

Center Hosts Mormons and American Life Conference at IUPUI

Six panelists discussed “Mormons and American Life” at a recent public conference hosted by the Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture and held at IUPUI’s new Campus Center on April 12.



Jan Shippo

Jan Shippo, Professor Emerita of History and Religious Studies, IUPUI, and noted Mormon scholar, was joined by Kathleen Flake, Associate Professor of American Religion, Vanderbilt University; William Deverell, Professor of History at the University of Southern California and Director of the Huntington-USC Institute on California and the West; J. Spencer Fluhman, Assistant Professor of Church History and Doctrine, Brigham Young University; Sarah Barringer Gordon, Professor of Law and History at the University of Pennsylvania; and Kathryn Daynes, Associate Professor of History, Brigham Young University.

An audience comprised of members of both the academic and local communities was addressed first by Shippo. Her talk, entitled “Reality History: Chronicling Convert Expectations and What Mormonism Delivered,” discussed how, at key points across time, Mormon missionaries emphasized different parts of the Mormon gospel. The session looked at

several of those key points, surveying what the people who joined the Mormon movement thought they were joining and comparing those expectations to the actuality converts found when they “gathered” with the LDS community in Kirtland, Nauvoo, the Kingdom in the “tops of the mountains” and, as in the past half-century, when they became members of local Mormon wards.

The second session, “Unmasking the American Religion: Early Anti-Mormonism and the Problem of Pluralism,” led by Spencer Fluhman, traced the ways antagonists decried early Mormonism. Employing a variety of public and private sources, Fluhman contended that their critiques tell us much about changing perceptions of religion’s relationship to the Republic.



L to R, Spencer Fluhman, William Deverell, Sarah Gordon, Kathryn Daynes, and Kathleen Flake

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Scholars visit Center

Over the past year, a number of significant scholars came to meet with Research Fellows of the Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture, and in September 2008, the Center will bring Grant Wacker to IUPUI.

On March 29, 2007, Mark Noll, the Francis A. McAnaney Professor of History at the University of Notre Dame, visited IUPUI to deliver the Thomas H. Lake Lecture on Faith and Giving. The following morning, Noll met with a group of the Center's Research Fellows for further conversation on the topic of his lecture, "The Logic of Evangelicalism and the Challenges of Philanthropy."

Harry S. Stout, Jonathan Edwards Professor of History of Christianity at Yale University, spoke on April 6th about his new book, *Upon the Altar of the Nation: A Moral History of the Civil War* (Penguin Books, 2006), and the next day met with a group of the Center's Fellows to further discuss his work on religion and war.

On February 21, 2008, Sylvester Johnson delivered a lecture to a group of Center Fellows and other academics entitled, "Black Ethnicity, Governmentality, and African American Religions in the Early Twentieth Century." Johnson is Assistant Professor of Re-

ligious Studies at IU-Bloomington. His first book, *The Myth of Ham in Nineteenth-Century American Christianity*, won the prestigious "Best First Book in the History of Religions" award from the American Academy of Religion.

Amanda Porterfield, the Robert A. Spivey Professor of Religious Studies at Florida State University, and a seminar leader for the 2007-2009 group of Young Scholars in American Religion, also spoke to a group comprised of Center Fellows and other interested academics. Her lecture was entitled "Religious Pluralism in the Study of American Religion."

Finally, on September 12, 2008, Grant Wacker will deliver a lecture entitled "Exporting the Soul of Dixie: Billy Graham and the Expansion of Southern Culture." Wacker is Professor of Church History at Duke University Divinity School and incoming president of the American Society of Church History.



Grant Wacker will speak at IUPUI in September

Mormons and American Life Conference *(continued from page 1)*

Kathleen Flake led the next session entitled “Early American Priests and Priestesses: Gendered Office, Council, and Kinship in Early Mormonism.” Seeking to answer the question of how a movement that purposefully set about making every member a prophet and prophetess sustained order and secured the cooperation of thousands, Flake explored how Joseph Smith avoided the atomizing of his movement into a thousand prophet-led pieces. She paid particular attention to Smith’s integration of women into the simultaneously liberating and constraining offices, councils, and familial kinships of the early Mormon church.



