Amy Lee Kohout

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# **EMPLOYMENT**

Associate Professor, Department of History, Colorado College, July 2022-present.

Assistant Professor, Department of History, Colorado College, August 2016-June 2022.

Visiting Assistant Professor of Environmental Humanities, Environmental Studies Department, Davidson College, 2015-2016.

# **EDUCATION**

Ph.D., History, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, May 2015.

Dissertation: “From the Field: Nature and Work on American Frontiers, 1876-1909”

Committee: Aaron Sachs (chair), Sara Pritchard, Eric Tagliacozzo

Fields: U.S. history, environmental and cultural; history of technology; modern Southeast Asian history

M.A., History, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, August 2011.

B.A., History, with distinction, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut, May 2004.

# **PUBLICATIONS**

*Taking the Field: Soldiers, Nature, and Empire on American Frontiers*

forthcoming, Many Wests series, University of Nebraska Press, January 2023.

<https://www.nebraskapress.unl.edu/nebraska/9781496215215/>

“More than birds: loss and reconnection at the national museum of natural history,” *Museum History Journal*, 10:1 (2017), pp. 83-96. <https://doi.org/10.1080/19369816.2016.1257852>

“Museums” in *A Companion to the History of American Science,* edited by Mark Largent and Georgina Montgomery, 431-443. Malden, MA: Blackwell, 2015.

“From the Aviary: *Haliaeetus leucocephalus*,” *The Appendix* 1:2 (April 2013), 64-66. <http://theappendix.net/issues/2013/4/from-the-aviary-haliaeetus-leucocephalus>

“*There is a Witchery in Kodakery*...,” *Rethinking History: The Journal of Theory and Practice*, 16:1 (March 2012), pp.125-129.

**CO-AUTHORED PUBLICATIONS**

Micah Ingalls, Amy Kohout, and Richard Clark Stedman, “When Places Collide: Power, Conflict and Meaning at Malheur,” *Sustainability Science* May 2019, Volume 14, Issue 3, pp. 625–638.

Ellen Adams et al., “American Empire,” Ellen Adams and Amy Kohout, eds., in *The American Yawp*, eds. Joseph Locke and Ben Wright (Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 2018). (This publication grew out of an open-source U.S. survey project; see Public and Digital History section.)

**BOOK REVIEWS**

“Megan Kate Nelson, *The Three-Cornered War: The Union, the Confederacy, and Native Peoples in the Fight for the West.*” *The Journal of the Civil War Era*, 11, no. 2 (2021): 297-299. [doi:10.1353/cwe.2021.0023](http://doi.org/10.1353/cwe.2021.0023).

“Cameron B. Strang***,*** *Frontiers of Science: Imperialism and Natural Knowledge in the Gulf South Borderlands, 1500-1850*.” *American Nineteenth-Century History*, 21, no. 1 (2020): 87-88. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14664658.2020.1749391>

“Emily Wakild and Michelle K. Berry, *A Primer for Teaching Environmental History: Ten Design Principles*.” *Western Historical Quarterly*, 50, no. 2 (Summer 2019): 179–180.

“Andrea Smalley, *Wild by Nature: North American Animals Confront Colonization.*” *Environmental History* Vol. 23, No. 3 (July 2018): 656-658. <https://doi.org/10.1093/envhis/emy024>

"Robert H. Kargon; Karen Fiss; Morris Low; Arthur P. Molella. *World’s Fairs on the Eve of War: Science, Technology, and Modernity, 1937–1942.*" *Isis* Vol. 108, No. 1 (March 2017): 221-222. DOI: 10.1086/690783

“Histories of American National Parks,” *Backlist* August 2016. <http://backlist.cc/lists/histories-of-american-national-parks>

