

# NIIYOKAMIGAABAW DEONDRE SMILES, PH.D.

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**Tribal Affiliation:** Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe

**Research Areas:** Indigenous geographies, Indigenous environmental sovereignty, cultural resource governance, applied pedagogy

## Metrics:

- Peer reviewed journal articles: 21
  - Books under contract: 3
- Citations (Google Scholar): 365+

## EDUCATION

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### 2016—2020:

Ph.D., Geography, The Ohio State University

*Dr. Kendra McSweeney, advisor.*

Dissertation: “*Decolonized Afterlife*’: Towards a New Understanding of the Political Processes Surrounding Indigenous Death”

### 2014—2016

Master’s in Global Indigenous Studies, University of Minnesota Duluth

*Dr. Joseph Bauerkemper, Dr. Nathan Clough, co-advisors.*

### 2008—2013

Bachelor’s in Geography, Saint Cloud State University

## ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

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### 2025—present:

- Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Technoscience Research Unit, School of the Environment, University of Toronto
- Adjunct Professor, Institute for Resources, Environment and Sustainability, University of British Columbia
- Adjunct/Visiting Faculty, School of Humanities, Bemidji State University

### 2024—2025:

- Visiting Faculty, Department of History, The Ohio State University

### 2021—2025

- Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, University of Victoria
- Affiliate Faculty, Indigenous Nationhood Program, University of Victoria

2020—2021

- President's Postdoctoral Scholar, Department of History, The Ohio State University

## RESEARCH POSITIONS

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2023—present:

- Affiliated Researcher, Rising Voices, Changing Coasts Hub

2022—present:

- **Director**, Geographic Indigenous Futures Collaboratory, Victoria, BC, Canada
- Indigenous Research Advocate, EGESTA Lab, University of British Columbia

2021—2023:

- Affiliated Faculty/Co-Investigator, CLEAR Lab, Memorial University of Newfoundland and Labrador, St. John's, NL, Canada

Summer 2017:

- Temporary Research Assistant, University of Minnesota School of Medicine, Duluth

2014—2015:

- Research Assistant, Education Department, University of Minnesota Duluth

## PUBLICATIONS

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**Published and In-Press Refereed Publications (n=21, selected below—full list in extended CV)**

Eronen, E., Chiblow, S., Smiles, D., Oberg, G. 2026. Reckoning with the ways in which the dominant worldview is embedded in chemicals management and how Indigenous Knowledge Systems might help account for the complexities of chemical risk. *Environment and Planning E*.

Davis, B., Guhlincozzi, A., Smiles, D. 2026. "Take me home country roads": The Limits of Sanctuary on the American Road Trip. *Western Geography*.

Grimm, J., et al. 2025. Co-producing knowledge with Indigenous Peoples: challenges and solutions. *Trends in Ecology & Evolution*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tree.2025.10.012>

**Smiles, D.** 2025. Settler Colonialism in Donald Trump's America. *The Geographical Journal*.  
<https://doi.org/10.1111/geoj.70019>

Gazing Wolf, J., et al. 2025. A path to reconciliation between Indigenous and settler-colonial epistemologies. *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment*.

Williams, S., Georgeson, J., Gowland, A., Patel, J., Weeks, M., **Smiles, D.** 2024. Progress Report: 2023 Geographic Indigenous Futures of the Salish Sea Symposium. *Western Geography* 26.

**Smiles, D.** 2024. "Men Don't Dance Fabric: An Autoethnographic Account of an "Academic NDN" at ceremony". *you are here: the journal of creative geography*.