William Deverell

Following a break for lunch, William Deverell led a session entitled “West of Deseret: California, Mormonism, and the Coming of the Civil War.” Deverell looked at the national and regional controversies over Mormonism in the far West in the midst of rising sectional antagonism in the late 1850s, as pro-slavery sympathizers in the South “played the Mormon card” in their attempts to divert attention from slavery and discredit abolitionists. Meanwhile, said Deverell, in the West, fears of Mormon territorial, theocratic, and economic expansion fueled debates about the future of California and that new state’s relationship to the Great Basin and Deseret.

The fifth and last session of the conference, “Convictions, Prosecutors, Defendants, and Marriage(s) in Territorial Utah,” was led by Sarah Barringer Gordon and Kathryn Daynes. It explored the surprising and previously unknown course of criminal law in the mid-1880s, revealing how prosecutors and judges attempted to craft a compromise in the “raid” against Mormon

polygamists. This session showed how, over the course of multiple trials and appeals, Mormon defendant Joseph Clark of Provo first made new law, and then endured its undoing at the hands of the Utah Supreme Court—a process that widened the gap between the Mormons and federal officials in other important cases and convinced the Saints that they had once again been the victims of double dealing.

There was plenty of time for lively discussion, as each of the speakers took questions for thirty minutes after their talks. The conference concluded with the panelists discussing their individual topics within more recent contexts of Mormonism. A “town hall” meeting ensued, during which a conversation took place among the panelists and the audience.



A member of the audience poses a question to one of the panelists

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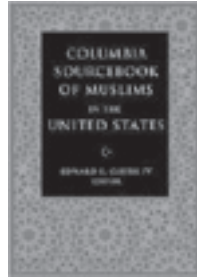
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All manuscript submissions, four copies of each typescript, should conform to the *Chicago Manual of Style*. Typescripts should be 25-35 pages.

Fellows' Recent Publications

Books

Curtis, Edward E. IV, Editor, *Columbia Sourcebook of Muslims in the United States*. Columbia University Press, 2008.



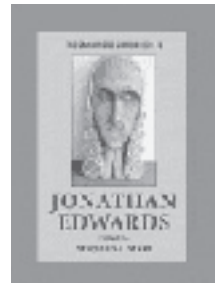
Robertson, Nancy Marie, *Christian Sisterhood, Race Relations, and the YWCA, 1906-46*. University of Illinois Press, 2007.



Dichtl, John R., *Frontiers of Faith: Bringing Catholicism to the West in the Early Republic*. The University Press of Kentucky, 2008.



Stein, Stephen J., Editor, *The Cambridge Companion to Jonathan Edwards*. Cambridge University Press, 2007.



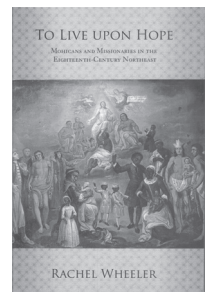
Gunderman, Richard, *We Make a Life By What We Give*. Indiana University Press, forthcoming.



Kennedy, Sheila Suess, *God and Country: America in Red and Blue*. Baylor University Press, 2007.



Wheeler, Rachel, *To Live Upon Hope: Mohicans and Missionaries in the Eighteenth-Century Northeast*. Cornell University Press, 2008.



Goff, Philip, with Paul Harvey, *The Columbia Documentary History of Religion in America Since 1945*. Columbia University Press, 2005; paperback 2007.



Mirola, William, *Religion and Social Class in America: Culture, History and Politics* (co-edited with Sean McCloud). Brill Publishers, Inc., forthcoming.

Articles

Curtis, Edward E. IV, "Islamism and Its African American Muslim Critics: Black Muslims in the Era of the Arab Cold War," *American Quarterly*, 59.3 (September 2007): 693-719.