**SELECTED PRIZES, GRANTS, AND FELLOWSHIPS**

Bright Institute Summer Fellowship, Knox College 2022-2024

David J. Weber Fellowship for the Study of Southwestern America 2020-2021

Clements Center for Southwest Studies, Southern Methodist University

Colorado College Crown Manuscript Workshop Grant 2019

Colorado College Southwest Studies Jackson Fellowship 2018, 2019

Colorado College Social Sciences Exec. Committee Research Grant 2017-19, 2020, 2022

Colorado College NEH Summer Stipend Institutional Nominee 2018, 2019

Colorado College Mrachek Fellowship 2018

Colorado College Faculty-Student Collaborative Grant 2017

Colorado College First Year Experience Critical Inquiry Grant Recipient 2017

Mellon Visual Cultures Faculty Learning Community Participant 2017

Messenger Chalmers Dissertation Prize 2015

Buttrick-Crippen Fellowship 2013-2014

Cornell University American Studies Research Grant 2011, 2012, 2014

Michael and Carol Kammen Fellowship 2013

History of Science Society Conference Travel Grant 2013

Pacific Coast Branch of the AHA Conference Travel Grant 2013

Newberry Consortium on American Indian Studies Graduate Student Fellowship 2012

LaFeber Research Fund Award 2011

Silbey Fellowship Fund 2010

Princeton-in-Asia Fellow (Lao PDR) 2005

**TEACHING**

Colorado College, 2016-present

American Frontiers (Fall 2016, Fall 2018, Fall 2021)

Justice and Injustice: Bodies on the Margins (with Jane Murphy) (Fall 2016)

American Environmental History (Fall 2016, Fall 2017, Fall 2018, Spring 2020, Summer 2021, Fall 2021, Fall 2022)

The Civil War and Reconstruction (Spring 2017, Fall 2018)

U.S. History, 1860-present (Spring 2017)

Place, Power, and Protest in the West (two-block course with Dwanna McKay) (Fall 2017)

Senior Seminar at the Newberry Library (Spring 2018, Spring 2020); at CC (Spring 2022)

Senior Essay (Spring 2018, Spring 2020, Spring 2022)

Environment and Society (Spring 2019)

Local History and Documentary Filmmaking (with Dylan Nelson) (Spring 2019)

FYP Writing Seminar: Natural History?: Museums, Collecting, and Display (Fall 2021)

First reader for 15 senior essays and 1 thesis between Fall 2016 and Spring 2022.

Davidson College, 2015-2016

Taught courses in the environmental humanities, environmental history, museum studies, and the history of the U.S. West, and a writing seminar on climate change narratives

Cornell University, 2009-2015

Taught 3 first-year writing seminars as an advanced graduate student and TAed a range of courses in environmental history, science and technology studies, and U.S. history

**UNDERGRADUATE THESIS ADVISING (OUTSIDE THE HISTORY DEPT)**

Sarah McAuley, “An Environmental History of the Colorado College Ornithological Collection,” Environmental Program, December 2017.

**INVITED TALKS**

Invited comment, Department of History and Sociology Colloquium, Universität Konstanz, Germany, November 2021.

Invited talk, “Taking the Field: Natural History on Multiple Frontiers,” Hulbert Center for Southwest Studies Aficionados Lecture Series, Colorado College, scheduled for October 28, 2020. POSTPONED-COVID.

Invited talk, “Taking the Field: The Collecting Work of Dr. Edgar Alexander Mearns,” New York University, April 22, 2020. CANCELED-COVID.

Invited talk, “Taking the Field: The Collecting Work of Dr. Edgar Alexander Mearns,”” Pueblo Archaeological and Historical Society, March 5, 2020.

Invited talk, “Taking the Field: The Collecting Work of Dr. Edgar Alexander Mearns,” *Many Wests* Book Series, Richards Civil War Era Center, Penn State University, February 28, 2020.

**SELECTED CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS**

“Empire in a Drawer,” Organization of American Historians conference, forthcoming March 2023.

Commentator, “Connecting Work and Nature: New Approaches, Methods, and Archives,” American Society of Environmental History conference, forthcoming March 2022.

