

NEIL M. MAHER

Federated History Department
NJIT-Rutgers University, Newark
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Rutgers University-Newark and the New Jersey Institute of Technology

Federated Department of History

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| Professor of History | 2017-present |
| Associate Professor of History | 2006-2017 |
| Assistant Professor of History | 2001-2006 |

Rutgers University-Newark

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| Graduate Faculty in History | 2002-present |
| Graduate Faculty in American Studies | 2004-present |
| Graduate Faculty in Urban Systems | 2004-present |

Rutgers University-New Brunswick

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| Graduate Faculty in History | 2004-present |
| Affiliate Faculty, Rutgers Climate Institute | 2019-present |

EDUCATION

New York University

Ph.D. in History January 2001
Advisors: Lizabeth Cohen, Thomas Bender, and Donald Worster

Dartmouth College

B.A. in History June 1986

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Apollo in the Age of Aquarius. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2017. Selected as a *Bloomberg View* Must-Read (2017), a *Choice* Outstanding Academic Title (2017), a *Smithsonian* "Best Book on Apollo" (2019), and winner of the Eugene M. Emme best book award from the American Astronautical Society (2018).

Nature's New Deal: The Civilian Conservation Corps and the Roots of the American Environmental Movement. New York: Oxford University Press, 2008. Winner of the Charles A. Weyerhaeuser Book Award for the best monograph in conservation history (2009).

Books-in-Progress

Wasted: An Environmental Justice History of Newark, New Jersey (tentative title). This book project analyzes connections between racial and environmental discrimination in Newark, New Jersey during the post-World War II period to trace the emergence of a successful multi-ethnic, cross-racial environmental justice movement.

Edited Books

New Jersey's Environments: Past, Present, and Future, ed., New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 2006.

Edited Journal Issues

"Transnational Environments: Rethinking the Political Economy of Nature in a Global Age," co-editor with Dave Kinkela, special issue of the *Radical History Review*, vol. 2010, no. 107 (Spring, 2010). Nominated for the Council of Editors of Learned Journals' Best Special Issue Award.

Journal Articles & Book Chapters

"'Administration in the Field is Decentralized: How Horizontal Bureaucracy Helped the CCC Work,'" in *How the New Deal Was Run*, Sara E. Igo and Ganesh Sitaraman, eds., University of Chicago Press, January 2027.

"Stop, Get Off the Turnpike, and Smell New Jersey's Roses," Foreword in *New Jersey's Natures: Environmental Histories of the Garden State*, Rutgers University Press, 2026: ix-xii.

"The Green (and Environmentally Just) New Deal," *LA+ Interdisciplinary Journal of Landscape Architecture*, no. 15 (Spring 2022): 85-93.

"Graphic History and the Art of Collaboration," essay in *Reviews in American History* 48 (2020): 112-118.

"Bringing the Environment Back In: A Transnational History of Landsat," in *How Knowledge Moves: Writing the Transnational History of Science and Technology*, John Krige, ed., University of Chicago Press, 2019: 201-224.

“*Whole Earth Without Borders: Earth Photographs, Space Data, and the Importance of Visual Culture Within Environmental History*,” in *A Field on Fire: Essays on the Future of Environmental History*, Mark Hersey and Theodore Steinberg, eds., University of Alabama Press, 2019: 189-208.

“Grounding the Space Race,” special feature essay on the Apollo 11 moon landing in the inaugural edition of *Modern American History*, 1, no. 1 (March 2018): 141-146.

“‘Work For Others But None For Us’: The Economic and Environmental Inequalities of New Deal Relief,” *Social History*, 40, no. 3 (Summer 2015): 312-334.

“Playing Politics at Bear Mountain: Franklin Roosevelt, The Civilian Conservation Corps, and State Park Design During the New Deal Era,” in *Public Nature: Scenery, History, and Park Design*, Ethan Carr, Shaun Eyring, and Richard Guy Wilson, eds., University of Virginia Press, 2013: 87-100.

“Body Counts: Tracking the Human Body Through Environmental History,” in *A Companion to American Environmental History*, Douglas Sackman, ed., Wiley-Blackwell, 2010: 163-180.

“The New Deal and Climate Change,” *Solutions: For a Sustainable and Desirable Future*, 1, no. 5 (September-October, 2010): 72-75.

“Nature’s Next Exit?: Or Why New Jersey is As Important As Yellowstone National Park,” in *New Jersey’s Environments: Past, Present, and Future*, Neil M. Maher, ed., Rutgers University Press, 2006: 1-8.

“‘A Confluence of Desire and Need’: Trees, Boys Scouts, and the Roots of Franklin Roosevelt’s Civilian Conservation Corps,” in *FDR and the Environment*, David Wolner and Henry Henderson, eds., Palgrave Macmillan, 2005: 49-83.

“Shooting the Moon: How NASA Earth Photographs Changed the World,” *Environmental History*, 9, no. 3 (July 2004): 526-531.

“A New Deal Body Politic: Landscape, Labor, and the Civilian Conservation Corps,” *Environmental History*, 7, no. 3 (Summer 2002): 435-461.

“‘Crazy Quilt Farming on Round Land’: The Great Depression, the Soil Conservation Service, and the Politics of Landscape Change on the Great Plains During the New Deal Era,” *Western Historical Quarterly* 31 (Autumn 2000): 319-339.

“‘A Very Pleasant Place to Build a Towne On?’: An Environmental History of Land Preservation in New York’s Hudson Highlands,” *The Hudson Valley Regional Review* 16, no. 2 (September 1999): 21-40.

“Changes in the Park: A Study of the Ecological and Cultural Transformations Associated with the Creation of Bear Mountain State Park,” *The Hudson Valley Regional Review* 11, no. 2 (September 1994): 1-22.

Editorials and Essays

“Forging an Environmentally Just Civilian Climate Corps,” *The Living New Deal*, 3 November 2021 ([read](#)).

“Biden Needs to Go Big to Rebuild America,” *Yes! Magazine*, 7 December 2020 ([read](#)).

“Why We Need A New Civilian Conservation Corps — And How To Do It,” Justice Collaborative Institute Data for Progress Report, 9 October 2020 ([read](#)).

“The Keys to Ensuring That a Green New Deal Succeeds,” *Washington Post*, 7 August 2019 ([read](#)).

“Not Everyone Wanted a Man on the Moon,” *New York Times*, Op-Ed, 16 July 2019 ([read](#)).

“How Many Times Does a River Have to Burn Before It Matters?,” *New York Times*, 22 June 2019 ([read](#)).

“The New Deal Deserves Another Look,” *Chronicle of Higher Education*, 13 March 2009, B21.

Encyclopedia Entries

“Civilian Conservation Corps,” *The Oxford Encyclopedia of American Business, Labor, and Economic History*, Oxford University Press (July 2013)

“New Deal,” *Encyclopedia of American Environmental History*, Facts On File Publishing (November 2010).

“National Aeronautics and Space Administration,” *Encyclopedia of American Environmental History*, Facts On File Publishing (November 2010).

Book Reviews

NASA and the Long Civil Rights Movement by Brian C. Odum and Stephen P. Waring, eds., in *ISIS*, 112, no. 3 (September 2021): 632-634.

The New Deal’s Forest Army: How the Civilian Conservation Corps Worked by Benjamin F. Alexander, in *Environmental History* 23, no. 4 (October 2018): 874-875.

American Eclipse: A Nation's Epic Race to Catch The Shadow of the Moon and Win the Glory of the World by David Baron, in *Western Historical Quarterly* 49, no. 1 (December 2017): 111.

Defending Giants: The Redwood Wars and the Transformation of American Environmental Politics by Darren Speece, in *American Historical Review* 122, no. 5 (December 2017): 1657-1658.

Prelude to the Dust Bowl: Drought in the Nineteenth-Century Southern Plains by Kevin Z. Sweeney, in *Journal of American History* 104, no. 3 (December 2017): 778-779.

The Civilian Conservation Corps in Southern Illinois, 1933-1942 by Kay Rippelmeyer, in *Journal of Illinois History* 18, no. 1 (Spring 2015): 77-78 (published Winter 2017).

The Farm Security Administration and Rural Rehabilitation in the South by Charles Kenneth Roberts, in *Journal of American History* 103, no. 2 (September 2016): 514.

Seeing Green: The Use and Abuse of American Environmental Images by Finis Dunaway, in *Western Historical Quarterly* 47, no. 1 (December 2015): 101-102.

Republic of Nature: An Environmental History of the United States by Mark Fiege, in *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, 44, no. 3 (Winter 2014), 398.

