

# BETH LEW-WILLIAMS

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## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2014- Assistant Professor; Philip and Beulah Rollins Bicentennial Preceptor  
Department of History  
Princeton University
- 2012-2014 ACLS New Faculty Fellow / Visiting Assistant Professor  
Department of History & Program in Asian American Studies  
Northwestern University

## EDUCATION

- 2011 Ph.D. in History, Stanford University
- 2006 M.A. in History, Stanford University
- 2004 A.B. in History with Honors, *Magna cum laude*, Brown University

## PUBLICATIONS

### BOOKS

*John Doe Chinaman: Race and Law in the American West* (in preparation)

*The Chinese Must Go: Violence, Exclusion, and the Making of the Alien in America*, Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press (2018). Chinese translation forthcoming under Social Sciences Academic Press (2020).

### ARTICLES

- “Paper Lives of Chinese Migrants and the History of the Undocumented in America” (revise and resubmit).
- “Global Narratives of ‘the Immigrant’” with Megan Armknecht and Markus Bierkoch (in preparation).
- “‘Chinamen’ and ‘Delinquent Girls’: Intimacy, Exclusion, and a Search for California’s Color Line,” *Journal of American History* (December 2017): 632-655. *Winner: Ray Allen Billington Prize, Jensen-Miller Prize, & Vicki Ruiz Prize (Western History Association)* 2018

“Before Restriction Became Exclusion: America’s Experiment in Diplomatic Immigration Control,” *Pacific Historical Review* 83, no. 1 (February 2014): 24-56. *Winner: James Madison Prize (Society for the History of The Federal Government) 2015.*

### BOOK CHAPTERS

“The Remarkable Life of a Sometime Railroad Worker: Chin Gee Hee, 1844-1929” in Gordon H. Chang and Shelley Fisher Fishkin, *The Chinese and the Iron Road: Building the Transcontinental Railroad in North America* (Stanford University Press, 2019), 329-345.

“Before Restriction Became Exclusion: America’s Experiment in Diplomatic Immigration Control,” excerpted in Lon Kurashige and Alice Yang ed., *Major Problems in Asian American History*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (Boston: Cengage Learning, 2016): 79-85.

“Angel Island” in ed. Mary Yu Danico, *Asian American Society*. Sage Publications, Inc. (2014).

“Chinese Immigration,” in Kathleen Arnold ed., *Anti-Immigration in the United States: A Historical Encyclopedia*. California, ABC-CLIO (2011).

### BOOK & FILM REVIEWS

Ric Burns and Li-Shin Yu dir., “The Chinese Exclusion Act,” *American Historical Review* (forthcoming February 2019)

“Racism, Egalitarianism and Asian Exclusion,” *Reviews in American History* (December 2017): 627-633.

Richard Jean So, *Transpacific Community: America, China, and the Rise and Fall of a Cultural Network* in *Journal of Chinese Overseas* 13 (2017): 143-158.

Elliott Young, *Alien Nation: Chinese Migration in the Americas From the Coolie Era Through World War II* in *The Pacific Historical Review* 85, no. 2 (May 2016): 298-299.

Huping Ling, *Chinese Chicago: Race, Transnational Migration, and Community since 1870*. in *The Journal of American Ethnic History* 33, no. 3 (Spring 2014): 88-89.

Kornel Chang, *Pacific Connections: The Making of the U.S.-Canadian Borderlands*. in *H-Diplo* XV., no. 24 (2014): 7-10.

Emma Teng, *Eurasian: Mixed Identities in the United States, China and Hong Kong, 1842-1943* in *Modern Chinese Literature and Culture* (November 2013).

Sue Fawn Chung, *In Pursuit of Gold: Chinese American Miners and Merchants in the American West*. In *Labour / Le Travail* 17 (Spring 2013): 271-273.