Chair and comment, “From Hegemony to Resistance: Science and the American Empire in the Pacific,” Pacific Coast Branch of the AHA conference, online, December 2020.

Commentator, “In Whose Interest?: Indigenous Trading, Treaty-Making, and Monetary Policy,” Western History Association conference, online, October 2020.

“From the Field: The Place of Women in a Project about Soldiers,” 18th Berkshire Conference on the History of Women, Genders, and Sexualities, May 2020. CANCELED-COVID.

“So You Want to Teach at a Small Liberal Arts College.” Workshop for Graduate Students, NYU Department of History, April 22, 2020, CANCELED-COVID.

“So You Want to Teach at a Small Liberal Arts College.” Workshop for Graduate Students, Penn State Department of History, February 28, 2020.

“Field Books and Army Ledgers: Natural History and Imperial Control During the Apache Campaigns,” Western History Association conference, October 2019.

Chair and comment, “Finding Women: New Methods and New Approaches to Women’s History,” Western Association of Women Historians conference, April 2019.

Chair and comment, “New ‘Nature Fakers’?: Historians and the Animal Experience,” American Society of Environmental History Conference, April 2019.

Invited Workshop Participant, Interdisciplinary Sustainability ALAAC/AASHE Workshop. Furman University, Feb 28-Mar 3, 2019.

Chair and comment, “New Perspectives on Women in the West,” Western Association of Women Historians conference, April 2018.

“American Soldiers and the Production of Scientific Knowledge in the Philippines,” History of Science Society, November 2017.

Plenary Panelist and Writing Workshop Facilitator, "A Cornell Conference on Creative Academic Writing: Exploring the Relationship between Artful Prose and Scholarly Production," Cornell University, May 2017.

Panelist, "The Pedagogy of Hope: Teaching Hope in the Environmental Classroom," American Society of Environmental History conference, March 2017.

Chair, "Connecting Histories: Exploring the Relationships Between Natural History and Environmental History Across Space and Time," American Society of Environmental History conference, March 2017.

Invited speaker, “Dismantling White-Washed Historical Narratives of the Pikes Peak Region,” Conversations on Whiteness Student Group at Colorado College, December 2016.

Co-organizer and Panelist, “Environmental History: (in) the Context of Environmental Studies?” American Society of Environmental History conference, April 2016.

“Partly Settled Colonialism? The Place of Soldiers on American Frontiers,” participant in Settler Colonialism and Territorial Expansion, a seminar at C19: The Society of Nineteenth- Century Americanists conference, March 2016.

Invited participant, Duke University History Slam, December 2015.

“‘Specimens’ at San Carlos: Linking Natural History and Military Work in Arizona Territory,” Western History Association conference, October 2015.

“More than Birds: Collection Narratives and Cultural History at NMNH,” Lost Museums: A Symposium on the Ephemerality & Afterlife of Museums, Brown University, May 2015.

“Pacific Crossings: Specimens Between the (Battle?) Field and the Museum,” American Society of Environmental History conference, March 2015.

**“**Binoculars and Birdsong: Environmental History Outside the Archive,” Cornell Society for the Humanities, April 2014.

“Cleared, Collected, and Displayed at the World’s Fair: The Trees of Forest Park, 1904,” American Society of Environmental History conference, March 2014.

“Working Vacations: Dr. Mearns and the Museum,” History of Science Society, November 2013.

“Summiting Mt. Malindang: Linking Military and Scientific Work in the Philippines,” North American Labor History Conference, October 2013.

“Life’s Work: The Specimen Collecting of Dr. Edgar Mearns,” Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association conference, August 2013.

**GUEST TEACHING**

Invited Speaker (Zoom), University of California at Santa Cruz, History of the Philippines, 1815-Present, February 5, 2021 (recorded interview on colonial science in the Philippines).

Invited Speaker (Zoom), Hastings College, Senior Research Methods, August 28, 2020.