Merchants of Doubt: How a Handful of Scientists Obscured the Truth on Issues from Tobacco Smoke to Global Warming by Naomi Oreskes and Erik Conway, online roundtable review on H-Environment (July 20, 2011) <http://www.h-net.org/~environ/roundtables/env-roundtable-1-2.pdf>

Going it Alone: Fargo Grapples with the Great Depression by David Danbom, in *Journal of American History*, 95, no. 4 (March 2009): 1216.

This Land, This Nation: Conservation, Rural America, and the New Deal by Sarah Phillips, in *Journal of Social History*, 42, no. 2 (December 2008).

The Civilian Conservation Corps in Nevada: From Boys to Men by Renee Corona Kolvet and Victoria Ford, and *The Civilian Conservation Corps in Arizona's Rim Country: Working in the Woods* by Robert Moore, in *Environmental History*, 23, no. 1 (January 2008): 166-168.

At Work in Penn's Woods: The Civilian Conservation Corps in Pennsylvania by Joseph Speakman, in *Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography*, 131, no. 4 (October 2007): 449-450.

On the Great Plains: Agriculture and Environment by Geoff Cunfer, in *Western Historical Quarterly*, 38, no. 1 (Spring 2007): 92-93.

Forging a Common Bond: Labor and Environmental Activism during the BASF Lockout by Timothy Minchin, in *Journal of Social History*, 38, no. 1 (Fall 2004): 251-253.

Understanding Soil Change: Soil Sustainability over Millennia, Centuries, and Decades by Daniel D. Richter, Jr., and Daniel Markewitz, in *Environmental History*, 8, no. 1 (January 2003): 145-146.

Hoover, Conservation, and Consumerism: Engineering the Good Life by Kendrick A. Clements, in *Technology and Culture*, 43, no. 2 (2002): 435-436.

Environmental Politics and Policy, 1960s-1990s by Otis Graham, Jr., ed., in *Environmental History* 7, no. 1 (January 2002): 147-148.

Guided With a Steady Hand: The Cultural Landscape of a Rural Texas Park by Dan Utley and James Steely, in *Environmental History* 4, no. 2 (April 1999): 286-287.

AWARDS, GRANTS, & FELLOWSHIPS

Writing and Research Awards

Eugene M. Emme Book Award, American Astronautical Society, 2019, for *Apollo in the Age of Aquarius*.

Charles A. Weyerhaeuser Book Award, Forest History Society, 2009, for *Nature's New Deal: The Civilian Conservation Corps and the Roots of the American Environmental Movement*.

Royal Historical Society Fellow, University College London, 2019-present.

Distinguished Research Award, College of Science and Liberal Arts, NJIT, 2019.

Science Scholars Award Honorable Mention, National Park Service, 1999.

External Grants and Fellowships

Andrew Carnegie Fellowship, Carnegie Corporation of New York, 2026-2027.

Visiting Research Fellowship, Shelby Cullom Davis Center for Historical Studies, Princeton University, Fall Semester 2023.

Janice B. and Milford D. Gerton Arts and Letters Foundation Fellow, Dorothy and Lewis B. Cullman Center for Writers and Scholars, New York Public Library, 2022-2023.

Planning Grant, "Aligning Upstream and Downstream: Increasing Equity in Watershed Management with and for Underrepresented Communities," National Science Foundation, Co-Principal Investigator, 2022-2023.

Senior Fellow, Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, Ludwig Maximilian University-Munich, 2019.

Charles Warren Center Fellowship for Studies in American History, Harvard University, 2013-2014.

History of the Scientific Exploration of Earth and Space Research Award, Science Mission Directorate, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, 2008-2011.

John W. Kluge Center Research Fellowship, Library of Congress, 2008-2009.

Grant-in-Aid, Hagley Museum and Library, 2007.

Verville Fellowship, Smithsonian Institution's National Air and Space Museum, 2004-2005.

Program for the Environment Award, Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, 2004.

Associate Fellow, Rutgers Center for Historical Analysis, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, 2001-2002 & 2002-2003.

Horace Samuel and Marion Galbraith Merrill Travel Grant, Organization of American Historians, 2001.

History of Conservation and Ecology Research Grant, Rockefeller Archive Center, 1999.

Visiting Fellow, Harvard University, 1998-1999.

Landscape Architecture Research Fellowship, Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection, 1998.

Predoctoral Summer Fellowship, Graduate School of Arts & Science, New York University, 1997.

Bell Fellowship, Forest History Society, 1997.

Lubin-Winant Research Fellowship, Franklin D. Roosevelt Library, 1997.

Warren Dean Memorial Fellowship, New York University, 1996-1997.

Black Rock Forest Small Grant Award, Cornwall, New York, 1994.

Internal Grants and Fellowships

Collaborative Research and Innovative Strategic Partnership (CRISP) Grant, "Clean, Safe, and Sustainable Water Solutions in the Community," New Jersey Institute of Technology, 2024-2027.

Faculty Seed Grant Award, Environmental Justice History Digital Archive and Mapping Project, NJIT, 2021-2022.

Separately Budgeted Research Grant, NJIT, 2001-2002 & 2002-2003.

Teaching Awards

Excellence in Graduate Education Award, College of Science and Liberal Arts, NJIT, 2021.

Master Teacher, NJIT, 2019. This designation is the highest distinction given by the NJIT Provost to tenured faculty for teaching excellence.

Robert W. Van Houten Award for Teaching Excellence, NJIT, 2009. Voted by undergraduates from the last five graduating classes, this university-wide teaching award is given annually to one tenured faculty member at the university for outstanding teaching on the undergraduate level.

Excellence in Advising Award: NJIT Undergraduate Student Senate, 2008-2009.

University Excellence in Graduate Teaching Award Nomination: NJIT History Department, 2002-2003, 2003-2004, 2010-2011, 2011-2012.

College of Science and Liberal Arts University Service to Graduate Education Award Nomination: NJIT History Department, 2006-2007.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT _____

Community-Digital, Equity, AI Lab (Community-DEAL), co-creator of this community-university collaboration that builds AI platforms to archive, translate, and share environmental data with local community groups, non-profits, and residents of Newark, New Jersey, 2024-present.

DIGITAL HUMANITIES & PUBLIC HISTORY _____

Public Programing

“Industrial Newark: It’s History and Legacy,” Presenter, Albert Dorman Honors College, NJIT, October 31, 2025.

“American River: A Journey Down the Passaic,” Documentary Screening and Discussion with Filmmaker, Organizer and Moderator, Albert Dorman Honors College, NJIT, September 23, 2025.

“Environmental History of Newark, Hudson Estuary, and New York Harbor,” Session Co-Organizer, Liberty State Park Landmark Program for Secondary School Teachers, June 25, 2025.

“Community Conversation on the Passaic River,” Organizer and Moderator, Newark Public Library, December 17, 2022.

“Community Conversation on the Passaic River,” Organizer and Moderator, Good Shepherd

Church, Ringwood, New Jersey, January 21, 2023.

“Community Conversation on the Passaic River,” Organizer, Paterson Museum, January 28, 2023.

“*Our Green New Deal: Accelerator Workshop*,” Organizer and Moderator, Price Institute on Ethnicity, Culture, and the Modern Experience, Rutgers University-Newark, November 19, 2021 ([learn more](#)).

“*Making Change: Moving from Facts to Political Action on Climate Change and Environmental Justice*,” Moderator, Murray Center for Women and Technology, NJIT, October 29, 2021.

“*What South Jersey Needs to Thrive: Ensuring Federal Infrastructure and Green New Deal Legislation Reaches Frontline Communities*,” Organizer and Moderator, Price Institute on Ethnicity, Culture, and the Modern Experience, Rutgers University-Newark, August 19, 2021 ([watch](#)).

“*Our Green New Deal: A Community-University Working Session for Environmental Justice in the Passaic River Watershed*,” Organizer and Moderator, Price Institute on Ethnicity, Culture, and the Modern Experience, Rutgers University-Newark, June 3, 2021 ([watch](#)).

“*Research Perspectives: Climate Change*,” Honors College Research Week Symposium, Moderator, Rutgers University-Newark, April 20, 2021 ([watch](#)).

Climate Now!, Honors College Colloquium on the Climate Change Crisis, Presenter and Discussant, NJIT, October 30, 2020.

“Taking Back Our Worlds: Conversations Between Newark, NJ and Milwaukee, WI,” Commentator for webinar by Milwaukee Environmental Justice Lab at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, August 8, 2020 ([watch](#)).