Gazing Wolf, J., et al. 2024. "Centering Indigenous Knowledges in Ecology and Beyond." *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment*. <https://doi.org/10.1002/fee.2776>

**Smiles, D.** 2024. "A Feminist Geography is an Indigenous Geography". *Revista Livo* 11(1).

**Smiles, D.** 2024. "To the Anishinaabeg of the future". *ACME* 23(2).  
<https://doi.org/10.14288/acme.v23i2.2380>

**Smiles, D.**, 2023. Reflections on the (continued and future) importance of Indigenous geographies. *Dialogues in Human Geography*, 14(2). <https://doi.org/10.1177/20438206231179229>

Leonard, K., David-Chavez, D., **Smiles, D.**, Jennings, L., 'Anolani Alegado, R., Tsinnajinnie, L., Manitowabi, J., Arsenault, R. and Begay, R.L., 2023. Water Back: A Review Centering Rematriation and Indigenous Water Research Sovereignty. *Water Alternatives*, 16(2), pp.374-428.

**Smiles, D.** 2018. "...to the grave..."-Autopsy, settler structures and indigenous counter-conduct." *Geoforum* (91), pp. 141-150. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.geoforum.2018.02.034>

### **Non-Refereed Publications (n=13, selected publications below, full list in extended CV)**

**Smiles, D.** 2025. "The (Non)Territoriality of the Mississippi River." *Open Rivers: Rethinking Water, Place & Community*, no. 28. <https://doi.org/10.24926/2471190X.12379>.

**Smiles, D.** 2025. "A New Definition of Indigenous Cultural Resource Management". *The Mucklesboot Journal* (7): 20-27.  
[https://www.mtcollege.org/files/ugd/eb8cb3\\_68cf590b1df745dd8d37f7ef67dac8e3.pdf](https://www.mtcollege.org/files/ugd/eb8cb3_68cf590b1df745dd8d37f7ef67dac8e3.pdf)

**Smiles, D.** 2022. "Autopsy and state violence: Implications in the death investigation of George Floyd". *Agitate!* <https://agitatejournal.org/article/autopsy-and-state-violence-implications-in-the-death-investigation-of-george-floyd/>

**Smiles, D.** 2021. "Erasing Indigenous History, Then and Now". *Origins* 15(1). <https://origins.osu.edu/article/erasing-indigenous-history-then-and-now>

**Smiles, D.** 2021. "Guest editorial: George Floyd, Minneapolis and Spaces of Hope and Liberation." *Dialogues in Human Geography* 11(2). <http://doi.org/10.1177/20438206211027466>

**Smiles, D.** 2020. "The Settler Logics of (Outer) Space." *Society+Space Blog*. <https://www.societyandspace.org/articles/the-settler-logics-of-outer-space>

Arceño, M.A., **D. Smiles**, K. Yotebieng, T. Velez, J.P. Wilson, E. Bailey, A. Mazumdar, K. McSweeney. 2020. "(Too) great expectations? On fieldwork, guidelines, and ethics in Human Geography." *Agitate! Blog*. <https://agitatejournal.org/too-great-expectations-on-fieldwork-guidelinesand-ethics-in-human-geography-by-mark-anthony-arceno-deondre-smiles-emelie-bailey-anuragmazumdar-thelma-velez-j-p-wilson-kelly-yotebieng-k/>

**Smiles, D.** 2019. "Listening to Native Radio." *International Journal of Listening* 33(3), 142147, <https://doi.org/10.1080/10904018.2019.1628645>

### **Scholarly Commentary (n=2):**

McAllister, T., Walker, L., **Smiles, D.**, Naepi, S., Kamai, B., Moggridge, B., Jennings, L., McClellan, K.M. 2025. "Towards a shared Indigenous agenda in science". *Nature* **644**, 331-334. <https://doi.org/10.1038/d41586-025-02516-8>

Aganaba, T., Fish A., Hamacher D., Harvey, A., Joinbee, D., Milligan, A., Ojani, C., **Smiles, D.**, Swanton, P., Neilson, H., Tucker, B. 2025. Why space exploration must not be left to a few powerful nations. *Nature* 641: 1098-1100. <https://doi.org/10.1038/d41586-025-01574-2>

### **Books, Reports & Book Chapters**

#### **Academic Books (n=3)**

**Smiles, D.** (*Under contract*) "Beyond 'Resilience'—Indigenous cultural responses to climate change in the Great Lakes". Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

**Smiles, D.** (*Under contract*) "Decolonized Afterlife: Towards A New Understanding of the Spatial Politics Surrounding Indigenous Death". Geneva: Peter Lang Publishing.

