



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Natural Resource Users Law & Policy Center

A collaboration between the
James E. Rogers College of Law and
the College of Agriculture & Life Sciences

George Ruyle, Director
John C. Lacy, Director
EnR2-Room 353
1064 E. Lowell St.
P.O. Box 210137
Tucson, AZ 85721-0137
Phone: (520) 621-1384



NRULPC Advisory Board Meeting

May 26, 2023

Agenda

MO Club

6400 E. El Dorado Cir., Tucson
Catalina Room

Zoom: <https://arizona.zoom.us/j/453244816>

Purpose: Brief Highlights of NRULPC & NRUMC and AB members networking

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| 10:00am – 10:15am | Mingle and Settle In |
| 10:15am – 10:20am | Welcome – George Ruyle & John Lacy, Co-Directors |
| 10:20am – 10:25am | Review Agenda – John Lacy |
| 10:25am – 10:50am | Advisory Board Members Introductions – George Ruyle |
| 10:50am – 10:55am | NRULPC Highlights – George Ruyle & John Lacy |
| 10:55am – 11:00am | Natural Resource Use & Management Clinic Highlights – Priya Sundareshan, Director |
| 11:00am – 11:05am | Undergraduate class Highlights – Anne Gondor, Instructor |
| 11:05am – 11:15am | American Indian and Tribal Perspectives – Michael Kotutwa Johnson, Affiliated Faculty |
| 11:15am – 11:55am | Pilar Thomas , Part-time Professor of Practice. <i>Co-Management of Federal Lands with Tribal Participation</i>
<i>Introduced by John Lacy</i> |
| 11:55am – 12:00pm | Thank You and Adjourn – George Ruyle & John Lacy |
| 12:00pm – 1:00pm | Lunch and Networking |
| 1:00pm – 2:00pm | Tai Kreidler , Texas Tech University. <i>Cowboys, Horse Soldiers, and College Kids – Playing Real Polo in the American West</i>
<i>Introduced by John Lacy</i> |



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Speaker information



Pilar Thomas

Part-time Professor of Practice, University of Arizona

Pilar Thomas (Pascua Yaqui) is a partner in Quarles & Brady's Energy, Environment & Natural Resources Practice Group. She focuses her practice on tribal renewable energy project development and finance, tribal economic development, federal Indian Law, and natural resource development. Pilar assists clients with strategic legal advice on tribal energy policy and planning; clean energy and infrastructure project development and finance; federal and state energy regulatory, programs, and policy efforts; and federal requirements for tribal lands development. She serves as general counsel for several tribes, Section 17 and tribal business entities.

Pilar previously served as the Deputy Director for the Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs at the US Department of Energy, where she was responsible for developing and implementing policy and program efforts within the department and federal government to promote energy development, electrification, and infrastructure improvement on tribal lands. She also is the former Deputy Solicitor of Indian Affairs for the US Department of the Interior, where she advised the Secretary, Assistant-Secretary for Indian Affairs, and other Department officials on matters related to tribes, tribal law, and federal Indian law. Ms. Thomas was Of Counsel at Lewis Roca, representing tribes on gaming and economic development matters. She also served as the Interim Attorney General and Chief of Staff to Chairwoman Herminia Frias of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe and was a trial attorney in the US Department of Justice, Environmental and Natural Resources Division, Indian Resources Section.

Pilar serves on the NABA-AZ Board and is a past President and Secretary. She also serves on the board for GRID Alternatives, is the Vice-Chair at large for the ABA Section on Energy, Environment and Resources Native American Resources Committee, and serves on the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee at the Foundation for Natural Resources and Energy Law. In her spare time, Pilar teaches Indian Energy Law at both the Arizona State University Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law and the University of Arizona James Rogers School of Law (but not at the same time).

She received her J.D. from the University of New Mexico School of Law, magna cum laude, and her B.A. in Economics from Stanford University.



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Tai Kreidler

Executive Director of the West Texas Historical Association and the Deputy Director of the Southwest Collection/Special Collections Library (SWC/SCL) at Texas Tech University (TTU)

In the 20th Century two college polo teams, one from the University of Arizona and the other from New Mexico Military Institute, burst onto the national scene and stole the limelight from the vaunted Ivy League and “Left Coast” powerhouses. New York and Long Island specifically are considered the birthplaces of American polo—the oldest sport. However, the first match may have been played in the west with cavalry, cowboy, ranching, and college teams serving as the fertile training ground for multiple generations of riders who came to the sport prepping horses for the east coast market. These rough cut college “rubies” from the hinterland soon dominated what otherwise has been characterized as a “Yankee” sport. In the pre-World War II both UA and NMMI set the pace. During the post war period NMMI carried the torch forward winning a number of championships. Go Wildcats and Broncos.

BIO —

Tai Kreidler is Executive Director of the West Texas Historical Association and the Deputy Director of the Southwest Collection/Special Collections Library (SWC/SCL) at Texas Tech University (TTU). With nearly 30 years’ experience as an archivist and college educator he has specialized in the study of the American West, Texas history, and sports culture. He was instrumental in securing the acquisition of the Southwest Conference Records which is the largest athletic conference archive in the country. He is also a trustee for the National College Baseball Hall of Fame (NCBHoF) and serves as the NCBHoF consultant for museum collection development and artifacts preservation. He also acts as the SWC/SCL administrator overseeing the Sports Archive for the National College Baseball Hall of Fame. His professional work experience is directly connected to public history and initiatives that include historical architectural field work, formulation and completion of oral history projects, and consulting/advisory services for various archival, historical and museum service groups. He has authored numerous articles and contributed to various books on sports, Texas history, the oil and gas industry, women’s history, and the American West.

His recent study on horse polo stemmed from discovering ten years ago that the current polo spur is derived from a western design by a fellow named Adolph Bayer from Gilliland, Texas. How did a spur from the middle of the rolling plains of Texas become a ubiquitous and global design for the polo spur? As a historian and archivist, he became obsessed in finding the answer, and he is still digging.

He holds a Ph.D. Degree in History with a dissertation on the early origins of the offshore oil industry. He can be reached at: tai.kreidler@ttu.edu