

**MICHAEL K. BESS**  
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## **EMPLOYMENT HISTORY**

- 2022 - Profesor Investigador Titular, con permanencia (tenure equivalent), Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas, Department of History.
- 2014 - 2022 Profesor Investigador Titular, Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas, Department of History.
- 2019 - Affiliated Professor, Universidad Panamericana, Campus Bonaterra, Faculty of Economics Sciences and Business Management.

## **EDUCATION**

PhD, Borderlands History, University of Texas at El Paso (December 2013)

- Dissertation Title: “Routes of Compromise: Road Building and Motor Transportation in Modern Mexico, 1920-1952”
  - Successfully Defended, November 2013
  - Selected as UTEP’s Outstanding Dissertation in Humanities for 2013
- Portfolio and Oral Defense passed unanimously, December 2011
- Major Fields: MX-U.S. Borderlands History, Latin American History
- Minor Fields: World History
- Areas of Interest: Mobility, Environment, Technology, Digital Humanities

MA, History, Georgia Southern University (2008)

BA, History, Franciscan University of Steubenville (2005)

## **BOOK**

Routes of Compromise: Building Roads and Shaping the Nation in Mexico, 1917-1952. Part of the Mexican Experience Series, edited by William Beezley. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2017. Reviewed positively in *Hispanic American Historical Review*, *American Historical Review*, *Journal of Transport History*, *Journal of Social History*, *Pacific Historical Review*, *Canadian Journal of History*, *Americas*, and *Journal of Latin American Geography*.

## **FORTHCOMING/UNDER REVIEW PUBLICATIONS**

### *Forthcoming*

“Poniendo la historia en práctica: Archivomex, un proyecto 2.0 para integrar métodos históricos y ciencia de datos”, co-author, Juliette Levy, in *Realidad, Datos y Espacio: Revista Internacional de Estadística y Geografía*, INEGI. Forthcoming, May 2023.

### *Revise & Re-submit*

“Paved Over: At the Intersection of Urban Mobility, Class Politics, and the Limits of Power in Mexico City, 1920s-1960s.” Submitted to: *Journal of Urban History*. Peer reviewers recommended to re-submit with major revisions.

## **ARTICLES & BOOK CHAPTERS PUBLISHED (Peer reviewed)**

“Historia de las infraestructuras del transporte en América,” in *Historias conectadas de América del Norte*, Catherine Vézina and Maurice Demers, eds. Mexico City: Editorial CIDE, 2022.

“Steering Latin America’s Economic Relationship with the United States: A Hemispheric History of Highway Building,” in *Handbook of the Historiography of Latin American Studies on the Life Sciences and Medicine*, Ana Barahona, ed. Basel, CH: Springer Nature, 2021.

“Traffic Problems: Authority, Mobility, and Technology in Mexico’s Federal District, 1867-1912,” *The Americas*, Vol 78, 2 (April 2021): 259-278.

“Seguridad vial,” co-authored with Carla del Cueto, in *Términos clave para los estudios de movilidad en América Latina*, Dhan Zunino Singh, Guillermo Giucci Paola Jirón, eds. Buenos Aires: Editorial Biblos, 2018.

“At the intersection of mobility, transport, and the drug trade: Identifying ‘drug mobilities’,” co-authored with Froylan Enciso, *Journal of Transport History* Vol. 38, 1 (2017): published online first, August 16, 2017.

“On the Course of ‘Progress’: A Review of Literature on Road Building in Latin America,” *T2M: Mobility in History*, Vol. 8, (Winter 2017): 35-41.

“‘Neither Motorists nor Pedestrians Obey the Rules’: Transit Law, Public Safety, and the Policing of Northern Mexico’s Roads, 1920s-1950s,” *Journal of Transport History* 37, 2 (December, 2016): 155-174.

“Revolutionary Paths: Road Building, National Identity, and Foreign Power in Mexico, 1917-1938,” *Mexican Studies/Estudios Mexicanos*, Vol. 32, No. 1, (Winter 2016): 56-82.

“Routes of Conflict: Building Roads and Shaping the Nation in World War II and Postwar Mexico, 1941-1952,” *Journal of Transport History*, Vol. 35, No. 1, (June 2014): 78-96.

