

HISTORY NEWSLETTER

Park University

www.park.edu/deptofhistory

Volume 2, Issue 2

October-December 2006

“Toys for Tots”: Remembering the Children

The holidays is a time of sharing and a time for gift giving.

The officers of *Zeta Omicron* recently announced that the chapter’s service project for 2006-2007 will be the **U.S. Marine Corps Reserve “Toys for Tots.”**

The mission of the program is to “collect new, unwrapped toys . . . each year and distribute those toys as holiday gifts to needy children in the community in which the campaign is conducted.”

The *Zeta Omicron* drive will be conducted from **Nov. 1-22** at the three Kan-

sas City area campus centers—Parkville, Downtown, and Independence.

Students and alumni are encouraged to drop off a new, unwrapped toy at one of the three locations or forward a check payable to “*Park University—Phi Alpha Theta*” to **Timothy Westcott, Ph.D.**, PMB 117, 8700 N.W. River Park Drive, Parkville, MO., 64152. Officers will use cash remittances to purchase new, unwrapped toys. Your small gift will assist many children.

If submitting a cash remittance, please forward to Dr. Timothy Westcott no later than November 15, in order

TOYS FOR TOTS



U.S. MARINE CORPS RESERVE
For more information visit www.toysfortots.org
Financing provided by Wells Fargo Financial special division of the Marine Toys for Tots Foundation

to permit time to cash the remittance and opportunity to purchase toys prior to November 22.

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Summer Internships Completed

Seniors **Mariette Janning** and **Courtney Culp** completed a 120-clock hour internship this past summer at the **Irish Museum and Cultural Center**, located in Union Station.

The internship was under the directorship of Rachel Casey, museum director. The program of history has had one previous student complete an internship

at the museum and cultural center. The Center “provide[s] an environment in which the lessons of the past . . . are explored.” Mariette and Courtney performed numerous functions to assist the museum and cultural center.

Photograph: (left to right): Students Mariette Janning, Rachel Casey, and Courtney Culp.



Dates of Interest

- **Oct. 4-7:** NGPHC in Sioux Falls, S.D.
- **Oct. 14-22:** Fall Break
- **Oct. 29:** “Graduate Application Workshop”—2 p.m. Herr House Lounge
- **Nov. 1-22:** Toys for Tots Drive
- **Nov. 7:** Election Day
- **Nov. 19:** *Zeta Omicron* Meeting—2 p.m., Herr House Lounge
- **Dec. 9:** Senior Send Off
- **Dec. 16:** Graduation

Major Profile: James Pratt



"I selected Park University . . . because of its closeness to my home, but also because friends had commented that the staff was knowledgeable and classes were small," graduate student **James Pratt** mentioned in a recent interview.

Pratt is a member of *Zeta Omicron* and serves as the chapter historian. His responsibilities as historian, including collecting and maintaining archival records of the chapter and its activities. Pratt has recently assumed the responsibilities

preparation a chapter application for "Best Chapter 2007."

Pratt is completing a Master's of Teaching—social studies with an emphasis in social studies. He is a 2007 graduate of Park University.

Pratt commented regarding the program of history that "The history classes offered . . . are varied and that's one of the great attributes." He has no particular favorite period of history. He enjoys studying

the American and French Revolutions, American Civil War, Classicism and the World Wars.

His current plans are to complete his graduate degree and is eager to begin teaching. Pratt is currently reading *Drug Crazy* by Mike Gray. He commented that this "interest comes from my curiosity for the history of United States controlled substance policies." Pratt was a leader in revitalizing the *Zeta Omicron* chapter last spring.

Kansas City Museum Internships



Christopher Leitch, Historic House director, Kansas City Museum recently met with Timothy Westcott, Ph.D., and Mary Joni Reist, adjunct faculty of history, to discuss a new internship opportunity for history majors of Park University.

The internship would be based on assisting in designing and initiating oral history re-

cordings of women from the "Musites." These women were responsible for organizing the voluntary group that assists in maintaining the historic Robert A. Long Museum located on Gladstone Boulevard.

"The museum is housed in a beautiful 1910 mansion, often described as the 'palace on Gladstone Boulevard.' The

estate is a remarkable attraction in its own right. Long's daughters donated the house to the city after his death in 1934." (<http://www.unionstation.org/kcmuseum.cfm>)

If interested in performing an internship at the Kansas City Museum contact Ron Miriani, Ph.D.

