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2016 Oklahoma Research Day

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## **Abstracts from the 2016 Oklahoma Research Day**

### **Held at Northeastern State University**

#### **04. Liberal Arts**

#### **07. History**

##### **04.07.01 When Philanthropy Flops**

**Culpepper, Megan** *University of Central Oklahoma*

**Sheetz-Nguyen, Jessica** *University of Central Oklahoma*

Abstract: This research examines the effectiveness of philanthropy and the uneven distribution of money based on gender according to records centered on British female orphans. Understanding the distribution of money based on gender is important for philanthropy as a whole. There are many philanthropies who want to make a difference in the world. When viewed from a historical business perspective, philanthropies will be critiqued in a way that encourages future improvement. Companies that give out money claiming philanthropic activities should be monitored for efficiencies in money distributions and effectiveness on targeted populations. Knowing that different populations effect other groups is important when factoring effectiveness of philanthropic giving.

##### **04.07.02 African American Masculinity and the Lynching of William Brown**

**Ritt, Edith** *University of Central Oklahoma*

My research will examine views of black masculinity in America during the early twentieth century. It explores how the media and society perpetuates the negative perception of African American males. White males dominated American social hierarchy due to perceived supremacy. In order to maintain control, white males suppressed black masculinity. The lynching of William Brown is an example of American society's fear and subsequent persecution of black masculinity. This lynching represents the culmination of racial tensions due to the perceived threat towards white masculinity, particularly during the Red Summer of 1919. Last semester I traveled to Omaha, Nebraska and worked in the archives at the Douglas County Historical Society, W. Dale Clark library, and the Nebraska State Historical Society. This gave me an opportunity to explore the case of William Brown. I hope to continue my research regarding African American masculinity for my masters thesis.

### **04.07.03 FROM the LAND RUN to the GOVERNOR'S MANSION: OKLAHOMA WOMEN and POLITICAL PARITY, 1889-2015**

**Beck,Rhonda** *University of Central Oklahoma*

The Land Run of 1889 marks a well-defined usefulness wherein the women of the Oklahoma Territory began to stand as politically affiliated individuals in crafting both the state and constitution in 1907. These women were dedicated to taking action and lobbying for advancement, not only for suffrage, but also beyond the constraints of societal pressures in a southern border state. From Kate Barnard as the first Oklahoma Commissioner of Charities and Corrections to Governor Mary Fallin, the arduous path to success has been provoked with various obstructions. Presently, women in Oklahoma occupy 51 percent of the state's population and continually fall short in representation in legislative positions. Why is this so in Oklahoma? By utilizing sources from scholars such as Cindy Simon Rosenthal, Doris Weatherford, Marianne Schnall, and state records, this research examines the accomplishments of women in Oklahoma, and then seeks to ask what Oklahomans themselves genuinely expect from women's political leadership. These results will add to scholarship in finding solutions for stronger representation of women in Oklahoma and lead to increased encouragement of female involvement, contributions, and legislative membership. Political parity for gender is beneficial for all members of society and the design of how we need to continue democracy.

### **04.07.04 From Missions to Facebook: Catholic Nuns and Sisters in Oklahoma, 1870 – 2015**

**Hatherley,Sherry** *University of Central Oklahoma*

Catholic nuns and sisters have a rich history in Oklahoma. These remarkable women have played an integral role in the growth of Oklahoma and recognition of the importance of them and their accomplishments is long overdue. Since their arrival in 1874, the Sisters of Mercy began educating children, and later they and the Sisters of St. Francis founded two of the largest healthcare systems within the state. Other orders continued to work in education and moved into serving Native American populations, as well as the homeless, the elderly and other disenfranchised persons. This project documents the history and contributions these women provided from their arrival in Sacred Heart, Oklahoma in 1874 through today. Primary sources for information include interviews, shadowing, memoirs, monographs, newsletters and correspondence. This information was compiled to build a history of the nuns and sisters, their orders, and their works and contributions to Oklahoma, both before and after statehood. Sisters and nuns have worked quietly in the background serving, educating and healing Oklahoman's for over one hundred years. It is time they and their achievements are recognized.

### **04.07.05 World War II Widows: The Neglected Survivors**

**Hewitt,Olivia** *University of Central Oklahoma*

Near the end of World War II, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the Servicemen's Readjustment Act into law. This act, also known as the GI Bill, rewarded returning American veterans. From home and business loans to educational assistance, the GI Bill assisted former military men in achieving a secure financial future. Nevertheless, not every soldier lived to come home to his or her family, resulting in over 206,500 widows and orphans who did not qualify for benefits the new GI Bill offered. In 1948, war widows organized and lobbied for an extension of the GI Bill. While the congressmen agreed the widows and orphans needed financial support, they were uncertain an extension of the bill would be appropriate. Traditional roles of marriage and costs weighed on the decision. Consequently, war widows would not receive educational benefits until 1968. Through examining newspaper articles, letters from widows and testimonies at congressional hearings, this paper will argue how surviving dependents were dishonored and mistreated when not achieving immediate support.

