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November 18, 2009, 5:00 p.m.  
E.E. Thompson Courtroom  
UMKC School of Law  
500 East 52nd Street  
Kansas City, MO 64110

In honor of Dean and Professor Emeritus Patrick D. Kelly

## Lecture: Deaths on Pleasant Street by Giles Fowler

The 1909 murder case surrounding the wealthy Swope family of Independence, Missouri, gripped newspaper readers throughout the nation. Giles Fowler has gathered the facts behind the suspicious fates of three Swope family members: the eccentric Colonel, millionaire donor of Kansas City's Swope Park, his affable cousin, and a young nephew and heir. The suspect, Dr. Bennett Clark Hyde, charged with poisoning the Colonel and suspected of multiple other attempted murders, endured national media attention for this crime of the century. The series of trials and appeals that followed explored the question: Was he a diabolical villain bent on inheriting Swope's millions or the unfortunate victim of a family grudge?

Mr. Fowler worked for 24 years at the *Kansas City Star* as a reporter, film and theater critic, and editor of the papers Sunday magazine. He began teaching journalism in 1980 at Kansas State University and Iowa State University's Greenlee School of Journalism and currently lives in Ames, Iowa.



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