"Salve (rursus) Picnic" - MMVI



The fall semester commenced with the "Salve (rursus) Picnic" hosted by the Phi Alpha Theta Chapter, *Zeta Omicron*. The "Welcome (Back) Picnic" provided an opportunity for returning majors to meet new transfer and freshmen majors prior to classes beginning. The picnic was held in English Landing Park in Parkville on August 18. The majors were

greeted by **Gary Heisserer**, Ph.D., associate vice president for academic affairs; **Ms. Clarinda Creighton**, vice president for student services; and **Ms. Ann Schultis**, director of Library Services and associate professor of Library Systems.

Officers of *Zeta Omicron* ad-

ressed the attendees by providing highlights of major events and activities for the forthcoming year. Each attendee received a free t-shirt (displayed in the photograph).

(**PHOTO: Front Row**—Students Adrienne Qualls, Hana Thornton, Courtney Culp, Mariette Janning, James Pratt.

Back Row-Brian Moon, Brett Ferguson, Trevor Lasley, Wendi Reinwald, and Christian Stallings)

American Historical Association Annual Meeting

The 121st annual meeting of the **American Historical Association** will be in Atlanta, GA, **Jan. 4-7, 2007**.

The annual meeting provides opportunities to network with peers, graduate faculty, and graduate programs. History majors will attend professional historical sessions conducted by leaders in their fields of research and teaching. Also students will review the latest in scholarship. Students may arrange visits to local graduate programs.

Courtney Culp, senior, said after last year's meeting, "I . . . feel that what I have learned at Park made me better able to ask questions of the presenters. I believe [this] is one goal that education should indeed have." **Ann Schultis**, director of Library Services, also commented that "students learned that they could participate on a national scale and that the program here [Park University] had prepared them to do so."

If you are interested in attending the annual meeting, please

contact **Timothy Westcott**, Ph.D., at (816)-584-6364 or tim.westcott@park.edu.

Notification Deadline:

October 15, 2006

(Deadline extended)

Do Not Miss It!



National Archives Internships

Timothy Westcott, Ph.D., assistant professor of history, met recently with **Kimberlee Ried**, archives specialist; **Diana Duff**, director, Archival Operations; and **Steve Spence**, archives technician from the National Archives and Records Administration—Central Plains Region office to promote history majors completing internships at the National Archives. History majors are required to

complete 120-clock hours of internship. Discussion also included Park University's program of history assisting local high schools in completing and submitting grants under the "Teaching American History Grant Program." Initial school districts of discussion were Park Hill and North Kansas City. The program "is to promote the teaching of traditional American history in

elementary and secondary schools as a separate academic subject."

Steve Spence is a 2003 graduate from Park University's program of history.

PHOTO: (Left to Right)—Kimberlee Ried, Dr. Timothy Westcott, and Steve Spence.



History e-Books

Can not find that one history book to complete a research paper? Inter-Library loan will take to long?

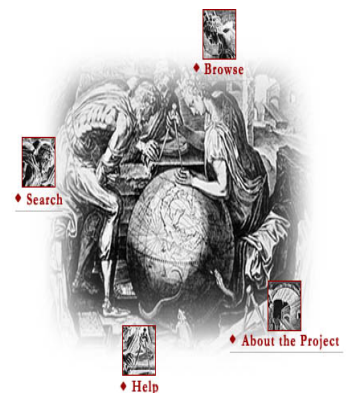
Park University's library may have the solution. The library and the program of history has recently subscribed to the American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) **History E-**

Book Project. The E-Book project is an internet collection of older or out-of-print books related to all fields of history.

The project contains 1,300 full-length books that may be read online. The project "is a collaboration of eight learned societies, nearly 75 contributing publishers. The result is an

online, fully searchable collection . . . recommended and reviewed by historians." The site will be available on the history web page and the Park University Library Catalog.

If you have questions, please contact Ann Schultis, director of Library Services or Tim Westcott, Ph.D., ext. 6364.

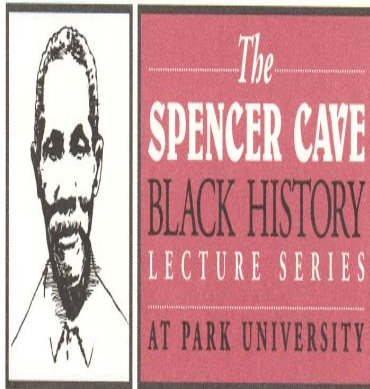




(Left to Right): Students Christian Stallings, Mariette Janning, Brett Ferguson, and Paya Shafe.



(Left to Right): Students Paul Forcier, Jessica Bullard, Brian Moon, and Trevor Lasley



(Left to Right): Students Jason Potter, Hana Thornton, Trevor Lasley, Paul Forcier, Christian Stallings, and Brian Moon.

