Professor Joy Porter Awarded Leverhulme Major Research Fellowship (GBP 155,473; MRF-2018-041)

Joy Porter, a Professor of Indigenous History, has been awarded a Major Research Fellowship by the Leverhulme Trust. She will explore the Nixon presidency and its remarkable environmental advances using Native American Indian Federal history as a lens. The Leverhulme Trust makes these awards to ‘enable well-established and distinguished researchers in the disciplines of the Humanities and Social Sciences to devote themselves to a single research project of outstanding originality and significance’. The Leverhulme Major Research Fellowship is widely considered the most prestigious personal research award given in the UK. The Fellowship will be for 36 months, commencing in September 2019.

This ambitious project, entitled ‘What Would Nixon Do?: The Forgotten Republican Roots of American Environmentalism’ will engage with conservative and Republican traditions at a critical moment in environmental history when conventional warnings are routinely dismissed by conservative voters as ‘fake news’. Commenting on this award, Professor Porter said: ‘Leverhulme Major Research Fellowships are an vitally important springboard for researchers in the humanities and social sciences that allow them to complete a substantial original piece of research with the potential to change how major issues are understood internationally. I am incredibly grateful to Leverhulme for this opportunity to produce an interdisciplinary book that it is hoped will influence a spectrum of interests currently conducting separate conversations.’

During the three years of the Fellowship, Professor Porter work with indigenous groups and travel to Alaska, California, New Mexico and Oklahoma. Professor Porter joins a notable cohort of scholars in the Department of History receiving Leverhulme awards in the last few years (Dr Amanda Capern (F, 2018), Dr C. Prior (F, 2017), Professor D. Crouch, MRF, 2015).

The Leverhulme Trust was established by the Will of William Hesketh Lever, the founder of Lever Brothers. For more information, please visit www.leverhulme.ac.uk and follow the Trust on Twitter @LeverhulmeTrust

For more about Professor Porter’s research and the work of the Treatied Spaces Research Cluster here: https://treatiedspaces.com/