

Home: 8 Bridge Road  
 Setauket, NY 11733  
 (785) 331-6766  
 paul.kelton@stonybrook.edu

Office: Department of History  
 SBS, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
 Stony Brook, NY 11794  
 (631) 864-3661

## EDUCATION

1992-1998 University of Oklahoma, Ph.D., in History, May 1998  
 Fields: U.S. (major), Latin America (minor), Ethnohistory (dissertation)  
 Language Exams: German (reading proficiency), Cherokee (reading proficiency)  
 1987-1992 University of Tulsa, B.A., History, *magna cum laude*, Phi Beta Kappa, Honors  
 1974-1987 Chelsea Public Schools, Chelsea, Oklahoma

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2017-present Robert David Lion Gardiner Chair and Professor of History, Stony Brook University  
 2015-2017 Professor of History, University of Kansas  
 2007-2015 Associate Professor of History, University of Kansas  
 2001-2007 Assistant Professor of History, University of Kansas  
 1998-2001 Assistant Professor of History, Southern Connecticut State University

## ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

2015-2017 Associate Dean for the Humanities, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences  
 2015 Chair-Receiver, Germanic Languages and Literature Department  
 2008-2013 Chair, Department of History

## SCHOLARSHIP

### Books:

- Cherokee Medicine, Colonial Germs: An Indigenous Nation's Fight Against Smallpox, 1518-1824. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 2015.  
 Reviewed in: *American Historical Review*, *Reviews in American History*, *William and Mary Quarterly*, *Ethnohistory*, *Western Historical Quarterly*, *Journal of American History*, *Choice*, *American Indian Culture and Research Journal*, *H-Net Reviews in the Humanities and Social Sciences*, *Register of the Kentucky Historical Society*, *North Carolina Historical Review*, *Journal of Southern History*, *Native American and Indigenous Studies*, Featured: [Global Biodefense \(blog\)](#), [C-Span \(video broadcast\)](#), [Microbe Magazine \(podcast\)](#), and [Phys.org \(blog\)](#)
- Beyond Germs: Native Depopulation in North America, co-edited with Catherine Cameron and Alan Swedlund and sponsored by the Amerind Foundation. Tucson: University of Arizona Press, 2015.  
*Selected as a Choice Outstanding Academic Title for 2016*
- Epidemics and Enslavement: Biological Catastrophe in the Native Southeast, 1492-1715. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2007.  
 Reviewed in: *American Historical Review*, *Journal of American History*, *Journal of Southern History*, *American Indian Culture and Research Journal*, *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, *Western Historical Quarterly*, *Virginia Magazine of History of Biography*, *Journal of American Studies* (United Kingdom), *Common-Place*, *South Carolina Historical Magazine*, *Ethnohistory*, *Bulletin of the History of Medicine*, *Southeastern Archaeology*, *Environmental History*, *Louisiana History*, *Georgia Historical Quarterly*

**Articles/Book Chapters:**

- “Remembering Cherokee Mortality during the American Revolution,” in Beyond Germs: the Impact of Colonialism on Indigenous Health in America. eds. Catherine Cameron, Paul Kelton, and Alan Swedlund. Tucson: University of Arizona Press, 2015, pp. 198-221.
- “The British and Indian War: Cherokee Power and the Fate of Empire in North America,” William and Mary Quarterly, 3d ser., 69, no. 4, (October 2012): 765-94.
- “Cherokee Medicine and the 1824 Smallpox Epidemic,” in Indigenous Knowledge and the Environment in Africa and North America. eds. David Gordon and Shepard Krech III. Athens: University of Ohio Press, 2012, pp. 151-170.
- “Shattered and Infected: Epidemics, Depopulation, and the Collapse of the Native Slave Trade, 1696-1715,” in Mapping the Shatter Zone: the European Invasion and the Transformation of the Mississippian World eds. Robbie Ethridge and Sheri Shuck-Hall. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2009, pp. 312-332.
- “Avoiding the Smallpox Spirits: Colonial Epidemics and Southeastern Indian Survival,” Ethnohistory, 50 (Winter 2004): 45-71.
- “‘At the Head of the Aboriginal Remnant’: Cherokee Construction of a Civilized Indian Identity during the Lakota Crisis of 1876,” Great Plains Quarterly 23 (Winter 2003): 3-17.
- “The Great Southeastern Smallpox Epidemic,” in Transformation of the Southeastern Indians, 1540-1760, eds. Robbie Ethridge and Charles Hudson. Jackson: University of Mississippi Press, 2002, pp. 21-37.
- “William Penn Adair: Cherokee Slaveholder and Indian Freedom Advocate,” Chronicles of Oklahoma, 77 (Spring 1999): 22-53.

