

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Historian Patricia Limerick Featured at CSAW's Inaugural Garry L. Nall Lecture in Western Studies

West Texas A&M University's newly-formed Center for the Study of the American West will host award-winning Colorado historian Patricia Limerick as the Center announces the endowed Garry L. Nall Lectures in Western Studies. Dr. Limerick's lecture title is "Both Stranger and Kin: Wrestling--Successfully!--with the Riddle of Texas's Place in the American West." The event will be held at the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum at 7:00 pm on Thursday, October 27. The lecture will be followed by light refreshments and a book signing with Dr. Limerick.

The Center for the Study of the American West (CSAW) was authorized by the Texas A&M System last April and is at present in its initial stages of operation. CSAW is charged with promoting teaching, research, and public outreach concerning the American West and regional studies between WTAMU, the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum, and community partners. The Garry L. Nall Lectures in Western Studies, named for the beloved retired WT history professor and editor of the *Panhandle-Plains Historical Review*, will be a biannual occurrence, with events in Fall and Spring held at the museum.

The event speaker Patricia Limerick is Faculty Director and Chair of the Board of the Center of the American West at the University of Colorado, where she is also a Professor of History. In January of 2016, she was named to the post of Colorado State Historian. Dr. Limerick's influential works on Western American history include *The Legacy of Conquest*, *A Ditch in Time*, and *Something in the Soil*. She is a MacArthur Fellow, winner of UC Boulder's Hazel Barnes Prize, and is a former president of the Organization of American Historians, American Studies Association, the Western History Association, and the Society of

American Historians. For a time, she wrote a column for the *New York Times* as well as the *Denver Post*. She was recently named to the council of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Through the Center of the West at UC Boulder, which she formed in 1986, Limerick has been recognized for her work in bringing diverse constituencies to the table to discuss difficult and sometimes controversial issues facing the American West.

The Center for the Study of the American West at WTAMU is fortunate to have Patricia Limerick coming to campus, explained CSAW director Alex Hunt. “Limerick is a truly remarkable individual. She is among the most highly-regarded American historians of our era, and certainly the best-known of the New Western Historians, who really reinvigorated the field. In my opinion, it is largely thanks to her work that we continue to recognize the vitality of the American West both in academia and in popular culture. The West is important, and we need to keep talking about it.” CSAW represents WT’s effort to bring together many experts on campus in a concerted effort at maintaining excellent scholarship and teaching, as well as promoting public lectures.

Co-sponsors of this event include the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum, Cornette Library, and the WT Gender Studies Program.

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