

Editor's Note

To open the first issue of our 2021 volume, it is my pleasure to welcome the new Editor-in-Chief, Dr. Natchee Blu Barnd. Natchee is Associate Professor of Ethnic Studies at Oregon State University. A specialist in the field, he holds PhD and MA degrees in Ethnic Studies from UC San Diego, an MA in American Indian Studies from UCLA, and a BA in Ethnic Studies and Philosophy, with a minor in Native American Studies from Sonoma State University. He is a comparative and critical Ethnic Studies scholar whose research focuses on race, space, and indigenous geographies. An accomplished scholar, he has published several articles and chapters in a wide range of journals and edited volumes devoted to Native American Studies and Geography as well as Education and Social Justice. He is the author of *Native Spaces: Indigenous Strategies to Unsettle Settler Colonialism* (2017), which makes an important contribution to the study of the creation of indigenous geographies within settler colonial nations.

Dr. Natchee Blu Barnd has additionally served as an Associate Editor of the *Ethnic Studies Review* for the past two years, during which time he has been an invaluable member of our editorial team, working tirelessly to bring together leading scholars and activists in the field of Ethnic Studies. Of particular note, he conceived of and organized particularly relevant special issues and commentaries that have amplified our journal's voice in the current movement for solidarity and social justice, both inside of academia as well as outside among our diverse communities of activists and scholars. In addition to his work on the journal, I had the opportunity to collaborate with Natchee when he was a member of the Board of Directors of the *Association for Ethnic Studies* from 2104 through 2019. Working closely with him on a variety of the Board's committees, Natchee gave freely of his time to support its important work and demonstrated a genuine commitment, not only to the field, but, even more importantly, to the students, scholars, and activists whom the association serves. I am confident that Natchee will sustain and move forward the work of the *Ethnic Studies Review*, and I am looking forward to collaborating with him in my new role as a member of the Advisory Board.

It has been an honor to serve over the past ten years—first as an Associate Editor and then as the Editor-in-Chief—of the *Ethnic Studies Review*. I have always been especially drawn to the journal's commitment to scholarship and social engagement as well as the diversity and inclusivity of the articles that it publishes. It is my firm belief that the *Ethnic Studies Review* is well-positioned to provide the analysis, discussion, and advocacy that is needed in the ongoing struggle for social justice in the face of systemic racism and social

inequity, a role that is all the more urgent in our current moment in which we are confronting unprecedented new challenges to our democracy and civil society.

I would like to conclude these brief remarks by thanking the Association for Ethnic Studies for giving me the honor of stewarding their journal this past year; UC Press for their generous collaboration with us; and especially the members of our editorial team, past and present, without whose help this journal would not be possible. ■