**Smiles, D.**, Blanchard, P., Fabris, M. (*Under contract*) “Indigenous Geographies: Resistance, Resilience and Resurgence”. London: Palgrave Macmillan.

### **Reports (n=3)**

Leonard, K., Avery, C., Manitowabi, J., Nyblade, M., **Smiles, D.**, Heydman, T. R., Toulouse, C., & Smith, S. 2025. Water justice. In B. M. Panek (Ed.), *Status of Tribes and Climate Change, Vol. 2*. Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals, Northern Arizona University. <http://nau.edu/staccreport>

Öberg, G., Eronen, E., Chiblow, S., **Smiles, D.**, 2024. [Considerations for supporting Indigenous Data Justice and Data Sovereignty in Chemical Risk Assessment](#). Report to the Existing Substances Risk Assessment Bureau (ESRAB), Health Canada.

**Smiles, D.**, 2021. “The challenges that are presented to indigenous students”. In *Mentoring Our Own Native Scientists: 2021 MOONS Workshop Report*, edited by Jay T. Johnson. Lawrence: University of Kansas ScholarWorks.

### **Book Chapters (n=8)**

Beard, D., **Smiles, D.**, Schoenbauer, K.V. and Villiard, M., 2025. “The Unique Challenges Faced by Indigenous Communities During the Pandemic. In *Pandemic Resilience: Vaccination Resistance and Hesitance, Lessons from COVID-19*”. Cham: Springer Nature Switzerland.

**Smiles, D.** (contributing author), 2023. “Desirable Mountain Futures”. In *The Canadian Mountain Assessment*, edited by Graham McDowell & Madison Stevens. Calgary: University of Calgary Press.

Koppes, M; **Smiles, D.** (co-lead authors), 2023. “Mountains Under Pressure”. In *The Canadian Mountain Assessment*, edited by Graham McDowell & Madison Stevens. Calgary: University of Calgary Press.

**Smiles, D.**, 2023. “The Invention of an American Legend”. In *Paul Bunyan: The Invention of an American Legend* by Noah Van Sciver. New York: Toon Books.

**Smiles, D.**, 2023. “Anishinaabeg in Space”. In *The Routledge Handbook of Social Studies of Outer Space*, edited by Juan Francisco Salazar and Alice Gorman. Milton Park: Routledge.

**Smiles, D.**, 2023. “Decolonial Methods”. In *Key Methods in Geography (4<sup>th</sup> ed.)*, edited by Nicholas Clifford, Meghan Cope, Thomas Gillespie and Shaun French. Thousand Oaks: SAGE.

**Smiles, D., 2020.** "Ethical and Respectful Engagement between Medical Examiners/Coroners and Indigenous Families and Communities." In *MMIWG2 & MMIP Organizing Toolkit*. Sovereign Bodies Institute.

Tham, J, and **D. Smiles**, 2019. "Rhetorical Augmentation: Public Play, Place and Persuasion in *Pokémon Go*." In *The Pokémon Go Phenomenon: Essays on Public Play in Contested Spaces*, edited by Andrew Kulak, Jamie Henthorn, Kristopher Purzycki and Stephanie Vie. Jefferson, North Carolina: McFarland & Company, Inc.

