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Driggs Lecture: "Why they Fought..."

**Summary:** Professor Kathleen Neils Conzen of the University of Chicago will deliver the 22nd annual O. Truman Driggs Distinguished Lecture on the topic, "Why They Fought: Immigrant Colonists and Minnesota's Civil War."

(September 8, 2006)-Professor Kathleen Neils Conzen of the University of Chicago will deliver the 22nd annual O. Truman Driggs Distinguished Lecture at the University of Minnesota, Morris. Her lecture on the topic, "Why They Fought: Immigrant Colonists and Minnesota's Civil War," will be given at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 19, in Humanities Fine Arts Recital Hall. The lecture is free and open to the public.

Dr. Conzen is a leading historian of German immigration to the United States. Her books include Germans in Minnesota (2003) and Immigrant Milwaukee, 1836-1860: Accommodation and Community in a Frontier City (1976). She is the author of numerous scholarly articles, among them "Immigrant Religion and the Public Sphere: The German Catholic Milieu in America," "The Invention of Ethnicity," "Ethnicity as Festive Culture: Nineteenth Century German America on Parade," and "Peasant Pioneers: Generational Succession Among German Farmers in Frontier Minnesota."

At the University of Chicago, where she has taught since 1976, Dr. Conzen has received both the Quantrell Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching and the Faculty Achievement Award for Excellence in Graduate Teaching. She has served as the director of the University's undergraduate program in history and has taught in the core course on American Civilization. She holds the Lloyd Lewis Fellowship at The Newberry Library in Chicago and previously was a Berlin Prize Fellow of the American Academy in Berlin. She has been president of both the Urban History Association and the Immigration History Society. She holds a doctoral degree from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and a bachelor's degree from St. Catherine's College in St. Paul. Before joining the University of Chicago faculty, she taught at Wellesley College.

The Driggs Lecture was founded in 1985 by history colleagues, UMM alumni and friends of the late O. Truman Driggs, who taught history at UMM from 1963 until his death in 1989, and served as chair of the Division of the Social Sciences from 1968 to 1977. Annually, it brings distinguished visitors to UMM to speak on topics relating to history, the liberal arts or public affairs.

A panel discussion and questions from the audience will follow the lecture. Panelists will include UMM alumnus Benjamin Leonard, Dr. Marynel Ryan, assistant professor of history, and current UMM student Nathan Swanson. Refreshments will be served.

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