Laura Littlepage, James Perry, **Philip Goff**, and Jeffrey Brudney, "Exemplary Volunteers: What is the Role of Faith?," *The International Journal of Volunteer Administration*, 24(5), 2007: 13-25.

Laura Littlepage, **James Perry**, Jeffrey Brudney, and Philip Goff, "Exemplary Volunteers: What Is the Role of Faith?" *The International Journal of Volunteer Administration*, 24(5), 2007: 13-25.

Fellows' Recent Publications

Stein, Stephen J., "Historical Reflections on Mormon Futures," The Tanner Lecture. *Journal of Mormon History*, 33, no. 1 (Spring 2007): 39-64.

Stein, Stephen J., "Gender and Authority: Women in Shaker History," in *Rivista di Storia del Cristianesimo*, Anno IV, no. 2 (Dec. 2007), 395-410.

Wittberg, Patricia, "Emerging Religious Communities and Lay Movements." *Horizon* 32(3): 4-9, 2007.

Yang, Fenggang, "Has the Shaolin Temple Secularized?" (in Chinese). *Henan Social Sciences Journal (Zhengzhou)*, No. 3 (Summer): 17-20. This article was reprinted by a very prestigious and influential journal in China, *Xinhua Wenzhai (Xinhua Digest)* (19): 115-117.

Yang, Fenggang, "Conducting Fieldwork Research on Religion in China: Methodological Reflections" (in Chinese). *Daofeng: Hanyu Jidujiao Shenxue Pinglun (Logos and Pneuma: Chinese Journal of Theology)* (Hong Kong), No. 26: 73-92.

Yang, Fenggang, "The Red, Black, and Gray Markets of Religion in China." *Sociological Quarterly* 47: 93-122.

Yang, Fenggang and Joseph Tamney, "Exploring Mass Conversion to Christianity Among the Chinese: An Introduction." *Sociology of Religion: A Quarterly Review* 67(2):125-129.

Wang, Yuting, **Fenggang Yang**, "More Than Evangelical and Ethnic: The Ecological Factor in Chinese Conversion to Christianity in the United States." *Sociology of Religion: A Quarterly Review* 67(2):179-192

Farnsley, Arthur E. II, "Congregations Resurgent," with N.J. Demerath III, in *The Sage Handbook of the Sociology of Religion*, ed. James Beckford and N.J. Demerath III. Sage Press, 2007.

Lofton, Kathryn, "Fundamentalism," in *Encyclopedia of Sex and Gender*, ed. Fedwa Malti-Douglas. Detroit: Macmillan Reference USA, 2007.

Ringenberg, William, "Kirchliche Hochschulen in Nordamerika" (Church-Related Higher Education in North America) in *Die Religion in Geschichte und Gegenwart, Vierte Auflage* (Tubingen, Germany: Mohr Siebeck Publishing House, 2007). This work will also be published in an English edition as *Religion in Past and Present* (Leiden, The Netherlands: Brill Academic Publishers, 2007-2111).

Stein, Stephen J., "Edwards as Biblical Exegete," in *The Cambridge Companion to Jonathan Edwards*, ed. Stephen J. Stein, 181-195. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2007.

Wittberg, Patricia, "Orders and Schisms on the Sacred Periphery," in *The Sage Handbook of the Sociology of Religion*, ed. James Beckford and N.J. Demerath III. Sage Press, 2007.

Wittberg, Patricia, "Emerging Religious Communities in the United States, 2006." With the Center for Applied Research on the Apostolate, Georgetown University, Washington, DC, 2007.

Reviews

Brown, Candy, *Culture and Redemption: Religion, the Secular, and American Literature*, by Tracy Fessenden. *Church History* (Dec. 2007): 896-897.

Brown, Candy, *Rolling Away the Stone: Mary Baker Eddy's Challenge to Materialism*, by Stephen Gottschalk. *Indiana Magazine of History* (Dec. 2007): 451-452.

