

# Confronting a History of Grave Robbing & Looting: Repatriation as Restorative Justice

**Dr. Holly Cusack-McVeigh**

**Thurs., April 20<sup>th</sup>**

**4 p.m. in Anspach 161**

Dr. Cusack-McVeigh, Associate Professor of Anthropology and Museum Studies at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, will discuss repatriation as a human rights issue and form of social justice that pushes back on a history of colonization.

Indigenous heritage has long been the focus of scientific study, but also the target of looting and grave robbing for sport for even longer. In November 2013, the Indianapolis Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the FBI's Art Crime Team launched a complex, multi-year criminal investigation that set the stage for what has become the FBI's largest single recovery of Native American ancestral remains, cultural objects, and foreign artifacts to date.

This case highlights the painful legacy of looting and grave robbing – one that continues to be felt in contemporary communities today.



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