**In Progress:**

- “Germs, Genocides, and the Fate of America’s Indigenous Peoples,” article manuscript being revised for resubmission to the Journal of American History.
- “In Comfort and Safety: the Ideology and Practice of American Indian Removal, 1828-1842,” article manuscript in preparation.
- “Empires of Blood: Indigenous Peoples and the Fight for North America, 1754-1783,” book project, research in progress.

**Book/Exhibit Reviews:**

- Tortora, Daniel J., Carolina in Crisis: Cherokees, Colonists, and Slaves in the American Southeast, 1756-1763 (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2015), in Journal of Interdisciplinary History 46 (Spring 2016): 599-600.
- Bacci, Massimo Livi, Conquest: the Destruction of the American Indios (Cambridge UK: Polity Press, 2008), in American Historical Review 113 (December 2008): 1479.
- Schutt, Amy C., People of the River Valleys: the Odyssey of the Delaware Indians (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2007), in Western Historical Quarterly 39 (Summer 2008): 211.
- Bowne, Eric, The Westo Indians: Slave Raiders of the Early Colonial South (Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 2005) in Journal of Southern History 72 (August 2006) 643-644.
- Richards, John F., The Unending Frontier: An Environmental History of the Early Modern World (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2003,) in Itinerary: International Journal on the History of European Expansion and Global Interaction vol. 1 no. 1 (2005): 131-133.

- O'Brien, Greg, Choctaws in a Revolutionary Age (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2002), in Western Historical Quarterly, 34 (Autumn 2003): 372.
- "Turning the Soil: The Land and People of Lebanon (Ct.)," Lebanon Historical Society Museum and Visitors Center, 865 Trumbull Highway, Lebanon, Connecticut 06249, long-term exhibition, opened September 23, 2000, in Connecticut History, (Spring 2001).
- Parker, Author, Red Jacket: Seneca Chief (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1998), in Connecticut History, (Spring 2000).
- Hann, John and Bonnie G. McEwan, The Apalachee Indians and Mission San Luis, (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 1998), in Georgia Historical Quarterly, 83 (Spring 1999).
- McLoughlin, William G., After the Trail of Tears: the Cherokees' Struggle for Sovereignty, 1839-1880, (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1993), in North Carolina Historical Review, 71 (July 1994).

