

REBECCA J. HESTER, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor

Department of Science, Technology, and Society, Virginia Tech



Joining from
Blacksburg

Dr. Hester received her PhD in Politics from the University of California Santa Cruz. Her dissertation research examined the promotion of Indigenous health in Mexican migrant communities from Southern Mexico living in the United States. As an outgrowth of that research, she served on the board of directors for Centro Binacional para el Desarrollo Indígena Oaxaqueño, an Indigenous social movement organization in the United States and Mexico. She is currently working on a book tentatively titled Embodied Politics: Health Promotion in Indigenous Mexican Migrant Communities in California.

MAE HEY

Doctoral Candidate in the confluence of Indigenous knowledge/
worldview and science education, Virginia Tech



Joining from
Blacksburg

Ms. Hey is trained as a geologist and chose this field as a vehicle for obtaining formal training in the necessary arts of careful observation and thoughtful participation with Nature - what is known as 'science' in western thinking. She became an interpreter for the stories rocks reveal about the past, present, and future to teach us how to live more synergistically with Earth's resilient, adaptive, and dynamic systems if we are willing and able to listen. However, before the end of her formal training, she discovered that much of modern geology, like many contemporary westernized human endeavors, is focused on anthropocentric exploitation, something that misaligns with her Indigenous worldview. For this reason and others, the focus of her research is now on how to build communities and learning experiences that rekindle the types of Human-Nature relationships that have allowed for our co-evolution and co-existence in this multiverse since time immemorial.



NATIVE VOICES

NATIVE PEOPLES' CONCEPTS OF HEALTH AND ILLNESS

EXPLORING NATIVE PEOPLES' CONCEPTS OF HEALTH AND ILLNESS

PANEL DISCUSSION AND VIDEO SCREENING

Tuesday, September 20, 2016
6:00 - 7:00 PM

Newman Library Multipurpose Room, Blacksburg
Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine, Roanoke

Sponsored by: Virginia Tech University Libraries, Virginia Tech
American Indian Studies, and Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine



The U.S. National Library of Medicine (NLM) developed and produced Native Voices: Native Peoples' Concepts of Health and Illness. The American Library Association (ALA) Public Programs Office, in partnership with NLM, tours the exhibition to America's libraries.



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TOPICS

ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH

In these videos, Wilmer Stampead Mesteth, Laidman Fox Jr., James Hena, Noa Emmett Aluli, M.D., and Earl Kawa'a discuss connections between the environment, health, and illness; including communities, individual perspectives, past events, governmental policies, and other aspects.

FOOD, DIET, NUTRITION, GARDENS, HEALING PLANTS

In these videos, Noa Emmett Aluli, M.D., Tamara Pickett, M.D., Earl Kawa'a, and Lamaki A. Kanahale discuss connections between health, healing, and practices related to food, diet, gardening, and the use of plants.

INTERSECTIONS OF TRADITIONAL AND WESTERN HEALING

In these videos, Monica Mayer, M.D., Yvette Roubideaux, M.D., Roger Fernandez, and Marjorie Mau, M.D. discuss choices and intersections between Traditional healing and Allopathic (Western) healing. Such choices may involve individual decisions, community networks, or other factors.

MODERATOR

SAM COOK, Ph.D.

Director of American Indian Studies
Department of Sociology, Virginia Tech

A cultural anthropologist by training, his current research focuses on Indigenous ecologies and knowledge systems, and the relationship between Native and Western science. Attending from Blacksburg.

PANELISTS (Continued on back page)

MIKE BOWERS, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor
School of Neuroscience, Virginia Tech



Joining from
Blacksburg

Dr. Bowers received his B.S. in biology and psychology at Oklahoma State University. He received an M.S. in linguistics from the University of New Mexico, and his PhD from Oklahoma State University where he focused on Bilingualism and hemispheric processing. He performed his postdoctoral training at the University of Maryland School of Medicine specializing in neuroendocrinology and molecular biology.

NICHOLAS (NICK) COPELAND, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor
Department of Sociology, Virginia Tech



Joining from
Blacksburg

Dr. Copeland is a sociocultural anthropologist with over fifteen years of research experience in indigenous communities in rural Guatemala. His forthcoming book examines how electoral democracy was assembled in rural villages during a counterinsurgency, and how democracy operates alongside political and economic violence to disfigure grassroots politics. His current project examines how Mayan farmers respond to food security initiatives and food sovereignty movements in the midst of a food crisis.

VICTORIA FERGUSON

Monacan horticulturalist and trained dietician



Joining from
Roanoke

In Ms. Ferguson's research she has investigated past and current practices of growing food, gardening, and gathering, along with nutrition and eating practices broadly. She directed the original planting of the Monacan portion of the Turfgrass Research Center garden at Virginia Tech. She also developed the Monacan Exhibit at the Natural Bridge Park and provides classes and trainings there and elsewhere. She integrates the Peoples' stories about the origin of corn with presentations about the ingenuity of intercropping and the domestic/wild diet of people from this region.