

Russell K. Skowronek (Ph.D. Michigan State University), since 2017 has held the Houston Endowment Chair for Civic Engagement and is Professor of Anthropology and History at the University of Texas-Rio Grande Valley. He also serves as Associate Dean for Faculty Research and Diversity in the College of Liberal Arts and is the founding Director of the Community Historical Archaeology Project with Schools. He is the recipient of the 2015 **Norman Neuerburg Award**, from the California Mission Studies Association and The University of Texas System Regents' Outstanding Teaching Award (2014). Skowronek specializes in the study of the Spanish colonial world.

He is the author or editor of several books including *Blue and Gray on the Rio Grande, The Rio Grande Valley Civil War Trail, 1846-1876* (2018), and *War and Peace on the Rio Grande, 1846-1876* (2019) with Texas A&M University Press *Pieces of Eight, More Archaeology of Piracy* (2016), *Ceramic Production in Early Hispanic California, Craft, Economy and Trade on the Frontier of New Spain* (2014), *X Marks the Spot, the Archaeology of Piracy* (with Charles Ewen-2006), *HMS Fowey Lost...And Found* (with George Fischer-2009), *Beneath the Ivory Tower, the Archaeology of Academia* (with Kenneth Lewis-2010), all with the University Press of Florida, and *Situating Mission Santa Clara de Asís:1776-1851, Documentary and Material Evidence of Life on the Alta California Frontier* with the Academy of American Franciscan History (2006).

He is currently working on two book manuscripts for the University Press of Florida with colleagues from UTRGV and East Carolina University. Their working titles are- *Dead Man's Chest, Even More Archaeology of Piracy* and *From Campo to Cocina To Father Viader's Table, Foods and Foodways on the Alta California Frontier*.