## **Public Facing Scholarship**

### **Book Reviews (n=9, selected below—full list in extended CV)**

**Smiles, D., 2023.** "Terrastories". *Reviews in Digital Humanities* 4(10).  
<https://reviewsindh.pubpub.org/pub/terrastories/release/1>

**Smiles, D, 2023.** "The 'It' of Populism—A Review of Kai Bosworth's Pipeline Populism." *Society+Space*. <https://www.societyandspace.org/articles/the-it-of-populism-a-review-of-kaibosworths-pipeline-populism>

**Smiles, D, 2021.** "'Shoals of 'unsettlement'; A review of *The Black Shoals: Offshore Formations of Black and Native Studies* by Tiffany Lethabo King". *Society+Space*.  
<https://www.societyandspace.org/articles/shoals-of-unsettlement-a-review-of-the-black-shoalsoffshore-formations-of-black-and-native-studies-by-tiffany-lethabo-king>

**Smiles, D, 2021.** *Repatriation and Erasing the Past* by Elizabeth Weiss and James W. Springer. *Transmotion* 7 (1): 221-228.  
<https://journals.kent.ac.uk/index.php/transmotion/article/view/993/1919>

### **Media Articles (Selected, since 2020, overall, n=6)**

Aganaba, T., Fish, A., Smiles, D., Milligan, T. 2025. "['Democratizing space' is more than just adding new players – it comes with questions around sustainability and sovereignty](#)". *The Conversation*.

**Smiles, D, 2024.** "['Indigenizing' universities means building relationships with nations and lands](#)". *The Conversation*.

**Smiles, D, 2022.** "['Land-Grant or Land Grab Universities?'](#)". *Belt Magazine*.

**Smiles, D, 2022.** "['Counterpoint: The duty of education is truth, however discomfoting.'](#)" *Star Tribune*, January 20. *Op-ed*.

## ONGOING RESEARCH AND FUTURE PUBLICATIONS

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My research examines Indigenous cultural and political responses to anthropogenic environmental change, centering Indigenous data/environmental sovereignty, reconciliation/resurgence, and graduate training. Through the Geographic Indigenous Futures Collaboratory, I am building a cross-regional and international research network and a national knowledge-sharing platform.

- **Defining Indigenous Geographies:** Synthesizes 30 years of Indigenous geographies scholarship and advances new theoretical directions. Outputs: co-edited volume (under contract, Palgrave); articles in preparation.
- **Cultural Resource Geographies & Spaces of Indigenous Death:** Investigates contestations over sacred spaces and burial/deathscapes, and Indigenous legal/political responses. Output: sole-authored manuscript (under contract, Peter Lang).
- **Indigenous Modes of Land Relations:** Analyzes human–environment relations, extractivism, chemical risk, and climate adaptation in Indigenous communities (collaborators: Oberg, Gieng, Chiblow, Murphy). Supported by NFRF-T (2025–2031; \$22.3M CAD). Outputs: article forthcoming (Environment & Planning E); sole-authored book (under contract, Cambridge University Press).

## RESEARCH FUNDING (Selected grants below, full list in extended CV)

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### Principal Investigator:

- SSHRC Connection (2022–23) \$25,000 CAD
- UMN Anderson Scholarship (2023–24) \$1,200 USD
- APS Phillips Fund (2022) \$3,000 USD
- Salish Sea Fellowship (2022) \$10,000 USD
- UVic Engaged Learning Fund (2022) \$3,500 CAD.

### Co-PI:

- Mellon Foundation (2023–25) \$492,000 USD
- CIHR Planning & Dissemination (2022–23) \$50,000 CAD.

### Co-Investigator/Co-applicant/Collaborator:

- CIHR Project Grant (2023–26) \$2,295,000 CAD

- SSHRC Insight Development (2024–26) \$74,994 CAD;
- SSHRC Insight Development Grant (2023–25) \$74,984 CAD
- Health Canada (2022–24) \$20,000 CAD
- SSHRC Insight (2021–23) \$293,633 CAD.

