



FRIENDS of the AMERICAN RESEARCH INSTITUTE in TURKEY



Book Talk on Zoom
on
Wed., June 16, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. Istanbul time.

Carolyn McCue Goffman
**Mary Mills Patrick's Cosmopolitan
Mission and the Constantinople
Woman's College**

Mary Mills Patrick's Constantinople Woman's College was one of the most influential institutions of higher learning for women in the Middle East in the last decades of the Ottoman Empire. Patrick arrived in the 1870s to evangelize, but she gradually distanced herself from Christian proselytism in order to create a "cosmopolitan" college for all Ottoman women. Patrick was president of the Constantinople Woman's College for 34 years, protecting the institution through the Balkan Wars, World War One, the British occupation of Constantinople, the demise of the Ottoman Empire, and the founding of the Turkish Republic. Just as the late Ottoman Empire underwent extraordinary changes, so did Patrick transform herself and the Constantinople College to meet the demands of a twentieth-century Muslim state, ultimately sacrificing her "cosmopolitan," heterogeneous student body to an ethnically homogeneous one that reflected the newly racialized nationalism of the Turkish Republic.

Mary Mills Patrick's Cosmopolitan Mission and the Constantinople Woman's College explores Patrick's career from the 1870s to the 1930s, tracking her personal religious struggle and her professional transformation from Protestant evangelist, to feminist educator, to advocate for Muslim women, to, finally, supporter of Turkish nationalism.

Carolyn McCue Goffman teaches English Literature at DePaul University in Chicago. Her research on Americans in Turkey and the Ottoman Empire intersects with her interests in women in higher education, colonial systems of education, and western representations of Muslim women. She has lived, taught, and researched in Istanbul, starting as a teacher of English as a foreign language at a night school in Bakırköy and later serving as visiting lecturer at Boğaziçi and Koç universities. Her husband, Daniel Goffman, an Ottoman historian, suffered Aphasia (loss of language) after a stroke in 2006; since then, she has acted as caregiver and advocate for those with speech disabilities. The difficult process of "finding one's voice," she has found, is both metaphor and reality for those marginalized by gender, race, class, or disability.

The book is available on : <https://rowman.com/ISBN/9781498592864/Mary-Mills-Patrick%E2%80%99s-Cosmopolitan-Mission-and-the-Constantinople-Woman%E2%80%99s-College>

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYqd--trZljHtx37ipcy9ydEs5GnYRlqCu0>