

# Clarke Forum

## for Contemporary Issues

DICKINSON

Fall 2017

All events are free and open to the public

[www.clarkeforum.org](http://www.clarkeforum.org)

717-245-1875

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### Wednesday, September 6, 2017 ♦

Anita Tuvin Schlechter Auditorium, 7 p.m.

#### *The Power of Big Social Media Data*

**H. Andrew Schwartz**, Stony Brook University

Schwartz will focus on what large-scale social media data can reveal about the users generating it and how this is changing social science.

### Thursday, September 7, 2017

Anita Tuvin Schlechter Auditorium, 7 p.m.

#### *Breaking Issue: North Korea Today*

**Jina Kim**, Dickinson College

**Richard Lacquement**, U.S. Army War College

**Jeff McCausland**, Dickinson College

**Douglas Stuart** (moderator), Dickinson College

This panel of experts will share their ideas regarding the current North Korean political situation, including such perspectives as the relationship between North Korea and South Korea, tactics to control the nuclear threat, and U.S. policy.

### Tuesday, September 12, 2017 \*

Anita Tuvin Schlechter Auditorium, 7 p.m.

#### Morgan Lecture

#### *The Genocidal Foundation of the United States*

**Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz**, American historian, writer & feminist

Dunbar-Ortiz will provide a history of settler colonialism and genocidal war that she argues forms the foundation of the United States.

### Monday, September 18, 2017 \*

Anita Tuvin Schlechter Auditorium, 7 p.m.

#### Constitution Day Address

#### *Civil Discourse in an Uncivil Age*

**Alexander Heffner**, journalist, writer and civic educator

Heffner will discuss the millennial citizen, the space of old and new media, and the character of contemporary political discourse. How can we restore faith in democracy?

### Tuesday, September 26, 2017

Anita Tuvin Schlechter Auditorium, 7 p.m.

#### Priestley Award Celebration Lecture

#### *The Good News on Energy, Environment and Our Future*

**Richard Alley**, Pennsylvania State University

Humans have burned trees, whales, and now fossil fuels far faster than they grow back, enjoying the energy but suffering the environmental impacts and then shortages. We are the first generation that can build a sustainable energy system, improving the economy, employment, environment, ethics, and national security.

### Tuesday, October 3, 2017 \*

Anita Tuvin Schlechter Auditorium, 7 p.m.

#### *Everything is Connected*

**Peterson Toscano**, theatrical performance activist

Connecting contemporary issues to his own bizarre personal experiences, literature, science, and even the odd Bible story, Toscano takes his audience on an off-beat mental mind trip. A shapeshifter, he transforms right before your eyes into a whole cast of comic characters who explore the serious worlds of gender, sexuality, privilege, religion, and environmental justice.

### Wednesday, October 4, 2017

Anita Tuvin Schlechter Auditorium, 7 p.m.

#### *Remixing the American Dream*

**Raquel Cepeda**, journalist, critic, filmmaker, autobiographer

The American Dream, Cepeda argues, is a pipedream for some and a birthright for others. Challenging the absurdity of the black-white national conversation about the American dream, Cepeda offers a working and accessible revision to suit generations of Americans, like her, who have been pushed to the margins.

### Thursday, October 5, 2017

Anita Tuvin Schlechter Auditorium, 7 p.m.

#### *Republican Politics Today*

**René Amore**, Republican Party of Pennsylvania

**Robert Borden '91**, House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

**David O'Connell** (moderator), Dickinson College

Drawing from state and national politics, this panel will explore who identifies as and what it means to be a Republican today. Particular attention will be paid to the definitions of conservatism and the challenges Republicans face in Pennsylvania as a swing state, adding context to political debates on Dickinson's campus.

### Thursday, October 19, 2017

Anita Tuvin Schlechter Auditorium, 7 p.m.

#### *Imagining Cuba: Emerging Documentary Filmmaking within Social Change*

**Damián Sainz**, Cuban filmmaker

Sainz explores the struggles of the emerging generation of documentary filmmakers in contemporary Cuba.

### Monday, October 23, 2017 ♦

Anita Tuvin Schlechter Auditorium, 7 p.m.

#### *Fairness and Accountability in Algorithmic Culture*

**danah boyd**, founder and president, Data & Society

Data-driven and algorithmic systems increasingly underpin many decision-making systems, shaping where law enforcement are stationed and what news you are shown on social media. In this talk, boyd will unpack some of the unique cultural challenges presented by "big data" and machine learning, raising critical questions about fairness and accountability.

### Tuesday, October 24, 2017 \*

Anita Tuvin Schlechter Auditorium, 7 p.m.

