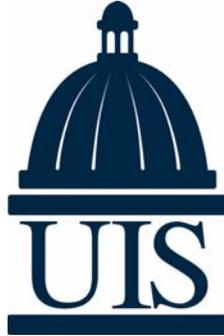


UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS SPRINGFIELD



UIS DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

with the cooperation of the Abraham Lincoln Association, the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, Old State Capitol State Historic Site, the Lincoln Home National Historic Site, and LookingforLincoln and the Lincoln National Heritage Area

presents

THE WEPNER SYMPOSIUM ON THE LINCOLN LEGACY AND CONTEMPORARY POLITICAL SCIENCE

OCTOBER 8-9, 2010

**Presidential Options, Presidential Decisional-Making, and
Social Consequences**

What are we doing and why?

The symposium is designed to provide an opportunity to present recent political science research related to the Lincoln legacy, to relate such work to the broader discipline of political science, and to discuss the broad range of Lincoln studies. The aim of this symposium is connect these streams of thinking that are, but should not be, strangely separated.

The magnitude of Abraham Lincoln as President is indisputable. The literature on, and inspired by, Lincoln is also formidable. (See, Merrill D. Peterson, Lincoln in American Memory, New York: Oxford University Press, 1994, 156; and the many books of Harold Holzer.) But the Lincoln studies literature largely proceeds with little overt recognition of the work of the discipline of political science. Similarly, much of the historical or other literature on the Civil War seems to have little recognition of concepts and techniques related to the study of “secession” or “civil wars” generically, which are fundamental to some key problems of politics.

Political science, as a discipline, came into existence in the years when the memory of Lincoln was powerful. *The new research in political science is so vast that any one book can summarize only part of it.* (Edward D. Mansfield and Richard Sisson, eds., The Evolution of Political Knowledge, Columbus: Ohio State University Press, 2004.) Abraham Lincoln, and the legacy of Abraham Lincoln, has a strong claim on the minds of those who study politics, in its most fundamental sense, in the United States and in many places around the world. (See *Global Lincoln Conference*, Oxford University, July 3-5, 2009.) Yet contemporary political science is not one of those places where the Lincoln claim is strong. Instead, the discipline’s overt memory of Lincoln *or consciousness of a Lincoln legacy as intellectually relevant to contemporary work, is weak.* A major political science meeting can have hundreds of papers, including papers on secession and civil war, but not much overt recognition of the Civil War.

This could be, in part, an artifact of the theories, and especially the methodologies, of the past decade, or two decades. But it is not so. There are many political science books on how wars have started, but the contemporary political science, reflected in the Social Sciences Citation Index or JSTOR, shows almost no awareness even of the problems examined in David Potter, Lincoln and His Party in the Secession Crisis.

Within the need to connect two way of thinking, this symposium begins with the core fact of Lincoln’s having been President, and from that core fact adopts the theme that it seems theoretically used to think about the options open to (or seen by) Presidents, the decision-making engaged in (or avoided by) Presidents, and the social consequences of Presidents do (or avoid doing).

Matthew Holden Jr., Wepner Distinguished Professor of Political Science, UIS

SCHEDULE – FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8

LOCATION: UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS SPRINGFIELD PUBLIC AFFAIRS CENTER CONFERENCE ROOM “G”

8:00 AM Welcoming Remarks

- ❖ Welcome - Chancellor Richard Ringeisen, University of Illinois Springfield
- ❖ Introductory Comment - Matthew Holden, Jr., University of Illinois Springfield

8:10-9:20 Session 1: Thinking About Lincoln: The Ownership and Interpretation of Abraham Lincoln

Discussion theme: Groups have competed for the “ownership” and interpretation of the Lincoln legacy, and other groups have rejected or avoided the Lincoln legacy (as in some recent conservative literature, on one hand, and in some African American scholarship on the other).

- ❖ Tim Miller, (UIS) and Kristina M. Stevens (Old Dominion University), “Abraham Lincoln as Political Scientist” (20 minutes)
- ❖ Stephen M. Skowronek (Yale University), “Is Lincoln a Good Model for Presidential Leadership?” (20 minutes)

Round table discussion

Break

9:30-10:30 Session 2: Presidents and the Challenge of Maintaining the Union

Discussion theme: Presidents in facing the problem of nation-leading have had to deal with (and sometimes avoid) the problem of maintaining the United States, the problem of chattel slavery in the political economy, and the question of whether and/or how the United States can incorporate non-white peoples into the body politic.

- ❖ Fred I. Greenstein (Emeritus, Princeton University), “Six Presidents and the Dissolution of the Union: From James K. Polk to Abraham Lincoln” (20 minutes)
- ❖ David Robertson (University of Missouri St. Louis) Commentary (5 minutes)
- ❖ Bert A. Rockman (Purdue University) Commentary (5 minutes)

Round table discussion

Break

10:45-11:45 Session 3: Presidents and Military Command

Discussion theme: Explicit and implicit bargaining and command relationships between the Chief Executive and the general officers through the exercise of command over the military.