Newark’s Lead Water Crisis: A Conversation with Women about Race, Equity, and Environmental Justice, Organizer and Moderator, NJIT, March 9, 2020 ([watch](#)).

Climates of Inequality: Stories of Environmental Justice, Advisor, Humanities Action Lab-Rutgers University, Newark, 2019-present ([visit](#)).

Public Scholar, New York Council for the Humanities, 2015-2018.

Face-to-Face: Community Conversations on Environmental Justice, Facilitator, New Jersey Council for the Humanities, 2010-2012.

Museum Exhibits

NJIT Distributed Technology Museum, Co-Director, NJIT, 2019-present ([read](#)).

At Home in Newark: Stories from the Queer Newark Oral History Project, Co-Curator, NJIT, Spring 2019 ([watch](#)).

Digital Archives and Mapping

Environmental Justice History in America. Designed and manage this digital archive and mapping website for undergraduate and graduate research on the history of environmental justice. Launched in January 2019 ([visit](#)).

Documentary Films and Television

For All Humankind, interviewed and filmed for this documentary on NASA's Apollo missions to the moon, which aired on HBOMAX, Discovery Channel, and Science Channel on February 5, 2023 ([watch](#)).

"American River," documentary screening moderator, New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC), January 19, 2022.

"The Story Behind the Earth's Most Famous Photo," interview for episode in *The Bigger Picture*, PBS Digital Studios, aired August 24, 2022 ([watch](#)).

Imagine the Cosmos, documentary sponsored by the University of the Arts, Philadelphia, interviewed August 25, 2021.

"Rich People Are Going to Colonize Mars Without You," interview for segment on VICE TV News Tonight, aired 1 December 2020 ([watch](#)).

Tektite Revisited: NASA's Forgotten Underwater Missions, Project Advisor, National Endowment for the Humanities Media Development Grant, 2019 (forthcoming, 80 min. HD Video).

"From Moon Maids to Astronauts: How Feminists Transformed the Space Race," essay published by PBS's *American Experience* to promote the documentary film *Chasing the Moon* ([read](#)).

"Drawing the Political Lines of Apollo," essay published by PBS's *American Experience* to promote the documentary film *Chasing the Moon* ([read](#)).

"Raised Fists and Lunar Rockets: Black Activists Demanded the Resources for Space Be Brought Back to Earth," excerpt from *Apollo in the Age of Aquarius* published by PBS's *American Experience* to promote the documentary film *Chasing the Moon* ([read](#)).

NASA: 60 Years and Beyond, interviewed and filmed, Discovery Channel, 2018.

The American Experience: The Civilian Conservation Corps, "Author Interview: Neil M. Maher," PBS, taped 4 December 2008 ([watch](#)).

Radio Interviews

“Neil Maher joins Tavis Smiley,” The Tavis Smiley Show, radio talk show and podcast on KBLA Talk Radio, April 9, 2026 ([listen](#))

“A New Frontier: 2. For All Humankind?,” *Sideways*, radio series produced by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), July 16, 2024 ([listen](#)).

“Walking on the Moon,” *Radio Times*, daily interview program on WHY-FM, National Public Radio, originally broadcast live on July 19, 2019 ([listen](#)).

“Moonlanding 50 Years Ago,” ARD German Radio & Television, recorded May 16, 2019 ([listen](#)).

“NASA and the Civil Rights Movement,” *Ideas Matter*, weekly segment on WAMC, Northeast Public Radio, originally broadcast live on March 18, 2016 ([listen](#)).

“Neil Maher on *Nature’s New Deal*,” *History for the Future*, weekly public affairs program broadcast on WRCT Pittsburgh (FM 88.3 and online), recorded January 31, 2012 ([listen](#)).

“Bringing Back the Civilian Conservation Corps,” *Paradigms: Visions of a Viable Future*, WBKM.org Radio, originally broadcast on May 15, 2011 ([listen](#)).

“Neil Maher’s *Nature’s New Deal*,” *Progressive Radio*, weekly syndicated broadcast of *The Progressive* magazine, Madison, Wisconsin, recorded September 30, 2010.

“Neil Maher talks about the CCC and its impact on our environmental policy,” *The Advocates* syndicated radio show, WVOX New Rochelle, New York (AM 1460), originally broadcast on July 7, 2010 ([listen](#)).

“What Now?: 1933 — The Creation of the Civilian Conservation Corps,” *Action Speaks!* Syndicated radio show, WRNI AM, Rhode Island National Public Radio, originally broadcast April 29, 2009 ([listen](#)).

“President Barack Obama’s Stimulus Package and the New Deal,” *Sunday Forum*, WMNF National Public Radio, Tampa Florida, originally broadcast January 25, 2009.

“Nature’s New Deal: Franklin Roosevelt’s Civilian Conservation Corps and the Roots of the American Environmental Movement,” *Focus 580: Interviews on Global Affairs and Daily Life*, Illinois Public Radio, originally broadcast November 7, 2008 ([listen](#)).

“Those CCC Boys,” Vermont Public Radio, originally broadcast August 19, 2008 ([listen](#)).

“75th Anniversary of the Civilian Conservation Corps,” *Radioactivity*, WMNF National Public Radio, Tampa, Florida, originally broadcast March 20, 2008.

Magazines, Podcasts & Online Interviews

“An Epilogue to the New Deal and CCC Deep Dive with Neil Maher,” History That Doesn’t Suck podcast, first aired April 7, 2025 ([listen](#)).

“The American Climate Corps Faces an Uncertain Future if Trump Wins,” interviewed for article with *Bloomberg News*, October 30, 2024 ([read](#)).

“The American Climate Corps Puts a Fresh Spin on the New Deal,” interviewed for article in *Audubon* magazine, Fall 2024 ([read](#)).

“The New Deal,” an interview with Neil Maher, U.S. History Repeated podcast, January 1, 2024 ([listen](#)).

“The Original Green New Deal: The Civilian Conservation Corps with Neil Maher,” The Road to Now: A Weekly History, Education, and Society Podcast, May 29, 2023 ([listen](#)).

“The Civilian Conservation Corps: Neil Maher,” *Science History Podcast*, October 11, 2022 ([listen](#)).

“Environmental History and Environmentalism with Dr. Neil Maher,” *Many Shades of Green*, Hudson River Radio, January 15, 2022 ([listen](#)).

“Space & the Sixties: Neil Maher,” *Science History Podcast*, January 11, 2022 ([listen](#)).

“The Civilian Conservation Corps,” *Wait Five Minutes: The Floridian Podcast*, November 1, 2021 ([listen](#)).

“The Apollo Program Had a Surprising Close Relationship With 1960s Counterculture,” *History Unplugged*, July 15, 2021 ([listen](#)).

“A Conversation about the Civilian Conservation Corps,” *Resources Radio*, produced by Resource for the Future, Episode 125, April 20, 2021 ([listen](#)).

“The Once and Future Civilian Conservation Corps,” *Feet to the Fire*, March 8, 2021 ([listen](#)).

“Escape From the Nuclear Family: COVID-19 Should Provoke a Rethink of How We Live,” *The Intercept*, podcast interview with guest host Naomi Klein, August 5, 2020 ([listen](#)).

“Magnificent Desolation,” *Moonrise*, audio miniseries by *The Washington Post*, October 15, 2019 ([listen](#)).

“Apollo in the Age of Aquarius,” *Time to Eat the Dogs: A Podcast About Science, History, and Exploration*, February 15, 2019 ([listen](#)).

“Neil M. Maher, Apollo in the Age of Aquarius,” *New Books Network*, June 20, 2017 ([listen](#)).

"NASA and the Explosive 1960s: A Conversation with Neil Maher," *Edge Effects*, June 20, 2017 ([listen](#)).

Social and Cultural Impact of the Space Race, C-SPAN, July 2, 2009 ([watch](#)).

Historical Consultant

Historical Advisor, *The Great Depression*, WNET (New York Public Media), 2015. This online educational game for middle and high school students is the fifth of WNET's award-winning *Mission-US* online gaming series ([play](#)).

Historical Commentator, *Treasures 5: The West, 1898-1938*, National Film Preservation Foundation, 2011. Invited to provide voice-over analysis for *We Can Take It*, a silent film produced circa 1935 by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Extension Service Office of Motion Pictures.

Online Publications and Blogs

"Reel Talk: History professor Neil Maher on the film *Hidden Figures* and the crucial role black women played in the space race," interview for NJIT News website feature, January 31, 2017.

"Green New Deal," *NJIT Magazine*, Fall 2009, 16-19.

"Is It Time for a Green New Deal?," *History News Network*, 19 January 2009.