Invited Lecturer, Boston College, Nature on Exhibit: From Sea Monsters to Sea World, April 7, 2018.

Invited Lecturer, Tulane University, History of Frontiers, April 5 and 7, 2017.

Invited Lecturer, United States Since 1865, Ithaca College, October 2014.

**PUBLIC AND DIGITAL HISTORY**

**Co-Founder and Editor,** [***Backlist***](file:///Users/amykohout/Dropbox/colorado%20college%20dropbox/admin/CVs/third%20year%20review/backlist.cc)

Online publication connecting general readers with book lists and short essays by historians organized around big themes. Site launched December 2015. (Not currently adding to the site.)

**Editor,** [***The Appendix***](http://theappendix.net/issues)

*The Appendix* is a journal of narrative and experimental history that published 8 issues over two years. Worked with 3-6 contributors per issue on their pieces, from pitch to final text. 2013-2015.

**Linking Sources and Specimens, History and Science: Dr. Mearns’s Birds**

A collaborative project with the Division of Birds at the National Museum of Natural History. Co-wrote grant, conducted research, and wrote content for a website that links specimens with the narratives of their collection. Received additional funding from the Coypu Foundation to extend project. Completed Spring 2015; Project currently unavailable due to Smithsonian web redesign.

**Chapter Editor and Contributor,** [***The American Yawp***](http://www.americanyawp.com/)

*The American Yawp* is a free, online American history textbook. Wrote content on the Philippine-American War and Progressive Era environmentalism and worked with a co-editor to combine multiple author contributions into a chapter on American empire. 2013-2015.

**PUBLIC-FACING WORK**

Podcast interview about my book project as part of the Hulbert Center for Southwest Studies Podcast, Season 1, Episode 4. January 7, 2021. <https://open.spotify.com/episode/2hSIiQHr4M90w29SWCuAgd?si=bJBJuYyrQOqPfju2VMKeeA&dl_branch=1>

Coverage of activism related to Nike “Lost Cause” ad campaign:

Megan Kate Nelson, “How Historians Got Nike to Pull an Ad Campaign—in Under Six Hours,” *The Washington Post*, “Made by History” section, 12 April 2019 <https://www.washingtonpost.com/outlook/2019/04/12/how-historians-got-nike-pull-an-ad-campaign-under-six-hours/>

Leah Veldhuisen, “Professor Amy Kohout Addresses Problematic Nike Ad,” Colorado College Newsroom (and subsequent Colorado College *Bulletin*, Summer 2019), 14 May 2019 <https://www.coloradocollege.edu/newsevents/newsroom/professor-amy-kohout-addresses-problematic-nike-ad#.XZesGZNKjVo>

American History TV (C-SPAN) episode, “Nuclear Weapons Testing and the Environment,” lecture aired April 21, 2018. <https://www.c-span.org/video/?437891-1/nuclear-weapons-testing-environment>

“Cure for Life,” *The Dead Deads* (live version released December 2018) is a song inspired by my lecture on nuclear testing (learned about this via email from bass player/composer). <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Bngz2jrV6Y&list=OLAK5uy_lIPRR1uUM6tMNQWGEdLgjIHZj3geBKMyA&index=15&t=0s>

**COLORADO COLLEGE SERVICE**

**Faculty Affiliate, Environmental Studies Program** (2016-present)

Attend meetings, advise students, teach and cross-list courses, serve on Environmental Issues minor committee, and generally participate in the program.

**Faculty Affiliate, Southwest Studies Program** (2016-present)

Attend meetings, support program as affiliate member, and participate in SWS-sponsored events.

**Museum Studies Working Group** (2020-present; Coordinator 2021-22)

Current coordinator of working group focused on revising the Museum Studies minor and collaborating on curricular and cocurricular museum studies opportunities for students and faculty.

**Health Professions Advisory Committee** (2020-present)

The committee writes composite letters summarizing the files of students and alumni applying to medical school and other graduate programs in the health professions.