### PUBLIC WRITING

“Memorializing African American Lynching Victims is Past Due. But it Must be Only the Start,” *Washington Post*, May 13, 2018

“For a Child Migrant, days feel like a Lifetime when you’re Imprisoned and Alone,” *Public Radio International: The World*, June 20, 2018

**FELLOWSHIPS & HONORS****EXTERNAL**

- 2017-2018 Mellon Foundation Sawyer Seminar: “Global Migration: The Humanities and Social Sciences in Dialogue,” with Sandra Bermann (PI), Patricia Fernandez-Kelly, Stephen Macedo, Douglas Massey, Joe Stephens, and Michael Wood
- 2015-2016 Harry Frank Guggenheim Grant
- 2015-2016 Visitor, School of Social Science, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, NJ
- 2012-2014 ACLS New Faculty Fellowship
- 2010-2011 Andrew W. Mellon Foundation/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship
- 2004-2005 Woodrow Wilson Fellowship Foundation / Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Fellowship in Humanistic Studies

**PRINCETON**

- 2018 University Committee on Research in the Humanities and Social Sciences Grant
- 2017-2020 Philip and Beulah Rollins Bicentennial Preceptorship
- 2017-2018 Humboldt-Princeton Strategic Partnership Grant: “Contesting and Converging Stories of Global Order: Regional and National Narratives,” co-PI with Jeremy Adelman, Andreas Eckert, and Vincent Houben

**NORTHWESTERN**

- 2013-2014 Faculty Affiliate, Alice Kaplan Institute in the Humanities

**UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN, MADISON**

- 2009-2011 Honorary Fellow, Institute for Research in the Humanities

**STANFORD**

- 2011 Vice Provost for Graduate Education Academic Achievement Award
- 2011 Asian American Community Graduate Research Award
- 2010-2011 Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Dissertation Fellowship (declined)
- 2010 George P. Shultz Writing Grant in Canadian Studies
- 2008-2009 George P. Shultz Research Grant in Canadian Studies
- 2008 Centennial Teaching Award
- 2008 Center for Teaching and Learning Grant
- 2007 Diversity Dissertation Research Grant

**BROWN**

- 2004 Gaspee Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution Prize for Best Paper in American History
- 2003 Student Research Grant

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE****PRINCETON**

Research Methods in American History (graduate seminar)  
 Asian American History (lecture)  
 Migrants and Borders (seminar)  
 Violence in America (seminar)

**NORTHWESTERN**

American Immigration History (lecture)  
 U.S. Race and Foreign Relations (seminar)  
 The Chinese American Experience (lecture)  
 Race and Gender in the American West (lecture)  
 Immigration, Nativism and Border Control (seminar)

**CONFERENCES & PRESENTATIONS****CONFERENCE ORGANIZING**

March 2018 Convener, “In Search of Fortune: Migration and Risk in the Pacific World,”  
 symposium, Princeton University

**INVITED PRESENTATIONS**

April 2019 “The Chinese Must Go: Violence, Exclusion, and the Making of the Alien in  
 America,” Rowan University  
 May 2019 ““Paper Lives of Chinese Migrants and the History of the Undocumented in  
 America,” University of New Orleans  
 March 2019 “Paper Lives of Chinese Migrants and the History of the Undocumented in  
 America,” Newberry Seminar in Borderlands and Latino Studies, IL  
 March 2019 “The Making of the Modern American Alien,” Duke University  
 Jan. 2019 “Mary Chinaman: Sex Trafficking and the Law in the American West,” Stanford  
 University  
 Jan. 2019 “The Chinese Must Go,” Bullock Museum of Texas History  
 Oct. 2018 “The Chinese Must Go: Violence, Exclusion, and the Making of the Alien in  
 America,” Emory University  
 April 2018 “The Chinese Must Go: Violence, Exclusion, and the Making of the Alien in  
 America,” Levine Lecture, Rider University  
 Nov. 2016 “Chinese Exclusion and the Making of the Modern American Alien,” Columbia  
 University  
 April 2016 “Chinese Exclusion, Racial Violence and the Problem of Scale,” Institute for  
 Advanced Study, Princeton, NJ  
 Sept. 2016 “The Making of the Modern American Alien,” Princeton University  
 March 2016 “Chinese Exclusion and Today’s Immigration Policy,” New School, NY