"It's Time for a New and Improved CCC," *The Edge of the American West*, 31 March 2008.

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Lectures

"The Fight for Environmental Justice in Newark, New Jersey," Shelby Cullom Davis Center for Historical Studies, Princeton University, May 4, 2024.

"Environmental Inequality in Newark, N.J.: A Post-World War II History," Parks Program Lecture, County College of Morris, N.J., March 7, 2024.

"Urban America in the Suburban Age: Influence on My Work and Career," Teacher, Scholar, Mentor: A Celebration of the Career of Lizabeth Cohen," Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University, March 1, 2024.

"Greening the 'Blue Marble': Space Data, Visual Culture, and the Birth of an Environmental Icon," *The Whole Earth: NASA's 'Blue Marble' Photograph Fifty Years On*, University of Portsmouth, Great Britain, December 8, 2022.

“Biden’s Civilian Conservation Corps: Lessons from the Original CCC,” Next New Deal Webinar Series, The Living New Deal, October 21, 2021.

“The Green New Deal in Historical Perspective,” Earth Day Lecture Series, State University at New York-Orange, April 22, 2021.

“Workforce Development in the Civilian Conservation Corps,” Future of Work Symposium, Missouri Humanities Council, April 15, 2021.

“Green New Deals: Past and Future,” Environmental History Working Group, Harvard University, February 23, 2021.

“Grounding the Space Race: How the Civil Rights, Feminist, and Environmental Movements Brought NASA Back Down to Earth,” Cultural Affairs Lecture, SUNY-Orange, October 14, 2020.

“Space Age Environmentalism: How Photographs of Earth from Space Launched the Environmental Movement,” National Council for History Education Webinar, February 27, 2020.

“Climate Change Lessons from the Old New Deal,” Perspectives on a Green New Deal, Rutgers Climate Symposium, Rutgers University-New Brunswick, November 20, 2019.

“The Environmentalist President: FDR, the Great Depression, and the Civilian Conservation Corps,” Bar Library, Baltimore, MD, October 17, 2019.

“Seeing Nature: An Environmental Humanities Field Guide to Visual Culture,” Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, Ludwig-Maximilian University, Munich, Germany, July 11, 2019.

“How Earthrise Became Green,” Symposia on Earthrise: Celebrating the Photograph that Changed (How We View) the World, John W. Kluge Center, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C., April 23, 2019.

“Apollo in the Age of Aquarius,” 2019 Stover Lecture, Purdue University, March 21, 2019.

“Apollo in the Age of Aquarius: How Grassroots Politics Grounded the Space Race,” 2019 Lerner Lecture on the 1960s in our Time, Gould Center for Humanistic Studies, Claremont McKenna College, February 7, 2019.

“Civil Rights and Feminism in the Apollo Era,” Invited Lecture, Sidwell Friends School, Washington, D.C., October 29, 2018.

“How Grassroots Politics Grounded the Space Race,” History and Philosophy of Science Colloquium, University of Texas, Austin, April 11, 2018.

“Shooting (from) the Moon: Space Technology, Earthbound Nature, and the New Left during the Vietnam War,” History Seminar on Contemporary Science and Technology, Smithsonian

Institution's National Air and Space Museum, Washington, D.C., March 22, 2018.

"Apollo in the Age of Aquarius: An Environmental History of the Space Race in 1960s America," School of History and Sociology Speakers Series, Georgia Tech, September 25, 2017.

"Cold War Star Wars: The New Left and the Space Race During the Vietnam War," Center for Cold War Studies, University of California, Santa Barbara, May 13, 2016.

"Making NASA Think Globally, and Act Locally: NASA and the Environmental Movement," St. Francis College, April 18, 2016.

"Heavenly Bodies: 'Manned Space Flight' and the Women's Movement," History of Technology Working Group, Consortium for History of Science, Technology and Medicine, March 22, 2016.

"Think Globally, Act Locally: How NASA's Apollo Program Launched the Environmental Movement," Public Lecture, State University of New York-Orange County, March 14, 2016.

"Life: Future — Definitions of Life in the 21st Century and Beyond," John W. Kluge Center, Library of Congress, June 10, 2015.

"The New Deal in Pennsylvania: What the Great Depression Can Teach Us About the Modern Environmental Movement," Celebration of Scholarship Keynote Lecture, Lock Haven University, April 22, 2015.

"Star War: Space Technology, Earthbound Nature, and the New Left During the Vietnam War," Environmental Studies Lecture Series, Seton Hall University, April 9, 2015.

"Spaceship Earth: The Civil Rights Movement and NASA's War on Poverty," New Jersey History Forum Plenary Presentation, New Jersey Historical Commission, Kean University, November 22, 2014.

"Shooting (from) the Moon: NASA, Nature, and the New Left during the Vietnam War," Forum on Technology and the Liberal Arts, Lafayette College, November 12, 2014.

"The New Deal: The Civilian Conservation Corps in the Hudson Valley," Public Lecture, Cultural Affairs, State University of New York-Orange County, October 29, 2014.

"Ground Control: How Apollo Scrubbed the Age of Aquarius," Program in Agrarian Studies Colloquium, Yale University, September 5, 2014.

"Shooting (from) the Moon: NASA, Nature, and the New Left during the Vietnam War," Charles Warren Center for Studies in American History, Harvard University, November 7, 2013.

"A History of NASA's Role During the Vietnam War," Public Lecture, New Jersey Institute of Technology, May 18, 2013.

"Earth Day and the New Deal," Earth Day Public Lecture, Lock Haven University, April 22, 2013.

"Apollo and the New Left," Mellon Foundation Environment & Societies Workshop, University of California, Davis, April 10, 2013.

"The Space Race and the New Left During the Vietnam War," New York Metro Seminar in Environmental History, New York University, February 26, 2013.

"Newark's Backyard: Branch Brook Park and America's Urban Park Movement," Yes! In My Backyard Lecture Series, New Jersey Council for the Humanities, Newark, New Jersey, April 12, 2012.

"Lost in Space: An Envirotech History of the Vietnam War," Maryland Colloquium in the History of Technology, Science, and Environment, University of Maryland, February 2, 2012.

"Cold War Star Wars: Vietnamese Nature, Space Race Technology, and the Rise of Détente," Research Workshop in the History and Sociology of Science, Medicine, and Technology, University of Pennsylvania, September 26, 2011.

"Ground Control: How the Space Race Scrubbed the Revolution," Colorado Regional Environmental History Workshop, University of Colorado, Denver, March 1, 2011.

"From Cape Canaveral to Levittown: An Environmental History of the Space Race," *Technology and Society Forum*, New Jersey Institute of Technology, November 3, 2010.

"Spaceship Earth: The Urban Crisis and NASA's War on Poverty," *Engaging Metropolitan Environments Lecture Series*, Rutgers University-New Brunswick, October 28, 2010.

"Saving Soil, Saving Farms: A New Deal for Coon Valley," Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison, September 29, 2010.

"Ground Control: Unearthing an Environmental History of the Space Race," *Center for Culture, History, and the Environment Colloquium*, University of Wisconsin-Madison, September 29, 2010.

"Greening the New Deal: Franklin Roosevelt, the Civilian Conservation Corps, and the Roots of the America Environmental Movement," *Roosevelt Reading Festival*, Franklin D. Roosevelt Library and Museum, Hyde Park, New York, June 19, 2010.

"Greening Cape Canaveral: An Environmental History of the Space Race," Gillespie Museum of Earth Sciences, Stetson University, DeLand, Florida, April 22, 2010.

"'Before Earth Day There Was the CCC': The New Deal Roots of the Environmental Movement," Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art, University of Oklahoma, April 1, 2010.

"Black Rock Forest's Land Use History," Organization of Biological Field Stations Annual Meeting, Black Rock Forest, Cornwall, New York, September 18, 2009.

“Ground Control: Beyond an Environmental History of the Space Race,” Library of Congress, Kluge Center, Washington, D.C., July 2, 2009.

“Bringing the New Deal to Bethlehem: A Public Forum with Neil Maher,” Lehigh University, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, March 27, 2009.

“The Civilian Conservation Corps at the Grand Canyon,” *Civilian Conservation Corps Symposium*, Keynote Speaker, Grand Canyon National Park, May 29, 2008.

“Beyond an Environmental History of NASA and the Space Race,” History Department, Boston College, March 26, 2008.

“Spaceship Earth: NASA Technology and the Environmental History of Lyndon Johnson’s War on Poverty,” *Nature and Culture Seminar*, Hall Center for the Humanities, University of Kansas, May 5, 2006.