### Scholarly Presentations (since 2005):

- "Germs, Genocides, and the Fate of America's Indigenous Peoples," invited talk, Dartmouth College, Native American Studies Department, May 2016; University of Tennessee, Department of Anthropology, October 2016.
- "Cherokee Medicine, Colonial Germs: An Indigenous Nation's Fight against Smallpox, 1518-1824," invited talk, University of California-Los Angeles, May 2015; Kansas City Public Library, September 2015; University of Oklahoma, December 2015.
- "Medical Ethnohistory: Why We Should Pay Attention to Native Practitioners," American Society for Ethnohistory, Las Vegas, NV, November 2015.
- "Germs, Genocides, and Ethnic Cleansings: Rethinking the Biological Consequences of 1492," Western History Association, Portland, Oregon, October 2015.
- "Disease Diplomacy: How Rumors of Smallpox, Outbreaks, and Diabolical Schemes Shaped the Course of Empire in North America, 1755-1764," Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture, Chicago, June 2015.
- "Losing America, 1775-1783: How Entanglements with Indigenous Peoples Doomed the British Empire," Southern History Association, Annual Conference, Atlanta, GA, November 2014.
- "In Comfort and Safety: Considerations of Indian Health in the Debate over Removal," Western History Association, Tucson, AZ, October 2013.
- "Remembering Cherokee Mortality during the American Revolution," presented at "Beyond Germs: The Impact of Colonialism on Indigenous Health in America," an invited seminar Amerind Foundation, Dragoon, AZ, February 2013. (co-organizer) [Also presented at Haskell Indian Nations University, February 15, 2013.]
- "'Necessity will turn me a Cherokee': The British and Indian War against Fort Duquesne, 1754-1758," Peace, War & Global Change Seminar, Hall Center for the Humanities, University of Kansas, September 2011.
- "Beyond Blankets: Smallpox, Human Agency, and American Indian Mortality," invited public lecture, 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual James E. Seaver Lecture on Continuing Issues in Western Civilization, Humanities and Western Civilization Program, University of Kansas, October 2010. [Also presented at Mid-America History Conference, Norman, Oklahoma, September 2009.]
- "Epidemics and Enslavement: Biological Catastrophe in the Native Southeast, 1492-1715," invited public lecture, Texas Tech University, November 2008.
- "Indigenous Medicine and Colonial Diseases: the Cherokees' Experience with Smallpox, 1696-1839," Invited Conference Paper, "Indigenous Environments: Native American and African Environmental Knowledge and Practices Compared," Bowdoin College, Brunswick, ME, April 2008. [Also presented at Hall Center for the Humanities, Kansas University, March 2008.]

- “European Conquest and Native Resistance in North America, 1500-1745,” Summer Seminar, Teaching American History, Connecting Learning to Innovation in Olathe, June 2007.
- “The Ecological Prerequisites for Virgin Soil Epidemics: the Impact of Columbian Exchange Germs on Southeastern Indians Reconsidered,” American Society for Environmental History Annual Conference, Baton Rouge, Louisiana (Session Organizer), March 2007.
- “How the Old Dominion Siphoned Indigenous Captives into its Labor System,” American Society for Ethnohistory, Williamsburg, Virginia (Session Organizer), November 2006.

**Discussant:**

- Various panels at the Western History Association (2011, 2012), American Society for Ethnohistory (2012, 2015), and Mid-America History Conference (2011, 2005)

**Research grants, fellowships, and awards:**

- Upton Fellowship, William Clements Research Library, University of Michigan, June-July 2014, \$8,000
- Sabbatical Research Leave, University of Kansas, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, fall 2014
- Project Co-Organizer, “Beyond Germs: the Impact of Colonialism on Indigenous Health in America,” a Four-day seminar for invited scholars sponsored by the Amerind Foundation, February 2013, Dragoon, AZ, \$12,000
- Hall Center for the Humanities, Resident Fellow, spring 2008
- Sabbatical Research Leave, University of Kansas, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, fall 2007
- Research Grant, General Research Fund, University of Kansas, \$2,800 (2013); \$5,000 (2007), \$5,000 (2006), \$5,000 (2004), \$5,000 (2002)
- New Faculty Research Grant, General Research Fund, University of Kansas, May 2003, \$11,000
- Research Grant, American Philosophical Society: Phillips Fund for Native American Research, May 1997, \$1,500

**TEACHING****Courses:**

- *Undergraduate:* U.S. History through the Civil War, Indigenous Peoples of North America, Indigenous Peoples of Long Island, Honors Research Seminar, Senior Research Seminar
- *Graduate:* Ethnohistory, Indigenous Peoples for Educators, Early America, Creation of the American Nation for Educators, Research Seminar in American History

**Awards:**

- Louise Byrd Graduate Educator Award, 2015

**Doctoral Advisees:**

- Nicholas Cunigan, Ph.D. 2017, “Mercurial Relations: Climate and Indigenous Resistance in the Dutch Atlantic,” Currently: Adjunct Professor of History, Calvin College
- Shelby Callaway, Ph.D. 2015, “Wahunsonacock’s Gambit: Powhatan Foreign Relations and the Success of Virginia, 1570-1622,” Currently: Program Review Specialist U.S. Department of Education
- Cynthia Nitschke, Ph.D. 2014, “Sovereign People: Politics, Power, and Property among the Shawnees, 1650-1870,” Currently: High School Social Studies Teacher, Olathe Public Schools
- Vaughn Scribner, Ph.D. 2013, “Imperial Pubs: British American Taverns as Spaces of Empire, 1700-1783,” with Honors, Currently: Assistant Professor of History (tenure-track), University of Central Arkansas

