



SALVATORI CENTER  
FOR THE STUDY OF INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM  
CLAREMONT MCKENNA COLLEGE



Bradley C. S. Watson  
Professor of Politics, Saint Vincent College, PA  
Monday, April 28, 2014  
4:15 to 5:30 PM  
CMC - Kravis Center, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Room 367  
“The University and the Polis: Civic Education in an Age of Doubt”

Few would argue that civic education is irrelevant to higher education. We share a sense that it is an essential component of liberal education, and that is also relevant to the lives of students. Yet, despite this consensus, national studies show that a scholarship of civic education is lacking in American universities. Further complicating the matter is the reality that a scholarship of civic education, to be worthy of the name, must also in some sense be patriotic: It should put into question what should be questioned as it reinforces what should be defended, practically. This talk will suggest a manner in which the American university might begin to re-engage the theme of civic education in a coherent scholarly way, by concentrating once again on the classical roots of Western civilization.

**BRADLEY C. S. WATSON**, Professor of Politics, Saint Vincent College, is currently W. Glenn Campbell and Rita-Ricardo Campbell National Fellow at the Hoover Institution, Stanford University, where he is writing a book on progressivism. He has authored or edited many books including, *Living Constitution, Dying Faith: Progressivism and the New Science of Jurisprudence, Civic Education and Culture, and The Idea of the American University*. His next volume is an anthology entitled *Progressive Challenges to the American Constitution: A New Republic?* forthcoming from Cambridge University Press.

**RESERVATIONS ARE NOT NECESSARY**