



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

# Outmigration and the Mormon Quest for Education

November 5<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>, 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*  
*contact Brian Birch at [brian.birch@uvu.edu](mailto:brian.birch@uvu.edu), (801) 863-8759 or*  
*Boyd Petersen at [boyd.petersen@uvu.edu](mailto:boyd.petersen@uvu.edu), (801) 863-6181*

*all sessions are free and open to the public (seating is limited)*

# Outmigration and the Mormon Quest for Education

## 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*

*"The Legacy of Reet Smoot: Mormons at George*  
*Washington University"*  
*James Holtkamp*  
*Law Firm of Holland & Hart*

*Thursday, November 5*  
*(continued)*

*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*

*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*

*Thursday Evening Session*  
*Brigham Young University*  
*Library Auditorium*

*8:00 p.m.*  
*"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*

*sponsored by*  
*L. Tom Perry Special Collections*  
*Brigham Young University*

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## 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*

*11:00 – 11:50 a.m.*

*“Creative Problem Solving in Challenging Situations”*

*Mark W. Cannon*

*Former Administrative Counsel to Chief Justice Warren  
Burger*

*Friday, November 6*  
*(continued)*

*12:00 – 12:50 p.m.*

*Brownbag Panel Discussion  
Secular Knowledge and Religious Faith  
(presenters TBA)*

*1:00 – 1:50 p.m.*

*“In the Footsteps of Clark Kerr: On Becoming a  
University President”*

*David P. Gardner*

*President Emeritus, University of California*

*2:00 – 2:50 p.m.*

*“Hugh Nibley and the ‘Inmigraton’ of Mormon  
Education”*

*Boyd J. Petersen*

*Program Coordinator for Mormon Studies, UVU*

# Outmigration and the Mormon Quest for Education

## Presenters

**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/Counsel 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.

**DAVID GARDNER** is president emeritus of the University of California, where he served as the fifteenth president of the ten-campus system from 1983 to 1992. He also served as president of the University of Utah from 1973 to 1983 and is currently professor of educational leadership at the University of Utah.

**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 National Advisory Council Professor of Finance at BYU. He served as dean of the Marriott School of Management from 1998–2008. He received his undergraduate in Chemistry from the University of Utah where he was a research assistant to Dr. Henry Eyring. He has taught at Cornell, Indiana University before joining BYU as the Joel C. Peterson Professor of Business Administration in 1987.

**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. PETERSON** 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 Statesman: 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.