#### **04.07.06 How the United States Won the Bid and Prepared For the 1994 World Cup, 1983-1994**

**Salkeld,Patrick** *University of Central Oklahoma*

This paper argues that during the Cold War, Americans viewed immigrants and Communists with disdain, but President Ronald Reagan helped US Soccer generate sufficient interest in soccer using nationalism and patriotism in order for the FIFA to give the United States the opportunity to host the 1994 World Cup. It addresses questions, such as: What role did Reagan play in the American soccer rebirth? Why did he promote soccer, a typically European and ethnic sport? What did US Soccer overcome to promote the 1994 World Cup? Why did FIFA choose the United States to host the 1994 World Cup? To answer these questions, the author accessed archival material from the Reagan Presidential Library and the LA84 Foundation, secondary sources, and government documents. Aside from these documents, little information exists. The USSF archives remain inaccessible because of the National Soccer Hall of Fame's closure in 2010, which forced the archivists to pack the materials and send them to a warehouse in North Carolina. The majority of Americans fail to understand soccer's extensive history in the United States starting in the late nineteenth century, and few secondary sources detail Reagan's involvement in the attempts to host a World Cup. Even though Americans at the time discredited soccer, Reagan saw the sport's benefits, so he fully supported both the 1986 and 1994 World Cup Bids by US Soccer.

#### **04.07.07 To End a Genocide: The Clinton Administration's Effort to End the War in Bosnia, July -December 1995**

**Mcneil,Aaron** *University of Central Oklahoma*

In 1992, the world watched while Bosnia & Herzegovina, a former region of Yugoslavia erupted into Civil War. The United States under the Clinton Administration played a minor role in the early stages of the conflict, understanding what kept the U.S. out is a question that is essential to the policy that Clinton would later adopt. However, the U.S. response changed in July 1995 due to a massacre in the city of Srebrenica; where units of the Bosnian Serb Army of Republika Srpska under the command of General Ratko Mladic removed thousands of Muslim women and children from the city and murdered over eight thousand men. By analyzing interviews, diplomatic wires, memoirs, phone conversions, letters, and unclassified intelligence from the Clinton Presidential Library and building on research from scholars Dr. Ryan C. Hendrickson and the late Eric Markusen, we start to understand how the United States was able to change course and bring the war to an end by December of 1995. This research argues that, though sped up with the massacre in Srebrenica, the Clinton Administration had already laid out plans to help stop the bloodshed and bring the war in Bosnia to a peaceful conclusion.

#### **04.07.08 Criminology and Irish Women in Victorian London**

**Dahl,Elizabeth** *University of Central Oklahoma*

Irish women in Victorian London (1837-1901), were incarcerated at exceedingly higher rates than their English counterparts. The higher incarceration rates can be explained by increased policing within Irish neighborhoods, the institutionalized bias of officials within the English court systems and the poor socio-economic conditions of many Irish families. The portrayal of Irish women in the press was largely negative. Irish women were often referred to as thieves, with mention of loose moral characteristics as being intrinsic to their identity, or "what it means to be Irish." An essential component in the research of incarceration and criminal activities of Irish women in Victorian London is the way in which women appeared in British newspapers and British periodicals. This project will present findings that are currently in progress. It will include a compilation of data housed in an extensive database. The categories of analysis will include, mapping the historical geography of crime in London, crime among Irish women, their ages, criminal classifications and punishments.

#### **04.07.09 Wilma Mankiller and the Influence of Feminism on Cherokee Nation Politics (1985-1995)**

*Whitebird, Alona University of Central Oklahoma*

#### **04.07.10 Florence Nightingale: How Travel Shaped a Feminist Icon**

*Riepl, Lauren University of Central Oklahoma*

This research investigates the influences on Florence Nightingale and what encouraged her to step outside the predetermined Victorian life set up by her family. The nineteenth century proved to be a pivotal period in the development of what would later become the women's movement. The goal is to show how Florence's heightened education, close relationship with her father, and specifically her extensive travel tendered the courage she needed to succeed in her lifelong call to service. Nightingale spent several years traveling with family friends, Selena and Charles Bracebridge, a couple who gave her unfettered freedom to explore the ancient cities of Rome, Athens, and Alexandria. In her youth she and her family took the Grand Tour and exposed her to Italian and French intellectuals and exiles during the Risorgimento in Italy. Most prior research on Nightingale focuses on her life after she gained recognition for her work during the Crimean War and contribution to the fields of medicine and nursing. This focus inadvertently undermines the significance of unfettered movement and intellectual ventures that influenced her determination change the face of modern medicine. What powerful forces she explored to become a founding feminist, a pioneer in medicine, and a staunch advocate for constant scholarly pursuits.

