Faculty member Philip L. Barlow, the Leonard Arrington Chair of Mormon History and Culture, has announced he will retire in December.

After earning his BA in history at Weber State College, Barlow received his master’s degree in the history of Christianity from Harvard and his Th.D. in American Religious History and Culture from Harvard Divinity School. Before coming to USU in 2007, he was the chair of the Department of Theological Studies at Hanover College in Indiana.

Barlow has published widely on Mormon history and culture, including his books Mormons and the Bible, The Oxford Handbook of Mormonism, and New Historical Atlas of Religion in America. He has also published roughly three dozen articles and book chapters exploring questions of religious pluralism, Mormon history, and religious biography. Following his retirement, Barlow will join Brigham Young University’s Neal A. Maxwell Institute for Religious Scholarship as its Associate Director, where he will coordinate scholarly mentoring and supervise the Institute’s seminars, lectures, workshops, and discussion series.

We will celebrate Barlow’s outstanding career and his time at USU at a reception on November 1, where he will also present a final public lecture.