

Announcements

THE IOWA HISTORY CENTER at Simpson College seeks nominations for the outstanding master's thesis in Iowa history for 2012. Selection will be based on contribution to the knowledge of Iowa history; originality of the subject matter or methodology; use of sources; and written expression. Nominees must have completed their master's degree between July 1, 2011, and June 30, 2012.

The winner will be announced in fall 2012 and receive a \$1,000 cash prize and an award plaque. Three copies of the thesis and a brief letter of nomination from the thesis advisor, which includes contact information for the nominee, should be submitted to Bill Friedrichs, Director, Iowa History Center, Simpson College, 701 North C Street, Indianola, IA 50125. Application deadline is June 30, 2012.

For further information, contact Linda Sinclair, 515-961-1528 or linda.sinclair@simpson.edu.

A CONFERENCE, *The Plains Political Tradition: South Dakota's Political Culture*, will be held at the McGovern Center at Dakota Wesleyan University on November 14, 2011. Senator George McGovern will speak on his new book to be released on November 10. A new book, *The Plains Political Tradition: Essays on South Dakota Political Culture* (SDSHS Press, 2011), will also be released at the conference.

THE SOUTH DAKOTA STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY (SDSHS) Press invites chapter proposals on all aspects of the political culture of South Dakota from the territorial period to the present. Political culture should be broadly construed to mean any and all aspects of life, culture, and economics of

South Dakota that relate to the organization and disposition of civic affairs.

Interested parties should consult *The Plains Political Tradition: Essays on South Dakota Political Culture* (South Dakota State Historical Society Press, 2011), which will serve as a model for the future volume and a building block for future research.

The deadline for proposals is January 2, 2012. Successful proposals will need to be followed with completed manuscripts of approximately 25 pages (plus notes) by January 2, 2013.

Accepted manuscripts will appear in a volume to be edited by Jon K. Lauck, John E. Miller, and Donald C. Simmons Jr. and published by the SDSHS Press in 2014.

Potential areas of political culture for discussion include, but are not limited to: agrarianism, urban history, ethno-cultural histories, American Indian politics and reservation life, religion, transportation, the environment, general politics, important political figures, legal history, demographic analyses, comparative analyses (South Dakota vs. other states), sport and recreation, labor history, state government, economics, and folk culture.

Proposals (and queries) should be submitted to Martyn Beeny, Associate Editor, at South Dakota State Historical Society Press, 900 Governors Drive, Pierre, SD 57501. Proposals should be accompanied by a professional résumé or curriculum vitae.

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Contributors

JAMES RODGER FLEMING (B.S. in astronomy from Penn State; M.S. in atmospheric science from Colorado State; and Ph.D. in history from Princeton University) is professor of science, technology, and society at Colby College. His latest book, *Fixing the Sky: The Checkered History of Weather and Climate Control* (Columbia University Press, 2010), won the Hacker Prize from the Society for the History of Technology. He is writing a biography of the CO₂ molecule.

ANGIE GUMM is working as an independent scholar in Wichita, Kansas. She earned her Ph.D. in agricultural history and rural studies from Iowa State University in May 2010. Her book on the national history of resource recovery is under advance contract with the University of Massachusetts Press.

TRAVIS E. NYGARD is assistant professor of art history at Ripon College in Wisconsin. His doctoral dissertation (University of Pittsburgh, 2009) was "Seeds of Agribusiness: Grant Wood and the Visual Culture of Grain Farming, 1862–1957."

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