
*University of Southern Indiana Center for Communal Studies
Annual Report April 2024*

<https://usi.zoom.us/j/96972680350>

Meeting ID: 969 7268 0350

Board Members Present

Dr. Gregory W. Brown (Retired Principal Christa McCauliffe Alternative Middle School); Ms. Jennifer Greene (Archivist Librarian, USI); Dr. Donald Pitzer (Professor Emeritus of History, Director Emeritus Center for Communal Studies, USI); Ms. Leslie Townshend (Director Community Engagement, USI); Dr. Del Doughty (Dean, College of Liberal Arts); Ms. Marna Hostetler (Director Rice Library, USI); Dr. Matthew Hanka (Professor of Political Science, USI); Mr. G. Graham Perry III (Tennessee Historical Society Columbia State Community College); Dr. Donald Janzen (Consultant); Dr. Kristalyn Shefeland (Assistant Dean, College of Liberal Arts, Associate Professor of History, USI); Dr. Carol Medlicott Professor of Geography. Northern Kentucky University); Dr. Jason Hardgrave (Interim Provost, Professor of History, USI);

Absent Members

Dr. Mike Strezewski (Associate Professor of Anthropology, USI); Wendy Bredhold (Senior Manager Transmission Initiative National Audubon Society's Climate Team); Dr. Joshua Lockyer (Professor of Anthropology Arkansas Tech University); Dr. Franziska Bechtel (Research Associate, Insitut für Theologie, Diakonie, Ethik AGAPLESION gAG, Frankfurt Germany)

Director

Dr. Silvia Rode (Assistant Dean, College of Liberal Arts; Professor of German, USI);

Center Location

University of Southern Indiana, University Archives and Special Collections (David L. Rice Library, Communal Studies Reading Room 3022)

New Board Members

Dr. Andrew Buck (Associate Professor of Sociology, USI); Dr. Matthew Hanka (Professor of Political Science, USI); Dr. Kelly Kaelin (Assistant Professor of History; USI)

Board Members (term expiration 2024)

Dr. Mike Strezewski (agreed to continue); Dr. Susan Matarese (not agreed to continue); Dr. Franziska Bechtel (no response)

I. Acknowledgements

- Dr. Matthew Hanka helped facilitate the Ross Chapin Q&A lecture session.
- Ms. Wendy Bredhold presented on the Tri-State environment at the Liberal Arts Renaissance Challenge/Carbon Footprint Fair, September 7th in Carter Hall.
- Dr. Kristalyn Shefeland led USI's Freshmen Experience in New Harmony event. Approx. 1,200 Freshmen attended the one-day event in New Harmony in September. 38 community, USI, Historic New Harmony and CCS Board members volunteered for the event.
- Dr. Greg Brown chaired the 50th Communal Studies Association Conference committee. October 5-7 at USI and in New Harmony.
- Ms. Jennifer Greene organized an exhibition and tour of the USI Communal Studies Archives for participants of the *Communal Studies Association Conference*.
- Dr. Joshua Lockyer served on the program committee of the *Communal Studies Association Conference*.
- Ms. Leslie Townsend provide administrative and logistical support for the 50th *Communal Studies Association Conference*.

II. New Harmony Update

Ms. Diane Sanders, Assistant Director of Historic New Harmony

III. Approval of Board Membership Expectations

Board of Advisors: The Board is an advisory body. Board membership shall be determined by invitation of the current Board and is immediately effective. Vacancies and new positions on the Board are filled by invitation and approved by a majority of the Board. The Board consists of no less than eight (8) members, and no upper limit of members. Board members serve renewable, staggered, four-year terms.

