



**Midwest Archaeological Conference, Inc.
Indianapolis, 2017**



Guest Speaker

**Saturday
October 21, 2017
7:00 PM**

Dr. Barbara Mills

Professor of Anthropology and American Indian Studies, School of Anthropology, University of Arizona; Curator of Archaeology, Arizona State Museum

Social Network Approaches to Pre-Hispanic North American Migration and Coalescence

Late pre-Hispanic societies in many areas of North America went through dynamic cycles of migration, aggregation, and coalescence. In the Southwest these resulted in some of the well-known social formations that we call Chaco, Mesa Verde, Kayenta, Hohokam, Rio Grande, Zuni, and Hopi. Some of these persisted, but others did not, resulting in additional episodes of migration and coalescence. Tracking social changes over large areas that includes hinterlands as well as these denser and more iconic historical trajectories has been enhanced by large-scale regional data collection and interpretation through social network analysis. In this presentation I summarize and discuss the advantages of such a relational approach to the Southwest and how it complements traditional ways of looking at interaction through provenance analysis focusing on two case studies: (1) the rise and fragmentation of the Chaco World, A.D. 800-1200; and (2) the migration and reorganization of Southwest societies from A.D. 1200-1550.