Winner of the 2013 John Scholes Transport History Research Essay Prize from the International Association for the History of Transit, Transportation, and Mobility.

“Pathways of the Golden Eagle: Themes of Mobility and Transport in Recent Scholarship of Mexico.” *T2M: Mobility in History*, Vol. 5, (Winter 2014): 121-126.

“Obreros in the Peach State: The Growth of Georgia’s Mexican Working-Class Community from a Transnational Perspective.” *Life and Labor in the New New South: Essays in Southern Labor History since 1950*, R. Zieger, ed. Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2012.

### **EDITED VOLUME**

*ISTOR 69* “Historias Ambientales,” co-edited with Raúl Pacheco-Vega, Mexico City: Editorial CIDE, Spring 2017.

### **ARTICLES & BOOK CHAPTERS PUBLISHED (Editorially reviewed)**

“Haciendo historia en equipo con MX.DIGITAL: un caso metodológico para las humanidades digitales y las estadísticas históricas de México,” *ISTOR*, Dossier sobre Enseñanza de la Historia e Historia Económica, Iliana Quintanar, ed. Mexico City: Editorial CIDE, Winter 2023.

“Historicizing and Contextualizing Mexico's Reaction to the Ukraine Crisis,” Special Report for the Association of Global South Studies, August 2022.

“Introducción al volumen sobre las historias ambientales,” co-authored with Raúl Pacheco-Vega, *ISTOR 69*, Editorial CIDE, Spring 2017.

“Conclusión al volumen sobre las historias ambientales,” co-authored with Raúl Pacheco-Vega, *ISTOR 69*, Editorial CIDE, Spring 2017.

“Moving About in Mexico City: Past and Present Reflections,” *T2M Newsletter*, October 2016.

### **GRANTS AWARDED**

Fondo Sectorial INEGI-CONACYT, grant in support of the digital history project, ARCHIVOMEX (2019-2021). Amount \$2,700,000 MXN (\$137,000 USD). **Project completed, final paperwork processing.**

Fondo de Apoyo de Investigación, Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas, grant in support of digitization of historical statistics and the development of a training workshop (Spring-Summer 2018). Amount: \$130,000 MXN (\$6,622 USD). **Completed.**

UC-MEXUS-CONACYT grant in support of the GIS project, *Visualizing Mexico: 100 Years of Interactive Maps* (2016-2017). Amount: \$24,890 USD. **Completed.**

## **PROJECTS UNDER DEVELOPMENT**

Co-PI, MX Digital (<https://mx.digital>), historical GIS & digital humanities project, developing interactive maps and applications with an online historical database (on-going).

Book Project, tentatively titled, “Not an Idle Place: Mobility, Technology, and Contested Spaces in México, DF, 1867-1982.”

Article Research: Political and Environmental History of Highway Building in Southern Veracruz, 1930s-1940s.

## **THESES DIRECTED OR READER (In progress & completed)**

Edgar Allan Lara Paredes, “El proceso de urbanización en la antigua región del Lago de Xochimilco (1960-2020),” PhD Candidate in Applied History, CIDE. Director. Status: In progress.

Eli Mayorga, “El anticomunismo y su influencia en la Cultura Pop representada en los cómics estadounidenses y mexicanos, apropiaciones y diferenciales en la Ciudad de México, 1965-1979,” PhD Candidate in History, UAM-Iztapalapa. External Reader. Status: In progress.

Alberto Díaz Ramírez, “Caminos e infraestructura carretera en el sur de California y Baja California, 1906-1956,” PhD in History, UABC-Tijuana. External Reader. Status: Completed, Spring 2023.

Eli Mayorga, “La propaganda informal anticomunista estadounidense durante la década de 1960: Los casos de Thor, Iron Man, the Hulk, Fantastic Four, and the Amazing Spider-Man, 1961-1966,” MA in International History, CIDE. Director. Completed, Summer 2020.

Diana Martínez, “Electrificación: Infraestructura de las compañías eléctricas en los estados de Hidalgo y Jalisco (1880 - 1916),” MA in International History, CIDE. Director. Completed, Summer 2020.