“New Jersey’s Environments: Past, Present, and Future,” *Honors College Colloquium*, New Jersey Institute of Technology, April 26, 2006.

“Ground Control: Towards an Environmental History of NASA and the Space Race,” Smithsonian Institution’s National Air and Space Museum, May 2005.

“The Politics of New Deal Conservation,” History Department, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia, November 2004.

“Ground Control: An Environmental History of NASA and the Space Race,” *Industrial Environments Seminar*, Rutgers Center for Historical Analysis, New Brunswick, NJ, 2003.

“The Body Politic: Bringing the State (and Gender) Into Environmental History,” *Industrial Environments Seminar*, Rutgers Center for Historical Analysis, New Brunswick, NJ, 2001.

“Work for Strangers but None for Us: The Civilian Conservation Corps and the Hudson Valley’s Bear Mountain State Park,” *Program on Nature, Culture, and Technology*, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas, 1996.

Workshops and Seminars

“Administration in the Field is Decentralized”: A History Lesson from the CCC for a Green New Deal,” How the New Deal Was Run Conference, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee, May 3, 2024.

“Environmental Inequalities in Newark: Finding Common Ground,” Divergent Environmentalism Conference, School of Arts and Sciences, University of Pennsylvania, March 22, 2024.

“Environmental Justice Histories of Newark: An Introduction,” Shelby Cullom Davis Center for Historical Studies, Princeton University, November 16, 2023.

“Wasted: An Environmental Justice History of Newark, NJ,” The Environmental Storytelling Studio (TESS), Brown University, May 15-19, 2022.

Conference Papers

“Grounding Environmental Justice in the 1970s,” American Society for Environmental History, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, April 12, 2025.

“Infrastructure Justice in Newark: An Introduction,” American Society for Environmental History, Denver, Colorado, April 6, 2024.

“Complex Collaborations in Environmental Justice History,” American Society for Environmental History, Boston, Massachusetts, March 23, 2023.

“Environmental Justice: Building University-Community Collaborations,” American Society for Environmental History, Eugene, Oregon, March 24, 2022.

“Environmental Histories of Non-Green Topics,” Organization of American Historians, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, April 5, 2019.

“Grounded: The Terrestrial Politics of Terraforming During the Apollo Era,” Solar Geoengineering Research Program, Harvard University, March 23, 2018.

“The New Right’s Stuff: Space Exploration, the Hippie Counterculture, and the Rise of the ‘Conservative Crescent’,” American Society for Environmental History, Chicago, Illinois, March 30, 2017.

“NASA and the Dual Use of Earth Observation,” Workshop on Writing the Transnational History of Science and Technology,” Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Georgia, November 2-3, 2016.

“‘Thinking Globally’: Space Data and the Making of *Whole Earth* Environmentalism,” Society for the History of Technology, Albuquerque, New Mexico, October 8-11, 2015.

“Heavenly Bodies: The Intimate History of the Space Race and Second Wave Feminism,” American Historical Association, New York, January 4, 2015.

“Spaceship Earth: The Urban Crisis and NASA’s War on Poverty,” American Historical Association, New Orleans, January 3, 2013.

“Cold Star Wars: Space Race Technology, Vietnamese Nature, and the Rise of Détente,” Imagining Cold War Environments Conference, Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, April 27, 2012.

“Ground Control: Space Technology, Environmentalism, and Détente Across the Developing World,” *Envisioning Limits: Outer Space and the End of Utopia Conference*, Friedrich-Meinecke-Institute, Freie Universität, Berlin, Germany, April 20, 2012.

“‘Greetings from Apollo’: How Space Race Postcards Masked the Military Industrial Complex,” *Eco-Images: Altering Environmental Discussions and Political Landscapes Conference*, Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, Munich, Germany, April 19, 2012.

“Cold Star Wars: How Space Science and Global Nature Transformed the ‘Third World’,” *American Society for Environmental History*, Phoenix, Arizona, April 16, 2011.

“Heavenly Bodies: ‘Manned Space Flight’ and the Women’s Movement,” *World Congress of Environmental History*, Copenhagen, Denmark, August 2009.

“Alligators and Rocket Ships: How Cape Canaveral Nature Naturalizes NASA Technology,” *American Society for Environmental History*, Boise, Idaho, March 15, 2008.

“Playing Politics: Franklin Roosevelt, the Civilian Conservation Corps, and State Park Development During the New Deal Era,” *Designing the Parks: Part 1-The History of Park Planning and Design*, University of Virginia, 2008.

“‘Think Globally, Act Locally’: How NASA Technology Internationalized Environmentalism,” *American Historical Association*, Atlanta, Georgia, 2007.

“Whole Earth: NASA Technology and the Advent of Global Environmentalism,” *Society for the History of Technology*, Las Vegas, Nevada, 2006.

“Spaceship Earth: NASA’s Environmental History and Beyond,” *American Society for Environmental History*, St. Paul, Minnesota, 2006.

“How NASA Photographs Put the Earth on the Map,” *American Society for Environmental History*, Victoria, British Columbia, April 4, 2004.

“The Progressive Era Origins of Franklin Roosevelt’s Conservation Politics,” *Recovering the Environmental Legacy of FDR Conference*, Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute, Hyde Park, New York, 2002.

“Planting More Than Trees: The Civilian Conservation Corps, Outdoor Recreation, and the Roots of the American Environmental Movement,” *American Historical Association*, Chicago, Illinois, 2000.

“Environmentalists Who Work for a Living: Labor, Nature, and the Civilian Conservation Corps,” *American Society for Environmental History*, Tacoma, Washington, 2000.

“Knowing Nature Through Work: The Civilian Conservation Corps, Enrollee Labor, and the Roots of American Environmentalism,” *American Society for Environmental History*, Tucson, Arizona, 1999.

“Auto-Tourism, Wilderness, and the Development of Great Smoky Mountains National Park,” National Park Service Conference on Resource Management, Albuquerque, New Mexico, 1997.

“Crazy Quilt Farming on Round Land: The Great Depression, the Soil Conservation Service, and Community Change in Kansas, 1929-1943,” American Society for Environmental History, Baltimore, Maryland, 1997.

“Beyond the Dust Bowl: The Soil Conservation Service in the Great Plains,” Missouri Conference on History, Northeast Missouri State University, Kirksville, Missouri, 1996.

“Mount Desert Island’s Auto Wars,” Acadia National Park Visitors Center, Mount Desert Island, Maine, 1995.

Public Talks

“Wasted: An Environmental Justice History of Newark, New Jersey, 1945-2000,” Dorothy and Lewis B. Cullman Center for Writers and Scholars, New York Public Library, February 8, 2023.

“Beer in Brick City: A Talk and Tasting,” Newark Museum of Art, Newark, New Jersey, November 30, 2023.

“The Rise and Fall of Newark’s Beer Industry: An Environmental History,” Newark History Society, Newark, New Jersey, April 4, 2022.

“The Green New Deal: Then and Now,” Temple B’Nai Abraham, Livingston, New Jersey, September 24, 2021.

“Science Policy in NYC,” Roundtable Interviewee, Sci4NY (Science for New York), New York University Langone Health, New York, New York, January 11, 2020.

“FDR and the Hudson Valley: An Environmental History,” Lecture Series, Putnam History Museum, Cold Spring, New York, October 20, 2018.

“Franklin Roosevelt and Earth Day: A Hudson Valley History,” Sunday Scholars Series, Hudson River Museum, Yonkers, New York, April 22, 2018.

“Apollo in the Age of Aquarius: Three Grassroots Movements,” CONNECT Luncheon Speaker Series, Dallas, Texas, April 13, 2018.

“How the Women’s Movement Grounded NASA,” Dallas Lyceum Club, Dallas, Texas, April 12, 2018.

“Heavenly Bodies: ‘Manned Space Flight’ and the Women’s Movement,” New York Council for the Humanities Public Scholar Lecture, Poughkeepsie Public Library, Poughkeepsie, New York, March 10, 2018.

“Nature’s New Deal: The Great Depression and Franklin Roosevelt in New York’s Hudson Valley,” New York Council for the Humanities Public Scholar Lecture, Shevach High School, Flushing, New York, March 6, 2018.

“Shooting the Moon: Space Technology, Earthbound Nature, and the New Left during the Vietnam War,” History Lecture Series, Wilton Historical Society, Wilton, New York, February 11, 2018.

“Apollo in the Age of Aquarius: How 1960s Activism Grounded the Space Race,” New York Council for the Humanities Public Scholar Lecture, Beacon Sloop Club, Beacon, New York, February 6, 2018.

