We are delighted to share this latest contribution to the SUNY series *Tribal Worlds: Critical Studies in American Indian Nation Building*. Over the past several years, we have had the opportunity to share several path-breaking studies exploring historic roots and contemporary expressions of Indigenous self-determination, sovereignty, and nation building. From the outset, our goal was straightforward—and challenging. From its inception, we envisioned a series showcasing emerging research on how Indigenous peoples have forged and are forging modern communities amidst national and international pressures and the ongoing effects of settler colonialism. We have sought studies that blend ethnography with archival research and that situate current expressions of tribal governance and reservation political economy within comparative and historical contexts.

*Native American Nationalism and Nation Re-building*, edited by Simone Poliandri, extends this conversation. Through a series of interlocked case studies produced by anthropologists and historians, this volume offers additional insights into processes of indigenous nation building. The studies assembled by Poliandri tell us a great deal about how tribal communities are constructing nationhoods through the development of institutions in the present by drawing upon historical frameworks. More than simply resuscitating older national identities or building novel structures, these cases remind us that enacting indigenous sovereignties are
creative acts, pursued and conducted within particular historical and cultural frameworks. This is the essence of rebuilding, a phenomenon we understand as fundamental to encountering and overcoming the conditions of settler colonialism in the United States and Canada.

Decades ago, Vine Deloria Jr. challenged Indigenous academics to resist the obvious attractions of the ivory tower to apply their talents to meeting the great challenges, on the ground and in the field. We think Poliandri’s volume is a step in the direction of embracing that charge in that the essays detail the ways in which aspirations are and have been operationalized. As such, they suggest models for practical action in analogous contexts.