Rodrigo Callejas, “El anecdotismo en el *Amusement philosophique sur le langage des bêtes* de Guillaume-Hyacinthe Bougeant. Buscando narrativas históricas alternativas para la etología,” MA in International History, CIDE. Reader. Completed, Summer 2020.

Victor Gruel, “Al margen de la carretera transpeninsular: Turismo, agricultura y minería en Baja California y Baja California Sur durante el siglo XX,” PhD in History, Colegio de México. External Reader. Completed, Summer 2019.

Julián Camacho, “Palabras del otro lado: Las fronteras sociales de la gente decente en Laredo, Texas. El caso de Justo Cárdenas y su semanario el Demócrata Fronterizo, 1905-1913,” MA in International History, CIDE. Director. Completed, Summer 2018.

Alberto Díaz Ramírez, “La representación del *Old Mexico* en el turista estadounidense: en el sur de California y su relación con el distrito norte de la Baja California, 1888-1920,” MA in History, Universidad Autónoma de Baja California, Tijuana. External Reader. Completed, Spring 2018.

## **COURSES TAUGHT**

### At CIDE

Methods and Praxis in Applied History, online course (PhD level).

Global Environmental History, online course (PHD/MA level).

United States History, 1857-Present (undergraduate level).

Global History I w/ GIS workshop, online course with GIS workshop (undergraduate level).

Writing Seminar II, online course (MA level).

World History I w/ GIS workshop (undergraduate level).

World History I (undergraduate level).

Mexico in World History w/ GIS workshop, online course (undergraduate level).

History of Mexico w/ digital workshop (undergraduate level).

History of Mexico (undergraduate level).

### At Pan-American University

Analysis of Commercial Regions, hybrid course (upper division, undergraduate level).

Introduction to Economic Sciences w/digital workshop, in-person course (undergraduate level).

Introduction to Economic Sciences w/ digital workshop, online course (undergraduate level).

History of Economic Thought w/ digital workshop (undergraduate level).

Introduction to Economic Sciences (undergraduate level).

## **WORKSHOPS DELIVERED**

La enseñanza de la historia económica en tiempos de pandemia: Hacia una nueva cultura docente, StoryMaps and database management, CIDE, Mexico City, online, 26 October 2020.

Cómo aplicar StoryMaps en su pedagogía, taller de capacitación, CIDE, Mexico City, online, 8 June, 2020.

Taller de historia digital, XIV Jornadas Internacionales: Historia, Patrimonio y Frontera, Universidad Autónoma de Baja California, Tijuana, Instituto de Investigaciones Históricas, April 29, 2019.

From PDF to CSV: Translating the INEGI Historical Statistics into a Usable and Shareable Archive, with Maps. 90-minute session on using GIS and data management tools for historians, 133rd Meeting of the American Historical Association, Chicago, January 4, 2019.

Undergraduate History Lab (Fall 2018). Students in the History of Mexico course developed interactive, online exhibits based on primary sources from local archives, using ESRI StoryMaps, CIDE, Aguascalientes, November 7-30, 2018.

Introducción a Herramientas Geo-espaciales para Historiadores. Pilot program designed to instruct historians in the use of GIS and related tools, CIDE, Mexico City, April 12-14, 2018.

## **CONFERENCE PAPERS**

“Building digital tools and institutional frameworks for open-access sharing of Mexican historical data,” XIV International Meeting of Historians of Mexico, Austin, Texas, October 31, 2022.

“Highway Man: The Reign and Ruin of Ernesto P. Uruchurtu, 1952-1966,” RMLCAS 2021, virtual conference, March 18, 2021.

“Conflictos de calles. Comparativas históricas de la política de tránsito y la movilidad urbana en México, 1867-1952,” XIV Jornadas Internacionales: Historia, Patrimonio, Frontera, Universidad Autónoma de Baja California, Instituto de Investigaciones Históricas, April 30, 2019.

“The Politics of Mobility in Mexico City, 1867-1929,” 16th Conference of the International Association for the History of Transport, Traffic, and Mobility, Concordia University, Montreal, Canada, October 24, 2018.