“‘Whitey On the Moon’: NASA’s Apollo Mission and the Civil Rights Movement,” New York Council for the Humanities Public Scholar Lecture, Greenport Historical Society, Hudson, New York, October 19, 2017.

“Heavenly Bodies: ‘Manned Space Flight’ and the Women’s Movement,” New York Council for the Humanities Public Scholar Lecture, Huntington Memorial Library, Oneonta, New York, October 6, 2017.

“Nature’s New Deal: The Great Depression and Franklin Roosevelt in New York’s Hudson Valley,” New York Council for the Humanities Public Scholar Lecture, Shames Jewish Community Center, Tarrytown, New York, October 2, 2017.

“Apollo in the Age of Aquarius: NASA and Environmentalism,” J.R. Julia Bookstore, Middletown, Connecticut, September 29, 2017.

“Nature’s New Deal: The Great Depression and Franklin Roosevelt in New York’s Hudson Valley,” New York Council for the Humanities Public Scholar Lecture, Rosendale Public Library, Rosendale, New York, September 27, 2017.

“‘Think Globally, Act Locally’: How NASA’s Apollo Program Launched the Environmental Movement,” New York Council for the Humanities Public Scholar Lecture, Half Hollow Hills Community Library, Dix Hills, New York, June 14, 2017.

“Nature’s New Deal: The Great Depression and Franklin Roosevelt in New York’s Hudson Valley,” New York Council for the Humanities Public Scholar Lecture, West Hurley Public Library, West Hurley, New York, June 10, 2017.

“Nature’s New Deal: The Great Depression and Franklin Roosevelt in New York’s Hudson Valley,” New York Council for the Humanities Public Scholar Lecture, Beacon Sloop Club, Beacon, New York, May 11, 2017.

“‘Think Globally, Act Locally’: How NASA’s Apollo Program Launched the Environmental Movement,” New York Council for the Humanities Public Scholar Lecture, Jewish Community Center Rockland, West Nyack, New York, April 19, 2017.

“Nature’s New Deal: The Great Depression and Franklin Roosevelt in New York’s Hudson Valley,” New York Council for the Humanities Public Scholar Lecture, Shevach High School, Flushing, New York, March 7, 2017.

“Nature’s New Deal: The Great Depression and Franklin Roosevelt in New York’s Hudson Valley,” New York Council for the Humanities Public Scholar Lecture, Greenport Historical Society, Hudson, New York, July 21, 2016.

“Think Globally, Act Locally’: How NASA’s Apollo Program Launched the Environmental Movement,” New York Council for the Humanities Public Scholar Lecture, Hudson River Museum, Yonkers, New York, April 24, 2016.

“Nature’s New Deal: The Great Depression and Franklin Roosevelt in New York’s Hudson Valley,” New York Council for the Humanities Public Scholar Lecture, Nyack Library, Nyack, New York, April 14, 2016.

“Nature’s New Deal: The Great Depression and Franklin Roosevelt in New York’s Hudson Valley,” New York Council for the Humanities Public Scholar Lecture, Mount Saint Mary College, Newburgh, New York, April 12, 2016.

“Nature’s New Deal: The Great Depression and Franklin Roosevelt in New York’s Hudson Valley,” New York Council for the Humanities Public Scholar Lecture, Warner Library, Tarrytown, New York, April 11, 2016.

“Nature’s New Deal: The Great Depression and Franklin Roosevelt in New York’s Hudson Valley,” New York Council for the Humanities Public Scholar Lecture, Shevach High School, Queens, New York, November 18, 2015.

“Bear Mountain’s New Deal: The Civilian Conservation Corps in the Hudson Highlands During the Great Depression,” Lectures Series, Fort Montgomery State Historic Site, July 9, 2015.

“Nature’s New Deal: The Civilian Conservation Corps in New Jersey,” Bayonne Historical Society, Bayonne, New Jersey, April 14, 2009.

“Nature’s New Deal: How the CCC Transformed the American West,” Colorado Historical Society, April 18, 2006.

“Nature’s New Deal: The Civilian Conservation Corps and Outdoor Recreation in Bear Mountain State Park,” New York Council for the Humanities, Museum of the Hudson Highlands, Cornwall-on-Hudson, New York, 2004.

TEACHING & ADVISING

Undergraduate Courses

Climate Change and Environmental Justice in America
Environmental History of North America

Cities in History
Landscape and Culture in America
American Cultural Landscapes, 1945 — Present
Legal Issues in Environmental History
Senior Research Seminar in History

Graduate Courses

Environmental History of North America
The Urban Environment
Global Environmental History
Food History and American Culture
Environmental Inequality and Justice
History of Technology, Environment, and Health: Theory and Methods
The 1960s Era in American History
Research Seminar in Environmental History

Ph.D. Dissertation Advising

Marika Plater, “Escaping New York: Working-Class Landscapes of Leisure in and around New York City, 1830-1920,” History Department, Rutgers University, New Brunswick. Co-Chair, 2016-2020.

Mohamed Gamel-Eldin, “Cities of Sand: Reshaping the Environment, Building Towns, and Finding Modernity in the Isthmus of Suez, 1856-1936,” Program in Urban Systems, NJIT College of Architecture and Design, Newark. Committee Member, 2016-2020.

Christopher Blakley, “Inhuman Empire: Slavery and Nonhuman Animals in the British Atlantic World,” History Department, Rutgers University, New Brunswick. Committee Member, 2016-2019.

Zachary Nowak, “The State in the Station: The Nineteenth-Century American Train Station and State Power,” History Department, Harvard University. Committee Member, 2017-2018.

Raechel Lutz, “Crude Conservation: How Standard Oil Reshaped Nature,” History Department, Rutgers University, New Brunswick. Co-Chair, 2015-2018.

Sara Grossman, “A Natural History of Data: Measuring American Weather from 1820 to Hurricane Sandy,” American Studies Program, Rutgers University, Newark. Committee Co-Chair, 2014—2016.

Brian Jirout, “One Space Age Development for the World: The American Landsat Civil Remote Sensing Program in Use, 1964-2014,” School of History, Technology, and Society, Georgia Tech. Committee Member, 2014-2016.

Sevin Yildiz, “The Hackensack Meadowlands in the Shadow of Gotham: Scientific City-Building Across the 20th Century,” Program in Urban Systems, NJIT College of Architecture and Design. Committee Chair, 2010—2015.

Kara Schlichting, "Planning the Waterfront: Environmental Perceptions and Resource Access on the Metropolitan Coast of Long Island," History Department, Rutgers University, New Brunswick. Committee Member, 2009-2014.

Andrew Krause, "Reindustrialization in Bethlehem: Steel, Tourism, and Suburban Living, 1940-2005," History Department, Temple University. Committee Member, 2005-2007.

Richard Mizelle, "Backwater Blues: The Mississippi Flood Disaster, Race, and the Remaking of Regional Identity, 1900-1930." History Department, Rutgers University, New Brunswick. Committee Member, 2003-2007.

Robert Lifset, "Storm King Mountain & The Birth of Modern American Environmentalism, 1962-1980," History Department, Columbia University. Committee Member, 2005.

David Kinkela, "Pesticide Exchange: DDT and the International Context of U.S. Environmentalism, 1943-1992." History Department, New York University. Committee Member, 2004.

M.A. Thesis Advising

Timothy Greene, "The Plurality of Inhabited Worlds Debate from Antiquity to Modern Times," Federated History Department at NJIT—Rutgers, Newark, 2025-2026.

Adrienne Bagnato, "To Ban or Not to Ban: A Comparative Analysis of GMO Seeds," Federated History Department at NJIT—Rutgers, Newark, 2022-2023.

Seth Laskin, "'Will Dividends Reforest this Barren Mountain?': New England Woodsmen and Environmental Consciousness, 1900-1955," Federated History Department at NJIT—Rutgers, Newark, 2021-2022.

Susan Cohen, "Dioxins in Newark, New Jersey: A Transnational History of Agent Orange," Federated History Department at NJIT—Rutgers, Newark, 2019-2020.

Kurt Weinstein, "The New Space Race: Comparing Boeing's ULA and Space X," Federated History Department at NJIT—Rutgers, Newark, 2019-2020.

Karen Kincaid Brady, "Preservation Moon: The Cultural Landscape of the Apollo 11 Lunar Landing Site," School of Architecture, University of Texas at Austin, 2018-2019.

Robert Hoberman, "The End of These Woods: The New Jersey Pinelands Jetport and American Environmentalism," Federated History Department at NJIT—Rutgers, Newark, 2016-2017.

