Native American Nationalism and Nation Re-building

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SIMONE POLIANDRI is Assistant Professor of Anthropology at Bridge-water State University. He holds a PhD in anthropology from Brown University and he is a member of the Phi Beta Kappa Society. He has worked with the Mi’kmaw people of the Canadian Maritimes since 2000 on issues of contemporary identity dynamics. His book First Nations, Identity, and Reserve Life: The Mi’kmaq of Nova Scotia was published by the University of Nebraska Press in November 2011. Most recently, he has turned his attention to the study of contemporary Aboriginal nation-hood and nation-building strategies. Specifically, he is investigating the development, definitions, and implementation of citizenship protocols in the Mi’kmaw communities of Nova Scotia. He has also authored an essay on Mi’kmaw Residential Schooling published in an edited collection for the University of British Columbia Press in 2016, and he is working on two manuscripts about contemporary First Nations schooling and the perceptions of risk associated with an urban First Nations reserve in the Canadian Maritimes. He is an Editorial Board Member for the series “Ethnographie Americane,” published at the University “La Sapienza” of Rome, Italy. He teaches anthropology and Native American Studies courses. He lives in Massachusetts with his wife and daughter.

SEBASTIAN FELIX BRAUN is Associate Professor of anthropology and Director of American Indian Studies at Iowa State University. He took a Lic.phil.I in ethnology, history, and philosophy from Universitaet Basel before earning a PhD in anthropology from Indiana University. Among his other publications, he is the author of Buffalo Inc. American Indians and Economic Development (2008/13 University of Oklahoma Press) and editor of Transforming Ethnohistories. Narrative, Meaning, and Community (2013 University of Oklahoma Press), and has contributed the chapters
on the United States for *The Indigenous World*, the yearbook of the International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA) since 2004. Braun's interests are the intersections of politics, culture, ecology, and economics, which recently include a focus on resource extraction and energy. Based on a fascination with kinship, language, and environments, Braun wants to explore how to achieve sustainable sovereignty and sovereign sustainability.

**JACKIE GREY** has lectured in the American Studies program at Tufts University in Massachusetts and at a number of universities in the New York City and Northern New Jersey areas. She earned her doctorate in sociocultural anthropology at Columbia University in 2008. She conducted her ethnographic field research among Native peoples in Southern New England, with a focus on the Wampanoag tribal nations in Massachusetts. Her research interests focus on the ways in which small tribes and nontribal regimes articulate conflicting notions of belonging, especially in Indigenous territories that have been transformed into popularized places of leisure. She also investigates the ways in which settler colonialism intersects with constructions of “race” and class, and the legal and political obstacles that prevent the renegotiation of land-use agreements between tribal governments and U.S. state and federal governments. Her essay “The Labor of Belonging” appeared in the *International Journal of Critical Indigenous Studies*. She is currently working on a book manuscript, also entitled *The Labor of Belonging*.

**JEFFREY P. SHEPHERD** is an Associate Professor in the History Department at the University of Texas at El Paso. His research and teaching interests focus on Indigenous peoples and interactions with colonialism in North America broadly, and along the U.S.-Mexico Border in particular. He is the author of *We Are an Indian Nation: A History of the Hualapai People* (University of Arizona Press, 2010). He is also coeditor (with Myla Vicenti Carpio) of the series *Critical Issues in Indigenous Studies* for the University of Arizona Press.

**CHRISTOPHER WETZEL** is Associate Professor of Sociology and Chair of the Department of Sociology and Criminology at Stonehill College in Easton, Massachusetts. He received his PhD in sociology from the University of California, Berkeley, and was a UC President’s Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of Sociology at the University of California, Los Angeles. He has been doing fieldwork with Potawatomi tribes since 2003,
including interviewing elders, community members, current and former elected officials, and program directors; attending the annual language revitalization conference and gathering; and participating in community events. *Gathering the Potawatomi Nation: Revitalization and Identity*, the book emerging from this fieldwork, was published by the University of Oklahoma Press in 2015. He is grateful to the Potawatomi Nation for their ongoing support of his research. He has published articles and book chapters on the field of training and capacity building organizations that work with tribal nations, gaming legalization, land seizure activism, and the Indians of All Tribes’ occupation of Alcatraz Island.

**WANDA WUTTUNEE** is an internationally known researcher in the field of Aboriginal Community Economic Development. She is Professor of Native Studies at the University of Manitoba, Canada, where she has played a critical role in training future Aboriginal leaders about economic issues working toward vibrant, sustainable, and healthy communities. Her non-Aboriginal students have insight and tools to be allies in shaping the future role of Aboriginal communities in Canada. For the last thirty years, she has devoted her research agenda to understanding how Aboriginal values interact with capitalist values. She considers gender issues arising from economic development as well as the role of culture and tradition by working in mainstream business, through social enterprise and co-operatives. Her work brings to the forefront the many different ways in which Aboriginal peoples are contributing to the economy. She has published two books on the topic, *Living Rhythms: Lessons in Aboriginal Economic Resilience and Vision* and *In Business for Ourselves: Northern Entrepreneurs*; written numerous articles (both in academic and popular journals); and has made countless conference and invited presentations on the topic of Aboriginal economic development.