“Locos de volante y gringos de viaje: Movilidad urbana y la modernidad en Monterrey, 1920-1955,” XV Reunión Internacional de Historiadores de México, Universidad de Guadalajara, October 20, 2018.

“Explorando la historia digital y del presente en el contexto fronterizo,” XIII Jornadas Internacionales: Historia, patrimonio y frontera UABC Tijuana, Instituto de Investigaciones Históricas, May 3, 2018.

- “Infrastructures of Desire: Transport Mobilities and Immobilities in the Mexican Drug Trade during the Twentieth Century,” 132nd Meeting of the American Historical Association, Washington DC, January 6, 2018.
- “Searching for New Trends in Mobility History: The Strategic Role of Blogging,” 15th Conference of the International Association for the History of Transport, Traffic, and Mobility, Lancaster University, United Kingdom, November 2, 2017.
- “Trade and Travel across the Border: Examining the Social, Commercial, and Labor Ties between Nuevo León and Texas, 1940s-1960s,” 2017 Congress of the Canadian Association of Latin American and Caribbean Studies, University of Guelph, Canada, June 4, 2017.
- “Turismo, seguridad y los ‘bad hombres.’ El problema del ‘otro’ en la historia de la movilidad entre México y Estados Unidos en el siglo XX,” 2017 XII Jornadas, Universidad Autónoma de Baja California, Tijuana, May 5, 2017.
- “Infraestructuras del deseo: movilidades e inmovilidades del transporte de la droga en México en el siglo XX,” Seminario sobre Política de Drogas en América Latina, Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas-Región Centro, Aguascalientes, Aguascalientes, Mexico, January 28, 2017.
- “‘It was ours, and it went as it arrived’: Historicizing the Rise and Demise of the Mexican National Railroad’s General Workshops, 1893-1996,” 14th Conference of the International Association for the History of Transport, Traffic, and Mobility, Mexico City, October 28, 2016.
- “Making and Breaking Promises to the People: Miguel Alemán's National Agenda for Caminos Vecinales in the 1940s and 1950s,” XXXIV International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association, New York, New York, May 30, 2016.
- “Los costos de la movilidad: una perspectiva histórica del gasto público y costos privados de las carreteras en México,” Jornadas de Historia Económica del Centro-Occidente, Asociación Mexicana de Historia Económica, Aguascalientes, Aguascalientes, Mexico, October 9, 2015.
- “Carrying Progress to All Parts of the Republic? Road Building and Access to Motor Transportation in Postrevolutionary Mexico,” XXXIII International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association, San Juan, Puerto Rico, May 27, 2015.
- “Get the Cows Off the Road! Public Safety, Right-of-Way, and the Creation of the Transit Police for Mexico’s Highways, 1936-1955,” 12th Conference of the International Association for the History of Transport, Traffic, and Mobility, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, US, September 20, 2014.

“The Fight for Access: Road Building, Legal Battles and the Environment in Post-Revolutionary Mexico, 1922-1938,” Organized panel titled, Infrastructure and Environment in Latin America and the Caribbean. Conference of Latin American History, American Historical Association Conference, Washington, DC, January 4, 2014.

“Conflict and Consensus on the Move: Modernity, Environment, and Agency in World War II and Postwar Mexico, 1941-1952,” 10th Conference of the International Association for the History of Transport, Traffic, and Mobility, Madrid, Spain, November 18, 2012.

"Building Across the Divide: Roads and Railroads along the U.S.-Mexico Border, 1880-1950," Western Historical Association Semi-Centennial Conference, Oakland, California, October 15, 2011.

“‘Good Roads, Strong Families’: A Study of Gender Representation in Road Building and Automobile Culture in Post-Revolutionary Mexico, 1925-1945,” Rocky Mountain Council on Latin American Studies Conference, Santa Fe, New Mexico, April 9, 2011.

“Carreteras Revolucionarias: Road Building and the Political Discourse in the State of Veracruz, 1938-1946,” XIII Reunión de Historiadores de México, Estados Unidos y Canadá, Querétaro, Mexico, October 30, 2010.

“The Economic and Social Relationship between Mexico and the State of Georgia in Recent Migration Trends, 1970-2000,” North American Studies Symposium, Escuela para Estudiantes Extranjeros, Universidad Veracruzana, Xalapa, Veracruz, Mexico, October 24, 2008.