Katherine Keirns, "The Brush is Mightier than the Sword: How Drawing Nature Saved West Point," Federated History Department at NJIT—Rutgers, Newark, 2011.

Steve Leone, “Rest in Peace?: How Immigration, Sanitation, and Religion Transformed Death in Mid-Nineteenth Century Manhattan,” Federated History Department at NJIT—Rutgers, Newark, 2011.

Raechel Lutz, “Who Cuts Your Grass?: How Ideas About Nature and Labor Have Grown New Jersey’s Lawns,” Federated History Department at NJIT—Rutgers, Newark, 2010.

Brian Tyrrell, “‘My Dirty Stream’: Pete Seeger, Folk Music, and the Proletarian Influence on Environmentalism,” Federated History Department at NJIT—Rutgers, Newark, 2010.

James Towe, “The Community’s Chest: The Erosion of the Atlantic City Environment and Community by the Casino Gaming Industry,” Federated History Department at NJIT—Rutgers, Newark, 2010.

Joseph Freeman, “Polk, Nature, and Manifest Destiny,” Federated History Department at NJIT—Rutgers, Newark, 2010.

Phillip Brophy, “From Trough to Treasure: Portaging Through History with a Wooden Dugout Canoe,” Federated History Department at NJIT—Rutgers, Newark, 2008-2009.

Dennis Quinn, “Landmarks *and* Status: A Consideration of Space and Citizenship in Two Greenwich Village Preservation Movements,” Federated History Department at NJIT—Rutgers, Newark, 2007-2008.

Holly Estes, “Throat Culture: An Examination of Pornography as Popular Culture,” Federated History Department at NJIT—Rutgers, Newark, 2007-2008.

Rebecca Vanucci, “Whose Body Is It Anyway: How Mothers, Midwives, and Medical Doctors Treat and Perceive the Body in Childbirth,” Federated History Department at NJIT—Rutgers, Newark, 2006-2007.

Jaime Fauver, “In Mickey and Minnie’s Home: Family, Fantasy, and Gendered Experience at Disney World.” Federated History Department at NJIT—Rutgers, Newark, 2003-2004.

Lena Raut, “Brownfields Redevelopment in Perth Amboy, New Jersey.” Environmental Policy Studies Program, NJIT. Advisor, 2001-2002.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE

Departmental

Member, Faculty Search Committee, NJIT, 2024.

Chair, NJIT History Department, 2008-2011 and 2017-2020.

Chair, Promotion and Tenure Committee, 2017-present.

Chair, Faculty Search Committee, NJIT, 2016-2017.

Chair, Grade Appeals Committee, NJIT, 2015

Co-Chair, Faculty Search Committee, NJIT, 2012-2013.

Chair, Faculty Search Committee, NJIT, 2008-2009.

College

Co-Chair, Minor in Environmental Studies and Sustainability, NJIT, 2008-2011.
Chair, History Department Promotion and Tenure Committee, NJIT, 2008-2011.
Environmental Science Planning Committee, NJIT, 2001-2002.
Environmental Policy Studies Planning Committee, NJIT, 2001-2002.

University

Committee on Undergraduate Education, NJIT, Spring 2024.
General Education Requirement Subcommittee, NJIT, Spring 2024.
Institute for Teaching Excellence, NJIT, 2019-present.
Faculty Senate, NJIT, 2014-2017 and 2020-2023.
Middle States Accreditation Committee on University Leadership, NJIT, 2020-2021.
Committee on Academic Strategic Planning and Budget Priorities, NJIT, 2017-2020.
Committee on Faculty Rights and Responsibilities, NJIT, 2017-2020.
College of Architecture & Design Dean Search Committee, NJIT, 2016-2017.
Faculty Council, NJIT, 2012-2013.
Provost Search Committee, NJIT, 2013.
Provost Committee on Ensuring Faculty Workload Equity & Fairness, NJIT, 2013.
Faculty Council University Course Scheduling Committee, NJIT, 2012-2013.
Faculty Council Student Record Access Committee, NJIT, 2012-2013.
Graduate Faculty, M.A. Program in Environmental Policy Studies, Department of Chemistry and Environmental Science, NJIT, 2001-present.
Graduate Faculty, Ph.D. Program in Urban Systems, NJIT School of Architecture, 2010-present.
Member, Committee on Academic Affairs, NJIT, 2008-2011.
Member, College of Science and Liberal Arts Excellence in Research Committee, NJIT, 2009-2010.
Member, College of Science and Liberal Arts Strategic Planning Committee, NJIT, 2008-2009.

Federated History Department

Graduate Coordinator, M.A. Concentration in the History of Technology, Environment, and Medicine, Federated Department of History, NJIT—Rutgers, Newark, 2001-present.
Graduate Director, M.A. Program in History, Federated Department of History, NJIT—Rutgers, Newark, 2006-2007.
Co-Coordinator, Ph.D. major field in the History of Science, Technology, Environment, and Health, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, 2001-2007.
History Club Co-Founder and Faculty Advisor, Federated Department of History, NJIT—Rutgers, Newark, 2002-2007.
Strategic Planning Committee, Federated Department of History, NJIT—Rutgers, Newark, 2003.
Search Committee, Federated Department of History, Rutgers University, Newark—NJIT, 2002-2003.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Journal Responsibilities

Editorial Board, *Environmental History* (American Society for Environmental History), 2016-2019.

Graphics Editor, *Environmental History* (American Society for Environmental History), 2007-2015.

Historical Associations

Co-Coordinator, Graduate Student Essay Prize Workshop, Committee on Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity, American Society for Environmental History, 2025-2026.

Committee Member, Committee on Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity, American Society for Environmental History, 2021-present.

New York Metropolitan Seminar in Environmental History

Founder and Organizer, 2013-present. The seminar has approximately one hundred participants and convenes four times per academic year to discuss works-in-progress by environmental historians residing in the New York City area.

External Assessment

External evaluator of the Environmental Studies Degree Program, History and Philosophy Department, State University of New York (SUNY) at Old Westbury, 2019.

Award Committees

Ellis W. Hawley Book Prize Committee, Organization of American Historians, 2022-2023.

Ethyle R. Wolfe Institute for the Humanities Faculty Fellowship, Brooklyn College, 2021.

Fellowship in Aerospace History, American Historical Association and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, 2013-2016.

Charles A. Weyerhaeuser Book Award Committee, Forest History Society, 2011.

NASA Fellowship in the History of Space Technology, Society for the History of Technology, 2008-2011.

Rachel Carson Award for Best Dissertation in Environmental History, American Society for Environmental History, 2005.

Book Manuscripts Refereed

“The Rocket and the Tarot: The Apollo Moon Landings and American Culture at the Dawn of the Seventies,” by Matthew Tribbe, for Oxford University Press, 2012.

“Midwest Adventures in the CCC: Wisconsin and Illinois,” by Robert J. Moore, for Northern Illinois University Press, 2010.

“Errand into the Wilderness: An Environmental History of the Republican Party, 1900-2000,” by Karl Brooks, for Oxford University Press, 2009.

“Cultivated Country: Subsistence Farms, The New Deal, and the Creation of a Federal Landscape in Appalachia,” by Sarah Gregg, for Yale University Press, 2008.

“Unsettling Ground: Suburban Nature and Environmentalism in the 20th Century America,” by Christopher Sellers, for University of North Carolina Press, 2008.

“The Nature of New York: An Environmental History of the Empire State,” by David Stradling, for Cornell University Press, 2008.

“Organic Planning: Ethics and Design in TVA’s Early Years, 1933-1941,” by Brian Black, for University of Georgia Press, 2006.

“When the Forests Became the Enemy: The Origin and Legacy of American Herbicide War in Vietnam,” by Lan Bui, for University of Massachusetts Press, 2004.

“New Deal Chronicles: Camp Newspapers of the Civilian Conservation Corps,” by Alfred Corneise, for American Philosophical Society, 2002.

Journal Articles Refereed

“Climate Justice for All: Pursuing a Just Transition in the Education Sector,” *American Educator*, 2023.

“‘In the Way of Progress’: Interstate 78 and the Underdevelopment of the Weequahic Section of Newark, New Jersey,” *NJ Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal*, 2023.

“‘Substantive Accomplishments’: Richard Nixon, High School Student Environmentalists, and the President’s Environmental Merit Award Program,” *Law and History Review*, 2021.

“An Excremental History of the Space Age; Or, Why We Must Go To Mars,” *Environmental History*, 2019.

“‘We were shot down!’ The Life and Death of NASA’s 1982 Global Habitability Initiative,” *Technology and Culture*, 2019.

