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FREDERICK C. LUEBKE AWARD

We are pleased to announce that the 2012 Frederick C. Luebke Award for outstanding regional scholarship has been awarded to C. M. Cooper, Concordia University, for her essay “From ’No Place’ to Home: The Quest for a Western Home in Brewster Higley’s ‘Home on the Range,’” (Fall 2011, Vol. 31/No. 4; 267–90). The prize, named for the founder of the Quarterly, is given each year for the best article published in the Great Plains Quarterly. The Frederick C. Luebke Award includes a cash stipend of $250.00.

CALL FOR PAPERS

The 39th Interdisciplinary Symposium presented by the University of Nebraska’s Center for Great Plains Studies will be held in 2013 at the University of Nebraska at Kearney and the Younes Conference Center in Kearney. The conference theme is: “School Consolidation in the Great Plains: Efficiencies, Change, and Community Identity.” The 2013 Symposium Committee invites submission for papers, panels, and posters focusing on “school consolidation.” This theme serves as a launching point for a variety of connected issues associated with rural school consolidation. Participants are encouraged to submit papers related to education law and policy that address rural areas or use urban experiences to inform these issues on rural landscapes. Because rural schools are an important part of rural well-being, participants are also encouraged to submit papers related to the overall well-being of citizens on the Great Plains, including rural health care, population studies, or other research geared at improving the quality of rural life. Undergraduates and graduate students are invited to present papers or posters within the scope of this call. Electronic submissions are now being accepted for proposed papers, panels, or electronic/paper posters. Please submit a proposal/abstract of 150–200 words with a brief résumé by November 1, 2012, electronically using the abstract submission form at the conference website: <www.unl.edu/plains>. More information is available from the symposium chair, Dr. Peter Longo, Professor of Political Science, University of Nebraska at Kearney. Contact him through the Center for Great Plains Studies: <cgps@unl.edu>.

CALL FOR PAPERS

The 53rd Annual Conference of the Western History Association will be held October 9-12, 2013 in Tucson, Arizona. The theme of the 2013 conference is: Vital Signs: Earth, Power, Lives. Western historians are encouraged to take an environmental perspective on the past. The 2013 program committee invites proposals on the theme of checking the “vital signs,” those indicators of health and illness that societies as well as individuals need. They include such measures of well being as energy supplies and consumption, ecological and cultural diversity, the distribution of wealth and power, the ups and downs of climate, and the resilience of ecosystems and human communities. The program committee strongly encourages full panel submissions and will consider
single papers only when they can be reasonably matched with other panels or papers. When submitting an entire session or panel, include a brief abstract that outlines the purpose of the session and designate one participant as the contact person. Each paper proposal, whether individual or part of a session, should include a one-paragraph abstract and a one-page C.V., including address, phone, and email address for each participant. Indicate equipment needs, if any. The committee assumes that all listed individuals have agreed to participate. Electronic submissions are required and should be sent, with supporting materials, as a single document (PDF) to <wha2013call@gmail.com>. Submissions should be sent by September 1, 2012. The 2013 Program Committee Co-chairs are Kathleen Brosnan, University of Houston, and Douglas Cazaux Sackman, University of Puget Sound. For more information on the WHA's 53rd Annual Conference, visit <www.westernhistoryassociation.org>.

**ETHNOGRAPHY OF COMMUNICATION CONFERENCE**

Creighton University, Omaha, Nebraska, will be hosting “The Ethnography of Communication Conference: The Ways Forward,” on June 10–14, 2012. The conference will bring together scholars from around the world who use ethnographic methods to study communication in context. Topics to be addressed include rural ethnography, ethnographies of North American indigenous communities, environmental communication, intercultural communication, performance studies, religious communication, and rhetoric and public address. More information is available at: <http://www.cci.utk.edu/conference/ethnography-communication-ways-forward>, and from Professor Jay Leighter, Creighton University, <leighter@creighton.edu>. The Center for Great Plains Studies, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, is a co-sponsor of this conference.

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**Great Plains Studies classes now on-line from the University of Nebraska–Lincoln**

**Great Plains Studies 377: Women of the Great Plains**

Who is a woman of the Great Plains? Such a question frequently conjures up an inaccurately conventional image of a female with specific characteristics regarding her race, class, ethnicity, and religion as well as the place and time in which she lived. This 3-credit online course examines gender throughout time and space in the American and Canadian Great Plains. Various disciplines—such as anthropology, geography, and history—inform explorations of gender in relation to topics such as the environment, popular culture, and violence.

**Great Plains Studies 378: Cultural Encounters on the Great Plains**

This is a 3-credit online upper-division interdisciplinary course focusing on the interaction of the diverse cultures that have immigrated and migrated to the Great Plains. We will study instances of first contact between Native people and European cultures, the movement west by Euro-American and non-European cultures, and post-settlement intercultural relations. Additionally, we will examine the impact of contemporary cultural contact among the diverse people of the Plains.

For more information about these courses, contact:

**Dr. Charles A. Braithwaite**

Center for Great Plains Studies, University of Nebraska–Lincoln, 1155 Q Street, Room 504, Lincoln, NE 68588-0245

Tel.: (402) 472-6178; fax: (402) 472-0463; e-mail: cbrathwaite2@unl.edu

Undergraduate Major or Minor in Great Plains Studies website: <http://www.unl.edu/plains/academics/undergrad.html>