“Transnational Trends, Regional Reflections: Mexican Immigration to the State of Georgia,” The Consortium for Latino Immigration Studies Conference, University of South Carolina at Columbia, October 11, 2007.

“Jobs, Family, Faith: Parallels between African-American Migration and Mexican Immigrant Communities in the United States after World War II,” Graduate Conference in Afro-American History, University of Memphis, September 13, 2007.

## **ROUNDTABLES & INVITED LECTURES**

“Roads Forge the Nation: Identity, Society, and Infrastructure in North America,” 2019 Carrigg Lecture, Franciscan University of Steubenville, March 27, 2019.

Book presentation for *Routes of Compromise*, given at the Edición 50 Feria del Libro, Aguascalientes, Mexico, October 1, 2018.

Book presentation for *Routes of Compromise*, given at the University of Texas at El Paso, March 30, 2018.



- “Trump's Long Shadow: Joseph McCarthy, Roy Cohn, Roger Stone and the Making of a Demagogue,” Special Lecture, Escola de Economia e Gestão, Universidade do Minho, Portugal, October 13, 2017.
- “Blogging en la frontera. Una conferencia sobre las humanidades digitales como una herramienta para diálogos académicos en la frontera México-Estados Unidos,” Keynote address, XII Jornadas, Universidad Autónoma de Baja California, Tijuana, May 4, 2017.
- “Blogging on Borders: A Roundtable on Digital Humanities as a Tool for Dialogue at the US-Mexico Line,” 131st Annual meeting of the American Historical Association, Denver, Colorado, January 5, 2017.
- “La elección en Estados Unidos y su impacto para México,” Roundtable, Universidad Panamericana, Aguascalientes, Mexico, November 8, 2016.
- “Working and Teaching Abroad: International SOAR Presentation.” Center for International Studies, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, Georgia, January 8, 2015.
- “Roundtable on the First World War.” Centenary for the First World War, División de Historia, Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas, Mexico City, October 16, 2014.
- “Transport and Mobility in North America.” Part of a class on the History of North America, División de Historia, Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas, September 2014.
- Railroads and Motorways in Modern Mexico.” Guest lecture, Borderlands History course, Department of History, Franklin and Marshall College, September 2014.
- “Conducting Archival Research in Mexico.” Department of History, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, Georgia, March 5, 2009.
- “Mexican Migration and Social Networks in Georgia.” Third Annual Latino Forum, Georgia Association of Latino Elected Officials, Gainesville, Georgia, February 20, 2009.
- “Why Mexican Workers Migrate to the United States.” Leadership Program on Diversity and Regionalism, Hilton Head Island-Bluffton Chamber of Commerce, Bluffton, SC, January 14, 2009.

## **BOOK REVIEWS**

Review of The Panama Railroad. By Peter Pyne. *Technology and Culture* Vol. 64, Num. 4, 2022.

Review of The Last Good Neighbor: Mexico in the Global Sixties. By Eric Zolov. *The Americas: A Quarterly Review of Latin American History*. 2021.

Review of Border Land, Border Water: A History of Construction on the U.S.-Mexico Divide. By C.J. Alvarez. *American Historical Review*. 2021.

Review of Imperial Metropolis: Los Angeles, Mexico, and the Borderlands of American Empire, 1865-1941. By Jessica Kim. *The Americas: A Quarterly Review of Latin American History*. 2021.

Review of Magazines, Tourism, and Nation-Building in Mexico. By Claire Lindsay. *Journal of Tourism History*. 2020.

Review of Latin American Textualities: History, Materiality and Digital Media. Edited by Heather J. Allen and Reynolds, Andrew R. Reynolds. *Bulletin of Latin American Research*. 2020.

Review of A City on a Lake: Urban Political Ecology and the Growth of Mexico City. By Matthew Vitz. *American Historical Review*. 2020.

Review of Latin American Textualities: History, Materiality and Digital Media. Edited by Heather J. Allen and Andrew R. Reynolds. *Bulletin of Latin American Research*. 2020.