#### **COURSES TAUGHT (Instructor of record unless noted):**

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##### **Bemidji State University — School of Humanities**

- IS 1107: Introduction to Turtle Island — Fall 2025 (2 sections); Spring 2026 (1 section)
- IS 4000: Nation Building and Research — Spring 2025; Spring 2026

##### **University of Victoria — Department of Geography**

- GEOG 211: Political & Economic Geography — Fall 2022; Spring 2024
- GEOG 318/391: Indigenous Geographies — Spring 2022; Fall 2022; Fall 2023
- GEOG 388: World Regional Geography — Spring 2022
- GEOG 491: Indigenous Environmental Activism — Fall 2021; Spring 2023; Spring 2024
- GEOG 490: Directed Study — Spring 2023; Fall 2023, independent study supervisor
- GEOG 490: Honours Thesis — Spring 2023; Spring 2024, supervised undergraduate thesis research
- GEOG 590: Directed Study (Graduate) — Spring 2022; Fall 2022
- GEOG 591: Critical Indigenous Geographies (Graduate) — Fall 2023

##### **The Ohio State University — Department of History**

- HIST 5700: Special Topics—Indigenous Environmental Activism (cross-listed with GEOG 5801: Environmental Conservation) — Spring 2021

##### **The Ohio State University — Department of Geography**

- GEOG 2750: World Regional Geography (Online) — Fall 2019; Spring 2020; Summer 2020
- GEOG 4193: Independent Studies—Second Year Transformational Program Fieldwork (Co-Instructor) — Spring 2019
- GEOG 2800: Our Global Environment (Lab Session Instructor) — Fall 2017; Fall 2018

##### **University of Minnesota Duluth — Department of Writing Studies**



- WRIT 1120: Introduction to College Writing — Fall 2015; Spring 2016

#### **GUEST LECTURES (n=38, selected institutions below)**

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**Heinrich-Heine-University Düsseldorf & Université Toulouse**

**Johns Hopkins University**

**The Pennsylvania State University**

**Queen's University**

**Texas State University**

**The Ohio State University**

**University of Alberta**

**University of Minnesota, Twin Cities**

**University of North Dakota**

**University of British Columbia**

**University of Victoria**

**University of Western Ontario**

#### **INVITED TALKS (since 2020, selected, additional invited talks, n=49 in extended CV.)**

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##### *Academic Colloquia:*

**Auburn University**

**Cardiff University**

**Idaho State University**

**Macalester College**

**McGill University**

**Memorial University of Newfoundland and Labrador**

**Michigan State University**

**Rutgers University**

**University of Arizona**

**University of British Columbia**

**University of Minnesota, Twin Cities**

**University of Nebraska-Lincoln**

**University of Washington**

**University of Wisconsin-Madison**

##### *Public Events*

**Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County**

NHMLA Seminar Series, Spring 2023

**Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (Northern Arizona University)**

**Saint Cloud State University**

Power in Diversity Conference Keynote, Spring 2025

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

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**Departmental Service**

**University of Victoria, Department of Geography**

- Co-Chair, Departmental Lecture Series (2023–24; 2022–23)
- SSHRC Departmental Nominee Referee (2023–24)
- Graduate Affairs Committee (Member, 2022–23; 2023–24)
- Equity & Diversity Committee (Member, 2023–24)
- Undergraduate Affairs Committee (Member, 2021–22)

**The Ohio State University**

- Ad-Hoc Diversity Officer, Admissions Committee, Dept. of History (2020–21)
- President, Geography Graduate Organization (2019–20)
- Treasurer, Geography Graduate Organization (2018–19)

**University Service**

**University of Victoria**

- Indigenous Citizenship Declaration Committee (Member, 2024–25)
- “Historical Injustices” Working Group (Member, 2024–25)
- Scarborough Charter Steering Committee (EQHR) (Member, 2023–25)
- Dean’s Advisory Forum on Indigenization, Faculty of Social Science (Departmental Representative, 2023–25; Acting Representative, 2021–22)
- Indigenous Advisory Committee—Collective Bargaining Agreement, UVic Faculty Association (Member, 2021–22)

