



INDIANA UNIVERSITY BLOOMINGTON
OSTROM WORKSHOP

TOCQUEVILLE LECTURE SERIES

Susan McWilliams Barndt

Professor of Politics, Pomona College

Friday, February 19, 2021: 12:00 – 1:30 pm EST

Virtual via Zoom: [Click here for link to Zoom meeting](#)



The Idea of Fraternity in America, Then and Now*

Almost 50 years, Wilson Carey McWilliams published *The Idea of Fraternity in America*, a book which offered a critique of the liberal tradition and argued that the United States had been shaped just as much by an "alternative tradition" rooted in practices and ideals of community. *The Idea of Fraternity* won several awards and influenced a generation of political scholars. How does this book hold up, half a century later? Does the "alternative tradition" that McWilliams found in older generations of American political thought still have purchase in our lives and political practice? Is there still an idea of fraternity in America?

Susan McWilliams Barndt is chair and professor of the politics department at Pomona College. A three-time winner of Pomona's Wig Award for Excellence in Teaching, McWilliams teaches courses in the history of political thought, American political thought, African-American political thought, and politics and literature. She is the author of *The American Road Trip and American Political Thought* (2018) and *Traveling Back: Toward a Global Political Theory* (2013) as well as the editor of several books including *A Political Companion to James Baldwin* (2017). McWilliams is the co-editor of the peer-reviewed journal *American Political Thought* as well as the American political thought book series at the University of Kansas Press. For her work, she has received awards including the National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship and the Graves Award in the Humanities.

**Part of "The Idea of America" Series*

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Ostrom Workshop
513 N. Park Ave
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ostromworkshop.indiana.edu

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all Ostrom workshop presentations will be virtual until further notice. Join instantly using the link above. For questions, contact Allison Sturgeon (sturgeon@iu.edu)