“Out of Space: Satellite Reentry and the Environmental History of Earth Orbit,” *Environmental History*, 2017.

“A Visual History of the Ozone Hole: A Journey to the Heart of Science, Technology and the Global Environment,” *History and Technology*, 2017.

“Towards an Environmental History of the Media?: Portrayals of Water Pollution on Television Prior to Earth Day 1970,” *Environmental History*, 2016.

“The Trouble With Darkness: NASA’s Suomi Satellite Images of Earth at Night,” *Environmental History*, 2016.

“The Oklahoma City Sonic Boom Experiment and the Politics of Supersonic Aviation,” *Radical History Review*, 2014.

“Arthur C. Clarke and the Ocean as Frontier,” *Environmental History*, 2011.

“The Ultimate Reserve: Recreating Nature in the Second Biosphere,” for *History and Technology*, 2009.

“Instant Environmentalists and Chicken-Powered Cars: Technology, the Counterculture, and the *Whole Earth Catalogue*,” for *History and Technology*, 2007.

“Quintessentially American and Universally Human: Apollo 11 Medals at the Smithsonian Institution’s National Air and Space Museum,” for *Public Historian*, 2007.

“Franklin Roosevelt, Gifford Pinchot and the Beginning of the Civilian Conservation Corps in Pennsylvania,” for *The Historical Society of Pennsylvania*, 2005.

“Buckminster Fuller as Captain of Spaceship Earth,” for *Technology and Culture*, 2004.

Book Series Refereed

Graphesis, proposal for a graphic book series for the University of Georgia Press, 2021.

Conference Administration:

Co-Organizer: “History of NASA and the Environment Symposium,” conference sponsored by NASA, Georgetown University, NJIT, and the D.C. Space Grant Consortium, September 29-30, 2022.

Co-Organizer: "Urban Environmental Justice: Learning from and with Activists," American Society for Environmental History, Environmental History Week Virtual Conference, April 22, 2021.

Co-Organizer: "Hacking the University: Reckoning with Racial Equity, Climate Justice, and Global Warming," Price Institute on Ethnicity, Culture, and the Modern Experience, Rutgers University-Newark, October 15-17, 2020.

Advisory Committee: New Jersey Council for the Humanities' Annual NJ Forum Conference, Drew University, Madison, New Jersey, November 18-19, 2016.

Local Arrangements Committee: Agricultural History Society's Annual Conference, New York, New York, June 23-26, 2016.

Program Committee: American Society for Environmental History's Annual Conference, Seattle, Washington, March 20-April 3, 2016.

Local Arrangements Committee: American Society for Environmental History's Annual Conference, Houston, Texas, 2005.

Conference Participation:

Commentator: "From the Red Desert to the Red Planet: Military Engineers, the Mojave, and Life on Mars," by Gretchen Heefner for the Environmental History Seminar, Massachusetts Historical Society, October 18, 2022.

Session Chair: "New Jersey's Natures Part 2: Environmental Histories in the 20th Century," American Society for Environmental History, Eugene, Oregon, March 26, 2022.

Moderator: "Hacking the University: Reckoning with Racial Equity, Climate Justice, and Global Warming," Price Institute on Ethnicity, Culture, and the Modern Experience, Rutgers University-Newark, Saturday Session, October 17, 2020.

Framing Commentator: "How Can We Activate Our Histories to Inspire Future Change?," *Climates of Inequality: Stories of Environmental Justice*, International Launch Convening, Newark, New Jersey, November 1, 2019.

Roundtable Commentator: "The Environmental Crisis," NJIT Environment Week Colloquium, Newark, New Jersey, September 27, 2019.

Session Chair and Commentator: "Public Lands, Private Profits: Corporate Intrusion in American Parks," American Society for Environmental History, Annual Meeting, Columbus, Ohio, April 12, 2019.

Session Chair: "Lightning Talks on Environmental History Research," American Society for Environmental History, Annual Meeting, Columbus, Ohio, April 12, 2019.

Session Commentator: "Manufacturing Parks: Industrial Heritage and the Movement to Protect Lived-in Landscapes," Workshop for the History of the Environment, Agriculture, Technology, and Science, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, October 2, 2016.

Roundtable Commentator: "Gabriel Rosenberg's *The 4-H Harvest: Sexuality and the State in Rural America*," Agricultural History Society, Annual Meeting, New York, New York, June 24, 2016.

Plenary Session Moderator: "Contextualizing Western Drought," American Society for Environmental History, Annual Conference, Seattle, Washington, March 30-April 3, 2016.

Roundtable Organizer: "Art History and Environmental History: A Dialogue," American Society for Environmental History Annual Conference, San Francisco, California, March 12-16, 2014.

Paper Commentator: "A Tacit Proclamation of Achievement by the Race: Landscapes Built with African American Civilian Conservation Corps Labor in the Rural Midwest," Environmental History Seminar, Boston Historical Society, Boston, Massachusetts, February 11, 2014.

Session Commentator: "From Deep Sea to Near Space: Cultural Encounters with Extreme Nature," American Society for Environmental History Annual Conference, Toronto, Canada, April 3-6, 2013.

Roundtable Organizer: "Photography as Historical Inquiry," American Society for Environmental History Annual Conference, Toronto, Canada, April 3-6, 2013.

Session Commentator: "The Greening of Diplomacy: Landsat, Environment, and the Cold War, 1964-1978," Workshop for the History of the Environment, Agriculture, Technology, and Science, University of Pennsylvania, March 15-17, 2013.

Session Commentator: "Making Tires, Timber, and Turf: Labor and Nature in Environmental History," American Society for Environmental History Annual Conference, Madison, Wisconsin, March 29, 2012.

Session Organizer: "Making Pictures Talk: An Environmental History Visual Culture Jam," American Society for Environmental History Annual Conference, Madison, Wisconsin, March 31, 2012.

Session Commentator: "Finding Rejuvenation in Nature," Northeast Environmental History Conference, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut, April 2011.

Session Chair and Commentator: "Body and Health in the U.S. West," American Society for Environmental History Annual Conference, Portland, Oregon, 2010.

Session Commentator: "The Cold War on the Land: The Military-Industrial Complex and the Transformation of the American Landscape," American Society for Environmental History Annual Conference, Tallahassee, Florida, February 28, 2009.

Session Chair: "Babes in the Woods?: North American Youth, Nature, and Environmentalism, 1920-1975," American Society for Environmental History Annual Conference, Tallahassee, Florida, February 28, 2009.

Session Organizer: "Approaches to Radical Environmental History," American Historical Association Annual Conference, New York City, January 3, 2009.

Session Chair: "Nature Behind Barbed Wire: Environmental Histories of the Japanese American Internment," American Society for Environmental History Annual Conference, Boise, Idaho, March 14, 2008.

Session Chair: "Nature Camps, Natural Scenes, and Naturists: Popular Environmentalism in the 1930s and Beyond," at the Society for Environmental History Annual Conference, Victoria, British Columbia, April 2, 2004.

Session Chair: "Investigating the Subaltern: Themes in Environmental Justice Scholarship," at the Society for Environmental History Annual Conference, Providence, Rhode Island, March 27, 2003.

Session Chair: "'And They Say We'll Have Some Fun When It Stops Raining': Children, Nature, and the History of Summer Camp," at the Society for Environmental History Annual Conference, Durham, North Carolina, 2001.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Forest Historian

Black Rock Forest, Cornwall-on-Hudson, New York 2001-present
Historian for this experimental field station, administered by a consortium of institutions including Columbia University, New York University, and New York's Museum of Natural History, which educates students from secondary school through the college level on the study of forest ecosystems.

Advisory Committee Member

New Jersey Council for the Humanities NJ Forum 2016-2017

Irvington Historical Society

Board Member, Irvington, New York 2015-present
Serving as one of twenty board members of this local historical society, and co-chairing the society's public programming committee.

Historian, National Park Service

Historic American Building Survey-Historic American Engineer Record 1997-1998

Historian for HABS-HAER projects in Acadia National Park and Great Smoky Mountains National Park that documented the history of the bridges, roads, hiking trails, and built structures in both of these national parks.

Campaign Organizer

1990-1991

Massachusetts Public Interest Research Group

One of four lead organizers of a door-to-door canvassing campaign to promote toxic waste site awareness and cleanup in local communities in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. In 1990 this canvass was the largest door-to-door campaign in American history.

Reporter & Editor-in-Chief

1991-1993

National Student News Service

Reported and then served as editor-in-chief of this not-for-profit wire service for college campus newspapers. The wire service, which is the oldest in the country, covers student issues and campus activism across the United States.