**The Ohio State University**

- President, Indigenous Community of Graduate & Professional Students (2017–20); Co-Advisor (2020–21)
- American Indian Studies Advisory Committee (Member, 2017–20)

**Elected / Appointed Professional Service**

- Co-Chair, Indigenous Peoples’ Specialty Group, AAG (2025–present); Chair (2020–22); Chair-Elect (2019–20); Secretary/Treasurer (2022–24); Secretary (2017–19); Student Rep/Social Media (2016–17)
- Co-Chair, Indigenous Peoples’ Working Group, Canadian Association of Geographers (2022–present)

- Grants Adjudicator, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (2022–present)
- Board of Trustees, Leech Lake Tribal College (2021–present)
- Regional Coordinator / Editorial Team, *Turtle Island Journal of Indigenous Health* (2021–present)
- Editorial Board, *Journal of Environmental Studies and Sciences* (2024–present); Editorial Board, *NiCHE* (2025–present); Editorial Board, *Native American and Indigenous Studies* (2021–25)
- Secretary, Community Geographies Collective (2025–present)
- Board Member, Geography of Religion & Belief Systems, AAG (2020–present)
- AAG Student Award & Scholarship Committee (2021–24)
- AAG COVID-19 Task Force, Members' Subcommittee (2020)

### **Grant/Journal/Manuscript Peer Reviewer:**

I have served as a reviewer for over 50 journals/presses/programs, including the Annals of the AAG, Antipode, Canadian Geographies, Environment and Planning D/E/F, Geoforum, GeoHumanities, the Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada, and the University of Arizona Press.

### **ADVISING AND MENTORSHIP**

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#### ***Graduate***

##### **University of Victoria**

- **Committee Member:** Helia Sepat-pour (Psychology, MA, 2022)
- **Exam Chair:** Siyu Wang (EOS, PhD defense, 2024); Pavel Soriano Hernandez (Geography, PhD candidacy, 2024); Xiaoyi Ma (Physics & Astronomy, MSc defense, 2024); Aaron Tian (Public Administration, MPA defense, 2023); Wyatt Maddox (Geography, PhD candidacy, 2022); Wil Patrick (Geography, PhD candidacy, 2021)

##### **External Committees (Committee Member)**

- **Jagiellonian University:** Karlijn Koerpershoek (PhD, 2024)
- **Michigan Tech:** Larissa Juip (PhD, 2025)
- **University of Alberta:** Kris Cromwell (PhD, in progress; exp. 2027)
- **University of British Columbia (RES):** Dayna Rachkowski (PhD, in progress); Anaïs Pronovost-Morgan (MA, entered 2024); Elina Eronen (MA, 2023)

##### **Undergraduate**

- **UVic Geography (Honours Thesis Advisor):** Taylor Nishimura (B.Hon, 2024); Bronte Elphick-Miner (B.Hon, 2023)
- **Ohio State University WGSS (Committee Member):** Erin Broderick (Honours Thesis, BA, 2021)

**PRESENTATIONS AT ACADEMIC/RESEARCH CONFERENCES (Since 2016, n=78, selected conferences since 2021 below, full list in extended CV)**

- **AGU Annual Meeting** (New Orleans, LA): **2 posters** on ethical engagement with Indigenous communities in geoscience and water security/sovereignty in Minnesota.
- **Spatial Data Sciences Symposium** (Virtual): **Co-presenter** on participatory models of animal movement (Moose case study).
- **American Studies Association Annual Meeting** (San Juan, PR): **Panelist** on Palestine liberation and higher education.
- **Death, Dying and Disposal Conference (DDD17)** (Utrecht, Netherlands): **Paper** on Anishinaabe politics of death (“Don’t Fear Nibowin”).
- **Centre for Death and Society Conference** (Bath, UK / Virtual): **Paper** on contested geographies of autopsy.
- **AAG Annual Meeting** (Detroit, MI / Virtual): **Co-author paper** on boundaries/bordering; **panelist (n=3)** on Palestine/higher ed repression, decolonial methodologies, and teaching pedagogy (zines).
- **Modern Language Association Convention** (New Orleans, LA / Virtual): **Paper** proposing an Anishinaabeg charter of space exploration.