“Voter Registration Week” Activities

Students majoring in history, social studies, political science or legal studies conducted a “Voter Registration Week,” September 25-29 in preparation for the Congressional mid-term elections.

Park students **Brett Ferguson, Kelly Bamforth, Jessica Bullard, Ashley Watkins, Brian Moon, Christian Stallings, Mariette Janning, Trevor Lasley, Crispin Rea, Paya Shafe, Paul Forcier, George Farris, Hana Thornton, Courtney Culp,** and **Jason**

Potter assisted students, faculty, and staff to update their registration or to register for the first time.

The combining of the programs of political science, legal studies, social studies, and history this fall into the Department of Social Sciences has permitted opportunities to promote interdisciplinary measures that advance the understanding of a liberal arts education and promote Park University’s foundation of civic responsibility.

The “Voter Registration Week” commenced a month long engagement in the political process of American citizenship. Two political forums being held in October will conclude activities related to the November elections.

A “special” thanks is expressed to all the students, faculty, and staff that registered. Also, the assistance of Ron Brecke, Ph.D., Erik Bergrud, Katy Goodwin, Donna Rekitke, was greatly appreciated.

Black History Month Lectures Announced

The sixth annual Spencer Cave Black History Month Lecture Series presenters have been scheduled.

Feb. 5: Jon Butler, Ph.D., Yale University, “The African American Experience in American Religion.” Butler is dean, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, and the Howard R. Lamar Professor of Ameri-

can Studies, History and Religious Studies.

Feb. 15: Michael Perman, Ph.D., University of Illinois at Chicago “Disfranchisement in the South: Causes and Consequences.” Perman is Research Professor in the Humanities.

Feb. 20: Laura Edwards,

Ph.D., Duke University “Women in the Civil War South.” Edwards is professor of history.

The lectures will be held in the McCoy Meetin’ House located on the Parkville Campus. Lectures begin at 7 p.m. Please view www.park.edu/bhm for further details in January.

First Zeta Omicron Meeting of the Year

The *Zeta Omicron* Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta held its first monthly meeting of the academic year on Sunday, September 10.

The officers conducted the meeting which outlined the activities forthcoming for the semester and year. A number of civic engagement initiatives

were announced with the Voter Registration Week and Toys for Tots. Other events included the lecture by Ray McGovern discussing “Iran: How We Got In: How We Get Out,” political candidate forums, and the educational forum at the Liberty Memorial.

Further discussion focused on

the series of lectures for Black History and Women’s History Month. The officers also held a roundtable forum on what professional and community items they desired to have conducted at monthly meetings. Ideas included workshops on writing curriculum vitas, C-BASE and PRAXIS exams, graduate school application procedures and processes.

“The First World War: Its Legacies and Relevance for Us” Lecture Program

President Beverley Byers-Pevitts recently announced Park University’s co-sponsorship of a new lecture program with the Liberty Memorial, Harry S. Truman Library and Museum, and Kansas City Public Library.

The co-sponsorship continues a long professional and historical relationship between Park University, the Harry S. Truman Library and Museum, Kansas City Public Library, and the Liberty Memorial. During spring 2006, Park University, the Kansas City Public Library, and Liberty Memorial co-hosted the video series “The World War I Years: America Becomes a World Power.” The Liberty Memorial has offered internships for history majors each semester. President Byers-Pevitts is a member the Liberty Memorial Association Board of Governors and serves as the chairperson of the Education Committee. **Timothy Westcott**, Ph.D., assistant professor of history serves on the Liberty Memorial Board of Trustees.

The lecture program is titled

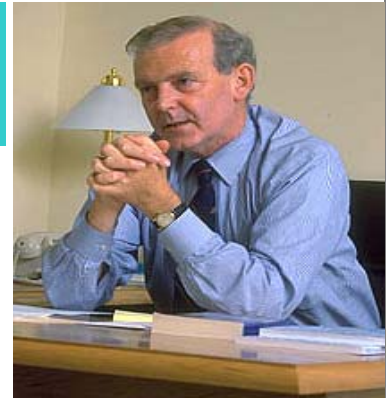
“The First World War: Its Legacies and Relevance for Us.” The lecture program schedule is:

- **April 21, 2007** “The Great War: Tragedy or Mistake?” Featured Speakers: **Paul Kennedy**, J. Richardson Dilworth professor of history, Yale University and **Niall Ferguson**, Laurence A. Ties professor of history, Harvard University.
- **May 12, 2007** “Waging Total War: A Learning Curve or a Bleeding Curve?” Featured Speakers: **Hew Astrakhan**, Chinchilla Professor of the History of War, Oxford University and **Robin Prior**, professor of history, Australian Defense Forces Academy, Canberra.
- **July 9, 2007** “The Soldiers War: Consent or Coercion?” Featured Speakers: **John Horne**, University of Dublin-Trinity College, and **Leonard V. Smith**, Frederick B. Arts Professor of His-

tory, Oberlin College.

