

**RICHARD KEYSER**

7131 Social Sciences, Legal Studies Program  
Center for Law, Society, and Justice  
University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI 53706  
tel. 608-890-4647; e-mail: rkeyser (at) wisc.edu; webpage: <http://www.ssc.wisc.edu/~rkeyser/>

**Academic Positions**

Senior Lecturer, Legal Studies Program, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Aug., 2011—present.  
Associate Professor, History Department, Western Kentucky University, Aug., 2009– May, 2011.  
Assistant Professor, History Department, Western Kentucky University, 2002–2009.  
Visiting Assistant Professor, History Department, University of Nebraska at Omaha, 2001–2002.

**Education**

Ph.D. Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD, History, 2001.  
M.A. Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD, History.  
B.S. College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA, Biology.

**Publications: Articles**

"Wood for Burning: The Continuity of Woodland Management in Medieval and Early Modern France."  
Forthcoming in Estelita Vaz and Cristina Joanaz de Melo, eds., *Environmental History in the World: Outcomes and New Approaches*, vol. 1 (Springer Publishing).

"Agreement Supersedes Law, and Love Judgment: Legal Flexibility and Amicable Settlement in Anglo-Norman England." *Law and History Review* 30.1 (Feb., 2012): 37-88. Available [here](#).

"The Transformation of Traditional Woodland Management: Commercial Sylviculture in Medieval Champagne." *French Historical Studies* 32 (2009): 353-84. Available [here](#).

"La transformation de l'échange des dons pieux: Montier-la-Celle, Champagne, 1100-1350." *Revue Historique* 628 (2003): 793-816. Available [here](#).

"Du don au contrat: la transformation médiévale des transactions foncières. L'exemple de Montier-la-Celle." *La Vie en Champagne*, n.s. 35 (2003): 4-11.

"Les archives de l'abbaye de Montier-la-Celle jusqu'en 1350." *La Vie en Champagne*, n.s. 1 (1995):35-41.

**Book Project**

*Grounding Power: Property, Common Rights, and Lordship in Medieval France*. This book will explore how rights to use, own, and control landed property, including such uncultivated spaces as common pastures and woodlands, were articulated in the eleventh and twelfth centuries in northern France. My research shows that a system of private property rights coexisted with shared or common property in uncultivated land, and that both depended on the public recognition of rights within an emergent civil society.

**Grants, Fellowships, and Awards**

Alice Hamilton prize from the American Society for Environmental History for the best article of 2009  
National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship, 2007-8  
Western Kentucky University, Faculty Summer Scholarship, 2007  
Friedrich Solmsen Fellowship, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2006-7  
Western Kentucky University, Faculty Summer Scholarship, 2006  
Society for French Historical Studies, Research Travel Award, Summer 2004

Western Kentucky University Junior Faculty Fellowship, Summer 2003  
National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Stipend, Summer, 2002  
Faculty Research Grant, Univ. of Nebraska at Omaha, Martin Fund, Summer, 2002  
Dean's Teaching Fellowship, Johns Hopkins University, Spring 1998  
Fulbright Fellowship for Dissertation Research, France, 1992

#### **Conference Papers and Scholarly Presentations since 2009**

- "A Research Priority: Assessing the Sustainability of Traditional Management in French Woodlands." Eighth European Society for Environmental History Biennial Conference, Versailles, France, June 30 - July 3, 2015.
- "Wood for Burning: Firewood Production and Collection in Medieval and Early Modern France." Second World Conference on Environmental History, Guimarães, Portugal, July 8-12, 2014.
- "A Long Durée of Legislation: Firewood Collection and Usage in Medieval and Early Modern France." 49<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI, May 8-11, 2014.
- "A Plea for a Counter-Narrative of French and European Forest History." Society for French Historical Studies 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, Boston, MA, April 4-7, 2013.
- "Common Rights and Intensive Silviculture in Medieval Champagne." Première École d'Été d'Histoire Rurale (Université de Toulouse & European Society for Environmental History), June 28-30, 2012, Flaran, France.
- "The Peasant and Customary Basis of Traditional Woodland Management in Europe's Deciduous Forest Zone." American Society for Environmental History, Madison, WI, March, 27-30, 2012.
- "Peaceable Power: Civil Law and the Limitations of Lordship, Champagne, France, 1150-1300." 46<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI, May 12-15, 2011.
- "The Keys to Sustainability in Premodern European Woodlands." American Society for Environmental History, Phoenix, AZ, April 13-17, 2011.
- "Common Rights, Eminent Domain, and Sustainability in Medieval Woodlands." Medieval Academy of America, New Haven, CT, March 20, 2010.
- "The Roots of Eminent Domain in Natural Resources: Under and Over the Ground in Medieval France." First World Congress of Environmental History, Copenhagen, Denmark, Aug. 4-8, 2009.

#### **Courses Taught at UW**

American Legal History I and II (Legal Studies/History 261-262), 2011-present  
Law and Environment (Legal Studies/Environmental Studies 430), 2012-present  
Environmental History of Europe (History/Environmental Studies 328), 2013-present

#### **Public and Professional Service**

Article Submission Reviewer, *French Historical Studies*, 2011-2012  
Alice Hamilton Essay Prize Committee, American Society for Environmental History, 2011  
Reviewer, NEH Summer Stipend Panel, European History, 2009

#### **Professional Associations**

American Society for Environmental History  
American Society for Legal History