The UVU Religious Studies Program presents the tenth Annual Mormon Studies Conference

Outmigration and the Mormon Quest for Education

November 5th – 6th, 2009
Library Lecture Hall
Utah Valley University

Conference Description

In 2009, the PEW Forum’s “Portrait of Mormons in the U.S.” determined that Mormons are “significantly more likely than the population overall” to seek a college education. Since Joseph Smith created the School of the Prophets in Kirtland, Ohio, the Church has called members to “seek learning, even by study and also by faith.”

In the twentieth century, a significant force in Mormon outmigration from Utah was the quest for opportunities in higher education. As Latter-day Saints enrolled in universities such as the University of Chicago, Harvard, Stanford, NYU, and George Washington University, they helped to reshape Mormon culture in these communities. Their professional pursuits in business, law, politics, and academia also contributed to the changing perceptions of Mormons by outsiders.

This two-day conference will reflect on the experience of these migrants as they sought to develop themselves and advance the cause of Mormonism through their studies at prestigious colleges and universities. A variety of outmigrants, their biographers, and Mormon studies scholars will join together to discuss this phenomenon and its connection to broader questions in the Mormon quest for education. Pertinent questions for discussion include: How has Mormon society been affected and reshaped by outmigration? In what ways have these migrants contributed to social institutions in the United States? What challenges are present as Mormons pursue secular education while maintaining their status as a “peculiar people”?

The conference is a joint effort between UVU’s Religious Studies Program and Marian and Wesley Johnson, whose research included over six hundred interviews in twenty-one cities across the county.

For more information
Brian Birch at brian.birch@uvu.edu, (801) 863-8759 or
Boyd Petersen at boyd.petersen@uvu.edu, (801) 863-6181

all sessions are free and open to the public (seating is limited)
Schedule of Events

Thursday, November 5
UVU Library Lecture Hall

Opening Remarks
Brian D. Birch
Director, Religious Studies Program, UVU

8:30 – 9:45 a.m.
"The Significance of the Outmigration for Interpreting Modern Mormon History"
G. Wesley Johnson
co-director of the Outmigration Project

"The Unsung Role of Women in the Outmigration"
Marian A. Johnson
co-director of the Outmigration Project

10:00 – 11:15 a.m.
Keynote Address
"From West to East and Back and Back"
Grethe Ballif Peterson
former Director, Tanner Lectures on Human Values
Chase Nebeker Peterson
President Emeritus, University of Utah

11:30 – 12:45 p.m.
Panel Discussion
"From Utah to Cornell: One Family's Adventure"
Ned C. Hill
National Advisory Council Professor of Finance, Brigham Young University
Claralyn Hill
attorney and founding president of the Women Lawyers of Utah County

"Traces of Harvard and Berkeley in a Career of BYU Religious Research"
Richard Lloyd Anderson
Professor Emeritus of Ancient Scripture, Brigham Young University

1:00 – 2:15 p.m.
"Zion is Fled': Reflections on the Mormon Diaspora of the Mid-Twentieth Century."
Armand L. Mauss
Visiting Scholar, School of Religion, Claremont Graduate University

Thursday, November 5 (cont')
UVU Library Lecture Hall

2:30 – 3:45 p.m.
"J. Reuben Clark: Utah's Diplomatic Outmigrant"
D. Michael Quinn
Independent Historian

"Harvey Fletcher: An Early Outmigrant From Utah"
Robert C. Fletcher
Retired Executive Director, Bell Laboratories

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Thursday Evening Sessions
Brigham Young University Library

7:00 p.m.
Reception
L. Tom Perry Special Collections
Announcement of the donation of the Outmigration Project to the L. Tom Perry Special Collections Library by Marian and G. Wesley Johnson
John Murphy, Curator
Recognition of JoAnn Hickman
wife of Martin B. Hickman, former dean of the College of Family, Home, and Social Sciences, BYU

John W. Welch
Robert K. Thomas University Professor of Law, BYU
Ned C. Hill
former dean, Marriott School, BYU

8:00 p.m.
Lecture
(Library Lecture Hall)
"My Belief in a Living God Perfectly Accords With My Reverence for Science: Mormon Outmigration and the Academy"
Brian Cannon
Director, Charles Redd Center for Western Studies, Brigham Young University
Schedule of Events

Friday, November 6
UVU Library Lecture Hall

9:00 – 9:50 a.m.
“The Perpetual Education Fund:
Building Zion Away from the Center”
John K. Carmack
Managing Director of the Perpetual Education
Fund, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

10:00 – 10:50 a.m.
Keynote Address
“A Profile of the Latter-day Saints Educated Elite”
Jan Shipps
Professor Emeritus of Religious Studies and History
Indiana University-Purdue University, Indianapolis

Liane Brummett
Research Associate for Jan Shipps on the
“Mormonism Since World World II Project”

11:00 – 11:50 a.m.
“In the Lion’s Den: Creative Problem Solving in
Challenging Situations”
Mark W. Cannon
Former Administrative Assistant/Counselor to
Chief Justice Warren E. Burger

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The Outmigration Project
L. Tom Perry Special Collections Library, Brigham Young University

Friday, November 6
(continued)

12:00 – 12:50 p.m.
Brownbag Panel Discussion
Secular Knowledge and Religious Faith
Lisa Lambert
Director of Student Success
UV Mentor Program, UVU

J. Bonner Ritchie
Scholar in Residence, UVU

Blair Van Dyke
Orem Institute of Religion and UVU International
Advisory Committee