## 2024

- **World Anthropological Union Congress** (Johannesburg, South Africa / Virtual): **Discussant** on decolonizing outer space ethnography.
- **NAISA Annual Meeting** (Bødø, Norway): **Panelist** on Indigenous death care, dying, and grief on Indigenous terms.
- **AAG Annual Meeting** (Honolulu, HI): **Panelist** on archipelagic, place-based Indigenous-led resurgence and planetary health.
- **Landed Solidarities: Making Just Futures** (Buffalo, NY): **Paper** linking feminist geography and Indigenous geography.

## 2023

- **NAISA Annual Meeting** (Toronto, ON / Virtual): **Paper** on Indigenous resurgence within the academy.
- **SETAC North America Annual Meeting** (Louisville, KY / Virtual): **Co-author paper** on decolonizing chemicals management.
- **IGU Thematic Conference: Islands in Relations** (Osaka, Japan / Virtual): **Paper** on Archipelagos Collective and Indigenous-led resurgence for planetary health.
- **AAG Annual Meeting** (Denver, CO): **Plenary lecture (SCGSG James M. Blaut)** on the case for Indigenous Geographies; additional **papers** on settler colonial white/greenwashing and related themes; **panel participation (multiple)** in public geography and decolonial debates.

## 2022

- **Maamwizing Indigenous Conference** (Sudbury, ON / Virtual): **Co-author paper** on language, place, and Indigenous geographies.
- **National Tribal & Indigenous Climate Conference** (St. Paul, MN / Virtual): **Paper** introducing “Geographic Indigenous Futures.”
- **Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting** (Montreal, QC): **Paper** on settler colonial greenwashing of Indigenous environments.

- **AAG Annual Meeting** (Virtual): **Paper** on archives as “critical groundedness”; **discussant** (Political Geography plenary); **panelist (multiple)** on indigenization, land/plantation universities, rematriation, film screening, and planetary commons debates.

2021

- **International Astronautical Congress** (Virtual / Dubai, UAE): **Panelist** on sustainability and inclusiveness in space exploration/habitat design.
- **AAG Annual Meeting** (Virtual): **Paper** on “decolonized afterlife” and tribal cultural resource preservation; **panelist (multiple)** on Black/Native studies, feminist geography, land grant universities/Land Back, equitable mentoring; **panel organizer** for “More than Mentoring.”

### Other Professional Conference & Workshop Involvement (n=22)

#### **Organizer / Convenor / Facilitator (selected):**

- *Histories of Native American and African American Citizenship* (Columbus, OH; Dec 2025) — **Organizer & moderator**
- *Geographic Indigenous Futures of the Salish Sea* (Victoria, BC; Jul 2023) — **Symposium organizer**
- “*Stepping Into Story*” *land-based learning course* (Victoria, BC; Jan–Feb 2025) — **Facilitator & curriculum co-developer**
- *Cultural & Ancestral Geographies* (Univ. of Tulsa/Gilcrease Museum; Spring–Summer 2022) — **Research stream leader** (3 workshops + virtual symposium)

#### **Faculty / Instructor / Mentor Roles (selected):**

- **OSU History Praxis Lab** (Columbus, OH; 2023, 2024, 2025; incl. Leech Lake Reservation component in 2025) — **Faculty member**
- **RVCC CoPE Internship** (Lawrence, KS; 2023, 2024, 2025) — **Faculty member**
- **IndigiData Workshops** (2021 Virtual; 2022 Mobridge, SD; 2023 Bellingham, WA) — **Faculty member**
- Northeastern University *Climate Justice Hackathon* (Vancouver, BC; Oct 2024) — **Faculty judge & mentor**
- 1854 Treaty Authority Tribal Youth Natural Resource Camp (Ely, MN; Aug 2025) — **Guest lecturer** (Indigenous geographies) & chaperone