Expectations for Board Members

- 1) A Center for Communal Studies Advisory Board member should have a keen interest in the promotion and study of contemporary and historic communal groups, intentional communities and utopias. Furthermore, Advisory Board members should encourage and facilitate meetings, classes, scholarship, networking, and public interest in communal groups past and present, here and abroad.
- 2) An Advisory Board member should be aware and supportive of the relationship of Historic New Harmony, the University of Southern Indiana, and the Center for Communal Studies.
- 3) An Advisory Board member should make a commitment to attend the bi-annual board meetings and in advance of the meeting become familiar with material related to discussions.
- 4) An Advisory Board member should attend Center for Communal Studies sponsored events and activities.
- 5) An Advisory Board member should be willing to participate in committee work from time to time.
- 6) An Advisory Board member should be willing to assist in identifying and recruiting other members who have the ability to meet the expectations of the members serving on the board.

Director: The Director is appointed by the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts from the Liberal Arts faculty. Faculty interested in the directorship apply to the Board of Advisors who shall forward the

recommendation to the dean. The Director of the Center for Communal Studies is the permanent Chair of the Board. The Director issues an annual report by the end of the spring semester and fulfills the purposes identified in Article 1, Section 2.

Permanent Members of the Board: The Center Director, the David L. Rice Library Archives Librarian, and a representative from Historic New Harmony are Permanent Members of the Board.

Expectations for the Director and Archivist

The director and the archivist should be advocates for the Center for Communal Studies and be willing to connect with scholars and identify sources of support.

IV. Communal Studies Minor (Dr. Andrew Buck)

The Board endorsed, housing the Communal Studies minor in the Department of Sociology. Dr. Andrew Buck will serve as CCS minor advisor. First CCS minor committee meeting took place in February. Dr. Hanka, Dr. Shefveland, and Dr. Rode attended. The discussion focused on curricular changes, possible name change of the minor, and adding a CCS course to USI's Core39.

V. Academics, Outreach and Engagement

Research applications

- CCS research sponsorship (Rode) for Fulbright application Dr. Claudia Roesch, University of Konstanz, Institute for History, Sociology, and Empirical Education Research, Germany. (Notification end of April 2024)
- CCS research sponsorship (Rode) for German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) application (re-submission) Dr. Paola Ferruta, Associate to the IHTP, Aubervilliers and Centre Roland Mousnier, University Paris-Sorbonne, France. (Notification May 15, 2024)

As of April 10th, we have received two CCS award and prizes submissions. Solicitations for submission appeared in *Communities Magazine*, ICSA newsletter, and were mailed to approx. 500 academic email addresses.

Undergrad./Graduate Review Committee

Carol Medlicott

Matthew Hanka

Del Doughty

Travel Research Grant Review Committee

Graham Perry

Jennifer Greene

Greg Brown

CCS hosted Dr. Claudia Roesch from the German Historical Institute in Washington DC who conducted research for her book on climate data and technology as part of migration knowledge with regard to German settlements in the Americas during the 1820s.

Center for Communal Studies article was published in USI's *Illume* magazine.

Kristalyn Shefveland and Silvia Rode are featured on the New Harmony "teaser video."

<https://usi.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0udO-pqz0jEt2O0Gb4T4OaZ4UN4ZFrbyb>

The USI Foundation provided \$500 to record two panel discussions of the *Communal Studies Association Conference*. The videos are available on the CCS website.

Silvia Rode was invited to participate in a 8-episode podcast on Fanny Wright, radical thought in historical communities, spirituality and economics.

VI. Lecture

Ross Chapin, architect, author, and founder of Pocket Neighborhoods presented a zoom lecture April 10, 2024. Chapin is an advocate for sensibly sized homes and pocket neighborhoods that nourish the individual, support healthy household relationships and foster a meaningful sense of community. <https://usi.zoom.us/webinar/register/>

The lecture was sponsored by Center for Communal Studies College of Liberal Arts, the Bronstein Center on Healthy Aging & Wellness, and the College of Nursing & Health Professions.