Davis, Thomas J., *Face to Face: Portraits of the Divine in Early Christianity*, by Robin Margaret Jensen. *Church History* 76, no. 2 (Summer 2007): 401-403.

Ringenberg, William, *Butler University: A Sesquicentennial History*, by George Waller. *Indiana Magazine of History* (Dec. 2007).

Ringenberg, William, *Universitas and Moral Excellence*, by D. Ray Hostetter. *Brethren in Christian History and Life*, (Dec., 2007).

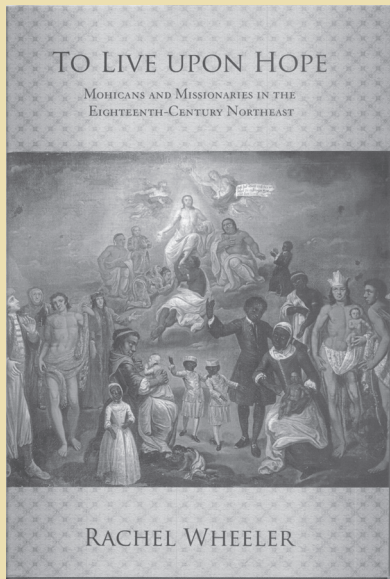
Book Chapters and other publications

Brown, Candy, "Religious Periodicals and Their Textual Communities," in *A History of the Book in America, vol. 3, The Industrial Book, 1840-1880*, ed. Scott Casper, Jeff Groves, Stephen Nissenbaum, and Michael Winship, 270-278. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press & AAS, 2007. (Volume awarded the St. Louis Mercantile Library Prize in Bibliography.)

Brown, Candy, "William Branham," "John Alexander Dowie," "Healing and Revivals," "Kathryn Kuhlman," "Francis MacNutt," "Sanctification and Revivals," "Maria Woodworth-Etter," in *Encyclopedia of Religious Revivals in America*, ed. Michael J. McClymond, 60-62, 144-145, 201-204, 235-236, 249-250, 382-384, 471-472. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 2007.

Farnsley, Arthur E. II, "Faith-based Initiatives," in *The Sage Handbook of the Sociology of Religion*, ed. James Beckford and N.J. Demerath III. Sage Press, 2007.





"Rachel Wheeler's *To Live upon Hope* is simply superb. It is an informed ethnographic report on Native American religion, a sophisticated comparative study of Congregationalist and Moravian missionary practices, a major contribution to the pluralization of colonial American studies, a thoughtful reflection on the failures of the Revolution to reach Indian communities, and a rich source of intensely poignant biographical narratives. It should satisfy readers with a wide variety of historical interests."

—Mark Noll, Francis A. McAnaney Professor of History, University of Notre Dame

"*To Live upon Hope* will affect the way American religious history is taught. Rachel Wheeler shows how Christianity provided a language for coping with the suffering brought about by colonization. Christianity also offered ritual practices that preserved aspects of an indigenous worldview while accounting for new kinds of violence and destruction. Readers will appreciate this book's analysis of religious emotion and its far-reaching implications."

—Amanda Porterfield, Robert A. Spivey Professor of Religion, Florida State University

JAH leads journals into new media

In December 2007 the *Journal of American History* published a special issue, "Through the Eye of Katrina: The Past as Prologue?" It was the product of a project begun shortly after I assumed responsibilities as editor in August 2005. Working with Lawrence N. Powell (Tulane University) and Clarence L. Mohr (University of South Alabama) the *JAH* published nineteen four-thousand word essays, along with Powell's keynote lecture, "What Does American History Tell Us about Katrina and Vice Versa?" delivered at a March 7-10, 2007, conference that brought almost all the participants together in a public forum. Powell's keynote was also televised by C-Span. We introduced the special issue to readers in this manner: "The essays range widely. Chronologically, they touch on events from the building of the first Mississippi River levees in the early eighteenth century to the use of tattoos as expressions of civic identity in post-Katrina New Orleans. Topically, they encompass urban, environmental, architectural, and musical history, as well as analyses of politics in three centuries and of carnival as a shaper of world views."

