

### **C. Tod Bevitt**

Principal Investigator, Buried Past Consulting, LLC, Oskaloosa, Kansas

#### *Background:*

Tod Bevitt began his pursuit of archaeological interests watching a series on Kansas archaeology on the local PBS station and attending the Kansas Archeology Training Program (KATP) field school in high school near his home where he cultivated friendships with professionals and avocational archaeologists over many years of involvement in the Kansas Anthropological Association (KAA) of which he is a lifetime member. He continues his involvement in the organization, serving as editor of *The Kansas Anthropological Association Newsletter* and through analysis, reporting, and occasional direction of fieldwork for several past KATPs including the 2024 program. Tod received a B.A. in anthropology from the University of Kansas (1994) and M.A. from Wichita State University (1999) and frequently worked in CRM during college. Since finishing school, Tod has spent time working for the Kansas Historical Society and various CRM companies in the Great Plains and Midwest, as field technician, crew chief, and project manager/principal investigator. In 2015 Tod and wife Wendi started their own CRM company, Buried Past Consulting, LLC which they continue to operate together. Tod is a longtime member of the Plains Anthropological Society (PAS) and frequently attends the annual meeting to present on research, catch up on the latest work of his peers, and renew long distance friendships. Tod's interests include Great Plains archaeology, prehistoric ceramic technology, lithic raw material sourcing, historical archaeology, and avocational engagement.

#### *Statement of Interest/Goals:*

I just want to say it is an honor to be considered for the opportunity to serve PAS on the Board of Directors. Although I have not held any elected or appointed position in the organization previously, I have had the chance to visit with many over the years who have served in various capacities and recognize the need for strong group leadership to assure the organization's success into the future. I have had a longtime interest in engaging the avocational community, acknowledging there are widely varying interests among that community and its interactions with professionals. I want to continue engaging individuals through a shared interest in the past and build enduring relationships that will foster stewardship and opportunities to further preservation and our understanding of the past.

**Warren Davis**

Research Archaeologist, Office of the State Archaeologist/University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa

*Background:*

Warren Davis grew up in Iowa City, IA. He received his Master of Science in Cultural Resource Management Archaeology from St. Cloud State University in 2018, and his Bachelor's Degree from the University of Iowa in 2011. He has been a member of the Plains Anthropology Society since 2015. Davis has authored numerous reports as a research archaeologist at the Office of the State Archaeologist and produced presentations and articles for both professional audiences and the public. His research interests include lithic technology, technological organization strategies, raw material procurement and utilization strategies, geomorphology, remote sensing methods, and geospatial information systems (GIS) technology. He is a member of the Iowa Archaeological Society, Plains Anthropological Conference, Midwestern Archaeological Conference, and the Society for American Archaeology. Davis has previously served on the Plains Anthropology Conference Ethics and Inclusion Committee in 2022.

*Statement of Interest/Goals:*

Since joining the PAS in 2015 I have benefitted greatly from both professional relationships as well as the deep friendships I have developed with the members. In recent years, much time and effort has been spent in making the PAS an attractive organization for prospective members, and if elected to the board I will help contribute to those continuing efforts. As anthropology is a science that benefits from collaboration from multiple disciplines and all walks of life, I will work to encourage growth of membership from less-represented populations. Finally, if elected to the board I will help continue efforts to make PAS an attractive organization for prospective student members seeking guidance or professional development in the formative years of their anthropological careers.

**Tyrel Iron Eyes**

Tribal Archaeologist, Standing Rock Sioux Tribe/Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO),  
Fort Yates, North Dakota

*Background & Statement of Interest/Goals:*

Tyrel has been the Tribal Archaeologist for the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe since 2022, and an enrolled member of Standing Rock since birth. Having received his BA in 2019, Tyrel has worked for non-profit organizations, had a brief run in academia, and is now fulfilling the duties of Tribal Archaeologist while pursuing an MA (expected Fall 2024). He has done fieldwork and consultations throughout Oceti Sakowin ancestral territory, from the Rocky Mountains to the Great Lakes regions. Said work has involved coordinating with several different federal, state, private, academic, and Tribal entities. Tyrel's identity as a Lakota is deeply important to him, leading him to advocate for Indigenous voices and address issues that are affecting Native peoples. His focus is on Indigenous archaeology, NAGPRA, ethnohistories, and place-making. If elected to the PAS board, he will continue to advocate for Indigenous collaboration at all levels.

**Stephen M. Perkins**

Associate Professor of Anthropology, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Oklahoma

*Background:*

Growing up in Oklahoma's southern Plains, Perkins earned a B.A. in Anthropology from the University of Oklahoma (1986), and an M.A. and Ph.D. from Arizona State University (1990; 2000). His graduate research investigated Indigenous society in Central Mexico under Spanish colonial rule. Accepting the sole anthropological line in the Department of Sociology at Oklahoma State (2002), he partnered with colleagues from OU and the OK Archeological Survey to organize six undergraduate summer field schools, along with fall and spring digs for OK Anthropological Society members. These projects, lasting from 2003 to 2017, examined three 18th-century Wichita villages, each with fortified refuges and abundant evidence of European and Indigenous trade goods. Since 2018, he has partnered with Paleocultural Research Group, involving OSU undergraduates in field projects outside Oklahoma (North Dakota; Colorado's High Plains). A twenty-year member of the Plains Anthropological Society, Perkins has presented at numerous Plains Conferences; co-edited a 2008 *PA* Memoir (40); published articles in *Plains Anthropologist* and elsewhere; and co-authored a forthcoming monograph on central Oklahoma's Deer Creek site (2024). In addition to teaching, Perkins serves as a member of the OAS Citizen's Review Board and is presently the vice-chair of OSU's Faculty Council.