**General Education Assessment and Review Committee** (2021-2022)

This committee, created by the faculty in Spring 2021, will conduct assessment for courses in the new General Education program and review proposals for courses in the program.

**ACM Faculty Advisor for the Newberry and Field Museum Semester Programs (**2021-22)

Faculty advisor and Colorado College campus representative for ACM semester programs.

**Curriculum Executive Committee** (2018-2019)

Elected by the faculty for a year-long term during a general education curriculum revision.

**Colorado Springs Pioneers Museum Summer Internship Supervisor** (2018, 2019, 2022)

Developed and now coordinate a summer opportunity at CSPM, funded by the History department, for one major in 2018, and two majors in 2019. Worked with Curator of History to support and mentor our interns. (Program paused for 2020/21 due to COVID safety protocols.)

**Indigenous Studies Minor Working Group (**2016-present)

Worked with faculty from across the college to support the development of a new Indigenous Studies minor – approved May 2018. Will continue to support through course offerings.

**History Department Assessment Representative** (2017-2019)

Design (with the rest of the department), execute, and report on our annual assessment project.

**First-Year Advising** (2017-18, 2018-19, 2020-2021, 2021-2022)

**Athletics Board** (2017-2018)

Served as faculty representative to the Athletics Board for the 2017-2018 year.

**Faculty Development Panels (organized by Crown Center for Teaching and Learning)**

Teaching with Slack Session (August 2020)

Standalone session on teaching with Slack

Teaching with Digital Tools (April 2020)

Panelist to talk about using Slack as a remote classroom space

New Faculty Orientation (August 2017, August 2018)

Panelist for sessions focused on course planning and first-day-of-the-block activities

**SELECTED SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION**

**PCB-AHA Hundley Selection Committee, 2017-2019** (Chair, 2018 and 2019)

The Norris and Carol Hundley Award is given to the author of a distinguished book on any historical subject who is a member of the American Historical Association within the 22 Western states and 4 Canadian provinces from which the Pacific Coast Branch draws its membership.

**Western History Association Annual Meeting Mentor**

I was assigned two graduate student mentees at the 2019 WHA, and I remain available to both as they navigate dissertation writing and the job market.

**NEH Review Panel for Public Humanities Projects, Exhibitions and Historic Places**

Invited participant on an NEH review panel focusing on project proposals in Native and Indigenous art and history and western U.S. art and history. October 2021.

**Manuscript Reviewer**

*Environmental History, Journal of American Studies, Journal of Gilded Age and Progressive Era History, Philippine Studies*,Johns Hopkins University Press, University Press of Colorado

**CONSULTING WORK**

**Historical Consultant for Television Series (June 2021-present)**

Provide background research as requested, read scripts, and consult on questions of accuracy and historical narrative.

**PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

# American Historical Association

Organization of American Historians

# American Society of Environmental History

# Western History Association

Western Association of Women Historians

Berkshire Conference of Women Historians

**PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT AND OUTSIDE SERVICE**

**Founding Board Member, Friends of the Yale Women’s Rugby Football Club (FYWRFC)**

Worked to build a community of Yale women’s rugby alumnae. Formed a partnership with Yale men’s program to fundraise for a joint, gender-blind rugby endowment at Yale. 2010-2015.

Assistant Director, Cottonwood Gulch Foundation (Albuquerque and Thoreau, NM)

Worked closely with the Executive Director to manage all aspects of an educational nonprofit that runs a wilderness summer program with a ninety-year history. 2006-2008.

Princeton-in-Asia Fellow/Assistant Programme Officer, IUCN-The World Conservation Union (Vientiane, Lao PDR)

Princeton-in-Asia Fellow at IUCN-Lao. Worked with a dynamic team to build the capacity of the Government of Lao to improve natural resource management. 2005-2006.

Organizer, Green Corps (Environmental Leadership Training Program)

Worked as a field organizer on short-term environmental campaigns. August 2004-January 2005.