Review of The U.S.-Mexico Transborder Region: Cultural Dynamics and Historical Interactions. Edited by Carlos G. Velez-Ibáñez and Josiah Heyman. *Bulletin of Latin American Research*. 2019.

Review of The Limits of Liberty: Mobility and the Making of the Eastern U.S.-Mexico Border. By John David Nichols. *Journal of Transport History*. 2019.

Review of Watering the Revolution: An Environmental and Technological History of Agrarian Reform in Mexico. By Mikael D. Wolfe. *The Americas: A Quarterly Review of Latin American History*. 2019.

Review of There and Back: Twelve of the Great Routes of Human History. By Steward Gordon. *History: Review of New Books*. 2019.

Review of The Pursuit of Ruins, Archaeology, History, and the Making of Modern Mexico. By Christina Bueno. *Middle Atlantic Review of Latin American Studies*. 2018.

Review of Roads: An Anthropology of Infrastructure and Expertise. By Penny Harvey and Hannah Knox. *Transfers*. 2018.

Review of Range Wars: The Environmental Contest for White Sands Missile Range. By Ryan H. Edgington. *West Texas Historical Review*. 2017.

## **JOURNALS & BOARDS**

Deputy Editor, *Journal of Transport History*, 2020 -

Associate Editor, *Journal of Transport History*, 2018 – 2019.

Appointed Member, Executive Board, T2M Association, 2018 – 2019.

### **PROFESSIONAL BLOGS**

Co-coordinator, *Ecos de la Historia* (<http://ecos.cide.edu>), official blog of the División de Historia, CIDE, 2019 - 2022

Managing contributor, *Borderlands History* (<https://borderlandshistory.org/>), 2012 – 2021.

Editor-in-chief, *Mobility in History Blog* (<https://t2m.org/publications/mobility-in-history-blog/>), official blog of the International Association for the History of Transport, Traffic, and Mobility, 2017 – 2019.

### **REFEREE FOR JOURNALS/PRESSES**

*Transfers*

*Journal of Transport History*

*Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Latin American History*

*Business History Review*

*KORPUS 21*

Editorial del Instituto de Investigaciones Dr. José María Luis Mora

### **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

Member, Academic Council, CIDE, 2020-2022

Committee Member, International History Master's Program, CIDE, 2014-2018; 2020-

Member, Curriculum committee, Public Policy BA Program, CIDE, 2020-2021

Speaker, student Recruitment Event, International History MA Program, CIDE, December 2017

Departmental representative, library committee, CIDE, 2017-2019

Speaker, *Jornadas CIDE*, annual campus student recruiting event, 2016-2019

Coordinator, Internal Seminar, CIDE-RC, Spring and Summer, 2016

Junior/Senior Seminar, Panel Judge, University of Texas at El Paso, 2011-2012

History Day, Judge, University of Texas at El Paso, 2010-2013

English Instructor, Telesecundaria, San Andrés Tlalnahuayocan, Veracruz, Fall 2008

History Day, Judge, Georgia Southern University, 2007-2008

### **GRADUATE ACADEMIC AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS**

Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation in Education and Humanities, University of Texas at El Paso (2013)

Diana Natalicio Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship, College of Graduate Studies, University of Texas at El Paso (Fall 2013)

Dissertation Writing Grant, College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences, University of Texas at El Paso (Summer 2013)

Dodson Dissertation Research Grant, College of Graduate Studies, University of Texas at El Paso (Spring 2012)

George A. Krutilek Memorial Graduate Fellow, College of Graduate Studies, University of Texas at El Paso (Fall 2011-Spring 2012)

North American Mobility Project Grant, Center for International Studies, Georgia Southern University (Fall 2008)

George A. Rodgers, Jr. Scholarship in History, Department of History, Georgia Southern University (Spring 2007)

### **MASTER'S THESIS**

“Across Imagined Boundaries: Understanding Mexican Migration to Georgia in a Transnational and Historical Context.” Department of History, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA (2008).

### **LANGUAGES**

English (native)

Spanish (fluent)

Portuguese (basic: reading)

French (basic: reading)

**CITIZENSHIP**

United States

Panama

**RESIDENCE**

Mexico