

NIIYOKAMIGAABAW DEONDRE SMILES, PH.D.

E-mail: deondre.smiles@ubc.ca

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

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

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

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

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". *Rivista Lüro* 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 Muckleshoot Journal* (7): 20-27.
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-thedeath-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/stacreport>

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 (4th 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-shoal-offshore-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 discomfiting."](#) *Star Tribune*, January 20. *Op-ed*.

ONGOING RESEARCH AND FUTURE PUBLICATIONS

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)

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):

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)

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.)

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

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

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)

2025

- **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)

- 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

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. Niiyokamigaabaw 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

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).