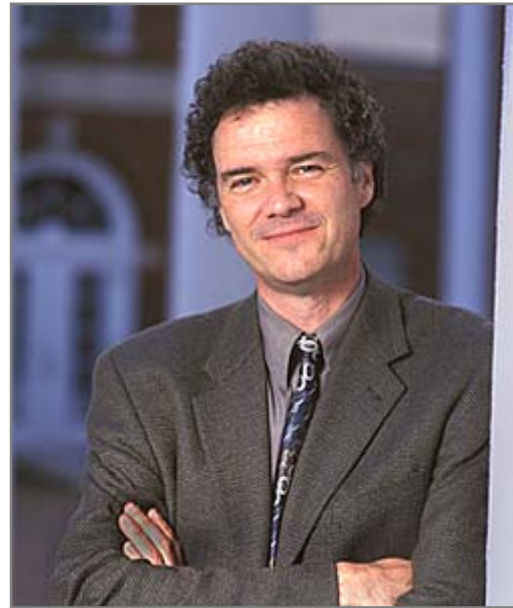


## Keynote Speech

### Dr. Edward Ayers

Dr. Ayers holds a Ph.D. degree in American Studies from Yale University. After Dr. Ayers served as the Dean of College and Graduate school of Arts and Sciences at the University of Virginia, he has been the president of the University of Richmond in the state of Virginia in the United States since 2007. As a historian of the American South, Dr. Ayers has written and edited ten books. *The Promise of the New South: Life After Reconstruction* was a finalist for both the National Book Award and the Pulitzer Prize. *In the Presence of Mine Enemies: Civil War in the Heart of America* won the Bancroft Prize for distinguished writing in American history and the Beveridge Prize for the best book in English on the history of the Americas since 1492. As a pioneer in digital history, Dr. Ayers created *The Valley of the Shadow: Two Communities in the American Civil War*, a Web site that has attracted millions of users and won major prizes in the teaching of history. Dr. Ayers has received a presidential appointment to the National Council on the Humanities in the United States, served as a Fulbright professor in the Netherlands, and been elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.




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## *Abstract*

### **Space, Place, and Time: Mapping Historical Changes**

The emerging global digital environment holds out exciting new opportunities for geographic understanding. The shared space of the Web permits broad audiences to explore complex representations of change from multiple perspectives and degrees of scale. New tools permits us, moreover, to represent complex social change unfolding over large spaces and long periods of time. It is now possible as well to integrate analytical representations of space with more humanistic understanding of individual places. To demonstrate some of these possibilities, this talk will present dynamic maps of change in the United States over several centuries and will discuss the challenges and opportunities those maps present.