- Brady DeSanti (Ojibwe), Ph.D. 2012, “Arriving at a Common Ground: John Reed Swanton and American Anthropology.” Currently: Assistant Professor of Religious Studies/Native American Studies, (tenure-track), University of Nebraska-Omaha
- Tai Edwards, Ph.D. 2010, “Osage Gender: Continuity, Change, and Colonization, 1720s-1870s,” with Honors. Currently: Associate Professor of History (tenured), Johnson County Community College
- Ethan Schmidt, Ph.D. 2007. “The Right to Violence: Customary Rights, Moral Economy and Ethnic Conflict in Seventeenth-Century Virginia.” Assistant Professor of History, Delta State University (deceased)
- Tom Niermann, Ph.D. 2006, “The American Indian Chicago Conference, 1961: a Native Response to Government Policy and the Birth of Indian Self-Determination.” Currently: Instructor, Pembroke Academy, Kansas City, MO
- Dixie Haggard, Ph.D. 2005, “‘Their Own Way of Warring’: the Making and Persistence of Cherokee and Muscogulge Identity, 1500-1800.” Currently: Professor of History (tenured), Valdosta State University

#### **Masters Advisees (Terminal M.A.):**

- Joan Jockel, M.A., History, 2017
- Julia White Bull (Lakota), M.A., Indigenous Studies, 2015
- Thomas “Ed” Smith (Osage), M.A., Indigenous Studies, 2014
- Thea Britton, M.A., History, 2014
- Kathryn Leo, M.A., History with Honors, 2014 (co-directed)
- Melissa Lunney, M.A., History, 2014 (co-directed)

#### **Institutional grants:**

- Next Generation Careers for KU Humanities PhDs, \$50,000, National Endowment for the Humanities, PI, 2016
- Teaching American History Grant, \$814,000, U.S. Department of Education, Connecting Learning to Instruction in Olathe II, co-project director with Maureen Donegan, Olathe (Ks,) Schools, 2010-2013.

### **SERVICE**

#### **University of Kansas:**

2016-present	KU-Haskell Indian Nations University Advisory Board
2016	Faculty Facilitator, KU Common Book Discussion of Ta-Nehisi Coates’ <u>Between the World and Me</u> , New Student Orientation.
2015-2016	Search Committee, Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost
2015-2016	Evaluation Committee, Chancellor’s Doctoral Fellowships
2015-2016	Evaluation Committee, Hall Center for the Humanities, Doctoral Fellowships
2014-2015	Working Group on Transforming Student Alcohol and Sexual Violence Education
2014	NEH Pre-Proposal Review Panel, Hall Center for the Humanities
2012-present	Executive Committee, Indigenous Studies Program
2011	Task Force on Administrative Compensation, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
2011	Evaluator, Research Themes Proposals for KU Strategic Plan <i>Bold Aspirations</i>
2010-2011	Energizing the Educational Environment Work Group, KU Strategic Plan, <i>Bold Aspirations</i>
2010-2011	Stakeholder Group, Research Engagement Taskforce, KU Strategic Plan, <i>Bold Aspirations</i>
2010-2011	Chair, Task Force to Re-Organize Indigenous Studies
2009	Faculty Judge Graduate Student Research Competition
2003-2004	Co-Director, Nature & Culture Seminar, Hall Center for the Humanities

2002 Faculty Interviewer, Assessment of General Education

**Southern Connecticut State University:**

2000-2001 University Finance Committee for Re-Accreditation by Northeastern Association of Schools and Colleges  
 1999-2000 University Curriculum Committee  
 1999-2000 Faculty Team Leader, New Student Orientation

