

Brian Kenny -- Position Statement for Vice President

Background

I have been engaged in preservation and Southwestern archaeology for forty-five years (since 1978) and have consecutively attended Pecos Conference since my first at Mesa Verde (1980). I served as an anthropologist with the State of Arizona for twenty-five years, and with the Federal government for twenty years, working effectively and irreverently to get things done. My professional experiences included: NHPA Section 106 & 110, and NAGPRA consultation; ARPA investigations; Practitioner Scholar of Place-Based Studies, Historic Preservation, Rapid Ethnography & Applied Anthropology; Federal, State, Local Government & Private Contractor CRM (fieldwork); and SHPO, THPO & Tribal compliance coordination (southwestern USA focus). I participated in ARPA and Arizona Antiquities Act & Burial Law consultations. As a forensic archaeologist, I conducted human remains recovery at crime scenes for local law enforcement agencies. I wrote amendments to the Arizona Antiquities Act which Attorney General Grant Woods and Representative Chuck Blanchard presented as a bill in the Arizona Legislature. I participated in more than 150 CRM field archaeology surveys, testing, mitigation, and preservation projects, as crew member, crew chief, project manager or contracting officer's representative. During the Early Web 1.0 pioneer period, I developed an online and email newsletter (current events aggregation service) called 'Got Caliche?' to conduct regional science community education activities. In 2016, I donated Southwestern Archaeology, Inc 501c3 to a newly formed Board of Directors to serve as the future organizing structure for the Pecos Conference. Currently, I am the organizer of an applied research project focused on the historical archaeology and material culture of George McJunkin, started in 2021 on the eve of the centennial of his passing (2022), kicking off five years of new research effort heading into the 100th Pecos Conference anniversary in 2027.

Value Proposition

My expertise includes strengthening coalitions between private industry and competitive stakeholders, executing complex projects with federal, state, local and tribal governments, private enterprises, and the public. Therefore, I am delighted to express my interest in the **Vice President position for the Pecos Conference Board of Directors**. As an executive-level thought leader with decades of management and program delivery experience in the environmental and cultural sectors in the United States, I am confident in my ability to foster tradition and bring strategic vision and direction to the Pecos Conference in a changing world. I will take a lead in developing and implementing a comprehensive sustainability strategy that addresses environmental, social, and economic challenges facing our annual conference and region. By considering sustainable practices in our operations and policies, we can promote a resilient and thriving community of conference participants. I will also prioritize initiatives that promote inclusiveness, environmental and social justice opportunities, ensuring that our efforts are equitable and inclusive. Together, we can make Pecos Conference a greater opportunity in sustainability and a strengthening model of inclusiveness and disciplinary recruitment for others to benefit from. We will remain a premier mediating and moderating influence throughout the American Southwest and Mexican Northwest.