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The 44th Annual Carl L. Becker Memorial Lecture in History: F%#* Work, A Manifesto: Why Full Employment Is a Bad Idea, or What Is to Be Done When Work Disappears

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The 44th Annual
Carl L. Becker Memorial
Lecture in History

F%#* Work, A Manifesto: Why Full Employment Is a Bad Idea, or What Is to Be Done When Work Disappears

Dr. James Livingston
Rutgers University

7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, September 13, 2017
Seerley Hall
Room 115

The Becker Lecture is supported by the Donald & Alleen Howard Endowment Fund
James Livingston

The History Department of the University of Northern Iowa is proud to welcome Dr. James Livingston, Organization of American Historians Distinguished Lecturer and Professor of History at Rutgers University.

His wide-ranging scholarship has included work on economic, social, and cultural history. His many books include *Origins of the Federal Reserve System: Money, Class, and Corporate Capitalism* (1986); *The World Turned Inside Out: American Thought and Culture at the End of the 20th Century* (2009); and *Against Thrift: Why Consumer Culture is Good for the Economy, the Environment, and Your Soul* (2011).

His most recent book is *No More Work: Why Full Employment is a Bad Idea* (2016).

He has written for numerous periodicals, including the American Historical Review, Social Text, the History News Network, Wired, Jacobin, Dissent, the New York Times, the Los Angeles Times, and the Christian Science Monitor. In addition, he maintains a blog, “Politics and Letters,” where he reflects on history, social theory, and current events.
A Tribute to Carl L. Becker
(1873-1945)

The University of Northern Iowa Department of History and UNI’s chapter of Phi Alpha Theta welcome you to the annual Carl L. Becker Memorial Lecture in History. The lecture has been named in honor of a man who was, perhaps, the most distinguished scholar and teacher to emerge from Iowa.

Becker, born near Reinbeck, received his Ph.D. in 1907, from the University of Wisconsin. From 1902-1941 he taught at various universities in the Midwest and East, the last being Cornell University in New York.

It was as a progressive thinker that Becker became an internationally-recognized figure. He believed that the historian writes in the present, always with one eye on the past and the other on the future. History then can be used to improve human relations. This type of thinking gave history a purpose and was responsible for the still popular idea that historians, armed with knowledge of the past, can better respond to problems of the present.

Becker’s thoughts on mechanical power also are indicative of his progressive thinking. He was concerned that humanity not become slave to weapons of mechanical power for fear we might, in the end, destroy ourselves. Becker expressed these concerns in the decade before the atom bomb was dropped over Hiroshima.

Michael G. Kammen, 1974
R. Don Higginbotham, 1975
Jack Greene, 1976
Otto Pflanze, 1977
William Appleman Williams, 1978
Eric Foner, 1979
Chester G. Starr, 1980
Paul W. Drake, 1981
Joan Hoff-Wilson, 1982
Don E. Fehrenbacher, 1983
Ivor Wilks, 1984
William H. McNeil, 1985
Allan G. Bogue, 1986
Harold M. Hyman, 1987
William H. Dray, 1988
Akira Iriye, 1989
Darlene Clark Hine, 1990
Paul L. Murphy, 1991
Norman A. Graebner, 1992
Leo A. Loubère, 1993
Helen Nader, 1994
Martin V. Melosi, 1995

Previous Becker Lecturers

Theofanis G. Stavrou, 1996
Linda Kerber, 1997
Robert Eric Frykenberg, 1998
Richard M. Fried, 1999
Walter L. Arnstein, 2000
Elaine Tyler May, 2001
Chun-shu Chang, 2002
Paul Schroeder, 2003
Nancy Maclean, 2004
Joan Wallach Scott, 2005
Mary Elizabeth Berry, 2006
Timothy H. Breen, 2007
David G. Hunter, 2008
Eric Arnesen, 2009
Patricia Buckley Ebrey, 2010
Melvin I. Urofsky, 2011
Geoffrey Parker, 2012
Muzaffar Alam, 2013
Elliott West, 2014
Ilan Worhington, 2015
Elaine Carey, 2016
Phi Alpha Theta/Department of History
Lecture Series
2017-2018

"Work, A Manifesto: Why Full Employment
Is a Bad Idea, or What Is to Be Done
When Work Disappears"

Dr. James Livingston
Rutgers University

"Russian Revolutions of 1917: What Do We
Know After 100 Years"

Gregory Bruess
UNI Department of History

"The Birth, Death, Resurrection, and Demise
of the U.S. Rare Earth Industry"

Joanne Goldman
UNI Department of History

Dedication of the John Baskerville Memorial
Painting

Rhonda Gray
Artist and UNI Alum
Chicago, IL

"When Women Weren’t Allowed to be Human(ists):
Tales of Female Scholars in the Italian
Renaissance"

Charlotte Wells
UNI Department of History

Title To Be Announced
Winner of the Outstanding UNI Graduate
History Paper Award - To Be Chosen
Spring 2018

September 13, 2017
Seerley 115
7:00 p.m.

October 25, 2017
Seerley 220
7:00 p.m.

November 15, 2017
Seerley 220
7:00 p.m.

February 21, 2018
Seerley 115
7:00 p.m.

March 21, 2018
Seerley 220
7:00 p.m.

April 18, 2018
Seerley 220
7:00 p.m.