VII. Conference

USI, Historic New Harmony, and the Communal Studies Association (CSA) hosted the 50th Communal Studies Association (CSA) Conference "Communal Theory, Practice and Impact," October 5-7th. USI hosted an opening banquet, honoring Dr. Don Pitzer, founding member of the Center for Communal Studies, the Communal Studies Association, and the International Communal Studies Association (ICSA). Conference sessions were scheduled in three New Harmony locations. (108 registered participants, USI faculty and members of the Tri-State community and 20 offered sessions.) The conference netted \$11,000



2023

CONFERENCE

October 5-7, 2023
New Harmony, Indiana

*Please consult the online program
for conference times.*

Registration: Atheneum Visitors Center

SPONSORS: _____



AND



VIII. Collection Development

- Tim Miller and Shirley Andrews donated 25 titles. Most titles, however, are duplicates, available electronically or are outside the current collection scope.
- Jesus People USA donated publications to update current collection.
- Maharishi Mahesh Yogi materials, booklets, publications, pamphlets, and photographs donated.

- Pearl Bartelt donated research materials on American Jewish agricultural colonies. Materials will be shipped via UPS (library expense) end of November.
- Susanna Pyatt, Curator at Loretto Heritage Center, donated 8 oral histories from Loretto community of St. Benedicts, with transcripts & audio. Some restrictions apply due to sensitive content.
- David Frohman "Our Story: The Farm," 2022.
- Don Janzen collected 148 community logos; 20 articles with interviews of present/former community members and is writing brief histories of communities for finding aids.

CSA Digital records (transferred to the unit)

- Board member listing 2004-2023
- Call for papers 2004-2024*
- Conference programs 2005-2023
- Journal contracts 2010 & 2016
- Membership 2008-2024
- Minutes 2005-2023
- Organizational docs
- Photos 2005-2023
- Guide to Historic Sites booklet (rev) 2023

Not listed in finding aids, will check to see what they want online. Nothing new will be added to the digital collections until June/July, moving to a new platform.

Reference and consultations

- 6 requests for materials
2 for publication
Heathcote School- Researcher from University of Virginia College-Wise
New Harmony images for Black Strap Video
- 9 reference questions
- Dr. Thomas Cimarusti, FGCU, requested copies of communal music albums. Digitized and shared copies.
- Dr. Cheryl Coulthard requested copies of several letters from CS 660- Karl Arndt collection. Scanned and sent.

Outreach

- CSA Open House 35 people, October 2023
- Assisted in developing book honoring Dr. Pitzer. Working on an online order option with Terry Bischoff. Set displays throughout the unit & open preservation room for touring. Developed program & speaker guide online, 84 views.
- Wall display on communal studies outside unit. amUSIngartifacts.org
- Posted: Living in Community series: Amna, Bethel, Aurora, and Arthurdale. Boatload of Knowledge
- Upcoming: Living in Community: Moravian, Bishop Hill, and Nauvoo. Shiloh Church & Trust

Dr. Don Janzen report

- **Long term projects** Downloading articles from the internet Articles (in PDF format) that relate to cooperative living and communal studies, written after 2000, now number 349 articles that total 2,000 pages. Community event posters The total number of posters (in JPEG format) now number 471 posters from 31 communities.
- **New Research Writing in presentation books** Art in Community - A 43 page document showing nine different art mediums from contemporary intentional communities. "Webinars, Workshops and Classes for 2023" - A listing, by month, of the 112 events sponsored by the Foundation for

Intentional Community during 2023. “Co-living Companies in the United States” - A list of 151 companies in the United States, and their logos, that manage 671 co-living complexes. The cities where these complexes are located are given.

- **Contemporary intentional community entrance signs** JPEG copies of the entrance signs of 78 different contemporary intentional communities



IX. Budget

Subtotal	Services & Supplies	\$7,145.00	\$0.00	\$5,691.64	\$405.80	\$1,047.56	85.34%	14.66%
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Not included are \$500 reimbursement from USI’s Foundation and \$250 from Bronstein Center, and Board meeting charges for spring.

