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College Historians Explore “Do Roots Matter?”

Oberlin College Archivist Ken Grossi and fellow college historians Tom Mach and John Oliver examine relationships between founding values and present day ideals at three Midwestern Institutions of higher learning in an event co-sponsored by the Oberlin Heritage Center and the Oberlin College Archives. **“Do Roots Matter? Change at Three Religion-Born Schools – Cedarville, Malone, Oberlin – from the 19th to 21st Centuries”** takes place on **Wednesday, February 26 at 7:15 p.m.** at Kendal at Oberlin’s Heiser Auditorium (600 Kendal Drive). The program is free and open to the public.

Dr. Thomas Mach serves as Professor of History and Chair of the Department of History and Government at Cedarville University in Cedarville, Ohio. Professor Mach traces the transition of Cedarville from Presbyterian to Baptist control while examining the continuity between the two denominations’ objectives.

John W. Oliver, Jr. is an Emeritus Professor of History at Malone University in Canton, Ohio. While noting changes to Malone’s original mission concerning social, religious, and political issues, Professor Oliver discusses why he believes the view of the school’s founders may be more important for our time than for their own.

Oberlin College Archivist Ken Grossi discusses Oberlin’s transition from an institution rooted in Christian ideals and the Oberlin Covenant, to a liberal arts school with a focus on diverse cultural traditions and religious ideals, and concerns for social issues. Grossi is in his 18th year with the Oberlin College Archives and has served as College Archivist since 2009. In 2011, Grossi was elected to the Board of Trustees at the Oberlin Heritage Center.

For more information about this or other upcoming Oberlin Heritage Center programs, visit www.oberlinheritagecenter.org or call (440) 774-1700.

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