Thomas Merrill
Political Science major, UVU

Moderated by
Brian Birch
Director, Religious Studies Program, UVU

1:00 – 1:50 p.m.
“The Legacy of Reed Smoot: Mormons at George
Washington University”
James Holtkamp
Law Firm of Holland & Hart

“Best Books and Teachers:
The Power of a Broad Search”
Matthew S. Holland
President, Utah Valley University

2:00 – 2:50 p.m.
“Hugh Nibley and the ‘Immigration’ of Mormon
Education”
Boyd J. Petersen
Program Coordinator for Mormon Studies, UVU
Presenters

RICHARD LLOYD ANDERSON is professor emeritus of ancient scripture at Brigham Young University where he also served as senior research fellow at the Joseph Fielding Smith Institute for Latter-day Saint History. He is author of Understanding Paul, Joseph Smith’s New England Heritage and Investigating the Book of Mormon Witnesses and a research and review editor at the Joseph Smith Papers Project.

BRIAN CANNON is associate professor of history and director of the Charles Redd Center for Western Studies at Brigham Young University. He is author of Remaking the Agrarian Dream: New Deal Rural Resettlement in the Mountain West.

MARK CANNON received a Ph.D. in Political Economy and Government from Harvard University and served in all three branches of the United States government before his retirement. He was the first occupant of the new statutory position of Administrative Assistant/Counselor to the Chief Justice of the United States, Warren Burger. He also served as Director of the Institute of Public Administration in New York City.

JOHN CARMACK is an emeritus general authority for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints with service in the First Quorum of the Seventy. He currently serves as the Church’s managing director of the Perpetual Education Fund and is the author of A Bright Ray of Hope: The Perpetual Education Fund.

ROBERT C. FLETCHER is the retired executive director of Bell Laboratories and is Vice-President for Research at Ceramics Process Systems. He received his Ph.D. in physics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1949 and is the oldest surviving son of Harvey Fletcher.

CLARALYN HILL currently practices law in the areas of estate planning, adoptions, guardianship and probate. She has an MS Degree in counseling psychology, a law degree from the J. Reuben Clark Law School at Brigham Young University, and is a trained mediator. She has served in numerous organizations including the Women Lawyers of Utah County, the Provo School Foundation Board, and the Utah Valley Estate Planning Council.

NED HILL is currently the National Advisory Council Professor of Finance at BYU. Prior to this, he served as dean of BYU’s Marriott School of Management from 1998-2008. He received his undergraduate degree in Chemistry from the University of Utah where he was a research assistant to Dr. Henry Eyring. He taught at Cornell University and Indiana University before joining BYU as the Joel C. Peterson Professor of Business Administration in 1987.

MATTHEW S. HOLLAND is the sixth president of Utah Valley University. Prior to his appointment at UVU, President Holland was a professor of political science at Brigham Young University where he earned distinction as BYU’s “Civically Engaged Scholar of the Year” by the Utah Campus Compact and was awarded the James Madison Fellowship from Princeton University. He also served as special assistant to then-Governor Michael O. Leavitt and as chief of staff to the top executive of the Monitor Group, an international consulting firm.

JAMES HOLTKAMP is the Manager of the Global Climate Change Practice Group at the Law Firm of Holland & Hart. Before entering private practice, he served on the staff of the U.S. Senate Select Committee on Presidential Campaign Activities (“Watergate Committee”). He is a graduate of Brigham Young University and received his law degree from the George Washington University where he was Articles Editor of the George Washington University Law Review.

G. WESLEY JOHNSON is co-director of the Outmigration Project and emeritus professor of business history at Brigham Young University. He is a co-founder of Dialogue: A Journal of Mormon Thought and served as director of BYU’s Center for Family and Community History.
MARIAN A. JOHNSON is co-director of the Outmigration Project and has served as the associate director of the Women’s Research Institute at Brigham Young University and director of the Oral History Program at the University of California, Santa Barbara. Utilizing her expertise as an art historian, she is currently preparing an exhibit for the Smithsonian Institution.

ARMAND MAUSS resides in Irvine, California and is a visiting scholar in Mormon studies in the School of Religion at Claremont Graduate University. Prior to his retirement and relocation to California, he was a professor of sociology and religious studies at Washington State University.

BOYD J. PETERSEN is the program coordinator for Mormon Studies at Utah Valley University and author of Hugh Nibley: A Consecrated Life. He is the president of the Association for Mormon Letters and a board member for Mormon Scholars in the Humanities.

CHASE NEBEKER PETERSON is president emeritus of the University of Utah, serving in this position from 1983 to 1991. Prior to his tenure at the University of Utah, he was vice-president for alumni affairs and development at Harvard University. He currently serves as co-director of the Family Medicine Clerkship at the University of Utah.

GRETHE BALLIF PETERSON was raised in Provo, Utah and received her BA from Brigham Young University and graduated from the Management Training Program at Radcliffe College. She also studied at Southern Connecticut State College, Harvard University and the University of Utah. She has served as chair of the Utah Endowment for the Humanities and on the Board of Trustees of the Salt Lake Olympic Committee.

D. MICHAEL QUINN is an independent historian living in Southern California and author of several books including Early Mormonism and the Magic World View and Mormon Hierarchy: Extensions of Power. After publishing Elder Stateman: A Biography of J. Reuben Clark, he became postdoctoral associate in Yale University's Department of History.

JAN SHIPPS is professor emeritus of religious studies and history at Indiana University-Purdue University, Indianapolis, and currently holds an Andrew W. Mellon Emeritus Fellowship for research on the transformation of Mormonism since World War II. Dr. Shipps will be co-presenting with her research associate, Liane Brummett.