

Columbus Futurists

On Thursday, November 19, 2015, Dr. Steve Millett will make a presentation to the Columbus Futurists on his new book *American Ways*, which provides an overview of 400 years of American history from the perspective of long-term trends in the behavior of the American people.

The book asserts that history is the story of repeating patterns of human behavior and that Americans have shown remarkably consistent modes of behavior at the macro-level of national experiences.

Such trends include:

- a heavy emphasis on individual merits, rights, and initiative;
- the pleasures of joining private communities while often resenting public communities;
- the deft ability to match high ideals with material self-interests;
- settling disputes peacefully by agreed-upon processes (legal, political, etc.);
- making major compromises to avoid violence and reconciliations after major incidents of violence; and
- making the world safe for Americans.

In addition, the final chapter of the book provides a list of major challenges facing Americans in the 21st century and how American behavioral trends will likely play out in the future.