- ❖ Pinky Wassenberg, (Dean, UIS College of Public Affairs and Administration), “The Political Consequences of Divergent Strategic Narratives.” (20 minutes)
- ❖ Vice Adm. Ronald Thunman (U.S. Navy, Ret.) Commentary (10 minutes)
- ❖ Richard Sobel, (Northwestern University) Commentary (10 minutes)

Round table discussion

11:50-12:30 LUNCH

12:30 -1:40 Session 4: The Lincoln Legacy and the Problem of Exclusion and Inclusion

Discussion theme: Presidents and the exclusion and inclusion of subordinated groups, notably the problem of slavery and emancipation, but other subordinated categories as well.

- ❖ Janet Martin (Bowdoin College), Chair and commenter
- ❖ Jason Pierceson (University of Illinois Springfield), “Lincoln’s Liberalism and Same-Sex Marriage,” (20 minutes)
- ❖ Adriana M. Crocker, (University of Illinois Springfield), “Lincoln’s Legacy and Women’s Rights: The Diffusion of Mandatory Gender Quota Laws” (20 minutes)

Round table discussion

1:40-2:55 Session 5: The Lincoln Legacy and How Institutions Have Been Adapted

Discussion theme: The Lincoln legacy may be evaluated in reference to the capacity of American government, after Lincoln, to deal with critical problems of adaptation.

- ❖ Rich Valelly (Swarthmore College) “Deflecting the Ex-Post Veto Override Player: The Strategy of the 14th Amendment Dred Scott Override,” (20 minutes)
- ❖ Lenneal Henderson (University of Baltimore), “Abraham Lincoln and the Concept of Emergency Federalism” (20 minutes)
- ❖ Shamira Gelbman (Illinois State University) Commentary (5 minutes); Mildred W. Robinson, (University of Virginia Law School) (5 minutes)

Round table discussion

3:00-4:00 Session 6: Lincoln and Obama

Discussion theme: How “the people” have seen these two distinctive persons in the Presidency? How should scholars see the practical relevance of the Lincoln legacy and the Obama presence for contemporary issues?

- ❖ Joe Lowndes (University of Oregon), “Jackson, Lincoln, and Obama” (20 minutes)
- ❖ Wilbur Rich (Emeritus, Wellesley), “The Lincoln and Obama Legacies: The Perils of Channeling” (20 minutes)
- ❖ James W. Ingram III (San Diego State University) and Shoon Lio (University of Illinois Springfield) , “Abraham Lincoln, Barack Obama and the Virtues of the Positive State” (20 minutes)
- ❖ Mildred W. Robinson (University of Virginia Law School) (5 minutes)
- ❖ Peyton McCrary (U.S. Department of Justice), Commentary (5 minutes)

Round table discussion

ADJOURNMENT OF FRIDAY SESSIONS

SCHEDULE – SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9

LOCATION: ABRAHAM LINCOLN PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM
(112 N. SIXTH STREET, DOWNTOWN SPRINGFIELD)

8:30-10:00 Session 7: Lincoln Studies and Political Science: What now should scholarship take up and how?

Discussion theme: Summary of findings and issues and discussion of the considerations that should be taken into account by scholars, by academic evaluators, by private grantors, foundations, and the National Science Foundation.

- ❖ Mildred W. Robinson (University of Virginia Law) (5 minutes), Bert A. Rockman (Purdue University) (5 minutes), David Robertson (University of Missouri St Louis) (5 minutes), Thomas Schneider (Emory University), (5 minutes), Thomas Schwartz (Illinois State Historian) (5 minutes)

Break, move to next location

LOCATION: OLD STATE CAPITOL HISTORIC SITE HALL OF REPRESENTATIVES
(2 BLOCKS SOUTH ON 6TH AND ADAMS STREET, ENTRANCE ON SOUTH SIDE OF PLAZA)

Session 8: 10:15-12:00 “What Shall We Teach the Young?”: A Forum on the Lincoln legacy, Political Science, and K-12 Social Studies

Discussion theme: We need some new understanding of the question, as Aaron Wildavsky once put it, of “what shall we teach the young?” With the question of “what?” also goes “how?” The symposium is designed to mingle the expertise, experience and interests of those who conduct research and teach at the college-university level and the expertise, experience, and interests of K-12 [history and government?] social studies teachers. What is known about Abraham Lincoln and the Lincoln legacy? What should be known? What do 21st century students bring with them to the learning process? How can intellectual interchange between the college-university community and the K12 community can be facilitated.

- ❖ Keynote: Rogers M. Smith (University of Pennsylvania) (20 minutes)
- ❖ Justin Blandford, (5 minutes) Camesha Scruggs (Graduate Student, History, Texas Southern University, (5 minutes) ,

General Public Discussion/Question and Answer Session