ADDENDUM
 BOARD OF ADVISORS
 Scholarly Publications, Presentations, Teaching, and Awards 2023-2024

Books

- Kaelin, Kelly. Signed contract for monograph titled *Women, Race, and the Moravian Church in the Early Modern Atlantic World: Convert, Migrant, Missionary* in the series "Christianities in the Trans-Atlantic World," Palgrave MacMillan. Manuscript Deadline August 2024
- Strezewski, Michael. *Christoph Weber: Redware Potter of the Harmony Society, 1808-1853*, Richard W. Couper Press, Clinton, New York.

Peer-Review Articles

- Kaelin, Kelly. "Relying on Runaways: Women and the Moravian Church in the Eighteenth-Century Atlantic World." *Church History and Religious Culture*, vol. 103, no. 3-4, 18 Dec. 2023, pp. 382–400, doi.org/10.1163/18712428-10303011. Accessed 8 Feb. 2024.
- Lockyer, Joshua and Jenny Pickerill, Tendai Chitewere, Natasha Cornea, Rachel Macrorie, Jan Maly Blazek, Anitra Nelson. "Urban Ecological Futures: Five Eco-Community Principles for More Sustainable and Equitable Cities." *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, vol. 48, ed. 1, 2023: 161-176. DOI:10.1111/1468-2427.13209
- Lockyer, Joshua and Zach Rubin. "Constructing Community: Building Design, Infrastructure, and Ecological Habitus at Dancing Rabbit Ecovillage." *Communal Societies* 41(1&2), 2023: 27-51.
- Rode, Silvia. "Harmonist Women: Millennial Messenger, Seductress and Industrialist." *That Wonder of the West. New Harmony on the Wabash*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, forthcoming

Essay (administrative)

- Rode, Silvia and Connie Stambush (USI magazine article: *only Connie Stambush is mentioned as author. "Hidden Gem Sheds Light: How Decades of Research Helps Communities Live Better." *Illume*. USI, Evansville, Fall 2023

Academic Presentations (international/national/regional)

- Brown, Greg. "The Development of Developmental Communalism" Panel. Communal Studies Association 50th Annual Conference, New Harmony, IN. October 6.
- [invited] Brown, Greg. "Utopian Muse." Keynote Address." Communal Studies Association 50th Annual Conference, New Harmony, IN. October 5.
- [invited] Brown, Greg. "World Religions Exploring Diversity." Roundtable Discussion, University of Southern Indiana. April 4.
- Kaelin, Kelly. "Purchased and Proselytized: Black Moravian Women and German Influence in Transatlantic Christianity," Eberhard Karls Universität Tübingen, Baden-Württemberg, Germany, 3 July 2023
- Kaelin, Kelly. "From German to Afro-Caribbean: German Influences on Black Atlantic Christianity," Universität Hamburg, Germany, 26 June 2023
- Kaelin, Kelly. "Ceremonial Flight: Performance and Group Identity in Moravian Women's Memoirs," Sixteenth Century Society and Conference, Baltimore, MD, 26 October 2023
- Lockyer, Joshua. "From Developmental Communalism to Transformative Utopianism: Reflections from a Mid-Career Anthropologist on the Past and Future of Communal Studies." Presentation as part of the opening plenary panel at the 50th annual meeting of the Communal Studies Association. New Harmony, IN. October 5, 2023.
- Lockyer, Joshua. "Some Research at/on/with Dancing Rabbit: A Brief Review." Presentation for the Dancing Rabbit Research Collaborative, an interdisciplinary group of scholars coordinating research at Dancing Rabbit Ecovillage. Online. December 1, 2023.

[invited] Lockyer, Joshua. "Ecovillages and the Commons: Design Principles for Sustaining Communities." ReGEN4ALL Colloquium Series sponsored by the Global Ecovillage Network. Online for an international audience on October 26, 2023.

Rode, Silvia. "Communities for the Future." *50th Communal Studies Association Conference*. New Harmony, October 2023

[invited] Strezewski, Michael. *Christoph Weber and the Production of Redware Ceramics in the Harmony Society (1808-1853)*. Zoom lecture presented for the Harmonist Connection speaker program, November 15, 2023.