- April 2015 “‘Chinamen’ and ‘Delinquent Girls,’” Modern America Workshop, Princeton University
- April 2015 “Mapping Chinese America: Exploring the Meaning of Spatial History,” Managing Borders: And Interdisciplinary Conference on American Immigration, Columbia University
- Nov. 2013 “Anti-Chinese Violence and the Making of Border Control: A Problem of Scale,” Keynote Event, Buffett Center, Northwestern University
- April 2013 “Extra-Legal Border Enforcement in America, 1882-1888,” Newberry Seminar in Borderlands and Latino Studies, IL

#### CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- April 2019 Chair, “How to Construct Narratives: History Section Roundtable,” Association for Asian American Studies, Madison, WI
- Oct. 2018 “Global Narratives of Migration,” Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany
- Oct. 2018 “Policing Race, Crime, and the Border in the Pacific Northwest,” Western History Association, San Antonio, TX
- June 2018 Roundtable on the Legacy of the Fourteenth Amendment, Society of Civil War Historians, Pittsburg, PA
- April 2018 “What informs Asian American History Today,” Organization of American Historians, Sacramento, CA
- March 2018 Searching for Asian American History in Legal Archives, Association of Asian American Studies, San Francisco, CA
- Jan. 2018 “America’s Chinatowns: Immigrant Segregation in the Nineteenth Century,” American Historical Association, Washington, DC
- May 2017 “The Transformation of Citizenship and Alienage in 19<sup>th</sup>-Century America,” Undocumented Conference, Princeton University
- April 2017 “Chinese Self-Care in the Face of Racial Violence,” Association for Asian American Studies, Portland, OR
- April 2016 “The Remarkable Life of a Sometimes Railroad Worker: Chin Gee Hee, 1844-1929,” Chinese Railroad Workers in North America Conference, Stanford University
- March 2016 “‘Chinamen’ and ‘Delinquent Girls:’ Intimacy, Exclusion and a Search for California’s Color Line,” Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, NJ
- Jan. 2016 “Chinese Exclusion and U.S. Imperialism: Reconciling the Open Door with the Closed Gate,” American Historical Association, Atlanta, Georgia
- Oct. 2015 “How to Succeed in Railroad Work: The Remarkable Life of Chin Gee Hee, 1844-1928,” American Studies Association, Toronto, Canada
- April 2015 “Tradition and Taboo in Asian American history,” Organization of American Historians, St. Louis, Missouri
- April 2015 “Mapping the Impact of Anti-Chinese Violence,” Association for Asian American Studies, Evanston, IL (panel organizer)
- Jan. 2015 “Anti-Chinese Violence and the National Significance of Local Vigilantism,” American Historical Association, New York, NY
- April 2014 “Chinese Exclusion and the Reimagining of American Imperialism in China,” Organization of American Historians, Atlanta, GA

- Nov. 2013 “The Chinese Must Go: The Violent Birth of American Border Control,” manuscript workshop, Northwestern University
- May 2013 “The Loyal,” Asian American Studies Program Salon, Northwestern University
- April 2013 “Rape Across Another Color Line: Chinese Men Accused of Sexual Crimes,” Association for Asian American Studies, Seattle, Washington
- May 2012 “Anti-Chinese Violence and the Rise of Chinese Exclusion,” Western Association of Women Historians, Berkeley, California
- March 2012 “Before Restriction Became Exclusion,” Organization of American Historians, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
- Oct. 2011 “Chinese Crossing the Line:” Immigration Control along the U.S.-Canadian Border in the Pacific Northwest, Western Historical Association, Oakland, California
- June 2010 “The Loyal,” Western Dissertation Workshop, University of California, Davis
- April 2010 “The Question of Resistance: Chinese Response to Violence in the Pacific Northwest, 1885-86,” Association for Asian American Studies Conference, Austin, Texas
- April 2010 “The Chinese Must Go: Immigration, Deportation and Violence in the Pacific Northwest, 1882-1892,” Institute for Research in the Humanities, University of Wisconsin – Madison

#### PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

- April 2019 Screening and Talk back on “The Chinese Exclusion Act (2017),” Princeton Public Library
- March 2019 “The Chinese Must Go: Violence, Exclusion, and the Making of the Alien in America,” Museum of Chinese in America, NY
- Jan. 2019 “The Chinese Must Go: Violence, Exclusion, and the Making of the Alien in America,” California Historical Society
- Nov. 2018 Reading *The Chinese Must Go*, Labyrinth Books, Princeton, NJ
- Nov. 2018 Interview, Politics and Polls Podcast
- Aug. 2018 “The Chinese Must Go: Violence, Exclusion, and the Making of the Alien in America,” Princeton Alumni Association, Palo Alto, CA
- July 2018 “The Chinese Must Go: Violence, Exclusion, and the Making of the Alien in America,” Oakland Asian Cultural Center, CA
- July 2018 Reading *The Chinese Must Go*, The Avid Reader, Davis, CA
- June 2018 Interview, Public Radio International’s The World
- May 2018 Interview, Law Business Insider
- March 2018 Talk back and Screening of *The Chinese Exclusion Act* (2018), ArtQuest Center at SteelStacks, Bethlehem, PA
- March 2018 Interview, New Books Network Podcast
- April 2018 “Chinese Exclusion and the Making of Modern American Alien,” Princeton Adult School, Princeton, NJ
- April 2018 “Alien in America?” Rockefeller College, Princeton University
- July 2016 The Chinese Exclusion Act and Immigration in America, NEH Summer Institute, New York, NY

March 2015 “The Meanings of Chinese Exclusion,” International Day for the Elimination of Racism, Princeton University

## SERVICE

### THE FIELD

2019-2022 Ray Allen Billington Award Committee, Western History Association  
 2018-2021 Executive Board Member, Immigration and Ethnic History Society  
 2018-2022 Editorial Board Member, *Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era*  
 2018- History Section Chair, Association for Asian American Studies  
 Ad Hoc Reviewer: *American Historical Review*, *American Quarterly*, *Columbia University Press*, *Journal for Immigration and Ethnic History*, *Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era*, *Journal of Overseas Chinese*, *Journal of Policy History*, *Oxford University Press*, *Pacific Historical Review*

### PRINCETON

2018- Associated Faculty, Asian American/Diasporic Studies  
 2017-2018 Executive Subcommittee on Asian American/Diasporic Studies  
 2017-2018 Executive Secretary, Shelby Cullom Davis Center  
 2016- Core Member, Migration Lab, Sawyer Seminar & Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies Research Group  
 2016-2018 Member, Committee on Undergraduate Admissions and Financial Aid  
 2015- Executive Committee, Program in American Studies  
 2015- Associated Faculty, Program in Gender and Sexuality  
 Oct. 2015 “Asian American Studies Today,” Asian/Asian American Alumni Conference  
 May 2015 “Asian American Studies at Princeton,” Alumni Reunions

### NORTHWESTERN

Oct. 2013 Organizer and Presenter, “Universal Design: Rethinking how to Teach Students with (and without) Disabilities,” Searle Center Faculty Workshops

### STANFORD

2007-2008 Department Teacher Training Liaison, Center for Teaching and Learning  
 2005-2007 Graduate Student Advisory Committee Member, Bill Lane Center for the Study of the American West  
 2005-2006 Coordinator, Stanford Humanities Center Asian Americas Workshop

### THE PUBLIC

2014- Participant, Chinese Railroad Workers in North America Project, Stanford University (<https://www.stanford.edu/group/chineserailroad/cgi-bin/wordpress/>)  
 2013-2014 Consultant, Chinese Exclusion/Inclusion Exhibit, New York Historical Society

## MEMBERSHIPS

American Historical Association

American Studies Association

Association for Asian Americans Studies

Immigration and Ethnic History Society

Organization of American Historians

Society for Historians of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era

Western History Association