In addition to the print issue, we created in-house an ambitious companion online project, available to anyone with Internet access, featuring "explanatory essays that address themes of race, the environment, tourism, and musical and visual culture. Several interactive graphic elements—including historical and modern maps—enhance understanding of changes in New Orleans before, during, and after Katrina." ("Previews," *JAH*, Dec. 2007, p. 692).

This special issue has attracted a good deal of attention. The *Chronicle of Higher Education*'s "Hot Type" column, "History Written in the Blink of an Eye," which appeared in its February 8,

2008, issue was devoted to it. On February 6, 2008, *Insidehighered.com* featured a story about the *JAH* issue: "Blue Skies Ahead?" Both Indiana University and Tulane University published full-page news releases about the special issue. In his "Edge of the American West" blog, Ari Kelman of the University of California, Davis, observed that since he was one of the authors, it would not be appropriate for him to comment on content. However, he wrote, "I'm very pleased that the *Journal*, in this instance, decided to throw open its covers to the public. I think, because I took no part in this decision and therefore can take no credit for it, that it's also okay for me to say that I laud the *JAH* for trying to do something avant garde here, at least by the standards of my discipline: using links and enhanced art to add value to the online version. . . . This strikes me as a very early blueprint for how journals might consider using the web to encourage historians to embrace a new article form, one that's simultaneously serious in its scholarly intent and also more engaged with the public." Kelman hopes that the "*JAH* is thinking about this as a first step toward updating the journal, making it more accessible for lay readers and more engaged with the vast source base already available online. . . . It may be that the *JAH* has provided us with a map. I hope so."

Edward T. Linenthal
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and Editor, *Journal of American History*
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Young Scholars in American Religion

The Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture at IUPUI announces a program for early career scholars in American Religion. Beginning in April 2009, a series of seminars devoted to the enhancement of teaching and research for younger scholars in American Religion will be offered in Indianapolis. The aims of all sessions of the program are to develop ideas and methods of instruction in a supportive workshop environment, stimulate scholarly research and writing, and create a community of scholars that will continue into the future.

Dates: Session I: April 2-5, 2009
 Session II: October 15-18, 2009
 Session III: April 15-18, 2010
 Session IV: October 14-17, 2010
 Session V: April 28-May 1, 2011

Seminar Leaders:

W. Clark Gilpin is the Margaret E. Burton Distinguished Service Professor of the History of Christianity and Theology in the University of Chicago Divinity School. He is a historian of Christianity who studies the cultural history of theology in England and America since the seventeenth century. Among his works is an intellectual biography of Roger Williams, the seventeenth-century advocate of religious liberty. A more recent book, *A Preface to Theology*, examines the history of American theological scholarship in terms of the theologian's responsibilities to a three-fold public in the churches, the academic community, and civil society.

Tracy Fessenden is Associate Professor of Religious Studies at Arizona State University, specializing in western religious traditions, religion and literature, and American religious and cultural history. Her recent work focuses on religion, race, gender, and sexuality in American cultural history, on the relationship between religion and the secular in American public life, and on questions of religion and violence. She is author, most recently, of *Culture and Redemption: Religion, the Secular, and American Literature*.

Eligibility: Scholars eligible to apply are those who have launched their careers within the last seven years and who are working in a subfield of the area of religion in North America, broadly understood. Ten scholars will be selected, with the understanding that they will commit to the program for all dates. Each participant will be expected to produce a course syllabus, with justification of teaching approach, and a publishable research article. All costs for transportation, lodging, and meals for the seminars will be covered, and there is no application fee.

To Apply: Applicants must submit a curriculum vitae with three letters of reference directly supporting their application to the program (do not send portfolios with generic reference letters) as well as a 500-word essay indicating 1) why they are interested in participating, and 2) their current and projected research and teaching interests. The deadline for applications is 15 October 2008. Essays, CVs, and letters of reference should be sent to:

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