klitzke, Oakland University
3. Take Up the White Man's Burden: Racism and Humanitarianism?  
Jon Krohn, Independent Scholar
4. Congress and the Philippine Independence (Tydings-McDuffie) Act of 1934  
Philip A. Grant, Jr., Pace University

Chair/Commentator: Marc Baer, Hope College

**Reception immediately following at the Grand Rapids Public Museum.**

We would like to thank the Grand Valley State University organizations and departments, as well as our co-sponsors, for their contributions to this year's conference:

Alumni Relations, Anthropology Department, Barbara H. Padnos International Center,  
Center for Scholarly & Creative Excellence, College of Community and Public Service,  
College of Education, College of Interdisciplinary Studies, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences,  
Continuing Education, Dean of Students Office, English Department, English MA Program,

Frederick Meijer Honors College, Hauenstein Center for Presidential Studies,  
History Department, Human Resources, Inclusion & Equity Division,  
Kutsche Office of Local History, LGBT Resource Center, LGBT Faculty/Staff Association,  
Liberal Studies Department, Office of Multicultural Affairs, Office of the Provost,  
Native American Student Association, Pew Faculty Teaching & Learning Center,  
School of Public, Nonprofit & Health Administration, School of Social Work, University  
Bookstore, Writing Department

**Great Lakes History Conference Co-Sponsors:**

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