



**INDIGENOUS &
NATIVE
AMERICAN
STUDIES
CIRCLE**

PROF. SARA GUENGERICH

**WEDNESDAY,
NOVEMBER 17, 2021, 12:00 NOON**

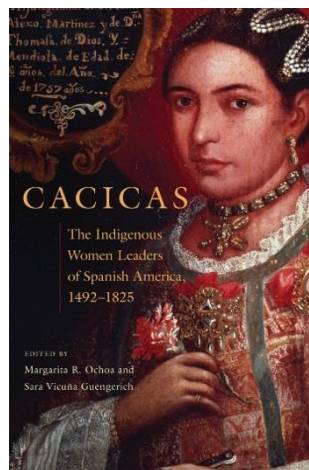
**“CACICAS. THE INDIGENOUS WOMEN LEADERS
OF SPANISH AMERICA, 1492-1825”**

BIO

Prof. Sara Guengerich
Associate Professor of
Colonial Spanish American
literature and history in the
Classical and Modern
Languages and Literatures
Department, and affiliated
faculty at the Women’s Studies
Program at Texas Tech
University.

I&NASC MISSION

- (1) To serve Native communities in our region;
- (2) To provide resources and a ‘home’ for our indigenous students; and
- (3) To become a place for the collaboration and exchange of scholarship and research about indigenous issues.



The term *cacica* had a range of meanings in Spanish America, from the female relatives of ruling caciques (native leaders) —or their destitute widows— to female governors or tribute collectors who owned sizeable property from the first years after contact to the early republican era. This explains the ubiquity of *cacicas* in the colonial archives and forces us to rethink the way we research and write women’s and Indigenous histories.

This talk will provide an overview of the main contributions of this edited collection focusing on the methodologies used to decolonize the archive. By challenging imposed chronologies and assessing the production of a historical narrative that conveniently conceals individual narratives, this volume expands our understanding of how women and Indigenous communities responded to colonial governance.

Cacicas. The Indigenous Women Leaders of Spanish America, 1492-1825, with Margarita R. Ochoa, eds. (University of Oklahoma Press 2021).

ZOOM WEBINAR REGISTRATION LINK

[Go here to register for the event.](#)

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