UGGS Group Grants

Fall 2019

Rocky Mountain Interdisciplinary History Conference

Event Purpose Description

The Rocky Mountain Interdisciplinary History Conference (RMIHC) is an annual event that emphasizes scholarly collaboration and interdisciplinary dialogue. Organized by history graduate students at the University of Colorado Boulder, the conference draws attendance from numerous universities and its participants represent an array of academic fields. This year, from September 20th to the 22nd, RMIHC will celebrate its twentieth anniversary with a stimulating program of panels and activities.

The principle goal of the conference is to provide graduate students with the opportunity to present their original work among their peers in an atmosphere that is both professional and amiable. RMIHC mirrors the format and structure of a traditional academic conference, providing attendees with an excellent opportunity to practice fundamental career skills in a congenial setting. Each panel features a faculty chair and a graduate student commentator. Following presentations, panel attendees participate in an open discussion. The event’s graduate-student organizers benefit enormously by learning how to plan, host, and sponsor a conference of considerable size. In addition, CU Boulder students who are not directly involved in organizing RMIHC benefit because the conference offers them a convenient venue to practice skills that are integral to success in an academic career.

The Rocky Mountain Interdisciplinary History Conference also offers attendees valuable professional networking opportunities. Among these are a hike at Chautauqua Park, a welcome banquet, a pedagogy workshop, and a keynote dinner with a guest speaker. This year’s keynote address will be delivered by Dr. Laura Westhoff, a specialist in the fields of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era, American Democracy and social movements, the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning History (SoTL), and the History of Education. At the keynote address, Dr. Westhoff will discuss her current work, which focuses on the intersection between education and social activism during the mid-twentieth century.

Every year the Rocky Mountain Interdisciplinary History Conference gives attendees the opportunity to make professional connections within and across disciplinary lines, to discuss their scholarship and solicit feedback, and to become better acquainted with the University of Colorado Boulder and the many resources it has to offer.