#### **Invited Speaker / Panelist (selected):**

- Canadian Museums Association National Conference (Virtual; Apr 2022) — **Panel speaker** (Indigenous cultural resource management)
- “*What Will Life Become?*” symposium (Los Angeles, CA; Apr 2022) — **Panel speaker** (“Futures in Outer Space”)
- OSU Geography Dept. Community Panel, “The Politicization of Science” (Mar 2017) — **Panelist**

**Participant (selected):** NSF Traditional Ecological Knowledge symposium (Montreal, QC; Aug 2022); Institute on Teaching Social Action (Virtual; Jan 2025); Institute on Teaching & Mentoring (Atlanta, GA; Oct 2019); Mentoring Our Own Native Scientists (Lawrence, KS; Sep 2018).

## AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS (since 2019, n=6)

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- 2023: Peter Lang *Emerging Scholars in Native & Indigenous Studies* — Winner (North American Indigenous Studies); open-access book contract.
- 2022: Ecological Society of America (ESA) Annual Meeting — Diversity & Inclusion Award (full travel/participation support).
- 2022: AAG Socialist & Critical Geographies Specialty Group — James M. Blaut Award (\$500).
- 2020: University of Minnesota — President's Postdoctoral Fellowship (Dept. of American Indian Studies, Duluth; declined).
- 2019–2020: The Ohio State University — Sesquicentennial Student Scholar Leadership Program (competitive scholarship).
- 2019: Ford Foundation — Dissertation Fellowship (Honorable Mention).

## MEDIA AND OUTREACH

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### Interviews and media appearances featuring Smiles (since 2020, n=16)

#### Profiles / Featured interviews (selected):

- York St John University (Geography) — [\*Celebrating Black Geographers: Spotlight on Dr. Niyokamigaabaw Deondre Smiles\*](#)
- Canadian Association of Geographers — [Profile feature](#)
- UMD News Centre — [Going Beyond Geography](#)
- Ohio Humanities — [In Conversation—Dr. Deondre Smiles](#)
- Research Features — [Rethinking academic approaches to embrace Indigenous geographies](#)
- Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions — [Stepping Into Story \(feature\)](#)

#### Radio & podcasts (selected):

- Resistant Communiqués — [Indigenous Geographies and A More Just Future](#)
- CBC Radio One (Whitehorse) — [Is there space in space for Indigenous ways of doing?](#)
- BC Museum Climate Action Podcast — [Episode 1 \(feature/interview\)](#)
- Seeds of Revolution Podcast — [Feature/interview](#)
- How Do You Know? — [Episode 7: Data space, data places](#)
- Medicine for the Resistance — [Indigenous Geographies](#)
- Hot N Bothered — [Cultivating Sustainable Resistance](#)

#### Major journalism / magazines (selected):

- Grist — [Indigenous geography could change how we relate to the Earth](#)
- Grist — [It's about control: Why Trump changed Denali's name to Mount McKinley](#)
- Science — [Native tribes have lost 99% of their land in the United States](#)
- John Templeton Foundation — [Unlimited Life in a Limited World](#)

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

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### Professional Memberships

- **American Sociological Association (ASA)** — 2025–present
- **Indigenous Great Lakes Network Initiative** — 2024–present
- **BC Network Environment for Indigenous Health Research** — 2022–present
- **Ecological Society of America (ESA)** — 2022–present
- **Canadian Association of Geographers (CAG)** — 2019–present
- **Native American and Indigenous Studies Association (NAISA)** — 2017–present
- **American Association of Geographers (AAG)** — 2015–present

**AAG Specialty Groups:** Indigenous Peoples (IPSG); Cultural & Political Ecology (CAPE); Geography of Religion & Belief Systems (GORABS); Canadian Studies; Socialist & Critical Geographies (SCGSG).