Strezewski, Michael. *Christoph Weber and the Production of Redware Ceramics in the Harmony Society (1808-1853)*. Invited lecture presented at Old Economy Village, Ambridge, Pennsylvania, October 21, 2023.

Strezewski, Michael. *Daily Life in the Harmony Society, 1820: The Barchet Sisters Cabin Site*. Paper presented at the Communal Studies Association conference, New Harmony, Indiana, October 5-7, 2023.

[invited] Strezewski, Michael. "An Excellent House of Private Entertainment:" The Harmonist Tavern in New Harmony, 1815-1825. Public talk for DuBois County Museum, Jasper, Indiana, September 9, 2023.

Conference Moderator

Brown, Greg. (read Don Janzen's paper) "Approaches to the Study of Cooperative Living," *50th Communal Studies Association Conference*, New Harmony, IN. October 8, 2023

Rode, Silvia. "Application & Practice." *50th Communal Studies Association Conference* New Harmony, October 8, 2023

Community Presentation

Shefveland, Kristalyn. *History of Yoga and Yoga in the West* [Lecture]. Yoga101, Evansville 200-Hr. Teacher Training, April 2023

Workshops

Kaelin, Kelly. "Gender, Mission, and Emotion," Second workshop of DFG-sponsored working group at the Herzog August Bibliothek in Wolfenbüttel, Germany. June 2023.

Kaelin, Kelly. "Globalizing Early Modern Religion," Workshop for early career scholars through the Center for Austrian Studies – University of Minnesota hosted by the European University Institute in Florence, Italy, May 2023

Interviews

Rode, Silvia, Videotapping for New Harmony informational teaser. (Video completion March 2024)

Rode, Silvia. "Harmonist and Owenite communities, radical thought in historical communities, spirituality and economics." *Fanny Wright*. 8-episode podcast. Producers Indiana University and the University of Southern California faculty, June 2024

Shefveland, Kristalyn, Videotapping for New Harmony informational teaser. (Video completion March 2024)

Manuscript Evaluation

Rode, Silvia. Manuscript review for *History of Intellectual Culture*. Vol. 3. Berlin: De Gruyter Press, 2024.

Book Reviews

Greene, Jennifer. 2022 (Released 2023). *How God Found Me: Memoirs of an American Guru*. *Communal Societies* 42 (1): 60–62.

Shefveland, Kristalyn. *Finding God through Yoga: Paramahansa Yogananda and Modern American Religion in a Global Age*, by David J. Neumann. *Communal Societies*, forthcoming.

Other Publications

Greene, Jennifer. "Founding Community: Honoring Dr. Donald Pitzer." University of Southern Indiana Press, October 2023.

Awards, Promotions, Board Memberships

Brown, Greg. Board Member Historic New Harmony, 2023-2026.

Brown, Greg. Board Member Communal Studies Association, 2022-2026.

Matarese, Susan. *American Foreign Policy and the Utopian Imagination*. Boston: University of Massachusetts Press, 2001 (paperback 2010), was named one of the 50 most significant contributions to the field of American Studies published in the first decade of the 21st century by the University of Massachusetts Press.

Rode, Silvia. Chair, Historic New Harmony Advisory Board, 2023-2025.

Committees

Brown, Greg. Program and organizing Committee *50th Communal Studies Association Conference* "Communal Theory, Practice and Impact" (CSA), USI and New Harmony, October 2023

Lockyer, Joshua. Program and organizing Committee *50th Communal Studies Association Conference* "Communal Theory, Practice and Impact" (CSA), USI and New Harmony, October 2023

Rode, Silvia. UNIV New Harmony Experience, 2023

Rode, Silvia. Program and organizing Committee *50th Communal Studies Association Conference* "Communal Theory, Practice and Impact" (CSA), USI and New Harmony, October 2023

Shefveland, Kristalyn. UNIV New Harmony Experience, 2023

Teaching

Rode, Silvia. WLC 490 Utopia, independent study, spring 2024