

Charles Phelps Taft Research Center
at the University of Cincinnati
Conferences and Lectures
Competitive Lecture Grant Application

Each section (I-III) should be placed at the start of a new page. All required documents must be included in a single document, uploaded to the electronic submissions system, no later than 5PM on the published day of the deadline. Intradepartmental review is required for most programs and applicants should plan the timing of their submission accordingly. Taft does not accept an obligation to review applications that have not received intradepartmental review by the time the committee convenes.

I. General Information

- a. Sponsoring Department(s): **Department of History**
- b. Individual sponsor: **David Stradling**
- c. Name of Lecturer: **Nicholas Syrett**
- d. Institutional Affiliation: **University of North Colorado**
- e. If the lecturer is International Speaker, list visa type: **N/A**
- f. Lecture Title: **“Wholly Unfit for the Marriage Condition”: Sarah Hervey Parton and Writing the History of Age, Gender, and Sexuality**
- g. Date, Time, and Location of Lecture: **Friday, March 29, 2013, 12:30 PM, 400B TUC**

II. Budget

- a. Transportation: **\$550.00 – roundtrip plane ticket from the San Francisco International Airport (SFO)**
- b. Lodging: **\$345.00 – 3 nights at the Millennium Hotel Cincinnati**
- c. Honorarium: **\$1000.00**
- d. Have you already applied (or will you in the future) for other grants for this travel, including departmental support? **Yes, we will be applying for a Group Grant through the University of Cincinnati Graduate Student Governance Association to cover the catering and advertising costs. The History Department will also be providing \$200.00 to offset the cost of meals during the visit.**
- e. Is this request for a departmental speaker? If yes, please indicate what remains of departmental lecture fund and what will be committed to this engagement? **No, this is not a request for a departmental speaker**
- f. Total Amount Requested from the Competitive Lecture Fund: **\$1895.00**

| Item | Amount | Notes |
|------------------------|-----------|---|
| Honorarium | \$1000.00 | Will allow the department to bring an innovative and respected historian so that the QCC's keynote address remains competitive with graduate history conferences held by Ohio State University and the University of Kentucky |
| Expenses | \$550.00 | Roundtrip ticket from San Francisco (SFO) to Cincinnati (CVG) |
| Accommodation | \$345.00 | 3-night stay at the Millennium Hotel Cincinnati at \$115 per night |
| Total Amount Requested | \$1895.00 | 10 th Annual Queen City Colloquium |

III. Lecture Details

a. Brief, general description of lecture content:

This talk begins with the 1854 marriage of thirteen-year-old Sarah E. Hervey to twenty-year-old Thomas J. Parton, both of Lynn, Massachusetts. Dr. Syrett will use this marriage to discuss how historians can analyze social and cultural understandings of age, gender, and sexuality in the past, even when they are radically different from present times. He will also use examples from his published work – in queer history, the history of heterosexuality, and masculinity – to discuss how historians write about actions, identities, and everyday behaviors that defy quantification and may be ephemeral. He hopes to help graduate students understand how we, as historians, can think about evidence, writing, speculation, and argumentation, in ways that should generate questions and further discussion.

b. Lecture Rationale:

In recognition of the increasing interdisciplinary nature of historical research, the graduate students in the Department of History have asked Dr. Syrett to present the keynote address at our tenth annual graduate research conference, the Queen City Colloquium. His latest work about the history of child marriage and the regulation of child sexuality directly relates to the innovative methodological and historical pursuits of our graduate students who are currently researching and writing their final research papers. These papers, which are the crowning achievement of our students, along with those submitted by graduate students from other regional universities will be presented at the annual Queen City Colloquium, which draws a diverse audience of faculty and students from UC and other institutions in the area. We anticipate that Dr. Syrett's lecture will influence the work of our students, as well as elevate the regional profile and prestige of our department and annual Queen City Colloquium.

c. Please outline the intended activities (i.e. conference lecture, public lecture, round-table discussion, etc) and audience (size, composition).

As keynote speaker, Dr. Syrett will give a public lecture to attendants at the 2013 Queen City Colloquium on Friday, March 29, 2013. Expected audience for this address will be 50 to 75 people. Dr. Syrett will also lead a round table discussion on Thursday, March 28, 2013 with graduate students about their research projects. The expected audience for this activity is the students of the Graduate Research Seminar, approximately 14 students.

d. Short description of speaker:

Nicholas Syrett is currently an associate professor at the University of North Colorado. He is interested in the history of women, gender, and sexuality in the United States during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. He has published on the history of masculinity and sexuality in traditionally white college fraternities, and on queer history during the early to mid twentieth century. He is currently writing a book on the history of child marriage and the regulation of children's sexuality in the United States and is co-editing with Corinne T. Field a collection of essays on the significance of chronological age in American history.

