

Dalton “Rusty” Curtis

Rusty Curtis earned his Bachelor of Science in Education and Doctor of Philosophy degrees from the University of Oklahoma and a Master of Arts degree from the University of Rhode Island. He has held professional teaching positions as an instructor at the U.S. Naval Submarine School in Groton, Connecticut, a high school social studies teacher in Moore, Oklahoma, and later as a faculty member at Southeast Missouri State University, where he has taught courses in history and philosophy of education, philosophy, and history. He also has served as director of honors, associate to the provost, director of the general education interdisciplinary program, and department chair. Currently, he is a professor of history at Southeast Missouri State University.

His scholarship has dealt with the topics in the history of American and modern European educational, political, and social thought, such as the concept of democracy, the idea of a liberal education, and religion and society. He is one of the contributing authors of *Lives in Education: A Narrative of People and Ideas and Thirteen Questions: Reframing Education’s Conversation*. He participated in the writing of *Strong Foundations: Twelve Principles for Effective General Education*. He has written articles and reviews for the *Journal of Thought*, *the Review Journal of Philosophy and Social Science*, *Educational Studies*, *Virae Scholasticae*, *Fides et Historia*, *the Journal of Philosophy and History of Education*, *Proceedings of the Southwestern Philosophy of Education Society*, and *Focus on Learning*. He has presented papers at meetings of History of Education, the International Society for Educational Biography, the American Educational Studies Association, the American Educational Research Association, the Association of General and Liberal Studies, the Society of Philosophy and History of Education, the Southwestern Philosophy of Education Society, and the Southern History of Education Society. In addition, he has served as editor of the proceedings of the Southwestern Philosophy of Education Society and “*S.H.O.E.S. News: Southern History of Education Society Newsletter*.”

Beyond scholarship and teaching, he has a variety of interests. For more than twenty-five years, he served as a naval officer, which afforded him opportunities to engage in activities far different from those in education and to travel to parts of Europe and Asia. Most of that time he was in the naval reserve. Perhaps the most significant duty he exercised was the application of his skills as a historian for the naval historian’s center. In that capacity, he led a group of naval historians and naval artist to the island of Luzon in the Philippines in order to identify and collect documents and artifacts, and to conduct interviews at the Subic Bay naval facility six months before it turned over to the government of the Philippines. Traveling for pleasure has taken him to England, The Netherlands, Germany, Austria, and France. In addition to traveling, he is an avid sports fan, especially of baseball, and he enjoys hiking, bicycling, swimming, and bird watching.

He and his wife, Marilyn, who is a vice president in a local hospital, live within a few miles of their daughter, Shannon; son-in-law, Mark; and grandsons, Paiton and

Tysen. Shannon is a hand therapist, and Mark is a machinist. The six of them spend many hours together participating in activities, ranging from youth soccer, Suzuki violin concerts, and swimming to attending professional baseball games and playing golf. They also travel together, taking the boys to Disney World and other places that are fun for children of any age.