

**Complementary History and Philosophy of Science: Histories of Archaeology In and For Practice**  
Coffa Lecture, 9 April 2020

Archaeology hasn't been much studied by professional historians of science – at least compared to neighboring fields – and when it is discussed, its formation as a field is of secondary interest. It's considered in relation to other more well-studied fields, or as a context in which the politics and ideology of modernity, colonial and settler states, nationalism play out. By contrast, archaeologists have been prodigious historians of their own field, and they put their internal histories to work in a number of consequential ways. It is these internal histories that concern me here; I see in them examples of history-at-work that exemplify and expand upon what Hasok Chang describes, in *Inventing Temperature* (2007), as complementary science: "history and philosophy of science as a continuation of science by other means. My aim in this talk is to identify the various ways in which HPS undertaken by practitioners informs the doing of archaeology, expanding upon Chang's account, and to draw out the implications for our own practice as historians and philosophers of science.

**Alison Wylie**, Canada Research Chair in Philosophy of the Social and Historical Sciences and Professor of Philosophy at the University of British Columbia. She is primarily concerned with questions about how we know what (we think) we know in fields like archaeology that operate under non-ideal circumstances. She asks, for example: "what counts as evidence?"; "are ideals of objectivity viable given the role that values and interests in inquiry?"; and "how do we make research accountable – in its aims and its practice – to the diverse communities it affects?". Recent publications include *Evidential Reasoning in Archaeology* (2016) and *Material Evidence* (2015), with Bob Chapman; articles on "Collaborative Archaeology in Global Dialogue" (*Archaeologies* 2019), "What Knowers Know Well" (*Scientiae Studia*, 2017), "How Archaeological Evidence Bites Back" (*STHV* 2017), and her 2012 APA Presidential Address on feminist standpoint theory. She is a past President of the American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division (2011-2012), and is current President of the Philosophy of Science Association.