KINDER INSTITUTE EVENTS  
SPRING 2019

Public Talks

All talks listed below will be held at 3:10pm in Jesse Hall 410

1/25  The Genesis of American Indian Constitutionalism
For our annual Distinguished Visiting Research Fellow Lecture, Truman State Professor Daniel Mandell will discuss how the 1621 Plymouth-Massachusetts agreement reflected early modern European and English paradigms of relations with indigenous peoples, as Plymouth respected Wampanoag sovereignty even as it claimed the right to judge potential conflicts between individuals from the two communities. In addition, the talk will reflect on how this agreement preaged American policies regarding Native sovereignty and human rights, the subject of the larger project that Professor Mandell has been at work on while in residence as a 2018-19 Research Fellow at the Kinder Institute.

2/5  The Curious History of U.S. National Security Whistleblowing
University of East Anglia Senior Lecturer in American Studies Kaeten Mistry will be on campus to give a talk on the long history of national security whistleblowing, examining how, while the exposure of privileged information is often seen as a left-wing form of dissent or as an act of civil disobedience, a deeper look reveals a complex story that emerged in tandem with the modern system of state secrecy.

2/8  John Marshall, Marbury v. Madison, and the Construction of Constitutional Legitimacy
Villanova University Visiting Professor Clyde Ray will present Chief Justice John Marshall's famous opinion in 1803's Marbury v. Madison as a vehicle for considering contested interpretations of Marshall himself and the very concept of constitutional legitimacy, which Marshall located in several aspects of the Constitution, including its protection of rights, its embodiment of the consent of the governed, and its ability to organize and direct national politics.

2/14  How the Founders Made the Constitution Their Valentine
In 1787, many questions surrounding the Constitution hung in the balance. Was it a written text? Was it a legal text? Was it finished or unfinished, and who would adjudicate competing readings of it? At Stanford historian Jonathan Gienapp will show in his Valentine's Day talk, in fighting over how to imagine the Constitution, American political leaders ultimately gave it the shape and definition it had previously lacked.

2/22  The Constitutional Roots of American Global Leadership on Religious Freedom
Allen Hertzke, David Ross Boyd Professor of Political Science at University of Oklahoma, will trace the constitutional heritage of the United States’ status as a global leader in upholding religious freedom as a way both to explore how this heritage is fraying today and to ask whether the current international epidemic of religious persecution and turmoil might help inspire its revival.

4/26  How to Hide an Empire
Northwestern University Associate Professor of History Daniel Immerwahr will address the question of what happens to the narrative of U.S. history when we expand the lens beyond the contiguous United States and consider how, for most of its existence, the nation has been an overseas empire, with holdings from Philadelphia to establish an orphanage that explicitly forbade clergy from ever entering the campus. Particular attention will be paid to Justice Story's resolution of the tension between the notion that Christianity is a part of the common law and the free exercise of religion.

5/3  The Time the Devil Beat Daniel Webster
Kinder Institute Postdoctoral Fellow in Political Thought & Constitutionalism Rodolfo Hernandez will examine the Supreme Court Case of Vial v. Gerald's Executors (1844), where Daniel Webster challenged a large bequest to the City of Philadelphia to establish an orphanage that explicitly forbade clergy from ever entering the campus. Particular attention will be paid to Justice Story's resolution of the tension between the notion that Christianity is a part of the common law and the free exercise of religion.

5/9  Exploring the Pursuit of Happiness
For our final event of the 2018-19 academic year, Kinder Institute and MU Law Associate Professor Carli Conklin will give a talk on her hot-off-the-press book, The Pursuit of Happiness in the Founding Era: An Intellectual History, set to be published in May as part of the Kinder Institute's Series on Constitutional Democracy monograph series with University of Missouri Press.

Town and Gown

4/24  The Politics of Abstraction vs. A New Localism
Respecting to a growing inability in Washington to design policy with localities in mind, American Enterprise Institute Director of Domestic Policy Studies Ryan Streeter will give a dinner lecture that examines how incorporating recent findings in economics and social science might reinvigorate a localist approach to policymaking that seeks to solve big, national issues at the regional and city level. Contact Thomas Kane, KaneTC@missouri.edu, for details about attending.

