

**William E. Lass Minnesota History Symposium
Schedule of Events
Friday, April 5, 2024**

All events are in the Minnesota State University, Mankato Centennial Student Union (CSU). Parking is free in the lot in front of the CSU.

9:00 AM: Announcements: Lori Ann Lahlum, Minnesota State University, Mankato

9:15 - 9:45 AM: Welcome: Gwen Nell Westerman (Sisseton Wahpeton Dakota), Minnesota State University, Mankato
"Doing History in This Place"

10:00 - 11:30 AM Sessions

**Roundtable: This Statue, This Place: Abraham Lincoln Statue
at Minnesota State University, Mankato
CSU 253/4/5**

Chair: Daardi Sizemore Mixon, University Archivist, Minnesota State University, Mankato

Discussants:

Christopher R. Corley, Dean of Library & Learning, Professor of History, Minnesota State University, Mankato

Gwen Nell Westerman, Professor of English and Humanities, Minnesota State University, Mankato

Ryley Lamb, History Graduate Student, Minnesota State University, Mankato

Keegan Stanley, History Student, Minnesota State University, Mankato

**Minnesota History 1
CSU 238 (Nickerson)**

Chair: Jennifer M. McCutchen, University of St. Thomas

Papers:

Black Baseball in Minnesota: Individual, Gender, and Community Contexts
Paul Spyhalski, Minnesota State University, Mankato

A Treasonable Letter: A German American Pastor and World War I
Carly DeLeu, Minnesota State University, Mankato
This paper received the honorable mention William E. Lass Award
at the 2023 Northern Great Plains History Conference

History in the Making: Minnesota's New State Flag & Seal
Anita Talsma Gaul, Minnesota West Community & Technical College
Dr. Gaul served as Vice-Chair of the State Emblems Redesign Commission.

**Roundtable: Investigating Lost History: The Local Lost Stories Project
CSU 204 (Nichols)**

Moderator: Amy Mattson Lauters, Minnesota State University, Mankato

Discussants:

Alexandra Tostrud, Minnesota State University, Mankato
Alexander Haugen, Minnesota State University, Mankato
Nitiben Parekh, Minnesota State University, Mankato
Katie Leseman, Minnesota State University, Mankato

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM: Lunch Break

See the end of the program for lunch options.

**11:30 AM - 12:30 PM: Minnesota History Planning Group Lunch
CSU 238 (Nickerson)**

12:30 - 2:00 PM Sessions

**Minnesota History II
CSU 253/4/5**

Chair: TBD

Papers:

Specificity Ensures Understanding and Justice: Exploring the Relation of Federal and Catholic American Boarding Schools in Northern Minnesota
Ruby O'Hagan, Gustavus Adolphus College

Beyond the Headlines: The Minnesota Roots of Symbionese Liberation Army Member Camilla Hall
Rachael T. Hanel, Minnesota State University, Mankato

Chasing Fast-Paced Paul: Paul Wellstone from Northfield to the Iron Range and Everywhere in Between
Cory Haala, University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point

**Reconciliation and Reunification Learning and Action Network
CSU 238 (Nickerson)**

Moderator: Elizabeth Sandell, Minnesota State University, Mankato

Discussants:

Joe Whitehawk, Dakota Elder, retired Licensed Chemical Dependency Counselor
Tina F. Gouty-Yellow, Dakotah Nation
Katie Boone, University of Minnesota
Shamsi Taghiyev, Minnesota State University, Mankato

**Roundtable: Teaching Minnesota History
CSU 204**

Chair: Lori Ann Lahlum, Minnesota State University, Mankato

Discussants:

Annette Atkins, Professor Emerita, Saint John's University
and the College of Saint Benedict

Robert W. Galler, Jr., St. Cloud State University

Anita Talsma Gaul, Minnesota West Community & Technical College

Jeff Kolnick, Southwest Minnesota State University

Brett Neel, United South Central High School

2:15 – 3:45 PM Sessions

**Tim Walz: Politics and Leadership
CSU 253/4/5**

Chair: Angela Jill Cooley, Minnesota State University, Mankato

Presentation:

Tim Walz: The Political Appeal of Authenticity
Jeff Kolnick, Southwest Minnesota State University

Discussants:

Joseph Kunkel, Professor Emeritus, Minnesota State University, Mankato

Leigh Pomeroy, Mankato and 2004 DFL candidate for Congress
in the 1st Minnesota Congressional District

**Roundtable: William E. Lass: Teacher, Scholar, and Colleague
CSU 238 (Nickerson)**

Chair: H. Matthew Loayza, Minnesota State University, Mankato

Discussants:

Steve Potts, Minnesota North College
Rachael T. Hanel, Minnesota State University, Mankato
Daardi Sizemore Mixon, Minnesota State University, Mankato
Deborah L. Miller, retired, Minnesota Historical Society
Charles Piehl, Professor Emeritus, Minnesota State University, Mankato

**4:00 - 5:15 PM: Keynote Address
Ostrander Auditorium (first floor, CSU)**

**“I’m an Historian: What’s My Job?”
Dr. Annette Atkins, Professor Emerita, Saint John’s University and the
College of Saint Benedict**

7:00 PM Heritage Room (first floor, CSU): William E. Lass Memorial Event

*Sponsored by the MSU History Program, University Archives &
Southern Minnesota Historical Center, and Library Services*

*Co-sponsors: College of Humanities and Social Sciences,
American Indigenous Studies, Office of the Provost, Gender and
Women’s Studies, and the Blue Earth County Historical Society*

For information contact: history@mnsu.edu