**University of Kansas, Department of History:**

2013-2015 Governance Committee  
 2006-2007 Honors Coordinator  
 2005-2007 Staff Needs Committee  
 2004-2005 Chair, Search Committee, U.S. Civil War Era  
 2002-2005 Advisory Board, (Chair 2004-05)  
 2003-2004 Search Committee, U.S. Women's History pre-1900  
 2001-2015 Undergraduate Advisor

**Southern Connecticut State University, Department of History:**

1999-2000 Search Committee, African-American History  
 1998-2001 Curriculum Committee

**Professional:**

2016 Promotion and Tenure External Evaluator, University of Houston  
 2015 Promotion and Tenure External Evaluator, UCLA  
 2014 Proposal Reviewed for National Science Foundation  
 2012-2013 Program Committee, Western History Association, Annual Meeting, October 2013, Tucson, AZ  
 2012 External Review Team (Chair), Department of History University of Missouri-Kansas City  
 2003-2005 Editorial Board, Indigenous Nations Studies Journal  
 2001-present Manuscripts reviewer: Cambridge, Oxford, Oklahoma, and North Carolina Press university presses; American Historical Review; William and Mary Quarterly; Great Plains Quarterly; Environmental History; Ethnohistory; Environment, Space, and Place; Journal of Southern History  
 1998-2001 Editorial Board, Connecticut History

**Community engagement:**

2016 Invited Speaker, "Losing America, 1775-1783: How Entanglements with Indigenous Peoples Doomed the British Empire," Sons of the American Revolution, Delaware Crossing Chapter, Olathe, Ks.  
 2016 Invited Speaker, "Cherokee Rituals to Fight Smallpox," Ecumenical Campus Ministries Forum, Lawrence, Ks.  
 2015 Invited Speaker, "From Smallpox to Ebola: What History Can Tell Us about Humanity's Experience with Emergent Infectious Diseases," University of Kansas, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, Mini-College, Lawrence, Ks.  
 2014 Humanities Consultant, *Drift and Drag: Reflections on Water*, an exhibit by the Mulvane Art Museum, Topeka, Ks.  
 2013 Invited Speaker, "The American Colonies," Eudora Elementary School, Eudora, Ks.  
 2012 Invited Public Speaker, "Expansion with Honor/Resistance with Spirit: Indigenous Peoples, the United States and the War of 1812," Daughters of the American Revolution, Betty Washington Chapter, Lawrence, Ks.

- 2011 Invited Public Speaker, “Expansion with Honor/Resistance with Spirit: Indigenous Peoples, the United States and the War of 1812,” Sons of the Revolution, Missouri Chapter, George Washington’s Birthday Luncheon, Kansas City, Mo.
- 2010-2012 Lewis and Clark Research Institute, Leavenworth, Ks.
- 2009 Invited Public Speaker, “Lincoln, Indians, and the War for Union,” Chicago Historical Society, Chicago, Il.

### Professional development:

- 2014-2015 Faculty Fellow, Office of Student Affairs
- 2011 American Council on Education and Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, Pilot Project Focus Group for Department Chairs
- 2010 American Council on Education, Workshop for Department Chairs and Deans, Austin, TX
- 2009-2010 Senior Administrative Fellow, Office of the Provost, University of Kansas

### Interviews/media:

- 2015 Interviewed by George Diepenbrock, “[Misconceptions about Smallpox](#)’s Role in Native Depopulation,” University of Kansas Public Relations
- 2014 Interviewed by Peter Everett, “[The Devil’s Rope: A History of Barbed Wire](#),” BBC Radio
- 2012 Interviewed by Annalee Newitz for her book, [Scatter, Adapt, and Remember: How Humans Will Survive a Mass Extinction](#) (New York: Doubleday, 2013)
- 2012 Interviewed by Peter Hancock, “Teaching about Thanksgiving in a Multicultural Society,” [Lawrence \[Ks.\] Journal World](#)
- 2011 Interviewed by KMBZ, 980 AM, “Significance of Columbus Day”

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Organization of American Historians  
 American Society for Ethnohistory  
 Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture  
 Western History Association  
 Native American Faculty and Staff Council, University of Kansas