- **September 22, 2007** “The Great War: The Peace that Failed?” Featured Speakers: **Margaret Macmillan**, University of Toronto and **John Milton Cooper**, University of Wisconsin.
- **October 13, 2007** “The Great War: Midwife to Modern Memory?” Featured Speakers: **Paul Fussell**, professor of english Emeritus, University of Pennsylvania and **Jay Winter**, Charles J. Stile Professor of History, Yale University.

Further details regarding the lecture program will be provided in future newsletters. Please mark your calendars and as the events approach, program information will be posted on the program of history web page at www.park.edu/deptofhistory. Park University’s Department of Social Sciences is also co-sponsoring other events for Kansas City area educators at the Liberty Memorial.



Paul Kennedy, Ph.D., Yale University
(Photo from Yale University Web Page)



Leonard V. Smith, Ph.D. Oberlin College
(Photo from Oberlin College Web Page)



John Milton Cooper, Ph.D., Univ of Wisconsin
(Photo from Univ of Wisconsin web page.)

Phi Alpha Theta Biennial Regional Meeting

Park University’s Phi Alpha Theta Chapter, *Zeta Omicron*, will be hosting a biennial regional Phi Alpha Theta conference in March 2007.

Sixty-two regional PTA chapters and 29 non-regional history programs from Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota and Missouri have received invitations to

attend. The conference will provide undergraduate and graduate history majors to present conference papers on a topic of their own selection.

Officers of *Zeta Omicron* have suggested inviting history classes from regional high schools to attend the conference to experience the histori-

cal profession and network with regional history programs and majors. Park University’s Phi Alpha Theta chapter is honored to host the biennial regional conference. The opportunity to host the regional conference further enhances the chapter.

(Left to Right) Students Mariette Janning, Brett Ferguson and Courtney Culp.



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Timothy Westcott, Ph.D.

Zeta Omicron: Brett Ferguson (Pres.)*
Courtney Culp (VP)*
James Pratt (Historian)*
Marianne Janning (Social
and Service Chair)*

(* Phi Alpha Theta Members)



Member Association of College Honor Societies

PHI ALPHA THETA

History Honor Society, Inc.

IMMEDIATE ATTENTION! IMMEDIATE ATTENTION!

CALL FOR PAPERS

50th Annual Missouri Valley History Conference

Omaha, Nebraska

MARCH 1-3, 2007

If you are interested in presenting a paper at this conference, your paper abstract is due to Dr. Westcott by **October 17, 2006**. If you have questions, please contact Dr. Westcott at

tim.westcott@park.edu

Zeta Omicron Officer Comments

"Let us not only share our hopes and dreams . . . but also reflect about our purpose as individuals." This proclamation of civic engagement and individual responsibility was espoused in September 2005 by President Beverley Byers-Pevitts. Over the past year, the Park University community has enjoined in that engagement.

As another academic year commences, we as history and social sciences majors have embarked on numerous examples of carrying forth that challenge.

- **Voter Registration Week** was held September 25-29. A cornerstone of a liberal arts education is civic responsibility. The importance of participating in our democracy was

represented by assisting faculty, staff, and students to register for the forthcoming mid-term Congressional elections.

The importance of educating an informed citizenry provides an opportunity to host a number of other events:

- **"Iraq: How We Got In: How We Get Out"**—**October 4**. Ray McGovern, former CIA analyst from the Kennedy through George H.W. Bush administrations will discuss the current situation in Iraq. The presentation begins at 7:30 p.m. in the McCoy Meetin' House.
- **Political Forums**—

October 18 and **October 24**. The American Association of University Women will host a candidate forum on October 18, while the League of Women Voters will provide citizens an opportunity to address constituents concerns on October 24. Both forums will be held in the McCoy Meetin' House at 7 p.m.

A further statement from President Byers-Pevitts, "If we as individuals truly want to transform our world, then we must become engaged . . . in the lives of our fellow human beings" furnishes the impetus for our last project for 2006—**"Toys for Tots."** The campaign will be held **November 1-22**. We encourage the donation a new, unwrapped toy.