#### **04.07.11 The Role of Women in the Repeal of Prohibition 1890's-1950's**

*Marlow-Fuson, Skylar University of Central Oklahoma*

When thinking of women involved in prohibition, many only think of those fighting for it in the Anti Saloon League. However, there were many women against such legislation who played a crucial role in getting it repealed. The bulk of my research has been conducted through primary sources. The most prominent source of information I found in New York Times articles from the 1920's-1950's. I also found a lot of information from the Oklahoma Historical Society, that gave me access to local newspapers. In addition, I utilized secondary sources such as books and journal articles that analyzed women's role in prohibition. To summarize what I have learned: Prohibition came into effect because many thought it would make the country safer. Many women were in the Anti Saloon League and the like to keep prohibition legislation intact. However, as time went on, prohibition began to have a highly negative effect on women and their families. Violence with bootleggers became prominent, along with deaths from drinking poisonous alcohols. Along with these reasons, many women thought that prohibition hindered their personal liberties founded in the Constitution. So with that, certain women fought against the Anti Saloon League creating their own groups, such as the Molly Pitcher's Club and Women's Organization for National Prohibition Reform. With the leadership of Pauline Morton Sabine and others, these women played a crucial role in the repeal of prohibition

## **04.07.12 Vox Populi: Subjectivity and the Voices of the Poor**

**Harvey, Phillip** *University of Central Oklahoma*

“What is to be done?” Incarnated in by both Tolstoy and Lenin, is the question of poverty and the search for a solution. There is no era of human history more famous for its pursuit of that solution than that of England and Poor Law. However, there is little extant research on the language of poverty stemming from the Victorian era. Based on in-depth, evidence-based research of speech patterns Henry Mayhew with written autobiographical accounts from people living in London between 1830–1870, this project seeks to define the subjective experience of poverty—in the poor’s own words. My criteria for creating this definition will involve cataloging exact word choice in written texts, anomalous syntactical structures, and orthographical representations of dialect. Additionally, chronological distance requires a further nuanced understanding of historical actors and their voices—of the forces shaping the lives of the poor. To capture the everyday speech of the working classes, my research needs a different tack from traditional scholarship that focuses on text at face value. My research hinges on uncovering an intimate understanding of what it means to be poor in London. Not the factual realities of poverty which are readily available thanks to Victorian sociologists, but the intimate, unguarded expressions of people who were living it. This research into the subjective voices of the past will produce insights into the voices of today. Poverty re

## **04.07.13 ‘All Due Consideration’: Britain and the Restriction of American Trade during the First World War**

**Olmstead, Justin** *University of Central Oklahoma*

In August 1914 Britain set the Royal Navy to its wartime task of strangling German commerce and declared its intent to stop both legal and contraband goods from arriving in Germany. The ensuing argument with the United States and other neutral countries about what was to be considered contraband and what was not, led Britain to construct new definitions of these items. The British Foreign Office also shifted the burden of proof regarding the shipment of contraband items to ship owners. With these changes the British Foreign Office forced the United States to protest British modifications to international law and not the actual interference with American trade. This paper will examine the role of the British Foreign Office in developing a mind-set of neglect in U. S. policy regarding the British blockade of Germany and the maritime transportation of goods. It will do so by demonstrating that British diplomats were able to change the focus of U.S. complaints about the blockade from one of international legality to a concern for American public opinion. This paper will also analyze the effective use of the definition contraband goods by the British to maintain their blockade.

#### **04.07.14 Does Intermarriage Qualify Caucasian Spouses to Chickasaw Tribal Membership?: Intermarriage During the Allotment Period**

**Lippard, Delaney** *East Central University*

This research explores the issue of quantifying the identity of those who intermarried with Chickasaw tribal members during the late nineteenth century in the United States of America. The project analyzes the court room transcriptions of Caucasian individuals contesting their rights to tribal citizenship in the Chickasaw nation. To gain proficiency in the subject matter, as well as for comparison, the research also relies on Choctaw Nation court records involving intermarried Caucasians and Choctaw citizens. Many Caucasian individuals were involved in legitimate marriages with Chickasaw citizens and were willing to fight for their rights to Chickasaw citizenship, as well as an allotment, by way of their intermarriage. However, there were numerous cases of fraudulent marriages that were solely formed to gain citizenship and an allotment of land. The research details the process of proving citizenship by intermarriage, as well as the effects investigating intermarriage cases had on the Chickasaw Nation.