*Statement of Interest/Goals:*

I am honored to be invited to run for the PAS Board. Since returning to OSU and joining the Society, I have been genuinely impressed by members' support and generosity in welcoming newcomers to the organization, whether members of Plains descendant communities, graduate and undergraduate students with a burgeoning passion for Plains investigations, or other interested individuals. Still, with the retirement and passing of so many highly accomplished Plains scholars, it seems the Society finds itself struggling with membership renewals; conference attendance; and submissions to its flagship journal. Such issues surely relate more widely to the decline of Plains specialists at Great Plains academic institutions and reduced state funding for Great Plains archaeological agencies. While I don't pretend to have easy solutions to these serious issues, I would be enthusiastic in working with other members to creatively address them, and in donating my time to serve the PAS as it moves forward.

**Patrick D. Trader**

Senior Principal Investigator, Gray & Pape, Inc., Cincinnati, Ohio

*Background:*

Patrick Trader earned his B.A. and M.A. in Anthropology from the University of Missouri-Columbia specializing in Midwestern archaeology. He has worked multiple projects across the Midwest and Northern plains in the last 40 years. Pat serves as a Senior Principal Investigator at Gray & Pape, Inc. where he has thrived for the past 18 years. Pat is a long-time member of the Plains Anthropological Society. Additionally, he is a member of the North Dakota Archaeological Association, the South Dakota Archaeological Society as well as a charter member of the Yellowstone branch of the Wyoming Archaeological Society. His specific research interests include geoarchaeology and toolstone conveyance. Currently, he is researching the occurrence and distribution of Knife River Flint at Middle Woodland sites in Indiana.

*Statement of Interest/Goals:*

I am honored to have been nominated as a candidate for the PAS Board of Directors. I have been a PAS member since 1985. There currently is a shortage of trained archaeologists in CRM. It is difficult to field projects because of this shortage. My goal, if elected to the board, is to bridge that gap by working with students, university anthropology departments, and Cultural Resource Management firms to create mentoring programs so that students with a background in Plains archaeology have the proper training to enter the workforce, particularly the CRM workforce.

**David T. Williams**

State Archeologist, History Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska

*Background:*

David T. Williams (Dave) has over 20 years of archeological experience across much of North America. Dave received a BA in anthropology from the University of South Dakota and an MA in anthropology from the University of Colorado Boulder. He then spent three years doing CRM archeology across the Plains and Midwest out of Lawrence, KS. Dave returned to South Dakota, spending 6.5 years as the ARC's Contracts Manager before joining History Nebraska in Lincoln as the Nebraska State Archeologist in late 2021. Dave has been a full-time member of the Plains Anthropological Society since 2012 and is also a member of the Society for American Archaeology, Register of Professional Archaeologists, Nebraska Association of Professional Archaeologists (NAPA), Professional Archaeologists of Kansas, and South Dakota Archaeological Society. He assists with layout and production of *Central Plains Archeology*, the journal of NAPA, and is a Nebraska representative of the SAA's Public Education Coordinators group. Dave is a member of the History Nebraska IDEA Committee, and helped organize the Nebraska NAGPRA Circle, a collective of tribal officials, museum professionals, and archeologists who are involved in NAGPRA activities across Nebraska. Dave has a passion for public outreach and engagement, and enjoys developing collaborative projects between professional archeologists, students, underrepresented communities, and volunteers.

*Statement of Interest/Goals:*

I'm honored to be nominated as a candidate for the PAS Board of Directors and am excited at the prospect of increasing my involvement in the organization that has been so impactful on my career. I would appreciate the opportunity to pay it forward to current and future PAS members as a Board member in two primary ways. First, I would press the PAS to expand its efforts in engaging with and supporting individuals from marginalized and underrepresented communities with an interest in archeology. Providing educational resources, professional training, and financial support through grants and/or scholarships for these communities would allow them the opportunity to take an active role in documenting and sharing their own personal and community histories, a much-needed advance in our profession. This process would begin with a reevaluation of the PAS Code of Ethics and Anti-Harassment Policy to ensure that current practice allows for safe and inclusive academic and professional environments for all PAS members and the groups with whom they work. Second, I would like to see an expansion of the PAS Student Affairs Committee to explore how the Society can be best utilized in promoting educational, professional development, and mentoring opportunities for the next generations of archeologists. Moving forward, we need to strongly consider what students want out of an organization like the PAS, whether they are willing (and financially able) to maintain a membership with such a group, and how we can encourage continued student participation after the annual conference has ended.