



Repatriation Advisor: Timothy McKeown

For 18 years, Tim served as a Federal official responsible for drafting regulations implementing Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), developing databases to document compliance, establishing a grants program, investigating allegations of failure to comply for possible civil penalties, coordinating the activities of a Secretarial advisory committee, and providing training and technical assistance to nearly 1000 museums and Federal agencies and 700 indigenous communities across the U.S.

Since 2009, Tim has consulted on repatriation of cultural items with several Indian Tribes, prepared policy recommendations and provided training at annual meetings of the National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers and served as an expert witness for tribal Plaintiffs in a case before a US Federal District Court. In 2020, he was appointed by the Secretary of the Interior to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Review Committee. Tim also teaches repatriation and ethics at Australian National University and Central European University. The University of Arizona Press published his comprehensive review of the legislative history of U.S. Federal repatriation mandates and he is co-editor of the recently published Routledge Companion to International Indigenous Repatriation: Return, Reconcile, Renew.