

CSLS SPEAKER SERIES

Monday, October 11, 2021

TONY PLATT

CSLS Distinguished Affiliated Scholar, UC Berkeley

“Why We Need Truth & Justice at Berkeley”

“This college, where we are now sitting, what lies beneath?”
(Virginia Woolf, 1928).

For the past eighteen months, Tony Platt has been working with Berkeley’s Truth & Justice Project, researching the role of the University of California during the 19th and 20th centuries in the accumulation of Native human remains and items of tangible and intangible cultural heritage. What began as a focus on Berkeley’s lack of compliance with the federal Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA, 1990) has broadened into an investigation of the University’s racial foundations and development. Berkeley’s current anti-racism initiative is an opportunity to come to terms with its contradictory history: the paradox of enlightened knowledge coexisting with land grabs, eugenics, cultural defamation, and, most importantly, structural racism in its relationships with California’s Tribes and Indigenous communities. We are long overdue, in the words of Michael Yellow Bird, for “truth-telling and the revision of settler history.”

PLACE Zoom - [Register here for the zoom link.](#)
TIME 12:45 - 2:00pm.
INFO <https://www.csls.berkeley.edu>

If you require an accommodation for effective communication (ASL interpreting/CART captioning, alternative media formats, etc.) to fully participate in this event, please contact csls@law.berkeley.edu with as much advance notice as possible and at least 7-10 days in advance of the event.