#### *Contemporary School Segregation*

**Erica Frankenberg**, Pennsylvania State University

Racial and economic segregation is rising, unraveling many of the gains of the civil rights era, as students of color become the majority of enrollment in public schools. Frankenberg describes the benefits of integrated schools, contemporary trends in public school enrollment, and what should be done to further integration in schools and communities.

**Thursday, October 26, 2017 \***

Stern Center, Great Room, 7 p.m.

**Wesley Lecture**

***An Indictment of the United Methodist Anti-Gay Doctrine***

**Franklyn Schaefer**, pastor, activist and author

Does the United Methodist anti-gay doctrine violate John Wesley's "do-no-harm" rule? Testimonies of queer church members and an analysis of a study by the American Psychology Association strongly suggest that it does.

**Thursday, November 2, 2017**

Anita Tuvin Schlechter Auditorium, 7 p.m.

***The Vaccine-Autism Controversy***

**Paul Offit**, pediatrician and expert on vaccines, immunology and virology

How have scientists, the media, and the public dealt with the question of whether vaccines cause autism?

**Friday, November 3, 2017**

Stern Center, Great Room, 4:30 p.m.

***The Evolution of Indigenous Food Systems of North America***

**Sean Sherman**, founder, The Sioux Chef

Committed to revitalizing Native American cuisine, Sherman will share his research uncovering the foundations of the Indigenous food systems.

**Monday, November 6, 2017**

Anita Tuvin Schlechter Auditorium, 7 p.m.

***The Opioid Epidemic in Central Pennsylvania***

**Jack Carroll** (moderator), Cumberland-Perry Drug and Alcohol Commission

**Carrie DeLone**, Holy Spirit-Geisinger

**David Freed**, Cumberland County District Attorney's Office

**Duane Nieves**, Holy Spirit EMS

**Kristen Varner**, The RASE Project

This panel will address the current opioid epidemic in Central Pennsylvania, focusing both on the situation we face now and plans and opportunities for ending this significant problem.

**Thursday, November 9, 2017 ♦**

Anita Tuvin Schlechter Auditorium, 7 p.m.

***The Shadow of "Fake News"***

**Jonathan Albright**, Columbia University

Albright will explore the emerging arms race in how "fake news" is being used to target and track individuals and the implications this has for media, the tech industries, and democracy itself.

**Tuesday, November 28, 2017 ♦**

Anita Tuvin Schlechter Auditorium, 7 p.m.

***Using Your Genome and Big Data to Manage Your Health***

**Michael Snyder**, Stanford University

New technologies that determine DNA sequencing means we can now profile people over time to better predict and diagnose disease. Snyder will share his work in these new technologies and the power they hold to transform how we manage human health.

**Thursday, November 30, 2017**

Anita Tuvin Schlechter Auditorium, 7 p.m.

***An Evening with Solmaz Sharif***

**Solmaz Sharif**, Iranian-American poet

Poet Sharif, a National Book Award finalist, will share work that explores, in eloquent detail, the conduct of contemporary war, the intimacy of loss, and the unbearable—but necessary—power of language.

**2017 Fall Semester Theme  
Big Data**

In 2012, discount retailer Target caused a minor controversy by sending maternity coupons to a pregnant teenager who had not yet disclosed this fact. What really happens when you scan your loyalty card at a retailer, when you type something into your browser's search bar, or when you "like" something on Facebook? Everything that exists can be measured, from whole-genome sequences to consumer behavior. We are, as novelist Don DeLillo put it thirty years ago, "the sum total of our data." Our fall 2017 theme will explore questions such as: Who is collecting this data? What are they doing with it? What implications does this have for privacy and individual liberty? Can Big Data transcend the biases and prejudices inherent in human decision making, or merely provide a quantitative justification for the reinforcement of systemic inequalities? Included will be topics such as privacy and social media; genomics and personalized medicine; climate and economic modeling; the spread of viral and fake news; and the psychological aspects of data-driven decision making.

♦ Denotes a program that is part of the theme

**The Clarke Forum's  
Leadership in an Age of Uncertainty Series**

The Clarke Forum established a series of programmatic events dedicated to the theme of leadership in an age of uncertainty. This initiative is grounded on the reality that today's generation of Dickinson students confronts a large number of intractable political, economic, and social problems. How Dickinsonians respond to these challenges presents us with an opportunity for reflection on the meaning of leadership in the contemporary world. This series is partially supported by a fund created by Betty R. '58 and Dan Churchill.

\* Denotes a program that is part of the series

**For directions, more information about our events, and to access interviews and past lectures, visit [www.clarkeforum.org](http://www.clarkeforum.org).**

**This schedule is subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances, so please refer to the Web site for the most updated information.**



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