

## 2018 Plains Anthropological Society Board of Directors Election Candidates

### **CURRENT PLAINS ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY MEMBERS CAN VOTE FOR UP TO THREE OF THE CANDIDATES LISTED BELOW**

*Votes will be collected via an online poll on our website starting the week of August 27. Members have the option of receiving a paper ballot if you choose.*

***Brendon P. Asher*** is the Director of Blackwater Draw National Historic Landmark and Museum and an instructor with Eastern New Mexico University. He received his PhD in Anthropology from the University of Kansas in 2015. His dissertation addresses Clovis and Folsom lithic procurement and land use across the Central Plains. Through this research, he has been afforded the opportunity to work extensively with private artifact collectors and is passionate about fostering collaborative efforts between avocational and professional archaeologists. Asher's research interests are diverse, ranging from early peopling of the Americas to the impact of European trade goods on traditional technologies. He is currently leading a number of projects addressing Clovis projectile point morphology and variability from the type site. While at Blackwater Draw, he has become increasingly immersed in public outreach and education through on-site visits, presentations, and demonstrations. From 2013-2015, he served as a founding member of the Plains Anthropological Society Student Affairs Committee, and played a key role in the inception of the student poster competition. As such, his primary concerns for PAS revolve around continued student interest and involvement in the Society through membership, publication, and participation in the Society's annual conference.

***Dr. Kristen (K.C.) Carlson*** Dr. K.C. Carlson's research focuses on paleoenvironmental reconstruction through the use of stable isotopes and trace elements. This research focuses predominantly on Paleoindian bison kills in North America. She has also studied bison herd manipulation and drive lane construction for bison jumps using GIS analysis. Dr. Carlson received a Ph.D. from the University of Oklahoma, and an M.A. from Northern Arizona University. During her time at Northern Arizona University she worked for the National Park service where she studied and preserved prehistoric Southwestern pueblo sites. In addition to Native North American studies she has engaged in projects in Japan, France and Great Britain. Kristen is Assistant Professor at Augustana University, Sioux Falls.

***Kathleen Holen*** My lifelong interest in scientific inquiry has led me to a second career in archaeology. As Director of the Center for American Paleolithic Research (CAPR) my interests have expanded geographically, however, my interest in Pleistocene archaeology of the Great Plains is as strong as ever. My archaeological interests also include large prey animal bone taphonomy, cognitive archaeology, dog domestication and human cold adaptations. I dabble in acting and creative writing. Two of my original plays have been performed by our local community theater here in Hot springs, SD. I am honored to be nominated to serve on the Board of the Plains Anthropological Society. If elected, my goal will be to encourage young archaeologists to participate in Society meetings through opportunities such as the Student Poster Contest which I have recently been privileged to judge. I will bring my knowledge of scientific method, exceptional organizational skills and dedication to public awareness of archaeological

practice and its importance to our global community. Kathleen Holen MS, MA is Director of the Center of American Paleolithic Research.

**Lynelle A. Peterson** I am the president/owner and senior archaeologist of Ethnoscience, Inc. She worked for six years with the National Park Service, including three years examining Fort Union in northwest North Dakota. From 1989-1991, I worked for the University of North Dakota where I conducted numerous projects in the state. In 1991, I moved to Montana and began my career with Ethnoscience, Inc. I bought the company in 2003. I have worked throughout the plains and have experience in both historic and prehistoric archaeology. My expertise includes archaeology of the Northwest Plains, especially stone feature sites. I have likely tested and excavated more stone ring sites than any single individual in the U.S. Northern Plains. I was on the board of the Plains Anthropological Society from 2005-2010, and would be honored to serve this organization once again.

**Lauren W. Ritterbush** With a lifelong interest in the people and landscapes of the Great Plains, Lauren W. Ritterbush pursued training in anthropology at the University of Montana, North Dakota (BA '81), and Kansas (MA '84, PhD '90) before joining the faculty at Kansas State University. She has been involved with archaeological and ethnohistoric research in the Plains (ND, MT, NE, KS), Midwest, Southwest, and Europe over her 40-year career. In addition to teaching and research, Lauren serves as a facilitator of Project Archaeology, museum consultant, and archaeological contractor.

Lauren's participation with the Plains Anthropological Society (PAS) began as a freshman when she attended her first Plains Conference. She not only continues to attend, present, and organize symposia, but actively encourages and facilitates student involvement, including undergraduates she has mentored over the past 20 years. She is a life member of the PAS serving the organization through the Board of Directors (1999-2002) and various committees (e.g., Archives [chair], Conference Handbook [chair], Nominations, Distinguished Service Award). Beyond the PAS, Lauren is a charter and former Board member of the Association of Professional Archaeologists of Kansas and member of other professional and avocational organizations in Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, Missouri, and Iowa, as well as the Society for American Archaeology.

Lauren is committed to furthering the goals of the PAS and adapting the organization to the future. She is especially keen on promoting anthropological research and stewardship in the Great Plains. This is addressed in part through the Plains Conference and communication among active PAS members. However, the diversity of potentially interested individuals is not fully represented in our membership. As part of the Board, Lauren will advocate involvement through encouraging mentors in academic institutions, contracting firms, museums, avocational and other organizations, and state, federal, and tribal offices. She is also eager to develop means by which the PAS can educate others about the richness and significance of archaeological resources and anthropological issues in the Plains. One additional goal Lauren will work towards achieving is creation and maintenance of a more appealing, useful website that keeps pace with modern forms of communication. Lauren is Professor at Kansas State University.

**Courtney Ziska** is an archeologist with History Nebraska - State Archeology Office. She holds a BA in Anthropology/History and an MA in Anthropology/Professional Archaeology from the University of Nebraska – Lincoln. While completing her degrees, she worked as an archeological technician at the Midwest Archeological Center – National Park Service, where she spent her summers conducting fieldwork across the Midwest Region and her winters processing collections in the lab. She started at the Nebraska State Historical Society (now History Nebraska) in 2011, where she has been employed as an archeologist since receiving her MA in 2012.

Ziska is currently webmaster and social media coordinator for the Nebraska Association of Professional Archeologists, as well as committee chair for Nebraska Archaeology Month. She also serves on the UNL Anthropology Alumni and Friends Advisory Board and is Vice President of the Preservation Association of Lincoln, where she advocates on behalf of the city's buried cultural resources. Her current interests include the Nebraska Sand Hills, GIS, and public archeology.

*Statement of Goals:*

If elected to the Board, I would encourage increasing PAS's visibility and reach through continued improvements to our website and social media platforms. Focusing on our communication efforts is important in supporting all of the Society's functions and ongoing initiatives, such as encouraging participation and collaboration among the current membership and promoting the PAS to potential members via increased awareness of its activities. A strong web presence will also allow the PAS to more effectively explore opportunities in areas such as advocacy and public outreach.

I would also like to continue the work of expanding our young professional and student membership base and participation. This is necessary in order to stem the loss of organizational knowledge, and to ensure the relevance and stability of Plains Anthropology well into the future.