



Nineteenth Annual

Leonard J. Arrington MORMON HISTORY LECTURE

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The lecture is free and open to the public.
Call 435-797-2663 with questions.

All area college students are invited to
participate in a writing competition
in conjunction with this lecture.
Cash awards will be given.

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Arrington Writing Awards, go to

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Dr. Gregory A. Prince

Presents

“Faith and Doubt as Partners in Mormon History”

Thursday, September 19, 2013, 7 p.m.
Logan LDS Tabernacle
50 N. Main, Logan, Utah

In the inaugural lecture of this series, Leonard Arrington spoke to the title “Faith and Intellect as Partners in Mormon History.” This lecture borrows from his title, but substitutes “Doubt” for “Intellect.” Faith and doubt are two sides of the same coin, the interplay between the two is essential to a complete religious life, and scholars are uniquely qualified to leverage the inherent value of doubt. When they succeed, their articles and books don’t add bricks to existing paradigms; they change those paradigms, thereby becoming agents in Mormonism’s foundational tenet: “continuing revelation.” Arrington’s seminal work, *Great Basin Kingdom*, arose from a fertile mind that was willing to doubt the received story of the Mormon colonization of the Great Basin, and instead follow the data towards a new paradigm of economic exigencies as a primary motivating force.

Other examples of paradigm shifts will be discussed; all of them arising from people whose faith was coupled with doubt sufficiently robust to challenge conventional wisdom. Arrington chose to engage some doubts personally, while in other instances remained on the sidelines and encouraged others to engage. At a time of deep introspection prompted by the imminent death of his wife, Grace, he penned his innermost thoughts on the subject: “Having doubts, having fears, having reservations about counsel is not necessarily an opening wedge toward the loss of faith. Indeed, it might be the avenue to renewed faith, deeper faith, greater understanding.”

Gregory A. Prince was born and reared in Los Angeles, California. He attended Dixie College and UCLA, earning degrees in dentistry and pathology. The focus of his scientific research, spanning four decades, was respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), the primary cause of infant pneumonia worldwide. He has published over 150 scientific papers. In addition to his career in science, he has developed an avocation as a historian of Mormonism, publishing many articles and two books, *Power From on High: The Development of Mormon Priesthood* (1995), and *David O. McKay and the Rise of Modern Mormonism* (2005).

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