Missouri Regional Seminar on Early American History
A regular gathering of Midwest scholars of early American history, the MRSEAH will convene twice during the Spring 2019 semester, on February 1 in St. Louis for a discussion of University of Delaware Assistant Professor of History Duell Norwood's book chapter-in-progress on "Deshabillizing Enthronements," and on April 12 in Columbia for our annual double-header, which will feature Duke University Associate Professor of History Reeve Hustin and a dinner speaker-to-be-named-later.

Community Seminars

The Kinder Institute will host a pair of Spring 2019 community seminars: “Religious Liberty in America,” which will meet on the second Wednesday of every month beginning on January 9, and “On the Judicial Process,” which will meet on the third Friday of every month, beginning on January 18. Register at democracy.missouri.edu.

Scholarly Conferences and Workshops

2/15-16  A Fire Bell in the Past: The Missouri Crisis at 200
On February 15-16, as near as possible to the 200th anniversary of the Tallmadge Amendment that tried to ban slavery in Missouri, the Kinder Institute will convene the first ever international scholarly conference devoted to reassessing the crisis sparked by the question of Missouri statehood. Panels for the conference, which is part of ongoing bicentennial programming at the Institute, will be held all day on the 15th and 16th in the Palmer Room at Reynolds Journalism Institute (RJI 100). In addition, UCLA Professor of History Stephen Arom will give a Friday evening keynote dinner lecture on “Putting the Crisis over Missouri Statehood in Its Historical Place.” A full conference schedule can be found at democracy.missouri.edu, and contact Thomas Kane, KaneTC@missouri.edu, to reserve a spot for the dinner, space at which is limited.

3/7-8  Shawnee Trail Regional Conference
An annual opportunity for scholars of American politics and constitutionalism to gather and share current work with colleagues from around the region, this year’s Shawnee Trail Conference will feature a keynote lecture by Cornell University Professor of Law Josh Chafetz, as well as a pair of book symposia for Boston University Professor of Law Linda C. McClain, The Rhetoric of Rigidity: Controversies over Marriage and Civil Rights and Boston University Honorable Paul J. Lacovis Professor of Law James E. Fleming’s Constructing Basic Liberties: A Defense of Substantive Due Process. A full schedule of events associated with the Shawnee Trail Conference will be posted on the Kinder Institute website in early February.

3/22  Constraining the Executive Branch
Kinder Institute and MU Political Science Assistant Professor Jennifer Selin will bring Professor Pamela McCann in from USCS’s Sol Price School of Public Policy for a noon workshop of their co-authored paper on the factors that inspire Congress to draft legislation that increases executive branch exposure to the check of the federal judiciary. Note: Space in the workshop is limited. To reserve a spot and receive a pre-circulated copy of the paper, email Thomas Kane at KaneTC@missouri.edu.

3/22-23  Humanities & Democracy
In conjunction with the Missouri Humanities Council’s second annual “Humanities & the Future: State of the Discipline,” the Kinder Institute will co-sponsor Washington University Sally D. Danforth Distinguished Professor of Law & Religion John Inazu’s keynote address. The symposium will be held on the Drury University campus in Springfield and will feature a series of interdisciplinary panels on the themes of: Rights, Conflict, and Negotiation.

4/12  Felon Disenfranchisement Symposium
The Kinder Institute will partner with the School of Law, the Truman School, the Department of Political Science, History, and Human and Environmental Science, and the Office for Civil Rights and Title IX to host a daylong symposium examining the pernicious effects felon disenfranchisement has for civic responsibility, civic engagement, and the health of communities. The symposium dovetails with the Law School’s one read, Michelle Alexander’s The New Jim Crow, and will feature a keynote lecture delivered by Stanford Professor of Law Pamela S. Karlan.

democracy.missouri.edu