



**21st Annual
Baseball in Literature and
Culture Conference**

Friday, April 1, 2016

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7:45 a.m. **Registration and Breakfast**

8:15 a.m. **Welcome**

Andy Hazucha, Conference Coordinator
Kevin Eichner, Ottawa University President

8:30 – **Morning Keynote Address**

9:15 a.m. Morning Keynote Speaker: Bill James

9:30 – **Concurrent Sessions A**

10:30 a.m.

Session A1: Baseball in Fiction

Location: Hasty Conference Room

Chair: Terry Haines, Ottawa University

- Richard V. McGehee, University of Texas at Austin:
“On-deck Circle: Best Baseball Stories of the Dominican Republic”
- Débora Tiénou, University of Illinois: “Not Just Jackie:
Reimagining Major League Baseball’s Integration”
- Daniel Anderson, Dominican University:
“‘There’s Always More to It Than We Know about’: Ernest Hemingway, John McGraw and the Perils of Professionalism”

Session A2: Baseball History in Song, Film, and Newsprint

Location: Zook Conference Room

Chair: Tonia Salvini, Haskell Indian Nations University

- Katherine Walden, University of Iowa: *“‘Play Ball, You All’: Baseball’s Journey Down Tin Pan Alley”*
- Mark Eberle, Fort Hays State University: *“Early History of Women’s Baseball in Kansas”*
- Larry Foley, University of Arkansas: *“The First Boys of Spring”*

**10:45 –
11:45 a.m.**

Concurrent Sessions B

Session B1: Negro Leagues Baseball

Location: Hasty Conference Room

Chair: Steve Foulke, Ottawa University

- Todd Fertig, Topeka Capital-Journal: “*Legacy: the Enduring Impact of the Negro Leagues on Modern Baseball and American Society*”
- Larry Lester, NoirTech Research, Inc.: “*Why Black Baseball Matters: The Socioeconomic Impact of the Negro Leagues on American Life*”

Session B2: Baseball Icons Reconsidered

Location: Zook Conference Room

Chair: Richard Menninger, Ottawa University

- Phil Oliver, Middle Tennessee State University: “*This Was Satchel*”
- William Bishop, Baker University: “*The Adventures of Babe Ruth: The Fictionalization of the Great Bambino in Popular Culture, 1920-1935*”
- Sarah Bunting, tomatonation.com: “*Beyond Burns: Baseball’s Best Documentaries*”

**12:00 –
1:30 p.m.**

Luncheon and Afternoon Keynote Speaker

Location: Schendel Conference Center

Afternoon Keynote Speaker: Frank White

Book signing in Mabee Lounge following the luncheon.

**1:30 –
2:30 p.m.**

Concurrent Sessions C

Session C1: Baseball in Cultural Contexts

Location: Hasty Conference Room

Chair: Beverly Rodgers, Ottawa University

- Joc Collins, Carson-Newman University: *“Quantifying the Qualifiers: Linguistic Analysis of Fans’ Reactions to the Mets Sweeping the Cubs in 2015 Divisional Playoffs”*
- Margaret Gripshover, Western Kentucky University: *“When Honus Wagner Was a Gelding and Garry Herrmann a Stud: Thoroughbred Race Horses Named for Deadball Era Baseball Players, Managers, Executives, and Umpires”*
- Stephen Andrews, Grinnell College: *“‘People will come, Ray’: Reconstructing Field of Dreams in Terms of Pigford v. Glickman”*

Session C2: Baseball Poets and Poetry

Location: Zook Conference Room

Chair: Karen Ohnesorge, Ottawa University

- Phil Wedge, University of Kansas: *“‘Throwing a Curve’ and Other Poems”*
- Bob Mayberry, California State University, Channel Islands: *“Penciling Ginsberg into the Lineup: Howling for the Negro Leagues”*
- Kate Glavin, University of Massachusetts-Boston: *“Look Like a Lady, Play Like a DiMaggio: A Lyric on the Queens of Swat”*

