



The Indigenous Geographies Speakers Series

Reflections in the Water: Kiowa Stories, Geographies and New Traditions in the Ever-Changing World

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3 - 4:15pm
317 Lindley Hall

People share experiences, lessons, information, and knowledge through stories. Stories and storytelling are important components of Indigenous knowledge systems\information systems. In this presentation, I will discuss the geographic thoughts of a father and son through our interpretations of stories and associated places. Both of us have different memories and experiences of the stories and places. Some of the Kiowa mythical stories are well known and contain elements that are shared across many American Indian groups in North America and perhaps beyond. Other stories are historical in that the knowledge and teachings held within the oral literatures are known, collectively, among a single American Indian tribe. And some stories are personal, family-centered. Personal stories add rich textures of place and more content on Kiowa geographic discourse. As we write a book, my father and I are approaching the origin stories, Sun stories, mountain stories, memories of the Sun Dance and new family stories in our own way and within our own personal contexts. In Kiowa we say: *é:hàu cáuihè:jègùijè gàu gá sáutjèhà:àl ét àu:màu*. 'We are taking the stories in a new direction and adding new ones'. This is our contribution.

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