Modern Mexico and the Quincentenary of the Fall of México-Tenochtitlán (1521-2021)

For the past one hundred years, the Mexican state has gloried in its Indigenous past but has struggled to respect and integrate contemporary Indigenous peoples. This talk will analyze four episodes that highlight the fraught, complicated relationship between the Mexican state, Mexican society, and Mexico’s original peoples. It will try to explain why the state’s recent commemoration of the fall of México-Tenochtitlán pleased almost no one, least of all some Indigenous (and historians).