**2:35 –
3:35 p.m.**

Concurrent Sessions D

Session D1: Baseball in Creative Non-fiction

Location: Hasty Conference Room

Chair: Lyn Wagner, Ottawa University

- Gregory Larson, Old Dominion University: *“The Future of Baseball”*
- Shawn O’Hare, Carson-Newman University: *“Fear Strokes Out”*
- Barbara Dinneen, Ottawa University: *“Daughters Watching Fathers Playing Catch with Sons”*

Session D2: A Baseball Potpourri

Location: Zook Conference Room

Chair: Shannon Dyer, Ottawa University

- Nicholas Bush, Motlow State Community College: *“Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Dead Pitcher”*
- Blane Baker, William Jewell College: *“Effects of Material Culture on Performance in Baseball”*

Session D3: Baseball in Children’s Literature

Location: Goppert Conference Room

Chair: Warren Tormey, Middle Tennessee State University

- Bob Barrier, Kennesaw State University: *“Trends and Themes in Baseball Kid Lit: Early Young Adult Literature”*
- Jeff Cebulski, Kennesaw State University: *“Trends and Themes in Baseball Kid Lit: Chip Hilton and a Current Representation”*

**3:45 –
5:45 p.m.**

Session E: Extra Innings

Location: Smoked Creations; 222 E. Logan Street; Ottawa, KS

Feel free to gather for some post-conference conversation and conviviality.



Morning Keynote Speaker

Bill James

A baseball writer since 1975, Bill James joined the Red Sox as a Senior Baseball Operations Advisor in November, 2002. He works with senior management and the baseball operations department to provide research and analysis of special projects, player contracts, and on-going concerns.

The author of the annual Baseball Abstract from 1977 through 1987, James came to national prominence as a result of a Sports Illustrated article published in June of 1981. He is the author of more than 30 baseball books and the creator of the popular statistical summary, The Bill James Handbook, now published annually by ACTA Sports. His other contributions to the sport include the concepts of Runs Created (an estimate of the number of runs each hitter has contributed to his team), Sabermetrics (the effort to replace conjecture and speculation about issues of concern to baseball fans with objective and verifiable knowledge), Win Shares (an estimate of each player's contribution to his team's win total) and Secondary Average (a way of summarizing the other things that a player does to create runs, other than hit for average).

James lives in Lawrence, Kansas, with his wife of 37 years, Susan McCarthy.



Afternoon Keynote Speaker

Frank White

Frank White, Jr., is most noted for his stellar professional baseball career spanning 31 years, 27 of which were spent with the Kansas City Royals. A Kansas City native and graduate of Lincoln High School, he became the first graduate of the experimental Royals Academy to be invited to big league spring training with the Royals (1973). A former Jackson County Legislator, First District At-Large, Frank was sworn in as Jackson County Executive on January 11, 2016.

Frank is one of the most decorated second basemen in baseball history. He won eight Gold Gloves, including six consecutive times which set an American League record for second basemen at the time. Frank was selected to the All Star team five times and named Royals Player of the Year twice (1983, 1986). He helped guide Kansas City to seven post season trips and two World Series appearances including the 1985 World Championship. Frank was named the ALCS MVP in 1980 after hitting .545 and driving in three runs to lead the Royals to their first World Series against the New York Yankees.

After retirement (1990), Frank's #20 was retired by the Royals. That year, he was inducted into the Kansas City Royals Hall of Fame. A statue of Frank was erected in his honor at Kauffman Stadium (2004).

Frank and his wife Teresa have 8 children, 11 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild. Together, they make numerous contributions to the Kansas City Community by supporting organizations and charitable foundations as City Union Mission, The Salvation Army, CAPA, Frank and Daisie White Colon Cancer Awareness Program, The Medicine Cabinet, Team Smile, Asthma & Allergy Foundation, Get Your Rear in Gear and RBI Programs.



Logo designed by Todd Radom.



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