Syrett has published articles in *American Studies*, *Genders*, the *Journal of the History of Sexuality*, and in a collection of essays called *Clio in the Classroom: A Guide for Teaching U.S. Women's History* (Oxford UP). He has articles forthcoming in the *Journal of the History of Childhood and Youth* and in *Children and Youth in the Gilded Age and Progressive Era* (NYU Press). His book, *The Company He Keeps: A History of White College Fraternities* was published by the University of North Carolina Press in 2009. He has been interviewed about his research by *Inside Higher Ed*, *Newsweek*, *Out*, North Carolina Public Radio, *The Current* (the daily radio news program of the CBC in Canada), *BackStory*, *Times Higher Education* (U.K.), and various local and college newspapers. He has also published pieces in the *New York Times* and *American Sexuality*, the online magazine of the National Sexuality Resource Center. In 2010-2011, he was given the first annual Diversity in the Classroom award by UNC's College of Humanities and Social Sciences and the Outstanding Supportive Faculty Member Award by UNC's GLBTA Resource Center.

e. Please supply a brief description of the proposed speaker's work and reputation along with a short C.V.

DR. NICHOLAS SYRETT

EDUCATION

University of Michigan

Ph.D., Program in American Culture, April 2005
 Graduate Certificate, Women's Studies, April 2005
 M.A., Program in American Culture, April 2001

Columbia University

A.B., Women's and Gender Studies, May 1997

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2012- Associate Professor of History, University of Northern Colorado
 2006-2012 Assistant Professor of History, University of Northern Colorado
 2005-2006 Lecturer, History Department, Rutgers University-Newark
 2005 Instructor, Critical Studies, Parsons School of Design, New School University
 2001-2002 Graduate Student Instructor, Women's Studies Program, University of Michigan
 2000 Graduate Student Instructor, History Department, University of Michigan

SELECT AWARDS, GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIP

2011 Diversity in the Classroom Award, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, UNC
 2011 Outstanding Supportive Faculty Member, GLBTA Resource Center, UNC
 2011 Provost's Fund Grant, UNC
 2011 Clarke Chambers Travel Fellowship, Social Welfare History Archives, University of Minnesota
 2011 Assistant Vice President for Research, Summer Support Initiative Grant, UNC
 2009 Provost's Fund Grant, UNC
 2007 Faculty Research and Publications Board Grant, UNC
 Summer Research Grant, History Department, UNC
 2004 Rackham One Term Fellowship, University of Michigan
 2003 Institute for Research on Women and Gender, Community of Scholars Fellowship, University of Michigan
 2001 Robin I. Thevenet Research Grant, Program in Women's Studies, University of Michigan
 2000-2004 Program in American Culture Summer Funding, University of Michigan (4 summers)
 1999-2002 Rackham Regents' Fellowship for Graduate Study, University of Michigan

SELECT PUBLICATIONS

BOOK

The Company He Keeps: A History of White College Fraternities. Gender and American Culture Series. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2009 (paperback 2011).

Age Matters: Chronological Age in American History, coedited with Corinne T. Field (proposal under review at New York University Press). (IN PROGRESS)

American Child Bride: A History of Childhood, Marriage Law, and Sexuality in the United States (IN PROGRESS)

ARTICLES

“Queering Couplehood: Robert and John Allerton and Historical Perspectives on Kinship,” *Genders* 55 (Spring 2012): http://www.genders.org/g55/g55_syrett.html

“A Busman’s Holiday in the Not-So-Lonely Crowd: Business Culture, Epistolary Networks, and Itinerant Homosexuality in Mid-Twentieth Century America,” *Journal of the History of Sexuality* 21:1 (January 2012): 121-140.

“The Boys of Beaver Meadow: A Homosexual Community at 1920s Dartmouth College,” *American Studies* 48:2 (Summer 2007): 9-18.

BOOK CHAPTERS

“The Contested Meanings of Child Marriage in the Turn-of-the-Century United States,” in *Children and Youth in the Gilded Age and Progressive Era*, ed. James Marten (New York: New York University Press, forthcoming).

“Who Is Teaching Women’s History?: ‘Insight,’ ‘Objectivity,’ and Identity,” in *Clio in the Classroom: A Guide for Teaching U.S. Women’s History*, eds. Carol Berkin, Margaret Crocco, and Barbara Winslow (New York: Oxford University Press, 2009): 267-278.

REVIEWS, ENTRIES, NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

Rev. of *The Lost Boys of Zeta Psi: A Historical Archaeology of Masculinity at a University Fraternity* by Laurie A. Wilkie, *Pacific Historical Review* 80:3 (August 2011): 500-501.

“Schools are Culpable,” *New York Times* online, Room For Debate forum, May 5, 2011.

“Bros Before Hos: College Fraternities and Sexual Exploitation,” commissioned and published by the National Sexuality Resource Center in their online and board- reviewed magazine, *American Sexuality*, June 1, 2009.

“Academia” and “Fraternities” in Michael Flood, Judith Kegan Gardiner, Bob Pease, and Keith Pringle, eds., *International Encyclopedia of Men and Masculinities* (London: Routledge, 2007).

Rev. of *Black Haze: Violence, Sacrifice, and Manhood in Black Greek-Letter Fraternities* by Ricky L. Jones, in *Men and Masculinities* 8:4 (April 2006): 538-9.

SELECT ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS

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| 2004- | American Historical Association |
| 2011- | American Society for Legal History |
| 2000- | American Studies Association |
| 2005- | Committee on Lesbian, Gay Bisexual, and Transgender History of the AHA |
| 2007- | Organization of American Historians |
| 2005-2008, 2010- | Society for Historians of the Early American Republic |
| 2008- | Society for the History of Children and Youth |